Sydney or the bush?

The 2000 Olympics in Sydney has encouraged a quick, and far from exhaustive review of the Hocken Library’s holdings relating to New Zealand participation in Olympic, Empire and British Commonwealth Games during the past century.

Some holdings are good, some much less so. For that reason, this Bulletin is as much an appeal to Hocken Friends and the public to look through their nostalgia boxes before consigning to the tip any ephemera relating to the various Games — particularly those held overseas.

The best coverage, as usual, is to be found in the Hocken’s standard strengths. Newspapers and periodicals deal with the whole of the modern Games movement back to the first Olympics at Athens in 1896, and in considerable detail from the 1920s on. Those sources alone offer most information an average inquirer will ever need.

Standard references also play their part — biographical dictionaries, who’s who’s, yearbooks and the like; the annual reports of contributing sports associations whose members may have been Games competitors; and regular issues of international compilations of sports records and medal-winners. Such material is reasonably well represented in the library.

Let’s start with sports publications which offer a general coverage:

General Publications
Anon. *Olympic*, a periodical issued by the NZ Olympic Cttee ends at No.6, August 1998.
Clark, John. Athletes at the Games. NZ Track and Field Medal Winners at the Olympic and C’wealth Games, 1998, 70p.
McMillan, N.A.C. *NZ Sporting Legends; 27 pre-war sporting heroes*, 1993, 160p (V. Boot, M. Champion, Davidson, Hadfield, Lay, V. Walrond, Savidan etc)
Simons, Dorothy E. *NZ’s Champion Sportswomen*, 1982, 239p (Chamberlain, Roe, Williams, Young, Coleman, Bellwood, Perrott etc).

Before listing the printed material in more detail one mustn’t forget other holdings in the Hocken’s archives, music, photographs and pictures departments, but they can only be described as ‘scattered’.

Archives: The prize possession is a letter from Jack Lovelock, Dunedin’s own Mile winner at the 1936 Berlin Olympics — currently on loan to the Turnbull Library for its Lovelock Exhibition held to coincide with the Sydney Games. Though nothing else has surfaced in the computer, there may be some material amongst personal papers.

Music: From the Auckland Games of 1950, *March of the Empire* (disc), by the Auckland Waterside Silver Band. From Christchurch, 1974, one disc from the Te Waipounamu C’wealth Games Maori Cultural Party, and a second, *This is New Zealand. A Musical Souvenir*. Then, issued in 1989 for the 1990 Auckland Games, a cassette of *Join Us*, by the Tribes of Israel.

Yvette Williams, gold medallist in the long-jump at the Helsinki Olympics [c/n F189/5]3644

Photographs: The basic alphabetical sequence holds only a handful of Games photos, most of them from the 1948 London Olympics and the 1974 Christchurch Games. Box 22 of the ODT collection, however, has a substantial selection from the 1938 Sydney Games, a number of swimming photos from Auckland 1950, and a slimmer envelope of athletes racing overseas (with an excellent photo of Lovelock as flagbearer for the 1934 march-past at White City). Box 23 includes a further general selection from the
Auckland Games.

The Hocken also holds a large collection of colour transparencies and 16mm film taken by George Thorn, coach and official with NZ rowing teams; but most of the individual images remain uncaptioned.

**Art:** No Games pictures come to mind.

**Posters:** One of the Christchurch Games logo.

**Games Literature**

Further selected literature associated with the various Olympic, Empire and Commonwealth Games is listed in chronological order:

1896 **ATHENS:**

1900 **PARIS:**

1904 **ST LOUIS:**

1908 **LONDON:**

1912 **STOCKHOLM:**


Myers, A.W. *Captain Anthony Wilding...,* 1916, 306p [tennis].


1920 **ANTWERP:**

McMillan, N.A.C. *NZ Sporting Legends*, 1993, 176p (Hadfield, single sculls)


1924 **PARIS:**


1928 **AMSTERDAM:**


—1930 **HAMILTON, ONTARIO**


1932 **LOS ANGELES:**


—1934 **LONDON:**


—1938 **SYDNEY:**

Harris, N.C. *Lap of Honour*, 1963, 160p (Lumley twins, athletics)

McMillan, N.A.C. *NZ Sporting Legends*, 1993, 176p (Lumley twins)

1948 **LONDON:**

—1950 **AUCKLAND:**


1952 **HELSINKI:**


—1954 **VANCOUVER:**

Ross, Sir A. *By Endeavour*, Brisbane, 1988, 145p (team manager).

1956 **MELBOURNE:**


Mander, P.G. *Give a Man a Boat*, 1964, 276p (sailing).

—1958 **CARDIFF:**

One of two interesting Olympic items specially lent to the Hocken Friends for this Bulletin. A postcard (slightly enlarged) sent by Jack Lovelock to Dr Carmalt Jones from Budapest on 15 August 1935, complaining that a too-heavy schedule has been affecting his running.
The second Olympic item specially lent to the Hocken Friends for this Bulletin. The American visa (slightly reduced) issued to Thelma Kench of Wellington, a member of the NZ athletics team to 1932 Olympic Games at Los Angeles.

1960 Rome:
Harris, N. Lap of Honour, 1963, 160p (Halberg)
—1962 Perth
1964 Tokyo:
Harris, Norman. Silver Fern at Tokyo..., 1964, 80p.
—1966 Kingston
1968 Mexico City:
—1970 Edinburgh:
1972 Munich:
—1974 Christchurch:
Anon. Greatest Games Pictures, 10th C’wealth Games, Christchurch 1974, plus... record of winners, time, 1974, 96p.
Anon. Christchurch Xth British C’wealth Games, folding map.
Humberstone, B. NZ Sports Cavalcade, 1975, 65p (Parkhouse, Hunter & Treffers, swimming)
1976 Montreal:
Agnew, Ivan, Aim High, 1976, 186p.
—1978 EDMONTON
Connock, Marion. The Precious McKenzie Story, 1975, 184p (before his weightlifting gold for NZ)

1980 MOSCOW:
—1982 BRISBANE:

1984 LOS ANGELES:
—1986 EDINBURGH

1988 SEOUL:
Anon. Drugs in Sport, 1989, 31p; NZO&CGA.
—1990 AUCKLAND

1992 BARCELONA:
Hamilton, Marg. The Copycats' Kit for the Olympic Games... logos, symbols..., 1992, 37p; schools.
Powell, Lorraine. 3rd & 4th Form Social Studies... Olympic resource kit, 1992; schools.
—1994 VICTORIA (CANADA)

1996 ATLANTA:
—1998 KUALA LUMPUR:

2000 SYDNEY:
—FUTURE:
Anon. Scoping Study: the Wellington Region as host to 2006 C'wealth Games, 1996, 60p.

Paraplegic Olympics
Stratford, Trish. Guts, Tears & Glory, 1988, 203p (Neroli Fairhall)

Winter Olympics

Other References
Aspects of the Olympic and Commonwealth Games have also entered the broader field of New Zealand literature.

In Bruce Mason’s The End of the Golden Weather, 12-year-old Geoff Chrome’s friend Firpo dreams of becoming a famous Olympian.

Tessa Duder’s best-selling Alex Quartet (Alex, Alex in Winter, Alessandra: Alex in Rome, and Songs for Alex) 1987–92 features a girl who trains for and competes in the Rome Olympics.


Peripheral items include Catherine Andrews’ 1995 thesis, ‘Become Some Body...’ on the Les Mills World of Fitness established by one of our finest Games athletes.

In addition to the Hocken’s holdings, quite a number of general and specialist titles on the Olympics are held in the University Central and School of Phys Ed libraries.

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