

# Uni NEWS

October 2018



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
AUCKLAND  
Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau  
NEW ZEALAND



## BRINGING IDEAS TO LIFE

UniServices celebrates 30 successful years

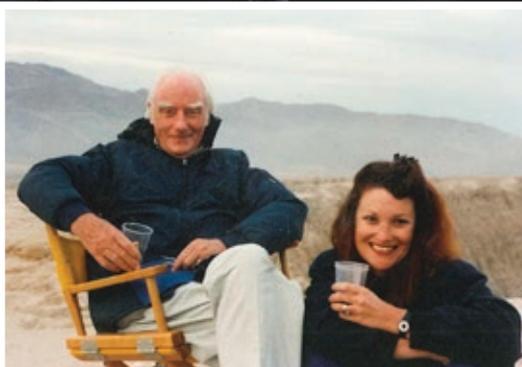
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### ALL IN THE FAMILY

Spring Graduation last month was a time for graduates to celebrate all those years of hard work with their proud families and friends.

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### FAMILIAR FACE

This month's profile, staff development manager Mary Ann Crick, has had a long and fulfilling career at the University. She also has a particularly notable relative.

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### LIGGINS STUDY NOW TV DOCO

Would you take capsules of healthy people's poo if you thought it might radically improve your own health? A major Liggins study is the focus of a TV documentary series airing this month.

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# SNAPSHOTS

## FLUTIST WINS GRAD GALA

Congratulations to Jisu (Jessica) Yun who won this year's Graduation Gala Competition with her exceptional performance of Ibert's *Flute Concerto*. She is a third-year Bachelor of Music student, majoring in Classical Performance. The prize is worth \$6,000 and Jessica was also awarded a Development Prize worth \$2,000.

Right: Conductor Uwe Grodd with Jisu (Jessica) Yun.



## DIVERSITY CHAMPION

Dr Frederique Vanholsbeeck (Department of Physics) has won an award for promoting diversity and inclusivity from the Optical Society of America (OSA). She believes it's important to make practical changes and to take action at an individual level. Frederique chairs the Diversity Committee in the Department. She has been instrumental in pushing initiatives that resulted in a Bronze Pleiades Award from the Astronomical Society of Australia's (ASA), Inclusive, Diverse and Equitable astronomy (IDEA) chapter.

## AGA KHAN AWARD

An exhibition featuring the winning entries from the world-renowned three-yearly Aga Khan Award for Architecture was held at the University recently. The award recognises projects that set new standards of excellence in architecture, planning practices, historic preservation and landscape architecture and is worth US\$1million in prize money. The exhibition was hosted by the School of Architecture and Planning, and held in conjunction with the 2018 Festival of Architecture. Nominations are now open for 2017-2019.



16mm still from *O25 Sunset Red*, by Laida Lertxundi

## ELAM ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

Billbao-born, California-based artist Laida Lertxundi is in Auckland as the 2018 Elam International Artist in Residence. Laida creates subtle minimalist filmic experiences which she refers to as 'Landscape Plus'. Her films often juxtapose vast natural landscapes and smaller domestic interiors, forging a relationship between mind, body and place. While here, Laida will film a new work assisted by Elam students. Established in 1998, the Elam International Artist in Residence Programme is supported by Dame Jenny Gibbs.

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## Hear Mary Holm on UniSaver

Award-winning financial journalist Mary Holm will be giving a series of lectures on financial literacy and how UniSaver can tie in with mortgages, retirement plans, and investment in November.

A regular columnist for the *Weekend Herald*, Mary discusses money issues on National Radio and delivers lively and insightful seminars for businesses, organisations, and the general public. She's also a director of the Financial Markets Authority and of Financial Services Complaints Ltd.

Formerly the New Zealand Universities Superannuation Scheme, UniSaver was founded in 1993; an initiative of a collection of universities and tertiary education associated entities.

This series is a chance to find out more about its benefits from an expert.

Places are limited, but the lectures will also be recorded and available on the intranet.

They will be held on 12–13 November at the Sir Owen G. Glenn Building (Business School), with more information available in the events section of the intranet.

## Endeavour funding

A total of nine grants representing \$41.5 million in awarded funding have been announced for the University from the 2018 MBIE Endeavour Research Programmes and Smart Ideas. The Endeavour Fund invests in ambitious research projects that aim to improve the lives of New Zealanders by enhancing our economy, environment and society.

In this round, three Research Programmes representing \$35.8m and six Smart Ideas representing \$5.7m were funded.

## Suffrage issues available

We've received very positive feedback on our September *UniNews* Suffrage 125 edition, and there are still print copies available. We'll keep a stack of them at Alfred Nathan House reception, 24 Princes Street, City Campus, for anyone to pick up a few, or email: [uninewsdistribution@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:uninewsdistribution@auckland.ac.nz) for larger orders.



Growing Up in New Zealand study lead Associate Professor Susan Morton with some of the children who are part of the study.

# ALL GROWN UP AND SPEAKING FOR THEMSELVES

**By the age of four, some New Zealand children are using screens more than two hours a day on average.**

Some families have moved house 12 or more times in less than five years, more than 85 languages are spoken in some pre-schoolers' homes, and persistent poverty affects one in ten children throughout their first two years of life.

These are a selection of the key findings of the *Growing Up in New Zealand* longitudinal study which is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year.

Led by the University's Public Health Medicine specialist Associate Professor Susan Morton, the study follows 6,853 New Zealand children (born in 2009-2010) in the context of their families and environment, looking at the factors that most affect their development.

Susan's team engages with 16 government agencies, providing evidence to inform policies on issues ranging from paid parental leave and household safety to child poverty, bullying and pre and post-natal parental depression.

Children were recruited for the study from the greater Auckland, Counties Manukau, and Waikato District Health Board areas before they were born, and it's hoped they'll stay connected until they're at least 21.

Susan says the study has engaged with the parents and children directly to help understand what will help all children growing up in today's diverse families and environments to have the best possible start to life, and what helps them to grow up healthy and happy.

Importantly, she says, they have a cohort with sufficient size and diversity to help them understand how we can begin to close the gap between New Zealand child wellbeing statistics and those in other similar OECD countries.

