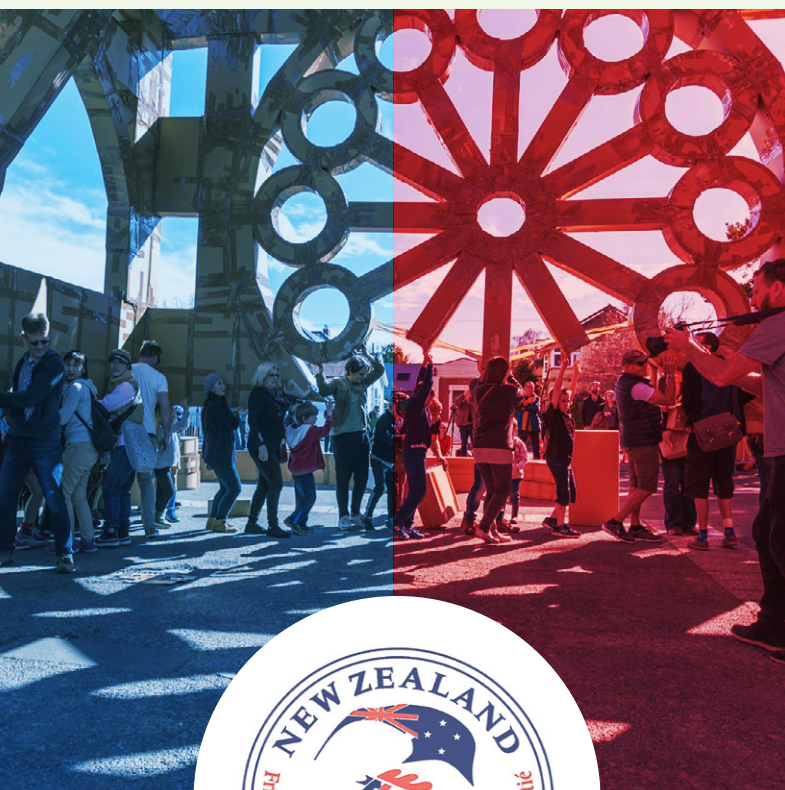


THE NEW ZEALAND FRANCE FRIENDSHIP FUND

A SUMMARY OF THE FUND'S ACHIEVEMENTS 1991 TO 2019



INTRODUCTION

The New Zealand France Friendship Fund was established after the Rainbow Warrior incident of 10 July 1985. Its establishment followed a recommendation of the international Rainbow Warrior Arbitration Tribunal in New York on 30 April 1990. The Tribunal recommended that France and New Zealand “set up a fund to promote close and friendly relations between the citizens of the two countries”.

In April 1991, French Prime Minister Michel Rocard visited New Zealand and together with New Zealand Prime Minister, Jim Bolger, signed the Agreement to establish the Friendship Fund (Appendix A).

The Fund’s key objective was to provide financial assistance to projects which promote friendship and understanding between the people of France and New Zealand. Since its establishment in 1991, the Fund has provided more than \$5 million in grants to projects in New Zealand, France and the French Pacific.

The Fund was governed by a joint Board, comprising a New Zealand Chair with two members and a French Chair, along with two members. The Board met annually to award grants to projects which met the Fund’s objectives of promoting friendship and understanding between the two countries.

In 2019, with the capital fully allocated, the Fund was closed. This summary reflects on the history and achievements of the Fund and the legacy it leaves behind.



HISTORY

The first New Zealand Chair in 1991 was Merwyn Norrish (former New Zealand Secretary of Foreign Affairs) and the first French co-chair was the oceanographer, Jacques Cousteau.

At the outset, France paid US\$2 million towards the Friendship Fund's capital base and New Zealand contributed NZ\$100,000. The parties agreed, on France's recommendation, to place the capital in the care of the Fondation de France, a private philanthropic investment institution.

The opening balance of the Fund was 10,687,219 French francs. Article 3 of the 1991 Agreement envisaged that the Fund would fund projects using the income generated, preserving the capital for the future. The capital slowly grew, though from time to time the income generated was unsatisfactory. In those years, the Board made a decision to reduce the amount distributed as grants in order to consolidate the capital of the Fund.

