



Growing Up
in New Zealand



GROWING UP GIVES BIRTH

Dr Susan Morton with Professor Alistair Woodward, head of the School of Population Health which hosts the study.

One in three children growing up in New Zealand today are likely to have at least one parent who was born overseas.

This is just one piece of key demographic information to come out of the first findings released by the University's landmark *Growing Up in New Zealand* longitudinal study which is following more than 7,000 children for the next 21 years.

"These first results paint a picture of a very changed New Zealand," the study's director Dr Susan Morton told a gathering at the Fale Pasifika on 26 November. "The research shows this new generation of New Zealander is growing up in a culturally and structurally diverse environment."

The large number and diverse ethnicity of children in the study means the findings reflect New Zealand as a whole. They show immediate challenges for policy-makers highlighting deprivation, family mobility and evolving family structures.

"Eighteen Government agencies have funded this study and Parliament is already working on the evidence," said Susan.

The initial data also provides a glimpse of the children's lives before birth with unplanned pregnancies accounting for 40 percent of births and 90 percent of all mothers-to-be to changing their diet with the news that they were pregnant.

Other findings elucidate the current prevalence of smoking and drinking during pregnancy. Findings such as a lack of awareness about Working for Families tax credits amongst mothers in poorer areas suggest that policies targeting inequality are not reaching those most in need.

The *Growing Up in New Zealand* study is designed to gather high quality information about the lives of children growing up here and aims to help improve educational success, health and well-being and social connectedness for future generations.

The study has been five years in the

development, planning, recruitment, interviews and analysis with parent interviews when the children are nine months old continuing throughout 2010 and some two year interviews underway.

To-date the study has cost \$20 million with an average cost of \$5 million per year. The next results will be released in late 2011.

See www.growingup.co.nz

Key antenatal findings

- 40 percent of children were unplanned
- 90 percent of mothers made changes to their diet during pregnancy.
- 16 percent of all mothers did not take folate at any time before or during their pregnancy.
- More than one in ten mothers continued to smoke through their pregnancies (with an over-representation of those identifying as Māori and living in the most deprived areas).
- Many mothers consumed alcohol during pregnancy.



It is difficult to believe that the time has already arrived for me to write this last column of the year. Perhaps time really does fly when you are having fun. Of course, that all depends on your definition of fun, and 2010 has been perhaps more appropriately characterised by a high level of change and a great deal of hard work.

On the building front, we have seen an extraordinary year in campus development. Our largest project yet, the redevelopment of Grafton, is well underway with the new Boyle Building nearly closed in and excellent progress on the refurbishment of other areas. The new Institute for Innovation in Biotechnology, adjacent to the Thomas Building, is nearing completion, as is the Interpretive Centre at Leigh Marine (the Science Building at Leigh having already been completed this year). Work is well underway on other major projects including the new student hall of residence at Elam, and the refurbishment of Arts 1 and the Maths/ Physics Building. Meanwhile, a number of smaller projects, including the reorganisation of space at Tāmaki, the new early childhood education centre at Epsom and the lecture theatre upgrades, continue apace.

Also on the infrastructure front, we have seen the successful introduction of the new Student Services Online system, of Research+, and of the new timetabling system, along with several smaller developments. While new IT systems, like new buildings, inevitably encounter teething problems, they are nonetheless critical to the University's development and their successful introduction reflects the outstanding efforts of a large number of people across the University. Meanwhile, our core business of teaching and research continues with a number of significant achievements by our staff and students, many of which will be recorded in our forthcoming Annual Report. Our financial position remains solid, notwithstanding the effects of government policy on our revenues, and we have retained our position as New Zealand's leading university in all the international ranking systems.

None of this could have been achieved without the contributions and support of Council, staff and students, alumni, donors and friends of the University. That support is greatly appreciated and acknowledged.

Deborah and I wish you and your families a restful and safe Christmas break.

Mighty scanner



From left: The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Brett Cowan, Professor Iain Martin, Dean of FMHS, Craig Brown, CEO Uniservices, the Hon Wayne Mapp.

"CAMRI is a light in the gloom of a difficult week," said the Hon Wayne Mapp, at the official breakfast launch on 26 November of the University's new 3T Skyra MRI scanner.

The Minister for Research, Science and Technology was of course referring to the week that had seen the gloomy unfolding of the Pike River Mining tragedy at Greymouth. The "light" was the fact that The University of Auckland was now home to the world's most advanced MRI scanner, the 3T Skyra – the first of its kind based in Australasia or even North America.

"The fact manufacturer Siemens has chosen Auckland is a tremendous testament to the world leading research being carried out here," said the minister.

