

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Naylor Love News

Centennial Issue | 2010

Celebrating 100 years

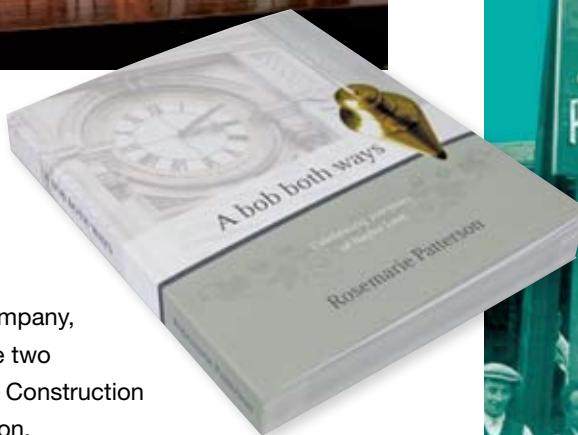


Addressing the Dunedin celebration: Trevor Kempton (NL), Don Stock (NL), Mayor Peter Chin and Rosemarie Patterson, with special guests Ben and Elizabeth Naylor

It is one hundred years since Hugh Naylor and James Love each set up a building company in Dunedin in 1910.

Naylor Love, a private construction company, was formed in 1969 with the merger of the two companies, W H Naylor Ltd and The Love Construction Company, to form Naylor Love Construction.

To celebrate this milestone, Naylor Love divisions throughout the country held functions. A copy of the centennial history *A Bob Both Ways* was presented to everyone who attended.



A 100 year legacy built on change

TAKING STOCK



In his epilogue to the centennial history of Naylor Love, Don Stock, now managing director, writes:

"Naylor Love is poised to become one of New Zealand's leading national construction companies. This is no sudden change of direction, but the result of an evolving strategy that began in 1999, when Ian Mills provoked the board by suggesting that there was much untapped potential in the company. Since then, national coverage has been seen as a realistic possibility, at least to satisfy the needs of national clients keen to use us beyond our southern stronghold."

Over the last decade, the company's national presence and strength have steadily expanded to the point where today we can truly call ourselves a national construction company. This has not been without difficulties and setbacks, but we have achieved this first goal.

The next set of goals relates to how big we want to be, and how we want to get there. We are not targeting growth for growth's sake. Naylor Love's vision is not to be the largest, but to be measurably the best construction company in New Zealand. We believe that success in the realisation of this vision will generate growth through return and referred clients. In short, growth will be an inevitable byproduct of pursuing a strategy of being the best.

Our history demonstrates that a 100-year legacy is built on change and, to reach our objective, further incremental change is inevitable. The balance of skills required within the company will alter, with leadership and communication skills assuming an importance equal to our technical skills. This structure is already undergoing the change necessary to service growth, particularly in Auckland where scale provides us with wide ranging possibilities.

Our markets will change, with an increased emphasis on the North Island. Our traditional southern markets will remain strong, with the lower South Island set for a sound future in resource-based industries around agriculture, energy and minerals. But we anticipate that the major growth will come from our North Island markets, especially Auckland, where we have barely scratched the surface.

Our future will be constructed on the foundations built over the past 100 years. Because of these foundations, the opportunities are there for Naylor Love to become one of New Zealand's leading national construction companies, significantly larger than today and leading the way through being measurably the best."



1910 MOMENTS

NEW DUNEDIN BUILDER: LOVE BROS



In 1910, Love Brothers of Port Chalmers erected a £260 Waterside Workers' Shelter for the Otago Harbour Board. Love Brothers also offered upholstering, cabinet-making and undertaking services.

NEW DUNEDIN BUILDER: W H NAYLOR

In 1910, WH (Hugh) Naylor set up his own carpentry contracting business, and with his friend Alf Abbott, built his first house at Portobello, as well as repairing and building cottages and farm buildings on the Otago Peninsula.

DASTARDLY DOCTOR HANGED



In 1910, convicted at the Old Bailey, London, of poisoning his wife, Dr Crippen was hanged at Pentonville Prison. Mrs Crippen's body was dismembered, and her bones and limbs burned in the kitchen stove. Her organs were dissolved in acid in the bathtub, and her head was placed in a handbag and thrown overboard during a day trip to France. Dr Crippen was found guilty of the murder of his wife Cora after fleeing with his lover, Miss Ethel Le Neve, to Canada where he was arrested. The arrest was significant as it was the first to be made with the aid of wireless communication.

GRAFTON BRIDGE

In 1910, Grafton Bridge, which had the largest concrete arch in the world, was opened in Auckland.

Dunedin

A cocktail function, held in the Glenroy Auditorium on 23 September, was attended by some 250 staff, clients and suppliers. Also present were several former, long-serving employees of W H Naylor, Love Construction and Naylor Love who, tongue-in-cheek, called themselves 'The Mothballs'.

