

### EDITORIAL

The emphasis in *NZWords* 9 is from volunteers both from within and outside of the Dictionary Centre here in Wellington. Mike Bradstock, a Christchurch editor and publisher, chef extraordinaire and fisherperson, writes about the New Zealand fishing scene, introducing us to some terms that are unique to New Zealand, to borrowed terms, and to terms with a meaning extension.

Peter Crisp, a long-time supporter of the Centre, gives us an insight into rubbish, in his summary of his collection of terms that have to do with end products and waste products. In keeping with this theme, Dr Desmond Hurley gives us the good oil on **poozling**, for which we sought further citations in *NZWords* 8. We also investigate the background to the **Queen's Chain**. Koenraad Kuiper, Professor of Linguistics at the University of Canterbury, presents a strong case for a Maori dictionary based on historical principles.

Our competition in this issue has two parts. The first, intended for word-spotters, is a Target type of puzzle, featuring a New Zealandism of nine letters. The second, for the creative, requires readers to construct a New Zealand recipe with a difference. Joint winners of the Code-cracker in *NZWords* 8 were D and P Kitteridge, whose solution was perfectly correct, and Professor Laurie Bauer, whose creativity won on the day. They each receive a voucher for \$50 worth of books from Oxford University Press.

The first annual award of a copy of *The New Zealand Oxford Dictionary* for a New Zealand English research project was made to Stephanie Bould of Epsom Girls' Grammar School. A Year 10 student in 2004, Stephanie was one of three applicants for the research award. Details of these projects are provided on page 12.

Dianne Bardsley  
Editor, NZWords  
Manager/Lexicographer  
NZDC

# Some Southern Sea Lore

MIKE BRADSTOCK

**A**s a very fishy person, whose life has at various times revolved around studying, photographing, catching, processing, cooking and eating fish, and even teaching seafood cookery, I have long been fascinated by the diversity of names given to them. For example, one type of small shark is variously known as **rig** (also spelt **rigg**), **dogfish**, **spotted dogfish**, **doggie** (often rendered as **dogi**), **smooth-hound**, **gummy shark**, **spotted gummy shark**, **lemon fish**, **deep-sea bream**, and **white fillets**. The Maori names include **pioke**, **kapeta**, **manga** and **mango**, but some of these - along with 'dogfish' - also apply to other species. Only the scientific name, *Mustelus lenticulatus*, is completely unambiguous.

Does any of this matter? Yes, it does - for a number of good reasons. Fishery managers and enforcement staff have to identify species and weights of fish caught commercially in order to keep track of quotas and other restrictions. There is a similar need to enforce size restrictions and bag limits among people fishing other than for commercial purposes. Knowing what name means what species is also important for basic communication between those who fish - how do you catch this (as opposed to that) type of fish? Where does it occur? How plentiful is it? These and other questions cannot be answered in a conversation when the parties are thinking about different species of fish.

There are also some vague names used that could mean any of a number of fish species. In a fishmonger's window, 'cod' was often used to mean just whatever species was cheap and plentiful at the market that morning. It was unlikely to mean blue cod, a premium fish that would always be identified as such; but might be an attempt at disguising the fact that it was red cod, a less-preferred species. (The name **Akaroa cod** is used for red cod in Canterbury, perhaps originally as an attempt to improve its market image.) There are even ad hoc names, as when a Greek fishmonger I know put small elephant fish in the window labeled 'psari' - which is simply the Greek word for fish.

When describing fishes it is necessary to make a basic distinction between so-called 'cartilaginous' and 'bony' fishes. The former include sharks, dogfishes and rays, which have a skeleton built of cartilage, though this is not to say they do not have some hard parts like teeth and spines. Bony fishes include the rest of the animals we think of as fish, such as snapper, tarakihi and trout, as well as some that may seem hard to categorise, such as eels. The very term 'fish' is sometimes used in compound names for unrelated aquatic animals like crayfish and jellyfish, or loosely on its own for animals of completely different phyletic groups, as in 'This shell has a fish in it', meaning 'This mollusc shell still has the live animal inside it'. It is also still sometimes erroneously applied to whales and dolphins, and other fish-like animals

such as lampreys.

Some fish names are recent inventions, modifications or corruptions of other names. The name **orange roughy** was invented in 1975 by the New Zealand scientist Gavin James, who applied it to a newly found species which was orange in colour and identified at the time only as a member of the roughy family. By the time that orange roughy stocks had been discovered all over the world, the New Zealand name was firmly established in the global market, although for a short time it was also known as **deep-sea perch**. The name **Ray's bream** was corrupted to **Jim Beam** after this hitherto little-known fish became a significant by-catch in the South Island west coast albacore fishery. **Kahawai** is widely abbreviated to **kawai**. The names **parore** and **porae**, which refer to two quite different fish, are often transposed.

There's a lot of geographical variation in the use of names. **Butterfish** in the north is **greenbone** down south. In the Auckland region the most common small fish children catch are **sprats** and **paketi**; further south they are called **herrings** and **spotties** respectively. But there are problems with these names. Neither herring nor sprat is really appropriate for *Aldrichetta forsteri*, which belongs to the mullet family and is more appropriately called **yellow-eyed mullet**. (In fact 'true' herrings and sprats are species that belong to families all of their own.) **Paketi** can mean any of several species in the wrasse family; like many Maori names it often does not recognise the finer distinctions of scientific taxonomy. Throughout Polynesia, the indigenous names of some fishes vary with the size, and we see this also where the adult of *Arripis trutta* is called **kahawai** and the young fish is **kopapa**. Some fish names have been corrupted from Maori (**hapuka** ought to be **whapuku**; **warehou** is sometimes called **warrior**). Names have even been both corrupted and transferred: **cockabully** is derived from **kokopu**, the adult of a type of whitebait, but used for other small species of fish often found in the same habitat. Maori names are often mispronounced: **terrakee** ought to be **tarakihi**, and this name is also shortened to **tiki**. The New Zealand snapper does not in fact belong to the snapper family but to the bream family, and this is faintly echoed in the names **bream** and **brim**, used in Nelson and Marlborough to mean small snapper. **Schnapper** is simply a variant spelling in which the 'ch' is usually silent. The name **Maori chief** is perhaps the most problematic of all, referring to at least four species of fish with striking facial markings.

Our fisheries yield a large number of commercial species compared to other fisheries around the world, and the species vary greatly in value according to the esteem in which they are held: from the **prime species** to the **less-preferred species**. Terms like these have been encouraged by organisations like the former Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (later **Mfish**, now

the Ministry of Fisheries or MoF) and the Fishing Industry Board (now subsumed by the Seafood Industry Council, or SeaFIC). When the term 'less-preferred' was coined in the 1960s it usually meant commercially worthless, but markets have been progressively developed for almost everything that swims or sits on the bottom - the result of a global fish shortage. 'Prime' is not always a reliable guide to quality however, many people would not consider that certain prime species, for example **john dory** and **orange roughy**, are worth their premium prices. **Bulk fishing** refers to fishing for large volumes of low-value fish like **barracouta**.

