

QUEEN VICTORIA MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

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THE CORRICK FAMILY COLLECTION

**Musicians, Launceston
Entertainers, Launceston**

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INTRODUCTION

Albert and Sarah Corrick, their seven daughters and one son, of Christchurch, New Zealand, were gifted musicians and entertainers:

Albert (1849-1914) was a music seller and teacher, piano tuner and choirmaster. The violin was his special instrument

Sarah (1853-1935) was a singer and piano teacher

Gertrude (1878-1945) was a pianist, accompanist and cellist

Alice (1880-1955) was a fine singer who was taught the piano and viola

Amy (1882-1968) played the flute and piccolo

Ethel (1884-1971) was a singer and played the violin

Leonard (1886-1967) played the clarinet and saxophone, sang comic songs and was a projectionist and cinematographer

Ruby (1888-1948) played the cornet and French horn

Jessie (1892-1956) was a singer and played the violin

Elsie (1894-1974) was a singer, composer and played the violin, piano and organ

The family initially performed at entertainments in Christchurch before embarking on a successful tour of the north and south islands of New Zealand, commencing at the end of 1900. At that time the touring party consisting of Mr & Mrs Corrick, the five eldest girls and Leonard. To add variety to performances, during the New Zealand tour Albert acquired a set of 150 hand bells which he played with the five girls and Leonard. Amy, Ethel, Ruby and Leonard also performed Scottish and Irish dances.

At the suggestion of a relative who lived in Hobart, Mr & Mrs Corrick, Gertie, Alice, Amy, Ethel, Ruby and Leonard toured Tasmania in 1902. Highly successful tours of the mainland capitals followed by performances in many country and outback towns made the Corrick family a household name for the next 13 years. The press invariably commented most favourably on Alice's singing.

When the family commenced performing, magic lantern slides were used as a backdrop for the singers, but before they left New Zealand Albert bought a projector and some films from a touring company to show as a part of the family's program. Over the years a large collection of films was acquired. Leonard was the projectionist and "Leonard's Beautiful Pictures" received separate billing on the program. In 1906 he began taking his own films of people in the streets to show during the evening performance. An electric light plant was used to illuminate the stage, interior and exterior of country halls at a time when only capital cities had electric light.

Acclaimed by the press, the Corricks were immensely popular. In 1907 they departed Fremantle on what their advertising material described as "a world's tour" which took them to Ceylon, India, Burma, Malaya, Java and Sumatra, finally arriving in England in August 1908. There they performed at a number of London theatres. Jessie, then 15, was included in the tour.

On their return to Australia in mid 1909, the Corricks again toured all the states. Elsie's first performance with the family was at Newcastle in 1912. Albert died at

Launceston in March 1914 whilst the family was on a tour of Tasmania. Tours of Victoria and New South Wales preceded a tour of New Zealand in 1915.

Most members of the family settled in Launceston in 1915, where they enriched the musical life of the city. They conducted the Corrick School of Music, the Corrick Orchestra provided music for silent movies at the Majestic Theatre, took engagements for visiting shows at the Academy and Princess theatres and the family performed in concerts to raise funds for charitable causes. Leonard was conductor of St Joseph's Band and the Launceston Concert Orchestra for a short time, he showed pictures and held dances at the St Leonard's picnic ground and was part of an orchestra that played for balls and dances at the Albert Hall and dances at St Albies Hall.

The Corricks made their final appearances in 1932. In March members of the family performed at a concert at the Albert Hall to raise funds for the Tasmanian Sanatorium and on 12 and 13 April they gave two performances at the Hobart City Hall, the first for the Tasmanian Sanatorium, the second for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb Institution.

The Launceston community showed its appreciation of the family's services in raising funds for public, charitable and religious bodies over 17 years by giving a citizens' complimentary concert at the Albert Hall on 19 April 1932. Mrs Corrick, Leonard, Gertrude, Alice, Amy, Ethel, Ruby, Elsie and her son Norman entertained a packed house. The Mayor later presented the family with an illuminated address of appreciation on behalf of the citizens of Launceston.