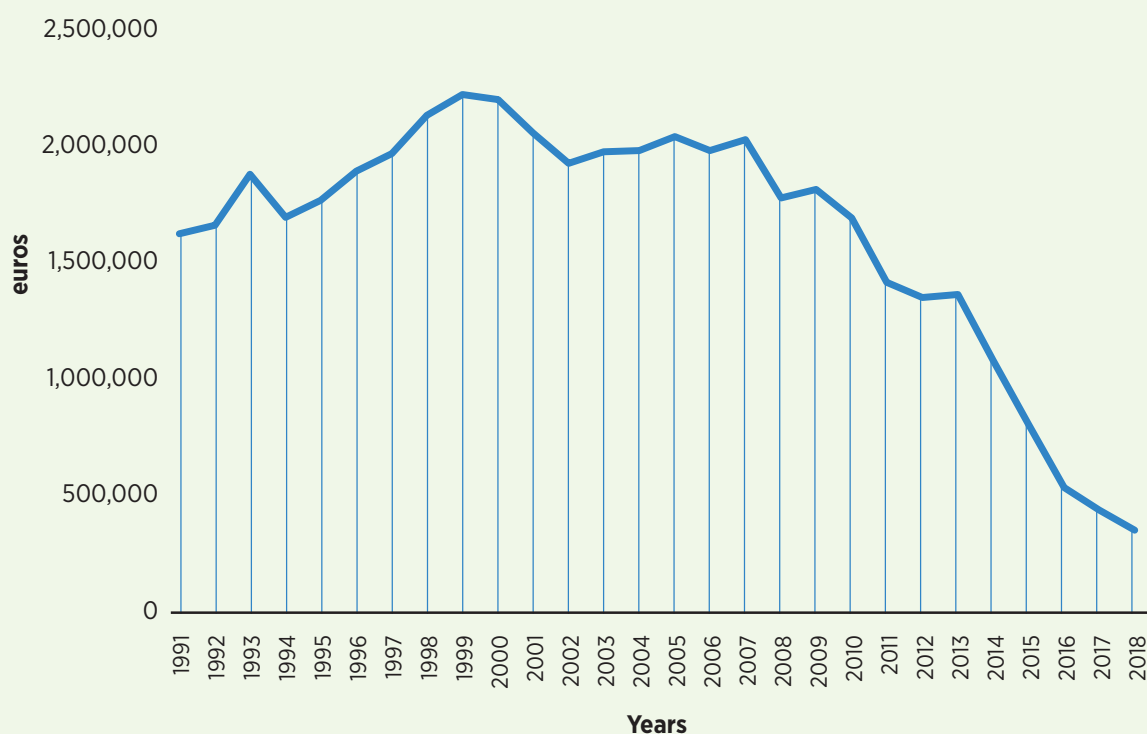
From the 1st of October 2001, the currency of the Fund changed from French francs to euros, the official currency of the European Union. The value exchange rate of the French franc against the euro was set at a fixed parity of €1 = 6.55957ff. The figures in the charts in this document have been converted at this fixed rate.



After 1999 the return on the capital began to diminish and to restrict the Board's ability to support many projects. As a result, the Joint Board agreed in 2006 to begin spending the capital with a view to winding up the Fund in about 2021, which would be the 30th anniversary of the Fund's establishment. The fact that the Board began to distribute the capital as grants explains the dip in the capital of the Fund from 2007 onwards.

To preserve a legacy for the Fund after its termination, the Joint Board agreed to contribute a capital sum to two legacy projects: the Randell Cottage Writers Trust in Wellington and the Katherine Mansfield Menton Fellowship in France. The final meeting of the Joint Board of the Fund took place in Paris on 6 June 2019.

CAPITAL OF THE FUND 1991 - 2018 (IN EUROS)



GRANTS

Since its inception, the focus of the Fund has been on exchanges between people, especially young people, and those for whom opportunities to visit the other country might not otherwise be available. French and New Zealand citizens were invited to submit applications for projects that would promote friendship and understanding between the people of both countries.



