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From: ASAA/NZ on behalf of ASAA/NZ

To: Lorena Gibson

ASAA/NZ December 2015 Newsletter

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Season's Greetings from ASAA/NZ

Tēnā koutou katoa ASAA/NZ members,

This issue of our newsletter opens with a tribute in honour of Dr Cyril Schäfer, whose untimely passing in June was a shock to us all. This is followed with a number of news items, conference reports, a piece on writing fiction by Beatrice Hale, and a roundup of anthropology seminars held at various universities in Aotearoa in 2015. I hope you enjoy reading it with a cup of tea or coffee while on a well-earned end of year break.

Lorena Gibson



Ngā mihi o te Kirihimete me te Tau Hou.

Nāku noa, nā

Lorena Gibson, ASAA/NZ Secretary

Welcome from our Chairperson



Hello everyone,

Happy 40th anniversary to ASAA/NZ! Thanks to our colleagues at Massey University for organising a successful conference celebrating this milestone. I am sorry I could not be there and am glad to see we took time to remember our colleague Cyril Schäfer.

One of the highlights of the year has been Dame Joan Metge receiving the Prime Minister's Award for non-fiction. This was a splendid event, Joan gave a wonderful speech and proved, like so many times before, a great ambassador for our discipline.

We really feel for our colleagues at Canterbury University who have been merged with Sociology. Although they always had very good neighborly relations, the merger is painful,

and a threat to our discipline. Our colleagues at the University of Auckland have been restructured into schools and hence lost their independence. Such events mean that it is all the more important that we foster our identity as Anthropologists in our association, our annual conferences, moderation, and examination of theses. ASAA/NZ is wonderful collective of scholars and we will continue to support each other.

Canterbury will organise and host the 2016 conference and we all look forward to coming together in about 10 months' time.

I would like to give a big vote of thanks to all colleagues who are making sure that SITES is going strong and continues to be a strong voice for Anthropology in New Zealand.

Lorena has done a great job of moving forward with our website upgrade, and I thank her and the other members of the working party - Benedicta Rousseau, Piers Locke, Catherine Trundle, and Barbara Andersen - for their efforts in developing the new website. We will have an official launch in the new year.

I would also like to remind you that part of your membership fees go towards supporting graduate anthropology students in the form of the Kākano Award Fund. We are always happy to accept donations for the Fund.

I wish everyone a restful holiday period and look forward to seeing you and hearing from you in 2016.

Brigitte Bönisch-Brednich, ASAA/NZ Chairperson

[Donate to the Kākano Fund](#)

Dr Cyril Timo Schäfer, 1976-2015

One of Otago's most promising young academics died suddenly on 26 June this year. A senior lecturer in the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology at the University of Otago, Cyril Schäfer was still in the early stages of his career; yet had already achieved much success as teacher and researcher, and through his contributions to university administration. He was also a very active member of ASAA/NZ, being on the Editorial Board of *Sites* and serving for a number of years as General Editor of the journal.

Cyril was born in 1976 in South Africa but spent most of his early childhood in different parts of Germany. The family migrated to New Zealand in 1981 and eventually settled in New Plymouth where Cyril got most of his schooling. Having little trouble qualifying for university, Cyril liked the idea of studying in another small city and came south to Dunedin and the University of Otago, where he took up an Arts degree, majoring in Anthropology.

One year into his degree he was accepted for Honours and was already showing a strong interest in social anthropology.

A critical turning point in Cyril's career came in the third year of his Honours degree when he applied to spend a semester as an exchange student studying in the United States. He chose to spend this time at the State University of New York at Oswego and among the courses he selected was a course on Death and Dying taken by Dr Paul Voninski. In the chance way in which course options (and university options) sometimes present themselves, Cyril found an area of interest that, for all sorts of reasons, really excited him. He also found a new friend and mentor who would help him pursue this interest and make a career out of it. Cyril returned to Dunedin for the last year of his degree. By coincidence Paul started fieldwork in Dunedin then and for a short time they worked together, giving Cyril a unique introduction to fieldwork and anthropology at home. Cyril finished his honours degree with a ground-breaking dissertation on the role of funerary celebrants. From there he went straight into a PhD, continuing his research on the history and anthropology of New Zealand funerary practices.

