



Stout Research Centre for New Zealand Studies



Newsletter

Summer 2024/2025

Update from the Director

What year 2024 has been for the Stout Research Centre. It feels there was a whirlwind of activity and many new initiatives and collaborations. The highlight of the year was without question our conference on poverty in New Zealand: *Pakukore: Poverty by Design. Addressing Systemic Causes of Poverty & Options for Change* (see p.13).

The conference was preceded by two seminar series on the history and policies related to poverty. We collaborated with the Adam Art Gallery and the Fabian Society. Te Rūnanga O Toa Rangatira offered guidance, support and sponsorship for the conference; Prof Selwyn Katene was instrumental in forging this relationship. We also held our first fundraiser house concert, thanks to the invitation of Dame Susanne Snively and Ian Fraser. We had wonderful support from donors who supported the conference and our work on poverty. All of this could not have happened without the support that our research residents offered. The Stout Centre's life is shaped by the people who work and research here. The huge amount of work done by the JD Stout Fellow Rebecca Macfie was crucial for the success of this year.

We had many other successes: impressive postgraduate students, a stunning thematic issue of the journal, wonderful inspiring guests and deep discussions at our lunch sessions.

Museum and Heritage Studies also has a great year with successful students, promotion success, their impressive Wānanga at Hongoeka Marae and widening their international outreach and networks.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to make the past year a success. A very special thank you, as always, needs to go to Debbie Levy; without Debbie we would not be able to do what we do.

I am very much looking forward to the oncoming year, new guests at the centre, our 2025 JD Stout Fellow Toby Boraman. We will be in touch soon advertising our first seminar series.

E tūmanako ana ahau ki te kite i a koe i te Stout Research Centre i te tau 2025.

Ngā mihi o te Tau Hou

Brigitte

JD Stout Fellow 2024

Rebecca Macfie

is reflecting on the year as follows: As I write this brief overview of a busy year, the tui are squabbling in the flowering pohutukawa outside my window at the Stout Centre, and the occasional kaka swoops by at eye level. It's a beautiful spot to sit and reflect, and to feel gratitude for a year of opportunity, collaboration and writing.

My project, *Hardship & Hope: Stories of resistance in the fight against poverty in Aotearoa*, has progressed well through the year, with chapters written about community-led activism and innovation in the South Auckland community of Papakura, and in Tairāwhiti. A further chapter will be completed in the new year; this will be drawn from my fortnightly attendance at Te Kōti Rangatahi (Rangatahi Court) at Ngā Hau e Whā marae in Ōtautahi Christchurch throughout 2024, as well as observations of Te Kōti at Hoani Waititi Marae in West Auckland and Manurewa Marae in South Auckland. The new chapters completed during my JD Stout fellowship year will be combined with four chapters published in *The Listener* last year, to form a collection of journalism to be published in 2025 by Bridget Williams Books as a BWB Text.

This project began about three years ago and has taken me to communities in Hawkes Bay, Porirua, Auckland and Ōtautahi, where I have spent time with whānau, iwi leaders, NGOs, health workers, papakāinga builders, educators, community and local government leaders, and judicial innovators – all of them seeking to shift the needle on poverty by addressing its structural causes. It has been an enormous privilege to learn about this work, and a great responsibility to tell these stories with care and respect.

Another highlight of the year has been helping to organise the Stout Centre's Pakukore: Poverty, By Design conference, which was held over two days late November. Partnering with Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira, and supported by many generous donors, we were able to bring together a diverse range of researchers, on-the-ground experts and scholars to understand Aotearoa's complex eco-system of poverty, and to hear from those leading change. A collection of edited conference kōrero will put together by Brigitte, Graeme Whimp and myself and published next year as a BWB Text. We're very grateful to the team at Bridget Williams Books for their support in ensuring that the lessons and insights from the conference are captured for a wider audience.

To all my colleagues at the Stout, and especially to Brigitte and Debbie with whom I have worked particularly closely, thank you for your camaraderie, conversation and solidarity.

JD Stout Fellow 2025:

Congratulations to Dr Toby Boraman who has been confirmed as the 2025 JD Stout Fellow.

Toby has published an impressive number of articles and book chapters about labour history and the history of social movements in Aotearoa New Zealand, specialising in the turbulent decades of the 1970s and 1980s. He has worked at the Waitangi Tribunal (as a historian) and at Massey University (as a political science lecturer), and also held a fellowship at the re: work International Research Centre for studying the global history of work at Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany.

During his fellowship he will be finishing his book 'Knocking Off: A History of Strikes in Aotearoa New Zealand from the late 1960s to the mid-1980s.' This was the most sustained and widely supported period of strike activity in the country's history. Yet this era of tumultuous conflict has remained largely unexplored by historians. The period under study was a key transitional phase that has profoundly shaped the present. Stoppages and associated wage rises were blamed frequently causing a cost-of-living crisis, rising unemployment, lost exports, and factory closures. The de-industrialisation of the 1970s and 1980s has to this day scarred and impoverished many blue-collar communities. Workplace conflict during this period also illustrates momentous shifts from Keynesianism to neoliberalism and from Fordism to 'post-Fordism.' Much like today, it also demonstrates how political polarisation, and right-populism, can develop rapidly in response to major crises and conflict.

This social history aims to uncover the hidden history of strikes and to capture previously excluded voices, including those of Māori workers, migrant Pasifika workers, women workers, and rank-and-file unionists. The project aims to provide a rich multi-dimensional history of workplace conflict, combined with critical analysis of those conflicts' complex causes, their reactions, lasting effects, and contested legacies.

Toby will take up the Fellowship on 1 March 2025.

Research Update - Adjunct Scholars

Congratulations to Richard Hill and Steven Loveridge for receiving the 2024 Ian Wards Prize, awarded by the Archives and Records Association of New Zealand.

The prize was awarded for their book *Secret History: State Surveillance in New Zealand, 1900-1956*. The prize 'recognises a published work which makes substantial, imaginative, and exemplary use of New Zealand archives and records'. The selectors noted that 'there were more than a few excellent candidates this year, but *Secret History* really stood out'.