Laying gear in the water to catch fish is called **setting**, **shooting**, or **shooting away**, and the whole process including the retrieval or **hauling** or **lifting** of the gear is called a **set** or a **shot**. A set of a trawl net or dredge is also called a **tow** because the net or dredge is towed throughout the duration of the set.

When trying to catch, say, snapper, one may of course catch other species as well, or instead. In this situation one is **targeting** snapper (often spelt 'targetting', probably caused by the idea that the verb 'to get' is needed in there somewhere), and snapper is the **target species**. Any other fish caught are **by-catch**, even if they are more valuable. The amount of work put into catching the fish is called **fishing effort** and is measured in different ways according to the method, for example with set-net fishing, by the length of the net and number of hours it was left in the water (**soak time**) to catch fish. In most cases fishermen (also called **fishers**) are required to fill out a log-book detailing where, when, and how much was caught, with each type identified by a 3-letter **species code**, like SNA for snapper. Formerly called a **fishing return**, it is now called a **Catch, Effort and Landing Return (CELR)** and also incorporates a summary of total fish landings from **landings dockets** issued by the buyer, who must be a **licensed fish receiver (LFR)**, such as a processing company or **processor**. For any period when no fishing was done the fisherman must file a **nil return**.

Fish caught are usually segregated by species into plastic containers called **fish bins** or **trays**. The least valuable fish, and uncommon species that are only caught in very small numbers, are not usually segregated by species but just lumped together and called **odds** or **roughs**. Fish that are under the minimum legal size (i.e. **undersized**), or are inedible or uneconomic to process owing to their small size, are called **discards** and usually dumped at sea or processed into fish meal. Sorting, discarding and packing or unloading is sometimes called **throwing fish**. To bring fish ashore is to **land** it, and the aggregated fish is called the **landings**, as in 'tarakihi landings this year totaled 25,000 tonnes' or 'landings increased

this year at Lyttelton.' Boats on which the fish are iced in bulk and only sorted out while being unloaded are called **ice boats** or **freshers**.

The New Zealand fishing industry has a terminology largely of its own. Much of it is of recent origin, resulting from the fact that in the 1980s there was a total overhaul of the management system. Fisheries are managed under the **quota management system (QMS)** whereby limited property rights to the resource have been progressively phased in since 1986. Such property right is called **individual transferable quota (ITQ)** because it is an individual property right (originally allocated to whoever caught the fish and/or owned the boat) that can be transferred (bought, sold or otherwise traded).

**Quota** has a number of meanings. As nouns, there are both a **quota** (which equates to the **total allowable commercial catch** or TACC in the **exclusive economic zone** or EEZ) for each species, and sub-units of any size (usually in units of tonnage) which are simply called **quota**. These sub-units may be of a particular species, as in 'I have 5 tonnes of **snapper quota**,' but they can also be for a group of species, as in 'he has all sorts of quota' - meaning he has a mixture of, say, snapper quota, john dory quota, gurnard quota, etc. There is also **leased quota**, which refers to the one-off use of any portion of someone else's quota for a particular year, by mutual agreement of a fee or percentage. Whether leased or owned, each unit of quota confers a corresponding **annual catch entitlement** or ACE. Quota ownership is in perpetuity but most of each year's ACE must be caught during the corresponding **fishing year**. When fishermen do not take all their ACE for a particular year, this is called **underfishing** and sometimes a percentage of this quantity, called **underfishing rights**, may be carried forward to the next year.

Quota can also be a verb or adjective: a species becomes **quotad** when it is added to the list of species subject to quota; just before that happens it is said that MoF is 'going to **quota** it'. A species made subject to quota becomes a quota species.

Quotas were originally allocated on the basis of **catch history**, meaning how long and how intensively one had fished for that species in the past. Quotas for the entire EEZ are subdivided by different areas called **fisheries management areas** or **FMA**s. There are 10 **FMA**s with names like Auckland (East), Auckland (West) and Southland.

Commercial fish quota is measured in tonnes based on the green weight. **Green** means whole: with guts, scales and all. When the fish is landed green it is easy to keep track of quota use, but a **conversion factor** needs to be applied to convert from the weight of any fish that was partly or wholly processed at

sea. Such fish may be in any of a number of **states** that include **gutted**, **gilled-and-gutted**, **headed-and-gutted**, and **fillets skin off**. Some of these terms have corresponding 3-character abbreviations: **GGU**, **HGU**, **SKF**.

A **trunk** is a fish body, usually a shark or dogfish, that has been partly processed at sea, which is the norm to minimise spoilage. The fish is beheaded (or rather, **headed**), gutted, trimmed free of tail and fins, and scrubbed to remove the **blood line** (the strip of tissue in the gut cavity that looks like a line of congealed blood along the backbone: it is actually the kidney). The process of cutting fish into trunks is called **trunking** and the fish are then said to be **trunked**.

With each species and **landed state** the processed weight is multiplied by a corresponding **conversion factor** to estimate the weight of green fish for quota management purposes. For snapper fillets, for example, a common conversion factor is 2.4 which means one kg of fillet equates to 2.4 kg of green fish. Different species of fish have different conversion factors owing to their variety of proportions and shapes, and the yield of processed fish depends on the skill of the **fish splitter** (person who fillets the fish). As well as fish splitters there are **scallop splitters**, **scallop shuckers**, and **oyster openers**. Splitting fish is the most skilled task. Trimming is a task of intermediate skill, whether it entails tidying rough edges or removing a strip of flesh in the middle of a fillet that contains the **pin bones**. All these tasks are collectively called **cutting fish**, but there does not seem to be such a person as a fish cutter.

Outside of commercial fishing, the term quota has also largely supplanted the terms **limit**, **limit bag** and **bag limit**, meaning the (daily) maximum quantity or number allowed for private use, as in 'I've got **my quota** of crays'.

Owing to over-estimation of the sustainable yield, and/or overfishing, for some species the TACC was set too high and the amount of quota issued proved to be too much. Then the government had to reduce the quota. In some cases it bought and retired quota from fishermen in a **buy-back scheme**; in other cases quota was **clawed back** by making *pro rata* cuts to existing allocations.

NZ's fisheries administration used to be the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (**MAF** - sometimes said to be an acronym for 'Maoris And Friends'). Today that acronym stands for the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, and there is a separate Ministry of Fisheries (**MoF**). Fisheries enforcement staff are sometimes called **fish fuzz** or **seaweed sleuths** but more often **fisheries enforcement officers** (their job title) or (informally) **fisheries inspectors**. The people they are out to catch are pirates or burglars and include specialists such as **paua pirates** and **cray burglars**. Undersized fish may be

called **shorts** or **shorties** and those that are above legal size are called **size fish** or **sized fish**. These terms are particularly used when dealing with high-value species like crayfish, where size is a major issue because one millimetre can make the difference between a takeable fish worth tens of dollars and an illegal fish that could incur a fine and confiscation of vessel or quota. Other offences include **scrubbing** (removing external eggs from under the tail of female crays, which when carrying eggs are protected, and sometimes still called **sluts** or **eggy sluts**.) **Stalling** is illegally setting a net where the fish it catches will be stranded high and dry as the tide falls. **High-grading** is a wasteful and illegal way of extracting maximum short-term economic return from a unit of quota by only keeping the top-grade fish and dumping any that are sub-optimal in size or condition. **Grading** generally refers to sorting whole fish by size, especially with flatfish and snapper where consistency of size is an issue because they tend to be served whole. Grades of fish that are marginal to process economically, for example tarakihi just over the legal minimum size, are sometimes known as **charity**, distinct from the large, standard and small grades. The idea here is that the processor is being 'charitable' by accepting them.

