

WORD
CHRISTCHURCH
FESTIVAL 2021



25–29 AUGUST

WORD CHRISTCHURCH
FESTIVAL 2021

BOOKS, STORYTELLING & IDEAS

FESTIVAL PARTNERS

WORD
CHRISTCHURCH
25 - 29 AUGUST 2021

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WELCOME

LIANNE DALZIEL MAYOR OF CHRISTCHURCH

It is with great pleasure that I extend a warm welcome to all the readers, writers and others of curious mind who will gather for the 2021 WORD Christchurch Festival.

In such a difficult time for events in New Zealand and the world, WORD has managed to pull off not just a great festival programme, but an exciting international event, using technology, tenacity and creativity to achieve the seemingly impossible.

I am thrilled to see Abbas Nazari's *After the Tampa* on the programme. I was the Minister of Immigration when New Zealand offered to take some of the asylum seekers from the MV Tampa and determine their claims here. Abbas tells a powerful story of courage and determination and I am looking forward to hearing him speak.

I also can't wait for Christchurch audiences to dive into the programme and immerse themselves in ideas and storytelling – many of which are rooted right here in Ōtautahi and Aotearoa. We love to be challenged, entertained and inspired, all of which are guaranteed. The festival is also a wonderful showcase for venues in our revitalised city centre, including our beloved library, Tūrangā.

On behalf of the city of Christchurch, welcome, and have a great festival!



VICKI BLYTH CHAIR, WORD CHRISTCHURCH

Welcome to what has become, at least for the next few years, the annual WORD Christchurch Festival. Programme Co-Directors Rachael King and Nic Low have created an extraordinary programme of storytelling in a terrific celebration of Aotearoa New Zealand writing.

We are particularly grateful for the tremendous support of Creative New Zealand and the Christchurch City Council which gave us much-needed certainty in a year of upheaval. Thanks to all our sponsors, both new and ongoing, the charitable trusts who have supported us with grants, and our patrons and supporters, all of whom make the programme possible. A special thanks to our bookseller, University Bookshop, and to all our partners, including Publica and the publishers who bring their writers to Christchurch.

A huge thanks to the WORD team, to Rachael and Nic for their creative and inspiring programming and to Executive Director Marianne Hargreaves for her wisdom and her effective running of the organisation. To my fellow trustees, thanks for your support, your commitment to the team and your enthusiasm for WORD.



RACHAEL KING PROGRAMME CO-DIRECTOR

It's been a great pleasure working on this programme with my new co-director Nic Low. It feels as though WORD is entering a new phase. The pandemic nearly stopped us in our tracks last year but we came back punching; now it has spurred us to innovate and collaborate, and a creative partnership with Nic has brought a new perspective on what a festival can be. This year, you'll still find a commitment to New Zealand writers and the industry around them, and a love of community in our ever-changing city. Some of the international writers we had to cancel last year have jumped on board our digital events with enthusiasm. I'm particularly proud to pull together an event that was cooked up pre-COVID: an intimate and magical show with David Mitchell and Tiny Ruins. I'm also thrilled to continue our relationship with Edinburgh International Book Festival in new ways. As ever, I'm so grateful to Marianne Hargreaves, Magda Lorenzo and the rest of the hardworking WORD team. Special welcome to our fabulous guest curators, AJ Fitzwater and Daisy Speaks.



NIC LOW PROGRAMME CO-DIRECTOR

Nau mai, haere mai ki Kupu Ōtautahi! Kō Hananui te mauka tūturu; Ko Aoraki te mauka teitei. Tihei mauriora! After nearly two decades overseas, I'm excited to again be close to the landscapes and people I love. It's a privilege to be co-programming a festival in my home town, where my love of storytelling was born, alongside such a talented team.

Two themes have emerged: the richness of what's right here, and, given COVID, our distance from the rest of the world. I'm proud that a significant proportion of our events arise from the depth and breadth of Ngāi Tahu knowledge, people and history. I'm also proud of the brilliance of all the Ōtautahi writers and thinkers featured, including you, our audience, with new opportunities to create and publish your own work. And it's been a pleasure designing new ways to connect globally through our digital venue, The Faraway Near.

So, to all of our guests, to all of you – welcome. If you see us around the festival, come and say hi!



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FESTIVAL TEAM

Marianne Hargreaves
Executive Director

Rachael King
Programme Co-Director

Nic Low
Programme Co-Director

Magda Lorenzo
Festival Administrator & Volunteer Manager

Paula Granger
Partnerships Manager

Vanessa Reed
Production Manager

Joseph Veale
Technical Manager

Annie de Senna
Artist Liaison and Schools Manager

Audrey Baldwin
Community Projects Co-ordinator

Kate Fielder
Ticketing Manager

Fiona Brooker
Financial Advisor

WORD Christchurch

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GUEST CURATORS: AJ FITZWATER & DAISY SPEAKS

AJ Fitzwater

WORD has been a home for me for more than half a decade, and it's a privilege to be invited to add a fabulous lounge to my literary rooms. In **Speed Date a Speculative Fiction Author** p. 31, I'm recreating the relaxed kaffe klatsch experience I enjoy at spec-fic conventions, and showing audiences the depth of Aotearoa's spec-fic scene. And in the **Stardust Cabaret** p. 29, I'm combining my love of sci-fi, space, and fabulousity with eclectic literary and performance perspectives.

AJ Fitzwater is Arts Four Creative in Residence at The Arts Centre, in association with Creative New Zealand, and The Stout Trust, proudly managed by Perpetual Guardian.

Daisy Speaks

Mātō lava le soifua mana ma le lagi e mamā. I'm a spoken word poet and a facilitator of poetry spaces, and I'm learning the complex language of Samoan oratory (having not grown up in Samoa, but having a hereditary title from my mother's side). After the earthquakes, creating music and poetry spaces was what I did, for Christchurch people to bring whatever they had to the table, to perform, tell stories, tell their truths – to create hope. So it's an honour to do this here at WORD with **Confluence**, which brings together indigenous voices and songs to give them mana, and to create from the and space of Māori and Pasifika peoples, as tangata moana, not 'either/or'. I hope you'll come!

TE PAPA TUPU – WELCOME

Te Papa Tupu is The Māori Literature Trust's mentoring programme for aspiring Māori writers, awarded biennially to six people who have a complete manuscript and are working towards publication. It offers editorial guidance and mentorship, a stipend, and a community of writers. WORD extends a very warm nau mai, haere mai ki Ōtautahi to this year's rōpū, **Ashlee Sturme, Deborah Williams, Geraldine Warren, Zeb Nicklin, Olivia Aroha Giles and Jade Kake** – all names to watch out for as they publish their books in coming years. They're here to soak up the festival and meet other writers. For info about Te Papa Tupu 2022, check out mlt.org.nz.



MAGAZINE IN RESIDENCE: TAKAHĒ

WHEN Thursday - Sunday
12pm – 4pm

WHERE Tūranga, Ground
Floor Lobby

We're excited to introduce a brand new WORD initiative: the Magazine-in-Residence. We invite a leading literary journal to set up shop, and produce an issue on-site during the festival. Submissions are invited from our workshop programme, and from visiting writers, including you!

This year our magazine in residence is **takahē**, an Ōtautahi-based magazine of fiction, poetry, art, review, and essay, since 1989. Drop in to visit their dynamic editorial team and special guests in the Tūranga foyer each day between 12pm and 4pm to submit your work (poetry and short fiction up to 1000 words), and find out what goes on behind the scenes at a literary magazine. See them editing and laying out the limited-edition zine, hand-printing the covers on a vintage press, and launching the finished product with readings and toasts on Sunday afternoon. (See page 34 for launch details.)

You can also email your work to submissions@takahe.org.nz.



HIGHLIGHTS

There are too many festival highlights to mention here, including *The Faraway Near* (see next page), but for a start, just because the borders are (mostly) closed, it doesn't mean we can't welcome international writers! On opening night, we feature a collaboration with Cúirt International Festival of Literature in Galway (**Tautitoto Whenua: Reciprocal Songs of the Land**, p. 10). On Saturday morning, you're invited to an early audience with **Sarah Ferguson, Duchess of York**, beaming in live from Windsor for a cup of tea and a chat with **Nicky Pellegrino** at the James Hay Theatre (p. 21). **Helen Clark** reports from the frontline of global issues (p. 25). Happily, British-American book dealer and novelist **Rick Gekoski** is currently in New Zealand, so we grabbed him for a session of fascinating anecdotes about the literary world on Saturday afternoon (p. 26). That evening, treat yourself to an intimate and intriguing evening of music and story with novelist **David Mitchell** (*Cloud Atlas*) and New Zealand songstress **Hollie Fullbrook** of **Tiny Ruins** (p. 28), and then get to the Piano for a special live broadcast from Edinburgh International Book Festival, with avid WORD supporter **Ian Rankin** (p. 29).

Festival evenings are rich with shining events of music, poetry and storytelling. **Te Piki o Tāwhaki: The Ascent of Tāwhaki** (p. 12) brings to life the stories embedded in our beloved Tūranga on Thursday, and that night we also bring back the sell-out **Adventurous Women** (p. 13), with five incredible storytellers. On Friday you can sample some of the festival's stars presenting unforgettable new writing in **This Place You Return to is Home** (p. 18), or experience a night of indigenous poetry and music in **Confluence** (p. 19), curated by **Daisy Speaks**. Finally, on Sunday, we close the festival with a glorious musical and lyrical celebration of te wai o Te Waipounamu with **Ka Wai o Tahu: Marlon Williams, Ariana Tikao and Ruby Solly** (p. 35).



THE FARAWAY NEAR

Part of our mission is giving you folk access to astonishing international authors. But we're in a pandemic. International travel is off. And we're all sick of Zoom, right?

Introducing The Faraway Near: our custom digital venue that has the intimacy of a night at the pub with friends – and a favourite writer. We've transformed Tūranga's TSB Space to create a pop-up bar with ten tables of ten. Grab a coffee or a glass of wine, and settle in for a session of deep storytelling and conversation with a special international guest – sitting life-sized at your table via freestanding FHD display.

Our guests are broadcast from their own homes around the world, and appear in informal conversation with a skilled interviewer who's sitting with you at the bar. Drinks will be served throughout, and you'll have a chance to ask questions of your guest as well. It's a world-first, right here in Ōtautahi.

Choose from sessions with: **Helen Macdonald**, author of *Vesper Flights* and the sublime *H is for Hawk* (p.18); **Eliot Higgins**, founder of open-source intelligence agency Bellingcat (p. 19); *Backlisted*, the podcast that 'gives new life to old books' with hosts **Andy Miller** and **John Mitchinson** and live guest **Paula Morris** (p. 22); New York-

based novelist and podcaster **Hari Kunzru**, on alt-right rabbitholes (p. 24); native American novelist **Tommy Orange**, author of the groundbreaking *There, There* (p. 25); Kurdish novelist and activist **Ava Homa** in conversation with **Behrouz Boochani** (p. 26); renowned English philosopher **A. C. Grayling** (p. 27); and Irish writer **Mark O'Connell**, author of the pertinent *Notes from an Apocalypse* (p. 29). Don't miss out; seats are limited!



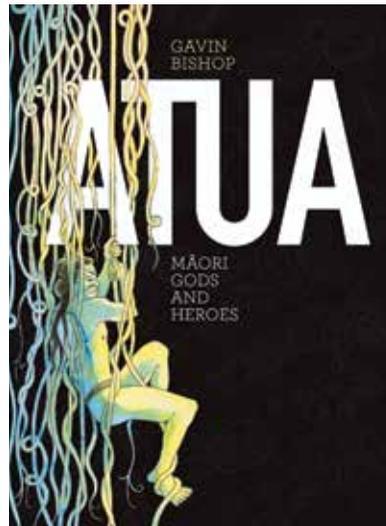
ANDY GRIFFITHS TV – STARRING YOU!

WHEN Saturday 17 July
3pm – 4pm

WHERE Charles Luney Auditorium,
St Margaret's College

PRICE \$20*

For Kidsfest, WORD Christchurch is stoked to be bringing Canterbury kids a super-fun event with none other than the co-creator of the mega-selling Treehouse stories, **Andy Griffiths!** Andy will be beaming into the venue from his home in Melbourne (if we're lucky he'll give us a tour!) and kids will have the chance to get up close to ask him their burning questions. This will be an afternoon of fun for the whole family.



BOOK LAUNCH: ATUA BY GAVIN BISHOP

WHEN Tuesday 24 August
5.30pm – 7pm

WHERE University Bookshop,
University Drive, Ilam

PRICE Free

Penguin Random House warmly invites you to the launch of **Gavin Bishop's** new book *Atua: Māori gods and Legends*. *Atua* introduces readers to the Māori Gods, demigods and heroes, and explores Aotearoa's most exciting legends, from creation to migration. All welcome.



THE LIVING MOUNTAINS

WHEN Friday 20 August
6pm – 7pm

WHERE The Piano

PRICE Free

Kā Huru Manu is Ngāi Tahu's satellite atlas. It details thousands of placenames, rivers and histories, and a network of historic trails. More than a dozen of those trails cross Kā Tiritiri-o-te-moana, the Southern Alps. **Tā Tipene O'Regan** is one of the driving forces behind Kā Huru Manu. **Nic Low** walked the old mountain trails contained in Kā Huru Manu for his new book, *Uprising*, in an attempt to understand the stories living in the land. They talk about Ngāi Tahu's life in the mountains and high country, and the power of place names and maps.

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MARK SOLOMON: MANA WHAKATIPU

WHEN Wednesday 25 August
5.30pm – 6.30pm

WHERE The Piano

PRICE \$20/18*

In 1998, on the eve of Ngāi Tahu reaching settlement with the Crown, former foundryman **Mark**

Solomon stepped into the role of kaiwhakahaere (Chair) of the iwi's governing council, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu. Mark joins **Miriama Kamo** to speak about his memoir, *Mana Whakatipu* (co-authored with Mark Revington), detailing his years at the helm of the tribe, his thoughts on leadership and life, the people who influenced him, and his vision for the future of Māoridom, and Aotearoa.



BILL HAMMOND: ACROSS THE EVENING SKY LAUNCH

WHEN Wednesday 25 August
6pm – 8pm

WHERE Christchurch Art Gallery
Te Puna o Waiwhetū

PRICE Free

In 2020, Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū began working with **Bill Hammond** on *Across the Evening Sky*, a new book on the artist's spectacular bird and cave paintings. Join us as we launch Bill's book and raise a toast to the memory of an artist with a singular vision, one of the greats of Aotearoa's art history. Hosted by WORD Christchurch's **Marianne Hargreaves**, and featuring readings from authors **Nathan Pōhio**, **Paul Scofield**, **Ariana Tikao**, **Rachael King**, **Nic Low** and **Peter Vangioni** – and more.

Supported by:
Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū



TAUTITOTO WHENUA: RECIPROCAL SONGS OF THE LAND

WHEN Wednesday 25 August
7.30pm – 8.30pm

WHERE The Piano

PRICE \$20/18*

What languages do the mountains of Te Waipounamu speak? What tongue would we use to address the fields of Ireland's Aran Islands? How will we tell the places we love what the future holds? Developed in partnership with Cúirt International Festival of Literature, Galway, Tautitoto Whenua explores parallel Irish and Māori histories of grief and revitalisation with regard to language and land.

With **Miriama Kamo** as your host, meet Irish authors **Micheál Ó Conghaile** and **Máire Uí Dhufaigh**, beaming in to read new work and discuss the changing Irish landscapes that formed them. They are joined by Ngāi Tahu authors and composers **Hana O'Regan** and **Charisma Rangipunga** with a brand new apakura (lament) exploring climate change's impact on ancestral places. Immerse yourself in the stunning vistas and sounds of te roo and Gaeilge, with discussion and translations in English.

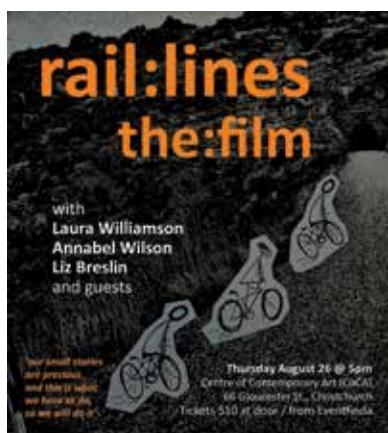
Supported by: **Culture Ireland and Creative New Zealand**

MAGAZINE IN RESIDENCE: TAKAHĒ

WHEN Thursday 26 August
12pm – 4pm

WHERE Tūranga, Ground
Floor Lobby

We're making a magazine, start to finish, during WORD 2021! Drop in any time between noon and 4pm to watch the madness, submit your writing, or have a chat. Details on page 5.



