Aotearoa Ageing 2005
A Bibliography of New Zealand Research on Ageing, 2001–2005

Edited by Judith Davey and Virginia Wilton
New Zealand Institute for Research on Ageing
Victoria University of Wellington
PO Box 600
Wellington
New Zealand

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Introduction

Background

New Zealand, in common with other developed societies, is experiencing population ageing. Research on the implications of ageing, and the wellbeing of increasing numbers of older people, is vital in informing public awareness, practice and policy in helping to ensure that change is positive for all concerned. Providing information on research on ageing in New Zealand also helps to avoid duplication of effort and to increase the awareness of this complex issue.

Four previous bibliographies of New Zealand research on ageing have been produced.

• In 1971, Creswell and Wade produced the first of these.
• Angela Wither and Ian Hodges of the Ministry of Health produced Elderly People in View in 1987, compiling research for the period 1971–1985.
• The next bibliography covered the years 1986–1996 and was produced in 1997, and edited by Ana and Marg Gilling. This was a collaborative project between BERL, the New Zealand Association of Gerontology and Age Concern New Zealand.
• In 2002, the New Zealand Institute for Research on Ageing (NZIRA) produced a bibliography, edited by Susan Gee and Judith Davey, with New Zealand research for the period 1997-2001.

An updated bibliography

This new bibliography of research on ageing in New Zealand covers the period 2001-2005. It is a project of NZIRA, funded by the Ministry of Social Development.

The general parameter for research to be included in this bibliography was that it had to be related to human ageing in the New Zealand context. The main source of information was a comprehensive search of databases, in particular the National Library’s Index New Zealand, together with several New Zealand university library databases and overseas journal databases.

While every effort has been made to include all the relevant research we are aware that relying on databases could result in omissions. In addition, to ensure that the references listed in this bibliography are easily accessible, conference papers, unless available online, and articles in press have been omitted.

To provide ease of reference for a range of users, the bibliography is divided into categories based on subject and there is an author index at the end.

Acknowledgements

The editors are very grateful to the Ministry of Social Development for their sponsorship of the project and to all who have contributed to the compilation of the bibliography.
Attitudes towards ageing

Davey, J (2002).
What do we need to know about growing older? A new research institute at Victoria University.
This article introduces the objectives and current research projects of the New Zealand Institute for Research on Ageing to an audience whose clients include older people.

Mystories from a public ethnology of ageing and later life.
Sites, 1(1):186-209.
Suggests that interpretive and critical perspectives from anthropology are finding increasing appeal with New Zealand gerontology. Describes an epidemiological community-based study of ageing and the experiences of later life in the community of Mosgiel and includes an interpretive anthropological component.

Senior Citizens? Old Age and Citizenship in Provincial New Zealand Communities.
The study identifies the policies of national and local government, organisations and communities, and media representations as important influences on the extent to which older people are able to exercise their rights and responsibilities as citizens.

Cultural stereotypes and social representations of elders from Chinese and European perspectives.
The study investigates the social representations and cultural stereotypes of older New Zealanders of Chinese and European origin held by young and middle-aged individuals from both groups.

O’Connor, A (2002).
Master of Library and Information Thesis, Victoria University of Wellington.
This research examines ageist images in New Zealand authored picture books and finds that while there are some negative images they are in the minority.

The earlier, the better. The effect of early community contact on medical students attitudes to older people.
This study investigates how New Zealand medical students’ contact with older people in community settings influenced their attitudes towards older people. The findings suggest that contact with older people had a favourable effect on these attitudes.

Stereotype traits of older adults generated by young, middle-age, and older Chinese participants.
The study examines the stereotypical traits of older adults in three age groups of New Zealanders. These traits were compared to similar studies and it was found that some traits are unique to Chinese culture and that Chinese participants across all age groups reported more positive age traits than negative.
Ageing population – demographics


Callister, P (2002). Ageing population and social policy in New Zealand: could family-friendly policies increase both fertility and women's employment? New Zealand Population Review, 28(2): 221-251. Discusses the problems associated with an ageing workforce, particularly how to support the growing proportion who are projected to be inactive in the workforce. Assesses whether family-friendly policies are likely to encourage an increase in fertility and reviews five country-level case studies.

Davey, J (2003). Two Decades of Change in New Zealand: From Birth to Death V. Institute of Policy Studies: Wellington. This study uses census data to provide a long-term series of important social indicators and includes tracking the ageing of the population.

Davey, J and Gee, S (2002). Life at 85 Plus: A Statistical Review. New Zealand Institute for Research on Ageing: Wellington. This explores the differences within the older population of New Zealand by focusing on the age group 85 and over and comparing their characteristics and circumstances with people aged 65-74 and 74-84.


Fletcher, P and Lynn, R (2002). Health of Older People in New Zealand: A Statistical Reference. Ministry of Health. http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/7004be0c19a988a4c25692e007bf833/34d13a943b5edcc56cc256c2c000b78e3/$FILE/stat%20report%209.09.pdf [18/4/05] This statistical report is designed to assist with the implementation of the Health of Older People Strategy by providing information about older people’s health. The statistical information, available via the website, is regularly updated to incorporate new studies.

Gee, S (ed) (2002). Ageing in a Diverse New Zealand/Aotearoa: 40 + Project. Victoria University: Wellington. A collection of articles highlighting the diversity of the ageing experience, including issues such as gender and ethnicity.


Ageing population –

**Economic Implications**


This paper presents projections for 14 categories of social spending.

Lepoutre, I (2002). *Population Ageing and Pension Reform.* Bachelor of Commerce with Honours Thesis, University of Otago. This study examines the implications of population ageing in relation to the provision of retirement income. While overseas literature advocates the privatisation of public pension systems, the study concludes that this approach may not be useful in the New Zealand context.

http://www.treasury.govt.nz/workingpapers/2002/twp02-05.pdf [18/04/05]

This paper reviews the potential economic implications of ageing in the following broad categories: demographic change, labour markets, fiscal impacts, capital markets, and long-run economic growth effects. There is a summary of the key economic and demographic issues relating to each category, and the paper highlights issues to be prioritised in further research.

Ageing population –

**Policy Implications**


This paper examines the relationship between age and health care and disability support service use in New Zealand, and presents projections of demand for these services to 2011 and 2021.

The purpose of this briefing is to provide a broad overview of the major issues relevant to the portfolio of the Minister for Senior Citizens. Key information and messages are provided in the summary of each chapter.

http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/0/E6EE108D0901CAD8CC256F73000F1F9A/$File/nzierreport-ageingnzandhealthanddisabilityservices.pdf [18/04/05]
The report addresses the implications of New Zealand’s ageing population on the demand for health and disability services and for the health and disability services workforce.
This chapter outlines the extent of mortality decline experienced by the whole population and by its oldest members, and discusses the impact of this on population composition and family relationships.