Fishing boats are usually described by the type of fishing they were designed for: **trawler**, **long-liner**, **set-netter**, **cray boat**. Steel and wood used to be the normal construction materials but with the growing diversity of construction materials there are **tin boats** or **tinnies** (built of aluminium), **Tupperware boats** (glass-reinforced plastic or GRP or fibreglass), and a concrete boat is a **septic tank** or **floating footpath**. Plastic boats are becoming more common and called **plastic fantastics**,

and an inflatable boat is a **rubber duckie**. **Piss pot**, **puddle-jumper** or **dunger** refers to a small or underpowered boat, and pleasure boat operators of all kinds are **loopies**. Vessels are still often broadly categorised by their length in feet, such as **fifty-footer** and **hundred-footer** but there is no corresponding metric term. The master of a fishing boat is the **skipper** and crew member is usually a **deckie** (short for deckhand). However, on large vessels with a diverse complement having more specialised jobs the crew are usually described by cosmopolitan terms including engineer, first mate, bosun, deck boss, winchman, bowman, skiffman and more. In some fishing operations a **spotter pilot** flies an aircraft used to locate visible schools of fish and guides the vessel as it sets its net around the fish.

Until the 1980s many people known as **part-timers** or **weekenders** held commercial fishing permits they exercised seasonally or whenever they heard the fishing was particularly good.

Fishing other than from a vessel (**FOTFAV**) is also called **shore fishing** and there is a corresponding **shorefishing permit** for commercially gathering mussels and other shellfish on the shore. Fishing for eels is **eeling** and a person fishing for eels is called an eeler. Similarly one may go **sharking**, **tunaing** (pronounced 'tuna-ring'), **oystering** or **scalloping**.

In law, fish includes wetfish, shellfish and seaweed. Wetfish include elasmobranchs (sharks and rays) and teleosts (fishes with bones, scales and fin rays) - broadly, seafood with a backbone in it, excluding marine mammals or reptiles. There are two kinds of wetfish according to basic shape, **flatfish** and **round fish**, the former being flounder, sole and the like (shortened to **flats**), while all the rest

are **rounds**. Until the 1980s fisheries statistics used to lump together many species not caught in large quantities or not differentiated for purpose of sale, as **mixed flats** and **mixed rounds**.

Shellfish means molluscs (mussel, squid, scallop, paua, etc.), echinoderms (sea urchins, also called **sea eggs** or **kina**) and crustaceans such as **crayfish** - known in commerce as **rock lobster**, which includes two species called **red rock lobster** or **reds**, and **packhorse rock lobster**.

'Fisher' is a case where the principle of gender-neutralisation has been strained to conquer sensible practice. The term is clumsy, especially since 'fishers' is a homophone for 'fishes' and therefore creates ambiguities that cannot always be easily resolved by context. Furthermore, 'he is a fisher' can be ambiguous orally because it may suggest his surname is Fisher. For so long it has been so normal for women to fish that in the term 'fisherman' the suffix 'man' has arguably become diminished to synecdoche for 'people'. In that case, the term 'fisherman' today may only conjure thoughts of gender exclusion in the minds of those who are looking out for it, or who are compelled by statute to make the distinction, such as public servants. Ironically, more than 30 years after gender-neutralisation of the language officially began, this term is still mostly used by bureaucrats and people who do *not* fish, rather than by people who do. Furthermore, in my experience many women who fish (and particularly who fish professionally) actually *resent* being called fishers, and prefer or insist on being called fishermen. Perhaps this shows that they are repressed, but I think more likely it reflects genuine pride in their ability to perform physically onerous and mentally demanding work as equals among men.

## Leavings

PETER CRISP

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As soon as the mind begins to name, it divides things up. It sorts and separates. Consider how the mind divides. Can we ever stop putting divisions, distinctions between things? No more than we can ever stop naming.

Here I want to name some names that throw an interesting sidelight on our dividing, separating and rejecting. They are terms for byproducts and waste that come from trades and pursuits of all kinds. They are names used by the people who work with the materials involved. They are often earthy names, mimetic names. Names of physical endeavour. Recognition of what falls to the floor of workshop, factory, woolshed, plantation. Homage to the

material, the process, the leavings.

My interest in such words was sparked by informal games of Scrabble. In the '70s I met a few words that gave me great solutions for awkward combinations. Here are a few: **fenks**, **dwile**, **pob** (refuse of whale blubber; reject lock of wool; refuse of flax). As for that last, a Scots term, the *OED* added: 'or (more recently) jute'. My chance-bought *Scots Dialect Dictionary* (ed. A. Warrack) (1911) further added: 'often used for popguns'.

How could I resist such information? I kept an eye out for more words of waste. Our home-rules Scrabble unearthed further spin-on-a-sixpence virtuositous - e.g. **shrag**, **stob**, **strig** (fallen twigs, butt-ends, stalks).

Running my eye down the index I've kept of these words, I see many that are history. Crafts and manual labour have fallen by the wayside. Old specialist jobs vanish. Obsolete are such terms as **garble** (spice-maker's spillage); **gubbins** (fish parings - particularly of haberdine cod to be salted); **scissel** ('the clipping of coyne presently after the stampe' - Cotgrave, 1611).

I would like to think that (without ivory) scobs are still falling to the floor somewhere. *Websters New International Dictionary of the English Language* (1910): 'Raspings of ivory, hartshorn, metals or other hard substance; also sawdust or shavings'.