Don Stock (incoming managing director), who paid tribute to Trevor Kempton's stewardship of Naylor Love, talked about the next phase of growth. Trevor Kempton (retiring managing director) gave a potted history of the company. Peter Chin, Dunedin's mayor, mentioned Naylor Love's philanthropy in the community, including patronage of the arts. Rosemarie Patterson gave the audience a brief excursion into the joys and tribulations of writing a company history.

William Cockerill, managing director of OCTA, presented Ben Naylor with a large parcel at the function. The story dates back to 1975 when Ben, who identified with William's interest in history, took William into the attic above Naylor Love's sheet metal factory in Halsey Street. "Here, have this or it will be thrown out. It was the rubbish bin of the general manager of Love Construction. Made in the joinery factory I suspect." So, as William says, "Thirty-five years on, at the time of Naylor Love's centenary celebrations, it was appropriate that the rubbish bin found its way home."



Special guests, Ben and Elizabeth Naylor



Dunedin's Glenroy Auditorium



Ben Naylor greets Howard Ellwood and another former employee



Martin Anderson (former chairman NL)
Lou Robinson (Hadley & Robinson),
John Anderson (Gallaway Cook Allan)



Barry Chamberlain, Bruce Chisholm
(Hanlon & Partners)



Peter Findlay (NL),
Phil Rawson (former NL employee)



Jolene Lynn, Janice Rodgers (NL)

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Auckland

Auckland's centennial function was held centre city in the 'Bluestone Room', a 100 year old converted warehouse which looked somewhat out of place dwarfed by the Phillips Fox tower, the City Life Hotel and the iconic pink Fay Richwhite building – a reminder of the heady pre-crash days of the mid-1980s.

Auckland's new manager, Bruno Goedeke, set out the journey from 2003, when "Naylor Who?" was the normal telephone response, to 2010 when brand recognition has become much less of an issue. He described Auckland division's progress in terms of the building of core operating values, rather than listing successfully built projects. Bruno noted that the operating values, which are differentiating Naylor Love in the Auckland market, remain in the client's mind long after the novelty of their new building has worn off.

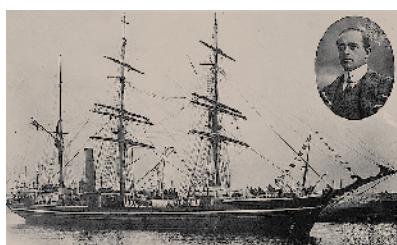
1910 MOMENTS

MEN'S SWIMMING COSTUMES



By 1910, men were wearing toggs when swimming – woollen suits with narrow straps over the shoulders and legs left free from mid-thigh – which allowed easy movement. Some councils required men to wear V-shaped trunks over their costumes.

ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION



In 1910 on 19 November, Capt Robert Falcon Scott, on board the *Terra Nova*, left Lyttelton for his second and ill-fated last expedition to the Antarctic.



Wellington

Through a window in the Wellington Zoo function centre, those attending the Wellington centennial function gained a magnificent view of a monkey enclosure. Being party animals, the monkeys were keen to join in as they performed on the high wire in a downpour.

Zoo staff brought some friends. 'Jake', the female cockatoo, was ruling the roost at Wellington Zoo at the time of the Centennial Exhibition in 1940. Apparently she had suffered similar mental anguish to Johnny Cash's 'Boy named Sue'. No such mistakes with 'Dad', the Australian shingleback lizard, who also joined the party.

Naylor Love's impact on the lower North Island was underlined by Nick Clayton, who noted that since 2004 \$250 million of major project work had been completed in the region. Trevor Kempton felt that speed records set in the construction of the Social Security building in 1939 (six weeks, with just a little help from Mr Fletcher) remained indicative of what Naylor Love could achieve in 2010 if pushed!



Zookeeper Dion, Phil Stanley (The Building Intelligence Group)



Liam Nolan and Simon Shaw (Arrow)



Bruce Willcocks (NL), Michael Pointon, Adam Wright and Bruce Newton (Beca)



Zookeeper with Dad the shingleback lizard, Phil Stanley (The Building Intelligence Group)



Martin Price (Redwood), Russell Burley (NL)



Jane Andrews, Paul Buknall (Rawlinsons)



Shaun Leahy (NL)

1910

MOMENTS

HALLEY'S COMET



In 1910, the world enjoyed a view of Halley's comet as the Earth passed through its tail. On a clear night, the comet appeared as a ball of light with a tail stretching far across the night sky. It wasn't to return until 1986.

Central

There was a large gathering at the St Moritz Novotel, built in 1996 by Naylor Love, and later refurbished by the company. Justin Calder reminded the people at the gathering that Naylor Love had a 40-year history in the region, first in Twizel, then Cromwell and finally Queenstown. And this didn't include construction of the first Coronet Peak base building and the Queenstown ice rink by Loves in the 1960s. Justin noted that the company had become used to riding out the market cycles by building relationships with clients who were committed to the region long term, many of whom were present at the function.

Don Stock reinforced the view that reaching 100 years of age was no guarantee that the company would reach 200, unless it continued to apply the same continuous improvement disciplines and long-term values which had well served Naylor Love to date.