Ageing population – social implications

Age Concern New Zealand Inc: Wellington.
This provides a summary of the policy of Age Concern New Zealand across three broad areas: communities for all ages, work and income, and health.

This paper examines the impact of the ageing population on the New Zealand workforce and how organisations need to consider how they can plan and structure their workforces and attract and retain older workers as they look to the future.

This report examines employers’ awareness of the implications of the ageing population on businesses and future workforce issues. It provides a breakdown by industry type, current strategies and suggestions for meeting the challenges of an ageing workforce.

Advises business how to prepare for a shortage of skilled workers resulting from the ageing population.

The article explores the implications of the ageing of the New Zealand population on the economy and workforce.

Examines the reasons for New Zealand’s declining birth-rate and the implications for the ageing population.
Care – caregiving

King, A and Parsons, M (2005).
An evaluation of two respite models for older people and their informal caregivers.
New Zealand Medical Journal, 118(1214).
This study evaluates two case-management models of respite relief care and finds that the models are flexible and provide control in decision-making for informal caregivers, leading to an increase in choice for home-based respite.

A qualitative study of oral health knowledge and attitudes among staff caring for older people in Dunedin long-term care facilities.
Investigates the dental knowledge of caregivers for older people in residential care at three levels of care, including aides, nurses and managers.

Uncovering the art of gerontology nursing.
Gives a gerontology nurse’s account of how she has become an advocate for this area of nursing.

Care of the elderly is a privilege and a challenge.
Kai Tiaki: Nursing New Zealand, 10(4):16-17.
Profiles a psycho-geriatric nurse with a multidisciplinary team. Describes psychogeriatric illness of which depression, dementia and delirium are the most common presentations.

Care – institutional

All the Comforts of Home? A Critical Ethnography of Residential Aged Care in New Zealand.
Uses an ethnographic approach to examine the nature of comfort for residents of three New Zealand nursing homes. This study found that the standardised care delivery practices compounded the discomfort experienced by residents, suggesting that there is an urgent need to clarify the purpose of nursing homes and to challenge the discourses that determine the care they offer.

Residential care workers and residents: the New Zealand story.
New Zealand Medical Journal, 118(1214).
This survey describes the nature and size of long-term residential care homes; the funding of facilities; and the ethnic and gender composition of residents and residential care workers. It concludes that the age and turnover of the residential care workforce suggests the industry continues to be under threat from staffing shortages.

Leisure activity programming: promoting life satisfaction and quality of life for residents in long-term care.
Confirms the link between meaningful leisure activity and life satisfaction. Makes recommendations for management, occupational therapists and staff of long-term care facilities.

Kaitaia’s Switzer Home and Growing Old in the Far North: Commemorating the Achievements of the Claud Switzer Memorial Home over 50 years of Caring for the Elderly and Disabled.
Bridgewater Publications: Northland.
This book details the development of the Switzer home and puts this into the context of the problems faced by older people and the challenges of an ageing population that confront governments and communities.
Care Publications: Christchurch.  
This booklet is a consumers’ guide and aims to simplify the process of moving into residential care by providing information and explaining the appropriate procedures.

*More Than Meets the Eye: Explicating the Essence of Gerontology Nursing.*  
This research looks beyond the practice tasks and skills of gerontology nursing to unveil a deeper meaning and understanding of this field.

*The Impact of Caregiver Education on the Quality of Residential Care for Older People: An Evaluation Study.*  
*PhD Thesis*, Auckland University.  
This study examines the impact of a caregiver education programme on the quality of care for older people in residential care. It found that care for older people with disabilities was improved after the educational intervention and suggests that further education of caregivers could improve the overall quality of care.

*Quality of residential care for older people: does education for healthcare workers make a difference?*  
*New Zealand Medical Journal*, 118(1214).  
This study sought to determine the impact of a healthcare assistant education programme on the quality of care for older people living in residential care and found that this can positively impact on the quality of care.

*Risk factors for entry into residential care after a support-needs assessment.*  
*New Zealand Medical Journal*, 117(1202).  
Examines the risks factors for entry into residential care by logical regression.

Care – other

*Family meetings – a qualitative exploration of improving care planning with older people and their families.*  
*Age and Ageing*, 33:577-581.  
This study explores the opinions of staff, patients and families attending family meetings within a rehabilitation setting. The findings show that family meetings are appreciated by patients and their families.

Health Services Research Centre and Te Rōpū Rangahau Hauora e Eru Pōmare. (2001).  
Health Services Research Centre: Wellington.  
This report evaluates the largest national demonstration of the processes required to integrate and improve health services for older people.

Kirkman, A (2005).  
*Formal and informal care: caring as paid and unpaid labour.*  
(Melbourne: Oxford).  
This chapter examines the division of labour between the state and family members and between professionals and paid workers and lay people in the tasks of caring for people with health problems. The case study focuses on people with dementia, especially those with Alzheimer’s disease.

*Cohort vulnerability to lack of extended family support: the implications for social policy.*  
Presents a cohort analysis of the potential supply and demand for extended family support. Analyses cohort vulnerability to the lack of extended family support and comments on the lack of income support from the state. Considers the implications for social policy in terms of what cohorts are likely to be most in need of support beyond their extended family.
Wainwright, T (2003). *Home Care Thoughts from Abroad: A Review of the Literature on the Cost-Effectiveness of Home-Based Services and on Ways of Funding and Organising Home-Based Care.* New Zealand Health Technology Assessment: Christchurch.

This report summarises the literature on the cost effectiveness of home-based services. It summarises overseas experience and literature on the most cost-effective ways of organising and funding home-based services and reviews New Zealand home-based services in the light of these findings.

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**Cognition**


This study investigates whether familiar music played during an interview would influence either the quantity or quality of older people’s recollections. While it did not, this study does report gender differences in the types of recollections.

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**Education – adult education**


Examines attempts to depict the nature of learning for older adults. Presents alternative ways of conceptualising educational gerontology, which derive from applying critical theory to older adults’ learning.
Education – tertiary education

Davey, J (2002).
‘Active ageing’ and education in mid and later life.
This article suggests that education in mid and later life is part of an ‘active ageing’ approach to changing demographic trends. It refers to a survey of older students at Victoria University of Wellington.

Davey, J (2002).
_Funding education in mid- and later life: a case study form Victoria University of Wellington._
The article reports on a study which looked at how students aged 40 and older managed to finance their studies. It illustrates differences by gender, ethnicity and work status and outlines the implications for policy.

Davey, J (2002).
_University study in mid and later life – the experiences of early school leavers._
New Zealand Journal of Adult Learning, 30(2):18-33.
Explores the factors that motivate people to enter university – level education in adulthood, focusing on personal experiences around school leaving, life-course analysis and personal experiences.

