

Holiday Reading 2007

A selection of children's and young adults' books



Holiday Reading 2007 is only a small selection of the many new titles added to Christchurch City Libraries during the year. We hope you will find something here to excite, enthuse, enthrall and inform you. Any title may be reserved online or at one of our libraries. You can access the online catalogue from the Library's website at <http://library.christchurch.org.nz/>

Previous Holiday Reading lists can be found at:
<http://library.christchurch.org.nz/kids/holidayreading/>

In Memoriam 2007:

Lloyd Alexander
Clyde Robert Bulla
Margaret Clark
Ivor Cutler (2006)
Ann de Roo (NZ)
Siobhan Dowd
Douglas Hill
Harry Horse
Madeleine L'Engle
June Melser (NZ)
Philippa Pearce (2006)
Kate Petty
Mary Stolz
John Winch

For adults

The annotated cat : under the hats of Seuss and his cats Introduction and annotations by Philip Nel.

Lear, Linda **Beatrix Potter : a life in nature** An exploration of the life and times of an extraordinary woman.

Nieuwenhuizen, Agnes **Right book, right time: 500 great reads for teenagers**

Pennac, Daniel **The rights of the reader** This book grew from celebrated French writer Daniel Pennac's experiences of teaching in "challenging" schools.

Reading round Edinburgh: a guide to children's books of the city edited by Lindsey Fraser and Kathryn Ross. Includes an introduction by J K Rowling.

Picture Books

Ahlberg, Allan **Previously** Do you know what Jack was doing before he climbed the beanstalk? Or what Jack and Jill were arguing about before they went up the hill? And what happened before that? This works helps you find out what your favourite storybook characters were up to previously, because every story, every person and everything started somewhere!

Arnold, Tedd **The twin princes** A story about two royal chickens.

Banks, Kate **Fox** A baby fox anticipates the time when he can go out alone, but first his parents must teach him the ways of the wilderness.

Bougueva, Sonja **Two sisters** Two sisters live peacefully on a tiny island. One day, they receive a letter, telling them their cousin John is coming to visit. At first, the sisters are pleased to have a visitor, but they soon tire of him wanting to bring order to their life of comfortable chaos.

Brown, Anthony **My brother** A follow-up to the best-selling **My Dad** and **My Mum**, this title is a humorous tribute to brothers.

Bruel, Robert O **Bob and Otto** Otto the worm is shocked to discover that his best friend Bob is actually a caterpillar who emerges one day as a butterfly.

Donaldson, Julia **Tyrannosaurus drip** Everyone knows that tyrannosauruses are big and scary, so when a placid duckbill dinosaur's egg ends up in the wrong nest confusion is sure to ensue! When the baby dinosaur hatches out, he's so out of place that his grisly big sisters call him Tyrannosaurus Drip.

Donnio, Sylviane **I'd really like to eat a child** One morning Achilles, a young crocodile, insists that he will eat a child that day, but when he actually finds a little girl, she puts him in his place.

Gerstein, Mordicai **Leaving the nest** The lives of a baby jaybird, a young girl, a kitten, and a small squirrel intersect as they venture out into the world.

Gorbachev, Valeri **Heron & Turtle** Heron and Turtle celebrate the sweet pleasures of everyday friendship. Nothing is better than taking a nice long walk together, if Turtle can keep up, and Turtle will do almost anything to make Heron comfortable at a surprise lunch.

Graham, Bob **The trouble with dogs!** Brought home from the rescue centre, Dave is everything a pup should be. The trouble is, he sometimes gets too excited. He jumps uninvited onto guests' laps, runs down the middle of flowerbeds and chews holes in the tights of Kate's school friends.

Gravett, Emily **Little Mouse's big book of fears** Features a little mouse who documents his fears, from loud noises and the dark to being sucked down the plughole.

Gravett, Emily **Monkey and me** This book allows young children to guess what animal they are pretending to be, before shouting out the answers as the pages are turned to reveal the real creatures.

Gusti **Half of an elephant** When, one night, the world splits in two an elephant loses his back half, and the sections wander around the world trying out new partners and discovering the advantages of being separate.

Henkes, Kevin **A good day** The Caldecott Medal-winning artist returns with a new picture book that looks at a single day from five points of view.

Hill, Anthony **Lucy's cat and the rainbow birds** Lucy needs to stop Artemis catching the birds, but how? Will Artemis and the birds ever live together in peace?

Hopgood, Tim **Our big blue sofa** Every day brings a new adventure for Jessy and Tom and their big blue sofa. One day they are underwater explorers on a big blue submarine, the next they are flying high above the clouds in a big blue hot air balloon.

Kraus, Ruth **The growing story** A little boy worries throughout the summer that he's not getting bigger, but at the end of the season he tries on his winter clothes and realizes that he has grown. First published in 1947, this edition is newly illustrated by Helen Oxenbury.

Laguna, Sofie **Stephen's music** Unexpected magical things happen when Stephen first hears the music of the flute.

Lehman, Barbara **Rainstorm** In this wordless picture book, a boy finds a mysterious key which leads him on an adventure.

Lobel, Anita **Nini here and there** Fearing at first that her family is going on vacation without her, Nini the cat ends up traveling with her owners to their new home.

McNaughton, Colin **Nighty night!** Littlestaurus doesn't want to go to bed and can think of a million reasons to stay up. A bedtime story, packed with prehistoric humour.

Melenhorst, Glenn **The sock monster** "If at night your feet stick out, / You're in trouble, there's no doubt. / Sleepy dreams steal you away / And now your toes are easy prey." A cautionary tale about going to bed with bare feet.

Morecroft, Judith **Malu Kangaroo** A modern indigenous story told in the traditional style

combining Dreamtime legend and contemporary imagery, this tells how people first learnt to surf.

Newgarden, Mark **Bow-wow bugs a bug** A wordless picture book about a persistent terrier who spends a day following a bug through his neighbourhood.

O'Connor, Jane **Ready, set, skip!** A little girl cannot skip until her mother shows her a special trick.

Offill, Jenny **17 things I'm not allowed to do anymore** A young girl lists the sixteen things she is not allowed to do anymore, including not being able to make ice after freezing a fly in one of the cubes.

Perkins, Lynne Rae **Pictures from our vacation** Given a camera that takes and prints tiny pictures just before leaving for the family farm in Canada, a young girl records a vacation that gets off to a slow start, but winds up being a family reunion filled with good memories.

Ravishankar, Anushka **To market! To market!** In this modern-day nursery rhyme, a little girl sets off to the market with some money in her pocket and no idea what to buy. But as her imagination romps through the magical world of the market, she finds the real fun's not in the buying at all!

Ramos, Mario **I am so handsome** "Then the wolf met the three little pigs. 'Hey, little bacon bits! Still skipping about in the woods trying to lose weight? Tell me, little butterballs, who's the handsomest of all?'"

Ramos, Mario **I am so strong** "Next, the wolf met the three little pigs. 'Hello what have we here? Three little pigs, a long way from home. That's a bit careless. Tell me, little bacon bits, who's the strongest in the woods?'"

