



## HAVE A SEAT

■ PAGE 5

### INSIDE

#### TECHNOLOGY IN SPOTLIGHT

The Faculty of Engineering is set to attract more international recognition for the decades it has invested in wireless power research. American writer Elise Ackerman from Oakland, California, recently spent a month on campus interviewing the University pioneers of wireless technology, most notably professors John Boys and Grant Covic, along with other academics who were active in the field.

■ PAGE 3

#### OBITUARY

Sebastian Black, who will be remembered with affection by colleagues and with admiration by generations of former students, has died aged 77. Educated at Rugby, and Oxford, before competing a degree at the University of Leeds, Sebastian was appointed to the English Department in 1966, where he taught for 34 years.

■ PAGE 5

#### STC DIRECTOR

Andrew Creahan, the director of the University's new Shared Transaction Centre talks to *UniNews* about setting up the centre last October, what's been achieved already and some of the teething problems that may have caused frustration on campus.

■ PAGE 7

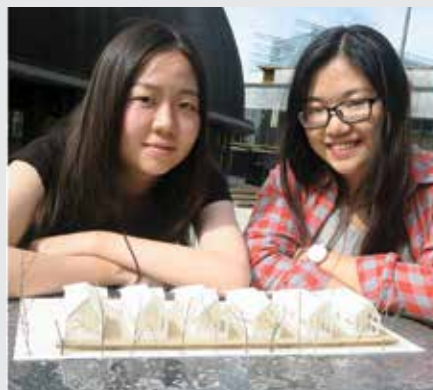
## HONOURED WRITER

Emeritus Professor of English, C.K. Stead is the honoured writer at this year's Auckland Writers Festival, 13 -17 May. The University is again a gold sponsor, with many staff and alumni taking part and media personality Linda Clark chairing the University of Auckland Festival Debate "Everyone has the absolute right to offend" with two top members of our Debating Society presenting the affirmative and negative positions. See more coverage in the next *UniNews*.



## HOUSING FOR ELDERLY

Students from the School of Architecture and Planning are helping bridge the generation gap with their design for affordable, residential housing for the elderly. Juno Huang (left) Wendy Zheng (both from China) have produced a new model of pensioner accommodation for a small registered charitable trust in Opotiki. Rangimarie Trust wanted assistance with a design that would include access ramps, solar heating, raised floors to prevent flooding, wider doors to accommodate wheelchair users, and a maximum budget of \$90,000 per unit.



## EARLY SETTLEMENT

University Archaeology students have uncovered early remains of human settlement on Great Mercury Island. A group of 25, including 12 students from the Field Methods in Archaeology course, travelled to the island (part of the Mercury Islands) in February as part of their course work. They spent three weeks on the eastern side of the island excavating 15 by 10m of an ancient sand dune area in Coralie Bay. As a result they uncovered 13,000 objects including stone artifacts, bones and moa remains in the remnants of an ancient oven.



## STAFF PARTY

Marin Matulovic, Director of Finance, was among almost 600 guests at the Vice-Chancellor's evening reception for staff, held at the Marquee outside Old Government House on Wednesday 11 March. The event was a chance for staff to meet, mingle and reunite while listening to superb music by School of Music musicians. In his speech of welcome, the Vice-Chancellor made a special point of thanking the musicians, of whom two were students, one a staff member and one a former pop star from the 1970s.



- WHAT'S NEW ..... 3
- IN BRIEF ..... 4
- COVER STORY ..... 5
- OBITUARY..... 5
- MY STORY ..... 6
- INTERVIEW.....7
- RESEARCH ..... 8
- WHAT AM I DISCOVERING? ..... 9
- IN THE SPOTLIGHT ..... 9
- FROM THE COLLECTION ..... 10
- WHAT'S COMING OUT ..... 10
- MARAMATANGA ..... 12

COVER PHOTO: Refurbished chairs originally designed by architect Roy Lippincott in 1924 for the new Arts Building and ClockTower.

EDITOR: Tess Redgrave | [t.redgrave@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:t.redgrave@auckland.ac.nz)  
 PHOTOGRAPHY: Godfrey Boehnke, Judy Wilford  
 DESIGN: Sonia Tenreiro  
 PRODUCTION: The University of Auckland

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

[www.auckland.ac.nz/universitynews](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/universitynews)



## GROUND ZERO FOR WIRELESS TECHNOLOGY

The Faculty of Engineering is set to attract more international recognition for the decades it has invested in wireless power research.

American writer Elise Ackerman (pictured) from Oakland, California, recently spent a month on campus interviewing the University's pioneers of wireless technology, most notably Professors John Boys and Grant Covic, along with other of our academics who are active in the field.

Elise is writing a book she hopes will chronicle mankind's success in finally controlling wireless power, starting from early efforts by Nikola Tesla at the turn of the century and continuing into the new millennium. "Everyone knows about the computer revolution—the incredible changes wrought by PCs, smartphones and apps," she explained. "Today, an equally dramatic transformation is happening in the delivery of power." She describes the University as "ground zero" for wireless power research.

Elise spent ten years covering companies like Microsoft, Google and Oracle while working at the San Jose Mercury News, the flagship newspaper for Knight Ridder, which was then the second-largest American newspaper company.

Prior to that she wrote about national affairs for U.S. News & World Report based in Washington, DC. She's a graduate of Cornell University and was an international fellow at Columbia University, where she received a masters in international relations. She currently blogs at Forbes.com.

Elise expects her book, entitled *The New Transformers*, will be published next summer. She is planning a return trip to campus this winter.



## LECTURES TO LOOK FORWARD TO

### THE SIR DOUGLAS ROBB LECTURES 2015

The British Monarchy will come under scrutiny in this year's Robb Lectures series presented by British historian Sir David Nicholas Cannadine and Professor Linda Colley, an historian of Britain, empire and nationalism, both of whom currently hold professorial positions at Princeton University.

Sir David is notable as a commentator and broadcaster on British public life, especially the monarchy. He is also known for a number of books, including *The Decline and Fall of the British Aristocracy and Ornamentalism*. Professor Colley is a Professor of History. She previously held Chairs in history at Yale University and the London School of Economics, and she was the first woman Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge where she is now an Honorary Fellow.

