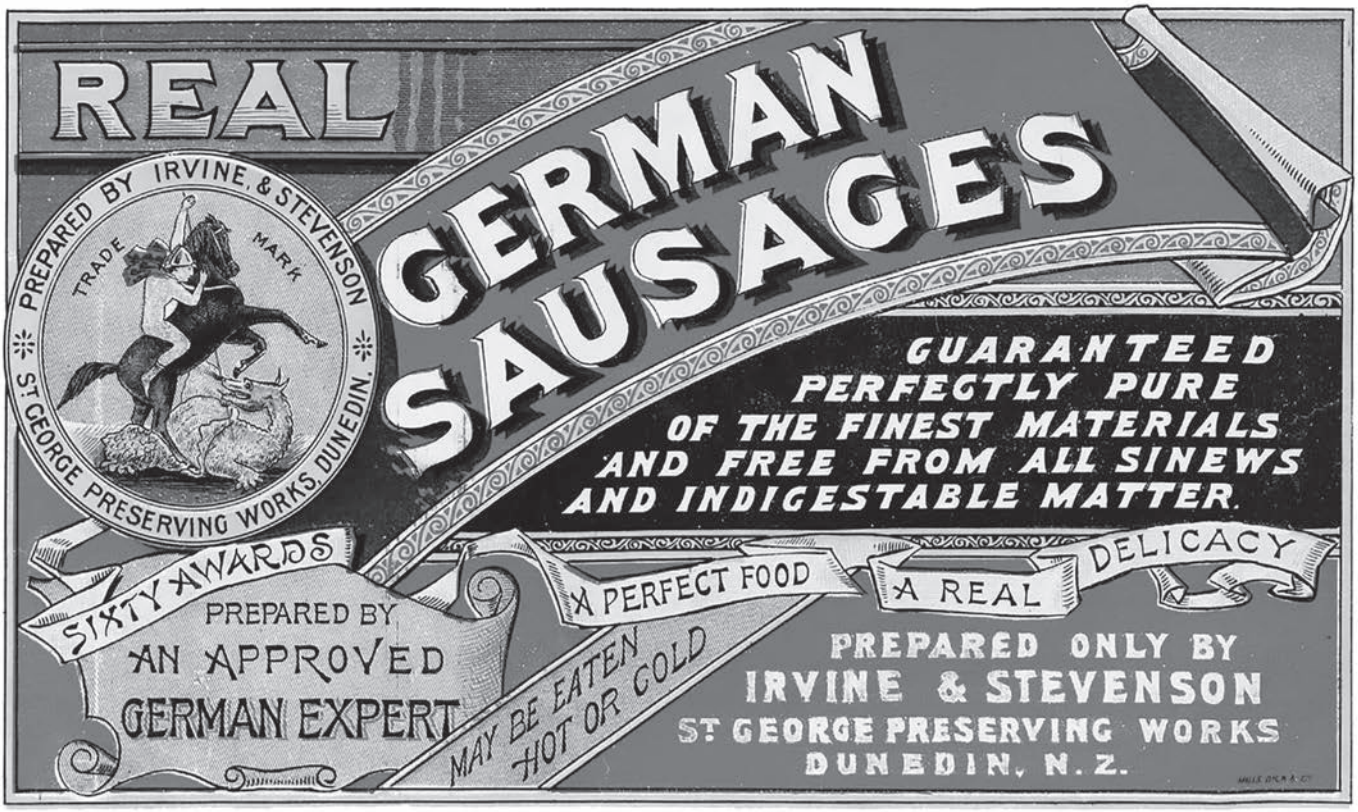
OTAGO SETTLERS NEWS

OTAGO SETTLERS ASSOCIATION *proud to be friends of* toitū OTAGO SETTLERS MUSEUM **AUTUMN 2017** ISSUE 132



THE NAME OF THE TEUTON IS RANK AMONG US

The outrage felt at stories of Teutonic barbarism in the course of the Great War famously led to some changes for the wurst: out went German sausage and dachshunds, in came Belgian sausage and sausage dogs. They were not the only ones obliged to change their names. At the start of 1915 the Dresden Piano Company of Dunedin patriotically dropped the name of the Saxon capital and adopted instead the name of an English city much less well known for its musical connections. At a time 'when the national feeling of patriotism runs high' it 'decided to relinquish its familiar title for reasons which will be obvious to patriotic citizens, and to adopt in its place the name of the Bristol Piano Company.' The reason for choosing the capital of the West Country was that it was the birthplace of the company's co-founder, David Theomin of Olveston. The change of name did nothing to allay suspicions among readers of *Truth*. In tones of barely suppressed antisemitism, one correspondent expressed his 'very serious doubt as to the patriotism' of Theomin. He 'has long been regarded ... as a German, and it was a great surprise to me to hear that he wished at the outbreak of the war to pose as British.' Theomin was accused of favouring German products over their British competition, and of appointing fellow-Germans to influential positions in his various businesses, though in *Truth*'s defence, its editor rebutted these charges.

