



For immediate release, Thursday 22 September

A BOOK ABOUT BEES TAKES OUT AOTEAROA'S TOP PUBLISHING DESIGN AWARD

A book referred to as a "cabinet of wonder" has been judged the most beautiful in Aotearoa at the 2022 PANZ Book Design Awards ceremony held in Auckland this evening.

Conversātiō - In the company of bees, by Anne Noble with Zara Stanhope and Anna Brown, was described by the judges as a "ravishing blend of science, art, and book design in a volume devoted to the honeybee".

As well as receiving the supreme award, the **Gerard Reid Award for Best Book sponsored by Nielsen BookData**, it was also awarded the **Penguin Random House New Zealand Award for Best Illustrated Book**.

The book's cover was designed by Anna Brown of Massey University's College of Creative Arts and Matt Law. Anna also designed the interior.

Normally a designer becomes involved towards the end of a project, but uniquely with this book Anna Brown was part of the team from the outset, contributing to its conceptual development and credited as a co-author on the book's cover. This deep involvement did not go unnoticed by the judges, and they lauded the title's "confident playfulness, made possible by the designer's understanding of the book's theme and content".

"The reference to old style bookbinding shown in the bindery style expresses such a wonderful and collaborative love of bookmaking in its widest sense, by all involved – publisher, authors, and designer," continued the judging comments. "A special book."

Turning to the other categories, it was the extra design touches, font choices and beautiful photography that saw *Homecooked: Seasonal recipes for every day* by Lucy Corry, designed by Cat Taylor with original cover art by Evie Kemp, take out the coveted **1010 Printing Award for Best Cookbook**.

The **Allen & Unwin Award for Best Commercial Book for Adults** was awarded to Ockham New Zealand Book Award winner *Kurangaituku* by Whiti Hereaka, designed by Te Kani Price and Camilla Lau. Te Kani was also named **2022 Hachette Aotearoa New Zealand Emerging Designer**, with the judges praising his creative vision and experimental work.

The **Scholastic New Zealand Award for Best Children's Book** went to multi-talented publishing novice Emily Joe, who was the designer, author and illustrator of *My Cat Can See Ghosts*.

On the education front, the **Lift Education Award for Best Education Book or Series — Primary** was awarded to *Inside New Zealand Wildlife* by Dave Gunson, designed by Dave Gunson and Alice Bell.

Finally, the night's attendees clearly agreed with the judges and *Conversātiō - In the company of bees*, also won the **Booksellers Aotearoa New Zealand People's Choice Award**, which is decided during the ceremony by attendee vote.

The PANZ Book Design Awards were established by the Publishers Association of New Zealand (PANZ) to promote excellence in, and provide recognition for, the best book design in New Zealand.

The 2022 PANZ Book Design Awards winners are:

Gerard Reid Award for Best Book sponsored by Nielsen BookData

- *Conversātiō — In the company of bees* by Anne Noble with Zara Stanhope and Anna Brown (Massey University Press). **Cover designed by Anna Brown & Matt Law. Interior designed by Anna Brown**

Penguin Random House New Zealand Award for Best Illustrated Book

- *Conversātiō — In the company of bees* by Anne Noble with Zara Stanhope and Anna Brown (Massey University Press). **Cover designed by Anna Brown & Matt Law. Interior designed by Anna Brown**

Upstart Press Award for Best Non-Illustrated Book

- *A Clear Dawn: New Asian Voices from Aotearoa New Zealand* edited by Paula Morris and Alison Wong (Auckland University Press). **Cover designed by Keely O'Shannessy. Interior designed by Keely O'Shannessy with typesetting by Tina Delceg**

Scholastic New Zealand Award for Best Children's Book

- *My Cat Can See Ghosts* by Emily Joe (Beatnik). **Designed by Emily Joe**

Lift Education Award for Best Education Book or Series — Primary

- *Inside New Zealand Wildlife* by Dave Gunson (Bateman Books). **Cover design by Dave Gunson & Alice Bell. Interior designed by Alice Bell**

Lift Education Award for Best Education Book or Series — Secondary/Tertiary

- No winner but special commendation to *Social Policy Practice and Processes in Aotearoa New Zealand* edited by Graham Hassall and Girol Karacaoglu (Massey University Press). **Cover designed by Tim Denee. Interior designed by Megan van Staden**

1010 Printing Award for Best Cookbook

- *Homecooked: Seasonal recipes for every day* by Lucy Corry (Penguin Random House NZ). **Cover designed by Cat Taylor with original cover art by Evie Kemp. Interior designed by Cat Taylor**

Allen & Unwin Award for Best Commercial Book for Adults

- *Kurangaituku* by Whiti Hereaka (HUIA Publishers). **Designed by Te Kani Price and Camilla Lau**

HarperCollins Publishers Award for Best Cover

- *Rangikura* by Tayi Tibble (Te Herenga Waka University Press). **Designed by Xoë Hall**

Te Herenga Waka University Press Award for Best Typography

- *He Ringatoi O Ngā Tūpuna* by Hilary and John Mitchell (Potton & Burton). **Designed by Floor van Lierop, This is Them**

2022 Hachette Aotearoa New Zealand Emerging Designer

- Te Kani Price (HUIA Publishers)

Booksellers Aotearoa New Zealand People's Choice Award

- *Conversātiō — In the company of bees* by Anne Noble with Zara Stanhope and Anna Brown (Massey University Press). **Cover designed by Anna Brown & Matt Law. Interior designed by Anna Brown**

ENDS

For more information please visit: www.bookdesignawards.co.nz

High-res images are available [here](#)

FOR INTERVIEWS OR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
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THE JUDGING PANEL

The judges for the 2022 PANZ Book Design Awards are convening judge Jenna Todd (Kāi Tahu), manager and book buyer at Time Out Bookstore in Mt Eden Chair of Booksellers Aotearoa NZ and a member of the New Zealand Book Awards Trust. Jenna was joined by Jenny Nicholls, a freelance editorial designer and writer; Johnson Witehira, an artist, designer and academic of Tamahaki and Ngāi Tū-te-auu descent; and William Chen, founding art director at *Metro* magazine.

Full biographies can be found [here](#).

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