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Spring (NZ)  
Autumn (UK) 2011

Issue 20

## SUPPORTING FILM ...

### First Ever NZ Film Festival Held In UK

The first ever NZ Film Festival has been held in the UK at the Barbican in London as part of the City of London Festival and was supported by the NZ-UK Link Foundation as a major sponsor of the initiative.

Academy Award-nominated director Taika Waititi flew in from Los Angeles to open the festival on the opening night (1 July) Friday with his latest crowd-pleaser *Boy*, and did a question and answer session on Saturday following the groundbreaking comedy *Eagle Vs Shark*.

Also on Saturday, actress Celeste Wong introduced a special preview screening of Roseanne Liang's latest film *My Wedding & Other Secrets*. The programme for the rest of the weekend featured a rich crop of recent features and shorts that reflect and celebrate New Zealand's unique talent, including comedy *Sione's Wedding*, *The Topp Twins - The Untouchable Girls*, *In My Father's Den* and *Tracker*.

The Festival began with a reception hosted and sponsored by the NZ High Commission and the NZ Ministry of Culture and Heritage with over 100 guests. NZ High Commissioner Derek Leask



Taika Waiti, director of popular NZ movie *Boy*, speaking at the opening of the festival. Photos: Barry Lewis.

opened the evening reception held in the exotic surroundings of the Conservatory in the Barbican where he introduced Taika Waititi and Anna Yallop, a former NZ-UK Link Foundation Trustee who had seen the project through from its inception. Ngati Ranana performed for the invited audience and set the tone for a great evening.

The Festival was very enthusiastically received, reports Anna, and there is talk of doing another one and also touring the

Festival to form part of the Edinburgh Festival next year.

The Foundation has been a longstanding supporter of the idea of a NZ Film Festival and after a very long gestation period - over five years - it provided the seed money for the initiative, explained Anna, adding that it was thrilling to have the first ever NZ Film Festival staged in the UK. "It wouldn't have happened without the assistance of the NZ-UK Link Foundation."



Ngati Rahaga, the London Maori cultural group, performed at the festival opening in the Barbican conservatory.



Anna Yallop left and HE Derek Leask addressed the audience, with Foundation Trustee Dorothy Garland watching (standing, scarf on shoulder).

## SUPPORTING MARINE BIOLOGY ...

### Marine Reserves in Focus

New Zealand marine biologist Jonathan Gardner of Victoria University Wellington is partway through delivering a lecture series in the UK about the importance of marine reserves, as part of the NZ-UK Link Foundation's Visiting Professorship programme.

Professor Gardner - the second Visiting Professor - arrived in the UK at the end of September and settled in to his accommodation in Goodenough College in London in preparation for his three month visit and four public speaking

engagements. Following a couple of days of rest while getting familiar with his surroundings in Bloomsbury, Jonathan installed himself in an office provided by The School of Advanced Study, University of London.

While in the UK, Jonathan is also meeting other groups with an interest in his speciality, Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), whilst carrying on with his own research.

New Zealand is generally regarded as a world leader in marine protection because it has

established 33 full 'no take' marine reserves, with several others planned. The UK has three statutory marine nature reserves, in addition to a number of other types of marine protected areas.

Professor Gardner has research expertise in the fields of MPAs, biodiversity conservation and population genetics. During his time in the UK, he is bringing together these fields to address the UK's new Marine Bill and New Zealand MPAs Policy and Implementation Plan. The expectation is that his work will contribute to a greater understanding of how MPAs can most effectively be set up and run to achieve their conservation goals and help protect marine biodiversity.

"Worldwide, it is recognised that marine resources are depleted and that many of man's actions now threaten marine biodiversity," Professor Gardner comments, adding that the subject is common to both countries, at the forefront of marine planning and has wider international relevance.



HRH The Princess Royal with Dr Julie Maxton (left), Foundation chairman Sir Graeme Davies and deputy High Commissioner Belinda Brown.

### First lecture: with The Royal Society

The first lecture was planned in partnership with The Royal Society and was held on the evening of 31 October.

