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NZiRA - its Role and Objectives

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.

Membership of the NZiRA Advisory Board

- Dr. Jenny Neale, Deputy Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (Chair)
- Mr. Colin Blair OBE, Retirement Commissioner (until his retirement in mid-2003)
- Dr. Chris Cunningham, Centre for Maori Studies, Massey University.
- Mr. Garth Taylor, CEO, Age Concern, New Zealand
- Ms. Natalie Lavery, Director, Office for Senior Citizens, Ministry of Social Development
- Dr. David Richmond, Auckland Medical School, University of Auckland (until mid-2003)
- Mr. Graeme Hall, Martin Jarvie PKF, Chartered Accountants
- Ms. Beverley Wakem, CBE, Trustee, Victoria University of Wellington Foundation
- Mr. Tim Sole, former 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, Deputy Director of NZiRA (currently on maternity leave)

NZiRA's Year



This report marks the second year of NZiRA's existence as an Applied Research Centre of Victoria University. We feel proud of what we have accomplished and grateful to all those who have supported us. Among the latter have been the Hon Lianne Dalziel as Minister for Senior Citizens and Colin Blair as Retirement Commissioner. 2003 has seen the appointment of the Hon Ruth Dyson as a new Minister for Senior Citizens and we have begun to work with her as closely and as successfully as with her predecessor. Diana Crossan has taken over from Colin Blair as the new Retirement Commissioner. Her office is another key contact for NZiRA, which we hope to sustain and develop further. The presence of key people, such as the Retirement Commissioner, the Director of the Office for Senior Citizens and the CEO of Age Concern New Zealand, on the Advisory Board of NZiRA is vital to position the institute as the leading centre for ageing-related social research in this country. We owe special thanks to Colin Blair and David Richmond who retired from the board during 2003.

The highlights of this year have been the seminar series – *Absolutely Positively Ageing* – three book launches, *Emergent Researchers* – the symposium for postgraduate students working on ageing – and the visit of the third TOWER fellow. Details of these events are set out below.

We have won a range of research contracts. Several of these continue into 2004. They cover a range of topics, and NZiRA is making its mark in research on the implications of ageing – “future-proofing” as we see it – and especially in the areas of transport, housing, labour market issues and health services.

In August visited the UK to attend the British Society of Gerontology Conference, where I gave a paper arising from our work on older people and transport. The trip gave me the opportunity to renew contacts and make new ones, all of which help in promoting international collaboration. As one example of this, while in my home town of York, I visited Hartrigg Oaks, described as the UK's first continuing care retirement community and spoke to researchers at York University who have been documenting residents' views. This provides an interesting example for our ongoing work on housing options for older people. I also took the opportunity to meet Professor Tom Kirkwood, who will be our TOWER fellow in 2004. Professor Kirkwood is a biological gerontologist, the author of *Time of Our Lives: The Science of Human Ageing* and of *Chance, Development and Ageing*. He is especially well known for giving the BBC Reith Lectures in 2001 on ‘*The End of Age*’.

So as well as reviewing the history of NZiRA for 2003, this report looks forward to a continuing and varied range of activities in 2004. Thanks again to all who have helped to make things happen and will continue to do so for the future.

Judith Davey (Director)

Activities in 2003

The TOWER fellowship

We are extremely grateful for TOWER's continued sponsorship of the very successful programme of visits by eminent speakers and researchers from overseas. The 2003 NZiRA/TOWER fellow was Professor Norah Keating, from the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada. Dr. Keating is a family gerontologist.

Her research is in family care-giving and policies to support informal care-givers. She also has a longstanding interest in ageing in rural areas - one of the themes of her presentations in New Zealand. She is actively involved in professional gerontology organizations and in policy consultations with Canadian federal government departments and other stakeholder agencies. Norah had wide-ranging discussions with NZiRA about research collaboration, based on her extensive research experience and linkages with policy-making bodies. Her programme included central and local government consultations, as well as meetings with voluntary and private sector groups. Professor Keating and her husband were in New Zealand from 9 November until 2 December and spent time in Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, New Plymouth, Hamilton and Auckland as well as attending meetings in rural areas including the Wairarapa, Rangiora and Alexandra. Among the topics for her presentations were —



