



NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE
FOR RESEARCH ON AGEING
Te Pūtahi Rangahau i te Pakeke Haere

NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH ON AGEING ANNUAL REPORT 2002



Victoria

UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

*Te Whare Wānanga
o te Ūpoko o te Ika a Māui*







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Population Ageing and its Implications

Population ageing is one of the most significant issues facing New Zealand in the coming decades. Its implications are crucial for government and all policy-making bodies. It will affect individuals, households, communities, business and voluntary organisations. An understanding of how ageing relates to other social changes in New Zealand and an in-depth knowledge of behavioural factors that promote positive ageing is fundamental to successful social and economic adjustment as the age composition of the population changes. It is the mission of NZiRA to promote this understanding especially through the use of research.

NZiRA - its Role, Purpose and Structure

The New Zealand Institute for Research on Ageing is a multi-disciplinary, multi-sectoral and multi-ethnic research centre, focusing on population and individual ageing. It aims to be the leading research centre in New Zealand for ageing-related social research and to be the first point of contact for national and international requests for information and research expertise. The objectives of NZiRA are –

- To increase and enhance multidisciplinary research on human ageing, particularly within the New Zealand context,
- To promote collaboration amongst researchers in the area of ageing throughout New Zealand and internationally,
- To contribute advances in the understanding of individual and societal ageing and its implications,
- To communicate the findings of research in order to improve public awareness, practice, and policy,
- and to monitor the impact of research.

NZiRA has been designated as one of Victoria University's first Applied Research Centres in recognition of its potential to contribute in an area of forward-thinking and policy-related research. There are three elements to the institute's structure – the Director, the Advisory Board and the NZiRA Network.

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The Director



Associate Professor Judith A. Davey was appointed as Director of NZiRA from February 1, 2002 do a three year term. She is also a staff member of the School of Social and Cultural Studies, teaching Social Policy courses.

The Advisory Board is a prestigious group of individuals from a variety of sectors who advise the Director and provide end-user perspectives in the work of the institute. There are two sub-committees composed of board members and people co-opted for special purposes. One sub-committee was convened to organise publicity for the TOWER fellow visit and related matters. Another deals with fund-raising for NZiRA. The very valuable contribution of Tricia Walbridge, of the VUW Foundation to this sub-committee is acknowledged.

Membership of the NZiRA Advisory Board

- Dr. Jenny Neale, Deputy Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (Chair)
- Mr. Colin Blair OBE, Retirement Commissioner
- Dr. Chris Cunningham, Centre for Maori Studies, Massey University.
- Mr. Garth Taylor, CEO, Age Concern, New Zealand
- Ms. Natalie Lavery, Manager, Office for Senior Citizens, Ministry of Social Development
- Dr. David Richmond, Auckland Medical School, University of Auckland
- Mr. Graeme Hall, Martin Jarvie PKF, Chartered Accountants
- Ms. Beverley Wakem, CBE, Trustee, Victoria University of Wellington Foundation
- Mr. Tim Sole, Chief Executive, Public Trust.
- Professor Jan Duke, Graduate School of Nursing and Midwifery, Victoria University

Ex-officio

- Dr. Judith A. Davey, School of Social and Cultural Studies, Victoria University, Director of NZiRA
- Dr Susan Gee, Research Fellow in Positive Ageing and Intergenerational Relations, School of Psychology, Victoria University, Deputy Director NZiRA

Boyd Klap, Anne Delamere and Sally Keeling served on the Interim Advisory Board during 2001 and their contribution is gratefully acknowledged.

The NZiRA Network consists of over 400 individuals and organisations throughout New Zealand and overseas. Network members receive regular updates from the institute and information about its activities, as well as providing a pool of interested researchers and individuals who can be invited to contribute their own expertise.

Setting up NZiRA

NZiRA has offices in the School of Social and Cultural studies. Being one of the first Applied Research Centres NZiRA was able to make an input into the design of a common 'livery' – stationery and logos. The style also influenced the brochures which the institute has been using in promotion. We are extremely proud of our Maori name – Te Putahi Rangahau i te Pakeke Haere – which conveys the message of ageing as an adult.

