Banning of Brenton Tarrant's manifesto

In the wake of the March 15 attacks on Al Noor Mosque and Linwood Islamic Centre in Christchurch, allegedly by Brenton Tarrant, a 28-year-old Australian, the New Zealand Government has moved quickly to ban the viewing, sharing, downloading and possession of both Tarrant's manifesto and his live-stream of the first attack. David Shanks, the country's chief censor, has said the suspected shooter's manifesto [The Great Replacement] "promotes murder and terrorism," and that his office is treating it like terrorist material from ISIS. [1] The following is an expanded version of a message I have sent to the NZ Council for Civil Liberties. — Alan Ireland, March 30, 2019

* * *

NEW Zealand's banning of the Tarrant manifesto makes no sense in the absence of bans on its ideological antecedents — the manifestos of Theodore Kaczynski (the "Unabomber") and Anders Breivik, respectively. Both are better written and more compelling than Tarrant's incoherent ramble.

Indeed, the Unabomber's manifesto makes such "good reading" — in the words of Anders Hove, of *The Tech* — it was published in the *Washington Post* and the *New York Times*. It has since inspired generations of eco-terrorists. Yet as far as I know, it has never been banned.

Much the same can be said of Breivik's tour de force, entitled *A European Declaration of Independence*, which displays considerable historical and philosophical knowledge, before

trenchantly commenting, "You cannot reason with Islam. Islam consumes everything eventually unless it is stopped in a decisive manner."

Both the above works — which have been cited as significant influences on Tarrant's thinking — are readily available to the public, as are thousands of cruder inflammatory publications. So the attempt to suppress Tarrant's manifesto, and *only* his manifesto, makes New Zealand look silly. It also criminalizes any unapproved researcher who has the temerity to obtain a copy of the manifesto for analysis.

Another influence on Tarrant must have been the many articles and/or videos, like the one below, that specifically address the issue of the "replacement" of "white" populations by Muslim immigrants. Throughout the mid-2010s, this article by Cameron Slater was on Page 1 of Google's results for the search term "Islam in New Zealand".



Blog post by Cameron Slater, May 21, 2014.

Tarrant's diatribe is neither unique, nor uniquely dangerous. Much of what he says about the alleged dangers of Muslim immigration has been said before, albeit in more palatable terms, by prominent New Zealand publications since the mid-1980s.

Take, for example, the *New Zealand Listener's* article of 1987. This was entitled *Sword of Islam*, and was prefaced by the blurb, "New Zealand's ignorance of Islam makes us a target of Muslim attentions". After introductory paragraphs, the article begins — in the words of visiting British Islamophobe John Laffin — by warning darkly of terrorist "sleepers" in the Muslim community "who will be activated when the time is right".

New Zealand First leader Winston Peters was still singing from the same song sheet in 2005, when he said in a speech entitled "The End of Tolerance":

"In New Zealand the Muslim community have been quick to show us their more moderate face, but as some media reports have shown, there is a militant underbelly here as well.

"These two groups, the moderate and militant, fit hand and glove everywhere they exist.

"Underneath it all the agenda is to promote fundamentalist Islam.

"Indeed, these groups are like the mythical Hydra - a serpent underbelly with multiple heads capable of striking at any time and in any direction."

Another article that was clearly designed to inculcate feelings of fear and loathing for Islam and Muslims was *North & South's* article of April, 2013. This is prefaced by the words, "Mark Scott asks if Parliament is justified in demanding our respect for a brand of Islam expanding in New Zealand that approves wife-beating, female genital mutilation and the death penalty for homosexuals".

I don't recall any expressions of concern about the tenor of such articles, or about their balance, or about the effects they might have on readers, from any member of the New Zealand Government.

After the above two articles appeared, I wrote to the respective editors with appeals for moderation of the provocative rhetoric. In the first instance, the editor condescendingly published an abridged version of my letter; in the second, the editor refused to print any of my points. There was no reflection by either editor on their

publications' portrayal of Muslims as inscrutable, menacing people who were alien to New Zealand and undesirable as citizens.