RAIL:LINES

WHEN Thursday 26 August
5pm – 6pm

WHERE Centre of Contemporary
Arts (CoCA),
66 Gloucester Street

PRICE \$10 on the door

In late 2020, **Liz Breslin**, **Annabel Wilson** and **Laura Williamson** embarked on a 'spoke'n'word tour' of the Otago Central Rail Trail. The three poets packed amps, mics and notebooks into trailers and e-biked the length of the Rail Trail, performing in the historic halls along the way. It was a poetry tour like no other: emission-free, muddy and rowdy, against a backdrop of otherworldly landscapes. Join Annabel, Laura and Liz for live poetry followed by the Aotearoa premiere of *Rail:lines: The film*, a documentary about the tour.

KURA REO - MĀORI LANGUAGE CLASS

WHEN Thursday 26 August
4pm – 5pm

WHERE Tūranga, Spark Place

PRICE \$10*

Join **Karuna Thurlow** and **Darren Solomon** (Aropapaki Ltd) for a daily hour of language power focussing on *kīwaha* and *whakataukī* – the sayings and idioms of Ngāi Tahu. Beginners welcome! See page 37 for details.

Presented by:  Te Rūnanga o NGĀI TAHU



MELANI ANAE: FIFTY YEARS OF THE POLYNESIAN PANTHERS

WHEN Thursday 26 August
6pm – 7pm

WHERE St Paul's Trinity Pacific
Presbyterian Church

PRICE Free

Fifty years ago, inspired by the Black Panthers, a group of young leaders founded the Polynesian Panther Party to push back against systematic racism like the Dawn Raids. One of those founders was the brilliant **Dr Melani Anae** QSO, a Fullbright scholar and Marsden Award recipient, and expert on ethics and Pacific leadership and identity. In conversation with young leader **Okirano Tilaia** (responsible for the student candlelight vigil following the mosque attacks), Melani reflects on the recent announcement of an apology for the Dawn Raids, and her new book *The Platform*, detailing five decades spent in peaceful resistance, educating New Zealand about ongoing racism, and Pacific empowerment.



CHOP THE MOP

WHEN Thursday 26 August
6.30pm – 8pm

WHERE Rangiora Library

PRICE Entry by koha

Waimakariri Libraries have been collaborating with the North Canterbury Cancer Society to provide writing workshops for people with cancer, and families affected by cancer. Workshop tutor, Learning Connections Coordinator Jason Clements, has grown out his beard and trademark long hair, in preparation to Chop the Mop at this fundraising event for the Cancer Society. Featuring special guest poetry readings by **John Allison**, **Bernadette Hall**, **Ciaran Fox**, **Doc Drumheller**, **Ben Brown**, **Mally Hines**, **Stephanie Waterfield**, **Wendy Campbell**, participants from the North Canterbury Cancer Society Writers and Orators group, and local high school students. To support this Chop the Mop fundraising effort please go to: <https://www.youcanforcancer.org.nz/jason-clements>

Presented by: Waimakariri Libraries

THURSDAY 26
AUGUST



TE PIKI O TĀWHAKI: THE ASCENT OF TĀWHAKI

WHEN Thursday 26 August
6.30pm – 7pm
8pm – 8.30pm

WHERE Tūranga All Levels

PRICE Free

For one night only, WORD transforms Tūranga to bring to life the ancient story of Tāwhaki that is woven into the building itself. Using the spectacular central staircase as the stage, with audiences ranged around the balconies on all sides, this not-to-be-missed transformation of Tūranga will fly you to the heavens in pursuit of matauraka, the knowledge of the gods. Presented by master storyteller **Joseph Hullen** (Ngāi Tūāhuriri / Ngāti Hinematua), taonga puoro virtuoso **Ariana Tikao** (Ngāi Tahu) and **Juanita Hepi** (Kāi Tahu, Ngāti Mutunga, Ngāi Tukairangi), this is your chance to hear a uniquely Murihiku Ngāi Tahu telling of a story that is well over a thousand years old. Please note that while some seats are available, most audience members will be standing for thirty minutes.

Photo by Adam Mørk. Artwork: Tāwhaki by Fayne and Caleb Robinson

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A CABINET OF CURIOSITIES: TINY LECTURES ON THE WEIRD AND WONDERFUL

WHEN Thursday 26 August
6pm – 7.15pm

WHERE The Piano

PRICE \$25/23*

WORD's sellout lecture series is back! Famous for introducing the fascinating, the bizarre and the irreverent, this event asks writers to explore their innermost obsessions. What will you find when the cabinet of curiosities is opened? Featuring journalist **Tom Doig**, Antarctic historian **Joanna Grochowicz**, writer and illustrator **Gavin Bishop**, historian **Madi Williams**, and doctor bard **Glenn Colquhoun**, hosted by **Naomi van den Broek**.

ADVENTUROUS WOMEN

WHEN Thursday 26 August
8pm – 9.15pm

WHERE The Piano

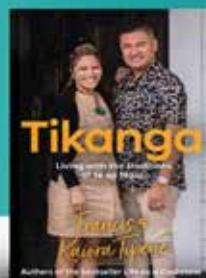
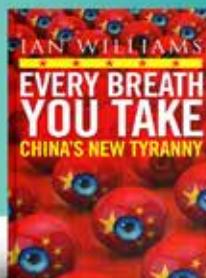
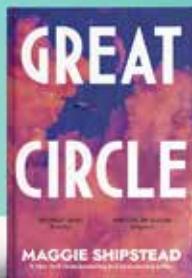
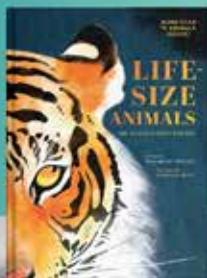
PRICE \$38/\$36

Once again, WORD takes you on an adventurous night of storytelling with five incredible women who take risks in their personal and professional lives, hosted by broadcaster and writer **Miriama Kamo**. **Kyle Mewburn's** memoir *Faking It* is an account of growing up and outwardly becoming

the woman she always was; **Julie Zarifeh** countered unimaginable tragedy with travel and an adventurous spirit; **Anjum Rahman** stands up for the voices of Muslim women to be heard; **Emily Writes** is a bold voice for mothers and children, online and in books; and **Dr Hinemoa Elder's** bestselling book *Aroha* shows us how we can live with love, compassion and empathy. Book early for a night like no other!

Presented by: **latitude.**
MAGAZINE

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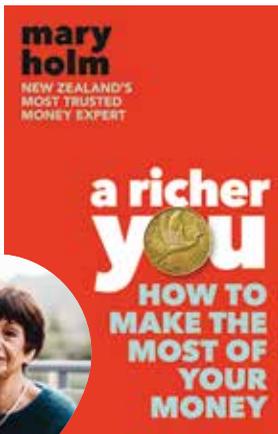
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MARY HOLM: YOUR MONEY

WHEN Friday 27 August
10am – 11am

WHERE The Piano

PRICE \$20/18*

Join **Mary Holm**, bestselling author and trusted financial expert, as she talks about how to make your

money work in the real world. In her latest book, *A Richer You: How to make the most of your money*, Holm helps you understand how money works, and to financially deal with whatever life throws at you: family complications, relationship issues, house price fluctuations, being braver in retirement, helping your children. Come armed with questions, and learn how to make the most of your money!



HOW TO WRITE A KILLER PLOT

WHEN Friday 27 August
11.30am – 12.30pm

WHERE The Piano

PRICE \$20/18*

We bring together two masters of the art of the killer plot to help you write your own. New-comer **Jacqueline Bublitz's** debut *Before You Knew My Name* has been praised by Marian Keyes and Clementine Ford as a new take on the 'woman in peril' trope that forms the backbone of the genre. Veteran **Paul Cleave's** latest, *A Quiet People*, is a clever, dark and entertaining journey through the minds of those who write the killer plots. Both writers talk about their books, and share tips for creating memorable stories and keeping readers turning the pages, with **Jo Malcolm**.



HOW TO WRITE A POEM

WHEN Friday 27 August
1pm – 2pm

WHERE The Piano

PRICE Free

Come and hear from some of the best poets working in Aotearoa today. **Karlo Mila's** *Goddess Muscle* spans a decade of work, and explores both the personal and political. **Kate Camp's** *How To Be Happy Though Human* was described by David Eggleton as 'like a bumper ride in a fairground ... at once jarring and exhilarating'. **Tayi Tibble's** second collection, *Rangikura*, asks us to think about our relationship to desire and exploitation. Find out what drives these poets, what they think makes a good poem, and their insights into how you can write your own. Chaired by fellow brilliant poet, **Bernadette Hall**.



HER SAY AT LINWOOD LIBRARY

WHEN Friday 27 August
1.30pm – 2pm

WHERE Linwood Library,
First Floor, Eastgate Mall

PRICE Free

Jackie Clark founded the charity The Aunties in 2013. Her big heart and take-no-bullshit attitude has won her a league of loyal fans and followers, and in 2018 she was the Supreme Winner at the Women of Influence Awards. Join Jackie for a relaxed talk at Linwood Library as she shares her experiences and talks about the new book, *Her Say*, which features stories of women overcoming trauma from abusive relationships, told in their own words.

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BEING PĀKEHĀ: CLAUDIA ORANGE AND ALISON JONES

WHEN Friday 27 August
2.30pm – 3.30pm

WHERE The Piano

PRICE \$20/18*

What does it mean to be Pākehā in 21st-century Aotearoa? What anxieties and opportunities flow from the increased visibility and assertiveness of tangata whenua? How have Treaty settlements, legal challenges and growing use of te reo Māori affected the Pākehā sense of belonging and legitimacy? In conversation with the University of Canterbury's **Jeanette King**, two leading Pākehā thinkers, **Claudia Orange** and **Alison Jones**, share personal stories and political insights from lives spent working at the intersection between two worlds.

KURA REO - MĀORI LANGUAGE CLASS

WHEN Friday 27 August
4pm – 5pm

WHERE Tūranga, Spark Place

PRICE \$10*

Presented by:



WAR AND PEACE

WHEN Friday 27 August
4pm – 5pm

WHERE The Piano

PRICE Free

In the 1990s, Ross Calman (Ngāti Toa, Ngāi Tahu) stumbled on a manuscript in an archive: a 50,000-word biography of Te Rauparaha, handwritten in te reo Māori in the 1860s by his son Tamihana. Realising this was his ancestor's work, Ross set out to master te reo, and now, decades later, has translated Tamihana's words – complete with eyewitness accounts and ancient curses – as *He Pukapuka Tātaku i Ngā Mahi a Te Rauparaha Nui (A Record of the Life of the great Te Rauparaha)*. Ross and tribal historian **Dr Te Maire Tau** (Upoko of Ngāi Tūāhuriri) discuss these fascinating and turbulent times between the two iwi, including the saga of Kaiapoi pā, and the peace marriages that came after.

Join **Karuna Thurlow** and **Darren Solomon** (Aropapaki Ltd) for a daily hour of language power focussing on kiwaha and whakataukī - the sayings and idioms of Ngāi Tahu. Beginners welcome! See page 37 for details.



THREE MINUTES OF FAME

WHEN Friday 27 August
4pm – 5pm

WHERE James Hay Theatre

PRICE \$20*

Are you a writer yourself, or secretly want to be one, but would rather die than admit it in public? Kiwis are notoriously bad at owning their ambitions, but now's your chance: step on stage at the James Hay Theatre to read your work, and tell the world what writing means to you – without an audience in the room! Book a slot and get the full festival author experience, from green room nerves to rapturous (pre-recorded) applause to post-show glow. Let your words be heard!



MATT AND SARAH BROWN: SHE IS NOT YOUR REHAB

WHEN Friday 27 August
5.30pm – 6.30pm

WHERE The Piano

PRICE \$20/18*

Renowned barber **Mataio (Matt) Brown** has cut the hair of everyone from the All Blacks to members of the

Wu Tang Clan. But he's best known for his legendary local shop My Father's Barber, where men come to get a haircut, and be heard without judgement, and to heal. Matt and his wife **Sarah Brown** (Ngāpuhi / Te Rarawa) speak with **James Nokise** about She Is Not Your Rehab, the global anti-violence movement he inspired, his own journey of healing, and what it might take for a generation of men to break cycles of abuse.

Presented by:



NEW REGENT STREET POP-UP FESTIVAL

WHEN Friday 27 August
6pm – 7.30pm

WHERE New Regent St

When is a festival not a festival? When it's a festival-within-a-festival! On Friday night, follow us down the rabbit hole into the packed-out bars, cafes, shops and broom-cupboards of New Regent Street for a selection of rapid-fire readings, launches, games, projections and talks. We transform

Christchurch's most characterful laneway into a literary hive, with a dozen venues hosting back-to-back events and activities. Romance at Gin Gin? Improvised poetry at the AV club? Rapid-fire book launches at The Last Word? Sea shanties and salty rants at The Institution? All this and more, featuring over fifty local and visiting writers for your pleasure. And best of all – it's free! Check our website for the full lineup, online from 1 August.

Supported by: **Booksellers Aotearoa New Zealand**



LANDLORDING

WHEN Friday 27 August
6pm – 7pm

WHERE Tūranga, Spark Place

PRICE Free

You know that saying 'never let a good crisis go to waste'? **Murdoch Stephens** does. He's taken the housing crisis – a severe shortage of safe housing, average house prices \$900K – and turned it into *Rat King Landlord*, one of the funniest and most savage works of satire in recent years. Murdoch speaks with essayist, satirist and one-time landlord **Danyl McLauchlan** about life and debt, a generation of middle class adults for whom flat inspections are the norm, and that moment when you realise the rat in your compost bin has made it onto the property ladder before you.



THE FARAWAY NEAR: HELEN MACDONALD

WHEN Friday 27 August
6pm – 7pm

WHERE Tūranga, TSB Space

PRICE \$38/\$36*

Helen Macdonald arrived in the global literary consciousness several years ago with *H is for Hawk*, the exquisite account of training her goshawk, Mabel, while grieving her

beloved father. Compassionate and sublime, it won awards and hearts around the world. Her latest book, *Vesper Flights*, gathers together essays of observation, fascination, time, memory, love and loss and how we make the world around us. Moving and frank, personal and political, it confirms the author as one of this century's greatest nature writers. She talks with **Paula Morris**.

What is The Faraway Near?
See page 7.



WORD GALA: THIS PLACE YOU RETURN TO IS HOME

WHEN Friday 27 August
8pm – 9.30pm

WHERE James Hay Theatre

PRICE \$38/\$36*

The idea of home has been at the forefront of global consciousness in recent times: staying home, coming

home, struggling to get home, finding a new home when the old one is no longer safe. Taking our title from ex-pat New Zealand author Kirsty Gunn, resident in Scotland, we ask five of our festival stars to tell us about their place to return to, their tūrangawaewae, or how our homes have shaped us. Audiences who have

attended previous galas will know this is a night of new and original storytelling not to be missed. Featuring **Patricia Grace, Rick Gekoski, Sue Kedgley, Tayi Tibble and Kate Camp**, hosted by **Michèle A'Court**.



THE FARAWAY NEAR: ELIOT HIGGINS

WHEN Friday 27 August
8pm – 9pm

WHERE Tūranga, TSB Space

PRICE \$38/36*

Who identified the men who poisoned Sergei Skripel in Salisbury, and Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny? Who figured out who shot down Flight MH17 over Ukraine? Who uncovered Assad's use of chemical weapons in Syria?

Not the CIA or GCSB, but Bellingcat, an open-source intelligence agency made up of citizen investigators armed with laptops and phones. Join founder **Eliot Higgins** for a candid conversation about his journey from school drop-out to thought-leader. He discusses Bellingcat's latest work with our own investigative genius **Nicky Hager**, including the hunt for QAnon, the future of journalism, and whether the internet can actually be used for good.

What is The Faraway Near?
See page 7.



CONFLUENCE

WHEN Friday 27 August
8pm – 9.30pm

WHERE The Piano

PRICE \$20/18*

Curated and hosted by the one and only **Daisy Speaks**, Confluence is a celebration of the vā: a bringing together of the musical brilliance of **Judah Band** and **The Byllie Jean**

Project with words from **Ben Brown**, **Karlo Mila**, **Juanita Hepi**, **Dietrich Soakai**, **Hana Pera Aoake**, **Ruby Solly** and **Tusiata Avia**; and of the tuakana / teina relationship between Māori and Pasifika peoples, both ancient and new. Expect soulful and joyous explorations of mana wahine, freedom, and stories shared across oceans.

