

# From the Festival:

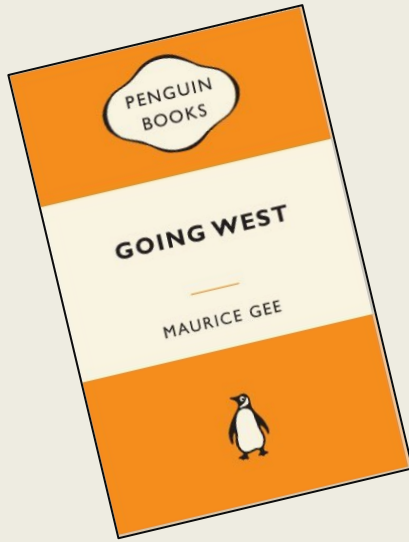
## Tales from 20 years of the Going West Books and Writers Festival



West Auckland Heritage Conference 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2016  
Naomi McCleary & Robyn Mason



All photographs in this presentation are by Festival photographer Gil Hanly, unless otherwise identified



Maurice Gee reads *Going West* at the Henderson (Loomis) Station platform



# Words that inspire a Festival. A Festival that inspires a writer



From Loomis station the track ran straight for several miles, with straggly town on one side – Ah Lapp’s grocery where you could buy Chinese ginger in jars, the Scout Hall, the Anglican Church, the jam factory – and vineyards and farms on the other.

Maurice Gee, *Going West*, 1992



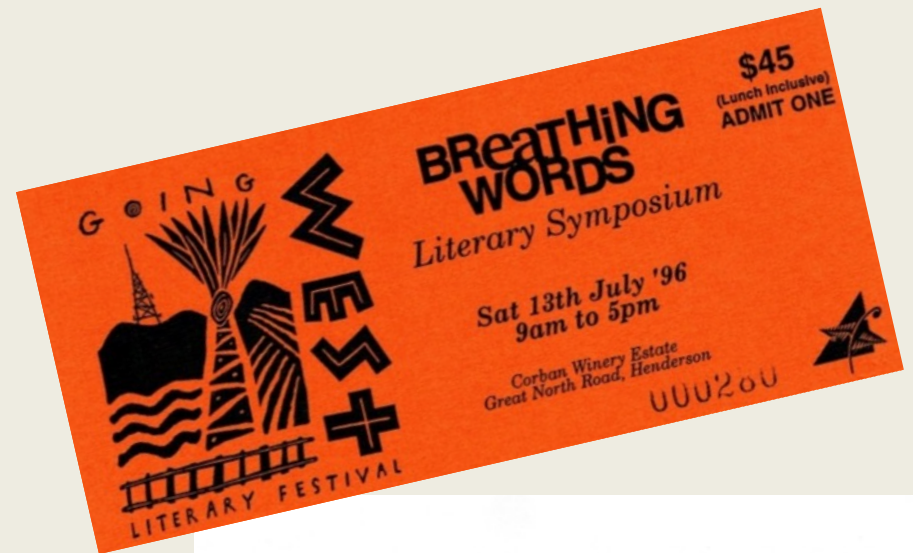
Going West Festival Participants 1999. Photo: Marti Friedlander



# Audio



Sound engineer Davyd Hodge with crew



THE WORD AROUND US  
A SEASON OF WORD RELATED EVENTS: JUNE 24-JULY 14, 1996

9.00	<b>Powhiri</b>
9.30	<b>Maori Literature Ngahuia Te Awekotuku, Bernard Makoare and Robert Sullivan</b>

Nga Kupu Kōrero - Talking about the Word  
First speaker at Going West: Professor Ngahuia Te Awekotuku



## Writing About Our Town

Kevin Ireland, Maurice Shadbolt, Dick Scott  
with programmer & presenter Peter Simpson



# And a Festival inspires a Festival



Stephanie Johnson & Mike Johnson  
Photo: Ted Scott

# Ephemera



1999 – The Red Mole Riot



# WESTSIDE FOREVER

**FREE** AFTERNOON  
CELEBRATING WHAT WE'RE WRITING



BY BUY BYE  
**THE BOOK**  
LITERARY WEEKEND

- An insider's look at **OUT**
- West – the history of Wc
- Book launch: The Ironbourn