The new 3T Skyra premium research machine has been installed at the University's Centre for Advanced MRI (CAMRI) as a diagnostic tool for cardiac patients and for global collaborative research work.

"And there is a direct connection from that fundamental research to health outcomes and to economic development," noted Wayne Mapp.

CAMRI is now the single most important site for Siemens internationally for the research development of cardiovascular MRI, and Siemens is the world's biggest manufacturer of these devices.

"What makes the 3T Skyra special is that it doubles the magnetic field, and its 200 different aerials give us greatly improved 'ears' to listen for signals, which in turn delivers improved picture quality," says CAMRI director Associate Professor Brett Cowan.

In the last five years, anyone with a significant heart defect requiring surgery, including babies and children, would almost certainly have been scanned at CAMRI, but the Centre's major focus is on research.

"We research for New Zealanders, we do it for the University and we do it for the New Zealand economy," says Brett.

"We develop new software to make better images and to find new ways of analysing them. That technology has been distributed across the world and is routinely used at prestigious sites such as UCLA, the National Institutes of Health and Johns Hopkins in the United States. This work directly benefits sick patients across the globe, but most importantly it benefits New Zealand patients with heart disease first."

Brett calls MRI an enabling technology when it comes to research.

"Our business is to look inside things without touching them whether it's a mummified moa from Te Papa or the ripening of fruit for food science. CAMRI also enables The University of Auckland attract and retain world-class staff and students whose research continues to push the frontiers of knowledge."

Through UniServices CAMRI is part of the biotech sector and knowledge economy.

"What the University and UniServices envisioned six years ago with the setup of the Centre has directly benefited the health of New Zealanders through our clinical work, the reputation of the University and the knowledge-based export sector of New Zealand through our research work. The new scanner will enable us to continue expanding that work," says Brett.

Poster calendar printed

The University's poster calendar for 2011 features closeup shots of architectural details around the University and there is a useful wall planner on the back.

Order yours from Communications and Marketing, Level 10, Fisher Building, 18 Waterloo Quadrant (ext 87467, k.pitcher@uckland.ac.nz). Staff wanting both the poster calendar and the wall planner are of course welcome to two copies.



Staff excellence

From left: Project Focus team, Susan Colvin, Glenda Haines, Andrea Plumley, Diane Howard and John Neal (not pictured Phil Taylor)

The Project Focus team that drove process and technology development for the new Student Services Online were among winners at the General Staff Excellence Awards on 25 November.

The six-person team, who were seconded to the project for 18 months with process lead

responsibilities, were one of two winners of an Excellence in Innovation Award.

"Each made a strong contribution to the success of the project by applying their diverse expertise and institutional knowledge to support innovative solutions in design, development and implementation phases," said the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stuart McCutcheon.

As a result Student Services Online has provided a new platform for students to access information and use online services supporting academic administration, he said.

The other winner of an Excellence in Innovation Award was Aldon Hartley, Manager of Teaching Technology and TechSite Services at the Business School, for his work scoping and implementing the new low-cost, innovative timetable information system in the Owen G. Glenn Building.

The Library IT and Digital Services team that successfully implemented Symplectic, a world-class research output recording system, won an award for Excellence in the Contribution to Research and Creative Work for their system which is now the envy of research institutions across Australasia.

Other award winners included: the Business School's Health and Wellness Team for Excellence In Teamwork; Keran Pocklington, Manager of the School of Teaching, Learning and Development at the Faculty of Education for Excellence in Leadership; and Nancy Wong, Administrative Assistant, Department of Statistics, Faculty of Science for Excellence in her contribution to Teaching and Learning of Statistics.

New Fellow in Mechanical Engineering



Associate Xun Xu (Mechanical Engineering) has been elected a Fellow in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME).

The fellowship was bestowed at the award ceremony during the ASME 2010 International Manufacturing Science and Engineering Conference from 12 to 15 October in Erie, Pennsylvania in the United States.

This prestigious honour recognises significant achievements and contributions to the engineering profession. Xun Xu is among the three new Fellows elected through the Manufacturing Engineering Division of ASME this year, which also makes him the only second

ASME Fellow in New Zealand.

The appointment acknowledges Xun Xu's international reputation for research in the areas of computer-aided design, process planning and manufacturing. He is an internationally recognised figure in research and development of STEP-NC – a new data model to improve data interoperability between design and manufacturing – and author of the book entitled *Integrating Advanced Computer-Aided Design, Manufacturing, and Numerical Control: Principles and Implementations*, as well as more than 150 research monographs.

