

Recent Books from New Zealand – Oct 2023

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Biography / Memoirs

Articulations / Henrietta Bollinger
New Zealand: Tender Press, 2023
134p. ; 20cm.
9780473678265
\$ 30.00 / PB
240gm.

A well-known writer, activist, and disability rights advocate, Henrietta Bollinger's debut essay collection speaks to their experiences as a queer, disabled person, and as a twin. Articulations is a timely, personal, and poignant appraisal of life in Aotearoa New Zealand. Soundtracked by the Topp Twins, Anika Moa, Woody Guthrie and more, Bollinger's essays take us on a journey from first crushes and first periods to parliamentary reform and Disability Pride. They challenge the norms of our ableist society, asking us to consider better ways of being with each other and ourselves.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857394>

Snorkelling The Abyss: One Woman, Striving To Survive, Fighting For Survivors / Jan Jordan
New Zealand: The Cuba Press, 2023
326p. ; 20cm.
9781988595733
\$ 35.00 / PB
245gm.

Emerita Professor Jan Jordan: successful academic and passionate advocate for survivors of sexual violence. Janet Robinson: despairing cutter and overdoser, excluded from university 'for failure to make satisfactory progress'. 'Snorkelling the Abyss' explores the two worlds of one woman and the apparently unnavigable void between them. With searing honesty, Jan Jordan shows how she fought to free herself from an inner culture of self-loathing and the external culture of a suburban childhood that repressed 'feelings' and ignored psychic pain - and only then could she work towards transforming the rape culture and gender inequities of Aotearoa. This is a powerful story that affirms the importance of connection and the imperative of speaking out.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857395>

The Sturdy Centenarian: Aging and thriving with Doris Carnevali / Rachel Mcalpine
New Zealand: Rixon Books, 2023
129p.
9780992259976
\$ 35.00 / PB
285gm.

Have you ever thought you'd rather die than live to 100? Let a centenarian tell you about her life.

What are her challenges and pleasures? How does she cope with an aging brain? Why does she talk to her hands? What does she mean by "nose and toes"? How can she bake when she needs a walker? How does she maintain self-esteem? What matters most to her?

A retired professor of nursing. Mrs Carnevali scrutinizes her own aging both as a scientist and a very wise woman. Her New Zealand fan Rachel McAlpine has selected, abridged, edited, arranged and illustrated some of her blog posts. McAlpine is the author of 30 other books and at 83, has a vested interest in aging positively.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857396>

Meet You At The Main Divide: A Family's Story Of Life On Lake Hawea Station / Justine Ross & Geoff Ross

New Zealand: HarperCollins Publishers, 2023

xiv, 336p. ; 25cm.

9781775542278

\$ 50.00 / HB

670g.

An inspirational memoir from the authors of Every Bastard Says No about the peaks and troughs of a life in the high country In 2017 the Ross family left behind their inner-city lives in Auckland and their successful vodka business, 42 Below, to follow their dreams of a life on the land. Risk-takers and innovators, when they bought the run-down 6500-hectare high-country sheep station at Lake Hawea, they embarked on a journey of discovery to rewrite long-held farming principles and ask whether sustainability could also be profitable. If we look after the land, will it look after us? Life in the mountainous landscape of the Main Divide isn't for the faint hearted. But despite the freezing winters and scorching summer heat, the demands of fitting in with the locals and managing 10,000 merino sheep, the Ross family has never looked back. 'A fascinating and rollicking read' Al Brown 'An essential book about what successful and sustainable farming can look like' Helen Clark 'The honest portrayal of the Ross's farming journey shares many similarities to passionate NZ farming families who are all searching for intergenerational identity, relevance, and prosperity in the face of rapid change' Sarah Perriam.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857397>

Finding Frank: The Life of Frank Erceg – New Zealand Deer Hunter, Mountaineer, Photographer / Louise Maich

New Zealand: David Bateman Ltd, 2023

336p. ; 24cm.

Include Index.

9781776890644

\$ 55.00 / HB

1115gm.

