



STOUT RESEARCH CENTRE
for New Zealand Studies

Stout Research Centre for New Zealand Studies



Newsletter

June 2020

Research Update

Kate Hunter

We send out the newsletter a little late this year for the most extraordinary of reasons: the Covid19 global pandemic. We will all be emerging from seven weeks of isolation in our “bubbles” (I am taking bets on this being the word of 2020), and reuniting with our whanau, friends, hairdressers and bakers. I found to my surprise that the shop I most missed was my local florist. She does make good coffee but I found myself longing to stand in a shop that was a riot of colour and beauty.

As the University re-opens we are taking a cautious approach and keeping the campus closed to the public. So, the usual Stout Centre activities remain suspended for the foreseeable future. Now that we are all trying to return to a more usual pattern of work we will try to find ways of connecting again with our community, but in the meantime, we hope that you are all finding excellent essays and opinion pieces to read – including those of the JD Stout Fellow Max Rashbrooke – and podcasts to keep you going. I have been very interested to see how many museums and galleries have developed outreach programmes including video tours and ‘favourite objects’ selections on social media platforms.

My own research and study leave seems a lifetime ago, but I had many productive months last year carrying out research on my *Imagining Arabia* project. I spent time in the National Libraries of Australia & New Zealand, State Libraries of Tasmania, Victoria and NSW, as well as some smaller regional repositories (including Puke Ariki and Wairarapa Archives). I was able to visit the National Gallery of Victoria and the National Gallery of Australia, seeing key works by Australian artists influenced by the Middle East including

a major exhibition of Hans Heysen's paintings, and an Art Deco exhibition in Canberra. A highlight of my trip to Tasmania was going to Bagdad and Jericho (see my blog post on this visit if you are interested on www.imagining-arabia.nz). These remnants of colonial towns are wonderful examples of the ways the Australasian landscape has been marked by various kinds of visions of the Middle East – in this case, straight from the pages of the *Arabian Nights* carried in the saddlebag of the colonial surveyor.



Visiting Bagdad, Tasmania.
November 2019.



Marjorie Fletcher, *Mourning Arab*, 1935, National Gallery of Australia.

In August I hosted a workshop with Dr Meredith Lake, author of the award-winning *The Bible in Australia: A cultural history* and Meredith also gave a public lecture which was extremely well attended with more than 70 people in the audience. The workshop, involving colleagues from History and Religious Studies as well as one of my PhD students, was extremely useful in helping me shape the structure of the book, and to explore some of the larger ideas around identifying the changing nature of religious imagining of the Middle East in the early 20th century, especially as theology developed as a discipline increasingly concerned with history and archaeology, as well as exegesis.

It was an enormous privilege to be able to take research leave and I am very grateful to Anna Green for stepping into the director's role, which enabled me to go. I am also very mindful that I have colleagues whose research has been severely disrupted this year by the pandemic. The closure of archives and libraries has been a blow to many scholars, compounded by the need to travel home under emergency conditions. We send our best wishes to our colleagues and friends in the UK, especially, and while we are glad to have Richard Hill home in New Zealand safely, we appreciate how frustrating it was to truncate his major research trip. We send all friends of the SRC our best wishes and look forward to a time when we can welcome you back to 12 Wai-te-ata Rd. In the meantime, we wish you excellent books and new discoveries online.

Anna Green

With the sudden decision to lockdown the country and close the university our Stout seminar series Wellington@180 and oral history conference plans came to an abrupt halt. A decision on whether it will be possible to reschedule the oral history conference (sponsored jointly with the National Oral History Association of NZ) for November will be made in mid-June, so please keep an eye on the Stout website for further information.

Over the past few weeks I have moved my postgraduate Honours course in History and Theory online, and find running a "distance" seminar with nine students through Zoom does not, so far, seem to inhibit discussion or lively engagement. It will be interesting to find out what the students think about the experience. I continue to work on editing the online *Journal of New Zealand Studies* and our June 2020 issue is well underway. In terms of research, plans to participate in a symposium on family memory in Adelaide in April and a conference later in August in Poland have both been cancelled. But work continues on my family memory oral history project 'The Missing Link' (www.familymemory.nz) in terms of listening, analyzing, and writing. As with many other researchers, however, I am anxious to be able to follow up source material in the National Library and Archives and hope that will be possible later in the year. Meanwhile, I remain very concerned about the decisions by the National Library to decommission over half a million books and National Archives to restrict public access through reduction of the reading room hours, and the potentially damaging implications of both these decisions for the research community.