Highlighted Events

Celebration choir

The Centre for Brain Research's CeleBRation choir performs a special Christmas concert this Saturday, 11 December at 3pm Saint Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Road. Tickets (includes afternoon tea to follow) \$10 in advance, \$12 on door. Available from Laura Fogg cbr@auckland.ac.nz

The CeleBRation choir is a music therapy social singing group for people with neurological conditions such as stroke or Parkinson's disease. Ticket proceeds will help support the CBR choir for people with brain disease. www.cbr.auckland.ac.nz

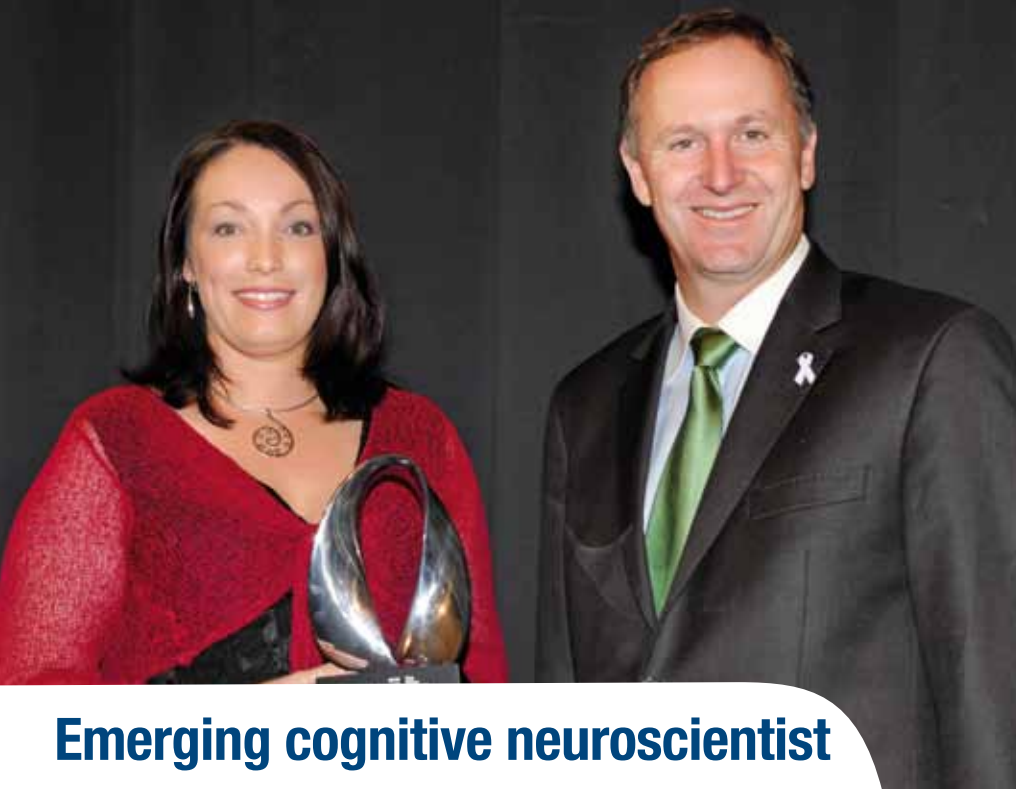
Christmas morning tea

The annual General Staff morning tea takes place at 10am on 17 December on Old Government House lawn. If it's raining staff are advised to attend one of two sittings at 10am and 10.30am in Old Government House.



The Seven Ages of Man

In the early 1970s Hamish Keith commissioned Pat Hanly (1932-2004) to create a series of seven paintings for the University's new Medical School "Link" building where they have been on permanent display since 1975. Now while major refurbishments take place at Grafton, the series are on display at the Gus Fisher Gallery. They form part of a talk on 18 December at 1pm by Hamish Keith as he explores his experience as a commissioner of artworks for the Medical School as well as the Aotea Centre and Auckland International Airport. www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz



Emerging cognitive neuroscientist

University of Auckland cognitive neuroscientist Dr Donna Rose Addis (pictured above with the Prime Minister, the Rt Hon John Key) has received the 2010 Prime Minister's MacDiarmid Emerging Scientist Prize.

Dr Addis (Psychology and Centre for Brain Research) won the \$200,000 prize for her world-leading research on memory and imagination that may lead to new therapies for diseases ranging from Alzheimer's to depression.

"I'm interested in how our memories aren't just for remembering – they also allow us to

imagine future events and know who we are," she says. "My field of research not only looks at the psychology of cognitive processes like memory or imagination but also their neurological basis – the brain regions involved and how they interact.

