



Stout Research Centre for New Zealand Studies



Newsletter

December 2022

Update from Director

Professor Brigitte Bönisch-Brednich

It has been a busy year for the Stout Centre, with two seminar series, a successful conference, a wonderful J D Stout lecture by our fellow and two new initiatives: the fundraising for the Lydia Wevers MA scholarship in New Zealand Studies and our Stout Centre podcasts. While I was on research and study leave in Europe, Hilary Moss, Steven Loveridge and Sam Hassibi organised and ran the activities around the second seminar series on 'Rebellious Minds at Vic' and the accompanying podcasts. Thank you team, for your great topics, organising wonderful speakers and creating a new publication outlet for the Stout Centre. The podcasts are topping the university soundcloud charts, and we are thrilled about that. More to come next year. A huge thank you to Debbie Levy who held the fort for all of us, the Stout Centre and Museum and Heritage Studies alike. It was a difficult and a very demanding year, and she walked us through it with her organising skill, her patience and dry sense of humour. Museum and Heritage Studies had their own highlights and many successes; please read their report below.

I would like to offer a huge thank you to the friends of the Stout Centre; it has been a hard three years, but you have stood by us and you have come back to our in-house events and clearly are engaging with our website. It is because of you all that we are here. Please keep supporting us and New Zealand studies.

Appointment of the 2023 J D Stout Fellow.

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Dr Michael Brown as the 2023 J D Stout Fellow; a fellowship that is so generously sponsored by the Stout Trust and administered by Perpetual Guardians. Michael's research project 'From Lilburn to Vaporwave' will investigate contemporary electronic music and related topics, including the history of the New Zealand internet. The work of Luke Rowell, one of New Zealand's leading proponents of electronic music and synthpop, will be the primary focus. Dr Brown is Curator, Music, at the Alexander Turnbull Library; he will take a year's leave to finish his project at the Stout Research Centre. He is a well known ethnomusicologist, with a distinguished publication record and well known in academic and non academic networks working on popular music culture, folklore and the history of music making. He is an alumni of our university, having done his PhD in what once was the Victoria/Massey School of Music. We are very much looking forward to Michael's residency.

Research Update

Emeritus Professor Richard Hill

The proofs for *Secret History: State Surveillance in New Zealand 1900-1956*, co-authored with Steven Loveridge, have been finalised and the book is now scheduled for launch in April 2023. This will be the first of two volumes in *The History of Security Intelligence in Twentieth-Century New Zealand* (Auckland University Press). Richard and Steven are now working on the second volume. The relevant volume in *The Global History of Crime and Punishment* (Bloomsbury Academic) for Richard's chapter on Nineteenth Century Colonial Crime and Punishment remains on publishing schedule for March next year. He also continues to research and write in the field of international comparative colonial policing, as well as being principal supervisor of the Stout's current doctoral students Margaret Kawharu and Sandra Thomas. Richard mentored Dr Georgina Sinclair for her new book in the Clarendon Studies in Criminology series, *Exporting the UK Policing Brand 1989-2021*, to be published by Oxford University Press on 8 December 2022.

Adjunct Professor AProf Anna Green

In November the Stout and the National Oral History Association of New Zealand | Te Kete Kōrero-a-Waha o Te Motu jointly held the biennial oral history conference on the Kelburn campus. The theme, 'Te Reo a Ngā Taputapu | Memory, Oral History and Material Culture' elicited a fascinating set of papers and such was the interest we had to schedule three streams. Professor Te Maire Tau, Pou Whakarae of the Ngāi Tahu Centre at the University of Canterbury, gave a thought-provoking opening lecture 'Can we add to the work of Jan Vansina?', which focused upon the interpretation of Māori oral traditions. The second keynote speaker, Professor Paula Hamilton from Australia, spoke about 'Touching the Imagination: memories and material culture, memories as material culture', taking the interesting and unexpected subject of shoes as a case study. There were many highlights among the papers on offer, and just to mention a few I was able to hear: the dynamic and visually beautiful presentation on the topic of 'Te Ao o ngaa Kare-ao. The traditional and contemporary world of Kare-ao puppetry'; and three superb presentations on labour history that explored the material culture of shearers' tools, seafarers' discharge books, and the role of digital culture. I remain the president of NOHANZ for the next two years. Writing the Marsden Family Memory book continues to be my main research focus, as well as the oral history anthology edited jointly with Megan Hutching. During the past month a chapter written with Dr Timothy Cooper from the University of Exeter, 'Fragmentary Time: Memory and Politics in the Wake of the *Torrey Canyon*', has been published in Stephen M. Sloan and Mark Cave, *Oral History and the Environment: Global Perspectives on Climate, Connection, and Catastrophe* (Oxford University Press, 2022): 53-71. In terms of postgraduate supervision, Jane Tolerton recently submitted her Masters thesis on Mary Taylor, and Dean Broughton continues to work on his doctoral thesis about seamen jumping ship in New Zealand.