Supported by: **Cross-Polynatē**



RAY SHIPPLEY'S LATE NIGHT POETRY HOUR

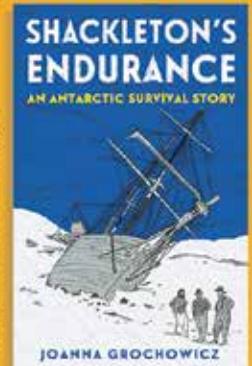
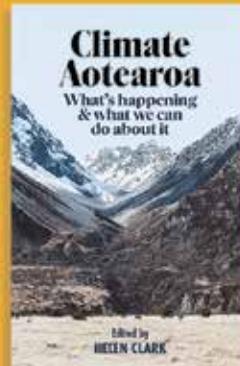
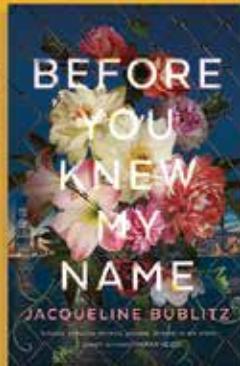
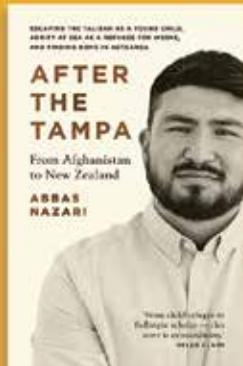
WHEN Friday 27 August
9.30pm – 11pm

WHERE Little Andromeda

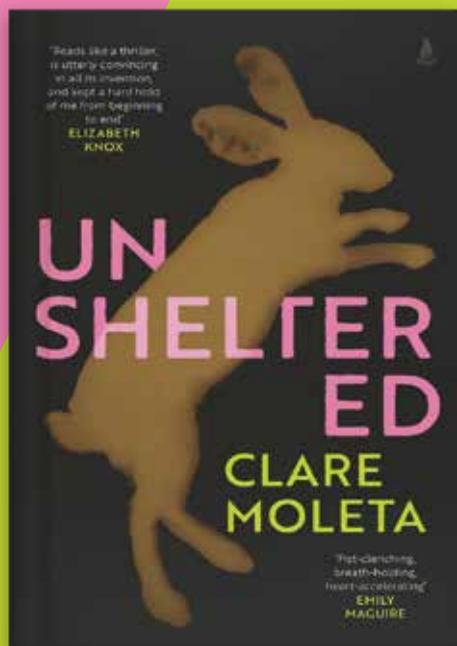
PRICE \$15*

WORD is over the moon to once again feature the coolest nocturnal poetry salon in town. **Ray Shippley's** Late Night Poetry Hour (or two) brings together visiting out-of-towners and hot locals for a night of poetry, frivolity, feelings, and staying up after our bedtimes. The night is hosted by (you guessed it) **Ray Shippley**, and features the words and wisdom of **Tayi Tibble**, **RikTheMost**, **Claudia Jardine** and **Jadwiga**, as well as a mini open mic for a handful of glorious audience poems.

Allen & Unwin NZ is
proud to bring powerful stories to
WORD Christchurch



Relentlessly propulsive and profoundly moving, **Unsheltered** taps into some of our worst fears and most implacable motivations, marking the emergence of a fully-formed and urgent literary voice.



'...UTTERLY CONVINCING IN ALL ITS INVENTION, AND KEPT A HARD HOLD OF ME FROM BEGINNING TO END.'
ELIZABETH KNOX

DON'T MISS CLARE MOLETA AT WORD CHRISTCHURCH



OVER THE TEACUPS WITH SARAH FERGUSON, DUCHESS OF YORK

WHEN Saturday 28 August
8am – 9am
Tea served from 7am in the foyer

WHERE James Hay Theatre

PRICE \$38/36*

In a New Zealand exclusive, WORD Christchurch presents an unexpected and exciting romance author: **Sarah Ferguson, Duchess of York** and former wife of Prince Andrew, coming to you live from Windsor via the magic of the internet. The Duchess, who will appear in conversation with popular author **Nicky Pellegrino**, has co-written a historical romance novel, '[drawing]

on many parallels from my life'. *Her Heart for a Compass* is a fictional account of the life and love story of one of her ancestors: an immersive historical saga that sweeps you from Victoria's court and the grand country houses of Scotland and Ireland, to the slums of London and the bustle of 1870s New York. We know it's early, but grab your friends, your mum and your aunts, and come and share the experience over a cup of tea and a bite. You can also submit a question in advance, and if selected will get a front row seat and the chance to ask it face to (digital) face!



REMEMBERING HELEN KELLY

WHEN Saturday 28 August
10am – 11am

WHERE The Piano

PRICE \$20/18*

Unionist Helen Kelly left a huge impact on New Zealand's political and industrial landscapes, with some commentators hypothesising after her death that she might have been Prime Minister one day. Helen's biographer **Rebecca MacFie** (*Tragedy at Pike River Mine*) speaks with writer and trade unionist **Morgan Godfery** (Te Pahipoto) about the life, times and legacy of a woman who 'never shirked a fight', whether it was with the Ports of Auckland or with hobbits, and who earned the humour and respect even of those she so vehemently opposed.



CUT TO THE BONE

WHEN Saturday 28 August
10am – 11am

WHERE Christchurch Art Gallery
Te Puna o Waiwhetū

PRICE Free

Infidelity, old friendships, uncertain desires, brutal humour: in the Western tradition, the best short stories are

often cutting, and cut down to the bone, getting to the heart of the matter in a few short words. Join 2021 Jann Medlicott Acorn Prize for Fiction winner **Airini Beautrais** and master of the short story form **Tracey Slaughter** for a conversation with **Erin Harrington** about the genesis of their respective books *Bug Week* and *Devil's Trumpet*, and the craft techniques and tips used to realise their vision.



THE FARAWAY NEAR: BACKLISTED

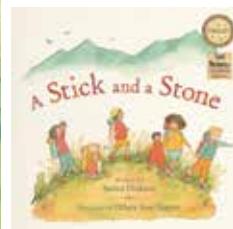
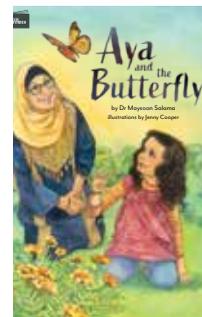
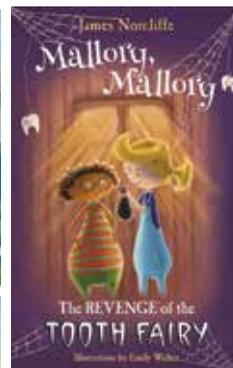
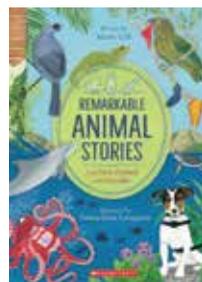
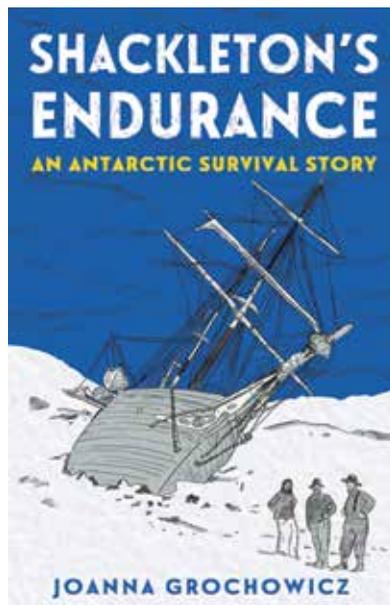
WHEN Saturday 28 August
10.30am – 11.30am

WHERE Tūranga, TSB Space

PRICE \$28/26*

WORD is thrilled to welcome one of the internet's most popular book podcasts. Backlisted is 'the podcast that gives new life to old books' and has gathered a legion of loyal followers for its warmth, humour and erudition. Now The Faraway Near gives you a seat at the table. Each Episode, **John Mitchinson** and **Andy Miller** discuss a backlisted title with a special guest, who chooses the book. For WORD, writer **Paula Morris** will choose a New Zealand book and will appear with our live audience, while the podcasters beam in from Backlisted HQ in England. Grab a coffee and some friends and settle in for a rare treat.

What is The Faraway Near?
See page 7.



THE GREAT WORD STORY HUNT

WHEN Saturday 28 August
10.30am – 12pm

WHERE Tūranga All Levels

PRICE Free

The Great WORD Story Hunt is back! Grab the whānau and find clues hidden in the library that will lead you to the next story. Will it be **James Norcliffe** in the lego pit, reading from his new novel *Mallory Mallory*?

Maysoon Salama hiding under the stairs, reading her gorgeous picture book *Aya and the Butterfly*? **Joanna Grochowicz** telling tales of Antarctic derring-do with *Shackleton's Endurance*? **Maria Gill** with a selection of amazing true kiwi stories? Or maybe **Sarina Dickson** and **Hilary Jean Tapper** exploring red zone tales with *A Stick and a Stone*. Adventure awaits! Prizes to be won!

Supported by: University of Canterbury's Child Well-being Research Institute

CHARLOTTE GRIMSHAW: THE MIRROR BOOK

WHEN Saturday 28 August
11.30am – 12.30pm

WHERE The Piano

PRICE \$20/18*

Few recent books have caused a stir as great as **Charlotte Grimshaw's** incendiary memoir *The Mirror Book*, which tore the lid off one of New

Zealand's most well-known literary families: that of poet, novelist and memoirist C. K. Stead. 'It's material. Go and make a story out of it,' was a mantra in the Stead house, and finally Grimshaw came out from behind the fictional veil to tell the truth as she saw it. The book has been praised by reviewers and readers, even as they squirm in discomfort at the inevitable fallout the book has caused. Grimshaw appears in conversation with **Stephanie Johnson**.

Presented by: **LISTENER**





MEGAN DUNN: THINGS I LEARNED AT ART SCHOOL

WHEN Saturday 28 August
11.30am – 12.30pm

WHERE Christchurch Art Gallery
Te Puna o Waiwhetū

PRICE Free

Megan Dunn, author of 2018's brilliant memoir *Tinderbox*, now turns her eye for the absurd on her days at art school. *Things I Learned at Art School* is a comic journey through pop culture and contemporary art, childhood obsessions, working as a barmaid at Showgirls, and her heady days spent mashing up video of Snow White with footage of Kim Basinger in *9 1/2 Weeks*. Part memoir, part essay collection, this is a killer contemporary read. Megan appears in conversation with fellow 90s art-school survivor, **Aaron Kreisler**, Head of Fine Arts, University of Canterbury.

MAGAZINE IN RESIDENCE: TAKAHĒ

WHEN Saturday 28 August
12pm – 4pm

WHERE Tūranga, Ground
Floor Lobby

We're making a magazine, start to finish, during WORD 2021! Drop in any time between noon and 4pm to watch the madness, submit your writing, or have a chat. Details on page 5.



AFTER THE TAMPA

WHEN Saturday 28 August
11.30am – 12.30pm

WHERE James Hay Theatre

PRICE \$20/18*

It is twenty years since a Norwegian cargo ship rescued a sinking fishing boat crammed with more than 400 asylum seekers, only to be turned away from Australia, sparking an international incident. Eventually, New Zealand offered to take 150 of those refugees, including **Abbas Nazari** and his family.

A child at the time, **Abbas** now tells his story in *After the Tampa*, from the Taliban's brutal rule in Afghanistan, and his family's desperate search for safety, to Georgetown University in Washington, where he is currently a Fulbright Scholar. He is joined by **Helen Clark**, Prime Minister at the time, who will discuss the political circumstances around the incident, and whether or not anything has changed. Chaired by journalist **Mike McRoberts**.

Presented by:





THE FARAWAY NEAR: HARI KUNZRU

WHEN Saturday 28 August
12.30pm – 1.30pm

WHERE Tūranga, TSB Space

PRICE \$38/36*

Step into *The Faraway Near* with London-born novelist and podcaster **Hari Kunzru**, live from New York, for a journey down the alt-right rabbit hole

in his sixth novel, *Red Pill*. Written as the culmination of twenty years spent following online conspiracy theories, *Red Pill* explores a writer's mid-life crisis and torrid affair, not with a lover, but with the wit, mysterious symbolism and paranoid certainty of the internet itself. Funny, fiercely intelligent and absolutely contemporary in his thinking, Hari is not to be missed.

What is The Faraway Near?
See page 7.



SUE KEDGLEY: FIFTY YEARS A FEMINIST

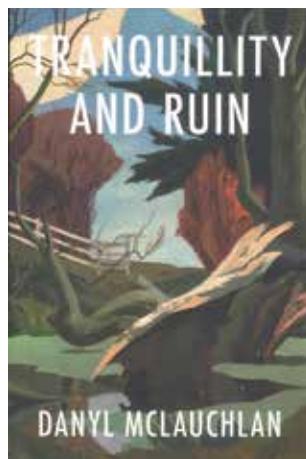
WHEN Saturday 28 August
1pm – 2pm

WHERE The Piano

PRICE \$20/18*

Ever since 1971, when she and other students carried a coffin through Albert Park to lament the state of women's rights, **Sue Kedgley's** name has been synonymous with Second Wave feminism in this country. An activist was born that day, and her new memoir, *Fifty Years a Feminist*, tracks a dynamic life through journalism and politics, fobbing off men along the way, because 'if we succumbed or capitulated to sex, that could ruin our marriage prospects'. How far does she think the women's movement has come? Are men still standing in the way? She swaps stories from the frontlines and discusses the state of feminism with Christchurch Mayor **Lianne Dalziel**.

Supported by: National Library of New Zealand



TRANQUILITY & RUIN

WHEN Saturday 28 August
1pm – 2pm

WHERE Christchurch Art Gallery
Te Puna a Waiwabetū

PRICE Free

In his exquisite essay collection *Tranquillity and Ruin*, polymath **Danyl McLauchlan**, author of *Unspeakable Secrets of the Aro Valley*, goes looking for enlightenment, or at least snatches of happiness, and finds himself shovelling clay with a monk until his hands bleed. In conversation with self-described depressed comedian **James Nokise**, Danyl shows how the weird worlds of Effective Altruism, meditation and metaphysics, medication and depression can be hilarious - until you find yourself inexplicably in tears.



ADAPTING AVIA

WHEN Saturday 28 August
2.30pm – 3.30pm

WHERE The Piano

PRICE Free

WORD invites you to spend an hour celebrating the incredible work and success of Ōtautahi's own **Tusiata Avia**. Her adaptation of *Wild Dogs Under My Skirt* recently toured nationwide, and appeared off-Broadway to great acclaim. In 2020, she received a Queen's Birthday honour and an Arts Foundation laureateship, and published her latest collection *The Savage Coloniser Book*, which won the poetry award at this year's national book awards. Avia is joined by the dream team who staged *Wild Dogs*, **Victor Rodger** and **Anapela Polata'ivao**, to discuss taking a poetry book to the New York stage, the challenges of adapting her controversial new work, and what is next on her agenda.



WIT WORLD

WHEN Saturday 28 August
2.30pm – 3.30pm

WHERE Christchurch Art Gallery
Te Puna o Waiwhetū

PRICE \$20/18*

Stephanie Johnson is one of our most versatile novelists, conjuring up serious historical fiction and incisive satire. Whatever she turns to, it's her characters who carry the story and keep us coming back for

more. Fiona Kidman said of Johnson's new contemporary novel, *Everything Changes*, that it 'startled [her] into wild laughter'. **Patrick Evans'** new novel *Bluffworld* follows the travails of a 'Meister-Bullshit-Kunstler' through corporate university life. Together these two writers talk with the University of Canterbury's **Paul Millar** about the art of satire in a country that has a reputation for rewarding gloomy literary tomes over biting wit.



THE FARAWAY NEAR: TOMMY ORANGE

WHEN Saturday 28 August
2.30pm – 3.30pm

WHERE Tūranga, TSB Space

PRICE \$38/36*

Tommy Orange (Cheyenne, Arapaho) is the author of *There There*, an electrifying, multi-layered story about a version of America that few of us have seen: the lives of urban Native Americans. Winner of numerous prizes and named a book of the year by everyone from *The New York Times* to *O: The Oprah Magazine*, *There There* follows twelve characters grappling with violence and tenderness, dislocation and communion, and the ways we break and remake tradition in the modern world. Live from California, and frank and generous in his conversation, Tommy speaks about his work and craft, Native American history and culture, and how the pandemic is affecting his communities today.

What is The Faraway Near?
See page 7.



HELEN CLARK: THE BIG ISSUES

WHEN Saturday 28 August
2.30pm – 3.30pm

WHERE James Hay Theatre

PRICE \$25/23*

Helen Clark's work has brought her close to the two most urgent issues of our time: climate change and the coronavirus pandemic. Last year, Clark took on the task of co-chairing the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response, an impartial and comprehensive review of the internationally co-ordinated response to COVID-19.

As editor of the new anthology *Climate Aotearoa* Clark brings together New Zealand experts to examine the climate situation as it is now, as it will be in the years to come, and what we can do about it.

In this essential hour, she discusses the findings of the COVID report, published in May, and the book, and what needs to happen to avert future catastrophe for both the planet and its occupants. In conversation with the University of Canterbury's **Bronwyn Hayward**.

KURA REO - MĀORI LANGUAGE CLASS

WHEN Saturday 28 August
4pm – 5pm

WHERE Tūranga, Spark Place

PRICE \$10*

Join **Karuna Thurlow** and **Darren Solomon** (Aropapaki Ltd) for a daily hour of language power focussing on kiwaha and whakataukī - the sayings and idioms of Ngāi Tahu. Beginners welcome! See page 37 for details.

