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CANTERBURY
HISTORY
FOUNDATION

New Members — Special Effort

Please pass the brochure sent with this newsletter to someone you believe would take satisfaction from supporting history. Foundation members are our surest source of funds. A growing membership strengthens our applications for funds elsewhere and present members are our best recruiting agents — a point made by our President, Dick Hlavac, at the AGM and Gardner Lecture.

Many people you know might be pleased to join. If you want more brochures, just ask. The secretary will send a brochure to anyone you nominate.

Community Historian applications

Applications for the 2008 Canterbury Community Historian grant should be made before 30 September 2007. The essential purpose of the scheme is to enable a least 12 weeks full-time work to substantially advance, or to complete, a history project that has a strong chance of publication.

The topic should be of benefit or interest to Canterbury people, but it is not confined to Canterbury history. Terms and conditions should be sought from the Foundation secretary. The scheme is described on the Foundation's website:

www.chf.org.nz

As was reported at the annual general meeting, the Canterbury Community Trust has given a donation of \$11,000 towards the total cost of more than \$13,000.

Festival of History—Saturday 8 Sept.

The University of Canterbury's School of History festival is still open to those who would like to sample a remarkable range of research and teaching in a one-day presentation. The \$45 fee covers all the sessions, morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and the festival programme.

The lecturers are Dr Chris Jones, Associate-Professor Geoffrey Rice, Dr Katie Pickles, Dr Jane Buckingham, Associate-Professor Philippa Mein-Smith, Dr Peter Field, and Dr Gareth Pritchard. Details can be found on

www.canterbury.ac.nz/alumni/events/histfest07.shtml and registration can be arranged online there or by telephone: 0800 822 586 or (03) 364 2344. The email address is: alumni@canterbury.ac.nz

Subscriptions

More than half of our members have paid their 2007-08 subs and many have helpfully added a donation.

This is very welcome.

Subscription reminders will be sent with the next newsletter.

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PO Box 29 070, Christchurch 8540

The registered office of the Foundation is Level 3, School of History,
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The taste of the summer wine

Edward Donaldson of Pegasus Bay Winery has agreed to present a selection of the Pegasus Bay and Main Divide wines to members and friends of the Foundation.

The wine-tasting evening will be at the Copthorne Hotel Commodore, 449 Memorial Avenue, on Friday 28 September. This event will begin at 7.30pm and the Foundation has set a very low charge of \$20 for tickets – enough to cover expenses but sufficient to ensure enjoyable accompaniments to the tasting.

Friends will be welcome at this occasion and it will be possible to place orders for a selection of wines that can be shared with other members. The idea is to explore some economical but fine wines that will be enjoyed in the summer and at Christmas.

Order your tickets soon to be sure of a place.

Gardner Lecture publication and Rhodes Medal

More than 200 people attended the lecture *Scottish Canterbury?* by Associate-Professor Jim McAloon on 5 August. Dr McAloon has given the Foundation permission to publish his address, which was enthusiastically applauded by his audience. A photocopied version will be mailed to members on request. Although no charge will be made for this, a contribution of \$1.50 for postage would be welcome with orders. Copies should be ready about the end of September.

Bernard Kingsbury, founder and curator of the Cust Museum, received the A C Rhodes Memorial Medal from Mr Paul and Mrs Sally Rhodes. Mr Kingsbury thanked the donors and the Foundation and noted the support he had been given by people in the Cust district.

He said that the most encouraging aspect of his years as curator and archivist had been the regular use of the museum's archives. Further, many people who had turned there for family and other information had also contributed the results of their research to the collection.

A rewarding feature of the annual award has been the notice given to the recipients by the media to a wider public. *The Press* printed a substantial feature by Mike Crean on the museum and Mr Kingsbury. This article resulted in fresh inquiries and in many more visitors in the weeks after the article appeared.

The Cust Museum is open on Sundays, 2-4pm.

Fiordland hero and pioneer

A Hokitika researcher and writer, Julia Bradshaw, has produced the life story of David Gunn, legendary run-holder and tourism operator in the Hollyford Valley. This lively account of a rugged, remote life, loneliness and hardships, skills, vision and enterprise should delight anyone interested in Fiordland.

The Land of Doing Without (176pp – RRP \$29.50) was published recently by Canterbury University Press. Ms Bradshaw was a guide on the Hollyford Track in the early 1990s. She soon became aware that Davey Gunn (1887-1955) was

more than the heroic figure who made a 20-hour journey on foot in 1936 to raise the alarm after an aircraft crash in Big Bay. This is a story embracing many aspects of the region: the landscape and its beauty and perils, depression years, huts, dogs and horses, tracks and boats, mustering cattle and looking after tourists. A remarkable person is discovered.

Available at bookshops or by mail from Canterbury University Press:
mail@cup.canterbury.ac.nz or telephone 364 2914.

More Belfast-Styx history

Dennis Hills and Mrs Helen Hills have co-operated in yet another book on the Styx and Belfast area. In earlier books they have compiled information on people, the landscape, and development along the Styx River from Harewood to the sea.

Their latest is *The Old Schoolmaster's House, Belfast*. It includes the plan and history of the building that stands on the west side of the Main North Road in the Belfast township. The book tells of the teachers who occupied the house from 1878 to the 1970s. It is available with other books from the Belfast Museum on the same site, just north of Northwood: www.belfastdistrictmuseum.co.nz/index.php or from dennis.hills@xtra.co.nz for \$5 plus \$1 for postage.

The next open day for the house will be 7 October from 1-4pm.

100 years after Dominion Status

The centenary of New Zealand's Dominion status (26 September, 1907) is marked by a book written by Professor W David McIntyre. *Dominion of New Zealand: Statesmen and Status, 1907 to 1945* (211pp) is about to be published by the New Zealand Institute of International Affairs. The institute plans a Christchurch launch on 8 November and the book will be noticed again in a later newsletter.

Prof. Bourke Lecture: *Sexual Atrocity in War*

Joanna Bourke is Professor of History at Birkbeck College, University of London, a cultural historian and frequent radio and television broadcaster in Britain. She will lecture at the University of Canterbury at 6.00pm on Monday, 17 September in the A2 Arts lecture theatre. (This room is in the block between the Central Library and the History Building.)

Her subject is a consideration of twentieth-century violence. She argues that extremes of sexual violence have become commonplace in war and will explore the prevalence of rape in wartime and the factors that inhibit such violence. The lecture is open to all.

Professor Bourke, a New Zealander, has published seven books. *An Intimate History of Killing: Face-to-Face Killing in Twentieth Century Warfare* won the Fraenkel Prize in Contemporary History in 1998 and the Wolfson History Prize in 2000. *Fear: A Cultural History* appeared in 2005. She took her MA Hons degree in history at the University of Auckland and her PhD at the Australian National University. Since 1989 she has established herself as a leading cultural historian in the UK.

Don't forget to mail orders for the wine-tasting soon.