The collection was donated to the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery in May 2000.

1. Programs and Advertising Brochures

1/1	'The 'Corrick' Family of Musicians', advertising brochure, New Zealand	c1897
1/2	Grand Concert [Christchurch], program (includes members of the Corrick Family)	1897
1/3	Grand Benefit Concert, Town Hall, Melbourne, program, (includes Alice Corrick)	1898
1/4	Newbury-Spada-Corrick Combination, concert program, Dunedin	c1901
1/5	Rippon Lea. Programme of concert by the Corrick Family	1902
1/6	The Corrick Family, advertising brochure	c1903
1/7	The Marvellous Corricks, advertising sheet	[1903]
1/8	The Marvellous Corrick Family, advertising sheet	[1903]
1/9	The Famous Corrick's Entertainers on a worlds tour, program, Sydney	c1903
1/10	Corrick Entertainers, program, Ballarat	1905
1/11	Civic "At Home", Town Hall, Perth, program, (includes members of the Corrick Family)	1907
1/12	The Corricks, advertising sheet, Kalgoorlie	1907
1/13	Relief Entertainment, Kalgoorlie, program (includes members of the Corrick Family)	1907
1/14	The Corrick Family of Entertainers, silk program, Queen's Hall, Perth	1907
1/15	The Corrick Family and Leonard's Beautiful Pictures, advertising brochure, Ceylon	c1908
1/16	The Wonderful Corricks, program, Theatre Royal, Calcutta	c1908
1/17	The Wonderful Corricks, advertising sheet, Poona	c1908
1/18	Corrick's Familie, program in Dutch?, Sumatra?	1908

1/19	The "Corrick Family" Entertainers, program, Bexhill Kursaal	c1908
1/20	"Sunday Evenings for the People", program, The Empire, Croydon (most of the program consists of items by the Corrick Family)	1909
1/21	"Sunday Evenings for the People", program, Empress Theatre, Brixton (most of the program consists of items by the Corrick Family)	1909
1/22	Re-appearance of the Corrick Family, musicians and entertainers after their tour round the world, program and advertising brochure	c1909
1/23	The Corrick Family of Entertainers, silk program, Theatre Royal, Perth	1909
1/24	The Famous Corrick Entertainers, program, Newcastle	1912
1/25	The World Famous Corricks, program, Northam	c1913
1/26	The Celebrated Corrick Entertainers, program, Temperance Hall, Hobart	1914
1/27	The Celebrated Corrick Entertainers, fifteenth year of tour, program, New Zealand?)	1915
1/28	Souvenir Programme of the reappearance of the World-Famed Corrick Family of Musicians, Hobart City Hall	1932
1/29	Marvellous Corricks, advertising brochure	1906
1/30	Marvellous Corricks, advertising brochure	1910
1/31	Marvellous Corricks, advertising brochure	1913
1/32	Marvellous Corricks, advertising brochure	1915

2. Correspondence

2/1	Correspondence to Albert, Sarah and Alice Corrick, Harold Coulter	1906-1911
2/2	Letter from Leonard Corrick, Warnambool, to George	1906
2/3	Letter to Leonard Corrick from S A Doblo, Gladstone	1912
2/4	Letter to Leonard Corrick re renewal of cinematograph	1934

operator's licence

2/5 Letter to Mrs Corrick from ? Jackson, Launceston 1935

3 Advice Sheets

3/1 'The Corrick Entertainers. Advice Sheet', advice sheets from Norrie Handricks, advance manager, for New Zealand towns 1915

4. Photographs and Negatives

4/1 Leonard Corrick; Albert, Sarah, Ethel, Ruby, Gertie, Alice, Amy, Leonard Corrick 1898

4/2 Family group photographs, including one of Albert, Leonard, Gertie, Alice, Amy, Ethel and Ruby with handbells; also Amy and Ruby (13 photographs) c1900-1913

4/3 John Corrick c1862

4/4 Leonard Corrick c1889

4/5 Sarah Corrick nd

4/6 Ruby Corrick 1903

4/7 Ethel Corrick (two photographs) 1903, 1904

4/8 Jessie and Elsie Corrick c1905

4/9 Leonard Corrick 1906

4/10 Leonard Corrick (two photographs) 1920s

4/11 Gertie Corrick c1940

4/12 Two of the Corrick girls on bicycle advertising 'Corrick Family' 1900

4/13 Amy Corrick 1905?