"But perhaps more importantly, how we can reduce the inequalities in wellbeing we

see within our own population according to ethnicity and deprivation."

With Government funding restored after the previous government announced it would be cut in 2016, she says researchers can now carry out the full Eight-Year Data Collection Wave (DCW), which is special because the children will be speaking for themselves for the first time.

"They will tell us in their own words what it's like to be growing up in New Zealand today, what makes them who they are now, and who they aspire to be in the future."

She says the children's voices will add to the rich longitudinal information already collected about their early development, and also set the platform for engaging with them as they transition into adolescence and adulthood.

"We're also planning how we continue to engage with the children as they make this transition as digital natives, where connectivity has a different meaning than a generation ago, and we'll be asking the cohort themselves to help us with this process."

The value of the project, Susan believes, is significant.

"Collecting the voices of today's children as they journey from birth to adulthood, the choices they and their families make, why they make them and what works well and what doesn't, provides an extraordinary and unique resource, a taonga.

"It has the potential to inform the development of context-relevant strategies and policies to optimise wellbeing and better support all the children growing up in this country today, thereby improving all of our futures."

# WHAT'S NEW

## REWARDING BUSINESS OF TEACHING

**Colleagues at the Department of Management and International Business, Associate Professors Christine Woods and Mānuka Hēnare, both received Sustained Excellence in Tertiary Teaching Awards from Ako Aotearoa in September.**

Only ten tertiary teachers in New Zealand received one of the coveted national awards, presented at a ceremony hosted by the Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister for Education.

Christine joined the University in 2000 and soon established a track record in the scholarship and teaching of entrepreneurship.

She developed unique expertise in educating Māori entrepreneurs, and co-created programmes to engage school-aged girls in entrepreneurship and business. She also played a key role in the ICEHOUSE owner and manager programme and contributed to the University's entrepreneurial development programme Velocity.

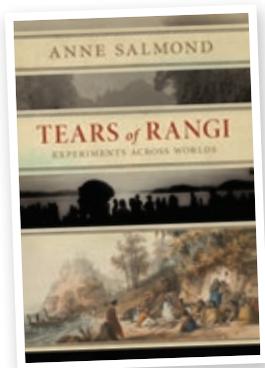
A student in a Stage Three entrepreneurial course says Christine shows her students they are forces to be reckoned with.

"A lot of lecturers teach us what theories to learn. Chris is one of the very few that helps us actually harness these theories to be able to make the difference we want to make."

Dr Hēnare (Te Rarawa, Te Aupōuri, Ngāti Kuri), who received an award in the Kaupapa Māori category, joined the University in 1996 to teach Māori and Indigenous business enterprise and development.

Among many notable achievements, in 1999 he established New Zealand's first dedicated Māori and Pacific research centre in business and economics, the Mira Szászy Research Centre for Māori and Pacific Economic Development.

Dr Hēnare says the award means that the kaupapa Māori approach to scholarship, particularly in business and economics, is recognised. "My colleagues here and at other business schools know there are two economic histories running parallel in Aotearoa New Zealand – one is 1,000 years old, the other is 160 and dates from the 1850s, when new settlers from Britain established the settler economy."



## TEARS OF RANGI FINALIST FOR TOP PRIZE

Distinguished Professor Dame Anne Salmond's book *Tears of Rangi: Experiments Across Worlds* (AUP, 2017) has been shortlisted for a prestigious British prize.

Worth £25,000 and globally contested, the Nayef Al-Rodhan Prize for Global Cultural Understanding 2018, the British Academy's international book prize, celebrates the best works of non-fiction "that have contributed to global cultural understanding and illuminate

the interconnections and divisions that shape cultural identity worldwide".

Dame Anne is also the recipient of the Carl Friedrich von Siemens Research Award from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in Germany, conferred in recognition of lifetime achievements in research. She will be invited to carry out a research project of her own choice in cooperation with specialist colleagues in Germany.

## MUSICAL FEAST

Always a highlight of the School of Music festival, September's *Opera Scenes* featured a vocal feast of a repertoire, ranging from Mozart to Lehár and Blitzstein to Offenbach. This year, it was set as a vaudeville show straight out of 1910 New York.

The cast were undergraduate and postgraduate voice performance students, coached and led by the School of Music's academic and performance staff including choral conductor Associate Professor Karen Grylls, producer Dr Te Oti Rakena and musical directors Rachel Fuller and Robert Wiremu.

Alex Matangi and Ella Ewen perform Put On Your Sunday Clothes from Hello, Dolly!

## WOMEN OF INFLUENCE

Congratulations to Dr Yvonne Anderson, from the Liggins Institute, and School of Chemical Sciences Professor Penny Brothers, who were both finalists in the 'Innovation and Science' category of the 2018 Women of Influence awards, held last month at the SkyCity Convention Centre. Professor Mary Sewell from the School of Biological Sciences was on the judging panel, and Distinguished Professor Dame Anne Salmond gave a keynote address.



## MARY ANN CRICK

*Mary Ann Crick and her daughters Charlotte and Florence, right, who graduated last month with an MA in Japanese.*

### What was your earliest connection to the University?

I feel extremely connected to the City Campus precinct as I spent a lot of my childhood on Princes Street where my father, Tony Crick, had his medical rooms at Number 25. That address is now the University's George Fraser Gallery, although it started out as the stables for what was then Government House across the road. I even have some bluebell bulbs currently blooming in my garden which came originally from the garden at 25.

### Some vivid memories of that time?

I remember the guard on the sentry box and the garden parties held on the lawn at Old Government House, and the accompanying frocks, hats and gloves of the women attending. The central police station was at the corner of Princes and Wellesley Streets. My parents arrived from England in 1948 after the war, with my father accepting a job at Auckland Hospital as a radiologist for the sum of £1,200 per year. It was a big transition for my mother, Joan, who had been born and bred on Wimpole Street, parallel to Harley Street in the medical district of London.

### But you were born in New Zealand?

Yes, my brothers, David and Tim, and I are first generation Kiwis. My father left behind in England his only brother, Francis Crick. Maybe this was a good thing as Francis went on to work at the Cavendish Lab in Cambridge where eventually he, James Watson and Maurice Wilkins were awarded the Nobel Prize for their work on discovering the structure of DNA. As a feminist I was always troubled by the apparent side-lining of Rosalind Franklin, but what is often misunderstood is that the rules of the prize prevent it being awarded posthumously.