"Our memories seem to play out like movies in our minds but research has shown that, in fact, the details are stored as fragments in different areas of the brain and when we remember we have to put all of the pieces back together again.

"Storing memories in this way also allows the fragments to be used when we imagine future

events – individual details can be taken from a variety of memories and put together into an imaginary scenario."

Dr Addis uses MRI scans to study the hippocampus – a part of the brain that is critical in reconstructing memories as well as constructing future events. Her work will help scientists to learn how the imagination is affected by diseases that destroy the hippocampus such as Alzheimer's.

"Being able to remember our past and imagine our futures is an important part of who we are. Our rich memories of our lives contribute to our sense of identity and one of the issues facing people with conditions like Alzheimer's disease is how the loss of those memories impacts on their sense of self. I studied this as part of my masters degree and I'm looking forward to picking it up again in my latest work."

Dr Addis will also launch a new area of research examining how the ability to remember and imagine may change in people with depression. "There is some evidence that the hippocampus is damaged in depression and it may be that this impairs people's ability to construct memories and future events," she says.

Dr Addis studied for her undergraduate and masters degrees at the University before travelling to the University of Toronto for her PhD. After working as a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University for three years she returned to Auckland in 2008 to establish her own laboratory. Earlier this month she received one of only ten 2010 Rutherford Discovery Fellowships awarded to New Zealand's most talented young researchers.

Helping you with your research

The University is introducing a programme designed to give staff the knowledge they need to successfully manage their research.

"Research communications for researchers" gives participants the chance to understand the complex structure of research support and management at the University and to acquire the skills to navigate through them and benefit in many different ways.

At the same time they will have the pleasure of meeting colleagues from across the University, and hearing some of them speak from their own experience on topics essential for success.

Says Director of Research Management, Dr John Smart: "The focus of this programme is on how the University can help researchers achieve their objectives. Research is not a simple activity. The experience of researchers is highly diverse and the support offered by the University reflects that diversity. It can therefore be quite complex to access not only for new staff but also for those who have been here for a while. What we are intending is to help staff become familiar

with the different support structures, policies and procedures so that they will be able to make best use of the opportunities to fulfil their own individual aspirations."

Staff who support or work with researchers will also have much to gain from the programme, which is being developed by the Research Office, the Centre for Academic Development, the Staff Organisational Development Unit, the Office of the Vice-Chancellor, and Communications and Marketing.

The programme comprises two related components: "Introduction to research at The University of Auckland" (a one-day workshop) and "Research essentials" (a series of 12 seminars).

The workshop will allow staff to gain an overview of the University's research management structure and meet key support staff and build valuable networks. Targeted at academics new to the University but available to all staff, it will include an introductory session on the place of research and forums on

collaboration and interdisciplinary research at the University led by the faculties' Associate Deans (Research), as well as discussion and information sessions on key topics.

At the lunchtime seminars staff will gain new perspectives on how to advance their research, and will have the chance for in-depth discussion on the practices and policies of research support. They will hear some of their colleagues' personal insights into the realities of navigating New Zealand's research landscape, of working with business, collaborating with colleagues, working across disciplines and ensuring that their research not only complies with ethical requirements but is based on the highest principles of research integrity.

The "Introduction to research" workshop will be piloted in February. Invitations to attend will be distributed before Christmas. Let Mariana Suarez know if you are interested (m.suarez@auckland.ac.nz). The "Research essentials" seminar series will be run in two six-week blocks during Semesters One and Two. These will be advertised in the New Year.

How did you approach writing the preliminary proposal?

I read many, many successful applications and I could see that they were tightly written and very focused. What strikes you is the coherent and logically developed argument, the clarity of the idea. The successful applications have to grab the reader's attention early and create a sense of excitement. At my previous attempt I had received feedback from the panel that my topic was not focused enough. This time I was very tight with language and made sure there was nothing unclear. It is absolutely crucial that it is not jargon-ridden and can be understood by a lay-reader, as there were no musicologists on the Humanities panel.

How did you develop your methodology?

Particularly for humanities it is crucial to show robust methodology and a novel approach. I drew on methodological tools from other disciplines and showed how I could translate them to my area of study.

How important was your track record?

It is secondary to excellence of the proposal but still critical. I had to convince them of my capability to complete work within the three years which was assisted by a detailed plan of the research programme.

What principles did you use in refining your application?

I did up to 15 revisions of the full proposal improving it right up to the deadline. I got lots of feedback from the mock panel, colleagues and an editing consultant who really helped me refine my application.

What do you think are the critical factors in writing a successful Marsden application?