Davey, J (2003).
_Early school leavers and the path to university._
This chapter examines an atypical group of older students – those who left school with less than four years secondary education. An analysis of their experiences suggests how others in similar circumstances may be helped.

Davey, J (2003).
_Opportunity or outrage? Redundancy and education involvement in mid-life._
The study looks at the circumstances of redundancy, its immediate effects and how it led to university study among a group of people aged 40 to 59. Most participants stated that their experience of redundancy had been an opportunity for change.

Davey, J (2003).
_Redundancy as an opportunity – job loss and education in midlife._
This chapter explores how job loss at midlife can be seen as an opportunity to enter into university study by focusing on the experience and outcomes of job loss.

Davey, J (2003).
_University study in retirement – continuity, substitution and identity._
This chapter shows that the motive for university study from age 60 onwards is more likely to be self-fulfilment and personal development rather than employment prospects. Interviews with students age 60 onwards reveal what education has meant throughout their lives and how education can be a substitute for paid work and contribute to positive ageing.

_Against the odds: pathways of early school leavers into university education: evidence from England and New Zealand._
This article compares the adults engaged in university education in New Zealand and England and examines the social factors that lead to study by older people. The pathways to university study as illustrated in the two studies relate closely to the major motivations identified in the literature on adult higher education, work/career and personal development.
The conclusion to this edited book identifies the significance of university education for those aged 40 and over and outlines the implications for policy on lifelong education and how it may be promoted as a way of assisting people to cope in an ageing society.

This chapter examines women management students who ‘ended up’ as managers and shows that, rather than opening up new careers, management education has been a way to legitimise their identities as successful managers and confirm the capabilities they had already achieved.

This chapter examines the motivations of nurses studying at university and finds that there are several types of motivations. For some, postgraduate study was essential for career development and for others it was an opportunity for academic pursuits and perhaps a change in career direction.

Education is a very popular subject for older students at university and this chapter examines teachers who enrol for degree study as part of their professional development, highlighting their motives and experiences.

This chapter examines the reasons why students aged 40 and over do not complete their qualifications and compares this group with younger students. The common issues identified include money, motivation and time. Balancing study, home and work responsibilities is an area which mature students find the most difficult.

This chapter draws on case studies of older full-time male students, a neglected area of research. It examines the transition from full-time worker to full-time student.
Employment


This resource kit on flexible employment practices provides an overview of the workforce and the benefits to employees and employers of flexible working practices. Older workers are addressed as a group requiring attention.


The article notes that almost half the New Zealand workforce is over 40 and that skills and labour shortages are emerging. It raises issues surrounding investment in human capital, work-life balance, age discrimination, education and training.


The proportion of older workers is set to increase in New Zealand. This report looks at the current situation and where New Zealand is going in terms of maximising the potential of older workers. It points out the implications if this group are unable to contribute to their full economic capacity.


This article focuses on the ability of older workers to combine their work and family responsibilities in terms of eldercare.


The article explores the ways in which age and gender discrimination interact in employment through an investigation of mature job seekers’ experiences. It discusses the results in relation to the expanding role of employment agencies and policy approaches to combating gendered ageism in employment.


This chapter examines the ageing society in New Zealand in relation to labour market practices, with an emphasis on the eldercare responsibilities of older workers.


The study examines job-seeking activities and experiences of older people from a political economy perspective.


Investigates employer perceptions of older employees’ performance and ability. The study suggests that these are generally negative and may result in age discrimination.


Lin, C (2002). *Attitudes to Work and Computer Training: A Survey of Older Work Trainees and Canterbury Employers.* Masters Thesis, University of Canterbury. This research examines the attitudes towards older workers and the ageing workforce. The findings showed that employers did not envisage that there would be a significant impact on their organisations as a result of the ageing workforce. However they did expect positive influences to come from this.

Litmus (2002). *Understanding Employers’ Attitudes Towards Mature Workers.* Canterbury Development Corporation and Work and Income. The purpose of the study was to gain an in-depth understanding of employers’ attitudes towards mature job seekers and employees. The findings show that employers hold both positive and negative attitudes toward mature workers. There appears to be a correlation between the age of the mature worker or job seeker and the intensity to which stereotypical beliefs are held by employers.


McNeill, M (2003). *The Third Age: Barriers to Employment.* Masters Thesis, Lincoln University. This research identifies the barriers to employment for older people based on interviews with employers. An examination of social policy in relation to ageing and unemployment demonstrates how the Positive Ageing Strategy can be used to provide employers with information about the changing age structure of the workforce and to reduce the barriers for older people’s workforce participation.

Anti-ageism remedies: challenging old stereotypes. 
Comments on the implications of ageism for an ageing workforce. The article offers advice for employers and employees.

Smith, D (2002). 
Old enough to know better: age stereotypes in New Zealand. 
This chapter examines the stereotypes of older people held by those in positions where these perceptions may affect the treatment of older people in either the allocation of work or in the selection of new employees.

Facing an Ageing Workforce: Information for Public Service HR Managers. 
This discussion document for managers of state services outlines the implications of an ageing workforce. One of the key findings was that the public service labour force has a higher percentage of older workers than the private sector. Work-life balance and flexible work practices were identified as the most important factors in managing this group of workers.

**Family and relationships**

Gee, S., Liu, J and Ng, S (2002). 
The veneration gap: generational dissonance and well-being amongst Chinese and European parents. 
This study examines generational dissonance and found that Chinese parents perceived greater dissonance than European parents. Greater generational dissonance was associated with more concern about ageing and, for the Chinese sample, was associated with poorer subjective wellbeing and depression.

Constraints of multi-generational support for those in mid-life – an emerging policy issue. 
The article examines the types of help individuals in mid-life provide to older parents and adult children. It finds that the adult child receives more financial help whereas the older parent receives help with daily tasks and both are given emotional support. Suggests that policy makers reconsider the relevance of the household and shared residence as criteria for defining ‘family’, when assessing need.

Missen, S (2002). 
‘Confidants, Negotiators, and Stress Buffers': New Zealand Grandparents Talk about Grandparenthood. 
This research examines what it means to be a grandparent in contemporary New Zealand, including the differences between grandmothers and grandfathers, and grandparent-like roles in the community.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren. 
A Handbook for Grandparents and Other Kin Caregivers. 
Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Trust: Birkenhead. 
A handbook that provides information and ideas about coping with family relationships, legal and access issues, financial help and services and support groups.
**Health – audiology**

*The ABCs of New Zealand Sign Language.*
Aerial spelling is the term given for the way many deaf people in New Zealand, especially the elderly, manually represent letters. But recent research on New Zealand sign language is either dismissive of it or fails to acknowledge it. This describes aerial spelling and discusses its nature.

