

## Editorial Note



In 2013, the *New Zealand Journal of History* moved from its long-term home in the Auckland History Department to be edited from Otago, by Tony Ballantyne and Barbara Brookes. In 2015, Angela Wanhalla replaced Tony Ballantyne as an editor. The move to Otago represented the desire of the founding editors that the journal should migrate around New Zealand's History Departments. From October 2019, the journal will be jointly edited by Lyndon Fraser at the University of Canterbury and Linda Bryder of the University of Auckland.

In planning our final issue, we have largely, but not exclusively, focused on the theme of commemoration: of James Cook's first landfall in this country, of the First World War, of the 1918 influenza epidemic, and of the 1919 Women's Parliamentary Rights Act. In an act of commemoration of her husband, sailors aboard the *Resolution* carved a small box for Elizabeth Batts Cook. The photograph of their work on our cover indicates one material manifestation of Cook's death, enclosing a small painting of the scene where he died and a lock of his hair.

Commemorations can act both as remembrance and as provocations, and we are delighted that authors we approached responded to our theme in different ways. In addition, we have an important incitement from Charlotte Macdonald to avoid 'historical forgetfulness' and to reimagine our past built on garrisoned sovereignty rather a milder view of settler colonialism.

Since October 2013, Otago has overseen the production of 12 issues of the journal, and 74 articles. These have touched on a diversity of subjects and methodologies, including women's history, the history of sexuality, and visual and material culture, and a number of authors challenged our discipline to take account of digital histories, Māori ethical frameworks, and feminist organizing. We appreciate the opportunity that we have had at Otago to contribute to building scholarship in New Zealand history. Editing and copyediting are invisible tasks in the final product but we have been fortunate to work with Vanessa Manhire and Jennifer Ashton as superb copyeditors. These tasks are not glamorous but they are essential to keeping the scholarship of New Zealand historians alive in the way imagined by the journal's founders. Whether the format those founders envisaged will survive is an open question in today's digital world, but the intent to maintain a space for historiographical debate will surely survive.

BARBARA BROOKES & ANGELA WANHALLA