Cyril experienced more personal setbacks than most during his doctorate but they were also years in which he began showing his promise as an academic. There was tutoring, part-time teaching, experience in developing his own courses and presentations at international conferences on his New Zealand research. Early on during his doctorate he secured the Ross Fellowship at Knox College, a two year period that was invaluable for doing a lot of the historical research necessary for his thesis. There was also the opportunity to join a research team working on adolescent oral health; an inter-disciplinary research project between the Anthropology Department and the School of Dentistry at the University of Otago. He joined The Association for the Study of Death and Society, and became a regular participant at Death, Dying and Disposal Conferences. This was also the time when he became an active member of ASAA/NZ.

Not long after he completed his PhD thesis – Post-mortem Personalization: An Ethnographic Study of Funeral Directors in New Zealand – a position came up at the University of Otago which Cyril was fortunate in getting. The timing could not have been better as now he had the opportunity through teaching, supervision and research, to expand his work and launch new projects in what by now had become a rapidly growing field of interest. Among the many new projects he was involved with was the highly successful launching of a trans-Tasman conference series; he was on the organising committee for the inaugural *Death Down Under* conference at Sydney University in June 2011 and then co-organiser, with Ruth McManus, of the second *Death Down Under* conference at the University of Canterbury in June 2012.

A commendable feature of Cyril's work during this early period of his career was his strong commitment to collaborative research. Once his work became known, and his contacts expanded, there were numerous opportunities for engaging with fellow-researchers, within New Zealand and internationally.

In his short career Cyril left an amazing legacy. He was a popular teacher and supervisor, inspiring and mentoring many students; he was a path-breaking researcher contributing

much to the growth of interest in research on death and dying in New Zealand. There was also his work for the *Sites* Editorial Board, his success as a conference organiser, and the many long hours spent on university committees and workshops. He will be admired and respected for a long time for his contributions to the discipline and to the university where he spent the best years of his life.

(With thanks to Josie Dolan for her assistance)

Ian Frazer

Meet the Anthsisters

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Meet Hollie Russell (Ngāti Rakaipaaka, left), Tarapuhi Bryers-Brown (Ngāti Raukawa ki Te Tonga and Te Āti Haunui-a-Pāpārangī, centre) and Tayla Hancock (right) - otherwise known as the Anthsisters. Hollie, Tarapuhi and Tayla graduated from Victoria University in December 2015 with MAs in Cultural Anthropology, all passed with Distinction. [Hollie's thesis](#) explores what it means to be Ngāti Rakaipaaka today and how this 'being' may influence post-settlement futures for the iwi and its members. Tarapuhi's research looks at the long term and inter-generational impact of colonisation, and the role of structural violence on contemporary indigenous people,

ASAA/NZ website

As you will know from discussions on our e-list, we are in the process of upgrading our website. Lorena is looking for fieldwork photos from ASAA/NZ members to feature on the website, so please [contact her](#) if you would like to submit yours. The site will be launched in early 2016.

SITES

Inequality and identity are key themes running through the [latest issue of SITES](#). It opens with an by essay Hannah Gibson, winner of the inaugural 'SITES Graduate Student Essay Competition'.

especially within Aotearoa. [Tayla's thesis](#) is an anthropological enquiry of the fat body. Together they run [Anthsisters](#), a popular anthropology blog. [Read more](#)

Congratulations to ASAA/NZ members

Dame Joan Metge was awarded a [Prime Minister's Award for Literary Achievement](#) in recognition of her outstanding contribution to New Zealand non-fiction literature. An ASAA/NZ Life Member, Dame Metge is revered for her outstanding promotion of cross-cultural awareness. Her most recent book is *Tauira: Māori Methods of Learning and Teaching*. Dame Metge has also been named as [one of the 25 most influential New Zealanders over 75](#), and featured in an exhibition curated by Wellington economist Brian Easton that catalogues [60 of the most important makers of modern New Zealand](#).

Associate Professor Ruth Fitzgerald was awarded the Te Rangi Hiroa Medal by the Royal Society of New Zealand for her work as a medical anthropologist that has placed many health issues such as genetic testing, reproductive decisions and oral health in a New Zealand social and political context. Her research covers the anthropology of health and medicine in New Zealand with a particular focus on biotechnologies such as genetic testing. [Read more](#)

Dr Des Tatana Kahotea was awarded the Arts category of the 2015 Ngā Kupu Ora Māori Book Awards for his book *Te Tū Hanga Whare o Whetū: The rebuilding of Te Whetū o Te Rangi*. [Read more](#)

Dr Sita Venkateswar, School of People, Environment & Planning, Massey University, was awarded a Harriette Jenkins Award to support a summer course 'Filmmaking for Fieldwork', at the University of Manchester in July 2016.

