



LEST WE FORGET

■ PAGE 5

INSIDE

COLLEGE AT WAR

The General Library's Special Collections team are creating a WW1 commemoration website over the next four years, which will include the Auckland University College *Roll of Honour*, biographies of students and staff who served in the war, background articles and other digital material. "This project does not prioritise officers over the rank and file, or frontline service over the service of support staff such as nurses and orderlies. It speaks to the impact of the war," says University historian, Deborah Montgomerie.

■ PAGE 5

MY STORY

Associate Professor of Physics, Stephane Cohen, is the principal investigator on a team using a Marsden grant to explore temporal cavity solitons (pulses of light that can be captured and stored). Stephane grew up in Brussels and got his PhD from Univerite Libre de Bruxelles. In May 2000 he was a visiting postdoctoral fellow to Auckland and in December 2003 he was appointed a lecturer in our Physics Department.

■ PAGE 6

COMPASSION IN THE LAW

The issue of the role of compassion in the law gives rise to some interesting questions, suggests Professor of Law, Warren Brookbanks. "First, is there a role for compassion at all in the law? If so, what, if any, are the boundaries around compassion in a legal context? If compassion is inherent in law's response, whose task is it to give expression to it? Does it matter if law lacks compassion?"

■ PAGE 12

CHEMICAL SCIENCES SHOWCASE

Zakiya Al-Azri was one of 110 Chemical Sciences PhD students who showcased their research at the annual Chemical Sciences Research Showcase on 11 July. (Zakiya is using water-splitting as a means of producing hydrogen as a green fuel.) The showcase was an all-day affair featuring two minute “thesis challenge” talks by first-year PhD students and poster presentations by 2nd, 3rd and 4th year PhD students – all from Chemistry, Medicinal Chemistry, Food Science, Forensic Science and Wine Science. See more on page 8.



PRESS CLOSES

After 20 years and some 40 publications, Holloway Press is coming to an end. Until 30 August a retrospective exhibition, *Dark Arts: Twenty Years of the Holloway Press* is on at the Gus Fisher Gallery, curated by Francis McWhannell. Francis has also prepared a *Checklist* of all Holloway Press publications, which is being printed letterpress by Tara McLeod. Holloway Press was set up in 1994, first under the management of Alan Loney and then Tara McLeod, with Associate Professor of English Peter Simpson as director.



THOMAS KENDALL'S ARRIVAL

Missionary Thomas Kendall's arrival in the Bay of Islands in June 2014 features in Distinguished Professor Dame Anne Salmond's Winter lecture on Tuesday 5 August, 1-2pm. Kendall forged close relationships with Te Rākau, the principal priest, and his kinsman Hongi Hika, a great warrior and leading aristocrat at Rangihoua Bay. Kendall was enthralled by Māori cosmological ideas and their expression in carving, te reo and the human body. This lecture reflects upon the entanglements in the exchanges between these men and the futures they might flash up for us 200 years later.



OH WHAT A LOVELY WAR

The University Drama Studies Department's major undergraduate production in September will mark the centenary of the start of WW1 with the musical comedy *Oh What a Lovely War*. In 1963, despite it being 45 years since the end of WW1, the debut performance of Joan Littlewood's musical sent shock waves through British society. The play features popular songs “It's a Long Way to Tipperary,” “Pack up Your Troubles” and “Oh What A Lovely War”. Directed by Alex Bonham with musical direction by Kay Shacklock, it opens at Musgrave Studio on Thursday 18 September.



- WHAT'S NEW 3
- IN BRIEF 4
- COVER STORY 5
 - The University pays tribute to the students and staff who went to the battlefields during World War1
- DID YOU KNOW? 7
 - The School of Biological Sciences has about 350 teaching charts which range in age from the 1890s to the 1960s.
- WHAT'S ON CAMPUS? 7
- RESEARCH 8
 - Our architectural students have won a UN-Habitat award for their attractive social housing model; Margaret Brimble celebrates a star pupil.
- WHAT AM I DISCOVERING? 9
 - Professor of Geography Robin Kearns went to the Chatham Islands with poet and artist Gregory O'Brien. He speaks of their fruitful collaboration.
- IN THE SPOTLIGHT 9
- FROM THE COLLECTION 10
- WHAT'S COMING OUT 11
- MARAMATANGA 12

COVER PHOTO: The General Library's Special Collections staff left to right are: Assistant Librarian Jo Birks, History researcher Jonathan Burgess and Manager of Special Collections, Stephen Innes
Absent: archivist Katherine Pawley.

CORRECTION: The correct title for the book by Dr Emma Willis (English) featured in the July issue of *Uninews* is *Theatricality, Dark Tourism and Ethical Spectatorship: Absent Others*.

EDITOR: Tess Redgrave t.redgrave@auckland.ac.nz
 PHOTOGRAPHY: Godfrey Boehnke,
 DESIGN: Sonia Tenreiro
 PRODUCTION: The University of Auckland

Published by:
 The University of Auckland
 Communications,
 Fisher Building, 18 Waterloo Quadrant,
 Private Bag 92019, Auckland 1142

www.auckland.ac.nz/universitynews

ALL ABOUT MENTORING



From left: Mary-Ann Crick and Melanie Moorcroft

What does it mean to be a mentor? Are you a sage on the stage, for example, rather than a guide on the side? What is the difference between coaching and mentoring? Or between instrumental and bifocal mentoring? And how do you set up a good mentoring programme?

These are just some of the questions answered in the new 40-page *A Guide to Mentoring*, which has just been published by HR's People and Organisational Development team (POD). It addresses the University Strategic Plan's first aspiration to create "accomplished and well supported staff" and it follows on from work POD has done in delivering leadership programmes to the University.

"Mentoring is embedded in the Women in Leadership Programme we run and new academic heads are offered a mentor to support

them in their first year in the role," explains Melanie Moorcroft, Associate director of POD. "We felt the University would benefit from a consistent approach to mentoring that looks at best practice and expectations around skills for both mentors and mentees."

The guide, which has taken two years to create, goes hand-in-hand with workshops in developing successful mentoring practice run by POD Staff Development manager, Mary-Ann Crick.

"There is often a catch cry: 'I need a mentor' and it's perceived as a quick fix. But when done properly mentoring is a lot deeper than that," says Mary-Ann, who manages the Women in Leadership Programme for the University.