On a lighter note, Rosemarie Patterson, author of *A Bob Both Ways*, entertained the crowd with some of the tales from Central Otago, and reminded some long-serving staff of the time that they had to recover building materials, blown off their Millbrook site, from as far away as the Crown Terrace!

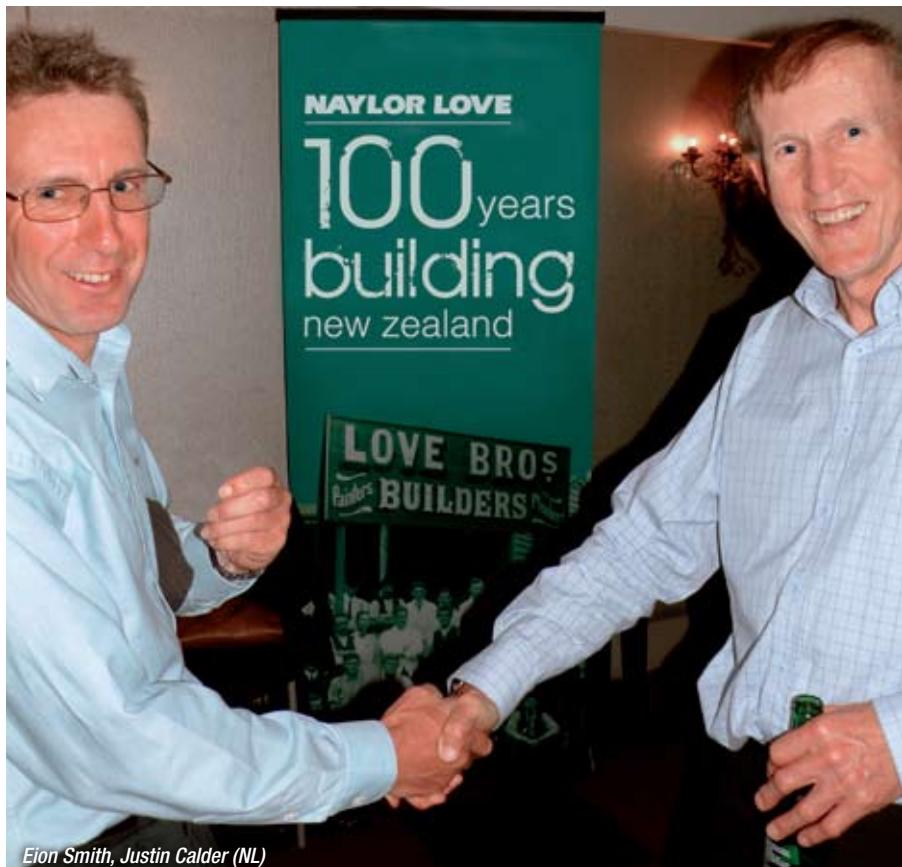
Naylor Love's very own Lyall Smillie was photographer for the occasion.

1910 MOMENTS

POWERED FLIGHT



In 1910, on 5 July, Invercargill engineer Herbert Pither flew for a mile (1.6km) along Riverton Beach in his home-built plane.



Eion Smith, Justin Calder (NL)



Ben Parsons (Aotea Electric), Simon Brackstone (Nevis Rise Consulting),
Brent Herdson (NL), Paul Baylis (NL), Grant Bamford (Aotea Electric)



Taua Mahoni (T Mahoni Construction),
Donald Stewart (NL), Nick Struthers (NL)



Damian Barter, Russell Kidd (NL)



Floss Fleming, Fita Lafita (NL)



Martin Thompson (Forman Commercial Interiors),
Alison Mitchell (NL)

Canterbury

The Canterbury function was held in the concourse of the Computer Science and Mathematics complex at Canterbury University. This building, Naylor Love's first major project in the area, is a favourite of all those who worked on it.

Scott Watson spoke briefly of John Hodges, a long-serving Naylor Love foreman who joined Scott as a Canterbury 'original'. Unfortunately John died just a month out from the centennial.

Don Stock outlined Naylor Love's future, as he had done at each event. His talk drew very positive comment from a range of guests who noted that, under Pete Lockhart's leadership, the vitality of the Canterbury division had taken a recent lift consistent with Don's thinking. Clients and consultants are certainly 'watching this space'.

1910 MOMENTS

WOMEN CLIMBS MOUNT COOK

In 1910, Miss Emmeline Freda Du Faur became the first woman to climb Mount Cook. She dismissed as nonsense the claim that she should not spend a night alone with male guides. Compromising on dress, Miss Du Faur wore a skirt to just below the knee over knickerbockers and long puttees.



BARMAID BAN

In 1910, despite the long-established tradition of women serving in New Zealand hotel bars, dating back to the gold rush days of the 19th century, women were banned from working in this capacity. Women who held a liquor licence or were closely related to a licence-holder were exempt, as were existing barmaids, but they had to register with the Secretary of Labour.

Parting shot

Q-Theatre, Auckland

