

THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND news

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Writings ignited a powder keg



Allen Rodrigo and Brian Boyd at the Fale Pasifika during the symposium.

A free public all-day symposium on the lasting legacy of Charles Darwin attracted a crowd that filled the large Fisher and Paykel Auditorium in the Owen G Glenn Building, and at times overflowed into a second venue.

Organiser, Professor Allen Rodrigo (Biological Sciences), was delighted at the response and the turnout on the day, which included more than 30 biology and science teachers from Auckland secondary schools, along with 300 Year 12 and 13 students, as well as staff and students from the University, and the general public.

In the words of one secondary teacher: "My students loved it. They gained so much from the presentations that I would like to be able to give the other students from the school – and from other schools as well – the chance to experience them through a webcast."

A poster competition attracted entries from 27 graduate students from throughout New Zealand engaged in innovative evolutionary research. The winner was from Massey University, Katie Hartnup, and the two runners-up, Kate Lomas and Louis Ranjard from The University of Auckland.

"Darwin's writings on evolution were revolutionary," says Allen Rodrigo, "igniting a scientific and social powder keg whose

reverberations can still be felt today. His legacy has extended beyond biology, beyond natural science and into the humanities and social sciences."

This breadth of Darwin's influence was borne out by the speakers at the conference, whose specialisations covered history, literature and medicine as well as biology and genomics. Three of the speakers were from The University of Auckland. Associate Professor Ruth Barton (History), in an abundantly-illustrated lecture entitled "From ape to national icon", looked at how Darwin's ideas were received in Victorian England. Professor Peter Gluckman (Liggins Institute), speaking on "Darwin and doctors: The role of evolutionary biology in medicine", spoke of how medicine has tended to focus on proximate causes (how pathology develops) rather than on ultimate causes (why things happen as they do), which is what evolutionary medicine addresses. Professor Brian Boyd (English) in "Open fields: Darwin and the humanities" gave a highly evocative and engaging account of the pivotal role of the imagination in the evolution of our species.

The symposium took place precisely on the 200th birthday of Darwin, who was born on 12 February, 1809.

Key events

Alumni speakers

Staff, students and the public can hear the Distinguished Alumni Awardees discussing their life and work.

A Distinguished Alumni Speaker Day is being held on Saturday 14 March, the day after the gala dinner to honour them. There are five concurrent talks between mid-morning and early afternoon in the Owen G Glenn Building and the Fale Pasifika: Children's author Lynley Dodd: "Going to the dogs" (10.30-11.30am); the Samoan Prime Minister, the Rt Hon Tuilaepa Malielegaoi: "Survival in the turbulent sea of change of island politics in the calm and peace of the Pacific Ocean" (10.30-11.30am); businessman Richard Chandler (in conversation with the Rt Hon Mike Moore): "Building prosperity for tomorrow's world" (12noon-1.15pm); playwright and film-maker Toa Fraser: "Animal tangles: That's the carnal and the heavenly right there" (12noon-1pm); the Rt Hon Sir Douglas Graham: "Maori representation in Parliament" (12noon-1pm).

RSVP at www.auckland.ac.nz/speaker-day or email alumni-events@auckland.ac.nz

Tickets are still available for the Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner on 13 March. Contact the email address above to register.

Commencement

The Commencement Service, marking the beginning of the academic year, will take place on 4 March at 11am in the Maclaurin Chapel, 18 Princes Street. Rev Andrew Norton, Moderator of Auckland Presbytery, will preach. Refreshments will be provided and all are welcome.

Postgraduate cocktails

The Graduate Centre is to host a doctoral and masters cocktail evening at the Hyatt Hotel on 9 March at 6pm. The evening includes a welcome from the Dean of Graduate Studies, and will give students an opportunity to meet fellow students and key University staff. Though the period for acceptance is now officially ended, there may be places still available. The contact person is Kathryn van Beek from the Graduate centre: ik.vanbeek@auckland.ac.nz

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In the few short months since the general election, we have found ourselves using, on an everyday basis, several new buzzwords – notably “Global Financial Crisis” (GFC) and “infrastructure”. The intention of the new Government – and indeed of governments around the world – to invest in infrastructure as a means of maintaining employment during the GFC means that many institutions are now interested in advancing their infrastructural needs as projects worthy of investment. The universities are, of course, no exception.

To date the Government has indicated an interest in investing only in the compulsory education sector. Whether it will come to view the universities as important infrastructure remains to be seen, but in the meantime we are pressing ahead with our own infrastructural investments. Three major projects have been approved by the University Council in the last few months.

The Thomas Building extension, approved in October last year at an estimated cost of \$35m, will provide additional research and postgraduate space for the School of Biological Sciences as well as the Institute for Innovation in Biotechnology and co-locating biotechnology companies. It will be a key centre for creating new biotech companies and supporting their growth.

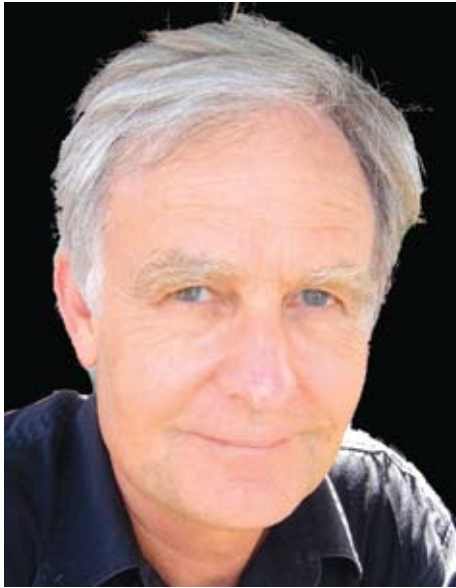
The Student Management System upgrade, approved in December at a cost of just under \$10m, involves the upgrade of the student management system software to PeopleSoft Campus Solutions version 9.0. Installation of this state of the art software will be accompanied by the re-design of our processes to ensure that they are easily accessed and used by potential and current students. This project is critical in ensuring that we can continue to attract and support a high quality, diverse student body.

