

# Reference Guide

## Film and Television Sources at Hocken Collections



*RTR (Ready to Roll). c. 1980. Hocken Posters Collection (S16-664a).  
Permission to use poster kindly granted by Television New Zealand.*

# Nau Mai Haere Mai ki Uare Taoka o Hākena: Welcome to the Hocken Collections

He mihi nui tēnei ki a koutou

kā uri o kā hau e whā arā, kā mātāwaka o te motu, o te ao whānui hoki.

Nau mai, haere mai ki te taumata.

## As you arrive

We seek to preserve all the taoka we hold for future generations. So that all taoka are properly protected, we ask that you:

- place your bags (including computer bags and sleeves) in the lockers provided
- leave all food and drink including water bottles in the lockers (we have a researcher lounge off the foyer which everyone is welcome to use)
- bring any materials you need for research and some ID in with you
- sign the Readers' Register each day
- enquire at the reference desk first if you wish to take digital photographs

## Beginning your research

This guide gives examples of the types of material relating to New Zealand film and television sources held at the Hocken. All items must be used within the library. As the collection is large and constantly growing not every item is listed here, but you can search for other material on our Online Public Access Catalogues:

- for books, theses, journals, magazines, newspapers, maps, and audiovisual material, use Library Search|Ketu. The advanced search - <https://goo.gl/HVNTqH> gives you several search options, and you can refine your results to the Hocken Library on the left side of the screen.

The Library Search Guide <https://otago.libguides.com/ketuhelp> contains helpful tips and assistance for using Library Search|Ketu;

- for pictures, photographs and archives and manuscripts, use Hākena - <https://hakena.otago.ac.nz>

The Hākena Search Help Guide <https://otago.libguides.com/hakena> contains helpful tips and assistance for using Hākena;

- some of the photographs from the Pictorial Collections are available for viewing online via Hocken Snapshot at <https://hocken.recollect.co.nz>. Some other photographs and artworks can be viewed at <http://otago.ourheritage.ac.nz>.

If you have any enquiries about ordering or other research questions please ask the reference desk staff – they will be happy to assist you.

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## General

The New Zealand film and television industry has produced a wide array of motion picture films, television, documentaries, and educational material from the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. The Hocken has extensive holdings of sources relating to New Zealand film, television, documentaries, and educational material, including copies of the visual materials. Published and unpublished materials relating to local film and television industries, and persons and studios involved within these industries, are also in the collections.

New Zealand film, television, documentaries, and educational material is a significant part of the wider audio-visual collections, and our collection has grown through purchases and donations of material. All genres of film and television are collected as they appear on recorded media, and these often reflect wider trends in international film and television production. While the majority of the recordings in the collection are professionally recorded and commercially available, some are personal recordings on VHS (music performances, for example), and present a view of events not commercially captured.

We have playback equipment available for viewing DVDs, Blu-ray discs, and VHS videocassettes. For any requests on VHS cassette, we require 24 hours' notice, as these tapes need to be acclimatised before playing.

Holdings of all published materials can be found via [Library Search | Ketu](#). Try a subject search, using the following subject headings:

- New Zealand film
- New Zealand -- Film Industry
- Television -- New Zealand -- History
- Television -- New Zealand -- Periodicals
- Television Programs -- New Zealand
- Documentary Television Programs -- New Zealand
- Educational television programs -- New Zealand
- Educational films

Some general sources that are good starting points include:

Russell Campbell (2011). *Observations: Studies in New Zealand Documentary*. Wellington: Victoria University Press.

Roger Horrocks and Nick Perry (2004). *Television in New Zealand: Programming the Nation*. Auckland: Oxford University Press.

Hamish McDougall (2009). *100 Essential New Zealand Films*. Wellington: Awa Press.

## Newspapers and Periodicals

Hocken has a large collection of New Zealand newspapers and periodicals. Important film and television related journals in our collection include:

*Illusions* (1986-2007)

*Onfilm* (1983- ongoing, some gaps.) This title is also available electronically for University of Otago staff and students as an e-journal through Library databases.

