

## Recent Books from New Zealand – Jan 2023

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### Art

A Book of Seeing / Roger Harrocks  
Pokeno: Atuanui Press Ltd., 2022  
224p.  
9781991159199  
\$ 38.00 / PB  
456gm.

Everyone with sight knows the pleasure of colours, the fascination of faces and bodies, the subtle forms of nature, and the curious patterns of art. This book is for everyone who would like to delve deeper into their experience of seeing. "Richly textured and profoundly engrossing."- Murray Edmond.

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"Fresh and lively."-Linda Tyler.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=840887>

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### Biography/Memoirs

Straight Arrows and Fast Bullets: A Hunter's Tales / Peter Hill  
Auckland: David Bateman Ltd. (Bateman Books), 2022  
192p.  
9781776890071  
\$ 50.00 / PB  
604gm.

Nock an arrow or load your rifle and get set to experience some old-school hunting tales told by a real character who has devoted his life to hunting!  
From when he was a young boy growing up in Hamilton in the 1970s, Peter Hill has been obsessed with hunting. First mastering archery and eventually progressing to rifles, where he would head out into deep bush any chance he could get for extensive pig and deer-stalking missions, Peter's dedication to the sport soon turned from a passion into a career path.

Peter's love of hunting is evident on every page as he describes how his bow and rifle skills developed over time to take on greater hunting challenges: from rabbits to possums, goats, pheasants, turkeys, pigs and deer.

Told with humour and heart, Peter's wild hunting adventures take him from the bushlands of the Bay of Plenty, Waikato, King Country, Te Urewera and Northland to his first hunting excursion in the South Island.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=840938>

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Always Going Home – Lauris and Frances Edmond: A Mother and Daughter Story / Frances Edmond

Dunedin: Otago University Press, 2022

292p.

9781990048432

\$ 50.00 / PB

554gm.

Always Going Home is the compelling personal story of Frances Edmonds relationship with her beloved, complicated, difficult mother, the award-winning poet Lauris Edmond (1924-2000). This book takes a more intimate look at areas of Lauris's private life than have been detailed in previous family histories and autobiographies. Writing from memory, family recollections, and the goldmine of Lauris's correspondence and diaries, Frances details how her life intersected with, and often diverged from, her mother's. As creative collaborator, sole literary executor, and a frequent sounding board and confidante, Frances was privy to details known to very few. Beyond the trivia of who said what about whom, she learned about the wounds her mother carried and her inability to manage, or influence, the shifting tides of grief and resentment within their family. Always Going Home is more than a personal account of an impossible but greatly admired mother, and more than an account of a writer's literary and familial struggles and triumphs it is a revealing love story about how relationships between mothers and daughters evolve, complete with their unique blessings and challenges.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=840939>

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Roderick Finlayson: A Man From Another World: A Biography / Roger Hickin

Lyttelton: Cold Hub Press, 2022

x, 278p.

Includes Index

9780473647391

\$ 50.00 / PB

466gm.

Roderick Finlayson (1904-1992), storyteller and prophet, was one of the pioneering New Zealand writers who emerged in the 1930s. Vincent O'Sullivan once described him as 'our first writer to move with any ease or authenticity among the most vital traditions this country has'. Brown Man's Burden, his first and best-known collection of short stories, was published in 1938. His friend, the Australian poet Bruce Beaver, called him a 'maker of stories about men and women in unremarkable, comical, tragical situations' who 'once

lived with the Maori people as an adopted son and now chronicles the comedie humaine and that of the Pakeha, nervous usurper.' His story-telling was direct and unsentimental in its sympathy for the inarticulate, the foolish, the poor and the dispossessed. Years ahead of its time, his prophetic voice was raised on behalf of the environment and race relations in a stream of polemical essays, articles and letters. This long overdue biography of Roderick Finlayson draws from his unpublished memoir, 'Scenes from a Writer's Several Lives', and from his correspondence with his friends D'Arcy Cresswell, Frank Sargeson, Bruce Beaver, James K. Baxter, O. E. Middleton, and the Greek artist Lydia Sarri. A Roderick Finlayson Reader, a selection of stories, essays, memoir, poems and letters, was published by Cold Hub Press in 2020.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=840940>

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## History

Homeground : The Story of a Building That Changes Lives / Simon Wilson (Photographer)

Mark Smith

Auckland: Massey University Press, 2022

256p.

