

Abel Tasman Miscellany--July 2018

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## 1 Netherlands Embassy changes

We farewell Ambassador Rob & Monique Zaagman as they head back to the Netherlands at the end of July. They have both been wonderful supporters of a relationship acknowledging the Netherlands-New Zealand story which began in 1642 and has special links with Golden Bay/Mohua. They have participated whole-heartedly in many events and built friendships with Manawhenua ki Mohua, Ngati Tumatakokiri, Golden Bay Museum, and the new Oranjehof Dutch Connection Centre at Foxton (see para 3 below). Thank you for all you have done, Rob and Monique.

We look forward to meeting the new ambassador Mira Woldberg and her young family, and wish them happy and interesting times in Aotearoa.

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2 First Encounter 375 commemoration--Documentaries



Peter Blasdale's 47-minute documentary captures special moments from the 16-19 December commemoration here in Golden Bay/Mohua. Everyone involved is extremely appreciative of the huge effort in turning days of raw film footage into a wonderful permanent record of the main events. Shown at left, at the official opening, Doug Huria (Ngati Tumatakokiri) with the pounamu he presented to Ard van der Tuuk, Mayor of Grootegast (on Doug's left)

The documentary was first screened privately in mid-May to some of the people who had helped make it all happen, but it has since been released to "the world". You can watch it on YouTube: www.youtube.com/watch?v=M2pD_dCvjdY

An edited 12-minute version has been selected for screening in Nelson (14/15 September) and Blenheim (6 October) as part of the Top of the South Film festival. More info to follow.

The Informal Panel Discussion turned out to be a lively wrap-up to the commemoration on 19 December, which has its own video recording (1 hr 23 minutes), also just released on You Tube: www.youtube.com/watch?v=iZVWAXzqxRc

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## 3 Oranjehof & Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom (Foxton)

As part of the April 2018 Netherlands King's Day celebration, several important things happened at the Oranjehof Dutch Connection at Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom at Foxton. The Oranjehof tribute to the Dutch in Aotearoa from 1642 on was opened last December, and has since been named winner of Museums Aotearoa's annual "Museum Project Award":

- Arjan van der Boon, co-chair of the Museum Trust (right, at First Encounter 375), received a Dutch knighthood--**congratulations, Arjan!** Arjan also featured in Kim Hill's show on RadioNZ National on 12 May, speaking about the Oranjehof project. Listen to the podcast here: [www.radionz.co.nz/audio/player?audio\\_id=2018644612](http://www.radionz.co.nz/audio/player?audio_id=2018644612)
- *The "Welcome Aboard" Abel Tasman exhibition* (first shown in Golden Bay/Mohua) was opened--and is still open until 22 July. More info here: [www.teawahou.com/Whats-On/Abel-Tasman-Exhibition](http://www.teawahou.com/Whats-On/Abel-Tasman-Exhibition)

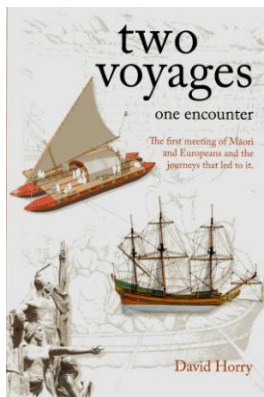




- *Four speakers presented a seminar of talks on different strands of the Tasman story: see photo above of (left to right) Ambassador Rob Zaagman with speakers: Dave Horry, Patricia Wallace, Te Kenehi Teira, Ruediger Mack.*

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4 Books now available



Dave Horry's *Two voyages* telling the parallel stories of Tasman's voyage and that of the Kurahaupo waka is now available in Kindle ebook and two different paperback formats.

Amazon has all three available. Go to www.amazon.com and type "Horry two voyages" in the Search box.

Copy Press (Nelson, NZ) published the most recent paperback edition (cover left); copies can be ordered via any bookseller or direct from them. Go to shop.realnzbooks.co.nz/shopn/spi/books and type "Horry two voyages" in the Search Bookshop box, or email: sales@realnzbooks.co.nz

- **Rhys Richards**, *Mori: Origins, Lifestyles and Language* is the latest interesting text from an independent researcher and publisher. Flyer is separately attached; or email parematapress@gmail.com
- **John Dunmore** continues to write on the Pacific: *Chasing a Dream: The Exploration of the Imaginary Pacific* (2016) and *Scoundrels & Eccentrics of the Pacific* (June 2018). Hard copies are available from booksellers or from the publisher, Upstart Press: upstartpress.co.nz/john-dunmore/ -- ebooks available from Amazon.com and Microsoft.com
- **Grahame Anderson's** *The Merchant of the Zeehaen: Isaac Gilsemans and the Voyages of Abel Tasman* (Te Papa Press, 2001): Several copies (second-hand, in very good condition) are available for NZ\$20 + postage. The book broke new ground in establishing the precise location of Tasman's anchorages and the coastal views. Contact tasman1642.nz@gmail.com if you are interested.
- **Maxwell Hill's** self-published *Voyages to the Ends of the Earth* (2017) is now available from Copy Press (as printer) in a slimmed-down version from the previous four editions. Based on pre-Tasman maps and unexplained mysteries of shipwrecks, DNA, etc., its aim is to "correct our flawed history". Order from Copy Press--links above in the Horry entry.

5 Ron Aaron remembered

Ron Aaron, who died in Nelson in May aged 96, was a UK-trained master model-maker. He created the wonderful models of Tasman's *Heemskerck* (right) and the scow *Pearl Kasper* which are on display in the Golden Bay Museum at Takaka. His final visit to the museum was in February 2016 (right).



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## 6 Abel Tasman Medal of Honour ('Erepenning') presented



For the second time since 2000 when it was initiated, the Municipality of Grootegast has awarded its Abel Tasman Medal of Honour ('Erepenning') to a New Zealander: Penny Griffith, Convenor of the First Encounter 375 Planning Group. The first New Zealand recipient (in 2000) was Nelson resident and proud Dutchman Addo Mulders, who has also collaborated with Penny on commemoration efforts.

Ambassador Rob Zaagman (left) presented the silver medal at the 19 May screening of the First Encounter 375 documentary in Takaka, explaining that it acknowledged Penny's work

organising events over several years to promote awareness of Tasman's voyage and its significance for Maori.

Also part of the presentation was a magnificent 2017 publication on the history of the Dutch East India Company (VOC), reflecting archival treasures held in the Netherlands State Archives (Nationaal Archief). For more information on this work go to: [wbooks.com/winkel/geschiedenis/the-dutch-east-india-company-book-2/](http://wbooks.com/winkel/geschiedenis/the-dutch-east-india-company-book-2/)



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7 Tuia Encounters 250 (2019)

The commemoration of the 250th anniversary of James Cook's First Voyage has been designated a "national event" which will be marked in New Zealand between October and December 2019. Central government has allocated a total of \$14 million funding: \$9 million of Lottery funds for community events plus a \$5 million initial grant to cover administration and visits by the *Endeavour* replica and waka hourua (Polynesian voyaging canoes).

You can read more about the plans for Tuia Encounters 250 here: mch.govt.nz/tuia-encounters-250/tuia-commemoration

It is pleasing to read that, in conjunction with Tuia Encounters 250, a new subject is to be introduced into the school curriculum by the Ministry of Education. This will teach students about the first encounters between Maori and Europeans, and our dual heritage.

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