The final project, Research+, was approved just this month. Costing nearly \$6 million, it will involve the introduction of the InfoEd research management software and associated processes designed to support staff in the complex business of managing our ever-growing research activities.

While the global financial crisis is of concern to us all, we know from past experience that the economy and the University will eventually emerge from the present downturn. It is important that we continue to invest strongly in the University's future, and I am grateful for the willingness of Council, and of the many staff who will contribute to creating this new infrastructure, to take that challenge on.



New Chair for Marsden Council



Peter Hunter

Distinguished Professor Peter Hunter, Director of the Auckland Bioengineering Institute, has been appointed Chair of the Marsden Fund Council.

The Council comprises eminent researchers who assess funding applications for the Marsden Fund. In the 2008/09 year the Fund invested \$54 million in support of 91 research projects.

Peter Hunter says it is a privilege and an honour to be appointed to the position.

“The Marsden Fund is the jewel in the crown of New Zealand research funding. It is and will remain committed to fully over-headed and thoroughly peer-reviewed blue skies research with no linkage to any agenda other than research excellence. Experience from many countries around the world confirms the fundamental importance of an untargeted high quality research fund for a nation’s intellectual, social and economic well-being,” he says.

The appointment was announced by the Minister of Research, Science and Technology Dr

Wayne Mapp on 11 February. Wayne Mapp says he is delighted to appoint someone of Peter Hunter’s standing to the role: “His prior experience on the Council coupled with his local and international reputation make him an ideal Chair.”

Peter Hunter has convened the Council’s Mathematical and Information Sciences panel since 2005. He succeeds Dr Garth Carnaby, who has chaired the Council since 2005. Dr Carnaby resigned as Chair on his election as President of the Royal Society, which administers the Fund.

Over the past 30 years, Peter has established himself as a leader in the rapidly developing field of computational physiology. As Professor of Engineering Science and the Director of the Bioengineering Institute at the University, he has contributed to ongoing collaboration between the fields of engineering science and physiology.

A Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand, Peter was also elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Britain in 2006.

The Marsden Fund is administered by the Royal Society of New Zealand and funded by the Government through the research, science and technology portfolio.

World class New Zealander

Peter Hunter is one of seven recognised in the World Class New Zealand Awards. Peter was named as award winner in the “Research, science, technology and academia” section. Others named were Karen Walker (creative), Ray Avery (biotechnology), Jane Hunter (manufacturing), Phillip Mills (new thinking), John Buchanan (finance, investment and business services) and Craig Nevill-Manning (ICT).

Selection criteria for the awards, presented by Kea New Zealand and New Zealand Trade and Enterprise, focused on success in promoting New Zealand overseas, building international connections and exchanging information, knowledge and skills internationally. A supreme winner will be announced in Auckland on 1 April.

Power and strangeness

A lecture by a visiting French professor, organised by the Department of Physics, will address a topic that offers fascinating perspectives on knowledge and has enormous implications in the way we see the world.

The lecture, by Professor Serge Haroche from the Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris, Collège de France, is entitled “The power and strangeness of the quantum”.

Quantum theory has allowed physicists to understand in depth the microscopic world, leading to applications (computers, lasers, magnetic resonance imaging, atomic clocks...) which have revolutionised our lives. And yet, in spite of its successes, quantum physics is deeply counterintuitive. Its strangeness resides in the principle of state superposition, which implies that a particle can behave as a wave, and in the related concepts of quantum entanglement and

non-locality. At the macroscopic level, these odd phenomena are veiled by the process of decoherence which imparts to the world its classical appearance.

Recent technological advances have allowed us to manipulate isolated quantum systems such as atoms, molecules, photons or superconducting microchips.

These experiments lead to the direct observation of the most counterintuitive aspects of quantum behaviour. Beyond their fundamental interest, they open fascinating perspectives for applications, letting us envision novel technologies in which the quantum strangeness will be harnessed to achieve tasks impossible to perform with devices relying on classical laws.

The lecture will take place at the Conference Centre Lecture Theatre 423-342 at 11am on 5 March.

Exhibition advances understanding



The artist Chan Wan Yiu discusses his work with Stuart McCutcheon.

During the last few weeks staff and students, as well as distinguished visitors and members of the public, have been privileged to see the work of a world-renowned Chinese artist shown, along with the work of some of his students, at Old Government House.

On the evening of 5 February, the Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon officially opened the exhibition, entitled BRUSHSENSES, presented by the Confucius Institute and featuring the work of Chan Wan Yiu and some of the students who have been studying with him at the institute.

Stuart McCutcheon said the works signify “the growing links between New Zealand and the People’s Republic of China, and exemplify the importance of promoting Chinese culture within the University, the local community and our society at large. Such expressions are an important facet of the cultural diversity of New Zealand today.”

Among guests at the launch were Confucius Institute board members, staff from the Chinese Consulate General, University staff, and friends and families of the artists.

On the following evening Auckland Mayor John Banks hosted the opening of the tenth anniversary of the Lantern Festival at Old Government House, giving the Prime Minister John Key and other Government Ministers the opportunity to enjoy the exhibition, along with City Councillors, Chinese community leaders, the Chinese Consul General, and University leaders including Professor Raewyn Dalziel, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Associate Professor Manying Ip (Asian Studies) and Nora Yao, Director of the Confucius Institute.

