



ALL IN THE FAMILY

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INSIDE

FROM HUNTERVILLE

Helen Whitehead has been the University's Manager of Marketing for the past three years. She has worked for former advertising guru and Mayor of Waitakere City, Bob Harvey; as marketing manager for *More* magazine with Lindsay Dawson; been general manager of operations for ACP magazines with a staff of 75, and prior to her current role was working at Auckland Regional Council. Helen tells the *News* her story.

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GETTING OLD

Life expectancy worldwide has almost doubled over the past century mainly due to medical and public health advances and represents one of the greatest achievements of modern times. An ageing population increases the prevalence of older adults with chronic disease and functional impairment along with escalating healthcare costs. University researchers explore the healthcare consequences and possible solutions.

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DIRTY POLITICS

The litany of behaviour exposed by Nicky Hager's book *Dirty Politics* and the debate surrounding it was only made possible due to the failure of our politicians to moderate our modern communications, says Geghan Gunasekara. "The ease with which personal information such as e-mails have been bandied about represent a new and dangerous trend in New Zealand politics," he cautions.

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ASPIRE

Save the 14th of April 2015 in your diary now! The overall theme for the ASPIRE 2015 Professional Staff conference is: "Make a difference". Themes within the conference programme are aligned to the University's Leadership Framework and linked to how individuals can make a difference to: yourself; your team/workgroup; the University; your family/whanau; your community/New Zealand - how you can contribute by one good thing. More information on keynote speakers and the programme will be released as they are confirmed. See www.uoaaspire.org.nz



THE TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGING

Iconic poet and musician Bob Dylan has been named Inaugural Creative of the University of Auckland's Creative Thinking Research Fund. The announcement was made at an event for alumni and invited guests in New York hosted by Saatchi & Saatchi Worldwide CEO and Honorary Professor of Innovation and Creativity at the University, Kevin Roberts. The New York event launched an international fundraising initiative for the interdisciplinary fund, which will be open to University researchers and international collaborators. Further details to be announced.



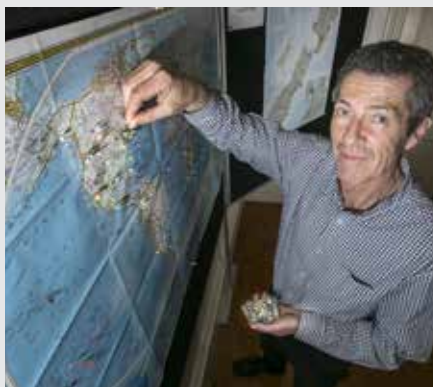
NICAI ON SHOW

NICAI struts its stuff this month with a smorgasbord of student shows encompassing architecture, visual art and dance. First up is Action, a showcase of choreography and performance by dance studies students, from 31 October-1 November, on at the Maidment Theatre. Then from 8-9 November, "Studio 14", on at Newmarket Campus will feature final-year Master of Architecture (Professional) students' designs. The Elam Graduate Show ends the month with over 120 final-year Fine Arts students showcasing their talents during 29-30 November. www.auckland.ac.nz/creative



PINNED DOWN

Prompted by a map he'd seen somewhere else, Old Government House Staff Common Room Manager Tim Biggs put a world map up in the OGH café area encouraging passers by to pin down where they were born. Tim, who himself was born in the Falklands but grew up in Ontario, Canada, may have underestimated the response. At last count there were more than 600 pins on the map and an adjacent, large one of New Zealand. "People like to be involved," says Tim of the map's attraction. If you haven't done so, head to OGH.



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COVER PHOTO: Left to right are Tristan Ware, David Ware, Hayley Ware, Penny Brothers and Margaret Brothers. See story page 5.

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DANCE IN TWO WORLDS



Masters dance students can now simultaneously study dance at both the University of Auckland and the Beijing Dance Academy as a result of a new agreement between the two institutions.

Students enrolling in the dual masters degree will complete a two-year Masters in Dance Education at the Beijing Dance Academy, and a one year Masters in Community Dance at the University of Auckland.

This agreement places the University of Auckland at the forefront of tertiary dance studies in Asia, consolidating its reputation for research and curriculum development in community dance.

In front of 50 of the world's leading dance educators, Professor Diane Brand, Dean of NICAI and President Gao Lei, of the Beijing Dance Academy ratified the agreement. It is

the culmination of five years of negotiations and partnerships led by Associate Professor Ralph Buck, Associate Professor Nicholas Rowe and Dr Rose Martin from the University. Beijing Dance Academy is one of the world's largest, oldest and most prestigious tertiary dance institutions and this agreement is the first time they have forged a postgraduate research degree partnership with anyone in the world.

"This agreement is a highlight of our year and marks Dance Studies and NICAI's commitment to internationalisation of our postgraduate degrees," said Professor Brand.

Applications for places in the new degree are now open. The first group of students from China will commence the Master of Community Dance at the University of Auckland in July 2016.

MIDDLE EAST PEACE ON LAW AGENDA

November is a busy month for the Law School with high profile visitors and events on the menu.

Top of the list, the School's Human Rights Centre is hosting Professor Richard Falk (pictured), who has recently completed a six-year term as Special Rapporteur on Occupied Palestine for the UN Human Rights Council. He will talk about *Prospects for Peace in the Middle East* at the AMRF Auditorium at the Medical School on 6 November. www.law.auckland.ac.nz/falk

Professor Satvinder Juss, from King's College in London, will present the 2014 Annual Human Rights Lecture at the Faculty's Stone Lecture Theatre at 9 Eden Crescent on 5 November.