Stewart, Joel **Dexter Bexley and the big blue beastie** After running into a big blue beastie with his scooter, Dexter tries to come up with increasingly inventive ideas to keep the beastie from eating him.

Svendsen, Mark **Whacko the chook** Every hen needs a friend, so Whacko the Chook sets out to find one. But where do you find a friend in a chook pen?

Timmers, Leo **I am the King** One morning Tortoise suddenly finds himself wearing a crown. 'I am the King!' he says. His friends can't stop laughing. Goat, Flamingo, Snake, Pig, Crocodile, Elephant and Ape each think they would make a perfect king. But who really is the King of the animals?

Willems, Mo **Knuffle Bunny too: a case of mistaken identity** With her dad in tow Trixie hurries to school to show off her one-of-a-kind Knuffle Bunny. But an awful surprise awaits her: someone else has the exact same bunny! Sequel to: **Knuffle Bunny, a cautionary tale**.

Wilson, Mark **The last tree** The last tree is the story of a beautiful eucalyptus tree that grew in one of the old-growth forests of south-eastern Australia. It was the centre of life in the forest and provided food and shelter for many forest dwellers for hundreds of years. But what happens when the old tree is threatened as the surrounding forest slowly disappears?

Fiction for younger readers

Almond, David **My dad's a birdman** Lizzie and Dad live in a rainy town in the north of England. It's just the two of them, and Auntie Doreen, who pops round to check Lizzie's spellings and tell Dad he's daft, and to make them nice hot dumplings. But today there's something unusual going on: why is Dad building himself a pair of wings and studying the birds to see how they fly?

Gleeson, Libby **Happy birthday x 3** The triplets' sixth birthday is coming up and the girls insist on buying individual presents for each other. They set out on a big shopping trip, but it's hard to choose what will be just right for their sisters.

Graham, Bob **Jack's little party** It's Jack's birthday and his friend Sam is coming round after school for a little party. It's just Sam and Jack in a small flat, with Jack's mum talking too loudly and getting them to play childish games. Jack's birthday cake is a homemade shark and doesn't look as good as the huge windmill cake that Sam had for his birthday, nor is there a DJ, treasure hunt or a magician. But when Sam's mum comes to collect him, Jack realizes just how lucky he is.

Lofthouse, Liz **Ziba came on a boat** "Ziba came on a boat. A soggy old fishing boat that creaked and moaned as it rose and fell, rose and fell, across the endless sea." Sitting in the crowded hull, with her mother's arms around her, Ziba remembers all that she has left behind. They hope to find peace and safety in a new land, but where will their journey end, and what will they find when they arrive? Based on real events, with illustrations by the acclaimed Robert Ingpen.

McKay, Hilary **The story of Bear** It was Christmas time when the Bear arrived. He was not invited; he just appeared. Nobody needed him. Nobody wanted him. The Bear was dropped in a skip where he remained until a brave little girl and a cheery seagull helped him to get a life. Little did he know that his new home would be a place filled with rubbish mountains, bulldozers, blue rabbits and mad horses!

Scieszka, Jon **Cowboy & Octopus** Cowboy and Octopus maintain their friendship despite different opinions about things like beans and knock-knock jokes.

Warner, Sally **Super Emma** Third-grader Emma becomes a reluctant heroine when she defends a friend from the class bully.

Westera, Marleen **Sheep and goat** This tale follows the daily activities of Sheep and Goat who, despite often being grouchy or grumpy, are always there for one another when it counts.

Fiction for older readers

Ahlberg, Allan **The boyhood of Burglar Bill** Coronation Year, 1953, and in Oldbury a Coronation football competition is organized. It's Spencer's idea to get a team up. Some of the players are good, and one of them is even a girl, but all of them are football crazy. The Malt Shovel Rovers team, despite various calamities, is ready and eager to beat off the opposition and win the cup.

Babbitt, Natalie **Jack Plank tells tales** This pirate story is Natalie Babbitt's (**Tuck everlasting**) first novel in 25 years. It's about a young man who started out to be a pirate, but just didn't seem to have the knack for it and seeks a new career.

Cross, Gillian **The nightmare game** When they took Hope, it was to save her. But now Hope has disappeared. Just when the three friends need to be closest, Emma disappears and Tom starts acting weirdly. Rob is sure the man with blue eyes has something to do with it. If he dares to confront him, will he be able to save his friends? And if he's wrong, what price will they end up paying? Final in *The dark ground* trilogy.

Doherty, Berlie **Abela** "Be strong, my Abela." These are the last words of Abela's mother in their HIV/Aids stricken African village, where it seems that to live or to die, to be sick or to be healthy, is just a matter of chance. It takes all Abela's strength to survive her Uncle Thomas' scheming to get to Europe, but what will be her fate as an illegal immigrant?

Dowd, Siobhan **The London Eye mystery** When Ted and Kat watched their cousin Salim get on board the London Eye, he turned and waved before getting on. But after half an hour it landed and everyone trooped off; everyone except Salim. Where could he have gone? How on earth could he have disappeared into thin air?

Dude: stories and stuff for boys edited by Sandy Asher and David L. Harrison An anthology of original stories, plays, and poems by a variety of authors that celebrates what being a boy is all about.

Ellis, Sarah **Odd man out** Kip is spending the summer with his grandmother and his five eccentric girl cousins, including Emily, who thinks she's a dog. Gran's house is about to be demolished, so anything goes, whether it's drawing maps on the wall or sawing off the banister for a smoother ride. When Kip bashes through an old closet, he discovers the binder his late father kept as a teenager. He's bewildered by what he finds: puzzling lists, hair samples, old newspaper clippings and business cards, all accompanying a confidential report written by a mysterious young operative who is carrying out a secret plan to infect teenagers with a cell-altering virus.

Gleitzman, Morris **Give peas a chance, and other funny stories** Surprise your mum with a chainsaw, be a bigger star than Tom Cruise, save the world with a plate of veggies, start your new life in a taxi, rescue your family with a tomato, send your dad into a panic with a tractor, do a good deed with a paper bag on your head, pack your bags for a trip to the spleen, upset your auntie with ten kilos of chocolate, swap a bomb for three ice-creams on a train . . . and lots more.

Jones, Diana Wynne **The game** Sent to a boisterous family gathering in Ireland by her overly strict grandmother, orphaned Hayley feels out of place until her unruly cousins include her in a special game involving travel through the mythosphere, the place where all the world's stories can be found, and where some secrets of her past are revealed.

Kluger, Jeffrey **Nacky Patcher and the curse of the dry-land boats** When thief and swindler Nacky Patcher and orphaned eleven-year-old Teedie Flinn discover a huge wrecked boat in a small mountain lake near their town, they try to unite all the inhabitants to help rebuild the vessel, an endeavour that forever changes all of their lives. This US title has illustrations by New Zealand's David Elliot.

Landy, Derek **Skulduggery Pleasant** Pursued by evil forces intent on recovering a mysterious key, Stephanie finds help from an unusual source, the wisecracking skeleton of a dead wizard. When all hell breaks loose, it's lucky for Skulduggery that he's already dead. Will evil win the day? Will Stephanie and Skulduggery stop bickering long enough to stop it? One thing's for sure: evil won't know what's hit it.