FOR MORE INFO

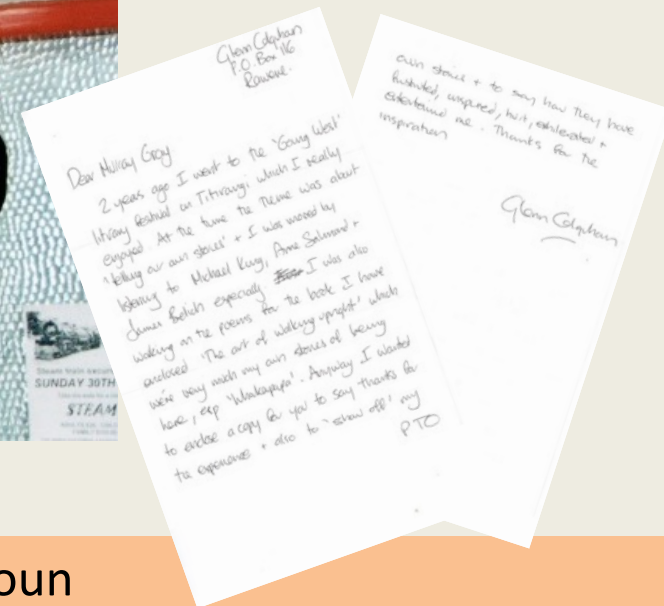
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aitakere M

**NGWES**

ARTISA



# Manuscripts



Serie Barford & Glenn Colquhoun

9/11



Despite this devastating day, the  
show must go on - - - - -

and culture and laughter and  
poetry and music are all the best  
forms of healing. I know it  
will still be a fabulous weekend.

Michael King

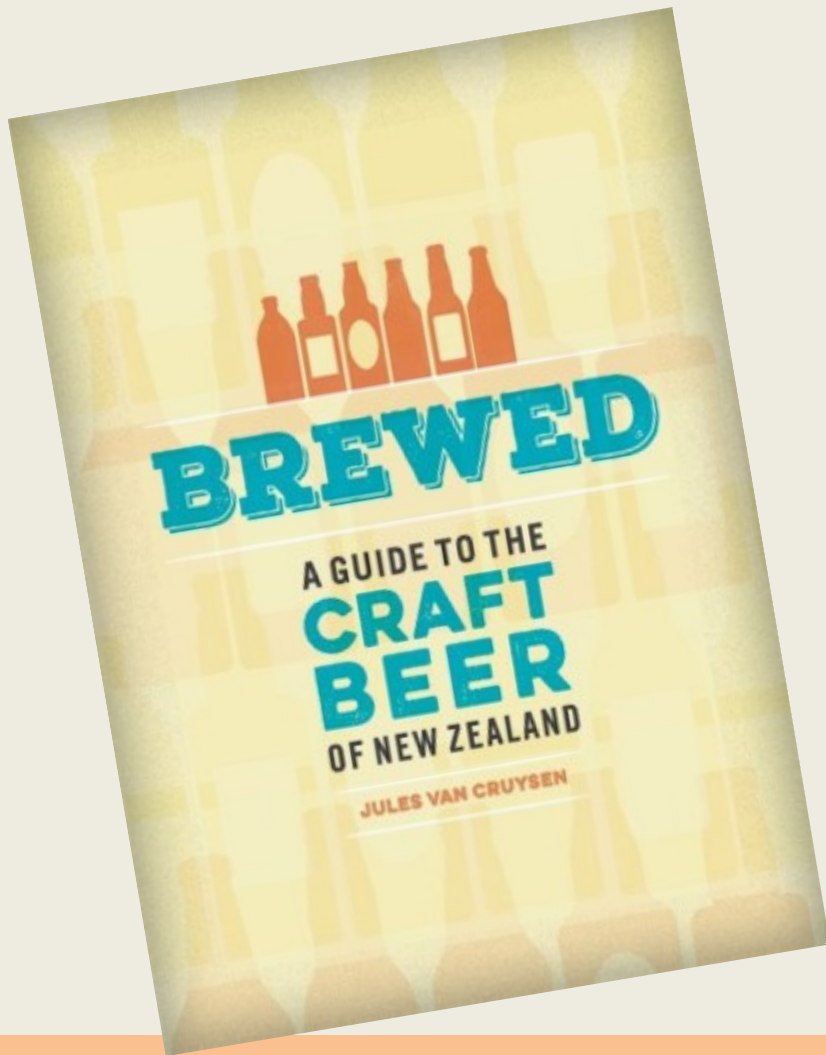
Michael King, Amelia Batistich & Patricia Grace