4/14 Alice Corrick 1905

4/15 'The Corricks at Bellinger Heads NSW' (family with coach and horses) 1904

4/16 Corrick family on tour (photographs taken in South Australia, Western Australia, Ceylon, India, Burma, Sumatra, Suez Canal) 1906-1908

4/17	Corrick family on tour (photographs taken in England, on board <i>Runic</i> , Western Australia, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, NSW)	1908-1911
4/18	Corrick family on tour (photographs taken in NSW, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, Victoria, New Zealand, includes some unknown locations)	1911-1915
4/19	Corrick Family and three motor vehicles outside Lottah Hotel	1914
4/20	Corrick Family members ? in charity car outside Majestic Theatre, Launceston	1920s
4/21	Leonard Corrick with other people on a horse drawn float	1927?
4/22	St Leonard's picnic ground	late 1920s
4/23	Corrick Family on Albert Hall stage	1932
4/24	Unidentified group of people	c1930?
4/25	Two men on camels in front of pyramid, Egypt	nd
4/26	Leonard Corrick's home, 137 Elphin Road, at various stages of construction, includes photographs of garden, car, Leonard and his children Bill, Jean, Betty, Joan and John	1918-c1950
4/27	Family visit to Mr Beauchamp's orchard, Rosevears (two photographs)	late 1920s
4/28	Camping expedition with Corrick children and Dave Armitage's car (three photographs)	c1930
4/29	St Leonard's picnic ground (12 photographs)	late 1920s
4/30	Playing auto polo, Elphin show ground (three photos)	1920s?
4/31	Studebaker car with generating plant	late 1920s
4/32	Gorge in flood; flood in Lindsay Street, Launceston?	1929
4/33	Albert Hall stage	1932?
4/34	Hobart T/H (probably City Hall) stage	1932?
4/35	Railway Band outside Launceston Town Hall,	1933/34

	Gordon Rolph behind Mayor A Hollingsworth	
4/36	Band members on Albert Hall stage	nd
4/37	Band members on St Albie's Hall stage	nd
4/38	Gertie, Alice and Amy Corrick <i>Oversize item</i>	nd
4/39	Amy, Jessie, Ethel, Ruby Corrick and Harry Coulter, Surabaya <i>Oversize item</i>	[1908]
4/40	Ruby, Amy, Jessie Corrick and Harry Coulter, Java <i>Oversize item</i>	1908
4/41	Three Corrick girls and Harry Coulter with Chinese school children at play <i>Oversize item</i>	[1908]
4/42	Lagoon near Rutherglen, Vic. <i>Oversize item</i>	nd
4/43	'The Corricks farewell appearance, Adelaide Town Hall (large framed photograph) <i>Oversize item</i>	1910
4/44	John, Albert and Leonard Corrick (separate photographs framed together) <i>Oversize item</i>	nd
4/45	Negatives of NSW, WA, Victoria, SA, Queensland, Tasmania, NZ, England, India, Ceylon, Burma, Malaya, Java, France, advertising, equipment, ships, cars and unknown photographs <i>[transferred to NFSA for scanning]</i>	nd

5. Postcards

5/1	Corrick Family postcards (six different family groups; Alice Corrick; Amy Corrick; Ethel Corrick; Ruby Corrick; Leonard Corrick; Chris Young; Ernest Leathley)	c1906-1915
5/2	Postcards to and from members of the Corrick family and to Campbell relatives (includes Victoria, Tasmania, NSW, SA, WA, Ceylon, Indian, English and NZ scenes)	1904-1949
5/3	Postcards (unused) of Ceylon, India, Japan, Egypt, England, Tasmania, Victoria, NSW, WA, SA, Queensland and NZ scenes	nd
5/4	Postcard album (includes New Zealand, Victoria, Tasmania, Western Australia, Calcutta, Egypt, Europe, England, Scotland, Ireland, South Africa, Canada, United States, Japan; Hong Kong scenes etc)	1904-1913