I think the most critical thing is the feedback from many different sources. Critically evaluate it and decide which to accept or leave. This requires good planning as you need plenty of time for this part of the process.



Nancy November

Marsden success

With Marsden preliminary proposals due on 3 February, potential applicants will be gearing up for some summer holiday grant writing. Dr Nancy November (Music) received a Fast Start award last year for her proposal: "Beethoven's Middle-period String Quartets in context: Ideology, performance, reception". She talks to Mark Inglis from the Research Office.

How did you generate your research topic?

I had tried on three previous occasions with a proposal based on the works of Joseph Haydn. The research topic has to be cutting edge and new. I decided to change my topic to a study of Beethoven. Beethoven scholarship holds a certain aura and sense of tradition. I brought a new angle, in that my study was on the performance aspects rather the written music. I think choosing a better known composer, which was a new area of study for me with a new angle, helped.

Tariq Ali coming

The prominent political commentator and activist Tariq Ali will deliver the 2011 Sir Douglas Robb Lectures on "Empire and its futures".

His lectures, on 17, 21 and 23 March (7pm), will deal in turn with three topics: "US power today: The global hegemon", "The rise of China" and "Islam and its discontents".

London-based and published on every continent, Tariq Ali has been a leading figure of the international left since the

1960s. He is an editor of *New Left Review* and has written more than 20 books on world history and politics as well as seven novels.

Born in Pakistan he attended Oxford University where he became involved in student politics and the movement against the Vietnam war. He is a critic of neoliberal economics and his book *The Clash of Fundamentalisms: Crusades, Jihads and Modernity* was a response to 9/11.

Watch the Robb Lectures website for further details: www.auckland.ac.nz/robb

2011 Marsden Fund 5

The Marsden Fund invests in investigator-initiated research aimed at generating new knowledge, advancing and expanding the knowledge base in New Zealand.

Preliminary Proposals are due with the Research Office by 27 January with decisions on the success of these proposals notified by 20 April 2011. Key changes for 2011 include:

PIs funded in 2009 or 2010 cannot be PIs on proposals this year

One-page abstract for all panels.

One panel only to be chosen per proposal.

The Research Office will be coordinating a comprehensive assistance strategy for researchers planning to submit a Marsden application. For further details contact Chris Tews, c.tews@auckland.ac.nz

Antarctica New Zealand Doctoral Scholarships

Scholarships (along with logistics support) are offered for postgraduate students undertaking relevant research. For further details contact researchoffice@auckland.ac.nz.

The Rutherford Foundation and Antarctica New Zealand are promoting a scholarship to undertake Antarctic research at the Scott Polar Research Institute in Cambridge. Applications are invited with a deadline of 20 January 2011. For further details contact Chris Tews, c.tews@auckland.ac.nz

European Union FP7 International Research Staff Exchange Programme (IRSES)

The EU have now formally opened the call for the 2011 IRSES programme. This supports multi institutional staff exchange programmes involving at least two EU institutions and at least one "third country" (NZ). The participation of NZ partners is funded by MoRST via the Royal Society of New Zealand. For further details contact David Saunders, d.saunders@auckland.ac.nz

Toi huarewa Visiting Indigenous Fellowship 2011 (at Victoria University Wellington)

Fellowship of 2-6 weeks for international indigenous scholars (including PhD in progress) to provide opportunities to build indigenous research capacity and enhance indigenous engagement and collaboration with Victoria's Māori research programme. Travels, accommodation, per diem. For details contact Gemma Paton, gemma.paton@auckland.ac.nz

National Institutes of Health (NIH) (US)

The NIH has ongoing "parent calls" in major funding programmes for investigator-initiated research in relevant areas as defined by the individual NIH institutes. For further information on strategies for engaging with the NIH (eg, via a US partner as a co-investigator) and NZ eligibility contact David Saunders, d.saunders@auckland.ac.nz



Textiles are often referred to in Elam MFA graduate Sara Hughes' work, and *Chromatic Interaction* looks at first to be laid out like a pattern for busy fingers to follow in making a hexagon quilt.

In the case of this painting, the end point relates to a recognisable textile whereas in her earlier work Hughes used fabric patterns as a point of departure. Her investigation of the history of paisley and its Otago associations inspired the vinyl installation *Love Me Tender* which is still on the walls of the Dunedin Public Art Gallery. It is competing for the distinction of being New Zealand's longest standing temporary installation in a public art gallery as it went up as the product of her Frances Hodgkins Fellowship year in Dunedin back in 2003 but has been kept up there by popular demand. In Dunedin, Hughes stretched her vinyl-cut patterns using computer rendering tools, and then printed out the sticky vinyl for direct application on the white walls. The effect morphs each tiny Indian motif into a range of giant orange and yellow creatures which chase

each other around the walls in a configuration which one commentator has referred to as paisley on acid.