Top: Real German Sausages, made in Dunedin by Irvine & Stevenson (they did not contain dragon meat). Wellcome Collection, London: Ephemera EPH46:2. **Above:** Postcard by William Blomfield, 1914. National Library, Wellington: Eph-A-WAR-WI-1914-01.

Even at the time, some felt this sort of thing had gone too far: at a returned soldiers' meeting in late 1918 it was complained that 'if any name has been scandalously misused during this last year or two it is that of the Belgians. We have had "Belgian buns," "Belgian biscuits," "Belgian sausage," and all that kind of thing, and the practice has been simply scandalous and sickening.' Despite this, not every case of the dropping of a German name was due to the war. German Shepherd dogs were known alternatively as Alsatian Wolfhounds both before and after the conflict, though they only became popular as pets in the 1920s. At Cruft's dog show in 1923 it was noted that 'a queer turn in taste has made the German Alsatian wolf dog the most popular, and is almost banishing the British bulldog.' The name worried some farmers as it implied Alsatians were descended from wolves, and so would worry their sheep as well.

People with German names felt the heat during the war, so they adopted names that sounded more Anglo-Saxon than Saxon. Even the royal family knuckled under. The formal name of the dynasty, inherited from Prince Albert, was Saxe-Coburg-Gotha. It did not help matters that giant Gotha biplane bombers were frequently dropping high explosives on London. In July 1917 the king formally adopted the title 'House of Windsor.' HG Wells had lamented that Britain was having to struggle through the war under an 'alien and uninspiring court.' George V responded: 'I may be uninspiring, but I'll be damned if I'm alien.' His aristocratic relations followed the royal example, Adolphus, Duke of Teck becoming Marquess of Cambridge and Prince Louis of Battenberg rebranding himself Marquess of Milford Haven. His family invented the name Mountbatten, though at least the parti-coloured cake retained its old name.

In his majesty's most distant Dominion, many people with Germanic surnames found they had become bad for business. The Dunedin firm of Hallenstein Brothers was well established throughout the country (and in any case advertised as 'HB'), but even so Percy and Emil Hallenstein chose to adopt the new surname Halsted at the end of 1919. Their brothers Arthur and Ernest, who ran the firm's London branch, had adopted this name a few years earlier. HB had felt obliged to issue a public statement in 1915 that 'no Germans are associated with the firm'. The DIC, a related business also founded by Bendix Hallenstein, was also forced to deny that it was in effect a German company, since several of its larger shareholders resided in the Fatherland. (Their shares were eventually vested in the Custodian of Enemy Property in September 1916.) When the firm received the Defence Department's contract for nurses' uniforms, questions had been asked in parliament about the questionable status of the DIC.

Another prominent Dunedinite, Gerald Bernstein, manager for Bing, Harris & Co, also stuck it out until after the Armistice before he changed his name to Benson. Well-established and less obviously Germanic businessmen were left alone, however: the furniture people Nees & Sons, for one, held out, even though its managing director had the impolitic *Vornamen* Berthold Herman. The merchant and philanthropist Willi Fels resigned as German Consul but, rock-like, resisted changing his name. Hallenstein and Bernstein were unusual in waiting until the war was over before changing their names by deed poll. In other parts of the country, there had been a rash of changes in 1915 in response to the outrage at the torpedoing of the Cunard liner *Lusitania*, the execution of Nurse Cavell and the publication of the Bryce Report into German atrocities. Henry Hofmeister changed his name to Fife; Max Adolph Hirschburg chose the almost-literal translation of Hartmont; and William Worms plumped for the less vermicular Thomas. Charles and Florence Eydmann waited until Empire Day 1916 to adopt the surname Edmonds. In the final months of the war in 1918 Paul David Fritzschner changed his name to Chamberlain and two Schwartzes, Albert Ernest of Fielding and Arnold Peter Adolphus of New Plymouth, plumped for Matheson.

