

## Recent Books from New Zealand – May 2021

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### Biography/Memoirs

The Mirror Book : A Memoir / Charlotte Grimshaw  
Auckland: Vintage (Penguin Random House New Zealand),  
2021  
320p.  
9780143776000  
\$ 50.00 / PB  
424gm.

Brave, explosive, and thought-provoking, this is a powerful memoir from a critically acclaimed writer. ‘It’s material, make a story out of it,’ was the mantra Charlotte Grimshaw grew up with in her famous literary family. But when her life suddenly turned upside-down, she needed to re-examine the reality of that material. The more she delved into her memories, the more the real characters in her life seemed to object. So what was the truth of ‘a whole life lived in fiction’? This is a vivid account of a New Zealand upbringing, where rebellion was encouraged, where trouble and tragedy lay ahead. It looks beyond the public face to the ‘messy reality of family life – and much more’.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=760951>

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Times Like These : On Grief, Hope and Remarkable Love /  
Michelle Langston  
Auckland: Allen & Unwin, 2021

264p.  
9781988547527  
\$ 50.00 / PB  
334gm.

Childhood, family, and death; anxiety and release; grief and the hope of new life: these are some of the themes that underpin Michelle Langstone's debut collection. Michelle is interested in the way the concept of identity is shaken during a major event, and in the feeling world at its most raw and intimate. These essays speak to one another across a timeline, examining her world before the death of her father, and life after his passing, when she recalibrates the shape of a universe without him. Essays on acting, fertility and IVF, and intergenerational love round out a collection that is full of candour and humour. Tender, poignant and moving, these intimate essays are perfectly formed and offer a shimmering portrait of the human condition.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=760957>

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The Alarmist : Fifty Years Measuring Climate Change / Dave Lowe

Wellington: Victoria University of Wellington Press, 2021  
272p.

Includes Index  
9781776564187  
\$ 50.00 / PB  
484gm.

His research was urgent fifty years ago. Now, it's critical. In the early 1970s, budding Kiwi scientist Dave Lowe was posted at an atmospheric monitoring station on the wind-blasted southern coast of New Zealand's North Island. On a shoestring salary he measured carbon in the atmosphere, collecting vital data towards what became one of the most important discoveries in modern science.

What followed was a lifetime's career marked by hope and despair. As realisation dawned of what his measurements meant for the future of the planet, Dave travelled the world to understand more about atmospheric gases, along the way programming some of the earliest computers, designing cutting-edge equipment and conducting experiments both dangerous and mind-numbingly dull. From the sandy beaches of California to the stark winters of West Germany, the mesas of the Rocky Mountains and an Atlantic voyage across the equator, Dave has faced down climate deniers, foot-dragging bureaucracy and widespread complacency to open people's eyes to the effects of increasing fossil fuel emissions on our atmosphere.

In equal parts adventure and a warning, and with the wisdom and frustration of half a century behind him, *The Alarmist* is the exhilarating autobiography of a pioneering Kiwi scientist who has dedicated his life to sounding the alarm on climate change.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=760958>

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A Coroner Speaks for the Dead to Protect the Living / Wallace Bain

New Zealand: Wallace Bain, 2021

278p.

9780473549992

\$ 50.00 / PB

418gm.

Wallace Bain retired in early 2020 after 28 distinguished years as a Coroner, most recently in Rotorua. During these years Mr Bain developed a national reputation for his sensitivity and compassion in dealing with difficult cases such as those of Nia Glassie and Moko Rangitoheriri. That a child is killed in New Zealand as a result of abuse every five weeks he finds "unacceptable". He has also developed a reputation for being "a Coroner on the warpath" for his forthright demands from time to time that New Zealand's laws and regulations be

changed to protect ordinary citizens. His work as a Coroner, says Wallace Bain, has been to speak for the dead to take care of the living. "After climbing the mountain I can finally enjoy the view."

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=760970>

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## **Communication/Journalism**

Sharing the Mic : Community Access Radio in Aotearoa New Zealand / Brian Pauling & Bronwyn Beatty (Ed) Karen Neill  
Christchurch: Harvest (Freerange Press), 2021

284p.

9780473571641

\$ 55.00 / PB

580gm.