Research Fellows

Steven Loveridge

Over September-November, Steven was a co-organiser for the Stout Centre's *Rebellious Minds* seminar series. Part of Victoria University of Wellington's 125 celebrations, the series explored episodes of dissent, non-conformity, critical-thinking and 'rebellion' in and around the university. Recordings of the series' sessions as well as a series of supplementary podcasts are available on the previous events page of the Stout Centre's website (<https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/stout-centre/about/previous-events>).

In August, New Zealand's *Foreign Service: A History* was launched, and in October, Steven was part of a panel event, hosted by the Ministry for Culture and Heritage, which discussed aspects of the book's history and research. It will be uploaded as part of the Ministry's podcast series. Lastly, he has recently completed an official report on Maori recruitment policies and practices during the First World War and is continuing to work (alongside Richard Hill) on a history of security intelligence in New Zealand.

Saman 'Sam' Hassibi

Contributing to the THW-VUW's 125th anniversary celebrations, Stout's Centre's *Rebellious Minds* seminar and podcast series (Sep-Nov) was co-organised by Sam. *Rebellious Minds* explored episodes of antiparadigm thinking, non-conformity, and 'rebellion' from across the university's history. The seminar sessions were very well-received and the podcasts have had a strong presence on the THW-VUW's SoundCloud. Attracting daily engagement from the audience, the podcasts have remained on the top of the 'popular tracks' list since their launch (<https://soundcloud.com/user-789166933/popular-tracks>). The recordings of the seminars and the links to the podcasts are accessible through the Stout's Centre's website (<https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/stout-centre/about/previous-events/rebellion-at-victoria-seminar-series>). Sam is currently working on the Wai Aotearoa project and in November, alongside Professor Brigitte Bönisch-Brednich, she co-presented the future plans and to-date achievements of *R(a)ising Waters* at the Association of Social Anthropologists of Aotearoa New Zealand (ASAANZ) 2022 annual conference.

Adjunct Research Fellows

Kathryn Patterson

Kathryn has continued her search for information on a selection of the Irish soldiers who took their discharge from the British Army in New Zealand in the nineteenth century by probing further the probates. These give insights into literacy levels as many of the wills were signed simply by "his mark". As wives, if alive, were often the beneficiary affidavits from spouses provided a similar glimpse into literacy levels. Examples were found of wives who signed their names but their husbands used "his mark". Very shaky signatures could be attributed to illness but may also have been the result of the signee copying his signature.

A number of donations have been received by the library and consideration of whether some of the material held should be discarded continues.

Brad Patterson

While a symposium planned for late in the year on access to public records had to be postponed, with several other historians Brad has been actively involved in publicly addressing the difficulties being experienced by researchers seeking to consult records held by Archives New Zealand. The possibility of a book of collected essays focusing on issues relating to the public records is under consideration. He has been involved in the co-supervision of theses being undertaken within the Centre and in the refereeing of articles for professional journals. A major focus is his extended study of the dynamics of settler capitalism, with chapters on warehousing/retailing and the export trades in early Wellington recently completed. Membership of the management committee of the Irish Studies Association of Australia and New Zealand (ISAANZ) is ongoing.

