



## Blending life and song

Carolyn Stilwell's life and art are both multi-layered.

At the University she is usually seen in her role as Events Coordinator in the Vice-Chancellor's Office. However in her private life she is also a composer, a singer and songwriter.

A New Zealander of French, English and Irish descent, Carolyn acknowledges the influence of all those strands of her identity, which come together to produce songs and melodies that are uniquely New Zealand but also draw on Celtic traditions.

Her debut solo album *Land of Clouds*, released this month, is a cultural merging of many things New Zealanders hold dear – the sea, the sky and the landscapes – with elements of folklore, haunting melodies and a mystical edge. In it Carolyn uses her voice as an instrument, layering tracks with her own backing vocals, using both high ethereal notes and rich deep harmonies over the melody lines.

As a child Carolyn trained with Sister Mary Leo, who while making it clear from the start that she would never be an opera singer (to Carolyn's secret relief), said that she had "a musical soul" and therefore she would teach her anyway. After two years with Sister Leo, Carolyn came away with a warm respect for her.

"In some ways 'Sister' was a diminutive tyrant who would shout if our singing was not to her liking, and demand that we repeat musical phrases and breathing exercises over and over again until she was satisfied, but there was a lot of gentleness, humour and humility about her too. We adored her!

"Sister believed that a good voice was a 'God-given gift' and that we could not take any credit for it. Our role was to shape that gift through hard work – and breathing techniques – until we could just forget about the mechanics and relax into the essence of the song. She also said that for a singer to truly shine they had to have another indefinable quality about them, and I think that that's what she looked for in all her 'girls'. Sister was an inspiration and I will always feel privileged to have studied under her."

Though Carolyn was writing her own material from her late teens most of this remained unheard until she was 30 and living in London. There she produced two albums in collaboration with several other musicians, which were subsequently taken up by a major distributor, released throughout Europe, and quietly began to achieve critical acclaim.

One of the highlights in those years was a gig in the grounds of Glastonbury Abbey, a "magical" occasion attracting an audience of 5000. Carolyn put a band together especially for the event and played a set of her own material "as the sun sank over the ruins".

Carolyn's latest album, the first she has produced since returning to New Zealand several years ago, will also be featured in a collaborative project with artist Sallie Clough



Carolyn Stilwell, as seen on the cover of her CD, *Land of Clouds*

at an exhibition of new art work which is based around the album. This will be launched at the Gus Fisher Gallery on 5 June.

"Sallie painted to the sounds of the music," Carolyn explains. "Each piece in the exhibition has been inspired by the lyrics, and the works are titled with the names of the various songs."

One of Carolyn's heartfelt hopes is that her music will be featured on the soundtracks of New Zealand films. Already one of her tracks called "You Find Me" has been used in a short film called *Ophelia*.

Because she writes, performs and publishes her own material she can waive copyright for projects that fire her imagination – and Carolyn would be pleased to hear from Film, Television and Media Studies students who might be interested in accessing some of her back catalogue of work. She is also open to new work commissions from established filmmakers.

*Land of Clouds*, distributed by Ode Records, will be available in Real Groovy Stores, Marbecks and branches of Sounds Records. Copies are currently on sale at the University Bookshop and can also be ordered online at [www.oderecords.co.nz](http://www.oderecords.co.nz)

## Key events

### Bob Dylan and the classics

One focus of Dylan scholarship is on intertexts: where his songs come from and what meanings they derive from those places. In a public lecture Hood Fellow Richard Thomas, Professor of Greek and Latin at Harvard University, will explore Dylan's contacts with ancient Greece and Rome (see page 3). The lecture is at 6.30pm, 14 March, Engineering Lecture Theatre 401, 20 Symonds Street.

### Music of the primes

In a public lecture Marcus du Sautoy, Professor of Mathematics at Oxford, speaks of prime numbers, which represent a tantalising enigma. Mathematics is the science of patterns, yet the most fundamental numbers seem to have no patterns to them. However, by looking at them in a new way, mathematicians have discovered what they believe is the secret to the way nature chose the primes. The lecture is at 6pm, 15 March, Lecture Theatre 439, Engineering Atrium, with refreshments and signing and sale of books at 5pm.

### Welfare reforms

An all-day forum will present research on recent and proposed welfare reforms to New Zealand's social support system. These include changes to hardship provisions; the Working for Families assistance package; and the "Work-focused" service delivery model. The forum will be held 9am-4.30pm, 21 March, Conference Centre Lecture Theatre (423-342), 22 Symonds Street. Attendance free. Registration essential. Contact Dr Louise Humpage, [lhumpage@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:lhumpage@auckland.ac.nz), ext 85115.

### Fragility fractures

A symposium at the Grand Atrium, Auckland Museum, from 5-8pm on 23 March will explore current concepts in the diagnosis, prevention and management of fragility fractures. Associate Professor Rocco Pitto (Orthopaedic Surgery) is the organiser. For further information phone 276 0044 (ext 7666), fax 276 0066 or email [rpitto@middlemore.co.nz](mailto:rpitto@middlemore.co.nz)

## From the Vice-Chancellor

Several events in recent weeks have given us the opportunity to celebrate the achievements of members of the University community.

On Friday 23 February, we held the annual Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner, in the marquee on the grounds of Old Government House, with about 450 alumni, staff and friends of the University attending.

