

Recent Books from New Zealand – April 2024

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Art

MyThos: An Audio-Visual Anthology Of Art By Young New Zealanders / (Ed) Cadence Chung
Wellington, New Zealand: Wai-te-ata Press, 2024
92p.
9781877159329
\$ 35.00 / PB
220gm.

A collection of poetry, music, and artwork by eighteen emerging New Zealanders that speaks to the rituals, deeply engrained stories, and 'canon events' that shape individual and artistic identities. Beautifully curated with links to live performances, the work exemplifies the power and presence of new voices and artistic landscapes of Aotearoa.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869706>

Biography/Memoirs

Beyond Hope: From An Auckland Prison To Changing Lives In Afghanistan / Bariz Shah
Auckland, New Zealand: HarperCollins Publishers, 2024
288p.
9781775542339
\$ 40.00 / PB
395gm.

'Bariz gifts us his truth-telling, delivered with unwavering optimism.' Matt Brown, author of *She Is Not Your Rehab*
At age 18, Bariz Shah ended up in an Auckland prison. As an Afghan migrant who was deeply affected by 9/11, Bariz spiralled from schoolyard fights into crime and drugs - until prison made him rethink the story of his life. Years later, in Christchurch, Bariz had turned everything around when a terrorist walked into the local mosque and took the lives of 51 people in his community. Driven by a new purpose, Bariz and his wife Saba raised money to return to Afghanistan and establish 51 small businesses in honour of those they lost. In this memoir about finding self-belief, belonging and positive change, Bariz's story reminds us that we always have the power to change ourselves for the better.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869707>

Blindingly Obvious: The Beautiful Vision of Minnie B. / Minnie Baragwanath
New Zealand: Mary Egan Publishing, 2023
320p.
9781738596935
\$ 45.00 / PB
600gm.

This is the moving story of a woman who, throughout her life, has refused to be defined by what others think she can or cannot do.

Minnie Baragwanath was diagnosed, at the age of 15, with a congenital condition that left her legally blind. However, she did not meekly accept the limitations that blindness might have imposed on her: instead, she dug in her heels and set about improving not only her own life but also the lives of all New Zealanders with access needs.

The dramatic events of Minnie's life - losing her sight, being admitted to a psychiatric hospital in Japan at 19, becoming a television presenter, participating in the New York Marathon, surviving life-threatening illnesses, founding and leading innovative organisations, receiving prestigious awards (including the New Zealand Order of Merit) - are related in vivid detail. Minnie looks candidly at both her challenges and her triumphs, giving the reader the opportunity to share her exceptional experiences.

This book has the potential to change our views of what 'disability' means. Minnie's far-reaching ideas on how our society could be transformed - to everyone's benefit - are not just intellectual speculations: they are based on her experiences, and on those of the many people with disability with whom she has worked.

There is a growing demand for information about 'diversity and inclusion'. This book, with its keen insight into what it means to be in meaningful relationship 'with' one another, and in particular how we as a society choose to relate to leaders and pioneers of a more progressive world, breaks new ground on those subjects.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869708>

Beyond The Pale / Farrell Cleary

New Zealand: Steele Roberts Aotearoa Publishers, 2024

242p.

Include Index

9781738589241

\$ 35.00 / PB

395gm.

He was on Aotea, Great Barrier Island, the night the Tiri sank; performed guerilla theatre on the steps of Parliament; got arrested in Auckland for throwing a flower at a policeman; was a fruit-picker and railway worker in Australia; acted with Rough Theatre in London, was arrested yet again at a demo in London while working as a solicitor's clerk, taught English at the Dublin School in Barcelona; was Equity Union rep in Auckland; acted in Noh drama in Japan, went to Northern Ireland in the wake of the Troubles; fought for employment rights and against nuclear warships in Japan; has been a kaitautoko at Ihumatao... and it's all true!

"These fantastical, fascinating tales of living a life are not fantasy. Eat your hearts out, Jack Kerouac and Marco Polo - Farrell Cleary has tales to tell!" - Murray Edmond

"A treasure. The storytelling is masterful. Farrell manages to convey whole eras in a few pages. Pathos and humour in the midst of serious stuff. Hard to select a favourite when each adds impact to the others. Tomorrow, I will read them all again. An amazing, electric glimpse into Farrell's astonishing life." - Tony Watkins

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869709>

Bob Crowder: A New Zealand Organics Pioneer / Matt Morris

Dunedin, New Zealand: Otago University Press, 2024

244p.

Include Bibliography & Index

9781990048746

\$ 45.00 / PB

545gm.

Bob Crowder: A New Zealand organics pioneer, by leading garden historian Matt Morris, tells the story of Bob Crowder's life and his role in the birth of the organics movement in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Growing up in wartime Britain, the peaceful pursuit of gardening was young Bob's refuge. He later became an innovative horticulturalist and early champion of regenerative agriculture. After emigrating to New Zealand in the early 1960s, Crowder established the country's only university-based organics research unit at Lincoln, where he experimented with new techniques and plant varieties and inspired generations of students.

A controversial figure within orthodox agricultural science, Crowder's impatience with bureaucracy and criticism of industrial growing methods brought him into conflict with the mainstream. From the late 1970s on, he became an outspoken advocate of organics, helping to build a sector now worth hundreds of millions of dollars.

To those who knew him, Crowder was a larger-than-life character, pragmatic and visionary, but his homosexuality also made him an outsider in many ways, and he wrestled with the impact of homophobia throughout his career. Scrupulously researched, drawing on extensive interviews with Crowder, and accompanied by full-colour illustrations, Bob Crowder: A New Zealand organics pioneer captures a complex man whose legacy goes beyond his achievements in horticulture.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869710>

A Thousand Cycles of The Moon: A Memoir / Pamela Glading
New Zealand: Pamela Glading (Self Publish), 2023
421p.
9780473701772
\$ 50.00 / PB
895gm.

Memoirs of a Kiwi who spent her 1940s and 50s childhood in semi-rural New Zealand, raised two sons, taught yoga & worked as UNICEF New Zealand National Director for 14 years before heading overseas for a year. The following years were to bring unexpected and enlightening challenges.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869711>

Jenny McLeod: A Life In Music / Norman Meehan
Wellington, New Zealand: Te Herenga Waka University Press, 2023
400p.
Include Index
9781776921171
\$ 50.00 / PB
635gm.

Born in 1941, at age five she discovered she could read music fluently. After a childhood in Timaru and Levin, she went on to study music with Douglas Lilburn and Frederick Page at Victoria University College, and in Europe with two imposing figures of mid-twentieth century modernism: Olivier Messiaen and Karlheinz Stockhausen. In 1967 she joined Victoria University's music department and was soon appointed New Zealand's youngest full professor. Two large public works for orchestra and children's choirs – Earth and Sky (1968) and Under the Sun (1971) – were seen by thousands and made her famous.

In 1976 her devotion to Maharaj Ji's Divine Light Mission led to her early retirement from the university. However, her retirement from musical life was short-lived, and she was a prolific composer until her death in 2022. As well as many compositions based on Tone Clock Theory, her major works include music for the film The Silent One, song cycles based on poems by Janet Frame, and the opera Hōhepa, which premiered at the New Zealand International Arts Festival in 2012.

