Otago Settlers Museum

NEWSLETTER

October 1996 Issue 57



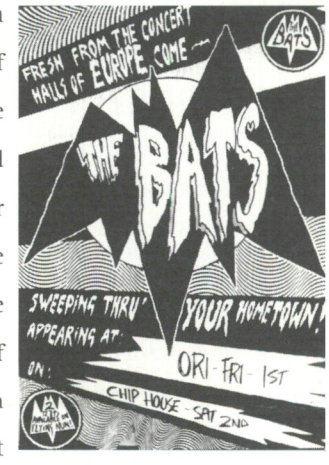
Martin Phillipps and the Chills at Sound of Dunedin. Photograph: Russell Coveney

The Sound of Dunedin
FORTY YEARS OF DUNEDIN ROCK MUSIC

Some exhibition ideas seem to hang around forever before they are developed and Dunedin popular music was one which was begging to be brought to life. A committee made up of museum staff, local musicians, writers and photographers met for over a year to plan the Sound of Dunedin project which rapidly grew from an exhibition into a multimedia event.

Opened in March by Craig Scott, Dunedin's major star of the 1960s, The Sound of Dunedin exhibition follows the development of rock music in Dunedin from its roots in the American popular music of the 1930s through to the emergence of a distinctive 'Dunedin sound' in the 1980s which saw bands like the Chills break into the international music scene. The display features photographs, video interviews, promotional clips and slide shows featuring hundreds of bands set around a milk bar scene, a `60s nightclub stage, a student flat and an installation by local artists Donna Demente and Jeff Mitchell. Magazines, record covers, posters and instruments occupy any further space. Crucial to the success of the project was the production of a triple CD compilation of Dunedin music entitled "...but I can write songs okay", which was developed by the local label Yellow Eye alongside the exhibition. Containing over 80 songs from the mid 1950s through to the present, the CD offers a unique opportunity to hear the development of a distinct musical identity.

Performance is an important part of the appreciation of music and the museum has been shaken by a variety of bands including some which had not played for many years. Over 1500 people have attended events at the museum as part of the Sound of Dunedin programme. Brought to you with the support of Philips NZ, Vidmark, Ansett NZ, Strawberry Sound, Jandz NZ, The Video Factory, 4XO, Radio One, Radio Otago, Lottery Environment and Heritage and a cast of thousands, the exhibition has been extended by popular demand through to November 27.



Michael Findlay

THE HOPE THAT IS WITHIN US :

THE DOMINICAN SISTERS IN OTAGO 1871 - 1996



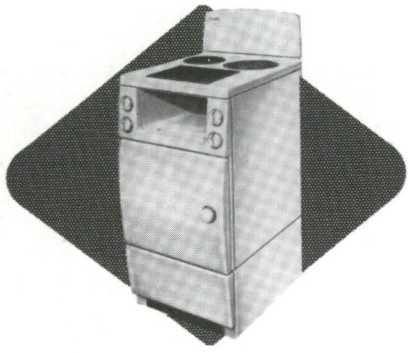
The Hope That is Within Us: The Dominican Sisters in Otago 1871-1996 is the latest temporary exhibition at the museum. It tells the story of the Sisters from their own perspective, examining the centuries old Dominican spiritual and scholarly tradition and the 125 years of Dominican involvement with Otago life. It was opened on 27 September with a beautiful ceremony involving a large number of the Dominican Sisters from throughout Otago and Southland. The Sisters processed into the museum concourse holding lighted candles and singing a hymn written by one of the Sisters. They then presented the assembled guests with the Dominican story from 1170 to the present by way of a voice drama. Individual Sisters played the parts of significant individuals and key junctures in the historic trail which led from St Dominic's birth in Spain to the present situation of the Sisters in New Zealand. The Sisters then processed through the galleries, singing as they went and blessed the exhibition. Holy water and incense at the museum! Whatever would the founding fathers have said.

VERITAS

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FORTHCOMING EXHIBITION



MADE IN DUNEDIN 'Made In Dunedin' takes a broad view across the history of manufacture and industry in this city from the first efforts to extract products from the natural resources of the area to the sophisticated processes of today. The exhibition will be divided into two major themes allowing the present range of manufacturing to be viewed against an historical background. 'Made In Dunedin' will act as a focus for debate on the future of the manufacturing sector in an economy where fewer certainties exist than when Dunedin was the undisputed leading city of the nation in terms of wealth and industrial technology.

Museum staff will be seeking relevant items for the exhibition which will look at industries large and small. The collections are currently being surveyed and many never before seen items will debut in "Made In Dunedin'. If you think you have anything interesting with a known link to a Dunedin maker, please tell us about it.

EXHIBITION PROGRAMME



■ **THE HOPE THAT IS WITHIN US** **27 September 1996 to 9 March 1997**

An exhibition examining the role of the Sisters in Otago over 125 years of service to the community.