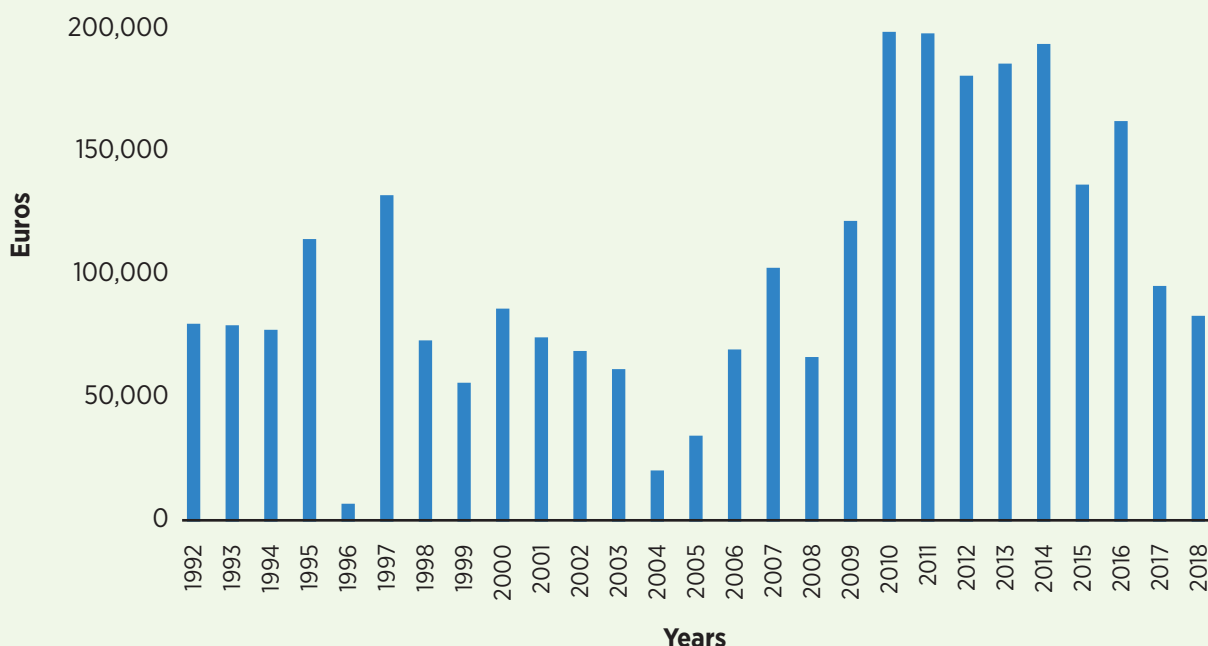
A key focus of the Fund was to support many school exchanges between France and New Zealand, including the French Pacific (French Polynesia, New Caledonia and Wallis and Futuna). These have offered life-changing opportunities for high school students to visit another country, learn about a new culture and work on their language skills. With the help of the Fund, many schools have established partnerships that continue today.

Some of the exchanges involved include: Cashmere High School (with Lycée St Michel, Blanquefort), Hamilton Girls' High School (with Lycée St Jean, Besançon), Project Invercargill-Lille, Riccarton High School, St Catherine's College, Darfield High School (with Collège de Ouegoa), Christchurch Girls' High (Lycée Jean Sturm, Strasbourg), Rosehill College (with Lycée Sainte-Marie (Bourges), Cambridge High School, Wairarapa College, St Pauls Collegiate (with Lycée du Grand Nouméa), Newlands College, Otago Girls' High (with Lycée Corneille), Wellington College (Lycée Européen de Villers Cotterêts) and Wellington Girls' College.

[CLICK HERE](#)

OR VISIT: <https://grandeguerrew1.wordpress.com/wellington-college/notre-visite-en-france-en-avril-2015/>

GRANTS PAID 1992-2018 (IN EUROS)



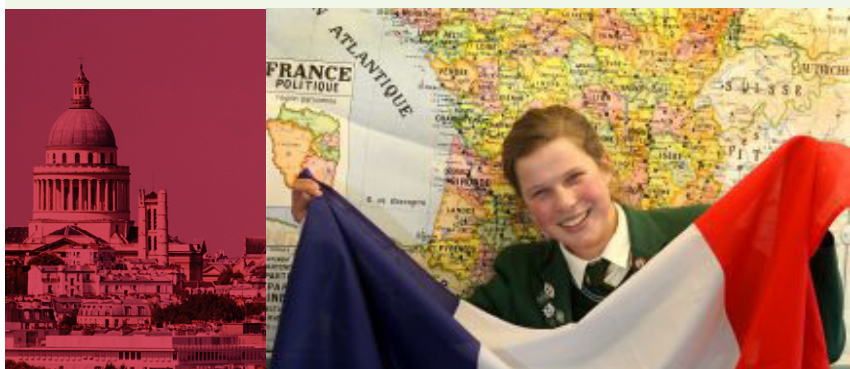
Another educational project that the Fund supported was *Following Family Footsteps*, the production of a series of mini-documentaries filmed in France about WWI. The films are for use as an educational resource for New Zealand high school students of French. In July 2018, a group of six New Zealand students were selected through a competitive process to travel to France to record the material. This followed the visit by a group of French students from Arras in April. The mini-documentaries are available as a downloadable resource for French learning in New Zealand schools and on DVD and as a teaching resource in France.

Over the years, the Fund supported the Yèvres Youth Exchange (celebrating New Zealand airman Noel Stokes) and the Tahiti student exchange.