He will explore the significance in the United Kingdom of the right to life in article 2 on the European Convention on Human Rights during his lecture, organised by the New Zealand Centre



for Human Rights, Law, Policy and Practice.

See: www.law.auckland.ac.nz/juss.

And then on Friday 14 November the Auckland Law School is hosting a major conference on the first ten years of the New Zealand Supreme Court.

HONOURED NZERS

The University this week bestowed honorary doctorates on three prominent New Zealanders: Rt Hon. Sir Peter Blanchard, Sir Graeme Douglas and Sir David Levene. All three received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree at a ceremony on 29 October.

Rt Hon Sir Peter Blanchard is one of the most distinguished judges in New Zealand's history. A Distinguished Alumnus of this university, he was appointed to the Court of Appeal in 1996, made a member of the Privy Council in 1998 and appointed to the New Zealand Supreme Court upon its creation in January 2004. He was awarded the Distinguished Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit (DCNZM) in 2005 for his services to the judiciary, which was redesignated KNZM in 2009.

Sir Graeme Douglas has had a remarkable career in pharmaceuticals and in 2012 was named a Laureate in the New Zealand Business Hall of Fame. Through the Neurological Foundation, his Douglas Charitable Trust has supported brain research at the University's Centre for Brain Research, most recently through a gift for a Senior Neurosurgical Research Fellow, and pledged a significant donation to the new Chair of Neurosurgery.

Sir David Levene is an astute and talented business leader and has become one of Auckland City's leading philanthropists, with a particular focus on giving support to medicine and education, to the significant benefit of the University. He was a founding sponsor of the University of Auckland Business History Project and has been a long time and substantial donor to Liggins Institute.

Currently the University has 49 living honorary graduates, among them the Rt Hon Helen Clark, the Rt Hon Dame Sian Elias, Maurice Gee, Sir Anand Satyanand, Elizabeth Smither, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Dame Catherine Tizard and Sir Miles Warren. Most have been made Doctors of Engineering and Laws.

See more on this story, plus photos on the Staff Intranet News.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY LIVE



When the University's second MOOC goes live on 10 November academic values and behaviour will be under the spotlight.

So far nearly 5,000 people have enrolled in the four week MOOC titled "Academic Integrity: Values, Skills, Action." Designed primarily for university students, the MOOC aims to help students understand the meaning of academic integrity and to develop the values and skills needed to avoid academic dishonesty

Dr Jason Stephens, a senior lecturer in the Faculty of Education's School of Learning,

Development and Professional Practise and lead educator on the course, decided to study why students cheat after he was surprised by the number who admitted doing it, despite believing that it's wrong.

"As an educational psychologist interested in students' intellectual and ethical development, this incongruity between belief and behaviour is of great concern to me," he says.

This concern inspired Dr Stephens to develop the Achieving with Integrity project shortly after completing his PhD. studies ten years ago. The project offers both school-wide and classroom-based programmes for promoting academic integrity in secondary schools.

As he sees it, universities are "voluntary associations, so students coming in have an obligation to understand and honour the values and rules of the university to which they voluntarily have joined.

"And the University has an obligation to educate students about these values and rules as well as to prepare them with the skills needed to be responsible community members and successful learners."

FORMER ELAM HEAD DIES



Professor Jonathan Ngarimu Mane-Wheoki CNZM, BA, DipFA(Hons), HonDLitt Cant., MA Courtauld Inst., ATCL (Ngāpuhi/Te Aupouri/ Ngāti Kuri), academic and curator: born 1943; died October 10, 2014.

Former head of Elam and Professor of Fine Arts Jonathan Mane-Wheoki died on Friday, October 10, 2014 lay in state at the University's Waipapa Marae before his Requiem Mass at the Holy Trinity Cathedral in Parnell on Saturday, 18 October.

Jonathan was one of New Zealand's leading art historians and a highly-regarded teacher. He was appointed to the Elam School of Fine Arts as Head of School in 2009 and remained in that role until 2012. From 2013 he held a part-time position as Head of Art and Visual Culture at Te Papa Tongarewa, the Museum of New Zealand.

Jonathan championed national art history and purposefully created a space for Māori and Pacific art. This work was globally ground-breaking and with University of Auckland colleagues Associate Professor Deidre Brown (Architecture and Planning) and Dr Ngarino Ellis (Art History) he continued to extend it through his 2013 Marsden-funded research project 'Toi Te Mana: a history of indigenous art,' which sought to establish a new Māori art history.

In the 2014 Queen's Birthday Honours Jonathan was appointed to Companion to the New Zealand Order of Merit (CNZM) for services to the arts. In September he was appointed Companion of the Auckland War Memorial Museum for his services to museums. At the latter event he delivered a moving speech about the important role that museums and universities, and the people who work within them, have in the shaping of identity.

Read more on the Staff Intranet News.

NEW STARPATH DIRECTOR

Professor Cindy Kiro (Ngā puhi, Ngā ti Hine) who is currently Professor of Māori Education at Victoria University and Head of School for Te Kura Māori (TKM) has been appointed to the role of Te Tumu and Starpath Director at the University's Faculty of Education. Through the Te Tumu role Cindy will lead Te Puna Wānanga's commitment to being a centre of Māori and indigenous educational excellence and she will be tasked with embedding the work of Starpath more strongly in Te Puna Wānanga and the faculty, and creating a sustainable future for Starpath.