■ **DENTAL NURSES CLINIC** **From 18 October 1996**

Display of dental nursing equipment to coincide with Dental Nurses Association 75th Jubilee celebrations.

■ **OPEN HOUSE: STORIES FROM PARLIAMENT** **29 Nov 1996 to 24 Jan 1997**

An exhibition focusing on the refurbishment of Parliament buildings and the history of the complex and its occupants.



■ **STUDENT DESIGN SHOW** **November 1996 to February 1997**

An exhibition to showcase the work of Otago University Design Studies students.

■ **MADE IN DUNEDIN** **14 February 1997 to mid-1997**

An exhibition of Dunedin's industrial manufacturing history with a special focus on domestic appliances produced by Shacklocks.

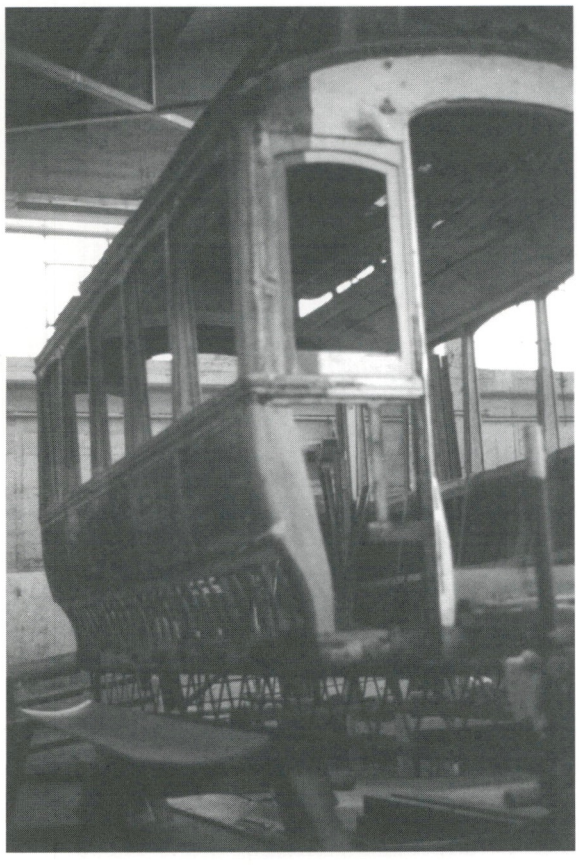
■ **YWCA PROJECT** 28 March 1997 to June 1997

An exhibition about the various activities and roles of the 'Y' in Dunedin and its work by and for women.



Hank Verzandvoort and Edgar Gregory at work on the Museum's De Soto Airflow

RESTORATION PROJECTS



The restoration of Roslyn-Maori Hill No.1 tram is proceeding on target with all of the major structural work now complete. This has involved the careful *in-situ* repair of rotten timbers and the difficult task of reproducing the long side panels which curve inwards on the lower section of the tram body. Sections of the interior have been stripped of their layers of white paint and metal fittings cleaned and polished. Bob Miller and Graeme Patterson have been working steadily on the restoration project over the last two years and their efforts have resulted in the return from the brink of one of New Zealand's principal transport artifacts. It is hoped that the Roslyn-Maori Hill tram will be completed in time for the 100th anniversary of the electric tramway system in New Zealand which falls in 2000 but in order to reach that goal more skilled volunteers are required. If you are interested in joining the team, call Michael Findlay at the Museum for more details.

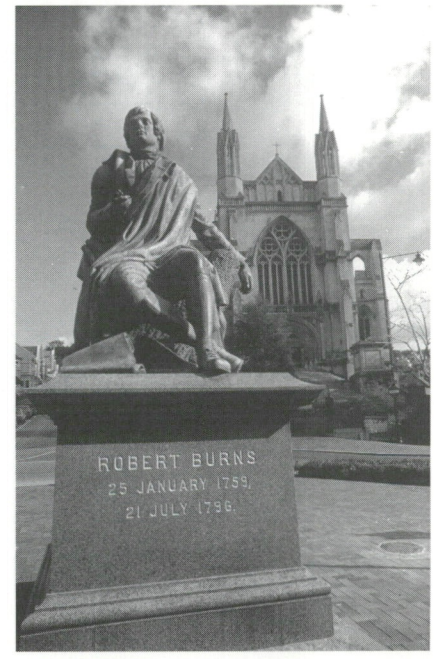
SEACLIFF COLLECTION

former Dunedin Museum of Transport & Technology

The assessment of the collection, stored off-site at Green Island, has been completed, with the assistance of a number of technical experts and groups. Lists of items not required for inclusion in the OSM collection have been prepared. As most of the items were collected in the Otago/Southland area all local museums and historical societies were circulated offering the list items on free disposal. The results of this offer have been processed and as a final check curatorial staff from the OSM are currently undertaking a survey of the collection to make sure that the Museum has tagged all the items it requires for inclusion into the OSM collection.