A little known fact is that Rosalind stayed with Francis and Odile (my aunt) at their home in Cambridge while they supported her during her treatment for ovarian cancer.

### What about your own family?

Both my daughters, Florence and Charlotte Crick-Friesen, 'joined' the University when they were under one and attended what was then called Crèche 2, where the Sir Owen G. Glenn Building now stands. We were able to have picnics on the lawn of Old Government House or in the German Garden on Wynyard Street, and a highlight was the Symonds Street underpass where we would stop at the plaque to imagine the ghost who was reportedly seen there. Florence has just graduated with an MA (First class hon) in Japanese and Charlotte is completing her BSc, majoring in food science and nutrition.

### Were you a student at Auckland yourself?

Yes I studied English and History between 1971 and 1973, then worked in publishing post-graduating and returned as a staff member in 1978, after three years of living in Canada and England and travelling in Europe and South East Asia.

### What was your first job here?

I joined the General Library in what was then called 'Circulation' and got my library qualification. I was then appointed to be the Continuing Education Librarian (later ClockTower Librarian) where I had the privilege of working with adult students, especially those coming through the New Start programme and Stepping Stones programme for Māori and Pacific students.

### Would you say you were in the traditional mode of a librarian?

Not necessarily. I inherited a sign from my predecessor, 'silence is golden'; that was the first thing to go. Then there was a 'no eating or drinking' sign, and I introduced a coffee space outside the library because I noticed people were staying and having conversations and I wanted it to be a place they felt comfortable doing that. We could see they needed effective library skills, so we introduced the first programmes in

information literacy. This library created a sense of place for adult students where they could be supported as a specific cohort, gain confidence and become equipped to be successful students. It was an exciting time and exciting work; I learnt so much, it was very stimulating.

### A proud career moment?

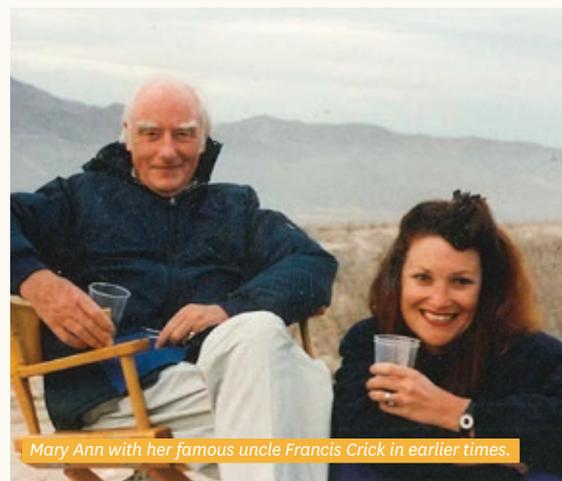
It was always such a thrill to watch the Graduation procession and cheer on the graduating adult students. It was a very special time in terms of being part of the Continuing Education whānau, as well as fulfilling my love of lifelong learning.

### You've successfully reinvented yourself, haven't you?

Yes, when the Continuing Education Library amalgamated into the General Library I left and became 'MaryAnnCan', working on numerous educational contracts. However, the pull of the University was strong, and I returned to what was then the Centre for Professional Development. I started working with the Women in Leadership Programme, whose objectives included (and still do) increasing the numbers of women in senior positions and supporting women with their leadership and career aspirations. Now based in People and Organisational Development (POD), my portfolio has also included the HeadsUp programme to support future and current academic heads, and orientation for new staff.

### What has kept you here so long?

Simply because I love the place. How lucky to be in an intellectual and creative environment where you are continually learning and are given the opportunity to work with incredibly interesting people doing amazing work. Gosh, I sound as though I'm employed in the marketing department! I relish the sense of community the University has provided in my life and what it has taught me.



*Mary Ann with her famous uncle Francis Crick in earlier times.*

## FROM FIRST SPARK TO GLOBAL IMPACT

**Birthdays are often a time to reflect on how far you've come and what's next. Auckland UniServices Ltd, the University's research and knowledge-transfer company, turns 30 this year and is celebrating three decades of remarkable growth and notable success.**

By the numbers, and since patents started being recorded in 2008, it looks like this: more than 900 patents licenced; 1,000 or more invention disclosures; ten businesses to commercialise University research in 2017 alone; NZ\$1.22 billion of cumulative revenue over the past ten years, and clients in more than 60 countries.

Not bad for an organisation that started more modestly as the Applied Research Office in the late-1960s, recording all its transactions in a now-famous 'green book'.

CEO Dr Andy Shenk says the handwritten ledger was basically a record of "things people wanted the University to do" (in lieu of a financial system) beyond its official role as a teaching and research institution.

If you wanted a chimney flue, for example, chances are someone in the University could have designed it for you, says Andy.

"Looking at the entries in the book, and the prices charged, it could range from a legal opinion, an expert to testify about something, a survey of a design, a research project, calibrating an instrument; a very broad range. It reflects the fact that here was a group of people, experts in what they do, so why not use them to help people outside the University?"

"It began to become clear that a way to

manage the growth into delivering even more would be to establish a fit for purpose organisation that could do this, and that led to thinking about creating the company."

Viewing the University as a pool of practical knowledge, and academics as having something valuable and specific to offer the world beyond their so-called ivory tower, has become known as 'the third way'.

"Many universities around the world have accepted they have a broader contribution to make beyond training the next generation of citizens and adding to the global store of knowledge; in terms of their impact on local communities, on the societies they're part of, including economic impacts," says Andy.

In 1988, the Applied Research Office morphed into UniServices so it could exist as a separate legal entity, operating as a business on the University's behalf.

"The University 'owns' UniServices like it owns any other property," says Andy. "Through us, it can own shares, invest in start-ups, protect its intellectual property, invest in the commercial potential of new ideas, and create commercial relationships with government and industry.

"From our point of view, we are a commercial company and I report to a board of directors, on which the current Vice-Chancellor chooses to sit; and we have a single shareholder, which is the University of Auckland."