The mentoring guide offers advice sourced from independent researchers as well as human resources and leadership programmes at universities like Melbourne and the University of Western Australia. It looks at everything from how to find a mentor to assessing potential pitfalls in establishing a formal mentoring programme, and it explores stages in a mentoring relationship.

"The guide provides a solid foundation to all aspects of mentoring," says Mary-Ann, "and we hope it will be of use to professional and academic staff at the University."

LAW LECTURER WINS AWARD



Khylee Quince, University Senior Lecturer in Law.

University Senior Lecturer in Law, Khylee Quince, won a sustained excellence in tertiary teaching award at the National Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards announced at the beginning of July.

Khylee's citation describes her as a "real deal" teacher — transformative, radical and supportive of learner empowerment and success.

"She is a successful and dedicated teacher who promotes accessibility of legal concepts, language and processes," it reads. "Teaching is her strength and passion and integrating kaupapa Māori methodology is important to her and who she is. She has an innate ability to negotiate disparate worlds and engage, challenge and embrace all of her students. Khylee's sense of humour and introductions for each class are legendary."

Khylee joined the Auckland Law School in 1998, having practised in criminal and family law for three years. She is from the iwi of Te Roroa/ Ngāpuhi and Ngāti Porou.

She teaches criminal law, advanced criminal law and youth justice. Her research interests are within these fields, in particular Māori and the criminal justice system, tikanga Māori and the law, restorative justice and alternative dispute resolution, Māori women and the law, and indigenous peoples and the law.

STEAM AHEAD

"Inspiring! He gave me the motivation to do well!" A student from Waitakere College sums up the effect that keynote speaker Ronji Tanielu had on him at this year's STEAM AHEAD.

Ronji, a University alumnus who has earned multiple degrees in Law and Arts, spoke from the heart as he shared his story of struggle and achievement with over 570 Māori and Pacific students at this year's STEAM AHEAD programme.

Students laughed as Ronji recalled the "many dumb decisions" he has made in his life and listened intently as he discussed what he learned from his mistakes. Ronji's story and advice captivated the students, with one Year 13 student describing him as "an amazing example to follow".

The STEAM AHEAD programme is organised and led by the University's Equity Office – Te Ara Tautika and is currently in its 10th year. It aims to give Year 12 and 13 Māori and Pacific students an in-depth look at our degree programmes and information on Undergraduate Targeted Admission Schemes (UTAS), accommodation and scholarships, as well as the opportunity to hear from current students about University life. This year students from a record 73 schools attended from around the North Island.

Evaluations from the 2014 programme show that 84 percent of students felt more positive about studying at the University after attending STEAM AHEAD, and 67 percent indicated they will apply to study here.

The Equity Office's Pacific Equity Adviser, Seiuli Terri Leo-Mauu, said she was thrilled with the increase in numbers at this year's event. "I hope the students made new friends and connections with our University staff who work so hard for our Māori and Pasifika communities."



NEW CLINIC AT TĀMAKI

Nutrition and Dietetic Clinic is the latest addition to the University of Auckland Clinics at the Tāmaki Innovation Campus.

It gives the University's Master of Health Sciences (MHS) in Nutrition and Dietetics final-year students additional practical clinical experience, allowing them to develop their assessment, intervention, education and counselling skills in an outpatient environment.

"We offer personal nutrition assessment, advice and counselling, resources, eating plans and recipes and also group classes and activities – all with our final year postgraduate students, supervised by a senior registered dietitian," says Clinical Director Julia Sekula.

She says an important part of the clinic is being able to provide ongoing support to clients.

"We work with each person to determine their goals and then devise their specific programme, often over a few sessions. For example, with weight loss, just one session is not going to be effective, so we have developed a package that they might consider – an initial hour-long

assessment and three follow-up appointments."

The new clinic accepts self-referrals, referrals from health professionals and other University clinics, staff or students. It also provides teaching sessions at Glendowie's Dove House and has started nutrition education sessions with the ADHB cardiac rehabilitation group.

A New Zealand registered dietitian, Julia Sekula completed her masters through the University and has worked as a clinical dietitian at Auckland City Hospital.



Clinical Director Julia Sekula (right) with MHS in Nutrition and Dietetics student, Elize van Drimmelen.

GOOD TO GO FOR ANOTHER 100 YEARS



Boxes of old election results and newspapers from the 1930s were among discoveries made during the recently completed \$4.5 million restoration of three historic Merchant Houses on the University's City Campus.

As a tribute to the significant work done to protect the heritage buildings, the historical names of the three houses – Belgrave (12 Symonds Street), Okareta (14 Symonds Street) and Mona (16 Symonds Street) – have been reintroduced.

Built in 1884-85 in the Italianate style, which was favoured by merchants in late colonial Auckland, the houses have been carefully restored to make them safe and protect their Historic Places Trust ranking as "places of historical or cultural heritage significance or value".

To adhere to earthquake strengthening requirements, the buildings have been put

together with about 40,000 screws rather than weaker nails, and much trouble has gone into sourcing wood for skirting boards and architraves to match the original kauri profiles.

The complete retrofit and refurbishment has included the addition of a subfloor of concrete slabs that structurally tie the existing footings together, the installation of steel connections between floors and walls, the spray application of silicon fibre-reinforced plaster (Flexus) to selected walls, and new structural plywood diaphragms installed at roof level

Neil Buller, project manager, of the University's Property Services office, says Aspec Construction put in a "sterling effort" and the old houses – home to 31 Faculty of Arts Office and Administration staff – would now be there for another 100 years.

NEW PUBLIC ORATOR

Former Dean of Law, Professor Paul Rishworth has been appointed the University's Public Orator for a term to 31 December 2016.

Paul succeeds Professor Vivienne Gray who held this position for many years prior to her retirement from the University. The role of the Public Orator is principally to prepare and deliver citations at University events such as ceremonies for the conferment of honorary degrees.

NEW ZEALANDER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

The University is sponsoring the young Zealander of the Year Award in the NZer of the year awards. The category, which is open to New Zealanders aged 15-30, recognises outstanding achievement in the arts, sport, culture and community. "This is a fitting way of celebrating the kinds of outstanding young achievers who are so vital to the future of our University and our community," said the Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon.