The guest speaker was the Honorable Anand Satyanand, recently appointed Governor-General of New Zealand. As I pointed out in my welcoming address, his appointment gives The University of Auckland a "constitutional trifecta" – the Governor-General, Prime Minister and Chief Justice are now all alumni of this University. Distinguished Alumni Awards were presented to leading academic and New Zealand historian, Emeritus Professor Judith Binney (Arts); internationally renowned academic leader in green chemistry and sustainability, Professor Terrence Collins (Science); former New Zealand Secretary for Education and Director of Education for the World Bank, Dr Maris O'Rourke (Education and Arts); international businessman and senior civil servant in three US administrations, Dr Peter Watson (Law); and acclaimed New Zealand writer, poet, curator, editor, art reviewer and critic, Ian Wedde (Arts). The Young Alumnus of the Year is Mahe Drysdale (Business), world-champion single sculler.

Earlier we celebrated the outstanding achievement of Professor Margaret Brimble of the Department of Chemistry in being named Asia-Pacific Laureate in the L'Oréal UNESCO Women in Science Awards for 2007. This award, one of only five made internationally each year, recognises research excellence among women globally and is voted by a panel of judges including Nobel Prize winners.

Professor Brimble, who received her honour in Paris, is the first New Zealand Laureate since the awards began in 1998. Her research involves chemically synthesising naturally occurring compounds, which have the potential to be used as drugs for treating human health conditions.

Margaret's award and the Distinguished Alumni Awards are a fitting reminder of the contribution of University of Auckland people around the world.

## Digital technology builds student expectations

The University of Auckland is doing as well as most of its U21 partners in developing and implementing e-learning strategies, says Professor Lorraine Stefani, Director of the Centre for Academic Development.

This is despite having fewer financial resources than many of the other universities. However, she adds that in a rapidly developing field, there is no room for complacency, and Auckland, like other universities throughout the world, will face many challenges over the next few years.

Lorraine was speaking from experience gained at a U21 conference held late last year in Guadalajara, Mexico, entitled "The future of e-learning has arrived!" The conference was attended by representatives from Universitas 21 and U21 Global institutions from nine countries.

The conference covered three broad themes: e-learning and pedagogical principles, technology and techniques, and e-learning organisation and management.

One of the most pressing and challenging issues emerging from the first theme was the increasing level of student engagement with and expectations of new technology.

Interesting insights in this area were presented by the first keynote speaker, Professor Murray Goldberg, from the University of British Columbia, creator of Web CT. He reported on the basis of his research in Canada and the United States that students' overwhelming preference is for blended learning, with a good mix of e-learning and traditional classroom-based teaching and learning.

In the USA in particular, but also in the UK, blogs and wikis are being used increasingly as tools to support student learning and reflection. Some universities now expect incoming students to own a laptop computer and, increasingly, classrooms are becoming wireless-enabled, allowing for small-scale networking within the classroom or lecture theatre.

As digital technology becomes more available and accessible for our student populations their expectations of the classroom experience and the integration of technology within teaching and learning are changing. "We need to consider how to adapt curriculum design and delivery to meet these changing expectations."

A current frustration for students, says Lorraine, is to engage in interesting e-learning tasks, and then to be assessed in conventional ways. This is an indication of a wider problem – that e-learning is often not successfully integrated within a coherent pedagogical framework.

An emerging field of study within U21 institutions is to



Tony Chung (left) with Wen-Chen Hoi from CAD's e-learning design and development group

increase our understanding of the impact of teaching with technology on student learning outcomes.

A "hot topic" emerging from the second conference theme of "technology and techniques" was the need for flexible working spaces to accommodate new ways of facilitating learning.

Universities such as Birmingham, Warwick and Melbourne are placing a huge emphasis and investment in building and creating flexible learning spaces or learning "pods", says Lorraine. These learning "pods" can be used for small group work or easily converted to accommodate larger numbers of students.

At Auckland the Information Commons has moved us some way towards providing flexibility for students but these facilities are very different from learning "pods".

The conference was organised by Dr Michael Goldberg, Chief Academic Officer of U21 and Claire Noakes from the U21 Secretariat based at the University of Birmingham, in collaboration with colleagues at Tecnológico de Monterrey.

It was valuable not only in covering recent key developments and allowing discussion and clarification of issues, but also in establishing relationships which will facilitate future communication and collaboration, says Lorraine.

Two suggestions arising from the conference – which Lorraine fully supports and will be involved with – are to establish a U21 e-learning journal and to set up an e-learning and pedagogical research centre, which may be virtual. Michael Goldberg has established a task force to set up this centre. Lorraine is a member of this task force.

## Distinguished alumni

Five alumni were presented with Distinguished Alumni Awards at the annual dinner on 23 February. Awardees from left are Emeritus Professor Judith Binney (BA 1962, MA 1965); Professor Terry Collins (BSc 1974, MSc 1975, PhD 1978); Dr Maris O'Rourke (BA 1975, MA 1978, PhD 1986); Dr Peter Watson (LLB 1976); and Ian Wedde (MA 1968).

World champion singles sculler and current New Zealand Sportsman of the Year, Mahe Drysdale (BCom 1999, GDCOM 2001) was named Young Alumnus of the Year but was unable to attend the dinner due to rowing commitments. He will receive his award at an alumni reception later in the year.



## Hood Fellow discusses Bob Dylan

What do you get when you cross a living legend of folk music with the reigning poet of Rome?