Holding a PhD in biological sciences from the University of Delaware, Andy came to UniServices from Fonterra, where he held a number of roles – most recently, chief scientist. He is only the third CEO, after founding CEO Dr John Kernohan and Andy's predecessor, Adjunct Professor Dr Peter Lee.

He says there have been many proud successes over the years, but two in particular come to mind.

"We operate the Immunisation Advisory

Centre (IMAC) which has helped transform the immunisation coverage rate for children in New Zealand."

Working closely in partnership with the Ministry of Health, IMAC provides training and support to health professionals across the country, promotional materials, a communication strategy, national coordination and strategic advice. The Centre offers independent, factual information about vaccine-preventable diseases and the benefits of immunisation.

From a relatively low rate, more than 90 percent of children are now immunised against common diseases like measles and whooping cough. "And that means fewer sick children, less stressed parents and everyone is getting more sleep," says Andy. "It also means educational attainment and economic benefit to the families; so that's a huge, huge success."

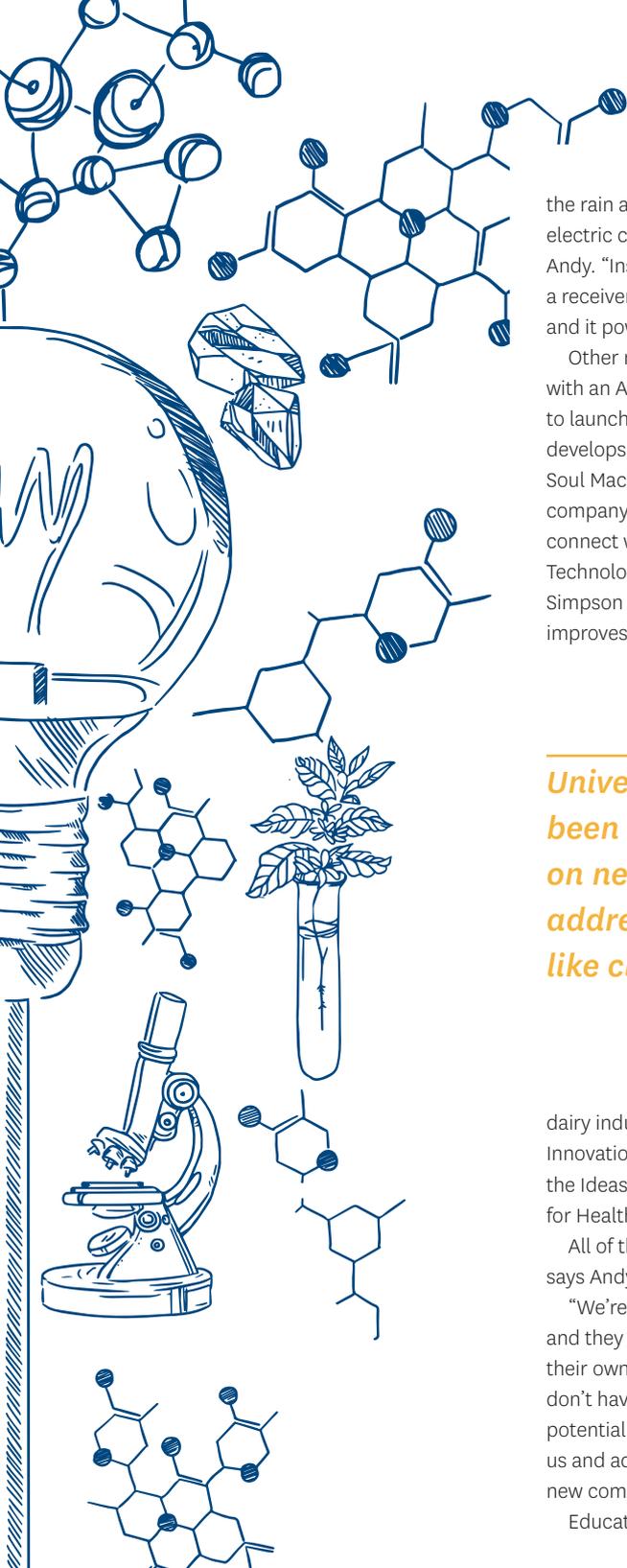
He says University academics have also been leading the charge on new technologies to address crucial issues like climate change.

Commercialised by UniServices and developed from as early as the mid-1990s by Professors John Boys and Grant Covic (Faculty of Engineering), inductive (or wireless) power transfer technology is already being used in high-end manufacturing settings around the world.

"It's being used in clean rooms to power robots and autonomous vehicles, and in roadways to produce safety lighting along lane markers that doesn't get disrupted by the traffic, and lots of other important uses," says Andy.

Intent on finding a way to charge electric cars without cables or batteries, in 2010, UniServices founded a new global start-up company Halo IPT, utilising the expertise of John and Grant and their research team.

"Imagine how much better it will be to charge your electric car without having to get out in



the rain at a charging station and connect the electric cable and risk zapping yourself,” says Andy. “Instead there’s a pad in the ground and a receiver in your car and you park over the pad and it powers itself.”

Other milestones include: the partnership with an American drug development company to launch SapVax, a biotech start-up which develops novel new cancer vaccines (2017); Soul Machines, an artificial intelligence start-up company which has re-imagined how humans connect with machines (2016); Engender Technologies (2011), led by Professor Cather Simpson (Faculty of Science), a company which improves the sorting of sperm by sex for the

## *University academics have been leading the charge on new technologies to address crucial issues like climate change.*

dairy industry; the establishment of the UoA Innovation Institute China (2016) which is hosting the Ideas to Life Conference 2018 - Innovations for Healthy Living.

All of this activity has a ripple effect outward, says Andy.

“We’re creating ten new companies every year, and they go on to employ people and to have their own lives beyond us. In some areas, we don’t have the skills to bring something to its full potential so we need others to invest alongside us and add both expertise and dollars to help our new companies succeed.”

Education is another area where UniServices

manages University of Auckland contracts all over the world.

“We used to teach English to young women in Saudi Arabia to prepare them for university, around 25,000 of them per year, at the world’s largest women’s university, Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman, it was huge, covering an area larger than downtown Auckland.”

The future, he believes, is increasingly in our brightest young minds.