These men though represented only a tiny portion of those of German descent in New Zealand. Professor James Bade has calculated that between 1843 and 1914 at least ten thousand Germans came here, forming the second-largest immigrant group after the British and Irish, and far outnumbering the Scandinavians and Dalmatians. The 1916 census revealed a sudden drop in the number of German-born residents and an equally suspicious rise in the figure for those born in Russia: it seems many Prussians had pragmatically chosen to drop the 'P' from their place of birth. (They were probably Poles: northern Poland was divided between the German and Russian Empires.)

A deed poll declaration was not always enough to end the persecution, however. Max Hirschburg was a well-known music teacher in Christchurch. He and the violinist and cinema orchestra conductor Richard Zimmerman were prosecuted as enemy aliens under war regulations for using the false names Hartmont and Vernon respectively. Both had lived in New Zealand for nearly thirty years and had long been naturalised British subjects. Hirschburg's lawyer argued it was 'to his credit ... that he had disavowed his German origin.' Despite this hounding of Christchurch musicians, the local Liedertafel, founded in 1885, retains its original name to the present day. Its Auckland, Wellington and Dunedin counterparts however felt obliged to drop the tainted name. A special meeting of the Dunedin Liedertafel in May 1915 decided unanimously to adopt the name Dunedin Male Choir 'in the meantime.' The only change in the meantime has been the addition of 'Royal' in 1927.

German place names, too, were an easy target. Our gallant allies the Russians led the way by changing their capital city's name from the Germanic St Petersburg to the Slavic Petrograd. The Australians also eagerly dumped many of their more Teutonic town names, though a few such as the suburb of Brunswick in Melbourne managed to survive. We New Zealanders went even further: a name did not even need actually to be German to attract opprobrium, it was enough merely to sound Hunnish. When a programme of rationalisation of street names was carried out in Auckland in 1916, pressure grew to ditch the name Jermyn Street. Jutland Street, after the recent naval battle, was suggested as a suitably patriotic replacement, but in the end the offending thoroughfare became Anzac Avenue. Jermyn Street had been named after Captain John Jermyn Symonds, so at least there was the consolation that Symonds Street (named after his brother) was left unmolested. Among the dozens of innocuous Auckland street names changed at

the same time was Princep Street in Grey Lynn, which became Ariki Street. Possibly this was because of its resemblance to the name of the Bosnian Serb assassin who had unwittingly set off the entire war, Gavrilo Princip. Coburg Street, which ran along the western edge of Albert Park, was renamed Kitchener Street, but then so too was the contiguous Victoria Quadrant, so perhaps this cannot be put down to Germanophobia after all.

Many Dunedin streets also were renamed in 1916 to remove duplication, but it seems here there were no real or imagined German names to victimise. Several of the new names were those of heroes of the current conflict, such as Admiral of the Fleet (and future Governor-General) John, Earl Jellicoe who gave his name to the former Frances Crescent, and Vice-Admiral Sir George Warrender who displaced Forth Place. The best-known name change, from Brunswick to Loyalty Street in South Dunedin, only took place several years after the war had ended. At first the name Wordsworth Street was considered, but in 1921 city councillor Thomas Smith suggested 'Loyalty' would commemorate the large number of young men from the street who had volunteered to fight.

It was not just streets but entire settlements that attracted patriotic criticism. Right from the start of the war, German Bay on Banks Peninsula was clearly on borrowed time. Having just noticed the tiny settlement on the map, 'Wet Sponge' wrote to a Christchurch newspaper in October 1914 that 'apart from the native hideousness of the name, I should have thought the present condition of international affairs would have led the residents of this part of the globe to efface the abhorrent appellation and secure something decent.' The name commemorated the few German families who had arrived in the Nanto-Bordelais Company's ship *Comte de Paris* in 1840. *Les Allemandes* left Akaroa to their French fellow-passengers and settled further round the harbour, upwind of the garlic. By 1915, the residents of German Bay had 'made it clear that the enemy name was not only offensive to their sense of patriotism but was a positive commercial drawback.' At their request, the bay's name was changed officially at the start of 1916 to Takamatua, after the chief who once owned the land there.

The Upper Moutere district, west of Nelson, also got it in the neck. It had originally been settled by Mecklenburgers, who named the area Sarau. This name was changed in 1917, but the obviously Teutonic Neudorf ('new village') seems to have attracted little or no criticism during the war. Another small settlement, Rosedale, slipped entirely under the radar, as without an umlaut or a 'von,' it sounds innocuously English. Yet once you start looking, there are Huns under every bed, even the flower-beds. Rosedale had been Anglicised since at least the early 1870s, but was named after an early settler of the district, the weaver Johannes Friedrich Ludwig Christian Rose. He came from Dassow near Lübeck, north-east of Hamburg, in 1857. As the great German playwright Shakespeare wrote of the name of the rose, 'Was ist ein Name; Das Ding das wir eine Rose nennen, würde unter jedem andern Namen eben so lieblich riechen.'