TOP GEOGRAPHER

Professor Robin Kearns was recently named Distinguished New Zealand Geographer of the year in this year's New Zealand Geographical Society Awards. His work focuses on socio-cultural geography and explores the links between culture, health and place. Specific areas of study in Robin's work include the capacity of urban design to promote physical activity and social cohesion; the "downstream" consequences of deinstitutionalisation of mental health care; and the transformation of clinic and hospital spaces and their connection to health care consumption.

CALLING ADULT SMARTPHONE OWNERS

Adult smartphone owners from across New Zealand are invited to take part in a five-week nutrition labelling study underway at the National Institute for Health Innovation. The Starlight trial will use smartphone technology to deliver the study intervention and record participant information, so there will be no need to attend clinic appointments.

Lead researcher Professor Cliona Ni Mhurchu says, "Poor diets and obesity are leading risk factors for ill-health in New Zealand. Nutrition labels inform consumers about the composition of foods and can support healthier choices, but many people find current nutrition labels hard to understand."

"New front-of-pack labels deliver simple, 'at-a-glance' nutrition information to buyers. Our aim is to see if these labels have an effect on the healthiness of foods bought by New Zealand shoppers," she says.

Volunteers can also contact Dr Katya Volkova with any questions about on the study, on (09) 923 4742.

SPRING GRADUATION

Some 2,076 graduands received a total of 2,113 qualifications in person at four ceremonies during Spring Graduation on 30 September. These included 126 doctorates. A further 1,050 graduands had 1,072 qualifications conferred in absentia. Read our Graduation stories:

ALL IN THE FAMILY

Hayley Ware may be only 22-years-old but she has been attending the University of Auckland since she was a toddler, and her links to the University go back more than sixty years.

Hayley graduated with a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering (Hons) at Spring Graduation and among family members celebrating the occasion was her grandmother Margaret Brothers, a Golden Graduate (MSc Botany 1948) and member of the Federation of Graduate Women, who met Hayley's grandfather while they were students at the University in the 1940s.

Hayley's grandfather Professor Nick Brothers went on to be a Professor of Geology at the University for many years while Margaret worked as a cataloguer in the library of what was then the School of Medicine.

The next generation carried on the tradition, with Hayley's mother, Professor Penny Brothers, also a University of Auckland graduate (MSc Chemistry 1979), on the current academic staff of the School of Chemistry, as is Hayley's father Dr David Ware who is a senior tutor in the School.

"This was a great day for us," says Penny. "With all the family connections and the next generation graduating it's a very proud occasion, even if Hayley is following her uncle into Engineering and not her mum and dad into Chemistry!" Hayley's uncle Pete Brothers was Professor of Engineering and Dean of the Faculty of Engineering from 1999 to 2008 (now CEO at Manukau Institute of Technology) and Hayley's brother Tristan is also following in his uncle's footsteps - Tristan is in his second year of study in mechanical engineering.

Hayley and Tristan are both currently working in the University's multi-user laser facility, the Photon Factory where she is an expert in the design and manufacture of microfluidic chips. The Factory is directed by Associate Professor Cather Simpson.

Cover photo from left: Tristan Ware, Dave Ware, Hayley Ware, Penny Brothers and Margaret Brothers. David and Penny are wearing Graduation gowns from Stanford.



THE MALPAS FAMILY

Nicky Malpas has every reason to feel comfortable graduating from University of Auckland - his parents have spent a combined 30 years on campus.

Professor Simon Malpas who works for both the Department of Physiology and the University's Auckland Bioengineering Institute and Dr Phillipa Malpas who is a senior lecturer in psychological medicine at the School of Medicine, are naturally proud of their son's graduation.

Nicky graduated with a Bachelor of Science majoring in Statistics, bringing the Titirangi family's time on campus to a combined 34 years so far. Nicky is continuing his studies at Auckland with a post-graduate Diploma in Science this year and a Masters in Science next year. "It's wonderful to be here celebrating his graduation together," says Phillipa.

Nicky's interest in statistics is around market behaviour and modelling bio-patterns in bio-research fields, and he hopes to study this further for his masters next year.



ROYALS

This year Spring Graduation had a touch of royalty to it. Tongan Princess Hon. Lupeolo Halaevalu Mohefo Virginia Rose Tuita, 28, graduated with a BA in Pacific Studies and Anthropology. She was watched by Mum and Dad Lord Tuita and JH.H.H Princess Salote Pilolevu Tuita (older sister of King of Tonga).

They have a house in, Remuera, and this is their fourth daughter to graduate from Auckland.

Virginia majored in Pacific Studies and minored in Anthropology and found her studies opened her eyes to her culture. "I never realised the true extent of the knowledge and talent our ancestors possessed as Pacific navigators.

"Another thing that has been embedded in my mind is to think of the islands in the Pacific not as small nations isolated by vast ocean but as countries with rich history and culture who are connected by this and their knowledge of the seas they were cloaked in."



A HELPING HAND

Focal dystonia of the hand, also known as "musician's cramp", has been the subject of almost a decade of study for pianist Rae de Lisle. The Senior Lecturer and Head of Piano at the School of Music undertook the research for the PhD she received at Spring Graduation.

A neurological disease that causes involuntary muscle contractions, focal dystonia is estimated to affect one in a hundred professional musicians or approximately 10,000 performers worldwide.

The disorder is believed to result from repetition of specific tasks and usually occurs in musicians of a high level, who have intensively practiced their instruments over a number of years. Rae investigated whether it was possible to recover from focal dystonia through retraining at the instrument. The study, conducted with the guidance of renowned sports physician Dr Ben Speedy, clearly showed, with scientific method, that retraining a person's neural pathways can improve the symptoms of the devastating condition in musicians.

