

Special Points of Interest

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Winter - Summer 2008

Issue 12

SUPPORTING JOURNALISTS

Agricultural Emissions Focus for Fellow

Tim Fulton is the winner of the 2008 NZ-UK Link Foundation Rural Journalist Fellowship, worth \$6,500. He will fly off to the UK later this month to take a look at the perception and reality of 'food miles' for British farmers, retailers and consumers and the management of agricultural emissions, both hot topics for agriculture.

The award marks the opening of 50th anniversary celebrations for the New Zealand Guild of Agricultural Journalists and Communicators this year that will culminate in a special national conference for that organisation in Wellington in October. The Link Foundation has contributed \$5,000 to the Fellowship, in a New Zealand Discretionary Fellowship awarded this year, and the Guild has made up the difference.

Tim Fulton, 32, is the editor of the *New Zealand Farmers Weekly* newspaper, and appears as a farming correspondent on TV One's *Business Breakfast* programme and on the nationally syndicated radio programme, *The Farming Show*.

He has been surprised at how many people are aware of his trip through various media reports. "It's also been nice to have colleagues from other newspapers offer to help out with possible story contacts. I will have no lack of potential interview subjects and both the Guild and the Link Foundation have already been very helpful in this area.

"While the object of my trip is to examine perceptions of food miles and the effect the concept will have on New Zealand and British agriculture and retailing, I am also likely to be looking into the management of agricultural



Left to right: President of the Guild of Agricultural Journalists and Communicators, Hugh Stringleman, Tim Fulton 2008 NZ-UK Link Foundation Rural Journalist, Mark Horton Chairman of the NZ-UK Link Foundation's NZ Management Committee and BBC environmental journalist Alex Kirby, who spoke at the presentation on 21 April (see page 2).

emissions in a wider sense, including emissions trading schemes and other systems designed to limit carbon and nitrous oxide emissions," he says.

Tim leaves for the UK on June 23 and will return home again on July 7, giving him a whirlwind tour, "including a visit to the Royal Show in Warwickshire and interviews with farming groups, major British retailers and a smattering of the general public."

The award was announced at an event, hosted by the British Consul-General, on 21 April by Guild president and senior agricultural correspondent, Hugh Stringleman.

The joint function was also lucky to be able to snaffle BBC environmental journalist Alex Kirby

who was on a fleeting visit to New Zealand after speaking at a media summit in Samoa (see page 2).

Link Friends and Guild members heard the Link Foundation's New Zealand Management Committee chairman Mark Horton comment that, both historically and on an ongoing basis, agriculture is a strong link which exists between the two countries, as well as being a dynamic industry not entirely free of controversy. "So, the proposal from the Guild of Agricultural Journalists and Communicators for financial assistance to send a journalist to the UK was one which the Foundation judged to be squarely within its aims and very happy to support," he said.

New Zealand Discretionary Fellowships Open

Applications for the 2008-09 Fellowships, which are open to citizens and residents of New Zealand, close on 31 July 2008. More details and applications forms are available at www.nzuklinkfoundation.org or contact Tony Fryer, New Zealand Executive Officer at link-foundation@clear.net.nz, telephone (04) 924 2800 or fax (04) 473 4982.

SUPPORTING CHEFS & CHORISTERS...

New Video Woos Young Chefs

A new video, the production of which was donated by visual communicators Breeze and Freeze, has been prepared and is wooing new entrants for the 2008 NZ-UK Link Foundation Culinary Challenge in the UK, the sixth time the competition has run there.

After his involvement with the competition for a number of years, on behalf of Deer Industry New Zealand - one of the UK competition sponsors and his client - director Ian Damms says he has been caught up in the enthusiasm for

the competition developed by Peter Gordon and the Foundation. He and his team have worked on the video which is encouraging young chefs to enter the Challenge.

"Our core business is visual media production so we have utilised our skills, footage and the still pictures that I have taken over the past few events and added some footage kindly donated by Tourism New Zealand to create a short promotional video for the event."