There are a host of extant terms. Many still hold the music of history. From the



## From the Media:

We randomly selected a single issue of a daily newspaper to see how much would be understood by Great-Great-Grandma if she returned to us. From the capital's *Dominion Post* on Tuesday November 2 last, we noted these idiosyncrasies, novel uses of word forms, or just plain New Zealandisms that she might find confusing:

Te Papa **kaihatu** Te Taru White confirmed the **wharenuī** was considered one of the museum's 'central pieces'. (A1)

The reports were comprehensive enough to **kick a door open on a really stormy day**, she told the court. (A2)

The bill will then be **rammed through** its final stages under urgency next month. (A2)

Crown Lawyer John Pike said Justice Wild had a difficult task and was entangled in **forensic flypaper**. (A5)

'They'll wish they'd come,' the ticket seller tells me. But he doesn't know my children, and when I run into a young **refusenik** sitting grumpily on the path while his parents take in more thermal delights, I'm glad I've come alone. (A11)

Annual draft of Station Bred steers renown [sic] for their **shifting qualities** (A16)

Henry, brought on to **boy-girl** it with Alison Mau in the morning, was considered a necessary correction for the two-hour magazine-come-news magazine programme with a lot of waterfront to cover for a lonely lass. (A17)

Hosking's terminal uncoolness gave [Kate] Hawkesby, and all those **anchoresses** who sailed before her, a chance to chuck off at him ... (A17)

...yesterday [at Donna Awatere's court appearance] it was a resplendent lime green number - giving new meaning to the label **prima donna**. (B6)

There is good evidence to suggest that some of these young people have effectively been **hard-wired** for a life of crime by the age of two. (B7)

**Kiwi** gains on softer greenback (B13)

It includes interviews with sportspeople, historians, **nutritionalists**, medical experts and **fashionistas** such as Karen Walker, Lois Muir, Colin Meads and Sir Tipene O'Regan. (TVWeek5)

With New Zealand music at its peak, you don't need to go much further than events such as the Smokefree Pacifica Beats to give our **kura kids** the platform to explore their talents. (TVWeek5)

Earlier in the year, we noted the following amongst the job market advertisements:

The successful applicant will have... a high level of computer literacy with the ability to be **user cuddly**. *Dominion Post* Jan 24 2004: C13 (It seems that this use is no longer limited to computers and their software.)

In the *Sunday Star Times*, October 24: C9: Along the way, we were assaulted by more stats and local history than you can **shake a taiaha at**.

From music to sport:

*Sunday Star Times* February 6, 2005: B1 ...not only do we get to watch the match on television these days we now get 80 minutes non-stop talk from a fully **miced-up** referee, and so do the players of course.

From the Second World War to the Beehive:

Jane Clifton (*Listener* November 13, 2004) has resurrected the term **scone-doing**, cited widely by New Zealand troops serving in the Middle East and Italy:

...there's equal chance of damaging **scone-doing** among Tamihere's caucus ...

## Looking Back:

Prickly associates: **Wild Irishmen** and **Wild Spaniards**.

The Centre's earliest citation for **wild Irishman**, the New Zealand English name for the prickly *Discaria toumatou*, also known as **matagouri** or **tumatakuru**, is from the 1851 letter of an early pastoralist, Frederick Weld, in which was written:

We had remarked little or no wood but gigantic **wild Irishmen** here as large as hawthorns.

The first record we have of the term **Wild Spaniard** for the speargrass-like *Aciphylla* species is from Tancred's 1856 *Notes on the natural history of the province of Canterbury*, where he writes:

In some places a curious thorny plant, by the settlers called **Wild Irishman** abounds; whilst in others more moist, the **Wild Spaniard** (*Aciphylla squarrosa*), a sort of speargrass, raises its formidable chevaux-de-frise.

Since those times the terms have been in wide and common usage, often being shortened to **Irishman** and **Spaniard**. But new settlers unfamiliar with these prickly growths would have been intrigued, if not bewildered, by the citations from Lady Barker, writing about early station life in *Station Amusements in New Zealand*

Especially detrimental to riding habits were wild Irishmen ... [1873:35]

and

From time to time we fell into and over Spaniards, and what was left of our clothes and our flesh the wild Irishman devoured. [1873:44]

With equal mystique, Williams wrote in his widely-read *Colonial Couplets* of 1889

Let no Spaniard, ruthless, fierce,  
Through her dainty stockings pierce,  
Nor the crooked Irishman  
Who will prick her if he can.

## New uses and new senses in Kiwi English:

**land bank**: now taking the form of noun and verb, this term has specific uses in New Zealand. Firstly, it is land or property set aside for possible use in Treaty of Waitangi settlements. Surplus Crown land is divided into three specific **land bank types**-**Crown Settlement Portfolio**, **regional land banks**, and **claim-specific land banks**. In addition, unproductive land kept for conservation purposes is **land banked**. In the domain of real estate, the term has a sense of capital gain:

Cottage by the sea. The only one in its class. Refurbish, rebuild or **land bank** for future development.

**insurance population**: a term used widely in conservation for an established and nurtured settlement of species threatened by extinction.

**hazard board**: although this term is used internationally for safety committees and the like, we are told that its use in New Zealand for a workplace instruction board erected at site entries by workers is distinctive.

**staircasing**: a term used by the Ministry of Social Development when a client is moved from one employment programme or service to another to help him/her to find unsubsidised work.

**grandparenting**: widely used in a range of domains, this is now the term used for the charging of a set fee for each year of an international student's degree.

**bark up**: a bark up is well-known to hill and high country musterers when all gang members let others know of their whereabouts. A new dog trial event, initiated at the 2004 North Island sheep dog trials to find the dog with the most powerful bark, has been dubbed a **Bark Up**.

## Stopping for a kapa:

John Yaldwyn, former Director of the National Museum of New Zealand alerted us to the use of **kapu ti**, in writing 'I would like to draw your attention to the Maori term used for a long time in the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa - and in the National Museum of New Zealand

before Te Papa was set up - for a tea break - kapu ti. I am told it means in Maori just what it sounds, i.e. it is not a joke, but I think it is just a delight and no wonder it has been used here freely and without complaint from our extensive bicultural staff. I enclose an example from a recent staff newsletter.'

## Recent Maori-English compounds:

cyber-hui, golden koha, kaumatua flat, kaupapa ward, non-nuclear whanau.

## What's Completely New?

- **Wallerino** and **Perino** are two new ecofibres that have been exported from New Zealand within the last five years. Wallerino is a mix of wild wallaby fur and merino wool, while possums make a comeback, in a possum fur/merino wool mix.
- The farming calendar now includes **wean-by date**.
- **Doing a Brash** is a term used for the expressing of a view that is not politically correct or culturally safe.

## Global Influences:

- The global extension of **bling**, denoting money, has reached New Zealand, with banks using the term to attract new student accounts.
- The new political use for **nirvana party**, that of a minor party that offers unlikely election promises, has also reached our shores.
- One of our avid wordspotterers has found two very recent citations for the Irish English term **craik/craic** [pronounced 'crack'], both from Southland. We would be interested in tracking the use of this term, meaning fun, in other parts of the country, to see where, how far, and how soon it wanders northwards, and to look at its demographic characteristics, i.e. who uses it. If you have written evidence of the term in use, we would be grateful to receive such details at the Centre. We are particularly interested in non-musical contexts.
- Also from Southland comes use of **smirting**, an Irish term evolving as a consequence of the legislation

banning smoking in bars. A word blend of smoking and flirting, it denotes the gathering of smokers outside bars, now a feature of life in Ireland and Norway as well as New Zealand.

