

10-12 MAY 2024

Karukatea Festival Programme

Second-hand, new and collectable books for sale. Author talks. Panel discussions. Craft of the book workshops. Children's events. Buskers. Book launches.



the Chair of the **Featherston**

As Featherston Booktown's Patron, Joy Cowley wrote: "We are a story-making species... It is how we shape what we do and determines how we react to people with different stories. Story is communication, but it is more

Booktown Trust

Welcome from

Welcome to the ninth Featherston Booktown Karukatea Festival – a place where stories challenge, inspire and comfort us and where we celebrate books and ideas, especially the artefact and craft of the book. And welcome to the vibrant and generous Featherston Pae Tū Mōkai community - Aotearoa New Zealand's Booktown.

This year, our highly popular Karukatea Festival features 39 events and hosts 77 presenters and literary provocateurs, and 25 booksellers. Our Young Readers Programme will take 22 writers/storytellers to over 1,000 students in schools across the Wairarapa.

A special welcome to our booksellers - including Featherston Pae Tū Mōkai's seven bookshops. They are the heart of the Featherston Booktown Karukatea Festival.

Featherston Booktown belongs to the Featherston Pae Tū Mōkai community, many of whom generously success - thank you! We are deeply grateful to mana whenua for our ongoing partnership which adds so much to the richness of the Karukatea Festival experience and

I'd like to thank sincerely our sponsors, donors, supporters, Friends and volunteers – Featherston Booktown's Karukatea Festival, Young Readers Programme and our events series through the year couldn't happen without your support.

A heartfelt 'ngā mihi' to our Operations Manager, Mary Biggs, and her wonderful team. Thanks, too, to the tireless and dedicated Featherston Booktown Board of Trustees - Liz Mellish, Mary McCallum, Craig Linkhorn, Dave Adams, Christine Ammunson and Darrin Goulding. We also recognise and celebrate our Patron, Joy Cowley, and Founding Kaumātua, Lincoln Gould.

Enjoy the 2024 Featherston Booktown Karukatea Festival! Ngā manaakitanga



Peter Biggs, Chair Featherston Booktown Trust, Registered Charity: CC52369

FRIDAY 10 MAY

THE FISH'N'CHIP SUPPER

Friday 6pm-9.30pm, Anzac Hall, \$50, cash bar



It's become a tradition for Featherston Booktown Festival attendees – the best Fish'n'Chips, an entertaining speaker, and a kapa haka concert by

Featherston's tamariki. This year **Dame Susan Devoy** will entertain with stories of her life as Race Relations Commissioner, TV and squash star, and mother of four boys. Mana whenua kaumātua Paora Ammunson will welcome everyone and Liz Mellish will be our MC.

A PLACE TO CALL HOME: LATE NIGHT LIT

Friday 8pm-9.30pm, Common Ground Gallery \$30, beverage included



Writing about the places we call home, a reading by poets and storytellers from near and far, from Masterton to Westport to Ngāruawāhia: Tayi Tibble,

Becky Manawatu, Kiran Dass, Madeleine Slavick and Mary McCallum. Seats are limited, so book your space quickly!

SATURDAY 11 MAY

ON THE COUCH: GREGORY O'BRIEN

Saturday 9am-10am, Anzac Hall, \$20



If anybody in Aotearoa New Zealand deserves the description polymath, it's **Gregory O'Brien**. The poet, artist, art curator, and writer of fiction and

non-fiction, has this year been longlisted for the Ockham Awards with Don Binney: Flight Path and flown to Manchester to set up an exhibition of his artwork. He has received numerous literary awards and an ONZM. Join author and art writer Catharina van Bohemen as she investigates the wildly intellectual and creative life of a polymath who shows no sign of slowing down.