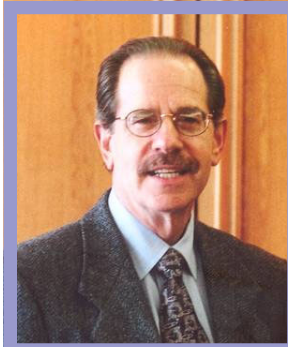
NZiRA has a website which has helped to inform the world about its existence and through which the institute can promote its activities, as well as inviting contributions to the calendar and list of research under way. People may join the NZiRA network through the web-site, which also hosts information on the New Zealand Association of Gerontology. As part of its internal networking, NZiRA found a large number of Victoria University staff who have interests in the area of ageing. Thus we will be able to call upon the expertise of people from Sociology, Social Policy, Nursing and Midwifery, Psychology, Women's Studies, Education, Maori Studies, Architecture, Law and Commerce.

Relaunching NZiRA

On Thursday 21 February, in the Adam Art Gallery, we held a function to “re-launch” NZiRA as one of the first Applied Research Centres (ARCs) at Victoria University and to celebrate the appointment of a Director for the institute. In opening the speeches, Professor Roy Sharp, Deputy Vice Chancellor, remembered that he was present in August 2000, when NZiRA was launched by the Minister for Senior Citizens in the Grand Hall of Parliament and commented on the institute’s progress since then. He noted that the establishment of the ARCs reflects the university’s response to current government policies which encourage applied research. In particular, the university is acknowledging that population ageing is an issue for the future.

The Hon Lianne Dalziel, Minister for Senior Citizens, was not able to attend the function, as she was out of Wellington. But she sent a message which was read out by Louise Dooley from the Senior Citizens’ Unit. She congratulated the university on supporting NZiRA, Judith Davey on her appointment and TOWER on the fellowship programme. She also remembered the contribution of board members and other supporters and acknowledged the achievements of the institute. She concluded –

I am aware of and appreciate the potential of NZiRA to add substantively to the body of knowledge on ageing in New Zealand and I am pleased that the Institute is working closely with the Senior Citizens’ Unit at the Ministry of Social Development. The appointment of Natalie Lavery to the Advisory Board will link NZiRA with my Senior Citizens portfolio and facilitate connections between a central government agency and a research body and this will be mutually rewarding.



The fellowship is awarded annually, with sponsorship from TOWER Ltd., for a distinguished expert from overseas to visit New Zealand for up to a month and to carry out speaking engagements to a range of audiences across the country. The TOWER fellow for 2002 was Professor Anthea Tinker, Age Concern Institute of Gerontology, King's College, University of London.

Another purpose for the function on the 21 February was to formally announce the TOWER visiting fellow for 2002 - Dr. Jordan Kosberg, Professor of Social Work at the University of Alabama, who has published extensively on elder abuse and the care of very old people and takes an especial interest in issues for older men. Both NZiRA and Victoria University are extremely grateful to TOWER for their generosity in making this programme possible. Mr James Boonzaier, then Group Managing Director of TOWER and Ms Karyn Fenton, Group Communications Manager, were present at the re-launch function

Professor Kosberg, accompanied by his wife, Dr. Juanita Garcia, who is also a gerontologist interested in women and ageing, were in New Zealand from mid-May to mid-June. They carried out some 35 engagements, including around 10 media interviews, in their four-week visit.

Their visit began with a welcome lunch with TOWER staff, the NZiRA Advisory Board and invited guests from organizations with interests in ageing.

While in Wellington, our visitors also met with the Minister for Senior Citizens, the Hon. Lianne Dalziel and, among others, gave seminars at the Ministry of Social Development and Ministry of Health, for the Health Services Research Centre and the Wellington Medical School. Both visitors spoke at the *Ageing in a diverse Aotearoa/New Zealand* Conference. A further highlight was a meeting with Pacific Island elders at Canons Creek, Porirua East, organized by Margaret Guthrie

In late May, accompanied by Judith Davey, Professor Kosberg and Dr. Garcia



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spent time in the South Island, meeting with staff at the University of Canterbury, the Christchurch branches of Age Concern and the Gerontology Association and voluntary groups in Dunedin. Later in Auckland, they visited the Lady Allum Village, North Shore, attended the Age Concern AGM and gave presentations at the Auckland Medical School.