*Can you hear me? The impact of hearing impairment on older people.*
Identifies some of the crucial issues faced by older people with a hearing impairment and strategies that social workers adopt to work effectively with them.

*Development of a hearing and communication screening programme for older adults living in residential care.*
Examines the establishment of an assessment protocol and services for elderly people living in residential care facilities, by assessing participants for hearing, vision and conversational fluency. Identifies a role for speech-language therapists in residential care.

Scott, J (2001).
*Age-related hearing loss: pitfalls and problems.*
The article considers why older people often fail to report hearing loss. It discusses the assessment and treatment of hearing loss and problems with hearing aids.

*Hearing Therapists’ and Audiologists’ Knowledge of and Attitudes towards Older Adults.*
*MA Thesis*, Massey University.
The thesis examines the attitudes of hearing therapists and audiologists towards older people and the implications of providing appropriate treatments.

**Health – dementia**

*The effect on perception-reaction time in older drivers with and without cognitive impairment.*
*Bulletin/New Zealand Psychological Society*, 102:30-34.
The article presents the results of a study comparing the speed and accuracy of road sign recognition among individuals with early onset Alzheimer’s disease, cognitively unimpaired older drivers and younger drivers. The study suggests that reaction time and ability decrease with age.

Keightley, J (2002).
*Making a diagnosis of Alzheimer’s important.*
Addresses three areas of the diagnosis and management of dementia by GPs.

*Dementia in New Zealand. Improving Quality in Residential Care.*
A report on dementia in relation to improving the quality of residential care, with the key recommendations of training staff; an analysis of staffing requirements; an audit of restraint procedures and the development of dementia standards.

*Delirium – part 2.*
Outlines the principles of the management of patient care.

Milward, F (2003).
*Dementia: Factors Leading to Admission to a Care Facility.*
*Master of General Practice Thesis*, University of Otago.
This research focuses on the information gained from patients and their carers on how they managed dementia care and what led to admission into a care facility. The findings suggest that attitudes, belief systems and access to support are important in whether an individual with dementia remains in the community.

**Health – disability**

A report on a nationwide provider survey that gathered demographic data on the workforce who deliver services for contracted providers. The key findings of this report describe the workforce as mainly female, over the age of 40, working an average of 24 hours per week, earning an average of $10.80 per hour.

This scoping study identifies issues in disability support services (DSS) and what the devolution of the planning and funding of age-related DSS would mean for District Health Boards and for the people with disabilities in their districts. It provides an introduction to the DSS sector, identifies issues that are likely to arise from the devolution of planning and funding for age-related DSS, including the risks and opportunities that could arise, and identifies what further work may be needed to prepare DHBs for devolution.

Health – exercise

Check, P (2003). 
Balance training for the elderly. 
*New Zealand Fitness*, 59:42-44. 
Advocates the benefits of improving balance and stability by presenting a series of exercises designed for older people.

50+, fit & fabulous past halfway. 
*New Zealand Fitness*, 50:16-22. 
The article reports discussions with women and men who are over 50 years about their fitness regimes and how exercise has improved their health.

The physiological cost index in elderly subjects during treadmill and floor walking. 
This study determines the physiological cost index of treadmill versus floor walking by measuring walking speed, resting heart rate and walking heart rate.

The Physical Activity Levels of Older New Zealanders: How Active Are They? 
This study examines the level of physical activity in a group of older New Zealanders to determine whether participants were engaged in sufficient levels of physical activity for overall health benefits.

Health – falls

The experiences of staff concerning the introduction and impact of a fall prevention intervention in aged care facilities: a qualitative study. 
This pilot study investigated the experience of staff at an aged-care facility. General acceptance of a falls risk-management intervention was high but resistance to changing practices by some staff could limit its wider implementation. It suggests that further research is required to develop the appropriate delivery of educational messages for caregivers.

Circumstances and consequences of falls in residential care: the New Zealand story. 
*New Zealand Medical Journal*, 117(1202). 
The article describes the circumstances and consequences of falls in long-term residential care facilities. It examines predictors of injury using regression techniques.

Preventing Falls and Fall Injuries in Older People: Evaluation of a Pragmatic Trial. 
*PhD Thesis*, University of Otago. 
This research evaluates the effectiveness of a physiotherapist-delivered home-based exercise programme designed to reduce falls and fall injuries. The findings suggest that the programme is effective in reducing these when delivered by trained nurses.

How to treat elderly falls. 
The article puts falls into four categories and discusses the evaluation and management of the falling patient. It suggests that multi-faceted interventions are more successful and advises how to reduce the risk of fractures.

The Otago exercise programme: an evidence-based approach to falls prevention for older adults living in the community. 
Introduces the falls-prevention programme that targets strength and balance deficits and identifies the risk factors addressed by the programme.
Health – general

The article describes the general health, oral health status and treatment needs of 210 Grade-3 residents living in Christchurch rest homes. They were examined for dental/denture status, caries, periodontal disease and oral cleanliness.

Presents the preliminary results of a pilot study and confirms that the demographic and risk factor profiles of the sample are similar to that of the elderly New Zealand population.

The article examines complexity as it relates to the older person in the context of their community, the surgery and the health care system. It argues that without robust primary health care to manage this complexity the plight of older patients will become worse.

This is a draft strategy to comply with the Ministry of Health’s health of older people strategy. Comments and submissions are called for.

This report provides an overview of the strategic plan to improve and maintain the health of older people as part of the overall Positive Ageing Strategy.

This guideline provides District Health Boards with a framework for developing specialist health services for older people, with the key focus on the integrated continuum of care approach.

This is a draft document to comply with the Ministry of Health’s strategy. Comments and submissions are called for.

The article examines changes to sleep as the body ages by focusing on the sleep requirements and problems of older people.

The thesis examines older New Zealanders’ processes of recovering from surgery at home. Being at home, being active in their own recovery, and knowledge and understanding were identified as significant to recovery.
Health – geriatric assessment

The purpose of this guideline is to provide evidence-based recommendations for the most appropriate and effective assessment processes, identifying the personal, social, functional and clinical needs of those aged 65 and over.


Health – heart

The article discusses the use of an alternative recipient list for heart transplants, which attempts to match donor organs for which the long-term outcome is unknown (marginal organs), with recipients who are elderly. It examines the ethics of a treatment based solely on the age of the patient.

This confirms that serum cholesterol levels continue to be predictive of cardiovascular events up to the age of 75.

Reveals that a new blood test, which indicates whether shortness of breath is indicative of heart failure, significantly improves the accurate diagnosis of the condition by GPs.

Describes the causes of acute and chronic breathlessness and the appropriate investigations.