BOOKSELLERS STALLS

Saturday & Sunday 9am-5pm **Bookseller Marquee outside Anzac Hall**



COUNTRY TEA & CAKES

Saturday 9.30am-3.30pm Sunday 9am-11.30am Supper Room, Anzac Hall Complex



FEATHERSTON SATURDAY MARKET

Saturday 9am-12.30pm 33 Fitzherbert Street

BOOKTOWN BUSKERS Saturday & Sunday, Various Times & Places



MINI FELL ENGINE IS ON TRACK 🏚

Saturday & Sunday 10am-2pm Clifford Square (weather permitting)



SIGN THE HAND-MADE FEATHERSTON BOOKTOWN VISITORS' BOOK *E*

Saturday 9.30am-3.30pm Sunday 9am-11.30am Supper Room, Anzac Hall Complex

Featherston's seven bookshops are open during the Karukatea Festival weekend and book stalls are in the marquee outside the Anzac Hall.



Scan for Karukatea Festival 2024 tickets on eventfinda.co.nz

Where events are not sold out beforehand, tickets will be sold at the ticket booth in the Anzac Hall. Discounts for students and seniors with ID will be available.

For the full festival event details and the latest updates go to booktown.nz.

SATURDAY 11 MAY (continued)

THE MAGIC OF MUSHROOMS

Saturday 9.30am-10.30am, Kiwi Hall, \$20



Liv Sisson (Fungi of Aotearoa) and Zach Cotogni (Blue Honey) are on a mission to show Aotearoa New Zealand how important fungi are for the mental and

physical health of human beings and the health of the planet. From lichen to psilocybin, they will explore the world of mushrooms with renowned forager **Helen Lehndorf** (A Forager's Life).

THE WISDOM YEARS BY JOY COWLEY

Saturday 9.30am-12.30pm, Featherston School Hall, \$60



Joy Cowley says the child in her will never die. In her life-affirming, life-challenging workshop, she will take participants

through the stages of life and what they mean, with a focus on what Joy calls "the wisdom years", a time when "the body goes into labour to give birth to the soul". For anyone 60+, led by one of our acclaimed writers and spiritual mystics.

Generously sponsored by Jen Bhati of Property Brokers Wairarapa.

BOOK BINDING WORKSHOP

Saturday 10.30am-12.30pm, St Teresa's School, \$40



Robin Ramsden shows you how to make a 4th century Nag Hammadi codex. Her design is reusable and the leather will last long after you fill your notebook, and with her written instructions you can make your own at

home. Materials supplied.

HIDDEN GEMS: JENNY BORNHOLDT ON ANNEMARIE HOPE-CROSS

A tribute event to the late Lydia Wevers Saturday 11am-12pm

The Joy Cowley Room at The Royal Hotel, \$20



Annemarie Hope-Cross (1968-2022) was a fourth-generation photographer who used early photographic processes and antique cameras to produce handmade

images that are luminous and otherworldly. In A garden is a long time writer Jenny Bornholdt brings words to the photographs to give an account of the life and work of this fascinating Central Otago artist. She talks with Lynn Freeman.

Introduction by Alistair Bisley. Profits from ticket sales will be donated to the Lydia Wevers Scholarship in New Zealand Studies.

WHERE'S LEFT? WHAT DOES IT EVEN MEAN?

Saturday 11am-12.30pm, Anzac Hall, \$25



The left is at a crossroads in New Zealand – the Labour Party struggles to be relevant while the radical left gathers strength in other parties. Do

lefties want the traditional face of the Labour Party anymore? How do the Greens and Te Pāti Māori present themselves as credible options to govern? John Campbell will ask the hard questions of trade unionist Craig Renney, activist and journalist Josie Pagani, former Green MP Sue Bradford and journalist and communications consultant Chris **Wikaira** (Ngāti Maniapoto, Ngāpuhi).

Generously sponsored by Tim Clarke & Tessa O'Rorke.

THE CREWE MURDERS

Saturday 11.30am-12.30pm, Kiwi Hall, \$20 The murders of Harvey and Jeannette



Crewe in their Pukekawa farmhouse in 1970 remains Aotearoa New Zealand's most famous cold case. It spawned two

trials, two appeals, a Royal Commission finding of police corruption and a free pardon, and still the killer has not been found. Journalists Kirsty Johnston and James Hollings conduct their own investigation in their new book The Crewe Murders

LET YOUR IMAGINATION SOAR WITH JAMES RUSSELL! 🏚

Saturday 12pm-12.45pm, Featherston Library, Free



Join James Russell, bestselling author of The Dragon Brothers Trilogy, The Dragon Defenders and Children of the Rush, as he takes you on a journey of

creativity and shows you how to unleash your own. James believes children should be "in the arena", challenging themselves to be creative, and not to be afraid of a stumble or two. He'll show you how.

