

Ingenio

THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND ALUMNI MAGAZINE | Spring 2012

SUMMER SHAKESPEARE
TURNS 50

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PARADISE
WINNING SHORT STORY



THE UNIVERSITY
OF AUCKLAND

NEW ZEALAND

Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau

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alumni magazine

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How alumni keep in touch

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Cover photo

From Outdoor Shakespeare's Julius Caesar (1974) Back: Adrian Kierknander (Casca) and front Dr Robert Leek (Julius Caesar)



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Ingenio website

Check out our website www.ingenio-magazine.com

If you're as happy to read *Ingenio* online as in print, we'll stop sending you the magazine and instead you'll receive an email each time the website is refreshed with the latest *Ingenio* content.

You can search articles, browse by topic, view videos and leave comments on the *Ingenio* website.



The power of philanthropy



One of the challenges in any university is to resolve the archetypal tension between alumni relations and development – in simplified terms, between friend-raising and fundraising. Both are at opposite ends of a continuum, from the more altruistic alumni engagement for its own sake to the more utilitarian use of the alumni database to support the University's financial needs.

Given that common challenge, we were very fortunate, here at Auckland, to combine both the alumni and the development functions when we moved into the former synagogue which became University House in 2003. Our early focus was on reconnecting with alumni both at home and abroad, not only by mounting a comprehensive functions programme, but chiefly through this biannual *Ingenio* magazine which now goes out to more than 100,000 alumni, largely in print but also to a small but growing percentage, electronically.

One issue that had to be worked through carefully was how to integrate an extensive alumni re-engagement programme with the University's ever present and growing philanthropic needs – meat and drink in the US but not so in New Zealand, Australia and the UK.

Reactions to that re-engagement programme varied from "Why are you having this function, you are only after our money?" (in New Zealand) to "What is the value proposition?" (in the more fundraising-focused US). However, during the last decade, our largely biennial

series of functions at home and abroad, together with excellent speakers, (often our leading researchers) have largely blunted those early suspicions.

At the same time, having visited the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, Virginia, Melbourne and Sydney, we were planning and building our Development infrastructure for the University's first major pan-University fundraising campaign, "Leading the Way". This has just concluded, having raised over \$202.9 million (against an initial goal of \$100 million!) largely for specific chairs, fellowships and scholarships.

What were the key outcomes from the campaign?

Firstly, we confirmed the vital importance of doing very thorough homework with potential donors beforehand. We discovered that being 125 years old, and being (then) 51st in the world, were of secondary importance to the University being less self-serving and more outward-looking and motivated to make a difference to the health, the economic and social wellbeing of our nation, and of humanity generally.

Secondly, we confirmed the importance of appropriate investment by respective Vice-Chancellors in providing excellent infrastructural support for the campaign committee, deans and research champions

“Why are you having this function, you are only after our money?”

across the University from development managers, researchers and writers to communications, event management, and web and database experts.

Thirdly, we discovered that a fundraising campaign could be very transformative in terms of highlighting the practical outcomes of top-level research. We now know far more about who our research superstars are, and what they are achieving for good, across so many different fields. We also have a better understanding of their vital importance to New Zealand's future economic and social success than that afforded by our often more publicly acclaimed sporting and other celebrities.

Fourthly, we witnessed the magic which results when a potential donor meets a top researcher and becomes intrinsically involved in sponsoring vital research – which in turn has made the University's academics and researchers far more aware and appreciative of

the value of philanthropy.

Fifthly, we have seen a gradual and growing appreciation among our alumni, many of whom had become totally disengaged, of the fact that even small annual donations can, when aggregated, make the world of difference, particularly in providing scholarship funding to support talented students who would otherwise be unable to afford a University education. Between 2008 and 2011, the number of alumni donating to one of the University's annual appeals grew by 75 percent.

As Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon has noted, the campaign has transformed the University's, and its alumni's understanding of, and approach to, the power of philanthropy. Simply put, the government cannot provide what has been described as "dream money", which has become so vital in attracting and retaining top level researchers and teachers in the current arms race for academic talent.

In conclusion, the campaign has been hugely beneficial in informing and motivating more alumni to take a more proactive interest in their alma mater, especially older age groups who supported themselves through the University without the current impost of having to take large student loans. I have no doubt that the increase in "giving back" to student support scholarships we have seen during

the campaign is motivated by a desire to give as many talented students as possible the opportunity to gain a university degree without the long-term millstone of a huge student loan.

Long may that sentiment and support continue!

Finally, may I acknowledge the great support I have received from the respective Vice-Chancellors, deans, senior management and especially our Alumni Relations and Development team during my very stimulating decade at the University.

John Taylor, who has been Director of Alumni Relations and Development at The University of Auckland since 2003, and has directed the "Leading the Way" fundraising campaign, retires at the end of this year after a career which has also included the headmasterships of Kings College, Auckland (1988-2002) and Rathkeale College, Masterton (1979-1987).

Letters

Response to our last Taking Issue in the Autumn 2012 *Ingenio*: “Educational underachievement among Māori, Pasifika and low income groups is one of the greatest challenges to New Zealand’s future: What are we doing about it?”

See www.ingenio-magazine.com

Staff of McAuley High School wrote:

As alumni of the University of Auckland who work in education we were deeply disturbed by the three opinion pieces in the Taking Issue section of the Autumn *Ingenio* publication.

We all currently work at McAuley High School, a decile 1 Catholic girls’ school in Otahuhu. Eighty-eight percent of our students identify as Pasifika and a further five percent are Māori. Last year our NCEA results were a minimum of 21 percent above national roll-based pass rates at all three levels of NCEA. Our Pasifika students were a minimum of 32 percent above national Pasifika achievement rates, and at least five percent above the achievement rates for European students, again at all three levels of NCEA. Furthermore 100 percent of our 2011 cohort left with Level 1, 97.5 percent left with Level 2 and 71.2 percent left with Level 3.

Our Pasifika and non-Pasifika staff alike take exception to Uesifili Unasa’s claim that the children of the poor are not taught and that we do not celebrate the Pacific-ness of our students. We certainly “want to” and work extremely hard to continue to develop our understanding of “how to” do so. Our results speak for themselves, and we see no evidence in our daily work of the “institutionalised second rate status reserved for ambitious poor Pasifika kids” of which the author talks. We also do not spend our extremely busy days “handwringing and writing endless reports” as stated by Susan St John, although we do support her point that the negative effects of poverty are both varied and many in our society. They are, of course, not an excuse for students not to achieve.

Dame Anne Salmond’s claim that success for Māori and Pasifika students “is not rocket science” demeans the extremely challenging but

rewarding work we do every day. Whilst she is quick to criticise other initiatives, we would point out that comments about magic bullets as in – “just do these few ‘simple things’ and all will be well” are unhelpful at best. We are not part of the Starpath initiative, and yet the evidence-based practice of which she speaks is deeply embedded in our school culture. We can’t imagine how the schools involved in the project must feel to be criticised for not having these purportedly “simple and effective” strategies already in place. Surely working with the schools to support ongoing improvement would be a key element of any such project.

We would also point out that Dame Anne’s own use of “evidence” is somewhat selective – the Annual Report for 2011 for the Starpath initiative talks only of increases in each of the five schools participating, but gives no measure of how large these were beyond the comments that there has been “some success in matching national pass rates”, and that “the effects are variable across schools and time, but show consistent improvement at NCEA Levels 1 and 2”. The report also states that one school had parent participation rise from 15 percent to 85 percent. Our rudimentary analysis showed that, in the five Phase 1 Starpath schools and across the three levels of NCEA, there was improvement from 2009 to 2010 in nine of these 15 roll-based pass rates. Unfortunately this has not been sustained, with the data in 2011 showing a decrease in 10 of the 15 pass rates, six of these to below the pass rates achieved in 2009. We suggest this is further evidence that there is no magic bullet in education. That said, it is wonderful that improvements in achievement are occurring in some areas of these schools. We feel an article focusing on these successes, whilst acknowledging both the hard work done by all concerned, and the areas in which

improvements could still be made would have been far more useful in advancing the cause of success for Māori and Pasifika students.

We believe fervently that it is a multitude of interconnected factors that contribute to our success and rigorous self-review of such that enables us to continue to have our students achieve at the highest possible levels. We would also certainly acknowledge the excellent support of our parent community and our motivated and hard-working students whose efforts and achievements are devalued by the airing of such ill-informed viewpoints.

Our strongly held view is that articles such as these do little to inform the debate around Māori and Pasifika achievement in New Zealand, and respectfully suggest that their publication diminishes those of us working in the sector. The irony is that such opinions, which are not evidence-based, should be written by staff of a university that prides itself on being New Zealand’s pre-eminent research institution.

Louise Addison BA 1997, BSc 1998, DipTchg, PGDipEd 2010
John Bower BA 1993, GradDipTchg
Tim Gasson BTheol 1999, GradDipTchg 2006
Bridget Houghton BPE 2004
Bronwyn Houlston MA 2007, GradDipTchg 2010
Salome Ioane MEd(Hons) 2009
Makerita Loto BA 2006, BSc 2010, GradDipTchg 2012
Moyeen McCoy MA(Hons) 1983, DipTessol
Angela McLaughlin BA 1981, DipTchg ?
Christine Plank MEd(Hons) 2010
Miles Sengers MSc(Hons) 1998, DipTchg 2000
Victoria Sullivan BA, 1998, DipTchg, PGDipEd
Alicia Tapu Tauiliili BA, 2002, Dip Tchg (sec) 2004
Rachel Williams BSc 1999, DipTchg 2000

Response from Susan St John, Co-Director of the Retirement Policy and Research Centre, part-time Associate Professor in the Economics Department, University of Auckland

Note the comment [in the response from McAuley High School] “We also do not spend our extremely busy days ‘handwringing and writing endless reports’ as stated by Susan St John, although we do support her point that the negative effects of poverty are both varied and many in our society”.

I was not referring to these very talented and hardworking alumni at all, but to the Children’s Commission, the Families Commission, the Pediatrics Society, the Salvation Army, the Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG), the NZ Institute of Economic Research, Manuka Henare’s report on Māori child health for Every Child Counts, medical journal articles, church groups reports, the Welfare Working Group, the Ministry of Social Development reports, the Expert Group on Child Poverty (announced the day I was asked to write this piece), the Māori select committee on child health, the Ministerial enquiry into child health – to quickly type a few that come to mind.

As part of the child advocacy sector, CPAG is forever expected to produce yet more research/ make yet more submissions. Academics are often involved in contracts

that rehash what is already known. So the comment was as much as anything self-deprecating.

My message, clearly missed, is that poor educational achievement is one of the symptoms of child poverty. We know enough to act now, especially in the first years of life when New Zealand does really badly in supporting young families. A low income child with good food/good health/good stimulation will have a well-developed brain by five, but this takes resources and huge support.

Of course we should celebrate success, and it was heartening to hear of that, but Māori and PI are unfortunately still disproportionately represented in statistics of social distress. Health outcomes are really worrying. In the case of South Auckland we are also very conscious of the degree of transience in the school system, largely due to difficulties in housing. Anything that can be done to alleviate social distress should make the task of the educators easier. Saying so should not be taken to devalue the marvellous efforts already being made by many dedicated teachers.

Susan St John

G I Laurenson, Principal, Otahuhu College writes

As the Principal of one of the largest Decile 1 schools in the country, Otahuhu College, and with the greatest number of Pasifika students, I was extremely disturbed to read the article in *Ingenio* written by Uesifili Unasa. It is one thing to write an article to generate discussion but something else to write an opinion piece without making any effort whatsoever to discover the realities of

the situation before putting pen to paper. As a graduate of The University of Auckland with an Arts degree I was dismayed and upset with the false assumptions and generalities in the column.

I can assure you the children of the poor are being taught at Otahuhu College. Yes they dance at Polyfest and play in the 1st XV but they are mentored all year long and leave

after the external exams are complete.

With monotonous regularity they are reminded of the perils of relying on professional sport as a career (not an issue for the girls). They are three of the four Head Prefects and when they leave to go to university they do degrees in medicine, engineering, commerce, law and the arts. Through our GATEWAY programme we even got seven apprenticeships in 2011 and they are harder to get than entrance to university.

To meet the challenge of getting more students into health-related careers we have started a Health Science Academy to encourage our Pasifika and Māori students to do extra science at school so as to remove a lack of science as a barrier to taking on degree courses in medicine, nursing, physiotherapy and other health-related fields. Now the Health Science Academy is in its second year over 40 Pasifika and Māori students are making giant steps towards careers in these areas. One has even been selected by the Royal Society as one of 21 students from all over New Zealand to attend a week-long science symposium in Dunedin. Textbooks are given to them and laptops are about to be issued. Extra classes are run outside of normal school hours and specialists brought in for seminars on exam techniques and study skills. To visit a Level 2 physics class being taught with 18 Pasifika girls in it shows how successful the academy concept has been already.

It is ironic, however, to read the article on page 35 of *Ingenio* and to see a photograph of our Dux from 2011 as a recipient of one of two “First in Family” scholarships.

Maybe we are getting some things right for the “children of the poor”.

Perhaps a journey from the “Ivory Towers” to the depths of South Auckland to see the reality might be in order.

G I Laurenson (BA 1975)



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Spectacular end to Campaign



Sir John Graham, Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon, Campaign patron Jenny Gibbs, Campaign Committee Chairman, Geoff Ricketts, Director of External Relations and Development John Taylor, Chancellor Roger France

Every spring at Graduation Week, the great marquee rises over the long lawn beside Old Government House. This October, illuminated with hundreds of tiny blue and white lights, it also became the venue for a special dinner for 300 guests hosted by the Chancellor, Roger France.

The annual Chancellor's Dinner recognises and thanks those donors who have given substantial gifts to the University over the previous 12 months. This year, however, there was an additional reason to celebrate: the final total of the "Leading the Way" Campaign – \$202.9 million gifted to the University and foundations that support it by 3000 donors. This sum, more than twice the original target of \$100 million set in 2006, makes it one of the most ambitious and successful philanthropic campaigns undertaken in New Zealand. In thanking all donors, Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon underlined the significance of the achievement.

"You have changed the face of philanthropy in New Zealand. You have told the community that you believe this institution is something special, something worthy of your investment. But most of all, you have made it possible for our extraordinary people to do extraordinary things; and there is no greater gift that you can give a University like ours."

Chancellor Roger France spoke of the importance of having a university that is internationally competitive and of the desire to contribute nationally, which was at the heart of the "Leading the Way" Campaign.

