



**New Zealand Hall of Fame:
50 Remarkable Kiwis (2011)**

Maria Gill, ill. Bruce Potter,

New Holland, 112pp.

978 1 86966 312 4 **\$34.99** Hb

In recent years New Holland Publishers have made a focussed effort to publish high-interest non-fiction for young New Zealanders. Their latest title is testament to their commitment to producing texts that are affordable and of high quality.

New Zealand Hall of Fame: 50 Remarkable Kiwis is a sturdy hardback that presents the lives of many well-respected and idolised New Zealanders both living and dead. Compiling an anthology like this is always going to be somewhat controversial with many varied opinions as to who should be included. However, author Maria Gill addresses this issue in the introduction, confidently presenting the selection process undertaken by her and the publisher.

Arranged in seven sections—Adventurers, Leaders, Pioneers, Scientists, Inventors, Artists and Sportspeople—each entry covers a double page spread featuring a 'passport' image which includes name, nationality, date and place of birth; a 'trophy board' of achievements and a fabulous caricature by illustrator Bruce Potter. Alongside the household names of Sir Edmund Hillary, Helen Clark and Margaret Mahy there are lesser known achievers such as dancer/choreographer Shona McCullagh, master carver Matahi Brightwell and Trade Aid pioneer Vi Cottrell.

The text is informative and accessible providing valuable insight into the lives of these achievers from early childhood through times of challenge and inspiration to experiencing their success as adults.

Well referenced with a comprehensive index, bibliography and websites for further information **New Zealand Hall of Fame** is a superb example of non-fiction publishing.

A must-have for all library collections.

Anne Whalley, Auckland