The article addresses the practical management of atrial fibrillation in older patients and describes the symptoms associated with this. It discusses two strategies of treatment: assessment of thromboembolic risk and maintenance of rhythm and rate control.
The article quantifies the effects of alcohol consumption on the risk of coronary heart disease and estimates the contribution of alcohol to the burden of heart disease mortality and morbidity.

Health – hip fractures


Health – injuries


Injury Prevention Waimakariri and Waimakariri District Council (2001). *The Waimakariri Older Person’s Help Book: An Information Book for Older People and their Carers.* Injury Prevention Waimakariri and Waimakariri District Council: Rangiora. The central focus of this booklet is to provide information about help for older people in the Waimakariri District that will cut down the risks that lead to injuries.


Health – mental health


Alpass, F., Neville, S., Blakey, J and Pachana, N (2004). Post-traumatic stress disorder, social support and cognitive status in community-based older veterans. *Australasian Journal on Ageing*, 23(2):97-99. The study investigates the relationships between structural and qualitative aspects of social support, combat-related post-traumatic stress disorder and cognitive status in a New Zealand veterans’ sample. The findings suggest that, while social support may be useful for interventions in at-risk older adults, health professionals need to be aware of the potential influence of past trauma.


In 1998, the New Zealand Branch of the Faculty of Psychiatry of Old Age surveyed psychiatry of old age (POA) services in for their resource levels. At that time, they were low by international and Mental Health Commission ‘Blueprint’ levels. In 2003, POA services were resurveyed to determine how much progress had been made in the ensuing 5 years. The survey reveals that there has been little progress towards, and nationally there has been a decrease in, access to acute beds.


Heath – miscellaneous

Evaluates long-term survival after major abdominal surgery in patients aged 80 and over. Assesses possible predictors of outcome.

This survey of general practitioners, practice nurses and people aged 65 and over found they were generally well-informed about influenza, its complications, and the effectiveness of influenza immunisation. However, some misinformation is still prevalent in people aged 65 and over, and these beliefs discourage some older people from being immunised.

The paper describes a service to provide short-term rest home care to acutely unwell elderly people as an alternative to acute hospital admission. Short-term rest home care may be a viable alternative to acute hospital care, but the service needs to include appropriate patient selection, multidisciplinary care, and ongoing monitoring of patient outcomes.
This study determines patterns of alcohol use and misuse among people aged 65 years and over in Christchurch, and assesses how often this comes to medical attention. The research includes a cross-sectional survey of alcohol use in this population and asks GPs to complete a questionnaire on their patients’ alcohol use and misuse.

Cites the incidence, causes and symptoms of urinary tract infections and prescribes management guidelines for older people.

Reviews data from the Australian and New Zealand Dialysis and Transplant Register to show that there is an emerging epidemic of dialysis-requiring end-stage renal disease among older people in New Zealand. It cites the incidence and prevalence, racial distribution, co-morbidity, mortality and dialysis modality.

The article reports on an outbreak of a Norwalk-like virus among the staff and residents of a rest home. It describes the infection-control measures implemented.

**Health – nutrition**

There is conflicting evidence as to the efficacy of vitamin supplements in older age; however, fresh fruit and vegetables are essential to maintain good health.

Compares the dietetic support delivered by telephone to that by home visits for individuals aged 65 and over with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, Parkinson’s disease or failure to thrive. It measures the time and cost effectiveness of each form of support.

The findings of a survey on meal providers’ compliance with National Service Specifications. The report makes recommendations for providers to improve their compliance.

This reviews the evidence for an effect of diet on monoamine metabolism. It discusses studies that have examined the role of the serotonin system in the elderly and considers the clinical implications.
Stanley, C (2001). The Impact of Diet and Lifestyle on Bone Health in the Elderly. Master of Science Thesis, Massey University. The study assesses the impact of a single serve of high-calcium milk on bone-resorption in older people. The results found that the supplement did not produce significant change in a biomedical marker of bone-resorption.


Xie, W (2003). Health Status and Dietary Intakes of Elderly Mainland Chinese in Auckland. Master of Science Thesis, Massey University. This study examines the food consumption patterns of older Chinese and examines the impact of migration on dietary habits and how this impacts on health.

Health – pharmacology

Botting, C., Sutherland, M., Wells, E., Town, I., Sainsbury, R and Toop, L (2003). The use of inhaled and related respiratory medications in Christchurch rest homes. New Zealand Medical Journal, 116(1187). http://www.nzma.org.nz/journal/116-1187/709/ [16/5/05] This study found that there were significant deficiencies in the staff and residents’ knowledge of obstructive airways management and medications. Regular review of inhaler technique, greater use of spacers, and regular staff education may improve residents’ respiratory management.


Describes patterns of prescribing in general practice and concludes that there is a high level of exposure to medication in populations of older people. This is a reflection of older persons’ morbidity and also indicates an urgent need to examine the data further for potential drug interactions and side effects.

The case report of an 81-year old man who was receiving the triple combination of potassium-retaining drugs and describes the hyperkalaemia that developed as a result of multiple factors acting to impair urinary potassium excretion.

Moodabe, K (2001). Drug-related morbidity and mortality – the elderly at risk: medicines to be wary of in the elderly. *New Zealand Family Physician*, 28(4):272-278. This article identifies the medicines that are most frequently implicated in adverse drug reactions.

Previous research has shown that psychotropic medicines have been overused. This audit investigates what percentage of residents was prescribed these medications and makes some recommendations to prevent misuse.

The article examines the effect of ageing on drug action in relation to age-related changes to lower urinary tract function and identifies drugs that can affect urinary continence.

Health – services

A critical appraisal of the international literature on services to bridge the gap between short-stay hospital care and community-based care support.


Canterbury District Health Board produced this action plan, which identifies the need for objectives, tasks, timeframes and the designation of responsibilities for implementation. The plan was developed with the intention of providing a framework for other DHBs.

This report identifies the importance of the support workforce for the government’s health strategies to succeed, due to the increased demand for these workers and their skills.

This research examines how older people use after-hour medical services and whether this differs from younger people. It identifies some of the barriers to access these services, such as a lack of knowledge about availability, a lack of transport and cost. Measures to help older people overcome some of these are identified.

Ministry of Health (2004). *Guideline for Specialist Health Services for Older People.*

http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/0/7583849F0B7DE0AACC256F26007890FB/$File/guidelines.pdf [18/4/05]

As part of the Ministry of Health’s strategy for the health of older people, this guide develops a consistent framework of specialist health services for the elderly.


The Ministry of Health’s guide for DHBs to implement the integration continuum of care approach to services for older people.

Ministry of Health (2004). *A Snapshot of Older People’s Assessment, Treatment and Rehabilitation Services and Mental Health Services 2003.*


This report provides information from a survey of District Health Boards on geriatric assessment, treatment and rehabilitation. The results have assisted in the development of a Guideline for Specialist Health Services for Older People.