**40th Annual ASAA/NZ Conference
Massey University, 25-27 November 2015**



Dr Sita Venkateswar (Massey), Professor Annemarie Mol (University of Amsterdam), and Dr Robyn Andrews (Massey) at the 2015 ASAA/NZ Conference.

Congratulations to the conference organising committee at Massey University, who hosted our 40th annual conference. By all accounts the conference, and the [Manawatu river freshwater ecology trip](#), was a great success (read Massey's news article [here](#)).

2015 ASAA/NZ Conference Report

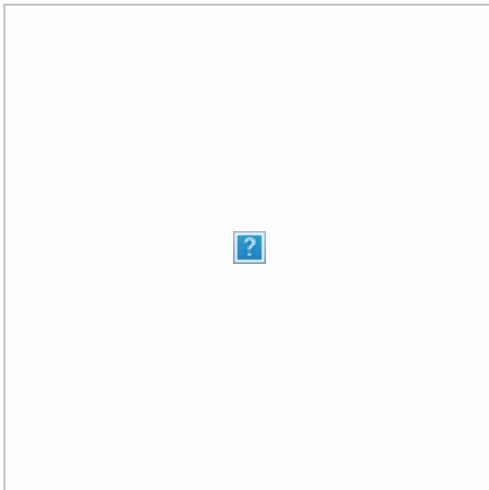
I arrived at ASAA/NZ 2015 one day after returning from the American Anthropological Association meetings in Denver, Colorado. For those who have never attended the AAAs before, everything you may have heard about them is true: there is simply far too much

While North American anthropologists often treat professional social events as tedious networking rituals, I got the sense that people at this conference sincerely enjoyed the opportunity to reconnect and recharge.

As a longtime fan of Annemarie Mol's work in science studies and the anthropology of the body, I was

to do, see, and hear at once. Sharing a convention centre with several thousand anthropologists can make one feel very insignificant and anonymous indeed.

The familiar (not to say familial) atmosphere at ASAA/NZ was a welcome palate-cleanser after a week of exhausting anonymity. Julie Park's opening plenary, and the subsequent roundtable conversation of "elders" co-chaired by Margaret Kawharu, provided the newcomers in the audience with a warm and personal history of the association. After chairing the Health/Care session (which featured a diverse set of papers on health-related topics), I got to enjoy drinks and Cassandra McTavish's fantastic cake (pictured below) with the rest of the participants. While personal connections are important in any academic discipline, it struck me just how much more significant these connections are in Aotearoa, and how much more seriously people take the real work of maintaining and strengthening these social ties.



Cassie McTavish and cake

delighted by her keynote talk, "Some pleasures and some alterities; Lessons from eating practices". Mol is an experimental ethnographer and "empirical philosopher"; her discussion of the sensorial pleasures of eating was not easy to locate within familiar intellectual trends. Indeed, one of the first questions she fielded after the talk was "What is your genealogy?" — a very NZ question, in my opinion! Mol attended several sessions in addition to her keynote, and seemed particularly engaged by student presentations.

There was a good mix of junior and senior scholars in the sessions I attended, and members of all the generations seemed to appreciate the diversity and energy this brought to the discussions. As many members noted during the closing poroporoaki, the number and high quality of postgraduate student presentations this year was unprecedented. This was also the inaugural year of a new tradition — the award for best postgraduate presentation (see below).

While I have only been living and working in New Zealand since August, and did not present at this year's conference, I look forward to taking a more active role in 2016.

Congratulations and thank you to the organizers, and to all the conference participants for welcoming me so warmly into the ASAA/NZ whānau.

