

Uni NEWS

JULY 2019



GONE FISHING

After almost 50 years shooting photos on campus, Godfrey Boehnke changes focus.

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TIME FOR CHANGE

Jade Le Grice: 'Ongoing colonial oppression of mātauranga Māori around sexual violence is a travesty.'

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GAMBLING WITH MISERY

Peter Adams questions why it's still socially acceptable to fund our kindies with money from pokie machines.

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ALL CARE, NOW RESPONSIBILITY

Julia Slark, new Head of the School of Nursing, couldn't be happier.

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PRACTISING WHAT SHE TEACHES

Dr Morag Atchison, who teaches voice at the School of Music, delighted Auckland audiences in June as Berta in the *Barber of Seville*. A *Herald* review noted that in a cast dominated by overseas artists, one felt particular pride in Atchison's performance. "We first thrill to Atchison's vocal heft when she soars above the first act finale but her own worldly wise aria is a showstopper." Morag says it's useful for students to see her practising what she teaches. "To be able see staff performing our craft, to see and hear what they've been taught ... or running around like lunatics on stage!"



THE THING IS A WINNER

A jazz ensemble that emerged out of a Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA) research topic, won best jazz album of the year at the Vodafone Tui Awards. GRG67's album *The Thing* was born in 2013 after Roger Manins, lecturer at the School of Music, curated a number of compositions for his doctorate and then found the right musicians to bring them to life. In GRG67, Roger plays saxophone alongside jazz graduates Michael Howell (guitar) and Tristan Deck (drums), with Mostyn Cole on bass. Read the full story: tinyurl.com/RogerTheThing

BIG PRIZE FOR GLOBAL STUDENTS

Global Studies has only been running for two years but already our students are making their mark. In June, Arianna Bacic, Henry Frear and Ishie Sharma won silver in the World's Challenge Challenge, a competition that asks universities to create unique solutions to global problems. The event was held at Western University in Canada, and the University of Auckland team won \$15,000 for creating a carbon-offset loyalty programme, Loyal Trees. The programme promotes ethical purchasing by allowing customers to accrue points to be redeemed for the planting of trees.



SIX WOMEN, THREE INTERVIEWS

On 28 July 1893, the 'monster suffrage petition' saw signatures of almost a quarter of the country's women presented to Parliament. It led to women gaining the right to vote. The 'Woman to Woman' suffrage interviews with alumnae, on YouTube, feature Professor Jennifer Curtin interviewing former Prime Minister Helen Clark; 2018 AUSA president Anna Cusack talking to Law Society President Kathryn Beck; and economics lecturer Dr Asha Sundaram talking to President of the Northern Club, Victoria Carter. See tinyurl.com/SuffrageVideos

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Cover photo of Godfrey Boehnke by Billy Wong

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NEW FOCUS FOR GODFREY

He's been behind the lens at the University for close to five decades but now Gottfried Boehnke will be full-time cat wrangler and angler.

A familiar camera-toting character on campus will have the lens turned on him on 2 July. Gottfried Boehnke, known as Godfrey, says farewell to his long-time place of work at a function to mark his retirement.

The staff photographer has been working for the University for almost 50 years. At one point Godfrey lived on campus – his father was the campus custodian in the 1980s and the family lived in a house that used to sit where the Fale is today.

Over the decades, Godfrey has seen staff come and go, adjusted to the change from film to digital, and adapted to the growth in demand for images brought about by the internet.

But he's not too sure how he will adapt to retirement. "As my father would say, I'm *comme si comme ça*. I'm a little bit this way, a little bit that way," he says. "I'm a bit sad and I'm a bit excited. I'm just thinking about what's going to happen afterwards.

"I'll miss the people. I made this place my family."

He doesn't mind saying that he had hit a very low ebb, suffering from depression in his twenties and even attempting to take his own life, not long before he took on the job at the University.

"After that, I was sitting down to dinner at my then girlfriend's place, behind the cathedral in Parnell and she said 'we've been going to a prayer meeting, would you like to come?' I said 'na'. This is a true story ... she and her flatmate went down a staircase but I told her I was going to stay upstairs for a smoke. But I got to the doorway with them – and she was a bit agitated I wasn't coming as she knew it was going to be good for me.

"And then I just felt this kind of hand on my back. I turned around and there was nothing there ... it was pushing me. So I shot into the meeting and gave my life to Christ that night. That was the start of it all."

With a renewed outlook on life Godfrey, already an accomplished photographer who'd worked in two well-known firms, and had also had a stint in the army, took on the task of becoming a university photographer.



Godfrey Boehnke's love of nature meant he spent many hours in the University gardens with his camera. He's retiring after almost 50 years. Photo: Billy Wong

In the early days, everything was shot on film using his Nikon Nikkormat or a Leica, and photos were delivered around departments.

"When I first started here, I actually tried to steer away from portraits and group shots, which wasn't ideal, but it was because I felt so nervous being up close to all these important professors and people like that.

"But I soon got over it, and now I love those group shots! They're a big challenge depending on numbers, how tall the people are, if there's a language barrier ... I just love positioning and having that short relationship with them."

He says one that comes to mind was a photo of around 120 people in Auckland for the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) conference. "I had to shoot them somewhere near where they were heading and security

weren't happy about me taking them any further. I photographed them on the steps of the Business School and the light just happened to be right. If it had been bright sunlight it wouldn't have worked. That's one of the biggest challenges of group shots as they often want them taken in a nice, sunny New Zealand spot. But those just don't always work."

As well as group shots, he shoots hundreds of portraits a year of staff members, what he affectionately calls the rogues galleries. There have been hundreds of graduations and other events, new buildings and VIPs and, as anyone who has met Godfrey will know, there's a story to tell for each.

Such as when Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands was here in 1992, with a function at Old Government House (OGH) on 21 March. ▶



A 1971 photo of then Vice-Chancellor Colin Maiden. Godfrey and Sir Colin started around the same time.