**Norah Keating and Karyn
Fenton of TOWER**

- Rural Life – A great way to grow old?
- Balancing formal and informal care of older people
- Canadian Research on Ageing
- Caring for older adults in rural communities - implications for caregivers
- Population Ageing and Public Policy

Seminar Series- Absolutely Positively Ageing

The Positive Roles of Older people in Society

The 2003 NZiRA/TOWER seminar series took place in the Old Government Buildings (VUW Law School) Wellington, over four Wednesday lunchtimes in May and early June. The focus was on the positive roles of older people in society and the audiences (a good mix of regulars and people interested in specific topics) found

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themselves informed, entertained and stimulated by a range of knowledgeable speakers.

Bill Buxton started the series and exemplified his topic - *Applying Lifetime Experience through Volunteering* – by talking about his own experiences, which range from strategic planning for major voluntary organisations and government agencies to the painstaking and faithful reproduction, in miniature, of antique chairs (he brought along some examples).

Sharing the second seminar - *Older People – Creative and Active* - Diana O'Neill showed how older people are active in sports and physical exercise and Penny Eames provided information on older people as creative artists, with examples of individual and group work. Both inspired the audience to participate themselves, by raising their own fitness levels and becoming creative in a variety of ways – life stories and poetry are being drafted as we speak!

Jill Taiaroa came from Christchurch to present the third seminar - *Business Mentoring – the gift of wisdom* - and talked about her work in a long-established business mentoring programme, under the aegis of the Canterbury Development Corporation. This provides a free service which can help businesses get started but also rescue them from financial disaster (and a great deal of human distress). Retired business executives from CEOs downwards are involved in this valuable service.

The final seminar presented *Maori and Pakeha Perspectives on Grandparenting* and the speakers were Te Ripowai Higgins, Te Kawa a Maui, Victoria University, and Sue Missen (who had recently completed her MA at Victoria University). It became clear that, despite different cultural backgrounds, grandparents play key roles in promoting the cohesion of wider families, giving children a good start in life and also in transmitting knowledge and wisdom over the generations. It was an illuminating session for all actual and potential grandparents.

Publications

NZiRA has celebrated three publications in 2003.

Two Decades of Change in New Zealand – From Birth to Death V,

by Judith Davey. Published by the Institute of Policy Studies, Victoria University, Wellington, in June.

The past 20 years have seen enormous social and economic changes in New Zealand. This book presents trends of change in everyday life, at home and in the community, at school and at work. It uses a lifecycle framework to cover



Nick Pole of the Ministry of Social Development at the launch

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all stages of life from infancy to old age. As well as by age, it provides analyses by gender and ethnicity to highlight differences between the experiences of groups within society. Significant trends which are tracked include changes in household composition and living arrangements, legal and social marital status, home ownership, working patterns of parents, household and personal incomes, paid and unpaid work, life-long education, health status and hospital use.

This is the fifth volume in the social monitoring series begun by the New Zealand Planning Council in 1985. It presents information from five dates – 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996 and 2001 – spanning two decades and based on national-level statistical series, especially the Census of Population.

Living and Learning: Experiences of University after Age 40, edited by Judith Davey, Jenny Neale and Kay Morris Matthews. Published by Victoria University Press, Wellington, July.



The book includes nine in-depth studies with groups of older students who were part of the *Education in Mid and Later Life* study. (The earlier results of this project were published as *Going for it! Older Students at Victoria University* in 2001). It documents the rich variety of their personal experiences and backgrounds which led them to study in mid-

life. The nine studies are –

- Early School Leavers and the Path to University
- Victorious Men - Men Studying Full-time
- Older Maori as Students – “I’m finally moving from being a spectator to being a participant in my own culture”
- Is it worth it? - Full-time teachers who study part-time
- Nurses at University—Negotiating academic, work and personal pathways
- “Ageproofing” your career — Age Gender and the “new Career”
- Redundancy as an Opportunity – Job Loss and Education in Mid Life
- University Study in Retirement – Continuity, Substitution and Identity
- Why Do They Leave? Mature students and withdrawal from study

Maximising the Potential of Older Workers,

By Judith Davey and Justine Cornwall. Published by NZiRA, October.