Amongst the 80 or so invited guests, was the Foundation's Patron, HRH The Princess Royal who is no stranger to The Royal Society, having been a Royal Fellow since 1987.

The event was introduced by the Foundation's new chairman, Sir Graeme Davies, following which Jonathan gave his lecture. Professor Bob Watson, the chief scientific advisor to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) replied on behalf of the British government department.

After a question and answer session, during which both speakers fielded some particularly insightful questions from the audience, HRH brought the lecture to a conclusion with some closing remarks.

The guests repaired to the splendour of the Marble Hall where a reception had been arranged by the Foundation.

"All in all it was an excellent evening and a fitting start to Jonathan's Visiting Professorship," says Sir Graeme. "Our thanks go to The Royal Society for partnering the Foundation in this, the inaugural lecture in this year's series, and to Goodenough College and the School of Advanced Study."



Professor Gardner in full flow.

#### Go along and learn

Professor Gardner has already spoken at two engagements: the Royal Society on 17 October about New Zealand's experience of 'The importance of marine reserves and marine protected areas'; and at Plymouth University on 3 November about the design of a Marine Protected Areas network. The two remaining talks are on:

- Thursday, 29 November at York University - 'Do Marine Reserves deliver conservation benefits'; and
- Wednesday 7 December 2011 at the Zoological Society, London - 'The future of Marine Protected Areas'.

For more information contact: Steve Rowland-Jones, the Foundation's UK Executive Officer. Email: [nz-uk.link@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:nz-uk.link@hotmail.co.uk), or visit [www.nzuklinkfoundation.org](http://www.nzuklinkfoundation.org).

## ... LITERATURE...

### Tea and Katherine Mansfield

A British literary effort focusing on the works of the internationally celebrated NZ writer, Katherine Mansfield, has been assisted by the NZ-UK Link Foundation ... and an afternoon tea.

Dr Gerri Kimber, an associate lecturer with The Open University and chair of the international Katherine Mansfield Society, is working with the Society's president NZ poet and writer Vincent O'Sullivan on two large volumes, collating all of Katherine Mansfield's extant fiction. The work, which when finished will be published by Columbia University Press, has never been done before. The Foundation helped with getting her to NZ to research at the Turnbull Library in Wellington.

"This internationally important project will redefine the status of

NZ's most celebrated writer for the next generation," she says.

Both Gerri, an author of a number of books and articles on Mansfield and literary modernism, and Vincent spoke to Friends of the NZ-UK Link Foundation and others interested in Katherine Mansfield in Wellington, at an afternoon tea hosted by the British High Commissioner Her Excellency



Dr Joanna Woods.

Vicki Treadell at the 'Homewood' residence in August.

Gerri's presentation was on Katherine Mansfield's friendship with Bloomsbury individuals and Vincent spoke from the NZ perspective. Dr Joanna Woods gave an insightful introduction.

See [www.katherinemansfieldsociety.org](http://www.katherinemansfieldsociety.org).



Mansfield experts Vincent O'Sullivan (left) and Gerri Kimber present their thoughts.

### Seeking Ways to Understand Humanity

Teacher Lesley Shepherd, a recipient of a NZ-UK Link Foundation NZ Discretionary Award, has returned from her trip to London - and into the world of Shakespeare at the Globe Theatre - ready to "live happily ever after in her own recreation of all things Shakespeare, seeking always to understand humanity through his mirror," she says.

Lesley, director of teaching and learning at Macleans College in Auckland, was part of Shakespeare Globe Centre NZ (SGCNZ)'s Teachers Go Global project. They arrived in London, "well met by moonlight gleaming on the Thames River in the shadow of St Paul's Cathedral" and then their stage adventures began, she reports.

Among the experts the group met were the 'fairies' of research (Amy Kenny), stagemaster Bryan Paterson and teaching and learning practitioners (Sarah Nunn and Yolanda Valzquez) from whom Lesley discovered "so many wondrous ways

to make the Shakespeare texts leap off the page onto the stage and felt so privileged to be in the hands of these practitioners."

