

Recent Memoirs - November 2018

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The Good Citizen : The Story of the remarkable Tom Ryan : All Black, Artist, Entrepreneur, Sailor, Adventurer / Denis Dwyer

New Holland Publishers, New Zealand 2018

208p. ; 210x145mm.

Includes Bibliography

9781869665043

\$ 35.00 / null

400 gm.

The illegitimate baby of an Anglo-Irish aristocrat, Tom Ryan and his family were banished from Ireland to the far ends of the earth: New Zealand. He went on to score the first points for the first All Blacks rugby team and have a huge influence on the development of tourism services in Taupo. He became a distinguished artist, creating rare sketches of the controversial Maori warrior Te Kooti, and he married the daughter of a Maori chief. He won one of the first inter-colonial yachting contests and became director of a mining company.

From the author of New Zealand By Foot and New Zealand Adventures By Rail, this is the remarkable story of Tom 'Darby' Ryan. Including photographs and Ryan's own artworks, The Good Citizen paints a vivid and intimate portrait of early colonial New Zealand and the people who made up its society.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=455565>

Like a Dove : A memoir and biography in honour of Sione Tavo Manukia / Rubinstine Manukia

Philip Garside Publishing, New Zealand 2016

98p.

9781927260470

\$ 50.00 / null

240 gm.

What was life like for a Tongan migrant in New Zealand in the 1970s and onwards? In this tribute to Sione Tavo Manukia (1936-2008), his daughter Ruby tells of his early life in Tonga and his experiences in New Zealand, as he sought a prosperous life and further education for his children. He settled in West Auckland and gained a job at Crown Lynn Pottery's New Lynn brickworks. He then helped other migrants gain employment at the brickworks, which enabled them to assist their families back home by sending remittances. As more migrants arrived, Sione Tavo realised that a church group base was required to host and assist them on a daily basis. This was the beginning of Pulela'a New Lynn Tongan Methodist Church, founded in 1975, where Sione Tavo served as the head church steward for 30 years. There are valuable lessons in this book for other migrants seeking work and opportunities in New Zealand. Sione Tavo's story demonstrates how through hard work, and moral and ethical determination, you can be successful in whatever you set out to achieve.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=455564>

Memory Pieces / Maurice Gee

Victoria University Press, New Zealand 2018

368p.

9781776562077

\$ 40.00 / null

630 gm.

Memory Pieces is an intimate and evocative memoir in three parts. 'Double Unit' tells the story of Maurice Gee's parents – Lyndahl Chapple Gee, a talented writer who for reasons that become clear never went on with a writing career, and Len Gee, a boxer, builder, and man's man.

'Blind Road' is Gee's story up to the age of eighteen, when his apprenticeship as a writer began. 'Running on the Stairs' tells the story of Margaretha Garden, beginning in 1940, the year of her birth, when she travelled with her mother Greta from Nazi-sympathising Sweden to New Zealand, through to her meeting Maurice Gee when they were working together in the Alexander Turnbull Library in 1967.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=455563>

The Unconventional Career of Dr. Muriel Bell / Diana Brown, Erika Buky

Otago University Press, New Zealand 2018

184p.

Includes Index

9781988531304

\$ 40.00 / null

450 gm.

Whether or not you have heard of pioneering nutritionist Muriel Bell, she has had a profound effect on your health. Appointed New Zealand's first state nutritionist in 1940, a position she held for almost a quartercentury, Muriel Bell was behind ground-breaking public health schemes such as milk in schools, iodised salt and water fluoridation. The first woman in New Zealand to be awarded the research degree of Doctor of Medicine (MD), in 1926, her subsequent pioneering research on vitamins and minerals helped to prevent deficiency diseases, and later, optimise health. Bell's early research into fats and cholesterol tackled the complexity of nutrition-related aspects of coronary heart disease. At the base of her commitment to science lay a deep social concern, especially for women and children. In service to this cause Muriel Bell worked tirelessly. As a lecturer in physiology from 1923 to 1927, she had been one of the first women academics at Otago Medical School. In 1937 she became a foundation member of the Medical Research Council, serving for two decades while simultaneously she was the sole woman on the Board of Health. Her nutritional advice – common sense to us today but revolutionary at the time – was to eat more fruit, vegetables and milk products and to cut down on sugar, fat and meat. Muriel Bell was a trailblazer by anyone's definition, unswervingly committed to the understanding that we are what we eat; that nutrition is a cornerstone of individual and public health. Diana Brown tells the story of this extraordinary woman in this long-overdue biography.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=455562>

The Writing Life : Twelve New Zealand Authors / Deborah Shepard

Environmental Defence Society Incorporated 2018

467p.