The finalists of this year's competition will be facing each other in late September at a cook-off at Westminster Kingsway College on 10 November and the winner will be announced at a function at New Zealand House on the following evening, 11 November.

Meanwhile, New Zealand young chefs are getting prepared for the final cook-off of the NZ-UK end of the competition, which will take place in Wellington on 7 July 2008. This is one of the categories in the Hospitality Standards Institute's annual awards of excellence.



Captured on film, the inspiration behind the award, Peter Gordon, talks warmly of the advantages of entering the competition.



Selin Kiazim (left), the fifth NZ-UK Link Foundation Culinary Challenge Fellow, from the UK, received her 2007 award at a function at the top of New Zealand House in London last October. She is pictured here celebrating her win with (left to right) the award's instigator, Pat Alston, New Zealand High Commissioner the Rt Hon Jonathan Hunt and National Chairman of the British Craft Guild of Chefs, Nick Vadis. Her New Zealand report has just been released and is up online at www.nzuklinkfoundation.org/fellowships/nz-uk-link-foundation-culinary-challenge.php.

The video can be viewed at www.nzuklinkfoundation.org or can be supplied on DVD from the UK Executive Officer at linkuknz@talktalk.net or +44 (0)20 7839 3423.

Cathedral Choir Tour of UK in July

NZ-UK Link Foundation Discretionary Fellows Miriam Chote, Andrew Baldwin and Gillian Nelson (pictured...) left to right) will join fellow members of the Choir of the Wellington Cathedral of St Paul as they head off on 23 July on tour in the UK.



The choir's UK itinerary to date includes:

- **St George's Chapel, Windsor** – Choral Evensong, 5.15pm, Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 July; Choral Matins 10.45am and Eucharist, 11.45am, Sunday 27 July.
- **Westminster Abbey** – Choral Evensong, 5pm, Monday 28 July to Sunday 3 August (excluding Wednesday 30 July).
- **Westminster Cathedral** – Evening Choral Mass, 6pm, Saturday 2 August.
- **Southwark Cathedral, London** lunchtime concert, 1.10pm, Tuesday 29 July.

- **Selwyn College Chapel, Cambridge** – Choral Evensong, 5.30pm, Monday 4 August.
 - **Ely Cathedral** – lunchtime concert, 1.10pm, Tuesday 5 August.
 - **St John's College, Cambridge** – Choral Evensong, 5.30pm, Tuesday 5 August.
 - **Lichfield Cathedral** – lunchtime concert, 1.10pm, Wednesday 6 August and Choral Evensongs, 5.30pm Wednesday 6 and Thursday 7 August.
- After the UK, the choir will head off to Paris to sing at services at Notre-Dame and St Eustache cathedrals.

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Food Crises are of Very Great Concern

Alex Kirby, the presenter on BBC Radio Four's *Costing the Earth* environmental series, who spoke at the Friends of the Link function in Auckland on 21 April, said food crises are of very great concern right now. An engaging speaker, Alex Kirby told the audience that environmental and agricultural stories are moving up regularly to the top news items.

If we persist with things as they are - with the world's population rising, two thirds of countries

predicted to be water scarce by 2030 and food prices rising rapidly, as pointed out in the recent International Monetary Fund report - we will be in trouble, he said.

"Climate change is serious, it's happening and there's almost not enough time to sort it out. We have the opportunity now to manage resources to avoid disaster."

"It's tremendous that New Zealand has launched the emissions trading scheme," he said,

"but how it's going to be managed when the main exports are agriculture and tourism is another matter. You don't need to do less, but you can do it smarter."

Globally, the world needs to change the ways of thinking about the environment, through leadership from the top, pressure from below and "instructive" disaster, from which lessons can be learned, Alex Kirby said.

... BUSINESS PEOPLE, MUSICIANS & PAINTERS...