Richard Hill

Richard went on Research and Study leave at the beginning of December 2019, working on security intelligence and colonial policing history; in late January he began research in archives and libraries in London. He was scheduled to go to Oxford University from 1 April to take up a Visiting Fellowship at St Cross College, but the rapidly worsening Covid-19 situation in the UK forced him to make a sudden return to New Zealand in late March. In London, among other things, he had held discussions with experts on security and policing history. On 24 February he presented a paper on 'The Violent World of Colonial Policing'

to the University of London's Imperial and Word History Seminar, hosted by the LSE and chaired by Richard Drayton of King's College London.

Late last year Richard's chapter 'Coercion, Consent and Surveillance: Policing New Zealand' was published in Jonas Campion et al (eds.), *European Police Forces and Law Enforcement in the First World War*, Palgrave Macmillan. In April the *Labour History Project Bulletin*, No. 78, ran his appreciation of the life and career of Gerard Hill: 'Gerry Hill: Unionist, Political and Social Activist, Labour History Stalwart, 1954-2020'. In early May Richard became a foundational supporter of the Australian, Canadian, and New Zealand Studies Network (ACNZSN) established by Dr Jatinder Mann (a former visiting scholar at the Stout) in Hong Kong. Information on this new venture can be found at: <https://acnzs.org>

Steven Loveridge

In February Steven acted as one of the organisers for the 'Heavy and Continuous Sacrifices' conference, which examined diverse aspects of the Second World War, attracted attendees from across and beyond New Zealand and was enthusiastically received. He also presented his latest research on New Zealand's conceptions of Japan and the United States towards and into the Pacific War. He is currently involved in producing content for NZ Post's official marking of the 75 anniversary of the end of the Second World War as well as researching the challenges New Zealand diplomats faced through the 1960-1980s for an official publication.

Student Update

New Zealand Studies

PhD Candidates

Sandra Thomas continues her research into the operation of the Compensation Court in the Waikato and South Auckland in 1865-1868 and the extent to which its work contributed to the colonization project which prioritised settler interests over Maori interests and relied on legality for legitimacy. The research is currently focused on the Court's Ngaruawahia hearings in 1867 and Mackay's awards.

Margaret Kawharu is continuing her work on exploring the modes of survival for Maori tribal groups post Treaty settlement; how they mend themselves, what critical decisions they make, how they set their standards in order to be true to themselves and stand confidently as a people for their priorities today and make their settlement work.

Gerrard Carter's research examines the Wellington Provincial Council's decision-making processes and the development of provincial administrative systems.

Resident Update

We welcomed Dr Malcolm Petrie who arrived in March but has since returned to the UK due to the Covid-19 travel situation. An historian based in Scotland at the University of St Andrews, he is engaged in a research project on the challenges faced by the political Scottish/British left during the period of neoliberal reforms after Thatcher's accession to office in 1979. He is intending to provide a New Zealand comparative dimension by coverage of the fourth Labour government's policies ('Rogernomics'). He is also working on a transnational assessment of the influence of UK policy in New Zealand; and of the ways Rogernomics was interpreted and used in Britain by both the political left and right.

Rita Ricketts also returned to the United Kingdom in haste, on one of the last flights before lockdown. Rita continues with her research to collect stories, official and unofficial, of those involved in NZ foreign policy making.

Barbara Einhorn, Professor Emerita of Gender Studies at the University of Sussex, has extended her residency until August and continues with her research on 'Transnational Identity as Potentially Subversive?'