Emeritus Professor Richard Hill

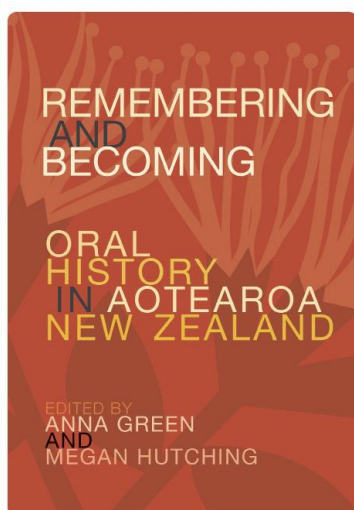
Richard has been continuing work with Steven Loveridge on their next volume in Auckland University Press's 'History of Security Intelligence in Twentieth Century New Zealand' series. In June, with Steven, he addressed large audiences on the security history, including the central importance of the Wellington cultural and political precinct to the history of spying in New Zealand.

He has been informally mentoring overseas scholars who have had stints at the Stout, more especially Judith Möllhoff and Janina Reimann, who have both been working on 'Rights of Nature' issues in relation to indigeneity. He has also mentored several New Zealand graduate students working in the fields of national security as well as indigeneity, and assisted Dr Rachel Levinson-Waldman, managing director of the Liberty and National Security Program at the Brennan Center for Justice, who held an Ian Axford Fellowship in Public Policy when based at

the Office of the Privacy Commissioner in Wellington. Richard has also been discussing aspects of security history with three current visiting scholars at the Stout - Barbara Einhorn, Rita Ricketts and Nicola Saker.

Adjunct Professor Anna Green

reports, that the past few months have been very busy in a number of different research-related contexts. The Privacy Amendment Bill was returned to Parliament in November. In July I made a submission to the Justice Select Committee on behalf of the National Oral History Association (NOHANZ), along with others from PHANZA, museums, libraries and archives. In addition, *The Post* published an Op Ed I wrote about the issue, which was picked up and reprinted in other newspapers around the country, and I was interviewed on Radio New Zealand by Jesse Mulligan. The Select Committee responded to our concerns and the Bill now includes a clause exempting mandatory notification of third parties for archiving practice where it is in the public interest. In November NOHANZ held our biennial oral history conference in Auckland, which demonstrated the vitality and diversity of oral history research currently in progress. I remain president for another two-year term. At the conference Dr Felicity Barnes from the history programme at the University of Auckland launched *Remembering and Becoming: Oral History in Aotearoa New Zealand*, published in October by Otago University Press, and edited by myself and Megan Hutching.



Adjunct Professor Barbara Einhorn

On 7th November, I gave a short report to the Stout Scholars on my recent research trip to Poland and Berlin.

In Poland, I visited Krakow, Warsaw and Grybow, a small town in southeast Poland. On 20th August (hosted by Kamil Kmak, founder of the local archival and activist oral history group Saga Grybow), I participated in commemorations for the massacre and forced march culminating in Belzec extermination camp, of 1,770 townspeople. This included three of my grandfather Hermann Einhorn's siblings. Hermann and his wife were shot in the forest outside Riga; another sister and her husband were gassed in Auschwitz). Ceremonies were held at the mass grave just outside the town, at the Grybow Cultural Centre where I was interviewed about my family history and current research, and finally, at dusk in the restored Jewish Cemetery above the town, where all those murdered were remembered by reading their names aloud, in chorus, replicating the buzz of voices once heard on the town's marketplace. Next day I was filmed in discussion with Wiktoria Zièba-Firek (neè Walor), a 90-year old woman who, as a child, lived in the same apartment building as my family. Wiktoria had an astonishing photographic memory, recalling in vivid detail the Jewish families in the house being violently removed to the ghetto by the SS.

For photos and an English-language report on Saga Grybow's Facebook page, see: <https://www.facebook.com/100066393116535/posts/847609874128775/?mibextid=rS40aB7S9Ucbxw6v>

Subsequently, in the Federal German and Stasi Archives in Berlin, I researched the surveillance of family members in both the Nazi and the Communist periods. This archival material will complement oral testimonies in my planned book. My paper proposal on this research was accepted for the 23rd IOHA (International Oral History Association) Conference to be held in Krakow from 16-19 September 2025.



Commemorating the massacre, 20th August 2024 at the mass grave.

Adjunct Research Associate Kathryn Patterson

On 25 May 2024 Kathryn spoke to the Johnsonville Branch of the Society of Genealogists on the lives of the wives of Irish soldiers who took their discharge from the British Army in nineteenth century New Zealand. This was a lively interested group who both asked plenty of questions and provided information from their own research. The soldiers' wives research is part of Kathryn's wider investigation into this group of largely invisible migrants. Work is progressing on a range of other aspects of their life post army including the range of occupations taken up, the acquisition of land, their longevity and the causes of death, and their descendants.

Recent additions to the library have included Anna Green and Megan Hutching (eds) *Remembering and becoming: oral history in Aotearoa New Zealand* (Otago University Press, 2024), Richard S. Hill and Steven Loveridge *Secret history: State Surveillance in New Zealand, 1900-1956* (Auckland University Press, 2023) and Jacqueline Leckie *Old black cloud: a cultural history of mental depression in Aotearoa New Zealand* (Massey University Press 2024). The Shirley Smith Family Trust have also donated a number of books, chiefly relating to New Zealand.

Adjunct Research Fellow Dr Steven Loveridge

Steven and Richard Hill have continued to research and write a second volume for their history of security intelligence in New Zealand. This volume will cover the history of the subject from the founding of the Security Service in 1956 (now renamed as the Security Intelligence Service) up to 2001. In June Steven and Richard were involved in two events, in association with the U3A and the Friends of the Turnbull Library, speaking to their experiences of researching the history of New Zealand security intelligence. Lastly, in November, Steven completed a major report into various aspects of the military deployments the New Zealand armed forces have undertaken since 1948. This commissioned report will be submitted and cited as part of the Waitangi Tribunal's Wai 2500 Military Veterans Kaupapa Inquiry.