In his forthcoming Hood Fellow lecture, "The Streets of Rome: Bob Dylan and the Classics", Professor Richard Thomas will explore the answers (see Key Events, page 1).

During a visit to his alma mater this month, Professor Thomas will tackle a preoccupation among Dylan scholars: the question of "intertexts" – specifically, where his songs come from, and what meanings they derive from their places of origin. The lecture will examine Dylan's contact with the ancient worlds of Greece and Rome, which Professor Thomas argues is particularly evident in Dylan's last three albums and in his "autobiography", *Chronicles Volume 1*. He will also discuss the ways both Dylan and the Roman poet Virgil use melancholy.

A Professor of Greek and Latin at Harvard University since 1987, Richard

Thomas was born in London and moved to Auckland with his parents as an infant. He attended King's College before graduating from The University of Auckland with a BA and an MA in Greek and Latin (first class honours) in 1974. After gaining a PhD at the University of Michigan in 1977, he joined the Department of Classics at Harvard University, one of the world's most prestigious tertiary institutions. He was departmental chair from 2000-2006.

Professor Thomas says concerns he may have held about the "relevance" of the classics in contemporary society have long been laid to rest – particularly in light of current global politics.

"My adopted country is behaving on the world stage in a way that recalls the aggressiveness of the world of Rome, and I have come to see in poets such as Virgil and Dylan a shared uneasiness about what happens when power and empire come into play. There is also a

shared interest that can come from a focus on what really matters, a sense of humanity, aesthetics, and contemplation of interior worlds that are the product of great art," says Professor Thomas.

"Richard Thomas has earned a level of peer esteem that is virtually unrivalled – he is without doubt one of the leading Latin scholars in the world," says Dr Bill Barnes (Classics and Ancient History).

In addition to his lecture on Dylan, Richard Thomas presented another public lecture on 7 March: "What is a Classic? Revisited: Eliot, Graves, Auden and Lowell". In that lecture he discussed whether Virgil should be upheld as the model classic of European literature, as he was by T.S. Eliot, or criticised because in some readings he has seemed to justify the imperial enterprise.

Both lectures are free and open to the public. The Lion Foundation is a proud supporter of the Hood Fellowships at The University of Auckland.

## President of Finland visits



The President of Finland, HE Tarja Halonen, shows keen interest in a presentation at the Bioengineering Institute

The President of Finland, Her Excellency Tarja Halonen, has invited representatives from the University to visit her country, says Professor Peter Hunter, Director of the Bioengineering Institute.

The invitation was issued during the President's visit to the University on 19 February, where – after a welcome from Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stuart McCutcheon – she, her husband Dr Pentti Arajärvi and other members of her entourage toured the Bioengineering Institute and were briefed by researchers from Peter Hunter's team, who are working to provide a computational framework for understanding human physiology.

The distinguished visitors then

attended a discussion on innovation and commercialisation of research at the University with a small group of senior staff including the Vice-Chancellor and Peter Hunter, Professor Tom Barnes, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), and Dr Peter Lee, CEO of Auckland UniServices Ltd.

The visitors were impressed with the research capability of the University, said Tom Barnes.

"During the visit they saw quite strong parallels between New Zealand and Finland – both small countries that need to be entrepreneurial to maintain strength internationally.

"However, Finland places strong emphasis on funding fundamental research that provides the base for

the new ideas that will continue to give it a competitive edge, particularly in a world where much technological manufacturing is moving to countries such as China and India," said Tom Barnes.

"In Finland, a great deal of emphasis is placed on education, again as a means of maintaining a competitive edge in a world dominated by large economies, and within which a country with a small economy has to survive.

"I think they see education as one of the key drivers of Finnish success in the late 1990s, following on from the recession they had in the early 1990s. They see government as playing a key role in both education and fundamental research."

### STUDY SEEKS CONTROL SUBJECTS

The Department of Nutrition is running a study investigating the relationship between genotypes and dietary tolerances or intolerances in individuals with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), focusing primarily on Crohn's Disease (CD).

Studies so far have shown wide variation in the types of foods that people with IBD can or cannot tolerate, making it exceedingly difficult to provide individuals with specific dietary advice. A number of IBD-related genes have been identified, and the researchers want to investigate variations in these genes in relation to food tolerances.

So far the research team has about 800 individuals enrolled in the study, and the team is now looking for people without IBD to act as healthy controls. They are asking controls to donate a small blood sample and fill out a risk-factor questionnaire. In return, they are offering bars of chocolate.

To find out more, please contact Karen or Pippa on (09) 3737599 ext 86368, or email [ibddiet@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:ibddiet@auckland.ac.nz).

### EXCHANGES WITH JAPAN

International Languages Aotearoa New Zealand (ILANZ) invites applications for funding towards appropriate proposals to deepen understanding between New Zealand and Japan. Deadlines for application are 31 March and 31 October 2007.

The New Zealand Japan Exchange Programme (NZJAP), administered by ILANZ, was established in 1974 by the New Zealand and Japanese Governments. It encourages educational and cultural exchanges, including visits between the two countries by educators, artists and scholars.

Applications should include a clear outline of the nature of the project, and should indicate how applicants intend to share their experience and knowledge with others at completion. A full curriculum vitae and detailed budget should also be included.