Museum and Heritage Studies Programme

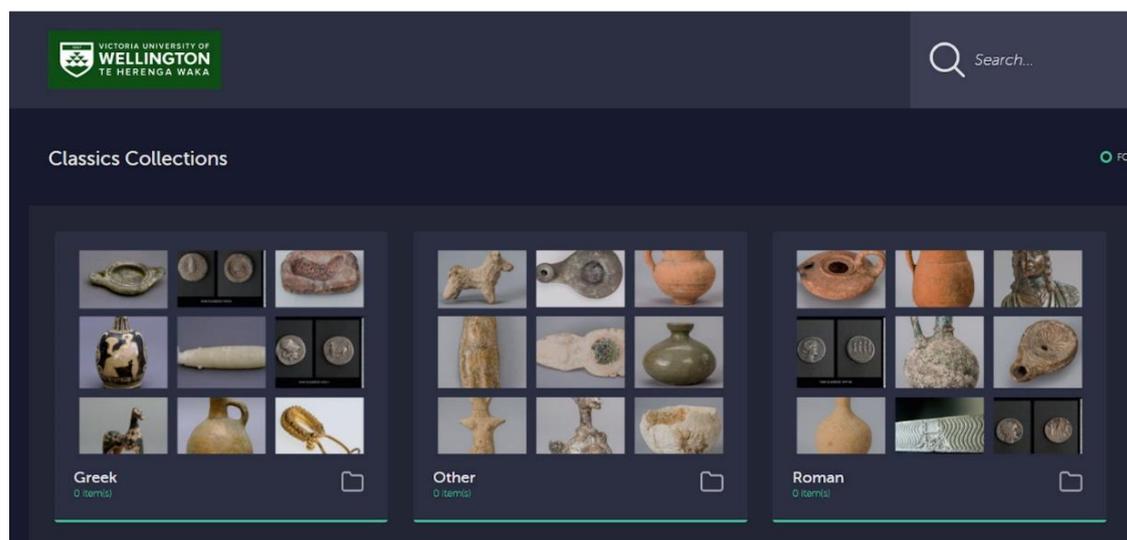
Internships in the Master's of Museum and Heritage Practice:

The 20 students in the taught master's degree (MMHP) for 2020 are currently doing coursework, online rather than on campus due to COVID-19, and will be doing work placements at institutions around Wellington slightly later this year, in August rather than June-July. In November they will be starting on the 600 hour internships which make up part B of the degree. Back in March, when the campus was still open, students were welcomed at the Stout Centre with an orientation and a function attended by professionals from the sector. This year's group includes students from Victoria, other Universities around New Zealand, and international students from Brazil, the UK and US. Unfortunately two students from China were not able to join us because the borders closed at alert level 4, but they will hopefully join the class in 2021.

Meanwhile 16 students from the class of 2019 have been doing projects and internships full time and part time stretching from last summer to mid 2020. Students gain valuable experience in a range of areas of professional practice while the museums, galleries, archives and heritage organisations get a lot of work done for free—a win win exchange. In 2019-20 these projects have been undertaken at wide range of different organisations as follows: art education at Te Papa; incentives schemes for earthquake strengthening at Dunedin City Council; collection projects at Central Stories, Alexandra, Toitū Otago Settlers Museum, Dunedin and Project Ark, Wyndham; Māori archives at Auckland War Memorial Museum; domestic repatriation and Māori cultural centres projects at National Services Te Paerangi; events management through Cupa Dupa and heritage interpretation planning at Wellington City Council; registration proposals at Heritage New Zealand; setting up an iwi museum training programme at Pātaka in Porirua; collection management projects at the Dowse; UNESCO Memory of the World project at Alexander Turnbull Library; developing and designing an exhibition at parliament; an exhibition and rebranding project at Whakatāne Museum; collections deaccessioning work at Puke Ariki in New Plymouth; and a public art programme at Whanganui District Council.

Two particular internships stand out. **Sara Robinson** worked at the Petone Settlers Museum completing a wide range of collections, curatorial and management work which will make the small social history museum on the Petone Esplanade more accessible to its publics. Staff at the Dowse, who manage the PSM, were full of praise for Sara's comprehensive and invaluable input, and Sara was able to advance her skills and professional development as a platform to launch the next phase of her career. Meanwhile **Rachel Mildenhall**, who has a BA in Classics, completed an internship project at the University's Classics Museum in Old Kirk. Rachel describes her work, much of which was completed in lock down while the University was closed:

For the last six months, I have been working alongside Dr Diana Burton from the Classics programme on cataloguing and digitising the collection of the Classics Museum. For this project, we have worked alongside Victoria University of Wellington Imaging Services, who are allowing us to use their image databasing programme "Chorus Third Light" as a publicly accessible database. This database will include high resolution images of all the objects in the collection as well as the relevant metadata, including object type, date, artist and many other fields. Part of the motivation behind this project was making the collection more accessible to scholars and students not only at VUW but also other institutions around the world.