Layton, George **The trick and other stories** George Layton's stories evoke a nostalgic, atmospheric view of growing up in the 1950s. From the funny and faintly ridiculous to the terribly tragic, every tale brings a young boy's small world, and its big implications, to life.

McCaughrean, Geraldine **Tamburlaine's elephants** Rusti is a Tartar, travelling and pillaging with the legendary Horde of Tamburlaine, Conqueror of the World. He dreams of honour and riches, and is proud to capture his first prisoners, an elephant and her keeper. Amidst the death and destruction, an unlikely friendship takes hold.

McKay, Hilary **Forever Rose** Rose is feeling lonely: it's tough being the youngest. The rest of her family are always so busy doing their own things that Rose comes home to a dark, quiet, empty house every day. At least Rose still has her friends at school: the brilliant Kiran and the nice but boring Molly. But school is no longer a peaceful place where Rose can daydream.

Molony, Rowland **After the death of Alice Bennett** Before mum died, she told Sam that she would always be with him. On the day of mum's cremation, Sam's sister Becky receives a text from a friend: 'Thinking about you. X'. Sam becomes convinced that the text is from their mother. Imagine if he could text back! When he finds mum's mobile phone and a 'contact number' in her handwriting Sam sends a message.

Morgan, Nicola **The highwayman's footsteps** Young William de Lacey is high born, the son of a gentleman. But he's on the run, having stolen money and a horse, and has taken up with a highwayman. It's enough to hang him three times over. Despite struggling with his conscience, Will feels free for the first time in his life, and it's all down to the mysterious Bess. Now can they survive the risks of the eighteenth-century highwayman's harsh life?

Mourelvat, Jean-Claude **The pull of the ocean** Loosely based on Charles Perrault's "Tom Thumb," seven brothers in modern-day France flee their poor parents' farm, led by the youngest who, although mute and unusually small, is exceptionally wise. Winner of the *Prix Sorcières*.

Mussi, Sarah **The door of no return** Zac lives with his grandfather, Pops. When Pops is killed by muggers, Zac is devastated. Dumped with foster parents, then in an orphanage, Zac stumbles from trouble to trouble, but the one thing he hangs on to is Pops' obsession with their family history and his ambition to go to Ghana in search of a ransom paid by a descendant 200 years earlier, to keep his son from slavery, a ransom stolen by British government agents at the time, which then disappeared.

Naidoo, Beverley **Burn my heart** The Mau Mau was the name of a secret society that once struck terror into the hearts of British settlers in Kenya. An episode in history that ended in a State of Emergency, with violent and brutal acts dividing a nation. This is an intensely personal and vivid story of two boys: one black, one white. Once they were friends even though their circumstances are very different. But in a country riven by fear and prejudice, even the best of friends can betray one another.

Reeve **Starlight** Art and his family are invited on a fantastic free holiday to the exotic Asteroid Belt in a remote part of space near Mars. Taking the train, they arrive to discover that nothing is quite as it seems; the hotel slips curiously back and forth through time, and the guests behave rather strangely, too. What is behind these bizarre goings on? It's up to Art, Jack Havoc and his sister Myrtle (against her will) to get to the bottom of things. But the giant sand clams and man-eating starfish which roam freely nearby are nothing compared to the True Enemy, which is cunning, sinister, and almost unstoppable, and may resemble a hat. Sequel to **Larklight**.

Selznick, Brian **The invention of Hugo Cabret** When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toyseller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.

Shearer, Alex **Landlubbers** Now that twins Clive and Eric are back on dry land, it seems their days of excitement and misadventure are well and truly behind them. Until their dad lands a job as manager of a swanky London hotel and Grandma and Grandad don't seem too keen on the idea of looking after the twins while he's away. Sequel to **Sea legs**.

Spinelli, Jerry **Love, Stargirl** This sequel to **Stargirl** takes place a year later and takes the form of "the world's longest letter," in diary form, going from date to date through a little more than a year's time. In her writing, Stargirl mixes memories of her bittersweet time in Mica, Arizona, with involvements with new people in her life.

Stewart, Paul **Curse of the night wolf** Barnaby Grimes is a tick-tock lad, running errands in his city, day and night, and 'high-stacking' around the rooftops in search of new mysteries to solve. This adventure features Barnaby who is attacked one night by an enormous dog. He kills it, but that's not the end of this particular mystery. First in a new series *Barnaby Grimes*.

Stewart, Trenton Lee **The mysterious Benedict society** A first-time novelist takes readers on an adventure that puts friends, family, and foe to the test, as four children go on a secret mission that only the most intelligent and inventive children can complete.

Thompson, Colin **Dust** In 2005, television news around the world reported the terrible starvation that was killing thousands of people in Niger. As a result, Colin Thompson called together thirteen talented and internationally famous illustrators to create a book to raise money to try to help.

Thompson, Kate **The last of the high kings** JJ is married to Aisling and has four children - Hazel, Jenny, Donal and Aidan. All his children are special in their own way but Jenny has always lived by her own rules. She spends a lot of time on the stone beacon on the mountainside, talking to the ghost who guards it and the Puca, the big, white goat who is also something else entirely. Sequel to the award-winning **The new policeman**.

Willis, Jeanne **Shamanka** What is magic? What is illusion? What is real? Step into the

extraordinary world of Sam Khaan, who has just discovered a witch doctor's notebook in her attic. Convinced that it belongs to her long-lost father - the son of a witch doctor - she sets out on a journey to discover the answers to these questions.

Wynne-Jones, Tim **Rex Zero and the end of the world** In the summer of 1962 with everyone nervous about a possible nuclear war, ten year old Rex, having just moved to Ottawa from Vancouver with his parents and five siblings, faces his own personal challenges as he discovers new friends and a new understanding of the world around him.

Fiction for Young Adults

About, Marguerite **Aya** Set in Ivory Coast in 1978 this graphic novel tells the story of its nineteen-year-old heroine, the studious and clear-sighted Aya, her easygoing friends Adjoua and Bintou, and their meddling relatives and neighbours. **Aya** won the 2006 award for Best First Album at the Angoulême International Comics Festival.

Brashares, Ann **Forever in blue: the fourth summer of the sisterhood** As their lives take them in different directions, Lena, Tibby, Carmen, and Bridget discover many more things about themselves and the importance of their relationship with each other.

Brooks, Kevin **Being** It was just supposed to be a routine exam. But when the doctors snake the fiber-optic tube down Robert Smith's throat, what they discover doesn't make medical sense. Plastic casings. Silver filaments. Moving metal parts. Armed with a stolen automatic and the videotape of his strange organs, he manages to escape, and to embark on an orphan's violent odyssey to find out exactly who, and what, he is.

Downham, Jenny **Before I die** Tessa has just a few months to live. Fighting back against hospital visits, tests, drugs with excruciating side-effects, she compiles a list. It's her To Do Before I Die list. Released from the constraints of 'normal' life, Tessa tastes new experiences to make her feel alive while her failing body struggles to keep up.

