

THE ARMORIAL BEARINGS OF
THE RT HON DAME PATSY REDDY,
G.N.Z.M., Q.S.O., D.St.J.,
Governor-General of New Zealand

28 September 2016 -

The design of the Armorial Bearings alludes to Dame Patsy's interest in the arts, shared also by her husband, Sir David Gascoigne, KNZM, CBE, CStJ.

Dame Patsy, a lawyer, has been a company director and has had a long involvement with public and private sector governance and consulting roles. She has had significant involvement in governance of creative and charitable organisations, including serving as Chair of the New Zealand Film Commission and the New Zealand Film Archive and as a trustee of the New Zealand International Festival of the Arts, the Wellington Jazz Festival, New Zealand Opera and the NZSO Foundation.

Letters Patent

Personal Grant of Armorial Bearings and Badge with Life Supporters.

Earl Marshal's Warrant dated 21 October 2019.

Letters Patent issues under the Seals of Thomas Woodcock, CVO, Garter Principal King of Arms, Patric Laurence Dickinson, LVO, Clarenceux King of Arms, and Timothy Hugh Stewart Duke, Norroy and Ulster King of Arms, and dated 24 June 2020.

Blazon (Technical description)

Gules between two Cotises bendwise two Masks bendwise in bend one of Comedy in chief and the other of Tragedy in base the ties hanging inwards those in base overlapping those in chief all between two Pūtōrino [Māori bugle flutes] bendwise Or

And for the Badge A female Huia proper statant on a Fern Frond curved upwards to the dexter Vert all within a solid Circular Chain charged with four stylised Mānuka Flowers in cross Or.

For Supporters On a Compartment Vert on which are red Pōhutukawa Blossom and yellow Kōwhai Flowers slipped and leaved two Tīeke Birds Proper.

Motto: HE TOI WHAKAIRO HE MANA TANGATA.

NOTES ON SYMBOLISM

Dame Patsy's preferred metal and colour are Gold and Red.

SHIELD

Gules (red) on Cotises two gold masks between two Pūtōrino or Māori bugle flutes in gold.

Symbolism

The colour 'red' is a play on the surname 'Reddy'.

Gold alludes to achievement. It may also allude to constancy and wisdom.

The Cotises (narrow bendlets either side of the bend) alludes to film and the film industry.

The Cotises may also allude to the position of the sash of a GNZM when worn over the right shoulder.

The two theatrical Masks (comedy and tragedy) represent the performing and visual arts, in particular opera and music. Masks date from the 6th century when adopted by the Greeks.

The Pūtōrino (Māori bugle flute) in gold engraved with Māori designs.

This flute is unique to Māori. It has two distinct voices, male and female. They are depicted in gold to allude to the great value of this rare musical instrument.

2019 was the 250th anniversary of James Cook's first voyage to New Zealand. Cook during his voyages to New Zealand collected several types of flutes.

References:

HAKIWAI, Arapata and Huhana Smith (editors), *Toi Ora: Ancestral Maori Treasures*, Te Papa Press, 2008, pp.116-117.

BARROW, Terence, *The Decorative Arts of the New Zealand Maori*, Reed, 1964.

BARROW, Terence *An Illustrated Guide to Maori Art*, Reed, Reprinted 1996.

BADGE

A female Huia bird (*Heteralocha acutirostris*) with its distinctive long curved beak, standing on a green fern frond (alluding to New Zealand), all within a gold chain charged with four stylised Mānuka flowers. The gold Chain and stylised Mānuka flowers allude to the Principal Companion's Badge of The Queen's Service Order.

The Huia was one of the most notable New Zealand Forest birds. According to Walter Buller the Huia voice was 'a soft and clear whistle'; also a loud whistling note of higher pitch, and various chuckling and whining notes. The black white-tipped tail feathers were highly prized and the symbol of chiefly and noble rank by Māori and worn in their hair. Special carved boxes or Whaka Huia were produced to hold the feathers and other treasures.