Drawing on his many conversations with Jenny McLeod, as well as her writings, letters and works, Norman Meehan brings the story of this remarkable composer to life.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869712>

A Solid Handshake / Alistair McIntyre aka 'Doug the Digger'
New Zealand: Rebel Magic Books, 2023
228p.
9780473690168
\$ 55.00 / PB
350gm.

Growing up on civil construction sites, Alistair McIntyre was taught to look people in the eye and give a solid handshake. It was the first of many lessons that have held him in good stead through a life of significant ups and downs.

School was a challenge for Alistair. He wanted to be out there, driving diggers and trucks, putting up fences, herding sheep, and growing his own businesses. So he did, becoming the youngest sheep and cattle trader in the country at just thirteen.

Twelve years later though, things came to a grinding halt with a horrific workplace injury, taking Alistair through hell and back again.

Spiralling downwards, and at a loose end one day, he drew some stick figures that eventually became Doug the Digger, a wee machine with a big heart. Thus began a new entrepreneurial opportunity inspiring children and youth to consider roadworks and civil engineering as career options.

From failing at school, today he passionately promotes doing your best at school. With more funny stories than you can poke a digger at, Alistair McIntyre recounts a colourful life with bullet points for life.

LIFE: Learning Intelligently From Experiences.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869713>

Still Standing: A Memoir / Anna Crighton

Christchurch, New Zealand: Canterbury University Press, 2024

192p.

9781988503417

\$ 35.00 / PB

445gm.

For decades, whenever a heritage building in Christchurch has been under threat, especially in the aftermath of the 2010-11 earthquakes, one woman has consistently defended this city's architecture and history against shortsightedness and the threat of bulldozers - Dame Anna Crighton. Fearless and articulate, she has fought tirelessly and passionately, not only for the heritage of her hometown, but for the built past of Aotearoa New Zealand.

But behind this well-known persona, the city councillor and heritage advocate, lies an extraordinary and unexpected life story, now told publicly for the first time. In 'Still Standing', Anna recounts, with her usual unflinching honesty, a childhood bereft of parental affection, a wild adolescence that included a stay at the Mount Magdala Convent 'to straighten her out', unsuitable relationships clung to in a desperate search for love, an unplanned pregnancy that led to adoption, and a violent marriage.

Not many people would survive all this, let alone rise above it, to bring up a beloved son, to restore a magnificent Victorian home, to begin university study as an adult and end up with a PhD, to travel the world and, in 2020, to be appointed a Dame Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to heritage preservation and governance.

'Still Standing' will delight anyone interested in history, architecture and the arts, but, even more than that, it is a riveting story of a life lived with courage, and of triumph over adversity.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869714>

Dudley Sinclair of Thurso: A New Zealand First Settler / Hazel Holmes

New Zealand: Hazel Holmes (Self Publish), 2023

280p.

Include Index

9780473690014

\$ 90.00 / PB

860gm.

Emigration had become the subject of political and public debate in Britain in the 1800s. and New Zealand had attracted much attention in England and Scotland as being one of the finest places to form a British colony.

The first five ships chartered by the New Zealand Company carried some 800 people of which twenty percent were from Scotland.

Aboard the Oriental, was Dudley Sinclair, eldest son of Sir George Sinclair, 2nd Bart, Ulbster. He was joined by neighbouring Scots from Sutherland led by Richard Barton.

The Edinburgh Observer had described New Zealand as a perfect paradise on earth. However, those naïve first settlers would soon find the reality was the complete opposite.

On his arrival in Port Nicholson, Sinclair became a landowner and entrepreneur. He started the first brick making business in Wellington with Archibald Millar, a wealthy Scottish farmer. Sinclair set up the first Auckland newspaper, owned a steam mill, was a shipowner and merchant, with copper mines on Kawau and Waiheke Islands and was the first New Zealander to sail to China and Manila.

When they set out from the old country, Sinclair and his friends were full of optimism, enthusiasm and expectations of success. Each one began with a promising start, though none would live happily ever after. Their lives were full of disappointments, setbacks and broken dreams and for some, an untimely or tragic death.

Dudley Sinclair's life told in full for the first time.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869715>

Big Jim: Transport Legend / Beverly Barker with Clive Lind

New Zealand: Jim Barker Family Trust, 2023

vi, 274p.

Include Index

9780473685522

\$ 50.00 / PB

1150gm.

"Jim was a true great of the New Zealand transport sector, with a long legacy that lives on beyond him. Among his many adventures and achievements including in road transport was, of course, the establishment against the odds of Strait Shipping and BlueBridge. Not only did he take on a state monopoly but he managed to thrive at it. What a character, a family man, as well as a business and transport leader." – Simon Bridges, former MP for Tauranga, Minister of Transport, Leader of the National Party, and presently chief executive of Auckland Business Chamber. "What Jim achieved not just with Strait Shipping and Otorohanga Transport but across the entire industry will be felt for decades to come. Jim helped modernize the efficient movement of freight across New Zealand. He was a mentor for many in the industry, selflessly providing assistance to other operators in times of hardship. The road transport industry lost a true icon with his passing." – Ken Shirley, former chief executive, Road Transport Forum "New Zealand is a better place since Jim Barker ONZM stitched it together with his transport interests and Strait Shipping. Transport, trade and communication became cheaper. He should have been knighted." – Robin Ray, truck driver, of Te Awamutu

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869716>

But That's What Elephants Are For! / Ross Lockyer

New Zealand: Ross Lockyer (Self Publish), 2023

347p.

9780473695798

\$ 50.00 / PB

520gm.

In his fifth book, Ross emerges from the remote jungles of North Sumatra, Indonesia, to take up a Managing Director's role in the bustling city-state of Singapore.

But prior to that, in 1984, when Ross receives an invitation to undertake a forestry consulting job in the secretive, closed country of Burma, he can't turn it down. And it is here, in a perilous land split by militant factions and guerilla warfare, that Ross comes face to face with the beautiful and powerful Burmese timber elephants. It is fascination at first sight, and Ross regales his readers with wonderful stories of these enthralling creatures, both emanating from his own experiences and from those of the men who lovingly train and work with them. Ross's Burma story is a unique insight into the fascinating life and work of the Burmese timber elephant and the mysterious teak forests where no foreigner has been permitted to venture since the British departed in 1948.

Fortunately, once Ross moves to Singapore in 1989, he's not required to operate a desk full-time, and soon he's off on business with his usual boundless energy to South Africa, Swaziland, Thailand, The Philippines, Japan, and many of his old haunts around Indonesia. He even manages to negotiate the red tape of communist China to achieve a three-week lecture tour in the Land of the Dragon, accompanied by government minders, and staying in guesthouses on communes where he gets to experience the dubious joys of Chinese haute cuisine. Snake soup is just the start of it!