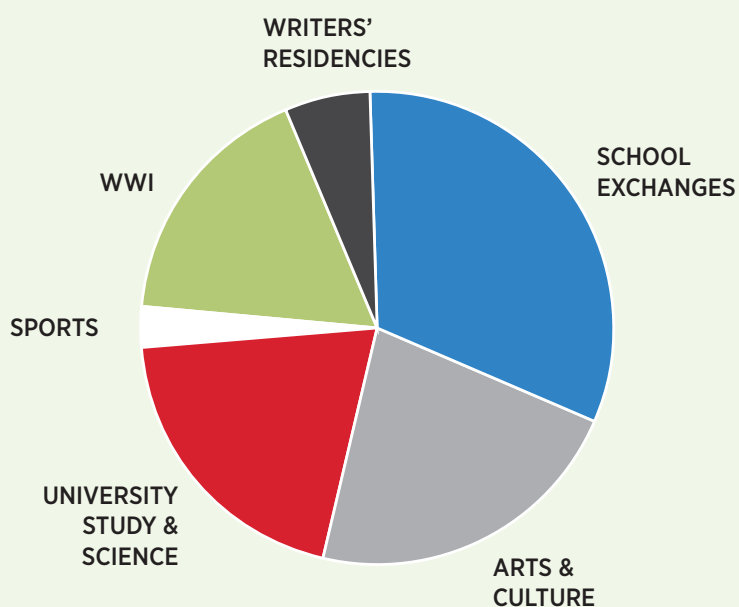
Many cultural projects were supported over the period of the Fund, including French master classes for opera singers in Paris, the New Zealand Dance Company tour of France, various French artists visiting New Zealand for performances, exhibitions and workshops, artistic residencies and tours.

In 2014, a group of artists from Taranaki travelled to Paris with their work, which was exhibited at the art gallery 59 Rivoli. This trip was very successful and in 2017 a group of eleven artists returned with 400 pieces by 30 Taranaki artists. The Fund supported the group on both occasions.

In 2014 the Korutet String Quartet travelled to Paris, to take part in workshops with French musician Bruno Letort. While in Paris, they had coaching sessions with established musicians as well as rehearsals with French peers and composers. The visit ended with a very successful concert at the Notre Dame d'Espérance and the quartet left Paris having formed lasting friendships with French musicians.



PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY NEW ZEALAND BOARD 2009-2018



EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP (2009-2017)

Scientific and University collaboration has been a major focus for the Fund. The New Zealand France Friendship Fund's Excellence Scholarship was established in 2009 to support one New Zealand postgraduate student's study in France and one French student's study in New Zealand each year. In New Zealand, the winner, chosen by a selection panel co-ordinated with Universities New Zealand, received a prize of \$25,000 to fund their postgraduate study.

With the end of the Fund in view, the Board decided in 2017 to discontinue the Excellence Scholarship.

NEW ZEALAND EXCELLENCE SCHOLARS:

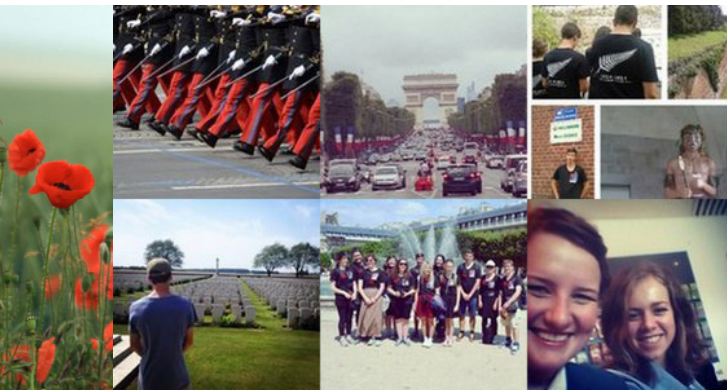
Rowan Fraser
Kristin McLeod
Michael Parmenter
Fiona McAlister
Briony Bennett
Rebecca Grant
Dylan Chambers
Benjamin Wilson
Matthew Cross

LAURÉATS FRANÇAISES:

Ingrid Bruyninckx
Vivien Deloge
Fanny Mondet
Simon Jean-Pigné
Nabil Allaf
Luc Arnault
Léa Girard
Sandrine Roy
Henri Gerard
Ninon Migayrou-Izac



WORLD WAR I



In 2012, the Board agreed to allocate a special pool of funding for the commemorations from 2014-2018 of the 100th anniversary of the First World War. This resulted in support for a number of projects focusing on the two countries' shared WWI history.

The *Young Ambassadors'* trip to France in July 2014 was the launching initiative of the **Shared Histories** project involving French and New Zealand secondary schools forming partnerships and working together on WWI projects. The project aimed to raise awareness of the immense contribution of the New Zealand Division in the fighting on the Western Front during WWI and to highlight the historical links between New Zealand and France.