“My boss Anton wanted me to photograph her and I was excited but was also extremely nervous as I was going to be the only photographer.

“I was clicking away ... 30, 35, 40, 50 shots and then came the realisation ... hang on! Film

cameras only take up to 36 shots! I hadn’t loaded the film properly and she’d already come in.

“So I loaded and continued doing the job the best I could ... I think nobody was the wiser that I’d fuffed it.”

He says after a while the nerves fell away and were replaced by the real photographic challenges of each shoot.

“They’re always different. Queen Elizabeth II was here and was heading into the Clock Tower but while everything else was well organised, there was no one to hold the door open for her.

“So I rushed up to hold the door as she came through but next minute *everyone* was coming through and I was still holding the door when I was meant to be taking photos!”

He says dealing with security can also be a challenge. Later the same afternoon he ended up being dumped over a barrier on Queen Street for

not having the right accreditation to photograph Her Majesty as she did a handshake walk.

Over the years he has mastered a technique he says has served him well.

“You have to develop a cunning plan of trying to get onside with security. Get there early and you know, it’s ‘g’day mate. Do you like fishing?’ or whatever, and get an ‘in’.”

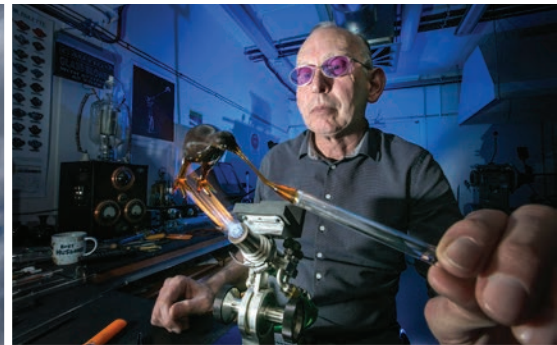
He also has a tactic he says is useful when photographing people who are camera-shy. Some might call them ‘dad jokes’ but he reckons they’re just ice-breakers.

“I just jolly them up with those jokes. And sometimes if I get an inkling beforehand about the fact they are unwilling, I’ll take a few goodies in my bag to share, lollies even doughnuts.”

He doesn’t like talking about “favourite” people he has photographed, although Sir Edmund Hillary is high on the list.



Godfrey loves shooting landscapes including this of Motutapu Island. Other favourite photos include, from top right: Alistair Mead and one of his glass kiwis; Football Fern Katie Duncan; one of his ‘campus pretties’; fishing boats at the Viaduct Events Centre; and early morning catamarans.





Godfrey started at the University in October 1970.

“But I don’t like differentiating between one and another. I genuinely do enjoy working with all people. I get quite sad when they leave.”

Back in the day he used to be a parachutist and so has enjoyed the times in which he’s been able to get up high to take photos.

“I don’t get asked to do aerials any more, maybe because of a lack of funds but I used to do those regularly. I did them in a Cessna – I preferred a Cessna 172 – and took the doors off. For an ex-parachutist, it’s like ‘yeah I’m home!’ I just love it. I was all strapped in so it was perfectly safe. One of my best aerials is of Browns Island.”

He says the reason he doesn’t do aerials now is probably to do with the preferred use of drones these days, but he’s never got the hang of them.

“I’m a drone-crasher!” he laughs.

He hasn’t done videography either, preferring to leave that to the experts.

But he is an expert fisherman and hopes to get out on the water more, and to shoot more landscapes, a favourite form of photography.

“When I was up at the University’s Marine Laboratory in Leigh, I found a great spot for a landscape shot of the land and Goat Island – those shots came out well.”

In his first week of retirement, from 5 July, he and his wife Ingrid will take a break to spend some time together. But they won’t be going on holiday because of their family commitments – their cats. “We have about seven cats but only two of them are officially ours. The rest

seem to have adopted us from around the neighbourhood. Junior, a big white one for example, isn’t ours but sleeps on the bed!”

Godfrey also knows it’s a good time to get on top of some health issues he’s had over the past few years.

“I have a very caring wife and she’s onto it, but when I’m here at work I don’t often look after myself. I’m hoping to do that a bit more.”

That includes being able to spend more time in nature.

“I like to look at the bush and nature in general, and on campus I’ve spent time in the gardens, seeing what’s budded and what hasn’t.

“I have folders and folders of photos I’ve filed as ‘campus pretties’. So I’ll just have to do that elsewhere.”

■ Denise Montgomery

BREAKING DOWN THE WALLS

Angela Yuyi Hu, a third-year Bachelor of Fine Arts student, challenged ideas about housing and home for her winning photo in the Simon Devitt Prize for Photography.

The 2019 theme was ‘House Hunting’, and while most entrants featured interpretations of an architectural structure, Angela’s photo (right) didn’t have a wall or roof in sight. Instead, it raises questions about what constitutes a home, as distinct from a house, and provokes questions about displacement.

Angela says she’s often challenged by the question. “Quite bluntly, I don’t know where I’m from. My ethnicity is Chinese although I spent equal amounts of time in both China and Aotearoa, so that I simultaneously feel like I belong in both and neither.

“My family moved to NZ when I was four, and again when I was 16, and we spent five years in China in between.”

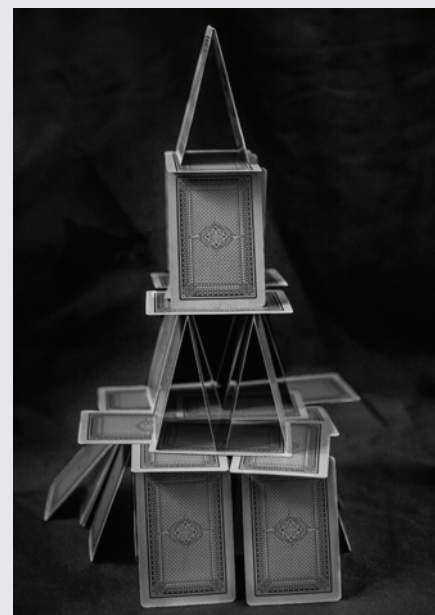
International photographer Simon Devitt says Angela’s image *Untitled* stood out on first viewing, but kept wowing him each time he looked at it. “It’s unexpected. It’s asking questions about what is a home, whose home, and how welcoming we are of people who decide to make New Zealand their home.