The series is scheduled for Monday 27 July, Wednesday 29 July and Friday 31 July, 2015.

## DAA VIDEOS



The University's 2015 Distinguished Alumni Award winners were honoured at two events in early March. The first, a lively panel discussion hosted by Finlay Macdonald, and the following evening, a formal and celebratory dinner in the Alumni Marquee.

Videos from both events are now available for viewing at the Alumni and Friends website: <https://www.alumni.auckland.ac.nz>

Back, from left: Sir Russell Coutts, competitive sailor and yacht designer; Fady Mishriki, wireless power expert and entrepreneur. Front, from left: Bruce Plested, Executive Chairman Mainfreight; Joan Withers, business leader and mentor; Professor Christine Winterbourn, world authority on the biological chemistry of free radicals; Bryan Williams, former All Black and Pacific leader.

## THE WINTER LECTURES 2015

This series of six lectures is titled "Global war, global catastrophe: historians discuss the First World War".

There are few events more fundamental to the shaping of the twentieth century or its collective memory than the First World War (1914 – 1918). A hundred years on, the conflict is being commemorated in all corners of the globe. In our Winter Lectures, historians from the University and around New Zealand will discuss the history and legacies of the First World War from a range of perspectives. The lectures begin on Tuesday 4 August and run over six consecutive Tuesdays, ending Tuesday 8 September.

## HALF A CENTURY OF ACHIEVEMENT

Nicholas Tarling, Emeritus Professor of History, was joined by friends and colleagues in Old Government House on 12 March to celebrate his 50 supremely productive years at the University and his magnificent 50-year contribution to Asian Studies.



Over the years Nicholas, in addition to his teaching duties, has served in many positions of responsibility and influence, including Deputy Dean and Dean of Arts, Chair of the Dean's Committee and Deputy Vice-Chancellor. At the same time he has found the time to write more than 50 highly-respected and scholarly volumes – with at least one more in the pipeline.

MC for the celebration was Dr Richard Phillips. In attendance were the Vice Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon and former Vice Chancellor Sir Colin Maiden, just two of the five who have held that office during the half-century of Nicholas's tenure.

*From left: Professor Stuart McCutcheon, Nicholas Tarling, Sir Colin Maiden.*

## BOKASHI COMPOSTING AT EPSOM



*Epsom campus staff involved in the Bokashi food waste trial, Philip Kim (left) and trial co-ordinator, senior lecturer Dr Sally Birdsall, check out one of the bokashi bins used to collect the food waste.*

### The first campus-wide bokashi system composting trial has taken place at Epsom Campus.

The Epsom Campus bokashi composting trial started in October last year with collections of food waste in the staff kitchens at the Epsom Campus and the Wharekai and café area.

Bokashi is an anaerobic food grade bacteria that, when added into food waste in airtight buckets, creates a fermentation process, a bit like pickling. Liquid is drained off and decomposition is suspended as the Bokashi populates the food mass. After about a week to 10 days in the Bokashi bucket system the resulting mix is ready to bury or compost further.

“We have had small scale trials in the past, but this is the first that involves a whole campus,” says the University's Sustainability and Environment manager, Dr Lesley Stone.

“Epsom campus has existing green space, and grounds staff already compost garden waste onsite. The trial was designed to complement what they are already doing, by using the bokashi method for food waste,” she says. “It will help us to sustainably manage the waste generated by about 400 staff and 3,200 students at Epsom Campus.”

The project, which has a strong research focus, was developed and is managed on campus by senior lecturer, Dr Sally Birdsall, and was funded by Auckland Council's Waste Minimisation and Innovation fund.

Overall, it was calculated that there was a reduction in waste sent to landfill of 735kg when comparing October 2013 with October 2014. It is hoped that a reduction of 30 percent will be achieved in 2015 if the bokashi system runs throughout the year.

## PROFESSIONAL STAFF DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

Applications and nominations for the bi-annual Professional Staff Development Awards close on Wednesday 30 April at 5pm.

There is an information session for the Development Awards on Thursday 9 April; 3-4pm (enrol via PeopleSoft HR using code HRPSDA). All applications/nominations for awards must be submitted on the official application form. Go to the People and Organisational Development (POD) website at [www.auckland.ac.nz/careerdevelopment](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/careerdevelopment). For general enquiries, please contact Rose Graham on [r.graham@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:r.graham@auckland.ac.nz) or ext. 85070.

## PUBLIC ART

Elam School of Fine Arts will be co-hosting the Second International Award for Public Art (IAPA) exhibition and conference as a joint-venture with Shandong University of Art & Design, Shandong Province, People's Republic of China (SUAD) in July. This year's theme is *Cities in a Climate of Change: Public Art and Environmental and Social Ecologies*. A selected group of 32 international projects will feature in an exhibition at the Auckland Art Gallery. The creators of the top seven finalist projects will be brought to Auckland to present their work as part of the conference. IAPA welcomes proposals for academic presentations at the conference about the role of public art. Submissions are invited by Monday 6 April. To find out more about the conference and submit a proposal visit <http://iapa2015.nz>

## ASPIRIN STUDY

Participants are wanted for a new treatment for venous ulcers that may help healing when used with compression bandages. Associate Professor Andrew Jull at the University of Auckland's National Institute for Health Innovation is leading a trial of low dose aspirin taken daily by people with venous ulcers using compression bandages. The low dose means that older people will be able to take part in the trial. As New Zealand's population ages, more people are expected to present with venous ulcers. Low dose aspirin capsules have been made especially for the trial. Patients will be randomly allocated into two groups; one will take the low dose aspirin and the other will take a placebo capsule (with no aspirin). Contact: [s.phillips@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:s.phillips@auckland.ac.nz)

## ART AND PERCH



In November 1924, architect Roy Lippincott wrote a three-page letter to the Auckland University College's President and Council setting out his *raison d'être* behind the rimu furniture he intended designing to go with his magnificent new Arts Building.