Presented by:



RICK GEKOSKI: RARE BOOKS AND RARE PEOPLE

WHEN Saturday 28 August
4pm – 5pm

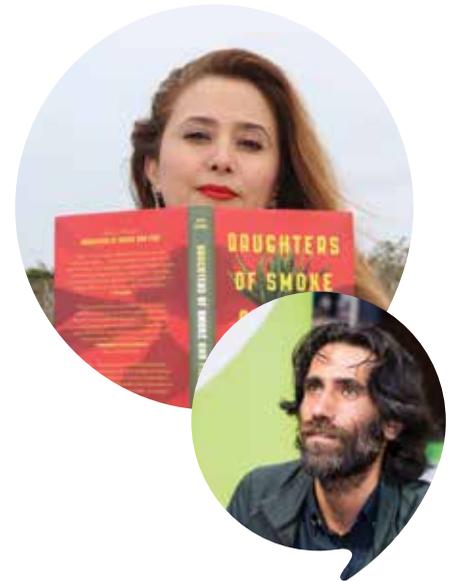
WHERE The Piano

PRICE \$20/18*

Rick Gekoski has been hunting for rare books for over fifty years, and has written about the experience in several volumes of engaging, witty memoir. In his new book *Guarded by Dragons: Encounters with rare books*

and rare people, he likens the hunt to a mythical quest. In conversation with fellow book dealer **Brian Phillips**, Gekoski, a stellar storyteller and raconteur, discusses a life shaped by books: bought, sold and written. Along the way he has met, traded with, lunched with, annoyed and played ping-pong with such legendary figures as William Golding, Salman Rushdie, Graham Greene and Ted Hughes.

Presented by:



THE FARAWAY NEAR: AVA HOMA & BEHROUZ BOOCHANI

WHEN Saturday 28 August
4.30 – 5.30pm

WHERE Tūranga, TSB Space

PRICE \$38/36*

Join two Kurdish writers who have harnessed language as a vehicle for freedom, and literature as a weapon against oppression. **Ava Homa** was raised on Rumi and Emily Dickinson at the border between Iran and Iraq, and is now in exile in North America. Her debut novel *Daughters of Smoke and Fire*, the first novel published by a female Kurdish writer in English, illuminates the brutal and extraordinary lives of the Kurds in Iran. It is a haunting homage to the strength of women in the face of great pain. Live at the Faraway Near, Homa speaks with New Zealand's own great Kurdish writer-in-exile, **Behrouz Boochani**.



THE NEXT GENERATION

WHEN Saturday 28 August
4pm – 5.15pm

WHERE Christchurch Art Gallery
Te Puna o Waiwhetū

PRICE Free

Patricia Grace and Witi Ihimaera are household names. Who are the next

generation of Māori writers? What do they write, how do they relate to their ancestors, and where do they like to go for decolonisation and/or brunch? **Juanita Hepi** (Kāi Tahu, Ngāti Mutunga, Ngāi Tukairangi) hosts **Hana Pera Aoake** (Ngāti Mahuta, Ngāti Raukawa, Tainui/Waikato), **Rebecca K Reilly** (Ngāti Hine, Ngāti Wai) and **Ruby Solly** (Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Māmoë, Waitaha) for an informal session of kōrero, readings and laughs.



KĀ WAI O TAHU: NGĀI TAHU'S LEGAL ACTION OVER WATER

WHEN Saturday 28 August
5.30pm – 6.30pm

WHERE The Piano

PRICE Free

Water has long defined the landscapes of Te Waipounamu, and in recent years has begun to define political life as well. Why has Ngāi Tahu taken the Crown to court over freshwater? Join **Lisa Tumohai**, Kaiwhakahaere (Chair) of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, **Dr Te Maire Tau** (Upoko of Ngāi Tūāhuriri) and freshwater specialist **Dr Mike Joy** for an in-depth discussion of Ngāi Tahu's legal action, and the history, tikanga and science of the Wai in Te Waipounamu. Journalist **Mike McRoberts** in the chair.

Supported by: The Ngāi Tahu Research Centre at the University of Canterbury



FUNNIER AND WEIRDER

WHEN Saturday 28 August
6pm – 7pm

WHERE Tūranga, Foundation Cafe

PRICE Free

A lonely Asian woman discovers she has kidnapped a baby, which may or may not be a collection of cute but disembodied limbs. A Pākehā man discovers that the giant rat in his compost bin is now his landlord. You discover that the authors of some of New Zealand's weirdest satire are gathering at Foundation for a drink. You go along and find yourself listening to readings from **Sharon Lam**, **Murdoch Stephens**, **Rebecca K Reilly**, **Nathan Joe** and **Megan Dunn**, with **Ray Shipley** as your host. Afterwards, you're never quite the same.



THE FARAWAY NEAR: A. C. GRAYLING

WHEN Saturday 28 August
6.30pm – 7.30pm

WHERE Tūranga, TSB Space

PRICE \$38/36*

A. C. Grayling has written more than thirty books of philosophy, biography, and history of ideas, and judged the Booker Prize twice. Live from London, he joins **Kim Hill** to discuss the paradox of knowledge outlined in his new book, *The Frontiers of Knowledge: we once thought that enquiry diminishes ignorance, but the opposite is true*. Spectacular advances in science, history and psychology have vastly extended our understanding of time, space, and the human brain. Yet each new step simply raises new questions that were previously impossible to ask: the more we know, the greater our ignorance. Erudite and engaging, A. C. Grayling explores just how much we know about the past, the world and ourselves.

What is The Faraway Near?
See page 7.

SATURDAY 28
AUGUST



DAVID MITCHELL & TINY RUINS: IF I WERE A STORY AND YOU WERE A SONG

WHEN Saturday 28 August
6pm – 7.15pm

WHERE James Hay Theatre

PRICE \$55/53*

A world-exclusive collaboration between story and song! Acclaimed British writer **David Mitchell** (*Cloud Atlas*, *Utopia Avenue*) will digitally join

one of New Zealand's most cherished songwriters, **Hollie Fullbrook** of **Tiny Ruins**, for a unique and intimate performance. During lockdown, Fullbrook reimagined prose by Mitchell as songs, while Mitchell reimagined songs by Tiny Ruins as short fiction. **If I were a story and you were a song** presents their cross-pollinated co-creation: a mosaic of bewitching music

and reflective stories. WORD is thrilled to have commissioned this show and to be sharing it with you. Grab your tickets early.

Supported by: **AMPRA AMCOS**



BAD DIARIES SALON: NEAR

WHEN Saturday 28 August
7.30pm – 8.30pm

WHERE Tūranga, Foundation Cafe

PRICE \$15*

Returning for a third WORD Christchurch Festival, Bad Diaries Salon features four writers reading from the good, the bad and the

scandalous of their personal diaries and early writing. Candid, original and unedited, this is the angst-ridden written word, rediscovered and shared for your pleasure. Featuring **Kate Camp** (whose previous Salon appearances at Verb Wellington have brought the house down), **Victor Rodger**, **James Nokise** and **Kyle Mewburn**, and hosted by Salon founder **Tracy Farr**.

SATURDAY 28
AUGUST



LIVE FROM EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL BOOK FESTIVAL: IAN RANKIN

WHEN Saturday 28 August
7.30pm – 8.45pm

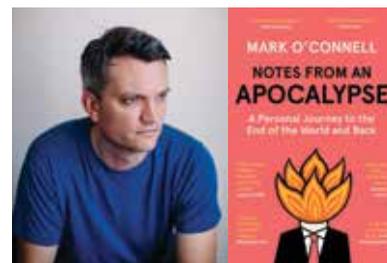
WHERE The Piano

PRICE \$25/23*

Thanks to the wonders of technology, we're joining one of the world's most significant literary festivals – happening simultaneously on the other side of the planet (14–30 August). Edinburgh International Book Festival presents beloved crime writer **Ian Rankin** live from their studio in an exclusive event just for WORD. Rankin will appear with an interviewer on

stage at the Piano, giving the you a chance to ask questions face to (digital) face.

Something dark is afoot in Scotland. Ian Rankin's Rebus is facing a crisis in *A Song For The Dark Times*. And in his brand new book, Rankin joins forces with iconic Scottish crime writer, the late William McIlvanney, completing the manuscript he left behind. The result is *The Dark Remains*, which brings to life the criminal world of 1970s Glasgow with McIlvanney's DI Laidlaw, the detective that inspired a gritty genre.



THE FARAWAY NEAR: NOTES FROM AN APOCALYPSE

WHEN Saturday 28 August
8.30pm – 9.30pm

WHERE Tūranga, TSB Space

PRICE \$38/36*

Before Irish writer **Mark O'Connell** published *Notes from an Apocalypse* in early 2020, he had no idea that he would be launching his funny-but-serious book into what was possibly the actual end of days. *Notes* details preppers around the world, from environmentalists fearing the ravages of climate change to billionaire entrepreneurs dreaming of life on Mars, to the strange story of Peter Thiel in New Zealand. One thing unites these people: their certainty that we are only years away from the end of civilisation as we know it. Are they right? Join O'Connell, live from Dublin, in conversation with fellow doomsday researcher **Tom Doig**.

What is The Faraway Near?
See page 7.

Presented by:  Edinburgh
International
Book Festival



THE STARDUST CABARET

WHEN Saturday 28 August
9pm – 10.30pm

WHERE Little Andromeda

PRICE \$10 on the door supporting Qtopia

Carl Sagan said 'We are made of star-stuff'. This festival night, get cosy in the Little Andromeda bar and enjoy star-stuff-

infused spoken word performances, MC'd the glitter-bright **RikTheMost**. Let poets, spec-fic authors, observationists and storytellers sprinkle fabulosity and help you travel the cosmos within and without. With **Nathan Joe, Ray Shipley, Sascha Stronach, Jack Swallows, Siobhan Tumai**, and more! Curated by **AJ Fitzwater**, with all proceeds going to support local charity Qtopia.

**Victoria University of Wellington Press
is proud to welcome authors to WORD 2021**

**Tayi Tibble/Rangikura Tusiata Avia/The
Savage Coloniser** **Book Dave Lowe/
Rebecca K
& Valdin Ruby
Pāpā Airini
Bug Week
Loop Tracks
Bluffworld
Slaughter/
Danyl McLauchlan/
Tranquillity & Ruin** **Kate Camp/How to Be
Happy Though Human**

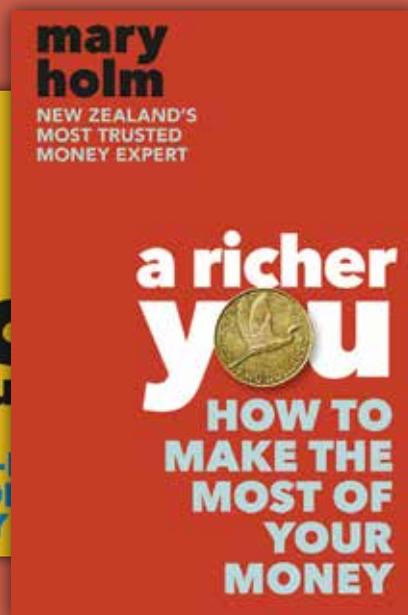
**The Alarmist
Reilly/Greta
Solly/Tōku
Beautrais/
Sue Orr/
Patrick Evans/
Tracey
Devil's Trumpet**



**mary
holm**



Your time will be wisely
spent at Mary Holms'
WORD Christchurch event



'If you read one book to help yourself this year, make it this one.'
— Jane Wrightson, Commission for Financial Capability



PARENTING IN THE ANTHROPOCENE

WHEN Sunday 29 August
10.30am – 11.30am

WHERE Tūranga, TSB Space

PRICE Free

Raising children has always been hard, but at a time when human activity is changing the world in myriad ways it is uniquely demanding. With intensifying challenges – the climate crisis, inequality and polarisation – and a narrowing window of time in which to address them, how do carers and communities prepare the next generations for the future? Join **Emily Writes**, **Brannavan Gnanalingam** and **Sacha McMeeking**, contributors to Freerange Press's *Parenting in the Anthropocene*, for a conversation with **Ryan Reynolds**. Babies and children welcome – activities will be provided close by.



PATRICIA GRACE: FROM THE CENTRE

WHEN Sunday 29 August
10.30am – 11.30am

WHERE The Piano

PRICE \$20/18*

Patricia Grace (Ngāti Toa, Ngāti Raukawa, Te Atiawa) has published seven novels and seven short story collections, raised seven children, won landmark literary prizes and land

rights cases, and been invited to share her work worldwide. Finally, she has written a memoir covering all of this and more. Patricia joins **Paula Morris** for a candid conversation about her extraordinary life, the people and places that have shaped her, and the ways that stories, lives and land intersect.



SPEED DATE A SPECULATIVE FICTION AUTHOR

WHEN Sunday 29 August
11am – 1pm

WHERE The Arts Centre

PRICE \$15*

Kōrero with four of Aotearoa's hottest science fiction and fantasy authors in an intimate round-robin experience, while exploring some of The Arts Centre's beautiful spaces:

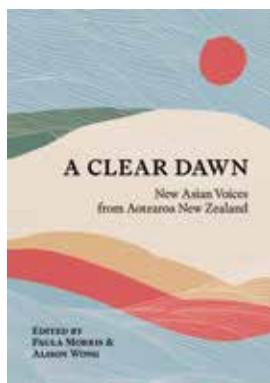
Maker Workshop, Teece Museum, UC Recital Room and more. Come with questions prepared, and get inspiration and tips for building worlds not our own, with **Graci Kim**, **Cassie Hart**, **Sascha Stronach** and **Karen Healey**. Afterwards, come back down to earth with a kiwi cuppa together at the end. Curated and hosted by **AJ Fitzwater**, Arts Four Creative in Residence at The Arts Centre, in association with Creative New Zealand, and The Stout Trust, proudly managed by Perpetual Guardian.

MAGAZINE IN RESIDENCE: TAKAHĒ

WHEN Sunday 29 August
12pm – 4pm

WHERE Tūranga, Ground
Floor Lobby

We're making a magazine, start to finish, during WORD 2021! Drop in any time between noon and 4pm to watch the madness, submit your writing, or have a chat. Details on page 5.



A CLEAR DAWN: NEW ASIAN VOICES FROM AOTEAROA

WHEN Sunday 29 August
12pm – 1pm

WHERE Tūranga, TSB Space

PRICE Free

A Clear Dawn is the first ever anthology of Asian-New Zealand creative writing. It gathers together the brilliant work of a new wave of writers with roots in soils from Indonesia to China, India to Thailand, and of course Aotearoa as well. Editors **Paula Morris** and **Alison Wong** host readings and conversation with a rich selection of contributors including **E Wen Wong**, **Sharon Lam**, **Nod Ghosh**, **Russell Boey**, **Melanie Kwang** and **Neema Singh**, with special guest **Jeffrey Zhao** on the erhu (Chinese classical 'violin').

Supported by: **Asia New Zealand Foundation**



MATARIKI AND STAR LORE

WHEN Sunday 29 August
12pm – 1pm

WHERE The Piano

PRICE \$20/18*

Two highly energetic and deeply knowledgeable tōhuka (experts) in the world of Māori astronomy, **Professor Rangī Mātāmua** (Tūhoe),

author of *Matariki: Star of the Year*, and **Victoria Campbell** (Ngāi Tahu), take you on a flight through the exciting revival of Māori star-lore, its relationship to contemporary science, and just what the new national holiday is all about. With Marae's **Shilo Kino** in the chair.

Supported by:



UNSETTLING STORIES

WHEN Sunday 29 August
1.30pm – 2.30pm

WHERE Tūranga, TSB Space

PRICE Free

Clare Moleta's novel *Unsheltered* is about a woman searching for her missing daughter across a continent on the edge of collapse. 'It's your own worst nightmare. That's why you've written it', a friend commented,

and she was right. How, and why, do novelists tackle the hard topics, writing through their own discomfort to produce important and unsettling books? **Tracy Farr** speaks with **Clare Brannavan Gnanalingam**, author of *Sprigs*, about an elite boys school closing ranks after a rape, and **Sue Orr**, author of *Loop Tracks*, about a family crisis set during the unfolding catastrophe of COVID-19.



MARGARET MAHY MEMORIAL LECTURE: BEN BROWN

WHEN Sunday 29 August
1.30pm – 2.30pm

WHERE The Piano

PRICE Free

Local Lyttelton hero **Ben Brown** (Ngāti Mahuta, Ngāti Koroki, Ngāti Paoa) is the inaugural Te Awhi Rito Reading Ambassador, travelling

the nation to nurture young readers. In this Margaret Mahy Memorial Lecture, Ben draws on the metaphor of te rito, the young shoot of a harakeke plant, and his experiences as a poet and educator, to talk about building children's imagination and confidence through storytelling in all its forms. If you caught Ben's widely-acclaimed 2020 Read NZ lecture, on youth justice and the power of words, you know to expect an address that is direct, funny and devastating by turns.