With the assistance of the NZ Lottery Board longrun heavy duty shelving has been purchased and installed in the Museum, in preparation for removing some of the collection from Green Island to permanent storage and display in the Museum.

The Dunedin Fire Brigade Restoration Society has restored three of the fire appliances which have been re-registered and are now road-worthy again. Work continues on the rest of the collection. The partnership agreement with the Society has proved most successful and the Museum is greatly indebted to the work of this dedicated group.



ROBERT BURNS CELEBRATION

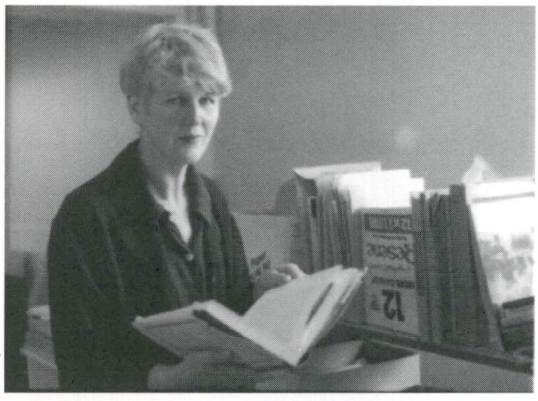
The life of Robert Burns was celebrated in fine style on 21 July in the Hudson Gallery. The 200th anniversary of his death was an ideal time to remember the man, the poet, and above all, the lover. An audience which threatened to overflow the available space was captivated with the presentation of song, music and poetry from Ana Good, Jenny Whitaker, David Bell, Margaret Gardiner, Arnold Bachop, Bob Entwistle and Evelyn Entwistle. Snatches of *Bonnie Wee Thing* and *Scots Wha Hae* softly hummed or whistled by the departing audience testified to their ongoing enjoyment. It was a most fitting occasion and the museum extends its thanks to all concerned.

TUESDAY CLUB

Recent speakers at this popular monthly get-together have included Margery Blackman who offered a further dimension to the *Stitched Legacies* items; Elizabeth Hinds who spoke on museums of the world, drawing on her own wide experience; and Tania Connelly, who discussed and read from the "Letters Home" of a young man, John Fowler, who arrived in Dunedin in 1883. Tania took us up to the time of his marriage in 1888 and club members are keen to know more - did he have children, build a house, form a garden, was the marriage happy? Tania will return.

If you would like to know more about the club, phone Val-mai Shaw at the museum.

INTERIM MUSEUM SCHOOLS PROGRAMME



Judy Smith

Since the end of Ministry of Education funding for Museum Education Officers in December 1995, and the departure of the two MEOs Alan Carter and Julie Engebretsen, both Otago and Otago Settlers Museums have been unable to provide an education service to visiting school groups. While schools have continued to visit the museums, and make use of the trails and worksheets, the potential of the museums as resources which are integral to many parts of school curriculums at all levels, has not been realised.

In order to overcome this lack of museum-based educational programmes, a project was set up to provide a basic interim service to schools. The Interim Museum Schools Programme is an 18 week project which will produce four programmes at both museums, based on the school curriculum, targeting topics and relevant collections and exhibitions. Judy Smith was appointed Project Officer in August, and has worked with museum staff and teachers' focus groups to select and prepare programmes involving self-guide activities and trails for school groups. The programmes have stated objectives and learning outcomes in line with relevant curriculum requirements. Each programme provides background material for teachers who will be using the material during class visits to the museum.

Three booklets have been completed so far - Foodgathering of the Southern Maori; Southern Maori after 1840; the Early Days in the Settlement of Otago. A fourth booklet, Environmental Change to Natural Habitats, is in preparation. Several trails associated with these programmes are already in use. It is hoped that schools will continue to use this material to enhance the museum visit experience.

OSM thanks Trustees Executors for assisting with our share of the funding for this project.

ARCHIVES NEWS



Tania Connelly

HOURS:
Following the restructuring that has resulted from the formation of the Museums Business Unit on 1 July 1996, the hours of the Archives department have been reduced. The new hours are:

Monday - Friday	Public Access	10.00am - 1.00pm
Monday - Friday	OSA members	3.45pm - 4.45pm

The admission charge of $10 remains, except for OSA members for whom admission is free.

Otago Settlers Association members have access to the Reading Room but not the assistance of the Research Librarian between 3.45pm - 4.45pm every weekday.

Though the hours of public access have been reduced the commitment to providing a quality service remains and we look forward to your continued use of this valuable local history resource.