Barbara Andersen, Massey University

Dr Cyril Timo Schäfer Memorial Graduate Student Conference Presentation Awards

The 2015 annual meeting of the association saw the inaugural presentation of the best graduate student presentation awards, and at the AGM it was decided to rename these the “Dr Cyril Timo Schäfer Memorial Graduate Student Conference Presentation Awards” in honour of Cyril, who passed away in June 2015. The first place winner (\$200 award) was Jessica Halley, who recently completed her MA at Massey University, for her paper “The politics of resettlement: Bhutanese refugees and the problem with community.” Second place (\$100 award) went to Sally Raudon, who is completing her PhD at the University of Auckland, for her paper “Hurry up please, it’s time: Conflicting temporalities of Australian constitutional Reform.” Third place (\$50 award) was presented to Jess Bignell, a PhD student at Massey University, for her paper “Studying up: The practical parts of doing ethnography with powerful people.”

The idea for these awards was originally mooted by Lorena Gibson (Victoria U.) and then approved by the membership via an on-line survey, and an awards panel was constituted of Jeff Sluka (Massey U.), Julie Park (U. of Auckland), Trisia Farrelly (Massey U.), and Catherine Trundle (Victoria). In order to be eligible student presenters must be members of the association, and eighteen student papers were judged. Overall, the quality of the student presentations was extremely high, and the awards initiative was a great success in its initial year.

Jeff Sluka

2015 Kākano Fund Awards and Reports

The following graduate students received Kākano Fund Awards in 2015:

Rebecca Chan, MA, Massey University
Jared Commerer, MA, Victoria University
Shani Luxford, MA, Victoria University
Emma McGuirk, PhD, Otago University
Thomas Robertson, MA, Massey University
Olivia Williams, BA(Hons), Massey University

Kākano Fund Reports

This year we invited some of our Kākano Award recipients to write reports about their conference experiences.

114th AAA Annual Meeting, 18-22 Nov 2015 by Emma McGuirk, PhD Candidate, University of Otago

In November I attended the 114th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association (AAA) in Denver, Colorado. I engaged with two main academic themes at this conference, degrowth and service learning. The first, degrowth, imagines and explores what the industrialized world might look like beyond unchecked economic growth, as well

as the lived experiences already underway in regions undergoing involuntary degrowth, such as former industrial towns, or the voluntary down-sizing and degrowth of consumption in intentional communities. Drawing on one chapter of my PhD thesis, I presented a paper entitled 'Creating New Currencies for Degrowth and Relocalisation in Aotearoa New Zealand', which discussed timebanking as an expression of, or experiment towards, degrowth and relocalisation. My paper was included on the panel *Culture, Power, Degrowth I*. I felt privileged to speak on this panel, which took place on Thursday afternoon of the conference and had an audience of nearly one hundred people. Later that evening I attended a dinner for the panelists, which provided many opportunities for further conversation and exchange of ideas.

In addition to presenting my paper, I organised a panel on service learning entitled *Careerism in the Guise of Altruism, or Something More Enduring? Critical Reflections on Teaching Anthropology through Community Service Learning*. I organised this panel on behalf of the Teaching Anthropology Interest Group (TAIG), of which I am a member. Service Learning offers undergraduate students in anthropology and many other disciplines opportunities to gain credit towards their degrees by working with community and activist organisations, and reflecting on this work when they return to class. The panel went very well and it was wonderful to meet the panelists who I had been exchanging emails with throughout the year. I also established a relationship with the Colorado Service Learning Council (CSLC) and as a result, some of the CSLC members were able to attend the TAIG panel on Friday morning, join us for lunch with the panelists, and then attend a roundtable discussion at the AAA meeting that was separately organised (not by myself), but that had a closely related theme, *Anthropology, Hosts and Guests in the Affect Economy: Anthropology's Engagement with Voluntourism, Service Learning, and Alternative Breaks*. After the conference I continued to meet with CSLC members to discuss current trends and challenges for service learning programmes in the United States. I also attended a quarterly CSLC meeting with representatives from a number of community organisations and universities in Colorado.

I thoroughly enjoyed my time at this conference and I am very grateful for the financial support provided by ASAA/NZ through the Kākano Fund, which helped make it possible for me to attend.

Australian Anthropological Society Conference, 1-4 Dec 2015 **by Jared Commerer, MA Candidate, Victoria University**

The first week of December saw the *Moral Horizons* conference take place in Melbourne, Australia. Convened by the Australian Anthropological Society (AAS), the conference – accommodated by The University of Melbourne – brought together an international conglomerate of anthropologists and scholars. As a master's student for whom a conference of this scope and international stature was a first, *Moral Horizons* provided no shortage of compelling topics, impassioned discussions, anthropologically-informed insights, and, significantly, opportunities to network and meet others involved at various stages of their own anthropological careers and research.