Supported by: **Read NZ**



HOW TO WRITE FOR YOUNGER READERS

WHEN Sunday 29 August
2.30pm – 3.30pm

WHERE Tūranga, Spark Place

PRICE \$20/18*

How do writers create stories that our kids and young adults will love, and recognise themselves in, and be challenged by? Hear from three writers who know what they're doing when it comes to feeding young minds: picture book and junior fiction author **Kyle Mewburn** (*Old Huhu*, *Dinosaur Rescue*); middle-grade fantasy writer **Graci Kim**, whose *Gifted Clans* series has been picked up by Rick Riordan in the US; and **Shilo Kino**, whose *The Pōrangī Boy* is a finalist in this year's children's book awards. They chat with fellow short-listee **Tania (T. K.) Roxborough**.



NOT CALM BEFORE THE STORM: CLIMATE CHANGE NOW

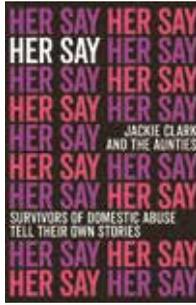
WHEN Sunday 29 August
3pm – 4pm

WHERE The Piano

PRICE \$20/18*

For decades we've talked about climate change as an imminent threat. But how are rising temperatures affecting us right now, and how are people responding, at home and world-wide? In this wide-ranging discussion, **Kim Hill** speaks

with journalist **Tom Doig** (author of gripping climate disaster narrative *Hazelwood*, and editor of *Living with the Climate Crisis: Voices from Aotearoa*), **Kera Sherwood-O'Regan** (Ngāi Tahu writer, speaker and global activist for indigenous health and disability rights), and veteran scientist **Dave Lowe** (lead author on the IPCC 4th Report, and author of *The Alarmist*, a memoir of life at the forefront of climate science).



KURA REO - MĀORI LANGUAGE CLASS

WHEN Sunday 29 August
4pm – 5pm

WHERE Tūranga, Spark Place

PRICE \$10*

Join **Karuna Thurlow** and **Darren Solomon** (Aropapaki Ltd) for a daily hour of language power focussing on kiwaha and whakataukī - the sayings and idioms of Ngāi Tahu. Beginners welcome! See page 37 for details.

Presented by: 
Te Rūnanga o NGĀI TAHU

HER SAY

WHEN Sunday 29 August
3pm – 4pm

WHERE Tūranga, TSB Space

PRICE \$20/18*

In 2013, **Jackie Clark** launched The Aunties, a grassroots charity helping women to rebuild their lives after enduring abusive relationships. *Her Say* features the very different stories

of a number of these women, told their way, spoken from the heart. Uncompromising, but offering hope, redemption and personal triumph, they deserve to be heard. Join Jackie and two of the women from *Her Say*, **Jane** and **Delicate**, in conversation with **Michèle A'Court**.

All royalties from the book go to The Aunties to support their work, and \$10 from every ticket sold will be donated to Christchurch charity Aviva.

TAKAHĒ MAGAZINE-IN-RESIDENCE LAUNCH PARTY

WHEN Sunday 29 August
4pm – 5pm

WHERE Tūranga, Level 1,
Outside TSB Space

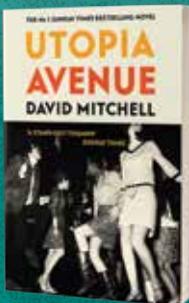
PRICE Free

Takahē is our 2021 Magazine-in-Residence, which means they're

creating an issue live during the festival itself. After four hectic days of editing, layout, printing, and binding, the takahē editorial team and guests invite you to join them to celebrate the launch of this very special issue with readings and toasts. Come down to pick up a free copy of the finished product. You may even come along to celebrate seeing your own work in print: see the details on page 5 on how to submit work to the magazine yourself!

Hachette Aotearoa New Zealand welcomes

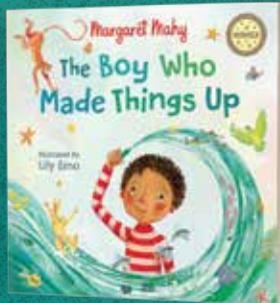
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MITCHELL



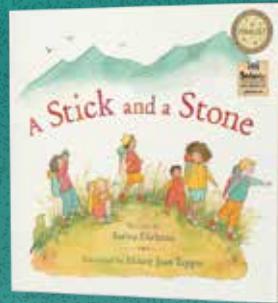
RICK
GEKOSKI



LILY
EMO



SARINA DICKSON &
HILARY JEAN TAPPER



GRACI
KIM



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AOTEAROA | NEW ZEALAND



KĀ WAI O TAHU: MARLON WILLIAMS, ARIANA TIKAO, RUBY SOLLY

WHEN Sunday 29 August
6pm – 7.15pm

WHERE The Piano

PRICE \$45/43*

The hammer of rain, a river's murmur, the roar of a flood. Cicada song and parched hills. Crystal clear streams, and drained swamps and poisoned

lakes. Come swimming with us through songs and stories of the beauty, power and threat of water as it moves through our lives and southern lands. This spectacular closing event features performances from **Marlon Williams**, **Ariana Tikao**, and **Ruby Solly**, plus exquisite new work from special guests.

Supported by: **APRA AMCOS**

*Service fees apply



CHRISTCHURCH POETRY SLAM FINALS

WHEN Sunday 29 August
6pm – 8pm

WHERE Tūranga, Foundation Cafe

PRICE \$10 on the door

At the rough diamond in the crown of the poetry calendar – the Christchurch Poetry Slam – poets set aside the niceties and throw down like their lives depend on it, breathing fire and raising the bar a little more each time over three intense rounds. Did they nail it? YOU be the judge: the audience rules at the Poetry Slam. It's about the poetry, not the points, so buckle up and don't forget your hanky. Hosted by **Doc Drumheller** and **Ciaran Fox**.

Preliminary heat: Wednesday 4 August, 7pm at Space Academy, 371 St Asaph St. \$10 on the door.

REBECCA MACFIE

HELEN KELLY

HER LIFE



Another unmissable book
proudly published by Awa Press

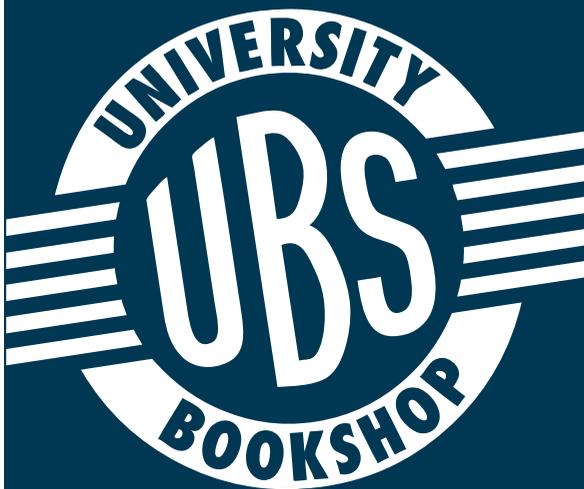


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KURA REO - MĀORI LANGUAGE CLASS

WHEN Thursday 26 -
Sunday 29 August
4pm – 5pm each day

WHERE Tūranga, Spark Place

PRICE \$10*

Join passionate Ngāi Tahu reo teachers **Karuna Thurlow** and **Darren Solomon** (Aropapaki Ltd) for a daily hour of language power focussing on kiwaha and whakataukī - the sayings and idioms of Ngāi Tahu. Whether you're at the start of your reo journey, or an old hand, everyone is welcome. Bring a notebook and pen, and with different material covered each day, feel free to come to one session, or all four.

Presented by:



PERIPATOS^o IN PŪTARINGAMOTU

WHEN Friday 27 August
11am – 2pm

WHERE Pūtaringamotu / Deans Bush
Meet at Riccarton House

PRICE \$55* including kai

Vana Manasiadis (Greece-Aotearoa) invites you to put on your coat and step out into the winter air. Come wander through a pocket of incredible local, native, ancient bush, respond to prompts and provocations by writers Nic Low, Kerry Donovan Brown and

Michaela Keeble, engage your senses and respond to space, history and deep time – and write. The walk will end with shared kai at Park Ranger cafe, kōrero and a sharing of writing (optional!) You'll also have the chance to collaborate on a collective poem to be published by our Magazine-in-Residence, *takahē*, and all will be welcome to work on this afterwards in the *takahē* space, on the ground floor at Tūranga (see page 5 for details of our magazine programme).

All-weather event, please dress appropriately for the day.

**(Greek, meaning to walk, without property)*



TAKEN PLACES: SENSE OF PLACE & BODY IN THE SHORT STORY

WHEN Friday 27 August
1pm – 4pm

WHERE The Piano, The Box

PRICE \$45*

This workshop, led by the fabulous and experienced **Tracey Slaughter** (author of *Deleted Scenes for Lovers*, and *Devil's Trumpet*) will connect

writers to the tap-root of physical place, looking at how crucial it is to have a sensory 'base of operations' in the short story form. Discussions and exercises will focus writers on fully inhabiting landscape in their writing, concentrating on the sensing body who travels the story-territory. The goal is to achieve grounded, dynamic writing that takes the reader by the senses, meshing them into the story through an evocative and visceral engagement with place.



HE WAIATA HOU: INDIGENOUS WRITERS WĀNAKA

WHEN Saturday 28 August
9.30am – 1pm

WHERE Te Whare o Te Waipounamu
15 Show Place, Addington

PRICE Book your free ticket at Eventfinda

As Māori and Pasifika writers and storytellers, what do we want the future of indigenous storytelling to look like? Hosted in the stunning indigenous design space of Tokona Te Raki, the Māori Futures Collective, this wānaka (workshop) explores ways of telling our own stories, navigating and remaking the mainstream writing world, and the evolution of traditions and forms. It's also a chance to meet and welcome the Te Papa Tupu emerging writers crew, and have a kai with storytellers from across the motu. Special guests include **Patricia Grace, Ben Brown, Kera Sherwood O'Regan, Daisy Lavea-Timo** and **Eboni Waitere**.

Presented by:



ALISON WONG: MEMOIR WORKSHOP

WHEN Saturday 28 August
1pm – 3.30pm

WHERE Tūranga, Spark Place

PRICE \$45*

Have you ever thought about writing and publishing your own memoir? If so, this workshop is for you. Award-winning author **Alison Wong**, known for her lyrical and intelligent prose and poetry, has a memoir forthcoming on her and her family's experiences



TURNING OVER STONES: INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM MASTERCLASS

WHEN Saturday 28 August
10am – 12.30pm

WHERE Tūranga, Spark Place

PRICE \$45*

Nicky Hager is New Zealand's most respected investigative journalist, with seven best-selling books to his name, including *Secrets and Lies*, *Dirty Politics*, and *Hit and Run*. His work on political spin, logging, intelligence agencies and attack politics have had lasting impacts, from triggering major government enquiries to the resignation of a minister. In this masterclass, Nicky discusses the ethics, tactics and techniques of the investigative journalism trade, and gives insights into his own career, plus opportunities to discuss your own projects as well. All welcome.

of Aotearoa, Australia and China, looking at identity, belonging and sense of home. In addition to hands-on exercises, Alison will help you explore craft, editing and how to write a compelling narrative. You'll examine the difference between autobiography and memoir, and the thorny question of privacy when writing about your own and other people's lives. You're also invited to submit any writing done in this workshop for editing and publication in our Magazine-in-Residence, *takahē* - see page 5 or details.



STEPHANIE JOHNSON: THE DOCTOR WILL SEE YOU NOW

WHEN Sunday 29 August
10.30am – 1pm

WHERE The Box, The Piano

PRICE \$45*

How do you know when a novel is finished and ready to be sent to agent

or publisher? You've strangled your darlings, changed fonts, readjusted your chapter breaks, polished your finest sentences, put the manuscript away for a week, a month, a year – it's time to break free! Join seasoned novelist and teacher **Stephanie Johnson** for some expert advice. Participants are asked to bring an 80 word synopsis, the novel in progress, laptop or pen and paper and an open mind. Discussion, suggestions, support.



KARLO MILA: POETRY WORKSHOP

WHEN Sunday 29 August
10.30am – 1pm

WHERE Tūranga, Spark Place

PRICE \$45*

Karlo Mila is a poet, mother, researcher, writer and the Programme Director of the Mana Moana Experience at Leadership New Zealand. In this hands-on workshop,

aimed at aspiring and established writers alike, she will focus on writing a poem deeply embedded in person and place. A range of exercises will help you write a textually layered poem that is evocative of self, belonging and origins. It will be grounded in personal reflection, whenua, memory and meaning-making. You're also invited to submit any writing done in this workshop for editing and publication in our Magazine-in-Residence, *takahē* - see page 5 or details.



EDITING YOUR OWN WORK(SHOP)

WHEN Sunday 29 August
1.30pm – 4pm

WHERE The Box, The Piano

PRICE \$45*

The secret to good writing is good editing. And the secret to good editing is learning from the best. **Anna Rogers** is one of New Zealand's top fiction and non-fiction editors, having worked

for most major publishers, and with renowned authors including Fiona Kidman, Witi Ihimaera and Owen Marshall. In this workshop Anna will take both experienced and aspiring writers through the principles and practices needed to knock your own rough drafts into beautiful shape. You're also invited to submit any writing done in this workshop for editing and publication in our Magazine-in-Residence, *takahē* - see page 5 or details.

INSPIRING WRITERS SECONDARY SCHOOLS DAY

WHEN Thursday 26 August

WHERE University of Canterbury

Once again, we're offering incredible speakers to Christchurch secondary schools, absolutely free of charge. Don't miss this amazing opportunity for students to hear from and meet exciting writers who make waves in everything they do: award-winning poets **Tayi Tibble**, **Glenn Colquhoun** and **RikTheMost**; Ngāi Tahu writer, activist and disability advocate **Kera Sherwood-O'Regan**; former refugee and current Fulbright scholar **Abbas Nazari** (*After the Tampa*) and emerging young writers **E Wen Wong** and **Russell Boey**. Expect the audience to go away buzzing, and they might even learn a thing or two.

Teachers, contact schools@wordchristchurch.co.nz for session details and to secure a spot for your school group.

Presented by:

Harcourts gold



POETRY TAKES YOU PLACES

WHEN Friday 27 August
9.15am – 2.45pm

WHERE Tūranga, Spark Place

PRICE \$25

Celebrate Phantom Billstickers National Poetry Day! Discover poetry and poets in special locations around Christchurch. At each spot an amazing poet will share a poem, offer a prompt and provide words of wisdom. In the afternoon, award-winning poet and sought-after poetry editor **Gail Ingram** will help you turn your scribbles into polished poetry. For students Years 9 to 13; \$25 per student. Bookings and details online at www.schoolforyoungwriters.org/masterclasses

This event is organised by Write On School for Young Writers and supported by Creative Communities Christchurch and WORD Christchurch.

SLAM POETRY IN WAIMAKARIRI SCHOOLS

One of the world's leading slam poets, **RikTheMost**, brings Slam Poetry to the Waimakariri District.

RikTheMost is a vegan, queer, non-binary spoken word artist, event organiser and workshop facilitator, originally from the UK. Workshops and

READ ALOUD SCHOOLS DAY

WHEN Friday 27 August

WHERE James Hay Theatre

The Read Aloud Schools Day is back for another year! Each festival, we bring six exciting children's writers to the stage, free for all primary and intermediate schools in Canterbury. This year we are stoked to welcome **Gavin Bishop** (*Wild Aotearoa, Atua*), **Maysoon Salama** (*Aya and the Butterfly*), **Lily Emo** (illustrator for Margaret Mahy's *The Boy Who Made Things Up*), **Graci Kim** (*The Last Fallen Star*), **Joanna Grochowicz** (*Shackleton's Endurance*) and **Maria Gill** (*Remarkable Animal Stories*).

Teachers, contact schools@wordchristchurch.co.nz for session details and to secure a spot for your school group.

Presented by:

Harcourts gold

performances will be held during the week of the festival at participating schools throughout the Waimakariri District, with a lunchtime performance open to the public: **Wednesday 25 August, Kaiapoi Library, 12.30pm.**

For more information please go to: <https://libraries.waimakariri.govt.nz>

Presented by: **Waimakariri Libraries**



The Read Aloud Schools programme is proudly presented in partnership with Harcourts gold

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New off the press!



Bill Hammond: Across the Evening Sky
Hellzapoppin!: The Art of Flying Nun

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BIOGRAPHIES

Michèle A'Court is a writer, stand-up comedian, MC and strident feminist. Michèle has written two books: *Stuff I Forgot To Tell My Daughter* (2015) and *How We Met* (2018). She won Comedian of the Decade in 2010 and continues to tell jokes in pubs.

Dr Melani Anae QSO is Associate Professor of Pacific Studies at The University of Auckland. She is a member of the Polynesian Panthers, is author of *The Platform: The Radical Legacy of the Polynesian Panthers* (2020), and co-editor of *Polynesian Panthers: Pacific Protest and Affirmative Action* (2015).

Hana Pera Aoake (Ngaati Mahuta, Tainui/Waikato, Ngaati Hinerangi me Ngaati Raukawa, Waitaha, Kaati Mamoe, Ngaati Waewae) is an artist and writer based in Aotearoa. They love eating kaimoana and defacing colonial property. In 2020, Hana published their first book, *A Bathful of Kawakawa and Hot Water* with Compound Press.