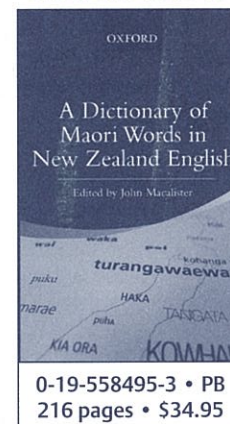
- According to the *Daily Telegraph*, December 8, 2004, **burger dating** is a junior variant of bar speed dating.
- We don't just end up **fashed** or weary, but in the capital we can be **fashed up** or dressed in avant-garde fashion.
- **Ground truthing**. This intriguing term is used internationally in forestry contexts, and is commonly used in ground surveys to confirm aerial surveys, or for calibration purposes. Our recent citation came from *Wairarapa Midweek*, December 14, 2004:  
This exercise [in determining ecological value] is commonly called ground truthing and is carried out on private land with the consent of the landowner.

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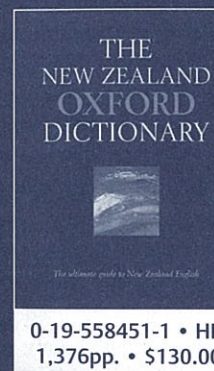
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Since the issue of NZWords 8, the publication of the *New Zealand Oxford Dictionary* was marked by an official launch at the Parliamentary Banquet Hall in the Beehive, hosted by Deputy Prime Minister, Dr Michael Cullen. Among the speakers to address the 250 guests were Dr Cullen, Vice-Chancellor Stuart McCutcheon, Marek Palka, Managing Director of OUPANZS, co-editor Tony Deverson and guest speaker, broadcaster Chris Laidlaw. Editors Graeme Kennedy and Tony Deverson have been interviewed several times on radio and television, including National Radio's *Bookmarks* and Chris Laidlaw's *Sunday* programme, and wide interest has been shown in the numerous national and international reviews. Since that time, a focus at the Centre has continued to be OUP's dictionary publishing programme. Senior Editor Tony Deverson has completed work on the third edition of the *New Zealand Pocket Oxford Dictionary*, which is due for publication in August. This dictionary was first published in 1986, its first editor being the distinguished New Zealand-born chief editor of the *Oxford English Dictionary*, Robert Burchfield (1923-2004), who, at the time, was also preparing the four-volume Supplement to the OED (1972-86). The enlarged and updated New Zealand content of this work will encompass further Maori loanwords, acronyms and initialisms, proper nouns, colloquialisms, compounds, and miscellaneous formations. A *Dictionary of Maori Words in New Zealand English*, the work of former Research Fellow, Dr John Macalister, is due for publication in April. Dianne Bardsley has worked on the first edition of the *New Zealand School Thesaurus*, to be published later in the year, and will

shortly begin work on the fourth edition of the *New Zealand School Dictionary*.

Cherie Connor has been awarded a Research Fellowship to carry out a PhD investigation into the contribution of the marine environment to New Zealand English. She began work at the Centre in March. Kate Quigley continues her work as a Research Fellow on the vocabulary of change in the Public Service since 1980. Rachel Scholes has worked at the Centre over the summer with the assistance of a Faculty Research Grant, making an important contribution to our database and publishing work. Jan Bunting has recently become a volunteer at the Centre for 4 hours per week, and is unearthing some new terms and usages from early newsletters of the New Zealand Geological Society.

We were saddened by the death of Emeritus Professor Ian Gordon, on October 2, 2004, at the age of 96. The day before his death Professor Gordon was presented with his fourth honorary doctorate, an honorary Doctor of Literature from Victoria University. Well-known throughout New Zealand for his National Radio broadcasts and his regular language columns in the *Listener*, Professor Gordon served as Professor of English at Victoria from 1936 to 1974, and during that time was instrumental in establishing the School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies. Amongst his students were many notable graduates, including Dr Robert Burchfield, who became editor-in-chief of the *Oxford English Dictionary*, Dr Harry Orsman, editor of the *Dictionary of New Zealand English*, Drs Grahame Johnston and Bill Ramson, who edited



Dianne Bardsley  
Lexicographer and Manager  
New Zealand Dictionary Centre

dictionaries of Australian English, and Emeritus Professor Graeme Kennedy, co-editor of the *New Zealand Oxford Dictionary*.

Recent acquisitions to the Centre's dictionary collection include an 1852 second edition of Williams' *New Zealand Dictionary*, and a *Niue Dictionary*, edited by J M McEwan and published in 1970 by what was then the Department of Maori and Island Affairs. Elizabeth Orsman, widow of the late Dr Harry Orsman, recently presented us with the 1997 Montana Medal and citation awarded to Harry for the *Dictionary of New Zealand English*. These, along with several Orsman archives and reference books, will grace the new Centre when we relocate shortly to the fourth floor.

We are grateful to the numbers of readers who wrote in with anecdotes and citations for **honeypot** and **poozle**, and who helped us to be more assured of the variation in use of tea-wagon, tea trolley and traymobile. Several readers sent us local and occupational acronyms, which have been of great value, and Betty Gilderdale has sent us some useful antedatings gleaned from New Zealand children's literature.

## Can you Help?

- We would like to update and extend our list of toponyms (terms that originate from place of origin, or after a person or event allied to a place.) You will recognise common examples, such as **Avondale spider**, **Canterbury lamb**, **Castlepoint daisy**, **Corriedale**, **Mangere sub**, **Morton Mains disease**, **Napier beetle**, **Onehunga Weed** and **Tararua dishmop**, but if you have examples of less wellknown toponyms and their use, we would be very pleased to hear from you.
- One of the Dictionary Centre's work mavens is compiling a list of local festivals and celebrations that are unique to New Zealand or originated in New Zealand. Some, like the **Musterers' Mayhem**, are in their eighteenth year, **Gumboot Day** in Taihape is in its twentieth year, but more recent are the likes of

- Kaikoura Seafest**, in its eleventh year, and **Shearable Arts**, a twenty-first century extension to the **Golden Shears** (a rural event that has in itself been held for 44 years). Please send us examples of your local festive events.
- We are seeking further citations for the following:
  - road-end hut** (well-known to trampers)
  - summer sickness** (vomiting and diarrhoea experienced during summer when birds pollute the water supply from a house-roof)
  - sparrow wine** and **starling wine** (terms used to describe the water supply collected from the roofs of houses)
  - mineral water generation**, to establish the first recorded usage of the term as a New Zealand one.

- Were you a **free range child**? Abby Leaf, writing in *Lucid 2* (Nov-Dec 2004) described her freedom as a West Coast child:
  - We were free range children; swimming in ditches flooded by the torrential rainfall, throwing pungas down mineshafts in the bush and learning to steer by flying down the town's steepest hill in a go-cart ...
  - We are looking for further citations for the names we gave to plants as children:
    - soldiers** (plantain seed-heads)
    - fairy trumpets** (foxgloves)
    - fairies' toothbrushes** (periwinkle flowers)
  - We would welcome these along with any others that you may have used or found in print.

## Mailbag

Dear Editor

I wonder if you have caught up with *Frock Tart* originally meaning any member of a film wardrobe department regardless of gender, but now applied more usually to on-set wardrobe staff such as dressers and standbys. The term was coined by costume designer Ngila Dickson (who is my wife) during the making of the *Xena Warrior Princess* episode 'The Debt' and was first used on the end credits of that episode as in 'No frock tarts died during the making of this episode but some wished they had'. You can Google the word to find the exact reference and to the American use of the word as a New Zealand word.