Adjunct Research Fellow Dr Brad Patterson

Continuing his major project on the political economy of early Wellington, Brad has recently been concentrating on transfers of capital and the nature of developmental spending in the settlement. In addition to assessing the finances of the New Zealand Company and the colonial administration, he is looking at private capital transfers, banking, the role of the merchants as lenders, and the mechanisms by which small settlers were able to accumulate funds. He has continued to work on a collection of his writings on archives and records management in New Zealand, and was recently invited to contribute an overview chapter to *Ireland's Revolutionary Decade 1912-1923: New Zealand Responses* (edited by Lisa Marr & Rory Sweetman) to be published in 2025. He continues to referee and review for New Zealand and overseas journals. In the course of the year he was once more a member of the judging panel for the Wards Prize, awarded by the Archives and Records Association of New Zealand for the major historical work published in the previous year demonstrating innovative and/or exemplary use of primary research sources. He has also been involved in an initiative to commission a 50th anniversary history of the Archives and Records Association, focusing on its role as a cultural lobby group.

Adjunct Research Fellow Dr Jacqui Leckie

Adjunct Research Fellow Jacqueline Leckie has been researching at the Alexander Turnbull Library and other archives, and writing, "Wellington's Indian Story: Beyond a Century". This will be published in 2025 as part of the celebrations of the centenary of the Wellington Indian Association. In June, Jacqui, the Association and staff from the Turnbull held a very successful workshop on researching Indian heritage. Jacqui also presented her research at a public lecture on 19 November organised by the Friends of the Turnbull Library.

Jacqui's book *Old Dark Cloud. A Cultural History of Mental Depression in Aotearoa* (Massey University Press) was launched at Unity Books on 12 June 2024. Another launch and talk with Professor Chris Brickell was held at the Otago University Bookshop in September. The book has been received very positively and Jacqui has undertaken several media interviews in connection with the publication. She also presented a seminar, on the book at Stout in June and in November was an invited speaker at the annual conference of the Association of Social Anthropologists of Aotearoa New Zealand in Palmerston North when a colloquium was held about her mental health research and publications.

Jacqui has been awarded the 2024 Peter and Dianne Beatson Fellowship, as well as a Whiria Te Mahara New Zealand History Grant to write a biography of the poet Meg Campbell. Another award for this project has also been granted but due to confidentiality matters, full details cannot be released in this newsletter. Jacqui is also co-editor of the *Journal of Pacific History*.

Adjunct Research Professor Selwyn Katene

Selwyn is currently undertaking research on the leadership experiences of a number of national religious leaders in New Zealand. Interviews are being conducted with church leaders from the Anglican, Catholic, Methodist, Presbyterian, Salvation Army, Seventh Day Adventist, Mormon, Ratana, Ringatu and Destiny churches.

Current & Recent Visiting Scholars and Fellows

Nicola Saker

Nicola continues her research at the Stout. In 2022 “North and South” magazine published her article “The Forever Files” which detailed the state surveillance of her father and many of his friends in the 1940s and 1950s, two of whom were made to resign from their diplomatic careers in what was then the Department of External Affairs, now MFAT. The research involved in “The Forever Files” developed an interest in General Freyberg’s intelligence unit in WW2 as one of the men who resigned, Doug Lake, was part of the corps. General Freyberg, who trained as a dentist and didn’t cultivate an intellectual dimension, surrounded himself with men of exceptionally high intellectual capacity both in his intelligence unit and his wider group: Dan Davin, Paddy Costello, Geoffrey Cox, John White and Doug Lake to name some of them. These men have been written about in an atomised way, as part of a larger theme such as in “Dance of the Peacocks” (James McNeish), or in biographies of them as individuals, or in works regarding General Freyberg himself. The project would initially seek to analyse the diversity represented within the group and the military leadership that engendered its cohesion and supported that diversity. Other themes could well emerge during the process. Nicola will be with the Stout until mid 2025. Her latest article is on her research on Hinemutu, a historic meeting house: <https://www.nzherald.co.nz/the-listener/new-zealand/whare-cry-historic-meeting-house-comes-home-from-the-uk/6ACTC773UBD6PACOPLORY673DQ/>

Graeme Aitken

Graeme Aitken has worked extensively in and around issues relating to Māori and their land and other Treaty rights. Graeme also spent two years in Melbourne in the mid 2000s as the Manager and Lead Negotiator for the State of Victoria, responsible for progressing native title claims. Graeme enrolled in the Victoria’s Institute of Modern Letters writing programme in 2022, and graduated with a Master’s Degree (with merit) in early 2023. He is now writing a memoir about his life as a Pākehā in and around te ao Māori, aiming to provide insights into our history and into the evolution of Aotearoa/New Zealand towards a Treaty based multi-cultural society. He expects to complete a first draft by mid 2024.

Professor Takeshi Ohno

Takeshi Ohno is professor of Labour Sociology in College of Social Science at Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto. He is the author of *Work in Lean Production System: Based on Participant Observations at Automobile Factories*, Ochanomizu Press, Tokyo which received the Incentive Award from the Japanese Association of Labor Sociology in 2004. His research interests include international comparison of industrial relations and labour protections laws, especially minimum wage laws. As New Zealand is the first country to enact the minimum wage law in the world, he is delighted to be accepted by the Stout Research Center as a visiting scholar. Professor Ohno’s research involves the background behind the enactment of the Minimum Wage Act and its impact on other countries. His current research topic is the origin and development of the minimum wage legislation. New Zealand is known as the first country in the world to pass minimum wage legislation. In New Zealand, Takeshi would like to collect materials related to the enactment of the minimum wage law, analyze how it influenced the enactment of minimum wage laws in Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States, and publish them in a paper. Takeshi has now returned to Japan.

Professor Ingerd Hoem

Ingerd returned for a brief research visit in October and November to continue her research on the Tokelau diaspora. She is a Professor of Social Anthropology at the University of Oslo, Norway, and a former visiting scholar at the Stout Research Centre. Her work, since 1987, has been on Tokelau, and covers a variety of issues, ranging from language to politics. Among her latest publications are: *Languages of Governance in Conflict. Negotiating democracy in Tokelau*. John Benjamins Publishing Company: Amsterdam (2015), *State, labour and kin: tensions of value in an egalitarian community*, in *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* (2018) and *Theatre and Political Process: Staging Identities in Tokelau and New Zealand*. Berghahn, Oxford, New York (2004).