Otago District Health Board (2004). *A Workplan for Improving the Integration of Services for Older People in Otago and a Summary of Submissions.*


This document outlines the workstream proposals, which have been revised through public consultation, for achieving the Otago District Health Board’s objective for a continuum of care for older people.
Health – stroke

The article describes the development of stroke rehabilitation. It measures outcomes, including the length of stay in hospital, using a before-and-after study design.


Housing – general

The information arising from this research suggests that improving the housing situation of older people, especially renters and those on a low income and other disadvantaged groups, will have a beneficial effect on their health and lead to a more resilient older population.

Jowett, S (2003). Secondary dwellings: one option for housing an increasingly ageing population. *Masters Paper*, University of Auckland. This research examines how the increasing numbers of older people will be housed, focusing on one housing option – secondary dwellings. It addresses the design and policy implications of this option.


The New Zealand Housing Strategy will provide direction for housing over the next 10 years. The discussion document provides summaries of the key housing issues and outlines a proposed plan of action. It includes a section on the housing issues for older people.
Housing – retirement villages

Bowen, B (2003). Retirement Villages: A Lifestyle Choice for Older New Zealanders. *MA Thesis*, Massey University. This study examines the factors that cause older people to consider leaving their current homes, their reasons for choosing a retirement village, their experiences of life there and the impact that residence in a retirement village has on contacts with people outside that community.

Flint, B (2001). Lifestyle Retirement: a New Zealand guide to the retirement village option. Random House: New Zealand. This consumer guide suggests that moving into a retirement village is a life-changing decision that needs to be thoroughly planned. This book is intended to provide an independent summary of the factors that need to be considered, covering how to choose a village and contractual obligations.


Grant, B (2003). Retirement villages: an alternative place to live. *Australasian Journal on Ageing*, 22(2):136-139. New Zealand has experienced a rapid growth in this form of community but in spite of a ‘relatively trouble free existence’ there are a number of social, economic and political issues that require further research.

Grant, B (2004). A new sense of self and a new lease of life: leisure in a retirement village. *Annals of Leisure Research*, 7(3-4):225-239. This article considers how living in a retirement village influences leisure experiences, based on focus groups with men and women aged 69-91. The main themes to emerge from these group discussions were a sense of belonging and a new lease of life.


Wilde, M (2001). Facilities in Retirement Villages and the Changing Needs of Residents. *Masters Thesis*, Lincoln University. This research examines perceptions of valued facilities in retirement villages from the perspective of residents, promoters and managers.
Housing – sheltered housing

Examines ‘compression of morbidity’, in which the period of disease and disease before death is shortened, in relation to the implications for residential care and the requirement for increased government funding.

Describes the experiences of an elderly couple who moved from their home of 30 years into sheltered housing and the effect this had on the husband, who was in the early stages of dementia.

Law/Legal issues

Connor, P (2003). Elder Law. Continuing Legal Education Department of the New Zealand Law Society. This booklet covers the key legal areas that have relevance for older people, including enduring powers of attorney, retirement housing, living wills, grandparent rights and age discrimination.


**Misuse of enduring powers of attorney.**
Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988 and the power of attorney.

**The Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act.**
Explains the purpose of the Act in relation to older people and advises general practitioners on its practical aspects, and when to intervene on behalf of an elderly patient.

**Retirement Villages Act 2003.**
Reviews the key compliance and other requirements of the Act.

**Kaumātua, leadership and the Treaty of Waitangi claims settlement process: some data and observations.**
The article presents the results of a survey examining the role of kaumātua in Treaty claims. It raises a number of concerns, most importantly whether older Māori feel confident or knowledgeable enough to contribute to the process.

Wellington Community Law Centre and Age Concern New Zealand (2002). 
**Planning your future with the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988 and Enduring Powers of Attorney, 2nd edition.** 
This booklet provides information on the way in which a person can manage their affairs through the use of enduring powers of attorney. It provides clear information and case studies to illustrate key points.

Māori

**Living Standards of Older Māori.**
This study examines the use and relevance of the Material Wellbeing Scale to describe the living standards of older Māori and to provide comprehensive information on the living standards of older Māori and the factors impacting on their material wellbeing.

Durie, M (2001). 
**Kaumātutanga reciprocity: Māori elderly and whānau.**
This article explores the impact of an increasingly ageing Māori population by addressing the current cultural roles of older Māori, the likely cultural profiles of the next generation of older Māori and the implications of demographic and cultural changes for older Māori as kaumātua and leaders.

**Living language: Te reo, ethnic identity, and well-being.**
As part of a larger study which investigates the link between language satisfaction and wellbeing among Māori aged 30-79. Te reo satisfaction was associated with greater life satisfaction, even when physical, spiritual, family and social inclusion factors were taken into account.

**Private Retirement Income Issues for Māori.**
Periodic Report Group background paper. 
The report provides an overview of issues facing Māori in the private provision of superannuation. It brings together existing data on Māori experiences of retirement with data on factors that are considered to influence the ability and willingness of Māori to make private provision for retirement.
Ra, M (2002). Mana a tōku ko Tane: The Right to Stand Tall: Conversations with the Old People. Mitaki Ra Publications: Te Kauwhata. Provides an overview of the ways of the ‘old people’, suggesting that their experience, knowledge and understanding of ancient times can provide young Māori with the true meaning and values of being Māori.

Reeder, P (2002). A Modified Guided Reading Programme for Struggling, Older Māori Readers. Masters of Education Thesis, Auckland University. This study evaluates the usefulness of modifying the guided reading approach to suit older Māori learners and suggests that the modification is worth exploring further.

Stephens, M and Higgins, TP (2003). Older Māori as students – ‘I’m finally moving from being a spectator to being a participant in my own culture’. In Davey, J., Neale, J and Matthews, KM (eds) Living and Learning: Experiences of University after aged 40 (Victoria University Press: Wellington), pp.61-75. This chapter examines some of the experiences and conflicts faced by older Māori students. The study found that one of the ironies older Māori students face was that they were often denied the opportunity to learn about their heritage and culture and now find themselves in a Pākehā institution to learn about tikanga and te reo Māori.


Positive ageing – policy


Ministry of Health (2002). Summary analysis of submissions on the draft Health of Older People Strategy. Health sector action to 2010 to support positive ageing. http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/0/13CF7B014CE29D44CC256AD30076D0BB/$File/AnalysisOfSubmissions.pdf [2/5/05] The vision statement of the strategy was generally well received, as were the principles. The objectives of the strategy, while viewed as positive, were queried in terms of their achievability, timeframe or the need to be amended.


