Precarity: Uncertain, Insecure and Unequal Lives in Aotearoa New Zealand

Edited by Clifford van Ommen, Bridgette Masters-Awatere, Natasha Tassell-Matamua and Shiloh Groot

Leading UK economist Guy Standing has referred to the precariat as a class-in-the-making. The Precariat are our fellow citizens - be they poor, elderly, disabled, homeless, estranged from their cultural communities, refugees, engaged in casual work who lead lives of uncertainty, dependency, powerlessness, perilousness and insufficiency. They are the outcome of the gradual dismantling of the welfare state and the withering of union representation. They are also the victims of the changing nature of work.

This important book moves beyond the world of labour to identify and illustrate other forms of precarity in New Zealand, including the lack of opportunities for cultural expression and the struggle to be safe. It focuses on New Zealand’s emerging class, not to further vilify it but rather to place its members’ lived experience in plain sight.

As the editors say, it is time that all New Zealanders understood the reality of what many of our citizens endure in the struggle to make ends meet and live dignified lives.

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PASIFIKA
*Ko Paka mo ‘ene kau hiva*
Fa’uʻe ‘Emeli pouvalu Ta fakatata ‘e Taniela Petelo
Come along and join the choir, called by a friendly and musical crab.
Paka invites the members of his underwater choir as they join him one by one. Each one brings their own musical talent through instruments and the parts they sing. Come along as Paka’s choir grows and enjoy learning the names of these special ocean creatures.
For young children this is an A4 sized book in Tongan, with notes for family/educators.
22 pages - University of the South Pacific - 2016

FOOD
*Caravan*
Chris Ammermann, Laura Harper-Hinton & Miles Kirby
Caravan has the whole day covered. It begins with morning brews, healthy breakfasts and unbeatable brunches, next up are zingy lunchtime salads, soups, grains and mains, then a pause for teatime bakes, before rounding the day off with stunning dinners, puddings and drinks on the side. Like its namesake London restaurants, with this book you can get exactly what you are craving at any time of day. The ethos is bold flavours and global influences, relaxed and approachable recipes, vibrant and healthy ingredients.
Caravan is London’s award-winning, hugely popular collection of restaurants, famous for bringing all-day dining to the UK. Founded by New Zealanders Chris Ammermann, Laura Harper-Hinton and Miles Kirby, Caravan embodies an antipodean, ‘well-travelled’ food culture and with this book you can get exactly what you are craving at any time of day.
300 pages - Random 2017
ISBN: 9781910931233  Hardback  $55.00

NON FICTION
*A Woman’s Place : Life Lessons and Leadership from the Boardroom*
Joan Withers
One of New Zealand’s most respected and influential businesswomen, Joan Withers has been a champion of diversity in the workplace and a trailblazer for women in the board room. Despite leaving school with only School Certificate at 16, Joan rose to the top of New Zealand’s largest media organisation and has served on the boards of several leading companies.
In this candid book she shares insights on how to achieve career success while holding together family life, and offers key learnings from more than 25 years as a woman at the top of the corporate ladder. Its an empowering read for anyone looking to advance their career, and especially for women wanting to achieve success at work and home.
254 pages - Penguin 2017
ISBN: 9780143770596  Paperback  $40.00
The Great New Zealand Robbery: The Extraordinary True Story of How Gangsters Pulled off Our Most Audacious Heist
Scott Bainbridge
It should be remembered as New Zealand’s answer to Britain’s Great Train Robbery: in the dead of the night, robbers broke into the Waterfront Industry Commission’s offices and made off with an audacious loot equivalent to almost $1 million today. This 1956 heist, which eventually came to be known as the Waterfront Payroll Robbery, was executed with military precision and the robbers left nothing but a smoking office and an empty safe behind them. The crime was eventually pinned on small-time crook Trevor Nash. When four years later, Nash made a brazen prison-escape attempt, he rose to notoriety as a kind of anti-establishment hero.

But to this day uncertainty remains about whether Nash alone was responsible for the waterfront heist. Could he really-cunning as he was-have pulled it off all by himself? And what happened to the money?

