Recent Books from New Zealand - March 2022

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Biography/Memoirs

The Wild Twins: Tales of Strength and Survival / Amber & Serena Shine

Auckland: HarperCollins Publishers, 2021

320p.

9781775541769

\$45.00 / PB

434gm.

Amber and Serena Shine have wild in their blood. From their first steps, the twins set out from their family farm in rural Waiuku with the bush and mountains in sight. Together they've run the world's highest marathon on Mount Everest, walked jaguars in the Amazon, sailed treacherous seas from Hawai'i to San Francisco, navigated ice falls while climbing Mount Cook, raced 322 kilometres on a dogsled, and survived naked in the African wilderness for twenty-one days on the hit Discovery show *Naked and Afraid*. In *The Wild Twins*, Amber and Serena share their most extreme achievements, the secrets behind their strength and endurance, and advice on living life to its fullest. With go-getter attitudes, perseverance and fearlessness, these inspiring sisters are all about getting outdoors and reaching your potential - returning home covered in mud and with a story to tell. http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799920

History

The Bikes We Built: A Journey Through New Zealand Made Bicycles / Jonathan

Kennett

Wellington: The Kennett Brothers, 2021

viii, 160p.

9780995137660 \$ 60.00 / HB 828gm.

Take a ride through the history of 61 New Zealand made bicycles from 1869 to the present day. From the velocipede to the penny farthing, to the Raleigh Chopper and the BMX, discover how Kiwis have reinvented the wheel over the last 150 years. Unearthing secrets from factories, garages, archives and museums, The Bikes We Built brings us the stories of New Zealand made bikes and the people behind them – their designers, builders, collectors and users – in a celebration of Kiwi ingenuity, passion and determination.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799921

The Stink And Other WW2 Stories of a Wellington Soldier / Carolyn Adams (Eds) Peter Cooke & David Tulloch (Foreword) Christopher Pugsley New Zealand: Te Aro Publications, 2021 Vi, 178p.

Includes Index 9780473600426 \$ 65.00 / PB 516gm.

The Stink is the record of a Wellington soldier Chauncey Adams through his experience in WW2. It is based on his letters and diaries. It also includes his photographs which he helpfully captioned. The story begins in Wellington and covers his enrollment, and trip to Egypt, his experience in the Greek campaign, the western desert and especially his experience in Operation Crusader or The Stink as he called it. He didn't write much about this battle as it really was a stinker so his daughter Carolyn Adams seeks to understand the battle from records and books. The battle has the dubious distinction of on the one hand having the greatest casualties of any World War Two battle and on the other hand being all but forgotten. Then it was onto Syria before a mad dash back to the desert and the opening phases of the battle of El Alamein. His story concludes with a long hospital stay, the trails of the furlough and his eventual return home.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799922

1921 : Rugby, Race and Empire / Mike Munro Wellington: Munrochurch Books, 2021 204p.

Includes Bibliography

9780473586423 \$ 40.00 / PB 492gm.

In the winter of 1921 a Springboks rugby team toured New Zealand for the first time, captivating the country. An all-white team of mostly Afrikaners, they came cloaked in a powerful mystique – blue-eyed, "youthful giants" from a fellow British colony. Twenty-three of the team had served in the just-ended Great War. Wherever they went the Springboks were saluted as "sons of Empire." But the tour was rocked amid claims the Springboks resented having to play a Māori team, as the race issue that would bedevil New Zealand-South Africa rugby relations for seventy years reared its head. Two terrible events backdropped the Springboks visit: the 1914-18 war and the influenza epidemic. Together they'd taken nearly 30,000 New Zealanders' lives, and the effects of both calamities were still being felt. To compound the gloom, the economy nose-dived and many soldier-settlers were forced from their recently-acquired land. This book casts back one hundred years to bring together the story of an eagerly-anticipated rugby tour, and the troublesome memories of its time.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799923

Our Darkest Day: The Terrorist Attack on Two Mosques, Christchurch, New Zealand, March 15, 2019 / Tom O'Connor (et al.)
Timaru, Canterbury: Kirsten Wilson Publishing, 2021
202p.
9780473589295
\$ 55.00 / PB
376gm.