In keeping with Arts and Crafts ideals of the time, of creating interiors which matched the exterior design, Lippincott wrote that as the wood finish of the building was rimu, the furniture also should be of this material, which has a grain "at times almost theatrical in its effect".

He said he would design some 250 arm, desk and straight-backed chairs for the University College with all surfaces flush and no right-angled corners to collect dirt. "We suggest that the upholstery be in genuine hide," he added "as this is the most durable and sanitary material for the purpose, and when the order is a large one it has been our experience, that the expense is little, if any, above that of less satisfactory materials...."

Now just over 100 years later this same thoughtfulness and eye for detail has been applied to 15 Lippincott chairs that have been given another lease of life as part of the refurbishment of the upper South Wing of the ClockTower.

"We chose the best from a number we have in storage," says Rosemarie Dunning, a Property Services Project Manager and furniture purchaser on the refurbishment project.

Rosemarie located a special green-coloured pure wool fabric (the colour echoing the trees outside the ClockTower rooms) from New Zealand company Textilia Fabrics, who source their wool from a sheep station in Akaroa. The chairs were then re-furbished by Auckland-based Philip King Furniture Restorers. They will now be used as "art and perch chairs" for visitors to the Vice-Chancellor's new suite.

"They are not a design you could sit on for very long," says Rosemarie.

Salmond Reed Architects has led the renovation of the South Wing of the ClockTower, part of a building long hailed as one of Auckland's iconic architectural masterpieces and the jewel in the University's crown.

## SEBASTIAN BLACK, 1937-2015



Sebastian Black, who will be remembered with affection by colleagues and with admiration by generations of former students, has died aged 77. Educated at Rugby, and Oxford, before completing a degree at the University of Leeds, Sebastian was appointed to the English Department in 1966, where he taught for thirty-four years. He had been in poor health since the death in 2011 of his partner, the historian Dame Judith Binney, with whom he lived for 40 years.

An exceptionally colourful personality. Sebastian was always suspicious of authority, even in its more benign guises, and his life was punctuated by episodes of rebellion. At the age of 13 he ran away from the liberal Wennington Hall School, and was transferred to Rugby where, in his final year, he defied tradition by initiating the end of corporal punishment. Unhappy at Oxford he impulsively took flight to France,

where he joined the French Foreign Legion, and found himself embroiled in the bitter war against Algerian independence. Severely wounded towards the end of his five-year term, he rose to the rank of sergeant, but left his regiment uneasily aware that he had been on the wrong side in a defining anti-colonial struggle.

He went on to read English at the University of Leeds, where his thinking would be moulded by the charismatic teaching of the Marxist Arnold Kettle; it was this training that would later lead him to establish New Zealand's first paper in post-colonial fiction. It was no accident, that Frantz Fanon's *Wretched of the Earth* – which grew out of Fanon's experience in the Algerian resistance – should have become a cornerstone of his teaching in the course.

Arriving in Auckland, he was at first required to teach across the entire field of English literature – a challenge he answered with characteristic élan. Before long, he would establish a particular expertise in twentieth-century fiction and drama; and his flair for the dramatic made him a wildly popular lecturer, not least with the large first-year classes whom he introduced to the difficult writing of Samuel Beckett and others. Passionately committed to the belief that the first responsibility of academic staff was to their students, Sebastian invariably shouldered one of the Department's heaviest teaching loads – even when, towards the end of his career, he became Deputy HOD. His political beliefs ensured that he remained an energetic member of the staff union throughout his career, and in the 1970s

he helped to set up the Lecturers' Association to advance the interests of junior staff. Throughout the seventies and eighties he worked to democratise the university's administrative structures, helping to gain staff and student representation at both faculty and university level; he himself became an outspoken staff representative on Senate and Council, serving on a number of key committees.

Sebastian's energies were by no means confined to the academic world. He worked as a dramaturg to young playwrights in both Auckland and Wellington, served for several years as a board member for the Mercury Theatre, and acted as the *Listener's* Auckland theatre reviewer for much of the seventies and eighties. Beyond the University he was engaged in a succession of radical causes, taking part in demonstrations against the Vietnam war, the presence of American nuclear ships, and contact with apartheid South. In 1995 he and Judith Binney travelled to join the Whananui iwi in their protest at Pakaitore (Moutua Gardens).

For many years Sebastian acted as Judith's informal editor, helping to bring to publication the magnificent series of books that culminated in *Encircled Lands* (2009); and his unflinching love and support helped to carry her through the succession of illnesses that led to her death in 2011. Those who knew him will never forget his continuing devotion to Judith's mother, Marjorie Musgrove, nor the courage and good humour with which he faced his long last illness.

■ Emeritus Professor Michael Neill.



# MY STORY

## STAFF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



### JAMES HOWIE

James Howie has worked as a carpenter in the Property Services Facilities Management Team since 2006. James was born severely deaf as a result of his mother contracting rubella while she was pregnant. He spent his early years in Takapuna and then when he turned seven his family, including three siblings, moved to Sydney so James could attend St Gabriel's School for the Deaf and Oakhill College. James wears hearing aids now but largely relies on lip-reading to understand what others are saying. James and his wife have three children and they all use NZ Sign Language at home.

#### WHAT DID YOU LOVE DOING AS A CHILD?

Riding bikes, playing rugby and rugby league. I liked movies: *Star Wars*, *Star Trek* and *Blade Runner*. And I liked riding in my dad's classic old car – an Austin Martin DB4.

#### WHAT DID YOU ENJOY LEARNING ABOUT IN YOUR EARLY LIFE?

I enjoyed learning about different places in Australia as my family loved to travel a lot to Queensland, New South Wales and Melbourne. I enjoyed school most of the time, particularly geography, science and maths.

#### TELL US ABOUT YOUR FIRST JOB EVER?

My first job was as a carpenter/joiner apprentice. I worked on a construction site building a new school, office buildings and a shopping mall in Sydney. Then I continued my apprenticeship with a different company building new homes. I enjoyed this far better and continued with building new homes and renovations until I got my job with the University.