NINE-MONTH GROWING UP DATA

Nine-month data from the Growing Up in New Zealand longitudinal study is being made available for the first time for use by researchers outside the Growing Up team. The 9-month data release is the second release of data from this ground-breaking longitudinal study of around 7,000 New Zealand children.

NEW COURSE IN AVIATION LAW

A new course in international aviation law is now being offered at the Auckland Law School. It has been made possible through the sponsorship of Air New Zealand and will be taught by a Master's graduate of McGill University's Institute of Air and Space Law in Montreal – the leading university in this area of law. It will be supported by Air New Zealand's corporate legal team with content and guest lectures.

FIRST DEMENTIA CLINIC

Treatment options to help slow the onset and progression of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias will be trialled at New Zealand's first Dementia Research Clinic in Auckland later this year. The Clinic will operate within the Brain Recovery Clinic at the University's Centre for Brain Research (CBR) in Grafton.

LEST WE FORGET



Milnes, Herbert A.E.
 No. 22525
 Rank Lieutenant
 At AUC 1906 – 15 (Staff)
 Degree BSc (London)
 Remarks Killed in action
 France Oct. 4th 1917.

This is just one poignant entry in the Auckland University College's World War One *Roll of Honour* to be launched online on 7th August.

Since last year, the General Library's Special Collections team has been working on a First World War centenary commemoration website. At its heart is the digital replica of three small, leather-bound notebooks recording information about 720 men and women associated with Auckland University College who served during the First World War.

"Until now this modest *Roll* has been held as an archive in Special Collections at MSS & Archives E-2," explains Stephen Innes, Special Collections Manager. "It was never mounted as a memorial as far as we know."

The three volumes of the *Roll* have been photographed and converted to a digital flip-book, simulating as near as possible the appearance and simplicity of the original. The online *Roll* can be searched by name, military number and years at Auckland University College. Where possible, links have been created to a person's entry on the Auckland War Memorial Museum Online Cenotaph. For those who died – and there were at least 137 – links have been added to their respective entries on the New Zealand War Graves Trust website or the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website.

"The genesis of the *Roll* was a spontaneous and informal desire on the part of students to remember their peers," says University historian, senior lecturer Dr Deborah Montgomerie.

"One night in the Common Room in the spring of 1914', recounted a student in the Student Association magazine *The Kiwi*, 'a group of us put down the names of 50 people whom we knew were in camp. The next day there were 70 on the list, and in a week 100'.

1

WINNERS OF HASLAM SHIELD, 1916.



Back: P. G. Clark, E. G. Hudson, R. M. Winter, G. Owen (Club President).
 Middle: L. J. Comrie, N. R. W. Thomas, Lieut. J. Milliken (Range Officer), F. J. Cox (Tournament Delegate), N. A. Jory.
 Front: H. E. Reynolds, M. G. Pezaro.

"The original AUC roll grew from there," says Deborah. "It received support from both the Students' Association and the College administration, and although the College never went ahead with physical memorials to students' war service in the form of a plaque, gate or statue, the books stand in their stead. They suggest that for those who lived through the challenges of the war, coming to terms with its meaning was as much about grappling with its consequences for known, named and loved individuals as understanding high-level geopolitics and military strategy. Even now, the scale of the losses in WW1 are such that they are almost impossible to comprehend in the aggregate. In 1914 New Zealand had a population of 1.1 million. Between 1914 and 1918 103,000 New Zealanders served overseas.

Of those, 17,000 were killed and 41,000 wounded; another 1,000 men died from injuries within five years of the war's end."

3



Leslie Comrie

One noted Collegian during the war years was science student Leslie Comrie. He attended AUC from 1912 to 1916, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in 1915 and a Master of Arts in

Chemistry in 1916. For the first four years, much of the hard work compiling the *Roll of Honour* was undertaken by Leslie. Partly deaf since childhood, his earlier attempts to join the military were rebuffed but in April 1918 he finally embarked for the Front. In September 1918, just days after joining the 1st Battalion of the 3rd New Zealand (Rifle) Brigade in France, he was severely wounded

by a shell "a British one at that" and lost his left leg.

After the war Leslie went on to become a world leader in many aspects of computing and founded one of the world's first private scientific computing companies, Scientific Computing Service Ltd, which during the Second World War produced ballistic, bombing and geodetic tables for the Allies. In December 2000, the main mathematics and statistics computer laboratory at the University of Auckland was named in his honour.



Herbert Milnes

Staff member Herbert Milnes was among Collegians who did not return from the war. He was principal of the Auckland Training College and education lecturer at Auckland

University College from 1906-1916.

Born in Leeds, Herbert Milnes arrived from Middlesex in February 1906. He was a tireless advocate of the popular early-twentieth-century ideology of athleticism, and a focus on physical health permeated every aspect of his life and work. He encouraged all students to learn swimming, lifesaving and first aid, and all men to train in rifle shooting. He himself played front row for the University College XV.

Herbert enlisted on 7 March 1916 aged 41. He was soon promoted to second lieutenant and embarked for Plymouth on 21 January 1917. He was deployed to the Western Front with the Auckland Infantry on 29 May 1917 and was killed instantly four months later at Passchendaele, Belgium, on 4 October 1917 when a shell landed almost at his feet as he led the 3rd Company of the 3rd Auckland Battalion in an assault on a pill box (defensive post) known as Otto Farm. When news of his death reached the Training College at 3pm on Friday 12 October, it was announced to students assembled in the hall and the College was closed in his honour until the following Tuesday.

"Almost a generation of the best young men were wiped out [in WW1]," writes former University Chancellor Sir Douglas Robb in his autobiography, "and throughout my life I have been conscious of this deprivation."

Access the Special Collections First World War Centenary website from the Library homepage from 7 August:
www.library.auckland.ac.nz

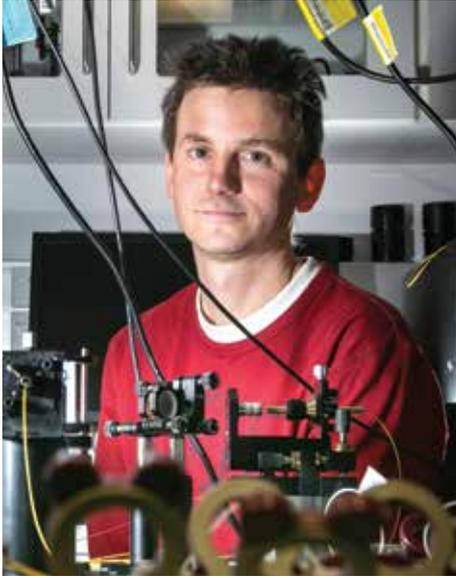
1. All members of this winning rifle team served in the war: Evan Gibb Hudson and Paul Graham Clark were both killed in action in 1918. *Kiwi* magazine, August 1916.

2. Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries 31-MZ343

3. © Godfrey Argent Studio

MY STORY

STAFF QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



STÉPHANE COEN

Associate Professor of Physics Stéphane Coen is the principal investigator on a team using a Marsden grant to explore temporal cavity solitons (pulses of light that can be captured and stored). They are the first in the world to record the pulses interacting with each other through light-generated sound waves. Stéphane graduated as a Civil Engineer in Physics from the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB) in 1996. He got a PhD in Applied Physical Sciences specialising in passive nonlinear optical fibre resonators (another way of talking about “cavities” in temporal cavity solitons) in 1999. From May 2000 to October 2001 he was a visiting postdoctoral fellow to Professor John Harvey’s Laser Laboratory in Auckland. In December 2003, he was appointed lecturer in the University’s Physics Department, promoted to senior lecturer in February 2006, and became an associate professor in 2013.

Stéphane’s partner, Senior Lecturer Frédérique Vanholsbeeck, also from Belgium, works in the office next door. Her principal research area is biophotonics, ie, using light to observe and to understand physiological processes.

WHERE DID YOU GROW UP AND WHAT DID YOU LOVE DOING WHEN YOU WERE A CHILD?

I remember two main activities from my childhood growing up in Brussels. The first was programming a computer. I was doing that from 12 years of age. It came very naturally to me. A Commodore 64 was the first computer I used and later an IBM PC type machine. I created a programme to manipulate genealogical data. In my family some were sifting through family history so I decided to write a programme to organise what they found. You could type in a name and get linked up to children and

grandparents and a nice graph was created – but I never finished it. I have always seen computers as tools to do something else, not for their own sake. I played video games of course. Growing up, I was also a scout and spent time outside and on camps in Belgium and in France and I really enjoyed that too. I think it gave me a taste for the outdoors. Later, I learnt sailing in Brittany on small sport catamarans.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR FIRST JOB EVER?

At Stage 2 of my undergraduate degree we had to spend a month doing a “social job” in a company, to meet manual labourers. I worked in a gas/coal-powered electrical power plant in the mechanics team in charge of maintaining the machinery from the generators down to the coal grinders. I remember having to open manually the valve of a cooling tower, because the motor had broken down. The tower was fed by a two-metre diameter water pipe, and it took us something like two hours to open the valve, with a team of four, amid deafening noise.

DESCRIBE THE PURPOSE OF YOUR PRESENT POSITION.

I do research for about half of my time, and the rest is devoted to teaching. This year I am teaching part of Physics 160, the introductory physics course for people who want to enter med school. Across both semesters, this represents about 1,000 students, so it is a big class. At stage 3 and 4 I teach (or have taught) laser physics and nonlinear fibre optics. I enjoy being in front of students explaining, but not so much the marking of exams. I find it very hard to find questions for the exam. In Belgium most of our exams were orals. For me the oral way is much easier, it is more like a conversation. I feel the written exam is much more restricted. If the students don’t understand the question they’re away and there’s no way of stopping them. You have to phrase the question accurately so they do what you want.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT THE JOB?

I like understanding new things, especially when nobody has looked into it. With the temporal cavity solitons, we are pretty much one of the few groups doing this around the world. Solitons are wave packets that don’t disperse away. They retain their shape as they propagate. You know when you throw a rock in a pond how the generated wave disappears as it spreads out. That doesn’t happen with solitons. You could compare them with a tsunami (although there are some discussions on whether tsunamis are actually solitons or not): a tsunami can cross the ocean while keeping its energy localized. A cavity soliton is a soliton trapped in a “cavity”, in our case a simple loop of standard optical fibre

in which we feed some continuous-wave laser light to balance absorption and other losses. The cavity solitons endlessly propagate around the loop, keeping their shape. If you encode some data with a series of these pulses, you have something like an optical memory, storing data as a light beam. A potential application could be an optical buffer for the telecom networks. When you have several transmission lines coming in and out of a router, two streams of data coming from different lines at the same time need to be sent down the same destination line. So you have to buffer and delay one data stream. To do so, the data is detected, stored in a computer and regenerated as an optical emission a few milliseconds later. With cavity solitons, you could keep your data as a light beam, avoiding optical-to-electronic-to-optical conversions, and as a result you could handle data at much higher rates. But optical signal processing like this is in its infancy compared with electronics and I don’t think it will be applied any time soon.

DO YOU BELIEVE THAT WHAT YOU DO CHANGES PEOPLE’S LIVES?

Probably not from the result of my current research. But somebody from Cornell University has already alluded to hiring our PhD student after he finishes, as a result of our research, so in that way we may change lives.

WHAT HAVE YOU ACHIEVED THAT YOU ARE VERY PLEASED ABOUT?

In 2012 we got a \$825,000 Marsden grant for our work. That is what really got us started on temporal cavity solitons. We then went on to study the interactions between these pulses, ie, how a cavity soliton can attract or repel another one through light-generated sound waves. This truly is a tiny effect and we were quite amazed how accurately we could study that. Between my team, we refer to it as “simply spectacular” – and it has become somewhat of a joke. And we have more great results lining up.

WHAT DO YOU DO IN YOUR SPARE TIME?

The kids need a lot of attention. We’ve got three – three, six, and eight years old – and we do a lot of outdoor things with them. Recently, we have taken them for an overnight stay in a backcountry hut in the Karangahake Gorge. Otherwise I also do a bit of mountain biking and skiing (when there is snow around) and I participate in a French-speaking radio programme on Planet FM.