In July 2014, a special delegation of Year 13 students travelled to France to represent New Zealand in the commemorations of the First World War. They took part in official commemoration events, visited memorial sites and built relationships with French people with whom they shared a history and a connection. Each Young Ambassador undertook a personal research project; carrying with them an item from their family, school or community, which gave them each a focus for communicating back to schools in New Zealand via blogs and visits to schools in their regions. This project was successfully repeated in 2016 and 2018.

During the First World War, miners from New Zealand's coal and gold mines travelled to **Arras** in the north of France for the purpose of extending the existing network of quarries and tunnels underneath the city to create a tactical advantage for the Allied forces.

Two vast tunnel networks ran from the centre of Arras almost as far as the German front line. The tunnel systems could accommodate up to 25,000 men and were fitted with running water, kitchens, a light rail system and a fully equipped hospital.

The Fund was an initial supporter of a project to create a digital survey of the Arras tunnels. A group led by Otago University, together with the École Supérieure des Géomètres et Topographes (Le Mans) captured, recorded and modelled the tunnels of Arras using laser scanning technology. The aim of the project was to preserve the physical and cultural heritage of a site of military significance before it was lost.

[CLICK HERE](#)

OR VISIT: <https://www.tvnz.co.nz/one-news/new-zealand/new-zealands-wwi-tunnels-in-france-uncovered-using-laser-scanning-technology>

Le Quesnoy has a special place in the hearts of New Zealanders and is often considered the most 'New Zealand' town in France. It was liberated in November 1918, just before the end of the war, by New Zealand troops who scaled its fortified walls via a ladder.

Since then, strong links have developed between New Zealand and Le Quesnoy, with Cambridge in New Zealand becoming its sister city. Each year on ANZAC Day, the New Zealand Embassy takes part in a special service of remembrance to pay homage to the town's liberators.

In 2018, the Fund supported several projects that commemorated the centenary of the liberation of Le Quesnoy by New Zealand troops. This included visits and performances by groups such as the Cambridge Brass Band and the Voices NZ Chamber Choir.

In 2019, the Fund contributed towards a feasibility study into the viability of a proposed New Zealand Museum in Le Quesnoy.

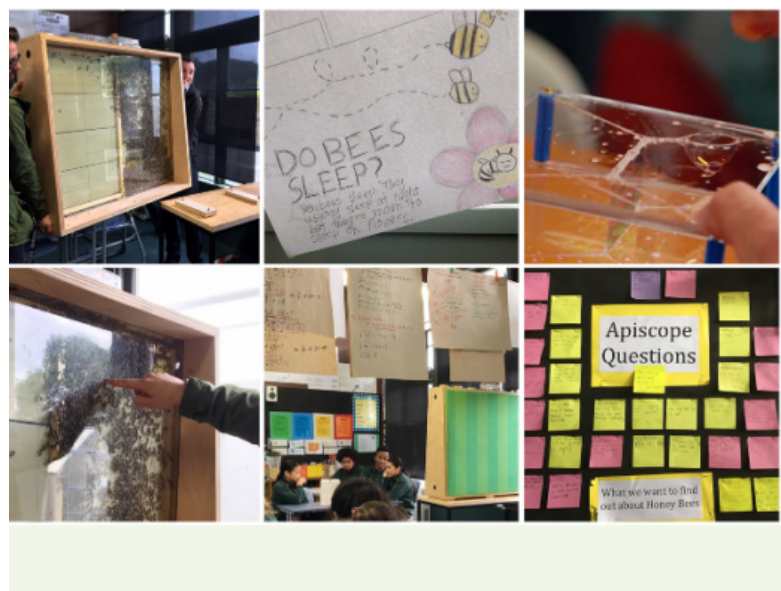


SCIENCE, ENVIRONMENT AND SPORTS

In 2014 the Fund supported a visit to New Zealand by French scientist, Dr Jean-Pierre Martin, to help establish an apiscope for use in school classrooms. The Apiscope, an observation beehive, was tested in two New Zealand schools to see how it could contribute to education about bee biology. The apiscope, with its glass wall for observing bees, is thought to be particularly good for mixed-ability learners with a focus on both science and art.

In 2018, the Fund provided a grant to Dr Caroline Holden of GNS Science to collaborate with French scientists from ISTERre in Grenoble on urban seismology. The project aimed to test New Zealand's real-life earthquake data using France's innovative building monitoring methods. This project was a good example of collaboration between France and New Zealand to tackle an economic and safety problem facing New Zealand.

