

## BOOKNOTES

*Treaty of Waitangi Research Unit: A new venture*

From the beginning of the year the Stout Research Centre has been host to a new venture, the first in the country: a research institution devoted to Treaty of Waitangi matters.

The Treaty of Waitangi Research Unit [TOWRU] is being established within the Stout by Richard Hill, an historian whose publications have been primarily in the area of coercive social control in 19th- and early 20th-century New Zealand. His volumes on this subject form the first four books in 'The History of Policing in New Zealand' series: *Policing the Colonial Frontier* (two book set, 1986), *The Colonial Frontier Tamed* (1989) and *The Iron Hand in the Velvet Glove* (1995). The first title won Victoria University's F.P. Wilson Award for the most distinguished contribution to the history of New Zealand over the period 1985-7. Richard Hill holds the degree of Doctor of Letters from Canterbury University.

Richard Hill was resident at the Stout in 1996, after spending some years working on Treaty of Waitangi matters. As one of the founding members of the Treaty of Waitangi Policy Unit (TOWPU), which became the Crown's agency for pioneering Treaty negotiations with tribes, he was in control of historical and other advice to the Minister in Charge of Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations. He became Chief Historian at TOWPU and its

successor, the Office of Treaty Settlements, and simultaneously held senior management positions. He played a prominent role in the pioneering Tainui settlement of 1995, and his work on the Ngai Tahu settlement negotiations included periods in charge of the Crown team. In 1996-8 he returned to academic life, with a Visiting Fellowship at Clare Hall, Cambridge University, before moving on to Churchill College, Cambridge, as Archives By-Fellow. He returned to the Stout Centre last March.

'The Treaty of Waitangi Research Unit will, in the tradition of the Stout, attempt to bring "town and gown" closer together', says Richard Hill.

'It offers *independent*, scholarly research and policy advice to Treaty claimants and Crown agencies, as well as to Treaty funding agencies such as the Crown Forestry Rental Trust and the Waitangi Tribunal'.

'It will be seeking major funding for non-contracted scholarship on those Treaty matters, past, present and future, which have been identified as priorities. It will eventually sponsor seminars, conferences and major publications, and contribute to the teaching of New Zealand studies at Victoria University'.

'The Unit is bicultural and interdisciplinary in ethos, and I expect that its contract researchers (and hopefully, eventually, permanent researchers) will contribute a great deal to the social and intellectual ambience which the Stout has

so successfully fostered over the years'.

GISELLE M. BYRNES has been named joint winner of the American National Council on Public History, G. Wesley Johnson Prize for best article in *The Public Historian* for 1998 for her essay "'Jackals of the Crown"? Historians and the Treaty Claims Process in New Zealand', *The Public Historian*, vol 20, no 2 (Spring 1998), pp. 9-23.

Her article 'Affixing names to places' appeared in our March 1998 issue.

BOOKS RECEIVED include:

Tony Nightingale, *The Pacific Forum Line: a commitment to national shipping*, Clerestory Press, Christchurch, 1998. Published to mark PFL's first 20 years of regular and efficient shipping services to the Pacific, this is the story of a 'Pacific Way' of doing business 'where vigorous debate is possible without losing sight of regional objectives and where profits do not always outweigh service'.

*Awesome Forces: the natural hazards that threaten New Zealand*, ed. Geoff Hicks and Hamish Campbell, Te Papa, Wellington, 1998.

DAVID GRANT is the 1999 Stout Fellow. He will be working on a social and economic history of horse-racing in New Zealand.