Everyone was very impressed with our visitors' stamina, friendliness and willingness to engage with a wide variety of audiences. Two instances illustrate their *mana*. In Dunedin, an audience waited for two hours to hear Professor Kosberg speak, after the plane flight from Christchurch had been cancelled. In Wellington, a crowd of 80 people came to hear a talk, organized by the Alzheimers Society, on care-giving, and overflowed the meeting room. NZiRA and TOWER owe a great debt of thanks to Jordan and Juanita, who gave so generously of themselves and brought so much credit to NZiRA during their stay in New Zealand.

Conference

Ageing in a Diverse Aotearoa/New Zealand,
Wellington, 4-5 June, 2002.

This conference was the most recent of a two-yearly series and was jointly organised by NZiRA and Victoria University's School of Psychology. It aimed to foster relationships between researchers, organisations and individuals with an interest in positive ageing. Conference topics included –

- Older men
- Older women
- Older 'new' New Zealanders
- Older Maori
- Learning from a diversity of older people
- Supporting a diversity of older people

The conference was a great success, with a wide variety of styles of presentation. The organizers, especially Susan Gee, did wonderful work and there were many appreciative comments. Both Jordan Kosberg and Juanita Garcia gave presentations. There has been a keen demand for the bibliography, *Ageing Aotearoa*, which was launched, by the Minister for Senior Citizens, at the conference. A further conference is planned for 2004.

Seminar Series

The inaugural NZiRA seminar series took place in August and September, 2002. There were five sessions, with the overall title -

2020: What will New Zealand look like when half the population is over 40?

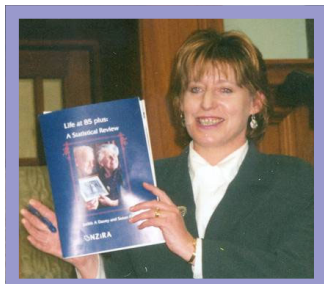
Topics and Speakers

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| August 19 | Elizabeth McLeay, Associate Professor of Political Science, Victoria University: "Imagining Politics" |
| August 26 | A panel of speakers with perspectives from social planning, social impact assessment and architecture: "Living in the City"
Di Buchan, Corydon Consultants
Brett MacKay – Wellington City Council
John Gray – School of Architecture Victoria University
Graeme MacIndoe - School of Architecture Victoria University |
| September 2 | Peter Biggs, Managing Director, Clemenger BBDO Ltd Advertising Agency and Chair of Creative New Zealand
"Shifting the Focus?" |
| September 9 | Trudie McNaughton, CEO, Equal Employment Opportunities Trust "Valuing Older Workers" |
| September 16 | Grant Scobie - Principal Advisor, Treasury (for Alan Bollard, Secretary to the Treasury
"Economic Opportunities and Fiscal Costs" |

The speakers were also interviewed on Wayne Mowat's radio programme, *In Touch with New Zealand*, on each Monday afternoon just before the seminars. A summary of the talks is available on the NZiRA web- site. Naomi Trigg and others were active in seeking publicity for the seminars, which were aimed at a general audience and provided free of charge. For this we are extremely grateful to our main sponsor TOWER Ltd., and other sponsors - Executive Caterers and Festival Hire. The continuing sponsorship by TOWER ensures that the seminar series will be repeated in 2003.

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Publications



Hon Lianne Dalziel
launches 85 Not Out

In 2002, NZiRA published two reports. *Aotearoa Ageing: An annotated bibliography of New Zealand Research on Ageing, 1997-2001* was launched at the conference in June. This annotated bibliography of New Zealand research on ageing from 1997-2001 updates the Gilling and Gilling 1996 bibliography.