Our latest NZiRA report raises and discusses issues related to change in the New Zealand workforce, especially the ageing of the workforce and the consequences of smaller cohorts of young workers entering it. This is likely to lead to labour

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and skill shortages unless attitudes towards the employment potential of older workers change. The report brings together New Zealand data and research findings on older workers, with selected overseas material. As well as setting the scene for change, the report challenges myths about older workers and explores their strengths and weaknesses. There are chapters on age discrimination and education and training for older workers. While not solely aimed at employers, the report suggests how they could make the most of older workers by providing flexible working conditions and phased retirement and by recognising the needs of working carers of dependent older people. *Maximising the Potential of Older Workers* arises from the stream of work on mid-life which has been going on in NZiRA for two years.

Copies of *Maximising the Potential of Older Workers* are made available free of charge from NZiRA and from the Third Age Centre in Cashel Street, Christchurch.



Ruth Dyson, Minister for Senior Citizens at the launch in Christchurch

Other NZiRA publications, still available free of charge

Davey, J. & Gee, S. *Life at 85 plus: A Statistical Review*

New Zealand Institute for Research on Ageing, Victoria University of Wellington, September 2002

A collection of statistical information about the lives of New Zealanders aged 85 and over

Gee, S. & Davey, J. *Aotearoa Ageing: An annotated bibliography of New Zealand research on ageing, 1997-2001*

New Zealand Institute for Research on Ageing, Victoria University of Wellington, June 2002

Gee, S. (Ed) *Ageing in a diverse New Zealand / Aotearoa.*

40 plus Project, Victoria University of Wellington, June 2002.

Papers from a conference featuring older people in different roles and from different ethnic groups

Research Grants

NZiRA has two grants awards by the Victoria University Research Fund –

Work and Education in Mid Life

This research produced the report *Maximising the Potential of Older Workers*, a paper presented at the April at the Social Policy Research and Evaluation Conference and an article in the *Social Policy Journal of New Zealand (Issue 20, June 2003)* – “Human Capital Issues in an Ageing Workforce”. The project also paved the way for a successful bid to the Department of Labour’s Future of Work Fund.

Setting up a pool of older people willing to be subjects in research

Susan Gee is leading this project through the School of Psychology. It will be completed by the end of 2003.

Consultancy

Contracts Completed in 2003

The Impact of Population Ageing in New Zealand on the demand for health services and disability support services and implications for the health and disability support workforce

Contract with the Ministry of Health, completed in association with the Health Services Research Centre, Victoria University.

Older People and Transport Scoping Study & Older People and Transport Study – International Literature Review

Contracts with the Land Transport Safety Authority, the Ministry of Transport and the Office for Senior Citizens.

The Context and Implications of Population Ageing in New Zealand: A Background Paper for the Periodic Report Group 2003

Contract for the Periodic Report Group (superannuation policy) through the Ministry of Social Development.

Elder Abuse and Neglect: An Evaluation of Age Concern New Zealand’s training materials.

Contract for Age Concern New Zealand.

The Implications for ACC of an Ageing Population - A Scoping Paper

Contract for the Accident Compensation Commission.

Contracts Ongoing to 2004



Kirsty and Sebastian at work

Combining Work and Care – Older Workers, Eldercare and the Work-Life Balance

Contract through the Future of Work Fund, Labour Market Policy Group, Department of Labour

In collaboration with Dr. Sally Keeling of the Christchurch Medical School

The project aims to document the nature and extent of eldercare responsibilities among the workforce of Wellington and Christchurch City Councils and the ways in which these employees combine work and care. It first screened the workforces to establish who had eldercare responsibilities and then sent questionnaires out to those who did, receiving an excellent response.

Four groups interviews were held in Wellington and four in Christchurch to go more deeply into issues associated with working and caring for older people.

Coping without a car Transport Issues for Older People without Private Transport

Contract for the Office for Senior Citizens

The Positive Ageing Strategy includes the goal of *Affordable and Accessible Transport for Older People* and this lies within the overall aim of improving the opportunities for older people to participate in the community in the ways that they choose. Earlier NZiRA work on Older People and Transport indicated strong preferences for private transport. Clearly access to private transport is an important element in quality of life and in contributing to the community participation envisaged in the Positive Ageing Strategy. The question then arises of how older people meet their transport needs and maintain their lifestyles when they no longer have access to private transport.