Phillip Mann & David Larsen

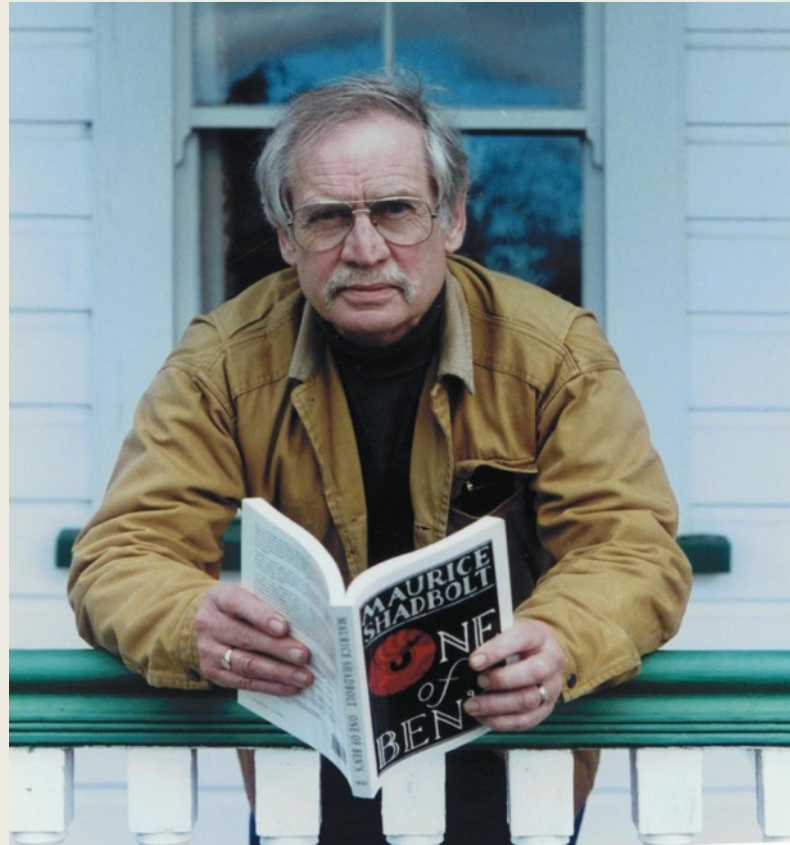






Going West – Making History – One Book, One author, One Festival at a Time

# Photographs



Maurice Shadbolt at the inaugural Going West Festival 1996

Photo: Ted Scott



Lynda Topp, Peter Hawes & Max Cryer



Lynda & Jools Topp with Michael King





Print artist Beth Serjeant with poet Hone Tuwhare



Storyfest  
Unidentified (Photographer unknown)



Margaret Mahy & Fans (Gil Hanly)





Marti Friedlander & Mayor Bob Harvey



Kevin Ireland & Peter Bland

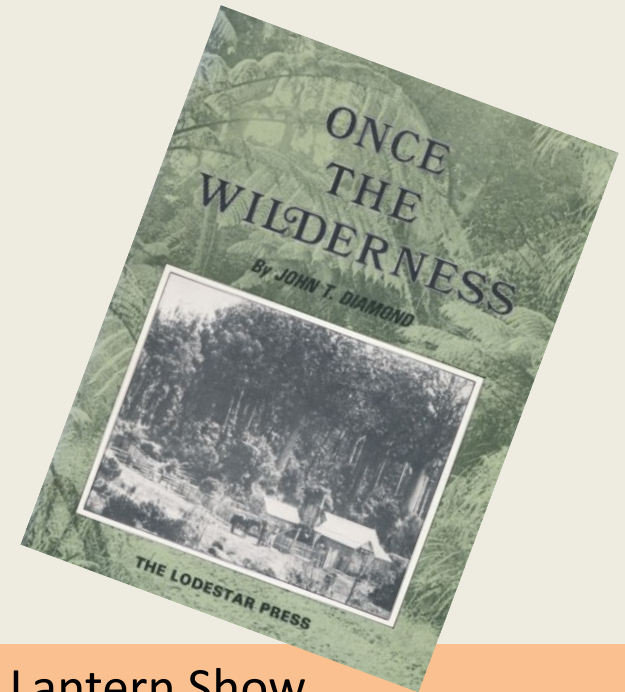
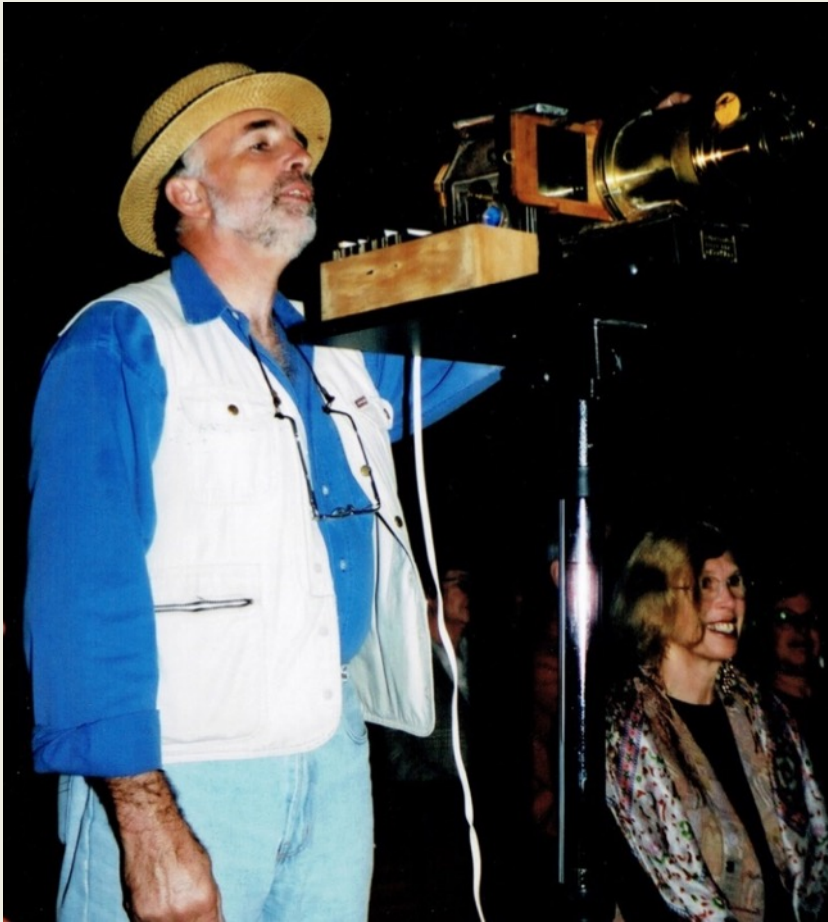