Judith Möllhoff

Judith Möllhoff, who held a research residency at the Stout Research Centre last year, held a similar position in Ecuador at FLACSO (Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales, Sede Quito) from January to March 2024 to further her studies on the rights of nature. In July 2024 she took part in the Max Planck Summer Academy on “The mediality and materiality of law” in Frankfurt (Main) and also she spoke on a panel on “The Rights of Rivers as Ecosystems” at Spreepark Art Space in Berlin, organised by the University of Applied Science, Potsdam. In October this year Judith moderated a panel about the Rights of Nature organised by the Friedrich Naumann Foundation in Düsseldorf, and in both 2023 and 2024 she participated, in Bonn and Berlin, in events organized by the “Network Rights of Nature Germany”.

Violet Blue

Violet’s project on how New Zealand lived through Covid 19 now stands at a roughly 32,000 word outline shaping up to total 24 chapters (page count estimate 370), not including Introduction, three supplemental chapters, plus References, Bibliography, Acknowledgements and front/back matter. Foreword TBD. My research has been helped enormously by both the University library (particularly Victoria’s Law Library) and Science Media Centre NZ, its referrals to video archives and interview subjects. 11 interviews are complete; a bulk of interviews are still yet to schedule and complete. These have been conducted both virtually (video) and in person, including on VUW campus, my home office in Wellington, at subject locations including Auckland and parts of the interior North Island (Waikato, Rotorua). I have yet to schedule University of Otago and a return to University of Auckland.

In October and November I made three hires: a medical copyeditor, a sensitivity reader specializing in Indigenous cultures and disability, and a psychology reader. I need to make two more hires in the coming months (I am seeking a standard proofreader and a Maori sensitivity reader). I am feeling really good about the manuscript and its supporting material so far, though there is still much to do and this was underscored by last week’s unexpected release of the Royal Commission of Inquiry (“Lessons Learned” at 716 pages). I’m glad for it, especially because initially it wasn’t clear this would be released on any timeline at all. I have kept my work on this project relatively quiet so far; I expect to be in the spotlight about it in the coming year.

Rita Ricketts

My project on “The Diaries of Desmond (Paddy) Costello 1944-64” is making good progress. Deciphering, and examining, the diaries, now in my possession, is the focus of my current work. The Costello diaries start where Dan Davin’s accounts finish (see *From Cairo to Monte Cassino*, 2019) and end just before his premature death in 1964. While the diary entries do nothing to suggest that he could ever have been a spy, they adumbrate the many facets of his life and career: soldier, diplomat, academic, linguist and writer. And his observations continue to resonate today in many ways. First, the continued inability of New Zealand to develop, and maintain, an independent foreign policy. Secondly, the relentless, and often ill-informed interference from so-called close allies, UK and the US (see *Secret History*, Hill and Loveridge 2023, and, for example, the facile IRD reports emanating from the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office) in relation to defence and relations with other non-Western powers, notably China and Russia.

The material raises other questions. Why did NZ take so long to position itself in its own hinterland? Why did the exceptionally talented Costello not want to return to New Zealand? He was just one of a cast of lost boys, Dan Davin, John Mulgan, Geoffrey Cox, Ian Milner; James Bertram, after many adventures in China (see *Crisis in China 1937* and *North China Front 1939*), returned to New Zealand as an academic, although his continued association with communist-leaning organisations placed him under a cloud; as indeed were many subsequent ‘left-wing’ academics (see, for example, IRD, FCO 168/6395, 1972*). The detailed transcription of the diaries is supported by research completed in NZ (ATL records and Archive NZ), and in the UK (MI5 and NZSIS records*). Further detailed scrutiny of the diaries, and eventual publication, while revealing Costello’s version of events, should provide insights into NZ’s continued attempts to develop an independent New Zealand foreign policy and its relationship to NZ’s social and cultural history in the inter-war period; the diary and adjunct papers released by the family shine a light on prejudice against the Irish and Roman Catholics for instance. Material

seen in the archives of Oxford University Press details some of his literary work, an area of his life, albeit too truncated, has been neglected. A transcription of a selection of these papers is in progress.

Dr Doug Munro

Doug continues work on a paper (with Prof John C. Weaver of McMaster University, Canada) on war-related suicides in WWII New Zealand. He also spent a fortnight in October at the Australian National University Archives finalising the research for an article on "The Colonial Oversight of Historical Research in 1950s Fiji". The New Zealand-born academics Raymond Firth, J.W. Davidson and K.L. Gillion feature in this paper, as does Dorothy Crozier who lectured in History at VUW during the 1960s.

Aaron Smale

Congratulations to Aaron Smale, a former student at the Stout who addressed our Poverty seminar series this year. Aaron has been named Newsroom's Media Person of the Year for his 'meticulous work' over many years inquiring into what happened to those in state care, taking his findings into 'courtrooms as the state tried to run their cases off the road' and 'drawing the dots between findings in the Royal Commission into abuse in state care and those in power who had been aware of or contributed towards a decades-long 'cover-up''. He was briefly banned from attending the Government's formal Crown apology to survivors in Parliament but reinstated by the Speaker after a national furore. The award citation said that the 'attempted ban was in itself a contorted badge of honour. Smale was, almost literally, the man who knew too much.'

Professor Hilary Moss

Hilary Moss was a resident scholar for two years (2022-2023) with the Stout Research Centre and continues her affiliation with us. She is a Professor of History, Black Studies, and Education Studies at Amherst College, Massachusetts, USA, and remains based in New Zealand. Her most recent work is "The Voice of Choice": Transpacific Educational Exchanges in the Neoliberal Era. You can find her most recent publication here: <https://doi.org/10.1017/heq.2024.41>.

Fine Brentner

PhD candidate of Aarhus University /Denmark has visited the SCR earlier in 2024. The main purpose of her stay with us was to conduct research for her PhD project "Oceans in a high carbon world: ocean acidification and shellfish worlds in the Pacific". The topic and scope of your research are of great value and interest us; we are especially grateful to Robert McClean who guided her fieldwork and linked her to the environmental projects conducted by Ngāti Toa, especially around Mana and Kapiti Island.

Renate Schelwald

PhD candidate and visual ethnographer from Erasmus University, worked at SRC for four months earlier in 2024. She is from the Netherlands. Renate's work concerns (un)sustainability in food practices. She has completed almost a year of fieldwork in a suburban area around Rotterdam, and has been working a second case study concerning food practices and design interventions in the foodscape, using a co-creative visual ethnographic methodology. Her work was with several community garden projects in Wellington.