Jacqueline Leckie

Jacqui is completing the book "Land of the Old Black Cloud: A Cultural History of Mental Depression In Aotearoa." Jacqui continues with various roles for the *Journal of Pacific History* and during the second half of 2022 co-hosted a very successful international webinar research series for the Pacific History Association. She has recently published two chapters 'From Laucala Bay to the Region: the University of the South Pacific', and 'Visibly Hidden in Suva: St Giles' In *Suva Stories: A History of the Capital of Fiji*, ed. N. Halter Canberra, ANU Press, 2022 (free to download).

Doctoral Students Update

Margaret Kawharu, and Sandra Thomas, continue with their thesis work and will complete in 2023.

Update from JD Stout Fellow

Ben Schrader

I've made significant progress on the book project over the last half year, not least developing a much stronger conceptual framework than I had before. I've finished the bulk of the primary and secondary research and am well advanced with the writing, with nearly three chapters under my belt. I've been active in the university and wider community, delivering and the Museum and Heritage Studies class in April and an urban history lecture to an undergraduate History course in May. In September, I gave talks to the History Programme's Friday seminar series and to the Fabian Society. I delivered the J. D. Stout Fellow Lecture in early November. In mid-November I gave a keynote addresses at the Music in Colonial New Zealand Cities Symposium in Wellington and, later in the month, to the Society of Architectural Historians Australia New Zealand and Australasian Urban/Planning History conference in Auckland. The last three months of my tenure will be spent mostly writing. I would like to thank my colleagues both in the Stout and Museum and Heritage Studies for their support and interest in my project. I'm also very grateful to the Stout Trust for their continued funding of this important fellowship.

<https://wellington.scoop.co.nz/?p=148623>

Seminars and Events

125th Anniversary Seminar Series – 'Rebellion at Victoria'

Over September-October 2023, the Stout Centre hosted the 'Rebellious Minds' seminar series as part of Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington's 125th anniversary celebrations. The series, covered six seminars, dedicated to exploring, assessing, and reflecting upon pivotal episodes of dissent, non-conformity, and critical-thinking which played out across the University. Sessions highlighted histories of 'rebellion' in political, intellectual, social and cultural life, with subjects covering countercultural change, spirituality, indigenous rights, feminist activism, and student media, among others. The Stout will also be producing an accompanying series of podcasts to showcase a broader range of "rebellions" in the social, cultural, and political life of the University in the post-war period.

Recordings and podcasts of each seminar can be found on the Stout website at:

<https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/stout-centre/about/previous-events/rebellion-at-victoria-seminar-series>

JD Stout Annual Lecture 2022

Dr Ben Schrader - 3 November 2022

Fabricating identities: a short history of historic preservation in Aotearoa New Zealand, 1890-1990.

Scholars have linked the evolution of historic preservation with the rise of nineteenth century nation states, where nation builders used historic places to invent traditions that rooted people in (national) soils. This was harder to do in settler colonies like New Zealand, where Pākehā had no historical links to Aotearoa. Most settlers accepted Māori heritage as fixed in the land but looked back to Britain as the source for their own.

The 1890s saw tentative recognition of Pākehā-produced heritage. Select historic places came to represent, first, regional, and later, national invented traditions and identities. These include Old Government House (Auckland), Canterbury Provincial Chambers, and the Waitangi Treaty House. This process culminated in the creation of the Historic Places Trust in 1955 to promote Aotearoa's Māori and Pākehā heritage. Growing activism among preservationists led to grassroots campaigns that saved structures like Wellington's Old St Paul's Cathedral and Rongopai Marae near Waituhi but couldn't save other structures like Nelson's Provincial Building and Auckland's St James Theatre and Arcade. Why were some places retained and others lost? The case studies reveal how communities formed strong affective bonds with their built heritage and these activated preservation efforts; that ideas of what constituted heritage was often contested and mutable; and, that heritage has played a pivotal role in shaping and reshaping many New Zealanders' identities and attachments to place.

Dr Ben Schrader is a Wellington public historian specialising in urban history and the history of the built environment. The talk is drawn from a book research project he is undertaking with Michael Kelly on the history of historic preservation in Aotearoa New Zealand.