THE WRITE STUFF: MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE

Saturday 1.30pm-2.30pm Featherston School Hall, \$20



Catherine Robertson, Lee Murray and Isa Pearl Ritchie stuck to their dreams to write in the genres they love – romance, popular fiction, horror and speculative

fiction – and, despite the naysayers, have managed to build a fan base, make a living from their writing and win awards. They share what they've learnt with Lynn Freeman.

SATURDAY 11 MAY (continued)

THE PICTURES IN OUR HEADS: NEW LIFE FOR AUE AND THE BONE PEOPLE

Saturday 1.30pm-2.30pm, Kiwi Hall, \$20



The debut novels by West Coast writers Keri Hulme (*The Bone People*) and Becky Manawatu (*Auē*) are modern classics.

Now both books are being transformed into a variety of media and translated around the world, and Auē is soon to have a sequel: Kataraina. What are the challenges of re-creating characters like Ārama and Kerewin in drawings and moving pictures and writing their stories with different words? Are they the same or do they take on a life of their own? Auē publisher Mary McCallum talks with author Becky Manawatu, translator Francesca Benocci, and Marian Evans of Spiral Collectives, who first published The Bone People.

TE TIRITI O WAITANGI: WHAT TANGATA WHENUA SAY

Saturday 1.30pm-3pm, Anzac Hall, \$25



Te Tiriti o Waitangi remains as important today as it did when it was first signed 184 years ago, but how can Aotearoa honour it, what are the key challenges and where do tangata whenua stand?

Papawai Marae kaumātua Paora Ammunson (Ngāti Kahungunu/Rangitāne) will welcome us and **Tāme Iti** (Ngāi Tūhoe, Waikato, Te Arawa), Moana Maniapoto (Te Arawa, Ngāti Tūwharetoa) and Te Maire Tau (Ngāi Tahu) will share their views on the Treaty today, moderated by Shane Te Pou (Ngāi Tūhoe).

Generously sponsored by Tim Clarke & Tessa O'Rorke.

TEA WITH JANE: A LITERARY PASSION

Saturday 1.30pm-3pm The Dickensian Bookshop & Tea Rooms, \$40



Towards Compostela author Catharina van Bohemen first read Pride and Prejudice when she was fourteen and has read and taught Jane Austen ever since. In 2015 she wrote two chapbooks, Letter to Susan and Sister, about how re-reading Jane Austen is a continual process of discovery and enrichment. Join her to hear more about her passion, over Devonshire tea made by European patisserie specialist Patsy Adams of The Dickensian Bookshop & Tea Rooms.

MEET THE MARKAVIST, MARK PACEY

Saturday 3pm-4pm Featherston Heritage Museum, \$10 door sales



By day, Mark Pacey is the go-to man for Wairarapa's history at the local archives. After hours, he's the author of books on subjects as diverse as the U.S. Marines,

pharmacies, brewing and the Wairarapa coastline. Come to the Featherston Heritage Museum and settle yourself in for intriguing and exciting tales from the Markavist.

WORD GETS AROUND: SONGWRITING WITH DELANEY DAVIDSON AND BARRY SAUNDERS

Saturday 3.30pm-4.30pm, Anzac Hall, \$25



Delaney Davidson and Barry Saunders are storytellers who use music as their medium, and coming together as collaborators has taken them in new

and exciting directions. "These songs just started appearing out of the kitchen air," said Davidson, and we were grabbing them as fast as we could." They talk with Lucy Cooper about "the strange territory" they share making music together.

THE SECRETS OF LIVING WELL WHILE LIVING LONG

Saturday 3.30pm-5pm, Kiwi Hall, \$25



Rachel McAlpine's hit play *The Secret* Lives of Extremely Old People is part of her mission to find out all she can about old age. She and Robin Payne, who

directed Secret Lives, and Gary Young, who played 90-year-old Gilbert, will discuss and perform some of the stories at the heart of the play, and Rachel (84) will give a taster of her new show, Unyoung. The session will wrap with tips and tools to help older people live well. For anyone 40-100 years. Bring your questions. MC Mary

Generously sponsored by The Acorn Trust.