“There are lots of questions around that in the image. The person is having a cup of tea, but Angela is taking the Chinese-cup-of-tea stereotype and twisting it nicely. The shadowing, in the water and around the rocks, evokes the spirit or essence of that land and anchors the person in that land.”



Angela Yuyi Hu’s winning photo, and (below) the model from the winning photo with Angela and her twin sister, Ningyi. Below right: 2018 winner Hannah Davey was highly commended this year, with *The Big Bad*.

Angela’s identical twin sister Ningyi is also in her third year at Elam. They often collaborate with each other and peers on projects and shows outside of Elam. Both have made works in performance, installation, painting, printing, video et al. “I guess I can speak for Ningyi too, in saying we tend to just use whatever media/medium works best with our idea and that we’re not particularly loyal to any.”



WHAT'S NEW



ALL IN FOR GOOD CAUSES

The University's inaugural Volunteer Impact Week ran from 16-22 June with around 500 alumni, staff, students and friends taking part in more than 30 volunteer events in New Zealand and overseas.

Locally, these included helping at the community kitchen at the Auckland City Mission, pitching in at Abilities Group, a social enterprise that provides meaningful green jobs for people with disabilities, ecological restoration and planting native plants at sites all over Auckland.

On day one of the week, around 30 volunteers braved typically Auckland conditions – pouring rain one minute, bright sunshine the next – to help with some scientific research for Dr Julie Anne Hope, a research fellow based at the Institute of Marine Science. Lending a hand were a number of Julie Anne's colleagues from the Leigh Marine Laboratory.

The volunteers collected sand samples at Little Shoal Bay on the North Shore using quadrants, jars and GPS, many experiencing for the first time how tough it can be for researchers doing field work. The samples will be examined by Julie Anne as part of her project "Microphytes and Microplastics", looking at the effects of microplastics on Auckland's coastlines. While there didn't appear to be too much plastic on

that particular beach, around 80 percent of plastic pollution is unseen. "Unfortunately microplastics are found in almost every sediment sample we have processed to date from the Waitemata," says Julie Anne.

"They have also been found in sediments in remote areas of Antarctica and the Arctic where larger plastic debris is absent, so this is not too surprising."

Julie Anne's group has sampled 23 sites across Auckland and she says results should be out soon.

PLASTIC-FREE JULY

Staying with the theme of plastics, the University's Sustainability Office is helping to promote Plastic-Free July, an international initiative. This ties in with the University's efforts to eliminate single-use products and packaging and our over-arching waste-conscious campaign.

Plastic-Free July will feature profiles on the intranet and Yammer of staff members who have come up with ingenious tips for preventing and reducing waste to landfill.

You can get other ideas for Plastic-Free July at the global website plasticfreejuly.org

ALL CARE, NOW RESPONSIBILITY

Head of the School of Nursing, Julia Slark, wants the world to know how good we are.

If there was a medical instrument to measure passion for the nursing profession, Dr Julia Slark would be off the chart.

The new Head of the School of Nursing takes up the role on 15 July, following the resignation of Professor Sandy McCarthy, who was in the job for two years.

Julia has been here for six and a half years, moving to New Zealand from London and taking a Professional Teaching Fellow role for six months. She then became a senior lecturer and academic director of the Bachelor of Nursing Programme about a year later. Four years on, she was Deputy Head and now she will lead the school.

She can't mask her happiness to have won the role and is also delighted to be living in Auckland.

"It's magnificent. The coat that I used to wear in England for six months a year, I wear for about a fortnight in Auckland. I love it here."

She will be taking a week's break before hitting the ground running, to build on the School's momentum developed in recent years. In the latest Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) rankings, the School of Nursing jumped from 41 to 36.

"The way that QS ranking works is they look at the size of the school as well as the research and impact outputs," says Julia. "We've got some amazing researchers, and did really well in the PBRF too. We're on fire. I'm very proud."

The School of Nursing is well-known for its postgraduate offerings – it's the biggest in New Zealand with around 3,000 students undertaking post-graduate study each year. Its undergraduate intake is 100 a year, including five internationals, selected from around 1,400 applicants.

In recent weeks the School has been audited by the Nursing Council for the bachelors and masters of nursing degrees. It's an important part of adopting a high-quality level of training rather than a bums-on-seats approach.

"Having the Nursing Council here was such an opportunity for the school to shine ... to talk about the amazing teaching and learning that goes on here. It's all about how we prepare future nurses for clinical practice to be a registered nurse. It was just brilliant."

Julia's own nursing expertise is in stroke prevention and she was a stroke nurse consultant at London's Imperial College NHS Trust. A key focus of that was creating awareness of the



New Zealand's second national Sustainable Development Goals Summit is on 2 September, and is a joint initiative between the University and AUT.

It features panels and planning sessions bringing together people from many sectors, including local and central government, to commit to positive action on the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). The aim is to improve knowledge and give people skills and tools to act and influence. One of the organisers is Dr

Lesley Stone, manager of the University's Sustainability Office. "These days people are definitely more aware of the SDG goals. The University has an expert working group on sustainability. And we have around 1,300 research active staff whose topics are of relevance to one or more SDG, and more than 900 directly relevant courses."

The event is being held in the Sir Owen G Glenn building and early bird registrations close 19 July (there are big savings through getting in early). See sdgsummit2019.org

‘The School of Nursing is number 36 in the world already but we have the potential to grow.’