Alongside this database, I have catalogued a small selection of items on the eHive database, as another way for people to find out more about the Classics Museum. eHive proved effective as a backend backup database for the collection. It has also been good working alongside Imaging Services to photograph the newer acquisitions of the Museum as well as a selection of Roman and Greek coins. This project has taught me about how much work goes into digitising collections and the difficulties that surrounds projects like this.

eHive Explore Search What is eHive? Search objects Sign in Sign up

Sort Name/title A...Z Sort Summary Lightbox

Objects 1 - 9 of 9

Refine results

Images attached

Yes (9)

Catalogue type

History (9)

Documents attached

No (9)

Object type

Coin (2)

Antefix (1)

Column Krater (1)

Roman Glass (1)

Bronze Age Figurine (1)

Roman Sculpture (1)



Etruscan bronze mirror; Unknown; 4th Century BCE; ...

From: Victoria University of Wellington Classics Museum



Gold filigree earring; Unknown; 2 - 1st century BC...

From: Victoria University of Wellington Classics Museum



Bronze appliqué figure ; Unknown; 1 - 2nd century ...

From: Victoria University of Wellington Classics Museum



Tetradrachm; 449 - 413 BCE; 1972.2

From: Victoria University of Wellington Classics Museum

MA and PhD theses:

Two more MA by thesis students are underway on their research: **Natalie Marshall** who is curator of photography at the Alexander Turnbull Library is undertaking research on the legacy of the Carnegie libraries in New Zealand. This study combines cultural history, heritage studies, and architectural history in exploring these remarkable buildings dotted around the country, which were funded by the US Carnegie Corporation in the early 20th century. The secondary supervisor is Dr Jamie Jacobs who is General Manager Heritage New Zealand Central Region. We are very lucky to have the input of adjunct research associate Dr Jacobs, an architectural historian who worked for the national parks service in the US before moving to New Zealand.

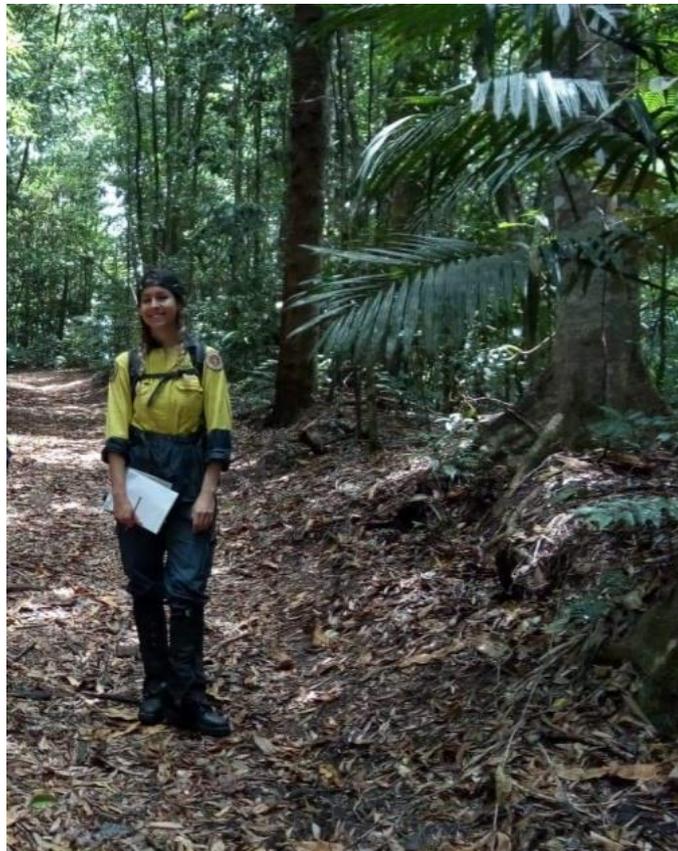
The other MA student is **Jessie Bray Sharpin** who was formerly the curator of social history at Nelson Provincial Museum. This year Jessie won the Cheryl Sotheran Memorial Scholarship at Te Papa which is given out every year in memory of the founding CEO of the national museum (see photo below). She will be exploring a significant textile collection at a historic house museum in Nelson in relation to questions of gender, material culture and curatorship. The secondary supervisor for this topic is Dr Bronwyn Labrum, an expert on textiles, curating and museum history, who is Leader Special Curatorial Projects at Canterbury Museum in Christchurch, and editor of Routledge's *Museum History Journal*.