Thought you might like to have this in your data base if you haven't already.

Hamish Keith

### Your turn in the barrel

Beacon Hill station [in Wellington Harbour] was established in 1866. The original signalman was posted on the hill to light a fire when he saw a ship approaching. Later he was given a barrel as a 'bit of shelter' and it was considered by the men of the pilot staff as a cushy job. He had only to sit in his nice warm barrel as they rowed the pilot out to the ship. The phrase '**your turn in the barrel**' persisted up until fairly modern times to denote an easy night for a member of the pilot staff watch on deck.

The original building was part of a chain of signal stations in the harbour. A ship would be spotted from Beacon Hill and a shape would be raised on the mast. This would be seen by the signalman at Mount Victoria who would in turn raise the same shape so that a watchman on the wharves would know what type of ship to expect.

Today, the expected ship movements can be sent in by radio, satellite phone, even email, and the communication within the harbour is by phone and radio instead of fire barrel and signals. The expected shipping movement can be viewed from CentrePort's website.

Terri Shaw

Several correspondents wrote to us in response to our request for the use of tea wagon and honeypots, and these included:

*My mother, a second generation Kiwi, raised in Auckland (of Sussex parents) used a Tea wagon frequently during my childhood in 1950-60s. It was sometimes referred to merely as the 'wagon.' None of the other names were*

*used of it, except possibly 'tea trolley.' We used to frequent the public baths in summer. We lived in Lower Hutt. We were not allowed to honeypot into the pool though people often did and the action was so named. I have no written reference to either.*

BJ Hicks

1. Re your query on p.9, I must confess I've not heard any of those terms applied to the item in question - I've only ever known it as a 'tea trolley'. We still use one down at the tennis club, where it's universally known as the tea trolley. Also, I see Jane Clifton calls it thus on p.20 of the latest *Listener* (Oct. 16, middle column, 5th para).

However, internationally it seems 'tea cart' is more common, as it scores 14,400 Google hits (googlehits?), as against 4,530 for 'tea trolley'. As for the others, 'tea wagon' scores 673, 'traymobile' 253, and 'cake trolley' just 127.

2. Just to add that the latest Mitre 10 Catalogue includes something very like a tea trolley, but with removable trays, and it's known as a 'serving trolley' - and just to complicate matters, they also stock a 'drinks trolley' (and a 'storage trolley').

For the record, 'serving trolley' scores 3,580 Google hits, and 'drinks trolley' 2,020 - but I see now the good old 'tea trolley' has raced out to 6,150!

Greg Crossan

*Tea wagon-I saw in an issue of NZWords that you were asking about the term used for this item.*

*My mother had one in the 1950s and used it when she would invite friends around for 'afternoon tea' or, if it was in the evening 'supper'. They would congregate in what we called 'the front room', used only for formal occasions, and at some point she would go and collect the 'tea wagon', already loaded with sandwiches and cakey things on plates.*

Alison Hale.

The oak variety used by my mother in Invercargill in the '40s and early '50s was definitely called a teawagon.

So of course, the red enamelled one that sits in the corner of my diningroom covered in plants is called so too.

Honeypots recalls much fun as a kid...before OSH when the pool was the baths and cold and outdoor and the sun shone. Today's kids would be thrown out if they honeypotted off the high board.

Regards,

Hilary Phillips

*In the 1940s I remember this vehicle being always called a dinner wagon. Much later, I guess in the 1970s, it was called a tea trolley, when the tea lady used it in workplaces.*

Nick Turner

I grew up in Otago in the 1940s. Both my mother and grandmother referred to tea wagons, or even simply wagons, as in 'put this plate on the wagon'. I think some people would talk of tea trolleys, but that was regarded as lower class!

It may be relevant that my grandmother came from Australia and was married to a Scotsman. Both great-grandmothers were Scottish.

P.Smart

*A small piece of feedback on your query on servers;*

*Ours was always called THE DINNER WAGGON. It was occasionally used to take dinner (evening meal) from kitchen to sitting room if we were eating there on trays but basically for bringing out the sponge and silver tea service for afternoon teas. That was growing up in Wellington in the 1950s.*

*I consulted another friend, who grew up in the Wairarapa at the same time, and they always called it THE TEA TROLLEY (and she says there were specially made large-size embroidered covers called 'tea trolley cloths' made to put on them). I'd never heard that-tea trolley suggests an office environment to me (notably Bristow's Great Tea-Trolley Disaster of '67), but there you are.*

Rowan Gibbs

Re: **mobile tea server** [NZ Words Sept 2004 p 9]:

In Wellington 1940s/1950s we had a 'wagon'; a friend now in her sixties at Waimate had a 'tea trolley'; my English Midlands wife had a 'trolley'; and my Australian aunt in Australia had a 'traymobile'

G A Wood.

*Your enquiry on page 9 of the latest issue of NZWords prompts me to write that mother, and my aunts, always referred to the 'mobile server of afternoon tea' as a TEA WAGON. I never heard the other terms applied to it. That was during my childhood in the South Island in the 1940s and '50s in what I think was a fairly typical lower-middle-class home.*

WB

Ten year olds these days might recognise the semantic significance of toxicokinetics, but ask them about the **Queen's Chain** and they are likely to think of bling. Until the 1970s, the concept of the **Queen's Chain**, its ethos, and its origins, were not widely known. Since then, of course, new legislation relating to land access has been introduced, and in 2004 in particular the Foreshore and Seabed Act provided a focus for a re-examination of the status of the **Queen's Chain**.

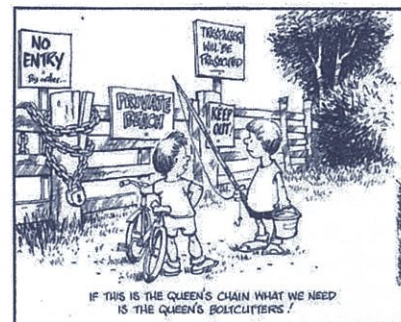
It is widely accepted that the term refers to the instructions given by Queen Victoria in December 1840 in which a clause specifically states that reserves should be allowed 'for the recreation and amusement of the inhabitants' ... 'Earlier, in February 1839, the Secretary for the Colonies, Lord Normanby, sent a letter to the New Zealand Consul, Captain Hobson, which contained 'Her Majesty is not unaware of the great natural resources by which that country (NZ) is distinguished ...' In 1851 the first by-law relating to the **Queen's Chain** was decreed by Thomas Cass, Chief Surveyor to the Canterbury Association, where it was mandatory to reserve as roading one chain from the high tide water mark and one chain from the surveyed edges of lakes and larger rivers. This was followed in 1861 by J T Thompson, Chief Surveyor for the Otago Province, where surveyors were required to provide a 100 link (one chain, 66 feet or 20 metres) reserve adjacent to navigable rivers. Various Land Acts of 1877, 1885, 1892, 1908, 1924 and 1948 contained provisions enabling reserves to be set aside out of Crown land. Some of these specified road reserves along waterways, and others simply required reserves for public recreational use along high water lines of seas, creeks, lakes, rivers and streams. The **Queen's Chain** concept is therefore more than 165 years old.