On 7 February the Chinese Ambassador, HE Zhang Limin and his wife, Mme Li Yajun, travelled from Wellington to view the exhibition, having been unable to attend the official opening. Mme Li, a professional artist, gave a seminar to the students

and friends of the Confucius Institute.

Chan Wan Yiu studied Chinese painting and calligraphy in the orthodox discipline with a great number of distinguished Chinese contemporary artists. He has taught in institutions in Hong Kong and New Zealand including the University of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Institute of Education, and Whitecliffe College of Arts and Design. Since 2006, he has taught Chinese painting and calligraphy at the Confucius Institute.

For the past 40 years, his works have been shown in exhibitions in Hong Kong and many other countries, reflecting his great ability to respond to the traditions of the masters of the Song and Yuan Dynasties and yet incorporate aspects of their spirit with his new developments.

Two of the students exhibiting with him were members of staff of the University: Gillian Reynolds, a senior careers consultant from Student Administration and Margaret Lee, a senior tutor from Asian Studies.

Nora Yao said most visitors were “stunned by the quality of the work, including the standard of the work of the students, some of whom had started with only a very basic knowledge of the traditions and techniques of Chinese traditional art.” She said it was a wonderful way to promote Chinese culture and to advance people’s understanding of Chinese art.

One visitor remarked that it was a unique and exceptional experience to see wonderful paintings in an ancient Chinese tradition, but with a subject matter that was (in some cases) distinctively New Zealand, for example one showing the University’s ClockTower, and others – showing scenes of Mt Tasman and Fiordland – that were remarkable in their combination of tempestuousness of movement and delicacy of execution.

The exhibition ends on Friday 27 February.

... in brief

Teaching excellence

Congratulations from *University News* to staff selected to receive 2008 University Teaching Excellence Awards. Associate Professor Ralph Buck (Dance Studies, National Institute of Creative Arts and Industries) and Brian Marsh (School of Teaching Education Practice, Faculty of Education) have received “Sustained Excellence in Teaching” Awards. Rena Heap (School of Science, Mathematics and Technology Education) has received an “Early Career Excellence in Teaching” Award. An award for “Excellence in Postgraduate Research Supervision” has been given to Associate Professor Linda Bryder (History, Faculty of Arts) while Paul Denny (Computer Science, Faculty of Science) has gained the award for “Innovation in Teaching”, and Dr Rainer Seidel (Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering) has received the award for “Collaboration in Teaching”. The awards will be presented at Autumn Graduation. The University’s nominations for the national Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards for 2009 will be Ralph Buck and Paul Denny, along with Dr Rachel Fewster, a 2006 awardee.

Festival drama

Two Auckland Festival events will be playing at the Maidment Theatre: *The Wife who Spoke Japanese in her Sleep* by Vivienne Plumb opens 12 March and ends 4 April while *The Chairs* by Eugene Ionescu will show from 12 to 18 March. Brochures are available at the theatre. Book in person or online (www.maidment.auckland.ac.nz).

Story-telling scientists

Young scientists involved in ground-breaking research who are able to present that research as a fascinating story are invited to enter the MacDiarmid Young Scientist of the Year Award. Judges are not just looking for scientific merit and top academic talent. They want emerging researchers able to make their work relevant to a wide range of audiences using excellent story-telling skills. They are also looking for leadership qualities, maturity and self confidence. Presented by the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology, the annual awards cover five categories: understanding planet Earth, adding value to nature, future science and technologies, advancing human health and wellbeing, and science and our society. More than \$70,000 worth of cash and prizes are available, with the overall winner receiving \$10,000 and an expenses-paid trip to an international conference. Judging involves a three-stage process, starting with a written description of the research project. Those short-listed then provide a poster and short essay or video. Finalists present their work to a panel. The awards are open to postgraduate researchers and postdoctoral researchers who have held a PhD for less than five years. Entrants must be New Zealand citizens or permanent residents. Entries close 23 March.

Visit from Victoria strengthens ties



The three parliamentarians present were (from left to right front row) Robin Scott, Adem Somyurek (Committee Chair), and Hon Christine Campbell. Left to right (back row) are Ann Sullivan, Jennifer Curtin and Raymond Miller.

A visit from the Electoral Matters Committee of the Parliament of Victoria, Australia, provided a welcome opportunity to strengthen trans-Tasman links, says Dr Jennifer Curtin (Political Studies).

As an academic with a focus on comparative politics and with expertise in the electoral and parliamentary systems of both countries, Jennifer was particularly pleased to build on her existing connections, not only on an academic level but

also with Parliamentarians and those who make policy. The visit, she said, was also “a recognition of Associate Professor Raymond Miller’s expertise in the New Zealand electoral system”.

The major interests of the group, which had also visited other nations such as Canada and the United States, were in electoral finance, and in voter engagement and turnout. The University of Auckland was the first stop on a four-day visit to

New Zealand which included meetings with the Chief Electoral Officer, the Chief Executive Officer of the Electoral Commission and the National Manager of the Electoral Enrolment Centre, and with various Parliamentarians including the Speaker the Hon Dr Lockwood Smith, and representatives of the Labour and National Parties.

Jennifer remarked that the meeting at the University was ideally timed for the committee members, who took the opportunity, for example, to absorb different perspectives on the Electoral Finance Act, which was due to be discussed in Parliament next day immediately after their arrival in Wellington.

“We were able to give them a broad take on the politics of the issues they were interested in, before their meetings with the people who filled particular roles in relation to them.”

Associate Professor Ann Sullivan (Māori Studies) joined Jennifer and Raymond for the discussion on voter participation and turn-out, particularly in relation to Māori voters.

Jennifer says the visitors found the discussions very useful and believes they “will come back if there’s something else they wish to investigate in New Zealand that has relevance to the Victorian political system”.