"A continuously well-educated and well-trained population is essential for our social and economic wellbeing. Education plays a key role in providing individuals with the knowledge, skills and competencies needed to participate effectively in society and in the economy. It also contributes to the expansion of scientific and cultural knowledge. This was the background against which the University's fundraising

campaign was set."

Each year the Chancellor also inducts new members into one of three societies in the Chancellor's Circle, in recognition of their sustained support of the University. The new members of the Sir Maurice O'Rorke Society, with total contributions of more than \$5 million, were Cure Kids, which has funded more than 40 child health-focused research projects at the University and the Cure Kids Chair in Child Research; and the Freemasons, who established the Freemasons Chair in Geriatric Medicine in 1986 and continue to partner with the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences to address the health concerns of the elderly.

Five new members were inducted into the Sir George Fowlds Society – Buckley Systems, the Glavish Family Trust, Fisher & Paykel Appliances, The Kelliher Charitable Trust and the New Zealand Leadership Institute. They have made total contributions of between \$1 million and \$5 million.

The 12 inductees to the Sir Douglas Robb Society have contributed between \$100,000 and \$1 million to the University: Auckland Heart Group Charitable Trust, Baxter Healthcare, The CatWalk Spinal Cord Injury Trust, Conservation International, The Japan Foundation, The John Drake Memorial Scholarship Trust, John Templeton Foundation, The Kate Edger Educational Charitable Trust, Leukaemia and Blood Cancer New Zealand, Minter Ellison Rudd Watts, PwC and Tonkin & Taylor.

The entertainment for the evening was provided by students from the University's National Institute of Creative Arts and Industries – soprano Milla Dickens with pianist Den Sky Lucas, tenor Taunua Filimoehola and baritone Kalauni Pouvalu accompanied by pianist Juan Kim, and The Jazz Trio.

Louise Callan

Campus redevelopment



The University is currently undergoing a major redevelopment of its facilities.

The \$240 million redevelopment of its Grafton medical training facility is now all but complete and was lauded at the recent New Zealand Institute of Architects Awards.

"In the architectural equivalent of open-heart surgery, vertical and silo-stacked teaching spaces have been unlogged to provide horizontal and transparent modern education learning environments," read the citation.

"The architects [Jasmax] thoroughgoing commitment to sustainable design is evident in the building's planning, operation and material selection."

Traditional divisions between departments have been replaced with theme-based research while open-plan, multi-disciplinary teaching and research spaces have been created, radically transforming the way more than 4,000 students and 1,500 staff go about their work.

Design work has also begun for the redevelopment of the Engineering and Science faculties, which will both be the subject of major building renewal programmes.

The Faculty of Science is the highest-ranked and largest in New Zealand, and its research activity, staff and student numbers are forecast to grow substantially over the next ten years. The \$200 million redevelopment, led by the University's Property Services and architectural firm Architectus, will give 38,000m² of new or refurbished space to accommodate most of this growth and bring together scientific disciplines previously dispersed across the campus.

The School of Environment, Institute of Earth Science and Engineering, National eScience Infrastructure, Department of Psychology and School of Chemical Sciences will move into a new purpose-built Science Centre tower joining colleagues from Physics, Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science accommodated in buildings in the same complex and increasing the opportunities for cross-disciplinary collaboration.

The Faculty of Engineering is undergoing redevelopment working with architects Jasmax to create high-tech laboratories, a new engineering research facility and the expansion of the existing buildings on the City Campus. "This is part of a ten-year campus renewal plan valued in excess of \$1 billion that is bringing our facilities up to the highest possible standard," says Vice-Chancellor, Professor McCutcheon.

"It demonstrates our commitment to science and engineering, and reflects the importance of science and innovation to New Zealand."

The University is also going through "due process" for its proposed purchase of the 5.2ha former Lion Breweries site in Newmarket. If successful, the University will use the site for long-term development of a mixed use campus, with space for purpose-built teaching and research facilities, student accommodation, business development and other facilities.

For more information on the "Proposed Newmarket Campus" see: www.auckland.ac.nz/newmarket

100 years after we began our first university project, an extension to Knox College at Otago, we are still facilitating the education of New Zealanders, delivering, for the University of Auckland:

- > Grafton Medical School Campus refurbishment
- > Faculty of Science (Building 303) refurbishment and new science undergraduate laboratories

 **Fletcher**



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New Council member



Former CEO and Managing Director of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) Sir Ralph Norris has joined the University Council.

Sir Ralph has been appointed

by the Minister for Tertiary Education for a period of four years to August 2016, and will replace Mr Alec Hawke who did not seek re-appointment.

His career started at ASB as a computer programmer, then he became its CIO, CEO and managing director. Following his time with ASB, he went on to become CEO and Managing Director of Air New Zealand before joining CBA in 2005.

Commenting on Sir Ralph's appointment, the University's Chancellor, Roger France, says "the leadership, depth and breadth of experience, and wealth of knowledge Sir Ralph will bring to the Council and the University will be invaluable."

In May this year, Sir Ralph received the inaugural CIO Lifetime Contribution Award for his significant contribution to the information technology sector. He is an Honorary Fellow of the New Zealand Computer Society (HFNZCS), an Ambassador of the Australian Indigenous Education Foundation, and is also a former Chairman of the Business Round Table.

He was knighted in 2009 and named Outstanding Māori Business Leader for 2010.

Planning urban

How do we make urban intensification happen in the right way? And if we're going to give up our traditional quarter acre section lifestyles, what are the trade-offs for living in terraced or high rise housing?

Growing cities like Auckland are facing these sorts of questions, and are the reason the University's School of Architecture and Planning is moving the planning discipline's focus towards urban planning with a new taught Masters of urban planning degree.

"With 85 percent of New Zealanders already living within the urban environment (our cities and towns), and the global trend of population movement from the rural to the urban environment, the new degree is relevant

both here and internationally," says Lee Beattie, head of Urban Planning and deputy head of the School of Architecture and Planning.

The Auckland Council recently released its spatial plan, the Auckland Plan, as a strategy for managing urban growth that involves limiting urban sprawl and seeking to accommodate the majority of Auckland's future growth (between 60 to 70 percent) within an urban growth boundary.

"This will mean greater density in the existing and emerging centres, potentially using multi-storey, multi-unit housing forms, so the city is facing big issues in terms of how it balances intensification and the right housing technologies," says Lee. "The Masters of Urban Planning students will gain the skills and knowledge required to address these, and other complex issues being faced by our ever increasingly urbanised world."

Bill Williams: July 20 1947 - August 26 2012



It is with considerable sadness that we have put together this issue of *Ingenio*. The first without the much-valued input of Senior Communications Adviser Bill Williams who died on 26 August, after a

brief illness, just a few months short of his retirement.

Bill, who had worked at the University for 25 years, played a key role in each issue of *Ingenio*. He contributed story ideas, produced beautifully written features, was always a willing sounding board, and above all was the magazine's subeditor and proofreader extraordinaire. Very few mistakes passed unnoticed on Bill's watch.

Bill was a University treasure and formidable "walking encyclopedia". Staff across the University sought him out with their questions, and on the rare occasions when he didn't have an immediate answer, he made it his business to find out.

Generous with his time, thoughtful, kind, acutely intelligent and in his own quiet way witty and irreverent, Bill is deeply missed by all who've worked on this issue of *Ingenio*, by his colleagues here in Communications and the many staff members he has worked with across the University. You can read a full obituary on Bill written by former registrar Warwick Nicoll in *University News* Issue 15, 13 September 2012 or at www.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/home/for/the-media/tm-publications/tm-uninews

Evolve



The University's commercialisation company, UniServices is producing its own new quarterly publication *Evolve*.

Evolve is a window into some of the exciting advances UniServices and its

commercial partners are leading in research, technology, and education.

"It illustrates the role of UniServices as a business friendly and well networked company embedded in New Zealand Inc.," says Claudia Vidal, UniServices General Manager, Business Operations. "It is an inclusive publication for our wide variety of audiences in New Zealand and overseas, and across many industry sectors and governments."

www.uniservices.co.nz/aboutus/evolve.aspx

Top ranked

The University of Auckland has once more been ranked as the top university in New Zealand in the latest 2012-13 *Times Higher Education* World University Rankings.

It was placed 161st in the world, an improvement from its 173rd ranking last year, and is the only New Zealand university to feature in the top 200, and to be among the top eight universities in Oceania.

Two other rankings this year have placed the University at the top in New Zealand. The University of Auckland was the only New Zealand tertiary institution to be ranked in the top 100 of the QS World University Rankings when it was placed 83rd in the world. It recently also became the first New Zealand university to enter the top 200 of the Shanghai Jiao Tong Academic Rankings of World Universities.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stuart McCutcheon says: "The University's strategic focus is on achieving a level of

excellence and the results are testimony to the quality and commitment of staff, and a reflection of the University's research strength.

"Without a doubt universities provide a rich source of innovation and skilled graduates to industry and to our wider society. The University of Auckland is New Zealand's largest research organisation and our diverse research supports our innovation economy."

Times Higher Education's methodology uses 13 performance indicators across five broad categories: teaching; citations; research; international outlook and industry income.

Other New Zealand universities ranked under the *Times Higher Education* World University Rankings system are: Otago 226-250; Victoria 251-275; Canterbury 301-350; Waikato 301-350; and Massey 351-400.

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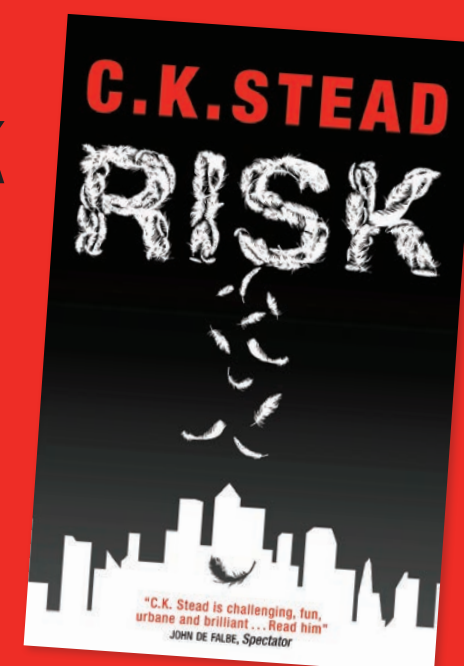
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Michael Neill (*King Lear*) and Michael Hurst (*the Fool*)

“What a world. What a play,” says Lisa Harrow, acclaimed international Shakespearean actress, who is to direct *King Lear* next year for the University’s 50th Outdoor Summer Shakespeare.

Nothing will come of nothing

And what a grand event this will be, bringing together a wealth of creative talent – designers, actors, musicians, technicians – reuniting some of the many theatrical people who have made their start in Outdoor Summer Shakespeare and later made their mark in a much wider world.

New Zealand-born Lisa Harrow played Ophelia in the first-ever Summer Shakespeare production of *Hamlet* in 1963, and left soon after for the London Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts. Invited to join the Royal Shakespeare Company, she later played such roles as Olivia in *Twelfth Night* (with Judi Dench), Desdemona in *Othello*, Portia in *The Merchant of Venice* and Juliet (to John Hurt’s Romeo), as well as collecting numerous film and TV credits.

King Lear was the first Shakespeare play in which Lisa played a major role.

“I was a 16-year-old schoolgirl at Auckland Girls’ Grammar,” she told Judy Wilford, conversing with her on skype and email from her home in Vermont. “I remember sitting on my back steps at home pondering the enormous agony of the play, the appalling acts of cruelty so easily entered into by some and

accepted by others, the brutality with which honesty, integrity and decency are silenced – and the utter lack of a happy ending.

“That is the challenge of the play. Is Shakespeare telling it as it really is, or is he offering us a vision of how life would be if we remove grace, forgiveness, compassion, understanding and love – above all love – from the choices we make as a species?”

This production, to be performed at the University in March 2013, will be a homage to Professor Sidney (Mus) Musgrove, a much-respected and long-remembered teacher in the Department of English and the driving force behind Outdoor Summer Shakespeare. It will celebrate the 50-year history of the event, and provide a base of support for the work of the Summer Shakespeare Charitable Trust, formed to build a platform for future development.

Chair of the Trust is prominent New Zealand actor and director Michael Hurst, who is playing the Fool in *King Lear* and assisting Lisa as co-director.

“Three years ago,” says Michael, “Professor Tom Bishop from the Department of English asked if I would be interested in some kind of organisation to ensure the existence and well-

being of Summer Shakespeare, because it had been flickering in and out of existence – a sputtering flame.

“When I first came to Auckland it had been absolutely the thing you went to – it was outdoors, the productions were varied and they were amazing.

“My first outing with Shakespeare was directing one in 1987: *Measure for Measure*, then *King Lear*. I know friends and colleagues who came through Summer Shakespeare; the list is quite impressive.

“So we formed the trust and have been looking to overhaul the system: to make sure it’s robust and can work in what is now a very different environment. We’re really pushing to create a support structure that has some financial basis, to ensure that the productions are run well and are reported on well. Patronage is important because we are a charitable trust and that gives a whole tax incentive so we’ve taken all the next steps and are gaining some really strong support out there.

“We want to make Summer Shakespeare one of those events on the calendar that people really want to go to, because opportunities to

see Shakespeare will get fewer and fewer over the years, and people need to cut their teeth on something big.

“My son will probably get to the end of high school and unless he asks for it, he won’t be given any Shakespeare. That’s just crazy. People just don’t see it. Nobody can afford to put it on any longer. I’m saying that this [Shakespearean theatre] is an absolute goldmine of spiritual uplifting.” He laughs. “I’m not religious, just saying it in a human way. But it’s really important we have this in our lives. We can’t afford to just let it go away.”

Emeritus Professor Mac Jackson, textual adviser for the production, sees *King Lear* as

“We want to make Summer Shakespeare one of those events on the calendar that people really want to go to...”

one of the world’s greatest dramas. As an actual play, he says, he ranks *Hamlet* higher, “but as a dramatic poem *Lear* is one of the greatest works ever written.... Shakespeare has taken such extravagant risks, pushing the form of drama to its outer limits.”

Mac once saw an interview with actor Sam Neill (former partner of Lisa Harrow) who was asked if he would ever play a classic role like *King Lear*.

Said Sam: “I couldn’t do it, but my brother could.”