The annual Positive Ageing Strategy Action Plan identifies the work items to be undertaken and co-ordinated by many government agencies, related to the Positive Ageing Strategy goals.

The annual report records initiatives related to the Positive Ageing Strategy previously stated in the action plan for that year.

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The annual Positive Ageing Strategy Action Plan identifies the work items to be undertaken and co-ordinated by many government agencies, related to the Positive Ageing Strategy goals.

Whitehead, G (2001). A Study to Determine What Forms of Housing, Community Facilities and Support are Suitable for the Elderly to Enable them to ‘Age in Place’. Master of Property Studies Thesis, Lincoln University. This study identifies housing types available internationally that are suitable for older people's accommodation needs and which will enable them to take care of their own social and health needs and thereby ‘age in place’. 
Positive ageing – leisure, recreation, volunteering

Davey, J (2001).
What can the census tell us?
In Gee, S (ed) Experience of a Lifetime: Older New Zealanders as Volunteers. 40+ Project
(Victoria University of Wellington: Wellington), pp.55-61.
This article examines the information about older volunteers that can be obtained from census data.

Downey, J (2003).
Coaching older athletes.
Describes what a coach can do to help older athletes minimise age-related decline in performance.

Downey, J (2003).
Coaching older athletes – part 2.
Provides research findings that focus on training intensity, risk management and recovery for older athletes.

Doyle, J (2004).
Older and Bolder.
New Holland: Auckland.
This is a personal account of an older woman’s experiences and enjoyment of the outdoor pursuits of tramping and skiing.

‘Those who help others help themselves’: who helps and what might they gain?
In Gee, S (ed) Experience of a Lifetime: Older New Zealanders as Volunteers. 40+ Project
(Victoria University of Wellington: Wellington), pp.49-53.
This article provides a summary of research on unpaid work in mid and later life and examines the benefits of volunteering.

Age concern: working together to promote the quality of life of older New Zealanders.
In Gee, S (ed) Experience of a Lifetime: Older New Zealanders as Volunteers. 40+ Project
(Victoria University of Wellington: Wellington), pp.17-23.
This article examines the strategies, services and activities Age Concern is involved in and the factors that help or hinder the success of these.

Grant, B (2004).
They’re not doing bad for their age: ageing, leisure and active living.
This article discusses the portrayal of older people and addresses issues of ageing in society, leisure activities of older people in relation to active living and changing attitudes towards ageing.

Action research at Mana College: intergenerational contact in the year of the volunteer.
In Gee, S (ed) Experience of a Lifetime: Older New Zealanders as Volunteers. 40+ Project
(Victoria University of Wellington: Wellington), pp.39-47.
This is an account of an attempt to establish a programme of action research in a secondary school, based on the experiences of a group of older volunteers who support activities for the school.

Probert, J (2001).
Business mentor scheme: sharing knowledge and skills.
In Gee, S (ed) Experience of a Lifetime: Older New Zealanders as Volunteers. 40+ Project
(Victoria University of Wellington: Wellington), pp.5-9.
This article discusses the Business Mentor Programme, which provides opportunities for business people to tap into the knowledge and skills of active or recently-retired business people.
Stephens, M (2001). **Supergrans.**
In Gee, S (ed) *Experience of a Lifetime: Older New Zealanders as Volunteers. 40+ Project* (Victoria University of Wellington: Wellington), pp.25-29. This article highlights the history of Supergrans and the services and skills provided by the group, and the experiences of volunteers.

Thomson, S., Grant, B and Dharmalingam, A (2002). **Leisure time in midlife: what are the odds? Leisure Studies**, 21(2):125-143. This article reports the results from a survey of 40-54 year old New Zealanders on their perceived available leisure time. The results showed that most respondents reported having moderate amounts of leisure time.

Wright, P (2003). **A retirement garden.** *Organic NZ*, 62(1):20-21. Suggests that the construction of a waist-high garden is one option by which older people can maintain gardening with less physical discomfort.

Yoong, J (2001). **Volunteer community co-ordinators.**
In Gee, S (ed) *Experience of a Lifetime: Older New Zealanders as Volunteers. 40+ Project* (Victoria University of Wellington: Wellington), pp.11-15. This article discusses the national network of volunteer community co-ordinators that the author helped to establish.

**Positive ageing – other**

Brown, A (2004). ‘Let My Spirit Always Sing’: A Descriptive Study of How Four Elderly Rest Home Residents View Spirituality and Spiritual Care at the End of Life. *MA Thesis*, Victoria University of Wellington. This qualitative research focuses on spirituality issues for older people in residential care in relation to whether spiritual needs were being met.

**Retirement**

[http://www.hrc.co.nz/hrc/worddocs/Older%20Worker%20Employment%20Transition1.doc](http://www.hrc.co.nz/hrc/worddocs/Older%20Worker%20Employment%20Transition1.doc) [21/4/05]
The study analyses the retirement intentions of older workers, making use of the concept ‘employment transition’. Some of the key findings are that older workers doing physical work lack policy visibility, and raising the age of eligibility for government-funded superannuation beyond 65 years would be extremely onerous for these workers.
Retirement income

Cervin, C and Women’s Centre West Auckland (2001).
Women and Retirement Income: a complex web. A qualitative study of retirement provision ideals and realities with women from West Auckland.
Women’s Centre West Auckland: Auckland.
Explores retirement ideals, issues in trying to prepare for retirement and the relationship between the ability of women to save and the increasing demand to provide care for New Zealand’s ageing population.

Davey, J (2005).
This report examines the potential of home equity release schemes in the New Zealand context as a source of retirement income.

Gee, S., Ng, S., Weatherall, A., Liu, J., Loong, C and Higgins, TP (2002).
Saving ourselves: gender issues in making provision for one’s own retirement.
This study investigates the gender differences in making provision for retirement and the factors associated with a lower likelihood of saving. The findings suggest that the relative economic position and social roles of women may contribute to economic dependence in later life.

Treasury working paper 04/22.
The main objective of this paper is to examine the effect of women’s bargaining power in relation to the accumulation of household retirement income and the wealth of couples.

Hawke, R (2005).
Retirement Income Provision in New Zealand: a way forward.
Institute of Policy Studies: Wellington.
This book outlines the issues surrounding retirement income and considers both practical and policy concerns. It includes an overview of worldwide trends in policy reforms, a comparison of compulsory retirement models and suggestions for the future.

Big stupid?
Argues that the Cullen ‘Super Fund’ is ethically wrong, politically infeasible and economically flawed.

Hong, B and Jensen, J (2004).
Assessing the adequacy of private provision for retirement: a living standards perspective.
The article examines the adequacy of private income provision in retirement within the context of working-life asset accumulation and living standards. It discusses income and other factors that contribute to the living standards of older New Zealanders and examines the outlook for future cohorts of older New Zealanders based on emerging trends.