By 1965 at the age of thirty, Frank Erceg had established an impressive reputation as a marksman, mountaineer and photographer, with his work widely published in newspapers and magazines of the day. That same year, Frank and his mate Johnny Cumming were killed in New Zealand's first helicopter hunting accident, sending shockwaves through the tight-knit hunting community. Frank's story began with the migration of the Erceg family from the former Yugoslavia to New Zealand. Growing up in the small settlement of Aukopae near Taumarunui, Frank was strongly influenced by three older brothers who taught him hunting, fishing and bushcraft skills. In his early twenties, Frank headed south, first

enlisting as a government shooter before becoming an independent meat hunter. The magnificent Arawhata Valley in South Westland was his hunting ground, his base, a purpose-built log cabin on the edges of the Arawhata River. Author Louise Maich has spent over two decades piecing together her uncle Frank's previously untold story through family research, letters, compelling recollections and yarns from Frank's contemporaries - the last of the great hunters of that era. Illustrated with rare images from his photographic archive, Finding Frank is a heartfelt tribute to one of New Zealand's true hunting legends.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857398>

Untouchable Girls The Topp Twins' Story / Jools and Lynda Topp

New Zealand: Allen & Unwin, 2023

320p. ; 24cm.

9781991006387

\$ 55.00 / HB

945gm.

The incredible story of how a couple of country kids from Huntly became much-loved Kiwi icons and TV stars, with their own unique brand of original country music and comedy that has captivated audiences in New Zealand and overseas for more than 40 years. Jools and Lynda Topp aka The Topp Twins tell this story in their own words, describing their adventurous lives through laugh-out-loud anecdotes and heartwarming tales. As well as enjoying long careers as country music stars and comedians, with their characters like Camp Mother & Camp Leader and Ken & Ken, the twins have always stood up for their political beliefs and have been embraced by New Zealanders from all walks of life. Including never-before-told stories and images, this is a nostalgic and important historic record of the lives of two ground-breaking and inspiring women, and of the times through which they've lived.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857399>

Ecology/Environment Studies

The Forgotten Forest: In Search of The Lost Plants and Fungi Of Aotearoa / Robert Vennell

New Zealand: HarperCollins Publishers, 2023

576p. ; 22cm.

9781775542193

\$ 40.00 / PB

450gm.

Deep in the forest, in places you would never think to look, are some of the most remarkable creatures. Overlooked and unsung, this is the forgotten forest: a world of glow-in-the-dark mushrooms and giant mosses, where slime moulds travel the forest in search of prey and ancient lichens live for thousands of years.

Join bestselling author Robert Vennell on a walk through this fantastical forest, wandering through tales from history, science, and spirituality in search of these weird and wonderful species. Filled with beautiful historical artworks and illustrations, The Forgotten Forest is a celebration of the little things that pass us by and will forever transform a simple walk in the bush.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857400>

In Pursuit of Champions: The Inspiring Story of the Pukorokoro Miranda Shorebird Centre / Keith Woodley

New Zealand: Sherlock & Co. Publishing, 2022

336p. ; 24cm.
Include Index.
9780473640774
\$ 40.00 / PB
950gm.

'For nearly three decades, I have lived beside an estuary. Gleaming shell banks beneath vaulting sky, the clockwork pulse of tides and seasons, and vast muddy flats stocked with birds - these represent home. It is an attachment I cherish, a sense of place and fascination, continually renewed. But it was not always so. Like many New Zealanders, I was once quite unaware of the value of such places.' So begins *In Pursuit of Champions*, the captivating story of Pukorokoro Miranda Shorebird Centre. For nearly 50 years, the Pukorokoro Miranda Naturalists' Trust has worked to inspire interest in our coastal wetlands and the biodiversity they support. Each year, its Shorebird Centre at Pukorokoro, on the Firth of Thames, attracts thousands of visitors. Author Keith Woodley, as centre manager, has been involved in all aspects of the Trust and its work. In his absorbing and often moving book - part history, part memoir - he charts the life and times of this tiny but mighty voluntary organisation. It's the story of how, driven by the importance of coastal conservation and that of its birdlife, a group of passionate and dedicated people built something from nothing, creating a globally recognised hub for shorebird protection and advocacy - all from an obscure rural corner of a little country at the bottom of the world. 'Keith Woodley serves as a kind of Gandalf of the estuarine wonderland of the Miranda shorebird colony, an all-knowing birding wizard who is alert to its magic in this fresh and always fascinating history.' - Steve Braunias

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857401>

Blue Duck Station: The land, the rivers and the people / Nicola McCloy
New Zealand: David Bateman Ltd, 2023
256p. ; 29cm.
9781776890453
\$ 95.00 / HB
1640gm.

