**Important conference information. Please read the advice below which includes registration, the conference excursion/dinner, accommodation, location, getting to Nijmegen, and publications**

Dear All – NZSA's 19th annual conference in Nijmegen has developed into the Association’s 2nd largest ever gathering. There will be 51 papers and 54 speakers, with half the papers this time focused on Maoritanga.

**Registration**

Registration for the conference will be open from Tuesday 19 February and will close Monday 1 April, but we ask that you register as soon as possible. You can register by going to <[http://www.nzsa.co.uk/conferences.htm>](http://www.nzsa.co.uk/conferences.htm%3E). Here, near the top of the page and underneath the summary for this year's conference, you will see a link titled – Registration. Click on this and you will be taken to the registration page. Note that there are two delegate rates for speakers and that everyone will need to go through the membership link. All speakers need to be members of NZSA, with membership including for 2013-14, a copy of the twice-yearly refereed Journal of New Zealand Studies (first issue in April), and a choice of one title from either the 'New Zealand Writers' or 'New Zealand Film Classics' series of forthcoming books. The membership year begins 1 March, so current members will need to renew. First you should go to the Membership page, which can be found in the link in the lilac-coloured box to the left of the Registration page. Once you have completed the membership form press the button in the bottom right-hand corner, which says 'Continue'. In doing this a copy of your form will automatically and immediately be sent to myself as a record of your membership. **BUT** it is important that you do not then proceed to Paypal through the membership link. From the membership page, with your membership form submitted, go back to the conference Registration page, complete that accordingly and follow the 'Continue' button there through to Paypal, where you will then pay for everything in one go. Conference registration includes tea and coffee and a conference bag. Here, if anyone would like leaflets relevant to New Zealand or Pacific Studies placed in every conference bag, please can you make 80 copies and mail to myself before 1 June. Address: Ian Conrich, 15 Garrett Grove, Clifton Village, Nottingham NG11 8PU, England.

**Conference excursion and dinner**

As is our tradition, there is a conference excursion and dinner on the middle day (Friday 28 June). On this occasion, we have booked a coach trip to the excellent National War and Resistance Museum and the Marshall Museum in Overloon. This is two museums conjoined, with the Marshall Museum containing one of Europe's best collections of military hardware (predominantly World War II), and all in working order. The museums are built on the site of a 1944 tank battle – the greatest in Dutch history.

Details at <[http://www.oorlogsmuseum.nl/oorlogsmuseum/>](http://www.oorlogsmuseum.nl/oorlogsmuseum/%3E), <[http://www.stripes.com/military-life/travel/overloon-museums-recall-battles-life-in-netherlands-1.97576>](http://www.stripes.com/military-life/travel/overloon-museums-recall-battles-life-in-netherlands-1.97576%3E), <[http://www.comtourist.com/history/liberty-park/>](http://www.comtourist.com/history/liberty-park/%3E),  <[http://www.saak.nl/oorlogsmusea/overloon/overloon%20en.htm>](http://www.saak.nl/oorlogsmusea/overloon/overloon%20en.htm%3E), and <[http://www.euro-t-guide.com/See\_Coun/Holland/S/NL\_See\_National\_War\_Museum\_05.htm>](http://www.euro-t-guide.com/See_Coun/Holland/S/NL_See_National_War_Museum_05.htm%3E).

We have managed to secure a discount whereby the cost of the coach and entrance to the museums will cost GBP10 total per person. The coach journey is approximately 45 minutes one way (departing Nijmegen at 2pm) and will leave us slightly more than 2 hours at the museums. The coach will then return everyone to Nijmegen for 6pm, with the conference dinner at 7.30pm.

For the conference dinner, we have booked the highly recommended De Hemel restaurant in the centre of Nijmegen. Again we have secured a discount where you will enjoy an 8 course meal (with coffee included) for GBP20. The restaurant’s food has already been test-driven by 3 of the conference team and it has been given a big thumbs-up. The menu, which will be circulated soon, includes vegetarian and fish options.

Please note that spaces are limited to a maximum of 50 and the excursion and dinner are a combined option of GBP30 total. If you wish to join us then there is a box on your registration form to tick online.

**Accommodation**

Hotel options in Nijmegen are limited compared to our previous venues. But we have secured the 4 star Mercure hotel (ranked 2nd in Nijmegen on Tripadvisor) as our conference hotel of preference and again we have gained a significant discount with double rooms available to delegates at 90 euros per night (approximately GBP75), including breakfast. Those of you who have stayed in Mercure hotels (it was our choice of accommodation in Gdansk too) will know the quality of the rooms. The hotel in Nijmegen has 112 rooms. Details can be found at <ttp://www.mercure.com/gb/hotel-1356-mercure-hotel-nijmegen-centre/room.shtml>. Some of you may wish to share a room as a double or twin and this will cost 107 euros per room per night, with breakfast. Please note that in addition there is a city tax of 1.85 euros per person per night for all delegates staying at the Mercure.

WE STRONGLY ADVISE that you book your accommodation at the Mercure very soon as we will be in Nijmegen in peak season. The hotel has made arrangements for us, so if you email the hotel Front Office, and provide the conference password 'South Pacific', you will be booked at the discount rate. The email is < [H1356@accor.com](mailto:H1356-FO@accor.com)>.

Not only is the Mercure one of the very few hotels in Nijmegen that could take all of our conference delegates, it is also by far the most practical for everyone in terms of location. It is right next to Nijmegen train station, where the majority of you will arrive. You cannot miss it if you look to your right as you depart from the station's main entrance (the hotel is about 50 yards away). Outside the train station is the bus station where you can catch a bus for the short ride to the conference venue, Radboud University, and from the hotel it is no more than a 10 minute walk into the city centre.

**Location**

Go to NZSA's Conferences page and under the Nijmegen conference summary click on the link – City map. A map of Nijmegen will then appear and here you will see that the train station is the elongated red building on far left of the map, with the Mercure hotel labeled too and marked with a white circle. The city centre is contained within the ring road and bordered to the north by the Waal river, with the railway bridge to the West and the main traffic crossing to the right. Within the city centre and just south of the river and very near to the city's cathedral you will see a purple circle – that is the location for the conference dinner on the Friday evening. Finally, at the very bottom of the map, where you see a black sign saying 'Venlo" and a blue circle, that is the road your bus will take for the short journey to the conference venue of Radboud University.

**Getting to Nijmegen**

By far the best route for international travellers is to fly into Amsterdam's Schiphol airport. It offers many more flight options, cheaper flights, and better connections, with a train station underneath. From here, you could easily stop en route in Amsterdam, which is 20 minutes away by train. From Schiphol airport to Nijmegen trains are direct (no changes) with two trains an hour, on the hour and on the half hour. The journey takes 90 minutes and will cost £16 one way. So from Amsterdam Schiphol airport to the Mercure hotel in Nijmegen, you have no connections and no other forms of transport other than a train immediately under the airport direct to the Mercure.

**Publications**

Delegates are encouraged to submit their papers post-conference to the fully refereed *Journal of New Zealand and Pacific Studies*, which is published by Intellect, twice a year.

We look forward to seeing you all soon.

The very best – Ian and Toon