Includes Index

9781991016041

\$ 65.00 / HB

1112gm.

A celebration of HomeGround, the Auckland City Mission's unique and visionary wrap-around social services complex, which opened in early 2022 after being a dream for over 20 years.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=840984>

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Otari: Two Hundred Years of Otari-Wilton's Bush / Bee Dawson (Ed) Paul Stewart (Photographer) Chris Coad

Wellington: The Cuba Press, 2022

228p.

9781988595610

\$ 80.00 / HB

930gm.

Otari tells the story of Otari-Wilton's Bush, the only botanic garden dedicated solely to the collection and conservation of the plants unique to Aotearoa New Zealand and a native bush reserve with over a hundred hectares of regenerating forest, including some of Wellington's oldest trees.

It begins with the Ngati Tama gardens in the area from the 1820s, and settler family the Wiltons, who protected acres of native bush for the community to enjoy, and then follows the evolution of the land into a plant museum under leading plant ecologist Leonard Cockayne and Wellington's first Director of Parks and Reserves, John Gretton MacKenzie.

Botanical descriptions and archival research are enlivened by the colourful stories of the curators who created and managed the collections, starting with Walter Brockie in 1947, and the many gardeners, botanists and volunteers who have worked on the internationally renowned garden and reserve. Otari-Wilton's Bush is a taonga that sustains both the people who visit it and the country whose plant life it protects.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=840996>

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Heart of the City: The Story of Christchurch's Controversial Cathedral / Edmund Bohan  
Christchurch: Quentin Wilson Publishing, 2022

352p.

Includes Index; Bibliography.

9780995143845

\$ 65.00 / HB

920gm.

From the days even before Christchurch was settled its cathedral has been the focus of ferocious public debate: Where should a cathedral be built? How would it be paid for? Should it be built in wood or stone in an earthquake-prone country? Who should oversee the building? It took far too long to build, and its financial position has often been perilous. In recent times there have been fresh quarrels over a visitors' centre and whether ratepayers should help to pay for necessary earthquake strengthening. And, when the building was left almost in ruins, should it be demolished and rebuilt, or should it be restored? And, most important of all to the people of Christchurch, to whom did it really belong? It has been a tranquil and lovely place of devotion and worship, and a venue for the celebration of civic, national and international events. Thousands of tourists have walked its aisles and climbed its tower. It has won fame for the beauty of its music. Along with the Avon/Otakaro River, its silhouette appears on all the city's official signage. Christ Church Cathedral has stood in its square for close to a century and a half. Acclaimed historian Edmund Bohan tells the full and fascinating story of this beloved building, from its beginnings in an embryonic settlement to its resurrection after the disaster. In a lively, approachable text - well-illustrated throughout - he outlines the cathedral's remarkable past and brings to life the equally remarkable people who have worked and worshipped there. He details the triumphs and the troubles, and looks to a future in which this instantly recognisable church will once again stand as the safe and welcoming heart of the city to which it belongs.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=840997>

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## Literature

Room to Write: 20 Years of Randell Cottage Writers = 20 ans d'Ecrivains au Randell Cottage / (Eds) Linda Burgess & Maggie Rainey-Smith (Translators) Jean Anderson & Myreille Pawliez

Wellington: The Cuba Press, 2022

286p.

English & French Languages

9781988595634  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
446gm.

Since 2002, 40 writers from France and Aotearoa New Zealand have made an historic cottage on a steep street in Thorndon their home while they write, the bush of Te Ahumairangi behind them and Wellington Harbour in front. To celebrate 20 creative years, the Randell Cottage Writers Trust has commissioned Room To Write, asking the writers for contributions that spring from the idea of 'looking back'. All the work is presented in both English and French, with introductory essays by Dame Fiona Kidman and Beverley Randell  
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841002>

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The Ani Waaka Room: Poems / Debbie Broughton  
Otaki: Te Takupu, Te Wananga o Raukawa, 2022  
112p.  
9781991153234  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
180gm.