And in this production, Sam’s brother will. For Emeritus Professor Michael Neill (described by Lisa as “a sort-of brother-in-law”) *King Lear* will be the first role he has played since the 1970s. He conceived the desire to play the part a few years ago when he found himself “called by the voice of *King Lear*: The key to *Lear* is that he is an old man. The key to the part is that it’s all about voice.”

“I’ve never done *Lear* before,” he adds with a smile. “I’ve never been old enough before” (which echoes what Mac Jackson refers to as “a green room paradox” – that by the time an actor is mature enough to play *Lear* he no longer has the huge stamina it requires).

It was at Michael’s suggestion that *King Lear* became the chosen play for the 50th anniversary. The production, though not yet planned in detail, is already vivid in Lisa’s mind.

“I Imagine a dark world, where brooding sculptures form iconic images that can be used... to express the strong themes of the play: heraldic symbols, a throne transformed into a hovel, the twisted, dead trees on the blasted heath, gibbets, and a dark world lit by

brilliant flashes of colour from the costumes of Ngila Dickson [who did the costumes also for *Lord of the Rings*].

“I hear throbbing drums and searing horns fighting the constant presence of a wind that howls and I hear Michael’s voice soaring above the storm, pounding the heavens with a rage.”

Among other big names involved will be Gareth Farr, who has agreed to create the music; Ian Mune, who is to play Gloucester; and Michael Noonan, (the first manager of the University Bookshop and director of *Richard II* for Summer Shakespeare in 1969) who will take a cameo role as “the old man”. The designer is to be Jessica Verryt (following in the footsteps of her father John), assisted by well-known sculptors Greer Twiss and Michael Parekowhai. Says Michael Hurst: “This will be a gift of a learning opportunity” – right in the spirit of Summer Shakespeare.

“Before there were drama and music schools there were always people who worked with the younger actors and artists,” adds Lisa. “That’s how you learned to do the craft of acting, painting, dancing.” And that’s what Summer

Shakespeare aims for today.

For both Michael and Lisa, *King Lear* is among the most modern of Shakespeare’s plays, retaining an intense and disturbing relevance to the present day.

“This is a play of disintegration,” says Lisa. “There is almost nobody left at the end. Everybody is destroyed or changed irrevocably.

“What I think about when I think about *King Lear* – because, I guess, of the world that I live in – is that it speaks to the environmental collapse that all of us are living through now as a species, where our hubris and our mindlessness and our greed and our capacity to just take and take and not in any way give – has resulted in a situation where the systems that support us are collapsing. I wanted to think of the play as a metaphor for that. If I could put global warming on the stage and the loss of fish, the loss of species, the loss of Maui dolphins, the lack of food, all of that.

“If I could put that on the stage for *King Lear* I would feel I had done my job right.”

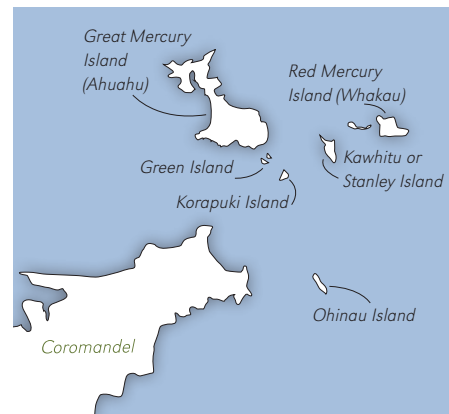
Judy Wilford

Photo: From the *Tempest* 1981, Directed by Simon Phillips. Dr Robert Leek played Prospero.



University anthropologists have embarked on a major dig that promises to revitalise New Zealand archaeology and uncover new clues to our past. Rose Yukich investigates.

An archaeological island paradise



Not far from the white sandy beaches of Coromandel's eastern coastline lies Ahuhau, also known as Great Mercury Island. A popular boating and fishing destination, the island's landscape holds vital clues to the nature of New Zealand's earliest human settlements — for those willing to dig deep enough. Sixteen budding archaeologists guided by their lecturers literally dug into that past during the Anthropology Department's

two week field school on the island last summer. Annual field schools around the country have been an integral part of the department's programme for over 20 years, but this year's dig at Ahuhau opened a new chapter for The University of Auckland in its research relationship with the island, and also with other stakeholders passionate about its special history.

The University's connection to the island began in 1955 when Jack Golson, then a senior lecturer in prehistory, embarked on a field trip to Ahuhau and kick started archaeology as an academic discipline in New Zealand. More recently, Emeritus Professor Geoff Irwin sailed out there in his own boat during the 1980s to conduct further research. Building on this legacy, the Anthropology Department has joined forces with Auckland Museum to work on a comprehensive 10 year research plan for the island with the ultimate aim of developing a heritage protection programme. The project embraces a variety of people with complementary skills and

interests. Contributing to the collaborative venture are members of Ngāti Hei whose cultural links to Ahuhau stretch back hundreds of years, along with input from the island's owner Sir Michael Fay, whose support and enthusiasm has enabled the project to get underway.

"It's a meeting of minds," says Head of Department Professor Simon Holdaway, who is co-leading the project with Professor Thegn Niels Ladefoged. "We are bringing together different aspects that represent all our interests in the island in a 21st century way incorporating cultural and scientific strands. Modern archaeology is now a multi-disciplinary endeavour. All the archaeologists in the department are part of the project. It is a big deal getting teams of people into the field, collecting sufficient observations to analyse the range of processes that add to our understanding of the past. You can't do it anymore by single scholars trying to run entire projects."

The collaboration over Ahuhau will yield a

number of benefits both within and beyond the University. One of the aims is to revitalise New Zealand archaeology by offering an exciting local opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students to get hooked on the country's pre-European past, and to

quite quickly that the island's slightly warmer than the mainland, it's frost-free and has fertile soil, so you can get your gardens going out there," says Louise.

A sub-discipline of anthropology, the practice of archaeology is concerned at its

“The whole country is a rich archaeological record ... if you want to understand how humans came to impact upon the environment from Day One. You can't do that anywhere else in the world.”

experience the multi-faceted nature of a modern dig and be exposed to the latest research methods and technologies. "But academic archaeology aside, we also want to run a long-term project that will serve to reinvigorate the cultural heritage that Ahuhau connects us to," says Simon. "It's a fantastic island, and this is a wonderful opportunity for The University of Auckland to give back to the community through the results of our research work."

Ahuhau's attractions include its accessibility, its compact nature and — most importantly — the fact that development on the island has been minimal compared to the intensive land use on the mainland where very few undisturbed early sites exist. As a result the archaeological remains from 800 years of occupation are richly varied and well preserved. Since the 1850s when Ahuhau first passed into European ownership, low impact farming has been the major commercial activity. It is thought to have been first settled around the same time as the mainland, possibly as early as the mid-14th century. At 16 square kilometres the island was able to support either a seasonal or semi-permanent Māori population, as evidenced by numerous pā sites and hāngi pits. Given its crucial location for seafarers, Ahuhau is mentioned in the canoe traditions of a number of iwi. Auckland Museum's Curator of Archaeology Louise Furey elaborates:

"It's a very exposed coast and even nearby Mercury Bay is not safe in a strong easterly wind. It is most dangerous in a strong nor-easterly. The island's harbour is the place where everyone has always run to for shelter. If you think of the sea as a super highway — Māori are going backwards and forwards up and down the coast in ocean-going waka the whole time. In rough weather, Ahuhau's the place they headed for as did the European scows plying the coast in the mid to late 19th century."

Another tradition highlighted by several iwi is the island's reputation as the source of the kumara, reflected in a terrain which features significant structural remnants of large scale garden systems. "Māori would have realised

most basic level with the "stuff" past humans have left behind or discarded. Finds from this year's field school include the bones of sea lions and whales indented by butchering implements, fire debris, razor sharp obsidian blades, thousands of leftover basalt flakes from adze-making, and signs of posthole construction. But archaeologists do a lot more than collect individual artefacts. Using a laser theodolite, each excavated site occupies the field team in the intensive recording of the immediate context, of all objects found and their proximity to one another. The data is then computer rendered into a 3-D visual model. This information-dense image provides a glimpse into what people might have been doing on that particular spot, but as more sites are investigated a bigger picture emerges.

"We are really looking at everything," explains Dr Rebecca Phillipps, a teaching fellow from the Anthropology Department and convenor of this year's field school together with PhD student Alex Jorgensen. "We are interested in the human interaction with the environment on the island, how people gardened, how they used the landscape for subsistence, how they accessed stone material sources and how their trade networks might have operated. We want to understand the settlement patterns on the island and how the nature of people's engagement with the wider region changed over time."

The surprising mobility of people, for example, becomes evident by taking a closer look at the origins of the tool-making materials they carried with them on their travels to and from the island. Back in the University's lab, a portable x-ray fluorescence machine is used to identify a rock's geo-chemical signature, enabling Rebecca and Alex's students to learn that up to 50 percent of the obsidian found during the latest dig came from Mayor Island, located 70 kilometres south of Ahuhau, with the remainder harvested from along the coast at Cook's Beach, Hahei and Whangamata. Also, quarried at Ōpito eight kilometres away on the mainland was Tahanga basalt, a fine-grained stone prized by Māori for adze making throughout the northern North Island.

So much artefact material has already been unearthed from the project that the department has for the first time created a volunteer programme to help deal with the large volumes. "Undergrad students, who haven't necessarily participated in the

field school, spend time in the lab learning to identify artefacts and do some basic processing of samples," explains Rebecca. "They are really competent and learn quickly. If they then go on the field school, they have that experience behind them."

With the department consolidating its research direction around Ahuhau, the annual field schools will all take place on the island from now on. Whilst enjoying an outdoor adventure and the thrill of discovery, students will build on the data that has been collected the previous year becoming part of the larger collaborative scientific project. During the ten years ahead, it will be impossible to excavate the whole island, or make sense of all that is unearthed, but a concentrated research endeavour by a large number of skilled individuals on one place promises to illuminate key aspects of our past.

"People say to us all the time 'There can't be anything to find here. What are you working in New Zealand for?' " comments Alex. "It's not true. The whole country is a rich archaeological record. We are the last major temperate land mass to be settled, so we are unique if you want to understand how humans came to impact upon the environment from Day One. You can't do that anywhere else in the world."

You can read the field school blog at: www.digdiaries.ac.nz/fieldschool/



From second left: Alex Jorgensen and Rebecca Phillips poring over material from the summer dig with students



Dr Rochelle Constantine's studies of some of the world's most endangered whales and dolphins are critical to finding practical solutions for their conservation. She talks to Pauline Curtis.

A rare breed

"I'm an eternal optimist – you have to be in this field," says marine mammal scientist Dr Rochelle Constantine with a warm laugh. Rochelle studies the behaviour of whales and dolphins (cetaceans), and while it might sound like a dream job, it's by no means easy.

The animals can be enigmatic, and building a picture of their activities can take years. "These are not bugs in boxes," she says. "You don't lift your lid and your bugs are still in your box."

One species her group studies, the Gray's beaked whale, is only seen when near death and about to wash up on shore. Another, the humpback whale, travels thousands of kilometres across vast ocean spaces, and identifying individuals – a critical step in the research – relies on the flick of a uniquely-marked tail or sidling close enough for a genetic sample.

Rochelle's optimism is called upon not only in her day-to-day research, but in its application. Many species she studies are close to extinction. She was part of recent work, for instance, showing there are just 55 adult and juvenile Maui's dolphins left in New Zealand – the only place in the world they are found.

The fate of many cetaceans is tangled up – sometimes quite literally – with fishing, shipping, tourism and other human activities, and there may be no simple solutions. But learning how the animals behave, and are affected by us, offers the best chance of finding the right balance.

"I like seeing the results," Rochelle says, when asked where she finds her passion. "I like seeing that things might change ... [that] the results are going to have a tangible effect for these animals' welfare."

She wants her work to lead to changes to legislation, how an industry is run, or

how people view the environment and their impacts on it. As a scientist her role is to provide the best possible information for decision makers.

"I'm a firm believer that the science is what it is. We hand it out, we make sure that it's interpreted well and used honestly ... but that point is where we stop. We're not advocates."

It's an effective approach. Her postgraduate research with dolphin watch and dolphin swim operators in the Bay of Islands led to changes in the rules for tourist vessels. It showed that over time the bottlenose dolphins were avoiding boats and swimmers more, interacting less, and getting out of the way more quickly. It was mostly risk-taking juveniles who played with swimmers, while adult dolphins waited off to the side.

The work led to restrictions on how long operators can spend with the dolphins and where swimmers are placed in relation to the

“It’s unacceptable [New Zealand is] watching the Maui’s dolphin decline and that we have this rate of ship strike of Bryde’s whales. It’s noted at an international level...”

animals, with some areas being placed off limits.

"I think we came to some happy medium ... they're still able to run viable businesses that are extremely successful, and my work has managed to influence improving conditions for the dolphins." The research was the first of its kind in the world, and has been used as a model for tourism elsewhere.

Rochelle describes herself as an accidental academic: "I've always just said yes to opportunities and this is where it's led me." After studying behavioural ecology at Massey University – the result of a lifelong interest in animals – she left to work and travel overseas with no intention of returning to academia.

Having spent a lot of time on boats growing up at Papamoa, she ended up working on a ship that surveyed the marine environment in the Persian Gulf. She took part in the dolphin work, and was encouraged to return to study.

Though she might not say so herself, Rochelle had the same attributes she now looks for in her students: "Someone who's engaging, bright, proactive, can get on with a community, drive a boat, back a trailer, and come home safely – that's a rare person."

That combination of skills and life experience were exactly what Professor Scott Baker, who became her supervisor and later a collaborator, wanted in a student working with dolphins in the Bay of Islands. It was that work which hooked her in, but after answering the questions that interested her, she moved on to other challenges.

In recent years the endangered Bryde's whales in the Hauraki Gulf have been a focus. Her research group has shown that ship strike is the likely cause of death for most Bryde's whales found dead in the Gulf, and the whales are highly vulnerable because they spend much of their time in the top few metres of the water.

Like many New Zealand animals, the whales are unusual by world standards – in this case a supposedly "offshore" species that lives inshore here year round. The next steps will be to learn why the whales are in the Gulf and how they use it.

Rochelle is working with the Hauraki Forum, Ports of Auckland, shipping companies, Department of Conservation, and other interest groups to come up with solutions like slower vessel speeds or altered shipping lanes. "We're at that discussion point where the science is informing decisions

... It's good – the science is becoming useful."

Much of her time is also spent studying humpback whales as part of the South Pacific Whale Research Consortium and Southern Ocean Research Partnership.

