

# EDITORIAL

JIM McALOON

We are pleased to be publish our second issue of the *Journal of New Zealand Studies* for 2025. It is particularly noteworthy that this year the Stout Research Centre for New Zealand Studies (to use the full name) celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> birthday. We are very pleased to be able to include in this issue the transcript of a conversation between the Stout's founding director, Jock Phillips, and the present director, Brigitte Bönisch-Brednich at the anniversary function.

The Stout Centre began publishing this journal in October 1990, at first under the title, *Stout Centre Review*. There had been newsletters before that, 21 of which appeared through to June 1990. In July 1995 the journal title became *New Zealand Studies*, and in 2002 it was relaunched as the *Journal of New Zealand Studies*. In JNZS no 1, the then Director of the Stout Centre, Lydia Wevers, noted that until that point the journal had been largely a vehicle for publication of seminar papers and the like given within the Centre. As she recorded, she and Brad Patterson 'both felt that the time had come to transform what has been essentially a "house journal" into a peer-reviewed, cross-disciplinary, scholarly publication.' Setting it all up took a good deal of time and effort, but the model established then continues. I am of course very pleased that Brad continues to offer his time, energy, and wise counsel.

The present issue includes a range of topics and approaches, just as the first issue did in 1990. Carol Neill discusses a tragic episode in Northland in the early 1890s and its relationship to contemporary views of 'sensational' literature. Reuben Hutchinson-Wong explores the life of Katerina Nikorima (Ngāti Pou) behind the Goldie portraits.

Scholarly review articles are always welcome, and Anton Sveding has surveyed the discussion of toxins in New Zealand environmental history, offering numerous possibilities for future research. Judith Pryor casts a critical eye over some recent Pākehā memoirs and family histories which seek to engage with colonialism.

Paul Moon's discussion of the photography of John B. Turner, especially of his documentary work in Te Atatū, continues the journal's long commitment to scholarly discussion of art.

Simon Chapple revisits the aftermath of the burning of the *Boyd* in 1809 – the attack, by several dozen Europeans, on Te Pahi's pā at Te Puna, resulting in significant loss of life. In particular, he untangles the role of British army officers in the attack.

The journal has also welcomed critical reflection on issues of social and economic policy, and in that vein Lisa Marriott writes on the TAB and its distinctive position among gambling entities in New Zealand.

As always, we are very grateful to contributors, to referees of manuscripts, and to reviewers of books. I also again thank reviews editor Steven Loveridge, and the Centre's administrator, Debbie Levy for everything that has gone into producing this issue.

Jim McAloon.