Ross also fills his readers in on some of the adventures that happened between books. Join Ross as he snorkels among the eerie wrecks of Japanese WWII aircraft off the end of the Tarawa Airfield in Kiribati, and as he evades death around South-East Asia by plane, train, crocodile, and a Dayak uprising.

Settle in for more riveting and hilarious real-life yarns from the author of *An Accidental Bushman*; *Cannibals, Crocodiles and Cassowaries*; *The River is my Highway*; and *Meanwhile, Back in the Jungle...*: This latest collection of adventures won't disappoint!

This book includes some 100 unique photographs from Ross's vast collection, which richly illustrate his writing.
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869717>

Ecology / Environment

How To Save A Forest: Conserving New Zealand's Waipoua Forest / Peter Thomas
New Zealand: Peter Thomas (Self Publish), 2024
203p.
Include Index
9780473666989
\$ 40.00 / PB
325gm.

'Trespasser!'

This was the allegation, repeated in a newspaper in 1946, made by the State Forest Service against NRW Thomas for his unauthorised visit to Waipoua Forest.

Who saved the Waipoua Kauri Forest of Northland, New Zealand? Why has nothing of any substance been written about the campaign to protect the forest? Was this New Zealand's first significant conservation campaign?

In 1952, 9000 hectares of forest was proclaimed a Forest Sanctuary after 25 years of campaigning. Retired Classics and History teacher Peter Thomas decided to see what role his father, lawyer and horticulturist Norman Russell Withiel Thomas (NRW), played in the campaign. This account does not pretend to be 'the' history of the campaign, but rather an account of the role that NRW and others played in the struggle to save the forest.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869718>

History

Masterton's Moments Of Glory: Golden Games 1963 / Mark Pacey
New Zealand: Gosson Publishing, 2023
xvi, 176p.
9780473695378
\$ 35.00 / PB
185gm.

In 1963, Masterton Public Relations Officer Len Bergman came up with a great idea of how to bring tourists and recognition to the town. An ambitious sporting spectacle staged over two weeks consisting of 40 sports and talent from all over the country.

The Masterton Golden Games were the start of a proposed biennial festival which would help put Masterton on the map. From rugby to living chess and from local sportspeople to Peter Snell, the 1963 Golden Games were an event well worth celebrating and a proud moment of our history.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869719>

Christchurch: Incidents, Accidents and Tragedies / Bryan Jackson
Auckland, New Zealand: Bryan Jackson (Self Publish), 2023
268p.
Include Index
9780473690854
\$ 70.00 / PB
525gm.

The book includes stories of conmen, Canterbury's first bigamist, career criminals, jail escapes, the anti-Asian Lionel Terry. Accidents included relate to aeroplanes, trams, trains and cars and drownings. Tragedies include Captain Lorraine's balloon disaster, murders including Parker/Hulme in 1954, hangings in Christchurch, the mosque attacks and the 2011 earthquake.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869720>

Te Ata o Tu: The Shadow of Tumatauenga The New Zealand Wars Collections of Te Papa / Matiu Baker, Katie Cooper, Michael Fitzgerald, Rebecca Rice

Wellington, New Zealand: Te Papa Press, 2024

480p.

Include Index

9780994146083

\$ 100.00 / HB

1385gm.

The New Zealand Wars of 1845-72 were a series of bitter and bloody conflicts between Maori and Pakeha that extended from Wairau to the Bay of Islands, and from Taranaki to the East Cape. They are as important to New Zealand as the civil wars were to England and to the United States. Land and sovereignty were at their heart. This richly illustrated book, developed in partnership with iwi, delves into Te Papa's Maturanga Maori, History and Art collections to explore taonga and artefacts intimately connected with the key events and players associated with the New Zealand Wars, sparking conversation and debate and shedding new light on our troubled colonial past. Contributing essays from Basil Keane, Arini Loader, Danny Keenan, Jade Kake, Mike Ross, Paul Meredith, Monty Soutar, Puawai Cairns and Ria Hall.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869721>

Forgotten Heroes: Voices of No. 489 New Zealand Torpedo Squadron / Don Wilkie

New Zealand: Don Wilkie (Self Publish), 2023

vi, 481p.

Include Bibliography & Index

9780473688745

\$ 125.00 / PB

1820gm.

This comprehensive book covers the full history of No 489 (NZ) Squadron from its establishment in 1941 through to its disbandment in 1946. The Squadron was unique in that it was one of seven RAF units manned predominantly by New Zealand aircrew. Forgotten Heroes details the daily lives of the crew and the struggles they endured through their own words sourced from personal diaries, manuscripts logbooks, and the squadron's Operations Record Book.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869722>

Those Who Have The Courage: The History of the Royal New Zealand Armoured Corps and Predecessor Forces / Matthew Wright

Auckland, New Zealand: Oratia Books, 2024

648p.

Include Bibliography & Index

9781990042553

\$ 125.00 / HB

2620gm.

'Those Who Have the Courage will be a valuable resource for anyone who is interested in the military and social history of New Zealand. It is a comprehensive history of the Royal New Zealand Armoured Corps, the Mounted Rifles and predecessor units ...' - Governor-General Dame Cindy Kiro, from the Foreword. The product of painstaking, multi-year research by esteemed historian and author Matthew Wright, this richly illustrated hardback is a must-have for the history reader. Part 1 covers the colonial cavalry that fought in the NZ Wars and Anglo-Boer War, then Part 2 moves to the Mounted Rifles distinguishing themselves in the First World War, at the end of which the tank came into play. Part 3 describes the Armoured Corps' varied roles in the Second World War; Part 4 details what Wright calls an 'armoured evolution', through actions from the Korean War to Vietnam and Part 5 records action in East Timor and Afghanistan, and modern challenges, rounding out this readable story. The appendices include rolls of honour, lists of vehicles and organisational charts.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869723>

Pakeha Slaves Maori Masters: The Forgotten Story of New Zealand's White Slaves / Trevor Bentley
Tauranga, New Zealand: Kereru Books, 2024
348p.
Include Index.
9780473700874
\$ 50.00 / PB
515gm.

While people are aware of the atrocities of the black slave trade, few are aware of the enslavement and trafficking of Europeans in 19th-century New Zealand. Hierarchical and assertive Maori tribal societies considered all Pakeha (non-Maori, mainly Europeans) living within their power and under their protection as chattel slaves (personal property) or demi-slaves (tributary vassals). For Maori, the sailors, convicts, missionaries, traders, whalers and sawyers who were captured or welcomed were viewed as the property of their rangatira (chiefs) and existed primarily to serve their masters.

While this book discusses tributary vassals, its main focus is the Europeans seized in violence who lived and sometimes died as taurekareka Pakeha (white war slaves) between the 1790s and 1880s. It examines when, where, why and how Maori obtained these slaves and the types of Europeans seized. The book reveals how British authority had little effect beyond the European settlements until the 1860s and how its citizens remained vulnerable to enslavement in Maori-dominated regions to the 1880s.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869724>

Literature

Upwellings: The Outstanding Spiritual Qualities Of Te Waikoropupu Springs / Kevin Fiadh Moran
New Zealand: Kevin Fiadh Moran (Self Publish), 223
viii, 239p.
9780473700331
\$ 40.00 / PB
385gm.