Journey into the heart of wild New Zealand with *Blue Duck Station*, a captivating portrait of one of the country's most environmentally significant stations. Nestled alongside the idyllic Whanganui National Park, where the Whanganui and Retaruke rivers converge, this remarkable station combines traditional farming practices with tourism, conservation and new ways of doing things. The land's rich past and the resilient and determined people who shaped it have paved the way for current owner Dan Steele and his family to make their mark. Dan, a passionate advocate for native wildlife, now welcomes people from around the world to experience a place where adventure and environmental initiatives go hand in hand. Join author Nicola McCloy as she introduces us to the people, the places and the history that make *Blue Duck Station* such an extraordinary part of New Zealand.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857402>

Literature

In The Temple / Catherine Bagnall & L. Jane Sayle
New Zealand: Massey University Press, 2023
80p. ; 18cm.
9781991016645
\$ 35.00 / HB

185gm.

Hot on the heels of their acclaimed 2021 collaboration *On We Go*, artist Catherine Bagnall and poet Jane Sayle return with another collection of watercolours and poems inspired by their contemplation of nature within the context of the feminine sublime. In *The Temple* maintains a focus on ecological thinking, exploring intense personal connections with the natural world that take the reader into the realms of private ritual and the power and meaning of special places. In *The Temple* evokes a magical atmosphere, a mythological world of enchanted places with powerful and intangible connections to other living beings and to history. Inspiring a deep spiritual-ness, grief, joy and the wonder of being in the thick of it, it is a gem of a book to return to again and again.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857403>

Root Leaf Flower Fruit: A Verse Novel / Bill Nelson
New Zealand: Te Herenga Waka University Press, 2023
120p. ; 21cm.
9781776921164
\$ 35.00 / PB
160gm.

A woman lies helpless after a stroke, her family gathered. Her grandson, healing slowly from a head injury after coming off his bike, takes leave from his job and family to prepare her rundown house and farm for sale. As he works, he sifts through what remains of his grandmother's daily life. Then, after an auction result for which he was not prepared, and echoing her desperate flight years earlier, his uncertain return leads to a haunting and unguessable destination.

Root Leaf Flower Fruit is a verse novel about slow time - the turning of the seasons, the farming of land, the generations of a family - and about sudden, devastating interruptions.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857404>

Transposium / Dani Yourukova
New Zealand: Auckland University Press, 2023
108p. ; 21cm.
9781776711000
\$ 35.00 / PB
175gm.

Part philosophy thesis and part psychosexual Ancient Greek fever dream, Dani Yourukova's *Transposium* adapts Plato into poetry, featuring queer longing, a choose-your-own-adventure apocalypse, *Les Misérables* slash fiction and love poems about dead philosophers. Shameless, witty and hot with curiosity, these poems are preoccupied with the refashioning of gender, logic, language and form. Through relentless cross-examination of Socrates and associates, Yourukova combines reckless affection for the past, and a shimmering spectrum of anxieties around an uncertain future. Alternatively intellectual and irreverent, this collection is a playful take on the concept of the dialectic, weaving across text and time and the aching yawn of distance between us.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857405>

The Penguin New Zealand Anthology: 50 stories for 50 years in Aotearoa / Various Authors
New Zealand: Penguin Random House New Zealand, 2023
448p. ; 25cm.
9781776950539
\$ 45.00 / HB

755gm.