*Playdate* (1961-1972, some gaps)

Some more general periodicals in Hocken's collection cover different aspects of the local film and television industries. These include

*The Listener* (1974-2020; formerly *New Zealand Listener* 1939-1973)

There are a number of newsletters and reports from institutions such as the Broadcasting Corporation, the Film Commission, and the Film Archive. These can be located by using a simple search on Library Search|Ketu:

- Broadcasting Corporation
- Film Archive
- Film Commission
- Film festival programs -- New Zealand

Newspapers will also provide information on film, television, and documentary, including articles, interviews, reviews, and advertisements. Earlier newspapers can be located on microfilm, and also online via Papers Past <https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspapers>.

Newspaper titles on microfilm include:

*Dominion* (1907-1966)

*New Zealand Herald* (1863-1967)

*Otago Daily Times* (1861-2018)

*Otago Witness* (1851-1932)

*Press* (1861-1966)

*New Zealand Truth* (1909-1924)

Later dates of these newspapers may be held – please check Library Search|Ketu for Hocken’s holdings.

You can also search for article titles relating to film and television via Index New Zealand <https://goo.gl/pPJ8da>

Try searching by subjects:

- Motion pictures
- Actors
- Television broadcasting

Alternatively, try searching for directors or actors, or by film or television show title. Results will indicate what publication and issue the article is in. This database is not full text, so you need to check Library Search|Ketu for holdings of relevant publications, and then order them to view articles.

## Publications: Television and documentary

Television broadcasting was introduced in New Zealand in 1960, though local experiments in the medium date back to 1929. Hocken Collections has a broad amount of material in relation to the history and production of television in New Zealand. Material encompasses published titles, archival documents, and copies of many television productions on VHS and DVD. All genres are represented, including drama, comedy, documentary, and general-interest programs.

### Publications: Monographs

Specific monograph publications on television include titles relating to the history of television in New Zealand, as well as titles on individual programs, sports television, broadcasting regulations and standards, and television advertising. Annual reports for Television New Zealand and New Zealand on Air are also in our published materials collections.

To locate monographs relating to New Zealand television, try a browse search in Library Search | Ketu, using subjects:

- Television New Zealand
- Television -- New Zealand -- periodicals
- Television -- New Zealand -- history

Useful general publications on New Zealand television include:

Robert Boyd-Bell (1985). *New Zealand television: The first 25 years*. Auckland: Reed Methuen.

Trisha Dunleavy (2005). *Ourselves in primetime: a history of New Zealand television drama*. Auckland: Auckland University Press.

John Farnsworth and Ian Hutchison (2002). *New Zealand television: A reader*. Palmerston North: Dunmore Press.

*TV Guide*. (1986- ongoing. Some gaps.)

## Audiovisual collections

Hocken Collections has a significant (and expanding) collection of recorded television programs on DVD (digital video disc) and VHS videocassette. These include all genres: drama, comedy, documentary, reality shows, interest shows. Our holdings of television shows can be searched for in Library Search|Ketu, using the 'title' search option, and then refined by type to audiovisual materials. Titles found include:

- *The Brokenwood Mysteries* (2014-)
- *Bro'town* (2004-2009)
- *Children of the Dog Star* (1984)
- *Outrageous Fortune* (2005-2010)
- *Under the Mountain* (1981)
- *Wellington Paranormal* (2018-)
- *Westside* (2015-)
- *Wild South* (1988-)

Alternatively, try a subject search using the terms

- Television series -- New Zealand
- Television comedies -- New Zealand
- Documentary television programs -- New Zealand
- Animated television programs -- New Zealand
- Children's television programs -- New Zealand

## Publications: Motion picture film

The very first feature film produced in New Zealand and directed by a New Zealander was 1914's *Hinemoa*, directed by George Tarr. This film, like many others, is now lost, although Hocken has a VHS copy of early New Zealand film *Daughter of Dunedin* (1928), starring local movie star and Miss New Zealand 1927, Dale Austen. Hocken collects motion picture film

related to New Zealand, or New Zealanders, from all genres, and from all years. These films are collected on DVD and VHS.