The group, comprising three Parliamentarians, accompanied by a researcher and an executive officer, was smaller than originally envisaged, partly because of the disastrous bush fires raging in Victoria. The electorates of two of those who had intended to come were in the regions affected by fire.

New associate professor

Seventeen staff have been promoted to the position of associate professor. This is the first of a number of profiles that will be published in *University News*.

Mark Hauber, Associate Professor of Animal Behaviour

As a native Hungarian, I have always wanted to be an ornithologist.

I had been planning to work on the avian behavioural ecology of New Zealand since 1992, when I started university at Yale in the United States. I conducted fieldwork on spiders in Panama and Guam and on birds in the US during my undergraduate years, and graduated summa cum laude in organismal biology.

For my PhD I worked on the species recognition systems of brood parasitic birds – cowbirds, finches and cuckoos – at Cornell University. After a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California, Berkeley’s Miller Institute on avian genetics and neurophysiology, I joined the School of Biological Sciences at The University of Auckland in 2003, to lecture in animal behaviour.

During my tenure at The University of Auckland, I have published more than 50 peer-reviewed papers, received research funding from the Marsden Fund, the National Geographic Society,



Mark Hauber in middle, with collaborators, at the Kermadec Islands studying a Masked Booby.

the Human Frontier Science Program, SBS, the Faculty of Science and the University of Auckland Research Committee, and have advised many BSc Hons, MSc, and PhD students.

I have taught at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, led field trips, and advised summer student and Royal Society of New Zealand teaching fellows. I have also hosted many international speakers, including Hood Fellows,

ISAT visitors, and sabbatical researchers, have given interviews to local and international media, and served on committees to advise conservation projects throughout New Zealand. Starting later this year I will be moving my laboratory to Hunter College, City University of New York, with plans to maintain close research ties with my newly adopted country and to advocate the research excellence of The University of Auckland.

Annie Goldson wins top honours



Filmmaker Associate Professor Annie Goldson (Film, Television and Media Studies) has won the Grand Prix at the Sixth Pacific Documentary Film Festival (FIFO, Festival International du Film Océanien) in Tahiti for her acclaimed documentary, *An Island Calling*.

Annie's previous films include *Elgar's Enigma*, *Pacific Solution*, *Sheilas: 28 Years On*, *Punitive Damage* and *Georgie Girl*. In 2007 she was awarded the New Zealand Order of Merit (ONZM).

An Island Calling explores a double gay murder in Suva, Fiji in 2001. Fiji Red Cross Director-General John Scott and his partner Greg Scrivener were murdered in the name of God by a young indigenous man. Based in part on a book *Deep Beyond the Reef* by John's brother, Owen Scott, *An Island Calling* tells a postcolonial tale of a country deeply divided along tribal, class and ethnic lines.

The jury commended the film for its ability to interweave numerous complex story strands while retaining clarity and great story telling, as well as for its openness and refusal to pass judgment. President of the Jury, Pierre-Henri Deleau said that "the films on offer were impressive, but *An Island Calling* was the clear winner".

During the award ceremony, Annie Goldson thanked the festival for putting "the Pacific in the centre of the world. In other festivals, you often have the impression that our region is on the periphery – but as this festival testifies, there are a wealth of stories and extraordinary talents in the Pacific that are too often unnoticed".

"It is to Annie's credit as a filmmaker that she can contextualise a single event on a small Pacific island in terms of universally recognised issues and controversies," says Professor Annamarie Jagose, Head of FTVMs. "Our production students benefit from being taught by a documentary-maker of her calibre."

The top honours at FIFO follow a raft of accolades for *An Island Calling*, which include Best Documentary and Best Director at the Madrid International Film Festival, Best Documentary and Winner of the Achievement in Cinematography at the Qantas Film and Television Awards, and the South Pacific Pictures Award for Achievement in Film at the Women in Film and Television (WIFT) Awards.

An Island Calling is being distributed in North America by Icarus Films (New York) and in Europe and Asia by Java Films (France). It has shown in several other international film festivals, including Hotdocs in Toronto, Sydney, Melbourne, Newfest (New York) and FIPA (France).

View the trailer on Youtube www.youtube.com/watch?v=xzozLHu_Oxw

Viewpoint

Homelessness: a complex issue

The teaching of a new Stage Two and Three course within the BTheol programme last year, entitled "Studies in public theology", co-taught by Distinguished Visiting Professor Elaine Graham, the Samuel Ferguson Lecturer in Practical and Public Theology at Manchester University, and Dr Mary Caygill from the School of Theology, gave an opportunity to focus in depth on key public issues that have been under debate.

One of these, which recently surfaced in public debate fronted by the chairperson of the Auckland City Council Community Services Committee, Councillor Paul Goldsmith, is the complex issue surrounding the growing reality of homelessness within Auckland City.

A significant research report prepared for Lifewise (formerly Methodist Mission Northern) entitled "Homelessness in New Zealand. A discussion and synthesis of research findings" compiled by Dr Chez Leggatt-Cook (November, 2007) picks up in detail something of the complexity in defining the term "homelessness." Drawing on Australian and UK research the distinction made between three levels or focal areas of homelessness is important in tackling the diverse nature and defining the realities of homelessness: primary homelessness, which denotes literal rooflessness, sleeping rough; secondary homelessness, denoting those in temporary and/or emergency accommodation; and tertiary homelessness, denoting those in medium- to long-term residence or boarding houses, indicative of an instability and insecurity of housing.