A milestone collection to celebrate a milestone event - 50 years publishing in NZ! To celebrate 50 years of publishing in Aotearoa New Zealand, this anthology brings together 50 enthralling stories from some of the country's finest writers. From established authors to new, emerging names, these stories track the changing styles, voices and preoccupations explored through the short story over the past five decades. Read - and celebrate!
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857406>

Te Awa o Kupu / Vaughan Rapatahana & Kiri Piahana-Wong
New Zealand: Penguin Random House New Zealand, 2023
416p. ; 24cm.
9780143777953
\$ 35.00 / PB
520gm.

A stunning new collection of poetry and stories by contemporary Maori writers. Over 80 contemporary Maori writers explore a vast array of issues that challenge, stimulate and intrigue. With originality and insight, these poems and short stories express compassion, concern, curiosity, suffering and joy. Te Awa o Kupu is a companion volume to Nga Kupu Wero, which focuses on recent non-fiction. Together these two passionate and vibrant anthologies reveal that the irrepressible river of words flowing from Maori writers today shows us who and what we are.
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857407>

Visible Cities: Lockdown to liberation, stress to sustainability: Aotearoa fiction inspired by Italo Calvino / Marco Sonzogni, Sydney J Shep & Daniel K Brown
New Zealand: The Cuba Press, 2023
162p. ; 20cm.
9781988595740
\$ 35.00 / PB
195gm.

The celebrated Italian writer Italo Calvino's novel Invisible Cities explores the intersection of reality and imagination through 11 startling themes, from 'Cities and Desire' to 'Trading Cities' to 'Cities and the Dead'. A hundred years after his birth, 11 emerging writers from Aotearoa have each taken a city from their own country and written a short story that pays tribute to Calvino's work while addressing the themes that besiege our cities in the twenty-first century.
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857409>

Emergency Weather / Tim Jones
New Zealand: The Cuba Press, 2023
256p. ; 20cm.
9781988595726
\$ 35.00 / PB
245gm.

Zeke has to stay with his aunt and uncle in Lower Hutt after a landslide takes his East Coast home off its foundations. Allie puts her drought-ridden Otago dairy farm out of her mind and catches a plane to the capital city. Stephanie wonders why she's sitting around a table at the Ministry for Resilience - again. In Emergency Weather, three people find themselves in Wellington as the climate crisis crashes into their lives. A giant storm is on its way - what

will be left of the city when it's over? A scarily prescient thriller by award-winning author and climate change activist Tim Jones.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857410>

String Theory: Guitar Store Mysteries / Bing Turkby

New Zealand: Guitarmerston North Books, 2023

356p. ; 21cm.

9780473681524

\$ 35.00 / PB

440gm.

Dana Osborne just wants to hang out in her guitar store talking music with her assistant Brody, and her colourful customers. But when once-famous prog-rock band Cranial Bypass decide to put on a reunion gig in her small town of Rockingham West, things get unexpectedly hectic. Especially when the band's guitarist Apocalypse BusLane is found murdered at a rehearsal. Despite being warned by the Police to keep her nose out of things after the last time she helped crack a case, suddenly Constable Wade McNeish is back, asking her to help out. Dana's quiet life is about to have the volume turned up to eleven, as Wade asks her to find out what happened -- by joining the band!

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857411>

Light Keeping / Adrienne Jansen

New Zealand: Quentin Wilson Publishing, 2023

240p. ; 23cm.

9781991103208

\$ 35.00 / PB

345gm.

The year is 1977 and a shocking accident sees Robert and Jess suddenly orphaned. Finding refuge with their lighthouse keeper grandparents, they begin to navigate their loss and rebuild their lives. But how secure can this new home be, with the threat of lighthouse automation and closures looming? As adults, Jess and Robert must deal with the fallout of the tragic events of their childhood, disconnected from each other and the home that once sheltered them. Buffeted by the storms of life, they find themselves inescapably drawn back towards the world of the sea. Light Keeping is a subtle and immersive novel drawing on the richness of family stories and their role in defining and connecting us. Set in the late-seventies and contemporary New Zealand, the book follows parallel storylines, evoking fascinating details of lighthouse life and reflecting on the relentless social change brought by new technology. Ultimately, this is a story of hope and reconnection - of finding, and keeping, light.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857412>

The Vanishing Point / Andrea Hotere

Australia: Ultimo Press, 2023

326p. ; 24cm.