Dr Hilke Thode-Arora

Dr Hilke Thode-Arora, Head Curator of the Oceania Department at the Museum of Five Continents in Munich, visited in November to conduct interviews and research visits in the Pasifika Diaspora communities in Wellington and several regions in New Zealand. Her current work plan intends to generate a deep dive reconnect of Oceania and Aotearoa artefacts with their places of origin and original usage.

Janina Reimann

Janina was a short term research visitor in November and December. She is a research fellow in a DFG (German research fund)-project “Nature as a Legal Entity” and a doctoral candidate at the Kassel Institute for Sustainability, University of Kassel. She began writing her doctoral thesis about “biocultural rights” and came to the SRC to do research on Indigenous Rights and Law, the Rights of Nature, and Human Rights. Within her doctoral thesis she is developing a legal approach for defining the relationship between the human and non-human entities. She is interested in the Te Urewera Act as well as the Te Awa Tupua Act.

(<https://www.stefanknauss.de/Stefan-Knauss/projects/roots-of-rights>).

Update on Students and previous Fellows

Dr Margaret Kawharu

Congratulations to Margaret Kawharu; she has not only graduated with her PhD on the Te Herenga Waka Victoria University marae on 13 December but has also been placed on the Faculty of Graduate Research (FGR) Dean’s List for her thesis ‘The Unsettledness of Treaty Settlements: Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara - a case study’. Margaret found in her case study that while Treaty settlements are deemed ‘full and final’, post-settlement realities involve unsettledness and unintended consequences; she concluded that settlements therefore amounted to a new form of colonialism. On the other hand, despite ongoing contestation and conflicting values, Treaty settlements also provide opportunities (such as co-governance) for mutuality and transformation.

The Dean’s list is described as ‘reserved for theses that are judged to be of exceptional quality in every aspect of the candidate’s work, including the originality and significance of the research and scholarship, and the quality of expression and overall presentation’. We at the Stout are delighted that Margaret chose the Centre as the base for her pioneering doctoral studies, and that she achieved such a fine result.

Margaret’s doctoral success was highlighted by the university for publicity:

<https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/news/2024/12/the-unsettledness-of-treaty-settlements>

Margaret published a chapter in Anna Green and Megan Hutching (eds), *Remembering and Becoming: Oral History in Aotearoa New Zealand*, Otago University Press, 2024: ‘Promises and Possibilities: Ngāti Whātua Voices in the Treaty Claim Process’, 25-39.

Dr Sandra Thomas

Congratulations to Sandra Thomas, a recent Stout Centre doctoral graduate, who was also placed on the Dean’s list for best thesis. She has received the prestigious Judith Binney Writing Award 2025 for a book project to be called ‘*Friends’ on Trial: Ihāka Takānini and Heta Tarawhiti in the Compensation Court 1865-67*’ about the experiences of two leading rangatira in the Compensation Court in the mid to late 1860s.

The Judith Binney writing award will assist Sandra to prepare a book manuscript drawing on the thesis which focuses in greater detail on the settler government’s treatment of two applicants to the court who were singled out for special treatment by the settler government. ‘*Friends’ on Trial: Ihāka Takānini and Heta Tarawhiti in the Compensation Court 1865-67*’ will explore why these two men were required to prove their ‘loyalty’ while other applications were as good as rubber-stamped or settled out of court, and the grant will enable Sandra to dig deeper into the motivations of the decision-makers to make a show of Takānini in 1865 and Tarawhiti in 1867, and how on both occasions the judges of the Compensation Court could only mitigate the effects of those actions – they could not reverse the wrong. Sandra is keen to cast light on an aspect of New Zealand’s colonisation which remains largely unexplored.

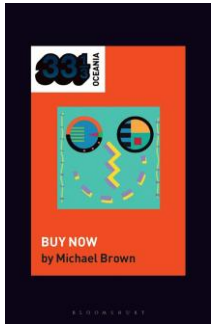
Dr Rachel Buchanan

Congratulations to former Stout Centre Resident Dr Rachel Buchanan (Taranaki iwi, Te Ātiawa), who has been appointed the Judith Binney Fellow 2025; Rachel is a member of Te Aro Pā Poets Collective and Te Pouhere Kōrero Māori Historians Network.

Dr Michael Brown, 2023 J D Stout Fellow

Michael's book is now in production and available for pre-order - very exciting! (Publication is still quite a while away though.)

<https://www.bloomsbury.com/au/eyeliners-buy-now-9781501394997/>



Eyeliners' Buy Now

Michael Brown undertakes a thorough study of Eyeliner's BUY NOW, a vaporwave homage to the kitsch electronic sounds of the 1980s and 1990s. Eyeliner's BUY NOW (2…

www.bloomsbury.com

Michael also published an article with the AudioCulture NZ music website which very much derives from last year's research: <https://www.audioculture.co.nz/labels/crystal-magic>

Seminars

The 2024 Theme was Poverty in Aotearoa New Zealand

Re-reading Works on Poverty in Aotearoa New Zealand

April – May 2024

This seminar series took a fresh look at some major Aotearoa cultural works on poverty. Across six weeks historians, curators, researchers, writers, and performers ‘re-read’ books, plays, novels, songs, and academic analyses from across the 20th century shedding light on the historic trajectories of poverty in our country. In looking back this series invites an evaluation of our contemporary situation, providing context for current issues such as inequality, our low wage economy, beneficiary shaming, gendered poverty and the long-lasting effects of colonisation. Held in collaboration with Te Pataka Toi Adam Art Gallery.

Full information on our events and recordings of the seminars are on the Stout Research Centre website: <https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/stout-centre/about/events/previous-events>

Poverty, by Design Seminar Series

Pipitea Campus 24 July - 29 August

The seminar series was held as a run up to the Poverty, by Design Conference held in November. Presenters included Max Rashbrooke (Poverty in Aotearoa NZ: Where are we now), Charles Waldegrave (Broken Homes), Ragne Maxwell, Json Ataeara, Michelle Picard and Lisa te Morenga (Hunger to Learn), Lyndy McIntyre (Bad Jobs and Better Jobs. The difference the living wage makes), Aaron Smale (NZ's Radicalised Poverty and the Removal of Children), and Jake Lilley (A Decade of Debt). Held in cooperation with the Fabian Society.

