Memory of the World Nomination Form

Filling out the nomination form.

1. The responses boxes are an indicative size only. You can use as much or as little space as required to answer the questions.
2. The form can be completed in English or Te Reo Maori.
3. You can combine answers where appropriate, as long as all questions are answered
4. If successful, this completed nomination form will be published online at unescomow.org.nz/nz-register. Please read our privacy policy to understand what will be published.
5. If you have any questions, email enquiries@unescomow.org.nz
6. Submit the completed form to unescomow.org.nz/nominate/submissions

Section 1: Summary

Provide a brief summary describing the documentary heritage, how it meets the criteria for the New Zealand Memory of the World Register, and the main arguments in support of its nomination. It is important to summarise the essential information so that a number of people can quickly understand it. Please keep your summary to no more than 1 page.

Edmund Hillary KG, ONZ, KBE (1919 – 2008), renowned New Zealand mountaineer, explorer, environmentalist and philanthropist, bequeathed his personal archive of papers, photographs and documents to Auckland Museum. In 1953 Hillary captured the world's imagination by conquering Everest and went on to explore places where no man had been before. The sixtieth anniversary this year of his ascent of Everest has attracted world-wide attention. Hillary's work with the Sherpas and his enduring legacy in Nepal earned him the title of Surra Sahib (Big of Heart). In 1953 the order of Gorkha Dakshina was conferred on him by the King of Nepal. His stature as a heroic figure continues to grow on the international stage.

Through his unfailing support and nurturing of the Sherpa population, building schools and hospitals, repaying not only his own debt but also those of other people to other communities, he set an example of caring to the world. Through his worldwide travels in support of environmental causes, Hillary has come to epitomize the modern adventurer who not only travels but also defends, who not only sees for himself but also brings the message home to hundreds of millions more. Booth, Pat. Edmund Hillary the life of a legend. Moa Beckett, 1994, p.9

The Sir Edmund Hillary Archive is a substantial and unique collection of papers, photographs, audiovisual material and documents collected and largely written by Sir Edmund, which record the life and times of this great New Zealander. Correspondence, lists of supplies for expeditions, scrapbooks, lecture notes, photographs and diaries reveal much about Sir Edmund's methodology and planning for expeditions and give first-hand accounts of the adventures as they were experienced by Hillary and his companions. Documented in the archive are his dealings with notable world-leaders, international political and corporate figures, adventurers, writers and private individuals and family members. The archive spans the second half of the twentieth century through to the early twenty first century.

Section 2: Nominator Details

This section is for information about the source of the nomination and the authority under which it is made.

A copy of the Programme's privacy policy appears on the Programme's website.

2.1 Name of nominator (person or organisation)

Full name of the person(s) or organisation(s) making the nomination.

Auckland War Memorial Museum/ Tamaki Paenga Hira

Roy Clare CBE, Director Auckland War Memorial Museum/ Tamaki Paenga Hira

2.2 Relationship to the nominated documentary heritage

This should be an explanation of the nominator's relationship to the documentary heritage. *For example, the nominator may be a responsible officer of the library or archive which owns the documentary heritage in question; or he/she may be a private individual with a research interest in the heritage.*

Responsible for the Auckland Museum's documentary heritage collections which include published works, manuscripts and archive collections, maps, ephemera, audiovisual and pictorial collections

2.3 Contact person

This should provide the name of the person who is responsible for the nomination process.

Theresa Graham, Team Leader Library Collections

2.4 Contact details

This should provide sufficient details to allow easy contact with the contact person.

2.5 Declaration of Authority

I have the authority to nominate this item to the NZ Register: Agree

Section 3: Identity and description of the documentary heritage

3.1 Title of the documentary heritage item or collection

This should be the complete name of the documentary heritage as it is usually known. This should include dates if they are usually part of the name.

Hillary, Edmund, Sir, 1919 – 2008. Personal papers. MS 2010/1

3.2 Description of the documentary heritage

This should include a full description of what is included in the documentary heritage, the scope of the documentary heritage and its size.

The Archive consists of approx. thirty linear metres of folders in archival boxes, outsize folders and photographs and audiovisual format items. There are approx.25,000 photographs & colour slides in the archive.