The establishment of an exchange of apprentice winemakers from Central Otago (Pinot Noir) and Burgundy in France gained Fund support in 2006. The vintner exchange programme would provide the opportunity for young winemakers from the two regions to gain knowledge and alternative techniques and terroirs. The programme was founded by Nick Mills, together with his mother Lois, pictured with Aubert de Villaine of Domaine de la Romanée-Conti.



There has always been a strong bond between France and New Zealand forged around a mutual love of rugby. Bernard Lapasset was the Fund's French co-chair from 1994 to 2009. During some of this time he was a member of the Olympic Committee and also chairman of the IRB. In 2006 he was recognised as an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit in recognition of his contribution to French-New Zealand relations.

In 2015, a group of students from the Collège du Fiua, in Wallis and Futuna visited New Zealand for a rugby and language tour. This included participating in a rugby tournament at Lindisfarne in Hawke's Bay. Several school exchanges over the years have had a sporting contingent, for example St Catherine's/Lycée Robespierre (rugby) and Nga Tawa/Collège Jules Ferry (equestrian).

The Hoesa Kaha rowing rally, held on the Waikato River in 2013, was attended by an enthusiastic French contingent. Eight quad crews attended, including four organisers from the Rally du Midi in France. The objective of the rally was to extend the concept of rowing touring in New Zealand, a concept that is widely known in Europe.

LEGACY PROJECT:

RANDELL COTTAGE WRITERS RESIDENCY

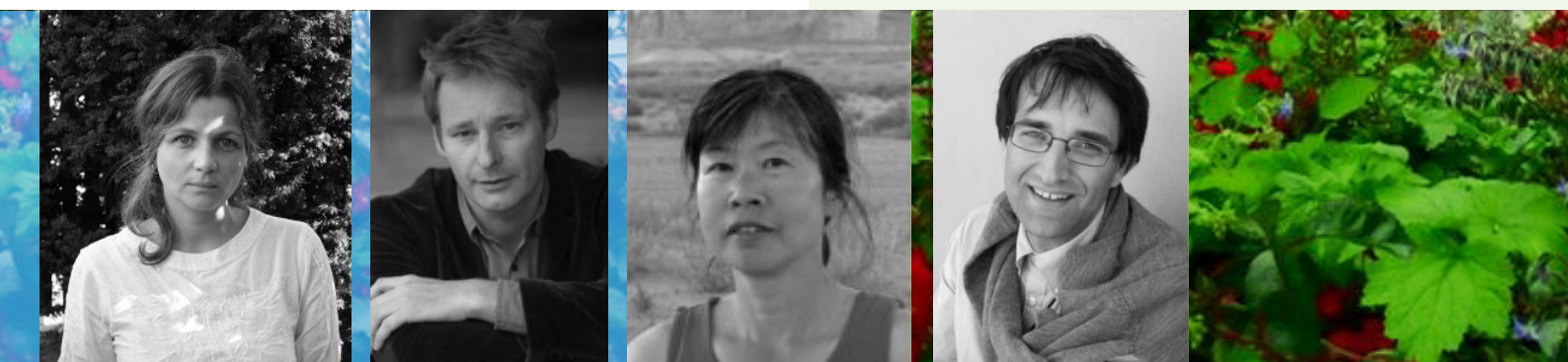
Randell Cottage, at 14 St Mary Street, Thorndon is an historic cottage which has been a writer's residency since 2001. The cottage, which was built in 1867, has two bedrooms and a writing studio. Located in inner-city Thorndon, the cottage is close to the Lilburn Residence, Rita Angus Cottage, and the Katherine Mansfield House and Garden, and within walking distance of the National and Turnbull Libraries and Archives New Zealand.

The cottage hosts a Creative NZ writer for half of the year and a French writer for the other half of the year. Seeing the Randell Cottage as something of a mirror residency for the Katherine Mansfield Menton Fellowship, the Fund supported the French writer's residency since its inception. With the pending closure of the Fund, the Joint Board decided in 2017 to establish a legacy project that would preserve the French writer's residency after the Fund had been wound up.

To this end, the Board set up a legacy trust to be managed and invested by the Arts Foundation of New Zealand. The initial capital to establish this Trust was €250,000 with the intention that the income from the capital would support the French writer's residency for as long as the Cottage continues. The following lists the French writers who have stayed at the Randell Cottage up to 2019.