Top UK Business School Offers \$100,000 Scholarship

Top UK business school, the Cranfield School of Management has joined with the Cranfield New Zealand Alumni to offer the Cranfield New Zealand Alumni Scholarship for another outstanding candidate of New Zealand origin to undertake a full-time MBA.

Applications closed on 20 May and entrants are now being considered for the offering of this scholarship, which replaced the James Stuckey Scholarship. The value of the scholarship will be close to \$100,000 and covers all the tuition fees for the full-time MBA programme, a \$20,000 contribution towards living expenses and \$3,000 from the NZ-UK Link Foundation for a return airfare. The New Zealand Institute of Management is also supporting the scholarship and will assist with the selection procedure.

The award is open to anyone who intends to return to work in New Zealand after the MBA.

The Cranfield School of Management is generally regarded as one of the top business schools in the UK and Europe and is currently ranked thirtieth in the worldwide *Financial Times* MBA survey. Alumni of the school include Ian Morrice, chief executive of The Warehouse and John McFarlane OBE, recently retired chief executive of the ANZ Banking Group.

Further information on the scholarship and details on how to apply for admission to the full-time MBA programme at Cranfield can be found at: <http://www.som.cranfield.ac.uk/som/mba/applications/nzalumni.asp>.

Current Cranfield New Zealand Alumni Scholar Adrian Wood worked for New Zealand insurance company AMI and was the area manager at Invercargill prior to embarking on his MBA. He says the Cranfield experience has been tremendous. "The programme is challenging, energising and a truly international experience; New Zealand being just one of the 37 nations represented among my cohort. The whole environment is designed to equip us to lead, extend our thinking, and provide a global perspective – it's been invaluable."



Elman Poole: Simon Over to New Zealand



Founding conductor of London's Southbank Sinfonia, Simon Over (pictured), will be visiting New Zealand in August to talk with the Southern Sinfonia about continuing contacts and holding auditions for the Elman Poole award and others. He will also provide master classes as well as promote the Southbank Sinfonia, which provides full-time professional experience for a year for recent music college graduates and a stepping stone into full professional orchestras.



Selection Panels Considering Entries

Various selection panels are seriously considering applications for other 2008 Fellowships. These include the **2008 Benfield/NZ-UK Link Foundation Scholarship**, **2008 Linking Minds** and the **2008 Cranfield New Zealand Alumni Scholarship**. More news on these in the next newsletter.

Separately from the Link Foundation, the British Council is offering a number of fully-funded exchange visits between New Zealand and the UK in its **Researcher Exchange Programme**. These are for post-doctoral research in any area, including science, engineering, technology, social sciences and humanities. The closing date for applications is 2 July 2008. For more information visit www.britishcouncil.org/science-rxp

Project Blake

The Southbank Sinfonia helped out on Project Blake - a year long multi-disciplinary project based on Blake's *Songs of Innocence and Experience* with South London school children. Left, Elman Poole Music Award Fellow violinist Anastasiya Filippochkina, of Christchurch, is helped out by a young tuba player, anxious that she should strike the right note.

Freeman White and Friends

Portrait painter Freeman White spoke to New Zealand Friends of the Link and Friends of the New Zealand National Portrait Gallery at a function in Wellington in March. Freeman, who was assisted by Link to take up a residency at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery in 2007, talked about his time in that Gallery and in the UK, as well as other parts of Europe.

Reporting back at the Link's New Zealand Management Committee annual meeting at Homewood in Wellington in April, chairman Mark Horton said it was extremely interesting to observe the several changes which Freeman has made to his painting style and to hear of his ambitions, both resulting from his UK experiences.

"Throughout his lecture, in which he warmly thanked the Foundation for its support, I was reminded of one of our aims, which is to foster an awareness of what each country has to offer the other," Mark said "Freeman certainly became well aware - and appreciative - of what the UK had to offer him and I suspect he would not have been backward in making the Scots and others aware of what New Zealand had to offer them."

The New Zealand Management Committee presented its 2006-07 annual report at the meeting, which is now available for download at the Contacts tab at www.nzuklinkfoundation.org

...POETRY AND OPERA...