STAFF NEWS: Tania Connelly, Research Librarian, has returned from extended leave and Jane Smallfield, who has been covering for Tania, finished on Friday 11 October. Jane, after a well deserved break, will be returning to continue with her various projects.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SERVICE: The Archives Department has taken over the management of the photographic service in preparation for the amalgamation of these two collections in the soon to be relocated Archives Department.

READING ROOM: Improvements have been made to the layout of the present Reading Room which have greatly enhanced user access and provides a much needed office space for staff.

OSM DEVELOPMENT UPDATE



With the opening of the Kai Tahu Whanui ki Otago exhibition in the Hall of History in 1994, the major part of Stage 1 of OSM Development was complete. Since then visitors from all over the world, and an increasing number from Otago, have been pleased to enjoy the spacious concourse and new exhibition galleries.

Plans for Stage 2 were drawn up in 1995, and funding sought to meet the conditions required by the Lottery General Distribution Committee for the release of their second $.5 million grant. This was received in June this year together with notification of further funds to come from the McMillan Trust, Dunedin City Council and Otago Settlers Association. Detailed drawings are now underway for the relocated Archives Unit and other works prioritised for Stage 2.

In the meantime a project has been carried out to smarten up the Queens Gardens facade of the museum, with new signage, repair to the crumbling concrete steps, and repainting the famous post-modern colours on the former main entrance. The museum has an elongated street facade with many doors, names, colours and signs, and in due course will have a more uniform colour scheme to allow the new entrance to fulfil its role as the main point of entry.

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STAFF NEWS

Over the last twelve months there have been some significant changes in the staff structure of the museum. Barbara Allibone resigned from her position as Administration Officer in October 1995, although she has since re-established a connection with the museum as Secretary of the Otago Settlers Association. At the end of 1995 both Angela Brenssell and Tim Vial resigned from their positions to take up new jobs. Tim moved to Christchurch to become Museum Liaison Officer at Canterbury Museum while Angela took up a teaching position at Columba College. To date none of these staff members has been replaced, principally because the museum has become part of the Museums Business Unit of the Dunedin City Council. This is essentially an administrative amalgamation with the Dunedin Public Art Gallery. A number of staff now work across the two institutions enabling a rationalisation of positions as specialist skills are shared between Museum and Gallery.

The Manager of the Museums Business Unit is John McCormack, formerly Director of the Dunedin Public Art Gallery. Elizabeth Hinds is now the Manager of Special Projects, based at the OSM and responsible for projects such as the continuing redevelopment of the museum building and facilities. John Timmins is Collection Manager for the whole Unit and divides his time between Museum and Gallery. The remaining staff are: Seán Brosnahan and Michael Findlay, Curators; Val-mai Shaw, Public Programmes; Tania Connelly, Research Librarian; Janet Hedges and Diane McKellar, Reception; Steve Munro, Technician. The new structure is still evolving but already there have been some benefits from the sharing of specialist skills between the two institutions.

SHOP NEWS

NEW TITLES FROM THE BOOK SHOP:

RIVER PUNTS AND FERRIES OF SOUTHERN N.Z. - A.R. Tyrrell

Price to Members	$26.95
Postage and Packing	2.25

N.Z.'s FIRST TALKIES - Simon Price

Price to Members	$31.45
Postage and Packing	2.25

CATLINS RAIL - A.R. Tyrrell

Price to Members	$22.45
Postage and Packing	2.25

WILD DUNEDIN - Neville Peat and Brian Patrick

Price to Members	$35.95
Postage and Packing	2.25

MAKING PEOPLES: A HISTORY OF THE NEW ZEALANDERS - James Belich

Price to Members	$53.95
Postage and Packing	2.25

ROBERT BURNS THE RUINED FARMER - Shirley Baillie

Price to Members	$10.80
Postage and Packing	.80

NEW ZEALAND'S NATIVE BIRDS OF BUSH & COUNTRYSIDE
A PENGUIN POCKET GUIDE

Price to Members	$9.05
Postage and Packing	.80

A HISTORY OF THE GARDEN IN N.Z. - Matthew Bradbury

Price to Members	$44.95
Postage and Packing	2.25

Two Special Offers!
These books have sun-damaged covers, so are half-price to members only:

HISTORIC NEW ZEALAND - Photography Warren Jacobs, Lloyd Park & Robyn Smith, Text Errol Braithwaite

Price to Members	$12.50
Postage and Packing	2.25

THE NZ VILLA PAST & PRESENT - Di Stewart

Price to members	$15.00
Postage and Packing	2.25

STOP PRESS

A stunning new selection of coasters and place mats will be arriving shortly - paintings of birdlife and native floral bouquets, and scenes that are uniquely New Zealand, early New Zealand and interesting New Zealand! If you are looking for something a bit different for friends and family at Christmas, call into the museum or phone for details.