Huia feathers were gifted to, and adorned the head-wear, of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York (later King George V and Queen Mary) and the Duke and Duchess of York (later King George

VI and Queen Elizabeth) during their visits in 1901 and 1927 respectively. In 1954 a finely carved Whaka Huia containing two Huia feathers was gifted to The Queen and now in the Royal Collection.

The last authentic sighting of a Huia was in 1907 and it is regarded as being extinct about that year. Earlier the Earl of Onslow, GCMG (1853-1911), Governor of New Zealand (1889-1892) a keen naturalist, persuaded the John Balance (1839-1893), the Premier (1891-1893) to give protection to the Huia. This was achieved by a Proclamation published in February 1892 under the provisions of the Wild Birds Protection Act. The Earl of Onslow named his second son Victor Alexander Herbert Huia (1890-1922) for whom Queen Victoria stood sponsor.

This is the first occasion a Badge has been granted to a New Zealand woman. The Badge may be displayed above the Arms (shield) in a similar position to a Crest, that portion displayed on top of a Helm above the Shield. Crests are not granted to women and there is a recent precedent (2018) for a Badge to be granted and used or displayed above the Shield in place of a Crest.

SUPPORTERS

Two Tīeke [Tieke] (*Philesturnus carunculatus*) [North Island Saddleback] birds proper (black with their striking chestnut, a reddish colour, “saddle”).

The Tīeke has flute like whistles and warbles, clicking and organ like notes.

The Saddleback appears not to have previously appeared in New Zealand Arms. This is the first occasion the Huia has appeared in the Arms of a vice-regal representative.

The Huia, Tīeke (Saddleback) and Kōkako form the family of *Callaeidae*.

References:

BULLER, W L. See TURBOTT

DAFF, Lily, *Album of New Zealand Birds...* paintings by Lily Daff, 1974, plates 48 and 50.

FALLA, R A, R B Sibson & E G Turbott, *The New Guide to the Birds of New Zealand*, Collins, Auckland, Reprinted with Addenda, 1981.

MARSHAL, Janet, F C Kinsky, and C J R Robertson, *The Fiat Book of Uncommon Birds in New Zealand*, vol. 3, 1975.

LOCKLEY, Ronald M, and Noel W Cusa, *New Zealand Endangered Species ..* 1980, pp. 34-35 and 36-37.

PHILLIPS, W J, *The Book of the Huia*, Dominion Museum, Wellington 1963.

ROBERTSON, C J R (consultant editor) *The Reader's Digest Complete Book of New Zealand Birds*, 1984.

TURBOTT, E G, *Buller's Birds of New Zealand*, Christchurch 1967.

COMPARTMENT

A green compartment on which are the red Pōhutukawa blossom (*Metrosideros excelsa*) and yellow Kōwhai flowers (*Sophora microphylla*).

MOTTO

HE TOI WHAKAIRO HE MANA TANGATA (Where there is artistic excellence there is human dignity).

INSIGNIA

The Shield is encircled by the Collar of The New Zealand Order of Merit with Badge appendant, a distinctive piece of insignia worn only by the Sovereign and the Chancellor who is the Governor-General. The Grantee as Chancellor is the Principal Dame Grand

Companion of the Order (GNZM) to which she was appointed in 2016. Also displayed is the Badge of a Companion of The Queen's Service Order (QSO) conferred on the Grantee in her own right in 2016. As Governor-General the Grantee is Principal Companion of this Order. Also displayed is the Badge of a Dame of Justice of the Most Venerable Order of St John of Jerusalem (2016).

(On ceasing to be Chancellor of The New Zealand Order of Merit the Grantee is permitted to display the Collar of the New Zealand Order of Merit in her Armorial Bearings.)

Phillip O'Shea
New Zealand Herald of Arms
Extraordinary

8 December 2020