Oceania's humpbacks are one of only two populations that are still endangered. Elsewhere, the species is recovering well and, while our population is showing signs of improvement, it's on a much slower trajectory.

Rochelle took part in work that challenged conventional thinking, showing that the whales behave differently from their cousins in the Northern hemisphere where most of the research had been done.

Like the northerners, they tend to return to breed in the same place they were born, meaning that whales around Tonga, for instance, are genetically distinct from those in New Caledonia. But a significant number also hop between breeding sites, reflecting the easily-travelled geography of the South Pacific, which is dotted with islands, atolls and reefs.

A picture is also emerging that the whales travel south-east on their annual migration to Antarctica to feed. Oceania's whales may therefore end up in the "no-man's land" of the Bellingshausen Sea.

While little research has been done there, it's known to be less productive than other Antarctic regions, and the poor nutritional environment may be one reason for the whales' slow recovery.

Rochelle hopes to satellite tag whales to test this hypothesis, but she doesn't take it lightly and is waiting on technical advances to ensure they get the best information possible.

Work like this will eventually help decision makers learn how best to protect the whales, but Rochelle argues that in the meantime a precautionary approach should be taken.

"We have to be very careful that we don't add extra pressure to the animals ... they're on an energetic knife edge. They mostly don't feed once they leave Antarctica, and so – certainly for mums who have gestated and need to feed their calf and maintain their own body condition – any added stress has potential consequences."

Human threats, like fishing gear that entangles whales or tourist activity that drives them away, are amongst the only factors we can control. Rochelle was involved, for instance, in developing a whale watch code of

conduct in the region. "We want to see best practice in the South Pacific and thankfully the Pacific Islands have really embraced that."

She would like to see a greater commitment to conservation in New Zealand, though. "Tourism is our second biggest earner now. People come to New Zealand because of our natural beauty ... and one of the very big draw cards is our cetaceans."

But finding money for the research, even work that produces real solutions, is extremely difficult – it's not the funding magnet that people assume. Rochelle typically patches together small grants from many sources, donating her own time and even air points for research trips. She describes her work as "a Telethon – thank you for your kind donation".

How New Zealand addresses its challenges is also critical: "We're so strong in conservation, we're so big at the International Whaling Commission about not killing whales [that] it's unacceptable we're watching the Maui's dolphin decline, that we have this rate of ship strike of Bryde's whales. It's noted at an international level, and we risk tarnishing the image we like to maintain if we do nothing to protect them."





Professor Jane Kelsey is about to take her decades-long campaign against neoliberalism to a new level with a sequel to her seminal book, *The New Zealand Experiment*. Nicola Shephard discovers what drives this long-time University staff member and world-renowned activist.

A very public intellectual

I've just been battling the *Herald*," says Jane when we meet. She'd just shot off a letter taking the Auckland daily to task over a legal inaccuracy in its editorial on the mooted mandatory plain packaging of cigarettes. Her eyes glint behind her glasses; you can almost feel the steeliness of her grip on the details. Earlier this year, she wrote a research report teasing out international legal issues that could frustrate New Zealand's policy goal to become smokefree by 2025. One assumes the professor knows what she's talking about.

A spry 57-year-old with close-cropped grey hair and a wit shading from wry to caustic, Jane has made it her life's work to expose the bite in the driest of legal treatises. Her 1995 bestseller, *The New Zealand Experiment: A world model for structural adjustment?*, embodied her punchy pointiness. A crackling critique of the social toll of so-called Rogernomics, the neoliberal economic reforms unleashed in the 1980s, it combined meticulous legal-political analysis with a call

to action, and became required reading for a generation of social justice-minded New Zealanders.

From the early 1990s, she broadened her critique to globalisation, arguing that bodies such as the World Trade Organisation, and the free trade agreements it enforces, advance a neoliberal free market agenda that benefits corporates at the expense of social justice and the environment. For the past 15 years, Jane has been part of a loose group of like-minded academics and analysts in NGOs and think-tanks around the world who form different configurations for different projects.

Today, her work has three strands: public education, such as her tobacco control work and opinion pieces in local media; technical evidence, such as the evidence she recently produced for the Waitangi Tribunal on the risks of foreign investors taking legal action over any unsettled Treaty of Waitangi claims relating to water following asset sales of hydropower generators; and international

advocacy. (When we meet, Jane has just returned from Geneva, where she held three days of back-to-back workshops for officials from developing countries involved in negotiating trade deals, warning of legal fishhooks and hidden costs.)

Jane crosses disciplines and platforms, teaching law, policy and international economic regulation at the University's Law School where she is also Associate Dean (Research). She's equally at home in a *Herald* comment piece as in a law journal or on an international convention podium. This nimbleness is one of her greatest assets. Says American Lori Wallach, a fellow activist lawyer who has worked with her on various campaigns: "Among a stellar group of committed, smart people around the world fighting to expose the 'trade' agreements that implement the corporate-led globalisation attack on our basic rights, Jane Kelsey stands out because she has both extraordinary analytical and technical capacity ... and is a remarkably effective campaigner."

Jane says her activism "comes partly out of my understanding of the world as an intellectual, and partly out of my values".

Her father, a public servant, helped mould those values. "He'd been a working class kid who was largely self-educated and ended up head of a government department. He always encouraged me to question and think independently, and to argue."

Jane was born in Sydney in 1955, where her father was posted as travel commissioner, and her family moved several times before settling in Tawa when Jane was at secondary school. "When you move around a lot as a kid you learn to be pretty independent and a survivor."

Her father died in 1986, a point in New Zealand history when public servant-bashing was du jour. "He was very distressed about the restructuring," Jane recalls. "I'm pleased he didn't see what happened subsequently."

Jane is still close to her mother, who is now 95. "Most of my time not working I spend taking my mum out on excursions in her wheely bin." A few years back, she bought a BMW convertible because the wheelchair fits it (and, OK, she's always wanted one).

After gaining a law degree at Victoria University, Jane did a postgraduate law degree at Oxford followed by a postgraduate criminology degree at Cambridge. "It was an important time intellectually: there were a lot of legal issues at Cambridge, a lot of political economy, which I hadn't formally studied at Vic; a lot of race theory. I became much more out there in terms of political activism after England."

The basic insight of political economy, she explains, is: "you have to understand law in terms of power dynamics, including cycles of capitalism."

Back home, she got a lecturing job at the University in 1979 and bought a house in Mt Wellington for \$28,500, where she still lives. (Among other extensions, she has constructed a "haven": a 9m by 7m book-lined office.)

She became active in Waitangi protests and racism issues, bringing her expertise to the legal dimensions. "My first research project here was with the Black Power, analysing interactions with police and the courts."

"Whilst it was hostile and difficult, especially under Muldoon, the University was much more conducive to people exercising political freedom, the conscience and critic role of academics, than it is for young academics now. Expectations and pressures on academics today make it much more difficult to take the risks of doing those sorts of things and still end up getting to the top," she says.

"When Labour was elected and started

introducing Rogernomics I got involved because of the collisions that made with the Treaty of Waitangi. That work then took on a life of its own and extended into another domain from the early 90s when globalisation issues came into it."

Campaigning against titans like the World Trade Organisation and deflecting virulent personal attacks by opponents takes a particular mettle. How does she keep doing it? "There's something Noam Chomsky once said: 'You have to be able to look yourself in the eye in the mirror in the morning.'"

She takes seriously the watchdog/interpreter role of a public intellectual, and resents the growing focus on tangible and bankable, rather than public good, outcomes from academic research – the performance-based research funding and KPI's of modern academic life.

"I'm getting more crotchety in my later years. Some might say I've been crotchety all along."

There have been victories. One of her proudest: helping defeat the OECD's proposed multilateral agreement on investment, dubbed by some "a bill of rights for transnational companies".

Over the years, she has recognised the same neoliberal agenda dressed up in different benign-sounding clothes. Its latest regalia: the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA), a trade deal under negotiation between the United States, New Zealand and seven other countries, which Jane says will have huge ramifications.

"Number one, because it's the US [driving it], and number two, because it will impose even more external rules and constraints on what future governments can do than in existing agreements. Labour's leaders haven't grasped that it will prevent them from implementing some of their policies, for example, in relation to privatisations, ACC, financial regulation of speculative capital flows." In a newspaper opinion piece, she argued a leaked chapter from the secret agreement amounted to a "charter of rights for investors", empowering overseas investors, including multinationals, to seek compensation if government regulation – such as plain tobacco packaging – substantially affects the value and profitability of their investment. Expect to hear more on this in December, when New Zealand will host the next round of negotiations.

Beyond the TPPA, Jane sees a greater imminent threat for New Zealand: a second global financial meltdown, heading our way, she predicts, "within the next five years". With many other prominent commentators, she argues the 2008 Global Financial Crisis was the reality of decades of market-

driven regulation biting hard. Governments around the world, including free market evangelists in the United States and Britain, responded with massive bail-outs, the kind of state intervention repudiated by neoliberal doctrine. But Jane worries New Zealand will

“I don't care what they think, but they need to think.”

be dangerously constrained in its responses to the next meltdown by a straitjacket of financial laws and international agreements, such as the Reserve Bank Act, the Fiscal Responsibility Act, and the TPPA. "They lock in the paradigm of neoliberalism and make it extremely difficult to change even when it's manifestly failing."

This is the focus of her as-yet-unnamed sequel to *The New Zealand Experiment*, to be published next year by Bridget Williams Books. Fieldwork for the book, written with the help of a \$336,000 Marsden Grant, took Jane to Iceland, Mongolia and the Australian state of Victoria, places strongly influenced by New Zealand's neoliberal model.

"Iceland academics had predicted what was going to happen. I asked them 'what work had you done on the alternatives that you need to put in place [to the neoliberal regime]'. They said 'none'. There was a void in terms of how to move forward."

She hopes her book will help fill that void here. "Our role as public intellectuals is to be articulating alternatives. We need to anticipate how and where the meltdown might arrive and create a constituency for pursuing those alternatives."

She's encouraged by signs of a budding constituency: more diverse voices in business journalism, communities mobilising around issues such as mining, public health, schools and poverty. And she recognises progressive values in her students: "they just don't know how to articulate them or what to do with them."

She's a popular and exacting teacher – a recent first-year class was 98.5 percent positive in its course evaluation, thanking her with a speech and bouquet. "Students find my lectures challenging, and maybe a little bit scary," she says. "I try to stimulate them to engage with the issue. I don't care what they think, but they need to think."

Short Story Competition

winner and runner-up announced

From the Judges' Corner: Somewhere and Something

There were a heartening 173 entries in the inaugural *Ingenio* Short Story Competition – a fantastic range of stories. We enjoyed the diverse voices, craft and narratives on offer and note that the university's wider writing community is clearly in vibrant good health.

After reading the pile of anonymised stories we had received, we compiled our shortlists and discussed how these diverged and overlapped. We were judging stories, not writers – and it was with surprise (and delight) that we later discovered that a few stories by the same authors had been competing against each other all along. A few entries in particular stood out:

We'd like to highly commend Allan Drew's clever and funny "Every-day Easy®", in which a simple instructional manual becomes ... something more. We also commend "Ash and Embers" by Tony O'Brien – a strong, focused story with emotional heft and poise – and Paul Left's "Friday Pickup", which unfolds a pleasing surprise for the reader exceptionally well.

We're awarding second prize to another story by Tony O'Brien, "There's Always Something". Nodding to a Raymond Carver story, "There's Always Something" it has a Carveresque tension between the possibilities of communication closed off and opened up. We appreciated its flashes of fresh vividness and hints of tension or threat.

Finally, first prize goes to Allan Drew's "Somewhere", an ambitious story that tugs at the heart. Showing a nice use of counterpointing, "Somewhere" resonated strongly with us. And while the story is successful at a textual level, with fine sentences, it also throws out sub-textual hints that enhance its power. An excellent, evocative read.

Congratulations to the winners.

Distinguished Professor Brian Boyd, Charlotte Grimshaw and Professor Witi Ihimaera

About the winner

Winning author and former staff member Allan Drew got his BSc from The University of Auckland in the 1990s in molecular biology, and worked for 15 years in medical research and medical publishing before returning to university to study English. He gained his Graduate and Postgraduate Diplomas in Arts at Massey University, and chose to return to The University of Auckland when he was accepted into the Masters of Creative Writing (MWC) programme. In the last couple of years he has had fiction and poetry published in several literary journals. His MCW project is in short fiction, and looks at how New Zealand men deal with being the way they are.

Allan says: "I am really happy to have won this competition. Getting this kind of appreciation gives me confidence to continue writing and keep on learning. The MCW programme has been fantastic and I have been really lucky to have had such support from my classmates and advisers this year."

Want to read more?

All five stories commended by the judges can be read online at www.ingenio-magazine.com Special thanks to our judges, generous sponsors and Anna Hodge from AUP for her invaluable contribution to the selection process as well as to Emily Perkins for offering a two-hour personalised coaching session with Allan. Inspired to give it a go? The Short Story competition will run again in 2013. Watch out for details in the Autumn issue of *Ingenio*.



Somewhere

By Allan Drew

Dad pulls into the lane for international departures and mumbles "bloody-rip off" as he takes the parking card from the machine. In the short-stay zone he parks away from the other cars.

As I pull my bag off the ute's tray, my bare forearm brushes the baked steel and it burns like an oven door. He walks into the terminal with me, but sees the crowds and says, "Actually, I won't stay." We shake hands.

There are gaps in the fence for a kid to crawl through. It's just me. Mum's inside. Shane's at school. I'll go to that school in a few weeks. I bought some marbles with my pocket money because Shane says that's what they do at playtime. I've been practising in the dirt next to the rubbish cans where the grass won't grow.

Dad's gone on one of his trips to the mine. The night before he left mum and dad yelled at each other and I sat behind the toy-box in my room.

I look through the gap in the fence. I squeeze through. My knees get dusty and red and my t-shirt snags on a nail. It leaves a small hole.

Out there, summer and winter are different hues of the same burn. In the middle of a reddened nothing, Dad showed me the mine where he used to work. It was still there, gouging out the earth laced with precious rust.

Flies stuck to my face like beads of sweat. "Look at those," Dad said, pointing at the machines, steel beasts, out of scale with the rest of the world. "Crazy," I said, and I shook the flies off like a horse. Apart from the men and the flies, the only living things were the tufts of spinifex that had creaked from the earth, dreaming their grassy dreams of rain.