#### WHO WAS YOUR BEST TEACHER AND WHY?

My best teacher was Chris Hickey at Oakhill College. He was my PE teacher and taught me to play rugby, which became a passion of mine for many years. I eventually played flanker for the Deaf Blacks here in New Zealand.

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

At first I thought I might do motor mechanics but I was told I couldn't do the course for it because I was deaf. I was really disappointed but decided to try for a plumbing apprenticeship. Unbelievably I was told the same story – that because I was deaf, I wouldn't be accepted on the course. I ended up with carpentry because I was allowed into the apprenticeship course.

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

Fixing and maintaining things on the City

Campus. For example every month it is my job to check all the smoke doors are working properly in the lecture theatres. Our team does small jobs: we fix broken door handles, repair a hole in the wall, remove a door frame when renovations are happening. That sort of thing.

#### WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT THE JOB?

I like the people and I like the security and the hours. I used to be a sub-contractor and I worked very long hours. I will be happy to stay at the University here until I retire.

#### DO YOU BELIEVE THAT WHAT YOU DO CHANGES PEOPLE'S LIVES?

I wouldn't say that it changes lives but it makes things easier and more comfortable. Knowing that when I safety check areas of the University, it could ultimately save lives (in the event of an emergency), reminds me of the importance of routine tasks.

#### WHAT HAVE YOU ACHIEVED THAT YOU ARE VERY PLEASED ABOUT?

Playing as a flanker in the Deaf Blacks was an awesome achievement for me. I had wanted this for a while and had been training and playing hard to get noticed. I was so proud when the announcement was made.

#### WHAT DO YOU ENJOY DOING WHEN YOU'RE NOT WORKING?

I play summer soccer and I used to go wind surfing. I have three kids 17, 13, 11 and we like just hanging out and enjoying the outdoors. I am renovating the 111-year-old kauri villa which seems never-ending. I still love science fiction movies, an interest I share with my wife.

## WHAT'S ON CAMPUS

### FATHER, SON, NATION

2 APRIL 2015

6-7pm Stone Lecture Theatre,  
Faculty of Law, Building 801, Level 3

Amos Hausner, son of Gideon Hausner, Chief Prosecutor at the Adolf Eichmann Trial reflects on the Eichmann trial and how it has shaped his world. Adolf Eichmann's capture and trial in Jerusalem in 1961 captivated world attention at a time when Israel was a fledgling state. It exposed to the world the horrors of genocide. Gideon Hausner was the Chief Prosecutor. His son Amos is a graduate of The Hebrew University School of Law, Jerusalem.

### FORGOTTEN GENOCIDES

2 APRIL 2015, 6PM

Musgrove Theatre  
Film screening and Panel Discussion

Dr Maria Armoudian who is of Armenian ancestry has made this film. Both her grandfathers are survivors of the Armenian Genocide. They had long lived in what was once known as Historic Armenia but later became the Ottoman Empire. The discussion panel comprises Drs Tracey McIntosh, Chris Wilson, Maria Armoudian and Panayiotis Diamadis.  
(Also see Maramatanga page 12)

### AUTUMN GRADUATION

4, 6, 8 MAY 2015

Graduation Gala Concerto Competition  
2015, 7 May, 7.30-9.30pm,  
Auckland Town Hall

Three outstanding classical musicians from the School of Music compete for a first prize of \$5,000. This year's finalists are Lauren Bennett (violin), Jane Sohn (piano) and Bradley Wood (piano). A feature this year is a newly commissioned work by Leonie Holmes "Where the Tui Sings Three Notes" for the University of Auckland Chamber Choir, conducted by Associate Professor Karen Grylls. Admission is free.

## UP FRONT WITH THE STC DIRECTOR



The University's Shared Transaction Centre (STC) was set up last October to process some 110,000 purchasing transactions across the University each year. With the move to a standard purchasing process, the increased use of purchase orders, invoice scanning and other process changes, there have been some teething problems. Keen to address these and explain just exactly what the STC is all about, the Director of Shared Services, Andrew Creahan spoke to *University News*.

Andrew is an accountant by profession with a diverse career in general management, finance, IT and logistics. He has worked across the telecommunications, pharmaceutical, travel and medical device industries. Six years ago he joined the University staff as General Manager for Shared Services, tasked with creating a single finance unit for Academic Services, Campus Life and Student Information and Marketing. Other service divisions have since come on board and Andrew has also led the development of Strategic Procurement at the University. As part of the implementation of FAR last year, he, along with the STC establishment manager, set up the STC which currently employs between 20-27 staff.

### Why was the STC established?

We had a very fragmented process around purchasing. We had some 380-odd people across the University involved in purchasing activities but the majority were spending less than 20% of their time on these processes. So it was very difficult to put through change initiatives. At the same time our cost of processing was very high. We were sitting at \$11.10 per invoice (i.e. the cost of human activity and system activity), which is high when compared with peer organisations similar to our own as measured via the Hackett benchmarking organisation. The average

processing cost of the peer group is estimated at \$6.51 per invoice and world-class corporations generally are \$3.08 per invoice

### What model does our STC follow?

It is a best practice model that is a hybrid for the University of Auckland. It was based on reviews we did of other universities that have set up shared transaction centres. We looked in particular at Monash, Yale, University of Michigan, and UC Davis. And we looked at world-class practices across all organisations and took the best of those to use at the University. Around about nine out of ten companies around the world have a shared service function.

### What are the key benefits of the STC to the University?

We have a much more standardised, systematic approach to purchasing and a reduction in costs. If we can get down to \$6.51 per transaction that's half a million dollars a year we will save. Another key benefit is a reduction in risk around compliance with policy. When transactions are run through a central point it's much easier to determine whether they are appropriate or not. For example inappropriate capital assets purchased on a p-card are now much easier to detect.

### What are the benefits for staff?

These will take a little longer to manifest. We are certainly getting differences in feedback depending on where people were in the old system. By standardising finances we can drive efficiencies over time and benefits will accrue to everyone but they will come at different rates.