Life at 85 plus: A Statistical Review was launched by the Minister for Senior Citizens at a parliamentary ceremony in September. This monograph brings together statistical information, at the national level, on people aged 85 and over in New Zealand, from a wide range of sources. It is packed with facts, figures and graphs. Along with the bibliography, the publications provide a useful reference for older people, interest groups and voluntary organisations.

NZiRA acknowledges the help of the Office for Senior Citizens (formerly Senior Citizens Unit) in the production of the monograph and the consideration of the Minister in hosting the launch.

There has been a great deal of interest in both publications, with orders from around New Zealand and overseas.

Monographs / edited collections

Davey, J. & Gee, S. (2002) *Life at 85 plus: A Statistical Review*. New Zealand Institute for Research on Ageing, Victoria University of Wellington.

Gee, S. & Davey, J. (2002) *Aotearoa Ageing: An annotated bibliography of New Zealand research on ageing, 1997-2001*. New Zealand Institute for Research on Ageing, Victoria University of Wellington.

Gee, S. (Ed) (2002) *Ageing in a diverse New Zealand / Aotearoa. 40 plus Project*, Victoria University of Wellington.

Davey, J. (2001) *Going for it! Older Students at Victoria University*. Mid and Later Life Research Project, Victoria University of Wellington.

Gee, S. (Ed) (2001) *Experience of a lifetime: Older New Zealanders as volunteers*. 40 plus Project, Wellington: Victoria University of Wellington.

To order these books please e-mail Associate Professor Judith Davey, Director, New Zealand Institute for Research on Ageing, at Judith.Davey@vuw.ac.nz.

Papers

- Davey, J. A. (2002) "Active Ageing" and Education in mid and later life. *Ageing and Society*, 22, p.95-113.
- Davey, J. A. (2002) Funding Education in Mid and Later Life - A Case Study from Victoria University. *Social Policy Journal of New Zealand*, 18, p.178-190.
- Davey, J. A. (2002) . University study in mid and later life: The experience of early school leavers. *New Zealand Journal of Adult Learning*, 30(2), p.18-33.
- Gee, S. B., Ng, S. H., Weatherall, A., Liu, J. H., Loong, C. S. F., & Higgins, T.P. (2002). Saving ourselves: Gender issues in making provision for one's own retirement. *Australasian Journal On Ageing*, 21(1), p. 30-35.
- Gee, S., Davey, J., and Duke, J. (2001). The greying of the nation: Issues for health care in the context of an ageing population. *Health Manager*, 8(3).
- Davey, J. A. (2001) Continuity, Choice and Opportunity: university study in retirement. *Education and Ageing*, 16, (3), 2001 pp. 289-301.
- Gee, S. (2001). Unpaid work by middle-aged and older New Zealanders. Proceedings of the British Society of Gerontology 30th Annual Conference, Stirling, 31 August-2 September 2001. Department of Applied Social Science, University of Stirling, Scotland, 2001, pp. 123-126.
- Davey, J. A. (2001) "Experience of University Study in Retirement – Substitution and Identity", Proceedings of the British Society of Gerontology 30th Annual Conference, Stirling, 31 August-2 September 2001. Department of Applied Social Science, University of Stirling, Scotland, 2001, pp.21-25.

Forthcoming

- Davey, J. A. and Jamieson, A. (In Press) Against the Odds: Pathways of early school leavers into university education: Evidence from England and New Zealand. *International Journal of Lifelong Education*.
- Davey, J. A. (In Press) Opportunity Or Outrage? Redundancy and Educational Involvement In Mid-Life. *Journal of Education and Work*.
- Gee, S. B. Liu, J. & Ng, S. H. (In press). The veneration gap: Generational dissonance and well-being amongst Chinese and European parents. *Hallym International Journal of Aging*

Research

NZiRA has been associated with several multi-disciplinary research projects which pre-date its establishment as an ARC, including *Positive Ageing and Intergenerational Relations* and *Education in Mid and Later Life*.

NZiRA is working with central and local government agencies, other researchers and voluntary agencies to develop a programme of collaborative research projects. These will have a strong user-orientation, with practical and applied components. In its on-going research work, NZiRA has two central themes – mid-life and later life.