Poetry Links Through Fern and Thistle

New Zealand is about as far as it's possible to get from Scotland. Yet there are strong cultural links between the two nations, and a new initiative is bringing them together online at www.spl.org.uk/new_zealand

Organised by the Scottish Poetry Library (SPL), **The Fern and The Thistle** features writers based in Scotland introducing their favourite New Zealand poets. The SPL hopes this will evolve into a poetry exchange, giving New Zealand readers the chance to discover Scottish poets in their turn.

As well as discovering New Zealand poetry online, Scottish readers are able to borrow some of the best contemporary New Zealand poetry. The Scottish Poetry Library has recently acquired a new collection of over 60 books, thanks to funding from Creative New Zealand, and will be adding to this collection over the next few years.



Andrew Johnson and Gerrie Fellows compare each other's work.

The Fern and The Thistle was launched with a live reading from Scottish and New Zealand poets Andrew Johnston and Gerrie Fellows, at the Scottish Poetry Library in Edinburgh and New Zealand House in London at the end of May. Both readings were well received and drew on the close cultural links between Scotland and New Zealand and on universal themes, in particular the work of New Zealand-born, Glasgow-based poet Gerrie Fellows, whose new collection about the conception and birth of a child by IVF

touches on the extremes of longing, loss and hope.

Despite extraordinary developments in communication and a constant coming and going between Scotland and New Zealand, both countries remain ill-informed, generally, about each other's literature, especially poetry. The Director of the Scottish Poetry Library, Dr Robyn Marsack, is a New Zealander born and bred, who saw a modest but significant way of altering this situation.

Dr Marsack said, "New Zealand and Scotland have a great deal in common, and it seems timely to exchange our poetries as both countries, in their own ways, learn to celebrate their culturally diverse communities - their linguistic heritage and expansion, the new, imaginative interpretations of the old 'fern' and 'thistle'."

Helen Lear: Curtain Call in Edinburgh



Helen Lear (left), the Link Foundation BA Fellow 2005 takes the final curtain call in Edinburgh with the rest of the cast of Gounod's Faust. Helen played the part of Marguerite in the Edinburgh Grand Opera Company performance which she says went well. "Marguerite is an incredible role, and I really enjoyed the chance to tackle a role that is demanding

vocally and emotionally" she reports. Now back at College, she is working steadily towards her final recital on 16 June at which she will sing one of Marguerite's arias, four pieces from Berlioz's *Nuits d'Été*, a Granados piece in Spanish, a Japanese piece from a composer at the College and some Schumann and Schubert.

New Zealand: British Council Changes

New British Council country director in New Zealand **Ingrid Leary** joins the Link Foundation's New Zealand Management Committee as an ex-officio member.

A former award-winning international television journalist, Ingrid has 20 years' experience in New Zealand and Pacific broadcasting. She has covered breaking stories around the globe for *3 News*, *Campbell Live* and the *New Zealand Herald*. Her career has taken her to every continent, with regular trips to the UK and Europe.

Ingrid is the first locally-appointed director of the British Council, which Adrian Greer, British Council Regional Director East Asia says, "is a sign of our strong commitment to the continuing relationship between New Zealand and the UK."

"Ingrid's outstanding track record in communications and intercultural

relations are skills which will equip her well to build on the excellent work of Paula Middleton, the outgoing country director, and her team. We look forward to working closely with our partners in the areas of creative industries, climate change, educational opportunity and cultural relations throughout New Zealand in the coming years."

"Even though the Council's offices have physically moved to Auckland, to take advantage of the larger population base and other efficiencies, with the development of modern communications, we expect the links between the Foundation and the British Council to be as strong as ever," Mark Horton says.

Sadly, the Committee has farewelled and thanked its ex-officio member, former British Council director **Paula Middleton**, who gave tremendous input to the Foundation's

activities over the past three years. Paula is returning to London to take up a post there but has promised to maintain her interest in the Foundation.



