

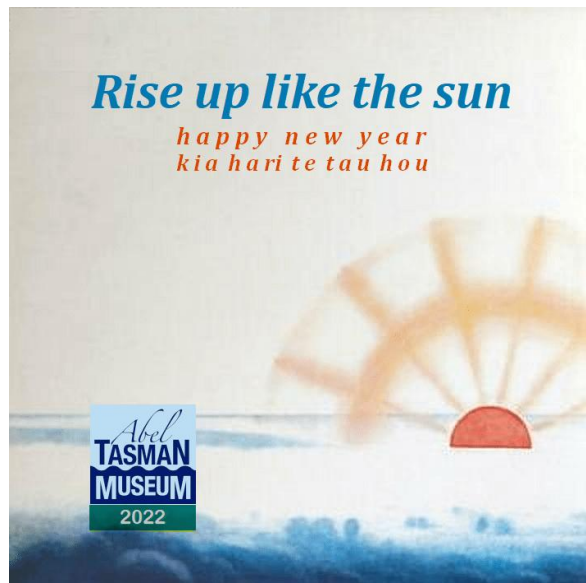
Discovery Miscellany—January 2022

Our voyage through the uncharted waters of Covid 19 continues, but books, journals and other sources of relevance to the Pacific Ocean Te Moana Nui a Kiwa and discovery are still being published. Please contribute items of interest to the email address at the end.



1 Mihi--Greeting

It was a pleasure to receive this new year greeting from Harke Bosma, Chair of the Abel Tasman Museum in Lutjegast, a couple of days ago. While their museum isn't yet able to open again to the public, their positive spirit offers a welcome energy to this first miscellany for 2022. Here are a few items of news that need to be shared early in the year ... more will follow after summer!



2 Important Role for Richard Kempthorne

Just before Christmas, the municipality of Westerkwartier in the Netherlands announced that Richard Kempthorne, previous mayor of Tasman District Council in New Zealand, has been appointed as their representative in New Zealand. Congratulations, Richard!



Tasman District has been a sister-municipality of the former municipality of Grootegast for many years, a friendship bond which was reconfirmed in 2017 and continued when the municipality of Westerkwartier was created in 2019.

On 15 February 2020, Richard received the very first Abel Tasman medal of honour from the municipality of Westerkwartier. He received this for his services and efforts in maintaining the friendship bond between Tasman District, the former municipality of Grootegast, and the newly formed municipality of Westerkwartier, which includes Tasman's birthplace (Lutjegast).

Mayor Ard van der Tuuk (Westerkwartier) says Richard has played a vital role over the years in assisting to maintain the friendship bond between the municipalities, as a driving force behind many of the activities that involved Abel Tasman. He is confident the coming years will provide opportunities to strengthen these ties even further.

Richard is deeply honoured by the appointment, saying “I feel very connected with the municipality of Westerkwartier and I am looking forward to contribute to the further intensification of our friendship. There will be plenty of opportunities to explore the possibilities in various areas like culture or sport, and not just in the Tasman District but also beyond.”

Current mayor of the Tasman District Tim King wholeheartedly supports the appointment and has congratulated Richard on his assignment as representative of Westerkwartier.

3 Research & Publications

- **Map Matters 41** (Winter/Spring 2021) and **42** (Summer 2021/22): the most recent newsletters of the Australia on the Map group (of the Australasian Hydrographic Society) are available at <https://www.australiaonthemap.org.au/news/> Edited by Marianne Pietersen, these substantial newsletters are always interesting, with major articles as well as other news.

- **Dutch Archives Project—VOC ships’ journals**

Dutch archives relating to four VOC (United East India Company) ships that were wrecked on the Western Australian coast are now available online:

<https://journals.museum.wa.gov.au/landing-page>

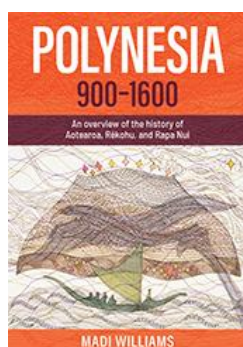
The project is a partnership between the Western Australian Museum, the Netherlands Embassy in Canberra, and the State Archives in The Hague.

The online resource presents a transcription of the ships’ journals (in 17th century Dutch) together with high resolution images of the original manuscript, and a translation into English. The journals describe the voyages as well as the shipwrecks, so will be of interest to maritime historians. Introductory notes explain some of the symbols used in the journals, such as recording deaths.

It’s hoped that this is the start of a series that will cover all VOC encounters with Australia, not just shipwrecks.

- **New Book**

Madi Williams: *Polynesia 900-1600* (Canterbury University Press, 2021) 94p. ISBN 978-1-98-850323-3



Subtitle: “An overview of the history of Aotearoa, Rēkohu, and Rapa Nui”. A concise introduction to the history of South Polynesia, offering a fresh perspective written by an academic descended from some of the earliest indigenous settlers of New Zealand’s South Island. “A tantalising taste of the saga of Polynesia’s human settlement” (NZ Listener review, 6 November 2021). Includes notes and a bibliography.

Publisher information here: <https://tinyurl.com/ygp2ytva>