5/5 Postcard album (includes entertainment industry personalities, London, Ceylon, Melbourne, Adelaide, Tasmania, South Africa, Japan, Europe scenes etc) 1905-1914

6. Posters

6/1 'The Marvellous Corrick Family Entertainers' (Hobart) *Oversize item* 1914

6/2 'The World-famed Corricks, vocalists, instrumentalists, bellringers. Empress Theatre, Prahan' *Oversize item* c1914

6/3 'Miss Elsie Corrick. Town Hall, Lower Hutt' *Oversize item* [1915]

7. Scrap Books and Newspaper Cuttings

7/1 Corrick Family scrapbook of newspaper cuttings (includes some programs) 1902-1909

7/2 H G Coulter's scrap book of newspaper cuttings concerning the Corrick Family (includes some later family items to 1974) 1907-1910

7/3 Corrick Family scrapbook of newspaper cuttings 1907-1911

7/4 Corrick Family, newspaper cuttings, correspondence etc pasted in exercise book (includes letter 26 September 1927 to Mr Corrick from Alex. F. Lithgow; program of 'Grand Request Concert', Hobart, 1932; 'Complimentary Concert...to the Corrick Family', Launceston, 1932) 1926-1932

7/5 Newspaper cuttings from various papers concerning the Corrick Family *Oversize item* 1902-1982

8. Music

8/1 Music and words for 'The Merrie Men of Sherwood Forest', consisting of eight books of words and 38 books of music, with 'Sydenham Wesleyan Choir' on each cover, and program for concert at Christchurch on 2 November 1897 when the operetta was performed c1890

8/2 Sheet music, 'The Blacksmith' nd

8/3 Sheet music, 'Breathe Soft, ye Winds' (stamped 'Albert Corrick, Teacher of Music and Pianoforte Tuner, Christchurch') (sheet music thus stamped was probably sold by Mr Corrick in his shop) nd

8/4	Sheet music, 'The Chough & Crow to Roost Are Gone'	nd
8/5	Sheet music, 'Come, Dorothy, Come'	nd
8/6	Sheet music, 'Come let us be Merry'	nd
8/7	Sheet music, 'The Cuckoo Sings in the Poplar Tree'	nd
8/8	Sheet music, 'Fair Flora Decks'	nd
8/9	Sheet music, 'Gipsy Chorus in Preciosa'	nd
8/10	Sheet music, 'Grant O Lord'	nd
8/11	Sheet music, 'The Harvest is the End of the World' (stamped 'Albert Corrick, Music Seller, Pianos Tuned, 94 Colombo St., Christchurch')	nd
8/12	Sheet music, 'He Watereth the Hills' (stamped 'Albert Corrick, Music Seller, Pianos Tuned, 94 Colombo St., Christchurch)	nd
8/13	Sheet music, 'How Beautiful upon the Mountains' (stamped 'Albert Corrick, Music Seller, Pianos Tuner, 94 Colombo St., Christchurch)	nd
8/14	Sheet music, 'I will Lift up Mine Eyes'	nd
8/15	Sheet music, 'Keep Time, Keep Time'	nd
8/16	Sheet music, 'Lay of the Bell'	nd
8/17	Sheet music, 'Mass in G' (stamped 'Albert Corrick, Music Seller, 94 Colombo St., Christchurch' and 'Albert Corrick, Teacher of Music and Pianoforte Tuner, Christchurch')	nd
8/18	Sheet music, 'O Death, where is thy Sting?' (stamped 'Albert Corrick, Music Seller, Pianos Tuned, 94 Colombo St., Christchurch)	nd
8/19	Sheet music, 'O Lord, How manifold are Thy Works'	nd
8/20	Sheet music, 'O Praise the Lord, all ye Heathen'	nd
8/21	Sheet music, 'Parting and Meeting'	nd
8/22	Sheet music, 'Praise the Lord, O my Soul'	nd
8/23	Sheet music, 'Ragged and Torn and True'	nd