The cold blooded murder of 51 innocent people and the attempted murder of many others at two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand, on March 15 2019 sent shivers of horror down the collective spine of the nation. An act of terror such as this was totally unexpected from a white wing supremacist. How could we be so naive? This unprecedented atrocity brought the ugly reality of racism, bigotry and religious intolerance in New Zealand into the glare of international scrutiny. Although 51 people were tragically murdered, so many lives were saved by a combination of incredible luck and the outstanding work of the police, St John ambulance staff, medical professionals of Christchurch hospital, members of the public and the heroic acts of those under fire at both mosques. Veteran author, Tom O'Connor, takes a deeper look into the history of religion and conflict as well as measures the

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nation has taken since the attack. Gun laws were tightened, the 'Christchurch Call' was initiated, the Royal Commission made recommendations for further changes to our laws and policies. Will it make a difference?

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799924

A Short History of Farming in New Zealand / Gordon McLauchlan Auckland: Bateman Books, David Bateman Ltd, 2020 260p.
Includes Index 9781988538013 \$ 40.00 / PB 540gm.

Gordon McLauchlan continues his bestselling Short History series with an in-depth look into the history of the farming industry in New Zealand. From the early migrant farmers and regional produce trading, to the revolution of refrigeration - opening up global opportunities for our fast-growing export markets in wool, produce and more, McLauchlan covers the development of our country's farming culture in this accessible and informative read. - Details the farming culture and methods of early Polynesian and Maori settlers. - European farmers adjusting to the temperate zone crops and wildlife of New Zealand. - The birth and development of regional trade industries in rural areas. - Refrigeration and exporting to the British and European markets. - The development of leading global trade exports in wool, dairy products, Kiwifruit and more.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799929

Literature

The Time Lizard's Archaeologist / Trisha Hanifin Auckland: Cloud Ink Press Ltd, 2021 264p. 9780473578916 \$ 40.00 / PB 426gm.

2016. Auckland psychologist, Jason Winston, grieving over the death of his sister and increasingly disorientated by dreams and visions, begins to experience an alternate reality. Here he encounters Aja, a woman on a mission to discover who destroyed her village by stealing their powerful source of fuel. 2026. Auckland suffers an ecological crisis: the bee population is almost wiped out and the human

population exposed to a debilitating virus. Isolated camps are established in the bush for those infected. 2036. A time of increasing food shortages, growing unrest and the influence of 'The Flock', which promises a haven for young people fearful of their future. Jason, old and increasingly frail, is approached by a young woman, Griffin, troubled by her own disturbing dreams and visions. Do they offer unusual insight or are they a sign of psychosis? Does she have access to timeless wisdom or is she delusional? Can Jason help her find a way to comprehend the past, survive the present and create a better future?

Moving seamlessly between different times and places, and with its intertwining of mythology, psychology, philosophy, ecology and environmental concerns, The Time Lizard's Archaeologist explores the psyche of the modern world.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799930

The Frog Prince / James Norcliffe

Auckland: Vintage (Penguin Random House New Zealand), 2022

304p.

9780143775492

\$40.00 / PB

404gm.

Why did the princess throw the frog against the wall? A novel about a disappearance, searching for love and the power of stories.

A disappearance. An infatuation. *The Frog Prince* is an intriguing, multi-layered novel giving us a story, within a story, within a story.

Remember the kiss between the frog prince and the princess? What about the part where the princess angrily flings the frog against the wall?

What was that about?

At an international school in France, the young teacher Cara writes her own version of the classic tale by the Brothers Grimm. Their fairy tale is nothing like Cara's relationship with David, but when Cara disappears, can the story help David unravel what has happened?

As for the various princesses and frogs in this intriguing multi-layered novel, will any live happily ever after?