Through the fence there is more dust and more red below the white and blue. There are neck-high stumps of black. I can feel a pin-prick of heat through the hole in my t-shirt. The ground is flat and I can see right to its edge. At the edge there is no colour at all, and the sky moves like waves in the bathtub.

There was a huge hole in the earth. Metal giants ate away at the wound. "Do you remember the old house?" Dad asked. "Sort of," I said. Outside the fence, the sun had etched its patterns in the smoked ground. Out there were snakes, Mum had told me. I had wanted to hunt them. I had spent weekends sitting on the lawn imagining squirming coils of life in the scaled dirt.

I take off my sandals and rest them in the shade of a small stump. I climb, digging my toes into holes in the bark. At the top I stand up. I feel like a giant. I think of snakes and lizards, dinosaurs and dragons.

Nothing moves except the sky at the edge. I turn and look back at the house. Mum is hanging clothes on the line without her dress on. Her undies are white and her bra is pale green. I squint and I can see her mouth looks funny

because she is holding pegs between her teeth.

"Your mother didn't like it here," he said, "too hot."

"I know," I said, "she told me."

Dad had been looking at the machines, but turned to face me. "When?"

When Dad was away she would call Nana and talk for hours. She'd be on the phone when I'd go outside after breakfast, and when I came back for shade and cordial and morning tea she'd still be talking to her. Dad would get angry when the phone bills arrived. One time he screwed it up and threw it at her face. Another time he set it on fire with his cigarette and mum had to put it out in the sink.

"Once, a long time ago," I said.

Dad turned back to the machines. "Look at that," he said, "have you ever seen anything like that?" He was tilting his head at a dozer the size of a six-storey building. I nodded, then shook my head. "The outback is no place for a woman," he said, and dug his hands into his pockets and grabbed at the lining. In the sky, a dry cloud withered, worn to a wisp by the grinding blue. The sun would never set. It would just scribe a fierce and endless circle at the summit of the sky.

I turn my head when I hear Mum's call. She's looking out over the fence. She can't see me. She calls me again – "Jonnie!" – and when the word reaches me she seems so close and I feel I've hardly gone anywhere. But then I feel my feet throbbing from the hot and sharp bark and it's like I have come too far to go back. I pull a marble from my pocket and throw it at the air. It falls in a patch of sand not far away and makes no sound and doesn't roll.

We were back in the ute, driving away from the mine.

"Enough for another 80 years,"

Dad said.

"What is?"

"Iron ore. Just bloody think of it." The ute's air-conditioning was thudding, matching its percussion to the pattern of ruts in the relentless highway. "Bloody hell, that first time I got paid," he said. "It was cash back then, ten-dollar bills. That first pay day I had a brown paper bag full of money. Full of money. The smell of it, Jon, the smell, you know?" Yes, I knew the smell, smoky and deep. "I took it back to your mother and said 'Look at this' and threw the bag in the air. The money fluttered all over the caravan." He laughed. "You won't remember the caravan, you were only just born." I had seen it in photos. It looked like a portable stove.

"Incredible," I said.

Mum had told me that story too. She'd said it took her half an hour to pick up the notes, after Dad had gone to the pub with a dirty red fistful. She'd always worried that there was more money, somewhere, that she hadn't found, but there was

no way to be sure.

Mum calls "Jonnie!" again, but this time it sounds different, a screech. I run back to the house on tip-toes to keep the soft parts of my feet from sizzling. Mum says, "Don't you leave me like that, don't you leave me and go out there again, don't you do that Jonnie," and she's angry and squeezes me too tight and she sits me down.

She looks at the hole in my shirt and puts a finger through it and tickles my skin. Then her eyebrows and eyes and mouth frown all at once together, and she hugs me, and I can't see because my head is over her shoulder but I think she is crying. I say, "Don't cry mum, I promise I won't do it again."

Dad's new caravan was small, smaller than his ute. The kitchen was the size of a tea-towel. "It's good enough for an old bugger," he'd said. We were sitting under the canvas awning drinking beer.

"We could go to the pub," he said, thinking about dinner.

"Sounds good." A small lizard leapt from the fluttering shade and ripped up a curtain of dust on its way to an orange boulder. It sat and looked at me with one bulging eye, inhaling the afternoon and exhaling the evening.

Dad took a lump of iron ore from his pocket and rolled it around in his fingers. The grey-red rock was worn smooth. He balanced it on his knee.

"Will you come over again?" he asked.

"Could do," I said.

"I don't want it to be another ten years."

"Okay."

"I can pay for your airfares. Got to spend this money on something anyway." He pointed with his thumb over his shoulder at the caravan, like its wheels were cast from gold and the trailer from platinum. I looked back to the orange rock. The lizard was gone. Through scrunched eyes I searched for clouds in the yellow-threaded denim of the sky.

"Mum?" I say, once she's stopped crying. She reaches for her dress and slides it over her head. It sits stiff like a tent over her body.

"Come on, let's go have a drink," she says. We walk inside and I think of that marble sitting out there in its dent of sand, and of my sandals I left leaning against that stump. That marble will be hot like a coin on asphalt. The soles of my sandals might melt.

The airport is air-conditioned, but my shirt still feels damp under my backpack. The guy says to me, "Everyone goin' somewhere, right mate?" Through the vast sheets of the windows I can see a dense shimmer rising off the tarmac. "Yes," I say.

END

Tackling suicide

Suicide rates in New Zealand are among the highest in the developed world. Helen Borne asks: “What can we do to bring these rates down?”

Suicide is preventable



New Zealand’s suicide rates top the English-speaking world and have been a longstanding source of national embarrassment. Public passivity, unfounded fatalism, unfunded research, and uninformed public policy on this issue continue to cost our country both lives and money.

To arrest high suicide rates, we must first challenge our misperception that suicide cannot be prevented. It can. The false allegation that there is no point in investing in suicide prevention because “suicidal people are intent on killing themselves and will always find a way to do it” ignores the facts: evidence shows that people who survive suicide attempts are generally relieved to have done so. Moreover, the vast majority of people with suicidal ideation do not die by suicide. Additionally, research into means restriction, and research into treatments for depression, drug, and alcohol abuse further substantiate the claim that suicide prevention strategies save lives.

A second myth is that “We must talk about suicide”. Not only is this refrain simplistic and contrary to evidence-based best practice, the reiteration of sad stories has generated a view of suicide prevention, which is pessimistic, fatalistic, and wrong. This belief may have engendered further deaths; it has certainly led to persistent public misperceptions about suicide.

Suicide prevention is a complex, immensely challenging issue. It requires expert leadership, informed policymakers, an educated workforce and an evidence-based, cohesive strategy that is regularly reinvigorated as new research findings emerge; we must establish an expert advisory panel to lead this strategic development.

We need increased, sustained funding for research and programme development; we

need to develop a critical mass of prevention specialists; and we must invest in physician education in depression recognition and treatment.

Finally, we must frame suicide prevention positively. We need to capture public and professional confidence that suicide is preventable. We must focus on suicide prevention, not suicide.

Annette Beautrais
Senior Research Fellow
Department of Surgery
G Luke Larkin, Professor of
Emergency Medicine
University of Auckland.

Connection is vital



For all peoples hurt is hurt, and pain is pain. Yet finding appropriate ways to cope with this hurt and pain may be the difference. Culture matters. Culturally distinct approaches will address the disproportionate

impact suicide is having upon our Pacific peoples in Aotearoa New Zealand, particularly amongst our Pacific youth.

There are cultural nuances which cannot be explained solely within a Western framework. Evidence suggests that in the absence of research that comprehensively examines the interface between diversity characteristics and suicide, the field of suicidology and mental health in general will continue to focus on universal approaches, thus neglecting opportunities to save lives by promoting diversity and culturally relevant and effective approaches.

From a Pacific perspective our communities need to openly talk about suicide. It is considered by most a taboo topic, and sadly this has been to the detriment of our Pacific youth. By stigmatising the issue we remove any barriers that prevent our Pacific youth and families from seeking help. We as Pacific communities need to confront the tough issues like sexual orientation, acculturative stress, intergenerational conflict, harsh physical discipline, sexual abuse, identity, and bullying.

It is these factors, amongst others, which are killing our youth.

Our traditional Pacific values can at times be diluted by Western ideals. This affects some of our New Zealand-born Pacific youth who may have difficulties in balancing the Pacific value of communalism and the modern stresses of individualism in this country. Our youth need to see the beauty of our traditional Pacific concepts. They need to be taught respectfully the concept of self-control rather than feeling controlled by those in authority, particularly when the lessons involve physical discipline. Within most Pacific social hierarchical structures, when a young person expresses anger towards an elder, it is a sign of disrespect and a breach of cultural conduct that can potentially harm the relationship. Nurturing and taking care of relationships – *teu le va* is key for most Pacific peoples.

A phone call to a stranger? That is not us. Connection is vital.

Dr Jemaima Tiatia
Research Fellow, Centre for Pacific Studies
University of Auckland

Teaching healthy thinking



Comparing suicide rates between countries is difficult as there are different national rules about how suicides are decided. New Zealand suicide rates are not among the highest in the developed world; that dubious

honour belongs to Japan, Hungary, Lithuania and South Korea. New Zealand ranks about midway in national suicide rates, although the rate is higher than in Australia, England and Wales. However, this does not mean that nothing can be done to further reduce rates in New Zealand.

First, suicides happen more often in poor communities, so making political choices that minimise unemployment and reduce poverty help lower suicide rates.

Second, there are strategies directed at specific targets which help. These include improving the detection and management of depression in primary care, improving the help

available to people who come to hospital after attempted suicide – about 1800 people a year in Auckland – and improving support for people recently discharged from a psychiatric hospital.

Outside the health system, reducing access to the means of committing suicide can help. For example, now that new cars in Europe are legally required to be fitted with a catalytic converter, deaths from carbon monoxide poisoning have markedly reduced. New Zealand has no similar laws, nor does it have laws restricting how much paracetamol can be bought at any one time. Media guidelines around suicide reporting are also important – there is no “conspiracy of silence” about suicide, but reporting the methods by which individuals kill themselves leads to copycat deaths. A strategy that has not been studied much is teaching “healthy thinking skills” to students in schools, which could include problem solving skills, mindfulness and simple cognitive behavioural techniques.

Simon Hatcher
Clinical Associate Professor of Psychiatry,
Department of Psychological Medicine
University of Auckland

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Poetic justice



Photos left & right: Lydia Arnold

Imagine opening an Auckland District Court Judge's briefcase. What might you find?

Notes of evidence in a case of domestic violence perhaps? A police constable's statement (sworn); a victim impact statement; rough draft notes for a speech to the Law Society's Annual Dinner; copies of several wills; sudoku puzzles, and even some poems.

All this and more appears in alumnus Judge John Adams (LLB 1970, MCW 2010) *Briefcase* – a book of eclectic poetry which explores the languages of the law through a fictitious domestic violence case.

"*Briefcase* is a daring debut that marries law and poetry," said literary judges when it won Best First Book at the New Zealand Post Book Awards in July.

Just as art imitates life so John's life, at 65, is a daring combination of law and poetry.

A keen reader whose mother gave him Charles Dickens' *Pickwick Papers* as a 12-year-old, John has always been fascinated by the fabric of language. But after doing Stage One English at university, he became focused on a law career working hard as a District and Family Court Judge for 17 years.

"Then as I moved through my 50s and approached 60, I started thinking about the things I wanted to do in my life in addition to law," says John sitting relaxed in the comfort of his Herne Bay villa on a quiet Friday afternoon. "I decided I wanted to explore whether I had

any talent in the area of writing."

With family encouragement, John enrolled in Joan Rosier Jones's "The nuts and bolts of writing" run by the University's then Continuing Education arm.

"Joan pushed me to be real about what I wanted to do with my writing," he reflects. "We had to share stuff we'd written. It gave me some courage I suppose. What really advances you as a writer is developing your critical faculty."

After two more Continuing Education courses and a correspondence course through Massey University, John started to believe in himself as a writer. When, against all his expectations, he was accepted into The University of Auckland's Masters of Creative Writing, he decided to give the full-time course a go staggering his leave through the year so he could be on campus on Tuesdays.

"It was an amazing year," he recalls. Encouraged to write on a daily basis he found himself imagining the case of Jason and Verity Button. On Valentine's Day the imaginary couple got into a fight and Jason threw a stapler across the room hitting his wife Verity in the face.

"I've presided over many domestic violence cases in the criminal and family court and like many there was a real issue of doubt about this case," says John. "It's got a narrative element to it so the poems and short narrative pieces vaguely revolve around the incident and I play with court processes ... I have a cross-examination for example!"

"And what if
the language
were of poetry, my friend,
would law turn
to its arms and seek
to be buried there forevermore?"

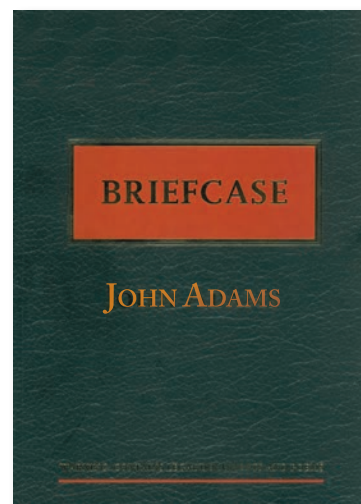
Starting a new career late in life has been a revelation for John. He now sees himself as a lawyer, and a writer. He has a book of short stories ready to go and a play in the wings. He's happily taken a pay cut to divide his month between law work and writing and study. He has completed a graduate diploma in English at his alma mater, and is now doing a postgraduate diploma studying a paper on Joseph Conrad and Herman Melville. Next year he will be a visiting fellow in, significantly, English at Cambridge University studying literary tropes in judicial discourse.

"I'm going to be looking at a number of judgments perhaps back to 100 years ago and some recent ones, and I'll see what similes and metaphors are embedded in the text," he says. "The subtitle is: 'What does the Law imagine it is doing?' I'll be looking at the way it populates its discourse with images."

He pauses and smiles. "Yes, inevitably they'll stain it."

As a writer John sees himself as a work in progress. "I've just turned 65," he points out. "I imagine I will have an active career writing until," another long pause and then a quiet smile: "... 'until I'm 85 maybe."

Tess Redgrave



Vir and virtus

Shortly after arriving in New Zealand last year Professor Jean-Jacques Courtine was browsing in one of Auckland's public libraries when he came across a brochure which stopped his eyes.