Our earliest citation, however, in which reserves were referred to as the **Queen's Chain** dates only from as recently as 1969, and at that time it became obvious that **Queen's Chain** regulations were not consistently known and had not been universally applied. Grahame Anderson, writing in *The Landscape*, December 1977:14, pointed out

In many places in New Zealand the **Queen's Chain**, as the coastal reserve became known because of its nominal width, has been the foundation of coastal land subdivision, but in others it has not.

The introduction of the Conservation Law Reform Bill at the end of 1989 gave rise to a public outcry over lack of protection for the **Queen's Chain**, and the issue became not just limited to areas already protected by the chain, but reflected the chain's national importance:

'I want to assure everybody that the **Queen's chain** is secure' he [the prime minister] said. 'The Government is not going to take it away. It's an important part of New Zealand's history. We want it. We're going to have it. We're going to keep it. The changes to the chain were intended to simplify the law relating to it.'<sup>2</sup>



Regular references were soon made to the **Queen's Chain ethos**, one of protection and conservation. Since 1989, there has been considerable public opposition to the sale of property, particularly coastal property, to overseas purchasers. In 1990, a *Listener* correspondent wrote:

Our forestry is going too to Uncle Sam or Timbuctoo.

The **Queen's chain** too we soon could sell -

The people's rights can go to hell.<sup>3</sup>

The late Harry Orsman, in editing the *Dictionary of New Zealand English*, sought citations for the term along with evidence of its etymology from a variety of associates, and in November 1993, wrote to the editor of the *Listener* to seek public assistance with the term. The responses were varied! One correspondent replied that he used the term **Crown chain** in his work during the 1960s. He concluded that the term **Queen's Chain**

is possibly due to the rise of modern feminism and the fact that we at present have a Queen. When Charles succeeds the present usage would have to be changed.<sup>4</sup>

Others suggested that a chain was the width of a road in Victorian times.

After 1993, the **Chain** was laid aside and received little attention. Following a 1995 conservation meeting, a report in the *Listener* concluded:

Within seconds, everyone had gone and the **Queen's chain** lay undisturbed and invisible once more, but none the less precious for that.<sup>5</sup>

In early 2002, the widespread public reassurance provided by the **Chain** was referred to in an editorial column, again in the *Listener*:

Possibly all that stands between us and a Europeanised vista of private beaches and exclusive access rights is the good old **Queen's Chain**.<sup>6</sup>

This was followed by a volley of letters, the first of which stated that the editorial comment was

your editorial understatement of the year. The **Queen's Chain** reserve is without question the only reason why New Zealanders have a right of access along almost all of our 11,000 kilometres of coastline.<sup>7</sup>

There was considerable dissatisfaction with the government's Conservation Law Reform, based on an anomaly where the **Queen's Chain** was not movable when coastline or banks reduced in size or moved their boundaries, whereas the more recently defined marginal strips and esplanade reserves were movable.

In 2003, the executive summary of the Land Access Ministerial Reference Group suggested five objectives for a public access strategy, the third of which is to

affirm the validity and embrace the ethos of the **Queen's Chain** by providing mechanisms for its promotion and enhancement.<sup>8</sup>

Such a statement appears to not only safeguard but give significance to the chain and its ethos. The concerned public began to relax. In September 2004, the government sought submissions to the **Overseas Investment (Queen's Chain Extension) Amendment Bill**. In providing background to the Bill, the government stated

The bill arises from increased overseas ownership of pristine areas of New Zealand, particularly along the coast. Overseas owners often have a different attitude to access than the previous owners (usually farmers), with some wanting to create private rivers, beaches or lakes by restricting access. This is contrary to the New Zealand way of life.<sup>9</sup>

Finally, the official government website, the *Beehive Bulletin*, sent out its Christmas messages of greeting and goodwill in December 2004 with the assurance

The government has decided to embrace the **Queen's Chain ethos**, which would see walking access extended along waterways with access value throughout the country.<sup>10</sup>

Although it lost its sparkle intermittently over the years, the **Queen's Chain** seems to now be safe and secure in the original design of Queen Victoria.

<sup>1</sup> *British Parliamentary Papers. Colonies New Zealand* 3. 1835-42, pp 156-164.

<sup>2</sup> *Otago Daily Times* 29 November 1989:7

<sup>3</sup> *Listener* 14 May 1990:114

<sup>4</sup> personal letter, held at the New Zealand Dictionary Centre.

<sup>5</sup> *Listener* 6 May 1995:117

<sup>6</sup> *Listener* 19 January 2002:5

<sup>7</sup> *Listener* 9 February 2002:6

<sup>8</sup> *Walking Access in the New Zealand Outdoors*. A report by the Land Access Ministerial Reference Group. August 2003. Executive Summary:V

<sup>9</sup> House of Representatives Have Your Say Overseas Investment (Queen's Chain Extension) Amendment Bill www.clerk.parliament.govt.nz/Programme/Committees/Submissions

<sup>10</sup> *Beehive Bulletin* Thursday 23 December 2004:1

## A Dictionary of Maori on Historical Principles

KOENRAAD KUIPER

UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY

William Williams' *Dictionary of the Maori Language*, first published in 1844, has stood as a monumental work of early contact lexicography for over 150 years. It has been many times revised, and republished by no fewer than four different publishers. But it has clear limits. It is not based on historical principles in the way of the *OED* because it could not be since there were few written texts to work with, Maori having been written only since 1816. It also contains very few loans in any of its incarnations. Both these shortcomings can and should be rectified. The test that they can be is to be found in an unfinished dictionary of Maori loan words compiled by Terry Duval who died recently with his project incomplete.

Why is such a dictionary needed? Maori is now widely taught and contemporary Maori contains many loans which are not represented in any dictionary. Dictionaries are useful friends to language users and they are more useful if they contain not just native but also loan vocabulary. There are annual compendia of neologisms published in Japanese many of them consisting of calques from English complex words and phrasal lexical items. No such resources are available for learners of Maori. Scholars working on 19th and early 20th century Maori texts, of which there are many, have no resources for looking up words they come across which are not in Williams. That lack began Duval on his lexicography. In working through the Tairaroa papers held at the Canterbury Museum archives, he found a number of loans which required unpacking. He will not have been alone in this experience. Some of the loans will now be obsolete. These are the primary uses for a scholarly dictionary of Maori. There are others. For example, a more complete dictionary, including loan words, might provide evidence of the areas of contact between English and Maori speakers and when particular technologies were introduced into Maori society. Transliteration systems before the standardisation of Maori spelling might also provide evidence for early contact

Maori phonology and phonetics given that early texts were produced by both French and English speakers.

However utility is not the only consideration. There is also a question of balance. A dictionary of New Zealandisms on historical principles exists for New Zealand's *de facto* official language, English, but one does not exist for its *de jure* official language, Maori.