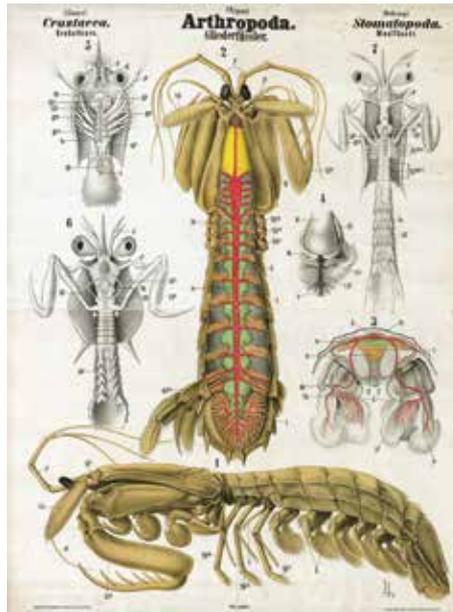
DID YOU KNOW

Before overhead projectors, power points and all other modern day technologies for displaying examples of flora and fauna, the lecturing staff in Botany and Zoology relied on teaching wall charts.

These charts were meticulously drawn and coloured to accurately represent the subject, so that the student could understand the intricacies of the organism, whether it be its biology, ecology and/or physiology. The School of Biological Sciences has approximately 350 teaching charts, which range in age from the 1890s to the 1960s, and cover a wide variety of biology-themed subjects including plants, fungi, animals and human biology.

In 1991 the two-storied McGregor Museum was converted into three seminar rooms and a lecture theatre, with many of its exhibits going into storage and some collections to Auckland Museum. In 2008 the level one Biology Lecture theatre underwent a major refurbishment, which led to a number of remarkable finds, some of which the builders were not so happy about. Animal skeletons were discovered in the dark below the lecture theatre, the keyless “plant” room revealed not only a cornucopia of rolled charts, but two elephant skulls, one the infamous “Mollie” (whose story was told in *UniNews*, 12 September 2008). An old map cabinet covered in rubbish in the upstairs (level two) lecture theatre was found to hold all of the Botany teaching charts, almost the same in number as the Zoology charts.

With these discoveries and funding from a Teaching Improvement Grant, many of the treasures from the McGregor Museum including exhibits, the Brendel Botanical models, and a small selection of all the teaching charts have



been digitally recorded. These are available for viewing on the museum website (www.mcgregor.sbs.auckland.ac.nz) and as a result a number of overseas students and other University professors have requested images that show certain details that even modern day technologies cannot capture. One of the charts is so detailed it was requested to be included in a book about Charles Darwin by German authors. In some respects we are still using these charts in our teaching today, as a number of the illustrations have featured on SBS Course and Laboratory guides that are purchased by the students, and many of the images are embedded in our lecturing power point slides.

■ David Seldon, Senior Tutor
School of Biological Sciences



WHAT'S ON CAMPUS

FAST FORWARD

5 AUGUST, 6PM

Engineering Lecture Theatre 1.439
20 Symonds Street

Ree Anderson has led the establishment of the Housing Project Office (HPO) at Auckland Council, creating a new way of doing business. The office is tasked with tackling housing challenges in Auckland and implementing the Auckland Housing Accord. Prior to this Ree was on the team responsible for developing the Auckland Plan—the first spatial plan for the city. The title of Ree’s talk is: “Auckland’s Housing Project Office: A potential legacy”.

BALLOT BOX 2014

13 AUGUST 6-8PM

Owen G Glenn Building, Lecture Theatre Room
OGGB5, Level O

Professor Basil Sharp (Energy Education Trust of New Zealand), Suzi Kerr (Motu) and Rod Oram (business journalist) with adjudicator Adam Jaffe (Director of Motu and 2014 Sir Douglas Myers Visiting Professor) address the conundrum: Can New Zealand achieve its goals for GDP/export growth and maintain its “green” brand? Are we achieving the balance between the economy and the environment—the core concept at the heart of government and corporate strategy?

CELEBRATE PRIDE WEEK 2014

25-29 AUGUST

Across all University campuses

The University’s inaugural celebration of our LGBTI community offers public events including the official opening of Queerspace, a panel discussion on homophobia in sports, a cross-party election forum on LGBTI issues, and a special screening of *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*. It will mark the achievements of the past few years for our LGBTI students and staff. For information email AUSA Queer Rights Officer Levi Joule exec.qro@ausa.org.nz

ATTRACTIVE, SOCIAL HOUSING



An ambitious redesign of a dated Housing New Zealand complex, based on New Zealand’s iconic Star Flats, has won an international housing competition.

The plan to rejuvenate Cracroft Street on Parnell Rise by students from the University’s School of Architecture and Planning was awarded first prize for the region in the UN Habitat Urban Revitalisation of Mass Housing Competition.

Master’s students Herman Haringa, Adam Hunt, Kim Huynh and Ricky Wong supervised by senior lecturer Mike Davis, won with a

contemporary version of Housing New Zealand’s distinctive Star Flats, redesigned as attractive and affordable intensive housing.

First produced in the 1950s, the Star Flats were named for their characteristic shape. The students’ updated version focuses on fully utilising the site, with flexible options for high-density living, while also including retail and office space and areas for community services such as day care for local residents. Their plan aims to provide solutions for Auckland’s on-going housing shortage and unmanageable

urban sprawl, while seeking to create a more sustainable city.

Cracroft Street in Parnell was selected because of its proximity to Auckland’s central business district. Also, as the area had undergone extensive gentrification over the years, and the original Housing New Zealand complex looked dated and needed extensive repair, the students wanted their new plan to challenge any negative perceptions of social housing.

“People within gentrifying neighbourhoods do not want to leave, but are often forced out as the land becomes more valuable and prices rise. Housing New Zealand has the opportunity to provide high-quality housing for people who would not normally be able to live in the area, thereby creating a more cohesive urban community,” says student Adam Hunt.

By including commercial, retail and office space in the design the students sought to minimise social segregation and the impact of urban spread by allowing local residents to live and work in one place.

All four students, who are in their final-year of a Masters of Architecture (Professional) degree, are delighted by their win. The international contest, part of the UN-Habitat’s Global Housing Strategy Campaign, seeks to address the challenges of providing mass public housing worldwide.

MOLECULAR CONNECTIONS

“If all my students were like Paul I wouldn’t have any wrinkles,” jokes Distinguished Professor of Chemical Sciences, Margaret Brimble as she talks of one of her top PhD students.