## Publications: Monographs

Hocken holds a broad range of monographs on specific motion picture films, aspects of film making in New Zealand, and particular aspects related to the local film industry. To locate in Library Search|Ketu, try a search using these subjects:

- New Zealand. National Film Unit -- history
- Motion pictures -- New Zealand -- history
- New Zealand film

If you have a precise title in mind, search by title using the Advanced Search options, for example

Jonathan Dennis, Clive Sowry, and New Zealand National Film Unit (1981). *The 'Tin shed': The origins of the National Film Unit*. Wellington: National Film Archive.

Film and History Association of Australia and New Zealand (2008). *Remapping cinema, remaking history: XIVth biennial conference of the Film and History Association of Australia and New Zealand: Conference proceedings*. Dunedin: Centre for Research on National Identity, University of Otago

Ian Pryor (2003). *Peter Jackson: From prince of splatter to Lord of the Rings*. Auckland: Random House.

Mary Wiles (2011). *Gaylene Preston film retrospective*. Christchurch: University of Canterbury.

Monograph works relating to a director can be searched by putting director names into an advanced search in Library Search|Ketu, and choosing the author search field, for example

- Campion, Jane
- Donaldson, Roger

- Ward, Vincent

General overviews of New Zealand film include:

Bruce Babington (2007). *A History of the New Zealand fiction feature film*. Manchester: Manchester University Press.

Helen Martin and Sam Edwards (1997). *New Zealand film, 1912-1996*. Auckland: Oxford University Press.

Diane Pivac, Frank Stark and Lawrence MacDonald (2011). *New Zealand film: An illustrated history*. Wellington: Te Papa Press.

## DVD and Videocassette

The feature films held at Hocken Collections feature a broad range of styles and subjects. The collection includes copies of local and national films from the 1920s to current day on DVD and videocassette. As with television programs, feature films can be searched for on Library Search | Ketu using the subject

- Feature films -- New Zealand

Alternatively, try a title search. Titles available to search for include:

- *Boy* (2010)
- *The Frighteners* (1996)
- *Hunt for the Wilderpeople* (2016)
- *Lord of the rings: Fellowship of the ring* (2003)
- *Mahana* (2016)
- *The piano* (1999)
- *Sylvia* (1984)
- *Vigil* (1984)
- *Whale rider* (2002)
- *What we do in the shadows* (2014)

## Publications: Educational material

Hocken Collections holds a significant amount of educational material on kits including VHS videocassette and DVD that covers a range of topics, including educational sources in Te Reo. Try a subject search using the terms

- Maori language materials
- Maori language -- Spoken Maori
- Industrial relations -- New Zealand
- New Zealand -- Politics and government --1984

## Archives: Film and television sources

Hocken's unpublished archives and manuscripts contain paper documents and records, and photographic images from individuals, groups, associations, companies, and societies. Archives and papers relating to film and television at Hocken include filming schedules, correspondence, photographs, record books, newsletters, and financial records, personal papers, and documents relating to television productions.

Archival material can be located on Hākena. A keyword search using the terms 'film', or 'television' will retrieve results relating to photographs and archival material, as will searching via subject, using the terms

- Cinema
- Films
- Television broadcasting
- Television programmes

Results can be filtered down by clicking on the 'archives' radio button on the left hand side of the screen. Alternately, a name search will take you directly to the collection of the person or organisation you are searching for. Our film-related holdings include:

**Amalgamated Theatres Limited: Exhibitors' Record Books (1934-1967) [AG-225]**

These books were kept in accordance with the Cinematograph Films Act 1928. They were a register of 'quota' films shown and listed the film title, registration number, dates exhibited, total number of times exhibited, and whether it was a Commonwealth or foreign quota film.