A recording of the JD Stout Annual Lecture can be found on our home website page.

<https://vstream.au.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=ffaed5dd-68c9-4fbb-a0bb-af420050fba1>



Fabricating Identities: A Short History of Historic Preservation in Aotearoa New Zealand, 1890-1990

J. D. Stout Fellow Lecture, Dr Ben Schrader, 3 November 2022

CAPITAL THINKING.
GLOBALLY MINDED.
MAI TE HIO KI TE PAU

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF
WELLINGTON
TE HERENGA WAKA

Upcoming Conference



Call for Papers

Katherine Mansfield: Last things and legacies

Conference 7-9 July 2023
Pipitea Campus, Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington

One hundred years on from Katherine Mansfield's death in 1923, a conference will be held in the city of her birth that reflects on her final years and her legacy.

Papers, presentations, and panel talks from scholars, historians and creative artists on the following topics are welcome:

- The final two years of Mansfield's life (1921-1922)
- Mansfield as a critic and self-critic
- Modernism and Mansfield's place amongst Modernists
- *The Garden Party and Other Stories* in the context of other landmark publications of 1922
- Mansfield's publishing relationships
- How Mansfield has been read in the past and is being read today
- Mansfield's creative and critical legacy
- Material legacies – Mansfield's bequests/requests in her will, collections, and repositories of her material
- Biographers and biographies of Mansfield – beginning with Ruth Mantz and John Middleton Murry's *The Life of Katherine Mansfield* in 1933
- Teaching Mansfield in the contemporary classroom

Topics related to the period or Mansfield's experience, but not focused on Mansfield herself are also welcome. For example:

- Early 20th century spiritualism and mysticism
- Georges Gurdjieff and the Institute for the Harmonious Development of Man
- Management of tuberculosis and illness in the early 20th century
- Death, illness, and trauma after the Great War
- Medical humanities and Modernism
- The ethics of posthumous publication, particularly with regards to personal papers and unfinished works

All other relevant topics will be considered on application.

Please send an abstract of no more than 300 words and a bio of no more than 150 words as an attachment to stout-centre@vuw.ac.nz, cc: Deborah.levy@vuw.ac.nz by **Monday 27 February 2023**. Presenters will be notified by mid-March if their paper has been accepted.

At this stage, Friday 7 July will be a day focused on contemporary short fiction and creative non-fiction particularly aimed at writers. Local and national writers will be presenting, writing, and engaging with Mansfield in a programme formulated by the International Institute of Modern Letters. The option to attend only Friday 7 July, only Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 July, or all three days will be available with a discounted registration fee for the latter.

For more information, please contact Professor Jane Stafford, School of English, Film, Theatre, Media Studies, and Art History, Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington:
jane.stafford@vuw.ac.nz

This conference is a collaboration between Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington English Literatures and Creative Communications Programme, the Stout Research Centre for New Zealand Studies, the International Institute of Modern Letters, and the Katherine Mansfield Birthplace Society/Katherine Mansfield House & Garden.



Portrait of Katherine Mansfield by Anne Estelle Rice, 1918.
Collection of Te Papa Tongarewa

Current Residents

Federica Pieristè

Federica Pieristè joined the Stout for a few months. She is a postgraduate student of anthropology at the University of Milano-Bicocca. She is mainly interested in the anthropology of food and body within Polynesian contexts, with a focus on the intersections between food choices and politics. Her research project: “Decolonial diets. Practicing rangatiratanga and kaitiakitanga at the dinner table” . Chamorro poet Craig Santos Perez (2013) defined the historical transformation of oceanian stomachs into colonial subjects as “gastrocolonialism”, a complex process, constituted by overlapping neo-colonial gastronomic impositions that continues to deeply shape bodily experiences and subjectivities across Oceania.