Not only has Paul Hume just completed his PhD in Chemistry on a subject close to Margaret’s heart – chemical synthesis of a natural product – but he is also a link back to his supervisor’s own study days. When Margaret was doing an MSc in Chemistry at Auckland in 1982, one of the PhD students she looked up to was Paul Hume’s father Bruce. He is now head of Science at Orewa College.

Margaret has stopped counting the number of PhD students she has supervised but she says of Paul: “He is one of those unique students who takes on a project and really owns it and brings it to fruition.”

Paul’s research took a natural occurring molecule found in fungus that lives inside the leaves of a tree (*Dracontomelon duperreanum*) growing in China.

“What I’ve made is identical to the natural source material both physically and chemically,” he explains.

Called *Virgatolide B*, Paul’s molecule could be used as an anti-cancer agent. For now it will be stored in Chemical Sciences’ compound library and will be available for testing by the Auckland Cancer Society Research Centre..

At the recent Chemical Sciences Showcase Paul won the Fonterra Prize for the best oral presentation by a 2nd or 3rd year PhD student.

“The elegance of the challenging synthetic work Paul described, together with his faultless presentation, were key factors in the judges’ decision,” says organiser Dr Geoff Waterhouse.



Paul Hume presenting at the Chemical Sciences Showcase

“ISLANDNESS”



We are, self-evidently, an island nation. But what does the condition of “islandness” mean? Further, how can conversations across disciplinary borders develop new understanding of islands? These questions surfaced for me when I invited poet and painter Gregory O’Brien to accompany me to the Chatham Islands in late 2012. What began as a mission to develop teaching resources ended up re-imagining the process of creatively engaging with places.



From left: Gregory O’Brien and Robin Kearns

Our time in the field involved what Icelandic geographer Karl Benedicktson calls a “conversation with landscape”: a discursive encounter running deeper than measurement and analysis. Ours was a quest to feel the tension between intimacy and isolation that shapes the contours of island life. Time there allowed an opportunity to mutually interpret the assemblages of symbols and stories. We found the Chathams, in Greg’s words, “at once, part of New Zealand and, most evidently, somewhere else like a space station or satellite orbiting at the outer reaches of the mainland’s gravitational

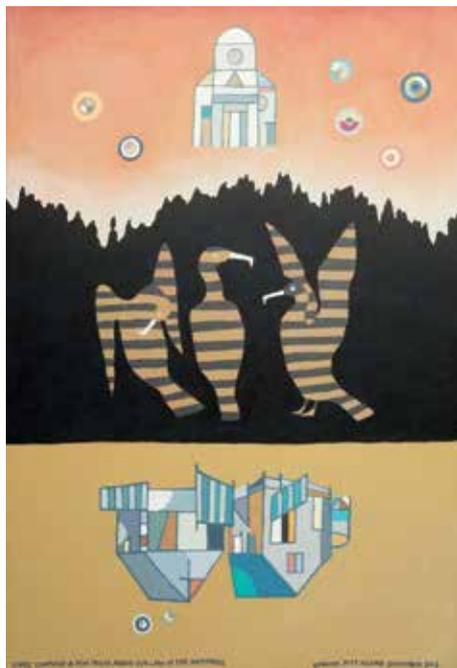
field”. Upon return, we engaged in a year-long email exchange; a rich dialogue serving to craft an account of not only a singular place, but also of the place of islands themselves in our lives and national identity. Our conversations keep coming back to islands.

For Greg, visiting the Chathams occurred soon after visits to Rapanui (Easter Island) and Raoul (in the Kermadecs). His art in the time since reflects these interwoven influences. For me, closer-to-home islands have taken on new degrees of intrigue. I have since explored the influence of the sea on wellbeing for people detained on Rotoroa Island in the Hauraki Gulf, the Salvation Army’s former alcohol treatment centre, and collaboratively explored people’s experiences of aging on Waiheke Island.

What’s excited us is the way each other’s ways of articulating islands has influenced the other. The geographer and the artist have found common ground. I have tentatively turned to metaphor and verse, and for Greg new topographies have entered his paintings and poetry. An output of our “Rekohu reconnaissance” has been an essay in the latest issue of *Landfall* (227, pages 77-86). I have new lectures and Greg has new poems in his forthcoming collection.

Creativity is born of encounter and conversations. Like islands themselves, creativity appears when one loosens familiar ties and heads out to sea.

■ Professor Robin Kearns
School of Environment



Highlighting some of the University’s news and commentary that have hit the headlines in the past month.

EARTH-LIKE PLANETS

The discovery of an Earth-sized planet with an Earth-like orbit in a binary star system was big news in early June, with Department of Physics senior lecturer Nick Rattenbury appearing on One News to explain that the discovery expands our understanding of where Earth-like planets can form and, potentially at least, whether or not they may be habitable.

FAMILY VIOLENCE

In June Associate Professor of Law Julia Tolmie made numerous comments in media nationwide as result of her co-authorship of the Family Violence Death Review Committee’s findings.

COMPARING WAITANGI DAY

Two History academics have published opinion pieces comparing Waitangi Day with other national holidays. Associate Professor Jennifer Frost wrote a piece titled “Nations’ days of celebration and protest.” It discussed the differences and similarities between our Waitangi Day celebrations and how the United States celebrates the 4th of July. *NZ Herald*, 04/07/2014. Dr Joseph Zizek’s opinion piece, “Bastille Day holds lessons for Kiwis” describes the contentious history of France’s national day, and appeared in the *Dominion Post* on July 14th.

WINTER LECTURES

The University’s Winter Lecture series “1814: Settling the First Settlers - Ka māoritia te Pākehā” had nationwide coverage when it featured on the front cover of the *Listener* and inside on five pages all illustrated with large colour photographs.

ASSORTED

Senior Lecturer (Chemical & Materials Engineering) Dr Michelle Dickinson was interviewed on TV3’s *Campbell Live* recently about her visit to Sir Richard Branson’s Necker Island where scientists and entrepreneurs discussed issues of sustainability and innovation.

Associate Professor (Statistics) David Scott’s analysis of the statistical chance of a return when playing the many variations of Lotto was featured in the *Herald on Sunday* and promoted on the paper’s front page.