Guidelines and further information can be obtained from: Jocelyn Laine, tel DDI (04) 913 6484, fax (04) 913 6489, email [programmes@ilanz.ac.nz](mailto:programmes@ilanz.ac.nz), or write to: ILANZ, Box 27 022, Wellington.

# NEW ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

## Bernadette Luciano (European Languages and Literature)

I was born in Italy and educated in the United States, where I obtained a BA in Italian, a BA in English and an MA in Italian from Stanford University, and a PhD from Columbia University.

I taught in a number of universities including Stanford, Columbia, San Diego State University, the University of Minnesota, and the University of California in Santa Barbara.

In 1994 I continued my westward trajectory to yet another continent when I accepted a lecturer's position at The University of Auckland.

I began my career in the Italian Department by restructuring the language programme, and went on to develop a number of literature and culture courses as well as the European Studies undergraduate programme.

I have taught courses in the Italian Department on women's writing and filmmaking, women's autobiographical writing, cinema and film adaptation, as well as European culture and cinema courses, while also contributing to a number of interdisciplinary programmes including Comparative Film Studies, Women's Studies, and Translation Studies.

My publications include articles and book



Associate Professor Bernadette Luciano

chapters on Italian women's historical novels, women's autobiographical writing, Italian cinema, film adaptation, and literary translation — and a co-edited interdisciplinary book on New Zealand and Europe. My book on Italian filmmaker Silvio Soldini (*The Cinema of Silvio Soldini: Dream, Image, Voyage*) is forthcoming in 2007 and I am currently working on a book on Italian women filmmakers.

I live in Rothesay Bay with my partner and 11-year-old son, who has been patiently crisscrossing the globe with me with ease and grace since his birth.

## Grant Covic (Electrical and Computer Engineering)

My decision to undertake a BE in electrical engineering was made at the last minute, driven largely by frustration at the dysfunctional and unfathomable sound systems my brother and I used in our band.



Associate Professor Grant Covic with his son Tasman.

By the end of the degree I was hooked by the desire to continue learning and solve real world engineering problems. I started an ME in power electronics but went on to complete a PhD, after which I began lecturing (in 1993) full-time at The University of Auckland.

In this first year I married my best friend Kyla, taught courses for students not much younger than myself, and began industry-sponsored research to develop a prototype hybrid-electric bus through Auckland Uniservices Ltd.

Today my passion for practical research and associated teaching continues to be both rewarding and fulfilling. Together with Professor John Boys, I lead a programme of industrial-based research into inductive (contact-less) power transfer, in which we are recognised world leaders with significant industrial collaborations.

However this success has been surpassed during the last three years by the responsibility and joy of becoming a parent to two wonderful boys (Mekal and Tasman).

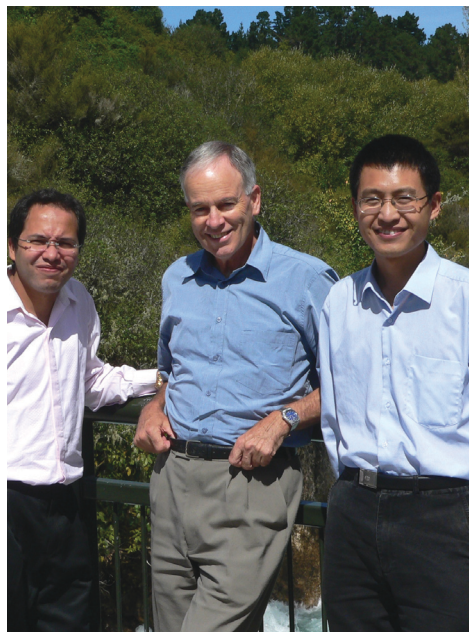
## John Butterworth (Civil and Environmental Engineering)

Two years after graduating BE (Civil Engineering) from The University of Auckland, I headed with my new wife Angela for OE in Europe where I joined Surrey University's Space Structures Research Centre in Guildford as a research engineer.

Academic interests blossomed and I completed a PhD in theoretical mechanics and joined the lecturing staff, discovering an unsuspected talent for teaching — a source of great and continuing satisfaction. Despite many intriguing research projects, our growing family persuaded us to abandon 13 years of idyllic English village life and return to Auckland and a post in the Department of Civil Engineering.

During my absence, earthquake engineering had developed rapidly in New Zealand and my interest in this fascinating field quickly developed. I have since devoted much of my time to the problems of mitigating or preventing earthquake damage to structures, particularly methods using passive devices such as energy-dissipating joints and novel base isolation rollers.

Other areas of research include structural stability, structural dynamics, large-scale field testing



Associate Professor John Butterworth with two of his post-docs — Dr Mohamed ElGawady and Dr Xing Ma — at a recent earthquake engineering conference at Wairakei.

of bridges, rocking structures, structural steel design and composite construction. Teaching remains an ongoing pleasure and a University Distinguished Teaching award in 1999 added to the satisfaction derived from this activity.

Increasingly rare spare moments are occupied by family, gardening, music, running, sailing, good food and wine, watching cricket, minding grandchildren and reading.

## Confucius Institute fittingly launched

One of the more colourful and vital events in the Prime Minister, Helen Clark's calendar for last month, was the opening of the Confucius Institute, held on the evening before Chinese New Year in the Alumni Marquee in front of Old Government House.

Guests at the marquee, which was decorated with flowers, paintings and artworks by students from the Confucius Institute, and red and gold lanterns, were greeted by musicians playing traditional Chinese instruments and colourfully dressed entertainers and jugglers.