Now the shoe is on the other foot, so to speak. Suddenly, being Muslim is "in". The villain — apart from Tarrant himself, of course — is the generic far-right white racist, who rages against his phantom "dhimmitude". In the emotional aftermath of the Christchurch shootings, politicians, reporters, ordinary people, and even police officers have been wearing hijab and sprinkling their conversations with Islamic words and phrases.

Oddest of all, perhaps, has been the "rehabilitation" of Al Noor Mosque, which was formerly associated — if only in the media — with the radicalization of two young Muslims who were later killed by an American drone in Yemen. How many people, apart from the *Clover Chronicle*, remember the *Press* article, headlined "Drone victims 'radicalized' at mosque", published on June 5, 2014? [2] And who remembers that the Linwood Islamic Centre was set up as a refuge for those Muslims who were deeply unhappy about the state of affairs at Al Noor? [3]

It's a topsy-turvy world — and one in which the suppression of vital information is already leading to the mythologization of the events of March 15 in Christchurch. I doubt the veracity of some of the fanciful statements being made by some of the protagonists. [4] History is, I fear, already being skewed.

In defence of his decision to ban the manifesto, the Chief Censor — a grandiose title that sounds disturbingly like Grand Inquisitor — said it crosses a red line by "spread[ing] direct hateful messages that are exhorting people to kill and commit terrorism". In that respect, it is worse than Hitler's *Mein Kampf*, in the censor's opinion. But guess what? You will be allowed to read the manifesto if you are a

member of the academic elite. Yes, you "will be granted access to the document without penalty" (1News) [5].

In other words, the law is to be applied selectively — a fact that proves the "serious crime" of possessing the manifesto is not a crime at all. If it were a real crime, like theft, assault, or murder, the law against it would apply to everyone in all circumstances. Thus, the law is just a device to coerce the population. And that means it is not the law of a democracy, but of a dictatorship.

In view of the reasons given for banning the manifesto, one marvels at the irony of singer Cat Stevens' (Yusuf Islam's) appearance at the national remembrance service for the victims of the mosque shootings, held in Hagley Park, Christchurch, on March 29, 2019. The Minister of Immigration has evidently forgotten that, in 1989, Stevens called for the death of writer Salman Rushdie, author of *The Satanic Verses*, saying that, rather than go to a demonstration to burn an effigy of the author, "I would have hoped that it'd be the real thing". [6] In my book, that sounds remarkably like "exhorting people to kill".

FOOTNOTE: At the time of writing, the consensus among analysts seems to be that the Christchurch shooting has all the hallmarks of a false-flag operation by that nebulous entity known as the New World Order.* If it *is* such an operation — and I am inclined to think it is — Tarrant is agent, rather than instigator. The primary aim of this kind of "terrorist attack" is not, as most people assume, to divide the community. In reality, that may not be an aim at all. The primary aim is to make people amenable to the abrogation or curtailment of their civil liberties. Typically, in the "problem-reaction-solution" scenario, the authorities rush through measures that (a) disarm the public, (b) arm and militarize the police, [7] and (c) provide for an across-the-board increase in surveillance,

censorship, repression and control. Already, we are seeing moves to turn New Zealand into a nation of spies and snitches — to "keep us safe", of course. All this constitutes the sinister subtext of the loveydovey line being fed to us by the mainstream media in the aftermath of the Christchurch event.** The draconian bans on disseminating, or even viewing, Tarrant's manifesto and video are part of the overall crackdown — as is the absurd claim we should not give the terrorist "oxygen" by mentioning his name. Clearly, the Government is desperate to control the narrative, and to consign anything that conflicts with this to oblivion. [8] And like all governments, it is determined to strictly censor the social media and all "alternative" sources of news and information. Viewed in this light, the Government crackdown could be seen — and is seen by some observers — as a test of the speed with which it can stanch the flow of information, and stifle all meaningful discussion, after such a national crisis — so that the official narrative, as promoted by the MSM, has no credible competition. A further concern for the Government, in the case under consideration, must be the fact the live-stream (if, indeed, it is a genuine live-stream) contains several anomalies, which would lead to endless debate and expressions of skepticism if the video were made public.