The cohort of PhD students in Museum and heritage studies is large for the size of the programme and currently numbers 13-15 students, some of them at the beginning of their thesis journey and some at the end. In addition to our own students, Conal McCarthy and Lee Davidson also supervise students in other programmes: including tourism, anthropology, and information management, and at other universities such as the ANU in Canberra. We have students from Aotearoa and around the world: Italy, France, the US, Canada, China, and South Africa.

Two new international students started their PhDs in 2020. **Nina Buhler** hails from Switzerland via Dublin where she completed a Master of Science (MSc) in World Heritage Management and Conservation.

After an internship in far north Queensland where she worked with land councils and local Aboriginal communities she applied for and was awarded a Victoria University doctoral scholarship, arriving in Wellington in March (just before lock down). Her PhD is provisionally titled *"The effects of collaborative management and governance arrangements on Indigenous heritage in Aotearoa New Zealand's and Australia's protected areas"*. She is being supervised by Lee Davidson, along with Ass Prof Peter Adds of Te Kawa a Māui, and will look at the co-management of national parks in Australia and Aotearoa including Tongariro which of course was established in the 1880s after a gift to the nation by Tūwharetoa chief Te Heuheu.

In this photo we see Nina working with Aboriginal colleagues in the Wet Tropics of Queensland in 2019.



Our other new arrival is from Ryazan in Russia. **Dr Valentin Gorbachev** (no relation) is a trained teacher with a PhD in history who has worked for several years in the field of historical re-enactment. He set up a heritage tourism centre *Faces of the Past*, where he researched, developed and practiced historical re-enactment for education, museum communication and community work: here he designed and carried out four tours, more than 50 interactive programmes, and five exhibitions aimed at engaging visitors with past events and characters from the 10th to the 20th century. The secondary supervisor for this thesis is Dr Jeannette Atkinson, another RA in the programme who works in the University's Research Office. Jeannette has a PhD in Museum Studies from the University of Leicester and has worked extensively on museums, education, and values and also has an interest in steam punk.



In his PhD thesis, which combines historical re-enactment with elements of critical heritage studies, public history, museum theatre, and community work, Valentin aims to dismiss the idea that “living history” is an amateurish hobby having nothing to do with ‘real’ history, or heritage. In recent years the new discipline of re-enactment studies has emerged which has legitimised different approaches to presenting the past from academic texts and written sources, including replicas, bodily experience and affective comprehension of the past as a vehicle for learning, understanding, interpreting, and constructing the personal meanings of local history and heritage. Valentin explains:

Building on my education and practical experience in Russia my proposed field work in Aotearoa and Russia will allow me to conduct this research in order to provide a conceptual framework for historical re-enactment technologies in the service of community-building. I hope the thesis will help museums and heritage agencies in New Zealand and through the world evaluate historical re-enactment as a vehicle to depict, interact, communicate with the past, create meaning and celebrate local heritage.



**Kaupapa Māori in museums:
Preservation of heritage inspires scholars.**



Doctoral candidate Awhina Tamarapa (Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Ruanui, Ngāti Pīkiao) travelled this summer to the United Kingdom to research the maintenance of Māori weaving as a living cultural practice.

This trip was funded by the scholarship He Whai Mātauranga awarded by the British High Commission. It supported travel by three Māori students from local universities to research Māori taonga in United Kingdom institutions.

“My primary aim has been to interview specific museum staff about their experience and perspectives on the subject, and to observe the operations of their museums in terms of the care, management, and access to Māori weaving in their collection,” says Awhina. “It is deeply rewarding to have agreement from museum staff to work together, which has been an immediate outcome of the scholarship. Being able to reconnect to the taonga in these museums is also a huge privilege.”



In addition, two Museum and Heritage Studies Masters students have received the 2019 Te Papa Memorial Scholarships, named for founders Cliff Whiting and Cheryl Sotheran, to pursue their studies this year, helping to preserve taonga and enriching current and future New Zealand museum practice.

Recipient of the Cliff Whiting Scholarship Laureen Sadlier (Ngāti Porou) will use her scholarship to support her work on a business proposal to build cultural capacity within the museum, art, and heritage sector using Te Papa-curated iwi shows. Laureen’s work as Registrar at Pātaka Art + Museum in Porirua has informed the goals for her Master’s internship. “We are currently hosting *Whiti Te Ra! The Story of Ngāti Toa Rangatira*, which travelled here from Te Papa. We employ Ngāti Toa rangatahi Te Rauparaha Horomona to lead and teach the histories to school groups and tour groups. “This experience has led me to explore how Pātaka can provide a basic museum training programme specialising in collection management for Ngāti Toa rangatahi using the iwi exhibition and Pātaka’s object and art collections.”

