

Atomic Australia and Nuclear New Zealand

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INTRODUCTION

The following four papers in this issue of the *Journal and Proceedings of the Royal Society of New South Wales* were presented at a session entitled 'Atomic Australia and Nuclear New Zealand' at the Australasian Association for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Science Conference in Dunedin, New Zealand, in December 2005. The papers were originally presented in two sessions. The first focussed on two individuals, Oliphant and Marsden, who were instrumental in the introduction of nuclear science to Australia and New Zealand, respec-

tively. It should be noted that both scientists had been students of the legendary Antipodean, Ernest Rutherford.

The second session focussed on two effects of nuclear science in Australia and New Zealand. The first looked at the British tests at Maralinga, not from a political perspective, but from the perspective of the soldiers who were stationed at there before, during and after the tests. The final paper discussed effects of the 'Atoms for Peace' initiative on New Zealand science and society, and the lead up to the rise of the anti-nuclear movement in New Zealand.

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