OFF FOR A WALK

Saturday 4pm-5pm, Featherston School Hall, \$20



Roberts.

"How can you see your life unless vou leave it?" writes Catharina van Bohemen in Towards Compostela, her account of walking the Camino de

Santiago. Dame Kerry Prendergast and Sue and Tim Pankhurst (Every Effing Inch) left their lives to walk the 3,012km Te Araroa Trail that runs the length of the country. **Gregory O'Brien** leads a conversation about the call to a walking adventure,

the rewards and challenges Generously sponsored by Richard Stone and Dennis

FROM MOANA TO MOANA: A GALA NIGHT IN THE ANZAC HALL

Saturday 6pm-9.30pm, Anzac Hall, \$50 includes two events and grazing tables, cash bar

We invite you to an unforgettable evening celebrating the Pasifika poetry of Moana Nui A Kiwa and the life of renowned musician, journalist, activist and truth seeker: Moana Maniapoto.



PASIFIKA POWER

Saturday 6.30pm-8pm

Be thrilled and amazed by kapa haka and spoken word poetry created by Pasifika rangatahi at a three-day Young Readers Programme workshop and brought to the public for the first time. Poet **Nafanua Kersel** will host the event, which will lead into more poetry readings and a panel talanoa about the life and dreams of the South Auckland Poets' Collective with co-founders Grace Teuila Taylor, Ramon Narayan, Daren "dk" Kamali, moderated by Ole Maiava.

Made possible by a new partnership with the Creative New Zealand Pasifika Arts Strategy.



WOMEN ON A MISSION: LINDA CLARK & MOANA **MANIAPOTO**

Saturday 8.30pm-9.30pm

Linda Clark and Moana Maniapoto are huge admirers of each other's work. Fan girls, even. Moana is a musician, activist and journalist, and Linda is a lawyer, writer, and former broadcaster. In what promises to be a delightful korero of the heart and mind, the two women will interview each other about the various strands that make up their lives and how they weave them into their own kete to carry the gifts of the world and make change where they can. change where they can.

SUNDAY 12 MAY

ON THE COUCH: TAME ITI

Sunday 9am-10am, Anzac Hall, \$20



Tāme Iti (Ngāi Tūhoe, Waikato, Te Arawa) is known as many things activist, artist, actor, author, terrorist

and cyclist. He rose to prominence as a member of the protest group Ngā Tamatoa more than 40 years ago, becoming a key figure in the Māori protest movement and cultural renaissance. Join community advocate and social change activist Denis O'Reilly in conversation with one of Aotearoa New Zealand's most captivating and controversial figures.

Generously sponsored by Mary & Peter Biggs CNZM.

AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT: THE SECRET LIFE OF STEVE BRAUNIAS

Sunday 9.30am-10.30am, Kiwi Hall, \$20



Steve Braunias is an author, columnist, journalist and literary editor of Newsroom. He is also one of the country's leading writers of satire and his

2021 book Missing Persons won the Ngaio Marsh Award for Best Non-Fiction. Linda Clark will drill down into what makes the Tauranga-born writer tick, including the feeling behind the writing of his latest book that he was a missing person himself.

JOY COWLEY WRITING FOR CHILDREN **WORKSHOP**

Sunday 9.30am-12.30pm Featherston School Hall, \$60



Joy Cowley wrote, "Storytelling is in the stories they hear, and they make meaning with the stories they tell."

However, successful writing for children is a specialist genre and requires the mastery of many elements. In her immersive workshop, Joy Cowley will share techniques and tips gleaned from a life dedicated to writing unbeatable children's literature.

KIWIS IN CONFLICT

Sunday 10am-11am The Joy Cowley Room at The Royal Hotel, \$20



Kiwis in Conflict was published in 1996 as Scars on the Heart to mark Auckland Museum's permanent exhibition of two centuries of New Zealand at war.

