



the times they are a changin' and so will one's address book



What a delight to see that the second-generation publisher assuming the mantle of Director of Auckland University Press is **SAM ELWORTHY**. He is not the offspring of Shoal

Bay Press founder **DAVID ELWORTHY**, but the son of David's twin, the late politician **JONATHAN ELWORTHY**. Equipped with his own outgoing version of the Elworthy personality, Sam is leaving Princeton University Press, where he served as both Editor-in-Chief and Assistant Director, to return home with his German wife and three sons. Sam's doctorate is in history, but his poetic preferences remain unknown, one wonders if that is making any of AUP's stable a tad nervous?

Another scion returned to the fold is **RANDOM'S** sparky new young book rep **TOBIAS BUCK**. "Intelligent, handsome, charming, well read and very well traveled," says one adoring bookseller. Toby's worked in the book trade overseas and was an immediate success once back here. He also – if you haven't worked this out yet – calls noted Te Mata Estate winemaker **JOHN BUCK** Dad. So imagine the pressure the poor boy is going to be under when he has to sell in the upcoming release of poet Jenny Bornholdt's work from her time as Te Mata Poet Laureate. **KAREN FERNS** will be expecting the orders to come rolling in, as will no doubt Dad. Hope I haven't spilled this drop of news, wouldn't want retailers hinting round for bonus bottles of the best vintage for big numbers!

Family ties also see the delightful **ANNE SIMPSON** depart HarperCollins after 10 years to go and work for her mother. Not as tragic as it sounds – Anne's Mum **AVELYN DAVIDSON** heads the **WELDON OWEN** team in New Zealand and has approximately 40 editors and designers slaving away at the Viaduct Basin producing educational books specifically for the American market. Anne is to be International Sales and Marketing Manager with lots of international travel as part of the job including liaison with Weldon Owen's San Francisco HQ. Ohhh... did my fur just turn green?

There will be lots of changes to the old Rolodex as **ALLEN & UNWIN'S** invaluable **RACHEL BAILEY** is off to pursue her singing career. Their equally indispensable publicist **GILLIAN HUGHES** is cutting back to part-time to study natural medicine. Penguin publicity pup **JESS RIDOUT** is trading in the pubsheets to go on her OE. **SIOBHAN CLARE** is expecting an heir or heiress, surely the first baby in the team at **HACHETTE** in recent history. The dinkum little Kiwi is expected to be kitted out with little rugby (league) booties on arrival.

Changes of a different sort were in store for the publisher **DAVID LING** after an encounter with an offer he received from an Australian copy editing and proofreading service. The word "Precise" might be in the title of the business, but the letter he received was rather misleading. David quickly logged seven errors in the address, return address and first paragraph, his own version of "precise" found no fewer than 11 errors in punctuation, syntax, spacing and omission of articles of speech. David, who coaches cricket in his spare time, dismisses the offer as another underarm bowling attempt by the Aussies.

When the following week, a Kiwi enquiry for a job of "Proofreading" (sic) arrived in David's inbox the placid pedant turned grumpy old man and shot back, "I cannot take seriously an inquiry for proofreading employment when two out of three sentences contain an error."

The indefatigable **GRAHAM BEATTIE** is certainly setting the pace as his blog, www.beattiesbookblog.blogspot.com, is now a *de rigueur* part of the book trade day. Of particular interest was his report on Joanne Black, NZ Listener's "The Black Page" columnist, as she predicted the death of independent bookstores when they could not guarantee supply of an obscure title in time for her hubby's birthday. "How much difference would it have made to her message if Joanne Black had acknowledged that Unity Books GAVE her the publisher's website address?" responded **TILLY LLOYD** on line.

Little old BB a superstar? Not *moi*, but the man who shares my initials, **BILL BRYSON**. So popular is the other BB that events on his recent tour were sold out well ahead of time. Audiences were adoring and appreciative (and I know *just* how he feels) and reports confirm that he was thoughtful and very entertaining (we are so easily confused). Well done the *Otago Daily Times* with their effort to break out of the hagiographical interview with the Best Bit of the tour. Six kids chosen from Dunedin secondary schools went sailing out on the harbour with their hero. All of which made for lively coverage – plus the kids got interviews that will run in the ODT and their school mags.

Speaking of big gigs. Couldn't help but notice that the invitation to **BORDERS'** "grand opening" in Wellington, created by Auckland's Kelly PR, included a map that had the new shop located in the menswear & fragrance corner of Kirkcaldies. An auspicious beginning.



But enough about me... A big poochy kiss goes out to **MELISSA MIDDLETON**, the designer of these very pages, on the birth of her gorgeous daughter Bailey Lucy Flavell. Bailey's father Judd and brother Jaylan are tickled pink.

Bev's Diamante Dog Collar award goes to... **MACMILLAN MANAGEMENT AND STAFF** for a generous donation to the Cancer Society, followed up with a donation of a wide selection of the publisher's books to the Domain Lodge, a motel-like facility near Auckland Hospital for cancer outpatients. Macmillan is appropriately thanked in the Cancer Society's newsletter, which includes a smiling shot of **CHRIS BATY** and Cancer Society CEO John Loof. Good news is hard to find and deserves to be celebrated – well done, Macmillan team!



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