The majority of studies in New Zealand have largely focused on primary homelessness. The last count of "rough sleepers" in the Auckland CBD on the night of 17 June, 2007, recorded 65 people bedding down in doorways, or in some other form, on Auckland streets in a three-kilometre radius of the SkyTower. A further 69 people who would otherwise have been sleeping on the streets were counted as being located across a range of temporary accommodation facilities; night shelter, various emergency hostels, police holding cells, detoxification facilities, Accident and Emergency departments and other nearby hostel facilities.

It is of paramount concern that relatively little attention has been given in Auckland and other major New Zealand cities to the growing issue of homelessness – in contrast to a growing body of international literature on this growing public phenomenon which is far more complex than being simply an issue of law and order or a matter of personal lifestyle choice. Due to this lack of detailed research and careful investigation it is extremely difficult to gain a clear sense of the extent of homelessness in New Zealand.

What is clearly known within the public research literature available is the link between homelessness and major societal and policy changes that have occurred – over the last three decades at least – in New Zealand's socio-economic context, with the changes in broad social and economic policy, the welfare and public policy systems and also major changes within housing policy, most notably the policy decision introduced in the 1970s which allowed the purchase of state houses by those persons living within them, thus decreasing the availability of low-income housing. Along with the trend of gentrifying inner city properties and those within neighbouring suburbs, this also resulted, as in other major world centres, in a decrease in low-income housing stock.

Adding to the complexity of defining and getting a "handle" on this complex issue of homelessness is the ongoing and developing reality of the spectrum of associated issues experienced by those within the continuum of homelessness.

Key associated issues for many who encounter the reality of primary homelessness are poverty and employment, the long term realities of living with chronic mental illness and the maintaining of a consistency of care and support, addiction, poor physical and emotional health, trauma and abuse, and attempting to access the spectrum of care services needed, when too often the experience encountered is of piecemeal services offered largely through a range of overburdened, underfunded and uncoordinated social agencies. The need for what is termed "one-stop-shop" coordinated services is urgent in order to respond with any depth of a genuine attempt to address the full range of complex needs.

What is also well known is that an increasing number of those within the primary homeless spectrum are men, and young persons, the majority of whom have suffered some significant trauma, illness or abuse and are often caught within the fractured world of conflicting identities as they move between a variety of cultural and ethnic worlds.

There is an urgent need to see the public issues of homelessness along a continuum of housing and associated issues, with an accompanying critical need to redefine homelessness from being an issue solely of law and order, or of individual misfortune or consequence, to that of a complex issue of public and social concern.

Reverend Dr Mary Caygill
School of Theology

Obituary



Paki Harrison, with mokopuna close by, carves a poupou for Tane-nui-a-Rangi.

Pakaariki (Paki) Harrison was born at Ruatōria on 6 July 1928. His mother Ngāwīki was the daughter of Materoa Reedy, the highest ranking woman of the iwi of Ngāti Porou. His father Hārangī, also of Ngāti Porou, was connected to the enclave of the iwi at Harataunga (Kennedy's Bay).

Paki's formative years were spent at Te Kōpata Station, which was his grandmother's estate of 33,000 acres around the base of Mt Hikurangi.

Materoa treated Paki as the matāmua, the first born of her grandchildren. He was the chosen one on whom she lavished her care and attention. She claimed Paki at an early age so the boy shuttled between the two households of his parents on the dairy unit at Waiāranga and his grandmother's home at Waitangirua. Materoa kept Paki close to her at all times so that he spent much of his time in adult company on the marae and in the meeting house learning the language, customs, history and traditions of Ngāti Porou.

Paki was educated at Hiruhārama native school, Kennedy's Bay Primary School, Te Aute College, Massey College and Auckland Teacher's College.

As soon as he learned to read, Paki devoured books on Māori art and culture at Hiruhārama School, in his grandmother's library at Waitangirua and later in the library of Te Aute College. His research of the literature on Māori art was exhaustive, extending even to a publication in Italian.

Paki's scholarly interest in Māori art was complemented by the arrival of the master carver Pine Taiapa at Waitangirua to carve a house for Materoa. While his uncle was at lunch Paki took up a chisel and mallet and added his embellishment to Pine's work. When Pine returned he said to Paki, "Do you want to carve son?" On receiving an affirmative reply Pine gave Paki a mallet, a block of wood and his first chisel with the admonition: "That is yours, this is mine. Leave mine alone."

At Te Aute College, where Pine did the carvings

for the school hall, he sought Paki out to begin his life-long apprenticeship in the techniques of carving, starting at the elementary level of sharpening chisels and adzes.

In 1948 when Paki was studying agricultural science at Massey College, Pine sought him out again and roomed with him for six months. Paki attended lectures during the day, but at night his real education in the "other world" of the Māori took place after dark when for hours on end Pine recited chants, karakia, whakapapa, stories of mythology and traditions and their representation in the symbolism of Māori art.

Paki did not want to be a financial burden on Hārangī and his large family, so he withdrew from Massey and went to Auckland Training College in 1950. Although Paki found the courses unchallenging, his penchant for boozy escapades, such as a bare-bottom haka with his mates at Rae House, almost led to his expulsion. He was saved by the intercession of Matiu Te Hau who saw him through the completion of his course. Years later Paki paid a tribute to "uncle Matt" by carving the effigy of Toroa in Tanenuiārangi with a wall-eye.

In 1952, Paki did his probationary year at Mangamuka native school where he met and married Hinemoa Rākena. He did a stint of relief teaching at Kennedy's Bay before going on to teach at Te Whaiti and Minginui in the Urewera. When the Minginui school was closed in 1964, Paki took up a post in Manurewa. There he introduced Māori art into the curriculum and began teaching carving at night school.