8/24	Sheet music, 'Sigh No More Ladies'	nd
8/25	Sheet music, 'Sweet Marden Bells' etc (bound in paper covers with 'Albert Corrick' stamped on cover and 'Albert Corrick, Music Seller, Pianos Tuned, 94 Colombo St., Christchurch' stamped on some of the songs)	nd
8/26	Sheet music, 'Te Deum Laudamus'	nd
8/27	Sheet music, 'There is a Green Hill Far Away' bound in paper cover)	nd
8/28	Sheet music, 'To Thee, Great Lord'	nd
8/29	Sheet music, 'The Urchins' Dance'	nd
8/30	Sheet music, 'The Village Chorister'	nd
8/31	Sheet music, 'Vital Spark of Heav'nly Flame'	nd
8/32	Sheet music, 'Ye Little Birds that Sit and Sing'	nd
8/33	A number of pieces of sheet music bound together in a paper cover with 'St Michael's Choral Society' stamped on the cover	nd
8/34	Duplicated sheet music, 'The First Nowell'; 'From Far Away'; 'Good Christian Men Rejoice'; 'We Three Kings of Orient are', and 'St Andrew's Church, Christmas Eve 1893' sheet with words for these carols	nd
8/35	Sheet music, 'Don't we Harold?'; 'Marching'; 'The Mikado Fantasia'; 'My Old Shako'; Reuben Rabzo'; 'Schottische'; 'The Top o'the Morning'; 'The Australian Music Books', no.25, sacred songs	nd
8/36	Sheet music, Chappell's Penny Operatic Part-Songs – 'Come to the fair'; 'Hark! The Distant Hills'; 'Hence! Away With Care'	nd
8/37	Sheet music, 'The Parlour Orchestra' and 'The Drawing Room Orchestra' (for violin and violincello)	nd
8/38	Manuscript music, 'The Recipe for Love'; 'Eli'; 'The New Jerusalem' (for various instruments)	nd
8/39	Sheet music, 'The Hunting Song'; 'London Cries	nd

- Glee'; 'Now Tramp o'er Moss and Fell', from 'The Choral Handbook'
- 8/40 Sheet music, 'The Choralist': no.24, 'God Save the Queen'; no.229, 'Caller Herrin' nd
- 8/41 Miscellaneous pieces of sheet music nd
- 8/42 'Anthems. Book 3, No 40' (sheet music bound together, title handwritten on paper cover) nd
- 8/43 Manuscript music, 'Merrie Men of Sherwood Forest' (11 books, each for a different instrument) nd
- 8/44 Sheet music, a number of Novello's Octavo Anthems etc loose inside a cover nd
- 8/45 Music for viola, horns, bassoon, oboe, trombone and cornet (each bound separately) nd

9. Leonard Corrick's Memoirs

- 9/1 Transcript of Leonard Corrick's memoirs taken from audio tape by John Corrick (typescript illustrated with photographs, includes information on movie equipment used by the family) (Films owned by the Corrick Family, in the possession of Screensound Australia (formerly the National Film and Sound Archive) are listed in Leonard Corrick's memoirs) nd

10. Miscellaneous Items

- 10/1 'To Albert Corrick, Choirmaster, St Andrews Church, Christchurch' (framed illuminated certificate presented to Albert Corrick when he relinquished his duties after 10 years as choirmaster) ***Oversize item*** 1900
- 10/2 Ledger inscribed 'Corrick Family, 94 Colombo St, Christchurch' 1900-1902
- 10/3 Four short manuscript publicity notices for WA press? c1906
- 10/4 Albert Corrick and Harold Coulter's Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, Colombo Agency bank book (cover and one page only) 1907
- 10/5 Albert Corrick's The National Bank of India Limited, Calcutta Branch bank book 1907
- 10/6 Manuscript account of start of world tour, written by [1908]