### What are some of the positives you have seen already with the STC?

One positive is that we have been able to bring a number of faculty staff whose roles were dis-established through FAR to work at the STC and I want to acknowledge the very significant

achievements of both the staff transferred into the STC and the new members who have joined the team from elsewhere. These staff moved into new roles, with a very new approach, during the University's peak purchasing period in Quarter 4 last year and processed five percent more transactions during that quarter than the University as a whole processed in the same quarter for 2013.

### What are some of the criticisms you have faced and are they fair?

There have been a few criticisms and some of these are fair. Our approach has been to ask for specific examples and then be as open as we can about addressing them. There are three main areas we need to work on:

- Speed of process. We have an urgent queue of two to four hours for travel and same day for other urgent requests, which has worked, but non-urgent orders have slipped out to the three-day mark. This is at the upper end for our target service level (which is 1-3 days) and certainly there has been some criticism of that. As a result, we are continuing to monitor our staffing levels and are increasing training.
- Receipting for purchase orders. All goods and services received need to be acknowledged in the system to ensure we don't pay for goods or services we haven't received. We are working with everyone who receives goods and services to ensure they are clear about what is required and are implementing increased training and support to ensure this happens.
- Communication regarding the status of orders. This has been the main problem we've had because we have been relying on a manual step to give people the status of their order. System enhancements are now underway so that as soon as a purchase order is raised a notification will go back to the originator via PeopleSoft and then that can be regularly updated.

### Are there other areas you think the STC could improve on?

Yes. PricewaterhouseCoopers is doing a post implementation review of the Shared Transaction Centre. That will provide insights into ways that we can improve our services.

When we launched last October our key objective was to keep operations as smooth as possible with the FAR changes. Now the focus is on enhancing customer service.

We need to get to a point where our processes become like air for staff. They are always there keeping the University running but users don't have to worry about how it all happens.

### NURSING HISTORY TO THE FORE

**“... they used to say that Greenlane students were socially conscious, Auckland students were study conscious and Middlemore students were unconscious.”**

This is the voice of one New Zealand nurse on the website [www.nursinghistory.org.nz](http://www.nursinghistory.org.nz) launched at a New Zealand Nurses Organisation meeting in Wellington in March by Professor of History Linda Bryder, from the University’s School of Humanities.

In 2012 the Nursing Education and Research Foundation through Auckland UniServices Limited employed Linda and a team of researchers to run a Nursing Oral History Project recording the stories and experiences of nurses who trained in New Zealand in the 1950s and 1960s.

The New Zealand Nurses Organisation constructed a questionnaire on its website, which was filled in by 109 nurses. Sixty nurses (30 from each decade) were chosen to be interviewed, based on achieving a geographical, ethnic, gender and professional spread. The interviewers were Dr Kate Prebble and Dr Margaret Horsburgh from the University’s School of Nursing, and Dr Debbie Dunsford who had completed her PhD

in History at the University of Auckland. The interviews were abstracted, and the audio files and abstracts deposited in the Alexander Turnbull Library in Wellington.

But in order to make the stories more accessible to the wider public the website was set up and over the summer of 2014-15, Linda worked with two History students, Emma Cotton and Kaitlin McLeod, to compile short summaries of each of the interviews and link these to short excerpts from the audio files to illustrate certain points.

“This website now contains a wealth of information, which will be of immense value to anyone interested in the history of nursing, as well as broader New Zealand social and cultural history in the 1950s and 1960s,” says Linda.

At the launch she described oral history as “memories flavoured with hindsight”. And for her, three important themes emerged from the project.

“The first was that, despite the fulfilling and varied careers that opened up to the women following nurse training, including international travel, many had entered nursing with little

thought, flippantly even, feeling there were few occupational opportunities open to them as women.

“The second theme related to the work on the wards, where they were not just an exploited workforce but learnt essential skills and were given tremendous responsibilities very early on. They were also more patient-focused than might be implied by a task-oriented training. All junior nurses were expected to clean the wards and hand out meals,” says Linda. “They were judged on their ability to clean and sweep, to be able to make a bed in three minutes. All work had to be completed before a nurse ended her shift, including making sure all teaspoons were accounted for.”

The final theme was life in the Nurses’ Home (sometimes referred to as a the “virgins’ retreat”), where there were rules made to be broken and where the nurses built camaraderie that helped them through the more stressful aspects of their training including dealing with the matron (“often an intimidating figure”).”



*Pat Klouwens (seated, third from left) at her graduation ball 1954, trained at the Auckland School of Nursing, 1951-54*



*Tennis: Sister Dawes, umpire at Wolfe Home tennis courts, 1958, courtesy of Anne Tjaberings, who trained at Auckland Mental Hospital, 1957-59.*

### NEW DYSPHAGIA TEACHING ROLE



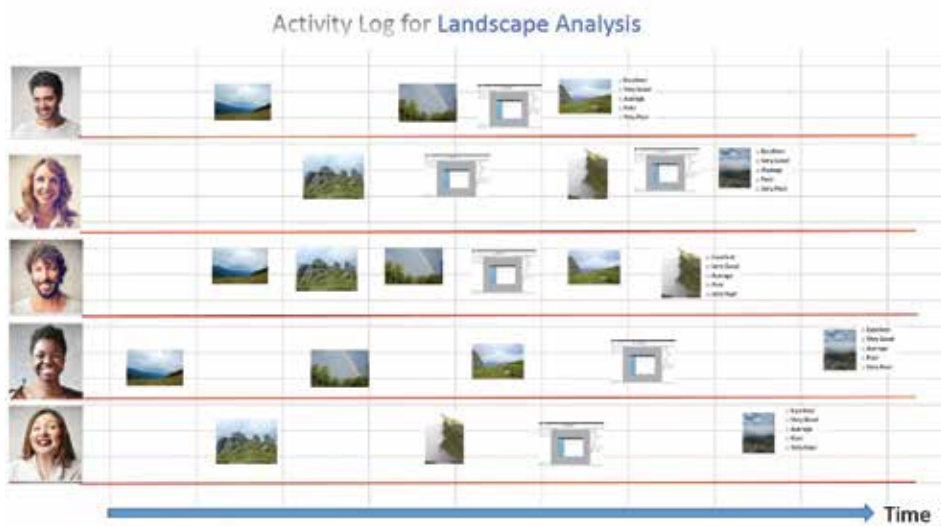
**Dr Anna Miles is not new on campus, having worked alongside the speech science programme since its inception 12 years ago. But her role as Lecturer in Dysphagia is new, with the goal of developing multidisciplinary, cross-faculty dysphagia research.**

Anna is one of only two dysphagia academics in New Zealand. “Dysphagia or swallowing difficulties is a relatively new area of speech language therapy and the speech science programme did not have a lectureship in dysphagia when I started. The dysphagia course was taught online,” she says.