This is a stunning debut adult novel by James Norcliffe, who is renowned for his award-winning children's books and for his poems, which David Eggleton says 'invariably get us to attend more closely to the spirit of existence, to moments of being'.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799932

VA: Stories By Women of the Moana / (Eds) Sisilia Eteuati & Lani Young New Zealand: Tatou Publishing, 2021 374p. 9789829175236 \$ 45.00 / PB 548gm.

Stories that tell Covid how we really feel, where a Centipede God watches on with wry humour and wrath, where a sexy Samoan goes on a hot Tinder date in Honolulu, where a New Zealand doctor is horrified to be stuck at her cousin's kava drink up in Fiji, where Moana people travel the stars and navigate planets, stories where Ancestors and Atua live and breathe. Stories that defy colonial boundaries, and draw on the storytelling and oratory that is our inheritance. Immerse yourself in the intrigue, fantasy, humour and magic of beautiful strong stories by 38 writers from across the Moana. Chimamanda Adichie speaks about the danger of the single story. In this book you will travel across oceans and meet diverse and deep characters in over 50 rich stories from Cook Island, Chamorro, Erub Island (Torres Strait), Fijian, Hawaiian, Maori, Ni-Vanuatu, Papua New Guinean, Rotuman, Samoan and Tongan writers. Compiled and edited by award-winning writers Sisilia Eteuati and Lani Wendt Young, this anthology is the first of its kind. Never before have so many Moana women writers gathered together to share their stories. http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799934

The King's Nightingale / Sherryl Jordan Auckland: Scholastic New Zealand Limited, 2021 478p. 9781775436560 \$ 30.00 / PB 416gm.

An epic fantasy set in a land of sultans and kings, sumptuous palaces... and slave markets. When Elowen and her brother are seized by pirates and sold, separately, in the slave market of a distant land, Elowens enduring resolve is to escape, rescue her brother and return home. Sold to a desert ruler who admires her sublime voice, Elowen is given the title of the Kings Nightingale. Honoured by the king, and loved by his scribe, Elowen lives a life of luxury, until she makes a fateful mistake and finds herself sold to a less charitable master.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799936

Coast Watcher / David Hill Auckland: Puffin (Penguin Random House New Zealand), 2021 272p. 9780143775966 \$ 22.00 / PB 242gm.

No training could have prepared Frank for a dangerous coastwatching mission against the Japanese in this WWII novel by David Hill, winner of the 2021 Prime Minister's Award for Fiction

A tense, exciting war adventure inspired by the coastwatchers of Operation Pacific, from award-winning YA author David Hill.

'It's not going to be a cushy job, young Benson. You're on your own. Japs will be looking for you. Far as they're concerned, you're spies. And when a spy gets captured, remember . . .'

It's 1943, and 19-year-old radio operator Frank Benson is shipped out to an enemy-occupied island in the Solomons with two other soldiers. Their mission is to spy on the Japanese.

In dense jungle they meet a Solomon Islander who says he has information that will shatter Japanese defences. But he could be working for the enemy. What if it's a trap to get them killed?

No training could have prepared Frank for this decision. Their lives - and Operation Pacific - depend on his next move.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799937

Katipo Joe #2 : Spycraft / Brian Falkner Auckland: Scholastic New Zealand Limited, 2021 432p. Includes Bibliography 9781775436607 \$ 25.00 / PB 378gm.

In Spycraft, Falkner's masterful telling of the astonishing journey of Joseph St George (Katipo Joe) continues. A teenage boy recruited by MI5, is this time on a mission to infiltrate an elite group of Hitler Youth. Joe travels to Germany, to the very heart of the Nazi spider web, where Adolf Hitler is making plans that will change the course of the war, and the course of Joe's life. In a world where one wrong word could bring catastrophe, he must compete with the other young people

for a prize beyond his wildest dreams. But the consequences of failure are torture and death. From the war-torn skies over Germany, to the heights of the Eagle's Nest, this is Joe's story. Set amidst actual events, Joe's story is once again a tale of incredible heroism, unlikely romance and unbearable tragedy. http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799938

Three Scoops: Stories / David Hill (Illustrator) Lisa Allen

New Zealand: OneTree House Ltd, 2021

312p.