282 pages - Allen & Unwin 2017

A Strange Beautiful Excitement: Katherine Mansfield’s Wellington 1888-1903
Redmer Yska
How does a city make a writer? Described by Fiona Kidman as a ‘ravishing, immersing read’, A Strange Beautiful Excitement is a ‘wild ride’ through the Wellington of Katherine Mansfield’s childhood.

From the grubby, wind-blasted streets of Thorndon to the hushed green valley of Karori, author Redmer Yska, himself raised in Karori, retraces Mansfield’s old ground: the sights, sounds and smells of the rickety colonial capital, as experienced by the budding writer. Along the way his encounters and dogged research - into her Beauchamp ancestry, the social landscape, the festering, deadly surroundings - lead him (and us) to reevaluate long-held conclusions about the writer’s shaping years. They also lead to a thrilling discovery.

This haunting and beautifully vivid book combines fact and fiction, biography and memoir, as Yska rediscovers Mansfield’s Wellington, unearthing her childhood as he goes, shining a new lamp on old territory.

277 pages - Otago University Press 2017
ISBN: 9780947522544 Hardback $39.95

Running, A Love Story: How an Overweight Radio DJ Got Hooked on Running Marathons
Dom Harvey
Dom Harvey is a hugely popular radio DJ on top-rating station The Edge. He’s known for his funny gags, and has been described as a shock-jock. So it might come as a surprise to find out that Dom is also seriously into running-marathon running. In fact, he loves it.

This book is a love story about running, and about marathons especially. What got Dom into marathons? How did running save his life? And why, despite being an old fart, is he now trying to run even faster than ever before?

Dom is just a regular guy who drank too much alcohol and ate too much bad food, then fell in love with running and turned his life around (and became a bit of a running nerd along the way).

277 pages - Allen & Unwin 2017
The Resilient Farmer
Doug Avery

’I had a destroyed farm, a destroyed bank account and destroyed hopes. I couldn’t afford to move, so I decided to make good of what I had.’
And so begins Doug Avery’s story of emotional resilience in the face of what at times seemed a hopeless situation. The Marlborough-based farmer suffered terribly during eight years of drought. His farm was depleted and so was he. Although he didn’t realise it at the time, Doug had severe depression.
His story, he says, is common to many in the rural sector who soldier on in isolation, slipping further and further into debt, depression and desperation. In addition to providing people with practical solutions for emotional wellness, he espouses a more sustainable way of farming where soil health and respect for the land is paramount.
Doug says the three pillars to successful farming are emotional, financial and environmental resilience.
By tackling all three, farmers will prosper and be better placed to weather the inevitable ups and downs that come with farming.
283 pages - Penguin 2017
ISBN: 9780143770787 Paperback $40.00

The Cause of Death : True Stories of Death and Murder from a New Zealand Pathologist
Cynric Temple-Camp

You won’t believe these stories happened in New Zealand...
Forensic and coronial pathologist Dr Cynric Temple-Camp lifts the lid on some of the most fascinating cases he’s worked on during his 30-year career as a corpse investigator.
Written with all the gritty detail of a Patricia Cornwell novel, the intrigue of Making a Murderer, and the horror of True Detective, this is a brilliantly told collection of true stories from a rural pathologist, including the high-profile Lundy murders.Told with great skill, full of suspense, cliff-hangers and bizarre and surprising twists in the narrative - most of the examinations are at crime scenes, and there’s a real sense of adventure as Dr Temple-Camp heads off, often in the middle of the night, into the unknown.
A forensic pathologist is, in Dr Temple-Camp’s own words: ‘Someone who cuts up the dead to find out why they died.’ Dr Temple-Camp’s stories of spontaneous combustion, a gruesome murder right beneath the control tower at Christchurch Airport, a mysterious death in an historic homestead, rare diseases, drug-mules, devil-worshippers, cot-deaths, land-mark cases, exhumations, are all from our own backyard.
This book will shock and entertain, make you squirm but also occasionally pull at the heartstrings.
320 pages - Harper Collins 2017

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New Zealand United States Relations 2nd Edition
Stephen Hoadley
This book aims to make New Zealand and American readers more aware of their countries' links and shared goals... and also their differences. It reviews examples of disagreements and disputes over the past century to show how most of them have been resolved, or at least managed, so that the overall relationship remains mutually beneficial today.
Case studies of disputes and their resolution include: Interacting in the Pacific region; Negotiating alliances and defence co-operation; Restricting nuclear weapons and ship visits; Conducting peace support operations; Collaborating in intelligence and logistics; Shaping the United Nations and trade organisations; Negotiating agricultural trade access; Protecting intellectual property.
270 pages - NZ Institute Internat Affairs 2017
ISBN: 9780473374730  Paperback  $35.00