From Invercargill to Auckland, community access radio has been broadcasting by, for and about New Zealanders across four decades. Within a rapidly shifting mediascape, the twelve current stations came into existence through a combination of passion, hard work, community engagement and enabling legislation, allowing the diversity of local communities to speak to themselves through the borderless realm of radio. Using extensive interviews and in-depth research, *Sharing the Mic* tells the stories of the volunteers, staff and managers at the heart of access broadcasting and places the history of Aotearoa's access radio within the wider media and technological changes of the last 40 years. This is also the story of the changing voices of an increasingly diverse country and the way that access broadcasting has become a vital part of New Zealand's media. From being a welcoming presence to new arrivals through to multi-language Civil Defence communications, access radio continues to support generations of New Zealanders.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=760971>

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## **Ecology/Environment Studies**

Climate Aotearoa : What's Happening and What We Can Do About It / (Ed) Helen Clark

Auckland: Allen & Unwin, 2021

328p.

9781988547633

\$ 50.00 / PB

412gm.

### **The science on climate change in Aotearoa New Zealand now and in the future, and what changes we all need to make.**

Contributions from a range of climate scientists and commentators Rob Bell, Jason Boberg, Adelia Hallett, Sophie Handford, Rhys Jones, Haylee Koroi, Matt McGlone, Jamie Morton, Rod Oram, Jim Salinger, Kera Sherwood-O'Regan, Simon Thrush and Andrew Jeffs. *Climate Aotearoa* outlines the climate situation as it is now, and as it will be in the years to come. It describes the likely impact on the environment and on our day-to-day living situation. It suggests the changes you can make for maximum impact, what we should be asking of our government and what we should be asking of our business community. In doing so, this is a hopeful book - actions can make a difference.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=760972>

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### **History**

Transgressing Tikanga : Captured By Maori : First-Hand Accounts 1816-1884 / Trevor Bentley

Nelson: Potton & Burton, 2021

292p.

Includes Bibliography

9781988550183

\$ 50.00 / PB

720gm.

Transgressing Tikanga is a collection of 20 first-hand accounts written by Europeans who were captured by Maori between 1816 and 1884. These Pakeha men and women were seized when they either committed blatant acts of aggression or unknowingly transgressed tikanga Maori (customary law), for which utu was required. These captivity narratives are packed with drama and action, and are not always easy reading, but they create a vivid picture of nineteenth-century interactions between Maori and Pakeha. They provide a rich insight into early Maori life, including the principals of captivity and utu, social order, religious practices, everyday customs, and the conduct of warfare. With notes that give detailed historical context, Transgressing Tikanga makes an important contribution to understanding the cross-cultural tensions from which contemporary New Zealand society has emerged.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=760973>

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Time to Make Song and Dance : Cultural Revolt in Auckland in the 1960s / Murray Edmond

Pokeno: Atuanui Press Ltd, 2021

xxii, 360p.

Includes Index

9780995126862

\$ 50.00 / PB

458gm.

The 1960s was a period of radical conflict, when the desire for a new, socially defiant freedom affected every aspect of NZ culture: theatre, the visual arts, Maori activism, rock 'n roll, literature, feminism, NZ film, direct action, culminating in a

series of bombings that rocked Auckland at the end of the decade. Featuring figures such as Janet Frame, Tim Shadbolt, Barry Crump, Jean Watson, Hone Tuwhare, Carmen, Bob Lowry, Molly Macalister, Ronald Barker, Anna Hoffmann and the Bower Brothers, *Time to Make a Song and Dance* captures a spirit of revolt that swept over Auckland and Aotearoa, creating lasting changes to the boundaries of what was permissible. Murray Edmond has written a richly detailed history of the volatile events and personalities at the heart of the time.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=760974>

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### **Literature**

*Hold the Line : The Springbook Tour of '81, A Family, a Love Affair, a Nation at War : A Novel* / Kerry Harrison  
New Zealand: Cloud Ink, 2021

262p.

9780473559465

\$ 40.00 / PB

344gm.