Working at the epicentre of the global financial crisis during her recent residency in New York has brought money markets into view for this artist. Bright with colour, regularly patterned and with its noncommittal title, *Chromatic Interaction*, this work appears at first to be an exercise purely in colour relationships. Yet it is derived from a highly systematic analysis of colour which derives from the design of websites for banks. By researching each bank's website and obtaining information from a British website consultant, Hughes has analysed the six digit code (hexadecimal value) derived from the triumvirate of projected colour known as RGB (red, green and blue) colours. Each hexagon in her painted quilt is bisected with colours which are exact reproductions of the online hues as a result. The size of each slice of colour is scientifically determined and proportionally correct. The resulting kaleidoscope of colour fans out from the centre like a pie-chart graph with

all its associations of profit and loss, margins of error and patterns of production and consumption.

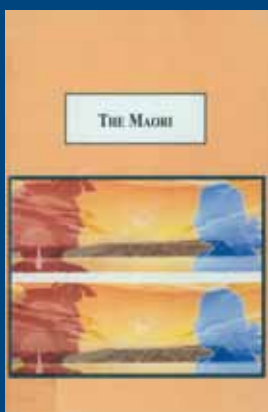
Each set of these colour values is contained within a thin white linear mesh which outlines the hexagon pattern as a metaphor for the interconnectedness of money and global economies. As the hexagons are like cells in a beehive and infinitely replicable, the artist has designed the painting to be either oriented horizontally in a landscape presentation or vertically as a portrait. In this way, the current drama of the recession with its economic and social repercussions is smuggled into a work which appears as a triumphant neo-geometric exercise in colour, form and composition.

The dominance of computer use in contemporary life is also a theme in the work. The artist writes: "Contemporary knowledge of colour has become very screen-focused and I am interested in the way that colour influences, manipulates and affects our understanding of web browsing. Within this context I have identified the largest commercial bank (by assets) in every country and taken the ten predominant colours of each of these websites to create a palette of 1950 paint colours for this exhibition. I have mixed each colour so that its pigmentation matches its hexadecimal value as closely as possible. Each online colour exists as a six-digit code created from a combination of letters and numbers that refer to the red, green and blue components of the colour, these codes are interpreted by HTML allowing for more than 16 million colours to be created for online visualisation. This method of colour matching has highlighted to me the contrast between the additive process of mixing light and the subtractive process of mixing paint, and emphasised the differences of seeing colour on screen or in a painting."

Linda Tyler

Sara Hughes, *Chromatic Interaction*, acrylic on linen 1600 x 2400mm (or 2400 x 1600mm)

Books



How would a 19th century Italian scholar and Benedictine monk portray life in colonial New Zealand? This translation of the first volume of Domenico Felice Vaggioli's *Storia della Nuova Zelanda* will give you a good idea. Translated by theologian and current University Student Health counsellor John Crockett, *The Māori: A History of the Earliest Inhabitants of New Zealand* provides a unique view into Māori life, customs and arts. It was written by Vaggioli while he was a missionary priest for the Catholic Church in New Zealand between 1879 and 1887. His

main contact with Māori came while living at Gisborne and on the north-east Coast of the Coromandel.

"Vaggioli's voice inflected with passionate asides and lengthy moralising teaches us not only about Māori customs and their interaction with the land and with the colonisers, but teaches more about how New Zealand was perceived, about prevailing philosophical and scientific debates of the time and about Vaggioli's own views and experiences," says Associate Professor of Italian Benadette Luciano (European Languages and Literatures).



From left: Ken Rapson and Richard Higgins

Rhodes winner

Richard Higgins, a University Arts and Commerce student, has been awarded a prestigious Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford University.

The scholarship, among the most esteemed worldwide for university graduates furthering their studies overseas, cover fees at Oxford and pay a living stipend of \$25,000 a year.

Richard, 23, the third winner from Auckland in

three years, will take up his Rhodes Scholarship in October 2011. Currently he is completing a BA/BCom conjoint degree majoring in Economics, Finance and International Business.

At Oxford he plans to spend two years studying for a Master of Philosophy in Development Studies, specialising in foreign investment in developing countries. Deeply interested in how business can solve the problems of poor, vulnerable countries he is keen to gain the social and historical perspective that the course provides. "The MPhil also requires a summer of field work which excites me greatly."

