

We are grateful to our major sponsors:



AROUND FEATHERSTON THROUGHOUT THE WEEKEND

- Booksellers Stalls** Saturday & Sunday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Anzac Hall
- Country Tea & Cakes** Saturday & Sunday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Supper Room, Anzac Hall Complex
- Featherston Saturday Market** Saturday 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM 33 Fitzherbert St

- Sign the Hand-Made Featherston Booktown Visitors' Book** Saturday & Sunday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Supper Room, Anzac Hall Complex
- Mini Fell Engine is on Track** Saturday & Sunday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Clifford Square (weather permitting)
- Booktown Buskers** Saturday & Sunday, Various Times & Places

Check booktown.nz for the latest on what other events will be happening around town during the weekend.



Scan for Karukatea Festival 2023 tickets on eventfinda.co.nz

Where events are not sold out beforehand, there will be door sales. Discounts for students and seniors with ID will be available for general events. For full details about all our events (including any last-minute programme updates or additions) as well as bios on our presenters, visit booktown.nz



Author talks. Panel discussions. Craft of the book workshops. Children's events. Second-hand, new & collectable books for sale. booktown.nz



Welcome from the Chair of the Featherston Booktown Trust

Kia ora koutou

Welcome to the eighth Featherston Booktown Karukatea Festival - where we celebrate books, storytelling and ideas, and 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 Festival features 51 events and hosts 101 presenters and literary provocateurs, and 25 booksellers.

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 volunteer their time and talents to ensure the Festival's success. We are deeply grateful to mana whenua for our ongoing partnership which adds so much to the richness of the Karukatea Festival experience and programme.

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 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, Cheryl Gallaway, Mary McCallum, Craig Linkhorn, Dave Adams, Noelle McCarthy (who has finished her term as an amazing Trustee) and Darrin Goulding. We also recognise and celebrate our Patron, Joy Cowley, and Founding Kaumātua, Lincoln Gould.

Enjoy the 2023 Featherston Booktown Karukatea Festival!

Ngā manaakitanga

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

FRIDAY 12 MAY

Featherston Booktown Opening Night Supported by Creative New Zealand

The Fish'n'Chip Supper

Doors Open: 6:00 PM - 9:30 PM, Anzac Hall. \$45



Enjoy a warm welcome from mana whenua kaumātua Paora Ammunsun and Featherston's school children, then tuck into our famous Fish'n'Chip Supper. MC Liz Mellish guides proceedings and our guest speaker, Guyon Espiner, will entertain us with tales from his many years as a parliamentary journalist, investigative reporter and presenter.

Late Nite Lit: The Mansfield Mash-up

10:00 PM - 11:00 PM, Kiwi Hall. \$15



Writers Redmer Yska, Catherine Chidgey, Sam Duckor-Jones, and Victor Rodger create flash fiction and nimble non-fiction to celebrate in witty and wacky ways the 100th anniversary of Katherine Mansfield's death. Mary McCallum will referee.

Campfire Tales R13 (1)

10:00 PM - 11:00 PM, Waimarie/RSA. \$20 includes a free take-home zine.



Gather round as we chill your bones with four dark tales written for this event by Kiwi horror authors. Take home a free zine with the stories and original artwork by T. Wood. Produced by Denver Grenell and Ricky Dey with support from Creative New Zealand.

SATURDAY 13 MAY

Author Spotlight: More Than a Magpie: The Novels of Catherine Chidgey

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM, Kiwi Hall. \$15



Catherine Chidgey is one of this country's leading fiction writers, producing novels that are both provocative and sublime. Her latest, *The Axeman's Carnival*, has been called a 'Kiwi Gothic classic, astonishing readers with its magpie narrator. Catherine discusses her work with Linda Clark.

SATURDAY 13 MAY (continued)

The Two J's: Two Writing Workshops for Adults with Joy Cowley and Jillian Sullivan

9:00 AM - Midday, Featherston Community Centre. \$30



Start the morning with a warm welcome from two remarkable writers with over 117 years' of experience between them before you split into groups. Joy Cowley will share what to do before you start writing and offer hints on writing for children, while Jillian Sullivan will focus on how character and structure drive a story.

Paint it Pink - Gloria Pop-up Installation by Sam Duckor-Jones

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Back of the Anzac Hall, entrance via Birdwood Street. KOHA



Former Featherstonian, Sam Duckor-Jones, returns to share his innovative and immersive art. Gloria, based on his new home of the same name in Greymouth, will explode this year's festival with resplendent pink hues and tones, and invite you to reflect on transformation - both artistic and human.