John Newton

John is continuing his research on refugee novelist Greville Texidor, for the second volume of his 'Hard Frost' trilogy; and on an essay about Michelle Leggott:

https://micheleleggott.blogspot.com/2021/09/john-newton_14.html

John.newton@vuw.ac.nz

Hilary Moss

Professor Hilary Moss is continuing as a Visiting Scholar. As an historian of education and the African American experience, her research explores how communities have allocated educational opportunity in its many forms. At Amherst College, she teaches courses on African American history and foundational courses in Education Studies. She has served as chair of the Black Studies department (2013–2015) as well as chair of the History Department (2019–2020).

Journal of New Zealand Studies

A special issue scheduled to be published in December titled ‘*He Tuhinga Tuku Iho: Texts, Contexts, Resonances*’ has been delayed. This issue will be co-edited by Lachy Paterson and Paerau Warbick, from Otago University, and published in the new year.

Call for Papers

The journal publishes two issues a year online, in June and December. Please submit articles for future 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 Jill Robinson, Development Manager – Planned Giving, Victoria University of Wellington Foundation, telephone 0800 VIC LEGACY (0800 842 534), email: jill.robinson@vuw.ac.nz

Lydia Wevers Scholarship in New Zealand Studies

Fundraising for two Masters Scholarships in New Zealand Studies are underway.

Please see more information below:

<https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/engage/giving/donate/areas/donate-to-the-lydia-wevers-scholarship-in-new-zealand-studies>

Museum and Heritage Studies Programme

Staff research update:

Conal McCarthy and Lee Davidson are continuing work on the numerous research projects they are involved with. Lee's travelling exhibition *De la Milpa a la Mesa: A Mexican food journey* has opened at Te Awahou Nieuwstroom in Foxton, which is an output from a major project with the Latin American Centre for Asia-Pacific Excellence called Cultural Partnerships for Intercultural Understanding with Professor Leticia Perez from the Escuela Nacional de Conservación, Restauración y Museografía in Mexico. She is currently attending the Association of Critical Heritage Studies conference in Chile and has led a bid to host the ACHS conference in Wellington in 2026. Conal has a contract from Palgrave to produce a handbook on cultural heritage in New Zealand along with graduates and co-editors Michelle Horwood, Kolokesa Mahina-Tuai and Awhina Tamarapa. Teaching Fellow Tamarapa has several projects underway as well as her PhD research – one with the Perth Museum Scotland around their taonga Māori collection and one with an ethnographic museum in Stuttgart in connection with a new exhibition of taonga Māori.

PhD and MA thesis research update:

MA theses:

Lauren McEwan-Nugent is the recipient of the Cheryll Sotheran memorial scholarship from Te Papa, and has completed the research for an MA thesis on the repatriation of non-Māori human remains and objects. The last recipient of this scholarship Brett Lineham has completed his MA thesis which examined the visual culture of the 1920s.

Samuele de Stefani

Earlier this year Samuele completed his PhD and oral examination for his research which explored the concept of relationships as social capital for New Zealand museums. While doing his thesis part time, Samuele has been busy working in the audience engagement team at Te Papa.

Meg Mulder

Another recently completed PhD, Meg conducted research about indigenous urban heritage in Cape Town and Wellington. She has just started a new job at the Waitangi Tribunal.

Lindsay Bilodeau

Has completed her PhD on indigenous voice and language in museums in Canada and Aotearoa and will be taking up a contract at the ATL early in 2023.

Several other PhD students are close to completing: Susanne Rawson on community and professional understandings of underwater heritage management in Taranaki, Awhina Tamarapa on museums and weaving as a living cultural practice, and Amanda Wayers on curating and commissioning site specific public art.

Robert McClean

Robert McClean took a 6-week break from his busy job at Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira and part-time PhD research during August-September. Robert and whānau travelled to Austria for his daughter's wedding and then had a family holiday high up in the Dachstein mountains in central Austria. Coming down from this alpine retreat, Robert and Co', found themselves at the graduation of his son (Stefan) at KU Leuven University, Belgium. Stefan is a former law student of Victoria University and now has a Masters in International Law from KU Leuven. Stefan is starting a 6-month internship with the International Criminal Court in The Hague. After a quick Eurostar journey under the English Channel, Robert arrived in London to celebrate his other

daughter's engagement and say farewell to Queen Elizabeth. Robert and whānau are now planning to return to London in June 2023 for another family wedding. The countless number of train journeys and flights enabled lots of time for reading so that was good.