- 2019 – Karin Serres
- 2018 – Amélie Lucas-Gary
- 2017 – Josef Schovanec
- 2016 – Nicolas Fargues
- 2015 – David Fauquemberg
- 2014 – Thanh-Van Tran-Nhut
- 2013 – Estelle Nollet
- 2012 – Florence Cadier
- 2011 – Yann Apperry
- 2010 – Fariba Hachtroudi
- 2009 – Olivier Bleys
- 2008 – Nicolas Kurtovitch
- 2007 – Annie Saumont
- 2006 – Dominique Mainard
- 2005 – Pierre Furlan
- 2004 – Charles Juliet
- 2002 – Nadine Ribault



LEGACY PROJECT:

KATHERINE MANSFIELD MENTON FELLOWSHIP



Established in 1970, the Katherine Mansfield Menton writer's Fellowship is one of New Zealand's most prestigious literary residencies. It commemorates the New Zealand writer Katherine Mansfield who was born in Wellington in 1888 and died in France in 1923, having lived and worked during the latter part of her life in Menton.

A selected NZ writer is awarded a prize to live for up to six months in Menton, France, where they have access to Katherine Mansfield's writing room in Villa Isola Bella. The NZ\$35,000 award covers return travel to France and living and accommodation expenses.

Previous fellows have included CK Stead, Janet Frame, Michael King, Marilyn Duckworth, Allen Curnow, Lloyd Jones, Maurice Gee, Witi Ihimaera, Vincent O'Sullivan, Elizabeth Knox, Bill Manhire and Dame Fiona Kidman.

The New Zealand France Friendship Fund began to support the Katherine Mansfield Fellowship in 2012, granting a total of \$75,000 over a three-year period. When a decision was made in 2016 to establish a perpetual trust for the Fellowship, to be managed by the Arts Foundation, the Fund agreed to contribute \$70,000.

In 2018, the Board was seeking another project to preserve the Fund's legacy after its closure. The Katherine Mansfield Fellowship was considered a well-established, iconic France/New Zealand collaboration which would celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2020. On this basis, the Board agreed to contribute a sum of \$300,000 to the sub-trust at the Arts Foundation to extend the length of the residency for writers and to build the public profile and outreach of the Fellowship.

New Zealand Chair, Sarah Dennis, commented at the time: "With the Fund having served its purpose well, the Joint New Zealand France Board has sought to preserve its legacy through an ongoing contribution to France-New Zealand collaboration. The Katherine Mansfield writer's residency in Menton is a prestigious and iconic project, which we know will continue long after the Fund has gone."

CONCLUSION

Since its establishment in 1991, the New Zealand France Friendship Fund has provided more than \$5 million in grants towards projects in New Zealand, France and the French Pacific. The Fund has supported projects that build ongoing links, friendship and understanding between the people of New Zealand and France. It has supported school exchanges, WWI centenary projects, postgraduate scholarships and a variety of sporting, cultural and scientific exchanges. Many of these exchanges and partnerships are self-sustaining.

The Fund's legacy will live on in two investment projects, both managed by the Arts Foundation of New Zealand. The income from these two investments supports the Randell Cottage French writer's residency in Thorndon and the Katherine Mansfield Fellowship in Menton.



APPENDIX A:

AGREEMENT 29 APRIL 1991



A.134

New Zealand Treaty Series, 1991, No.3
Ministry of External Relations and Trade

AGREEMENT

BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF NEW ZEALAND AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC ON THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF A FUND TO PROMOTE FRIENDLY
RELATIONS BETWEEN CITIZENS OF THE TWO
COUNTRIES

Wellington, 29 April 1991
[In force, 29 April 1991]

Presented to the House of Representatives

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF
NEW ZEALAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
FRENCH REPUBLIC ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
FUND TO PROMOTE FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN
CITIZENS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES

The Government of New Zealand and the Government of the French Republic (hereinafter "the Parties"),

Desiring to promote close and friendly relations between the citizens of the two countries and to implement the recommendation made with this aim in mind, in the ruling of 30 April 1990 of the Arbitral Tribunal established by New Zealand and France,

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

The Parties hereby establish a Fund with the aim of promoting friendly relations between the citizens of the two countries.

ARTICLE 2

The Fund shall comprise such funds as may be contributed by the Parties and any other funds from other sources which the Parties agree might be contributed to the Fund.

ARTICLE 3

1. The capital of the Fund shall be invested in such manner and in such places as from time to time agreed by the Parties in order to maintain and safeguard the capital value of the Fund, and to maximise the generation of income from the Fund.

2. In order to maintain the real value of the capital of the Fund, the Parties may jointly decide from time to time that an appropriate proportion of the income of the Fund shall be allocated to the capital of the Fund.

ARTICLE 4

1. The two Parties shall establish a Board which shall administer the Fund so as to fulfil the objectives of the Fund set out in this Agreement. In carrying out its functions, the Board shall take into account the objectives and the programmes of the Cultural Agreement between the Government of New Zealand and the Government of the French Republic signed in Paris on 18 November 1977.

2. The Board shall comprise two co-chairmen and four other members who shall be appointed in an honorary capacity. Each Party shall appoint one co-chairman and two other members.

