



# STOUT RESEARCH CENTRE

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## *for New Zealand Studies*

## Newsletter Autumn 2013

### New Residents

Welcome to Emeritus Professor Barbara Einhorn, who joined the Stout in February and has been here several times before. Barbara has come from Gender Studies, Department of Sociology, at the University of Sussex. Her research will focus on the issue of refugees, emigration to New Zealand and return migration to Germany.

### Student Update

Congratulations to Sam Ritchie and Steven Loveridge who have both handed in PhDs, and also to Tai Walker who received her Doctorate in April.

Congratulations to Ruby Tuesday who has received her Masters with distinction. Ruby's thesis is about modernity and religion in the *Dreamhunter* novels of Elizabeth Knox.

### Research Update

The Stout Centre was delighted with Victoria's #1 ranking in the recent PBRF round, and pleased to contribute in a small way to the results.

### *Anna Green*

Anna Green is currently working with Dr Tim Cooper, an environmental historian at the University of Exeter, on a British Academy funded study of the first major global oil tanker disaster. In 1967 the *Torrey Canyon* grounded on the Seven Stones Reef off the coast of Cornwall, releasing over 100,000 tons of crude oil into the English Channel. Although this event is assumed to be instrumental in the development of environmental consciousness in the U.K., there is little empirical research to support this assertion. We are particularly interested in the impact of the disaster upon the communities around the coast, and Anna is currently analysing fifty oral history interviews recorded during the summer of 2012.

Anna has been invited to speak at the National Oral History of New Zealand regional symposium in Auckland on 10 May.

### *Richard Hill*

#### ***Colonial Policing Project***

In February Richard Hill carried out the final case-study for his Marsden-funded project on comparative policing in nineteenth and twentieth century colonies. This took him to Pondicherry, a former French colony in India (where, incidentally, the early sequences of the film version of the *Life of Pi* were shot). He was based at the University of Pondicherry, a federal university, and conducted research both there and at the French Institute of Pondicherry, supplemented by research forays into Tamil Nadu. His interpreter and host was Dr N.K. Kumaresan Raja, an expert

in Indian land administration and state coercion of Dalits, a caste into which Dr Raja was born. Richard and Dr Raja are working on plans for future research collaboration.

### **Conference with Te Kawa a Maui and Visiting German Academics**

In March the Stout Research Centre co-hosted, with the School of Maori Studies/Te Kawa a Maui, and in association with Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz, Germany, an interdisciplinary conference on 'Reconciliation, Representation and Indigeneity'. Among the speakers were two doctoral students being supervised from the Stout – Therese Crocker (on the role of the Office of Treaty settlements) and Martin Fisher (on the pioneering settlements) –while Richard Hill reflected on his engagement in the various types of Treaty of Waitangi resolution processes. Prof Brigitte Bonisch-Brednich of the Anthropology Programme, who formed the conference committee along with Richard Hill and Peter Adds, is now a visiting professor at Johannes Gutenberg University and is following up potential research links forged during the conference proceedings at Te Herenga Waka and the Stout Centre.

### **Lydia Wevers**

Lydia Wevers attended a small invited symposium on the history of print culture at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana in early March. Muncie is famous as the site of the 1929 sociological study *Middletown: A Study in Modern American Culture* by Robert and Helen Lynd. Recently it has become the home of a website devoted to the study of reading and readers *What Middletown Read*, created by faculty members at Ball State. The symposium, which featured scholars from Canada, the US, the UK, Australia and New Zealand, was funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and will result in a published collection of the presented papers.

Lydia will present another paper from her work on the history of reading at a conference in Venice in early June, where she is a plenary speaker.

## **Seminar Series**

The first of our two seminar series for 2013 began on 13 March. The seminars are held at the Stout Research Centre Seminar Room on Wednesdays at 4.10pm.

### **Public History in New Zealand**

13 March	Anna Green - <i>'Public History: Trickle Down or Bubble Up?'</i>
20 March	Therese Crocker – <i>From Practitioner to Historian: reflections on researching the history of Treaty settlements policy and practice</i>
27 March	Barbara Mabbett – <i>Samuel Austin: Ulsterman, Soldier, Settler</i>
10 April	Julia Millen – <i>From Was to Window Dressing</i>
17 April	Graham Langton – <i>Public Records are Public History at Archives New Zealand</i>
1 May	Kristelle Plimmer – <i>Relationship Status: Engaged</i>
8 May	Marina Sciascia – <i>Capturing the spirit of a Community</i>
15 May	Anna Cottrell - <i>The Lives of Others</i>
22 May	Ben Schrader - <i>History online: better than a book?</i>
29 May	Jock Phillips - <i>Rapporteur and commentator - Conclusion and Discussion</i>

## Conference Update

### Call for Papers for 2013 Conference

#### ***Rethinking War - Is there anything new that can be said about the First World War?***

The Stout Research Centre for New Zealand Studies is holding a multidisciplinary conference, 28-30 November 2013, on rethinking 'the Great War' especially New Zealand's connections with and contribution to it. So much work has been produced on the Gallipoli landings, trench warfare, the ANZAC symbolism, war memorials etc that there might seem little else to say. But long experience tells us we don't know what we don't know, especially on the home front; and there must be plenty of space for revisiting the events of 1914-18 almost a century later. We invite papers on any topic related to New Zealand and the First World War or that may contextualise the Great War more generally and provide fresh ways of thinking about it.

Keynote Speaker: Professor Alistair Thomson, Monash University, author of *Anzac Memories*.

A preliminary list of topics is suggested below, but any proposal (title, and abstract no longer than 300 words) is welcome.

- Alcohol and drugs
- Animals
- Children
- Dissent
- Equipment
- Family memory
- Fashion
- Flora and Landscape
- Food
- Games
- Labour movement
- Literary byways
- Maori role
- Material culture
- Medical history
- Opposition and resistance
- Patriotic movements
- Policing
- Politics & Religion
- Post-memory
- Propaganda
- Representations
- Toys
- Trained to kill
- Travel
- Uniforms and equipment

Please submit abstract to [Deborah.levy@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Deborah.levy@vuw.ac.nz) by **1 June** 2013.

Please also provide a brief bio and C.V.

## Journal of New Zealand Studies

### **Latest Issue NS13 (2012)**

A selection of papers from the 'Man Alone' Conference held in 2011 has been published on-line in the 2012 issue of the *Journal of New Zealand Studies*. The issue has been edited by Anna Green (JNZS Editor) and the Editorial Committee, Lydia Wevers, Richard Hill, and Brad Patterson.

Back issues of the Journal are now available on-line through the Victoria University Library (On-Line Open Access website). The two earlier series *Stout Review* and *New Zealand Studies* are also available on-line.

To access the site, please visit: <http://ojs.victoria.ac.nz/jnzs/index>

Hard copies of back issues of the Journal may be purchased through the Stout Research Centre at a cost of \$25.00.

## A 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 Professor Lydia Wevers, Director Stout Research Centre, tel. 04 463 6434, email: [lydia.wevers@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:lydia.wevers@vuw.ac.nz) or Diana Meads, Fundraising Manager, Victoria University of Wellington Foundation tel. 0800 VIC LEGACY (0800 842 534), email: [diana.meads@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:diana.meads@vuw.ac.nz)