Highlight of the trip! (except for weddings, historic sites, mountains, graduations and things): KU Leuven has a fine University Library which was rebuilt twice with American cash after the First and Second World Wars. The University Library welcomes many thousands of tourists each year who can tour the building and climb to the top of the tower. The public are allowed to (quietly) enter a central area of the library and look with admiration at the many rows of books, interior decor' and possibly see an odd student. In the public viewing area, Robert was pleasantly surprised to find 'Curatopia' co-authored by our very own Conal McCarthy (with Phillip Schorch) (see photo below). So if you are ever in Belgium, put this University Library tour on your 'things to do' list.



KU Leuven University Library - note Conal McCarthy's book (red cover) on display.

Welcome to new PhD Candidates

Daniella Cuevas Guerrero from Mexico has arrived in New Zealand and started a PhD with Lee Davidson looking at Museum Accessibility Barriers with Blind and Visually Impaired Visitors;

Chris Mallows began a PhD part time, supervised by Lee, on the management of intangible heritage in the Pacific;

Matteo Collina has arrived from Italy in December, to start a PhD on 'How technologies, virtual experiences and citizen science practices can raise awareness about underwater cultural heritage through local communities and stakeholders.' Matteo is a specialist in underwater cultural heritage photography and creating VR experiences. Lee is also supervising.

He Waka Eke Noa – Whanganui Community Projects

The Museum and Heritage Practice students went ‘on location’ in Whanganui working with the Whanganui District Council, Whanganui Regional Museum and the Sarjeant Art Gallery, supported by Whanganui and Partners, the local economic development agency. They are engaging in a range of group projects enabling the host organisations to embark on initiatives beyond their current capacity: collection planning and exhibition development, strategic planning and rebranding, research and cataloguing, heritage conservation planning and developing interpretation, guided tours and public programmes. The objective is to extend our student capability and impact and create a transformative impact on the Whanganui community and its cultural institutions. It also extends the reach of Te Herenga Waka beyond Wellington.

Opportunities like this are made possible through existing stakeholder engagement and enhance the reputation of Te Herenga Waka as the lead university offering museological teaching and learning. He Waka Eke Noa leverages existing professional networks with key people in the institutions and throughout the community. Students are engaging with other professionals within the museum, gallery and heritage agencies, and with artists, historians, building owners, librarians, archivists, collection managers and educators.

Background

Museum and Heritage Studies have a history of working in partnership with the sector – undertaking research, providing guest speakers to stimulate thinking and provide examples of theory in practice, and hosting students for placements and internships. We are always thinking about how to use the skills, enthusiasm and capacity of our student cohort to help local GLAMs and heritage, particularly in the regions where institutions have limited resources.

Concept

On reviewing our programme for 2022, we have identified that there is an opportunity to create a more immersive experience for students and increase the benefits for a selected community.

He Waka eke Noa is the collective result of:

- MHST 502 which offers an historical, theoretical, conceptual foundation requiring students to research, write and present. For the assessment in this course, students will do a joint presentation (with 504) on their projects, plus a research report, which will reflect on the theoretical dimensions of the work undertaken with collections, policy, programmes, heritage management etc.
- MHST 504 applying theory into practice, where students undertake stakeholder engagement and needs assessment as the basis of a business and marketing plan for a project, programme or event.

Threading through both strands is a commitment to working in teams, leveraging the class diversity, skills and expertise. Our objective is to apply research, writing, assessment and planning with a series of ‘interventions’ toward the end of Trimester 2. Throughout the process students will conduct structured self-reviews to build awareness and take deliberate action towards group progress and personal contribution. He Waka eke Noa culminates in an ‘on the ground’ presentation of completed projects in October.

Projects

Design Exhibition planning and development, Whanganui Regional Museum

Leveraging Whanganui’s recognition as a UNESCO City of Design, the Whanganui Regional Museum is developing an exhibition and associated series of programmes that showcase the rich history as a centre for domestic design. The project involves the preparation of exhibition

concepts, object selection, collecting plan, interpretation strategy and public programmes brief.