Positive Ageing – Ageing in Place in New Zealand is a stream of research focussed on later life. This work gave rise to *Life at 85 plus*, work on older people and housing, and is the basis for ongoing research applications. It seeks to explore the meaning of positive or successful ageing in different cultural, socio-economic, housing and geographical contexts and to give voice to the views and aspirations of the older people themselves. In pursuing this theme, NZiRA is collaborating with researchers from medical, nursing and other health disciplines, with government agencies and with voluntary groups, such as Age Concern.

Work and Education in Mid Life aims to identify research on these topics which is needed in the context of an ageing population in New Zealand. Enhancing the workforce capabilities of older workers appears a promising, or even necessary, option for the future. This approach has advantages for the workers themselves, for their employers and for society as a whole. If large numbers of people in mid-life are unemployed, underemployed, prematurely retired or otherwise contributing less in economic terms than they are capable of, this has far-reaching implications.

In collaboration with the Canterbury Development Corporation and the Third Age Foundation, NZiRA called a meeting in Christchurch in July to explore a research agenda. Twenty-five people from around 15 different organizations attended, illustrating the relevance of the topic. The meeting identified the following topics

1. Investment in human capital at economy-wide level - Matching skills supply and demand in an ageing workforce
2. Investment in human capital at the level of the firm or enterprise.

3. Work-life Balance – including the issue of working carers
4. Age Discrimination
5. Education and Training in mid and later life

To explore these issues in more detail and to prepare the way for more substantive projects, NZiRA will carry out a “scoping” exercise in 2003 and will produce a publication on trends for older workers in New Zealand, current initiatives and options for future policy and practice.

Networking and Communication

NZiRA has an extensive e-mail network with individuals and organisations from throughout New Zealand and overseas. During 2002 the institute has issued bi-monthly newsletters and news updates to the network, which it can also draw upon for its research and other activities.

The NZiRA web-site is a useful means by which its activities are publicized and clearly advertises NZiRA to the world.

NZiRA maintains contact with a wide range of people in government agencies, to exchange information and to discuss possibilities for research on ageing. These contacts include: The Treasury, LTSA, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Development and the Office for Senior Citizens. We have had contact with business organisations regarding sponsorship and research opportunities. Among our significant links in the community and voluntary sector are those with Age Concern, Grey Power, Age Wise, the Royal Society for Arts

Many of the enquiries received by NZiRA concern professional and academic matters, requests for advice on research, for sources of information, and for articles in a variety of journals. Through such links the institute can promote and foster research on ageing, especially by encouraging students working for post-graduate degrees.

NZiRA has been approached for information by reporters and programme-makers in all types of news media. The Director has given several TV and news interviews and provided comment on issues such as prolonging involvement in the workforce, elder abuse and neglect, policy issues and international statements on population ageing.

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Consultancy

NZiRA is able to provide advice for a range of agencies on the implications of population ageing and associated issues. During 2003, the Director worked with several organisations, including the Housing Research Centre, Housing Corporation of New Zealand, the New Zealand Guidelines Group health authorities.

The Director's Visits in Australian state capitals

Subsequent to the International Federation on Ageing Conference in Perth (see below) Judith Davey visited Adelaide, Melbourne, Brisbane and Sydney



Judith Davey with conference volunteer

to make contact with centres for research on ageing in Australia and to make contacts which will be useful to NZiRA in the future. The visit was made possible by awards from the Maurice and Phyllis Paykel Trust, Wellington Rotary Club and the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Victoria University (overseas conference grant).

Highlights of the visit included time in Perth with Dr. Penny Flett, CEO of Brightwater, a non-profit group providing residential and community-based care for elderly people and with Rhonda Parker, CEO of the Positive Ageing Foundation of Australia. The Centre for Ageing Studies (CAS) is a joint enterprise of Flinders University and the University of South Australia. At CAS the Director had discussions with Professor Gary Andrews and Professor Mary Luszcz. She also spoke at a seminar hosted by the South Australian Healthy Ageing Cluster and attended a seminar arranged by the South Australia /Northern Territory branch of the Australian Association of Gerontology, meeting the president of the branch, Dr. Rob Ranzijn.