It's 1981 and New Zealand is about to host the Springboks from apartheid South Africa for a national rugby tour. The well-supported protest movement pitches against a nation of die-hard rugby supporters. Despite growing public protest, the Government and Rugby Union are adamant the tour will proceed. Beth returns from London. Her World War 2 veteran father is a rugby fanatic, her brother becomes a protestor embroiled in street violence. She studies law and meets Viktor who, unknown to her, is a member of the notorious Police Red Squad. What will happen to their polarised relationship in a country where the very survival of civil order is at risk? In this fast-paced novel, the nuances and tensions of the infamous 1981 Springbok Tour are probed and laid bare.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=760975>

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*Cold Wallet* / Rosy Fenwicke

New Zealand: Wonderful World Ltd, 2021  
350p.  
9780473559403  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
512gm.

You have kind eyes.' The last words Andrew said to Jess just before he died on their honeymoon. Grief stricken she returns to New Zealand and to the cryptocurrency exchange, he left her in his will. Knowing nothing about cryptocurrency, Jess, a physician, turns to Andrew's associate, Henry, someone she has never liked, for advice. But does he mean to help or hinder? Suddenly nothing is as it should be, and Jess has no choice but to involve the authorities. Suddenly details of Jess's past are leaked to the press and she has to fight to save her reputation and her future. The solution to her problems may be in the Cold Wallet but without the passwords what can she do? 'An exciting thought-provoking thriller set in the world of cryptocurrency.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=760976>

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Blood on Vines / Madeleine Eskedahl  
The Matakana Series  
New Zealand: Squabbling Sparrows Press, 2021  
310p.  
9780995136939  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
460gm.

Four friends, a shared past, a common enemy. In New Zealand's Martinborough, an ex-wine maker dies at the hands of an unknown assailant. The planning, execution and pure enjoyment sets in motion a series of vile attacks. Meanwhile north of Auckland, the long, hot summer is over and the tourists have left the Matakana wine country. A tranquil atmosphere descends and warm autumnal winds sweep across the grape-laden valleys. With the harvest due, grapes sit

bursting upon the manicured vines awaiting the pick. Within this vista of peace, a rampage of death is about to rock the local community to its core. Will it be their shared history that sees the four friends being picked off one-by-one?

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=760977>

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Inside the Black Horse / Ray Berard

Auckland: David Bateman Ltd, 2021

296p.

9781776890002

\$ 40.00 / PB

640gm.

Pio Morgan is waiting outside a pub on a cold winter's night. There is a debt he must pay and no options left. What he does next drags a group of strangers into a web of confusion that over the course of a few days changes all their lives. There's the young Maori widow just trying to raise her children, the corporate executive hiding his mistake, the gang of criminals that will do whatever it takes to recover what they've lost and the outsider sent to town to try and figure out who did what. Time is running out for all of them as events take an increasingly sinister turn.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=760978>

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The Stone Weta / Octavia Cade

New Zealand: Paper Road Press, 2020

182p.

9780995135505

\$ 35.00 / PB

248gm.

We talk about the tyranny of distance a lot in this country. That distance will not save us. With governments denying climate science, scientists from affected countries and organisations are forced to traffic data to ensure the preservation of research that could in turn preserve the world.

From Antarctica, to the Chihuahuan Desert, to the International Space Station, a fragile network forms. A web of knowledge. Secret. But not secret enough. When the cold war of data preservation turns bloody - and then explosive - the scientists, bound together by their cause but each isolated in their own ways, must decide how much they are willing to risk for the truth. Murder on Antarctic ice. A university lecturer's car, found abandoned on a desert road. And the first crewed mission to colonise Mars, isolated and vulnerable in the depths of space. How far would you go to save the world?

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=760979>

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Answering to the Caul : A Novel / Ted Dawe  
Auckland: Mangakino University Press (MUP), 2020  
342p.  
9780473528188  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
382gm.

'There are some things you can never share with another human being. Answering to the caul is one of those.'  
It is said that being born in a caul means that you can never die by drowning. Andrei Reti puts this prophesy to the test, time and time again. But there is a price to be paid for each caul intervention. This is a novel about the dark side of being special. About the war between fact and coincidence. About the things we can never share.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=760980>

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Both Feet in Paradise / Andy Southall (Ed) Sarah Bolland  
Wellington: The Cuba Press, 2021  
356p.  
9781988595382  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
386gm.

