

STOUT CENTRE REVIEW

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Editorial

This issue of the *Stout Centre Review* takes us a step forward both in design and content. Jane Malthus's article on nineteenth-century dress-makers in New Zealand opens up new research territory of an intriguing kind about which very little has so far been published. 'There are many more pins to be found, let alone picked up', she concludes. Her work suggests that eventually we shall have a costume museum such as those overseas which have proved highlights within overall historical collections. Charlotte Macdonald's *The Book of New Zealand Women* should become an invaluable standard reference work: her conversation with Bill Renwick describes its range and processes of selection. My own *Biographical Dictionary of New Zealand Composers* joins several other basic reference books on New Zealand music and points the way towards an encyclopedia covering musicians, organisations and ensembles. Bill Barton explores the role of mathematics in Maori culture - 'a rich area for future research, but it can only be done by researchers from the Maori culture'.

Future plans for the *Review* include a general issue in April and one in July devoted to the publishing activities of Paul's Book Arcade, formerly Janet and Blackwood Paul, who during the period 1945-1969 issued a number of significant titles such as Alpers' *Maori Myths and legends*, Sargeson's *Collected Short Stories*, and Hone Tuwhare's *No Ordinary Sun*. In October we shall collaborate with Allan Thomas of the Victoria University School of Music in the production of an issue on Maori music which will take account of recent scholarship and the tasks still awaiting those active in the field, both Maori and Pakeha.

The production of this number has depended greatly on the work of Roger Joyce who gave unstintingly and generously of his time.

J. M. Thomson

Cover: Cotton organdy dress worn by Catherine Valpy when she married James Fulton, 22 April, 1852. Maker of dress unknown, but it is entirely hand-sewn, and includes 27 yards of frills. Otago museum, Dunedin.

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