**Gwenda Burt: Papers [r.8373]**

Material in the Gwenda Burt papers was donated by her nephew, Phil Burt, and includes a memoir of her time filming *Down on the farm*, New Zealand's first 'talkie' motion picture. Also part of the collection is related ephemera, and a photo album of stills from the film.

**Dunedin Film Society: Records (1970-2002) [ARC-0101]**

These records relate to the administration of the Society, the screening of the annual film festival in Dunedin and the Society's regular programme of films. Catalogues from the New Zealand Federation of Film Societies and programs, newsletters and printed ephemera from Dunedin and other New Zealand Film Societies are also included, as are brochures, posters, and correspondence.

**Hoyts Century Theatre: Records (c.1940s-1990s) [93-100]**

The Hoyts Century Theatre was formerly located at 361 Princes Street in Dunedin, closed in 1993. The collection includes daily film receipts, financial records, correspondence and other records.

**John H. Doleman: Papers relating to the filming of 'Until they Sail' (1956-1957) [Misc-MS-0638]**

Mr John H. Doleman was a liaison officer for M.G.M. Pictures in Christchurch. This collection includes correspondence, shooting schedules, telegrams and an invitation relating to the shooting of the M.G.M. Films production *Until they Sail* in Christchurch and Wellington. Also included are newspaper clippings relating to the film production, and Christmas cards and photographs relating to the film.

**[Phase Three Film Productions Limited]: Papers relating to the film *Figures Beyond Glass* (1982) [MS-3684]**

*Figures Beyond Glass* was the working title for the 1983 film *Strata*, directed by Geoff Steven. This collection includes letters and papers sent from Public Relations at Phase Three Films to the Film and Television Reporter at the *Otago Daily Times*, providing information about the film and actors. Papers include a filming schedule, plot synopsis, cast lists, biographies and filmographies. Black and white photographs taken while filming on location around Tongariro National Park are included.

**James Patrick Solomon: 'Pictures Screened at Mosgiel' (1931-1949) [Misc-MS-1750]**

James Patrick Solomon was a projectionist at the Mosgiel Theatre in the 1980s and found this item while cleaning out the theatre. This item lists the names of the films screened at the Mosgiel Theatre. The amount of film footage per screening is also listed.

**Visual Arts Association, Dunedin: Records (1951-1971) [MS-1108]**

This collection includes correspondence with national and international art and film societies, including the National Film Library and the Dunedin Film Society, relating to the loaning of art and film for exhibitions shown in Dunedin. The collection also includes promotional material for exhibitions, catalogues, flyers, brochures and invitations.

Our holdings relating to television include:

**Bernard Buck: The script for a broadcast relating to Frank D. Bell (1911-1924 (1981)) [Misc-MS-0932]**

This record is the annotated television script for the TV 1 programme about Frank Bell's first round-the-world wireless transmission on 18 October 1924, from Dunback.

**Lorraine Isaacs: Papers relating to 'Playschool' reunion (1975-2005) [MS-2929]**

The New Zealand television programme *Playschool* was aimed at preschool children, and was based on the BBC show of the same name. The show was first produced in

Auckland in the late 1960s, though production moved to Dunedin in 1975, and was based at the Television New Zealand Studios at Garrison Hall until 1989, when the last episode was filmed. A reunion of former *Playschool* staff was organised in 2005 by former presenters Barry Dorking and Jayashree Panjabi, and former director and producer Lorraine Isaacs. The collection comprises of papers relating to the organisation of the 2005 reunion, including a DVD compiled for the occasion, photographs and other memorabilia relating to the history of the programme.

**Murray Hutchinson: Papers (1899-2005) [MS-2784]**

This large collection includes papers relating to most aspects of Hutchinson's varied career as a teacher, television director, designer and creator in Australia and New Zealand, and as a founding director of Dunedin's Fortune Theatre (among other roles). It contains many photographs, particularly of the numerous stage and screen productions he was involved with. The collection also includes costume and set designs, teaching notes and resources, scripts, and video and sound recordings of theatre and television productions.