In 1974 the New Zealand Arts Council selected Paki to give lectures and demonstrations on the art of carving at a UNESCO conference in Paris. When Paki returned to New Zealand he gave up teaching and began carving meeting houses fulltime. His first house, which he carved alone, was Waiārīki on Whaiora marae at Ōtara. Then followed a succession of nine more projects including carvings for the hall of St Stephen's College, the Ōtāwhao

house at te Awamutu College and Tanenuiārangi at The University of Auckland. The kaupapa, the conceptual design of the ten projects that Paki completed, are the symbolic expression of whakapapa, the sequential layering of knowledge from the creation myth to the development of human institutions, the epic migrations across the Pacific to New Zealand, the development of tribal polities and the advent of European colonisation.

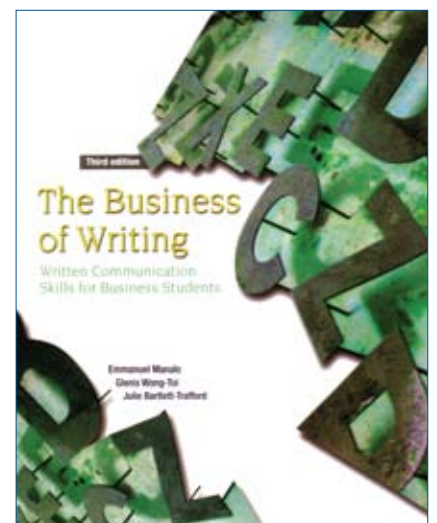
In 1986 Paki taught the first academic carving course at The University of Auckland. His restoration of the art of carving from its reduction to the level of a technical trade to its original state as the pursuit of higher learning, was recognised by the University awarding Paki with an honorary Doctorate of Literature in 1991. Other awards followed, including a QSO in 2000 for services to Māori art and the New Zealand Arts Council "icon" in 2005.

Paki's other notable contributions include chairing the Arts Council committee that produced "Toi iho", the design mark authenticating Māori works of art. He also chaired a committee that set unit standards in Māori art for NZQA. Besides the houses that he carved, Paki's enduring legacy to scholarship is the standards that he set for the Bachelor of Maori Art taught by Te Wānanga o Aotearoa in 2002. There are 25 graduates from this course who will ensure that the "the seeds of knowledge brought here from Rangiatea will not be lost".

Paki Harrison died at his home in Kennedy's Bay on 29 December. He is survived by his wife Hinemoa, ten children, 33 grandchildren and 45 great grandchildren.

Ranginui Walker
Mt Eden

The Business of Writing



The Business of Writing: Written Communication Skills for Business Students, published by Pearson Education, is a highly successful book aimed at the development of writing skills of students in tertiary business courses.

From the collection

Back in June 1975, the University's Works Committee resolved to provide for "fine arts embellishments of new buildings and their precinct" and allocated funds for the acquisition of art works as part of building contracts.

The Council recommended the adoption of the Works Registrar's policy that "a realistic allowance for such work would be one-half percent for Government buildings but that where buildings of national or prime community importance are involved allowance of up to one-and-a-half percent would be more appropriate". Commissioning of fine art for specific sites around the University resulted in the Medical School Link building on the University's Grafton Campus being the first to benefit from the new policy.

The School of Architecture, completed by Kingston Reynolds Thom and Allardice in 1982, was the second building to get the art treatment. Painter Pat Hanly, then a lecturer in drawing at the School, chose the all-male team of artists. As well as selecting a site on the exterior of the conference centre for one of his own paintings *The Golden Age*, Hanly chose interior walls for works by Don Driver, Barry Lett and Dick Frizzell. He also identified sites in the grounds for a sculpture by Greer Twiss, and for a large wooden piece by Peter Nicholls.

Nicholls was an Elam graduate who had just completed his Master of Fine Arts at the University

of Wisconsin at the Lake Superior Campus and was poised to return to New Zealand to take up a position as lecturer in sculpture at the School of Art, Otago Polytechnic, in Dunedin. The resulting commissions were documented by Pat Hanly's wife Gil Hanly who produced a photographic essay for *Art New Zealand* published at the end of 1982 entitled "Seven artists contribute to the Auckland School of Architecture". In her commentary, she writes of the art works as "among the most impressive recent contributions of artists to the aesthetics of public buildings in this country".

Nicholls' work *Measure* had originally been made in 1979 as part of a Dunedin sculpture festival organised by gallerist Patricia Bosshard for significant sites around the Octagon and Moray Place. Created as an angular sight line to direct the gaze of passers-by to the 54-metre top of First Church's decorated Victorian Gothic tower, *Measure* is conceptually minimal in style, and subtle in gesture. It is intended to conjure the notion of measuring, which is often part of architectural practice, appropriately enough.

As part of the ongoing maintenance of the art collection, *Measure* was demounted in 2007. It has now been beautifully restored by sculptor Matthew Thomson in association with Peter Nicholls himself, and will be reinstalled in its original position in the Architecture courtyard.

Art



Peter Nicholls (b.1936), *Measure*, 1981, Recycled Australian hardwood, 6000 x 3000 x 1500mm, The University of Auckland Art Collection

The book owes this success to two main factors: its comprehensive coverage of the tasks and associated skills required in all business course writing, and the user-friendly approach with which these are explained throughout the book. It covers topics from writing reports and case analyses to taking exams and constructing tables and figures. Even the challenging issue of academic referencing is dealt with in a simple and highly practical manner.

In this third edition, the authors (Associate Professor Emmanuel Manalo, Glenis Wong-Toi, and Julie Bartlett-Trafford from the Student Learning Centre) have revised and updated all chapters. They have added a new chapter on critical thinking and a number of new appendices dealing with topics like understanding the question, revising written work, and making use of marking criteria and marker feedback.