Richard is drawn to Oxford "by the visceral things as much as the academic". David Lange's speech to the Oxford Union ("my favourite event in New Zealand's political history"), the writings of C.S. Lewis, once a professor of English at Oxford, which helped him understand his Christian faith, and "ironically" the role of Cecil Rhodes in helping shape the history which will

form much of his course "make the potential of an Oxford experience particularly poignant."

Born in Wairoa, Richard lived in Whakatane, Rotorua, Whangarei and Wellington before moving with his family to their current home in Tauranga. There he attended Otumoetai College where he was head prefect, Proxime Accessit and widely involved in sport, music, drama and debating.

He entered university with a University of Auckland Scholarship for academic excellence, all round ability and leadership potential, and in turn was a mentor to subsequent scholarship recipients.

Director of the Schools Partnership Office, Ken Rapson, says Richard is "a truly impressive young man and one of the best mentors of scholars we have had. His outstanding personal values, his leadership and community involvement, and his high academic achievement make him a most deserving Rhodes Scholar."

What's on

FRIDAY 10 DECEMBER

Department of Psychology/Linguistics seminar

Prof Nicholas Evans, Dept of Linguistics, ANU College of the Asia Pacific: *The grammar of other minds: What linguistic diversity can tell us about social cognition.* 12noon HSB 604.

Queries to Professor Russell Gray, email rd.gray@auckland.ac.nz

Department of Statistics seminar

Neil Walton, Cambridge University. *Probability: Proportional fairness and its relationship with multi-class queueing networks.* 2-3pm Statistics Seminar Rm 303.222, Science Centre.

Visit www.statslab.cam.ac.uk/~nsw26/

SATURDAY 11 DECEMBER

Film screening

A screening of the 1998 Pat Hanly documentary Pacific Ikon, directed by Stewart Main who interviews Hanly in his Mt Eden home. 1pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. All welcome.

Visit www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz

TUESDAY 14 DECEMBER

NZ Centre for Supply Chain Management seminar

Alan Day, State of Flux: *World class supplier relationship management: A global report.* 4.30-6.30pm Case Rm 3, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd. Seminar: 4.30-5.15pm Discussion: 5.15-5.30pm Networking: 5.30-6.30pm. Queries and to RSVP, email Catharina Mail, c.mail@auckland.ac.nz

WEDNESDAY 15 DECEMBER

Department of Psychology seminar

Assoc Prof Will Hayward, Dept of Psychology, University of Hong Kong:

Different faces, different places: What does the own-race advantage tell us about face processing? 4pm HSB 604.

Visit <http://viscog.hku.hk/Users/Will/Site/Home.html> or email Dr Jeff Hamm, UoA, j.hamm@auckland.ac.nz

THURSDAY 16 DECEMBER

Public lecture

Douglas Kahn: *A natural history of media.* 6pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Leading American sound and electromagnetic art scholar Douglas Kahn presents a lecture, introduced by Andrew Clifford.

Kahn is founding Director of Technocultural Studies at University of California at Davis. He is the author of Noise, Water, Meat: A History of Sound in the Arts (1999), co-editor of Wireless Imagination (1992), and will talk on relationships between nature and communications technology.

Visit www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz

FRIDAY 17 DECEMBER

VC's General Staff morning tea

10am, Lawn, Old Government House. If it is raining, morning tea will be served in the Main Lounge of Old Government House at two separate times of 10am and 10.30am.

SATURDAY 18 DECEMBER

Public lecture

1pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Hamish Keith talks about his experiences as commissioner of artworks for new buildings, including the Aotea Centre, Auckland International Airport and The University of Auckland's Medical School, where Pat Hanly's Seven Ages of Man usually resides.

Visit www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz

Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

Apartments for rent. Call us for your rental requirements; we offer city apartments furnished/unfurnished, all sizes and prices; great rental deals for long-term leases; call Chris or Mandy on 09 303 0601 at City Sales or email rentals@citysales.co.nz or log on to www.citysales.co.nz/rentals

Devonport, refurbished 1927 bungalow in kid-friendly blind street, good neighbours. Fully furnished, two bdrm, two bthrm; to let from mid-June to mid-Sept 2011 (neg). Two living areas, nice deck, garden, close to beach (outside bathers' shower!). Easy walk to ferry ride to Auckland, free bus to University. Osp (uncovered). In good school zones. \$700 pw neg. Please contact Ian at i.g.free@clear.net.nz