While in Melbourne, Judith Davey spent some time at the National Ageing Research Institute, which is associated with the University of Melbourne, and attended NARI's 25th AGM. The visit included discussions with the new Director, Professor Allan McLean, and the public health group. The Director also gave a seminar to institute staff and invited guests. Also in Melbourne is the Lincoln Gerontology Centre at La Trobe University. Staff there have interests similar to those of NZiRA including the employment of older workers and the health and well-being impacts of retirement. Associate Professor Peter Foreman invited Judith Davey to the LGC and introduced her

to staff members and associates. A further very useful contact in Melbourne was Anna Howe, now an international consultant on aged care and ageing issues, who strongly encouraged New Zealand /Australian cooperation through conferences and joint research.

Professor Helen Bartlett, Director of the Australasian Centre on Ageing at the University of Queensland facilitated meetings in Brisbane with university staff, state government officials and people from non-governmental organizations. These included sessions with Peta Jervois manager of the Queensland Government's Seniors Interests Unit, with Mark Tucker-Evans Executive Director of the Council on the Ageing (Queensland), Ruth Batty of the National Seniors Association and Yvonne Zardani, state secretary of the Pensioners and Superannuants' League.

Professor John McCallum, Dean of Social and Health Sciences at the University of Western Sydney greatly assisted the Director's visits in Sydney, including the presentation of a seminar – *Human Research Issues in an Ageing Workforce* – given by Judith Davey at the University of West Sydney, which was attended by university staff from a range of disciplines as well as visitors from further afield, including Canberra. At Macquarie University, the Director met Dr. Michael Fine and Professor Anna Yeatman and she also met with Emeritus Professor Sol Encel of the Social Policy Research Centre, University of New South Wales, to discuss his ongoing research on older workers.

Conference attendance and presentations

- At the New Zealand Association of Gerontology Conference, in Auckland, 17-19 April, NZiRA had a one and a half hour session in which Judith Davey and Susan Gee presented on *NZiRA – the New Zealand Institute for Research on Ageing: its role, capabilities and plans for the future*. Both also gave papers on their own research -

Happily ever after? Positive Ageing in three New Zealand Cultural Groups

Dr.Susan Gee.

The "Busy Ethic": study in retirement and its effects on identity and self-esteem

Dr.Judith Davey.

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- The Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufacturers & Commerce (New Zealand chapter) organized a seminar in July, entitled - *Creative Ageing: Achieving the full potential of our ageing society* - in association with NZiRA. This aimed to challenge the current perception of older people as a growing burden on society and consider instead the opportunities and possibilities for re-framing older age as a time of creativity, contribution and commitment to the future. Judith Davey delivered the keynote address which led into small group and general discussion. The paper and a summary of the workshop output are now under discussion by the RSA and will ultimately produce suggestions for action, including further meetings.
- International Federation on Ageing Conference, “Maturity Matters”, Perth, October 2002. Judith Davey gave two papers at the conference - *University Study in Retirement – How can it contribute to quality of life?* in the Education, Employment and Training stream, and - *Ageing in Place – What factors influence the ability of older people to remain in their own homes?* in the Policy stream. The Perth Conference was also extremely useful for the Director to make contact with researchers in Australia, many of whom she subsequently visited (see above for further details of visit and presentations).
- Ministry of Health – Health of Older People Provider Workshop – *Getting Started on a Continuum of Care*. Judith Davey presented a paper entitled – *What is Positive/Successful/Health Ageing in Place/ What do we know about it and what do we need to know?*
- During the year other presentations on behalf of NZiRA included those for -
 - The Advisory Council for Senior Citizens (Judith Davey)
 - The AGM of the Widows and Widowers’ Association (Susan Gee).
 - A group of 40 Japanese local government officials attending a training course in New Zealand, organized through Local Government New Zealand (Judith Davey).
 - The Auckland Medical School (Judith Davey)
 - Contribution to a planning day for the Hutt Valley District Health Board (Judith Davey).