Saving attitudes divulged.
The article reports on the findings of the AXA Retirement Scope survey on attitudes to retirement and saving, with a focus on attitudes to superannuation, private savings and investment.

Ministry of Social Development (2003).
Description of New Zealand’s Current Retirement Income Policies.
This paper describes the two components of New Zealand’s retirement income system, New Zealand Superannuation and private provision.
**Retirement Income Report.**
This report reviews the provision of private retirement income in New Zealand. It concludes that, while the current system is working for those about to retire, the needs of future cohorts require greater savings to ensure adequate retirement income.

Scobie, G and Gibson, J (2003).
**Household Saving Behaviour in New Zealand: why do cohorts behave differently.**
Treasury Working Paper 03/32.
The aim of this paper is to add to the understanding of saving decisions by households. The saving behaviour of households differs depending on the birth cohort of the household head. This paper seeks to explain why this pattern occurs.

**Saving for Retirement: New Evidence for New Zealand.**
This paper addresses the question – are New Zealanders adequately preparing for retirement? The evidence presented suggests that there may not be widespread under-saving for retirement.

St John, S (2001).
**New Zealand goes it alone in superannuation policy.**
http://www.geocities.com/nzwomen/SusanStJohn/StJohnColloquiumFinal.html [2/5/05]
This paper reviews the policy debates of the 1990s around retirement, which included the proposal to partially fund the state pension and the endorsement of universal pensions of at least 65% of the net average wage for a married couple. It argues that there are some significant issues still to be debated as the demographic bulge heads towards retirement.

Scobie, G and Le, T (2004).
**The Impact of Workplace and Personal Superannuation Schemes on Net Worth: Evidence from the Household Savings Survey.**
The report presents a range of information about participation and the levels of holdings in workplace and personal superannuation schemes, based on data from the Household Saving Survey. It suggests that being enrolled in a workplace scheme is associated with higher levels of total net worth, yet this is not true of personal schemes.
St John, S (2004). Managing the Risks of Ageing: the role of private pensions and annuities within a comprehensive retirement policy for New Zealand. PhD Thesis, University of Auckland. This research outlines the historical, practical, political and theoretical factors that explain the demise of private pensions and annuities. It provides a record of international interest as New Zealand is the first developed country to institute a tax-neutral environment for retirement saving.


Treasury (2003). Retirement Wealth of New Zealand Households: an initial analysis based on the Household Saving Survey. Periodic Report Group background paper. http://www.treasury.govt.nz/prg/background/prg-tsy-rwnzh.pdf [6/4/05] This paper uses the Household Saving Survey data to make a preliminary assessment of how adequately people have accumulated wealth that could be the basis for income in retirement. The measure of adequacy of retirement wealth is defined as the ability to maintain the level of pre-retirement consumption.

Services for older people

Mahony, F (2002). Seen But Not Heard: A Process and Outcome Evaluation of the Integrated Services for Older People Project. Master of Public Health Thesis, University of Auckland. The evaluation reveals that this model did not promote the use of an integrated-care approach between the primary and secondary health sectors. Both sectors continued with their usual practice of working in parallel, which resulted in each provider undertaking assessments and creating care plans in isolation.

Ryder, A (2001). The grey revolution: development of services to the elderly in Auckland’s public libraries. Master of Library and Information Thesis, Victoria University of Wellington. This research examines how successful services targeted at older people are in terms of meeting their needs. The four main services identified were mobile libraries, audio books, large print and housebound services.

Sexuality

Granger, A and Wilkinson, T (2002). Impotence in older men – do geriatricians have a role? Australasian Journal on Ageing, 21(1):21-24. This study demonstrates that erectile dysfunction is poorly addressed in an outpatient geriatric clinic. Patients and doctors held divergent opinions on the role of the geriatrician in assessing this problem. The patients’ view is that it should be a routine part of geriatricians’ clinical practice.

Kirkman, A (2005). Ageing and sexuality – the final frontier for positive ageing? In Hawkes, G and Scott, J (eds) Perspectives in Human Sexuality (Oxford: South Melbourne), pp.104-118. This chapter examines representations of ageing in New Zealand and Australia in relation to sexuality, addressing topics such as ageing as ‘other’ than heterosexual, and residential care, ageing and sex.
**Technology/Communication**

*Who said you can't teach an old dog new tricks? A study of SeniorNet in New Zealand.*
The results of a study to determine how members of SeniorNet are using computers and the internet. It makes comparisons with similar studies conducted in the United States.

*Towards interface design for older users.*
The article reports on two pilot projects on interface design for older users of computers. It assesses the effects of display format and information presentation on comprehension.

Keller, C (2003).
*Never too old.*
The article discusses the problems that older trainees face in learning new computer-based tasks and looks at how they can be helped.

*Senior Surfers: Older Adults and their Experiences with Graphic User Interfaces on the World Wide Web.*
*Master of Library and Information Thesis*, Victoria University of Wellington.
This research outlines the needs of older adults in relation to the internet. It identifies effective design features and navigational tools.

Richardson, M., Zorn, T and Weaver, C (2002).
*Seniors' perspectives on the barriers, benefits and negative consequences of learning and using computers.*
*Working Paper Series*, University of Waikato.
The objective of this research was to identify older people’s perceptions of the barriers and benefits of computer use by listening to their stories and experiences. It found that participants overcame the initial barriers of fear and frustration to become extremely positive and enthusiastic computer users.

**Transport**

Davey, J (2004).
*Coping Without a Car.*
Office for Senior Citizens: Wellington.
This study investigates how the lack of private transport affects the lifestyle and quality of life of older people, and how older people who do not have access to private transport meet their transport needs.

*Older People and Transport: Scoping paper.*
This is the first paper in an ongoing project on older people and transport. It examines the transport patterns of older people, the barriers they face in achieving their transport needs and their responses to these barriers.

*Locating older people as if their happiness matters.*
The article emphasises the need for older people who are considering relocating to consider how they will retain transport mobility and independence when they no longer drive.
Women

The article examines the menopause experience of three cohorts of New Zealand women, one of which is women aged 60 and over.

The paper presents a project to increase the enrolment of women aged 60-69 years in the cervical screening programme.

Munro, I (2002). An Analysis of the Quality of Life of Older Women in New Zealand, 2001. Masters Thesis, Victoria University of Wellington. This research examines the quality of life for older women who are no longer engaged in paid employment, in relation to income, housing, health, social connectedness and life-cycle events.

Analyses differences in everyday memory measures between women who were on hormone replacement therapy. Tests the prediction that age would be negatively related to memory ability.

The aims of this discussion paper are to provide information and to generate discussion about how women might be encouraged to boost the level of their private financial preparation for retirement.
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