



# Geography **Auckland**



## Kia ora tatou ...

The Auckland branch of NZGS promotes the activities of geographers and the development of the discipline in the Auckland region. It has proven an effective platform for hosting and sponsoring public seminars and workshops, and talks by prominent local and international geographers; running competitions for schools; providing opportunities for young geographers to attend conferences; and for bringing geographers together to discuss issues of public and disciplinary concern. One recent initiative is to seek better links with professional geographers beyond the university and schools. One recent success has been the Innovative Fieldtrip Competition (see News for Teachers).

The Auckland activities now include monthly Geography Dialogues with Wine. The Branch invites any members with ideas for activities to bring them forward for discussion and development. It also encourages new members to join. Membership of the New Zealand Geographical Society includes branch membership.

As mentioned previously, the UoA has welcomed a cluster of new geographers to the School of Environment, including: Karen Fisher, Mark Dickson, Murray Ford, John Tunnicliffe, Francis Collins, Annie Bartos, and JC Gaillard. Professor John Morgan has joined the Education Faculty. All bring fresh ideas and talents to our community.

The next Dialogues will be held on Wednesday 24 June. See page 2 for Ward Friesen's abstract.

## Auckland Branch Executive

### Executive Office Holders

President	Graeme Campbell
Vice Presidents	June Logie, Mary Flaws
Chair	Karen Fisher
Secretary	June Logie
Treasurer	David Hayward
Honorary Auditor	Nihal Jayawickrama
Professional Geography Liaison:	Kiri Le Heron
BoGT Rep	Steve Mouldley

### Committee Members

Nick Lewis	Jane Foster (AGTA)
Richard Le Heron	Daniel Exeter
Ward Friesen	Lyndsay Blue
Erena Le Heron.	Tom Etherington
Pippa Mitchell	Annie Bartos
Regan Solomon	JC Gaillard
Brendon Blue	

## What's on?

### MONTHLY GEOGRAPHY DIALOGUES WITH WINE

These meetings give a chance for Geographers to talk informally about their research.

The Auckland Branch invites you to attend the first meeting

**Wednesday 24 June**  
University of Auckland  
School of Environment  
Room 731

The speaker will be  
Ward Friesen  
4.00pm to 5.30pm

**Celebrate Geography,  
Get excited**

Karen Fisher (k.fisher@auckland.ac.nz)

[June.logie@me.com](mailto:June.logie@me.com) (secretary)

## News for teachers:

2015 Innovative Field Trip Competition – see the NZGS website: <http://www.nzgs.co.nz>

## For your diary:

### Monthly Geography Dialogues with Wine

24 June, 19 August, 23 September, 21 October, and 25 November

**NZGS 2016 Conference: Geographical interactions** – University of Otago 1-4 February



## *Researching evolving Asian mobilities in Aotearoa*

*Ward Friesen*

Immigration is a sensitive political issue in Aotearoa, and the debates often focus on Asian migrants since they are the most visible 'new' migrants since the change in the immigration law in 1987. In the years after that change, most media and political attention has related to permanent residency, but in recent years, large numbers of Asian migrants have arrived via student and work visas. Research interest in general, including mine, has started to shift with these changes, to consider migration fluidities, ambiguities and transitions.

Some issues to discuss:

- What are some of the new directions in mobilities research?
- Is there greater potential for migrant exploitation of those who are 'temporary' workers (but possibly students as well)?
- In the public discourse there is often conflation of (net) immigration totals and Asian immigration, as well as confusion between permanency and temporariness. How should we respond?
- What are the issues of positionality of researchers who are 'other ethnic'? I am not Asian (though there may be genetic traces?) so researching Chinese, Indian or Filipino migration does raise questions about my position....