“Lately we’ve been focusing on student ventures and also on student investors, so they feel they have a place they can go where people understand them, and so they don’t have to wait until they’re 50 or 60 to become involved and get their ideas out there.

“We do a lot of work with the Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (Faculty of Business and Economics); we mentor and judge their Velocity (turning good ideas into reality) competition; we work with some of the top teams as they move beyond Velocity and get ready to enter the market; we have students on our investment committees.”

And, he says, the world needs great academic minds more than ever.

“Reflecting on our birthday as a company, I think our first 30 years have shown that the ‘third way’ for a university involves a significant commitment from all of us to our city, our nation, and the world around us. It’s been a very rewarding experience for those of us at UniServices who’ve had the privilege of working alongside some of the most creative, inspiring academics you’ll find anywhere.

“Our track record proves that a great university like the University of Auckland, has so much to offer to make society a better, healthier, more sustainable and more equitable home for all of us, and we look forward to our next 30 years with real optimism and excitement.”

Find out more at [www.uniservices.co.nz](http://www.uniservices.co.nz)

■ Julianne Evans



Professors John Boys, left, and Grant Covic (Faculty of Engineering), leaders in inductive power transfer technology.



Professor Cather Simpson heads Engender Technologies Ltd



Dr Andy Shenk, CEO, Auckland UniServices Ltd.

## JUMPING ON THE BLOCKCHAIN TRAIN

**The New Zealand Government and the Reserve Bank should embrace cryptocurrencies and work with industry to turn Aotearoa into a fintech hub, according to a new report funded by the Law Foundation.**

Cryptocurrency is money that only exists digitally or virtually and uses cryptography and blockchain technology to regulate its generation and verify fund transfers. The report, *Regulating Cryptocurrencies in New Zealand*, was written by Associate Professor Alex Sims in the Department of Commercial Law, the late David Mayes, Professor of Banking and Finance, and Dr Kanchana Kariyawasam of Australia's Griffith University Business School.

Among its ten recommendations: the Reserve Bank trials creating and issuing a cryptocurrency; greater advice and protection for consumers on cryptocurrencies by the Financial Markets Authority (FMA), the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) and others; and the cultivation of New Zealand-based cryptocurrency exchanges with appropriate safeguards.

The authors argue that fast-moving technological advances and sensible regulation

will address most concerns commonly raised about all types of currencies, including security, fluctuations in value, and potential for criminal abuse such as money laundering and financing terrorism. The UK Treasury has found that criminals use the current banking and corporate/trusts systems more than cryptocurrencies, with billions of dollars laundered through banks every year.

Beyond changing the way we pay for things, the use of cryptocurrencies in combination with blockchain-based smart contracts has the potential to profoundly transform everyday commerce, says Alex Sims. For example, smart contracts can track products from source to consumer, offering unparalleled transparency around provenance, food safety, fair trade and sustainability. She predicts that blockchain "will be more transformative than the internet".



PhD student Thilini Vidanelage is part of the Gut Bugs Trial at the Liggins Institute, now a documentary series.

## LIGGINS STUDY NOW TV DOCO

**Would you take capsules of healthy, lean people's poo if you thought it might radically improve your health?**

That's what 87 teenagers have done in the pioneering Gut Bugs Trial by researchers at the Liggins Institute, which is looking at whether a gut bugs transfer – already used to treat a severe form of diarrhoea – could also treat obesity.

Recruitment to the trial has closed and results are due mid-2019, but this October there is a three-part documentary that follows the researchers and four young Auckland women affected by obesity who participated in the trial's pilot study.

*The Good Sh\*t* (Razor Films) took almost two years to make, and provides a rare behind-the-scenes window into a clinical trial with all its excitements and setbacks.

The first part aired on Three on Tuesday 2 October at 8.30pm; the second is at 9pm on Tuesday 9 October, and the final at 9pm on Tuesday 16 October. Seven online companion episodes will be available after each broadcast on ThreeNow.co.nz, along with the full episodes for catch-up viewing.



## EXCESSIVE PROFITS FOR ENERGY GENERATORS

**In the seven years from 2010 to 2016, power generators pocketed an extra \$5.4 billion in profits over and above what they would have if the wholesale electricity market was truly competitive.**

A new report by Dr Stephen Poletti, left, a senior lecturer in energy economics at the Business School, used computer modelling to simulate how energy traders in generator firms behave in the wholesale market, and compared it to how they would behave if the market was competitive – that is, if generators were forced to always sell power at cost. The simulation also factored in hydro dam water level data.

He demonstrated that the model was reliable and robust by checking simulated prices against actual prices.

The model showed that 'market power rents' – the excess profits that generators are able to make – are substantial.

Stephen prefers a system like the one used by US company PJM.

"In the PJM system, generators have to offer power at the cost of production," he says. "This would lower prices for consumers.

"If prices are too low for new investment to meet future demand growth, long-term contracts for new generation could be auctioned off."

The full report can be read on the Energy Centre website at [www.business.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.business.auckland.ac.nz).



Engineering PhD graduate Tūmanako Fa'aui celebrating with his family at Spring Graduation last month.

## SPRING GRADUATES

**Spring Graduation on 25 September saw nearly 3,000 graduates receive their qualifications, dodging heavy downpours in the changeable spring weather.**

While nearly 900 chose to graduate *in absentia*, the rest of the 2,971 students graduated in person at one of four ceremonies at the Aotea Centre. Ages ranged from 20 to 80, and there were approximately 79 percent domestic and 21 percent international graduates, with almost an equal spread of men and women. The Business School had the highest representation, with more than 800 graduates, followed closely by Science.

### Family reunite for graduation

Dr Lina Li, *above*, a lecturer in Accounting at the Business School, graduated with a PhD last month.

Family from Tauranga, Auckland, and even China joined her to celebrate. Her thesis found

that large 'non-big four' audit firms are able to develop brand-name reputations and market power through mergers, which in China has led to more competitive pricing and better quality in audits.

Lina, 24, says the topic was inherently fascinating, and her thesis highlighted the "unlimited opportunities" of academic research.

### Engineer father inspires son

Engineering PhD graduate Tūmanako Fa'aui's father was also an engineer, and as a child, he remembers that whenever the family travelled anywhere, they would point out the bridges or structures their father worked on.