Earls, Nick **Joel and Cat set the story straight** Everyone knows that Joel and Cat hate each other. Then they end up partners in a writing assignment. By the second paragraph they're in the thick of an all-out tandem-story war. Then Cat's dad and Joel's mum start dating, and the can finally agree on something - it's got to stop. But will sparks fly between Joel and Cat for all the right reasons as they go about setting a few things straight?

Farmer, Nancy **The land of the silver apples** After escaping from the Sea of Trolls, the apprentice bard Jack plunges into a new series of adventures, travelling underground to Elfland and uncovering the truth about his little sister Lucy.

Gaiman, Neil **M is for magic** Eleven stories that involve strange and fantastical events.

Harris, Joanne **Runemarks** Maddy Smith was born with a rusty-coloured runemark on her hand, a symbol of the old gods and definitely cause for suspicion. For magic is dangerous. Or so everyone thinks. But Maddy enjoys working magic.

Hartnett, Sonya **The ghost's child** Maddy yearns for her life to be mystifying, to be as magical as a fairy story. And then one day, on the beach, she meets the strangest young man she has ever seen.

Hoffman, Mary **The falconer's knot** Silvano and Chiara are two teenagers with a difference. Silvano has been accused of a murder he did not commit. Chiara has been ousted out of her family as a young woman with no marriage prospects. For these two very different reasons they are forced to seek refuge in a convent and a friary.

Hornby, Nick **Slam** Sixteen year old Sam fast-forwards into adulthood when his girlfriend, Alicia, becomes pregnant. And this baby is for keeps. Suddenly, Sam's life, built around imaginary conversations with skater Tony Hawk, homework and thrash music looks like inadequate training for adulthood.

Jansen, Hanna **Over a thousand hills I walk with you** Eight-year-old Jeanne was the only

one of her family to survive the 1994 Rwanda genocide. Then a German family adopted her, and her adoptive mother now tells Jeanne's story in a compelling fictionalized biography.

Kladstrup, Kristin **The book of story beginnings** Oscar Martin was fourteen when he vanished from his Iowa farmhouse home. His sister said that Oscar rowed out to sea; but there are no oceans in Iowa, so how was that possible? Nearly a century later, Lucy Martin and her parents move to that same farmhouse, where her father mysteriously disappears. When she finds the mystical "Book of Story Beginnings", Oscar reappears and together they venture into a fantasy world in search of Lucy's father and a happy ending.

Kostick, Conor **Epic** "Welcome To Epic: Press Start To Play." On New Earth, Epic is not just a computer game, it's a matter of life and death. If you lose, you lose everything; if you win, the world is yours for the taking. Seeking revenge for the unjust treatment of his parents, Erik subverts the rules of the game, and he and his friends are drawn into a world of power-hungry, dangerous players.

Ottley, Matt **Requiem for a beast** A boy goes on a journey of self discovery as a stockman in Far North Queensland. In an exquisitely illustrated collage of memory and dreamscape, the boy confronts a huge, rogue bull and realises he must acknowledge the errors of the past before he can fully embrace the future.

Palmer, Tony **Break of day** No one thought the Japanese army would come this way, but there they are – thousands of them. On the Kokoda track, in the damp, disease-filled jungles of Papua New Guinea, Murray Barrett and the rest of the 39th battalion are the only thing standing between Australia and a Japanese invasion. Everyone thinks they'll be slaughtered, and Murray finds that he will have to fight along side his worst enemy . . . Does Murray have the courage to do what he has to do? And what is courage, after all?

Paver, Michelle **Outcast** The dreadful secret that Torak carries with him at the close of **Soul eater** is revealed and he is cast out from the clans. It's his fourteenth summer. He's alone, cut off even from Wolf and Renn. Hunted and on the run he takes refuge in unknown territory, the haunted reed beds of Lake Axehead, where he is menaced by the Hidden People. Other threats lurk nearby and his battle with the Soul-Eaters is far from over. As he fights for his life Torak uncovers a deception too awful to contemplate, one that shakes him to the core and shatters his world. The fourth in the *Chronicles of ancient darkness* series.

Reeve, Philip **Here lies Arthur** Gwyna is just a small girl, a mouse, when she is bound in service to Myrddin the bard, a traveller and spinner of tales. But Myrddin transforms her - into a lady goddess, a boy warrior, and a spy. Without Gwyna, Myrddin will not be able to work the most glorious transformation of all, turning the leader of a raggle-taggle war-band into King Arthur, the greatest hero of all time.

Sandell, Lisa Sandell **Song of the sparrow**

In the military encampments of Arthur's army, in fifth-century Britain, Elaine describes her changing perceptions of war and the people around her as she becomes increasingly involved in the bitter struggle against the invading Saxons.

Sedgwick, Marcus **Blood red Snow white** Set at the time of the Russian Revolution, the rise of the Bolsheviks sent shockwaves around the world. This is the story of one man who was there. It's real history - about the riches and excesses, the glory of the Russian nobility, Nicholas and Alexandra, their haemophilic son, Alexei, notorious Rasputin, Lenin and

Trotsky who ruled from palaces where the Czars had once danced till dawn. The man was real too, his name was Arthur Ransome.

Sfar, Joann **The professor's daughter** The spirit of Victorian London is brought to life in this sepia-coloured graphic novel of a proper but mischievous young girl - and the mummy who opens his eyes for the first time in 3,000 years and instantly falls in love with her. Will the love between Lillian and Imhotep IV survive when their fathers, the London police, and even the Royal Archaeological Society are all determined to keep them apart?

Smith, Roland **Peak** A fourteen-year-old boy attempts to be the youngest person to reach the top of Mount Everest.

Spillman, David and Lisa Wilyuka **Us mob Walawurru** Told through the eyes of Ruby, a Liritja girl, the story (set in the 1960s in a community in Central Australia) revolves around the new 'silver bullet' school and the cultural challenges faced by both the community members and the well-meaning schoolteacher. Ruby tells of her own awakening and some of the momentous events of the time, including the 1967 referendum and the buy-back of pastoral leases.

This is PUSH: new stories from the edge, edited by David Levithan.

Tschinag, Galsan **The blue sky** In the high Altai Mountains of northern Mongolia, a young shepherd boy comes of age, tending his family's flocks on the mountain steppes. Under the influence of the Soviet Union, nomadic traditions confront a modernization that is at once devastating and alluring.

Valentine, Jenny **Finding Violet Park** Sixteen-year-old Lucas Swain becomes intrigued by the urn of ashes left in a cab office. Convinced that its occupant, Violet Park, is communicating with him, he contrives to gain possession of the urn, little realising that his quest will take him on a voyage of self-discovery and identity, forcing him to finally confront what happened to his absent (and possibly dead) father.

Wilkinson, Lili **Scatterheart** Hannah Cheshire, wealthy and spoiled, has fallen from grace. Punishment: transportation to the colony of New South Wales. As everything Hannah has ever known is stripped from her, the more she begins to know herself.

