

ABEL TASMAN MISCELLANY--MAY 2017

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Tena koutou katoa

It's over three months since the last newsletter, so there's quite a bit of news, especially as plans for commemorations are now actively underway, not just in Aotearoa, but also in Tasmania and the Netherlands, and we are now in contact with other groups and working towards making each other's plans known.

Newsletters will be more frequent from now on. Please send any items of news, especially plans you have for events this year!

You will notice that the name for the 2017 commemoration is now slightly different and more appropriate: **First Encounter 375**. This also fits with the example set by central government for marking the 250th anniversary of James Cook's first voyage in 2019 ("First Encounters 250").

1 "First Encounter 375" (FE 375) logo launched:

We appreciate the support of Manawhenua ki Mohua and artist Robin Slow for the design of this year's special logo, which is part of the signature at the end of this message. The te reo (Maori language) wording translated is "Commemoration 375". Here is Robin Slow's description of the significance of the imagery:

- The two manu (bird) forms on either side represent Mohua and Tasman. Mohua is the name of Golden Bay and the name of a manu, and one of the stories that come through tell of a large white bird coming into the area (the ships with the 'flapping' of the sails)
- The manu have four koru, for the manawhenua plus three mata waka of the area.
- The putatara in the central portion describes the conflict between the land (mouthpiece) representing Tane and the sea (shell) representing Tangaroa, bound together by pingao the peace maker. The instrument was a feature in the communications between Tasman and the iwi. Hence the message it conveys.

Copies of the logo are available in various formats and can be used in association with commemorative events/products: Contact: Penny Griffith at tasman1642.nz@gmail.com.

2 Local FE 375 Planning Group established:

A small group has been established to coordinate local (Golden Bay/Mohua) events. Main groups represented are Manawhenua ki Mohua, the Golden Bay Museum, local researchers, art community, schools, the Department of Conservation and the Dutch community. The group met for the first time on 24 April and will meet again on 12 June.

A Facebook page will be set up to provide regular information and updates to the wider community of interest--We'll let you know when this is active.

3 FE 375 events (in New Zealand)--known events in date order:

- **Wednesday 21 June (Wellington), 7.30 pm; gold coin donation: Ruediger Mack talk:** "The 375th Anniversary of Abel Tasman's Voyage; Some lesser-known aspects of his voyage through the Indian and Pacific Ocean". His talk is being hosted by the Maritime Archaeology Association of New Zealand as part of its monthly series, and will be held at the Museum of Wellington City and Sea. Contact MAANZ if you want more information about the meeting; contact details are on their website: maanzt.org.nz
- **July (Takaka, Golden Bay/Mohua):** Art exhibition at **ArtBank** on the theme of birds of Abel Tasman National Park. Contact: Grant Knowles tribulldrums@xtra.co.nz
- **late October--for Summer 2017/18 (Takaka, Golden Bay/Mohua):** Exhibition at **Golden Bay Museum Te Waka Huia o Mohua** on the theme of Abel Tasman National Park, which itself was part of the 300th anniversary commemoration in 1942. Contact: Golden Bay Museum info@goldenbaymuseum.org.nz
- **14-17 November (Nelson and Golden Bay/Mohua):** **Maria Gill** launches her new children's book: *Abel Tasman: Mapping the Southern Lands*. 14 November is launch at Nelson Provincial Museum (Nelson); 17 November (1pm) is public talk at Takaka Memorial Library. Book launch events are also planned for Wellington, Foxton and Auckland (details to come). Supported by the Netherlands Embassy. Contact: Maria Gill maria@mariaqill.co.nz
- **16-19 December 2017 (Golden Bay/Mohua): The main commemoration.**
The focus is now on a 4-day period. With the preceding weekend (16-17 December) being included this will broaden participation by the wider community, and we are delighted that the Netherlands Ambassador Rob Zaagman and Monique will definitely be here for this period.

We should have more details available for the sequence of events following our June meeting. As this is a very busy time of year, we recommend booking early if you are planning on visiting. Contact: Penny Griffith tasman1642.nz@gmail.com
- **18-19 December 2017 (Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, Foxton):** This new shared cultural facility (due to open approx October) will hold a commemoration. Some more information is on their website:
www.tans.org.nz/oranjehof-the-dutch-connection-centre.html
or on Facebook ... type in "te awahou nieuwe stroom"
- **Plans/details are still being developed around:**
 - > **Abel Tasman Monument Site** (above Ligar Bay)--a major refurbishment
 - > **Visit by Grootegast Officials**
 - > **Travelling exhibitions:** "Through Tasman's Eyes" and "Welcome Aboard"
 - > **Book launches**

4 Other things that have happened:

- > **8 February: Rosanne Hawarden** presented a paper "Triangulating the texts and illustrations of the 1642 Dutch expedition to New Zealand and Tonga: at the ANZAMEMS conference, an academic conference of mediaeval historians. If you'd like to know more, contact Rosanne direct: rosanne@computer-nz.com

- > **27 April--King's Day in Wellington:** Mayor Richard Kempthorne from Tasman District Council, and Mairangi Reiher and Penny Griffith from Golden Bay/Mohua attended the official Netherlands Embassy event to mark their monarch's birthday. Ambassador Zaagman and Hon Christopher Finlayson (representing the New Zealand government) both referred to this year's 375th milestone.

It was good to also meet up with Professor Lydia Wevers (who chaired the 370th anniversary seminar in 2012) and Ruediger Mack among the throng.

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With best wishes

Nga mihi  
na Penny Griffith



**Whakamaharatanga toru rau ma whitu tekau ma rima  
First Encounter 375 (1642-2017)**

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Remembering 1642 & the meeting of two worlds
visit >>> www.abeltasman.org.nz