The relationship between New Zealand and China, says Prime Minister Helen Clark, has been "freely-marked by a spirit of dialogue, forward-looking cooperation, and a commitment to find ways in which we can bring benefits to each other".

One important way of achieving these mutual benefits is through the Confucius Institute – one of 137 worldwide – which aims to promote Chinese language and culture in New Zealand and to stimulate contacts between New Zealand and China through schools, businesses and organisations working in China.

The launch was attended by eminent visitors from China – Guocheng Zhao, Vice Director of HANBAN (Office of Chinese Language Council International); Professor Yonghao Gui, Vice-President of Fudan University in Shanghai; and the Ambassador to New Zealand from the People's Republic of China, His Excellency Yuanyuan Zhang.

It was also attended by senior staff of the University including Vice-Chancellor



Guocheng Zhao, Vice Director of HANBAN, (left) speaks with Nora Yao, Director of the Confucius Institute.

Professor Stuart McCutcheon, who welcomed the guests.

Minister of Trade, Phil Goff, was among the visitors, as were MP Pansy Wong and former Prime Minister Jenny Shipley.

The Confucius Institute is a non-profit public centre jointly established by HANBAN in Beijing, The University of Auckland and Fudan University in Shanghai. It works closely with both primary and secondary schools by assisting with incorporating China into the curriculum, and with the professional development of teachers as well as providing learning and teaching resources through its resource centre. The Institute offers courses in Business Chinese, consultancy and translation services, and language and cultural courses for pleasure and interest.

The launch was preceded by a

business briefing on the New Zealand-Chinese connection held at Bell Gully's Vero Centre in Shortland Street – with a panel on "Building successful businesses in China" and another on "Policy incentives for economic engagement". Among the speakers were Professor Yonghao Gui, His Excellency Yuanyuan Zhang, and Phil Goff.



## Service to start year

The Commencement Service at the Maclaurin Chapel, held as semester one begins, offers staff and students a traditional Christian affirmation of prayers and support, says University Chaplain, Uesifili Unasa.

However, in its tradition of involving a wider religious leadership, it also sends a message of inclusion to people outside the University community.

Guest speaker at this year's Commencement Service held on 21 February was the Catholic Bishop of Auckland, the Most Reverend Patrick Dunn. Both the Anglican Bishop and the Methodist President have been invited to speak at this service in previous years.

Leading the service were Uesifili and Father Paul Rankin, who is a Catholic Chaplain and a member of the University Chaplaincy Team, based at Newman Hall. The service was organised in conjunction with the School of Theology, with Professor of Theology, Elaine Wainwright (Theology), also assisting.



Roman Catholic Bishop, the Most Reverend Patrick Dunn, speaking at the service. In the background is Professor Elaine Wainwright.

A small choir from the School of Music conducted by Nicholas Forbes presented two musical items: "All Things Bright and Beautiful" and "Exsultate Justi (Shout for Joy, Ye Righteous)".

An even more widely-inclusive service to be held later in the year – always well-attended, says Uesifili – is the multi-faith "peace" service, with participation from all religious groups, including Hindus, Jews, Muslims and others. Students from all religious backgrounds are encouraged to attend the Chapel.

## IS ALARM JUSTIFIED?

An unprecedented number of murders in New Zealand in the nine weeks since Christmas Day has caused alarm amongst many people.

Of the 12 murders committed during this period, five were of women murdered as a result of domestic violence, two were of women murdered by strangers and one was of a girl, sexually assaulted and murdered in her home. A relative has been charged. Another murder was committed by a notorious parolee who had breached his parole, the unfortunate victim simply being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

While the number and nature of these homicides is alarming, it is doubtful that they represent the emergence of a new trend in homicidal violence. Most of the homicides in New Zealand are committed by offenders who are known to their victims. While in a country with a small population any homicide is likely to attract widespread public interest and concern, New Zealand's overall homicide rate is similar to that in other developed countries.

In fact, according to recent statistics, the crime rate in New Zealand is falling, and although there has been an increase in crimes of violence, this was due to a rise in the number of offences at the lower end of the scale of seriousness. Homicide rates have, in fact, remained stable during the last 11 years.

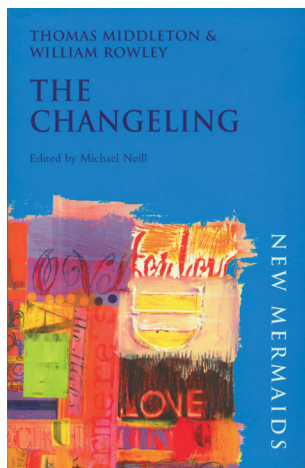
However, this is hardly a reason for complacency. Homicides have increased exponentially in New Zealand in the last 50 years, at a rate not matched by our population growth. It is estimated that over this period they have increased by 4000 percent, reflected in the fact that there were two convictions for murder in 1952, while in 2001 there were 93.

These figures should deeply concern us and lead us to ask some searching questions about the nature of our social structures and intimate relationships that permit such profound dysfunction to occur.

Fortunately, initiatives aimed at addressing the highly criminalised nature of New Zealand society are under way. These aim to address problems of distress in the home and early childhood traumatic experiences, which seem to be foundational in the formation of personal identity and may be influential in the development of the criminal behaviour and attitudes out of which homicidal rage may later emerge.