Summary of the scope of the archive: substantial amount of original material, including photographs) relating to the Himalayan Scientific & Mountaineering Expedition,1960- 1961; the Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition,1955 – 1956; World Book (Jet Boat), Schools Expedition 1969-1970; expedition diaries of Sir Ed and Lady Louise Hillary; manuscript drafts of books written by Hillary; official certificates and awards presented to Sir Ed from childhood onwards (including his official appointment to be High Commissioner for New Zealand in the Republic of India and his appointment as Knight of the Royal Garter in 1995); inward & outward official & personal correspondence from 1944 onwards; papers relating to parents Gertrude and Percy Hillary and children Peter, Sarah and Belinda; business papers & financial records; speech & lecture notes on themes such as Antarctica, Nepal & Himalayan Trust projects; personal diaries and letter books; papers relating to the establishment of the Tenzing Fellowship & Tenzing Memorial Museum in 1988; papers relating to Sir Ed's time as New Zealand High Commissioner in India; papers relating to the Chicago -American Hillary Foundation;

3.3 Catalogue, registration or bibliographic details

This should include any bibliographic, registration, inventory, classification and/or call numbers that uniquely identify the documentary heritage.

Refer listing: to be sent as a separate PDF file.

3.4 Visual documentation

Where available and appropriate, any photographs or videos of the documentary heritage should be supplied.

Refer files: to be sent as separate email

3.5 History/provenance

This should be a summary of its provenance (for example, how and when was the material acquired and integrated into the holdings of the institution).

The Archive was bequeathed to the Auckland Museum by Sir Edmund Hillary in his will.

It was incorporated into the Library Collection as part of the Manuscript & Archive Collection in 2009 and an extensive listing was compiled by archivist Mary Donald. The catalogue entry for the archive was created at that time and included in the public catalogue which is available online: see below

Type: Manuscripts/Archives

Call Number: MS 2010/1

Author/Creator: Hillary, Edmund, Sir, 1919-2008

Title: Personal papers /

Subject:
- Hillary, Edmund, 1919-2008
- Hillary, Louise, d. 1975
- Hillary family
- Rose family

Notes: Some material is on restricted access until 2028. Written requests for permission to Museum Library Manager, Peter and Sarah Hillary.

Associated Material: Photographs, slides, negatives and outsized photographic material is located in Cool Store 1. Please ask

Biographical Note: Dictionary of New Zealand Biography essay on Sir Edmund Hillary

Citation: Hillary, Edmund, Sir, 1919-2008. Personal papers. Auckland War Memorial Museum Libra

Finding Aid:
- Electronic inventory available.
- F:\Manuscripts_Inventories\PDFInventories\HILLARY2010-1.pdf

Access: Open. Some material requires permission for access. See Notes.

Manuscript catalogue entry

Call Number
MS 2010/1

Main Entry
Hillary, Edmund, Sir, 1919-2008

Title
Personal papers

Access
Open. Some material requires permission for access. See Notes.

Biographical Note
[http://www.teara.govt.nz/en/biographies/6hl/1 Dictionary of New Zealand Biography] essay on Sir Edmund Hillary.

Notes
Some material is on restricted access until 2028. Written requests for permission to Museum Library Manager, who will present the request to Peter and Sarah Hillary.

Subjects
Hillary, Edmund, 1919-2008; Hillary, Louise, d. 1975; Hillary family; Rose family

Associated Material
Photographs, slides, negatives and outsized photographic material is located in Cool Store 1. Please ask Library staff regarding access.

Finding Aid
Electronic inventory available.
F:\Manuscripts_inventories\PDFinventories\HILLARY2010-1.pdf

Citation
Hillary, Edmund, Sir, 1919-2008. Personal papers. Auckland War Memorial Museum Library. MS 2010/1.

Donor
Estate of Sir Edmund Hillary, 2008.

Management Notes
file:\F:\Manuscripts_inventories\PDFInventories\HILLARY2010-1.pdf
Copyright of the literary works of **EPH** is with Auckland Museum. Note: There is some content (especially letters and photographs), where the copyright remains with the authors or commissioning institutions.
Arranged and described by Mary Donald.

3.6 Bibliography

This should be, where possible, a list of 3-6 published sources that have been produced using (i.e. drawing heavily on) the documentary heritage to attest to the item/collection's significance.

Bibliography

Bell, Terry. Hillary of Everest, the years after. Auckland, Wilson & Horton, 1975

Booth, Pat. Edmund Hillary, the life of a legend. Auckland, Moa Beckett, 1993

Fuchs, Sir Vivian. The crossing of Antarctica; the Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition, 1955-58. London, Cassell, 1958.