Kevin Fiadh Moran is a poet-shaman and activist who coordinates the Save Our Springs (SOS) Campaign whose goal is to protect Te Waikoropupū Springs in Mohua (Golden Bay). In 2023, after a fierce Environment Court battle, the Court created the ground-breaking Te Waikoropupū Springs Water Conservation Order.

Upwellings is written in the tradition of the poets, prophets, and activists of many traditions who step beyond cultural conditioning in search of social and environmental justice. This is a deeply spiritual book whose eighty-eight poems employ a variety of poetic forms, including shamanic sonnets, wisdom sayings, and protest poems. The Sacred Feminine is at the heart of the book.

The book also contains pioneering evidence on the 'outstanding spiritual characteristics' of Te Waikoropupū Springs for tauiwi (non-Māori). In a landmark decision, this evidence was accepted by the Court, creating legal precedence.

Rallying for the sacred waters of Te Waikoropupū, the author reveals both soulful and scientific learning and the drama of this unique environmental case as it is taken to court.

Here is the battle song, the soulful song, and the victory song.

I recommend this book to anyone who wishes to read work that soothes the soul and inspires action to save the planet.

– Saige Vendome England, poet, human rights journalist, and author of *The Seasonwife*

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869725>

Legacy: My Little Buddha / Richard P Wisnesky
New Zealand: Copy Press Books, 2023
xiv, 35p.
9781738619634

Language: English & Korean
\$ 20.00 / PB
60gm.

These poems are written with love and the best of intentions. I have attempted to use the traditional Korean sijo form but in English with accompanying Korean translations. They are far from perfect but that is life. It is hoped that they will give you moments of reflection, moments of joy, moments of insight and moments of fond memories.

Richard P Wisnesky, recently retired, spends his days living, going to the gym, reading and writing. In his working life he was an educator in schools through teaching and health promotion. He lives in Christchurch with his partner of twenty-three years for whom he has a great love and respect for her honesty and for her wonderful stoical wisdom about people and life.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869726>

Karla: The Girl With The Red Hair / Robert Christensen
New Zealand: Robert Christensen (Self Publish), 2023
251p.
9780473693596
\$ 45.00 / PB
400gm.

In 1944, Germany controlled Denmark. Their troops were on the ground throughout the kingdom. The ruling monarch, the government, and parliament bowed to pressure and allowed for a so-called peaceful occupation of Denmark. Most of the Danish exports crossed the mutual border with the invader. He still needed Danish food, and, in return, he kept the supply of coal and other raw materials flowing to Denmark. What was Elise Marie Jensen going to do? Her life changed. The ways of the Resistance network resonated within her soul. It brought a vigour for action against the foe, it gave purpose to her life in times of war. She felt free, rising to succeed and falling to disaster. It did not matter. It was a heart talking to her and directing her. She was doing what her parents and grandparents did; fighting the enemy and protecting the folk of the land of the Vikings. To date, they had not caught her. 'Karla was still at large'.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869727>

Feral: We're Wolves Of Derbyshire / Arthur Bennett
New Zealand: Arthur Bennett (Self Publish), 2023
267p.
9780473698010
\$ 40.00 / PB
410gm.

"In the Peak District of Derbyshire, a diverse cast of characters come together. David Button, an antiquarian and folklorist, troubled by the fading fertility of his family. Detective Inspector Sharda Widecombe and Detective Sergeant Dennis Fair, investigating a series of gruesome murders. Professor David Abrahamovic and his wife, Brenda, breeders of dogs with unimaginable intelligence.

Professor Abrahamovic will uncover an ancient treasure and the dogs will stand trial as non-human persons. Unlikely, but entirely convincing events in the context of the tale. Disturbing correlations and coincidences hint of a distant pagan presence in the landscape, and of a tendency for nature to reassert itself. Many of the tangled threads become untwisted at the end of the novel in the climax which takes place in the stone circle at the top of the hill of Arbor Low on the morning of the summer solstice.

Over thirteen thousand years Britain has gone from a frozen ice sheet to a completely forested landmass to the most deforested and industrially polluted landscape in Europe. Despite that, Britain boasts more bird-watchers per square mile than any other country in the world. This novel touches on the attempts of some of those naturalists to restore Derbyshire to a state of pristine wilderness by an unorthodox method."

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869728>

St Heliers Bay B & B / Patricia Snelling
New Zealand: Patricia Snelling (Self Publish), 2023

476p.
9780473695194
\$ 45.00 / PB
650gm.

When Detective Sergeant Tony Martin suspects his boss, Rob Dean, of tampering with evidence connected to a guard's murder at the Port of Auckland, he has no idea the homicide is linked to a trafficking ring smuggling migrants into New Zealand. Soon after the Port killing, a neighbour discovers Tony lying in a pool of blood in his backyard. Summer, Tony's wife, refuses to accept the police report that her husband's assailant was a passing opportunist and carries out her own investigations. She soon becomes suspicious of Rob Dean, believing he is involved in organised crime and had possibly arranged her husband's assassination. Summer's experience as a crime reporter and police media advisor, plus her determination to solve her husband's death, brings her in close union with Tony's friend and colleague, Detective Sergeant Mick Randall.

But is Mick a friend or foe? The deepening relationship between them is about to make or break Summer.
Can a Bed and Breakfast in St Heliers Bay save the day?

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869729>

The Cure For Gravity: Speculative Fiction and Short Poetry / Zak Rodgers
Auckland, New Zealand: Ligare Limited, 2024
204p.
9780473704674
\$ 32.00 / PB
280gm.

It is the end of the world, and a tortured soul must choose between love and mercy... or must he?
On the edge of space, a galactic thrillseeker uncovers a horrifying secret that threatens the very universe... and her relationship with her most cherished.

And when an unknowable being from outside reality discovers it has a child among humans, it will do anything to understand this strange new connection... even drown a planet.

Bringing together these and other works of poetry and speculative fiction. The Cure for Gravity is a fantastic showcase of how the heart can live in the most impossible places: yearning, aching, and occasionally perforated by automatic weapon fire.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869730>

The Unsettled: Small Stories of Colonisation / Richard Shaw
Auckland, New Zealand: Massey University Press, 2024
224p.
9781991016683
\$ 40.00 / PB
270gm.

After Richard Shaw published his acclaimed memoir The Forgotten Coast in 2021, he made contact with Pakeha with long settler histories who were coming to grips with the truth of their respective families' 'pioneer stories'. They were questioning the foundation of aggressive acts of colonisation and land confiscation on which those stories had been constructed.

The Unsettled weaves those stories with Shaw's own and features New Zealanders who are trying to figure out how to live well with their own pasts, their presents and their possible futures. They may be unsettled, but they are doing something about it.

It is an indispensable companion for the journey towards understanding the complex and difficult history of the New Zealand Wars and their ongoing aftermath.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869731>

The Calm Beyond / Ross Grigg
New Zealand: Ross Grigg (Self Publish), 2023
255p.

9780473699789
\$ 35.00 / PB
415gm.