In addition, Giles Lock unlocked the magic of Shakespeare's words. Now Lesley appreciates how "prose is from the head and verse is the sound of sincerity, which is heart-felt." The teachers also received acting insights from Phil Cumbus about using words to play a character on the Globe stage, as well as insights from others into how the characters would have been dressed on stage in Shakespeare's times, what music they would have played and the instruments they would have played them on.

Three practitioners - form and moving, voice, and direction - helped the 20 teachers ready themselves for an on-stage performance, which soon had the audience laughing and crying, pointing and sighing and they bowed to rapturous applause, according to Lesley.

"Not to be outdone, the Young Shakespeare Company performed a powerful haka to open their astounding

performance and the teachers' hearts swelled with joy and pride to be part of this wondrous occasion."

Lesley says she has learned so much and has many plans to share it with all of her students and colleagues. She hopes that other teachers will in future have the same opportunity to explore and discover these wonders.

Lesley's entertaining and informative report can be viewed online at [www.nzuklinkfoundation.org](http://www.nzuklinkfoundation.org).



Lesley (left) as Benedick in *Much Ado About Nothing*.



The cast of NZ teachers on stage at The Globe.

#### 2012/13 NZ Discretionary Awards

Applications have now closed for the 2011/12 NZ Discretionary Awards and we'll have more detail on the winners in the next edition. The closing date for the 2012/13 NZ Discretionary Awards will be 31 October 2012. More information will be posted at [www.nzuklinkfoundation.org](http://www.nzuklinkfoundation.org) in due course.

## ... CULINARY SKILLS ...

### Pinned to Cuisine

**E**lliott Pinn of The George Hotel in Christchurch showed what it takes to become a future NZ culinary industry star after being named New Zealand's top culinary apprentice in the national annual Hospitality Standards Institute Modern Apprentice of the Year competition.



*The 2011 NZ-UK Link Foundation Cookery Modern Apprentice of the Year, revels in his work.*

Organised by the Hospitality Standards Institute (HSI), the fast-paced national competition saw eight selected apprentice chefs compete for the NZ-UK Link Foundation sponsored Cookery Modern Apprentice of the Year title - now considered a prestigious award - at the National Culinary Fare in Auckland on 19 July.

As winner of the award, Elliott receives a four-week work experience placement in England organised by famed Kiwi restaurateur Peter Gordon, including a week in Gordon's popular London restaurant, *The Providores*, and a grant to cover travel and living expenses.

The competition required that Elliott and his fellow cookery apprentices design a three-course menu based on a mystery box of ingredients given to each of them on the day, to be cooked within three hours. His winning menu was a sole boudin cauliflower with warm mussel salad, followed by roast free-range corn-fed chicken, pumpkin puree, vegetable textures and feta croquette. For dessert, Elliott went for dark chocolate marquise, with shortbread crumble and a spiced coconut sorbet.

HSI Chief Executive Steve Hanrahan says the high standard of the competition and entrants indicates the strong future of New Zealand hospitality. "The competitors have worked extremely hard to prepare for this event and are a great example of the talented, passionate young people who will go far in the hospitality industry," he says.

The HSI is the NZ hospitality industry's training organisation.



*Elliott exuding pure concentration during the final competition.*

## Reporting from London

Regnar Christensen, winner of the 2010 NZ-UK Link Foundation Cookery Modern Apprentice award, recently reported back to the Foundation on his British experience. He found it to be a vibrant, multicultural industry, where front of house personnel generally were more professional than those at home.

He picked out his favourite restaurant during his five week work experience - *The Berkeley* where he worked for Marcus Wareing. A virus

among the staff, with significant numbers off sick meant he had to step up and show off his skills "I was the first intern there to ever be allowed to work a section and I had to do it by myself, when there were normally two people working it."

He must have been successful as, subsequently, he was offered work with Marcus Wareing, along with several other restaurants. The highlight of his trip was "getting to taste food in some of the best

restaurants in the world" and also being offered work opportunities.