Accommodation Options for Older People in Aotearoa/New Zealand

Contract for the Centre for Housing Research, Aotearoa New Zealand (CHRANZ) with Business and Economic Research Ltd.(BERL).

The availability of suitable accommodation to meet the needs of an ageing population is part of the challenge posed by population ageing. There is special concern for the housing and care needs of vulnerable groups within the older population – those on low incomes, those suffering from chronic illness or disability, those whose housing conditions are currently inadequate. The special needs of older Maori, Pacific People and women must be addressed. The project will scope the present situation of older people with respect to housing and will also look to the future and assess emerging issues and needs and will review international literature

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on good practice and innovation in housing for older people. Current models of housing for older people, overseas models and some practical case studies will be evaluated using social and economic cost-benefit analysis. A programme of consultation among key stakeholders and communities, including Maori and Pacific People will also be an integral part of the project.

Networking and Communication

The NZiRA web-site is a useful means by which its activities are publicized and clearly advertises NZiRA to the world. People may join the NZiRA network through the web-site, which also hosts information on the New Zealand Association of Gerontology.

NZiRA has an extensive e-mail network with over 400 individuals and organisations throughout New Zealand and overseas which it can draw upon for feedback and through which information on NZiRA's research and other activities can be disseminated. During 2003 NZiRA has issued six bi-monthly newsletters and frequent news updates – about publications, lectures and seminars and research opportunities. NZiRA also maintains contact with a wide range of people in government agencies, to exchange information and to apply research findings. These contacts include: Office for Senior Citizens and the Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Health, The Treasury, Office of the Retirement Commissioner, Periodic Report Group (superannuation policy). We have had contact with business organisations regarding sponsorship and research opportunities, including Business New Zealand, Public Trust and the Retirement Villages Association. Among our significant links in the community and voluntary sector are those with Age Concern, Grey Power, the Work and Age Trust, the EEO Trust and the Third Age Foundation. NZiRA continues to field a large number of enquiries on 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 work towards its objectives.

NZiRA Postgraduate Scholarships

An excellent way of increasing the capacity for research on ageing is to offer earmarked scholarships for postgraduate study leading to Masters' degrees and PhDs. These offer opportunities for graduates and people with career experience who already have interests in the field and also encourage people to choose topics related to ageing. NZiRA can provide a congenial and supportive "home" for research students with these interests. During 2003 Victoria University set up a targeted Ph.D. scholarship for research on ageing and social policy. Unfortunately this attracted only a small number of applicants and none were suitably qualified, but we hope to do better in the future. We are considering ways of making scholarships for research on ageing more attractive and better publicised.

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The HOPE (Health of Older People) Foundation also awarded a \$4000 scholarship for research on ageing at Victoria University. Successful candidates for these scholarships will begin work in 2004.

Postgraduate Symposium

Emerging Researchers Research Symposium for Postgraduate Thesis Students working on topics relevant to Ageing in New Zealand

The symposium offered an exciting prospect for NZiRA to reach out to post graduate students who are working on, or have recently completed, theses related to ageing and the well-being of older people, especially students adopting multi-disciplinary perspectives and methodologies. Such students are currently spread through a variety of institutions, schools and disciplinary bases, for example psychology, sociology, anthropology, economics, public policy, management studies, nursing, health science, education, social work, women's studies, Maori studies and Pacific studies. The meeting offered an opportunity to further NZiRA's aims to increase and enhance multidisciplinary research on ageing in New Zealand; promote collaboration among researchers and communicate research findings to improve public awareness, practice and policy.

The symposium was held at the Functions Centre (Student Union), Victoria University of Wellington, on Tuesday and Wednesday, 21 and 22 October 2003. NZiRA raised funds from SPEaR (Social Policy Evaluation and Research, Ministry of Social Development), the HOPE Foundation, the NZ Association of Gerontology and the Graduate School of Nursing and Midwifery at Victoria University, which allowed us to offer free registration and assistance with travel costs for presenters.