FROM THE COLLECTION

ART COLLECTION



Mixed media artist Alexis Neal is consistently drawn to depicting objects of taonga as she sees them possessing a wairua or spirit beyond their physical presence. The treasures included in the semi-circular mezzotint entitled *Treasured* (1997) include ear pendants, a carved piece of bone and a shell necklace. These are not cheap, throw-away items of jewellery purchased from a ubiquitous mall jewellery store but are objects to be worn, treasured and adored.

As an artist of both Māori and Pākehā descent Alexis's work often explores the duality of artefacts in terms of personal adornment and material culture. This is well represented by the feathers which were traditionally worn as status-symbols by people of high rank. The prized white feathers of the albatross such as those depicted by Alexis were worn only on important occasions. Each treasure in the work has an embellishment function – the shell necklace, the tupa (shark

tooth earrings), the carved pendant – and they are encapsulated in the form of a breastplate or waka huia, kept close to the heart and stored away for safe-keeping in a special wooden chest. Their depiction speaks to both an ethnographic, cultural heritage with the potency of taonga breathing life into objects that have been removed from their cultural context.

Although initially trained in printmaking Alexis currently incorporates a broad range of methodologies into her art practise and the use of mezzotint here provides a dramatic aesthetic. The Italian term “mezzotint” means “half tone” or “half painted” and refers to the method of engraving working from dark to light. Originally used in the 17th century, mezzotints were popular for the reproduction of paintings, favoured for their luxurious quality of tone. Traditionally a copper surface was evenly roughened by a tool with a serrated edge. The

image is then formed by scraping away the roughened surface after which ink is applied to the plate and simultaneously wiped over with rags. The smoother parts of the plate produce solid black sections and the roughened areas produce the image. Alexis exploits this technique to its full potential creating an unbroken velvety black section to form a backdrop to the delicately drawn lines of the treasured items. Their casual clustering recalls Alexis's initial study in collage and her continued interest in layering and pattern. Originally trained at Elam School of Fine Arts, completing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in 1997, Alexis later completed a masters degree in printmaking and mixed media at Slade School of Fine Arts in London. Since her return to New Zealand she has held tutoring positions in academic and community institutions including Paremoremo, Auckland Prison, taught children's printmaking and been the recipient of Māori Print Wānanaga/ residencies in Whanganui. Alexis is currently one of the guest exhibitors in the Central Printmaking Council's exhibition *Printmaking: Beyond the Frame* which is on show at the Gus Fisher Gallery until 30 August.

Alice Tyler, Curatorial Assistant, Gus Fisher Gallery

■
ARTWORK: Alexis Neal *Treasured*, 4/20, 1997 Mezzotint, 460 x 810

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 David Feng (09) 303 0601 or (021) 246 6710 at City Sales or rentals@citysales.co.nz or log onto www.citysales.co.nz/rentals

HOUSE TO RENT: From Sept 2-25 (all or part). In Blockhouse Bay, 5 bdrms, 2 bthrms, 2 living rooms, fully furnished. Lovely, large section with trees and stream. Reasonable proximity to town, close to bus routes. Photos available on request. \$600 pw. Contact Alison on (021) 279 6804 or 627 1882 evenings.

MT EDEN HOUSE. Large 3 level Tudor character home, ten minutes bus to University, regular service. Huge master bdrm, 2 dble bdrms, large sound-proof media room with separate office, kitchen/eat in, formal dining, foyer, large double lounge, Also independent studio/office. Suit staff, Auckland relocation, grammar zone schools. Contact Susie (021) 864 086.

MISCELLANEOUS

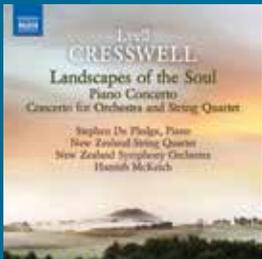
CINEMA GROUP: This is a group for University staff and students interested in filmgoing to attend European movies on a regular basis at the Lido and Academy Cinemas. Meet for coffee. All welcome. Contact aberens0021@hotmail.co.nz

CITY LEGAL SERVICES. Rainey Collins Wright is a small law firm centrally located at L1 Princes Court, 2 Princes Street. We are near the University, with good parking. We can assist with property transactions, trusts, wills, administration of estates, enduring powers of attorney and relationship property matters. Please phone our senior solicitor Nichola Christie on 379 5828 to discuss your needs, or email nchristie@rainey.co.nz. Visit www.rainey.co.nz

MEDENTRY UMAT PREP: Government accredited and internationally trusted registered training organisation offers quality focused training for UMAT. Aspiring doctors and dentists, year 13 students and first-year health science students, please visit www.medentry.co.nz

LANDSCAPES OF THE SOUL

Lyell Cresswell's piano concerto was written for senior Music School lecturer Stephen De Pledge in 2011, and he has since performed it in Glasgow, Wellington, Auckland and Christchurch. It has been broadcast live on BBC Radio 3 and Radio NZ Concert. This new recording was conducted by Hamish McKeich and features the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra. The work was written in memory of a close friend of the composer who died in 2009, and it juxtaposes meditative and personal reflections with moments of ferocious virtuosity from soloist and orchestra.



FIRST CONTACT: TASMAN'S ARRIVAL IN TAITAPU, 1642

With the publication of her book *Two Worlds*, Distinguished Professor of Māori Studies Dame Anne Salmond introduced a penetrating rewriting of our traditional views of first contacts between the Māori and European worlds, helping us to view these meetings with fresh eyes. In this digital account of the dramatic visit of Dutch ships led by Abel Tasman to Golden Bay at the top of the South Island in 1642 Dame Anne shows how giving equal weight to both sides of the encounter can shed fascinating new light on the actions and motives of both parties. See: www.bwb.co.nz.

SHIGERU BAN: CARDBOARD CATHEDRAL

Andrew Barrie, a leading scholar of Japanese architecture and professor in the School of Architecture at the University of Auckland has authored this book on Christchurch's innovative "Cardboard Cathedral". Signalling the beginnings of renewal in the CBD, the cathedral is the first new civic building completed since the quakes. Shigeru Ban, its designer, is a world-class architect and expert in disaster-zone building – and the new transitional cathedral is his largest post-disaster structure to date. In essays, building plans and specially commissioned photography, *Shigeru Ban: Cardboard Cathedral* tells the story of this remarkable feat. Originally conceived as a temporary building, its construction involved design challenges, structural innovations and community involvement; and the finished, now permanent structure seems set to become an enduring symbol of Christchurch's revival. Andrew's book includes a foreword by the Very Reverend Lynda Patterson, dean of Christchurch Cathedral; an essay by Shigeru Ban himself; documentary photographs by Bridgit Anderson; full-colour plates by Stephen Goodenough; and an afterword by David Mitchell.