Gill, Michael. Himalayan hospitals: Sir Edmund Hillary's Everest legacy. Michael Gill with Lynley Cook. Nelson, Craiq Potton, 2011.

Hillary, Edmund. From the ocean to the sky; jet boating up the Ganges. London, Hodder & Stoughton, 1979.

Johnston, Alexa. Sir Edmund Hillary: an extraordinary life, the authorized, illustrated biography. Auckland, Penguin Viking, 2005.

Sir Edmund Hillary; a pictorial celebration. Auckland, Random House, 1999.

Tuckey, Harriet. Everest- The first ascent: the untold story of Griffith Pugh, the mand who made it possible. Random House, 2013.

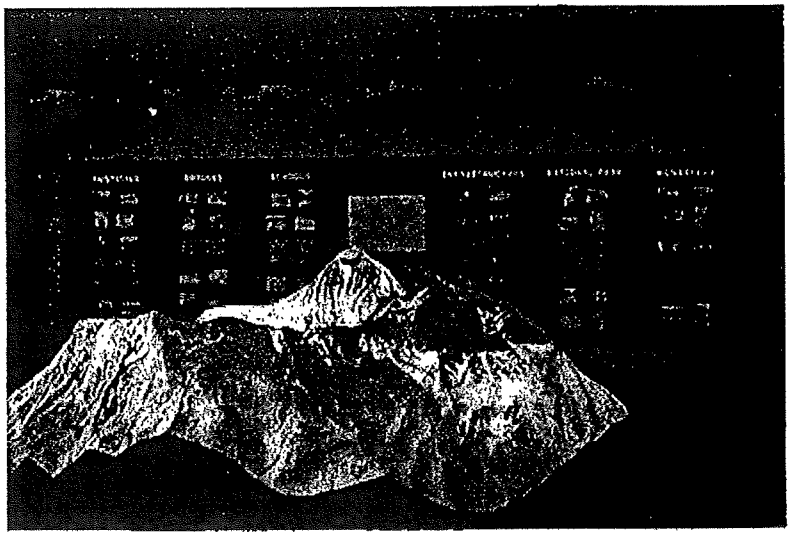
Feature film: Beyond the edge; a 3D feature film about Sir Edmund Hillary's monumental and historial ascent of Mt Everest. Producer, Matthew Metcalfe, written and directed by Leanne Pooley. 2013, currently in production

Auckland Museum website, June 2013- extract

Auckland Museum exhibition celebrates 60 year anniversary of Sir Ed's Mt Everest climb and a lifetime of work in Nepal

Date: 19 April 2013

A new exhibition opening tomorrow at Auckland Museum aims to introduce the next generation to the achievements and the legacy of Sir Edmund Hillary 60 years on from his historic climb of Mt Everest.



From the Summit- Hillary's Enduring Legacy uses photos and objects from the Sir Edmund Hillary Archive to tell the story of the ascent but also of Sir Ed's philanthropic work in Nepal.

"Reaching the top of Everest was an achievement that resonated around the world but

that initial feat is really just one part of this rich story," says exhibition developer Janneen Love.

"From there Sir Ed forged an incredible bond with the people of the Himalayas and he spent rest of his life - more than 50 years - working alongside them to build schools and hospitals and improve their lives. This is a just a small exhibition but I think we provide some wonderful insights into these enduring ties that continue today."

Helping to bring the ascent to life for visitors is a car-sized replica of Mt Everest at the centre of the exhibition which uses layers of video, graphics and audio to track the path of the climb.

Leading up to the anniversary of Sir Ed and Tenzing Norgay reaching the summit on 29 May 1953, the museum will also be sharing extracts from the diary that Sir Ed kept during the climb.

Sir Ed's children Sarah and Peter Hillary have both contributed to the development of the exhibition and say they are pleased the museum is able to share the different elements of their father's story and his work in Nepal.

"Ed really liked people and nature. That's why he kept going back (to Nepal), it wasn't just about climbing mountains. He did like adventures but a big part of the enjoyment was the connections with other people, having a good time, pushing yourself and doing something useful on the way," says Sarah Hillary.

Sarah says it was evident that Sir Ed took great pleasure from seeing the changes they were able to make for the people of Nepal.

"He felt he could really make a difference and you see that in his letters, when they were able to stop the flow of a smallpox epidemic for example. From what were very simple actions he saw you could really help people."

Peter says the work in Nepal, that continues today in the work of The Himalayan Trust, is something New Zealanders can be really proud of and an example of how the actions of many have come together to make a real, positive impact on the lives of others.