Ponsonby. Two-bdrm, fully furnished apartment for rent from January/February 2011 on. Secure building with building manager; car space; storage lockup; easy bus access to University and city. \$400 pw. Prefer long-term occupation. No pets or smokers thanks. Phone/text owner on (021) 0293 7144 or email vmcgowan@xtra.co.nz

Waiheke Island, Auckland, NZ. Commencing March 2011 minimum four months. House/ten acres (maintained) with sea views, very private, direct access to private beach, four bdrms, three bthrms + toilet, tabletennis, two woodburning fires, free firewood, 10m x 4m solar pool, carport, internal garage. Rent depends on number of persons. Email seawise@xtra.co.nz

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

Looking for house between Ellerslie and University. Professor and family are looking for a two to three bdrm house or apartment for rent from 1 February. Rent and conditions very flexible. Because our kids will be attending Michael Park School in Ellerslie, we would ideally like to live around Ellerslie or between Ellerslie and the UoA. Please contact a.schwittay@auckland.ac.nz or call 022-626-6355. **Wanted: Auckland house-sitting for Canterbury University staffer** on sabbatical. 2-3 months starting Jan-Feb

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WOMEN IN POWER

Jennifer Curtin (pictured), a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Political Studies reflects on the recent “Women and political leadership – beyond the symbolic” symposium held at the University.

The recent election of Dilma Rousseff to the office of President of Brazil brought the number of female heads of government at the recent G20 summit to a record-breaking four – the others being Cristina Fernandez (Argentina), Angela Merkel (Germany) and Julia Gillard (Australia). Over the past 100 years there have been more than 100 women heads of government worldwide: but more than three quarters of these have taken office since 1990.

That we are beginning to see more women aspiring and achieving the top job in politics is no accident, but nor is it purely symbolic. Each of the papers at the symposium explored how traditional conceptions of leadership are challenged when women aspire and then take on leadership roles, how women perform as leaders – the variety of ways in which they “do” or “enact” leadership and the symbolic significance their election as leaders might bring. Commentaries on each of the papers by the Hon Lianne Dalziel, Labour MP for Christchurch East, Jacinda Ardern, Labour List MP, and Sue Bradford, former Green MP, also provided valuable insights into the practicalities of women’s political lives and their policy endeavours. ’

Professor Linda Trimble, from the University of Alberta, Canada, began with an analysis of

television news coverage of the leadership challenges made by Helen Clark and Jenny Shipley. She found that the two women leaders were treated very differently by the media in New Zealand: Clark’s 1993 challenge was described by television reporters as nasty, ugly, grubby, savage, ferocious, and bloody, despite her party continuing in opposition after a dismal election performance. By contrast, coverage was sympathetic to the plight of Opposition leader Mike Moore who was portrayed as betrayed and wounded. Four years later, Jenny Shipley’s challenge to Jim Bolger, then Prime Minister, was more muted: the coup was described in considerably less scathing terms as “tidy and bloodless”, well-organised, clinical and civilised, while Bolger’s departure was often framed in terms of retirement. The difference in the media’s portrayal of the women involved revealed much about the gendered codes and assumptions underpinning the media interpretations of appropriate behaviour by women leaders.

My paper also examined the rise of Helen Clark, but in comparison with Julia Gillard, the new Prime Minister of Australia, and surveyed how their respective careers conformed and challenged the trajectories deemed “normal” by mainstream political science. The obstacles and opportunities available, and the personal and strategic choices taken by these two women leaders look uncannily similar.

Women’s political leadership need not be demonstrated only by those formally nominated

as our leaders. The moral leadership taken by Sue Bradford in her pursuit the repeal of section 59 of the Crimes Act was the subject covered by Professor Elizabeth McLeay from Victoria University of Wellington. The paper demonstrated how Bradford built a policy coalition around the issue inside and outside Parliament, including working with expert and informed groups and women’s organisations, and revealed how both gender and motherhood mattered on this issue. Bradford has argued that being a parent helped her credibility as an advocate of children’s rights in an extremely hostile environment.

Motherhood also featured in the final paper of the symposium where the audience was asked to shift countries and cultures to consider the success of two women Presidents, Michele Bachelet of Chile and Cristina Fernandez of Argentina. Jane Christie, a PhD student in Spanish at the University, argued that women’s movement leaders had sensitised voters to the idea of women leading as women, but from within the family as mothers, rather than separate from the family. This “maternal legacy” enabled Bachelet and Fernandez, who are both mothers themselves, to claim another source of legitimacy as women in their election campaigns.

’ Nikki Kaye, National MP for Auckland Central had also accepted an invitation to participate but was unexpectedly detained by an urgent Parliamentary sitting and sent her apologies.