Book Binding Workshop

10:30 AM - 12:30 PM, St. Teresa's School. \$30



Robyn 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, but with her written instructions you can make your own at home.

Invasion and Resistance: Facing up to Parihaka

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM, Kiwi Hall. \$20



Remember, remember the fifth of November? Writers and historians Rachel Buchanan, Mahara Okeroa, Richard Shaw, Vincent O'Malley and Chris Finlayson all have different experiences in relation to Parihaka. With moderation by Paul Diamond, they will face up to the the invasion of Parihaka in 1881 and what it means to New Zealanders.

Otari: Passion, Plants and Picknickers

11:00 AM - Midday, Waimarie/RSA. \$15



Bee Dawson, author of *Otari*, reveals the secrets of this botanic garden dedicated to the conservation of plants unique to Aotearoa New Zealand. She discusses with Penelope Borland the passionate gardeners and botanists who have made this Wellington landmark what it is, and the pleasure it brings to visitors.

The Other Woman

11:00 AM - Midday, The Joy Cowley Room, The Royal Hotel. \$15



Biographer Joanne Drayton and playwright and novelist Renée left their husbands when they fell in love with a woman - explosive events that changed the trajectory of their lives. They talk to Rebecca Hawkes about their new books - *The Queen's Wife* and *Blood Matters* - and what it means to put LGBTQIA+ at the centre of their work.

Get Outdoors

11:00 AM - Midday, St Teresa's School. FREE



Launch a rocket, fossick in a creek, build an epic fort, hunt for bugs or sleep under the stars. These are just some of the fascinating activities Wairarapa author Paul Adamson suggests in his latest book, *Get Outdoors*. Bring the family and gather great ideas for some fresh-air fun.

Exploring the New Book: Substack/Patreon/Metaverse

11:00 AM - Midday, Featherston School Hall. \$15



The internet now offers new ways to read and experience books including Substack, Patreon and the Metaverse. Join one of Substack's Pro deal writers, Emily Writes and Martin Baynton, creator of other worlds in the Metaverse, as they discuss this brave new world with investigative journalist, Mike White.

Print and Paper Fun with Cheryl Gallaway and Rob Kennedy - Drop-in Session

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM, St Teresa's School. KOHA



Pop-up print and paper-making fun! Drop by for a chat, make some native plant paper and print yourself a bookmark with the Featherston Booktown logo using a letterpress printing machine. Casual open workshop. Suitable for all ages and abilities.

SATURDAY 13 MAY (continued)

Ko Wai Kei Runga i te Hōpa? Who's on the Couch? Tāme Iti

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM, Kiwi Hall. \$15



He maha āna kaupapa mahi e rongonui nei a **Tāme Iti** (Ngāi Tūhoe, Waikato, Te Arawa) - he kaioporotēhi, he tohunga mahi toi, he tangata whakaari, he kaituhituhi, he "kaiwhakatuma", he kaiieke paihikara hoki. Ka whānui haere tana rongonui i te wā ko ia tētahi o ngā mema o Ngā Tamatoa, neke atu i te whā tekau tau ki muri, ā ka hora haere te mōhiotia ōna hei kanohi mo ngā take porotēhi a te Māori mete puawaitanga o te ahurea Māori.

Tāme Iti (Ngāi Tūhoe, Waikato, Te Arawa) is known as many things – activist, artist, actor, author, terrorist and cyclist. A captivating and controversial figure, he joins storyteller and journalist, **Tāmāti Rimene Sproat** (Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa, Rangitāne) in conversation.

In te reo with simultaneous English interpretations.

The Wide-awake Dragon: What a Resurgent China Means for the World and Aotearoa New Zealand

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM, Waimarie/RSA. \$15



Will the contest for global power in the 21st century remain peaceful? Join journalist and editor **Anna Fifield** in a hard-hitting geopolitical discussion with **Sam Sachdeva**, author of *The China Tightrope*, and **Michael Powles**, contributor to *Encountering China: New Zealanders and the People's Republic*.

Granny McFlitter Knows Knitting

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM, Featherston Community Centre. FREE



Join **Heather Haylock**, author of the *Granny McFlitter* picture book series, and the Featherston Knitters Group for some wild, woolly, fantastically funny and fluffy fun. You'll be wowed by Granny and her quick-as-a-wink knitting needles as they save the show just in the knit of time!