Dr Michael Paton, Teaching Quality Fellow and Senior Learning Adviser at the University of Sydney's Faculty of Economics and Business, has commented that "the fact that this book situates business communications within both the academic and business contexts makes it an invaluable asset for any student undertaking a business degree". Dr Douglas Carrie, Director of Bachelor of Business and Information Management at the University of Auckland's Business School, describes the book as "an excellent stand-alone resource as it is targeted so well at the specific needs of business students".

Collected Poems, 1951-2006

Christian Karlson Stead is New Zealand's most distinguished living poet. He was Professor of English at The University of Auckland for 20 years before retiring in 1986 to write full time.

Since publishing his first poems in periodicals like *Landfall* in the early 1950s, C. K. Stead has experimented with many forms while always bringing to his poetry a strong personality, deft craftsmanship and a commitment to the real. Now, for the first time, his poetic achievements are brought together in one handsome volume.

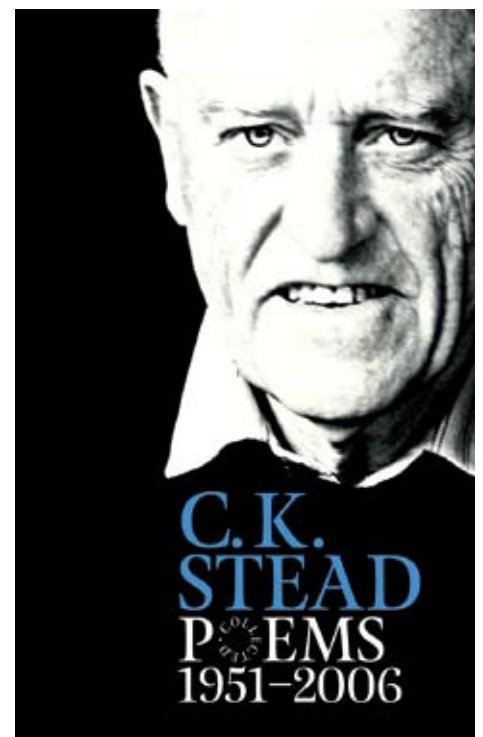
The *Collected Poems, 1951-2006* (Auckland University Press) comprises the poems in C. K. Stead's 14 collections as well as previously uncollected poems dating from 1951 to 1961.

Varying in form, tone, voice and subject, the poems are enormously engaging to the ear and eye. Some are hard, clean, bright and particular; others agile and lyric, irreverent and witty. Whether elegiac lyrics, piercing satires, protest poems, modernist collages or adaptations of Catullus, Stead's work is filled with the pleasures of sound, rhythm and wordplay.

Stead writes in his foreword that he thinks of writing a poem "as putting oneself in the moment at the moment". Surveying the poems in this book shows that such moments are exceptionally diverse and yet informed always by the same alert poetic mind.

Books

Compiled and extensively annotated by the author, *Collected Poems, 1951-2006* illustrates the range and ambition of C. K. Stead's verse over more than 50 years. These are poems in which the world looks "hard / at the word and the / word at the world".



State of Suffering

How do ordinary people respond when their lives are irrevocably altered by terror and violence?

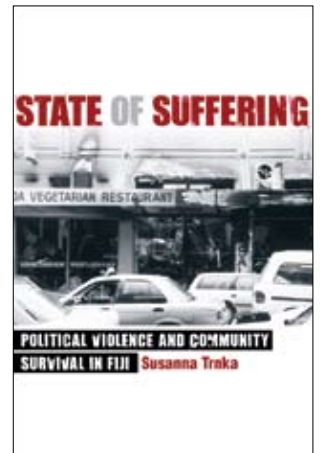
Dr Susanna Trnka (Anthropology) was residing in an Indo-Fijian village in the year 2000 during the Fijian nationalist coup. The overthrow of the elected multiethnic party led to six months of nationalist aggression, much of which was directed towards Indo-Fijians.

In *State of Suffering* Susanna shows how Indo-Fijians' lives were overturned as waves of turmoil and destruction swept across Fiji.

Throughout the book the focus is on the collective social process through which violence is embodied, articulated and silenced by those it targets. This sensitive ethnography, published by Cornell University Press and distributed in Australasia by Footprint Books, is a valuable addition to the global conversation about the impact of political violence on community life.

"This powerful book is original in its conception, rich in ethnographic detail, and very clearly written," writes Veena Das Krieger-

Eisenhower Professor of Anthropology at Johns Hopkins University. "Susanna Trnka has made a strong contribution to the larger issues pertaining to the analysis of violence, state of emergency and reconstruction of everyday life. Trnka's book signals a new generation of scholarship in the study of violence - it is indeed a splendid achievement. I am sure it will become standard reading in courses on violence, diaspora, island societies and social suffering."



What's on

FRIDAY 27 FEBRUARY

Introduction to Tutoring: Faculty of Arts

10am-4.30pm HSB 901. CAD workshop for new graduate teaching assistants in Faculty of Arts. Course code TUTART. Enrol through PeopleSoft HR or call CAD at 373-7599 ext 88140 for assistance.

SATURDAY 28 FEBRUARY

Exhibition talk

1pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Senior composer Jack Body, Associate Professor at the New Zealand School of Music, discusses the series of Sonic Circus festivals he organised, which in 1974 featured Edward Bullmore's *Dream Room* installation.

TUESDAY 3 MARCH

Bioengineering research seminar

Prof Mark Richards, Director, Christchurch Cardioendocrine Research Group, University of Otago: *Natriuretic peptides: Current and future role in heart failure*. 4-5pm Fifth Floor Seminar Rm, 70 Symonds St.

