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Ko wai mātou? Who are we?

## ORAL HISTORY CONFERENCE

Stout Research Centre for New Zealand Studies &  
National Oral History Association of New Zealand (NOHANZ)  
Te Kete Kōrero-a-Waha o Te Motu



*Te Rito Whānau (Ngāti Kahungunu / Rongomaiwahine)  
Grateful thanks for permission to use this photograph.*

20-22 November 2020

Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington

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STOUT RESEARCH CENTRE  
for New Zealand Studies

NOHANZ

# NOHANZ NEWSLETTER

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NOHANZ Newsletter  
Volume 34 number 2 October 2020

#### **NOHANZ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**President** Dr Nepia Mahuika  
**Immediate Past President** Ann Packer  
**Secretary** Dr Alison Day  
**Treasurer** Dr Debbie Dunsford  
**Committee:**  
Ruth Low  
Susie Milne  
Lynette Shum  
Dr Cheryl Ware

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** Ann Packer  
We welcome contributions to the NOHANZ newsletter, published three times per annum. The next deadline is 1 November 2020

#### **NOHANZ REGIONAL CONTACTS**

We are building our network of regional contacts. Please feel free to contact the person for your area or another member of the Executive Committee. Contact details are on our website

#### **NOHANZ welcomes the following new members:**

Nicki Wakefield  
Danielle Campbell  
Louise Rummel  
Evelyn Heinz

**Cover image:** Te Rito Whānau (Ngāti Kahungunu/Rongomaiwahine) Grateful thanks for permission to use this photograph.

*Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of NOHANZ, and information on services does not imply endorsement.*

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# NOHANZ

Newsletter Volume 34 number 2 October 2020

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NOHANZ is now on Twitter and Facebook. Follow us for regular updates and discussions about oral history. Please feel free to share information about your projects, recent publications, or events on either the Facebook page or by emailing [nohanzexec@gmail.com](mailto:nohanzexec@gmail.com).

Twitter handle: @oralhistorynz

[Facebook group](#)

[Website](#)

## NEWSFLASH

The committee heartily congratulates President Nepia Mahuika on winning the Oral History Association Book Award for 2020, for his book *Rethinking Oral History and Oral Tradition: An Indigenous Perspective*. We hope to provide a review soon. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2019. (Oxford Oral History Series))

## From the Editor

So here we are in October already. Profound apologies from us at NOHANZ – we’ve been planning a conference and the newsletter kept being put on the back burner. Not to forget Covid...

Back in March, we could not envisage what life would look like in seven months’ time, yet here we are. For many of us, life goes on pretty much the same as ever, with a few restrictions. Yet for others there was heart-break, with the loss of jobs, income, and family who could not be mourned.

We read books, completed craft projects and baked many loaves of sourdough bread. We’ve learned to make face masks and interview people remotely.

Now it’s spring, in theory, and the whole country has at last returned to Level 1, with symphony orchestras, choirs and live theatre as well as normally spaced cinemas, cafés and galleries. We can explore parts of Aotearoa we’ve never visited. And we can interview face to face, *kanohi ki te kanohi*.

Most importantly, we are looking forward to a real life NOHANZ conference, in association with the Stout Centre at Victoria University in Wellington. We have a couple of superb keynote speakers appearing in person and another who will join us by Zoom from California – or China, depending on how her circumstances change in the interim.

Oral history in the time of Covid has certainly changed – more about that below, and reflected strongly in the conference programme.

The conference also sees our biennial election of officers. After four years Nepia will be stepping down as NOHANZ President at the AGM, believing there needs to be a regular turnover of leadership on the committee – within reason and where possible – to invigorate the organisation.

“We need to ensure we are bringing new people into the committee on a regular basis,” he says. “It’s crucial to have new leadership and faces for many reasons. We must find a way to ensure we are including Māori, Pasifika and academics who are teaching oral history, as well as community voices generally.”

**Ann Packer**

## National Oral History CONFERENCE & BGM

### *Ko wai mātou? – Who are we?*

Covid-permitting, the biennial NOHANZ conference, in association with Victoria University of Wellington's Stout Centre, originally scheduled for 3 – 5 July at Victoria University, will take place in Wellington from 20 – 22 November, 2020, at Victoria University of Wellington, with Friday's workshops at the National Library.

### Keynote speakers:



**Tā Kim Workman**, Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa, Rangitāne o Wairarapa in conversation with **Julia Whaipooti**, Ngāti Porou.

A long-time advocate of prisoners' rights and reform in the criminal justice system, **Tā (Sir) Kim Workman** has had a string of significant positions in a wide range of public arenas, serving as Families Commission-

er, national director of Prison Fellowship New Zealand and adjunct research fellow at Victoria University of Wellington's Institute of Criminology – among many others. He holds honorary Doctor of Literature degrees from both Victoria and Massey Universities and was named Senior New Zealander of the Year in 2018.