Something is Happening Here: Dame Robin White in Conversation with Courtney Johnston

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM, The Joy Cowley Room, The Royal Hotel. \$15



"A consistent thread in my work is that it's made in response to place, and what's happening around me..." **Dame Robin White** (Ngāti Awa) is one of our most significant artists. With Te Papa CEO, **Courtney Johnston**, she explores how places and people have transformed her life and art.

Reading Nanny Mihi with Melanie Drewery

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM, St Teresa's School. FREE



Melanie Drewery, author of over 20 children's books, including the much-loved *Nanny Mihi* series, will read from her books and talk about what inspires her. Ask her about her journey from idea to published story.

The Secret Art of Editing Workshop

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM, Featherston School Hall. \$15



Poet Laureate **Chris Tse** chairs a panel of graduates of the Whitireia Publishing Programme, who reveal the realities of editing and being edited. Bring your burning publishing questions!

Paper-making Workshop with Rob Kennedy (1)

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM, St Teresa's School. \$25



Enjoy learning about this 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 Visitors' Book. Suitable for all ages and abilities. Materials provided.

Fighting for a World that Does Not Yet Exist: The Necessity of Activism

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM, Kiwi Hall. \$20



Activists and movements for change have become a regular feature of our social, civic and political life. Join four prominent activists – **Tāme Iti**, **Denis O'Reilly**, **Dame Catherine Healy** and **Shaneel Lal** – as they share their absorbing personal and political journeys with **Guyon Espiner**.

Fur Babies: Pets in Print

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM, Waimarie/RSA. \$15



We are second in the world for pet ownership. Why do we love our fur babies so much? **Dame Lynley Dodd** of *Hairy Maclary* fame, investigative journalist and dog lover, **Mike White**, and award-winning writer and cat lover, **Ashleigh Young**, explore our obsession in conversation with **Deborah Coddington**.

Other Worlds - Sci-fi and Fantasy Fiction in Aotearoa New Zealand

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM, The Joy Cowley Room, The Royal Hotel. \$15



Sci-fi can bring answers in through the back door long before science comes in the front. **Danyl McLaughlan** talks to sci-fi writer **Gina Cole**, fantasy author **Ryan Cahill**, and **Quentin Wilson**, publisher of the late Phillip Mann's last sci-fi novel.

The Perils of Running a Bookshop

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM, Featherston School Hall. \$15



What's the worst thing that can happen if you run a bookshop? Shoplifting, owning too many books, murder? Hear about the dangers and joys of selling books when **Mary McCallum** invites **Renée**, **Ruth Shaw**, author of *The Bookseller at the End of the World*, and **Joanna Ludbrook**, owner of Featherston's Chicken and Frog Bookshop, to spill the beans.

Flightless Birds Workshop with Carol Duffy

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM, St Teresa's School. FREE



Carol Duffy reads from her picture book *It's Time to Go*, a story about "four flightless friends who don't know what to do" when a volcano rumbles. Make native bird stick puppets to accompany the story and listen to her other stories: *Don't Feed the Kea*, *Little Brown Weka* and maybe *Dragonfree*.

Creative Strategies for Self-publishers with Liz Constable

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM, Featherston Community Centre. \$30. With a giveaway personalised pack of a small handmade notebook, a pen and a postcard.



In this workshop you'll get to write your own practical and flexible step-by-step strategy to help you become a self-published author. Under **Liz Constable's** expert guidance you'll have fun, work out the best way forward for your project and get advice about how to avoid the pitfalls.

Kotahi Miriona Tāngata E Kōrero Ana. One Million Speakers.

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM, Kiwi Hall. \$15



I whakakorengia, ā i panaia e te ao mō te nuinga o te rau tau tahi mano iwa rau, heoi, kei te kaha tonu te whakaorangia o te reo Māori, ā, he kotahi miriona tāngata kōrero Māori te whaingā mō te tau 2040 e tino haumarutia ai te reo.

Will we have one million te reo speakers by 2040? Join **Tāmāti Rimene Sproat** (Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa, Rangitāne) as he discusses the journey of te reo Māori with language champions, **Ngāhiwi Apanui** (Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Hine) and **Stacey Morrison** (Kai Tahu, Te Arawa).

In te reo with simultaneous English interpretations.

Illustrators on Stage

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM, Waimarie/RSA. \$15



Illustrators are so important to the success of a picture book. Outstanding experts **Gavin Bishop**, **Martin Baynton** and **Giselle Clarkson** share what their life's work is about in a no-holds-barred discussion deftly wrangled by **Fifi Colston**.