Tusiata Avia's first book, *Wild Dogs Under My Skirt*, shares its title with the multi award-winning show that played most recently Off-Broadway. Her most recent book, *The Savage Coloniser Book* won the Mary and Peter Biggs Award for Poetry at the 2021 Ockham New Zealand Book Awards. In the 2020 Queen's Birthday Honours, Tusiata was appointed a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to poetry and the arts.

Airini Beauvais lives in Whanganui. She is the author of four collections of poetry and a collection of short fiction, *Bug Week* (VUP) which won the 2021 Jann Medicott Acorn Foundation Prize at the Ockham New Zealand Book Awards. Airini has a mixed academic background in science and creative writing and currently teaches health science at UCOL Whanganui.

Byllie-Jean Zita aka The Byllie Jean Project (Ngāti Rangikoanake, Ngāti Whatuiapiti) is every inch the wahine toa singer and songwriter. Her lyrics and soulful voice merge neo-soul and waiata to communicate the journey of people and sound.

Gavin Bishop (ONZM) has published 70 books that have been translated into twelve languages. Most recently he was awarded the Te Tohu a Ta Kingi Ihaka for a lifetime contribution to Māori Art and Culture and the Prime Minister's Award for Literary Achievement. In 2009 the Storylines Gavin Bishop Award for new illustrators was established in recognition of his work.

Russell Boey was born in Singapore and grew up in Christchurch. He is now a student at the University of Auckland. He won the *Sunday Star-Times* Short Story Award's secondary schools category in 2017, and his most recent project is a fantasy novella.

Behrouz Boochani is a Kurdish-Iranian journalist, scholar, cultural advocate, writer and filmmaker. He is the author of *No Friend But The Mountains*, which portrayed life inside Australia's notorious refugee detention centre on Manus Island. It won numerous awards, including the 2019 Victorian Prize for Literature. Boochani came to New Zealand in 2019 at the invitation of WORD Christchurch and in 2020 was granted asylum. In 2021 he is a University of Canterbury Ursula Bethell writer in residence.

Liz Breslin is a writer, editor and performer. Her second poem collection, *In bed with the feminists*, (a selection of which won the 2020 Kathleen Grattan Prize for a Sequence of Poems) was published by Dead Bird Books in June 2021.

Ben Brown (Ngāti Mahuta, Ngāti Koroki, Ngāti Paoa) is an award winning children's author, a nonfiction writer, a poet and performer. He was appointed inaugural Children's Reading Ambassador for New Zealand, Te Awhi Rito in May 2021.

Mataio (Matt) Faafetai Malietoa Brown is an internationally acclaimed barber and hair artist. He and his wife **Sarah Brown** (Ngāpuhi / Te Rarawa) founded My Fathers Barbers, the barbershop where men go to heal, and the global anti-violence movement She Is Not Your Rehab.

Jacqueline Bublitz lives between Melbourne, Australia and her hometown on the west coast of New Zealand's North Island. She wrote her debut novel *Before You Knew My Name* after spending a summer in New York, where she hung around morgues and the dark corners of city parks (and the human psyche) far too often.

Ross Calman (Ngāti Toa, Ngāti Raukawa, Ngāi Tahu) is the author of a number of books on Māori language and history. He is a descendant of Te Rauparaha and is the translator and editor of *He Pukapuka Tātaku i ngā Mahi a Te Rauparaha Nui* / *A Record of the Life of the Great Te Rauparaha*.

Kate Camp is a poet and essayist, author of seven books of poetry, most recently *How To Be Happy Though Human: New and Selected Poems*. Her awards include the New Zealand Book Award for Poetry, Creative New Zealand Berlin Writers Residency, and Katherine Mansfield Menton Fellowship.

Victoria Campbell (Kāi Tahu) is passionate about te reo me ōhona tikaka and mātauraka Māori including tātai aroraki/astromy. Victoria is also involved with the Dark Sky Project (Takapō), is a member of the Aoraki Mackenzie International Dark Sky Reserve Board and the government Matariki Advisory Group (regarding the establishment of a Matariki Public Holiday).

Rt Hon Helen Clark is a former New Zealand Prime Minister and a former UNDP Administrator. She currently chairs the boards of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative and the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health. She is also currently the co-chair of The Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response mandated by the World Health Assembly to review the internationally coordinated response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Jackie Clark founded the charity The Aunties in 2013. Her big heart and take-no-shit attitude has won her a league of loyal fans and followers, and in 2018 she was the Supreme Winner at the Women of Influence Awards.

Paul Cleave is the author of twelve thrillers, eleven of which take place in his hometown of Christchurch. His books have been translated into twenty languages. He's won the Ngaio Marsh Award three times, the Saint-Maur book festival's crime novel of the year award, and has been shortlisted for the Edgar and the Barry and the Ned Kelly. *The Quiet People* is his latest book.

Glenn Colquhoun is a poet and children's writer. His sixth collection of poetry, *Letters to Young People* was published in 2020. A new children's picture book, *The Small Girl Who Lives Next Door* is expected in 2021. He works as a GP in Horowhenua.

Lianne Dalziel is serving her third term as Mayor after serving for 23 years in the New Zealand Parliament, the last four terms as the Member of Parliament for Christchurch East. Lianne served as a Cabinet Minister in the fifth Labour Government under the leadership of Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Helen Clark (1999-2008).

Sarina Dickson is a writer, artist and educator based in Christchurch. She has two picture books publishing with Hachette in 2021: *The Fairies' Night Before Christmas* illustrated by Sarah Greig and *A Stick and a Stone* illustrated by Hilary Tapper.

Tom Doig is an author, academic and journalist. His book about the 2014 Australian mine fire disaster, *Hazelwood*, was nominated for the 2020 Walkley Book Award. His latest is *Living with the Climate Crisis: Voices from Aotearoa*.

Doc Drumheller has worked in award-winning groups for theatre and music, and his poems have been translated into more than 20 languages. He has performed widely overseas and throughout New Zealand, and is the editor and publisher of *Catalyst*.

Megan Dunn writes about herself, mermaids and contemporary New Zealand art. Not necessarily in that order. She like jokes. Even bad jokes. Her memoir *Things I Learned at Art School* is as honest as Karl Ove, as intellectual as Adrian Mole and as sassy as a Sweet Valley High. True story.

Dr Hinemoa Elder is a child and adolescent psychiatrist, and has worked in a number of mental health settings including the Child and Family Unit/ Mother Baby Unit at Starship Hospital, in Auckland. She is also a Maori Strategic Leader for the Centre of Research Excellence (CoRE) for the Ageing Brain.

Lily Emo, award-winning illustrator, spends her time juggling the demands of an illustration/art career and freelancing as a graphic designer and relief art teaching. Her portraiture work of COVID-19 essential workers was displayed in The National Portrait Gallery.

Patrick Evans retired from tertiary teaching in 2016. He most recently published a trilogy of novels: *Gifted* (2010), *The Back of His Head* (2015), and *Salt Picnic* (2017) all published by VUP, who published *Bluffworld*, a campus novel, in March.

Tracy Farr is a Wellington writer who used to be a scientist. Her third novel, *Wonderland*, is in the wings. She is co-curator, with Melbourne writer Jenny Ackland, of the live literary series *Bad Diaries Salon*.

Sarah Ferguson is the Duchess of York and the former wife of Prince Andrew, Duke of York, and daughter-in-law of HM The Queen. Her *Heart for a Compass* is her first novel for adults. The mother of two daughters, Princess Beatrice and Princess Eugenie, she lives in Windsor with five Norfolk terriers.

AJ Fitzwater is unicorn disguised in a snappy blazer who lives between Christchurch's cracks. A graduate of Clarion 2014, they write short speculative fiction, and have authored the fantasy books *The Voyages of Cinrak the Dapper* and *No Man's Land*. They are one of the Arts Four Creatives in Residence at the Christchurch Arts Centre for 2021.

Ciarán Fox is a published writer, photographer and editor with 20 years of experience in health promotion, community development, arts advocacy, events and social marketing. He works with the Mental Health Foundation and for the All Right? campaign.

Hollie Fullbrook is a songwriter and performer. A rare blend of eloquent lyrical craft and explorative musicianship, the songs of Tiny Ruins have been treasured by crowds and critics for over a decade. Via an eclectic raft of influences, the musical world of Hollie Fullbrook and band spans delicate folk, lustrous dream pop and ebullient psychedelia.

Rick Gekoski – described by Tatler as 'think Bill Bryson, only on books' – is a writer, rare book dealer, and occasional publisher and broadcaster. An American who moved to England in 1966, he studied English at Oxford, and is now a British citizen.

Nod Ghosh graduated from the Hagley Writers' Institute in 2014. Nod has published extensively in Aotearoa and overseas. Truth Serum Press released *The Crazy Wind* in 2018 and *Filthy Sucre* in 2020. *Toy Train* will follow in 2021. www.nodghosh.com/about

Maria Gill has written 60 children's books including *Anzac Heroes*, which won the 2016 NZCYA Book of the Year prize. Ten of her books have received Storylines Notable Book awards. Maria writes fulltime and enjoys giving author talks and writing workshops.

Brannavan Gnanalingam is a writer and lawyer based in Wellington. He has written six novels, including *Sodden Downstream* (2018) and *Sprigs* (2021), both finalists for the Jann Medicott Acorn Foundation Prize for Fiction at the Ockham New Zealand Book Awards.

Morgan Godfrey (Te Pahipoto) is a writer and trade unionist. He is the author of *Māui Street*, a collection of essays, and the editor of *The Interregnum*, both published by Bridget Williams Books. His work spans broadcasting, journalism, law, and public policy. Morgan currently works at the University of Otago.

Patricia Grace is one of New Zealand's most prominent and celebrated Māori fiction authors and a figurehead of modern New Zealand literature. Her works include numerous award-winning novels, short stories, picture books, and her recently released memoir, *From the Centre*.

A. C. Grayling is the author of over thirty books of philosophy, biography, history of ideas, and essays. He was for a number of years a columnist on the *Guardian*, the *Times*, and *Prospect* magazine. He has twice been a judge on the Booker Prize, and is a Fellow of both the Royal Society of Arts and the Royal Society of Literature.

Andy Griffiths is one of Australia's most popular children's authors. He and illustrator Terry Denton have collaborated on more than 30 bestselling books since their first title, *Just Tricking*, was published in 1997. Their much-loved *Treehouse* series has been embraced by children around the world and is now published in more than 35 countries.

Charlotte Grimshaw is the author of seven novels and two short story collections and has been shortlisted for or won many accolades, including the Montana Medal for Book of the Year. She is an award-winning reviewer and columnist, and her bestselling novels *The Night Book* and *Soon* have been made into the TV miniseries, *The Bad Seed*. Her memoir *The Mirror Book* was published in April to huge media attention and acclaim.

Joanna Grochowicz is an author and polar historian. Drawing on diaries, letters, and expedition narratives from archives and personal collections around the world, her compellingly written novels bring to light new and often overlooked elements of heroic age exploration.

Nicky Hager works as an investigative journalist and author. He has written seven best-selling books about New Zealand politics, intelligence, public relations and military subjects. His most recent books were *Dirty Politics* and *Hit & Run*.

Bernadette Hall lives at Amberley Beach. *Fancy Dancing* is her eleventh collection of poetry. 'It's as close as I'll ever get to writing an autobiography' she says, laughing. In 2015 she received the Prime Minister's Award for poetry.

Cassie Hart (Kāi Tahu) is a writer of speculative fiction. She's had short stories published in award-winning anthologies, and is a Sir Julius Vogel, Australian Shadow, and Hugo award finalist. Her traditional debut, *Butcherbird*, is published by Huia.

Karen Healey is a full-time teacher and part-time writer of young adult fantasy and science fiction. She is the author of *Guardian of the Dead*, *The Shattering*, the *When We Wake* duology and *The Empress of Timbra* (in collaboration with Robyn Fleming). She was a 2017 Ursula Bethell Writer in Residence at the University of Canterbury.

Chessie Henry is the author of *We Can Make a Life*, a family memoir which was awarded a best first book award at the 2019 Ockham New Zealand Book Awards. Her personal essays have been published on *The Spinoff* and *The Wireless*, and she has an MA in Creative Writing from the International Institute of Modern Letters. She lives in Ōtautahi Christchurch, where she is currently working on a novel.

Juanita Hepi (Kāi Tahu) is a multidisciplinary storyteller exploring the intersections of race, class and gender through Indigenous storytelling and cross-cultural collaboration. She holds a Masters of Māori and Indigenous leadership with Distinction, a Graduate Diploma of Teaching and Learning and a Bachelor of Arts from Toi Whakaari. She is māmā to three.

Eliot Higgins is the founder of Bellingcat, an independent international collective of researchers, investigators and citizen journalists using open-source and social media investigation to probe some of the world's most pressing stories. @EliotHiggins | bellingcat.com

Kim Hill joined Radio New Zealand in Gisborne, then moved to Checkpoint, before co-presenting *Morning Report*, where she gained a high profile. Nine years on *Nine to Noon* was followed by 18 hosting *Saturday Morning*, for which she has won international and national awards.

Mary Holm, ONZM, has written three No. 1 bestsellers. She writes a personal finance column in the *Weekend Herald*, presents seminars, and discusses money with Jesse Mulligan on RNZ. For 16 years she wrote *The Investor* in the *Press*.

Ava Homa is an activist and journalist, and is the award-winning author of the novel *Daughters of Smoke and Fire*. She holds an MA in English and Creative Writing from the University of Windsor in Canada. Her collection of short stories, *Echoes from the Other Land*, was nominated for the Frank O'Connor International Prize, and she is the inaugural recipient of the PEN Canada-Humber College Writers-In-Exile Scholarship.

Joseph Hullen (Ngāi Tūāhuriri/Ngāti Hinemataua), born and raised at Tuahiwi and Kaiapoi, has spent a lifetime gathering traditional kai and hearing stories about his hapū. He is a hunter-gatherer, a fisherman, an explorer, a kaihiaki, a storyteller – and always he is Ngāi Tahu.

Jadwiga is an award-winning comedian, playwright and poet raised in Otago, currently based in Ōtautahi. Renowned for her nervous stage presence and biting dry wit, she is a rising talent not to be missed.

Nathan Joe is an award-winning Chinese-Kiwi playwright, performance poet and critic. He is the current national slam poetry champion and an Arts Four Artist in Residence at The Arts Centre.

Stephanie Johnson MNZM is the author of several short story and poetry collections, plays, adaptations, and numerous award-winning novels. She has received a number of significant awards and fellowships. In 1999 she co-founded the Auckland Writers Festival with Peter Wells.

Alison Jones is a professor in Te Puna Wānanga, School of Māori and Indigenous Education, at the University of Auckland. She is a Pākehā, born in Auckland next to Maungakiekie One Tree Hill. She writes and teaches about Māori-Pākehā relations today and in the pre-Tiriti period. *This Pakeha Life: An Unsettled Memoir* is her latest book.

Mike Joy is an outspoken advocate for environmental protection in New Zealand. He researches ecological modelling, bioassessment, environmental science, environmental policy and energy futures. He has received numerous recognition for his work, including the inaugural New Zealand Universities Critic and Conscience Award in 2017.

The Judah Band monsters of groove hailing from Sāmoa, Solomon Islands and Japan, with Iona Ulaula on drums, Motoi Shibuswa on guitar, brothers Steve and Vincent Lasei on keys, and Seta Timo (MD) on bass.

Miriama Kamo is a broadcast journalist who presents current affairs programmes Sunday and Marae on TVNZ1. She's a cantabrian, a mum, and a writer.

Sue Kedgley is a former broadcaster who later was elected to Parliament as a Green Party MP, was one of the founders of Auckland University Women's Liberation and one of the originators of the Second Wave of feminism in New Zealand. She has served as a local body politician and is a member of the Wellington District Health Board.

Graci Kim is the bestselling author of the Korean mythology-inspired novel, *The Last Fallen Star*, published by Rick Riordan Presents. Called a 'sparkling yarn' by *Entertainment Weekly*, it has been optioned by the Disney Channel for a live-action television series.

Professor Jeanette King (Pākehā) teaches in Aotahi: School of Māori and Indigenous Studies at the University of Canterbury. She researches and publishes in aspects of te reo Māori and language revitalisation.

Shilo Kino (Ngā Puhī, Ngāti Maniapoto) is the author of *The Pōrangī Boy*, a book about protecting the land. It is a finalist for Young Adult Fiction book of the year and a finalist in the Best First Book Award at the NZCYA book awards this year.

Aaron Kreisler is the Head of Ilam School of Fine Arts at the University of Canterbury. A former curator at Dunedin Public Art Gallery (2008 – 2014) he produced over fifty exhibitions. He is also an award-winning arts writer, who continues to do freelance curating, writing and arts-focused initiatives.

Hari Kunzru is the author of six novels, including *The Impressionist* and *White Tears*, a short story collection, *Noise*, and a novella, *Memory Palace*. His latest novel *Red Pill* was published in 2020. He is the host of the podcast *Into The Zone*. Born in London, he lives in New York City.

