

A Chronology of Turnbull Events 1973-1990

During the years that Jim guided the destiny and development of the Alexander Turnbull Library many events took place; following are some highlights from 'The Traue Years' that are particularly remembered by him. They illustrate well the increasing interaction between the Library and its support groups and the larger roles played by both the Friends of the Turnbull Library and the Endowments in recent years. The Friends were more active in taking the interests of the Library to a wider public and they assumed a new role in providing financial assistance on a regular basis for major purchases. The Endowments became a major source of funds for collection building, developed a wide ranging programme to publish materials from the collections and scholarly research based on the collections, and directly promoted scholarly research and conferences related to the Library's specialisations.

1973

J. E. Traue appointed Chief Librarian on 16 April to succeed A. G. Bagnall and took up duties full-time on 2 July.

Government made special grant of \$45,000 to the Endowment Trust to assist with the purchase of three major collections; the Antoine Chazal illustrations from the Duperrey expedition to New Zealand in 1824; the Wilkie Collection of 342 paintings by Sir William Fox; and 5 watercolour portraits of Maori chiefs by G. F. Angas.

Audiovisual 'Alexander Turnbull and his Library' created by Dobbs-Wiggins-McCann-Erickson for the Library.

1974

Purchase of 12 watercolours of the Southern Alps by John Gully from the Royal Geographical Society by the Endowment Trust.

Purchase of collection of 694 volumes of books by or relating to John Milton from G. William Stuart with the assistance of grants from the T. G. Macarthy Trust, the Endowment Trust and the National Library, announced on 3 November.

Exhibition to mark tercentenary of John Milton's death opened on 8 December.

Donation of collection of sixteenth century Bibles and prayer books from the estate of Sir Arthur Howard.

Purchase of the papers of James Courage, the novelist, by the Hocken Library with the assistance of the Endowment Trust.