3. The Board shall meet at least once a year, alternately in Wellington and in Paris, in order to decide the allocation of the income of the Fund in accordance with the terms set out in this Agreement. Decisions on the allocation of the income shall be made by unanimous vote of all Board members present at the meeting, which shall include at least one member appointed by each Party. The Board may also make decisions on the allocation of income between meetings. In this case, decisions shall be made by the unanimous written agreement of all six Board members.

ARTICLE 5

The Board shall allocate the income of the Fund to projects and activities which have as their object the promotion of close and friendly relations between the citizens of both countries. The allocation by the Board of the income of the Fund to such projects and activities shall be made from funds remaining after a proportion of the income of the Fund has been allocated to the capital of the Fund in accordance with Article 3 (2) of this Agreement and after allowance has been made for the expenses of Board members in accordance with Article 7 of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 6

The Board may make separate arrangements with the recipients of grants of income from the Fund, in relation to specific projects or activities, which may specify the nature and objectives of the project or activity, financial responsibilities, administrative procedures, reporting requirements and other appropriate matters.

ARTICLE 7

The expenses of Board members in attending meetings of the Board shall be met from the income of the Fund, except that in the case of expenses for international travel the income of the Fund shall not cover the cost of more than one such journey per annum without the specific agreement of the two Parties.

ARTICLE 8

1. The Board shall report annually on the operation of the Fund to the Prime Ministers of New Zealand and the French Republic.

2. The Board shall provide a report on the operation of the Fund for meetings of the Mixed Commission established by Article XIV of the Cultural Agreement between the Government of New Zealand and the French Republic, done in Paris on 18 November 1977.

ARTICLE 9

The New Zealand Ministry of External Relations and Trade and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall provide administrative assistance to the Board, and shall facilitate consultation between members of the Board between meetings.

ARTICLE 10

Each Party shall facilitate, consistent with its law, the entry to and temporary residence in its respective territory of persons from the other country involved in projects or activities being assisted by the Fund.

ARTICLE 11

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature. The Parties may jointly terminate this Agreement. The Parties shall in that case agree on all matters related to the termination and winding up of the Fund.

DONE in duplicate at Wellington on the 29th day of April 1991 in English and French, each text being equally authentic.

JIM BOLGER

For the Government of
New Zealand

MICHEL ROCARD

For the Government of
France

WELLINGTON. NEW ZEALAND:

Published by Order of the House of Representatives-1994

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APPENDIX B:

LIST OF JOINT BOARD MEETINGS

22 JUNE 1992 (Paris)

29 SEPTEMBER 1993 (Wellington)

27 JUNE 1994 (Wellington) – with the French Rugby team in NZ

4 JULY 1995 (Paris)

19 JUNE 1996 (Wellington)

17 JUNE 1997 (Paris)

19 JUNE 1998 (Wellington)

24 JUNE 1999 (Wellington) – with the French Rugby team in NZ

20 JUNE 2000 (Paris)

29 JUNE 2001 (Wellington)

12 JUNE 2002 (Paris)

26 JUNE 2003 (Wellington)

24 JUNE 2004 (Paris)

29 JUNE 2005 (Wellington)

5 JULY 2006 (Paris)

5 JUNE 2007 (Wellington)

4 JULY 2008 (Wellington)

8 JUNE 2009 (Paris)

9 JUNE 2010 (Wellington)

7 JUNE 2011 (Paris)

27 JUNE 2012 (Wellington)

12 JUNE 2013 (Paris)

12 JUNE 2014 (Wellington)

10 JUNE 2015 (Paris)

8 JUNE 2016 (Wellington)

2 JUNE 2017 (Paris)

8 JUNE 2018 (Wellington)

6 JUNE 2019 (Paris)

APPENDIX C:

LIST OF BOARD MEMBERS

YEARS	NEW ZEALAND BOARD
1991–1994	Merwyn Norrish (Chair) Charlotte Williams Daniel Le Brun
1994–1997	Merwyn Norrish (Chair) Hamish Hancock Daniel Le Brun
1997–2001	Merwyn Norrish (Chair) Daniel Le Brun Hamish Hancock
2002–2004	Judith Trotter (Chair) Gillian Greer Chris Knol
2004–2007/8	Judith Trotter (Chair) Gillian Greer Chris Knol
2008–2010	Richard Woods (Chair) Jenny Bornholdt Richard Baker
2010–2011	Richard Woods (Chair) Richard Baker Richard Long
2011–2016	Richard Long (Chair) Richard Baker Sarah Dennis
2016–2019	Sarah Dennis (Chair) Steven Fyfe Cam Calder