Saturday Evening at the Property Brokers Sports Hub

Ticket price for all three events: Pasifika Power, Gaylene Live and Late Nite Lit: Poet's Corner, is \$45 and includes food. There is a cash bar available.

Pasifika Power

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM, Property Brokers Sports Hub



Pasifika voices are among the most powerful in our literary scene – original, provocative, funny, uplifting and heart-breaking. Join four Pasifika writers – **Victor Rodger**, **Nafanua Purcell Kersel**, **Tusiata Avia** and **Gina Cole** – for an amazing night of readings and riffing with **Makerita Urale**. Supported by *Creative New Zealand*.

Gaylene Live

8:30 PM - 9:30 PM, Property Brokers Sports Hub



Dame Gaylene Preston's films present serious subjects with humour and warmth, and are amongst the most enduring and popular classics of this country's cinema. Join **Noelle McCarthy** for a conversation with one of our most celebrated storytellers.

Late Nite Lit: Poet's Corner

10:00 PM - 11:00 PM, Property Brokers Sports Hub



Let some of our best poets make this a late night to remember. Poet Laureate **Chris Tse** together with **Sam Duckor-Jones**, **Rebecca Hawkes**, **Rachel Buchanan** and **Debbie Broughton** bring their poetry to life. Enjoy the accompanying grazing table and a glass of stellar Big Sky wine.

Campfire Tales R13 (2)

10:00 PM - 11:00 PM, Waimarie/RSA. \$20 includes a free take-home zine.



Gather round as we chill your bones with four dark tales written for this event by Kiwi horror authors. Take home a free zine with the stories and original artwork by **T. Wood**. Produced by **Denver Grenell** and **Ricky Dey** with support from *Creative New Zealand*.

SUNDAY 14 MAY

Who's on the Couch? Guyon Espiner

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM, Kiwi Hall. \$15



Four years ago **Guyon Espiner** gave up drinking alcohol. His book, *The Drinking Game*, is an unflinching look at how the way we drink is shaped not only by our individual choice, but also by government, media and big business. **Noelle McCarthy** leads the conversation.

Paint it Pink - Gloria Pop-up Installation by Sam Duckor-Jones

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Back of the Anzac Hall, entrance via Birdwood Street. KOHA



Former Featherstonian, **Sam Duckor-Jones**, returns to share his innovative and immersive art. Gloria, based on his new home of the same name in Greymouth, will explode this year's festival with resplendent pink hues and tones, and invite you to reflect on transformation – both artistic and human.

Author Spotlight: The Pioneering Life and Work of Jacqui Sturm/Te Kare Papuni

11:00 AM - Midday, Kiwi Hall. \$15



Jacqui Sturm, often only known as James K. Baxter's wife, emerged as an important literary voice in her own right. Based on her newly published collected works, **Roger Steele** considers her life and art with her friend, **Renée**, and academic **Paul Millar**.

Author Spotlight: Yes, Minister with Chris Finlayson

11:00 AM - Midday, Waimarie/RSA. \$15



Chris Finlayson was a highly regarded senior member of John Key's Cabinet known for his chisel-sharp tongue. Join **Peter Biggs** for an intriguing conversation with Chris about his book *Yes, Minister*, which recounts his years as Attorney General, Minister for Treaty Negotiations and Minister of Arts, Culture and Heritage.

Celebrating Queer Stories

11:00 AM - Midday, The Joy Cowley Room, The Royal Hotel. \$15



Be part of celebrating the creativity and contribution of our LGBTQIA+ writers and artists. Playwright and author **Victor Rodger** and art historian, biographer and non-fiction writer **Joanne Drayton** explore queer art and writing with Poet Laureate **Chris Tse**.

Print and Paper Fun with Cheryl Gallaway and Rob Kennedy - Drop-in Session

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM, St Teresa's School. KOHA



Pop-up print and paper making fun! Drop by for a chat, make some native plant paper and print yourself a bookmark with the Featherston Booktown logo using a letterpress printing machine. Casual open workshop. Suitable for all ages and abilities.

Amorangi and Millie's Trip Through Time with Lauren Keenan

11:00 AM - Midday, Featherston Community Centre. \$15



Something that happened a long time ago can still be relevant today. Award-winning author, **Lauren Keenan**, creator of *Amorangi and Millie's Trip Through Time*, offers tricks and tips about how to turn what happened in the past into an interesting story.

Finding and Making Workshop with Emma Hinton from the Light Library

11:00 AM - MIDDAY, St. Teresa's School. \$10 Includes materials and a bound book to take away



Join **Emma Hinton's** workshop for children 8 years and older (and their caregivers). You'll turn a poem into a prompt journal to help you write and draw your own story, then learn the Japanese binding method and make your own books.