*Professor Warren Brookbanks (Law)*

# STAFF BOOKS



## The Changeling

"The next good mood I find my father in, I'll get him quite discarded" – with these chillingly offhand words, Beatrice-Joanna, the spoilt daughter of a powerful nobleman, plans to destroy the livelihood of Deflores, the family servant who had crossed her once too often. In the following scene she will plot the murder of an inconvenient fiancé with equal *sang froid*. Locked in the absolute self-centredness of late adolescence, fortified by the vanities of high rank and youthful beauty and utterly confident of the indulgence of a doting father, Beatrice simply has no

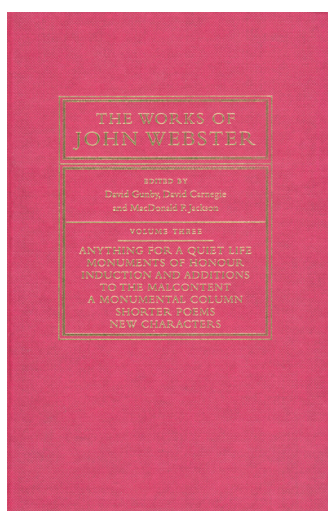
inkling of the reality of other human beings, discarding them at need like so much trash."

This is the beginning of the full and absorbing introduction by Professor Michael Neill (English) to his new edition of *The Changeling* by Thomas Middleton and William Rowley, published in the New Mermaids series by A & C Black in London and by W.W. Norton in New York.

New Mermaids are modernised and fully-annotated editions of classic English plays. Like others in the series, this volume includes the playtext, in modern spelling, edited to the highest bibliographical and textual standards;

textual notes recording substantive changes to the copytext and variant readings; glossing notes elucidating obscure words and word-play (the latter highly relevant for this particular text); critical, contextual and staging notes; and photographs of productions.

The very full 38-page introduction provides a critical account of the play, the staging conventions of the time and recent stage history, and discusses authorship, date, sources and the text. A detailed analysis is given for the meanings of the word "changeling" and their relevance. Also provided are a guide to abbreviations and suggestions for further reading.



## The Works of John Webster: Volume Three

This volume of 575 pages, prepared by Emeritus Professor Mac Jackson (English) with Professors David Gunby (University of Canterbury) and David Carnegie (Victoria University of Wellington), completes the Cambridge old-spelling critical edition of John Webster's works.

Webster was among the major dramatists of Shakespeare's age. He is best known for his tragedy *The Duchess of Malfi*, performed by the Auckland Theatre Company in the Town Hall Concert Chamber last July. But the new volume contains the

lively comedy, *Anything for a Quiet Life*, in which Webster and his co-author Thomas Middleton interweave plots surrounding four contrasting sets of characters.

It also includes Webster's script for a pageant celebrating the inauguration of a new Lord Mayor of London in 1624; his introduction and additions to John Marston's play *The Malcontent*; his long elegy for Prince Henry, who died at the age of 18 in 1612; his 32 contributions to the compendium known as *Overbury's Characters*, which offers vivid verbal sketches of contemporary human types; and several shorter poems, including a series of epigrams on members of the royal family, as pictured in a unique British Library engraving entitled *The Progeny of the Most Renowned Prince James*.

The texts have been freshly edited from the originals, multiple copies having been collated, since the seventeenth-century printing-house practice of binding arbitrary combinations of press-corrected and uncorrected sheets allowed different copies of a single edition to differ over some readings.

There are critical, textual, and theatrical introductions, and commentaries that illuminate both local obscurities and the wider cultural background. Mac Jackson has also provided a reassessment of the Webster canon.

Preparation of both the second and third volumes was supported by Marsden Fund grants. The edition has been praised as "an indispensable addition to Webster scholarship".

## Portugal evoked

Journey to Portugal, the latest Holloway Press limited edition book, brings together an artist and poet, both at the top of their fields.

Associate Professor Michele Leggott, (English) has published five books of poetry, including *DIA* which won the New Zealand Book Award for poetry in 1995. Her most recent book was *Milk & Honey* (2005).

Gretchen Albrecht, an Elam graduate, has been exhibiting since the 1960s and is one of New Zealand's most successful visual artists. She exhibits frequently internationally and her work is to be included (with five other New Zealand artists) in an exhibition in Valencia, Spain, next month, reflecting New Zealand's presence at the America's Cup.

Associate Professor Peter Simpson (English), managing editor of Holloway Press, proposed the collaboration because he recognised affinities in the artistic work of the two women.

"Michele's poetry is rich in colour and visual imagery," says Peter, "while Gretchen is one of New Zealand's finest colourists who also has a strong affinity for poetry, often employing poetic suggestiveness in her titles. I enjoy putting writers and visual artists together to see what sparks will fly. If the mix is right... the results are always stimulating."

Michele offered Gretchen a new sequence of poems entitled *Journey to Portugal* as her contribution.

"In mid-2004 I went to Portugal for the Fifth Meeting of Poets at Coimbra University," she says. "I took a notebook already prepared with lines I liked

from Fernando Pessoa, Portugal's great Modernist poet. On the facing pages I began a conversation with Pessoa and the early northern summer we were travelling through.

"I called it *Journey to Portugal* in homage to José Saramago's book of the same name."

As it happens, Gretchen Albrecht loves Portugal and has travelled and worked there; she was immediately responsive to the language and imagery of the poems. After experimenting with a variety of modes she hit upon the technique of collage as the most appropriate way of responding.