Melanie Kwang is a first-generation Taishanese-New Zealander writer from Christchurch. She studied English and Screen Production at the University of Auckland, and completed the Masters of Creative Writing there in 2018.

Sharon Lam is a writer and architectural graduate. Her debut novel, *Lonely Asian Woman* (Lawrence & Gibson, 2019), was longlisted for the Jann Medlicott Acorn Prize for Fiction at the Ockham New Zealand Book Awards.

Nic Low (Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Māmoē, Waitaha) is the author of *Arms Race and Uprising: Walking the Southern Alps of New Zealand*, and Programme Co-Director of WORD Christchurch.

Dave Lowe, NZ atmospheric scientist, began a pivotal record of atmospheric CO2 at Baring Head in 1970. His times of elation and despair are told in story form in his recently published memoir *The Alarmist: Fifty Years Measuring Climate Change*.

Helen Macdonald is a writer, poet, naturalist and historian of science. Her book *H is for Hawk* won many prizes, including the Samuel Johnson Prize for Non-Fiction, the Costa Book of the Year. Her latest book is a collection of essays, *Vesper Flights*. She is a frequent contributor to the *New York Times Magazine*, and lives in Suffolk.

Jo Malcolm is a former television journalist who now teaches visual storytelling at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch. She began her career in journalism because of a love of writing and good storytelling and is an avid book reader.

Vana Manasiadis was born in Te Whanganui-a-Tara, and has been moving between Aotearoa and Kirihī Greece for the last 25 years. In 2021 she is in Ōtautahi for the Ursula Bethell Writer-in-Residence at Canterbury University. Her most recent book is *The Grief Almanac: A Sequel*.

Dr Rangi Matamua (Tūhoe) is a professor at the University of Waikato, and his research fields are Māori astronomy and star lore, Māori culture, and Māori language development, research and revitalisation. He travels extensively throughout the country giving public lectures about Matariki and Māori Astronomy.

Rebecca Macfie is a Christchurch journalist and the recipient of more than 20 awards, including the Wolfson Press Fellowship. She is the author of *Helen Kelly: Her Life*. Her previous book was *Tragedy at Pike River Mine*, published by Awa Press in 2012.

Danyl McLauchlan is the author of the comic noir novels *Unspeakable Secrets of the Aro Valley* and *Mysterious Mysteries of the Aro Valley*. He works at the VUW School of Biology and his essays on literature, politics, economics, science and philosophy appear on *The Spinoff*. Danyl's first non-fiction collection, *Tranquillity and Ruin*, was published in February.

Sacha McMeeking is the Head of Aotahi the School of Māori and Indigenous Studies and co-founder of Tū Māia a kaupapa, Māori business that designs leadership and entrepreneurship programmes.

Mike McRoberts (Ngāti Kahungunu) has been a journalist for more than thirty years, covering war and conflict from Afghanistan, Iraq, Gaza and Syria to East Timor and the Solomon Islands. Mike is currently in his 17th year as anchor for TV3's flagship 6pm news, *Newshub Live* at 6.

Kyle Mewburn is one of New Zealand's most eclectic and prolific writers. Her titles have been translated into eighteen languages and won numerous awards including Children's Book of the Year. Her memoir *Faking It* is published by Penguin.

Dr Karlo Mila (MNZM) is an award-winning Pasifika poet of Tongan and Pākehā descent. Her first collection, *Dream Fish Floating*, won the poetry category of the Montana New Zealand Book Awards. Her latest poetry book *Goddess Muscle* was published by Huia in 2020. She lives in Tāmaki Makaurau, Auckland, with her three sons.

Paul Millar is Professor of English and Digital Humanities at the University of Canterbury. He researches and writes about New Zealand and Pacific literature and social and cultural impacts of disasters.

Andy Miller is a reader, author and editor of books, most recently *The Year of Reading Dangerously* (4th Estate). He has also written books about how much he likes the Kinks dislikes sport. His favourite Split Enz album is *Time And Tide*.

David Mitchell is the internationally-bestseller, multi-award-winning author of the novels *Ghostwritten*, *number9dream*, *Cloud Atlas*, *Black Swan Green*, *The Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet*, *The Bone Clocks*, *Slade House* and *Utopia Avenue*.

John Mitchinson is a writer and publisher, co-founder of Unbound, the crowdfunding platform for books. He helped create the BBC TV show *QI* and co-wrote the bestselling series of *QI* books. His favourite Split Enz album is *Dizrythmia*.

Clare Moleta was born in Aotearoa, grew up on Whadjuk Noongar Country in Western Australia and has lived in Pōneke since 2005. Her fiction has been published in literary journals and broadcast on RNZ, and she has won awards for her travel writing. She has an MA in Creative Writing from Te Herenga Waka | Victoria University of Wellington. *Unsheltered* is her first novel.

Paula Morris (Ngāti Wai) is the author of the collections *Forbidden Cities* (2008) and *False River* (2017); the essay *On Coming Home* (2015); and seven novels including *Rangatira* (2011). She is a co-editor of the anthologies *Ko Aotearoa Tātou* and *A Clear Dawn*.

Abbas Nazari is a proud Cantabrian, and is the author of *After The Tampa*, a memoir of his family's journey in fleeing Afghanistan as refugees and finding home in New Zealand. In 2019, he was awarded a Fulbright scholarship to study in the United States. He wrote *After the Tampa* during the COVID-19 lockdown of 2020. Twitter/Instagram: @theabbasnazari

Multi-award winning comedian **James Nokise** is also an acclaimed theatre maker, playwright, social commentator and host of RNZ's hit podcast *Eating Fried Chicken in the Shower*, where he interviews celebrities about life and mental health while eating his favourite food in his favourite place.

James Norcliffe is an award-winning poet, novelist, editor and educator. He has published ten collections of poetry, most recently *Deadpan* (Otago University Press, 2019) and over a dozen novels for young people, including *Mallory Mallory* and his new title, *The Crate*.

Micheál Ó Conghaile is a native Irish speaker from Connemara in the west of Ireland. Regarded as one of the leading prose writers in the Irish language, he has published novels, short stories and plays. A member of Aos Dána, his work has been translated into more than ten languages.

Mark O'Connell is the author of *Notes from an Apocalypse* and *To Be a Machine*, which was awarded the 2018 Wellcome Book Prize, the 2019 Rooney Prize for Irish Literature, and was shortlisted for the Baillie Gifford Prize for Non-Fiction. He is a contributor to *The New York Times Magazine*, *Slate*, and *The Guardian*. He lives in Dublin with his family.

Dr Hana O'Regan is the CEO of CORE Education and is based in Christchurch. Of Kāi Tahu and Pākehā descent, Hana is a passionate advocate for te reo Māori and education, and is committed to community and cultural development.

Tā Tipene O'Regan is the former Chair of the Ngāi Tahu Māori Trust Board, and led the Ngāi Tahu claim negotiation and settlement process. He is Adjunct Professor at the Ngāi Tahu Research Centre, University of Canterbury, Ūpoko of Awarua Rūnanga, and a Companion of The Royal Society Te Apārangi.

Dame Claudia Orange is one of New Zealand's most distinguished historians. After publishing *The Treaty of Waitangi* in 1987, she became General Editor of the Dictionary of New Zealand Biography. A director at the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa for many years, she is now a research associate at the museum. Dame Claudia has received many awards and honours for her contribution to a wider understanding of our history, which includes research for the He Tohu and Te Kōngahu Museum of Waitangi exhibitions.

Tommy Orange, author of *There, There*, is a graduate of the MFA program at the Institute of American Indian Arts. An enrolled member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma, he was born and raised in Oakland, California.

Sue Orr is a Wellington writer. Her novel *Loop Tracks* was published by Victoria University Press in June. She teaches creative writing at the International Institute of Modern Letters, Victoria University, and in Wellington prisons as a member of the Write Where You Are Charitable Trust.

Nicky Pellegrino is the author of 13 novels and also a freelance journalist with regular columns in *The Listener* and the *New Zealand Woman's Weekly*. Her last two novels *A Dream of Italy* and *Tiny Pieces of Us* have been New Zealand number one bestsellers. Her new novel is called *To Italy, With Love*.

Brian Phillips, who has had a long career in the book trade, is a Christchurch-based second-hand bookseller specialising in New Zealand-published titles. He is a former co-owner of Godwit Press. In 2018 he chaired the event with Shaun Bythell, author of *Diary of a Bookseller*.

Anapela Polata'ivao graduated from Toi Whakaari: New Zealand Drama School in 2000 and has gone on to win numerous awards for acting and directing. She directed a new version of Tusiata Avia's *Wild Dogs Under My Skirt* in 2016 which has since featured in festivals throughout New Zealand and at the SoHo Playhouse in New York off-Broadway.

Anjum Rahman is the Project Lead of Inclusive Aotearoa Collective Tāhono, an organisation working to create a stronger sense of belonging through connections and collaboration. She is a strong community advocate, as well as holding governance roles in various community organisations.

Charisma Rangipunga (Ngāi Tahu, Taranaki, Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Hinematua) is an author, composer, mother to three boys, and dedicated to the revival of the Māori language. She is deputy chair of the Māori Language Commission, and drove the language and cultural revitalisation efforts of Ngāi Tahu for many years.

Rebecca K Reilly (Ngāti Hine, Ngāti Wai) is a fiction writer from Tāmaki Makaurau. She won the 2019 Adam Foundation Prize. *Greta & Valdin* (VUP) is her first book.

Ryan Reynolds is one of the key figures shaping the global placemaking movement. He has given public talks and workshops on placemaking in nine countries. He co-edited Freerange Press's *Once in a Lifetime: City-building after Disaster* in Christchurch and is the father of two children.

RikTheMost is a vegan, queer, non-binary spoken-word artist, facilitator and events organiser, who spends most of their spare time making homophobes feel uncomfortable. Their work largely deals with the psychology of choice, emotion, motivation and interaction; and how fear, and overcoming it, directs us.

Victor Rodger ONZM is a Christchurch-born writer of Samoan (Iva) and Scottish (Dundee) descent. As a writer he is best known for his play *Black Faggot* and as a producer he helped present Tusiata Avia's *Wild Dogs Under My Skirt* Off-Broadway last year.

Anna Rogers is an experienced editor of both fiction and non-fiction. She has written several non-fiction titles. Her latest, *With Them Through Hell: New Zealand Medical Services in the First World War*, was shortlisted in the 2019 Ockham Book Awards.

Tania Roxborough is an award-winning author and educator with over thirty years' experience teaching English, writing, media studies and drama. She has over 30 published works and has taught writing to a range of people – from early primary through to tertiary and community level. She currently teaches English and writing courses at Lincoln High School.

Dr Maysoon Salama is a scholar in science with a PhD in Food Microbiology and Molecular Biology. She dedicates her time to educating the children of Muslim and non-Muslim families and is the co-founder and manager of two An-Nur Childcare Centres. She is currently the Emeritus National Co-ordinator for the Islamic Women Council.

Kera Sherwood-O'Regan (Kāi Tahu) is an indigenous and disabled storyteller and activist working at the intersections of indigenous and disability rights, hauora, and climate change. She runs social impact creative agency, Activate, to co-create community-led stories and projects for social change.

Ray Shipley is a comedian, poet, and librarian from Ōtautahi. In 2019 Ray was nominated for the Billy T Award – the biggest award for the rising stars of comedy in Aotearoa – and has won the Christchurch Poetry Slam four times, placing third nationally in 2018. Ray makes a really good cup of tea, and sometimes crochets for cash.

Neema Singh is a first-generation New Zealand poet. She was born in Christchurch and is of Indian descent. She holds a Masters of Creative Writing from the University of Auckland and was published in the anthology *Kō Aotearoa Tatou*, and is working on a first collection of poetry called *Hairy Arms*.

Tracey Slaughter's latest book is *Devil's Trumpet*. She is the author of the acclaimed short story collection *deleted scenes for lovers* (VUP, 2016), and her work has received numerous awards, including the international Fish Short Story Prize 2020 and the Bridport Prize 2014.

Ruby Solly (Kāi Tahu, Waitaha, Kāti Māmoe) is a writer, musician, taonga pūoro practitioner and music therapist living in Pōneke. Her first book *Tōku Pāpā* explores the relationship between fathers and daughters, and how Māori transmit cultural and historical understandings through parenting.

Dietrich Soakai has been involved in the spoken word scene since 2011, when he joined the South Auckland Poets Collective, and has performed at numerous festivals worldwide. He currently is writing a book of poetry and facilitates Spoken Word workshops across the country.

Darren Solomon (Kāi Tahu; Kāti Huirapa, Kāti Te Rakiāmoa, Kāti Hinematua) works for Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu in the language revitalisation team Kotahi Mano Kāika. He holds a Masters in Māori and Indigenous leadership, and as a second-language learner himself, is well placed to provide guidance to those starting their te reo journey.

Tā (Sir) Mark Wiremu Solomon KNZM (Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Kuri) served as kaiwhakahaere of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, the tribal council of Ngāi Tahu, from 1998 until 2016. Founder of the Iwi Chairs Forum, he stepped down as deputy chair of the Canterbury District Health Board in late 2020.

Daisy Speaks is a youth advocate and proud descendant of Sāmoan orators. A specialist-generalist, she straddles the cultural, government, community and educational worlds. Poetry helps her to make sense of and navigate the tensions between them. Daisy is a trustee of WORD Christchurch.

Murdoch Stephens is a novelist (*Rat King Landlord*) and non-fiction (*Doing Our Bit: the campaign to Double the Refugee Quota*) author, born in South Otago and based in Wellington. He is a founding member of Lawrence and Gibson publishing collective.

Sascha Stronach (he/they) is a speculative fiction author based in Pōneke. Their debut novel *The Dawnhounds* won the 2020 Sir Julius Vogel Award for Best Novel, and has been picked up by Saga Press for a 2022 international release.

Jack Swallows is a multi-faceted Drag and Burlesque artist bringing a mix of humour and glam. Jack will get you hooked with their sparkling satire.

takahē is a literary and arts magazine covering fiction, poetry, review, art, and essay in three issues a year. Based in Ōtautahi, it features the work of emerging and established practitioners from Aotearoa, and a selection of work from overseas.

Hilary Jean Tapper is a picture book illustrator, perpetually enchanted by the magic of watercolour and small folk. Hilary's work seeks to inspire connection within ourselves, with those around us, and the greater world we are a part of.

Te Maire Tau is the Director of the Ngāi Tahu Research Centre at the University of Canterbury. Te Maire belongs to Ngāi Tahu, the principal tribe of the South Island and is the Ūpoko (head) of Ngāi Tūāhuriri.

Karuna Thurlow (Waitaha, Kāti Māmoe, Kāi Tahu, Te Aitanga a Mate, Te Whānau a Apanui) is a te reo teacher and second-generation learner who now works for the Mātāuraka Mahaanui team at Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu.

Tayi Tibble (Te Whānau ā Apanui/Ngāti Porou) is a writer based in Te Whanganui a Tara. Her first book, *Poūkahangatus* (2018), won the Jessie Mackay Best First Book of Poetry Award. Her most recent collection, *Rangikura*, was published by Victoria University Press in June 2021.

Ariana Tikao is a writer and musician of Kāi Tahu descent. She writes waiata, poetry and creative non-fiction exploring themes relating to her Kāi Tahu identity and mana wahine, often drawing upon historical kōrero from her ancestors.

Okirano Tilaia is 19 years of age, of Samoan descent, and was born and raised in Christchurch. He is studying a BA majoring in Political Science and minoring in Human Services at the University of Canterbury. He is the vice-chair of PYLAT (Pacific Youth Leadership And Transformation) which is a charitable trust that looks to empower and encourage Pasifika young people to participate in all worlds.

Lisa Tumahai (Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Waewae, Makaawhio) is kaiwhakahaere/chairperson of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu. She is also deputy chair for the Climate Change Commission for New Zealand.

Siobhan Tumai (Waikato Tainui) is an Ōtautahi-based Māmā, rainbow educator and creative. Siobhan is a part of Ōtautahi Kaituhi, a local Māori writers group, and has poetry published in *Tupuranga* journal.

Máire Uí Dhufaigh lives on Inis Oírr, in the Aran Islands, off Galway's west coast. She is an author, translator, Irish language publisher, retired primary school teacher and curriculum designer.

Naomi van den Broek is a creative person living in Ōtautahi Christchurch. She enjoys sewing, bike riding, eating, talking and reading. She can often be found on various stages singing, acting or playing piano under the moniker Naomi Ferguson.

Eboni Waitere (Ngāti Kahungunu) is Executive Director of Huia Publishing, and is passionate about Māori writing and writers; Huia have published more than 1000 books in te ao.

Madi Williams (Ngāti Kua, Ngāti Koata) is a PhD student at the University of Canterbury, where she researches the boundaries of history and the inclusion of Indigenous and non-Western perspectives in Aotearoa New Zealand and South Pacific histories. Her new book is *Polynesia 900 – 1600*.