Storyfest

Photo: Glenda Roberts

# Performance Audio



Ted Scott's Jack Diamond Magic Lantern Show



Richard Nunns, Andrea Tunks, Ricki Bennett, Brian Flintoff & Rewi Spraggon

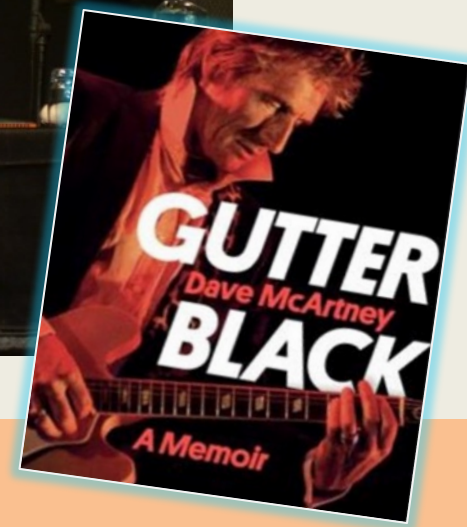




Blerta, Penny Dodd & Helen Medlyn



Graham Brazier & Harry Lyon





And always our audience



From front right: Marti Friedlander, unidentified, Dick Scott, Sue Scott





Jon Bridges, David Downs, & Wallace Chapman



Janet Clews & Lorraine Wilson

# Support your local Festival – help us to make history – and use our history to make yours

## West Auckland Archives Index



Home — West Auckland Collections — West Auckland Archives	
<a href="#">About this collection</a> <a href="#">Conditions of Use and Ordering</a> <a href="#">Accessibility</a> <a href="#">Contact Us</a> <a href="#">Help</a>	
<h1>West Auckland Local History</h1>	
<a href="#">Advanced search</a> <a href="#">Browse places</a> <a href="#">Browse subjects</a> <a href="#">Browse dates</a>	
<h2>Archives</h2>	
<b>Title</b>	Going West Books and Writers Festival Collection - Sound recordings - 1996 (Set 3)
<b>Collection</b>	Going West Books and Writers Festival Collection
<b>Series - Browse</b>	Going West Books and Writers Festival Collection - Sound recordings
<b>Description Summary</b>	Audio cassette tape recordings of presenters from 'Breathing Words' - the 1996 Going West Books and Writers Festival. Two sets of 5 tapes (10 cassette tapes)
<b>Subjects</b>	Going West Literary Festival (1996) Going West Books and Writers Festival Going West Festival
<b>Table of Contents</b>	1996: Breathing Words Tape 1: Powhiri, Maori oral and written literature, featuring Ngahua Te Awekotuku, Bernard Makoare and Robert Sullivan Tape 2: Robyn Hyde, featuring Michelle Leggott and performance readings by Frances Edmond Tape 3: Beware of Geeks Bearing Gifts, featuring Paul Reynolds and Russell Brown Tape 4: The literary process, featuring Stephanie Johnson, Emily Perkins and Debra Daley Tape 5: Writing about our town, featuring Kevin Ireland, Dick Scott and Maurice Shadbolt
<b>Keywords</b>	Going West Festival; Going West Books and Writers Festival; Literary festivals
<b>Time span</b>	1996-1996
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Copyright Holder</b>	Auckland Libraries Going West Trust
<b>Access Rights</b>	Sound recordings are available on request at the West Auckland Research Centre, Waitakere Central Library, Henderson.
<b>Digital access copies</b>	Located at: 1:LibrariesSD00Oral History01 Oral History Projects & InterviewsProjects - Going WestGoing West 1996 WOH-1012
<b>Original medium</b>	Collection; analogue, cassette; 10 tapes
<b>Location</b>	West Auckland Research Centre, Waitakere Central Library