The technique she employed was *chine collé*, where thin Japanese hand-made art papers are torn into shapes then glued and pressed in a "nipping" press to the page. Each image was hand-done, in collaboration with Elizabeth Steiner who is a very experienced book-maker.

"I chose to place combinations of coloured blocks of paper to contrast with the complexity of Michele's text, and within the limitations of colours available, letting the heat of Portugal and its earthy dusty landscape with occasional glimpses of sea dictate my choices."

The book was launched on 21 February at the Gus Fisher Gallery, where works by Gretchen Albrecht from the University's collection had been hung. Guest speaker was Associate Professor Murray Edmond (English), and he and Michele Leggott also did a joint reading from the book, greatly enjoyed by

the 80 people present.

*Journey to Portugal* was designed by Gretchen Albrecht. Images (apart from the *chine collé*) and text are letterpress printed by Tara McLeod on an Asberm cylinder press. The signed and numbered edition is 100 copies and sells for \$500. Copies can be ordered through the Holloway Press website [www.hollowaypress.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.hollowaypress.auckland.ac.nz) or from [p.simpson@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:p.simpson@auckland.ac.nz).



Left: The book  
Below: From left are Michele Leggott, Peter Simpson and Gretchen Albrecht.



## From the collection

Existing in the middle ground between abstraction and figuration, James Ross's pastel drawings play host to a range of organic forms.

Artist-in-residence at Victoria College's Prahara Faculty of Art and Design during 1984, the Elam-trained artist created a series of pastel drawings on paper while in Melbourne. Closely allied to his paintings of the period, they each contain a central ambiguous figural shape that is both an entity and an agent. This figure is meant to be both allusive and elusive, as the artist explains.

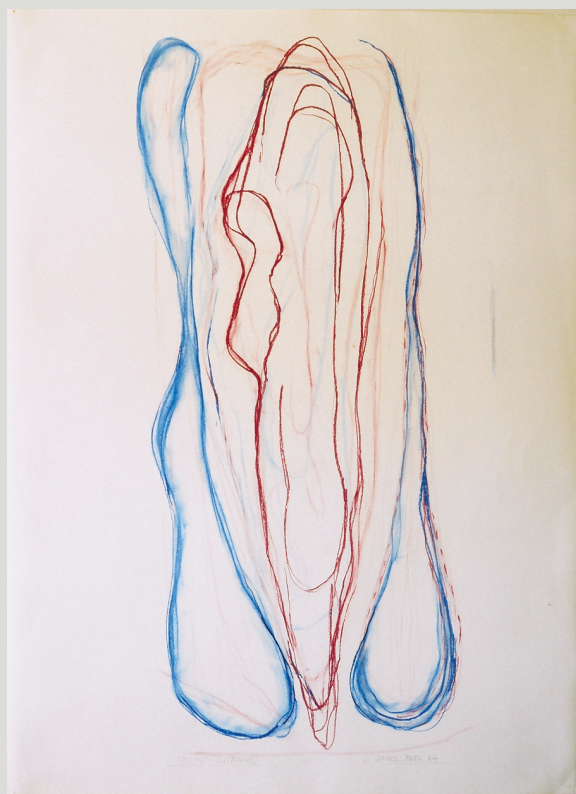
"My paintings have connotations of what the viewer can innately recognise as 'figural', yet they are also cognisant of the evolutionary language of painting itself. The language of painting as it affects my work includes notions of colour as poetic entity; drawings as buried, figural mark; shape as colour-space – all towards an archetypal, totemic end."

As in the 1947 painting of *The Listener* by Colin McCahon, who was Ross's teacher at Elam, the central motif in this work is reminiscent of a human head, turned away from the viewer, in lost profile. Surrounding blue and pink aural imagery – ear shapes or echoes rippling out – evoke the active listening of the title.

References to the musicians of Greek mythology, Orpheus and Eurydice, are made in other works by the artist from this period, and the imagery here is suggestive of Echo's unrequited love for Narcissus, who was transfixed by his own reflection.

Along with this intertextuality and negotiation of a third "formless" area between the traditional oppositions of form and content, there is also great pleasure taken in materials. The paper has been sealed with a primer of brilliant white gesso – chalky pigment mixed with glue – over which the intensely coloured lines left by the oil pastel glide or are softened into whispery smudges.

"The Red Studio", a survey of James Ross's work over the last 25 years through the chromatic constant of red, is currently on show at the Gus Fisher Gallery.



JAMES ROSS (b.1948), *Figure (Listening)*, 1984, pastel on paper, The University of Auckland Art Collection.

## Chemist honoured in Kiwi first

Professor Margaret Brimble (Chemistry) is the first New Zealander to win one of the most prestigious awards in international science: the L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science Award.



Margaret Brimble seen here with PhD student Amy Tong.

She received the award – which carries US\$1,000,000 (NZ\$1,450,000) prize money – at a dinner held at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris on 22 February.

Recipients are selected on the basis of scientific excellence by a jury of eminent international scientists led by Günter Blobel, Nobel Prize-winner for Medicine in 1999. Margaret received the Asia-Pacific Laureate award in materials science for her research on synthesising biologically active natural products that provide new lead compounds for the development of new drugs.

Margaret says she is extremely honoured to receive the award which reflects not only her own work but also the contribution made by her research students. Her group comprises 13 PhD students, three honours students and several

postdoctoral fellows.