It was enough to inspire Tūmanako to follow in his father's footsteps.

"At a young age it seemed the coolest thing to me that my dad had worked on these structures as an engineer, and ever since then, I've been drawn to building and designing things and solving problems in the same way he did."

Of Māori and Pacific descent, and the youngest

in a family of five, Tūmanako was born in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea where his father worked as an engineer in the construction industry. But while Tūmanako was still young, his father died and the family returned to New Zealand.

His mother and siblings proudly watched as Tūmanako was awarded his PhD in Civil Engineering.

"My family is the support and encouragement that underpins everything I do but especially education; at home I was always encouraged to study and work hard," he says.

Tūmanako's PhD thesis assessed the impact of the 2011 *Rena* oil spill disaster on the receiving waters and communities, with particular attention on affected iwi and hapū.

Tūmanako has been appointed lecturer in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and hopes to encourage Māori and Pacific students to consider Engineering as a study option.

"It's a discipline where both Māori and Pasifika are under-represented but as Māori, we come from a long line of navigators, thinkers and scientists so academic success shouldn't be a new concept; it's at the root of who we are."

## WHAT'S ON CAMPUS

### BRUCE JESSON LECTURE

**What:** Housing Crisis: A smoking gun with no silver bullet

**When:** Tuesday 23 October from 6pm

**Where:** Old Government House Lecture Theatre G36, Old Government House, 22 Princes Street, City Campus

The CEO of Monte Cecilia Housing Trust, Bernie Smith, looks at what he sees are the limitations of the Government's KiwiBuild programme and instead, considers how together it might be possible to build strong, healthy and safe communities.

Registration required at:

[bruce-jesson-lecture.eventbrite.com](https://bruce-jesson-lecture.eventbrite.com)

### WAR ON DRUGS PUBLIC TALK

**What:** Regulation: The Responsible Control of Drugs

**When:** 11am–12.30pm, Friday 26 October

**Where:** University of Auckland Lecture Theatre 505-007, Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, 85 Park Road, Grafton.

RSVP: [nzdrug.org/gcdp-talk](https://nzdrug.org/gcdp-talk)

The war on drugs has failed...what's next? Learn from former world leaders on the Global Commission on Drug Policy about why regulating drugs is the only responsible way forward. Speakers: Rt Hon Helen Clark, former NZ Prime Minister; Ruth Dreifuss, former President of Switzerland and Chair of the Global Commission on Drug Policy.

### EDUCATION INFO EVENING

**What:** The Doctoral and Postgraduate Information Evening in Education

**When:** Wednesday 17 October, 6–7.30pm

**Where:** Kohia Centre, Epsom Campus

This event is an opportunity to find out about the range of programmes and research options on offer next year.

These include the new Master of Education Practice and the Doctor of Education: Learning in a Digital Age.

Current Postgraduate students will share their experiences and advisers will be on hand to answer questions.

Register now: [bit.ly/DoctoralPG](https://bit.ly/DoctoralPG)



From left: Associate Professor Linda Tyler, Andrew McKay, Erna Battenhaussen and Madison Pine on graduation day last month.

## THE ART OF CONSERVATION

The first three graduates of the University's new Master of Heritage Conservation gained their qualifications in Spring Graduation last month.

This taught postgraduate programme is led by Associate Professor Linda Tyler, who was responsible for the University's Art Collection from 2005 to 2017.

In a 15,000-word essay to be published in Records of the Auckland Museum, one of her graduates, Andrew McKay, probes the story of Scottish art benefactor and prolific collector James Mackelvie.

"I looked at how the Mackelvie Collection came to be in the Auckland War Memorial Museum and how it was administered by the Mackelvie Trust Board over the last 125 years," says Andrew.

He discovered little had been written about the philanthropist who died in 1885.

"Mackelvie came to New Zealand as a junior partner in Brown and Campbell merchants and went on to invest in profitable goldmining ventures in the Coromandel.

"He gifted all his objects to the people of Auckland because he made his fortune here, it was a means of thank you."

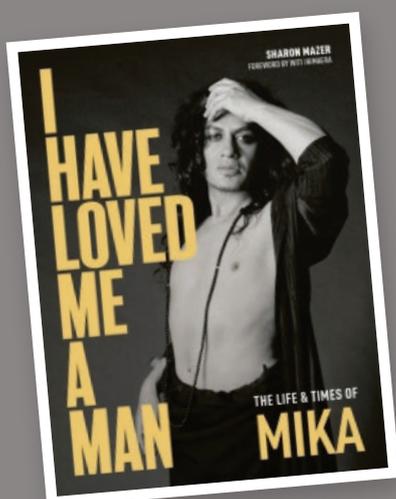
Andrew, 42, who has had a corporate career and is currently employed by L'Oréal, says his research showed the Mackelvie Board had done a magnificent job in preserving a legacy, "making it visible and available to the people of Auckland".

Twenty-three-year-old Madison Pine has taken a different tack, writing her dissertation on 'dark museums' that tell stories of subjects like slavery, genocide and the holocaust.

"I've looked at how three international museums interpreted difficult history for the greatest understanding by their visitors," she says.

The three institutions are: The International Slavery Museum in Liverpool; The Apartheid Museum in Johannesburg, South Africa; and POLIN: Museum of the History of Polish Jews, in Warsaw, Poland.

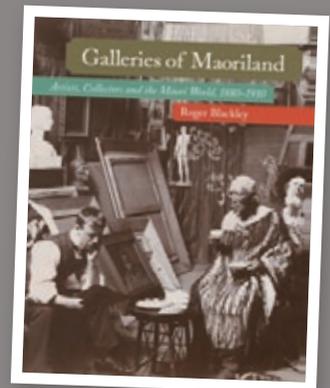
## WHAT'S COMING OUT



### Magnificent Mika

*I Have Loved Me a Man: The Life and Times of Mika* by Sharon Mazer is the extraordinary story of Māori performance artist Mika. Born Neil Gudsell and adopted by a Pākehā family in Timaru, he says he used to believe his birth mother "gave me away without a second thought" but the truth turned out to be quite different.