Marlon Williams (Ngāi Tahu, Ngāi Tai) is an acclaimed singer-songwriter and actor whose last album *Make Way For Love* won *Album of the Year* at the NZ Music Awards, and the APRA Silver Scroll award. He has sold out tours around the world, and had roles in productions including *True History of the Kelly Gang* and *Sweet Tooth*.

Laura Williamson is a Canadian writer, songwriter and poet based in Central Otago. She is the editor of the print magazine *1964: mountain culture / Aotearoa*. She co-wrote 'The Blue Moments Project' song and spoken word cycle and her book *The Bike and Beyond: Life on Two Wheels in Aotearoa New Zealand* is out now as part of the BWB Text series.

Annabel Wilson is a writer and teacher from Wānaka, but currently lives in Lyttelton. Her poetry has been widely published and her plays widely performed. Annabel's first book, *Aspiring Daybook*, won the NZ Mountain Book and Film Festival Best Fiction award and was long-listed for the Ockham Book Awards.

Alison Wong co-edited *A Clear Dawn: New Asian Voices from Aotearoa New Zealand*, the first anthology of creative writing by Asian New Zealanders. An award-winning novelist, she also writes poetry and memoir. She moves back and forth across the Tasman.

E Wen Wong was born in Kuala Lumpur and moved to New Zealand with her family at the age of two. She is an avid environmentalist and founder of plastic pollution organisation P.S. Our Beaches. In 2020 she was head girl of Burnside High School.

Emily Writes is author of the best-selling parenting books *Rants in the Dark* and *Is It Bedtime Yet?* *Rants in the Dark* is now a play that tours the country and Emily has a popular newsletter: *Emily Writes Weekly*.

Julie Zarifeh trained extensively in the area of Clinical Psychology, focusing on adjustment to life's inevitable adversities. Despite experiencing significant loss and tragedy, she has intentionally and intuitively managed to apply the New Zealand Mental Health Foundation's '5 Ways to Wellbeing' model to her own life with immensely positive and productive outcomes, as outlined in her book *Grief on the Run*.

Jeffrey Zhao graduated from Central Conservatory of Music, the highest level of music in China, and obtained a postgraduate diploma in performance from Tianjin Conservatory of Music. He has held solo concerts in China, Japan, South Korea, and New Zealand, and organised dozens of cultural and musical events. He now teaches at UC School of Music.



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TICKETING INFORMATION

BOOKING INFORMATION

Tickets to all events at WORD Christchurch Festival 2021 are accessible via the events on our website:

www.wordchristchurch.co.nz

EVENTFINDA

Ticketing for all events except those held at The James Hay Theatre.

ONLINE: www.eventfinda.co.nz

PHONE: 0800 BUY TIX (289 849)

CALL CENTRE OPENING HOURS:

Mon to Fri 9:00am – 5:30pm, Closed on Saturday, Sunday & Public Holidays

TICKETEK

Tickets for events at the James Hay Theatre, Town Hall are only available through Ticketek.

ONLINE: www.ticketek.co.nz

PHONE: 0800 TICKETEK (0800 842538)

In Person: The Box Office located at The Issac Theatre Royal, 145 Gloucester Street.

Weekdays from 10am – 4pm. You can get in touch with the Ticketek Box Office by calling **03 260 5260**, or **0800 TICKETEK** (0800 842 538) or by email online@ticketek.co.nz

On event night: Ticketek Box Office at the Town Hall will be open one hour before the event starting time.

CONCESSION TICKETS

Concession tickets are available to Gold Card holders, students with ID and unwaged. Service fees as above.

DOOR SALES

Where possible, if not already sold out, door sales will be available from one hour before the session from the relevant venue. Please note door sales are strictly limited and we advise booking early to avoid disappointment. Door sales will be the advertised standard ticket price plus service fees.

BOOKING FEES

All tickets purchased are subject to booking and service fees. Please see wordchristchurch.co.nz for further details.

SEATING REQUIREMENTS

If you require any assistance with seating or need to make a wheelchair and/or companion booking please call the WORD Christchurch office directly on **03 377 5313** or email ticketing@wordchristchurch.co.nz

FREE EVENTS

Capacity for free events is limited and we advise arriving early to secure a seat. Seats will not be able to be held. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to event to secure your seat.

COVID-19 scanning will be available at all venues and we ask all patrons to scan in to be safe.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Ticket prices are GST inclusive and subject to availability.
- General Admission events do not have allocated seating.
- Tickets are non-transferable between events.
- There are no refunds or exchanges on lost or stolen tickets.
- There are no exchanges or refunds on ticket price or service fees except as required by law.
- We reserve the right not to admit latecomers until a suitable point in the session.

PROGRAMME CHANGES AND UPDATES

WORD Christchurch Festival reluctantly reserves the right to change the schedule and speakers or replace sessions. Any unavoidable changes will be advertised on the festival website, and through our social media networks. In the unlikely event of a cancellation,

the ticket price will be refunded. Transaction/service fees are non-refundable.

Keep updated by subscribing to the WORD Christchurch newsletter.

wordchristchurch.co.nz

BOOK SIGNINGS

Book signings by authors will take place immediately after each event. You may bring your own copy of a book or buy one on the day from the festival bookshop.

PHOTO CREDITS

For all photo credits please visit our website.

WORD CHRISTCHURCH FESTIVAL 2021

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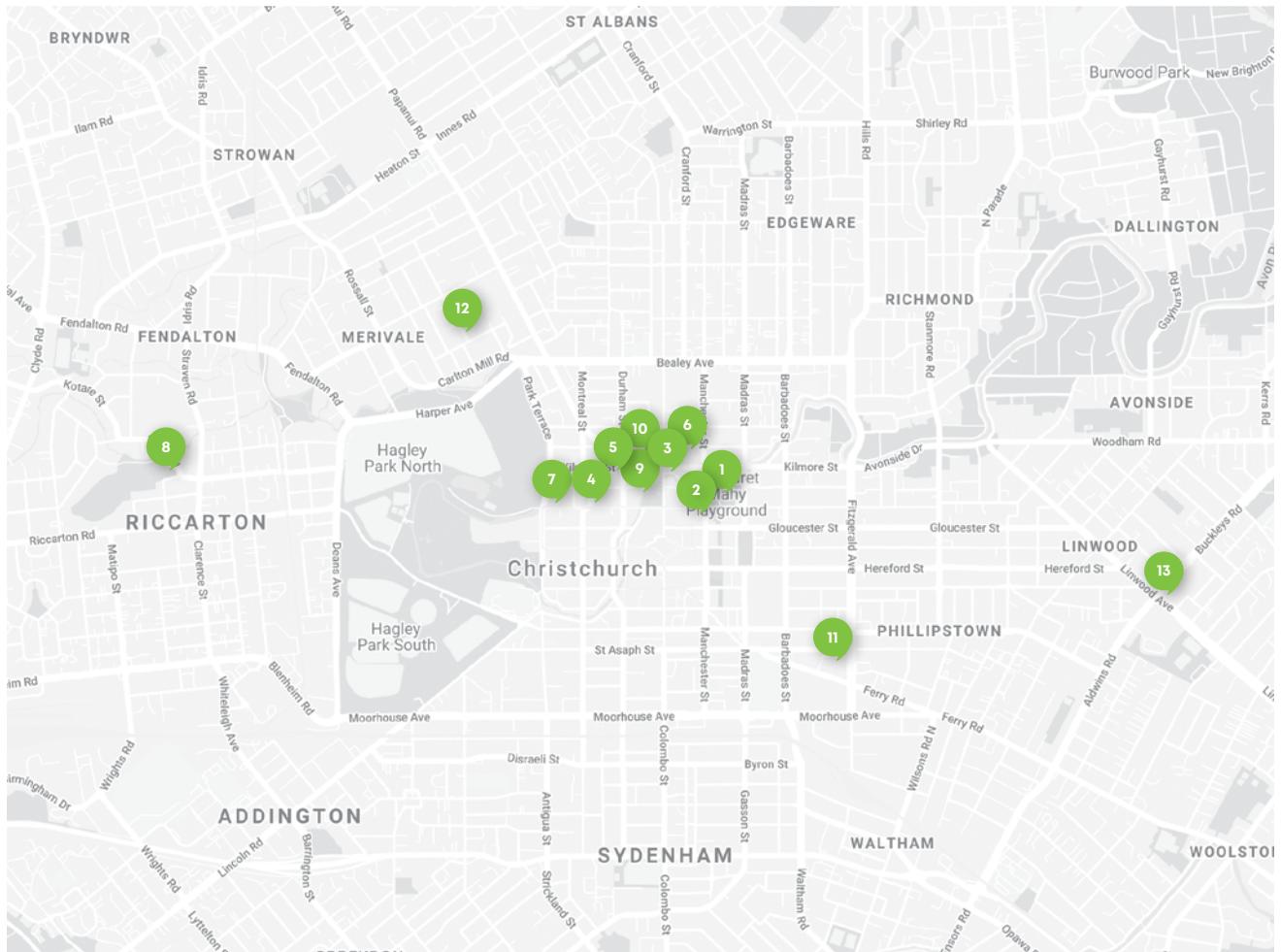
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EVENT LOCATIONS

- 1 The Piano**
156 Armagh Street
Philip Carter Family Concert Hall
The Box
- 4 Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū**
Cnr Worcester Boulevard and Montreal Street
Philip Carter Family Auditorium
- 9 Little Andromeda**
Level 1, 134 Oxford Terrace
- 2 Tūranga**
60 Cathedral Square, Central Christchurch
The Faraway Near, TSB Space
Spark Place
Foundation Cafe
- 5 Centre of Contemporary Art (CoCA)**
66 Gloucester Street
- 10 Scorpio Books**
120 Hereford Street
- 3 James Hay Theatre**
Christchurch Town Hall
86 Kilmore Street
- 6 New Regent Street**
Various Venues
- 11 St Paul's Trinity Pacific Presbyterian Church**
45 Fitzgerald Ave
- 7 The Arts Centre**
2 Worcester Street
- 12 Charles Luney Auditorium**
St Margarets
- 8 Pūtaringamotu / Deans Bush**
16 Kahu Road, Riccarton
- 13 Linwood Library**
Eastgate Shopping Centre
20 Buckleys Road



FESTIVAL CALENDAR

Venue Key

- THE PIANO

- TŪRANGA

- JAMES HAY THEATRE

- CHRISTCHURCH ART GALLERY
TE PUNA O WAIWHETŪ

- NEW REGENT STREET

- LITTLE ANDROMEDA

- ST PAUL'S TRINITY PACIFIC
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

- OTHER

SATURDAY 17 JULY

● 3pm Andy Griffiths TV – Starring You!

FRIDAY 20 AUGUST

● 6pm The Living Mountains

TUESDAY 24 AUGUST

● 5.30pm Book Launch: Atua by Gavin Bishop

WEDNESDAY 25 AUGUST

- 5.30pm Mark Solomon: Mana Whakatipu
- 6pm Bill Hammond: Across the Evening Sky Launch
Book Launch
- 7.30pm Tautitoto Whenua: Reciprocal Songs
of the Land

THURSDAY 26 AUGUST

- 12pm Magazine-in-residence: Takahē
- 4pm Kura Reo - Māori Language Class
- 5pm Rail:Lines
- 6pm Melani Anae: Fifty Years of the Polynesian
Panthers
- 6pm A Cabinet of Curiosities: Tiny Lectures on the
Weird and Wonderful
- 6.30pm Chop the Mop
- 6.30pm Te Piki Tāwhaki: The Ascent of Tāwhaki
- 8pm Adventurous Women
- 8pm Te Piki Tāwhaki: The Ascent of Tāwhaki

FRIDAY 27 AUGUST

- 10am Mary Holm: Your Money
- 11am Peripatos* in Pūtaringamotu (workshop)
- 11.30am How to Write a Killer Plot
- 12pm Magazine-in-residence: Takahē
- 1pm How to Write a Poem
- 1pm Taken Places: Sense of Place &
Body in the Short Story
- 1.30pm Her Say at Linwood Library
- 2pm War and Peace
- 2.30pm Being Pākehā: Claudia Orange and Alison Jones
- 4pm Three Minutes of Fame
- 4pm Kura Reo - Māori Language Class
- 5.30pm Matt and Sarah Brown: She is not your Rehab
- 6pm The Faraway Near: Helen Macdonald
- 6pm Landlording
- 6pm New Regent Street Pop-Up Festival
- 8pm The Faraway Near: Eliot Higgins
- 8pm Confluence
- 8pm Word Gala: This Place You Return to Is Home
- 9.30pm Ray Shipley's Late Night Poetry Hour

SATURDAY 28 AUGUST

-  8am Over the Teacups with Sarah Ferguson, Duchess of York
-  9.30am He Waiata Hou: Indigenous Writers Wānaka
-  10am Remembering Helen Kelly
-  10am Cut to the Bone
-  10am Turning over stones: Investigative Journalism Masterclass
-  10.30am The Faraway Near: Backlisted
-  10.30am The Great WORD Story Hunt
-  11.30am Charlotte Grimshaw: The Mirror Book
-  11.30pm Megan Dunn: Things I Learned at Art School
-  11.30pm After the Tampa
-  12pm Magazine-in-residence: Takahē
-  12.30pm The Faraway Near: Hari Kunzru
-  1pm Tranquility & Ruin
-  1pm Sue Kedgley: Fifty Years a Feminist
-  1pm Alison Wong: Memoir Workshop
-  2.30pm The Faraway Near: Tommy Orange
-  2.30pm Wit World
-  2.30pm Helen Clark: The Big Issues
-  2.30pm Adapting Avia
-  4pm Rick Gekoski: Rare Books and Rare People
-  4pm Kura Reo - Māori Language Class
-  4pm The Next Generation
-  4.30pm The Faraway Near: Ava Homa & Behrouz Boochani
-  5.30pm Kā Wai o Tahu: Ngāi Tahu's Legal Action over Water
-  6pm Funnier and Weirder
-  6pm David Mitchell & Tiny Ruins: If I were a story and you were a song
-  6.30pm The Faraway Near: A. C. Grayling
-  7.30pm Live from Edinburgh International Book Festival: Ian Rankin
-  7.30pm Bad Diaries Salon: Near
-  8.30pm The Faraway Near: Notes from an Apocalypse
-  9pm The Stardust Cabaret

SUNDAY 29 AUGUST

-  10.30am Parenting in the Anthropocene
-  10.30am Patricia Grace: From the Centre
-  10.30am Karlo Mila: Poetry Workshop
-  10.30am Stephanie Johnson: The Doctor Will See You Now
-  11am Speed Date a Speculative Fiction Author
-  12pm Matariki and Star Lore
-  12pm A Clear Dawn: New Asian Voices from Aotearoa
-  12pm Magazine-in-residence: Takahē
-  1.30pm Unsettling Stories
-  1.30pm Margaret Mahy Memorial Lecture: Ben Brown
-  1.30pm Editing your own work(shop)
-  2.30pm How to Write for Younger Readers
-  3pm Not Calm Before the Storm: Climate Change Now
-  3pm Her Say
-  4pm Takahē Magazine-in-Residence Launch Party
-  4pm Kura Reo - Māori Language Class
-  6pm Kā Wai o Tahu: Marlon Williams, Ariana Tikao, Ruby Solly
-  7pm Christchurch Poetry Slam Finals

BELIEVE U CAN

Belief.

The emotion that stirs your body into motion.

One small drop contains the power of the oceans.

And, yes, with all this chaos and commotion

You'd be forgiven for thinking

“What's my personal motivation?”

The new normal's so abnormal that now normal's an abstraction.

What happened to civilisation? This world is a distraction.

But still belief will never fail to cause a chemical reaction.

Fizzing up your synopsis.

With purpose and possibilities to put into practise.

Yeah, those ones.

And, so, you pause.

Breathe.

And say: “What do I want to do for me?”

The future me.

The one who needs me to believe

That I can make a difference — unequivocally.

In whichever way I deem.

Even if that's flipping me into WE.

UC, that really is living the dream.

So, yeah, it's a pretty simple plan.

Believe U Can.

Whakapono.

Te kare ā-roto e kori ai tō tinana.

Kei roto i te kōpata iti noa te mana o ngā tai moana.

Nā, i roto i te kūnakunaku me te maniori o te wā

Ka mārāma noa mehemea koe ka whakaaro

“He aha kē taku ranga wairua?”

Kua pērā rawa te korokē o te noho māori hōu, kua huri kē hei mea

tūrehurehu

I ahatia rā te kaneketanga ā-iwi?

He whakawai te ao nei.

Heoti anō, ko te hua tonu o te whakapono ko te tauhohe matū.

E hihiko ai te hinengaro

He whāinga, he āheinga hei whakatinana.

Āe, koirā rā.

Nā reira koe e tū ai.

Kia ngā.

Kīia ai: “Me aha au mōku anō?”

Mōku hei āpōpō

Tērā e mate nei kia whakapono atu au

He kai kei aku ringa – āe mārika.

Ki tāku e pai ai.

Tae noa ki te huri i ‘au’ ki ‘tātou’

UC, e ora ai te wawata.

Nā, he ritenga māmā noa.

Whakapono ki a koe ake.