The Southern Alps were studded with Germanic names, but with few residents, there was little pressure to change them. The former German Chancellor Otto von Bismarck and General Helmuth von Moltke the Elder (who thrashed the French in

A GUARANTEE OF BRITISH BIRTH.
Employer : There's trouble with our men, they say that you're a German.
Gang Boss : Me a German? Vy, mine name is McVerson, and I belong to de National Reserve! Dat is proof, is it nod?

"This is a German sausage; but p'raps you don't mind."
Woman: "No fear! Yer won't see me 'avin' any of yer German stuff, an' putting new 'eart into the beggars."

Left: A gang boss was in charge of a group of manual workers, and the title did not yet carry the connotation of the head of a criminal gang. By William Blomfield, from the *Observer*, 1 May 1915. **Right:** Cartoon by Fraser from the *Observer*, 9 October 1915.

1870) got a mountain each, as did the Prussian Princes Friedrich and Wilhelm, and the Austrian Crown Prince Rudolf (who had killed himself at Mayerling in 1889). Sir Julius von Haast was responsible for the choice of many of the names of highly regarded German and Austrian scientists and public figures. JW von Goethe, Alexander von Humboldt, Justus von Liebig, Wilhelm von Haidinger, Ferdinand von Hochstetter and Ferdinand von Mueller, among others, had peaks or glaciers named after them. They were lucky not to suffer the fate of Paul von Tunzelman, who had the Von River near Queenstown named after him. At least there was no pressure to change this to its literal English equivalent, the 'Of River.'

Franz Josef was however still alive and kicking, the ruler of an enemy power, the Austro-Hungarian empire. Yet he was not regarded in the same light as the Prussian tyrant, Wilhelm II. When Franz Josef died in 1916, he was recalled almost fondly by New Zealand newspapers. His reign had spanned the entire existence of Dunedin: he had become Emperor in the year of revolutions, 1848. The Austrians sent the frigate *Novara* on a voyage around the world in 1867, and among the scientific officers on board was the geologist Hochstetter. When he got to Auckland he decided to stay. The *Novara* (which has a peak near Mt Cook named after it) took several Maori men from Waikato to Vienna where they met Franz Josef, who gave them a printing press to take home. (Baggage allowances were clearly more generous in those days.) Over the years, the Emperor sent several more gifts to New Zealand, one of the last being chamois to make the Southern Alps resemble more closely their European counterparts.

Nonetheless, in 1916 some newspapers thought the war meant 'very properly every trace of enemy nomenclature must be swept away here, and so the "Franz Josef" Glacier and other Teuton names will give place to those more befitting a British country.' Because of 'the undesirable character of some of our Alpine names ... it has been urged that more fitting designations should be found for the splendid glaciers and peaks now disfigured on the map by alien names. It certainly seems an excess of tolerance to perpetuate in the grandest scenic district in New Zealand names that belong to our worst enemies that in most cases had no shadow of right in a British country when they were so freely bestowed upon a virgin map by von Haast and his contemporaries ... of such names as Franz Josef, Prince Rudolf, Moltke, Unser Fritz and the like, a clean sweep should be made.' One newspaper suggested 'Waiau' could 'replace the unfitting and objectionable Franz Josef,' the name chosen by Haast. Back in the 1860s, 'in the days when the Alpine mapping was first done there was no special objection to alien names; indeed, the early explorers did very much as they pleased in that direction and no one foresaw a day when the name of a friendly monarch who had displayed considerable interest in New Zealand would become offensive to people of British stock ... Times have vastly changed, however: the name of the Teuton is rank among us, and it is fully time that we purged our maps of such ill-omened nomenclature.' Yet the names are still there, if not always officially acknowledged: the Unser Fritz waterfall for instance is not in the official gazetteer. Yet the names are still not safe. Recently, objections have been made to one of Haast's choices, a glacier commemorating the renowned Swiss scientist Louis Agassiz, who died in 1873. Very appropriately, he was a specialist in glaciology, but his racial theories are now considered beyond the pale.