"Of course Dad was this great central figure in (the work in Nepal) but there were builders, plumbers, highfalutin specialist doctors, climbers, conservation people working up there, the involvement by New Zealanders over the last 60 years in the Everest area is astounding. So I think it is something New Zealanders can be proud of and can look at as an example of what the country can do and do well."

3.7 **Names of up to three independent experts**

The committee requires testimony from up to three independent people or organisations who can give an informed opinion about the significance and provenance of the documentary heritage. Nominators should obtain the written permission of the named experts prior to completing the nomination form and are required to declare that they have this permission by completing this section of the nomination form.

Please provide up to half a page from each expert in support of your submission. In addition, please list their names, qualifications and full contact details so that the Nominations Subcommittee can contact them if required.

A copy of the Programme's privacy policy appears on the Programme's website.

Expert One

Name	Alexa Johnston
Qualification(s)	Freelance curator and published writer.
Contact number	
Email	
Paragraph in support	I am writing in support of the Auckland Museum's application to have The Hillary Archive included in the register. Sir Edmund gave me access to all his photographs and papers while I worked on his authorised biography in 2003. I am very aware, however, that the constraints of time dictated by my publisher, the enormous amount of material he had kept after almost a lifetime spent in the public eye, and the reality of boxes of papers and letters stored in a variety of places in his house, prevented me from working through everything in the systematic way I would have wished. I have looked through the list of material in the archive and am greatly impressed by the range and depth of material it holds. Having all this material properly recorded and catalogued in Auckland Museum allows any future biographer to explore Sir Edmund's thoughts, opinions and actions more fully than I was able to- a prospect I welcome. Sir Edmund Hillary's role is one of the defining moments of the mid-twentieth century – the successful ascent of Mount Everest – as well as his subsequent adventures, and the work with the Sherpa people which took up the latter part of his life, have become the stuff of legend. His achievements, his personality and his

	legacy are indeed partof the memory of the world and I thoroughly endorse the Museum's application.

Expert Two

Name	Michael Gill
Qualification(s)	Doctor, explorer and writer
Contact number	
Email	

Paragraph in support	I have read through the Hillary archive at the Auckland Museum while working on two books. The first of these, *Himalayan Hospitals. Sir Edmund Hillary's Everest Legacy,* was published by Craig Potton Publishing in 2011. The book describes Sir Edmund's aid work in Nepal between 1960 and 2008. The second book, with which I am currently engaged, is a new biography of Sir Edmund drawing particularly on primary material in the Auckland Museum Hillary archive. I have known Sir Edmund personally since 1959 through accompanying him on most of his expeditions since that time and also through close involvement with the work of the Himalayan Trust, the charity he established in 1966. During his life Sir Edmund wrote three autobiographies and the three independent biographies that have been written about him have had to rely heavily on these autobiographies. The Auckland Museum Hillary Archive adds a new dimension to the life of New Zealand's most famous citizen. Diaries written during his expeditions show his thoughts as events unfolded from day to day. There are many personal letters. The material covering the years 1914 to 1952 is of particular interest in the way it shows a New Zealander growing up in those years, someone who was unknown then but who became instantly famous in 1953 with his ascent of Everest. Subsequent diaries show how he grew into this fame and then how he coped with the tragedy of the death of his wife and youngest daughter in a plane crash in Nepal in 1975. Finally there is full documentation of the aid work for which Sir Edmund has become independently famous.

Expert Three

Name	Dr Huw Lewis-Jones
Qualification(s)	Everest historian, PhD University of Cambridge, Author and Publisher
Contact number	
Email	
Paragraph in support	Having become the first to climb the highest mountain in the world in 1953, Ed Hillary returned as one of the most famous men in the world. In the years that followed he used his fame to good effect – not only leading other expeditions to far-flung corners of our planet, but also, and most importantly, raising significant sums of money for a wide range of humanitarian projects. His work in improving the lives of the people of Nepal can be considered his greatest legacy. The archive now held at the Auckland Museum tells the story of this remarkable life, but also give us greater insight into his diplomatic

	and expeditionary ventures. Ed Hillary should be rightly remembered both as a figure of huge national importance but also international significance. This rich collection of personal papers, letters and photographs will enable the research community and the greater public to understand more about the impact and ongoing relevance of his life. I warmly support this proposal and confirm the unrivalled importance of this special aspect of New Zealand's documentary heritage. With ongoing preservation and now improved access in the Auckland Museum, it will become a much cherished resource at home and for a wide audience overseas.