Jessie Bray Sharpin is the recipient of the Te Papa Cheryl Sotheran Scholarship. Jessie says, “My Master’s thesis is investigating the marginalisation of textiles in museum collections because of their association with women and the domestic.” She will be focusing on the textiles collection at Broadgreen Historic House in Nelson as a case study, because she says, “I wondered how this incredible collection had ended up relatively unknown in a regional historic house museum.” Laureen Sadlier and Jessie Bray Sharpin were awarded their scholarships at a ceremony at The Marae in Te Papa on Thursday 30 January.

Director of the Museum and Heritage Studies programme Professor Conal McCarthy says, “We are excited to see the results of the work that Awhina Tamarapa, Laureen Sadlier, and Jessie Bray Sharpin complete thanks to the generosity of the British High Commission and the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa.”

Message from JD Stout Fellow 2019 – Dr Jonathan West

Reflections at the end of a marvellous year (and a work still in progress).

My time as J D Stout Fellow working on *Mirrors on the Land*, my history of New Zealand's lakes, has been the most marvellous year. Out on Lake Wanaka recently (not a cloud in the sky, not a breath of breeze, the water silver-sheened and still) I found myself reflecting that there's really nothing quite like the J D Stout Fellowship in the country - this is almost the only way most people can tackle a big research project such as this. I have just felt throughout so very fortunate: thank you.

As my project has developed it's become very much a work at the confluence of science, history, and geography. So there's no more fitting place to have started it than the Stout Research Centre for New Zealand Studies. I thoroughly approve of its mission to help link the university and the community, and have made some efforts in that regard, besides my Stout lecture, talking about my work to Rotary Wellington, and soon in public talks at Zealandia and the Centre for Science in Society (also part of Victoria).

I've been especially delighted to find lovely links between my lake's history and the Stout Centre itself, since Vida Stout - J D's sister and herself a substantial benefactor of the Stout Trust - was such a significant and leading limnologist, in fact founder (with Ann Chapman) of the New Zealand Limnological Society. Vida worked mainly on Canterbury lakes, with a particular interest in the Waitaki lakes, which are also one of my major case studies. And Vida also mentored some of the scientists who I've now talked to and learnt a lot from, such as Carolyn Burns of Otago.

And like my project, I have felt - and been made to feel - perfectly at home here. Thanks to Anna, Kate, Richard and Debbie, and to the others who maintain their links to the place - Brad and Kathryn and Stephen perhaps especially - I have enjoyed the ease and kindness of the place and its community of people.

I wish all the very best for the future of the Centre, its staff, and its friends.

Kind regards, Jonathan West

Journal of New Zealand Studies

A general issue will be published in June 2020. In December, we will publish a special issue on the theme of 'Colin McCahon: Life and Afterlife', edited by Luke Smythe and Rex Butler, Monash University.

Call for Papers

The journal publishes two issues a year online, in June and December. Please submit articles for the 2020 issues of the Journal through our online registration:

<http://ojs.victoria.ac.nz/jnzs/index>

History of Giving

The Stout Research Centre was founded in 1984 through the generous support of the Stout Trust, which was established from a bequest left by Dr John Stout. The Stout Trust continues to fund the annual Stout Fellowship, which has enabled research into many aspects of New Zealand society, history and culture. John Stout's gift is valued highly by today's researchers at the Stout Research Centre.

We also value the contribution of all our Friends and supporters and welcome opportunities to talk with you about continuing your support through a gift in your will. All gifts are managed by the Victoria University Foundation, a registered charitable Trust established to raise funds in areas of strategic importance to the University, such as the Stout Research Centre.

For further information on how you can support the Stout Research Centre through a gift in your will, please contact either: Kate Hunter, Director, Stout Research Centre, telephone 04 463 6434, or Jill Robinson, Development Manager – Planned Giving, Victoria University of Wellington Foundation, telephone 0800 VIC LEGACY (0800 842 534), email: jill.robinson@vuw.ac.nz

Lockdown memories...



Anna Green's inspirational home work space.



Debbie Levy's kitchen table... and Teds.



*PhD Candidate Margaret Kawharu with view of
Tauwhare, taku maunga.*



Kate Hunter and Amber, working in the sun.