Rae, a celebrated pianist, herself suffered from an overuse injury. It was while searching for her own answers to what ailed her that she learnt about other musicians' injuries, and became intrigued with focal dystonia. Her research showed that it was possible to improve the symptoms following a case study of six musicians afflicted with focal dystonia.

MY STORY

STAFF QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



HELEN WHITEHEAD

Helen Whitehead has been the University's Manager of Marketing for the past three years. It is her role to recruit students and promote the University brand across a number of mediums, working closely with the University's new advertising partner JWT.

Helen has a Business Studies degree majoring in marketing from Massey University. She has worked for former advertising guru and Mayor of Waitakere City, Bob Harvey; as marketing manager for More magazine with Lindsay Dawson; been general manager of operations for ACP magazines with a staff of 75, and, prior to her current role, was working at Auckland Regional Council as marketing manager and during the amalgamation period, as acting communications and marketing manager.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR CHILDHOOD?

I was born in Wellington but my first memories are of Otaki where my parents were sharemilkers. When I was six my father brought a farm up at Hunterville (inland from State Highway One, north of Marton and Fielding) and we lived miles from anywhere on a small farm of about 690 acres. I went to a tiny school at a place called Otari. It had 50 kids into two classrooms and I had five kids in my class all through primary school. Some of the kids south of the school rode their horses each day.

WHAT DID YOU LEARN AS A CHILD?

I read. Anything! My mother would go berserk because I read the writing on bread packets. Anything I could get my hands on... I remember *Anne of Green Gables* and a series called *Gemma*. I'm sure I read the entire school library and then I'd go off and play imaginary games in the bush down by the Turakina river. My younger brother and I fished for eels and swam all summer long. It was a time of huge freedom.

But yes I think I got lonely as a child and when I went to Wanganui Girls College as a boarder I loved the company.

WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST JOB EVER?

Cooking for the shearing gang. My parents would take me out of school to help. There'd be breakfast, morning tea which was scones, sandwiches and pikelets and lunch was usually a roast every day. It was challenging but I must have enjoyed it.

My first advertising job was as a research and information officer with Bob Harvey's firm MacHarmanAyer.

WHO WAS YOUR MOST INSPIRING TEACHER?

At highschool Miss Gerdwood, my History teacher. I loved her. She was young, inspiring. She would bring music into the classroom. In the sixth form she got us to read an Italian romance novel because it related to the period in history she was teaching us. She just did different things. She was lively. Interested.

When I was at university Steve Bridges was very inspiring as our marketing lecturer.

HOW AND WHEN DID YOU DECIDE WHAT YOUR CAREER WOULD BE?

I went to Massey to study economics but I took a marketing paper and loved the creativity. The way it was sold to us was that we were meeting people's needs but doing it in a creative way. Marketing is around meeting needs. Finding out what people want and then creating products or services that they want.

IN JUST ONE SENTENCE DESCRIBE THE PURPOSE OF YOUR PRESENT POSITION?

To give the University the best possible face out in the community so we are recruiting the best students.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT THE JOB?

That we change people's lives.

HOW DO YOU BELIEVE YOU CHANGE PEOPLE'S LIVES?

By telling people what an amazing place the University is, students then come here and go on to do amazing things such as ground breaking research.

We get people thinking about the University. So it's about the message we send and the medium(s) we use to get the message out.

WHAT HAVE YOU ACHIEVED THAT YOU ARE PLEASED ABOUT?

We are creating some very exciting visuals with JWT at the moment. Though I can't talk about that. My team has done a series of history videos (see University history on the main website) which I think are amazing and a bit different; we have also created UniQuest which is an interactive, online game for school-leavers about study which is innovative and fresh; and I've just completed the history timeline down the Newmarket wall. This tells the story of the history of the University and what we have planned for the Newmarket campus. Hopefully it will excite people about the prospect of having the University in Newmarket.

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY WHEN YOU'RE NOT WORKING?

I go tramping with my friend Fiona Howard who is a Senior Tutor, Doctoral Programme of Clinical Psychology. We go tramping just about every year with our husbands in Otago and Fiordland. I just love being out in the big, wide open spaces. We've done rugged tramps like Gillespie Pass in Wanaka, camping out etc. This year we're doing the short circuit on Stewart Island.

I always walk or cycle with friends and I'm planning a lovely cycling holiday during the Cherry Blossom season in Japan next year. I love to cook for friends....that's my stress release I think. I always have a stack of books by my bed and try to read a chapter a night. I've just finished *Gone Girl*.



The Crucibles Lake above the Wilkin Valley, a detour on the Gillespie Pass track. People are, left to right, Kevin Whitehead, Helen Whitehead, Fiona Howard and Ray Mitchell.

DID YOU KNOW



AUCC Collection

... that with 1094 members, the Auckland University Cricket Club is the third biggest cricket club in New Zealand?

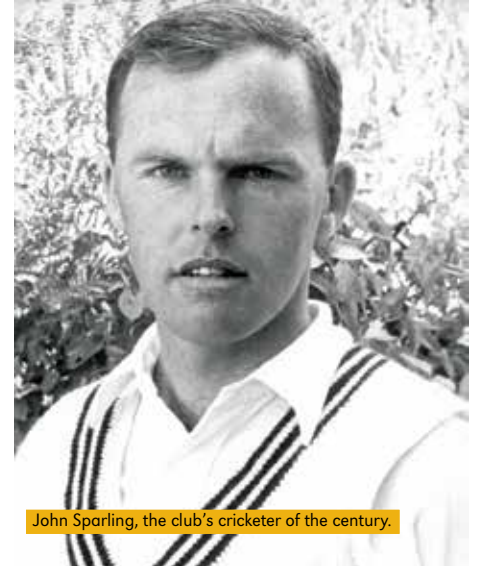
Founded by University staff, graduates and students, the club still has a strong affiliation with the University. In 1908 a deputation consisting of Professor Segar of the Mathematics Department, Mr Baume, the local MP, and a University College Council member Mr Mahon, approached the Auckland Cricket Association for recognition of the club and its 55 players. Although not meeting all the requirements the club was established as a "District" and all matriculated students and graduates of any university were entitled to be members.