It was about men and masculine anxieties, and it said: "Sometimes in the cycle of living, loving and just plain surviving, we men can lose ourselves." I had just published a *History of Manliness* to question precisely the widely spread idea that there is an ongoing crisis in the kingdom of males in the West. So, I became instantly curious: has New Zealand been spared, or contaminated? And, as a former French rugby player who had arrived in Auckland with the same fervour as that of a pilgrim setting foot for the first time on the Promised Land, I could only incredulously ask myself: might there really be male trouble in All Blacks territory?

Well, after a few months of investigation, I am afraid I have neither good nor bad news, and nothing really out of the ordinary to report. In New Zealand, as well as in many places in the Western world, there is this general feeling of a weakening of the masculine condition, and at the same time a noisy celebration of big muscles and sporting prowess. Here, as elsewhere, you would find the widely spread and extremely repetitive idea that men of yesteryear were stronger and braver than their contemporary descendants. Here, as in many places, the masculine bodies and minds have suffered in the course of the 20th century from the terrible damages of war, the scourges of unemployment and economic depression, and the erosion of conformity and bureaucracy in mass urban society. Here, probably faster and less reluctantly than in many other places, men have accepted renouncing some of their privileges and participated in the

advancement of equality between the sexes.

But what the history of manliness teaches us in the first place is that the masculine condition does not, in spite of all appearances, belong to a state of nature, and that it is culturally fabricated, and historically changing. What Simone de Beauvoir once famously said about the "second sex" applies to the "first" as well: "You are not born a man, you become one." Masculinity is learned and

“War may be over, but the ghosts of ancient warriors still cast their long shadows over the history of manliness.”

transmitted, and virility has its genealogy, which goes way back to what the Romans called vir and virtus – the male strength and courage of warriors: This is why most men and boys like war stories, though war has fortunately ceased to be the integral part and ultimate challenge of masculine experience that it used to be in our part of the world.

War may be over, but the ghosts of ancient warriors still cast their long shadows over the history of manliness. And it brings to my mind an old remembrance, which might not be entirely foreign to my being in this country today and having tackled the history of manliness as an academic topic. It was in 1963, and I was 17. The All Blacks played a game in France, on their way back to the antipodes. My friend Robert and I were on a mission for our highschool newspaper: to get an interview with the team's captain.

And here we were, on a very cold and foggy morning, in the suburbs of Lyon, by the sideline of a rugby field where tall black shadows ran, jumped, pushed and grunted in the mist. A big man came over to us. We had nothing better to offer than large smiles and naive questions. He gently answered them, took his time. And ... Oh, yes: I almost forgot. His name was Wilson Whineray.

Jean-Jacques Courtine is Professor in European Studies at The University of Auckland, Professor Emeritus at the University of California (Santa Barbara) and Sorbonne (Paris III). He works on the cultural history of the body. Among his books: *Histoire du corps, XVI-XXème siècle (History of the Body, XVI-XXth C., 3 vol., 2005-6)*; *Histoire du visage, XVI-XVIIIème siècle (History of the Face, XVI-XVIIIth C., 3rd ed., 2007)*; *Histoire de la virilité, de l'Antiquité au XXIème siècle (History of Manliness, from Antiquity to the XXth C., 3 vol., 2011)*. His work is translated into 16 languages.



Photo: Chris Marshall

While most people can rattle off the names of their favourite actors, it's the writers' names on the rolling credits that catch Kirsty McKenzie's eye.

Dream storyline

The University of Auckland arts alumna (BA 1997, MA (Hons) 1999) is living her dream as a writer on *Shortland Street* – New Zealand's longest running television soap.

"When I first started here I was aware of all the writers' names – they were a bit like rock stars to me."

Kirsty was working towards a PhD in English Literature looking at film adaptations of Jane Austen's works when after "a spur of the moment decision" she entered a writer's audition for a new television series called *Love Bites* based on the film *Hopeless*.

"I wrote this little audition script without much idea about what I was doing," she remembers. As a result she was asked to come on board. "I kind of freaked out so I went to the University library and got all these books out on screen writing and read them all."

Abandoning her PhD, Kirsty worked on *Love Bites* and took a semester screenwriting course at the University. "I had always wanted to work in television and film but I think when I did those papers it just crystallised and solidified, and I was like I have to do it. I just

enjoyed it so much."

A writing job on the second series of *Being Eve* followed and from there she was offered a script editor's position on *Shortland Street* and soon moved into dialogue writing, and then into storyline writing and editing.

It's a decade on since her first writing gig and she has helped pen NZ television programmes such as *Mercy Peak*, *The Pretender*, and the *Go Show*.

But *Shortland Street*, produced by South Pacific Pictures at its Henderson base in west Auckland, is Kirsty's staple. *Ingenio* follows her to the writer's room off a long hallway, its walls plastered with giant photographs of past and present characters. The storylining magic happens around a large square table. This is where ideas are dissected, criticised and discussed.

"An idea is always worth pitching because even if it's not the one we go with, it might spark an idea from somebody else and then that leads onto something else, which will lead to an exciting story so you can't have too many inhibitions or censor yourself. You've just got to

put it out there," says Kirsty.

"A lot of our ideas do come from real life," she adds. "Truth does seem stranger than fiction sometimes. Sometimes we will write stories based on these real life stories and we will get feedback saying 'that is ridiculous that would never happen.'"

Dramatic storylines are Kirsty's favourite to write but on the whole if the story is interesting, engaging and entertaining she will generally enjoy writing it.

Shortland Street has a medical advisor, who works with the writers two days a week, ensuring the medical elements of the storylines are authentic and suggesting interesting medical cases they can incorporate into their stories. "Our poor nurse can get quite frustrated sometimes because we tend to be a little bit fanciful on medical things, and she needs to pull us back into reality."

Kirsty's favourite *Shortland Street* episodes include a 90-minute special to celebrate the soap's 20th anniversary and the serial killer storyline involving nurse Joey Henderson. "It was a successful storyline which attracted a

lot of viewers. It was a good intrigue story that kept people guessing."

She loves all the characters but admits to having a soft spot for *Shortland Street* stalwarts Rachel McKenna and Chris Warner, and Brooke Freeman because she is a bit of chameleon and has a bad streak. "It's always fun to have characters that are morally able to do bad stuff," says Kirsty.

"You get very attached to all of the characters, even the villains. Your job is to get

spaceships and was less about relationships he would be more interested."

In the future Kirsty hopes to be still writing for television, as well as writing and making her own TV dramas and writing film scripts.

"It can be a very hard industry. What is great about *Shortland Street* is as a writer you can have full-time employment," says Kirsty.

"I am very fortunate because I enjoy it so much that it doesn't really feel like a job. It does seem a bit wrong sometimes to have so

"It's always fun to have characters that are morally able to do bad stuff."

into their heads and understand them so you can motivate them in different stories."

Kirsty watches every episode without fail. "It's important to watch it because you get to see how the stories play out and if they worked. If it doesn't quite work, it's good to think, 'okay what can we do differently next time?'"

She hasn't yet managed to get her husband Rob to watch an episode. "I think if it had

much fun and enjoy your job so much but that is another reason why I value it."

It is also a great time to be involved in NZ television because it's booming. "The whole culture cringe thing that we used to have back in the day is completely gone and New Zealanders are very happy to watch local programmes, to embrace them, and to enjoy them. *Outrageous Fortune* did a lot to help with that but I think *Shortland Street* has also."

Shortland Street is part of NZ culture and zeitgeist and that is very exciting, says Kirsty.

"It's funny because you speak to lots of people who say they never watch it, and then they ask, 'what is happening with Chris and Rachel?'"

Vaneesa Bellew



A typical story liners morning at Shortland Street

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A quick-firing storyteller

Toeolesulusulu Damon Salsea (BA 1994, MA 1996) grew up in a family of storytellers.

He recalls one of his Samoan father's favourite tales: "My father went to a parent/teacher evening at Glen Innes Primary School, which was a pretty hard-bitten school back then. We kids had pinned up on the wall what we wanted to be when we grew up.

"Apparently I had written I wanted to be a university lecturer," laughs Damon.

He can't remember that but his father, who was then a factory worker at Fisher & Paykel in East Tamaki, may have known something his son didn't. Today Damon is Associate Professor

international Ernest Scott prize for his book *Racial Crossings: Race, Intermarriage, and the Victorian British Empire* which came out of his doctoral thesis. Published by Oxford University Press, it is described in the citation as "a landmark contribution to the scholarship on race and racial boundaries within modern imperial regimes".

"*Racial Crossings* is a story about how race becomes the way that you can preserve inequality as you speak of equality," says Damon. "My book tries to re-conceive what race means. Scientific racial theories mattered

Damon has a strong connection to his father's villages in Samoa: those of his grandfather, Neiafu and Faleupo, and that of his grandmother, Satapuala, from where his title Toeolesulusulu derives. As part of his commitment to the village, he is researching the history behind land taken for an airport during World War II. "The understanding was that it would come back to us but it hasn't. There's a big airport there now and a country booming on tourist dollars. Partly we want an acknowledgement that this shouldn't have happened to us."

“Race was one of the ways we were integrated into large societies – empires. We were brought in without being equal despite professing equality.”

of Pacific Studies at The University of Auckland and teaches Pacific Studies and History.

"My father wanted me to be an engineer and I think my mother wanted me to be a lawyer, which is probably very typical for first generation university families," he says. Despite his parents' wishes, he was immediately drawn to Samoan role model, author and historian Albert Wendt. During his first-year course with Wendt, Damon began to realise "how much history matters".

Damon went on to complete his MA and was the first person of Pacific Island descent to become a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University. After that he taught at the University of Michigan from 2002-2011, returning to his current position at his alma mater this year.

He has recently joined the ranks of historians such as Dame Anne Salmond, Jamie Belich and Keith Sinclair winning the prestigious

much less than historians have said. Hardly anyone reads scientists' work, just as hardly anyone reads (or understands) the work of geneticists today. Racism has its own rationality, and doesn't need lab work for sustenance. Race became ubiquitous through more popular forms: back then things like the bible, law, celebrations of empire, English history, and penny pamphlets. Through these people came to see the world in racial terms. By the 20th century race was on both sides of the divide. There's the racists and the anti-racists, and both can only talk using the terms of race.

"I think historians help us understand our own genealogies. How did we become who we are? "Race was one of the ways we were integrated into large societies – empires. We were brought in without being equal despite professing equality."

One of his next book projects is a history of Samoa but in a way that is attentive to how Samoans tell their own histories.

"It's a history from the 'bottom up' and a project that makes sense to me," he says. "Most Samoan histories focus on the chiefs, but in the time I've spent in the archives, so many of the stories I find moving and engaging are not necessarily about the chiefs. If you want a surefire way to get 60-year-old, or older, Samoans to talk about their childhoods you ask them about watching old-style Westerns! These are the kinds of stories I mean, the ones that we tell ourselves."

Read Damon Salsea's "My story" on the University website at: www.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/home/for/the-media/ourstories/damon-salsea

Tess Redgrave

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Alumni achievers

Be enabled

"I'm sleeping so much better" and "I wish I'd done this sooner" are just some of the accolades alumna Hannah McQueen (BCom 2001; MTAX 2001) hears from people who seek her expert financial advice. Since she started her financial consultancy business Enable Me five years ago, Hannah's expertise has been in hot demand. She has presented on TVNZ's show *Save Our Homes*, and instigated and helped create a complex formula on how best to structure debt, alongside Faculty of Science Senior Lecturer, Dr Jamie Sneddon. Most recently, she has penned *The Perfect Balance – how to get ahead financially and still have a life*. This is a far cry from the self-proclaimed shopper, who grew up in semi-rural Hawke's



Bay dreaming of climbing the corporate ladder in the big smoke. At university Hannah worked as a waitress and debt collector and cautions students today: "Don't just accept you're going to have a student loan. Base your decision (what to study) on what lifestyle you want and work backwards from there," she says. And though this might sound brutal to an arts or science student she counters with: "Passion doesn't pay a mortgage. "There doesn't seem to be a connection between how much student debt a young person incurs, and whether they are going to be able to pay it back or have the lifestyle they want," she stresses. "No one seems to be coaching students about that".



Leonid Frants (BSc 1984, MSc 1985)

lives with his family in New York, where he established OneMarketData software company in 2005. He has recently established three scholarships within The University of Auckland's Computer Science Department to honour some of the early members of the department and specifically its founder John Butcher whose "academic brilliance and wonderful personality were key to creating a unique educational atmosphere". Two of Leonid's scholarships respectively support a masters, honours, or PhD level student. Another scholarship funds a student during their final year of undergraduate study.



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS MIKE RANN (BA 1974, MA 1976) has been asked to become Australia's next High Commissioner to the United Kingdom. Mike was elected to the Australian Parliament in 1985 and led Labor in South Australia for a record 17 years. Born in Britain, he has close connections in British politics, business and with science, educational and arts institutions. Through his work with the UK based The Climate Group, he has developed a good relationship with the governments of Wales and Scotland.

RODERICK FRY (BCOM 1992) runs, with his French wife Laurence Varga, a Paris showroom-cum-workshop called Moaroom, a galerie d'art Neo-Zelandais, which represents a small range of New Zealand designers and artists the couple believe deserve a larger showing in Europe. Roderick is also designing his own pieces, notably a table called Pi – one of the Moaroom's biggest sellers. Inspired by wooden structures used to support flying buttresses and key arches in medieval construction, Roderick designed the serpentine table with reused timber pieces from old farm buildings.

For more see: www.moaroom.com

DR DICKSON FUNG (BHB 2006, MBCHB 2010) is doing an MSc in Performing Arts Medicine at University College London (UCL). This is an innovative new course designed to provide clinicians with specialised knowledge of Performing Arts Medicine. Dickson is a trained doctor and recently completed a Bachelor of Music in Violin Performance at the Universities of Auckland and Canterbury. "As a music student with a medical background, I have encountered numerous promising performers who have

suffered injuries and had to take significant amounts of time away from playing, due to pain," he says. "My aim in taking this course is eventually to return to New Zealand to develop a clinical practice in the field of Performing Arts Medicine.

DAN BIDOIS (BA/BCOM 2006, BCOM HONS AND FORMER AUSA PRESIDENT) has been appointed as a policy consultant in the Private Sector Development Division of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), based in Paris. He says once this contract finishes in late 2013, he will return home and hopes long-term to be an economic leader, either in business or government.