The theme of the proceedings – reflected in the title of the conference – was perhaps not altogether new to the discipline of anthropology; positioned at the intersection of non-modern traditions and colonial modernity, anthropology has always encountered questions of morality due to the very nature of its field of investigation. However, the ongoing expansion of this field is what can be seen to entail the contemporary relevance of engaging moral questions. The core of the conference included more than 340 papers that were partitioned into thematic streams – creative practice; citizenship, politics, and power; religiosities; and, temporalities being just a few of them –, all of which offered insight into general questions surrounding the theme of broadening moral vistas. These questions included, among others: How do moral discourses shape social life in various ethnographic contexts from formal politics and activism to everyday practices of class and gender making? Is a moral anthropology an applied anthropology, an engaged anthropology or development studies? and, Is anthropology conceived as a moral project a departure from a commitment to cultural relativism?

Due to a pre-existing interest in questions of cultural relativism, I found Gillian Tan's paper *A Proposed Ecology of "the Beast": Issues and Contexts of Relativism and Relationality via Eastern Tibet* a particularly invigorating way to begin the week. Drawing on her fieldwork with nomads in Eastern Tibet, Tan explored how relationships between nonhuman animals, human pastoralists, and worldly beings are tied to environmental and political contexts when treated as 'always-contingent entities,' rather than as bounded forces placed 'relative to' each other. Although the methodological inferences that followed were complex, it was interesting to see how matters pertaining to relativism had been taken-up and applied to Tan's particular ethnographic setting.

Undeniably, one of the highlights of the conference was Nancy Scheper-Hughes' keynote lecture, *Towards an Anthropology of Evil*. As she spoke about her research on death squads, war crimes, and human organ trafficking, Scheper-Hughes' political and moral commitments were far from concealed. Not only did the focus of her work exhibit parallels with my research on state terror and political violence in Eritrea, but it was the underlying emphasis on anthropology as a politically-engaged mechanism for resistance and transformation that resonated strongly.

The essence of Scheper-Hughes' keynote also carried through to the plenary discussion that closed the conference, *Engaging the Public: Making Anthropology Relevant*, where she was joined by Greg Downey and Tess Lea. In a way, this discussion reiterated the significance that lies with continuing to address questions of morality and relativism in the context of anthropological theory and practice. The discussants navigated questions such as How can we better bring our depth of knowledge to the world and our multiple publics? and How can we be activists and researchers, how can we utilise new technologies to communicate with the people we work with and for?, and it was thinking about these questions in relation to the conference as a whole that ushered in the realisation that the politically-engaged thrust of Scheper-Hughes' work is perhaps still on the periphery of anthropology, generally speaking.

Thankfully, it is due to connecting with many insightful and dedicated people at *Moral Horizons* that the potential for continued discussion surrounding the emancipatory

capacities of anthropological discourse was created.

I would like to thank Victoria University of Wellington and the ASAA/NZ Kākano Fund for providing the financial assistance that allowed me to attend and present at *Moral Horizons*.

Agrifood Research Network Conference, 6-9 Dec 2015

by Thomas Robertson, MA candidate, Massey University

Earlier this month I travelled to Queenstown to present at the Agrifood Research Network Conference, generously funded by a grant from the Kakano Fund. I am currently a master's student in social anthropology at Massey University, and prior to starting my master's I completed an (extended) summer scholarship with Dr Trisia Farrelly looking at Bisphenol A (BPA), an endocrine disrupting chemical in plastics that is harmful to human health yet remains legal in New Zealand. This consisted of a literature review examining the scientific debate around BPA, different modes for defining good science, differing regulatory approaches, public opposition to BPA, and the role of the public in defining risk. While this resulted in a publication in the Journal of the Royal Society of New Zealand, there is nevertheless significantly more work to be done here. This includes theorising the data, potential ethnographic fieldwork, and a more activist approach of collaborating with other groups and raising public awareness to draw attention to what Trisia and I consider a serious hazard for human health. This conference was a stepping stone to achieving this.

