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of New Zealand Studies**

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## EDITORIAL

This journal began as the *CNZS Bulletin of New Zealand Studies* but in order to survive it has been forced to change its name. Like the Centre for New Zealand Studies, the journal was growing rapidly into a major academic forum, but then politics took over and the Centre was closed in the most appalling manner in September 2009. There had been a dedicated team working at the Centre, and by October 2009 they had left. By the end of that year the majority of the Centre's resources had also gone. This journal was ready to be published in September last year, but the unexpected turn of events halted any such attempts, whilst permanently challenging the existence of the New Zealand Studies Association.

I had consciously woven the NZSA into the Centre, and united Kakapo Books as a direct way of publishing and disseminating New Zealand Studies, and the work of both the Association and the Centre. If it were not for NZSA the Centre would not have existed. I now regret that I placed the faith that I did in the commitment of certain people to the Centre, as NZSA has been weakened by the sudden turn of events, when it had grown to such a significant size and it was enjoying major annual international conferences. In the fourteen years in which I was fortunate enough to be Chair of NZSA, sixteen international conferences had been organised and the seventeenth, to be held in Vienna July 2010, and which was advanced in terms of its planning, was looking as if it could have been the best yet. The loss of the Centre and the ending of the NZSA is, therefore, an incredible shame.

This issue of the *NZSA Bulletin of New Zealand Studies* is, consequently, a stand-alone publication, with no aims to print future editions. As with Issue 1, there is an extensive book reviews section, festival and conference reports, and poetry contributions from many well-known writers. The section devoted to articles has been expanded to accommodate the wealth of submissions received after the Florence conference, and an additional Discussion section has been added. This issue and the one before show the immense academic depth and range of the New Zealand Studies community and the real need for one or more journals to support the growth of an important discipline. Many collaborations and opportunities have emerged with the evolution of NZSA, and I thank the members and associates for all their support in helping things get this far.

*Ian Conrich*



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