Republished in 2008 with new chapters on our $U\bar{N}$ commitments, it has grown again in 2024 with chapters on recent conflicts, including Afghanistan and the Ukraine, disaster relief in New Zealand and the Pacific, and the stress of war on veterans and families. Military historians Chris Pugsley and Buddy Mikaere discuss Kiwis in Conflict with Ron

Generously sponsored by Messines Bookshop: Military History.

tYPeWriteR BOnanZA WORKSHOP WITH KATJA STARKE 🗐

Sunday 10am-11am, Common Ground Gallery, \$30



When was the last time you wrote a love letter? Be guided through the process of writing a sparkly, poetic and spunky letter from start to finish on

an old-school typewriter by artist Katja Starke. Choose your favourite typewriter and compose a juicy love letter to your big love, an epistle to your granny or future self or, if you must, a stinging break-up note. Suitable for all ages.

STORY TIME WITH GAVIN BISHOP 🏚

Sunday 10.30am-11am, Featherston Library, Free



Bring your little ones to the Featherston Library to experience the joy of listening to one of Aotearoa's beloved children's writers and illustrators Gavin Bishop. His many books include Joy Cowley's Snake and Lizard (as illustrator), Patu, Atua, The House that Jack Built, and board books like Matariki

Thanks to generous funding from the South Wairarapa District Council, this event is free. Register on Eventfinda to save your place.

BOOK BINDING WORKSHOP

Sunday 10.30am-12.30pm, St Teresa's School, \$40



Robin Ramsden shows you how to make a 4th century Nag Hammadi codex. Her design is reusable and the leather will last long after you fill your

notebook, and with her written instructions you can make your own at home. Materials supplied.

AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT: CARL HAYMAN

Sunday 11am-12pm, Anzac Hall, \$20



What does it mean to be a modern All Black, expected to perform at a mental and physical peak when player body mass has increased by 30% since the

1960s and new research is showing the horrifying impact of head injuries on rugby player brains? All Black 1000, **Carl Hayman**, wrote *Head On* after discovering his injuries had led to earlyonset dementia. He joins his co-author **Dylan** Cleaver and former professional rugby player

John Daniell to talk about the new realities of the

THE DILEMMA OF A BIBLIOPHILE

Sunday 11.30am-12.30pm, Kiwi Hall, \$20 Book collecting is variously described



as a passion, an obsession and even a disease. Bookselling the same. Bookseller **Ruth Shaw** (*Bookshop*

Dogs) and book collector **Tony Eyre** (*The Book Collector*) talk about the affliction/gift of bibliophilia, where it's taken them in their lives and the dilemma of where to put all the books. Fellow bibliophile and Masterton bookseller **David Hedley** is in the chair.

PEARL IN A WHIRL WITH CATHERINE ROBERTSON 🎓

Sunday 11.30am-12.15pm Featherston Library, Free



When floods devastated Hawke's Bay,
Catherine Robertson was taken by the
story of a cat called Pearl who survived
the destruction her family home. She
got illustrator Fifi Colston and Penguin Random

House on board and in record time they created a picture book about the courageous cat, with proceeds going towards the Cyclone Gabrielle recovery. Catherine and Fifi will tell the story of Pearl and read from the book.

SECRETS OF THE LAND: OUR READERS' CHOICE

Sunday 12pm-1pm oom at The Royal Hotel, \$20



Kate Mahony's novel *Secrets of the Land* was the top pick by Featherston Booktown supporters for a new readers' choice event. Set in Taranaki,

Ireland and Australia, Secrets of the Land is an engrossing story with long shadows that stretch from 1864, when two young Irishmen joined the British Army to fight Taranaki Māori. With **Maggie Rainey-Smith** in the chair.

BOOK LAUNCH: THE ANTIPODEAN EXPRESS

Sunday 12pm-1pm, Fell Engine Museum, Free



In 2019 **Gregory Hill** undertook an epic train journey from Wellington to the exact antipodes of his living room, on the edge of the insignificant Spanish

town of Alaejos. It took 38,000 kilometres, 33 trains, 19 countries over 3 months. The book follows the journey on most of the great Eurasian trains, from the Northern Explorer to the Trans-Siberian and the Eurostar. Join Greg for a glass of wine and a light lunch to toast the launch of The Antipodean Express.