“Speech language therapists are now expected to graduate with a strong theoretical knowledge in dysphagia as well as competent clinical skills in the area. With the support of Professor Will Hayward, head of psychology, and Professor Suzanne Purdy, head of discipline for speech science, we put together a proposal to develop this position.”

Anna says dysphagia lends itself to multidisciplinary teaching and research and hopes to build relationships throughout the University.





This simple visualisation shows the set of media that students submitted as they progressed through an exercise.

*David White is a lecturer in Information Systems. He has had an interest in and developed information tools to support teaching and learning since 1990 when the first prototype of the current Cecil Gradebook was produced. This year David introduced a new course called Information Tools for Business (... or Anybody)*

**Last semester I discovered a tool that enables a decentralised personal learning environment for computer-supported learning.**

The tool is the free cloud-based Trello, which is aimed at project management based on the principles of Kanban boards (a tool that allows visual management of workloads). Students of a systems design course used it in 2014 to collaborate in groups to produce and share their design artefacts. They also submitted all their individual work on to their personal boards so during discussion and assessment their work could be seen in the context of all their activities.

Now, in Semester One 2015, students in the course, *Information Tools for Business*, record all their work, including solutions to exercises produced in class, on to their personal boards. These can be in any media and are immediately available for group critique at any time.

During activities such as labs and lectures, students post their work status at intervals so that during a review it is possible to see the progress of each student and the response of the class overall. Boards can be accessed from any type of device that the student brings to the class. A class board provides all the material currently supplied via course books and the Learning Management System. Trello is very simple to learn and guidelines for use in education are being written.

Many more visualisations are being created from the data gathered during the teaching and learning process. These provide a high degree of context around an individual and a wide view of the class dynamics as a whole. For instance the entire activities of a class can be played back at high speed.

These boards are very simple manifestations of my research and development goal of creating personal knowledge integrators that are used to record all the information accumulated during a person's life. In current prototypes, personal knowledge sits over a substrate of information that describes the events from the Big Bang until now – Big History. Thus the personal knowledge journey is placed alongside and woven through the journey of the universe. In another aspect of this work the same data is being used to create 3D games to entice the learner to explore the world of information about the universe in the context of their own life - like a visit to a Māori rock art site.

## TOBACCO FREE WORLD

Emeritus Professor Robert Beaglehole (Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences) has called for a tobacco free world by 2040 in his latest article in *The Lancet*. There was good local and global coverage of this major initiative, and was in response to media releases from the University of Auckland and *The Lancet* in London.

## TO LOOK GOOD OR NOT?

Two surveys on the changing lifestyles of women were discussed by Associate Professor of Psychology Ginny Braun this week. A survey on women tackling house renovation and another on evidence that women are giving up beauty treatments in favour of a more healthy lifestyle featured in the *Herald on Sunday* and *Next* magazine respectively. While New Zealand women may have more of a tradition of tackling jobs seen as men's domain and are turning away from cosmetic surgery in favour of alternatives such as exercise. The focus remains on their appearance.

## KAURI TREE

Dr Cate McInnis-Ng, a Lecturer in Ecology in the School of Biological Sciences, offered an expert opinion during the fight to save a kauri tree from the chainsaw in West Auckland. Dr McInnis-Ng told the *NZ Herald* and the *Otago Daily Times* the tree appeared to be a healthy specimen in an area badly affected by kauri dieback disease.

## BEATING PREDATORS

Senior Lecturer in Biological Sciences and Statistics, Dr James Russell, discussed on radio new research that estimated for the first time just how much it might cost to rid New Zealand of introduced predators. The research was done in collaboration with colleagues at Landcare Research.

## SPYING

Honorary Academic Dr Gavin Ellis (Media, Film and Television) and Associate Professors Damon Salesa (Pacific Studies) and Gehan Gunasekara (Commercial Law) commented on revelations that New Zealand spies on its Pacific neighbours. Their perspectives achieved national radio and newspaper coverage.

# FROM THE COLLECTION

## ART COLLECTION



**David Barker was born in the West Sussex city of Chichester. In 1955 when he was 14 years old, he emigrated to the North Shore of Auckland. At Takapuna Grammar he was taught by Owen Lee (1918-2003) newly arrived from St Peter's in Cambridge, whom David still credits with launching his art career.**

Precociously talented, just five years later in 1960, David was awarded second prize in the Kelliher Art Competition for New Zealand landscape painting with his seagull's eye view of cattle on the shore, entitled *Beach*

*Strays, Takatu, North Auckland 1960*. His teacher, Owen Lee, had won first prize. The judge was Australian painter William Dargie, who declared the work "an extraordinary performance for a young man". The following year, Sir Henry Kelliher introduced a junior prize of £100, which David Barker immediately won for a painting of shellfish gatherers on Takapuna Beach.

As a student at the Elam School of Fine Arts, he was taught by Lois White and concentrated on mural painting. At the age of 19, he came second to Peter McIntyre in the National Bank of New Zealand Art Awards in 1960 before winning the first prize of £500 in the National Bank mural competition in February 1962. His evocative flower-strewn rendition of the legend of Hinemoa and Tutanekai was installed in the Rotorua branch of the bank and he won a merit award two years later in 1964 for another mural design for the bank.