Other Seminars

April Boland

[recipient of our Buchanan Master Scholarship 2023]

2 August 2024

Religion and State Ritual: Political Theatre and Public Lament in Secular Aotearoa

<https://vstream.au.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=fb818030-fc59-4e78-bb10-b1c000413bc0>

Anne Else & Maria Haenga-Collins

4 September 2024

Having and not having children: Towards reproductive justice

Nikki Wright

[2024 recipient of our Lydia Wevers Scholarship 2024]

6 November 2024

The Art of Pollinator Paths

<https://vstream.au.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=05c3abd0-f2ec-48d2-8915-b220005188f0>

Full information on our events and recordings:

<https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/stout-centre/about/events/previous-events>

Conference

Pakukore: Poverty, by Design – “Exploring the systemic causes of poverty, and options for change”

21-23 November 2024

Rutherford House, Pipitea Campus

A two and a half day conference addressed poverty in Aotearoa New Zealand. It analysed the economic, governmental, legal, and institutional systems that have created poverty, and which continue to lock too many whānau in its grip. It asked whether a developed nation should continue to tolerate poverty and inequality. We invited speakers, who work at the front lines in the fight against poverty to tell us of the lasting and severe harms it inflicts on people’s lives. The programme centred around the systems that have played, and continue to play, key roles in underpinning and maintaining the crisis of poverty: economic management, the housing, health, welfare and education systems, the courts and corrections, and short-term political thinking. The conference also looked at where hope lies, and how we can choose to re-design Aotearoa to eradicate poverty and heal those who suffer its harms. The conference generated huge public interest; it was fully booked and well attended online.

The Conference opened with the JD Stout Annual Lecture, given by our 2024 Fellow, Rebecca Macfie.



The Conference programme can be found on the Stout Research Centre website; the session recordings will very shortly be published on our website.:

<https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/stout-centre/about/events/previous-events/pakukore-poverty-by-design-conference>, please also watch out for the conference recordings soon to be published under:
<https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/stout-centre/about/events/previous-events>



The conference was opened by Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira

Media publications relating to the Conference:

Please listen podcasts with conference presenters recorded by Bernard Hickey:

[When the Facts Change | Podcasts | The Spinoff](#)

[Spinoff](#) 13 December 2024 Inside Wellington's homeless crisis; 6 December 2024 Home at the Marae; 22 November 2024 How fair is our Tax Ssystem?; 15 November 2024 Behind Porirua's Poverty; 8 November 2024 The Cost of Prison

The secret to economic growth is to end poverty, so let's do it - Simon Wilson

By [Simon Wilson](#). Senior Writer·NZ Herald·
26 Nov, 2024

- Fifteen economists [wrote to the Government last week](#) to say its policies are making the recession worse.
- The Council of Trade Unions (CTU) says eliminating poverty would grow the economy by \$17.7 billion a year.
- Poverty is rising in New Zealand for the first time in 25 years.

"It's not party policy, but we should just hand it over — if you ask me." That was Labour MP Ginny Andersen, speaking at a poverty conference in Wellington last week. "It" was the justice system. Andersen was commenting on the news 63% of women in prison are Māori, which she said probably makes Māori women "the most incarcerated population in the world". I asked Andersen to clarify what she meant by "hand it over". She backed up and said she wasn't really advocating for a separate Māori justice system. She talked about Te Pae Oranga, a kaumatua-led restorative justice programme for young offenders that has reduced repeat offending. But the concept points to a central issue that came up for debate over and over at that conference. How do you strike at the causes of poverty? You can manage it better with more funding, more compassion in policy and frontline implementation, a focus on programmes that can prove their value and less right-wing populist politicking. And Te Pae Oranga is far from being the only tikanga-led programme that makes a difference. We have them in health, education, housing and other parts of justice and corrections. But they're not enough. The conference was organised by the Stout Centre at Te Herenga Waka Victoria University and its name was **Pakukore: Poverty, by Design**.

The full article is available on the NZ Herald website.

Max Rashbrooke in Newsroom :

<https://newsroom.co.nz/2024/11/26/child-poverty-costs-economy-17-7b-a-year>

Max Rashbrooke Poverty is a Thief - The Idea Charitable Trust

https://goodideasnz.substack.com/p/poverty-is-a-thief-it-should-be-punished?utm_campaign=email-post&r=2o4fq&utm_source=substack&utm_medium=email

Pakukore: Poverty by design was one of our most successful conferences. It received much praise and very good media coverage, some of which we are listing below. Prof Gordon Anderson's chairperson's report to the Labour History Project is an excellent summary of our event:

G. Anderson (2024) Chairperson's Report , LHP Bulletin 92, December 2024.]

We reproduce most of his report below:

Chairperson's Report

2024 has been a relatively quiet year for the Project. The committee had proposed to hold a symposium in February 2025 but organising an event at this time proved unsustainable due to the workloads and other commitments of committee members in early 2025. Work has continued on our normal events and in particular the Rona Bailey lecture which is tentatively scheduled for November 2025. We will also be seeking a speaker for our annual general meeting in July. The main, admittedly low key, project for 2024 has been a gradual updating of the Project's website. Once we get the website up to date we hope to look at improving it as a central source for those seeking information on labour history.

While the Project did not hold a symposium in 2024 some members of the Committee did attend the two-day conference *Pakukore: Poverty by Design*, organised by the Stout Centre for New Zealand Studies at Victoria University of Wellington, Te Herenga Waka. I think it can be safely said that this was one of the most informative and well-structured conferences that I have been lucky to attend over an academic lifetime. The organisers (Rebecca Macfie and Brigitte Bönisch-Brednich) did an outstanding job in balancing solid academic research with a number of papers dealing with real life experiences of poverty and some of the many extraordinary projects being carried out to attempt to alleviate at least some of the many problems resulting from or caused by poverty. The Stout Centre is planning to make the various presentations available online in the near future and I would recommend readers take advantage of the opportunity to hear, or rehear the various speakers.

