



CANTERBURY HISTORY FOUNDATION

NEWSLETTER June 2025

We trust that this finds you well and COVID-free!

The Executive Committee has been busy planning events for this year and the first item to report is that the Gardner Lecture for 2025 will be delivered on Sunday 27 July by Emeritus Professor Eric Pawson. Eric is a leading historical geographer and has published on NZ environmental history. He has been much involved with voluntary groups finding uses for the former Red Zone section of the Avon River. At the Gardner Lecture we'll also award the Rhodes Medal. Join us.

The Executive has made its first publication grant for 2025 to assist the printing of Rosemary Baird's oral history of the Manapouri Power Project, to be published by Canterbury University Press. Rosemary is a Canterbury History graduate.

We regret to report the death of life member and generous donor Roger Gilbert on 13 April. John Cookson and Geoff Rice represented the Foundation at his funeral held at the Lakeside Soldiers' Memorial Hall on 17 April, where Wendy Dalley spoke about Roger's enormous contribution to recording the history of Ellesmere. He co-founded the Ellesmere Historical Society and was its first president for 20 years. He was awarded the Rhodes History Medal in 2014 and this was on display along with his 2020 QSM medal. Roger

farmed at Killinchy and was active in Young Farmers and South Island Field Days. He was chairman of the latter and wrote their history, 1951-2011. He also wrote a history of rugby in Ellesmere, 1906-2006, and was president of the Ellesmere Golf Club and the Ellesmere Tennis Association. He was a life member of Canterbury Golf. Roger's quiet amiable manner concealed a remarkable capacity for hard work and historical research.



CHF members gathered recently for the Matariki lunch at Riccarton House.

Save the Date: 27 July for the annual Jim Gardner Memorial Lecture.

SUBSCRIPTIONS are now due and CHF has lowered the annual subscription. See below and the attached subscription form.

The Canterbury History Foundation Inc.
Registered Charity CC 45220

Student	\$20
Individual	\$30
Institutional	\$60
Life Membership	\$500