**New Zealand Radio and Television Journalists' Society (Inc.): Submissions to the Minister of Broadcasting (1973) [Misc-MS-0284]**

The submissions relate to the proposed restructuring of the broadcasting system, and outlines issues of concern for the Society. These include control of the news service, restructuring of the organisation, gathering and presenting of news, need for the news service to become a self-sufficient unit and issues of editorial independence.

**Television New Zealand: Scripts (1982-1986) [87-004]**

The collection of TVNZ scripts includes final scripts, production schedules and budgets for *Moon Jumper I*, *Moon Jumper II*, and *Rotter Fred and Ratsguts*. A report on stewardship is also included. This collection is unlisted, so please ask Reference staff for more assistance.

**Television One Programme Advisory Committee: Records (1976-1980) [MS-1807]**

The collection includes minutes, reports, correspondence and related papers, and were donated by the Committee's Chairman, Gordon Parry. The Television One

Programme Advisory Committee was a statutory body of 12 people from various backgrounds. In 1980 it was disestablished and replaced by the Television New Zealand Advisory Committee.

Hocken also holds the *1970 NZBC television drama guide to writing for television* (MS-3737/384) in the Trevor Reeves papers (MS-3737). Further, we hold the papers of Roger Hall (ARC-0136), playwright, and creator of television programs such as *Gliding On*, *Market Forces*, and *Conjugal Rites*. These include episodic scripts, correspondence and production schedules. The wider collection also includes correspondence, journals, sketches, posters, and audio tapes. **Please note: this collection is restricted, and requires the permission of Roger Hall to access the material.**

Hocken also has a YouTube channel, a public viewing platform for some of our digitised films. While the majority of the films listed are from the 1950s and 1960s, some are earlier, dating back to 1929. The YouTube channel is located here <https://bit.ly/2MaKSNU>

## Ephemera

The ephemera collection includes a wide range of resources relating to film and television, including flyers, advertisements and Film Society programs. Most of these collections date from the mid-1960s onwards but there may be some earlier examples.

The ephemera collection is not yet listed on any online catalogue so please ask at the reference desk for assistance.

## Pictorial collections

### Photographs

A significant number of photographic images relating to New Zealand film and television rest with our unpublished archival collections. However, our photographic collections also hold 8mm and 16mm films with local subjects. These include:

**Mornington Bowling Club. *Cine films of Mornington Bowling Club (1950-1960).* (P1993-022)**

**R. Stockwell. *Cine film of Dunedin (1953).* (P1984-013)**

Search for holdings on Hākena, using the search term 'film', and filter to photographs as a collection type. Alternatively, try locating images on Hocken Snapshot <https://hocken.recollect.co.nz/> using the browse function to locate the 'Film & Television' folder.

## Posters

There are numerous film posters at Hocken Collections, advertising New Zealand and international films. Local film posters include:

- *Boy* (2010)
- *Braindead* (1992)
- *Crooked earth* (2001)
- *In spring one plants alone* (1980)
- *Maui's Hook* (2018)
- *Ngati* (1987)
- *The price of milk* (2000)
- *Savage honeymoon* (2000)
- *Utu* (1983)
- *Vigil* (1984)

Hocken also holds a substantial collection of classic Hollywood film posters from the 1930s and 1940s, donated to us by a local cinema. The posters collection is not yet listed on any online catalogue so please ask at the reference desk for assistance.

## Other sources

The University of Otago's Central Library and Robertson Library have New Zealand film, television, and documentaries available in their wider audiovisual collections. These can be located on Library Search|Ketu through a title or subject search.

The University of Otago also offers staff and students opportunities to view New Zealand film, television, and documentary for research purposes on the Academic video Online, e-TV and Kanopy databases. These databases are located on the University Library's article databases webpage, under 'Multimedia Databases': <https://bit.ly/2MagZ08>

To view material from these databases, staff and students are required to log-in with their username and passwords.