Information Books, including poetry and folktales

Andryszewski, Tricia **Walking the earth: a history of human migration**

Fleischman, Sid **Escape: the story of the Great Houdini** A biography of the magician, ghost chaser, aviator, and king of escape artists whose amazing feats are remembered long after his death in 1926. Profiling his early years, personal life, and great accomplishments in show business, the story of the famous magician, Harry Houdini, comes to life through a review of his greatest tricks and most amazing feats, complete with index, photos, and author's notes.

Hannah, Julie **The man who named the clouds** This story of Luke Howard, who created a cloud classification system in the late 1700s, is interspersed with the weather journal of a modern-day child working on a science project.

Kacer, Kathy **The underground reporters** Presents an account of how a group of young children who, when forced into isolation by the Nazi occupation, refused to be silenced and fought back by creating and circulating their own newspaper called Klepy. This work chronicles the lives of the young people who contributed to the newspaper. It contains drawings, poems, stories and jokes.

Kurlansky, Mark **The story of salt**

Lewis, J. Patrick **Once upon a tomb: gravely humorous verses** 22 darkly humorous poems about death.

McLimans, David **Gone wild: an endangered animal alphabet**

Mark, Jan **The museum book** Reflects on the Muses and the word museum, on why and how people collect things, on different kinds of museums (cabinets, buildings, villages, towns), on their contribution to science and on the notion of classification. This book examines the Elgin Marbles (saved or stolen?), famous fakes, the dodo, and some great collectors.

Markle, Sandra **Little lost bat** Chronicles the early life of an orphaned Mexican free-tailed bat, from its birth to its adoption by a new mother.

Newbery, Elizabeth **Art to make you scared** Presents eight works of art from all around the world, which feature sea monsters, ghostly apparitions, hungry sharks, and more. Also: **Art to make you smile**, by the same author.

Noyes, Deborah **One kingdom: our lives with animals** Offers a look at the strong relationship between people and animals in various cultures around the world throughout time.

Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw **The buffalo and the Indians** Traces the history of the relationship between Native American tribes and the buffalo, from its beginnings in prehistory to the present.

Perkins, John **Perceval: King Arthur's knight of the Holy Grail** Retells the Arthurian legend of Perceval, a foolish and impatient boy who realizes his dream of becoming a great knight, but meets with misfortune when he forgets to pray and serve God.

Tchana, Katrin Hyman **Changing woman and her sisters: stories of goddesses from around the world** An illustrated collection of traditional tales which feature goddesses from different cultures, including Navajo, Mayan, and Fon. Notes explain each goddess's place in her culture, the reason for the book, and how the illustrations were developed.

Vogel, Jennifer **A library story: building a new central library**

Sawa, Maureen **The library book : the story of libraries from camels to computers**

Wheatley, Nadia **Going bush** Nadia Wheatley and Ken Searle help sixteen children from eight schools in south-west Sydney explore their local environment and work collaboratively on art and writing.

Winston, Robert **It's elementary** How do you make a dog? Why are helium balloons lighter than air? What are the secrets of the Philosopher's Stone? This work takes a look at the stuff that stuff is made of, with experiments to do, puzzles, quizzes and more. It shows you what the elements are, how they were discovered and the extraordinary ways that they affect our lives.

New Zealand titles

Picture Books

Aiono-Iosefa, Saronā **The pipi swing** A touching story about a young girl who has taken it upon herself to run her household since her Dad died. One day her grandparents invite her to a 'pipi swing', something they used to do with her dad.

Allen, Pamela **Is your grandmother a goanna?** One day a little boy sets out to visit his grandmother. But each station he comes to is full of a different sort of animal, and his grandmother is not a gorilla nor an elephant nor a walrus, nor a goanna! So the train steams on Chuffa Chuffa, Chuffa Chuffa, until, finally, on the very last station, there she is.

Allen, Pamela **My first 123** Join in the fun and make lots of noise as you count your way from one to ten.

Allen, Pamela **Shhh! little mouse** Will the little grey mouse find something to eat, or will he wake the sleeping cat?

Anderson, Joan **The pine-cone track** Two children enjoy their day out on the farm, collecting pine-cones for the fire. Includes music sheet and lyrics to pine-cone track song.

Armitage, Ronda **A new home for a pirate** Pirate Jed feels seasick all the time. His adventures take him on a journey where he ends up helping out lots of others who need help.

Armitage, Ronda **Small Knight and George** Knights are supposed to be big, brave dragon fighters, but Small Knight doesn't feel big or brave. In fact, he shivers in his boots as he rides out on his horse in search of a fierce dragon.

Aslund, Tatiana **The bean's story** The life cycle of a bean is presented using the traditional story structure of the *The house that Jack built*.

Beames, Margaret **The mouse that danced** The mice in the attic love to watch Fay Mouse dance, but they need to find a new place, safe from mouse traps and cats.

Bishop, Gavin **Rats!** Polly Piper's house is infested with rats. She calls in an exterminator who leads them all away. When they go, Polly finds her life is empty and boring.

Brown, Ben **The rainmakers** Pukeko has always wanted a rainbow, so she chases one into her swamp, bringing everlasting rain to the mountain. When the kea who owns the rainbow find out who has stolen their precious treasure, they set out to get it back.

Campbell, Gordon **Horeta and the waka** The first sighting of Cook and his crew is told through the eyes of a young Māori boy.

Cartwright, Pauline **The cross feeling** When Callie got out of bed, there was a funny feeling wriggling inside her. It was a cross feeling and it made it very hard for her to be good. After a number of misdemeanours, Callie is sent to her room to consider her cross feeling. She re-enacts the day's events with her toys, and comes to realise what she's done.

Creighton, Lorinda **Matilda and the Fibles** Matilda keeps telling uncontrollable fibles. However, she catches her mum telling one and struggles with challenging her or not; in the end Mum's rules are turned on her. Sequel to **Matilda and the Forgetments**.

Darroch, Ruth **Mrs Parata's problem pets** Mrs Parata's son Joe is having trouble with the old hen and the duck. It doesn't stop there though, as Joe soon discovers his mum's animals cause him all sorts of problems. As the kunekune snuggles up to take a nap with him, the cow gets her head stuck in the grass catcher and the goat eats his undies! What should Mrs Parata and Joe do about the hullabaloo that's happening in their back yard?

Davey, Lucy **Fifi La Belle : time for a bath** There is no way this cat is going to be given a bath. However, in her efforts to avoid being washed, Fifi, that embodiment of good taste and decorum, finds herself in a dumpster truck, and it smells awful!

Devlin, Erin **Good morning, good night** Little Kiwi is finding his food and playing lots of fun games, but he doesn't realise that his daytime is night-time for most of his friends.

Dodd, Lynley **Hairy Maclary's hat tricks** A blustery day has Hairy Maclary off to the park for fun and games. When he comes across a windblown wedding party, he can show off his remarkable retrieving skills.

Drewery, Melanie **Dad's takeaways** Dad tells the children they will have takeaways. But he loads lots of strange items into the car and then drives to the beach. He then shows the children how to gather kaimoana. After an initial hesitation they decide the kai tastes good and they're the best takeaways in the world.