Franz Josef may have kept its name, but the Kaiser, the Crown Prince and Bismarck were brought low in Christchurch. These were the names of the three bells of the Lutheran Church built in 1872 that stood where the new public art gallery is now, on the corner of Worcester and Montreal Streets. They had been presented to the congregation by the Emperor Wilhelm I, grandfather of Kaiser Bill. As it was not long after the Franco-Prussian War, the story spread that the bells had been cast from captured French cannons. Over the years the German congregation dwindled, and the last German-language service was held there in 1904. The church was let to Spiritualists, and then on the outbreak of war the building was confiscated by the government as enemy property. In 1915 it was suggested the bells be offered to the French Consul, sold for the benefit of the Sick and Wounded Fund, or melted down and returned to Germany at high velocity in the form of ammunition.

Three years later in August 1918 something was actually done about it. On the instructions of the Cabinet, the bells were smashed and melted down at Price's Foundry. The event was witnessed by the Public Trustee and the French Consul, and 'various facetious remarks greet[ed] the destruction of the German emblems of victory and militarism.' Although their 'destruction was ... meant as an act of courtesy to France,' many people were unhappy at the way it was done, thinking it would have been better to have donated the peal of bells to a French church. It was argued that this act of 'vandalism' had caused the 'destruction of some excellent pieces of craftsmanship'. Peter Trolove thought 'that as people of taste the French people will privately feel that the episode was astonishingly barbarous and Hun-like.' Unsurprisingly, once melted down it was obvious the bells had been cast from bell metal, not gunmetal. They turned out to have a scrap value of only £116, 'being almost entirely copper and tin, with only a trace of iron and German sausage.'

Kaka brand ale was produced by W Strachan & Co's Victoria Brewery, Dunedin. The Liberal MP and future PM Gordon Coates was active in recruitment campaigns, and served himself on the Western Front in 1917-18. Advertisement from *Stone's Directory for 1916*.

DRAWING ON A RESERVOIR OF GOODWILL

Professor Richie Poulton of the Dunedin Multidisciplinary Health & Development Study was guest speaker at the last Annual General Meeting. We were lucky to have him as, particularly since the four-part television documentary series *Predict My Future* was broadcast, he receives a large number of invitations to speak, most of which he has to turn down. Prof Poulton trained as a clinical psychologist and joined the project in 1995. The Museum's temporary exhibition 'Slice of Life' has proven very popular, and he found it 'very moving' to see the detail and care that has gone into its preparation: 'Toitū has done a superb job.' Prof Poulton said he had not anticipated how deeply and personally people would be touched by both the exhibition and television series.

The Dunedin Study was originally intended to last only five years, examining a cohort of more than a thousand children born at Queen Mary Maternity Hospital in 1972-73 at the ages of three and then five, but they found they couldn't just stop there. At the beginning, some people queried the point of the longitudinal study, but over the decades it has grown into a 'juggernaut.' The original focus was relatively narrow, on language acquisition, brain cognition, and aspects of physical health such as asthma, teeth, accidents and injuries. The project's head Dr Phil Silva used its findings to argue for the continuation and extension of the Study. It has subsequently become the most complete and comprehensive longitudinal study of health and human development anywhere in the world. There have been plenty of problems to examine: Dr Silva claimed 1970s New Zealanders lavished more care on their cars than on their children. There was no Warrant of Fitness for kids, or many of them would have failed with ailments such as glue ear. Prof Poulton emphasised the transformative impact of the Dunedin Study, which induced the Department (now Ministry) of Health to devote greater attention and resources to child health. Though the Study has since become 'part of the wallpaper' and is taken for granted, in its early years it was 'run on the smell of an oily rag.' The Sunday School rooms at Knox Church were the project's home for its first decade, before it moved in 1985 to the Barningham Building behind the Dental School. This building, a relic of an 1880s iron foundry complex, was even then already condemned, but it managed to hang on for three more decades until it was demolished in early 2016 for the Dental School redevelopment.