Section 4: Legal Information

4.1 Owner (name and contact details)

This should be the name and full contact details of the owner or owners, whether an institution or an individual.

Auckland Museum – Tamaki Paenga Hira

4.2 Custodian (name and contact details if different from the owner)

This should be the name and full contact details of the custodian, whether an institution or an individual. Sometimes the custodian of the documentary heritage may not be the same as the owner. It is essential to establish both before a nomination can be added to the Register.

n/a

4.3 Legal status

This should state whether the documentary heritage is owned privately, or by a public institution, or by a commercial corporation. Details of legal and administrative powers for the preservation of the documentary heritage should be the name of the Act, or other instrument of administrative power, that gives the owner and/or the custodian the legal power to preserve the documentary heritage.

Public institution. From the estate of Sir Edmund Hillary

4.4 Accessibility

This should be a description of how the documentary heritage may be accessed. All access procedures and restrictions should be clearly stated on the nomination form. There are three levels of access:

1. Access to verify the significance, integrity & security of the material. The Archive is held in secure, environmentally controlled conditions in the closed stack area of the museum library, which is located on the 2"d Floor of the Museum building. The photographic images are kept in a Cool Store on the same floor, to ensure their ongoing preservation care. Access to these areas is by nominated staff swipe card only.
2. Access for reproduction – selected, unrestricted items from the Archive have been digitised based on researcher or curator needs. eg. the 'Everest diary', 1953. A project to digitise and make available some 25,000 colour slides and images held in the archive is currently being seeped, with phase 1 of the project underway.
3. Public access in physical, digital or other format – digitised items from the archive are available to the public on request. Some digital photographic images sit with the online photograph catalogue and this will be built on as the project proceeds. Restricted items in the archive are digitised only with the consent of Sarah and Peter Hillary, as set out in Sir Edmund's will. Visitors to the Auckland Museum Library are able to request unrestricted are dealt with on the same basis as above.

4.5 Copyright Status

This should state whether the documentary heritage is subject to copyright. For items that are copyright, details should be provided on the relevant copyright legislation and copyright owner(s). Any other factors affecting the legal status of the documentary heritage should be noted. For example, is any institution required by law to preserve the documentary heritage in this nomination?

The Museum will not publish Documents in any form for the period of 20 years from Sir Edmund's death without the permission of the Hillarys. The Museum may exhibit or display (including online) any Documents that are not classified as Restricted Documents. The Museum will notify the Hillarys of its intended use beforehand. Section 4.16, Deed of Agreement, Auckland War Memorial Museum, Peter Hillary and Sarah Hillary

Copyright of the literary works of EPH is with Auckland Museum. Note: There is some content (especially letters and photographs), where the copyright remains with the authors or commissioning institutions.

Section 5: Stakeholders

There should be consultation with all relevant stakeholders before submitting the nomination

Peter Hillary, Sarah Hillary and Lady June Hillary have been consulted.

5.1 Owner

The owner(s) of the documentary heritage has been consulted: **Yes**

5.2 Custodian

The custodian(s) of the documentary heritage has been consulted: n/a

5.3 Independent experts

Consultation with independent experts strengthens the nomination. Consultation may be about any of the criteria required to support a nomination to the New Zealand Register.

Independent experts have been consulted: **Yes**

Section 6: Care and Preservation

6.1 Risk Assessment

Identify any risks to the survival of the nominated documentary heritage.

Loss of unique documents in the archive. This has been minimized by the security, environmental and custodial practices and policies in place for the care of and access to the archive.

6.2 Preservation Plan

A preservation and access management plan is required for selection to the New Zealand Register. Ideally a component of a total management plan for the custodial institution concerned, it may nonetheless be specific to the material if such a comprehensive plan does not exist.

Although permanent accessibility may involve the creation of copies of the documentary heritage (through microfilming or digitising, for example) the protection and unaltered retention of the original should take precedence, for as long as it is reasonably practicable to do so.

Refer: Collection management plan – sent as separate file

6.3 **Policies**

Summarised information should be provided on the relevant policy, strategy and procedures for the following:

preservation

access

description

Preservation: manuscript & archives collections are housed in archival enclosures, such as acid free envelopes and folders and placed in archival boxes on appropriate shelving in secure and

environmentally monitored storage areas in the museum library. This was completed for the Hillary Archive in 2010, at the time of the compilation of the inventory

Access: unrestricted items in the archive able to be accessed by visitors to the library, on request. The material is taken to the secure library reading room and viewed by the requestor under the supervision of the librarian on duty. Unrestricted items in digital format are sent on request to researchers. When the physical item has been viewed, it is returned within 24 hours to the archive as a whole, with a slip indicating that this has now been returned.