After months of researching butterflies in Samoa, Adam is looking forward to returning home to his family. Then his

transfer to the airport doesn't arrive. Worse, a hastily arranged taxi takes him not to departures but an empty field in the middle of nowhere, and he misses his flight. As he fails to find alternative ways off the island - other flights, ferries, even seagoing yachts - he grows increasingly frustrated, especially as all overseas phone lines and emails seem to be down as well. In a cafe, he meets Eve, who offers to help him. Adam decides he has to trust her, for there is no one else. Yet he has a strange feeling he's met her before ... Both Feet in Paradise is a masterpiece of storytelling that suspends the reader in a world of relentless beauty - where one step forward is two steps back and nothing and no one can be relied on, least of all yourself.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=760981>

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Pearl City : Stories from Japan and Elsewhere / Simon Rowe  
New Zealand: Mighty Tales Publishing, 2020

276p.

9780646819358

\$ 33.00 / PB

250gm.

Pearl City: Stories from Japan and Elsewhere is short fiction for busy people who love to travel. Six of the stories are set in Japan, and the others in Hong Kong, East Malaysia, Australia, New Zealand, France, Austria, the Philippines, and Cambodia. The stories, which carry themes of freedom, family, redemption, justice, courage, corruption, girl power, are tied together by a single message: triumph over adversity. Included in this collection are: Crossing the Ditch (winner, Hal Porter Prize 2017, Australia), Night Fishing (highly commended, Ouen Press Prize, 2020, U.K.), Oysters to Die for (selected, Noir Nation No. 7 international crime fiction, U.S.), and The Convenience Store Ballerina (selected, The Best Asian Short Stories Anthology 2019, Singapore).

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=760982>

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Ghosts / Siobhan Harvey  
Dunedin: Otago University Press, 2021  
112p.  
9781988592985  
\$ 34.00 / PB  
214gm.

Poet Siobhan Harvey's latest collection is about migration, outcasts, the search for home, and the ghosts we live with, including the ones who occupy our memories, ancestries and stories. It begins in a contemporary inner-city suburb where a poet starts to chart the regeneration she witnesses, its difficulties and opportunities. Along the way, the collection moves across time-zones, oceans and continents, breaking down personal and political walls, and unleashing ghosts everywhere. Ultimately, *Ghosts* is a work concerned with dislocation, rejection, homelessness, family trauma and how we can give voice to the lost souls inside us all.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=760983>

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Gaps in the Light / Iona Winter  
New Zealand: AdHoc Fiction, 2021  
x, 100p. ; 133x203mm.  
9781912095049  
\$ 32.00 / PB  
122gm.

*Gaps in the Light* uses form in innovative ways to express deeply the experience of loss and joy in ways I can't remember reading anywhere else. Nothing is binary here – everything feels multidimensional, so perfectly complicated, like echoes off multiple surfaces. It's simply astounding!~ Pip Adam, author of *Nothing to See*, *The New Animals*, *I'm Working on a Building*, and *Everything We Hoped For*

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To read this work is to enter the forest as an elemental being, and then feel the loss of that forest. The lover, the bereft and the broken are here. It's a journey of close attention, pain, rage and truth revealed as the path is taken. *Gaps in the Light* is compassionate, deeply chanted music. ~ Kirstie McKinnon, author of *Songs from the Water*

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*Gaps in the Light* burns with fierce emotion; multiple voices float in and out until the whole text becomes hypnotic and taut ... revealing the depths, nuances and complexities of love in all its forms with an utterly-earned intensity. Iona Winter asks you to stare directly into her eyes ... be warned, she won't blink first. ~ Helen Lehndorf, author of *The Comforter* and *Write to the Centre*

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=760984>

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Burst Kisses On The Actual Wind / Courtney Sina Meredith  
Auckland: Beatnik Publishing, 2021

72p.

9780995118096

\$ 30.00 / HB

116gm.

Courtney Sina Meredith is one of New Zealand's most talented and influential authors. *Burst Kisses On The Actual Wind* will find an eager audience. Paula Morris. Award winning author MNZM. Rangatira, Queen of Beauty. 'Everyone thinks you dream in foreign prose.' 'Everyone stands in front of you like a mirror.' Courtney Sina Meredith has grown a distinctive voice. Her arrangements are formally inventive. She surprises in ways that writers ought to. Lloyd Jones. Mister Pip, Commonwealth Writer's Prize winner & Booker Prize nominee.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=760985>

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