He completed his Diploma of Fine Arts with Honours in 1964 and was awarded Arts Advisory Council funding to undertake further study at the East-West Center of the University of Hawaii where he completed his MFA with an institutional scholarship in 1966. As part of his study he spent several months in Japan, and his first exhibition on his return to Auckland combined Japanese calligraphy with portraits of urban youth. Two years of tertiary teaching in Australia followed, before David returned to Takapuna to become a full-time artist.

He also had plenty of success as a yachtsman, designing Sundancer his own 12 metre ocean-going catamaran, and sailing to the United States, Mexico and Australia, even unofficially competing in the Auckland to Suva yacht race, and finishing well ahead of the nearest competitor. He began

## WHAT'S COMING OUT



### AFTER WONDERLAND

University film graduate Linda Darby has had her Masters short film *After Wonderland* accepted into the Cannes Short Film Corner, as part of the 68th Festival de Cannes 2015.

*After Wonderland* tells the New Zealand story of an only child Alice, who struggles to stay visible in her 1960s oddball family. She falls for the temptations of Dylan who leads her to a kind of wonderland, away from the dark truth of her parent's double life. When Alice's choices begin to unravel and threaten her life, her distant father emerges from his hidden war room to reconcile the damage. Alice realises a thread of hope is possible to mend their pain.

The 10-minute film is based on a true story of a rebellious youth in social realism set in the 1960s with a strong focus on family dynamics. It has seven originally composed songs written and performed by Manaf Ibrahim, also a University of Auckland graduate.

Linda has a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Screen Production and completed a Master of Arts in Directing Drama, both at the University. She is very grateful to her University supervisors Professor Annie Goldson and Dr Shuchi Kothari for their guidance, and the practical hands-on tech support of Peter Simpson, Martin Hansen and Graeme Bibby.

Linda is going to attend the Festival de Cannes this May and is looking at crowd funding to ensure she gets there. See <https://www.pledgeme.co.nz/projects/3283-get-a-kiwi-film-maker-to-cannes>



### THEN IT WAS NOW AGAIN

This volume of selected critical writing tells the story of a range of controversies, innovations, revolutions and disputes in New Zealand poetry, theatre and drama over the 40 years between 1973 and 2013. To do this, 24 individual pieces from Associate Professor of English Murray Edmond's critical writings have been selected and arranged. The cumulative effect is a drama with a cast list including figures such as James K. Baxter, Janet Frame, Mervyn Thompson, Kendrick Smithyman, The Front Lawn, The Topp Twins, Martyn Sanderson, Alan Brunton, David Mitchell, and Michele Leggott, among others. The intention of the book is to be provocative: provoking thought and memory and feeling. Edmond's voice is a "good one to argue with," and he proves to be an opinionated guide through debates about the efficacy of poetry, the nature of artistic revolution, the effect of political change on art, and the interface of social action and artistic practice.

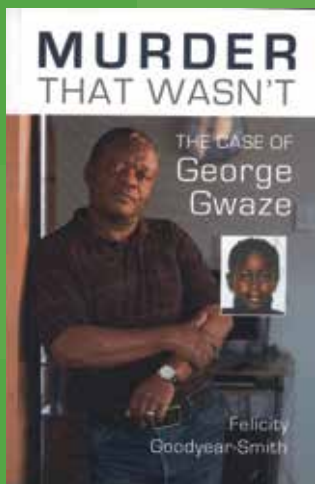


making films with marine themes in the 1970s, collaborating with a doctor, Ian Cotton, as Medisea Productions.

By 1973 when this tidal scene was produced, his exhibitions were selling in minutes. By the end of the 1970s, the *New Zealand Herald* was reporting hundreds of people queuing for the opening of his Auckland Arts Festival exhibition. Critics were usually scathing, remarking that he was a painter at the mercy of his own fluency, yet his skill with light, shadow and reflection is apparent in this view of the ebbing tide. The radical cropping of the top of the mound and rapid recession to the pinnacle in the distance as well as the raking marks in the sand that bleed towards the viewer are all evidence of the legacy of his study of Japanese art.

■ Linda Tyler

ARTWORK: David Barker (born 1941), *Te Henga (Bethells Beach) 1973*, acrylic on board, 682 x 915mm



## MURDER THAT WASN'T: THE CASE OF GEORGE GWAZE

This book by Professor Felicity Goodyear-Smith (Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences) tells the story of the case of George Gwaze, twice charged and twice acquitted of the rape and murder of his ten-year-old adopted niece, Charlene Makaza. It is a gripping account of a miscarriage of justice written by Felicity, as a qualified general practitioner and forensic physician who was an expert medical adviser at the trial. Her book meticulously explores the facts surrounding the case, based on scientific, medical and court records and individual interviews, to give a true account of this family's extraordinary story. It is published by Otago University Press.

### ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

**APARTMENTS FOR RENT.** Call us for your rental requirements; we offer city apartments furnished/unfurnished, all sizes and prices; great rental deals for long-term leases; call rentals (09) 303 0601 or (021) 246 6710 at City Sales or rentals@citysales.co.nz or log on to [www.citysales.co.nz/rentals](http://www.citysales.co.nz/rentals)

### HOUSE-SITTING IN EPSOM IN JUNE.

Our three-bedroomed centrally-heated house in Epsom is within easy reach of bus routes. We also have one cherished cat needing food and affection. Email [alison.kirkness@gmail.com](mailto:alison.kirkness@gmail.com) if interested in minding house and cat some time from 30 May to 6 July, 2015.

### SHORT-TERM CITY ACCOMMODATION

**AVAILABLE:** from 24 April - 16 May inclusive. Studio apartment, bathroom, kitchenette, security, clean. Five minutes from University off Symonds Street. If interested contact [aberens0021@hotmail.co.nz](mailto:aberens0021@hotmail.co.nz) or text on 081 085 10669.

**SIX MONTH RENTAL** from 11 April 2015. CBD fringe, smart one bedroom furnished apartment, with terrace and secure car park. \$415 pw. Phone 360 6598.