Ingrid Leary

...AND FILM ARCHIVES

Raising Film's Profile in the Digital Age

Discovering alternative attitudes to film and its audience enables a broader understanding of another society and its film history, thus raising film's profile in the digital age, and positively influencing the education of future archivists," says 2007 NZ-UK Link Foundation Fellow Amanda Randall, an MA film archivist at the University of East Anglia.

Reporting back after her four week study tour to New Zealand last year, Amanda said she wanted to visit the New Zealand Film Archives, "because of their world-renowned community outreach programme and their education scheme, which enjoy a high profile in New Zealand's primary and secondary sectors."

During her visit, she spent time with the Education Department's outreach manager Jane Paul, learning

how she works with communities to produce a well-researched programme that will attract a fair-sized audience. "Once common in village halls, regional public showings of archive film in Britain are now almost obsolete," she said adding that she also learned about the Archive's strong relationship with the Maori community, "and the profoundly emotional attachment that this community often has with moving images of their forebears."

"This was a fascinating insight into a different way of thinking about archival material," she said. She would have liked more time to learn more about that dimension of film archiving that she said is unique to New Zealand.

The Link's connections with UEA and the East Anglia Institute of Film

enabled a unique learning experience that contributed significantly to her MA, she said.

"Maintaining a strong relationship between EAFA and NZFA will certainly benefit future archive students."



Amanda Randall

Governor-General Congratulates Link

More than 80 people gathered in Auckland at a function at Government House Auckland hosted by Their Excellencies the Governor-General of New Zealand, the Hon Anand Satyanand and Mrs Susan Satyanand on 6 June 2008, the Queen's official birthday.

Guests included Dame Catherine Tizard, the Rt Hon Jonathan Hunt, British High Commissioner George Fergusson and Margaret Fergusson and the chairman of Link in New Zealand, Mark Horton and Gillian Horton, along with Friends of the NZ-UK Link and corporate contacts in Auckland. All enjoyed canapés and wine and were entertained by pianist Jean-Paul Muir in the new pavilion.

Welcoming the guests, the Governor-General spoke about the history of the Foundation and its objective of making each country aware of what the other has to offer, which he considered even more relevant today when the future of the UK is so closely tied to Europe. Similarly New Zealand has forged its own Pacific identity, but the links which it has with the UK, including Her Majesty the Queen, the English language and our common form of Government, are a well established part of New Zealand national life. He referred to the wide range of interests which Link Fellows have pursued in both countries and congratulated the Foundation on its vision and determination.

"As Governor-General and your Vice-Patron, I congratulate the Foundation and its many volunteers throughout the country on your ongoing work.

"While times have changed from those when my predecessor Lord Cobham 50 years ago referred to New Zealand's connection to the 'Mother Country,' I remain convinced that while our traditional friendship with Britain will continue to evolve, it will remain as enduring and valued as before," the Governor-General said.

In his thanks, Mark Horton spoke of His Excellency's long-standing interest in the Foundation and of the Foundation's delight when he accepted the office of Vice Patron.

Greg Thornton, one of the 2007 Linking Minds Fellows and currently head of mathematics at Takapuna Grammar School, gave an inspiring account of the benefits he had experienced from the Linking Minds programme. He spoke of how the opportunity to visit the UK with other teachers who had not previously met and the schools which they visited, proved to be very beneficial to both his teaching and leadership skills.

"The purpose of holding the reception in Auckland was to raise awareness of the Foundation in that city and generally it was felt that through the hospitality of Their Excellencies and the excellent address by Greg Thornton that aim was achieved," Mark Horton reports.



Fay Gair, the Hon George Gair and Dame Catherine Tizard attended the function.

Our People

New Trustees

David Thompson has been welcomed as a Trustee of the NZ-UK Link Foundation in the UK. An affirmed "NZ-ophile", David was born in Gloucestershire, attended Bristol Grammar School and says he still bears the scars from over 50 years of supporting Bristol Rovers! He then went to Swansea University and read some Politics and Economics, but spent more time playing hockey and acting, including with Kingsley Amis who was on the staff at that time.