9781990035029

\$30.00 / PB

338gm.

Three moments in time, Three stories, Three genres, Three very different writing styles...three flavours...

David Hill gives a virtuoso performance in short form storytelling for children, and each story stands alone as a masterclass in its genre. Just what we would expect from this multi-award-winning and much-loved New Zealand children's writer of international acclaim.

Historical Fiction *Coming Home-* Harry and his loyal horse Blaze rush to support the British with the New Zealand Mounted Battalions when the Boer War is declared. On the eve of departure Blaze panics in the horse truck and escapes. Harry must leave alone to face this war. Throughout his time in South Africa, and his voyage around the world and the experiences of the horror of war, he yearns for Blaze and prays he is okay. Meanwhile Blaze is facing his own dangers.

Fantasy *I Wish* - Trent Karam is bored and depressed. He and his mum have moved to a new town, and he must start at a new school. All he wants is to be something more than ordinary – to stand out. Exploring the attic in his new house he discovers a magical book-elf hidden in a mysterious box of books the movers appear to have left behind. Trent is stuck with reading the books because the movers have not delivered his computer – but then he finds they contain stories that can help him. Everything changes when he finds the book-elf who can grant wishes.

Future *Strange Meeting* – Sophie's father is involved in the Neptune space mission launch site. She is proud of her dad and the work he is involved in but fellow student Pita, says his Koru is warning that the work they're doing isn't honest – it is dangerous. Who can she believe? Meanwhile, way out in space, a large meteor is waiting – being pulled by the gravity of Saturn and Jupiter along with the influence of our sun. It waits like a snooker ball awaiting the cue. Earth is in the clear trajectory of one possible angle. Which way will it go?

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799939

City Limits: Stories / Robert Metcalf New Zealand: Ferndale Press, 2021 180p. 9780473593032 \$ 32.00 / PB 200gm.

"You know what gets me about Wellington? ... You keep getting to the edges of it." The stories of *The City Limits* depict people at a point of change ad reflection in Wellington, a city bounded by hills and sea.

Some imagine a world beyond the hills, as a teenage girl catches a glimpse of another life at a carnival, and a school-leaver dreams of a future in New York. Other stories ask if 'you can't go home again'- from a visitor stirring up memories of Wellington for a woman in London, to a man struggling with a return to his home town. Children see the adults around them in a different light, others contended with the daily demands of the city and older people watch as the place they remember transforms into something they no longer recognise. http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799940

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Please Call Me Jesus / Samuel Te Kani Auckland: Dead Bird Books, Publishers, 2021 110p. 9781991150615 \$ 32.00 / PB 110gm.

A joyride to the digital frontier of sex from one of Aotearoa's most exciting young artists. No holes barred.

Rough sketches of suburban banality provide the perfect set up: A WINZ officer in a deadbeat Northland town; a grieving middle-aged church-goer; a devoted dad with tenure and a barbecue. Bland, but just bland enough for the strangest things to appear. With each key command on Sam Te Kani's possibility machine comes biblical ZIP files, werewolf hustlers, and a lidless box of multi-coloured dildos. Stories that begin with expected genre tropes transform brazenly into outrageous sex. Quick once-overs overflow into gratuitous detail, and reality itself melts into an interface.

Please, Call Me Jesus is the debut collection of erotic stories from one of Aotearoa's most exciting young artists. Irreverent, audacious, and full of delight, it offers the entertainment of seduction alongside new technological possibilities. A pulp paperback with a gaze toward the future of sex. A breath of fresh air amid the terrible earnestness of so much contemporary fiction.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799941

After Hours Trading and the Flying Squad / Jeffrey Paparoa Holman Christchurch: Cabide Press, 2021 102p. 9780473584047 \$ 35.00 / PB 154gm.

The book is divided into two sections. In Part One - Pakeha Moteatea & Southern Shanties - poems of New Zealand's South Island, the West Coast, in particular; in Part Two - Into The Mist - poems on a wide variety of subjects. http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799942

Whai / Nicole Titihuia Hawkins New Zealand: We Are Babies, 2021 98p. 9780473595708 \$ 35.00 / PB 128gm.