"I hope this award will serve to stimulate added interest in science amongst young women of New Zealand, gain recognition for scientific excellence in our country and close the gender gap that exists in this rewarding field," she said.

The L'Oréal-UNESCO awards partnership comprises five Laureates and 15 Fellowships. The Laureates are awarded to five eminent scientists for excellence in research with one from each of the world's five major regions: Africa, Latin America, North America, Asia-Pacific and Europe.

Three New Zealanders have been awarded fellowships in the past.

Part of Margaret's responsibility in winning the prize is to present her research to her peers at the French Academy of Science.

## Free ride for CEO

When Alastair Hutchens signed up for a two-day "Not-for-profit marketing" course at the Business School, little did he know he'd be walking out with the keys to a brand new Mercedes Benz – although, alas, only for a weekend.

Alastair, acting CEO for the Special Olympics, won the car for a weekend simply by being the 25000th person to enrol in a Short Course.

He flew from Wellington to take the Auckland-based course and improve his capacity to fundraise for the organisation. "I hope to get Special Olympics in New Zealand on a better funding platform," says Alastair. "It was really fortuitous that this particular course came up. I've been dropped in the deep end and have so much to learn about the not-for-profit sector. The timing is brilliant".

Alastair will auction off his prize to raise money for Special Olympics. As former CEO of FlyBuys, He is a seasoned Short Course customer, completing several programmes in the past and placing his own staff on courses.

Short Courses was set up in 1996 to fill a gap in the market for "lifelong learning" opportunities for Auckland's business community, with 4000 people attending courses each year.

Since then the division has taught more than 1500 courses. The very first was called Choosing and Using the World Wide Web.

To find out about Short Courses phone 0800 800 875 or visit [www.shortcourses.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.shortcourses.auckland.ac.nz)

# WHAT'S ON

ext85115 or l.humpage@auckland.ac.nz  
Free but registration is essential.

## FRIDAY 9 MARCH

Auckland Abroad Student Exchange Fair  
11.30am-3pm The Quad, top of Alfred St, and iSPACE, Level 4, Information Commons. View  
[www.auckland.ac.nz/360](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/360) or contact Claire Murray on ext 89570 or Andrew Barron on ext 84371.

Department of Philosophy seminar  
Dr Robert Stecker, Central Michigan University: Interaction of artistic and ethical value: Immoralism and the anti-theoretical view. 3-5pm Rm 202, Fisher Bldg.

## MONDAY 12 MARCH

Public lecture  
Prof Michael Stein, Cabell Research Professor of Law, William and Mary Law School, USA and Andrew Begg, Senior Legal Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Wellington: The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. 7.15pm Stone Lecture Theatre, 3rd Floor, Law School, 9 Eden Cres. The venue is wheel-chair accessible. Contact An Hertogen, [aher044@ec.auckland.ac.nz](mailto:aher044@ec.auckland.ac.nz) or Scott Optican, [s.optican@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:s.optican@auckland.ac.nz) if you need any other assistance to attend.

## TUESDAY 13 MARCH

Bioengineering research seminar  
Rod Jackson, Professor of Epidemiology, School of Population Health, Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, UoA: There is no such thing as hypertension, hypercholesterolaemia, or type 2 diabetes..... 4-5pm Fifth Floor Seminar Rm, Bioengineering Institute.

## WEDNESDAY 14 MARCH

Hood Fellow lecture  
Prof Richard Thomas, Professor of Greek and Latin at Harvard University: The streets of Rome: Bob Dylan and the Classics. 6.30pm Lecture Theatre 401, School of Engineering, 20 Symonds St.

## THURSDAY 15 MARCH

Department of Anthropology seminar  
Charles Oxnard, University of Western Australia: Were Hobbits humans or something else? 4-5.30pm HSB 704. Queries to Veronica Strang, ext 82458 or [v.strang@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:v.strang@auckland.ac.nz)

## TUESDAY 20 MARCH

School of Music - music as a cultural practice seminar  
Dr Marianne Franklin, University for Humanistics, The Netherlands: Resounding international relations: Improvisations and variations. 1-2pm Music Theatre, School of Music, 6 Symonds St.  
Queries to David Lines, [d.lines@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:d.lines@auckland.ac.nz)  
Bioengineering research seminar  
Dr Vickie Shim, Auckland Bioengineering Institute: Development and validation of finite element models of patients with total hip arthroplasty: Towards a clinical tool. 4-5pm Fifth Floor Seminar Rm, Bioengineering Institute.

## WEDNESDAY 21 MARCH

Where to for welfare? Recent and proposed welfare reforms in NZ research forum  
9am-4.30pm Lecture Theatre 423-342, Conference Centre, 22 Symonds St.  
Queries/RSVP to Dr Louise Humpage,

## THURSDAY 22 MARCH

Department of Anthropology seminar  
Anthony O'Connor, UoA: How biculturalism works through traditional Maori healing. 4-5.30pm HSB 704. Queries to Veronica Strang, ext 82458 or [v.strang@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:v.strang@auckland.ac.nz)

For a full list of The University of Auckland events see Next Week Online:  
[www.auckland.ac.nz/nextweekonline](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/nextweekonline)

Please email classified ads to [m.playfair@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:m.playfair@auckland.ac.nz) nine days before publication. Cost \$20 (incl GST).