Drewery, Melanie **Tahi : one lucky kiwi** Told through the eyes of a schoolboy who is doing a project on the kiwi, this book is based on the true story of the work done by Weta Workshop, the Artificial Limb Centre and Wellington Zoo to save a kiwi that lost its leg.

Drewery, Melanie **The grumble rumble mumbler** The Grumble Rumble Mumbler tells the age-old story of a child that can't get to sleep because of night noises. The reader is introduced to a cast of Māori monsters - not just the taniwha, but also the maero, taipo, and the ngarara - who help children see the funny side of the things that go bump in the night.

Duncan, Tracy **Mere McKaskill's boil-up** Mere McKaskill is having a boil-up! It's Saturday morning, and she's visiting all her friends to get the ingredients for her meal.

Grace, Wiremu **The tree hut treaty** Four children decide to create a treaty outlining the use of their tree hut. Introduces the concepts behind the Treaty of Waitangi, and includes a facsimile of the Treaty.

Hannken, Catherine **Fiapule** Fiapule wants to go to his friend's birthday party but it is also the day of his sister's christening. Torn both ways Fiapule learns about Fa'a Samoa.

Harper, Glyn **My Grandfather's war** Glyn Harper's touching story of a Vietnam vet who struggles to explain the concept of war to his grand-daughter, as well as explaining his sadness around his experiences.

Hessell, Jenny **Grandma McGarvey joins the scrum** Grandma McGarvey finds herself on the field at a country rugby match. But she copes with the situation in her usual style, winning everyone's admiration for her drive and fortitude while at the bottom of a ruck!

Hinge, Karen **Elephant trouble** Rosie and David are at the zoo; the first animals they visit are always Burma and Kashin the elephants. But Burma has broken out of her enclosure!

Rosie and David set out to find her, asking one giraffe, two hippos, three lions, four goats, five meerkats, six seals, seven wallabies, eight parrots and nine monkeys for help.

Hughes, Eleanor **Counting sheep** Ryan can't sleep, so Mum tells him to count sheep. What Mum doesn't know is that there are many things to consider when you're counting sheep, and Ryan needs answers to his questions before he can even begin counting!

Jack, Lynette **The showdown** Barklay the puppy thinks he's tough. All the other animals in the farmyard stay well away from him. Then Barklay meets Giddy, the goat, and he finds that anything he can do, she can do better!

McLeary, Errol **The Path to Ponga Pond** Felix decides it's a perfect day to go for a swim in Ponga Pond. So off he pedals on his bicycle, picking up the pig, the duck and the frog on his way. They toil up the hill, each one having to get off to help push, then finally it's all downhill to the pond.

McKinlay, Helen **Grandma joins the All Blacks** When Grandma finds out the All Blacks are sick and tired of training, she combines her famous zest for life with a hearty helping of her special marmalade, and soon has the team back on track for the big test match.

Mewburn, Kyle **No room for a mouse** Christopher's mum is so busy working for the pigeon post that she doesn't notice when he invites some extraordinary people to come and live in their house - Ringmaster Fergus and the Sawdust Circus, Maestro Bambonium and his Grand Pandemonium, Mr and Mrs Mistletoe, Melody and Milky, and Mrs Fizzletum. Soon the big house begins to feel small. But is there room for one more?

Morrison, Yvonne **Better together** Focusing on the arrival of a new baby this book was produced to mark the centenary of Plunket.

Morrison, Yvonne **Wacko Kakapo** A retelling of the traditional tale *Chicken Little* with a New Zealand twist, in which Wacko Kakapo, Peewee Kiwi, Go-Getter Weta and friends set off to tell Tane Mahuta that the sky is falling. But then they fall into the clutches of Gotta-Gloat Stoat, and have to use their wits to escape.

Paul, Ruth **The king's bubbles** King Bill is upset when his perfect round bubbles blow away on the breeze.

Short, Denise **Tani the sea monster** Nan tells her granddaughter, Mihi, a story about a sea monster, sand creatures and the powers of a shell necklace.

Tulloch, Scott **Willy's dad** Willy is a fairly average boy, who lives at home with his Mum and Dad. While Mum is very sensible and holds a very responsible job, Willy's Dad always embarrasses him in front of all the other children at kindergarten.

Fiction for younger readers

Beck, Jennifer **Stefania's dancing slippers** Five-year-old Stefania loves to dance in her special pair of dancing slippers. But then war comes to Poland, her father goes away to fight, and Stefania and her mother are sent to a work camp in Siberia. When they are freed, Stefania is parted from her mother and sent to the other side of the world. At their parting Stefania loses one of her slippers, but she holds on to the remaining one as a link to her parents and home.

Butler, Dorothy **Seadog : a tale of Old New Zealand** Story set in 1890 of a young disabled boy who rescues a dog which was swept ashore near his home. Based on a factual incident.

Cowley, Joy **Snake and Lizard** A collection of stories about the friendship between Snake and Lizard. Illustrated by Gavin Bishop.

Drewery, Melanie **The mad tadpole adventure** The adventure begins when Maddie's frog, Isabella Princess Big Eyes, is 'stolen'.

Frame, Susan **The super duper pooper scooper** Pete's life is full of problems, including the fact that he has to think up an idea for the school science fair. But then Grandad starts 'brainstorming' and he and Pete finally come up with a great project idea. A title in the *Kiwi Bites* series.

Hill, David **Black day** Ms Li's class is getting ready for the Science Fair and Chad, Jordan, Zoe and Keisha want to come up with a mind-blowing project. With the help of Chad's eccentric Auntie Kym, they decide to try and make a Black Hole! A title in the *Kiwi Bites* series.

Hurst, Christine **The boy who bounced around Aoteroa New Zealand** Travel with Zack as he bounces his way around Aotearoa New Zealand. He bounces to a national park, Stewart Island, a harbour in the North Island and even to the moon.

McGrath, Raymond **Don't worry Nana, I'll drive!** There's no looking back for Nana when she takes an adventurous drive with her grandson. They dodge dangers in the sky, get a little bit lost, check out what's happening under the sea and survive a crash landing.

Mewburn, Kyle **Muddletopia** On planet Muddletopia, everything looks the same. So one day Queen Malvina the Magnificent decides to give everything labels, and orders everyone to wear a hat with their job labelled on the front. But ten-year-old Karley is not happy with her child hat, so she decides to swap hats. A title in the *Kiwi Bites* series.

Millett, Peter **The Anzac Biscuit Man and other classic Kiwi tales** Peter Millet takes some classic tales and gives them a kiwi spin. Stories include: *The Three Woolly Coats Fluff*, *The Hare and the Tuatara* and *Pigs in Sheds*.

Noonan, Diana **Google eyes** One day AJ stumbles upon a book at a garage sale which has a recipe for mind reading. After refining his mind reading skills on his pet cat, he sets forth to find out what his friends and family are thinking. A title in the *Kiwi Bites* series.

Orams, LeAnne **The treaty house** Journey with Olley as he learns not only is the Treaty House special, but so are the events that have happened in and around it, events that have shaped New Zealand to become the nation Olley is part of today.