**Julia Whaipooti** is a Senior Advisor at the Children's Commission and spokesperson for JustSpeak, "a youth-powered movement for transformational change of criminal justice towards a fair, just and flourishing Aotearoa". She led New Zealand's delegation to the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York City in April 2018 and Oxford University's "Politics of Love" conference in December 2018. She has been involved in the Community Law movement over the past eight years as a volunteer, advocate, lawyer and National Māori Co-ordinator.



**Professor Na Li**, Department of History, Zhejiang University, China (by Zoom).

Li Na, to use the Chinese form of her name (family name first), is a research fellow/professor from Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, who is currently sheltering in place in California and juggling commitments on two continents. She's

personable – as seen in the interview she did with the American Oral History Review's co-editor Janneken Smucker recorded in May 2020. <http://oralhistoryreview.org/current-events/ohr-conversations-na-li/>

Na's research focuses on public history and urban preservation and she will address us from her current base in San Francisco.



**Dr Melissa Matutina Williams**, independent historian of Te Rarawa and Ngāti Maru descent, says "Ko Wai Mātou, Who are We? It depends on who's asking". Following the completion of her PhD in History in 2010, she lectured for three years in Māori and New Zealand

history at The University of Auckland, where she now holds an honorary academic position. Melissa's publications include her award-winning book, [\*Panguru and the City: Kāinga Tahi, Kāinga Rua\*](#), which is based on the oral histories of her whanaunga who migrated from North Hokianga to Auckland, 1930-1970. Melissa continues to research and write in the fields of Māori and New Zealand history and is currently part of a Marsden project team researching "Whanau Ora with, against and beyond the state".

*Melissa's image: Neil Pardington*

## Pre-conference events

The events on Friday 20 November include workshops and a walk:

- *Telling audio stories using oral history*, with Pip Oldham
- *Oral history with pictures*, with Anna Cottrell
- *Plan for the best, plan for the worst: Managing oral history collections*, with Linda Evans (Curator, Oral History and Sound) and Valerie Love (Senior Digital Archivist), Alexander Turnbull Library; Tania Nutira (Ngāi Tahu Archives Advisor), Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu; Megan Hutching (freelance oral historian, MOTAT)
- *History walk* with WalkWellington

[More information](#)

## Scholarships

Scholarships funded by Ministry for Culture & Heritage to assist successful presenters to attend conference have now been awarded. These scholars will be named at a future date.

[NOHANZ Scholarships](#) are now available for members

Funding is also available from the [Jack Ilott Oral History Education Operating Fund](#), which provides grants of up to \$500 for oral history training purposes, including attending or presenting at Conference:

[Draft programme and registration](#)

## FEATURE

### Hurunui Seismic Stories

Around midnight on 14 November 2016, the Hurunui District was rocked by the most powerful earthquake in over 150 years. The epicentre was near the small town of Waiau and it triggered nearly two minutes of explosive fault line ruptures that spread north and east towards the coast.

In the immediate aftermath, much of the media focus was on Kaikoura with its dramatic coastal uplift, the loss of State Highway One and the evacuation of stranded tourists by helicopter and boat. Although the Hurunui District was severely impacted by the quake they felt their stories were somewhat forgotten. This book redresses that oversight by providing a photographic and written record of the event.

Although NOHANZ member Emily Anderson's compilation of 17 stories about the impact of the quake on the Hurunui District was published just weeks before the Covid-19 lockdown – losing out on what should have been a key publicity and sales period – 100 of the initial print run of 200 copies had sold in the first two weeks, primarily by word of mouth. Now there are only six copies left for sale.



“It was an interesting time,” says Emily. “We had a soft launch at the beginning of March. The community knew it was coming and were really ready to back it. But going into lockdown was like pressing a big pause button on it.”

Published by The Amuri Community Arts Council, *Hurunui Seismic Stories*

grew out of an earlier oral history project (funded by Lotteries as part of a one-off Wellbeing round, to tell and share stories about the quake recovery.) In the first stage of the project Emily Anderson, Linda Hepburn and Clive Lind had gathered stories and photos from 26 residents recounting their quake experiences. An exhibition toured the A&P Show, libraries, halls and cafés in the district and material was also archived with the Amberley Library website.

As the exhibit shared only a fraction of the material collected, there were numerous requests to create a book and over the next two years the Rātā Foundation and New Zealand Lottery Grants Board generously supported the project.

Emily Anderson, who oversaw the creation of the book, has worked as a researcher, writer and interviewer for documentaries for TV3 and TVNZ. Eight years ago she completed the Alexander Turnbull Library oral history training and has since worked on several large projects. Natasha Shearer, who has won awards for her work at *The Press*, photographed the interviewees, their families and properties.

The 17 stories that appear in the book were chosen to represent a wide range of experiences, locations and perspectives. All participants filled out NOHANZ agreement forms at the time of interview, and additional written permission and talent release forms were used specifically for the book project.

Copies of *Hurunui Seismic Stories* may be purchased through the Hanmer Springs iSite for \$40.00. [Details](#)

## NEWS

### Happy Pride!

To support Pride 2020, Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture and Heritage and Auckland Libraries have released their first episode of “Kei Roto i te Miru: Inside the Bubble: Jack’s Story”. In an oral history interview with Will Hansen, Jack Hitchcox describes “Queerintine”: life in lockdown, having fun, being queer and coming out as trans.