Care and collaboration: Dr Julia Stark aims to build on the good reputation of New Zealand nurses.

risk of secondary stroke, a critical factor in risk management. “As a nurse consultant, you see patients at follow-up clinics who’ve had one stroke already and they’ll say things like ‘oh well, I’ve finished all my tablets now’. And I’ll be like, what do you mean? And they’ll say ‘I had a prescription for some aspirin and I’ve finished that’.

She says that kind of thinking led to her PhD study of 600 young stroke survivors who were asked whether they thought they were still at risk.

“The fact that you’ve had a stroke puts you at risk of having another and they all thought they weren’t at risk at all.”

She then did a study of a 1,000 members of the general public, assessing their blood pressure, which is the biggest modifiable risk factor for stroke. “People with a diagnosis of high blood pressure, and taking medications, actually had absolutely no idea what a normal blood pressure should be. They’re walking around with blood pressure of 170 over 100 and had no idea that that’s not normal.”

While there may be a lack of awareness about normal blood pressure, awareness about the signs of a stroke has definitely improved.

“The FAST advertising campaign has had a huge impact on presentations to ED with stroke signs and symptoms. It really does work.”

FAST stands for Face, Arm, Speech and Time – sudden changes such as a drooping face, loss of arm strength, slurred speech, and losing no time in calling an ambulance.

Julia has run the postgraduate stroke course for the past six years and wants to keep it running, but will have to find someone to pick up the mantle. “We’ve created another seven clinical nurse specialists in stroke for New Zealand. So I’m really passionate about continuing that course.”

One of her other wishes is to increase our international significance and attract more students here to do their masters and doctorates.

“The School of Nursing is number 36 in the world already. But we have real potential to grow ... New Zealand nurses have such a good global reputation.”

From the moment she arrived at the University she also recognised the importance of collaboration.

“I got in touch with Professor Alan Barber, a neurologist and stroke specialist, and Professor Cathy Stinear, director of the Brain Research Centre, and told them about my experience as a stroke consultant. We’ve got Dr Joanna Black who’s an optometrist, Dr Clare McCann is a speech language therapist and together we can do more research, and hopefully get more HRC grants. I love that way of collaborating.

“There are opportunities for us to do more joint research projects within the faculty too. We’re moving more towards working with our clinical partners on research projects ... I think that really is the future.”

She says as far as Māori and Pacific nursing students go, the department works closely with MAPAS (the Māori and Pacific Admission Scheme) and is aiming to build on the 14 Māori third-year students it has this year.

“We have some amazing Māori and Pacific clinical nurse directors out there so it’s a matter of seeing where the gaps are.”

Her own career trajectory saw her come to postgraduate study after nursing for many years. She started her training at Charing Cross Hospital when she was 17. By the time she was 30 she was a clinical nurse specialist doing her masters, and ten years later got her doctorate.

“I was the first nurse to do a PhD at Imperial College London. The Imperial College NHS Trust was the first academic health science centre in Europe so there were lots of opportunities and I applied and got a grant.

“Imperial’s fourth in the world, but they don’t have a School of Nursing so I had to do it in the Department of Medicine. Talk about a duck out of water! They were all so posh,” she laughs.

She was part of a team that reconfigured stroke services, working in northwest London, and was named as a finalist in the *Nursing Times* Nurse of the Year awards for her work there.

She says it would be “so productive” if more funding was available to support nurses to do a clinically relevant full-time PhD, as it was for her.

“I did four days a week PhD and a day a week clinical ... it was just perfect.”

One of Julia’s early tasks therefore will be a roadshow to DHBs to make sure the programme is delivering what they want, and fulfilling their needs for the future workforce. “That is my number one priority.”

Nationally, the future for nursing has some challenges.

“We know the people who have undertaken postgraduate study are more likely to stay in the profession. But we have to make sure they get the pastoral and financial support to continue their education into their postgraduate studies.

“Yes, nurses got a pay rise last year. But they need a safer working environment and to be better resourced. We’re actually starting to struggle to fill the places now because there just aren’t enough nurses in New Zealand.

“By around 2035 we’re going to be short of thousands of nurses.”

That doesn’t mean we’re short of people with the right personality to enter the profession.

“There are definitely people with huge amounts of empathy,” says Julia. “We have incredible people involved in palliative care, for example, including the Te Ārai end-of-life palliative care research group. We have amazingly committed researchers, teachers and health professionals working in the School of Nursing ... they’re all so dedicated to the health and wellbeing of others.”

Julia’s own passion for nursing across the board means she’s primed for her next challenge.

“I feel very privileged to lead the dedicated staff in the School of Nursing. I’m just really excited about the future.”

■ Denise Montgomery

STROKE LECTURE: Professor Cathy Stinear will give her inaugural lecture on 23 July, 5.30pm-7pm at Grafton in 505-007. The subject is ‘Predictions and unicorns: personalising stroke rehabilitation.’



Marco Schneider (left) and Tony Tse wearing a Vivify headset, which allows the hearing impaired to watch movies with subtitles wherever they like.

COMING TO THEIR SENSES

A new technology developed by researchers at the Auckland Bioengineering Institute (ABI) allows the hearing impaired to watch a movie at whatever cinema they like, and never miss a line of dialogue.

The device, called the Vivify headset, uses augmented reality to project subtitles below the cinema screen. A commercial trial of the headset is being run through Event cinemas in Newmarket. The technology was developed by Marco Schneider and Tony Tse when they were both doing their doctorates at ABI. The idea came out of a late-night conversation, when they were planning to watch a movie. Tony, who is hearing impaired, said he wished more movies came with subtitles. Their idea went on to win

the Velocity Challenge in 2015 and they used the prize money to develop a prototype. The pair established a start-up company, Vivify, in 2017.