**TORBAY:** Three bedroom furnished house available between June 20, 2015 and January 13, 2016. Easy commute to University using bus 881 (direct from home to Uni and back), two kms from Long Bay Beach, the best beach in Auckland. Rent negotiable. Contact Dimitri Leemans, [d.leemans@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:d.leemans@auckland.ac.nz)

### ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

**MATURE WOMAN SEEKS NEW HOME:** I am looking for a new home - house-sitting, a rental or sharing. I'm 57, a freelance writer with ongoing assignments across the University and Auckland Council, working mostly from home. You can find me on Linked In and at [www.26letters.co.nz](http://www.26letters.co.nz) Contact me at [prue@26letters.co.nz](mailto:prue@26letters.co.nz) or on (027) 488 7078.

### HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

**Mangawhai B&B:**  
The University's former Alumni Relations Manager, Amanda Lyne, is launching a boutique B&B in Mangawhai, Northland, in March 2015. It is on half an acre with country/orchard views and luxury spa pool and Amanda welcomes staff to book now at [www.willowcreekmangawhai.co.nz](http://www.willowcreekmangawhai.co.nz) The B&B called Willow Creek is also available to hire as a holiday rental luxury cottage for some weeks throughout the year. Visit [www.bookabach.co.nz](http://www.bookabach.co.nz) or email [amandajlyne@gmail.com](mailto:amandajlyne@gmail.com)

### PROPERTY FOR SALE

**AT OCKHAM RESIDENTIAL** we believe Auckland is one of the most beautiful cities in the world and a wonderful place to live. Founded by alumni of the University of Auckland, Ockham is committed to ensuring urban regeneration in this beautiful city is

world class. See our stunning new project in Grafton, Hypatia, at [www.ockham.co.nz](http://www.ockham.co.nz)

### MISCELLANEOUS

**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 600 0256 to discuss your needs, or email [nchristie@rainey.co.nz](mailto:nchristie@rainey.co.nz) Visit [www.rainey.co.nz](http://www.rainey.co.nz)

### NEED HELP WRITING YOUR THESIS, JOURNAL

**ARTICLE OR BOOK?** I am an experienced writer, editor and proofreader with intimate knowledge of University of Auckland protocols and standards. Email me: [blinz@voxpopltd.co.nz](mailto:blinz@voxpopltd.co.nz) Call me: 021 637 298. Connect with me: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/belindarobinson>

**SPEECHWRITER.** Memorable speeches written for you, for any professional or social occasion. Award-winning broadcaster and journalist for BBC and other public radio, now NZ resident, offers expertise in writing for the spoken word. Coaching in delivery also available in person (Auckland) or via Skype. Absolute confidentiality assured. Inquire: [lohman.olsen@gmail.com](mailto:lohman.olsen@gmail.com)

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



# HONOUR THEM ALL

**It was 100 years ago this year, April of 1915, when Ottoman Turkey was at its worst. One day before its wholesale slaughter of the ANZACS, the Young Turk Regime began executing its plan to annihilate an entire people, to commit genocide of its Christian population – particularly the Armenians, but also the Assyrians and Greeks who lived within its borders.**

On that day, April 24, the Young Turks rounded up the Armenian community’s leaders, intellectuals and artists. They conscripted the Armenian men into the armed forces where they were disarmed and killed, leaving their families without fathers or husbands. With the leaders of communities and heads of family eliminated, they began their systematic annihilation campaign of the remaining Christians. The defenceless population – unarmed elderly Armenians, along with children and woman – were next. The Turkish regime rounded them up into forced death marches, pushing them deeper into the desert – with no food, no water, no protection from either the desert elements or violent atrocities committed by their gunmen and other special forces who raped, pillaged, drowned, shot or crucified the starving and defenceless people.

Survivors have recalled horrific stories. One recalled being at the bottom of a pile of other young children, roughly five or six years old, who all – save for the lone survivor at the bottom of the pile – were speared and stabbed to death. Their bodies, along with hundreds or thousands

of others, were thrown into the Euphrates River. Witnesses remember Young Turk forces locking scores of Armenian women into churches and other buildings then set on fire. Entire villages were set afire, and boatloads of children taken to sea and thrown overboard, according to witnesses.

Both of my grandfathers were among the survivors. But those who would have been my aunts and uncles did not survive. My father’s father, Antranik Armoudian, just 12-years-old at the time, helplessly watched eight of his nine younger siblings perish in the death marches, while my mother’s father lost his only two sisters as his remaining family escaped by sea.

On April 24, the day before we honour our ANZACs, and the day that the Armenian Genocide began, let’s also honour the others who perished in the hands of the Young Turk regime: Armenians, Assyrians and Greeks who were brutally massacred in what scholars call the first genocide of the Twentieth Century, and the one that became assurance for Adolf Hitler’s determination for accomplishing his Holocaust. When questioned about how he expected to annihilate millions of people in the Final Solution, Hitler used the Young Turks as the reference for how it could be done. “After all”, he said, “who remembers the Armenians?”

Today, Turkey would like to deny that it committed genocide against its own Christian population in 1915. It would like the world to

believe that it acted in self-defence against an unarmed population. But the record is clear and well-documented by officials, such as US Ambassador Henry Morgenthau who wrote in his memoirs that the Turkish authorities were “giving the death warrant to a whole race” and who “made no attempt to conceal the fact”. *The New York Times* wrote 145 articles about the Young Turk regime’s “systematic” and “authorised” massacres against the Armenians, which were “organised by the government” of Turkey. To date, some 23 countries have officially recognised the events of 1915 as a genocide by Turkey against the Armenian people.

Turkey would have liked to distract New Zealanders and Australians by strategically moving its ANZAC commemoration to 24 April, the day before ANZAC day and on the official day of the Armenian Genocide’s beginning. Most heads of state have expressed disinterest in what seemed to be efforts to obfuscate history and to recognise that we don’t have to ignore one set of atrocities to commemorate the other. We can honour them all. This April, let’s commemorate all of our dead, who perished at the hands of the Young Turk government.

**Maria Armoudian is a lecturer in politics and international studies at the University of Auckland, the author of *Kill the Messenger: The Media’s Role in the Fate of the World*, and host/producer of the syndicated radio program, *The Scholars’ Circle*.**