The key message that came through clearly was that poverty is a choice, not as neoliberals would suggest, a choice by the poor, but rather a deliberate choice by governments since the 1980s, if not earlier. In this report I will mention just the two papers in the opening session. The presentation by Craig Rennie (NZCTU) made it clear that New Zealand has not only the economic capacity to largely eliminate poverty but also that doing so would result in major positive economic gains for the country as a whole. The presentation by Dr Jin Russell, a paediatrician, clearly demonstrated the health and psychological cost of poverty born by children in deprived families in their first five developmental years and also in their teens. A later paper by Bill Rosenberg demonstrated the massive shifts in wealth in New Zealand over the last 35 years that has led to the high level of contemporary poverty. As the title of the conference makes clear, a policy of poverty by design.

Among other things, the work of the Project is "to promote and encourage a greater understanding of trade union and labour history in New Zealand." An understanding of that history over the last four decades does much to explain the increase in poverty and in particular the appalling level of in-work poverty.

As always, the Committee welcomes new members and also welcomes suggestions as to how we may better deliver on our objectives of promoting and disseminating labour history.

[Gordon Anderson](#)

Journal of New Zealand Studies, published by the Stout Research Centre

A special issue edited by Otago University staff was published in September 2024.

No. NS38 (2024): Journal of New Zealand Studies

Art and Aotearoa New Zealand: Cultures, Controversies and Histories
Editors: Edward Hanfling, Hilary Radner, Mark Stocker.

<https://ojs.victoria.ac.nz/jnzs/issue/view/1015>

Call for Papers

The journal publishes two issues a year online, in June and December. Please submit articles for future issues of the Journal through our online registration:

<http://ojs.victoria.ac.nz/jnzs/index>

Access to all issues of the Journal can be found at: <https://ojs.victoria.ac.nz/jnzs/about>

Lydia Wevers Scholarship in New Zealand Studies

Fundraising for two Masters Scholarships in New Zealand Studies are underway.

Please see more information below:

<https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/engage/giving/donate/areas/donate-to-the-lydia-wevers-scholarship-in-new-zealand-studies>

History of Giving

The Stout Research Centre was founded in 1984 through the generous support of the Stout Trust, which was established from a bequest left by Dr John Stout. The Stout Trust continues to fund the annual Stout Fellowship, which has enabled research into many aspects of New Zealand society, history and culture. John Stout's gift is valued highly by today's researchers at the Stout Research Centre. We also value the contribution of all our Friends and supporters and welcome opportunities to talk with you about continuing your support through a gift in your will. All gifts are managed by the Victoria University Foundation, a registered charitable Trust established to raise funds in areas of strategic importance to the University, such as the Stout Research Centre. For further information on how you can support the Stout Research Centre through a gift in your will, please contact the Development Manager – Planned Giving, Victoria University of Wellington Foundation, telephone 0800 VIC LEGACY (0800 842 534).

Reports from the Museum and Heritage Studies Programme

Prof Conal McCarthy

Programme Manager

Building bridges: Museums and heritage in China

My 3 week trip to China in Nov-Dec enabled me to give conference presentations, lectures and talks, meet with colleagues in museums and universities, and visit many sites, galleries and museums. I spoke at the UNESCO conference in Yuanyang, had collaboration talks and museum visits in Kunming, met with colleagues and prospective students in Shanghai and visited the famous Shaanxi History Museum in Xian.

At the museum I gave a lecture on Pacific museology and took a workshop on writing and publishing for students, academics and professionals.

I then returned to Shanghai where Fudan University hosted the ICOFOM ASPAC conference .I spoke about Te Papa, Wellington Museum and the Queen's Park precinct in Whanganui including the recently re-opened Sargeant Art Gallery. As well as visiting local museums, I met with colleagues at Shanghai Humanities University where ICOM IMREC is based – this is the International Museum Research and Exchange Council – with who I have organised seminars and research reports on decolonisation and restitution, public funding, sustainability. Our next project is an international executive programme on digital leadership planned for mid 2025.

陕西师范大学
1958-2024 建校六十六周年
庆祝历史学系创建八十周年
系列学术讲座

集贤讲堂 (第422讲)

全球博物馆现状: 历史转折点与当代理论

主讲: Peter Connal McCarthy 教授

彼得·康奈尔·麦卡锡 (Peter Connal McCarthy), 惠灵顿维多利亚大学博物馆与遗产研究院教授兼主任, 澳大利亚国立大学堪培拉分校人文研究中心名誉教授, 《博物馆世界: 前沿研究》(Museum Worlds: Advances In Research) 总编, 研究方向为博物馆历史、博物馆专业实践、毛利人视觉文化与当代遗产问题, 具有多语种 (英语、毛利语和中文) 研究优势。长期从事博物馆与文化遗产研究, 在国际著名期刊发表论文 80 余篇, 出版专著 8 部, 参编文集 6 部, 国际著名的博物馆与文化遗产专家。

主持人: 杨瑾教授

日期: 2024年12月4日 (周三) 15:00-17:30

地点: 陕西师范大学长安校区文汇楼C段524会议室

主办: 陕西师范大学历史文化学院

欢迎各位老师和同学届时参加!

AssProf Lee Davidson

Lee spent the second half of last year finishing the manuscript for her book *The Visitor Studies Guide: Theory and Practice for Heritage Contexts*:

https://www.routledge.com/The-Visitor-Studies-Guide-Theory-and-Practice-for-Heritage-Contexts/Davidson/p/book/9781032265285?srsltid=AfmBOorp_8RT_rFhOnrDQTGg1mWFRZRZmC_LkTPuVUMIKnl9F2KY-wSg8.

And I'm very happy to report that it's just gone to the typesetter and is due to be published by Routledge in April this year.

The book offers an up-to-date overview of the rapidly expanding field of theory and research practice relating to the public use of museums, galleries, libraries, archives, memorials, zoos, aquariums, planetariums, gardens, urban parks, arboretums, nature centres, historic sites, and protected areas. It surveys the field's evolution, current challenges, and future possibilities, and outlines an agenda for building a more integrated and theoretically driven field which is interdisciplinary and embraces critical perspectives. It also provides a platform for a more globally connected community of practice by profiling voices from previously under-represented regions, such as China, Latin America, and Aotearoa New Zealand.