Description: The catalogue listings and inventory are supplied. As individual photographs and images are digitized, the metadata associated with the image is entered onto the catalogue for public information and access. Trained photograph and manuscript collections librarians are responsible for this work.

6.4 Storage

Provide information on:

environmental controls; disaster preparedness; security

The environmental controls for the three storage areas which hold the archive are set at the correct conservation standard for these materials. The environmental conditions in these key storage areas are controlled by air conditioning, with computerized monitoring of relative humidity and temperature levels recorded on dataloggers and downloaded on a regular basis, so that hardcopy records may be kept. To ensure the smooth running of these controls, all filters connected to the air conditioning units are changed regularly. The environmental conditions follow the recommendations of 885454:2000 standards with a constant relative humidity of 55% +/-5% and a temperature between 18 – 20 degrees C. Photographic prints are kept at 12 degrees C, colour slides at 2 degrees C and unstable film (nitrate) at 1 degree C.

There is a museum-wide disaster preparedness team, with plan and security controls are in place, as described earlier in the application.

6.5 Content migration or reformatting

Provide an overview of any content migration that has taken place, or is planned, and how the reformatted documentary heritage may be accessed.

Digitisation for Hillary images a priority in 2013-2014 library annual plan, with implementation of Phase 1 – the scanning and description of 15,000 colour slides in the Archive.

Project to digitise two thematic bundles from the Archive: the Himalayan Scientific & Mountaineering Expedition, 1960-1961 and the trans-Antarctic Expeditions. Work is about to commence on this initiative, with manuscript and pictorial items identified for digitization.

Section 7: Other Information

Please submit any additional relevant information e.g. that which demonstrates the cultural significance or impact of the documentary heritage. If uploading additional documents, please label them clearly, and note the file names below.

Attachments sent in separate file

ALEXA JOHNSTON

curator and writer

9 July 2013

Theresa Graham
Team Leader - Library Collections
Auckland War Memorial Museum Tamaki Paenga Hira

Dear Theresa

UNESCO Memory of the World Register

I am writing in support of the Auckland Museum's application to have The Hillary Archive included in the above register.

Sir Edmund gave me access to all his photographs and papers while I worked on his authorised biography in 2003. I am very aware, however, that the constraints of time dictated by my publisher, the enormous amount of material he had kept after almost a lifetime spent in the public eye, and the reality of boxes of papers and letters stored in a variety of places in his house, prevented me from working through everything in the systematic way I would have wished.

I have looked through the list of material in the archive and am greatly impressed by the range and depth of material it holds. Now that all this material properly recorded and catalogued in Auckland Museum, any future biographer will be able to explore Sir Edmund's thoughts, opinions and actions more fully than I was able to – a prospect I welcome.

Sir Edmund Hillary's role in one of the defining moments of the mid-twentieth century – the successful ascent of Mount Everest – as well as his subsequent adventures, and the work with the Sherpa people which took up the latter part of his life, have become the stuff of legend. His achievements, his personality and his legacy are indeed part of the memory of the world and I thoroughly endorse the Museum's application.

Yours faithfully

Alexa Johnston

Roy Clare,
Director,
Auckland Museum.

Dear Director,

I am writing to give my very strong support to the proposal that your Hillary archive be included in the UNESCO New Zealand Memory of the World Register. Sir Edmund Hillary is a world-renowned figure who has continued to grow in stature since his famous first ascent of Mt. Everest.

I have read through the Hillary archive at the Auckland Museum while working on two books.

The first of these, *Himalayan Hospitals. Sir Edmund Hillary's Everest Legacy,* was published by Craig Potton Publishing in 2011. The book describes Sir Edmund's aid work in Nepal between 1960 and 2008.

The second book, with which I am currently engaged, is a new biography of Sir Edmund drawing particularly on primary material in the Auckland Museum Hillary archive.

I have known Sir Edmund personally since 1959 through accompanying him on most of his expeditions since that time and also through close involvement with the work of the Himalayan Trust, the charity he established in 1966.

During his life Sir Edmund wrote three autobiographies and the three independent biographies that have been written about him have had to rely heavily on these autobiographies.