	members of Corrick family(India, Burma, Malaya, Java, Sumatra, Ceylon)	
10/7	Manuscript report on facilities in towns in India and Ceylon, probably by H G Coulter, Corrick family manager	[1908]
10/8	Leonard Corrick's County of London driver's licence	1908
10/9	Theatre programs for shows, concerts at London, Brighton and Marseille theatres, London church services (includes Melba concert, London, 7 November 1908)	1908-1909
10/10	Corrick Family notebook (manuscript record of items performed at concerts in WA)	1909
10/11	Theatre programs for shows at Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide and Brisbane theatres, Melbourne Amateur Regatta program	1910- 1912
10/12	Corrick Family, five miscellaneous accounts, Ballarat, Sydney, Balaklava, Dunedin	1911-1915
10/13	Manuscript account by Violet Corrick of behaviour at Albert Hall entertainments	1920s
10/14	Corrick's Garage, Motor Agents, 80A Brisbane St., Launceston, Telephone, 853 (four 3 x 6 cms metal plates, usually attached to the firewall of the car when it was first serviced)	c1925
10/15	'Corrick's Garage, 80A Brisbane Street, Launceston, Tasmania. Studebaker Motor Cars' (letterhead)	c1925
10/16	'To the Corrick Family', framed certificate of appreciation from the citizens of Launceston <i>Oversize item</i>	1932
10/17	Corricks, small oval seal	nd
10/18	'Morrie Hayward's University Club Orchestra', typescript notes (includes photograph of orchestra on stage at Albert Hall, St Albie's Hall)	1984
10/19	Manuscript notes on the Corrick family, by John Corrick	2000

11.Ephemera

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| 11/1 | 'The Corrick Family of Entertainers on a world's tour'; 'Marvellous Corricks, the top of the pinnacle as Amusing Entertainers touring the world'; Marvellous Corrick Family of Entertainers, on a world's tour', envelopes | c1907 |
| 11/2 | 'Poor Old Mrs Bungemup, the joke of the town', flyer advertising Chris Young and the Marvellous Corricks | c1907 |
| 11/3 | 'You've got the blues. Go and see Chris R Young with the Corricks', advertising card | nd |
| 11/4 | 'Corrick Telegraphs', advertising sheet for performance at Calcutta | 1907 |
| 11/5 | 'Say! This concerns you. Now. Don't argue. Go and see the Marvellous Corricks', flyer for performance at Calcutta | c1907 |
| 11/6 | Autographed menu for diner (sic) at Madras | 1907 |
| 11/7 | S S <i>Wakasa Maru</i> letterhead | [1908] |
| 11/8 | White Star Line, passengers' contract ticket for Corrick Family; advertisement for <i>Runic</i> , Liverpool to Australia etc <i>Oversize items</i> | 1909 |
| 11/9 | Invitation to Leonard Corrick to Garden Party, Adelaide (with page of photographs of the event in <i>The Critic</i> , 27 April 1910) | [1910] |
| 11/10 | 'Corrick's Entertainers', roll of tickets for performances | nd |
| 11/11 | 'Monday, Wednesday', cards used for change of program | nd |
| 11/12 | W A Robbins, sole agent in WA for Mr C Spencer, Sydney, Biograph Films, business card | nd |
| 11/13 | Rowland A Medhurst, electrical and mechanical engineer, Hobart, business card | nd |
| 11/14 | The Pank Orchestral family, postcard | nd |

OTHER SOURCES

QVMAG, Community History, 1992.OH.39

National Film and Sound Archive, Canberra hold film made by the Corrick family

Shirley Foster, *The book of Tilley: a family history*, Hobart, 2001

Shirley Foster, 'The Corrick family and early cinema in Tasmania',
Tasmanian Historical Research Association *Papers and proceedings*,
vol. 45, no. 1, March 1998

Elsie Tilley's grand piano in the Launceston Town Hall reception room (see *Examiner*
21 July 1977)