In 1840's Aotearoa/New Zealand, this is the story of two yearnings: a Pākehā's hunger for land and a Māori chief's need to protect both a birth right and what he has taken from others. It is the story of two laws: British law and mana whenua, Māori authority and ownership of their land. At the centre of it all, the Wairau Plains, acquired by an itinerant ship's captain in a dubious deal from the Ngāti Toa chief Te Rauparaha. The relationship between Te Rauparaha, a person both revered and loathed, and middle-class Englishman Arthur Wakefield, leader of the new colony of Nelson, is central to this historical drama. While Te Rauparaha wants to benefit his iwi, his tribe, by exploiting the Europeans for trading opportunities, Wakefield wants to transplant a model English society into the new land, and to ensure his own future. Each man has pressures: Te Rauparaha from his iwi who want an end to Pākehā encroachment of their land; Wakefield from settlers who need to build new lives on land they have been promised. As tension builds, a Māori woman and her two children are ruthlessly murdered by a Pākehā. How will British law and order serve Te Rauparaha? Can the man standing between the rivals, newly appointed Land Commissioner, William Spain, prevent a life and death conflict over the beautiful plains of Wairau?

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869732>

Dear Tui: A Warning / M. C Ronen
New Zealand: M. C Ronen, 2023
ii, 298p.
9798379211523
\$ 35.00 / PB
505gm.

In 2023, nine-year-old Juniper Hawthorne, is playing happily on the beach near her house, with her older brother. Climate change is a real, impending threat, of which Juniper is very much aware. But it is a creeping evil, rather than a colossal, big-bang event, so, what would her life look like, growing up? How would she be impacted by this elusive, unknown, slow-brewing catastrophe? This powerful, gut-wrenching, relentless story follows Juniper throughout her life, in steady time-leaps, to reveal how her life, her family, and society at large, face the demise of life on planet Earth as we know it.

"This brilliant, gripping, page-turner of a novel is a warning to all of us. It should be mandatory reading. Let's pray its prophecies don't come true."

Jane Velez-Mitchell, New York Times best-selling author, UnchainedTV Founder.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869733>

Amma / Saraid de Silva
Auckland, New Zealand & Australia: MOA Press, 2024
303p.
9781869715403
\$ 40.00 / PB
370gm.

'I couldn't put it down - a moving, heartbreaking (and repairing) family drama. The writing is gorgeous, transporting, powerful: this will be one of the big adult novels of the year' The Spinoff

'In Amma, the past is never far away - it binds three generations of remarkable women, each juggling their own desires and secrets with the expectations placed on them by tradition and the volatile environments they find themselves in ... A book as shocking and revelatory as any family secret, Amma will leave you shaken and reminded of the power of love and loyalty' Chris Tse, New Zealand Poet Laureate

Singapore, 1951

When Josephina is a girl, her parents lock her in a room with the father of the boy to whom she's betrothed. What happens next will determine the lives of generations to come.

New Zealand, 1984

Josephina and her family leave Sri Lanka for New Zealand. But their new home is not what they expected, and for the children, Sithara and Suri, a sudden and shocking event changes everything.

London, 2018

Arriving on her uncle Suri's doorstep, jetlagged and heartbroken, Annie has no idea what to expect - all she knows is that Suri was cast out of the family before she was born.

Moving between cities and generations, Amma follows three women on very different paths, against a backdrop of shifting cultures. As circumstance and misunderstanding force them apart, it will take the most profound love to knit them back together before it's too late.

'I can't remember the last time a book held me captive the way Amma did... the power of memory, of perspective, pain and love in all its different forms through the eyes of three unforgettable women' Ore Agbaje-Williams

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869734>

Hold My Hand, Rosie. Don't Let Go: A Mother And Daughter Story Of Addiction, Despair, And Hope / Madeleine & Rosie Redding

New Zealand: Mary Egan Publishing, 2024

197p.

9781738617630

\$ 35.00 / PB

455gm.

Rosie is a shy young teenager when she starts experimenting with alcohol. When Rosie's parents finally realise that their beloved daughter is having problems with her drinking, Rosie is firmly in the grip of alcoholism. What follows is the true story of a family's battle over ten years to find help for Rosie, whose journey is lined with all the horrors the disease can bring, including the tragic loss of friends.

Ultimately it is Rosie's resilience and determination that starts her on the tenuous path towards sobriety, while her parents vow to never give up and to never, ever let her go.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869735>

A Game Of Swans / Janet Waincott

New Zealand: Sudden Valley Press, 2023

90p.

9781738582402

\$ 25.00 / PB

125gm.

What do you do when you find yourself trapped? By circumstance, by blind luck, by other's expectations?

From the finger bone of an ancestor to a Leonardo da Vinci portrait, from the dining room of a rural pub to the real life of folk-tales, A Game of Swans weaves myth and modernity seamlessly through each other, asking what it means to be restrained, and what it might take to be free. Janet Waincott's debut collection stares out from the undergrowth, claws hidden in plain sight.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869736>

We All Change / Andy Kerr

Masterton, New Zealand: Different People Books, 2023

158p.

9780473668891

\$ 32.00 / PB

300gm.

My writing started as a way to articulate what my depression does to me, so my family and friends can understand and help.

This evolved into a diary or documentary of my attempts to achieve the items I had put on a list, a list that was focussed on me being better.

Along the way I tried things, some worked and some didn't, it is not a formula or the right way, but I have reached somewhere that is so much better, and I thought how I got there is worth telling, because we call change.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869737>

Not Swinging, Swooning / Stevan Eldred-Grigg
New Zealand: Piwaiwaka Press, 2024
254p.
9781738592661
\$ 35.00 / PB
370gm.

'It's early in the morning,' a boy writes in his diary, 'on the first day of the first year of the most modern decade in the whole of human history. Get in the groove!' Already the world is so cool. And it's going to get cooler and cooler. Forever!

Stevan Eldred-Grigg, the boy, is seven years old and one of the middle kids in a nuclear family in a twice-mortgaged new bungalow in a new cul-de-sac in a suburb during the Space Age. 'We've got our bloody dream home,' jokes his mother. 'And we have to skive our guts out to bloody pay for it.'

Not Swinging, Swooning is the story of the boyhood years of Stevan Eldred-Grigg, told by himself. A story about a boy's dreams, dreads, hopes, fears and adventures. A story about elbowing and being elbowed by five brothers, three sisters, Seven Sisters, many aunts, uncles, cousins, neighbours, friends, teachers, foes, heroes. A story about pop songs the boy thought were groovy. And about yarns spelled by the olds. Along with other tales he was told, or told himself, about being a boy – being in a suburb – and about becoming, or trying to become, a young man in the mod optimistic hi-gloss world of the sixties of last century.

It's hip. I dig it.

Far out.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869738>

Turbulent Threads / Karen McMillan
Christchurch, New Zealand: Quentin Wilson Publishing, 2024
303p.
9781991103338
\$ 35.00 / PB
445gm.