His career included Unilever, British Oxygen and the Civil Service with a progression through commercial, training and recruitment work, latterly moving into the 'headhunting' role with international practices, before running his own company for 10 years.

Married to Carol for over 40 years, they have two daughters and four grandchildren. Activity in retirement focuses on trying to watch a respectable amount of cricket, David says, and the target is 50+ days a year, between England, Australia and New Zealand ... David is probably the only Brit who saw New Zealand beat both Australia and England by 10 wickets in the last year!

Various roles at his alma mater, Cranfield School of Management, include being on the Alumni Association Board and Co-ordinator for the Link Foundation supported Annual Cranfield New Zealand Alumni Scholarship, help to keep the grey matter working. Happily, this only leaves limited time for gardening, DIY and keeping a far from new house in rural Buckinghamshire from falling down!

Incoming New Zealand High Commissioner, career diplomat, **Derek Leask** has become an ex-officio member of the Board of Trustees following the return to New Zealand of **The Rt Hon Jonathan Hunt**.



David pictured with his picket fence at the Basin Reserve cricket ground in Wellington.

2008: ANZACs and "our" Sir Edmund honoured

ANZAC Day is celebrated fittingly in London. In a simple but moving ceremony, wreaths are laid at the Cenotaph, closing for several hours one of the capital's main thoroughfares. Westminster Abbey is always thronged for the annual service. This year Beatrice King, daughter of Link Trustee Catherine and Link Executive Officer Francis King, was one of the children who read short prayers at the service, as was the daughter of Sean Fitzpatrick (all the parents happy to be outshone on this occasion by their children, as Francis pointed out). I am told that increasing numbers attend the dawn ceremony in London. So Britain and New Zealand unite in remembering especially those from New Zealand and Australia who lost their lives in the ill-fated campaigns at Gallipoli and ANZAC Cove.

By special order of Her Majesty The Queen, there was a magnificent service at St George's Chapel, Windsor, on 2 April, to give thanks for the life of Sir Edmund Hillary KG ONZ KBE, and to parade for the last time his banner as Knight of the Garter. It may seem hard to reconcile the tradition and ceremony involved in the Garter rituals, with the bluntness, straightforward modesty, and Kiwi practicality which Sir Ed habitually displayed. However his huge achievements not only as a mountaineer and explorer, but also in self-sacrificial service for the benefit of humanity and generations yet unborn, made him an exceptionally worthy holder of that ancient distinction. His membership of the Order of the Garter demonstrated yet again the closeness of the relationship between New Zealand and Britain.

Although the links between these two countries are so many and various, there are always initiatives seeking support from the Link Foundation in its special areas of interest, those of education and culture.

Just one excellent example of this was on display in May, when two young classical musicians from New Zealand - Elman Poole Music Fellow violinist Anastasiya Filippochkina and double bass player Bella Leslie - took part in a marvellous concert given by the Southbank Sinfonia. This orchestra was set up to provide a springboard for newly graduated instrumentalists into the difficult world of professional music. The musicians perform to the highest standards, enhancing their own experience and confidence, and also giving great pleasure to the audience. I am delighted the Link Foundation is helping these two talented young women at the outset of their careers. I wish them, and all those assisted by the Link Foundation, every success.

Martin Williams CVO OBE, Chairman Trustees, NZ-UK Link Foundation

Thanks

Our very grateful thanks go to the New Zealand Lottery Community Fund for its grant towards the printing of our 2008 newsletters.

Patron: HRH The Princess Royal
Vice-Patron: HE The Governor-General
President: Dame Kiri Te Kanawa

The NZ-UK Link Foundation (formerly the Waitangi Foundation) is a registered charity in the United Kingdom (Number 802457) and has charitable status in New Zealand.

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Produced and printed by Pivotal Services