

Editor's Introduction

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The journal begins with Dougal McNeill's article on Harry Holland, the socialist parliamentary leader of the Labour Party from 1919 to 1933. This is particularly appropriate as we approach the centenary of the New Zealand Labour Party in 2016. Holland has often received a less than sympathetic reading by historians. Challenging the teleology of earlier historical narratives McNeill draws our attention to the place of 'conflict, contestation, and ideas in Labour's formation and in political history'. In the next article Heidi Thomson brings a similarly fresh approach to John Mulgan's 'ambivalent relationship' with the 'poetical', based upon Mulgan's seminal novel, *Man Alone*. Geoff Watson then turns our attention to biography, and in particular the changing nature of sporting biographies in New Zealand over the past century. Moving on from the traditional form of biography, Wasana Sampath Handapangoda explores the ways in which second-generation youth of Sinhalese Sri Lankan origin construct and reshape their identities online through social media. Finally, Paloma Fresno-Calleja reviews the editorial processes and marketing codes that have influenced the translation of New Zealand and Pacific authors into Spanish, providing insights into how New Zealand is 'read' in Spain.

The second section of this issue includes two reflective pieces by Kim Workman and Gregory O'Brien that cast a critical eye on current state policies and actions, although in very different contexts. In the first Kim Workman, the 2015 J.D. Stout Fellow, considers the trajectory of the New Zealand criminal justice system over the past decade and makes a powerful case that the state needs to start a national discussion around the social goals of the criminal justice sector. Gregory O'Brien, the current Stout Memorial Fellow, then compares the very different reactions of the Russian Ambassador and the New Zealand government in the context of two artistic endeavours, a special 'Russian' issue of the journal *Landfall*, and the 'Kermadec' art exhibition in New Caledonia. Both Workman and O'Brien raise important questions around human rights, freedom of speech, and cultural values.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have undertaken peer reviews and book reviews this year. We are very grateful for your crucial contribution to the scholarly work of the journal. Also essential to the work of the editorial team is our copyeditor, Simon Hay. We are very fortunate to be able to draw upon Simon's depth of knowledge and literary skill, and the journal is greatly improved by his rigorous approach to copyediting articles for publication.

The first issue of the *Journal of New Zealand Studies* in 2016 will be on the theme of the 'emotions', the subject of the Stout Research Centre conference in 2015. This is a rapidly emerging international field of study, generating a fascinating body of interdisciplinary research. Submissions for this special issue must be received no later than 15 February 2016.