The Auckland Museum Hillary archive adds a new dimension to the life of New Zealand's most famous citizen. Diaries written during his expeditions show his thoughts as events unfolded from day to day. There are many personal letters .

An unexpected bonus has been the finding of extensive material written by Sir Edmund's father Percival who clearly had a profound (and largely unacknowledged) influence on his son.

The material covering the years 1914 to 1952 is of particular interest in the way it shows a New Zealander growing up in those years, someone who was unknown then but who became instantly famous in 1953 with his ascent of Everest. Subsequent diaries show how he grew into this fame and then how he coped with the tragedy of the death of his wife and youngest daughter in a plane crash in Nepal in 1975. Finally there is full documentation of the aid work for which Sir Edmund has become independently famous.

I think this is a most important archive recording New Zealand in the 20th century from its own unique angle.

As well as *Himalayan Hospitals* referred to above I have published *Mountain Midsummer* which describes my mountaineering experiences including those in the Himalayas and Antarctica on expeditions led by Sir Edmund. This is often described as a classic in the literature of NZ mountaineering. My day job during these years was as a Clinical Biochemist at Diagnostic Laboratory in Auckland. In this role I wrote a book entitled *The Interpretation of Laboratory Tests* which is widely used by practising doctors. My medical qualifications are MB, ChB, B Med Sci, FRCPA.

Yours sincerely,

Michael B. Gill.

Roy Clare CBE

9 July 2013

Dear Roy,

It is my pleasure to offer warm support for your efforts in nominating the Hillary Archive for inclusion in the UNESCO Memory of the World register. This year is the sixtieth anniversary of the first ascent of Everest – that great triumph of exploration for humankind – and so it is the perfect moment to give this collection the attention it deserves.

For my own pmt, as a historian and friend ofthe family here in Britain, it has been my personal joy to have worked for some years with veteran mountaineer George Lowe, who was the last of the Everest climbers of 1953 alive as we entered this happy anniversary year. George was a lifelong friend of his fellow New Zealander, Sir Ed Hillary.

George passed away just a few months ago, and though it has been a sad time we have been overwhelmed by warm support from so many people all around the world. As you know, we were fmtunate to have completed two books for George shortly before he left us. Like Ed Hillary, he was a kind, modest man and we hope their stories can now be shared widely.

Ed Hillary returned from Everest in 1953 as one of the most famous men in the world. In the years that followed he used his fame to good effect- not only leading other expeditions to far-flung corners of our planet, but also, and most importantly, raising significant swns of money for a wide range of humanitarian projects. His work in improving the lives of the people of Nepal can be considered his greatest legacy.

Your archive tells the story of this remarkable life, but also gives us greater insight into his diplomatic and expeditionary ventures. Ed Hillary should be rightly remembered both as a figure of huge national importance but also international significance and this rich collection of personal papers, letters and photographs, will enable the research community and the greater public to understand more about the impact and ongoing relevance of his life.

I warmly support this proposal and confirm the unrivalled importance of this special aspect of New Zealand's documentary heritage. With ongoing preservation and improved access, it will become a much-cherished resource at home and for a wide audience overseas. I offer you my full support and will be happy to help you in any way that I can as you go forward.

Best wishes,

Dr Huw Lewis-Jones

polorworld

Sir Ed film set for premiere

Hillary adventure to make 3D screen debut at Toronto film festival

Morgan Tait
morgan.tait@nzherald.co.nz

A 3D depiction of Sir Edmund Hilary conquering Mt Everest will premiere at the prestigious Toronto International Film Festival in September.

Beyond the Edge stars Kiwi actor Chad Moffitt as a young Sir Edmund and Mt Cook resident Sonam Sherpa as Tenzing Norgay. It was filmed in the Southern Alps, Himalayas and at Mt Everest and integrates George Lowe's original footage from the 1953 expedition.

Director Leanne Pooley said it was an honour for the film to be invited to the festival which is regarded as second only to the Cannes Film Festival.

"It's just such a wonderful story," she said. "That's what you need when you're making a movie ... a wonderful story and this is the wonderful story.

"It's a story of endurance, of self-sacrifice, of adventure – it has it all."

Sir Edmund's son, Peter Hillary, said the film's acceptance into the festival acknowledged his father's legacy.

"Ed Hillary was a remarkable character but he was an indelibly New Zealand character too, so this film speaks volumes about the attributes of our national psyche and our competitive and yet congenial personality.