Post Doctoral Fellow, Dr Awhina Tamarapa

Awhina Tamarapa was in Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada in July, for a research project in addition to her post-doctoral work. Awhina is a co-investigator on a research project working with a First Nation's community who live on the unceded territories of the Comox Valley, mid to Northeast Vancouver Island. The project is titled 'The Future of Indigenous Rights and Responsibilities: Ancestral governance, environmental stewardship, language revival and cultural vibrancy.' Funded by the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council, the research team principal investigator is Professor Bryony Onciul, University of Exeter, UK with co-investigators of the Kumugwe Cultural Society, Ko'mók, Pentlatch and E'ik^wsən Nation's. They are community leaders who are concerned with the governance, revival and maintenance of their cultural autonomy, language, environmental challenges, economic growth, health, protection of heritage and practice.

Awhina will help facilitate a reciprocal cultural exchange in Aotearoa. Hongoeka Marae, Plimmerton, will host this group in February 2025. Awhina was accompanied by Mr Maikara Thorpe, Chairperson for Hongoeka Marae, and Ms Jasmine Arthur, Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira representative, in the first exchange with Professor Onciul and the Kumugwe Cultural Society. Their manaakitanga (hospitality and care) for us was outstanding. We shared similarities in the deep connections to the natural world, the devastation of colonisation and ongoing intergenerational trauma. We also recognise their resilience, determination and support their recovery and reclamation.

Gilakas'la (Kwa'kwala phrase of welcome, or to give thanks). Huge respect and gratitude to Professor Onciul for enabling the project to happen and for pushing through huge challenges so that the benefits are for many now and to come. To Chief Wedlidi Speck, Chief Rob Everson, Lee, Andy and Keisha Everson, to all your families, the Kugmuwe Cultural Society members and all the people that hosted our visit, ka nui te mihi maioha kia koutou katoa. He waka eke noa.



Entrance to the U'Mista Cultural Centre, Alert Bay, Vancouver Island.

Update on Students

PhD Candidate, Robert McClean

Robert McClean is in his write-up phase of his thesis about cultural redress and the environmental planning system and is on track to submit by 1 August 2025. A key part of Robert's writing strategy involves ensconcing himself on Te Mana o Kupe (Mana Island) as 'cover ranger' to keep an eye on the scientific reserve for Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira/DOC and have quite study time undisturbed by Takahē, Kiwi, Kororā, Boaties, Day-trippers and various other threatened flora and fauna. However, Robert's enforced island isolation approach was only partially successful during 2024 as a result of having to respond to a range of harmful policy and legislative proposals, bills and select committees. So for Robert's day job, a good number of submissions have been prepared and submitted for Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira (see website: <https://www.ngatittoa.iwi.nz/submissions>).

The iwi has supported direct action against the government with protest at Parliament, especially being at the forefront of Hikoī mō Te Tiriti. Robert has put together a template for whānau to use for submissions on the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Bill 2024. It has been rumoured that Robert was seen climbing a lamp post on the day of Hikoī mō Te Tiriti to get a 'better look' over into the Parliament grounds which were at full capacity. When asked by reporters from the Stout Newsletter, Robert commented 'it could be true.'



MA candidate Karin Mahlfeld

"Research for my MA thesis found that the application of mana taonga, Te Papa's core philosophy, varies highly between the cultural and taxonomic collections at the Museum and likewise at other NZ museums/institutions with species collections. Cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary openings appear sparse and professional development opportunities for natural history staff in this area are limited and underdeveloped. I demonstrate how mana taonga, mātauranga Māori, Extended Evolutionary Synthesis, Third Way of Evolution, panbiogeography and the Anthropocene provide the necessary tensions and contradictions for NATHIST professionals as means to step outside the knowledge and wisdom bubbles of their usual 'peer' groups to reassess concepts, opinions, arguments, means and ends of actions in order to stay and become more relevant to communities and society.

Masters Museum Heritage Practice:

Bai Xue

Bai Xue has finished her internship in collection care at the Alexander Turnbull Library this year. Thanks to the guidance of her supervisors Mark Strange, Senior Conservator of Photographs and Dr. Louise Garrett, Photographs Curator, Bai has done an excellent job of organising and preserving a large amount of the photographic collection. Her project dealt with the 4x5 colour transparency collection of Gladys Goodall, donated by this New Zealand female commercial photographer herself. The project entailed organising a part of the ATL photographic archive film collections, refine the information and write the description of each single item. The twin aims were enhancing the protective packaging of

the film collections and creating item level descriptive metadata using a pre-prepared spreadsheet for photographic records. This work contributes to their long-term care and discoverability.

Olivia Kielczewski

Olivia completed her internship for the Master of Museum and Heritage Practice at the National Library Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa. She worked with the Public Programs team on research and development on an 80th Anniversary event commemorating the arrival of the Polish Children of Pahiātua. Olivia coordinated performances by the Orzeł and Orleża dance groups from the Polish Association of New Zealand. She organized a speaker, Adam Manterys, whose father was one of the Polish Children of Pahiātua. Olivia also created digital stories through DigitalNZ Ā-Tihi O Aotearoa documenting the lives of the Polish Children at the Pahiātua camp, using John Pascoe's photography as a lens.



Sabrina Miao

In November I started my internship in the Mawangdui department in the Hunan Provincial Museum, Changsha, China. The Mawangdui department of the Hunan Museum mainly focuses on the preservation, research, and exhibition of artifacts from the excavation of the Mawangdui Tomb dating from the Han dynasty. The Mawangdui Tombs are situated in the Puyang District, in the suburbs of Hunan Province, four kilometres outside the city of Changsha, on the Puyang River. These are the family tombs of Li Cang, the first chancellor of Changsha State during the Han Dynasty. In my internship, my current task is to verify the fabric pieces in the collection store against a list, noting any discrepancies or special features like stains. I also categorize large, well-preserved items by their layer in the clothing that were worn on the body. Despite prior knowledge of patterns, identifying them practically was challenging because the stitches on the embroidery are very fine and difficult to distinguish; some specific shapes and patterns can only be seen under a microscope or in certain lighting conditions. However, I mastered the skill through persistent practice and inquiries.



Standard clothing pieces