Another useful source is the University Library's Media, Film and Communication (MFCO) subject guide <https://otago.libguides.com/MFCO>. Click on the 'Film & Media' tab to access wider library information on online film and educational repositories, databases, and websites.

## Other institutions

Further institutions in New Zealand hold important collections of New Zealand film, television, and documentary.

### Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision

Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision is New Zealand's archive of moving image and sound, with over 750,000 items dating back to 1895. Their collections encompass items created during the early days of motion picture film, audio recordings, and television, as well as contemporary sound and vision productions. Documentation and props relating to film, television and radio in New Zealand are also archived. All types of sound and vision production are represented: home movies, oral histories, experimental works, public broadcasts, educational recordings, and commercially released titles. Holdings can be located through the search page <https://www.ngataonga.org.nz/collections/search>.

## National Library of New Zealand

The National Library of New Zealand collect and provide access to New Zealand's documentary treasures in text, audio, and image. The library was formed in 1858 to serve Parliament, and in 1920 The Alexander Turnbull Library (based on the collection bequeathed to the Crown by Alexander Turnbull) opened as part of the National Library. Holdings can be searched for via the National Library's advanced search option <https://natlib.govt.nz/search> and then refined by collection.

## Websites

**Archives New Zealand Audiovisual Archives: National Film Unit** <https://bit.ly/2AMaIDC>

The Government of the day established The National Film Unit in 1941 to provide moving image publicity of New Zealand's war effort. Previously, state-funded films had been limited to scenic short films and travelogues to promote New Zealand tourism internationally, as part of a publicity office attached to the Department of Internal Affairs. By 1950, the National Film Unit became part of the publicity branch of the Department of Tourism and Publicity, and in 1988 National Archives (now Archives New Zealand) in Wellington became responsible for restoring and preserving the Unit's extensive film collection. The website offers a list of over 160 films to view online, as well as information on preservation work, particular aspects of the National Film Unit collections, and a collection of films relating to Sir Edmund Hillary.

**Natural History New Zealand** <https://www.nhnz.tv/>

Natural History New Zealand (NZNH) makes documentary television about people, nature, adventure, history, and science for international audiences and broadcasters. Each year, the company produces 60 hours of television, shown in 180 countries around the world. NZNH has an in-house archive library, found here <http://www.nhnzmovingimages.com/> an archive production unit, and a children's channel.

**NZ Film Commission** <https://www.nzfilm.co.nz/>

The New Zealand Film Commission invests in New Zealand feature films, short films, and script and career development, as well as marketing and promoting New Zealand film and film-makers both locally and on an international level.

**NZ Film on Demand** <https://ondemand.nzfilm.co.nz>

NZ Film on Demand, run by the New Zealand Film Commission, is an online digital portal for New Zealand film, making new and classic NZ film available for streaming or downloading on demand to iOS devices through rental or purchase. There are over 80 films on the site including short films, documentaries, and titles that have been unavailable for viewing or purchase for many years.

**NZ History: Television in New Zealand** <https://bit.ly/2RNFCpM>

The NZ History website has a historical overview of television history in New Zealand, and focuses on different aspects of television broadcasting including early evening news, elections, and Kiwi music shows. The information is presented in a timeline format, with links to YouTube clips, or further information.

**NZ on Screen** <https://www.nzonscreen.com/>

NZ on Screen is New Zealand's online portal for local film, television, documentary and music video. Over 3000 titles are free to view, from the beginning of the screen industry to the present day to watch and enjoy. While most are short excerpts or trailers, some titles (especially television) are full-length episodes or full documentaries.





**Octagon Theatre, 1965. Franz Barta photograph, Hocken Photographs collection. P1997-156/09-292.**

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For hours, please check our website:  
<https://www.otago.ac.nz/library/hocken/>