The Dunedin Study has its origins in the late 1960s in a study of 225 premature babies conducted by the paediatrician Dr Patricia Buckfield. In order to assess the impact of the new high-tech equipment that helped these early arrivals to survive, she collected data on all the twelve thousand babies born at Queen Mary between 1967 and 1973. Three years on, Dr Silva decided to examine in much greater detail one cohort of this sample, those born in 1972-73 and still living within the greater Dunedin area. The 1037 three-year-olds who took part in the study represented 91 per cent of their cohort and were representative of the general population. They were subsequently followed up every two years to the age of 11, and at longer intervals thereafter. The project goes to great trouble to keep in touch with its participants, and as a result has a far higher retention rate than do comparable studies overseas. Most retain only 50-60 per cent of their original cohort, which makes them far less valuable as sources of information as they no longer constitute a random sample. It is the people who are hardest to keep tabs on who make the sample comprehensive and therefore representative of the general population — not everyone is as well-behaved and regular in their habits as are the upstanding members of the Otago Settlers' Association. The Study has drawn on the willingness of its participants to make personal sacrifices for the common cause, a 'reservoir of goodwill' that reflects the time and place of the project's origins. More than forty years later, social attitudes have changed so much that it may never be possible to repeat such an exercise.

Because the Dunedin Study has retained more than 90 per cent of its original participants, it is considered a 'normative sample' and its conclusions are applicable to populations far beyond our own island. Over the years, more than $18 million has been received from overseas funding bodies, in the USA and UK in particular, because they are unable to carry out the same sort of study so well in their own countries. The research has proved immensely fruitful, leading to an average of one academic publication every 13 days. Technological developments have made it possible to broaden the area of study. A new brain scanner produces neuro-imagery that now enables the examination, among other things, of the 'fight-or-flight' response, the propensity towards addictive behaviour, frontal-lobe function, and the nature of memory. It is hoped that as the participants age, this will provide useful data for the study of Alzheimer's disease. They are nearly all now in their 45th year, and inevitably over the next couple of decades they will increasingly be subject to muscular-skeletal problems, sight and hearing defects, and chronic kidney injuries (which have an effect on blood pressure).

The main areas of study now include psycho-social functioning, which entails questions of employment, relationships and domestic violence. The data has made it possible to propose answers to some age-old questions, such as whether 'nature' or 'nurture' has the greatest influence on how we turn out as adults. The Dunedin Study has shown that with regard to the cycle of violence, a genetic predisposition can be triggered by maltreatment as a child. This insight, that it is more important to change the child's environment than to worry about its genetic make-up, has helped guide subsequent official social policy. Prof Poulton draws on the Dunedin Study to advise government departments, enabling them to decide policy and spending priorities.

'Slice of Life: The World-Famous Dunedin Study' runs until 27 March.

Left to right: A life's work – Richie Poulton pictured when he joined the Study in the 1990s, and more recently in his capacity as Director of the Study.

The Christmas Meeting

'Questioning is not the mode of conversation among gentlemen,' Dr Johnson once told Boswell. Members of the OSA on the other hand are quite willing to submit themselves to a good quizzing. The main event of the Association's Christmas meeting, held in the early evening of Thursday, 8 December, was a quiz. The Museum's Exhibition Developer Will McKee emerged from the shadows to become a lively and engaging Master of Ceremonies. Bob Hopkins, with some help from friends and family, had put a great deal of work into a wide-ranging and well-judged set of questions: not too hard, not too easy, with a few near-impossible ones. There was a light sprinkling of doddles, too: everybody knew what Otago's rugby colours are, and all recognised the late Sir Jim Barnes, athlete, MP for St Kilda and Mayor of Dunedin.

The OSA's membership has been revealed as a bunch of television soap addicts, since all 20 teams could identify the line 'You're not in Guatemala now, Dr Ropata' as being from the very first episode of *Shortland Street* in 1992. Radio memories are almost as strong: only one team (oddly enough, the winning one) did not remember the 1920s song 'Along the Road to Gundagai' as the theme tune of the radio serial *Dad and Dave from Snake Gully*, made from 1937 to 1953. Only half the teams could recall Frank Muir and Denis Norden as the writers of *Take It From Here* (1948-60), though. OSA Members are no strangers to the internet and Megaupload, either, all but two of the teams correctly identifying the larger-than-life Kim Dotcom, *né* Schmitz. Their culinary knowledge is however a little shakier: *tout le monde* knows vinegar comes from the French *vin aigre*, but only half the teams identified Chop Suey in its modern form as a Chinese-American invention, and no-one at all remembered that lettuce (*Lactuca sativa*) is a member of the daisy family (*Asteraceae*) that also includes sunflowers and asters.