Dunedin, 1890: Suddenly orphaned at the tender age of twenty, Greer Gillies is reduced to working as a humble servant at Larnach Castle, a far cry from the dreams she held before. As she struggles with the stark reality of grief, she finds her journey has only just begun as the decade proves transformative for women's progress.

Greer's discovery of newfound friendship and a supportive community becomes a catalyst for change, echoing the progressive spirit of the times. As she grapples with affairs of the heart, betrayal, the threat of lost love and social upheavals, Greer's resilience shines through. She becomes a symbol of courage, daring to pursue her dreams, follow her heart and find her place in a world that promises a better future.

Spanning the last decade of the 19th century, this page-turning saga explores the healing power of friendship while celebrating the pivotal role women played in one of New Zealand's most turbulent eras. Greer is an independent woman of her time, and her journey stands as a beautiful, imagined account that captures the essence of a historical milestone when women's voices rose above the tumult.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869739>

Plastic / Stacey Teague
Wellington, New Zealand: Te Herenga Waka University Press, 2024
112p.
9781776921331
\$ 30.00 / PB
155gm.

'A love letter to us so-called "plastic" Māori, to us queer Māori, to us still searching for their place Māori, a love letter to the powerful kuia who make us who we are, and spells to utter a better world in.' —essa may ranapiri, author of echidna and ransack.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869740>

The Space Between / Lauren Keenan
New Zealand: Penguin Random House, 2024
320p.
9781776950812
\$ 35.00 / PB
395gm.

Frances is an unmarried Londoner newly landed in colonial Aotearoa at the dawn of the First Taranaki War. Once well-regarded, her family's impressive fall from grace sees them seeking their fortune in a raw, new country and struggling to learn the strange etiquette of settler life.

When Frances comes face-to-face with Henry White, the man who mysteriously broke her heart a decade earlier, he's standing outside Thorpe's General Store with a sack of flour in his arms. Henry is married now, to the proud and hardy Mataria, who is shunned by her whanau because of events in her past.

Conflict between settlers and iwi rises, and both women must find the courage to fight for what is right, even if it costs them everything they know. As their lives intersect in surprising and catastrophic ways, the question remains – will they ever belong, or do their fates lie in the uncomfortable space between?

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869741>

The Call: A Broken Cop, A Terrified Informant, A Gang That Wants Revenge. / Gavin Strawhan
Auckland, New Zealand: Allen & Unwin, 2024
304p.
9781991006790
\$ 35.00 / PB
330gm.

After surviving a brutal attack, Auckland cop DS Honey Chalmers has returned to her hometown to care for her mother. The remote coastal settlement of Waitutū holds complicated memories for Honey, not least the tragic suicide of her younger sister, Scarlett.

Honey is hardest on herself. She let herself get too close to a gang informant. She got sloppy. The Reapers are a 501 gang of Aussie imports, ruthless and organised, and she's pretty sure the informant, mother-of-three Kloe Kovich, paid the price. But when a couple of gang enforcers turn up in Waitutū, Honey realises they are hoping she will lead them to Kloe. But if Kloe is still alive, can Honey save her this time around?

When Honey catches up with her oldest friend, Marshall, her feelings are complicated. As teenagers they were inseparable, but Marshall was the last person to see Scarlett alive, and there are rumours they were sleeping together, that he broke her heart. Honey fears Marshall is not who she wants him to be. Eventually she learns the awful truth about the events that led her sister to take her own life.

When Kloe arrives in town, Honey and Marshall must work together to try and keep the hapless Kloe out of the hands of those who want her – and Honey – silenced.

Gripping and suspenseful, with a killer ending, The Call propels the reader into the world of a terrifying new kind of gang – and introduces a major new talent in crime writing.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869742>

Dark Sky: Murder Among The Stars – A Nellie Prayle Mystery / Marie Connolly
Christchurch, New Zealand: Quentin Wilson Publishing, 2024
231p.
9781991103314
\$ 38.00 / PB
345gm.

Criminal psychologist Nellie Prayle loves solving murders. The more complicated, the better. But when a professor of astronomy is found dead at Tekapo's Mt John Observatory during its internationally attended 50th-anniversary conference celebrations and Detective Jack Simmons calls on Nellie to help with the police investigation, she soon realises that this is not your typical murder - and nor are these your usual suspects. As Nellie and Jack venture into the Dark Sky Reserve in Aotearoa, New Zealand's beautiful Mackenzie Country, they uncover a universe of rivalries, infidelities and emotional turmoil that pushes people to the edge. International intrigue and a tangle of motives unfold

against a glittering backdrop of bright stars in this gripping tale of crime and passion, and as Nellie knows only too well, nothing in the world of academia is straightforward ...

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869743>

When I Open The Shop: A Novel / Romesh Dissanayake
Wellington, New Zealand: Te Herenga Waka University Press, 2023
192p.
9781776921300
\$ 35.00 / PB
250gm.

In his small noodle shop in Te Whanganui-a-Tara, a young chef obsessively juliennes carrots. Nothing is going according to plan: the bills are piling up, his mother is dead, and there are strangers in his kitchen. The ancestors are watching closely. Told through a series of brilliant interludes and jump cuts, When I open the shop is sometimes blackly funny, sometimes angry and sometimes lyrical, and sometimes ? as a car soars off the road on a horror road trip to the Wairarapa ? it takes flight into surrealism. A glimpse into immigrant life in Aotearoa, this is a highly entertaining, surprising and poignant debut novel about grief, struggle and community. 'When I open the shop is a novel about loss, exile and dislocation, in which time, space, and memory become a beautiful, fluid thing. It is very funny, angry and constantly pleasurable and moving in the way it depicts people opening space for themselves, and finding comfort, in spite of everything.' -Brannavan Gnanalingam, author of Sprigs and Slow Down, You're Here 'This is a beautiful and compelling work. The language is magnificent on a sentence-by-sentence level, but I think that the structure is an incredibly adept act of decolonisation.' -Pip Adam, author of Audition and Nothing to See

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869744>

Nga Purehu Kapohau: A Literary Homage to Patea, Waverley and Waitotara / (Eds) Trevor M Landers, Vaughan Rapatahana & Ngauru Rawiri
New Zealand: Lasavia Publishing, 2024
424p.
9781991083067
\$ 45.00 / PB
705gm.

Most people know this South Taranaki district, between Harwera and Whanganui, if they know it at all, for Dalvanus, the Patea Maori Club and that seminal waiata, Poi E. They know it as a farming heartland or a rural backwater. In this anthology of poems, you will discover that there is so much more.

This anthology includes an impressive array of both experienced poets and tyro. We are most excited by the new voices we have unearthed. Skeptics suggested that we would be "lucky to get twenty pages." Well, we got was over two hundred. There are gems, emeralds, and amethysts contained in these pages. Luxuriate with them! Ki nga iwi o Patea me nga rohe o waho, he mihi nui ki a matou. He mea whakamiharo koe, kua miharo koe, kua koa. Kia whakangahautia ki tenei pukapuka, na te mea nau tena! This is your book, enjoy it!

"This original book which recognises the amazing talent we have in Patea, Waitotara and Waverley is overdue, and I am proud to support it."