9781761152757

\$ 35.00 / PB

395gm.

A dazzling and spellbinding debut about a mysterious painting, the secrets it keeps, and the two women connected across centuries by a quest to discover the truth - for readers of Geraldine Brooks, Tracy Chevalier and Maggie O'Farrell. London, 1991: Alex Johns, an art intern at the Courtauld, believes a hidden secret lies within Diego Velazquez's Las Meninas -

one of the most written about paintings of all time. Her mother died in mysterious circumstances while trying to uncover its secrets and Alex is troubled by memories of her own encounter as a child with the girl in the painting - the Infanta Margarita - who continues to haunt her. Alex must take up her mother's work and find evidence to uncover the truths within the canvas. Madrid, 1656: The Infanta Margarita senses that those around her believe the royal household is cursed. She wonders why her father, the King, is a pale shadow of himself and why the Queen is distressed. What threatens the royal offspring? She struggles to fight for her own destiny as the forces around her seek to marry her off and send her from the home she loves. A treacherous trail through the art world, the church and 17th century Spanish court via drawings, letters and cryptic notes has Alex trying to piece together what happened in King Philip's court... But with powerful players who will do anything to stop these truths coming to light, will Alex live to share them or is she, too, cursed? In the tradition of Tracy Chevalier's *Girl with a Pearl Earring* and A.S. Byatt's *Possession*, Andrea Moten's *The Vanishing Point* slowly reveals the secrets in the painting that have been closely guarded for centuries. Praise for *The Vanishing Point* 'This is an astonishing and beautiful novel that brings the art world into sharp relief, as well as a gutsy mysterious story of one woman's journey into the past. Simply a masterpiece in its own right.' - Fiona Kidman 'Captivating, filled with the spellbinding power that artworks have through history. I haven't read anything quite like this before. Scenes from *The Vanishing Point* have and will remain vividly in my mind.' - Hannah Bent

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857413>

Sisters Under The Rising Sun / Heather Morris

Australia: Echo Publishing, 2023

369p. ; 24cm.

9781760688356

\$ 35.00 / PB

455gm.

It is February 1942. Amid the turmoil of World War II, a group of Australian Army nurses, among them Nesta James and Vivian Bullwinkel, have just arrived in Singapore. The women have fled there from Malaya, where they had been stationed to care for Allied troops - and they are reluctant to move on again. Their hope is to remain in the beleaguered British colony to continue their mission of treating the sick and wounded. Norah Chambers, an English musician, has also fled to Singapore from Malaya, where she had been living with her husband and her eight-year-old daughter, Sally. A few days earlier she had sent her child away on a ship bound for Australia, desperate to keep her safe from invading Japanese forces. As the Japanese military overruns the city, Nesta and Vivian reluctantly join a terrified cargo of people - including the heartbroken Norah - crammed aboard the merchant ship *Vyner Brooke*. Only two days later, they are bombarded from the air off the coast of Indonesia, and in a matter of hours, the *Vyner Brooke* has sunk. After 24 hours in the sea, Nesta and Norah reach the beaches of a remote island, only to be captured and held in a succession of Japanese POW camps, places of starvation and brutality, where disease runs rampant. Alongside hundreds of other women prisoners, they begin a struggle for survival that will last almost four years. But even here, joy can be found by those with the will to defy their desperate circumstances. When Norah forms a 'vocal orchestra', with the women's voices taking the place of instruments, their music has the power to bring hope into the midst of despair. Sisters in arms, Norah and Nesta fight side by side, discovering in themselves extraordinary reserves of courage, resourcefulness, humour and hope in their determination to retain their humanity by caring for others.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857414>

War Bride / Patricia Fenton

New Zealand: Heritage Press Ltd, 2023
272p.
9781991163059
\$ 40.00 / PB
425gm.