Then things came further unstuck: only one team identified Sir Murray Halberg as the first New Zealander to run a mile in less than four minutes (3 min 57.5 sec, in Dublin in 1958). Only two teams could name all our last four Governors-General: Number 21, Dame Patsy Reddy, may be yet to make her mark on the public consciousness, but poor old No 19 Sir Anand Satyanand probably long ago resigned himself to having his name misspelt. Though many people still begrudge having had to pay it, no-one can now remember how much a television licence cost when first introduced in 1960: £4, about 3 per cent of the cost of the TV set itself, or the price of 209 pints of milk. Many questions tested members' knowledge of our region, but Will McKee's railway map proved the clincher. Most of the station names on the Otago Central line had been left blank, and even former regular travellers would have been hard pressed to name them all in the correct sequence; nonetheless two teams completed the map faultlessly.

The meeting was well attended, and many members took the opportunity to visit Pixie Town before the quiz began. The evening was rounded off with the drawing of a Christmas raffle and refreshments that included mince pies, Christmas cake and strawberries.

If You Want To Get Ahead ...

A very large number of members and friends, many of them in appropriately stylish hats, attended the launch of Hilary Hunt's book about the renowned society milliner Lindsay Kennett at the Museum on 24 November. This attractive book received funding from the A & I Reed Trust, which supports publications of local interest and is administered by the OSA.

A Passion for Fashion: The Life of Lindsay Kennett, Master Milliner, as told to and written by Hilary E Hunt. Hardback, 192 pages. $59.95 (With OSA members' 15% discount $50.96 plus $5 packing and postage. Please make out cheques to the DCC.)

Top left: OSA President Susan Schweigman addresses the 2016 Christmas Meeting. **Top right:** Members at the well-stocked prize table. **Above right:** Quizmaster Will McKee and Question-Setter Bob Hopkins.

Summer Intern

Congratulations to Tom Rawcliffe, who was awarded the OSA summer prize internship for the top second-year History student at the University. His project was to help research and curate the 'change-out' of the twentieth-century timeline cases, which will take place towards the end of this year. At present the theme of these display cases is food, and the provisional new theme is 'Disappearing Dunedin Icons of the Twentieth Century.' The summer internship is now in its twelfth year, but only three of Tom's predecessors have been male: Anthonie Tonnon (2006-7), now a well-known singer-songwriter in Auckland; Tim Hyland (2008-9), who recently completed an MPhil in the History of Science at Cambridge University; and Nat Christensen (2012-13), who is a guide and science communicator at Otago Museum. The OSA is developing a closer relationship with the History Department, and Dr Michael Stevens has accepted the liaison role with the Promotions and Membership Committee.

We Know You're Out There

The OSA office would like to hear from members in Southland, south and Central Otago, Canterbury, Wellington and Auckland (and all points north). From time to time in the past the Association has organised meetings in your areas where numbers have warranted them, most notably in Christchurch and Auckland. If you feel the time is right for another local get-together, please contact Kylie at the OSA office. The Museum's Director, Jennifer Evans, spoke recently at an Auckland meeting, and something similar may be possible in your area as well — do let us know.

From the Committee

The OSA Committee is pleased to welcome Councillor Marie Laufiso as its new DCC appointee, replacing John Bezett who retired from the Council at last year's elections.

After months of behind-the-scenes work, we hope to launch the OSA's new website at Anniversary weekend. The new membership database is working very well, and Kylie has been busy tracking down members whose details need updating.

Seeking a Fortune in Xinxilan

The Museum's new documentary about Otago's Chinese heritage, 'The Journey to Lan Yuan,' follows the early settlers from their homes in southern China to seek their fortunes in New Zealand, or 'New Gold Mountain.' The Otago Provincial Government invited the first miners here from the Victorian goldfields in 1865, and by the 1880s the Chinese formed the most significant non-European ethnic group in the province, with more than 5,000 members. Decades later, others came here to escape the Japanese invasion of China or later the Communist takeover. Presented by curator Seán Brosnahan, this documentary visits significant sites around Otago, Southland and Northland, and further afield in Australia and China. It will be shown in the northern 'bullnose' end of the former NZR Road Services bus station every day at 10.15 am and 1 pm until April, and from then on at 'Lan Yuan,' the Dunedin Chinese Garden.

Happy Anniversary

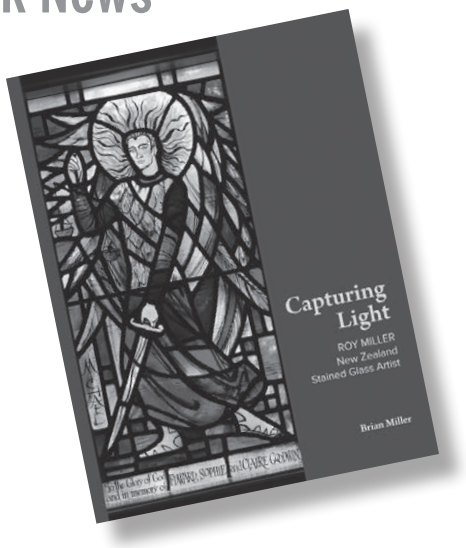
Members are cordially invited to First Church at 10 am on Sunday, 19 March to commemorate the 169th anniversary of the foundation of Otago. Our President Susan Schweigman will read one of the lessons at the service, which will be followed by morning tea.