Professor Dettmann of the Classics Department was the first Captain and wicketkeeper. He had recently arrived from Sydney and was an enthusiastic member of the club for many years, serving as both inaugural president and captain. The club had no grounds

at the campus but used the Domain as its practice wicket and club room.

The first season was hardly a success. Three teams were part of the competition. The first team came eighth out of eight – a place that the student magazine *Kiwi* reported was "well and truly earned". In contrast, the Men's Premier team won the two-day Minor Championship grade last season, and will be playing in the Auckland top eight Major Championship grade in 2014-15.

This year 55 junior teams and 26 senior teams are involved in the Auckland Cricket competitions. Despite the challenges of a season which coincides with exams and the University holidays, the club has a proud tradition of success. Pennants are a mark of over 200 competition grade wins since the club's first success in 1920. The club has also won awards and a wide variety of trophies – a collection that not only recognises its history but is also part of its present and



Auckland Cricket Association

hopes for the future. For example, the Thompson Cup for best all-rounder in the senior grades has been awarded continuously since 1948, the Laurie Schnauer Memorial award (Mr Cricket) is presented to the senior player of the year and the newest trophy for junior grades is the Richard Walker Cup for the most outstanding junior girl in non-hardball grades. The club's collections are also rich in photographic records of teams throughout the years and grades.

Among the many social and sporting events included in the 2008 centenary celebrations was a President's XI v Vice-Chancellor's XI match. The bails from that match were kept and now form part of the Centennial Bails Trophy for the highest senior batting partnership of the year.

Anyone interested in joining the club as a player, volunteer or supporter should check out the website at www.aucc.co.nz or contact Richard Walker, Club Manager admin@aucc.co.nz

WHAT'S ON CAMPUS

OCEAN ROWER TARA REMINGTON

06 NOVEMBER, 5-6PM
Epsom Campus, J1 lecture theatre, Gate 3

Ocean rower Tara Remington will hold a public talk about her adventures rowing across the Pacific Ocean earlier this year. Tara's 4000 km odyssey raised money for New Zealand girl Charlotte Cleverley-Bisman who lost her arms and legs to meningitis as a baby in 2004. Tara, a Professional Teaching Fellow at the University's Faculty of Education, rowed in a 6m mono-hull the *Spirit of Orlando*, with Paralympian Angela Madsen. RSVP: spiritoforlando.eventbrite.co.nz

TELLING COMPELLING STORIES WITH NUMBERS

11 NOVEMBER, 4-5PM OGGB 5,
Owen Glenn Building

Information, no matter how important, cannot speak for itself. It relies on us to give it a clear voice to tell its story. No information is more critical than quantitative data – numbers that reveal what's happening, how our organizations are performing, and opportunities to do better. Stephen Few and his consultancy Perceptual Edge are on a mission to help people squeeze real value from the mounds of data that surround and threaten to bury them. www.perceptualedge.com

POPULAR MUSIC

11- 12 NOVEMBER 7-9.30PM
Studio One, Kenneth Myers Centre,
74 Shortland Street

Popular Music students completing their final year of undergraduate study at the School of Music perform original works while being assessed. Admission is free
Contact info: 09 923 9144
Contact email: concerts@auckland.ac.nz



Photo from left: Harvey Perkins, Bill Denny, Brad Coombes

THE TRIs FOUR YEARS ON

It is just over four-and-a-half years since the University launched its Thematic Research Initiatives (TRIs). In establishing these cross-disciplinary research hubs the University has realised a bold vision to support and facilitate innovative, collaborative research and practice in and beyond the University.

Today, close to 500 staff are engaged in multidisciplinary research at Transforming Cities: Innovations for Sustainable Futures (hosted by NICA), Te Whare Kura: Indigenous Knowledges, Peoples and Identities (hosted by the Faculty of Arts) and Biopharma (hosted by the Faculty of Science). Working alongside their University peers, as well as with national and international researchers, policymakers, practitioners, agencies and industry bodies, members of our TRIs undertake new research, share new knowledge and generate new revenue within and outside their academic disciplines.

TRANSFORMING CITIES

Transforming Cities was established recognising that 87 percent of New Zealanders are urbanised. Today more than 50 percent of the world's population lives in towns and large cities.

"The urban' is increasingly the dominant social and cultural condition globally, with all its inherent challenges," says Director, Professor Harvey Perkins who, like all the TRI directors, is actively engaged in research.

Harvey says prior to the establishment of Transforming Cities, urban research at the University was undertaken by talented people across a number of fields but often isolated from each other. Today, by harnessing capability across seemingly disparate disciplines, the TRI boasts around 100 members in its research community. It has funded 21 multidisciplinary research projects that reflect the scope of "the urban" traversing the housing needs of vulnerable communities, the impact of climate change on Pacific migration, "re-

imagining" the way quality, affordable houses can be designed and built, an international review of "green infrastructure" research into how trees are valued in the urban environment, and exploring water sustainability through education and performance art.