Grim, uplifting and funny, this fictionalised family saga weaves memories and historical records stemming from real-life stories of a Welsh girl and a Kiwi boy who would never have met, if it wasn't for Hitler. Evie, born and bred in the Valleys of South Wales, seems destined for a life in service, but the clouds of war draw her to Cirencester and work in a munitions factory. There she meets Frank, a boy from the Bay of Plenty, who is stationed with the 11th Forestry Company of the NZ Army. As war swirls around them, they find themselves in London, a young couple with everything to live for but with death their constant companion.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857415>

Gangster's Paradise: New Zealand's Deadly Escalation of Organised Crime / Jared Savage
New Zealand: HarperCollins Publishers, 2023
319p. ; 24cm.
9781775542094
\$ 40.00 / PB
425gm.

The much anticipated follow-up to the bestseller that exposed the escalation of organised crime in New Zealand. Gangster's Paradise is about drugs, guns, gangs and money. Lots of money. A gang which took over a small rural town. A police officer shot and killed in a routine traffic stop. A port-worker who helped a gang whisk a shipping container off a wharf in the middle of the night. A crew of corrupt baggage handlers smuggling meth into the country during Covid lockdowns. A shooting inside a 5-star hotel in broad daylight. Turf wars, retaliation, and retribution: new gangs like the Mongols and Comancheros have brought with them better connections with international syndicates, challenging the established gangs like the Head Hunters - so dominant for many years - who have had to up their game in response. Jared Savage's bestselling book Gangland was about the evolution of gangs in New Zealand. Gangster's Paradise is about the deadly escalation.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857416>

Sports

Modern New Zealand Cricket Greats: From Stephen Fleming to Kane Williamson / Dylan Cleaver
New Zealand: A Mower Book, 2023
256p.
9781776940196
\$ 40.00 / PB
405gm.

New Zealanders have just lived through a Golden Age of Cricket. That's not a sentence many brought up with a love of the great game in the 1990s thought they would read as the national side took the gains made in the 1980s - mostly though the deeds of the great Sir Richard Hadlee and the burgeoning talent of Martin Crowe - and flubbed them away in a drunken fog of amateurism while the rest of the world took a more rigidly professional approach. The green shoots of a recovery started to emerge under the young, urbane

leadership of Stephen Fleming and, despite as many downs as ups, took flight when Brendon McCullum and coach Mike Hesson created an environment where failure was accepted as long as it came with grass stains, skinned elbows and a fearlessness never seen before on our cricket fields. Four ICC tournament finals later, including a heartbreaking tie in the 2019 ODI final and a win in the inaugural World Test Championship, has cemented this era as New Zealand's greatest. These are the modern legends of summer who paved the way: Stephen Fleming, Nathan Astle, Daniel Vettori, Shane Bond, Brendon McCullum, Ross Taylor, Tim Southee, Martin Guptill, BJ Watling, Kane Williamson, Trent Boult, Neil Wagner.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857417>

Rugby League In New Zealand: A People's History / Ryan Bodman

New Zealand: Bridget Williams BooksLtd, 2023

366p. ; 29cm.

9781991033444

\$ 65.00 / PB

1430gm.

This is the history of a sport told through its communities. Rugby League in New Zealand: A People's History tells the story of a game and its supporters thriving against the odds. Beginning with the game's introduction to the country in 1907, Ryan Bodman reveals the deep-rooted connections between rugby league's development and the evolving cultural fabric of New Zealand. Inhabitants of blue-collar working-class suburbs, Irish Catholics, Kingitanga Maori, Pasifika migrants and West Coast clubs - the people behind the game share accounts of class conflict, prejudice, demographic shifts and industrial upheaval, while emphasising rugby league's lasting influence on New Zealanders' lives. Utilising oral history interviews, rugby league memorabilia and captivating illustrations, Bodman presents an engaging and unique perspective on the cultural significance of sport in New Zealand. The early animosity faced by rugby league from rugby union's governing bodies is shown as playing a pivotal role in the sport's subsequent popularity among marginalised communities across the country. By questioning the mythic status of rugby union in the nation's identity, Rugby League in New Zealand highlights how power, politics and people have collectively shaped the nation's sporting scene.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857418>