The prototype has customised regular headsets but they plan to build bespoke ones that are aesthetically pleasing and lighter. (Read more at tinyurl.com/VivifyStoryUoA)

Staying with the senses, Dr Jason Turuwhenua, a Senior Research Fellow at the School of Optometry and Vision Science, is part of a team working on a new computer camera device that detects whether children as young as two years old have normal eye-tracking motion. A prototype has been developed for international trials with the final product hopefully available in two years. The project received nearly \$1 million in funding by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment in 2015 and has since achieved gold status because of its substantial impact on improving the future for children.

SEEING IS BELIEVING

Research Fellow Dr Lisa Hamm, School of Optometry and Vision Science, recently returned from a place close to her heart.

She received an International Central Network and Partnership Grant that allowed her to visit Uganda where she worked with the Kilimanjaro Centre for Community Ophthalmology (KCCO) and its ophthalmologist specialists. She then headed to the University of Capetown to meet with KCCO directors about the programmes they run to help diagnose and treat children with avoidable causes of blindness and vision impairment, such as cataracts. In the past, Lisa had volunteered with KCCO.

“That experience ultimately led me to do a PhD about visual deprivation due to childhood cataract here,” says Lisa (below right). “It was incredibly rewarding to be able to go back to the organisation that inspired me so much.”



SURVEY SHOWS STRONG SUPPORT

A survey of more than 19,000 people on attitudes to abortion, extracted from the 20-year New Zealand Attitudes and Values Study (NZAVS), has found widespread support for legal abortion.

The findings, through analysis by School of Psychology PhD researcher Yanshu Huang (pictured right), appear in the *New Zealand Medical Journal*.

The research used the seven-point Likert scale to find out how strongly people agreed or disagreed on the issue of legal abortion, both for any reason and when a woman’s life was in danger. The study also examined whether attitudes differed across demographic groups such as older people, people of Māori or Asian descent and those from economically deprived areas. There was very little difference

among these demographics when the woman’s life was in danger, with just over 89 percent of people surveyed expressing support.

Support for legal abortion under any circumstance was slightly weaker but still high, with 65.6 percent of those surveyed saying they agreed or strongly agreed with a woman’s right to choose.

But a comparison between different groups found support for abortion, regardless of reason, was weaker among men, older people, those who identified with a religion and people from economically deprived areas. People with a higher number of children and people of Asian descent (relative to NZ Europeans) also expressed less support for abortion, regardless of the reason.

Māori showed relatively high levels of support for legal abortion regardless of circumstance and there was no difference in levels of support between people of Pacific descent and those identifying as European/pākehā.

Abortion is currently only legal under specific circumstances in New Zealand such as pregnancy that poses a serious risk to life or health, including mental health. In these instances, a woman must seek approval from two certifying consultants. Outside of these situations, abortion is considered a crime under the Crimes Act 1961.

Professor Chris Sibley and Associate Professor Danny Osborne are co-authors on the New Zealand Attitudes and Values Study. Read more at nzavs.auckland.ac.nz.





Peter Adams says we need to rethink community funding.

PROFITING FROM OTHERS' MISERY

If you're addicted to free stuff, these lunchtime events are for you. The Winter Lecture series runs for six weeks from 3 July, every Wednesday at 12.30pm.

This year's theme is 'Addiction in the Changing World of Dangerous Consumptions' and each lecture provides an opportunity for informed debate led by experts from the University of Auckland, AUT and Massey.

The second lecture in the series (see right for all subjects, participants and dates) is entitled 'Pokies fund my kindly: New Zealand's reliance on gambling'. It's being presented by Professor Peter Adams from the School of Population Health, who is associate director of the Centre for Addiction Research.

Peter says around a quarter of community sector funding in New Zealand comes from gambling and goes to schools, charities, sports organisations, cultural activities and health services.

"What's problematic is that a big proportion, as high as half, is coming from people with issues with gambling," says Peter. "We have built a long-term relationship with a sector that gets its money from people who have problems. Our 'fun' is reliant on sources that cause serious harm."

He says this reliance on funding from gambling sources such as slot machines, or pokies as they are known, took off in the 1990s.

"First we had the kind of benign fundraiser – bingo, housie nights, raffles, that kind of thing. But once we commercialised gaming, with pokies and casinos and Lotto, it moved to a high volume that maximises the amount you make out of people with problems.

"It's now industrialised, and very different to 30 years ago when it was a cottage industry."

He says the way pokie rooms are set up, and their location in lower socio-economic areas, is intended to maximise profit.

"They've created these small rooms, usually attached to a bar and TAB. There's no space for socialising, you're just looking at a screen and they're ideally suited to be anonymous and solitary.

"They're designed to maximise the yield from people with problems."

He says what's required is an awakening by society to the relationship between income generated by the pokies and misery.

"If people thought about the consumption of profits a bit more, maybe they'd be less inclined to take money from these sources. It requires a change of mindset."

An example of a similar change in thinking was seen recently when a Gull service station owner decided he "didn't really want to be profiting from other people's misery" and so made the decision not to sell cigarettes.

Peter says a change in funding model is needed for our kindies, sports clubs and the like.

"Maybe for a while we could have fun using less money from gambling, knowing that we are not reliant on people's misery."

He says Norway took an innovative approach to the pokie revenue cycle by banning all electronic gaming machines in 2007.

"They closed down the pokies for two years and when they brought them back, they were less potent and under the sole control of the government," he says. "They were configured to make them less harmful – with mandatory breaks, lower bets and lower prizes."

They also placed the machines in more social settings rather than in dingy, solitary situations.

Peter says this is important. "The closest match to a room like our gaming machine rooms is a urinal – dark, no eye contact, not a lot of talk."

Peter's lecture will be a thought-provoking discussion on changing society's acceptance of gambling money as a fundraising option.

WHAT'S NEW

WINTER LECTURE SERIES

WHAT: Six lunchtime lectures on the theme of Addiction: the Changing World of Dangerous Consumptions. Hosted by the Centre for Addiction Research.