Nicole Titihuia Hawkins' first collection, Whai, introduces the voice of a strong and assertive poet, who is unashamedly herself. With poems centred around whanau, mana wahine, and love, Whai explores what it means to be Maori in a colonised space. These poems are playful, staunch, vulnerable and at times utterly hilarious. They have big kaiako energy. While her work is anchored in the present, Hawkins stays in conversation with her ancestors, and looks towards the future. http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799943

Requiem For A Fruit / Rachel O'Neill New Zealand: We Are Babies, 2021 58p. 9780473597566 \$ 35.00 / PB 86gm. Rachel O'Neill's second collection of poems, Requiem for a Fruit, continues their exploration of the form of prose poetry, to astonishing results. The poems in this book cast a slant lens on the everyday, opening up a world of possibilities and curious characters. With imagined and real dialogue, these characters converse and live as fully on the page as they would in the known world. O'Neill covers topics from love to interstellar travel, from the domestic to the absurd. Here are dowagers and dogs, a robot mother, husbands hiding behind fire trucks, and families made of stone. The landscape they populate is without reason, yet full of fruit. http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799944

Mallory, Mallory: Trick or Treat / James Norcliffe; (Illustrator) Emily Walker Auckland: Puffin (Penguin Random House New Zealand), 2021 272p. 9780143775836 \$ 25.00 / PB 244gm.

It's Halloween and Mallory has a trick up her sleeve!

Scheming Mallory and her reluctant sidekick Arthur have a Halloween misadventure involving nasty tricks, time travel and a sneaky cat.

Mallory wants candy, as much as she can grab, and she's prepared to play some tricks (and kick a pesky black cat) to get it. But when she and her reluctant sidekick Arthur tangle with the owner of a spooky old house, the trick is on them. In the beat of a bat's wing, they're a century back in time with a mission to find that slippery cat, or Mallory will change shape forever . . .

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799945

Sociology

Bloody Woman: Essays / Lana Lopesi

Wellington: Bridget Williams Books Ltd, 2021

192p.

9781988587998

\$45.00 / PB

256gm.

Bloody Woman is bloody good writing. It moves between academic, journalistic and personal essay. I love that Lana moves back and forward across these genres: weaving,

weaving – spinning the web, weaving the sparkling threads under our hands, back and forward across a number of spaces, pulling and holding the tensions, holding up the baskets of knowledge. Tusiata Avia

This wayfinding set of essays, by acclaimed writer and critic Lana Lopesi, explores the overlap of being a woman and Sāmoan. Writing on ancestral ideas of womanhood appears alongside contemporary reflections on women's experiences and the Pacific.

These essays lead into the messy and the sticky, the whispered conversations and the unspoken. As Lopesi writes, '*Bloody Woman* has been scary to write... In putting words to my years of thinking, following the blood and revealing the evidence board in my mind, I am breaking a silence to try to understand something. It feels terrifying, but right.'

These acts of self-revelation ultimately seek to open up new spaces, to acknowledge the narratives not yet written, and the voices to come.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799946

Travel Guidebooks

Unexpected New Zealand: The Weirdest and Most Amazing Places to Visit Off the Beaten Track in New Zealand / Peter Jansen (Ed) Duncan Perkinson Auckland: New Holland Publisher, 2021 240p. 9781869665548 \$75.00 / PB 1016gm.

A pictorial holiday guide with a difference. Almost a little bit of local Atlas Obscura. Perfect addition in all households when planning a holiday, reminiscing, coffee table or corporate gifts. The book will entice the readers to venture to places out of the ordinary. Everything mentioned in the book has and interesting end. A selection of places, museums, objects and much more taken from Worth a Detour North Island & Worth a Detour South Island plus another 60 destinations to discover. Photographs give readers a sneak preview, which also makes this book perfect for the arm-chair traveller. This is the perfect family gift.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799947