You are also all invited to the Anniversary Day dinner to be held on Tuesday, 23 March at the Dunedin Club. The theme is the Otago Peninsula Trust's fiftieth anniversary: 'Golden Peninsula Guardians.' Sophie Barker, a peninsular stalwart and the trust's marketing manager, will share her insights about the people, projects and passions of the Otago Peninsula Trust as it celebrates fifty years dedicated to preserving and enhancing the peninsula.

Be welcomed into John Jones' gracious home with a glass of bubbly and enjoy a buffet dinner in congenial company, and learn about how the Otago Peninsula Trust has helped Dunedin grow as a famous ecotourism destination. Time: 6.45pm, to be seated by 7pm. (A cash bar will operate.) Tickets cost $55, available from the Scottish Shop, 17 George Street, or the OSA office (for contact details see the back page).

Above: Councillor Marie Laufiso, the new DCC appointee to the OSA Committee.

Book News



Capturing Light: Roy Miller, New Zealand Stained Glass Artist, 1915-1981
by Brian Miller (Dunedin: Lifelogs Ltd, 2016) Hardback, 272 pages: 354 colour and 18 monochrome illustrations. $69.99 (With OSA members' 15% discount $59.49 plus $5 packing and postage. Please make out cheques to the DCC.)

Most works of art suffer if left in bright sunlight, but instead stained glass comes to life. It also makes for a beautiful book. Brian Miller, well known as a photographer and formerly as proprietor of Tapui Children's Books in Dunedin, has spent six years researching and photographing the work of his uncle Roy, as well as the careers of the artists who produced the designs for him. Roy Miller was New Zealand's leading artistic craftsman in stained glass in the third quarter of the last century, creating more than 330 windows in the course of his career. About 130 churches all over the country have examples of his work. He worked for the family signwriting firm, OG Miller of Dunedin, which had been founded by his father Oswell in 1913. Toitū has an example of Roy Miller's signwriting on Jack Didham's Morris Commercial truck. Roy's brother Ralph also worked for Miller & Sons, and was a talented artist in his own right. His biography, *Moments in Time: Ralph Miller — Artist, 1918-1956*, was published by his son Brian in 2013.

When in 1942 Robert Fraser, the first glass painter in New Zealand, was about to retire, he offered to teach Roy the art and craft of stained glass. OG Miller purchased Fraser's Art Glass Works in 1943 and Roy began making windows, initially on a very small scale. Business picked up after the war and the firm became Miller Studios in 1958. Ecclesiastical stained glass is altogether more sophisticated than the sort of lead lights you will find in any old villa. It entails the collaboration of an artist, who designs the window, and an artistic craftsman, who actually makes the stained glass. Handmade coloured glass is painted with the artist's design and then fired in a kiln to fuse the paint with the glass. Frederick Ellis of Wellington provided the designs for Miller Studios in the fifties, then the English designer Kenneth Bunton in the sixties. Beverley Shore Bennett designed many of Miller's windows from the late sixties until the studio closed in 1988 due to lack of orders following the stock-market crash. Roy Miller's last work had been three windows for Christ Church Cathedral, Christchurch, for which he came out of retirement in 1981 to work with his successor, Paul Hutchins.

This very attractive book is much more than just a biography of Roy Miller. It includes an overview of early Dunedin stained glass artists and many others involved with stained glass in New Zealand. It describes how the windows were made, together with their conservation and restoration, as well as assessing the current state of the art. It includes a list of every window made by Miller Studios, along with their designers and makers. This is organised geographically, which allows the reader to plan a church crawl to visit some of Roy's windows. As the author has also published a guide to using digital cameras, it is no surprise that the many photographs, all taken specifically for this book, are superb.

Members of the Association are entitled to a handy discount of 15% on the cost of books and other items from the Museum shop. They also have free access to the archives, and for those living outside Dunedin an hour's free research each year by the Archivist, Emma Knowles.

OTAGO SETTLERS ASSOCIATION

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