WHERE: The free lectures take place in the University's Fale Pasifika on Wednesdays from 3 July, 12.30-1.30pm.

WEDNESDAY 3 JULY

Evidence-based alcohol policy: yeah right!
Hon Academic Dr Nicki Jackson, School of Population Health, University of Auckland

WEDNESDAY 10 JULY

Pokies fund my kindly: New Zealand's reliance on gambling
Professor Peter Adams, School of Population Health, University of Auckland

WEDNESDAY 24 JULY

Lock them up and throw away the key? The addicted offender
Dr Katey Thom, School of Law, AUT
Associate Professor Khylee Quince, School of Law, AUT

WEDNESDAY 31 JULY

Leaping into the unknown: the use of new psychoactive substances in NZ
Professor Janie Sheridan, School of Pharmacy, University of Auckland

WEDNESDAY 7 AUGUST

Could psychedelic drugs be used to treat addictions?
Associate Professor Suresh Muthukumaraswamy, School of Pharmacy, University of Auckland

WEDNESDAY 14 AUGUST

Less is more: what we know about older adults' drinking
Dr David Newcombe, School of Population Health, University of Auckland
Dr Andy Towers, Health Sciences, Massey University

Read more: tinyurl.com/2019WinterLectures

ALSO OF INTEREST: Professor Benedikt Fischer, Chair in Addiction Research, will give his inaugural lecture on Thursday 25 July at Grafton in 505-007 from 5.30pm-7.00pm. The topic is 'Of weed, smoke and hefty profits – examining the project of cannabis legalisation.'

ART & CULTURE

STRIPPING AWAY THE PLASTIC

An exhibition opening on 6 July at the Gus Fisher Gallery addresses the urgent issue of plastic pollution in our oceans.

It's timely, happening in the same month as Plastic-Free July (plasticfreejuly.org), a global movement that encourages people to choose to refuse single-use plastics for the month.

Julia Craig, the Public Programmes and Engagement Officer for Gus Fisher Gallery, says the Gallery team is committed to living plastic-free for the month. "We will also be hosting public workshops to show people how they can become waste-free at home and at work."

The Slipping Away kick-starts a discussion around the value of moana to our lives. For the exhibition opening, there will be a hīkoi on 6 July led by Graham Tipene and University of Auckland kaiarataki Michael Steedman (Ngāti Whātua Ōrakei) followed by a hāngī in the Gallery.

The Slipping Away will be located on the shoreline of Tāmaki Makaurau and has been



Bill Culbert's *Pacific Flotsam* (2007). Image courtesy of Christchurch Art Gallery, Te Puna o Waiwhetū. Courtesy Hopkinson Mossman and the Bill and Pip Culbert Trust.

conceived as an immersive experience, taking visitors on a journey above and below the ocean through film interpretations of the deep sea and installations of the water from above.

The exhibition features a large-scale light-based installation by artist Bill Culbert, who passed away this year, called *Pacific Flotsam* (2007). It was the centrepiece of Bill's presentation for the New Zealand Pavilion at the 55th Venice Biennale in 2013. *Pacific Flotsam*'s inclusion brings renewed attention to the wider references of Bill's installations and the environmental issues so prescient in his work. *Pacific Flotsam* will fill the Gallery's largest space, creating a visually immersive environment, and is a great way to remember the artist as well as convey an important message.

Accompanying that is a seminal work by Copenhagen-based artist group Superflex, called *Flooded McDonald's* (2009). The mesmerising

film shows a life-size replica of McDonald's as it floods over 20 minutes. With used coffee cups and burger wrappers swept beneath the torrent, *Flooded McDonald's* is a reminder of the impact of Western corporations on the health of oceans.

The Slipping Away

Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland Street

6 July – 7 September, free entry

Exhibition launch 6 July 4pm–6pm

4pm | Hīkoi from Michael Parekowhai's The Lighthouse, Queens Wharf led by Graham Tipene (Ngāti Whātua Ōrakei).

5pm | Ian Wedde remembers Bill Culbert
Just after 5pm | Hāngī served at Gus Fisher Gallery

4pm–6pm | Exhibition open to public

BOOKS

Stardust: We Share the Same Sky

A children's book by Ivana Mlinac, research programme co-ordinator in the Faculty of Science, was borne out of research she conducted on parents in prison and how their imprisonment affects their children. "I started writing *Stardust* in 2016 after I completed my masters in criminology," says Ivana. "The inspiration came long before, but I knew I wanted to do research before writing the book. *Stardust* has been shaped by the beautiful and hard stories I was privileged to listen to from parents, caregivers, children and people working in frontline roles with prisoners' children."

The story is about a young girl whose mum lives far away, and is aimed at seven- to ten-year olds. The girl receives a letter with a magic gift inside that allows her to feel more connected to her mum through imagination. Copies of the book will be donated to frontline agencies working with prisoners' children.

Mary Egan Publishing, RRP \$20



A Communist in the Family: Searching for Rewi Alley

Alumna Elspeth Sandys (ONZM) has created a multi-layered narrative about New Zealander Rewi Alley and his part in the momentous political events of mid-20th-century China. Part-biography, part-travel journal, part-literary commentary, it brings together Alley's story and that of his author cousin, Elspeth.

Otago University Press, RRP \$40



Funny As: The Story of New Zealand Comedy

Philip Matthews and Paul Horan capture the history of New Zealand's funny men and women from the Topp Twins to Billy T. James, and John Clarke to Flight of the Conchords.

Auckland University Press, RRP \$49.99



Dragonflies and Damselflies of New Zealand

Milen Morinov and Mike Ashbee reckon dragonflies and damselflies are among the most spectacular organisms on the planet. This is a

natural history and field guide to New Zealand's 14 species of dragonflies and damselflies.