"The trip has completely changed my future and offers me opportunities for when I return to London."

Having returned to NZ, Regnar is now saving to get back to the UK to fulfil his dream of working abroad.

*A copy of Regnar's full report can be found on the website [www.nzuklinkfoundation.org/...](http://www.nzuklinkfoundation.org/...)*

## Ben Takes WorldSkills Gold

Many congratulations to last year's winner of the Foundation's British-based Culinary Challenge competition, commis chef Ben Murphy. Now working for *Koffman's* at the Berkeley hotel, Knightsbridge in London, Ben recently took out a coveted gold medal for cooking at WorldSkills London 2011. Ben, now 20, was a member of Team

UK in the global competition for vocational skills, which saw over 1,000 competitors from 52 countries/regions competing in 46 vocational skills.

The 2011 Culinary Challenge competition has been postponed for scheduling reasons, but will take place, possibly in April 2012.



*Ben is pictured (right) with Pierre Koffman.*

## ... AND THE STUDY OF BUSINESS

### Winner of \$80,000 Business Scholarship: Vivian Ho

The winner of this year's \$80,000 Cranfield NZ Alumni Scholarship is technology specialist Vivian Ho from Auckland, who will be completing an MBA at the Cranfield School of Management, one of Europe's top business schools.

After winning the scholarship Vivian noted: "The combination of an intimate environment, quality international peer group and the school's reputation makes the programme a brilliant opportunity."

Writing after surviving her first week, Vivian reports it was "full-on" and consisted of long days, working from seven in the morning to returning to the hostel at 11 at night. It was taxing on the first two



2011 Cranfield NZ Alumni Scholar Vivian Ho.



Vivan's study group for the first term. From left: Vatsan Govindarajan from India, Vivian Ho, Chiah Lim from Malaysia, Andres Sanchez from Spain and Niels Footman from Scotland.

days, she admits. "I kept reassuring myself it will be easier once it becomes a habit."

Cranfield is very strong on team-based learning, she has observed. "In fact, we are expected to learn as much from each other as from faculty members. For me, the value of an MBA isn't simply about a degree. MBA is about exposure to business from a global perspective brought together by the faculty members and fellow students. In my year, we have 80 students from 31 different countries."

Vivian is looking forward to a very fruitful year at Cranfield in the run up to her setting up a technology company in NZ at the end of the MBA programme. She

says she feels very grateful to be there and is thankful to all of the Scholarship's partners for their financial and personal support through her journey.

David Ryan, speaking on behalf of Cranfield alumni in NZ said: "The Cranfield MBA is a great chance to take any ambitious young professional's career to the next level. It offers a rare opportunity to learn about best business practice around the world in all areas of management, but it's a very arduous and demanding experience. The School takes graduates with strong academic credentials who already have had worthwhile management careers."

## Return Scholar

The 2010 scholar, Rhys Welbourne, arrived back in New Zealand with his family in August, after completing his year of study at Cranfield.

His comments confirm that Vivian can look forward to pressure in the first six months of the programme. "By contrast the second six months built upon our experiences and allowed us to focus on areas of personal development."

The highlight of Cranfield for Rhys was "in building relationships with the highly talented and diverse cohort; relationships that will last into the future. The experience has given me the confidence to

move forward in my career and the tools to succeed in a business environment."

Rhys, who also thanks the Foundation for its support in helping make the past year possible for him, has recently taken up a new role as the manager of infrastructure at PrimePort in Timaru. "I look forward to applying these new skills in the context of the NZ industry."

Before returning home, Rhys and his family spent time together in a trip around France.



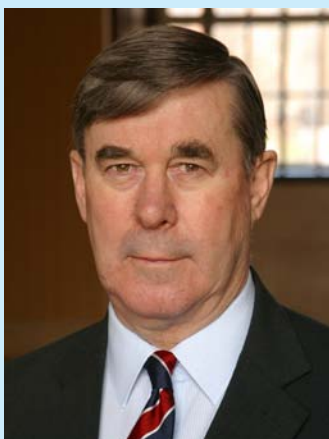
The Welbourne family admiring the beautiful architecture and history at the Hospice de Beaune in Burgundy.