Trisia and I co-presented a talk entitled '*Synthetic hormones in plastic food packaging: Hiding in plain view*', which was well received. Our presentation discussed the invisibility of endocrine disruptors such as BPA, both to consumers and in public discourse. We hope to make these chemicals more visible, and this presentation was one way of doing this. Other presentations and discussions provided theoretical inspiration, in particular with various posthuman theories useful in considering materiality that goes beyond everyday perception.

One key theme in the conference was the idea of messiness, disorder, and governability, which is of direct theoretical relevance to our project. This came to a more practical level in talks with other researchers exploring how the Australian and New Zealand governments approached risk with regards to other problematic materials. This gave more concrete evidence to support my earlier suspicion that the way risk is defined is worryingly arbitrary. This is something Trisia and I discussed with these speakers, with the potential for future collaborative and interdisciplinary research on the subject.

Relevant keynote speeches were given by Annemarie Mol, who discussed the different scientific registers for considering foods, raising the question to me as to whether BPA and plastics can then be considered as 'foods' (a disconcerting thought). Julie Guthman gave a fascinating presentation on the use of fumigants in the strawberry industry in California, with a number of direct parallels to our own project. Julie has also written on endocrine disruptors with relation to obesity, and was able to make a number of useful comments to us. While my thesis is on another topic (mercury use by artisanal and small-scale gold mining in Antioquia, Colombia), this conference nevertheless provided another set of

approaches to this problem, which I am already incorporating into my thesis.

In short, the conference was an incredibly useful experience, not to mention enjoyable, and I am highly grateful to the Kākano fund for their assistance.

From Non-fiction to Fiction, by Beatrice Hale

Fiction: Ice Escape and The Resolute Heart

From *The Age of Supported Independence* and *Family Care and Social Capital*, coauthored with colleagues, both deeply thoughtful and highly absorbing anthropological books to think about and write, I moved to write up stories of my family – equally absorbing to a descendant of intrepid ancestors.

Why? And how?

I wanted to tell the stories of courage, of perseverance, of care for others. And I wanted to tell the first story because of my close relationship with my grandfather, who downplayed his role in the heroic rescue of the American Flying Family – visionaries, like himself, and courageous as he was. The second story was fun to write but stories about press-ganging often forget those who are left behind. Mary refused to be left behind but is aware of what she is leaving. All the protagonists are learning – and to use Ruth Behar's comments (p.134 *The Vulnerable Observer*), the body is a homeland – a place where knowledge, memory and pain is stored... Colin is haunted by thoughts of his father's drowning, and fearful of what might happen to him. John has no fear, just huge trust in his pilot father. That trust is challenged. Betsy, his sister, feels she has lost the world, when the plane crashed. 'We're in Nowhere.' Mary in *The Resolute Heart* refuses to be a woman at home, despite the enormous workload a Fife fisherwoman has to manage. In wanting to be with her husband, she learns an awareness of others.

Having said that, the stories remain light fiction, enjoyable to write and hopefully enjoyable to read.

Ice Escape (8-12 year olds)

It's 1932, the Age of Flight, and twelve year old American boy, John, is flying around the world in a plane piloted by his father. If they make it, they will be the first family to fly around the world. But problems beset them, when their plane, a Sikorsky Amphibian, is forced to crash land on an iceberg off the shores of Greenland. How will they survive. Will help

The Resolute Heart (young adults)

This is based on my many greats-grandparents. Harry Watson (not his real name) and young wife Mary lived in Sillery (aka Cellardyke) in Fife. Harry was press-ganged into Nelson's navy, hauled off to take part in the battle against France. Mary decided to go too. So much I know from family records. From the records, too, I know

come in time?

Help is coming, from a Scottish deep sea fishing boat, out on the North Sea, pursuing the catch. On the boat, is Colin, also twelve, a boy who has had join the crew to help support his family after his own father had died at sea. As the captain steers the boat through the perils of Iceberg Alley, Colin learns his trade.

This is a story about planes and boats, about boys and families, about life on the high seas and in the air of the 1930s, a period of adventure and hardship. It is inspired in part by a true story—the 1932 adventures of the American Hutchinson Family, known as the Flying Family, whose dream of circumnavigating the world by plane ended when they were forced to crash land in the icebergs near Greenland. They and their crew were rescued by the crew of the Scottish fishing vessel, The Lord Talbot.



