



Patched: The History of Gangs in New Zealand

By Jarrod Gilbert

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For more than five decades, gangs have played a pivotal role in New Zealand crime life, beginning with the bodgies and widgeys of the 1950s. Based on 10 years of gang research, this book chronicles the rise of the Hell's Angels and other bike gangs in the 1960s, the growth of the Mongrel Mob and Black Power in the 1970s, and organized crime during the last decade. With descriptions of such events as the Devil's Henchmen throwing Molotov cocktails at the Epitaph Riders in Christchurch's first gang war and Black Power members surrounding Prime Minister Rob Muldoon at Wellington's Royal Tiger Tavern, it also discusses the significance of colors and class. With accounts from gang members, police, and politicians, this violent and sometimes horrifying book transports its readers to a tough yet revealing part of New Zealand life.

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Patched: The History of Gangs in New Zealand By Jarrod Gilbert Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1846268 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Auckland University Press
- Published on: 2013-05-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 1.20" h x 6.50" w x 9.00" l, 1.45 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 384 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

"Jarrod Gilbert's book is thorough, readable, scholarly, provocative and ground-breaking." —Paul Little, *North & South*

"I highly recommend *Patched* to anyone seeking to understand the development and growth of various gang cultures within our communities." —Celia Lashlie, *The Listener*

About the Author

Jarrod Gilbert is a sociologist and the lead researcher at Independent Research Solutions in Christchurch, New Zealand. He is a lecturer at the University of Canterbury, an advocate and spokesperson for the Howard League for Penal Reform, and a recipient of the C. Wright Mills Award. He is also a former associate producer for a television documentary on New Zealand's Mongrel Mob.

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