The symposium was intended to produce a range of beneficial outcomes, to –

- help build capacity for policy-related research on ageing
- expose participants to multi-disciplinary approaches to research on ageing
- provide a platform for postgraduate students to present their work in a supportive context and to receive constructive feedback
- allow them to network among themselves and make cross-disciplinary contacts
- encourage and support graduate students working on ageing-related topics
- encourage other graduates to consider research in these areas
- expand NZiRA's knowledge of research on ageing now in progress and allow the institute to disseminate the information to public agencies and non-governmental organisations
- give NZiRA an opportunity to spot talent and initiatives worthy support and encouragement.

Titles of the papers from the eighteen presenters at the symposium are listed below. All papers will be published on the SPEaR web-site - www.spear.govt.nz with the exception of those marked with an asterix*.

Session 1 – Housing for Older People

Mary Simpson, Management School, University of Waikato
Constructing images to sell retirement village living

Lorraine Leonard, Sociology Department, University of Canterbury
Village as home: Why Retirement Villages are a Housing Choice for Older People

Max Reid, School of Social and Cultural Studies, Victoria University
From research to reality: Documenting the development of a pilot project providing supported independent accommodation for older people

Session 2 – Older People with High Care Needs

Tess Della-Giacoma, Graduate School of Nursing and Midwifery, Victoria University
The rest home: public hospital relationship. Deteriorating rest home residents needing hospitalization*

Marian Bland, University of Newcastle, NSW
Old dogs and new tricks: Perspective on nursing home care in NZ

Sylvia Roeters, School of Health Science, Massey University, Palmerston North
Registered health professionals' assessment of older adults in care facilities

Session 3 – Views of Ageing

Rana Sobh, Marketing Department, University of Auckland
The role of possible selves in motivating behaviour: An application to women's concern with physical signs of ageing.

Lorraine H Ritchie, Health Sciences, University of Otago
Representing Ageing: An interdisciplinary approach using New Zealand literature in Nurse Education.

Irene Ryan, Departments of Management & Employment Relations/Sport & Exercise Science, University of Auckland
'Aged by Culture': the plight of master's sportswomen.

Session 4 – Activity and Roles for Older People

Lucia Franca, Psychology Department, University of Auckland
What do you think your life will be like during retirement years? A cross-cultural study between Brazilian and New Zealand executives

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Michelle Girvan, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Canterbury

Skills, Credentials and Social Networks: Older Multiple Job Holders in the Christchurch Labour Market

Stephen Jacobs, University of Auckland

Developing an outcome report card for community providers of health and support services for older people using a balanced scorecard approach

Carole Gordon, Social Science, University of Waikato

A Transport Tragedy: Driving elders off the road by rules and regulations*

Margaret Richardson, Management School, University of Waikato

Lifting the Lid on the Black Box: Senior Net Practices Revealed

Lesley Read, Sociology, Social Policy & Social Work, Massey University, Palmerston North

Enquiring into Grandparenting: reflections for social work.

Session 6 – Vulnerability in Old Age

Beatrice Hale, Anthropology Department University of Otago

‘It’s Not My Home anymore’ An examination of the meaning of ‘home’ as it becomes a place of care

Tony Lawson, Nursing, University of Auckland.

Discharge of Older People from the Emergency Department

Penny Maher, Department of Social Work, University of Canterbury

Social work intervention in cases of elder abuse and neglect: how practitioners develop expertise and practice wisdom

Feedback from Symposium participants

“It was a great experience for me, I enjoyed finding out how many energetic people are into this area in New Zealand”.

“Thank you for organising the symposium last week, it was a real boost for me. I am re-energised”.

“It certainly helped me to feel a little less in a vacuum. I would love to participate in the next one. Maybe my research will be more advanced so I will not feel so shy about it next time”.

“Thank you for two wonderful days. The network opportunities were great, an amazing group of people”.

Conference attendance and presentations

An important aspect of outreach for NZiRA are presentations and papers at seminars and conferences, generally given by Judith Davey. In 2003, opportunities for such presentations have included –

March

- The Future of Work Workshop, run by the Department of Labour in Wellington
- A Positive Ageing Forum in New Plymouth (New Plymouth District Council)

April

- The Social Policy Research and Evaluation Conference, run by the Ministry of Social Development. Judith presented a paper on human capital in an ageing society (one of only two to mention ageing). This was later published in the Social Policy Journal of New Zealand
- Meeting of the Wellington Branch of the Retired Persons Association
- *Insight* documentary on older workers, National Radio