GERMANS IN TONGA

This book, *Germans in Tonga*, by Professor of European Languages and Literatures, James Bade was launched on 19 June in Nuku'alofa with a press conference hosted by Lord Vaea, Tongan Minister of Internal Affairs. *Germans in Tonga* is the culmination of an eight-year research project in which Jim and his team of researchers gathered biographical material from four main sources: the Western Pacific Archives of the University of Auckland Library Special Collections; Archives New Zealand in Wellington; the Archives of the German Foreign Office in Berlin; and the Ministry of Justice Archives in Nuku'alofa. The volume contains short biographies of 377 Germans in Tonga born over a 110-year period between 1822 and 1932, prefaced by a comprehensive introduction on the historical background to the German connection with Tonga. Lord Vaea described the volume as "an excellent book" which provides invaluable insights into "the missing link in Tongan history". Jim outlined the second stage of the project, which is concerned with the contribution of the descendants of the German Tongan families and the international German Tongan diaspora. PhD student Kasia Cook is already conducting interviews for this part of the project.



PRINTING. Printsprint provides design, digital and poster printing, book binding and document services. Fast, easy and cost effective. We have 3 locations. AUT Wellesley, Wakefield Street and AUT Akoranga Drive. Mention this advertisement for a limited special rate. Contact David Armstrong. darmstro@aut.ac.nz or phone (021) 302 949.

RESEARCH ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE. Postgraduate student. Previous experience and excellent computer skills. Please contact aberens0021@hotmail.co.nz or text (021) 085 10669.

TAMARA SPA WEEKDAY SPECIALS (Tuesday-Thursday). Any 60 minute facial or massage \$59, Soma Posh package (90 minutes) \$99, eye trio \$39. Plus 25% off all other services including waxing, threading, tinting, manicure and pedicure. Location: 86 Symonds Street, Auckland. Phone (09) 377 5955 or spa@tamaraspa.co.nz Visit www.tamaraspa.co.nz. Bookings essential.

TRAVEL. I have 12 years experience in booking all aspects of personal travel for university staff and lecturers. I pride myself in ensuring that your travel plans are sourced at the lowest possible costs and are tailor-made to your requirements. Contact Karen at Karen.embleton@mondotravel.co.nz or 940 0064 (wk) or (021) 188 7781.

VOICE MATTERS. Quality voice recordings make special gifts for family or friends, and can become family or institutional heritage. Voice Matters provides professional interviewing and recording services for individuals, families and businesses. Visit www.voicematters.co.nz or phone 021 0624607.



LAW COMPASSION

The issue of the role of compassion in the law gives rise to some interesting questions? First, is there a role for compassion at all in the law? If so, what, if any, are the boundaries around compassion in a legal context? If compassion is inherent in law's response, whose task is it to give expression to it? Does it matter if law lacks compassion?

An ancient text says: "The whole of the law is expressed in this one word: Love your neighbor as yourself." If we agree with this then it suggests not only that compassion is inherent in the law but that compassion is constitutive of the law. How does this work in practice? Writing in a law review essay entitled "Law and Grace", a distinguished American criminologist, the late William Stuntz, speculates about the biblical story of the prodigal son. Here a benevolent and forgiving father welcomes back to the family estate a wayward son who has squandered his inheritance in wanton living. There is a lavish celebration, absent the dutiful older brother who resents the largesse displayed to the younger brother.

Stuntz asks: "What lessons does that story teach about law and government? At one level, this is a crazy question. The story is about salvation; law and politics have nothing to do with it. But the story works only if it is plausible, only if we could imagine real, flesh — and — blood human beings behaving like this. And if it is plausible then there must be implications for the governmental policies and legal rules that govern ordinary human interactions."

In fact, the implications for official policy and legal rules are clearly seen in the multitude of ways in which the law responds with compassion to social need across a broad range of human activities, even where such beneficence is undeserved. These include legislation for the assessment and treatment of those with mental disorder, the social welfare benefit system, legislative provision for victims in the criminal justice system, mandated protection for children and vulnerable adults, provision in sentencing legislation for restorative justice, and the development of "solution-focused" courts for offenders struggling with substance addictions, to name a few.

While, at a basic level, law is concerned with regulation and the proper ordering of social institutions, its broader concerns include healing and the restoration of relationships, the public expression of compassion. This is evident in the utilisation of "truth and reconciliation" commissions to bring healing and closure for historic and systemic abuses of different people groups and in the growing interest worldwide in alternative dispute resolution as a non-adversarial approach to problem-solving. These are coupled with the emergence of therapeutic jurisprudence, a law reform approach which addresses the "anti-therapeutic" effects of law and legal processes. Together they may suggest that modern conceptions of moral and legal responsibility are changing, particularly as regards society's response to those characterised by their "otherness". In particular, some have

suggested that change is towards an enhanced empathic understanding which is concerned with personal narratives appreciated through the emotions and imagination; and especially in legal contexts where more room is made for praise alongside blame.

Historically, whether compassion is relevant to law at all has been a contested claim. On one view our sense of justice is subordinate to and beholden to our sense of injustice. On this basis the perception of injustice emerges from a complex range of emotions, including compassion, which provide a psychological basis both for moral theories and practical action to emerge. At the other end of the spectrum, according to Emmanuel Kant, we do not act from inclination but from duty and, in particular, out of reverence for the law. In practice both positions are probably true. But while the duty to obey the law is fundamental to law's effective operation, particular duties and obligations are not fulfilled in an emotional vacuum. We respond to the needs of others because we care, whether or not the act of caring is prescribed by statutory rules.

Still, there is a need for caution. In an age which is awash with law and regulation there is a danger of law defaulting to prescriptiveness and legalism, and forgetting the claims of compassion. Compassion is kept alive in the intentional pursuit of relationship.

"...he tangata, he tangata, he tangata."

■ Professor of Law, Warren Brookbanks

Photo: Warren with his wife Glenys's painting "Tempera Panel 3" in the background