

## **Auckland Meeting – May 1994**

*Excerpts from the write up by David Lascelles.*

Date 6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> May

The meeting was held at the Memorial Hall in Ellerslie.

The evening began with registrations for the members eagerly awaiting the start of another wonderful weekend. Among the group were members from the USA and Australia as well as the length and breadth of New Zealand. The sales tables started to fill up and proved to be a place of much interest as many bargains were on offer. The drawing of ten film raffles took place and then it was movie time. Presented by veteran Doug Harley, using that wonderful work horse of the cinema, an Ernemann 7b, we saw a selection of trailers, a film of colour graphics and images, all topped off by the antics of Tom and Jerry. Supper was served which brought the evening to a close.

Saturday morning at 8.15 am, members arrived in time to board the buses for the drive to Rainbow's End for a tour and show. *Motion Master* was awesome. On to Cinema 180, this 14 minute presentation was breathtaking visually. Back at the hall again, morning tea was served and the meeting took place. Then it was time for the auction. John Bell was in fine form and was ably assisted by Michael Woolf and John Turnbull. After the auction finished lunch was served.

We boarded the buses again for visits to Atlab, Film House and MOTAT. At Atlab, we were shown through their film processing laboratory before being treated to a short film produced by Eastman Kodak on their new colour film stock. Film House showed how modern technology can make film editors redundant. At MOTAT, we viewed some original Hollywood costumes from a collection on tour, together with old cinema equipment, including a 1920's Power projector. Our visit ended with a tram ride round the circuit before returning to the hall.

Dinner on Saturday night was at the Tram Barn, a cosy establishment where the food was plentiful and excellent. After dinner, we returned to the hall for a multi-format presentation, *History of Sound*, in the cinema, prepared by Bob Jessopp. This traced the history of sound in and on film from Thomas Edison's sound cylinder through to the present digital sound experience. This proved a great discussion point over supper and another packed full day came to an end.

Sunday began with morning tea before we headed to the Hollywood Theatre in Avondale where a wonderful film programme had been prepared by Jan Grefstad for our viewing. There was footage of the Civic, a Pete Smith comedy, trailers and those movie logos and trademarks we remember so well. Then it was off to the Westwind for more movies, a demonstration of their great sound system and a sausage sizzle lunch. The theatre which seats about 60 is inviting and comfortable. Here we saw some advertising films, trailers for *The Getaway* and *The Naked Gun 33 1/3* along with the opening sequence from *Cliffhanger*. Soon it was time for the official farewells bringing another successful weekend to an end.