Auckland University Press, \$49.99

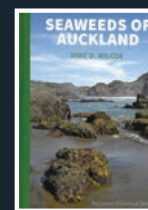


A Careful Revolution

The potential long-term cost of climate change is incalculable. But how do we manage the short-term costs of mitigation? This book makes the case for a careful revolution and provides tools to prepare us for change.

Contributors include alumni Sam Huggard, Kya Lal, Amelia Sharman and Matt Whineray.

David Hall (ed), BWB Texts, RRP \$14.99



Seaweeds of Auckland

Mike Wilcox's 421-page hardback explores the seaweed flora of Auckland's coastline. It includes a compendium of species, cataloguing the biodiversity of Auckland's seaweed, with

photos. Proceeds from its sale go to the Auckland Botanical Society's Lucy Cranwell Student Grant to support botanical research.

Auckland Botanical Society, \$150

Available at Ubiq or via email through aucklandbotanicalsociety@gmail.com

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

SHORT-TERM RENTAL, DEVONPORT: Cottage (The Old Devonport Police Station) in Auckland's historic seaside village. Ten-minute walk to the ferry. Fully furnished including linen and household items. Beaches, movie theatre, cafes and supermarket in immediate vicinity. Available mid-August to mid-December 2019. \$600 a week. Contact rive@xtra.co.nz Phone: 021 050 4992

SERVICES

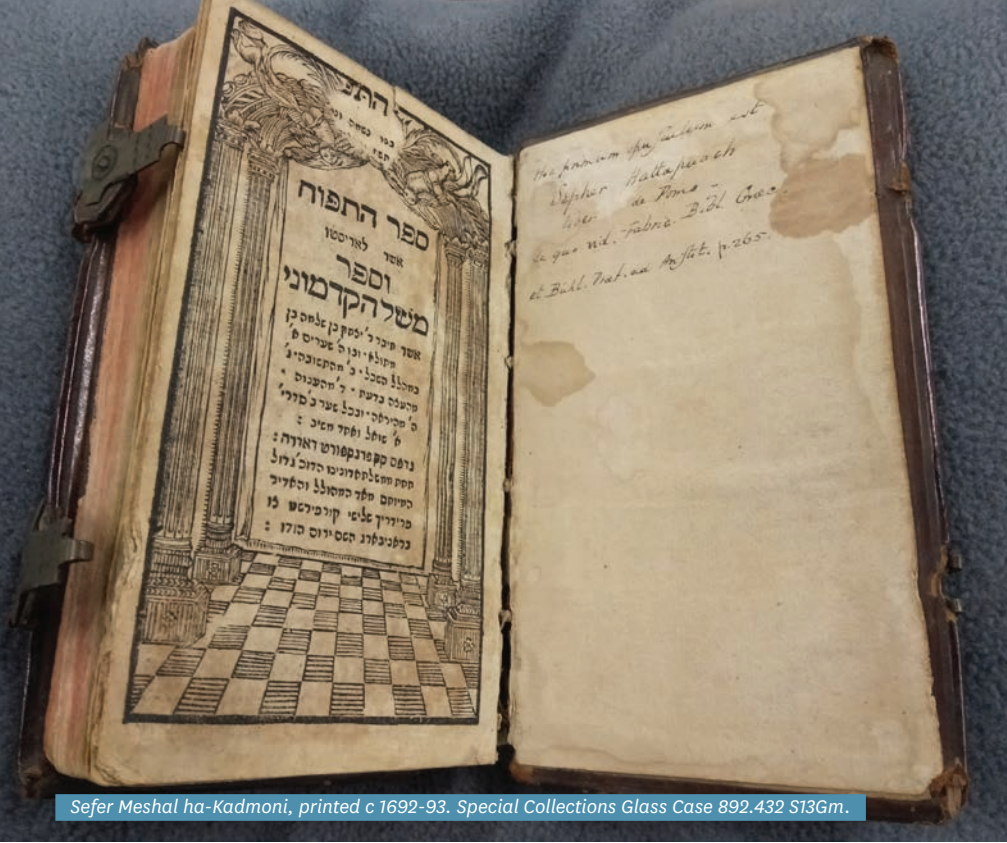
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CITY LEGAL SERVICES: Rainey Collins Wright is a small law firm at L1 Princes Court, 2 Princes Street. We are near the University, with good parking. We can assist with property transactions, trusts, wills, administration of estates, enduring powers of attorney and relationship property matters. Please call senior solicitor Nichola Christie on 600 0256 to discuss your needs or email: nchristie@rainey.co.nz. Web: rainey.co.nz

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PET-SITTING SERVICES : Experienced house/pet sitter available from 18 October. Former University of Auckland staff, now SPCA project manager. Six years cat/kitten foster experience, 17 months full-time pet/house-sitting experience (cats, dogs, fish, birds, rabbits). References available. Free for sits two weeks+. Can work from home two days a week and can also take your well-behaved dogs to work. Email Sabine: s.kruekel@gmail.com



Sefer Meshal ha-Kadmoni, printed c 1692-93. Special Collections Glass Case 892.432 S13Gm.

TREASURE IN THE PROVERBIAL

‘When you read, you begin with A, B, C ...’ Unless you are reading Hebrew, in which case you begin with Aleph, Bet, Gimmel.

When I started as Special Collections team leader in April, I was awed by the extent of material in our Published and Manuscripts and Archives collections. I have familiarised myself with just a fraction of what’s available. While exploring the Glass Case rare books collection, I came across a circa 1692 Frankfurt edition of the 13th-century work, *Sefer Meshal ha-Kadmoni*. The title translates as ‘Book of the Proverb of the Ancients’. This leather-bound book contains a collection of parables, stories and tales in sections, each one addressing a different subject: wisdom, repentance, good counsel, humility and reverence. Written by the scholar Isaac Ibn Sahula, *Meshal ha-Kadmoni* was intended to displace the light Arabic literature, such as *Voyages of Sinbad the Sailor*, which was read extensively by Iberian Jews. Sahula imitated those books in structure and presentation, but gave the book a more scholarly, serious tone through his biblical and rabbinic references.