Strategic planning and brand development, Whanganui Regional Museum

The Whanganui Regional Museum is embarking on a new strategic planning process, and students will develop the proposed process and undertake initial environmental scans, assessment of the museum's current profile and utilisation and identify processes for completing the plan and associated museum rebranding.

Heritage Inventory, Whanganui District Council

Working with the Council's Heritage Advisor, who is a graduate, students are undertaking research and writing for selected local heritage buildings, updating Whanganui's Heritage Inventory as part of District Plan review work. Heritage planning skills are in high demand in local government and this project builds participants' experience in heritage planning including writing statements of significance, heritage assessments, and in carrying out historical research.

Brutalist buildings walking tour, Whanganui District Council

Whanganui District Council is often recognised as a centre of Victorian and Edwardian architecture with a strong arts and crafts heritage, and there are several well developed walking tours that reflect this. The city also has a significant number of Brutalist Buildings, and the students are undertaking research, write and host a walking tour and associated assets to help raise awareness of these modernist buildings - some of which are of national significance.

Drury Hill Elevator, Whanganui District Council

Home to the famed Drury Hill Elevator, students are undertaking research, developing concepts and delivering prototype initiatives to increase the awareness and engagement with the Drury Hill Elevator through interpretation.

Edith Collier Library Collection, Sarjeant Gallery

Home to the Edith Collier Trust, the Sarjeant Gallery also has Edith Collier's personal library collection. Students are working to assess, catalogue and rehouse the collection, and make it more accessible to others.

Wanganui Glass, Sarjeant Gallery

Students are undertaking primary research to establish a history of The Wanganui Glass Co. Ltd, including the factory, distribution of finished designs, and locations of some examples of work. Blueprints and designs will be catalogued and oral histories collected from family members who worked in the factory. The culmination of this work will be a public talk about the company and its designs in October 2022 during Whanganui Heritage Month.

The students excelled in their projects and received glowing feedback from professionals and high media profile:

Whanganui focus on brutalism and heritage values:

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/manawatu-standard/news/300703489/whanganui-focus-on-brutalism-and-heritage-values>

Durie Hill heritage ramble:

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/manawatu-standard/300704211/heritage-focus-sheds-light-on-historic-whanganui-suburb>

Wānanga Taonga: Māori Perspectives on Museums & Heritage

31 August - 2 September 2022

Awhina Tamarapa, Teaching Fellow/PhD Candidate

This year, the annual Taonga Wānanga returned 'home' to Hongoeka marae, Hongoeka Bay, Plimmerton, after a two-year break. The Ngāti Toa Rangatira hapū of Hongoeka have hosted the wānanga since its inception in 2013. Experience Wellington now partners with Museum and Heritage Studies to deliver the wānanga. The focus of the wānanga is to introduce students and museum professionals to Māori perspectives on museums and heritage, immersed in tikanga (customs) and marae kawa (protocols).

This year an emphasis was on learning about Ngāti Toa Rangatira initiatives in Ahurea and Tai Ao (culture and environment). Experiences from kaitiaki taonga Mark Sykes and Moana Parata were appreciated. Te Mako Orzecki and Kohai Grace, cultural practitioners and teachers, gave a rare talk about carving and weaving the artwork within *Te Heke-mai-raro*, the 25 years-old meeting house. Lawrence Wharerau (Experience Wellington) and Miria Pomare, Environmental Commissioner, shared riveting accounts of her ancestors while passing around significant family taonga for people to hold. A remarkable experience for many.