BRIDGID HAWLEY (BA/BCOM 2007) has recently been appointed Kea Director for UK and Europe and is responsible for the day-to-day operation and growth of Kea UK. Bridgid has been successfully supporting New Zealand's trade development in China for the past four years. As the foundation manager of the New Zealand Government's Beachhead Programme in Beijing, she works alongside top New Zealand exporters as they establish a business presence in the China marketplace. She is bilingual in written and spoken Mandarin Chinese and English, and comes from a multicultural background (Vietnamese/English/New Zealander).

ALUMNA RUTH BROWN (BA 1979, MA 1982) was 56 when she started her own building and renovating business in Christchurch, Ruth's Reliable Renovations. More than 24 years on she's still working in the trade and has no plans to retire. Now her skills are sorely needed in the earthquake

ravaged city where there are many home owners with small jobs big contractors don't want to touch and a massive shortage of skilled tradespeople. "I don't mind doing the small jobs that people want done to make life comfortable, like doors unstuck or shelves put up," she says.

Ruth has had no formal training (though she's built a Sunburst dinghy). She's never had to advertise either, picking up work by word-of-mouth. One of her regular clients is the Women's Refuge homes around Christchurch; she says the women living in those are often threatened by men and find it reassuring to have an older woman fixing problems around the homes. At times she even gets to put her counseling skills (part of her BA) to good use over a cuppa.

A mother of five children and grandmother of nine, Ruth is a keen kayaker in her spare time and also runs home maintenance night classes for women.

Contact Ruth at: ruthj@clear.net.nz



"It set the path for the where I wanted my organisation to go"

- Dan Walker, Samsung Electronics



www.gsm.auckland.ac.nz



"From the first paper, I started to think about the business in a different way"

- Verity Jade, Air New Zealand

www.mba.auckland.ac.nz

Events from 2012



One and two: University alumni and friends enjoyed a presentation from Distinguished Professor Richard Faull (photo two, left) at the home of the Royal Society in London on 21 May.

Three and four: The Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences hosted a much-anticipated reunion over Queen's Birthday weekend for its first-ever graduates from 1974; and the classes of 1982 and '87, '92 and '97, and 2002, all celebrating significant anniversaries of their graduation, 30 years, 25, 20, 15 and 10 respectively.

Five and six: Over 100 Christchurch alumni and friends attended a popular and very timely presentation on 19 June from Professor Jenny Dixon, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Strategic

Engagement and Dean of National Institute of Creative Arts and Industries (NICAII) on the future of our urban cities.

Seven and eight: Speakers Professor Charles McGhee (photo seven) and PhD researcher Stacey D'Mello (photo eight) captivated the audience of donors, staff and friends with tales from their personal journeys to success at the Celebration of Giving event hosted by the Vice Chancellor on 20 June. Professor McGhee spoke of how a \$2000 scholarship in his early student days transformed a "dissolute" Glaswegian youngster into a passionate researcher.

Nine: Labour list MP Jacinda Ardern (left), Professor Jenny Dixon (centre) and Wellington Central MP Grant Robertson (right) joined

Wellington alumni and friends eager to learn how the University turns research into business from the guest speaker, Uniservices' Dr Peter Lee (photo ten). **Eleven:** Alumni and friends at the Wellington alumni reception on 15 August.

Twelve: Alumni of both Epsom Girls Grammar School and The University of Auckland posed with fellow alumna and Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, The Rt. Hon. Helen Clark (second from right), at the New York alumni reception on Tuesday 4 September. **Thirteen:** Alumni and friends at the New York alumni reception.

Fourteen: Professor Charles Alcock explored the "invisible" with

his presentation on the concept of darkness in modern astronomy and cosmology at the alumni reception in Boston on 6 September. **Fifteen:** Alumni and friends at the Boston alumni reception.

Sixteen: The Uo8 capella octet delighted the guests gathered at the Golden Graduates Luncheon at the Pullman Hotel in Auckland on 7 September with their entertaining and light-hearted choral music. **Seventeen:** Golden graduates from 1962 were photographed with the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stuart McCutcheon (back row, fifth from right) and Director of Alumni Relations and Development, John Taylor (back row, fourth from left).

Alumni and Friends event calendar highlights November 2012 to May 2013

Month	Location/Event	Venue
November 18	Auckland/Estrella Quartet (two pianos, eight hands) Concert	School of Music
December 11	Auckland/Society AGM and Christmas Reception	Old Government House
February 28	Auckland Live!	University of Auckland
March 1	Auckland/Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner	Alumni Marquee, OGH lawn
March 20	Hamilton Alumni & Friends Reception (Maadi Cup)	Lake Karapiro (TBC)
May 6	Vancouver Alumni and Friends Reception	TBC
May 7	Seattle Alumni and Friends Reception	TBC
May 2, 6, 8, 10	Auckland/Autumn Graduation (dates TBC)	Aotea Centre
May 9	Auckland/Graduation Concerto Gala Competition (date TBC)	Town Hall
May 19	Kuala Lumpur Alumni and Friends Reception	TBC
May 20	Singapore Alumni and Friends Reception	TBC

For more information or to ensure you receive an invitation to an event being held in your area please visit www.alumni.auckland.ac.nz/update to update your details. Please note that informal Alumni and Friends events being run by our Volunteer Alumni Co-ordinators (VACs), both locally and overseas, or by University staff, will be promoted directly to alumni living in the catchment area.



Dr Jilly Evans



Norman Godden

Celebrating success 2013 University of Auckland Distinguished Alumni Award winners announced

All awardees have confirmed their attendance at Auckland Live! and the Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner in February/March 2013.

They are:

Dr Jilly Evans, Science

(Scientist who founded a new life sciences start-up called Inception Sciences in San Diego);

Norman Godden, Business with an Arts degree

(Sheffield's Managing Director for many years and the driving force in establishing the Energy Education Giving Programme which sponsors a chair in Energy Economics at the Business School);

Kim Goldwater, Engineering

(Entrepreneurial wine maker);

Honourable James McLay, Law

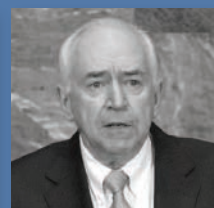
(Barrister, NZ permanent representative to the United Nations, New York);

Andrew Patterson, NICAI

(Leading New Zealand architect, Patterson Associates).



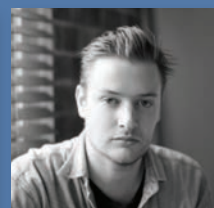
Kim Goldwater



Honourable James McLay



Andrew Patterson



Simon Denny

Young Alumnus of the Year

Simon Denny, NICAI, (artist with an international reputation, based in Germany).

To purchase your tickets to the Awards Dinner on Friday 1 March 2013 online please visit www.alumni.auckland.ac.nz

Announcing Auckland Live! 28 February 2013

The popular Auckland Live! showcase is back on 28 February 2013, bringing you an exciting up close and personal experience with six of New Zealand's most successful University of Auckland alumni. Don't miss this candid, entertaining evening with the winners of the 2013 Distinguished Alumni Awards - six high achieving and internationally successful alumni in the fields of business, creative arts, wine making, law, science, and architecture, all hosted by Qantas Media Award winner and alumnus Finlay Macdonald. This year Auckland Live! was a sell-out, so mark 28 February in your diary now, and visit www.alumni.auckland.ac.nz in December 2012 for early bird ticket sales.



Society Estrella concert,
18 November

Estrella is a unique combination of four pianists, at two pianos. Somi Kim, Gemma Lee, Judy Lee and Cindy Tsiao are currently studying at The University of Auckland and have recently returned from a six-week tour in the UK. The University of Auckland Society have sponsored a specially commissioned work by Gareth Farr which Estrella incorporated into their UK performances. Invitations to the November concert will be posted mid-October. This is a Society member invitation-only event. To learn more about Estrella see: www.estrella.co.nz

AUSA Outdoor
Summer Shakespeare



The Old Arts Quad will come to life in March 2013, with the 50th Anniversary of Summer Shakespeare and the celebratory production *King Lear*, featuring notable University alumni and staff (see our cover story page 10 -11) Bookings through the Maidment Theatre at www.maidment.auckland.ac.nz or Booking line +64 9 308 2383. Alumni discount of \$22 each.

Auckland University Campus Tours

The Society has formed a sub-committee to re-establish Campus Tours of the University. There are a diverse range of historic buildings on campus ranging from the former glory of Old Government House to the Old Tuck Shop (now the Falè). What better way to bring these wonderful buildings to life than to hear tales of their past lives. If you have any stories that might be of interest, or you know someone else who has, please contact society@auckland.ac.nz.



Reconnecting, celebrating & remembering

Reunions are a great way to celebrate and remember your time at The University of Auckland while reconnecting and networking with other alumni. Reunions also provide an opportunity to visit campus and see all the developments that have taken place since you were a student. Alumni Relations and Development are here to help you and your reunion committee organise a successful reunion. If you are interesting in organising a reunion talk to us first by emailing alumni-events@auckland.ac.nz.

Upcoming reunions:

Grafton Hall Reunion – 30 years on
Saturday 24 November 2012

Law Reunion – Class of 1988
Thursday 21 March 2013

MBChB Reunion – Classes of '78, '83, '88, '93, '98, '03
Friday 1 & Saturday 2 June 2013

Law Reunion – Class of 1983 Date TBC

For more information or to register for any of these see www.alumni.auckland.ac.nz/reunions-2013

International alumni network

If you live in or near any of the areas below and would like to be involved with local alumni, we encourage you to make contact with your Volunteer Alumni Co-ordinator (VAC). If you would like to consider being a VAC for your area, then please contact Jamie Himiona, at j.himiona@auckland.ac.nz for further information.

AUSTRALIA

Melbourne

Craig Vickery, vickery_craig@hotmail.com

Sydney 1

George Barker, BarkerG@law.anu.edu.au

Sydney 2

Angela Burrill, angelaburrill@me.com

CANADA

Calgary

Allison Hall, allisonhall77@hotmail.com

CHINA

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Beijing 2

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Jeffrey Pong, jeffpong@gmail.com

Shanghai

Vincent Cheung, agl_vcheung@live.hk

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Scandinavia

Duncan Lithgow, duncan@lithgow-schmidt.dk

Belgium

Ken Baker, eualumni@skynet.be

Ken also welcomes contact from alumni in Europe without a coordinator in their area.

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Washington, DC

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NEW ZEALAND

Chinese Alumni in Auckland

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MLST (Master of Speech Language Therapy) Alumni Club

Marion Van Nierop, marion.vannierop@gmail.com

UAPA – Pacific Alumni

Walter Fraser, w.fraser@auckland.ac.nz

Pharmacy in New Zealand

Natasha Bell, nbel020@aucklanduni.ac.nz



Want to stay connected with each other and your University online?

Like our Facebook Fan Page at University of Auckland Alumni and Friends www.facebook.com

Join our Auckland University Alumni and Friends LinkedIn group at www.linkedin.com

Transformative Arts

The Chartwell Trust has recently gifted the University \$50,000 and pledged a further \$150,000 towards a programme to deepen understanding of diverse creative processes and the transformative capacity of the arts. This is in addition to a \$10,000 gift the University received from the Chartwell Trust in 2011, when it was the recipient of the Arts Foundation Award for patronage.

Rob Gardiner and daughter Sue from the Chartwell Trust have been meeting with staff from across the University to consider ways we can challenge our communities to explore the arts-led creative process, how it may be

enhanced and used to affect change, drive innovation, solve problems and improve lives.

With widespread interest both within and outside the University, a new creative thinking board has been formed and will be tasked with progressing the project and raising additional funds to support it. Professor Jenny Dixon, Dean of the National Institute of Creative Arts and Industries and newly appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor Strategic Engagement, will chair the Board and is enthusiastic about the project's momentum. "I think this is very timely for New Zealand. The University of Auckland

could really lead the way with creative thinking. It's exciting to have been involved from the very beginning and I'm looking forward to developments in the project next year and beyond."

Photo. Geoff Ricketts (Chair of the University of Auckland Foundation), Sue Gardiner (Trustee of the Chartwell Trust), Rob Gardiner (Chair of the Chartwell Trust and Patron of the Creative Thinking Board), Amy Malcolm (Development Manager), Jenny Dixon (Deputy Vice Chancellor Strategic Engagement) and John Taylor (Director of Alumni Relations and Development).

INNOVATIVE TINNITUS STUDY

An innovative multi-modal treatment programme for tinnitus will be trialled by researchers from the University's Centre for Brain Research in a study made possible by a donation from Link Research and Grants.

The treatment programme will use neuromodulators to "prime" people's brains to be more responsive to training that may reduce their perception of tinnitus – a sensation of noise in the ears that has no external cause.

"This research is very important, not only for understanding tinnitus but understanding the brain itself," says Matteo de Nora on behalf of Link Research and Grants.

Link Research and Grants has a long-term interest in supporting tinnitus research worldwide, and is a strong advocate for New Zealand research. Its gift will cover the cost of the project, including several research

positions as well as equipment and related expenses.

The study builds on previous work at the Centre for Brain Research on how to prime the brain to be more responsive to rehabilitation for stroke or lazy eye. It is a multi-disciplinary project involving experts in audiology, medicine, behavioural medicine, pharmacology, vision science, and sport and exercise science.

"We're trying to provide the means for the auditory system to ignore tinnitus," explains lead researcher Dr Grant Searchfield, Head of Audiology. "When people experience tinnitus they become attuned to hearing it in preference to other auditory stimuli – it's a magnet for attention. To break the cycle they need to be trained to attend to other things."

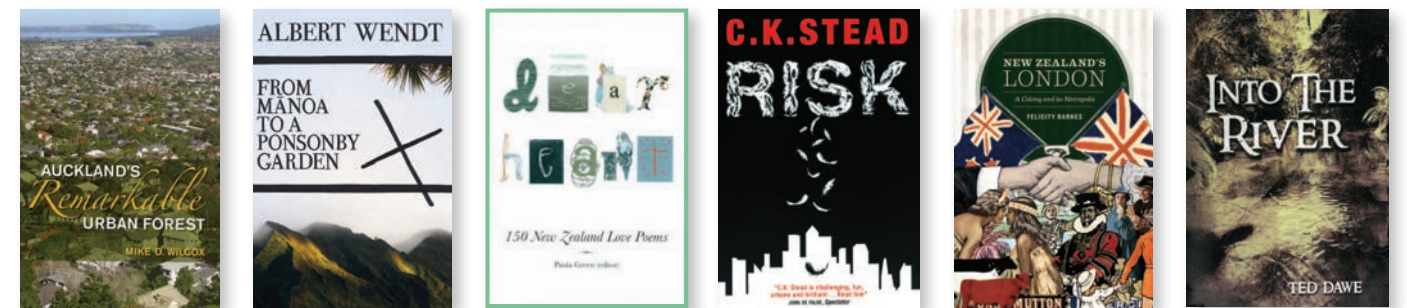
The trial will use people's sense of vision and touch to achieve this. "In the past it was assumed that tinnitus was primarily an auditory phenomenon, but it has become clear

that tinnitus is caused by a much more distributed network within the brain that can be influenced by a number of senses," says Grant.