Transforming Cities has recently established a close relationship with the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI) and its 10 constituent University research centres, and it is engaging with those developing the 11th National Science Challenge, "Building Better Homes, Towns and Cities - Ko ngā wā kāinga hei whakamāhorahora".

"Our success", Harvey says, "lies in the development of transformational research that reflects the vital role of the urban in so many facets of life: biophysical, social, cultural, economic and infrastructural".

"We are proud of the way our early-career staff who were outside of safe spaces like Māori and Pacific studies are now part of a network that can sustain their ambition"

TE WHARE KURA

For the 190 staff comprising Te Whare Kura, building capacity to meet community needs is central to the TRI's goals.

Co-director, School of Environment Senior Lecturer Brad Coombes, says Te Whare Kura's achievements include funding 98 team-based projects and assisting members to secure several Marsden and Health Research Council (HRC) grants; and the establishment of international programmes linking Te Whare Kura postgraduate students and early-career academics with key colleagues in the

United States. Such work, says Brad, means the TRI has "far exceeded" the revenue invested by the University and "shows that providing small amounts of targeted seed funding allows TRIs to invest in projects for which there are otherwise few funding opportunities, with some of the associated projects later achieving external funding".

Te Whare Kura's membership includes Pakeha staff, but Brad particularly acknowledges the TRI's achievement in strengthening the University's own sense of community among Māori and Pacific staff, many of whom were "split across the University and working in disciplinary silos". By acting equally as a research group and a support network, Te Whare Kura provides a range of services for its members, including grant writers, academic mentors and informal advice.

"We are proud of the way our early-career staff who were outside safe spaces like Māori and Pacific studies are now part of a network that can sustain their ambition, and link them into project teams and discussion groups that operate across the University," says Brad.

BIOPHARMA

Biopharma comprises a University community of around 175, with expertise spanning biological science, chemical science, and medical and health sciences. Over the past four years it has generated 15 projects for UniServices and raised \$13 million from other funding sources.

"When the TRIs were launched in 2009 we had a strong but fragmented drug development programme", says co-director, Distinguished Professor Bill Denny. "Today, Biopharma represents a real coming together of different groups with different strengths and skills" Bill, as co-director of the Auckland Cancer Society Research Centre, shares the Biopharma directorship with Rod Dunbar, Director, Maurice Wilkins Centre.

An internationally acclaimed scientist, Bill is actively engaged with discipline-specific research – in his case, the development of new cancer drugs. But he is quick to endorse the value of capability-building across disciplines. While a pending patent limits his ability to share too much detail, he cites his recent collaboration with Professor of Anaesthesiology Jamie Sleight, who wanted to develop a safer anaesthetic with better properties than the options currently used in operating theatres. Thanks to Biopharma, says Bill, a medicinal chemist and an anesthetist combined their expertise to create a drug that has now been funded by UniServices for translation and commercialisation.

This collaboration perhaps epitomises the achievements and value of the University's TRIs. As Bill says, "Without Biopharma we simply would not have got together."

EXPLORING AN AGEING WORLD



Life expectancy worldwide has almost doubled over the past century mainly due to medical and public health advances and represents one of the greatest achievements of modern times. An ageing population increases the prevalence of older adults with chronic disease and functional impairment along with escalating healthcare costs. Our research collaboration between the School of Nursing Palliative Care Research Group (led by Professor Merryn Gott), Freemason's Department of Geriatric Medicine (led by Professor Martin Connolly) and Professor Ngaire Kerse's group at the School of Population health investigate the healthcare consequences of an expanding older population and the interventions needed to improve the care for those with increasing frailty.

The 2008 OPAL study was the last in a series of 4 resident census' of all people living in residential aged care (RAC) facilities in Auckland. This study was initiated by Bonita et al. in 1988 and repeated in 1993, 1998 and 2008 (>26,000 participants). Over these two decades we found that resident mean age and dependency significantly increased. Moreover, we were surprised to find that contrary to predictions that aged care beds would increase greatly over time, in reality there was only a 3% increase in total RAC beds despite a 113% increase in the over 85 population during that same time period. These findings suggest that older people are being supported to live with more dependency in the community as they age than ever before, and as a consequence are more dependent when they do enter RAC facilities (where the model of care has changed little over time). These studies have supported the development of interventions in primary health and RAC to address downstream effects of the "ageing in place" policies.

The OPAL study has provided a wealth of

information about older people in aged care. In a recent sub-analysis we found that hospitalisations in the six months prior to admission RAC are over three times that found in the six months after admission. This implies that the period just prior to admission to aged care is a particularly high risk time for older people living in the community. Another sub-analysis found that 38% of those discharged from public hospital to the highest level of RAC had died within six months after RAC admission. This led our team to suggest that RAC has increasingly become a "de facto hospice" for older people at the end of life. In related work, we found that admission from RAC was a factor in avoidable hospitalisation for those with palliative care need and that organisational culture and burn-out were factors in RAC staff engagement in palliative care education.

"These findings suggest that older people are being supported to live with more dependency in the community as they age than ever before"

Much of our work is applied to interventions to improve the care of older people. In 2007 we implemented gerontology nurse specialist outreach to RAC facilities through the Residential Aged Care Integration Programme through Waitemata DHB. In a controlled trial we found a lower rate of hospitalisation in the intervention group than controls. We then did a randomised controlled trial of an outreach intervention that included all three Auckland DHBs and included geriatrician and pharmacist team meetings with facility nursing staff and GPs. We found overall no difference in hospitalisations between intervention and control facilities. However a sub-analysis did show a decrease in hospitalisations for those with common cardiac and respiratory diseases but an overall increase in the falls rate. It is possible that by improving health, residents become more mobile thereby increasing falls risk! Our research mission is to continue to provide the evidence needed to provide the best care possible for the increasing population of older people in the coming years.