9780995109537

\$ 50.00 / null

800 gm.

A unique, candid and intimate survey of the life and work of 12 of our most acclaimed writers: Patricia Grace, Tessa Duder, Owen Marshall, Philip Temple, David Hill, Joy Cowley, Vincent O'Sullivan, Albert Wendt, Marilyn Duckworth, Chris Else, Fiona Kidman and Witi Ihimaera. Constructed as Q&As with experienced oral historian Deborah Shepard, they offer a marvellous insight into their careers. As a group they are now the 'elders' of New Zealand literature; they forged the path for the current generation. Together the authors trace their publishing and literary history from 1959 to 2018, through what might now be viewed as a golden era of publishing into the more unsettled climate of today. They address universal themes: the death of parents and loved ones, the good things that come with ageing, the components of a satisfying life, and much more. And they give advice on writing. The book has an historical continuity, showing fruitful and fascinating links between individuals who have negotiated the same literary terrain for more than sixty years. To further honour them are magnificent photo portraits by distinguished photographer John McDermott, commissioned by the publisher for this project.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=455561>

Life as a Novel : A Biography of Maurice Shadbolt, Volume One, 1932-1973 / Philip Temple

David Ling Publishing Limited, New Zealand 2018

328p.

9781927305447

\$ 50.00 / null

800 gm.

Maurice Shadbolt believed that New Zealanders should tell their own stories, cherish their own myths and believe in their own big lies before they could stand upright in a post-colonial world. Through his fiction, non-fiction and international journalism, he played a leading role in projecting New Zealand to the world throughout the second half of the 20th century. His overseas success provoked envy among literary critics but this had little impact on his many readers at home or abroad, nor the judges who awarded him prizes and fellowships. His first novel, *Among The Cinders* (1965), achieved sales of more than 200,000, unprecedented for the time for a work of New Zealand fiction. His non-fiction *New Zealand: Gift of the Sea* (1963), in collaboration with Magnum photographer Brian Brake, also achieved enormous sales. The success of Shadbolt's books reflected the growing hunger of New Zealanders for stories about themselves. Author Philip Temple knew Maurice Shadbolt well and brings insight to his story of how Shadbolt made his mark as a writer of fiction. He also tells of Shadbolt's adventures behind the Iron Curtain; his role in anti-Vietnam War protests; his voyage to Mururoa to protest French nuclear testing. He has had unique access to Shadbolt's friends, colleagues and adversaries and an extraordinary treasure trove of letters and documents from both here and overseas in producing this absorbing book. He tells of Shadbolt's close friendships with guru poet James K. Baxter and leading painters such as Colin McCahon. Philip Temple also recounts Shadbolt's increasingly fraught personal life. By the age of 40, he had been married twice and fathered five children and been involved in numerous affairs. It is a fascinating tale about a man who became New Zealand's most well-known and controversial author.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=455560>

Tongan Heroes / David Riley, Michel Mulipola Auckland,

Reading Warrior, New Zealand 2016

132p.

Includes Bibliography

9780473352448

\$ 90.00 / null

520 gm.

Tongan Heroes tells the inspirational stories of achievers who have Tongan ancestry. It includes legends like Muni and Kavaoanu; historical figures such as Queen Salote Tupou III and Professor Futa Helu; and contemporary heroes like Manu Vatuvei, Jonah Lomu, The Jets, and Dr Konai Helu Thaman. The book is designed to put age appropriate and culturally relevant material in front of young Tongans, in order to encourage reading and the love of books. The book is illustrated by Samoan comic book artist, Michel Mulipola. The book is the third in the Pasifika Heroes series, We are the Rock (Niuean achievers) and Samoan Heroes.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=455473>

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