With a forward by Witi Ihimaera and packed with eye-catching photographs, Mika's story travels from the Old Mill Disco in Timaru to San Francisco's ACT UP protests, through Jazzercise and drag, AIDS and homosexual law reform. The book takes readers inside the social revolution that has moved New Zealand from the 1960s to the present day. Auckland University Press, October 2018.



### Romanticising Māori

*Galleries of Maoriland: Artists, Collectors and the Māori World, 1880-1910* by art historian Roger Blackley, looks at the many ways in which Pākehā discovered, created, propagated and romanticised the Māori world at the turn of the century. Through this lens, it examines among others, the paintings of Lindauer and Goldie, art patrons, collectors and audiences. It looks inside the Polynesian Society and the Dominion Museum, and at stolen artefacts and fantastical accounts of the Māori past. Auckland University Press, October 2018.

“Personal stories are used a lot in these to give a sense of what it was like to live through histories. Photos and multi-media experiences are also used to help people engage with their history.”

Madison says she is really passionate about how people engage and learn about their histories in museums, and she can see lots of potential for developing New Zealand history in new ways. She suggests one could be re-looking at the Treaty of Waitangi and its impact on our history.

Erna Battenhaussen, 22, explored an interesting aspect of early New Zealand history when at the end of her Bachelor’s degree in November 2016, she worked at Auckland’s Museum of Transport and Technology (MOTAT) as a summer scholar.

She researched objects that could form the beginnings of an online Auckland Medical Museum.

Erna was then employed by MOTAT as a research assistant for six months, researching and reviewing the health science collection.

“These experiences directly influenced my Masters topic,” she says. For this she looked at how the process of evaluating any object for a museum collection could be standardised.

During her Masters, Erna worked part-time as the assistant curator, History, at the Auckland Museum. She began a permanent role as a collections technician in Documentary Heritage at the museum last month.

## APOLOGY TO CAI

In our September Suffrage 125 issue, we featured the Creative Arts and Industries leadership team, who are all women.

Unfortunately, an editing mishap saw two people given incorrect titles; Sharon Peace is the Director of Faculty Operations and Arlette Galich is the Director of Faculty Finance. While increasing the size of an image, we also inadvertently cut the final paragraphs of Deputy Dean, Associate Professor Nuala Gregory’s story. We’re very sorry about the errors, which have been corrected in the online versions.



### ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

**ROOM TO RENT, SUNNY ST HELIERS, AUCKLAND:** Large fully furnished bedroom in cosy three-bed, 1 bath peaceful home. Ten mins. to beach. 30 mins. drive or bus, along Tamaki Drive to CBD, Tamaki Campus. Share with mature professional woman. Suit academic or professional, \$250 weekly plus electricity. Contact Penny: pkstar@gmail.com

**TWO BEDROOM, TWO BATHROOM FURNISHED HOME IN REMUERA/MEADOWBANK:** Spacious feel with high ceilings and patio garden. Walk to bus stop for direct bus to Medical School or University or park car in the driveway. Suitable for visiting academics or professional couple. Available late May through November. Email: john@metronz.co.nz or text 021 308800.

**FULLY-FURNISHED CHARACTER BUNGALOW:** 2 bedrooms, open plan kitchen/lounge/dining. Central heating, quiet, private north-facing deck. Sub-tropical gardens, 10 min. bus to University, one min walk to shopping mall. \$850 p.w. incl. water, Internet, excl. electricity/gas. Available for 7-10 months. Email: anita@levering.co.nz

**WAIHEKE ISLAND:** Characterful, sunny and compact cottage. Perfect for sabbatical, writing retreat or holiday. Views from decks, short walks to beaches. Bus stop nearby, short drive from car ferry. Fully-equipped kitchen, WiFi. Max. four guests, min. two-night stay. Spring (Sept-Nov) rate: \$95/night/two, \$10 extra pp. Photos and availability: pat.neuwelt@gmail.com

**SIX-MONTH RENTAL:** 4 bedroom, 3.5 bathroom home on 3 levels, available mid-July 2018 to mid-January 2019. Quiet, private, spacious and located in St Heliers/Glendowie (5-10 minutes to Tamaki, 25+ minutes to city/Grafton). Negotiable furnished or unfurnished, with or without car. \$980 week. Email: j.wiles@auckland.ac.nz

**BRIGHTON ROAD, PARNELL, LARGE 2 BEDROOM APARTMENT:** in elegant heritage building. Recently redecorated including new kitchen. Secure garage, sea views, all day sun, and deck. Ultra fast broadband and Sky connection available by arrangement. Suit visiting academics close to University and Medical school. Contact by text: 021 415 770.

**BUCKLANDS BEACH, 5-BED HOUSE FOR RENT, 4 WEEKS OVER CHRISTMAS:** Large, sunny, well equipped, coastal views. 5 mins. walk to two different beaches, 15 mins. to Half Moon Bay ferry. Available 15 December 2018 - 11 January 2019, \$800 a week or \$700 if you’re happy to feed our cat. f.boermans@auckland.ac.nz

**COMING TO AUCKLAND FOR LONG STAY OR TO LIVE?** Need an exceptional living environment for a few weeks or months? Self-contained one bed. furnished apartment annexed to main house in Waitakere Ranges, with view of bush and beach. Short drive to Swanson train station, 45 mins. to the CBD, and easy walk to Uni or 45 mins. by car. Interested? Email: www.bushsandandsea@gmail.com or call Lyn on 64 (09) 810 9584.

**SHORT TERM SUMMER RENTAL PARNELL:** Available approx. 3 Jan to 16 April 2019. Fully furnished one bed. flat, secluded location near Auckland Domain. Sunny, leafy outlook, like living in treetops. Q-size bed, good clothes storage, fully equipped kitchen. Off-street undercover parking. \$400 pw neg. includes power, landline and WiFi. Email: jacqu.walker@gmail.com

**FULLY FURNISHED 3-BEDROOM HOME IN EAST AUCKLAND FOR LONG TERM RENT:** Stunning views over Auckland from deck and lounge, also overlooking swimming pool and garden. Large family home in Pakuranga, close to schools and short walk to local shopping mall. Easy commute to University, motorway 5 mins. away. Rental available for 1-2 years from Dec 2018 \$650 per week. Contact melissabaily@gmail.com

**LOVELY PRIVATE ROOM FRESHLY RENOVATED TO A HIGH STANDARD:** Large and sunny overlooking garden with own deck. Although part of our house, the room does have a separate entrance and ensuite and can be locked from the rest of the house. Also available is a lounge/sunroom with a single day bed, TV, armchairs and books to enjoy. Centrally located in the heart of Parnell. Contact Christine on: 0274 430006.