Highlights from the next day included Professor Peter Adds (Te Kawa a Māui) introducing important Māori concepts. Moana Parata and Raha Horomona took the group on a history walk. Ground-breaking work in areas such as Māori and Moriori ancestral remains and taonga repatriation, by Amber Aranui and Jamie Metzger from Te Papa, struck an emotional cord. Staff from Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision, Paora Sweeney, Sian Smith, and Marnie Okeroa spoke about their roles and the Tiakina Kaitiaki Relationship Framework implementing Te Tiriti o Waitangi and concepts such as Mana Taonga. The evening was led by Conal McCarthy with Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty kōrero, with a waiata-a-ringa session. The final morning was a panel discussion with Paora Tibble (Te Paerangi National Services) and Naomi Solomon (Te Runanga o Toa Rangatira) speaking about iwi initiatives. Sincere thanks to Experience Wellington, in particular, co-facilitators Lawrence Wharerau, Te Awhimai Reynolds, our own indispensable organisers Debbie Levy, Conal McCarthy, and the tireless support of Annie Mercer.



Class of 2022 in front of *Te Heke Mai Raro*, Hongoeka Marae

2022 Michael Volkerling Memorial Lecture

Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa

22 November 2022

Julian Meyrick

The Arts as a Vocation: National Cultural Policymaking at a Time of Precarious and Uncertain Everything.

This lecture offered insights into Australia's recent National Cultural Policy consultation process, followed by a panel of local speakers who will consider its implications for the GLAM and cultural sector in Aotearoa. Julian will draw on his experience as a theatre director working with both large and small companies, an academic researcher studying evaluation methods in arts and culture, and a policy activist involved in *Creative Australia* (2013), the country's last National Cultural Policy, to reflect on the challenges confronting this one. What does a National Cultural Policy entail beyond providing money to a needy sector and photo-ops for media-savvy politicians? If arts organisations face tough social questions about First Nations culture and community inclusion, what happened to the economic ones of market efficiency and "value-add" that seemed all-consuming just a few years ago? Above all, what is this "moment" we are now in--this disturbing not-really-post-pandemic-time that has exposed, in the words of UN Secretary General António Guterres, "our shared fragility and our interconnectedness"? Having a National Cultural Policy presupposes there is a national culture to have a policy about. Even if Australians quickly agree the contents of theirs, what is its purpose? As the world contends with problems of entrenched inequality, catastrophic climate change, and democratic deficit, how can a cultural policy, as distinct from any other kind, help address them? Should it even try?

This free public lecture recognised the legacy of the late Dr Michael Volkerling who made a huge contribution to the arts, culture and heritage in Aotearoa New Zealand over the last 30 years.

Biography:

Julian is Professor of Creative Arts at Griffith University on the Gold Coast, Literary Adviser for the Queensland Theatre, General Editor of Currency House Press's New Platform Paper series, and a board member of Northern River Performing Arts. He is the author of *Australian Theatre After the New Wave* (2017), *What Matters? Talking Value in Australia Culture* (with Tully Barnett & Robert Phiddian, 2018) and most recently, *Australia in 50 Plays* (2022). After his lecture, Julian was joined by panellists to discuss the future of arts and cultural policy within Aotearoa.



Student Internship - Parliament's Art Collection

MMHP students completed work placements around Wellington and further afield in the mid year break, and are currently doing internships in a range of cultural organisations including the National Library, Te Papa, Wellington City Council, Parliament, MFAT, Pātaka, and Christchurch Art Gallery, as well as projects with iwi, conservators etc.

Nina King, a Museum and Heritage Studies student, recently completed her internship with the Parliament Art and Collections team, where she had the opportunity to work on digitising the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade art Collection so that it is available to view online for the first time. Read on to learn more about Nina's work on the MFAT Collection.

From Colin McCahon's 'Koru', to Frances Hodgkin's 'Still Life in a Landscape' the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) Collection at Parliament contains several iconic artworks. Nina had the opportunity to work on digitising the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade art Collection so that it is available to view online for the first time.

Nina would like to express her gratitude to Tasha Fernandez and Georgia Morgan in the Parliamentary Collections team for making her time here so amazing. She would also like to thank the photographer Jess O'Brien, and conservators Giulia Scott and Carolina Izzo, who worked with Nina on the MFAT Collection throughout her internship.



*Gretchen Albrecht, Zig Zag, 1975. © All rights reserved
Source: The MFAT Collection*

[Parliament's Art Collection Online: Digitising the MFAT Collection - New Zealand Parliament \(www.parliament.nz\)](http://www.parliament.nz)