Dr Michal Boyd, Senior Lecturer, Nursing
(See footnotes to this story published in the story on the Staff Intranet News)

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

WAKA

Senior Research Fellow Dilys Johns (Anthropology) was reported in newspapers and on radio and online by news agencies around the world about the finding of a six-metre piece of ancient waka at Anaweka estuary thought to date back to 1400 AD. Dilys, who specialises in the study and conservation of waterlogged "at risk" taonga/artefacts was amazed by what she saw when she went to the windswept location, saying she had "never seen anything as large and complex come out of a site".

DIGGING INTO MARS

School of Environment Senior Lecturer in geology Dr Michael Rowe's research comparing Auckland's volcanic field to samples collected on Mars attracted strong media interest this month. The volcanic approach to searching for water on Mars used data from NASA's Curiosity Rover, currently exploring the Red Planet's Mt Sharp. The relative timing of interaction between water and magma rising to the Mars surface will help scientists understand when it may have been hospitable toward life.

SEEING FACES

How we discern one face from another has been the subject of more than ten years' research for Professor Will Hayward, Head of the School of Psychology. Combined with his Inaugural Lecture this month, Professor Hayward featured in the *NZ Herald* talking about the psychology of seeing and how the simplicity of viewing what we see before us belies the complexity of how the brain creates our visual sense of the world.

EBOLA VIRUS

Microbiologist Dr Siouxsie Wiles has been in demand by the media for comment and information on the Ebola virus; from ten things to tell your kids about the virus, in the *Weekend Herald*, to managing the virus via good preparation on RadioLive, Newstalk ZB and Radio NZ's Nine to Noon show, and even Australia's ABC News.

FROM THE COLLECTION

ART COLLECTION

BARRY BRICKELL

The inspiration for this piece was the Twin Towers catastrophe of 9/11 in 2001.

Engineering forms, and forms that approach an indigenous art practice are at the heart of Barry Brickell's Architectural Pot. It teeters over the edge of utilitarian and into the realm of art object employing numerous architectural references as it does so. The joined components, one square-based the other circular, stand like Siamese sentries guarding the entrance to an unrealised structure beyond. Their central join gives way to a large hole in the clay reminiscent of a rose window and this links the Western architectural tradition to the Muslim one; two architectural traditions side-by-side yet contrasting. Flying buttresses are suggested by two wings either side of the towers ending in miniature chimney tops.

The exploration and hybridisation of form has been at the heart of Barry's practice from the beginning. His pots have breast-shaped bulbs and incised edges, while others feature spiralling patterns and limb-like appendages. An emphasis on texture and the earthy palette also here enhance the pot's bulbous figure and gentle curves. This particular salt glaze forms when the silica in the clay mixes with salt added to the kiln at the hottest part of the firing process. The chemical reaction produces a great richness and variance of colour and Barry uses it constantly throughout his oeuvre. Like a circus of misfits with names like columnar peopillics, fatsos, thinsos, and volutomorphic spiromorphs the pots are fascinatingly anthropomorphic.

A renegade in the late 1950s, Barry used New Zealand materials for his ceramics when most earthenware potters were still importing them from overseas. Clay dug from the hillside of his own Coromandel property as well as from



Central Otago was combined with sand from local river beds. Local materials encouraged a greater creative freedom from foreign Anglo-Oriental traditions and in a sense helped achieve an idiosyncratic aesthetic. Barry was active in encouraging an 'indigenous pottery culture', believing in a personalised, gestural, Pacific aesthetic engaged with the impact of people groups and their related industries on the land. His recognisably coarse aesthetic is a direct result of a combined passion for art, conservation and engineering, being worked out through a post-colonial awareness.

Since its construction began in 1961 Barry's Driving Creek Railway has become a major tourist attraction in the Coromandel area. He worked on its construction often to the detriment of his potting; apprentice potters were often tasked with trying to pull Barry away from the mechanics of train and railway building in order to reinstate him in his studio. The line which now spans 2.7 km was completed in 2004, and was originally used to transport clay and pots to different parts of the property. The site now also includes a wildlife sanctuary, and it is littered with ceramics which appear to emerge straight from the earth in all their comical grotesquery. Architectural Pot is currently on display at the Gus Fisher Gallery in the exhibition *Gifted*, curated by art history student Maria-Constanza Labra-Odde until 1 November 2014. Gus Fisher Gallery continues to spotlight ceramics with Clay O'Clock, an array of exhibitions and events showcasing ceramics in Auckland throughout November.

For more information and details of 'Clay-a-thon', an organised ceramics tour around Auckland on Saturday 8 November, contact the gallery at gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz.

■ Linda Tyler

ARTWORK: Barry Brickell, (born 1935), Architectural Pot, 2002, Coromandel clay, hand modelled, salt-glazed and wood-fired.

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RELATING INDIGENOUS AND SETTLER IDENTITIES

In this era of recognition and reconciliation in settler societies indigenous peoples are laying claims to tribunals, courts and governments and reclaiming extensive territories and resource rights, in some cases even political sovereignty. But, paradoxically, alongside these practices of decolonisation, settler societies continue the work of colonisation in myriad everyday ways.