Kim Wise and Dr Grant Searchfield, part of the tinnitus research team.

Alumni**books**



Auckland's Remarkable Urban Forest

This book by alumnus Mike Wilcox (BSc, 1964) describes the treescape of Auckland City from trees found in the parks, reserves, campuses and historic homesteads of the city to public native bush reserves; native revegetation projects undertaken by community groups; exotic woodlands; Auckland's street trees; trees of suburban home gardens; and Auckland's notable trees. There are chapters on tree health, forest climbers, weeds and utilisation and management of the urban forest. A particular feature is the guide to the public parks and reserves and their trees in each of the Local Board areas. The book has been published by the Auckland Botanical Society as part of its 75th Jubilee celebrations. Mike is President of the Auckland Botanical Society and is presently an Honorary Research Associate at the Auckland Museum.

From Mānoa to a Ponsonby garden

In Hawai'i Emeritus Professor of English, Albert Wendt watches the changing shadows of the Ko'olau mountains from his verandah; considers the nature of maui, the seat of life; walks protected in his partner's perfumed slipstream to work; and writes to fellow poet Hone Tuwhare from the excesses of Las Vegas. In the second half of this book, we move to the garden in Ponsonby with 40 vivid 'garden' poems that are the triumph of the collection. Here joints need replacing, poets grow older, tsunami destroy and friends slip away, but a spirit of renewal and humour pervades.

dear heart

"Love – that complicated, delicious, pleasurable, necessary feeling – ties us to another human, to a mother, father, son, daughter, sibling, lover or friend. Love can also tie us to a place, an experience, an object. We love and we are loved: unexpectedly, gloriously, painfully, deeply." So writes alumna Paula Green (BA 1992, MA May 1995, PhD Italian 2005) in her introduction, as editor, to *dear heart*: 150

New Zealand Love Poems published by Random House. From Janet Frame to JC Sturm, Michele Leggott, Sam Hunt and James K Baxter, all our poets both great and small write about love in its many forms.

[But you...]

But you love I knew by heart.

Wystan Curnow

Trouble in mind

Alumna Jenni Ogden (MSc, 1981, PhD, 1984, DipClinPsy, 1985) transports the reader into the world of some of her most memorable neurological patients as she explores with compassion, insight and vivid description the human side of brain damage. These are tales of patients who, as the result of stroke, brain tumour, car crash, or neurological disease, begin thinking and behaving strangely, and with their loved ones' support embark on the long journey to recovery, acceptance of disability and sometimes, death. *Trouble In Mind: Stories from a neuropsychologist's casebook*, published by Oxford University Press, will be enjoyed by readers who want to learn more about brain disorders and the doctors who care for those who suffer.

Risk

Recently divorced New Zealand lawyer Sam Nola returns to London, where he spent two years in his early twenties. It is late 2002, and on both sides of the Atlantic the case for military intervention in Iraq is being made – or fabricated. Emeritus Professor of English and alumnus CK Stead (BA 1954, MA 1955, Lit Td 1982) brings his deft prose and poetic eye for detail to bear on his main character Sam, who is re-adjusting the bearings on his life as he gets to know a daughter (half French) from a long ago affair and walks into a lucrative role in London's banking sector. *Risk* is published by Macleah Press.

In Brief

In *New Zealand's London*, published by Auckland University Press, alumna and current lecturer in the Department of History Dr Felicity Barnes (BA 1986, DipMgt 1986, PhD History 2009) explores the relationship between a colony and its metropolis from Wakefield to the Wombles. By focusing on particular themes – from agricultural marketing to expatriate writers – Felicity develops a larger story about the construction of colonial and national identities.

In *Dancing with Difference: Culturally Diverse Dances in Education*, published by sensepublishers.com, alumna Linda Ashley (PhD Music 2011) engages with both practice and theory and a nexus model, as she looks at approaches to teaching about culturally different dances. Even though some practical suggestions for teaching are presented, the main concern is to motivate further thinking and research into teaching about dancing with cultural difference.

In *The Map of Meaning: A Guide to Sustaining our Humanity in the World of Work* by Greenleaf publishing, alumna Marjolein Lips-Wiersma (PhD Management and Employment Relations 2000) joins Lani Morris to talk about meaningful work and life, and to explore the Holistic Development Model. While the research was done on work and organisations, it speaks to the whole person.

Into the River by alumnus Ted Dawe (BA 1974), published by Mangakino University Press is the prequel to the author's first novel *Thunder Road* (2004). It tells the story of Te Arepa Santos who is dragged into the river by a giant eel. The boy who struggles to the bank is not the same as the one who plunged in, moments earlier. He has brushed against the spirit world, and there is a price to be paid; an utu to be exacted.

For copies email ted@teddawe.com

500-year-old book



A rare and valuable book printed in 1564 by the renowned scholar-printer Henri Estienne (known as Stephanus) has been donated to the University General Library's Special Collections.

The volume is the 1564 edition of the eight books of the *Histories of the Peloponnesian*

War by the Athenian Thucydides. It is among the oldest books in the Library and was donated by the Newhook family who have several alumni among its members, some of whom belong to the Classical Association, which fosters interest in Ancient Greece and Rome in the local community.

The story of the ancient tome's journey to the University began when alumna Marjory Newhook (née Anderson BA 1941, MA 1942) was in London in the post-war years. On the day before she left London in November 1948, she went looking for the translation of *Pliny's Letter* by the Reverend Melmoth, which she found in a small, downstairs bookshop in Whitehall, near Westminster. She was offered the *Thucydides* by the shop owner as an extra, and bought it for two guineas. The book was not in pristine condition after four hundred years, but it was brought back to New Zealand, where it has since been lovingly restored by the Newhook family.

Markings on the title page shed some light on two possible previous owners of the book. Initial research by Special Collections suggests the monogram stamp and "1695" date can

be attributed to Narcissus Luttrell (1657-1732), a Member of the House of Commons, parliamentary diarist and book collector. More research is required, however, into the inscription at the foot of the page, which reads "Godefridus Montens" [or "Monteus B"].

The French Calvinist Henri Estienne (1528-98) was one of the most distinguished scholar-printers in the history of printing. There is a description of the contents of his 1564 edition of *Thucydides*, and the later edition of 1588, in *Catalogus translationum et commentariorum: Mediaeval and Renaissance Latin translations and commentaries, Volume 8* (2003) pp. 144-52, which is available online in the General Library. The contents begin with his dedication to the German scholar Joachim Camerarius (1500-1574) and his address to the readers, both in Latin (Stephanus emphasises the amount of sweat that has gone into the work: *maximis meis sudoribus*). This is followed by the ancient testimonia on *Thucydides* and his Greek text, with the comments of the ancient scholiasts in the margins.

Postgraduate Study at Elam

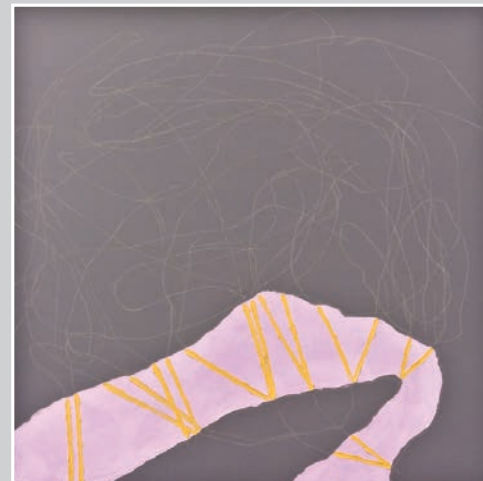
Elam offers a range of postgraduate study options to support your creative path towards a successful career in the arts.

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0800 61 62 65



Glen Snow *Plotting Gesture* 2011, acrylic and oil on canvas, dimensions variable. Photo Darren Glass.

 THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CREATIVE ARTS AND INDUSTRIES®

Benevolent by-product

Don Binney 1940-2012



Asked to describe the relationship of his art to his work at the seminar that inaugurated his 24-year teaching career at the Elam School of Fine Arts in 1974, Don Binney characterised his painting as a "benevolent by-product of my way of life".

Reactions in the room were disapproving. Recalling the incident three years later in an article in a special issue of *Art New Zealand* devoted to artists and the environment, Don wrote: "Some students didn't like that at all, thinking it was easy, flippant and lazy to talk about one's work that way". His point was that he had been an amateur ornithologist and environmentalist for a lot longer than he had been painting.

The by-product of Don's love of the land is a legacy of hundreds of spectacular paintings of birds swooping over stylised hills and coasts. Some of his most iconic works are owned by The University of Auckland where he studied and later taught, and these were

seen together in Old Government House during June and July 2012. At the opening of the exhibition, the 72 year old artist spoke passionately about his inspiration: "You must approach the landscape or the bush with reverence. To my mind, loyalty to New Zealand doesn't consist in conforming to conventional expectations, but in acquiescing to beings like the forest god Tāne. They tell me what to do and what not to do."

As a student at Elam, Don (DipFineArts, 1963) had made Design his major, and trained as a teacher after completing his diploma in 1962. After he had spent a few years in the art department of Mt Roskill Grammar, the popular success of his paintings enabled him to become a full-time artist. Critics carped about the way his birds seemed to dominate their environment. He explained that the effect was governed by how he had learned to look: "As an ornithologist you learn how to identify a bird from the fleeting glimpse You pick up the nuance of body shape and the specificity of body movement ... if there is a distortion of proximity then it is literally the legacy of 35 years of looking through binoculars."

Don's name became synonymous with bird paintings, but the descriptor soon became derogatory. In an interview with Sheridan Keith in *Art New Zealand* in August 1983, he lamented: "You know I'm probably one of the best-known New Zealand artists ... but I think a lot of people have only a superficial insight into what I'm doing. And they can therefore write me off - 'Ah, Binney - yeah, he cleaned up a few birds in the early sixties, and he's still doing the same thing now.' Sort of over and out." For the catalogue to his retrospective

"The by-product of Don's love of the land is a legacy of hundreds of spectacular paintings of birds swooping over stylised hills and coasts."

While disappointed, he was undeterred and continued to steadfastly examine the environment, shifting his medium to lithography to complement his crayon drawing skills. He was rewarded by an OBE for services to the arts in 1995. Speaking at the opening of his 2012 exhibition, he explained that he had no alternative but to use art as a medium to communicate with the rest of us about the things he cared about: "I would like it finally to be clear that why I paint is that I am holding on to my faiths, my own creeds, my own deep loyalties and interests. This is the reason I continue to do what I do."

The University of Auckland's holdings of works by Don Binney amassed from 1974 to 1998 while he was on the staff of Elam is the largest of any public collection in New Zealand. Amongst these are his most significant paintings such as *Kereru over Wainamu Te Henga* 1965, *Kawaupaku Te Henga* 1967 and *Arts-Commerce Kaka* 1984. Auckland University Press published Damian Skinner's book, *Don Binney Ngā Manu/Ngā Motu - Birds/Islands* in 2003.

Linda Tyler

Staying in the game



How do we keep “Kiwi kids” interested in sport at a tertiary level? This is something the University is trying to answer and has partnered with Sport NZ Auckland Council, Auckland Regional Sports Trust, College Sport and technology provider All Teams, to run a three-year project called “Sport Beyond Schools.”

The objective is “to improve the sport and recreation pathways for students from school to The University of Auckland and in doing so increase participation in sport and recreation by 16-20 year olds”, says Nikki Henderson, the University’s Sport Development Manager and a former Physical Education teacher at Rutherford College.

“We’re going to track students when they first join up with a club or sports programme and monitor their involvement during their degree,” explains Nikki. “We’re hoping that we’ll be able to pinpoint when they are no longer registered, whether that’s in their second or third year, and hopefully get some insight as to why they stopped and what we can do to keep them involved.”

An important part of this is ensuring that the sports clubs have the right structures in

place, both from an administrative and an operational perspective, with the view that as the teams grow in capacity and capability, the results will come.

“Ideally, the strength of university sport will increase and we’ll see university teams and clubs winning regional competitions,” says Louis Rattray, Director for Sport and Recreation at the University.

“Ultimately, it’s about creating an engaging environment for the students so that they continue to be involved in sport after they leave secondary school, and have an even stronger connection to the University after they graduate.”

Chris Marshall



Note taken...

If you haven’t heard of Notable, it is just a matter of time before you do. Notable was launched in July this year by fourth year University of Auckland software engineering students Jordan Thoms (left) and Hengjie Wang.

The internet note taking application created by the duo was ignited by internships the pair did earlier this year as part of their degree at the heart of Silicon Valley in San Francisco. Notable currently has 450 users from various faculties. Fellow student Alliv Samson (pictured right), who graduated with her BA in Film & Television, Media Studies and Political Studies from the University last year, is responsible for the creative design and marketing of Notable. The team from Cecil collaborated with Hengjie and Jordan to enable Cecil to be synchronised to Notable so students can load their lecture notes onto the programme.

The problem Notable aims to solve, says

Hengjie, “is the ability to take notes next to your lecture slides so you don’t lose the context of what you’re actually writing”.

Not only is Notable a note taking tool, it allows students to share their own notes, comments and questions with each other in real time, and live during lectures.

With the average class size at the University being 120 strong (Engineering and Law can go up to 1000), Hengjie and Jordan’s aim was to develop a way of breaking down barriers between students in classes of this size.

Jordan is excited to note that people from other universities around New Zealand and Australia are signing up. And notable has been lauded by University lecturers such as

Adam Blake from the eLearning Group at the Centre for Academic Development. “Notable is very simple to understand and easy to use, but powerful. By enabling students to access course materials online and add their own notes directly alongside each page, whether during a lecture or off campus, it encourages students to take more ownership of their learning”.

Notable recently qualified for the University’s \$100,000.00 Spark Entrepreneurship Challenge, so the business partners are now concentrating on their business plan and getting ready to pitch to investors. See: www.notable.ac/about

Kate Pitcher

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Image: Les Paris in his Wellington Law office with works by Rick Killeen and Gordon Walters



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