Society for Legal and Social Philosophy, Auckland Branch meeting/seminar

Prof William Lucy: *Abstraction and the rule of law*. 6pm Small Lecture Theatre, Bldg 803, Faculty of Law, Eden Cres. Queries to Jim Evans, pj.evans@auckland.ac.nz

WEDNESDAY 4 MARCH

Commencement service

11am Maclaurin Chapel, 18 Princes St. Marking the beginning of the University academic year, with Reverend Andrew Norton, Moderator of Auckland Presbytery. Refreshments provided. All welcome.

THURSDAY 5 MARCH

Physics Department colloquium

Prof Serge Haroche, Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris, Collège de France: *Power and strangeness of the quantum*. 11am Conference Centre Lecture

Theatre, 423-342. Queries to Howard Carmichael, h.carmichael@auckland.ac.nz

History Seminar

Jane Smith, Northwestern University, USA: English Catholics and the forging of the British nation. 4pm Rm 59, 7 Wynyard St. Queries to l.bryder@auckland.ac.nz

FRIDAY 6 MARCH

Association of Tertiary Management - Aotearoa Region breakfast

7.30am Decima Glenn Rm, Owen G Glenn Bldg. To announce the launch of NZ 2009 Professional Development programme. Sponsored by the ATEM Auckland Group. ATEM members free, non members \$30 (pay cash on the day). Register with Jenni Tupu, Faculty of Education, UoA, email j.tupu@auckland.ac.nz by Friday 27 Feb.

Dan Walls Centre seminar

Professor Serge Haroche, Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris, Collège de France: *Exploring the quantumness of light in a cavity*. Tba Physics Seminar Rm 303-426. Queries to Howard Carmichael, email h.carmichael@auckland.ac.nz

MONDAY 9 MARCH

Accounting and finance fair

10am-4pm Level 0, Owen G Glenn Bldg. Representatives from medium to large, local and international companies within the accounting and finance industry will be on campus to talk to students. They will give advice on career paths and prospects and help students gain an understanding of what skills, experience and personal qualities employers seek. Queries to careers@auckland.ac.nz Visit www.auckland.ac.nz/careers

TUESDAY 10 MARCH

Bioengineering research seminar

Dr Mark Titchener, Senior Research Fellow, Auckland Bioengineering Institute: *'Back to the future': An analogue approach to biosignals*. 4-5pm Fifth floor Seminar Rm, 70 Symonds St.

Society for Legal and Social Philosophy, Auckland Branch meeting/seminar

Dr Elizabeth Gedge: *Dignity and equality in constitutional jurisprudence*. 6pm Small Lecture Theatre, Bldg 803, Faculty

of Law, Eden Cres. Queries to Jim Evans, pj.evans@auckland.ac.nz

WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH

Law distribution days

Until 12 March. 10am-4pm University Hall, Clock Tower Bldg.

Information from medium to large, local and international law firms on display. Explore career paths and prospects (including summer work/internships and graduate positions) within the law industry and gain an understanding of what skills, experience and personal qualities future employers seek. Queries to careers@auckland.ac.nz Visit www.auckland.ac.nz/careers

Computer Science seminar

Prof Andrew Hopper, Head of Dept, The Computer Laboratory, University of Cambridge: *Computing for the future of the planet*. 12 noon Computer Science Seminar Rm 279. Queries to Nevil Brownlee, n.brownlee@auckland.ac.nz

Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

Female flatmate, n/s to share sunny four-bdrm, three-bthrm New Windsor home with two others and small dog, cat. Three-four minutes walk to bus stop, in quiet cul-de-sac, swimming pool, rumpus room, open plan kitchen/dining/lounge, with city views. \$160 pw includes gas, water and power. Phone 828 4092 or (027) 296 6130.

Flatmates wanted to share house in St Johns. Easy walk to Tamaki Campus, bus and train. Available two unfurnished bdrms with shared bthrm, lounge, dining, modern kitchen, large sunny section, parking. \$150 pw + electricity per room. Email l.vankerckhoven@auckland.ac.nz

University fringe: 21st floor of 'The Precinct'. One bdrm apartment with one carpark. Recently renovated, elegantly furnished with every amenity (including walk-in wardrobe). Two-minute stroll through park to the hub of University. Northerly views of city, harbour and park. With the option of eating alfresco on balcony amongst tropical plants this

apartment becomes a special home away from home for medium to long stays. Building facilities include gym, lap pool, sauna, building manager and reception. \$550 pw. Ph (09) 524 5955 or 021 180 7008 or email vjnggram@gmail.com

OVERSEAS ACCOMMODATION

Greek apartment. An Auckland academic's retreat is available to rent any time. Located within three hours of Athens Airport, Tyros is an ideal base for study leave in Europe. It is well served by buses to Athens. The Tyros Apartment is brand new within a classic Peleponnese village with its bay and beach front tavernas. Visit www.tyrosapartment.com or email twfookes@yahoo.co.nz

PROPERTY FOR SALE

Freemans Bay: Classic 1960s two-level ex-council apartment in leafy Freemans Park. Two bdrms, one carpark, plus secure storage. Central and sunny. Elevated peaceful outlook. Walk to Ponsonby, parks, schools, city, and UoA. Inquiries around mid \$400k. View by appointment. Phone (021) 063 3604.

MISCELLANEOUS

Academic travel. I have 12 years experience in booking all aspects of travel for University staff. I pride myself in ensuring that your travel plans are sourced at the lowest possible costs and are tailor-made to your requirements. For more information email Karen at Karen.embleton@mondotravel.co.nz or phone 366 4645 (wk) or (021) 188 7781.

Carpenter/builder available. Over 30 years experience. Lots of renovations and historic places. References. Phone Chris on 828 2298 or (027) 293 2279.

For a limited time: \$20 hearing tests available for children aged from six months to five years. Please call the Hearing and Tinnitus Clinic, Tamaki Campus for an appointment: 373 8791 (ample free parking).