

Discovery Miscellany--April 2021

The previous miscellany (September 2020) referred to the prospect of scientific discoveries that could bring hope of controlling Covid-19, and much has happened since on that front. This miscellany continues to focus on the Pacific Ocean Te Moana Nui a Kiwa and discoveries relating to that huge area of the world's surface.

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### 1 Cultural Heritage--Grant proposals invited

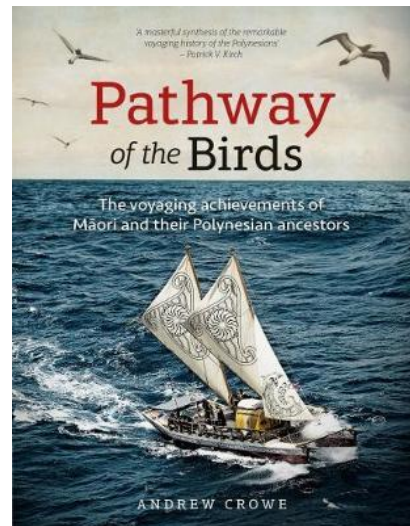
As part of the Netherlands government's international cultural policy 2021-24, its International Heritage Co-operation programme is inviting proposals relating to Dutch-Australian cultural heritage through the Canberra embassy. Grants are up to AUD 30,000 and the deadline for proposals is 1 October 2021. (There isn't a similar scheme for New Zealand.)

For more information go to: <https://tinyurl.com/yj38rurg>

### 2 Andrew Crowe: *Pathway of the Birds* (Bateman Books, 2018)

"The voyaging achievements of Maori and their Polynesian ancestors"; ISBN: 9781869539610

Science writer Andrew Crowe is well known as an author of helpful identification guides (e.g. *Which native tree?*) and he brings the same skills in presenting information to this substantial (288p.), attractive and award-winning book. It's full of photographs, maps and diagrams spread across 13 chapters. The author states (p.10) that he's not presenting any particular theory, but summarising what is currently known about early Polynesian migration. (*This work was listed in the December 2018 Miscellany, but without having seen a copy. So it's time for due recognition!*)



### 3 AKE MAI--Jump aboard a virtual voyage



Last month New Zealand retained the America's Cup for yacht racing, and brought innovative ways of sailing (or flying?) to the competition. The actual sailing was complemented by impressively enhanced digital coverage of the event created by Dunedin-based Animated Research Ltd (<https://arl.co.nz/>).

Founder of ARL Sir Ian Taylor (left, ARL image) has launched a new online project Mātauranga (knowledge) to teach children about the voyages of Polynesian migration and the technology and innovation that brought people to Aotearoa. Find out more here: <https://maatauranga.co.nz/>

#### **4 Pacific Explorers learning programme** (Te Papa, Wellington)

The Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa is developing "virtual explorer" programmes linked to the Pacific as part of its education programme for schools. This includes bookable Zoom sessions based on the museum's own collections, as well as on-site visits. Educators may find the topic outlines useful. Details here:

<https://tinyurl.com/4vb6nbbu>

#### **5 Farewell to the prautien** (Dutch small boat)



One of the stars of the First Encounter 375 commemoration held in Golden Bay/Mohua in December 2017 was the creation of a replica prautien (small boat) that featured dramatically in the 1642 first meeting between Tasman's sailors and local Maori of Ngāti

Tumatakokiri iwi. Constructed by local home-schooled students and families under the guidance of Robert Jenkin, the craft performed various roles during the commemoration. Recently the same group marked the end of its useful life with a final river voyage (above) before a shared ceremonial send-off.

#### **6 Naming rights?**

The opening of a well-researched January 2021 newspaper article by Joel MacManus observes "The history of European navigation of the South Seas is riddled with wild miscalculations and confusion." Read more here: <https://tinyurl.com/h7e7edu9>

#### **7 Other information**

- **Ruediger Mack's article on the Tasman portraits** (first noted in the April 2020 miscellany) is now available on JSTOR: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/26910735>
- **Age of Invention** ("Sails force"): Another contribution (March 2021) by Anton Howes on maritime technology in the late 16th century: <https://antonhowes.substack.com/>
- **Australian and New Zealand Map Society: Newsletter 125** (Autumn 2021), full of interesting updates: <https://www.anzmaps.org/newsletter/>
- **Map Matters**: the most recent newsletters of the Australia on the Map group (of the Australasian Hydrographic Society), no.38 (Spring 2019) & 39 (Autumn-Spring 2020), are available at <https://www.australiaonthemap.org.au/news/> These newsletters contain major articles as well as other news; apologies for the delay in listing no.38.