**FULLY-FURNISHED HOUSE IN BELMONT, NORTH SHORE:** 3-bed, 1-bathroom, sunny, nice outlook, private back and front gardens. Close to schools, parks and beaches. Ferry or bus to University. Available from May-June till mid-November. \$600 per week. Contact: j.laurie@auckland.ac.nz

**INTERESTED IN A 2-6 MONTH HOUSE-SWAP IN SYDNEY IN 2019?** Recently retired academic and her writer-husband seek to exchange their two-bedroom, fully furnished flat in Glebe (15 min. walk to Sydney University/near public transport) for similar Auckland accommodation. Flexible time frame, but early 2019 preferred. Contact: laurie.miller@sydney.edu.au for more information.

### SERVICES

**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 call our senior solicitor Nichola Christie on 600 0256 to discuss your needs, or email: nchristie@rainey.co.nz. Visit www.rainey.co.nz

**NOTARIAL SERVICES:** I am a Notary Public with many years experience and can notarise documents to be sent overseas and provide my Notarial Certificate. I’m situated on the ground floor, Princes Court, 2 Princes Street, Auckland, next to the Pullman Hotel. Phone Stewart Germann on (09) 308 9925 to make an appointment or email: secretary@germann.co.nz

**DIGITAL PRINTING:** Course books, presentation and display prints, conference printing, pull up banners, posters and flyers. Barny Hards is our specialist university print adviser. Contact him at barny@newcomb.co.nz. Newcomb Digital, 2A Augustus Terrace, Parnell. Phone 303 2878. Approved ‘preferred supplier’ to the University of Auckland.

**EDITORIAL AND PROOFREADING SERVICES:** Providing excellence in assistance with all aspects of thesis preparation, abstract, formatting, editing. Conference papers and getting your abstract accepted. I’m interested in providing support to energetic students in all academic fields. Published author and graduate. Contact: Editorial0021@gmail.com or 022 090 1513.



Image taken in Ramallah, Palestinian Territories, central West Bank.

## DANCING ON A WIRE

**Nicholas Rowe, Associate Professor of Dance Studies, looks at the global spread of 'ethnic exclusion' from his position as a dance artist who works with indigenous communities all over the world.**

As times change, so do the drugs we take and the ways we commune. Karl Marx once said religion is the opium of the masses. If Marx were alive today, he would probably call ethnic nationalism the crystal meth of the electorate.

Instead of sedating the masses, political pushers now cook up some country coke, stimulate the aggressive paranoia of the privileged few, and offer mass exclusion as a cure for the hangover.

From Trump's family separation policy, to Europe's rightwing swing against refugees, Brexit, India's national registers, Israel's declaration of Jewish primacy and Australia's use of Nauru, political dealers are pushing more and more addictive doses of ethnic exclusion.

In doing so, they make more evolved ideals like universal humanity and multi-cultural inclusion look both frighteningly psychedelic and terribly passé.

This messy, dated idea of inclusion still matters to me however, because I am a community dance artist. This means I bring people together to creatively collaborate, to enjoy the communal creative process, and to value locally-inspired cultural products.

To do this, I work in all sorts of locations, from refugee camps in the West Bank to urban slums in Asia, usually with people who find themselves 'outed' by policies and practices of exclusion. The exclusion they experience may be overt,

through national laws that distinguish levels of citizenship; like Palestinians living in fourth-generation refugee camps in Lebanon, where their sub-citizen status is as enshrined in law as the 1705 Virginia slave codes.

The exclusion can also be more insidious; social, economic and cultural practices that sneakily de-legitimise a person's sense of worth and belonging, like in northern Australia where elderly women are hidden by a culture that predominantly worships youth and masculinity.

To create dances that are locally significant, my work first involves lots of sharing of stories among the participants, leading into improvisations and compositions of dances.

This extends upon philosopher and political theorist Hannah Arendt's idea that political freedom is most acutely experienced when one's own creative ideas are responded to, in pluralistic ways.

Through making dance films in urban landscapes, the people I work with explore meanings of a 'public' space, and find ways of making their creative ideas, and thereby themselves, more visible and valued.

This often challenges the cultural status quo, and frightens local neo-liberal imaginings of how urban spaces might become more privatised or marketised.

These practical, creative experiences influence my work as a dance historian, critically investigating arts in community contexts. While often promoted as benign, for centuries the arts have been used to advance colonial hegemony and justify cultural appropriation.

This can be seen continuing through cross-cultural arts exchanges, under the guise of 'cultural diplomacy'. While filled with the goodwill of 18th century missionaries, the hegemonic use of

the arts to establish hierarchies of cultural power can lead to a devaluing of local arts activities.

So I sift through archives and gather oral histories to research the ways in which the arts have been used to include or exclude people in different societies and regions over time.

I'm particularly inspired by grassroots arts organisations that have managed to sustain community dance practices during difficult periods, like Phare in Cambodia, EL-Funoun in Palestine and TracksDance in northern Australia.

The art produced by these organisations does not often get reviewed, as 'community arts' has generally been marginalised by mainstream art histories.

Colonial and national views of the arts instead canonise stale folk dances as the token nod towards collective creative endeavour, while fetishising the elite, 'creative genius' of (usually white, male) individuals.

This is unfortunate, because pluralism, and the value of multi-cultural societies, relies on innovative narratives that can only emerge when divergent and complex perspectives are woven together into a work of art that is broadly appreciated.

Weaving such work can take a lot of time and listening, but remarkably creative work can emerge from an inclusive process that values diverse stories and contrasting perspectives.

Stories and perspectives that reveal the complexity and commonality of humanity.

Stories that need to be heard if we are to celebrate differences, and a life lived among a community of strangers.

■ Nicholas Rowe spoke on this topic at the recent *Raising the Bar* event in Auckland. This piece first appeared in [www.newsroom.co.nz](http://www.newsroom.co.nz)