Tory Whanau (Pakakohi and Ngaruahine), Mayor of Wellington

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869745>

Poetry Aotearoa Yearbook 2024: Revelations / (Ed) Tracey Slaughter
Auckland, New Zealand: Massey University Press, 2024
344p.
9781991016706
\$ 40.00 / PB
415gm.

RAW, ESSENTIAL NEW COLLECTION FROM ESTABLISHED AND EMERGING VOICES For the 2024 edition of the Poetry Aotearoa Yearbook, editor Tracey Slaughter has once again hit the zeitgeist in her selection of 101 new poems from an exhaustive submission process. Another packed issue, #58 showcases the raw and the vital - including from this year's

featured poet, Carin Smeaton - and a blistering introduction from Slaughter herself. In addition there are excellent reviews of a crop of recent poetry books. With work by both established and emerging New Zealand poets, the Yearbook is essential reading for all poetry fans. 'A joy and a triumph' - Erica Stretton, Kete Books 'This belongs in the section of your bookcase you've set aside for quiet little miracles' - Paul Little, North & South 'one of the best New Zealand literary journals around' - Siobahn Harvey, NZ Herald

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869746>

Beside The River Styx: A Short Story Collection / Helen Vivienne Fletcher
New Zealand: HVF Publishing. 2024

86p.

9781991198037

\$ 24.00 / PB

115gm.

A woman finds a body in a park. A girl watches for witches next door. A cruel town turns against a young mother, while a man kills with humour. A teenager tries to keep a library alive in a world where paper crumbles; a cursed piece of jewellery changes necks.

Beside the River Styx brings together nine dark, twisty and comically criminal tales. If you like creepy magic, heartbreakingly human moments, and a touch of black humour, then you'll love Helen Vivienne Fletcher's new short story collection.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869747>

An Inflammable Act of Kindness / Monika Killeen
Auckland, New Zealand: Lasavia Publishing Ltd, 2024

132p.

9781991083142

\$ 40.00 / PB

170gm.

A gripping and touching psychological drama.

In her debut novel, Monika Killeen explores the mother-daughter relationship with clarity and honesty. Spanning four generations of daughters, their lives shaped by the turmoil of Eastern Europe in the twentieth century, An Inflammable Act of Kindness follows Meli on her journey from the shadows of her small town to the glaring blaze of the Dream City. From a little girl with a thousand questions for her grandma, to a young woman at boarding school, she bides her time before making an escape. The narrative weaves through times and places, piecing together the traumas, decisions and conflicts that make Meli who she is, fearlessly laying bare her inner emotional world.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869748>

A Better Class Of Criminal: When You're The Good Bad Guy... / Cristian Kelly
New Zealand: Cristian Kelly (Self Publish), 2023

396p.

9780473668204

\$ 35.00 / PB

450gm.

A seemingly foolproof plan to make some quick money turns into a race for their lives...

It's the mid-nineties and methamphetamine casts its shadow over the Californian city of Santa Lucía. Nathan, happy running a small marijuana grow operation with his two best friends, takes advantage of meth's rise in popularity and makes a lucrative one-time deal.

Betrayed, beaten, and desperate...

But a devastating betrayal leaves him entangled with the city's merciless crime boss. Risking everything, Nathan and his friends embark on a wild plan to steal millions of dollars' worth of diamonds to settle the debt.

Caught in the crosshairs of corrupt cops, a relentless Russian henchman, and his temptress partner, they face setbacks at every turn as they pursue the diamonds across the city.

As the death toll rises, can Nathan save them all before the real bad guys find them?

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869749>

The Beautiful Afternoon / Airini Beautrais
Wellington, New Zealand: Te Herenga Waka University Press, 2024
278p.
9781776921324
\$ 38.00 / PB
345gm.

In *The Beautiful Afternoon*, award-winning poet and short-story writer Airini Beautrais plumbs history, literature, Star Wars, sea hags, beauty products, tarot, swimwear, environmentalism and pole dancing to deliver a virtuoso inquiry into how we become, and change, who we are. Beautrais surveys the many influences on her life, from Lord Byron and Dante to Dolly magazine and 90s R&B, with intense curiosity and a fierce intelligence. Whether saving the planet in her Quaker childhood and activist youth, surviving the lonely years of early motherhood, or confronting the fears and freedoms of midlife – in which she writes about the body becoming a poem and human touch beginning to feel safe again – Beautrais' lucid examination of experience reveals that the personal is inescapably political. Throughout these wide-ranging essays Beautrais' vigilant critique of entrenched patriarchal control turns anger to resistance, as a woman finds a way out of its grip, back to herself and the world.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869750>

Dear Aunt and Cousins / David White
New Zealand: Matilda Press, 2023
397p.
9780473681203
\$ 40.00 / PB
595gm.

But his leaving did not go unnoticed. A man stood motionless, only two trees in from Burrow Corner, waiting patiently for what he hoped was inevitable. He noticed with satisfaction the pack on the young man's back, and the purposeful way he walked on down the lane and out of sight.

And thus did John Hoyle leave his home and family never to return, branded a criminal by one drunken night of tomfoolery. His crime? Damaging a bridge. The penalty? Deportation. So, in the shadows of night, he slipped away to evade authorities and to transplant himself anywhere that was safe from detection.

This quest, via serendipity, a name change, and the collaboration of some good people saw him enlist in the British Army and so the dye was cast. His new life as John Brown was to travel the world as an ostler and to forge lasting relationships with new friends and still maintain cautious links with his family back in Devon.

Dear Aunt and Cousins is an extraordinary true story of three cousins who epitomised the unyielding bonds of family, courage and love. And through it they left a legacy which still exists today.

'But what an epic read. Action, adventure, romance and heart-break. I thoroughly enjoyed what I thought was a very moving story.'

Martin O'Connor

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869751>

The Night She Fell / Eileen Merriman
New Zealand: Penguin Random House, 2024
304p.
9781776950430
\$ 40.00 / PB
380gm.

'When I last saw Ashleigh, she was lying in a pool of blood . . . Her eyes were open, staring sightlessly into the sky. I'd like to think she saw the stars before she died; that in her last moments she flew, soaring on serotonin, dreamy with dopamine. I'd like to think she didn't suffer . . .'

A beautiful young law student dies on the concrete below her third-storey window in chilly Dunedin.

It's clear enough how she died. What isn't is why — or who's involved.

Plenty of people had a reason to hate Ashleigh, with her straight As and perfect looks. She's fallen out with her flatmates, and her boyfriend Xander is having second thoughts about their future together. And then there are the weird messages.

The Night She Fell is a gripping psychological thriller from one of New Zealand's most multi-talented contemporary novelists.

'Pacy, clever and enthralling, The Night She Fell is a deliciously evil exploration of narcissism. A thriller that will keep you awake long into the night.' - Rose Carlyle, bestselling author of The Girl in the Mirror.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869752>

Take Two: Sometimes You Have To Revisit The Past To Find Your Future / Danielle Hawkins

Auckland, New Zealand: Allen & Unwin, 2024

286p.