This book by Avril Bell, Senior Lecturer in Sociology, explores this ongoing colonisation in indigenous-settler identity politics in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States. These four are part of the "Post-British World" and share colonial orientations towards indigenous peoples traceable to their European origins. *Relating Indigenous and Settler Identities: Beyond Domination* identifies a shared settler imaginary that continues to constrain indigenous possibilities while it fails to deliver the redemption and unified nationhood settler peoples crave. Against this colonising imaginary this book argues for the need for a new relational imaginary that recognises the autonomy of indigenous ways of being, living and knowing.



DOES NEOLIBERALISM MATTER?

Neoliberal reforms have seen a radical shift in government thinking about social citizenship rights around the world. But have they had a similarly significant impact on public support for these rights?

This book *Policy change, public attitudes and social citizenship Does neoliberalism matter?* by Dr Louise Humpage, Senior Lecturer in Sociology, traces public views on social citizenship across three decades through attitudinal data from New Zealand, the United Kingdom and Australia.

It argues that support for some aspects of social citizenship diminished more significantly under some political regimes than others, and that limited public resistance following the financial crisis of 2008-2009 further suggests the public "rolled over" and accepted these neoliberal values. Yet attitudinal variances across different policy areas challenge the idea of an omnipotent neoliberalism, providing food for thought for academics, students and advocates wishing to galvanise support for social citizenship in the 21st century.



FOUR BOOKS IN ONE YEAR

Emeritus Professor of History, Nicholas Tarling has published four books this year - all united through his now all but fifty year association with the University. The first reflects his expertise in Southeast Asian history developed while an honorary Fellow at the New Zealand Asia Institute. A second book, published by the Institute, discusses the role of Asia and Asians in the First World War.

The third book discusses major choral works of the Western repertory. Auckland and the university have a strong reputation for choral music. This book seeks to revive interest in some of the large-scale full-evening works and the big choirs they need.

The fourth book is on opera and is based on some of the talks he has given on his opera tours, but its larger purpose is to protest at the liberties producers now often take with what librettist and composer created. Says Nicholas of his research: "Writing on Cambodia required travel to foreign archives, but the other books owe almost everything to the General and Music Libraries at the University, which have improved so much over the past half-century, and their ever-helpful staff."



MISCELLANEOUS

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

CONCERT BY VOCAL TRIO. Auckland's vibrant singing trio Three Mezzos present a spring recital of vocal variety, "Homespun Harmonies", on Sunday 16th November at 5pm. Venue: The Ballroom, Highwic House, 40 Gillies Avenue, Newmarket. Information: 846-6982 or m.knightbridge@auckland.ac.nz

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

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WEAK LAWS, DIRTY TRICKS

Failure to update legal infrastructure at heart of dirty tricks campaign argues Gehan Gunasekara

“A buck short and a day late” is how a friend describes New Zealand’s attitude to providing first-world services and infra-structure. This has been seen to apply to telecommunications, and public transport, amongst other things. The same tendency can be seen when it comes to keeping the legal infra-structure up to date and relevant in the fast changing global environment. The governments we have elected to modernise our laws and to make sure they address current problems have arguably neglected their basic responsibilities in this area.

The litany of behaviour exposed by Nicky Hager’s book *Dirty Politics* and the debate surrounding it was only made possible due to the failure of our politicians in this regard. The blogosphere represents the modern equivalent of the Wild West and the ease with which personal information such as e-mails has been bandied about represents a new and dangerous trend in New Zealand politics. Free speech is not absolute and does not entitle one to shout “fire” in a crowded theatre for instance. Libel and privacy laws have long exercised control over unfettered free speech but these laws require constant updating.

In 2011 and again in 2013 the Law Commission, an independent and respected body charged with advising the Government on necessary legal reforms, made detailed recommendations as far as privacy and the so-

called “new media” such as blogs are concerned. Currently, news media such as the mainstream press, radio and television are exempted from the definition of those who must comply with the Privacy Act as long as they are news media conducting “news activities” such as articles or programmes concerning both news and observations on current affairs and disseminating these to the public.

“The blogosphere represents the modern equivalent of the Wild West”

The exemption has been widely interpreted to include even segments of the public (such as a newsletter to members of a society or profession) and to paparazzi-type exposés of individuals, their wealth and personal lives, as long as the stories are either in the public interest or published in the capacity of news (as opposed to say a paid advertisement). These boundaries have been tested by recent revelations concerning the Whale Oil blog and the activities of others. For instance, Mr Slater has complained to the Privacy Commissioner regarding the use of personal information taken from his website whilst he himself is facing an action brought by the Director of Human Rights Proceedings alleging the blog breached the privacy of businessman Matt Blomfield whose information he obtained. Slater is of course invoking the news-media exemption.

In addition, a recent High Court ruling in the course of the Dotcom saga inexplicably found that personal information gathered by a respected journalist whilst researching a book about Dotcom was not a “news activity” as only articles, not books, were covered by the exemption. In today’s multi-media environment such distinctions are certainly questionable. They also place an undue “chill” on journalistic activities and subvert the intent behind the exemption.

The Law Commission’s approach to the issues underlying these problems has been to recommend that, in future, the news media exclusion from the Privacy Act be limited to media that are subject to a code of ethics that deals expressly with privacy, and to a complaints procedure administered by a new independent body. This would see bloggers subject to similar standards – such as accuracy, distinguishing fact from opinion, good taste and decency – as are existing mainstream media. Legislation including the Privacy Act urgently needs updating in light of developments such as cloud computing, social networking and blogs. We now see the result of this neglect: the corrosive trends exposed in the fallout from *Dirty Politics* made inevitable by a weak and outdated legal framework.

■ Gehan Gunasekara is an Associate Professor in commercial law at the University of Auckland Business School and advised the Law Commission in its review of the Privacy Act.