From Taranaki poet Debbie Broughton, "The Ani Waaka Room" is a collection of poems that celebrate the survival of Taranaki ancestors who were forced by war to leave their homelands for Te Aro Pa. The poems weave together ancestor and descendent, Taranaki and Te Aro, family stories and government atrocities. "The Ani Waaka Room" is a challenge to those who ignore mana whenua in cities, and rongoa for those who know Papatuanuku breathes beneath layers of concrete.  
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841003>

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Dirge Bucolic / Jasmine Gallagher  
Auckland: Compound Press, 2022  
92p.  
9781991154149  
\$ 25.00 / PB  
300gm.

The debut collection from an exciting emerging poet searching deeply the gothic soul of Aotearoa. Stricken by grief and chronic illness in a breakneck world that refuses to wait, the speaker in survival mode can contemplate colonial history and the heritage of the land with nuance and care.  
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841004>

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We Came From Hamburg / Vivienne Ullrich (Eds) Mary McCallum & Carolyn DeCarlo  
Wellington: The Cuba Press, 2022  
80p.  
9781988595641  
\$ 25.00 / PB  
120gm.

It is Hamburg, 1920. Abruptly Erna leaves her marriage and her three daughters, and disappears from the family. No one speaks of her again. One by one the other members of the Simon family begin to disappear, with death from natural causes and then as a response to what is happening in Germany with the rise of the Third Reich. The family is Jewish, they cannot stay.

During the war, what appears to be the remnant of the Simon family finds its way to New Zealand to start a new life. There are three: Wally, Liesl and Eric. Time passes and the family grows. Then one day an email arrives.

We came from Hamburg is a story of secrets, persecution and escape, and the elation of finding people half a century later who share a story you thought had been left behind.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841005>

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Blind Date: A Novella / Joy Cowley

Nelson: Copy Press Books, 2022

92p.

9781991190604

\$ 25.00 / PB

116gm.

Sensible, reserved Rose has lost most of her sight and is living in Ferndale Rest Home. She is coerced into accepting a ticket to a concert. Rose gets to know one of her fellow residents and to her great surprise discovers a connection. Living life to the full, it turns out, depends neither on age nor on the sharpness of one's sight.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841006>

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## Politics/Current Affairs

Fierce Hope: Youth Activism in Aotearoa / Karen Nairn (et al.)

Wellington: Bridget Williams Book Ltd, 2022

x, 326p.

Includes Index

9781990046681

\$ 50.00 / PB

538gm.

'My generation has seen the stories of Parihaka and Bastion Point, and has witnessed women's movements, and has seen Donald Trump get elected and has seen Christchurch terrorism – you know, all of these things, we've seen them, plus we have a Western education. Most of us have gone to university and we're [also] entrenched in our tikanga; we've got all of these things that then make us, the people, to go "No!"' – Qiane Matata-Sipu, Protect Ihumātao

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Youth activism has been a defining feature of Aotearoa's recent political landscape. Amidst these unsettling political times haunted by climate change, colonisation, ongoing inequality

and the upheaval of the pandemic, the political actions of young New Zealanders are a source of inspiration, challenge and renewal.

Fierce Hope opens the doors on six influential activist groups: ActionStation, Generation Zero (Auckland), InsideOUT Kōaro, JustSpeak, Protect Ihumātao, and Thursdays in Black (University of Auckland). Activists from these groups explain vividly what future they want for our country, and how we can get there. They address an array of urgent issues, from indigenous rights to the justice system and imprisonment; from climate change to rainbow rights and sexual violence. In their voices we hear hope, anger, despair and anxiety – emotions which inform and galvanise activism.

The stories of Fierce Hope provide important insights into the immense demands of activism, and help inform radical new ways of living and being together in Aotearoa New Zealand.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841007>

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