"The film is a fine tribute to the spirit of the man and selection for [Toronto] is a great fillip to the prospects of the film."

Chad Moffitt plays a young Sir Edmund Hillary in *Beyond the Edge*.

Sir Edmund Hillary

> It's a story of endurance, of self-sacrifice, of adventure – it has it all.
>
> Leanne Pooley, director

Pooley said the film's overseas premiere was not a bad thing.

"When you're launching a film like this, Toronto is one of the world's greatest film festivals. It is just a really lovely launching pad and we are releasing in New Zealand not long after.

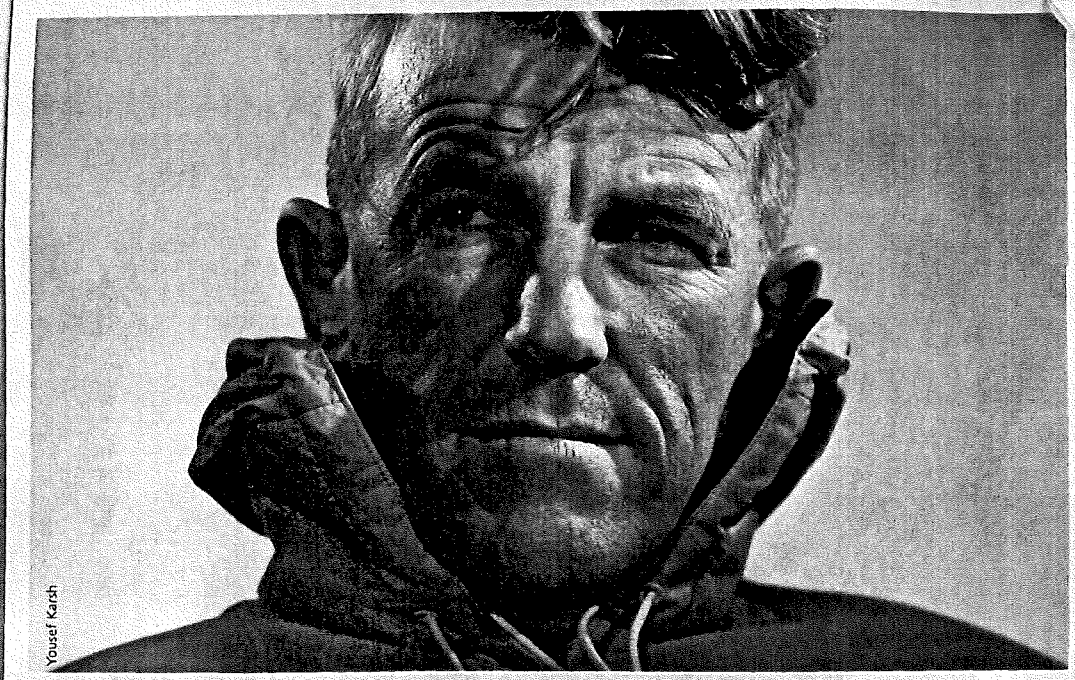
"This is making it possible to launch the film on to the world stage."

Production of the film started last August and was financed by the New Zealand Film Commission in association with NZ On Air's Platinum Fund, TVNZ, Digifilm and Rialto Distribution.

The film is produced by Matthew Metcalfe and is written and directed by Pooley, whose *The Topp Twins: Untouchable Girls* received the Audience Award at the 2009 festival.

Beyond The Edge will be released in New Zealand on October 24 by Rialto Distribution. The Toronto festival runs from September 5 to 15.

HE TOOK EVEREST BY FOOT. THE WORLD BY STORM. THE SOUTH POLE BY MASSEY-FERGUSON.



Yousef Karsh

WHEN HE BECAME THE FIRST PERSON TO CLIMB THE WORLD'S HIGHEST PEAK, SIR EDMUND HILLARY'S ADVENTURE WAS JUST BEGINNING. HE TOOK INTERNATIONAL ACCLAIM WITH HIS CUSTOMARY HUMILITY AND WENT ON TO CONQUER THE SOUTH POLE BY TRACTOR. FOLLOW THE TRIUMPHS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE GREATEST LIVING NEW ZEALANDER, IN A NEW EXHIBITION THAT CHARTS HIS EXTRAORDINARY LIFE. "SIR EDMUND HILLARY: EVEREST AND BEYOND" OCTOBER 25, 2002 - FEBRUARY 28, 2003.

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