The Joy of Writing

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM, Kiwi Hall. \$20



What brings writers back for more when it's time to shut down their laptops? **Peter Biggs** quizzes four of our most esteemed writers and illustrators – **Gavin Bishop**, **Renée**, **Joy Cowley** and **Lynley Dodd** – about their writing habits and the joy they get from their work.

Writing Funny Stories Workshop for 8 to 12-year-olds

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM, Featherston Community Centre. FREE



What do you find really funny? Join **Leela** (11) and her dad, **Rajorshi Chakraborti**, to work out how you can turn the funny things that crop up in your daily life into a great story. They turned a joke about people farting uncontrollably into a children's novel they wrote together – *The Bad Smell Hotel!*

Kiwi Klassics: Paul Millar on Coal Flat by Bill Pearson

In a tribute to Lydia Wevers 1950-2021

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM, The Joy Cowley Room, The Royal Hotel. \$15



Bill Pearson was a sensitive boy brought up as a working-class West Coaster, an academic, writer and gay man. His biographer **Paul Millar** will traverse Pearson's fascinating life and controversial writings, including his iconic novel *Coal Flat*. Profits from this session go to the *Lydia Wevers Scholarship in New Zealand Studies*.

Singalong with Kath Bee

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM, St Teresa's School. FREE



Join **Kath Bee** singing songs like *Individuality*, *Dad I wanna be a Camel*, *Sprinkle A Little Sunshine* and more. Dance, sing, do actions and even pop bubbles! Follow Kath to the Chicken and Frog Bookshop, where she will read from her books *Dragons Under My Bed* and *Dougal the Kākāpō* and sing more songs.

Life Story Writing Tips Workshop

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM, Featherston Community Centre. \$20



Discover how to make your family history a good read. In this workshop with **Kate McCarthy** of *Forget Me Not Life Stories*, you'll learn how to map your life story or family history, and bring authentic characters to life.

The Hopfather - Most of this Actually Happened

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM, Waimarie/RSA. \$15



In his biography of **Richard Emerson**, *The Hopfather*, **Michael Donaldson** tells the story of our pre-eminent brewer, often lauded as the godfather of our craft beer industry. Hear from the man who built our modern beer scene and find out how Michael made this tale of adversity and triumph into a book. Moderated by **Ryan McArthur**.

Paper-making Workshop with Rob Kennedy (2)

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM, St Teresa's School. \$25



Enjoy learning about this 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 Visitors' Book. Suitable for all ages and abilities. Materials provided.

Mrs Blackwell's Mother's Day Afternoon Tea: Wāhine Go Wild!

2:30 PM - 4:30 PM, The Members' Stand at the Tauherenikau Events Centre, \$50



Book early for this popular event! Join writers **Stacey Morrison**, **Hinemoa Elder** and **Emma Espiner** for an unfiltered conversation about health and wellness, whānau, relationships and the guiding force of ancestral knowledge. Enjoy a sweet and savoury high tea sponsored by *Mrs Blackwell's Village Bookshop*, and maybe a nip of Booklovers' Gin from the Greytown Distilling Company.

Gallipoli: The Scale of Our War

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM, Kiwi Hall. \$15



Gallipoli: The Scale of Our War is one of Te Papa's most viewed exhibitions. Three contributors to the companion book – exhibition director **Chris Pugsley**, curator **Puawai Cairns**, and creator **Sir Richard Taylor** – tell **Peter Biggs** how the Gallipoli campaign was brought to life through this compelling exhibition.

The Cruel Sea - Shipwreck Stories

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM, The Joy Cowley Room, The Royal Hotel. \$15



Cristina Sanders, author of *Mrs Jewell and the Wreck of the General Grant*, and **John McCrystal**, author of *Worse Things Happen at Sea*, discuss their mutual obsession with tall ships, the people and treasure they carried, and how and where they were wrecked around our treacherous shoreline.

Notes on the Page - Writing Music

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM, Waimarie/RSA. \$15



Writer and broadcaster **Nick Bollinger** with **Shayne P. Carter** (Straitjacket Fits, Dimmer) and Featherston's own **Warren Maxwell** (Trinity Roots, Little Bushman) discuss different approaches to writing music and making a life in music. Afterwards, the Featherston Vinyl Club will spin some tunes to get your toes tapping and close out the Featherston Booktown 2023 Karukatea Festival in style.