## Authors of Aotearoa Archived in the West



This September, the Going West Books and Writers Festival will showcase the extraordinary creative and vibrant world of the written and spoken word in Aotearoa New Zealand at their literary Weekend held at the Tairāngi War Memorial Hall on the 16th - 18th September. The theme this year is 'Building the West'. Festival details at [www.goingwestfestival.co.nz](http://www.goingwestfestival.co.nz)

Going West is Auckland's longest running literary festival. It was initiated by Murray Gray, Bob Harvey and Mauri McCleary in 1986 and is now in its 20th year. The Festival takes its name from the novel by acclaimed New Zealand author Maurice Gee who spent his childhood in Henderson, the fictional town of Loomi which features in many of his books.

One of many keystones of this year's Going West will be Rachel Barrowman, distinguished biographer of Maurice Gee, in conversation with Geoff Chapple - 'Stranger, Initiator of To Arana Trail and cousin of Maurice Gee. A passage from Gee's novel Going West graces the walls of the New Lynn War Memorial Library, and describes a trip by train from Henderson to Auckland City in the 1940s.

"Then New Lynn and the brickworks, amalgamated and Crum; black open sheds stacked with orange pipes, chimneys with iron ladders up their sides, once in twenty years a steepjack on top.

We crossed the Whau creek - mud and mangroves - where Country ended and the suburbs began." - Maurice Gee, Going West, 1992.

For many years the Festival included a steam-train excursion from Auckland to Helensville with literary events at stops along the way, and in 1987 Maurice Gee read from Going West on the platform of the Henderson Railway Station. Double tracking, the underground station at New Lynn and weekend rail services heralded the end of steam at Going West, although Festival organisers periodically consider witholdly the possibility of its revival.

A great many events are held under the Festival's mantle



Epheura from the Going West Trust Archives. Photo Robyn Mason, 2013

every year, including a theatre season, the impressive poetry slam, and workshops. A record of these events has been captured on audio, still photography and in Going West's own documents, posters, programmes and even name tags, all systematically and meticulously preserved over the years. Festival photographers include Gid Haru, Alastair Friedlander, Ted Scott and Liz March. Audio engineer Davey Hodge has recorded all the literary sessions, creating a precious and impressive audio archive featuring renowned New Zealand writers and poets, film makers and musicians.

The Going West Archives are housed at Auckland Libraries, West Auckland Research Centre in Henderson and they can be searched using <http://www.localhistoryonline.org.nz>. Materials, including oral history recordings, can be accessed by appointment with the Centre's Community Archivist, Erica O'Flaherty, phone 301 0101 ext. 42 7816, Erica.O'Flaherty@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Opening September 3rd, the West Auckland Research Centre will hold an exhibition based on the Going West Archives titled Building the West: Going West Books & Writers Festival 1996-2015. The Centre is located on the second floor of the Waitakere Central Library, 3 Rational Street, Henderson.

The Going West Trust, now the sole producer of the Festival, is supported by the Waitakere Ranges Local Board, Creative New Zealand (CNZ), Foundation North (ex-ASB Community Trust), the Douglas Family Trust and The Trusts Community Foundation (TCF).



Posters from the Going West Trust Archives. Photo Robyn Mason, 2013



Going West Archives are available at the West Auckland Research Centre

Contact: Erica O'Flaherty - Community Archivist (09) 892 4987

<http://www.localhistoryonline.org.nz>

[Erica.O'Flaherty@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:Erica.O'Flaherty@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)