Puffin treasury of New Zealand children's stories Volume four, edited by Jenny Keestra.

Pulford, Elizabeth **Famous** Everyone in Brad's family is famous except for him. Even his cat is famous! Despite trying heaps of different things, Brad just can't find a way to be famous. His worst enemy for being famous is Hanna Spark, she has had her photograph in the paper three times! And now she is the princess to Brad's frog in the school play. Will Brad ever get to be famous? A title in the *Kiwi Bites* series.

Sutton, Sally **Charlotte Frisbee and the slime attack** Charlotte Frisbee is the president of a secret club called PAWS (the Perfectly Amazing Word Society), which meets each week for word games. Then, one day, strange things start to happen around the school. What has caused the stinky green slime everywhere? Who stole the S's from the school sign and ripped the S section out of Buggy's dictionary? Suggested level: primary. A title in the *Kiwi Bites* series.

Thorpe, Leonie **Archie's adventures** Archie is new in town, trying to find his feet (literally) and live down his gory reputation at his last school for the bloodiest bonepiercingest leg fracture in the history of the world. When Archie meets up with the town's mysterious maggot smuggler his life changes for the better.

Toohey, Josh **A perfect day** Highlights the issue of child labour and wage slavery overseas through the eyes of two young students, Thomas and Tamati.

Fiction for older readers

Brocker, Susan **Restless Spirit: Te Whakariuka Wairua** This tells the story of a wild white Kaimanawa stallion who cannot be tamed and the two young troubled teens who come to love him.

Catran, Wendy **Summer Tiger** Amber reluctantly spends the summer with her uncle and twin cousins at their New Zealand Wildlife Park. Her parents have gone to Europe without her and she's afraid they might split up. She is also afraid of Tiger, the one animal who appears to be always watching, always waiting. Strange things are happening. Is someone trying to sabotage the park? No one knows who to trust.

Dare & double dare : 30 New Zealand sporty stories edited by Barbara Else A lively anthology of 30 stories for children. The theme is sport and the stories range from funny to serious, exciting and back to funny. Each story in some way is about triumph, enjoyment, bravery or failure. Some of the pieces are about physical experiences such as going off the high dive board, dancing, doing tae kwon do or going fishing.

Davies, Celia **Shadow of the whale** Thirteen year old David finds living with his family very difficult. When involved in an accident, David is knocked unconscious and later awakens, with his sister by his side, in a humble and ramshackle 1840's cottage. He soon discovers that he and his sister have been pulled back in time to a whaling station of settlement-era New Zealand.

Feehan, Brigid **Maybe Stella** Stella's big sister Penny has gone to live in Ireland with her new baby. When Penny fractures her shoulder, Stella is determined to fly over and help. But things don't go smoothly when Stella tries to act as matchmaker for Penny and her Irish friend. Sequel to **Stella Star**.

Gardiner, Kelly **The silver swan** After her adventures as a pirate, Lily Swann finds life ashore very dull. So when Napoleon's siege threatens Malta, and her father prepares to leave his family again, Lily seizes her chance. Lily, her mother and her younger brother find themselves in the thick of a daring scheme to save Malta, but things don't go according to plan, and once again Lily has to face her nemesis, Captain Diablo. Book 3 in the *Swashbuckler trilogy*.

Harris, Jill **Missing Toby** Ten-year-old Harriet misses her brother Toby, and refuses to believe that he's not coming back. She is lonely and having difficulty coping with school. She notices the dog next door receives visits from other neighbourhood dogs. The dogs, who talk amongst themselves, befriend Harriet, and lead her to a garden shed where they've hidden a small, stray dog called Girl. Harriet's life becomes intertwined with the dog community in her neighbourhood, as she tries to come to terms with the fact that Toby's gone.

Harrison, Craig **The dumpster saga** When Ben's younger brother Chesney turns up wearing a plastic helmet, strange things start to happen in Ben's life. His brother gets the power to see into the future. Some secret agents start poking around, and then a glowing dumpster materialises on the front verge in the middle of the night.

Hill, David **Duet** Kallum plays the guitar and, despite reservations, accepts an invitation to play in the youth orchestra. There he meets Paige, a flutist, with whom he is to play a duet. The two begin a relationship and Paige becomes pregnant. **Duet** charts their relationship and Kallum's growing love of classical music.

Hunt, Des **Shadows in the ice** When something falls into the ice, it takes seven years to reappear. As it comes closer you can see its shadow in the ice. Seven years ago, a hunter was killed in a tragic accident. His body disappeared, some say into the ice, while some wonder if it was an accident. When Tony Hogan-White arrives in the tiny township of Fox Glacier, it isn't long before the stories surface about his odd new friend and his wacky kea. They draw him in, into mystery, adventure and into danger. But this time Tony is on his own, and it's not long before he starts to wonder if this time he's in too deep. Sequel to **Frog Whistle Mine**.

Hunt, Des **Where cuckoos call** Twelve-year-old Ben is a keen ornithologist who looks after endangered birds on his family farm in the Coromandel Peninsula. But Ben must grow up fast in the face of threats to his home, his family and his beloved birds.

Jackson, Jenny **The moonbirds** While on holiday with her family, Ellie discovers some mysterious creatures of the night in the nearby bush. When nobody believes what she has seen, Ellie is determined to uncover the true origin of these birds.

Johnston, Phyllis **Dead Dan's Dee** In 1924, thirteen-year-old Dee is living with her mother and aunt: her father died during World War I. Her mother and aunt become sick with tuberculosis and Dee is sent to a Wellington children's refuge. After her mother dies, her father's army friends offer her a home on their farm. However, many adults in the area knew her father, and there are rumours going around. Dee realises she needs to find out the truth about how her father really died in the war.

Jordan, Sherryl **The silver dragon** Apprentice wizard, Denzil, lives in Medieval times, and only knows books as rare and precious handmade objects. So when Denzil travels to the future and sees books made on machines, he wants to invent such a machine himself. But, as usual, Denzil's spell gets out of hand and he puts himself, and his friends from the future, in terrible danger.

Lasenby, Jack **Billy and Old Smoko** Billy befriends a talking horse and together they gradually piece together a series of loopy clues that reveal how a whole village of mothers have gone missing.

McNabb, Linda **The Shadow Hunters** Elves who live secretly in the midst of the human world are known as Shadows, and after a tragic misunderstanding involving the death of the Crown Prince, elves live in fear of the King's Shadow Hunters, who seek to capture and enslave them.

McNabb, Linda **Timeweaver** Over the site of the Circle of Dreams hangs a raging storm that threatens to destroy the castle and undo all the work Zaine has done to free the wizards from their books.

McNabb, Linda **Valley of silver** When the dangerous Red Dragons break free of their enchantment they will seek a terrible revenge, unless Logan and his friends can stop them.

McVeagh, Janine **Be counted! : the diary of Amy Phelps, Dunedin, 1893** Thirteen year old Amy goes to live with her aunt and uncle in Dunedin to continue her education. At Otago Girls' High she pursues her dream of becoming an artist like her hero, Frances Hodgkins. Meanwhile, all Aunt Delia can talk about is the campaign to get women the vote. But Amy soon finds some girls who need more urgent help. Her efforts to find her wayward friend Mary lead her to discover a dark side lurking behind Dunedin's stately buildings. Includes historical photographs. A title in the *My story* series.