May

- The Retirement Villages Association Conference in Auckland. Judith talked about the impacts of an ageing population.
- MRST “Chat Shop”, with senior members of the Ministry of Research, Science and Technology.
- Meeting of the Periodic Report Group (Superannuation Policy) – Judith addressed a meeting of the group on 15 May. This led to a contract for work on the implications of ageing, as noted above

June

- Office of the Retirement Commissioner’s Symposium *The Net Wealth of New Zealanders and Australians and the Adequacy of Private Savings for Retirement*.
- Launch of *Two Decades of Change in New Zealand*. See section on publications
- Presentation to the Futures Trust, *Preparing for the Agequake*, by Judith Davey. This paper was published in *Future Times*.
- Meeting on Older Workers in Christchurch, jointly hosted by NZiRA, the Christchurch Development Corporation and the Third Age Trust. 26 people from 16 organisations attended. This was a follow-up to the 2002 meeting and developed further ideas for research and activities.

July

- Australasian Human Development Conference, Waiheke Island. Judith gave a paper entitled *The Busy Ethic: Study in Retirement and its effects on identity and self-esteem*
- Lexis Nexis Elderlaw Masterclass, Judith gave a paper *Looking to the Future in an Ageing New Zealand*. This will be developed into a chapter for a book on law and older people in New Zealand

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- Launch of *Living and Learning: Experiences of University after age 40* edited by Judith Davey, Jenny Neale and Kay Morris Matthews . See section on publications

September

- The British Society of Gerontology Conference in Newcastle, Judith gave a paper on “Older People, Transport and Positive Ageing”, which discussed some of the findings of NZiRA’s recent contract work.
- Public lecture by Ed Helmes—*Happily ever after? Depression in Older Adults*.
- A “think-tank” on *Activity Friendly Environments*, sponsored by Sport and Recreation New Zealand (SPARC), Judith spoke up on the implications for older people.

October

- The *Age Advantage Forum* was held in Christchurch, hosted by the Canterbury Development Council and the Third Age Foundation. This provided a wonderful opportunity for NZiRA’s new publication - *Maximising the Potential of Older Workers* – to be launched by Ruth Dyson, Minister for Senior Citizens.

NZiRA people

Katie Nimmo, a graduate of the Social Science Research MA (Applied) course at Victoria University, has worked on several pieces of research associated with NZiRA. She played an important part in the *Education in Mid and Later Life* project, especially in managing and setting up the interviews for the follow-up studies (which were published this year as *Living and Learning – Experiences of University after age 40*). More recently, she worked with Judith on *Two Decades of Change – From Birth to Death V* – also published this year. In 2003, Katie researched for the *Older People and Transport* project. Katie has since moved to Christchurch, where she is working for the Landcare Trust, pursuing her deep interest in and commitment to environmental conservation.

Justine Cornwall began work with NZiRA in mid-April, after she handed in her doctoral thesis, in the School of Psychology, on *The Construction of Hetero-sexual Relationships in the context of the Property (Relationships) Act 1976: A Feminist Analysis*. Justine’s doctorate was awarded at the December 2003 graduation ceremonies and we all acknowledge her achievement. This year Justine has worked on *Maximizing the Potential of Older Workers* and saw the report through to successful publication, which included developing skills in layout and project management. She did all the research for the Ministry of Health and ACC projects, looking to the future and the implication of population ageing for these agencies.

Kirsty Fraser completed her BA, majoring in Social Policy and Political Science in 2003 and is now studying for her MA (Applied) in Social Science Research. During the mid-year break she worked on the international literature review, looking for innovative transport options for older people. She is now working on the working carers project – *Combining Work with Care*.

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Sebastian Hofmann, a psychology student from Germany, worked with NZiRA as an international intern for six weeks, assisting with the *Combining Work with Care* project.



Judith Davey, Kirsty Fraser, Justine Cornwall and Katie Nimmo

Looking Ahead

NZiRA is associated with “*Expanding Horizons: The Art and Science of Ageing*”, the 2004 conference of the NZ Association of Gerontology, in association with the NZ Geriatric Society. This will take place at the Christchurch Convention Centre, 14-16 April, 2004. One of the two keynote speakers will be Professor Tom Kirkwood, the TOWER-NZiRA fellow for 2004.