The full-time MBA programme at Cranfield School of Management is ranked as the best in the UK and fourth in Europe, this year by *The Economist*. The course has been topped by New Zealanders for the past three years. The \$80,000 2011 scholarship was offered by Cranfield NZ Alumni, Cranfield School of Management and the NZ-UK Link Foundation. Application forms for the 2012 scholarship will be available at the Cranfield and Foundation websites in due course.

## UK Chairman's Comment

A great deal seems to have happened since I took on the UK chairmanship in July.

The 2011 Visiting Professor, Professor Jonathan Gardner, has now arrived in the UK and given his first lecture at The Royal Society in the presence of HRH The Princess Royal,



Sir Graeme Davies.

Patron of the NZ-UK Link Foundation (see page two for a detailed report of the event). Additionally, notices inviting applications for the 2012 Visiting Professorship have been sent to all the Vice-Chancellors of the NZ universities as well as to the Royal Society of NZ. Any readers who would like to see this notice can obtain copies from the executive officers or directly from me at graeme.davies@lon.ac.uk.

Not surprisingly, the Rugby World Cup has attracted a great deal of interest in the UK even though the home sides, apart from Wales, did not do too well. Like many in NZ and New Zealanders around the world, we heaved a collective sigh of relief when the all Blacks squeaked home 8-7. A well-deserved result in the end and an excellent international message - NZ has been through many trials and tribulations in the recent past and it is very pleasing to have some really good news.

The UK Trustees are currently giving considerable thought to

different ways in which we can build more strongly connections between the UK and NZ. We are, of course, very pleased with the way the Visiting Professorship initiative has been received. However, more needs to be done. In that context, there is no doubt that additional funding would be very helpful and one of the issues under scrutiny is the matter of further fundraising. The Foundation is just over 21 years old and we have been living largely off the resources raised initially. We have it in mind to initiate a fundraising campaign in 2012. I would expect to be able to say more in my next message but I feel that it is important at this time to put down a marker.

It will not surprise readers to know that I am thoroughly enjoying my new role and that I very much value the contributions made by my fellow UK Trustees.

Graeme Davies  
Chairman, Trustees, NZ-UK Link Foundation

## Headline: Simple hyphen signifies it all, says actor

The simple hyphen signifies it all, according to actor James Nesbitt who spoke to a NZ-UK Link Foundation lunch in Wellington on 16 June.

"The NZ-UK Link 'hyphen' represents 11,533 miles in old money... (and yet the two countries are brought closer by the Link Foundation)," he said.

In an erudite, articulate and very enjoyable after lunch speech he

sketched out his life to date growing up in Coleraine, County Antrim in Northern Ireland.

James said he had no interest in acting "at all" at an early age. Like his father and sisters, his initial intention was to teach and he began a degree in French at the University of Ulster in Belfast. But he dabbled in drama at University - he saw it as a good way to meet girls - his interest grew and he finally dropped out of university to attend the Central School of Drama, "think Laurence Oliver, Judi Dench ... and me!"

He received an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Ulster, which has since also made him Chancellor.

James campaigns on Alzheimer's, by which his mother is afflicted, and is a UNICEF ambassador, travelling the world once a year to draw attention to the charity's work.

He and his family are now living in Wellington while James works for film director Sir Peter Jackson, starring as Bofur in *The Hobbit*.

The popular intimate event, which had generous support from HSBC and was held at Wellington's Wellesley Boutique Hotel, sold out three weeks before deadline, leaving a waiting list. So don't leave it too long to get your places for the next function!!



James Nesbitt.



Listening intently are the guests on the HSBC table.

Patron: HRH The Princess Royal  
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 is registered in New Zealand as a charitable entity (Registration Number CC 36164).

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