Although a dictionary of loan words as compiled by Duval is important to complement Williams' dictionary of native vocabulary, Williams too can be updated by a full dictionary on historical principles since there are now written sources illustrating over 150 years of development of the native Maori vocabulary.

Textual sources for a dictionary of Maori on historical principles abound. The nineteenth century corpus is listed in Herbert Williams' *A Bibliography of Printed Maori to 1900*. Manuscript sources also exist in many Museums and libraries notably including the Auckland War Memorial Museum. A bibliography of newspapers in Maori compiled by Dallimore exists. However, a complete bibliographic survey of twentieth century material in Maori does not exist although its compilation is possible. No library holds all these sources and their gathering together would be a worthwhile task in itself. Duval in his search for early materials went to the Dixon and Mitchell libraries in Sydney to copy some of the earliest materials not held in New Zealand.

So how should such a dictionary be compiled? Duval worked out his own adaptation of *OED* methodology for his loanword dictionary and it seemed to work well. However one factor was missing to aid in the further development of his project. Money. Applications for modest funding were refused. Unless money and support for such a project come from the appropriate funding sources, this dictionary, quite obviously, will not proceed. A third factor militating against a scholarly Maori dictionary are purist inclinations which are common in language communities where the language is endangered. Purism is

essentially what has kept the Williams dictionary confined to native vocabulary. Williams himself talks in the Preface to the dictionary about 'barbarous transliterations'. Purist attitudes tend not to be influential in communities where a language is not under threat. Hence the massive Japanese compendia of loans. Purist attitudes do work against the revitalisation of a language.

To show what interesting things emerge from constructing such a dictionary here is Duval telling some lexicographic tales.

A Maori loan can only be identified as such if its non-Maori source can be discovered and verified. Much of the challenge of compiling the dictionary was finding that source. This was the case for words such as *hirithi* 'hairshirt' from French *cilice*, *huaro* 'sparrow' from French *oiseau*, and *taperu* from *doubloon*. Many of these examples were the result of borrowing from a source other than English or from words which have become archaisms in English, such as those associated with horse-drawn transport, older styles of dress and outdated mechanical implements. Some contain interesting phonological problems. For example, *huaro* was found in a text from the French Catholic printing house of the Pompallier mission. The form of the Maori loan is therefore what French missionaries would have taken Maori speakers to have heard the French word *oiseau* as being.

It would be a fitting tribute to the longevity of the Maori language, its resistance to extinction and its adaptability if a dictionary on historical principles of its vocabulary were to be attempted. It would also be a fitting tribute to all Maori lexicographers from the great William Williams to the late Terry Duval.

# NZWords 9 Competition

NEW ZEALAND PUZZLE AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY

The competition in this issue is in two parts, due to popular demand for a puzzle and a creative activity.

A:

A	O	M
T	A	U
G	R	I

From the 9 letters given, form as many words of at least four letters as possible. All words must contain the central letter A, and each letter must be used once only. There must be at least one nine-letter New Zealand English word in the list. No words with an initial capital letter or a hyphen are accepted. The judges will possibly look kindly on the entry with the strongest New Zealand English content.

B:

Compile a recipe for **possumburgers**, using as many colloquial New Zealandisms as possible, including at least two different four-letter words entering in -iff.

Please send entries to the Centre before September 30th 2005.

## Attention Teachers of English

- Oxford University Press offers an annual award of a copy of the *New Zealand Oxford Dictionary* (valued at \$130) for the best year 13 Research Project in New Zealand English. Entries need to be received at the New Zealand Dictionary Centre before December 1 each year. E-mail [dianne.bardsley@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:dianne.bardsley@vuw.ac.nz) for details.
- 2004 Year 13 New Zealand English Research Award:**

With this new award being announced late in 2004, there were no entries from Year 13 students, but three exemplary Year 10 entries were submitted from students at Epsom Girls' Grammar School in Auckland. Although all three were of a high standard, only one winner could be selected to receive a copy of the newly published *New Zealand Oxford Dictionary*. The use of electronic means to present the research reports was an outstanding feature of all three entries, while considerable thought and preparation was obvious in the research design and methodology of each. The winner Stephanie Bould researched the attitudes and knowledge of respondents to the contribution of Maori to the New Zealand lexicon, working with three age groups: 10-20 year-olds, 35-45 year-olds and those over 55. She found that for all age groups, te reo Maori was primarily sourced from radio and television, followed by billboards, magazines and newspapers, speeches, museums, historic places, street signs and exhibitions. Her group of 35-45 year-olds had the greatest knowledge of a 21-word vocabulary list in her survey, followed by 10-20 year-olds, and finally those over 55. Paki paki (clap) was known only to the younger group; Maungakiekie (One Tree Hill) was surprisingly little known amongst Aucklanders; and taringa (ear) was best known amongst younger groups. Greetings and social customs were amongst best-known words. Clare Bracegirdle researched the use and attitudes towards Americanisms in New Zealand English in a group of 30 respondents. Her research log showed an outstanding approach to research. Audrey Menezes chose to research attitudes towards the New Zealand accent, taking a historical approach, in addition to a survey amongst 30 respondents. Her report showed wide reading and careful selection of questions. Teacher of English, Kathryn Anderson, is to be congratulated for her enthusiasm, direction and obvious high expectations for research in the area of New Zealand English in this school.

- At the New Zealand Dictionary Centre, we have compiled a list of more than 50 New Zealand English research topics for use by senior secondary students of English. These will be posted on the new NZDC website later this year, but in the meantime, are available as an e-mail attachment from the e-mail or postal address above.
- Oxford University Press is launching a new publication based on research into New Zealand English from the New Zealand Dictionary Centre this year. Researched and compiled by John Macalister, *A Dictionary of Maori Words in New Zealand English* will be appropriate for senior English language studies.

### MAILBAG

The editor of *NZWords* welcomes readers' comments and observations on New Zealand English in letters and other contributions. Please write to:

**Dianne Bardsley**

Editor, *NZWords*

New Zealand Dictionary Centre  
School of Linguistics and Applied  
Languages

Victoria University of Wellington

PO Box 600, Wellington

Phone: 04 463 5644

Fax: 04 463 5604

Email: [dianne.bardsley@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:dianne.bardsley@vuw.ac.nz)

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### MEDIA ENQUIRIES

**Carolyn Wadey-Barron**

Dictionary Promotions & Product  
Coordinator

Oxford University Press

Phone: +61 3 9934 9171

Fax: +61 3 9934 9100

Email: [carolyn.wadey-barron@oup.com](mailto:carolyn.wadey-barron@oup.com)

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Email: [cs.au@oup.com](mailto:cs.au@oup.com)

Free-phone: 1300 650 616

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**The New Zealand Dictionary Centre**

Victoria University of Wellington

Phone: (04) 463 5644

Fax: (04) 463 5604

Email: [nzdc@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:nzdc@vuw.ac.nz)

Web: [www.vuw.ac.nz/lals/research/nzdc](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/lals/research/nzdc)

Manager of the New Zealand Dictionary  
Centre: **Dianne Bardsley**

Senior Editor: **Tony Deverson**

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