Manderson, Marie **The keeper of secrets** After waking from a dream, Zachary Michael Matthews discovers he has access to magical powers and will be the next 'Keeper of Secrets.' He is plunged headfirst into a quest to save the planet, teaming up with an obnoxious English girl who can't focus without an ice-cream fix, a Native American boy who needs to 'lighten up', and a Maori boy who rebels against overseas hunters who invade his forests. They embark on a long and dangerous journey, and are forced to awaken Celtic and Maori warriors from the past to help them.

Nagelkerke, Bill **Sitting on the fence : the diary of Martin Daly, Christchurch, 1981** It is 1981 and Martin senses big trouble brewing at home. The South African rugby team has been invited to tour New Zealand. Martin's sister, Sarah, is out to stop the tour in protest against South Africa's racist apartheid system. His rugby-mad dad is equally determined that the tour should go ahead. And Mum is behaving oddly. Then a new school leads to a new friendship, and Martin is faced with a choice. He can walk away, or he can become involved in something that will end up being bigger than anybody could have predicted. A title in the *My story* series.

Orwin, Joanna **Kauri in my blood : the diary of Laura Ann Findlay, the Coromandel, 1921-24** Laura Ann Findlay lives with her family among the mighty kauri trees of the Coromandel forest. It is the 1920s, and the last remnants of kauri forest are being cleared for timber and farmland. Laura describes how the family lives under canvas and cooks on open fires, and how she longs to be able to go to school. A title in the *My story* series.

Out of the deep and other stories from New Zealand and the Pacific edited by Tessa Duder and Lorraine Orman.

Pulford, Elizabeth **Castlecliff and the fossil princess** Going on your mum's honeymoon trip, to your new step-dad's grandmother's house, isn't Jamie's idea of a perfect holiday. But the mysterious Castlecliff, perched high above the sea, holds many secrets. Secrets about Lani with her passion for fossils; secrets about Grancliff and her brother William; secrets about the past and of the future. Will Jamie uncover the truth about them all?

Simpson, Vicki **Yo, shark bait** Rory loves fishing more than anything, but an accidental swim with a huge mako shark affects him deeply. Now he's developed a fear of the water, and fishing doesn't have the same appeal. So when his school principal decides to put him in charge of the school's fishing competition, will Rory overcome his fear?

Thompson, Tulia **Josefa and the Vu** When Josefa is met by a giant mysterious warrior claiming to be an ancestral spirit, everything gets chaotic. Meanwhile Jack Bucksworth, the school bully, has stolen the sacred tabua and to get it back, Josefa and his friend must embark on a terrifying and dangerous adventure.

Werry, Philippa **The Great Chocolate Cake Bake Off** Nicholas doesn't think he's much good at anything, until he discovers he has a gift for baking. Everyone likes his cakes, even his incredibly annoying next-door neighbour Ruby. But can he come up with a recipe that's good enough to get him to the finals of the Great Chocolate Cake Bake-Off? Ruby's determined that he will. And then there's his Special Secret Ingredient.

Young Adults

Beale, Fleur **The transformation of Minna Hargreaves** Minna's life is turned upside down when Dad announces that he wants them to live on an off-shore island for a year and work to make it into a conservation island.

Catran, Ken **Monsters of blood and honour** Three stories in which elderly people tell teenagers of their traumatic and violent experiences during the second world war.

Catran, Ken **Teresa Moran soldier** Partly set in Iraq, Teresa, Jimmy Moran's daughter, is kidnapped and in return for her safety she talks to the charismatic leader of a terrorist group. For the first time she understands the story from the Moslem side and questions the values of the Western one-way morality system.

Jordan, Sherryl **Time of the eagle** Avala's father, Gabriel, was the great Deliverer, the giver of freedom, the hero who began the prophesied Time of the Eagle. Avala's relationship with a wounded Igaal hunter leads to her acceptance within the Igaal tribe, where her healing gifts and visions make her indispensable. Sequel to **Secret sacrament**.

McKay, Sandy **Losing it** Johanna is in hospital, writing letters to her best friend, Issy. She can only have visitors, leave her room, or even use the phone, if she starts to eat. Johanna suffers from anorexia, and her condition has reached a point where doctors, nurses, and counsellors have had to find new ways to encourage, bribe, cajole – or, as she thinks, punish her – into returning to a normal weight.

Martin, Denis **Playing for Keeps** Ridders is a witness to the fishing boat explosion that kills Pip's father. Although he tries to be a friend to Pip, she is clearly grieving and makes it quite clear she wants to be alone. Stunned by her hostility, Ridders seeks advice from Charlie, an old friend of his Dad's, but Charlie is strangely guarded about the explosion and doesn't believe it was an accident.

Orman, Lorraine **Hideout** When their home situation spins out of control, fifteen-year-old Roz packs up her younger sister and they flee to a friend's beach house. But are they really out of harm's way here on the wild and windy coast? Troubling events from the past, and mysterious ancestral voices from Kapiti Island, seem to call to Roz. Who should she be listening to? And when disaster strikes, who can she turn to for help?

Information Books, including poetry and folktales

Anderson, Tony **Amazing alphabetical adventures** Text and illustrations tell a story for each letter in the alphabet.

Arnold, Heather **Draw New Zealand birds** A step-by-step guide on how to draw nine unique birds from New Zealand's coast, farmland, forest and mountains.

Crowe, Andrew **Which New Zealand spider?**

Goddard, Rachel **Rubbish! : everything you ever wanted to know about rubbish, landfills, recycling and worms**

Gossage, Peter **Rona and the moon** A retelling of a Māori legend in which Rona curses the moon when it causes her to stumble. The moon snatches her up, along with the gourds she is carrying and a tree that she clings to.

Pearce, Jeni **Active Kids Cookbook: Healthy Recipes for Active Young Cooks** All the basics are covered in this book including boiling eggs, preparing potatoes and making pancakes.

Pohatu, Warren **Taniwharau : guardians of the land** Collection of stories about taniwha, mythical creatures and special guardians of Māori legend.

Poetry pudding: a delicious collection of rhyme and wit edited by Jenny Argante.

Hunia, Maraea **Te kete kupu : 300 essential words in Māori** The 300 essential words in this book and the examples of common uses have been selected from published texts in Māori for young readers

Stenson, Marcia **Illustrated history of Antarctica**

Tirohia kimihia : a Māori learner dictionary

Torckler, Gillian **Destination Auckland, New Zealand** This book lists activities in categories such as parks, talking to the animals and things with wheels. There's a list of things that cost nothing to do, information about the Auckland City Circuit Free Bus, entries about Auckland's offshore islands, as well as an introductory section about New Zealand. Contact details and geographical information about sites to visit is also included.

Watson, Joy **Worms squirm : and other poems** A collection of ten poems by the author and illustrator team of the 'Grandpa' books.