Kinship/clanship

And if anyone wants to know – yes, Cameron is my clan, through my father's links. I also claim kinship with Buchanan, a Watson-linkage in Fife.

Both books are available on Amazon, and Kindle, for downloading as ebooks, and for print-on-demand. Ice Escape is also available on Smashwords.

They were great fun to research and write. Has anthropology influenced my story-telling? I

that Mary gave birth to a baby before the Battle of Copenhagen. Not a highly convenient time, methinks.

In my story, Mary fights the press-gang leader, who tries to trample her down with his horse. In the fight, she captures a piece of parchment, written in French, which, eventually translated, shows the leader to be a traitor. She decides to embark with Harry but cannot board the same boat.

Her journey by stagecoach, to London, pursued by the villainous press-gang leader, takes her into uncharted territory for her. She is watched by a quiet gentleman, also on the coach, who is suspicious of her and her journey, but who eventually becomes an ally, a Cameron.

Once in London, with the help of the Cameron, and the local innkeeper, Mary finds out the meaning of her piece of parchment. She then finds Harry's boat, disguises herself as a seaman, and embarks. Luckily for her the Cameron is on board too, as is the villainous press-gang leader. She becomes a surgeon's assistant, and she and Harry discover a plot to mutiny against Nelson. They report this to the Cameron, and a major fight ensues. However, the mutineers were vanquished, the boat sailed with the fleet to Trafalgar – and the battle was won.

doubt I could lay claim to such depth. Both stories focus on different forms of courage, of indomitable perseverance but both have the happy-ending of a lighter-hearted story than the deep reflections of much anthropological writing.

Beatrice Hale

2015 Anthropology Seminar Series Roundup

This is a snapshot of anthropology seminars hosted at various universities in Aotearoa.

University of Auckland Anthropology Seminar Series

Convenor: Heather Battles

12 March: Jana Bacevic
"From class to identity? Education, political subjectivities and conflict in former Yugoslavia and its successor states"

19 March: Heather Battles
"Diphtheria mortality patterns in Hamilton, Ontario on the eve of vaccination (1900-1924)"

26 March: Helene Martinsson-Williams
"Monuments and Social Space during the Bronze Age on Gotland Island in the Baltic Sea"

23 April: Matthew Meredith-Williams
"Fisher-Gatherers in the Southern Red Sea - what to do with 4200 Shell Mounds"

30 April: Maureen Molloy
"Mind the gap: Gender, Modernism, Anthropology"

7 May: Ananta Geri
"Social Healing: Culture as a Patient, Metapathology and the Challenges of Self and Social Transformations"

14 May: Alexandra Oanca
Expertise and Europeanization: the limits and challenges of European expertise and

Otago Anthropology- Archaeology Seminars

Convenor: Ian Barber

17 April: Ian Frazer
"Revisiting Maasina Rule"

24 April: Charles Higham
"Time Alone is the Lens that can Throw it into Focus" The Saga of Ban Chiang"

1 May: Richard Walter
"Village based archaeological conservation in Solomon Islands – a case study"

8 May: Glenn Summerhayes
"PNG Archaeology - Major advances over the last decade"

15 May: Angela Middleton
"Pēwhairangi - Bay of Islands Missions and Māori 1814 to 1845"

22 May: Helen Leach
"Resurrecting Oturehua"

31 July: Tim Thomas
"The work of colonisation: a case study from the railway construction camp at Nenthorn"

25 September: Professor Kristen Ghodsee

its centrality in competitive bidding

21 May: Professor Byong Won Lee
"K-Pop in the Process of Constructing an Imaginary Global Community of Korean Wave"

28 May: Chrissy Sepulveda
"A New Generation of Hippies? An Ethnographic and Ethnomusicological Study of a 21st Century American Counterculture Music Community"

4 June: Fiona McCormack
"Neoliberalising the Environment: Fisheries Quota Systems in New Zealand, Iceland and Ireland"

23 July: Sam Lin
"Rocks are just rocks: An alternative perspective to Middle Paleolithic assemblage variability"

30 July: Sarah Krose
"Recognition, Knowledge and the (Re)construction of Relationships in Bilua, Vella Lavella"

6 August: Rebecca Phillipps and Simon Holdaway
"The Desert Fayum Revisited: The Early to Mid- Holocene Landscape Archaeology of the Fayum North Shore, Egypt"