9781991006677

\$ 38.00 / PB

300gm.

Laura and Doug were together for ages. Their breakup was just one of those things – she wanted children, he didn't, no hard feelings – at least not until, with their relationship barely cold in its grave, he got his new girlfriend pregnant. Now, seven years later, a polite social call to his parents lands Laura back in the family, helping Doug and his playboy younger brother to cope with a whole raft of crises. And what better time to re-evaluate your major life decisions than when you're wrangling a farm, a bookshop, two small children, your ex's wife in labour and his two sick parents? This is Danielle Hawkins' best novel yet. Funny, tender and not afraid to tackle the big issues, it will have you laughing and shedding tears in equal measure.

"Hawkins is reliably kind, drily funny, and observant ... like Jane Austen in Red Band gumboots." - The New Zealand Herald.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869753>

Myths & Legends of the Ancient Pakeha / Glenn Colquhoun

Manakau, New Zealand: OldKing Press, 2024

139p.

9781738582815

\$ 42.00 / HB

715gm.

In this collection of poems Glenn Colquhoun explores a range of Pākehā oral poetic forms; sea shanties, hymns, ballads, nursery rhymes and clapping songs. It is a companion volume to Three Women, his collection of poetry in Te Reo Māori, and is richly illustrated by Nigel Brown. A soundtrack to the poems is available at www.glenncolquhoun.net

"It was by looking at Māori oral poetry more closely that I came to ask what it is that a Pākehā oral poem might sound like. And whether it is capable of holding the same power. Might a sea-shanty meet the energy of a haka? Can a hymn stand up to a mōteatea? To find out I went back to the ways that spoken English poetry first arrived in New Zealand: via sea-shanty and hymn, lullaby and nursery rhyme, working song, clapping song and skipping song. I also went back to what has often been the concern of oral poems, our histories."

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869754>

Nga Wahine E Toru: Three Women / Glenn Colquhoun

Manakau, New Zealand: OldKing Press, 2024

120p.

9781738582808

Language: Maori & English

\$ 42.00 / HB

510gm.

In this collection of poems Glenn Colquhoun writes to his daughter, former partner, and mother, using the medium of Māori oral poetry. In doing so he explores oriori, karakia, haka, mōteatea, pātere, waiata aroha and waiata tangi. It is a companion volume to Myths and Legends of the Ancient Pākehā, his collection of oral poetry in English. A soundtrack to the poems is available at www.glenncolquhoun.net

“Māori oral poetry is a living tradition that is constantly added to. It contains remarkable stories. It uses metaphors drawn from our own land, sea and sky. It is sung to the tunes of the wind and of water and of birds. Working within its traditions I have come to see that at the heart of all poetry, written or spoken, is a kind of cry. And if a poem cries well, then its meaning is always simply in the nature of that cry first and foremost. Language, understanding, cognition, are always second to this.

“Of all of the arts practised by Māori and Pākehā our two poetries have remained the most stubbornly separated from each other over time. I hope these pieces go some way towards addressing that gap. More than anything else they are a gift to the people of Te Tii for all they have done for me. I have always hoped that I might finish them in time for some of those kuia who were there when I arrived on New Brighton Road bedraggled and naive, to listen to. They are the product of their work as much as my own.”

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869755>

The Mummies Of Urumqi / Arthur Bennett
New Zealand: Arthur Bennett (Self Publish), 2023
366p.
9780473701727
\$ 40.00 / PB
555gm.

Four thousand years ago - a group of bronze-age refugees flee the salt-mines of Hallstatt in Austria, escaping the persecution and probable death. They make their way across Europe and Asia, surviving hunger, severe winters and attacks by strangers. The tribe, known to themselves as the Arkentii, develop their ideas on morality as they are forced to adapt to changing circumstances. There is intrigue and conflict, love and sex. The Arkentii reach the end of their adventure in Xinjiang region of China, where their bodies are preserved as the mummies of Ūrūmqi. Modern day - a team of archaeologists producing a documentary about the mummies for a Hong Kong film company become embroiled in the local political situation between Uighur separatists and the Chinese administration. This team bears a striking resemblance to the Arkentii group, and - unavoidably - there is, of course, intrigue and conflict, love and sex.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869756>

Religion - Christianity

Ethnic Flames of the Burning Bush: An Exploration of Ethnic Relations in Congregations of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand / Tokerau Joseph
Wellington, New Zealand: Philip Garside Publishing Ltd, 2024
184p.
Include Bibliography
9781991027603
\$ 30.00 / PB
345gm.

Why are the policies of a church at national level, which seek to bring together people of different cultures and ethnicities as one people in Christ, so seldom reflected in local congregations and parishes?

New Zealand Presbyterian minister Rev Dr Tokerau Joseph shares the insights gained from his doctoral research into this topic.

While his study focussed on the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand (PCANZ), his findings are also relevant to other denominations with multi-cultural and multi-ethnic parishes and congregations.

This exercise in practical theology examines the tension between two realities. On the one hand, there are the stated policies of the PCANZ that encourage its members to live out a diverse life together. On the other hand, there is the reality that PCANZ congregations reflect ethnic homogeneity rather than diversity.

The author observes the extent to which the ethnic composition of congregations is influenced by people's theological understanding of the church and of their Christian identity, as opposed to tendencies affirming their ethnic/cultural identity.

Tokerau Joseph challenges and encourages people in congregations to learn to live out more faithfully our ecclesiology of unity in diversity. This will involve re-evaluating our Christian identity, cross-cultural engagements, a pan-Pacific model of church, and the sacrament of Holy Communion. He hopes that this book will be thought-provoking and impactful for change in people's lives.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=869757>

Sports

The Three Quicks: Tim Southee, Trent Boult, Neil Wagner and the Road to the World Test Championship / Trevor Auger

New Zealand: Mary Egan Publishing, 2024

296p.

Include Bibliography

9781738617654

\$ 40.00 / PB

460gm.

In 2021 the New Zealand cricket team won the inaugural ICC World Test Championship. Thirteen years before, a 19-year-old Tim Southee had played his first Test match for his country, and before long he would be joined by Trent Boult and Neil Wagner. One hailing from a farm in Northland, one who grew up in a small eastern Bay of Plenty beachside town, and one from half a world away in South Africa, the three quick bowlers became an integral part of the most successful era in New Zealand's cricket history. United by their passion for the game, their thirst for bowling and their pride in wearing the Black Cap, they had made a combined 206 Test appearances and claimed between them 835 Test wickets by the time they brought home the World Test Championship Mace. The Three Quicks is the story of how three of New Zealand's very best fast bowlers came together to play such a central role in their country's cricketing saga over more than a decade. From a nail-biting win over Australia at Hobart in 2011 to the satisfaction of dismissing England for 58 at Eden Park six summers later, to the excitement of two 50-over ICC World Cup finals, a Boxing Day Test at the Melbourne Cricket Ground and then the ultimate victory over India to put New Zealand at the pinnacle of the cricketing world, Tim Southee, Trent Boult and Neil Wagner have never been far from the heart of their team's absorbing and exhilarating journey.

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