Listen here: <https://newzealandhistory.podbean.com/> and for further information on the project, including a transcript of the interview and resources, check out: <https://mch.govt.nz/kei-roto-i-te-miru-inside-bubble>



Image: <https://newzealandhistory.podbean.com/e/kei-roto-i-te-miru-episode1/>

## Auckland Libraries – Oral History and Sound Archive

As Sue Berman wrote this, Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland was back again at Alert Level 3.

“We are back in our Bubbles. Somehow it has felt harder this time. The weather is less pleasant for starters and the disruption to projects has felt harder and more frustrating. The demand for digital content creation and interpretive work is high as events like the annual Auckland Heritage Festival prepare to present remotely and upcoming exhibition themes turn to drawing on oral histories and other audio content to create playlists and podcasts that don’t require a visit to the library.

Needless to say, myself and the team are as busy as always. The last Lockdown saw the development of a fruitful collaboration with Manatū Taonga, Ministry for Culture and Heritage (MCH) and a number of oral history interviewers around the motu for recording ‘Kei Roto i te Miru: Inside the Bubble’. This was a fairly experimental project as we worked with getting sound recordings to their best possible levels and supporting a remote recording connection. Ngā Pātaka Kōrero o Tāmaki Makaurau-Auckland Libraries is pleased to be the repository of this collection and accompany photographic material. It has a collection number but is still being arranged and described! [Ed: see the conference programme.]

The project always had an intension to publish, with permissions, a series of podcasts from the collection. We have pre-released one special episode to support rainbow youth in their celebration of Pride 2020 which is in August. “Jack’s Story” was produced after Will Hansen interviewed friends, flatmates and neighbours for this “Queerintine” (Queers in Quarantine) collection of four interviews. You can have a listen to that piece here: <https://mch.govt.nz/kei-roto-i-te-miru-inside-bubble>

I am looking forward to conference and hope that we will indeed get to see each other face to face in November.

*Sue Berman, Sue.Berman@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz*

## Alexander Turnbull Library

Despite, sadly, workshops further afield having been postponed due to the uncertainty around how the pandemic plays out, I have been relieved to still be able to complete one postponed public workshop and agree to further commissioned workshops here in Wellington, and demand remains steady.

Along with the rest of the world, we are scrambling to keep up with recent developments, particularly remote recording - where it could be appropriate, and testing and evaluating the technical qualities of each of the options available, together with the excellent ears of Zach Webber, our audio-visual Conservator. One remote recording programme we have found promising is Zencastr, where the computers at each end record separately, the files can be uncompressed Wave files, and you are not restricted by dodgy internet connections. But it also needs good quality microphones; the ones built into computers aren’t up to much. We’re impressed so far with the Blue Yeti, though quality is also greatly increased by using the Zoom H5 with mics (AKG C417pp) as an interface.

The plethora of remote recording and other workshops run by overseas providers using Zoom and YouTube continues; subscribe to the H-List oral history thread if you are interested in receiving notifications, and there are lots of links on the NOHANZ website.

I’m also looking to update the 1992 NOHANZ/Alexander Turnbull Library directory of oral history repositories, which was based on research done in the 1980s, so by now well out of date. If you are looking after a collection, no matter how big or small, look out for an online survey link coming your way before long. I’m picturing this new directory will be an online resource that can be regularly updated.

It’s been rewarding working on putting together the workshops and conference planning, and am looking to reaping the awards when it all comes together in November. See you there!

*Lynette Shum*

*Oral History Advisor*



## Remote Interviewing – from UC Berkeley, USA

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, OH Center oral historians have developed new practices and procedures to enable remote interviewing and to consider the implications of this practice. In the documents below, they provide the latest guidelines on topics including: remote interviewing with Zoom; tips for getting started in oral history while sheltering in place (what we'd call lockdown); and more to come. They welcome feedback, questions, and suggestions for additional topics to cover." Read more, including links to video and other resources at <https://www.lib.berkeley.edu/libraries/bancroft-library/oral-history-center/remote-interviewing>

## OHS

The Oral History Society's September newsletter offers a You Tube tutorial by Rosa Schling demonstrating equipment and software for remote interviewing during COVID-19 using Zencast recording software. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Ai8Ik2JIGU>

## IOHA conference postponed to 2021

The **International Oral History Association** has postponed its Biennial Conference in Singapore to 2021. No new date has yet been set. [www.ioha.org](http://www.ioha.org)

## Useful links

Gwyn McClelland, Japanese Lecturer at New England University, Armidale, has taken over editorship of Oral History NSW's Network News.

<https://oralhistorynsw.us17.list-anage.com/track/click?u=31539e1c2842bff657803affd&id=8c7ec3a5bd&e=4f88f8c673>

## NOHANZ Journal: A REMINDER

If you are interested in putting forward material for publication in the Association's journal, *Oral History in New Zealand*, please don't hesitate to contact the editors, Megan Hutching and Pip Oldham.

[journalnohanz@oralhistory.org.nz](mailto:journalnohanz@oralhistory.org.nz)