20 August: Greg Booth
"Fast History: Music Commerce and the Mobile Platform in India (2000-2010)"

"The Left Side of History. Reconsidering Communism in Light of the Crises of Capitalism"

University of Auckland Hunstan Seminar Notes by Julie Park

In September and October, Anthropology at Auckland celebrated Judith Huntman's 80th year with a series of three seminars on matters dear to her heart. The first on Sept 17th was a reflection on her field research in Tokelau which started in 1967 and finished in 1997, although her scholarship relating to Tokelau continues well beyond that date. Judy interwove personal, political, population and disciplinary considerations into her paper which analysed changes in that 30 year period.

A week later a paper by Katherine Pawley, archivist in Special Collections at the University of Auckland Library, discussed the advantages and the processes involved in the project of working with Judy to document and archive the Tokelau research materials. Judy reflected on the ethics of archiving as an aspect of reciprocity.

The final week's seminar honoured Judy's contribution as Editor of the *Journal of the Polynesian Society*. It

27 August: Peter Sheppard
"Hop-scotch in the Solomon Islands: An update on the Leap-frog Hypothesis and the settlement of Remote Oceania beyond the Solomon Islands"

17 September: Judith Huntsman
"Reflections on field research in the Tokelau atolls"

24 September: Judith Huntsman with Katherine Pawley
"Preserving and documenting ethnographic research materials for future scholars and future generations: An ethical concern?"

1 October: Panel (Judith Huntsman and others) on the current climate and conundrums of academic publishing as viewed by journal editors

8 October: Timothy Thomas (Peter Wilson Seminar)
"Being and time, houses and shrines, in the Solomon Islands"

15 October: Kasey Allely
"How do we know about the past?"

22 October: Helen Gremillion
"Narrative Therapy as Cultural Studies Practice"

29 October: Md Faruk Shah
"Biomedicine and healing in rural Bangladesh"

**Victoria University of Wellington
Cultural Anthropology Seminars
Collectively convened**

11 March: Dr Fiona McCormack
"Neoliberal resource management: a fishy business"

13 May: Associate Professor Jeff Sluka

took the form of a panel and round table discussion on the challenges of publishing in the current context. These include open access and its effect on the funding of non-commercial journals; journal weightings; quality and quantity assessments; commercial 'bundlers' vs subscriptions; and the ubiquitous, perhaps iniquitous, 'impact'.

These seminars attracted broad and interactive audiences from across the university and were accompanied by refreshments, of course.



Judith Huntsman

**University of Waikato
Anthropology Seminar Series
Convenor: Benedicta Rousseau**

14 August: Keith Barber and Tran thi Lanh
"The Spiritual Ecology of the H're of Violak Village, Central Highland, Vietnam (and their responses to

"Terrorism and Taboo: Anthropological Perspectives on Terrorism"

8 July: Dr Lily George

"Te Piringa Poho: Māori women, incarceration, historical trauma and healing"

August Roundtable: *Credible Ethnography? Alice Goffman, Dangerous Fieldsites, and the Problems of Proof*

Chaired by Tarapuhi Bryers-Brown and Tayla Hancock

9 September: Dr John Shaver

"The Origins and Sources of Anti-Muslim Sentiment in New Zealand"

14 October: Dr Jesse Hession Grayman

"Topography and Scale in a Community-Driven Maternal and Child Health Program in Eastern Indonesia"

21 October: Associate Professor Susanne Kuehling

"Precious objects in peril: Repositioning *kula* exchange in the global economy"

outside interventions)"

11 September: Gwen Wanigasekera and Michael Goldsmith

"Disciplining New Zealand: Two exploratory case studies of crime and punishment"

18 September: Graeme MaRae

"Anthropologies of Bali and a new anthropology of the new Bali"

2 October: Anne Eddy

"Neighbours at Pūhoi River: A Cross-Cultural Dual Biography of Te Hemara Tauhia and Martin Krippner"

9 October: Christine Dureau

"Time, Work, Discipline and Industrial Missions: Methodist Aspirations in the Western Solomons, 1902-1912"

16 October: Susanne Kuehling

"We don't teach the young generation": Gift exchange as an endangered Masterpiece of Human Ingenuity"

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