A Nurse on the Edge of the Desert : From Birdsville to Kandahar : The Art of Extreme Nursing
Andrew Cameron
International humanitarian-aid nurse and New Zealander Andrew Cameron is the winner of the coveted Florence Nightingale Medal. In this gripping book he recounts his remarkable life nursing in some of the worlds most dangerous and challenging locations, including South Sudan, Yemen, Sierra Leone and Afghanistan. He also details his nursing career in some of Australias most remote settlements. With mordant humour, wisdom and insight, he recounts the challenges, excitements, and huge rewards of a nursing life.
304 pages - Massey University Press 2017

We Could Be Heroes
Gary Morrison, Penelope Minchin-Gardner & Terri Elder
Zeus - or Jupiter in his Roman manifestation - could shake Mount Olympus with the nod of his head, and send thunder and lightning across the heavens. Perseus was given winged boots with which he could fly. The gods and heroes of the Greeks and Romans were powerful.
Yet they were also complex, subject to human emotions and relationship troubles. The 87 artefacts and eight essays in this richly illustrated catalogue offer an insight into their complex world, a world that is in some ways familiar, but in others very distant from our own.
We Could Be Heroes celebrates the stories of their adventures, disputes, conflicts and love interests and is published to accompany the inaugural exhibition at the Teece Museum of Classical Antiquities in 2017.
Many beautiful, rare and valuable artefacts are on display in this first significant exhibition of the Logie Collection after the devastating Canterbury earthquakes of 2010 and 2011. The exhibition also marks the return of the University of Canterbury to its first home in the Christchurch Arts Centre, the original site of Canterbury College.
Gary Morrison is a senior lecturer in the Classics Department at the University of Canterbury.
Penelope Minchin-Garvin and Terri Elder are co-curators of antiquities in the Teece Museum of Classical Antiquities at the University of Canterbury, the first museum of classical antiquities in New Zealand, and the new home of the James Logie Memorial Collectio
304 pages - Canterbury University Press 2017
FICTION

The Story of Kullervo
J.R.R Tolkien

The world first publication of a previously unknown work of fantasy by J.R.R. Tolkien, which tells the powerful story of a doomed young man who is sold into slavery and who swears revenge on the magician who killed his father. Kullervo son of Kalervo is perhaps the darkest and most tragic of all J.R.R. Tolkien’s characters. ‘Hapless Kullervo’, as Tolkien called him, is a luckless orphan boy with supernatural powers and a tragic destiny.

Brought up in the homestead of the dark magician Untamo, who killed his father, kidnapped his mother, and who tries three times to kill him when still a boy, Kullervo is alone save for the love of his twin sister, Wanona, and guarded by the magical powers of the black dog, Musti.

When Kullervo is sold into slavery he swears revenge on the magician, but he will learn that even at the point of vengeance there is no escape from the cruellest of fates. Tolkien himself said that The Story of Kullervo was ‘the germ of my attempt to write legends of my own’, and was ‘a major matter in the legends of the First Age’. Tolkien’s Kullervo is the clear ancestor of Trin Turambar, tragic incestuous hero of The Silmarillion. In addition to it being a powerful story in its own right, The Story of Kullervo - published here for the first time with the author’s drafts, notes and lecture-essays on its source-work, The Kalevala - is a foundation stone in the structure of Tolkien’s invented world.

As your know, J.R.R. Tolkein is now an honorary New Zealander.

163 pages - Collins 2017
ISBN: 9780008131364 Paperback $25.00

YOUNGER READERS

Soda Pop
Barbro Lindgren

Soda Pop loves bright orange clothes and wears a tea cozy on his head. He has brought up his son Mazarin on sweet buns and love. Grandfather Dartanyong emerges from his woodshed every morning with a new identity, and Great-grandfather has moved into a tree, eats birdseed, and thinks he is a cuckoo.


106 pages - Gecko Press 2017

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