There are several reasons this book caught my attention. As a former student of Biblical Hebrew and religious history (the focus of my MA and doctoral studies), I was keen to see if I could still translate some of the text; unfortunately this was not entirely successful. My former professor would be appalled. I was also fascinated by its 75 woodcut illustrations and rhyming captions. The annotations, including a pencil inscription for a Rev G. Watkins added at later date, May 1866, added another layer of interest.

The work also represents a unique resource for effective object-based learning (OBL). It is a testament to the art of printing and bookbinding. It represents debates between Spanish Jews in the 13th century, with scholars such as Sahula using such works to highlight the merits of Hebrew as a literary language.

It is also an example of religious scholarship and is a discussion point for art, linguistics, ethnicity and even New Zealand social history. By exploring the biography of this object, students experience the layers of its past, present and possible futures. This is the essence of OBL: developing subject-specific knowledge, observational skills and critical thinking through a tactile experience that can be personal and meaningful.

Object-based learning presents a significant opportunity for students to engage with archives and collections in exciting ways, building understanding of different cultures, eras and ideas. Special Collections is keen to facilitate OBL sessions in collaboration with academic staff. Meanwhile, I’ll be brushing up on my Hebrew.

■ Dr Nigel Bond, Special Collections team leader, Cultural Collections, Te Tumu Herenga, Libraries and Learning Services



■ If you’d like to place an ad in UniNews, email: uninews@auckland.ac.nz It’s \$20 for 50 words.

'I have heard stories of tremendous resilience, survival, strength and determination.'

Dr Jade Le Grice: indigenous-led approaches are vital.

Photo: Godfrey Boehnke

MĀTAURANGA MĀORI ESSENTIAL

Sexual violence has long been an under-reported issue in Western communities, with social norms and discourses creating difficult contexts for victims and survivors to be heard, recognised and supported in their recovery.

But in recent times, narratives of sexual violence have gained greater social visibility and recognition within the cultural milieu of #metoo, which has challenged the permissibility of sexual violence. In opening up narratives, some stories become more familiar and have led to a new form of common sense about what sexual violence is and the variety of ways it can conceivably happen and to whom. Particular kinds of scripts create perceptions of what a 'victim' or 'perpetrator' can be like, with some definitions favoured over others. These overlay existing beliefs about gender, race and class that converge to create perceptions about who credible victims deserving of empathy might be.

Social processes of denial, minimisation and repression around sexual violence and victimisation are compounded for indigenous people. Imperialist and Eurocentric discourses create barriers to the recognition of colonial harm, historically and intergenerationally, through to the present. They also occur within a colonial framework that has tried to oppress and sever Māori connection to te ao Māori (a Māori world view) structured through te reo Māori (Māori language), mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) and tikanga Māori (Māori protocols and practices).

In particular, the ongoing colonial suppression of mātauranga Māori around sexual violence is a

travesty, but also a clear area for kaupapa Māori intervention. With Health Research Council funding, an Irihapeti Rehu-Murchie fellowship, I have had the opportunity to interview people working in sexual violence prevention about the mātauranga Māori they engage when working in their communities. In particular, an aunty, Cheryl Turner, mana wahine and chairperson of Pakanae marae in Hokianga, has supported this kaupapa Māori project on sexual violence prevention that draws upon and facilitates the mana of our hapū Ngāti Korokoro, Ngāti Wharara, Te Pouka. The project weaves together established kaupapa Māori literature, the intellectual richness of our kaumātua, grassroots practitioners and the insights of rangatahi Māori (young Māori) to produce resources for whānau that re-establish our mātauranga Māori when working in sexual violence prevention.

I am researching with, and for, people I have whakapapa connections to – and have listened to the stories of my people. I have cried, I have laughed and I have listened. I have heard stories of tremendous resilience, survival, strength and determination. I have heard stories about the intelligence of our ancestors, of our past practice and ways of being that safeguarded whānau and communities from sexual violence.

That provided pūrākau (narratives) of tūrehu and atua (spirits), and contexts of meaning that rendered sexual violence a transgression that warranted consequences, and on which people felt a duty of care to act. These were contexts in which victims were not blamed and where Māori communities had agency to address issues, develop solutions and put in place strategies to advance the wellbeing of every person.

Speaking to these passionate whānau, who work at the grassroots in remote rural areas, I have been in awe of how much they give. Often working for free, or underpaid, in highly

restrained contexts, the drive to support their community is at the forefront of their mahi aroha. But it is work that occurs in tension with colonial barriers to mātauranga Māori. It also requires major advocacy to retain and improve on the meagre funding received. Colonial processes remain that deny Māori rangatiratanga (agency and leadership) and utilisation of Māori models in practice, even in areas with predominantly Māori populations. These whānau sustain community survival, equipped with mātauranga Māori and teachings of their ancestors, yet are constantly let down by the limitations of bureaucratic systems.

There is a clear opportunity to delve into the practices and processes that actively silence indigenous people affected by sexual violence. Validating mātauranga Māori, remaining responsive to indigenous psychologies and ways of being, and deconstructing colonial incursions, are key factors in indigenous sexual violence prevention initiatives. Indigenous-led approaches to reducing sexual violence are crucial, and there is huge potential within all Māori communities to speak about the nuanced issues affecting them, alongside their potential solutions.

■ Dr Jade Le Grice is a lecturer in the School of Psychology and is Ngāti Korokoro, Ngāti Wharara, Te Pouka hapū of Ngāpuhi iwi, and Ngāi Tūpoto hapū of Te Rarawa iwi.

*Affected by sexual assault or violence?
Safe to Talk is a free 24/7 confidential helpline.
Call 0800 044 334, text 4334, or email:
support@safetotalk.nz. See safetotalk.nz*

The views in this article reflect personal opinion and are not necessarily those of the University of Auckland.