PAPER-MAKING WORKSHOP WITH ROB KENNEDY **=**

Sunday 1.30pm-2.30pm St Teresa's School Quad, \$30



Enjoy learning about the ancient craft, see what paper made from our native plants looks like, join the conversation about the sustainable use of native

plants and then make paper for next year's Featherston Booktown Visitor Book. Suitable for all ages and abilities. Materials provided.

GIANTS AND THE FOX SPIRIT: RAGE ON THE PAGE

Sunday 1.30pm-2.30pm Featherston School Hall, \$20



Fox Spirit on a Distant Cloud by Lee Murray and Audition by Pip Adam are two extraordinary books that call on magical realism to tell stories powered

by rage against social injustice: in the past and in the future. Murray's is about the diaspora of Chinese women in Aotearoa New Zealand and Adam's is about the New Zealanders we incarcerate. Chaired by **Kiran Dass**.

tYPeWriteR BOnanZA WORKSHOP WITH KATJA STARKE

Sunday 1.30pm-2.30pm Common Ground Gallery, \$30



When was the last time you wrote a love letter? Be guided through the process of writing a sparkly, poetic and spunky letter from start to fish on an old-school typewriter by artist **Katja Starke**.

Choose your favourite typewriter and compose a juicy love letter to your big love, an epistle to your granny or future self or, if you must, a stinging break-up note. Suitable for all ages.

THE NEW ZEALAND WARS

Sunday 1.30pm-3pm, Kiwi Hall, \$25



It has been said the New Zealand Wars were more significant in shaping our country than Te Tiriti o Waitangi. This session seeks to explore whether that is true, and to dig deeper into a troubled time in our history. With sociology academic Joanna Kidman (Ngāti Maniapoto, Ngāti Raukawa), historians and authors Chris Pugsley and Vincent O'Malley, former director of the Waitangi Tribunal Buddy Mikaere (Ngāti Pūkenga, Ngāti Ranginui) and author of Patu, Gavin Bishop (Ngāti Pūkeko, Ngāti Awa, Ngāti Mahuta, Tainui), with Peter Biggs moderating.

MRS BLACKWELL'S MOTHER'S DAY **AFTERNOON TEA**

THE ABUNDANT AND THE BEAUTIFUL: MAKING GOOD FOOD AND FIBRE THAT

WON'T BREAK THE PLANET Sunday 3pm-4.30pm, Anzac Hall, \$50



Justine Ross (Meet You At The Main Divide) and her husband, Geoff, almost broke the internet when Country

Calendar filmed their Central Ótago station. In the shearing shed, shearers worked to the music of Vivaldi and shorn sheep slid down chutes to land on mattresses. Raised eyebrows from traditional farmers are nothing new to **Yotam Kay** (*The Abundant Kitchen and The* Abundant Garden), who established Pākaraka Permaculture in 2014 with his wife, Niva. Over the now famous spread that is our Mother's Day afternoon tea and JOIY mimosas, Yotam and Justine will talk with **Helen Lehndorf** (A Forager's *Life*) about the future of food and agriculture, and the planet we want to leave our grandchildren.

GIGGLES AND GASES AND POOS AND FARTS STORYTIME 🏚

Generously sponsored by Millie Blackwell.

Sunday 3.30pm-4.15pm



A blast of an event and back by popular demand! Get ready to laugh your pants off at our Giggles and Gases and Poos and Farts Storytime, where

our fabulous local librarian Penny Griffin reads stories like Poo Bum, No One Likes a Fart, Did You Do This Poo? and others. We'll share hilarious tales of bathroom adventures, make rude noises and have belly bursting laughs for all ages. Bring your grandad!

PIONEERS OF HOP AND GRAIN: FROM SPEIGHT'S TO PARROTDOG AND BEYOND

Sunday 3.30pm-4.30pm, Kiwi Hall, \$20



New Zealand has had a long and storied love affair with beer, the world's oldest drink. In Continuous Ferment, Greg Ryan charts that story - why we

love it, why we love so much of it and how our tastes have changed. He talks with journalist and beer lover Denise Garland about a history "of rogues and inventors, big business power and small business determination, national debate and social upheaval".