So, overall, how do I see the "Christchurch shooting(s)"? I see it as an event — like many other "terrorist attacks" in the 21st century — that combines elements of reality and elements of illusion. I'm also inclined to see it as New Zealand's Reichstag fire, or as New Zealand's 9/11, in that it is the "catalyzing event" that allows the Government to swiftly enact measures that would, in normal circumstances, have been opposed by large sectors of the population. In other words, it is the crisis that allows those in power, citing the need for safety and security, to start to introduce the strictures of a fascist state.

* Update, April 2, 2019: "Payback" by Israel for perceived hostile actions by New Zealand is another possibility. "Benjamin Netanyahu reportedly told New Zealand's foreign minister that support for a UN resolution condemning Israeli settlement-building in the occupied territories would be viewed as a 'declaration of war' ". — *The Guardian*, December 28, 2016.

https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/dec/28/netanyahu-told-new-zealand-backing-un-vote-would-be-declaration-of-war

** Update, April 1, 2019: I originally wrote "tragedy" here. However, I now suspect that, if there was a tragedy, it was somewhat different from the one described in the official narrative. I am inclined to think the event was essentially theater. That's not to say that no one died. People *do* die in some false-flag attacks, though the preference, these days, is for fake victims.

- [1] See https://www.businessinsider.com.au/new-zealand-bans-christchurch-shooter-manifesto-livestream-2019-3?r=US&IR=T
- [2] See the articles below.
- [3] See the *Press* article below.
- [4] See the *New Zealand Listener* article below, headlined "What do we do? What *can* we do?"
- [5] "Possessing a copy of either [the manifesto or the video], or distributing them to other people, is now a serious crime carrying a maximum jail term of 14 years or a fine of up to \$10,000." 1News, March 25, 2019.
- [6] *Geoffrey Robertson, QC*: You don't think that this man deserves to die?

Y. Islam: Who, Salman Rushdie?

Robertson: Yes.

Y. Islam: Yes, yes.

Robertson: And do you have a duty to be his executioner?

Y. Islam: Uh, no, not necessarily, unless we were in an Islamic state and I was ordered by a judge or by the authority to carry out such an act – perhaps, yes.

[Later, Robertson discusses a protest where an effigy of Rushdie is to be burned.]

Robertson: Would you be part of that protest, Yusuf Islam, would you go to a demonstration where you knew that an effigy was going to be burned?

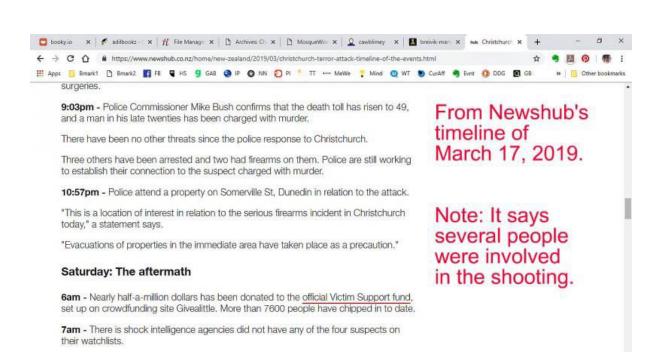
Y. Islam: I would have hoped that it'd be the real thing.

This exchange occurred in the context of a television debate. A police officer was present, but took no action — despite an appeal from Fay Weldon, who was also on the panel.

- [7] See the Manawatu Standard article below.
- [8] See the Manawatu Standard article below.



What's that in the bottle? Any forensic analysis of those "bloodstains"?



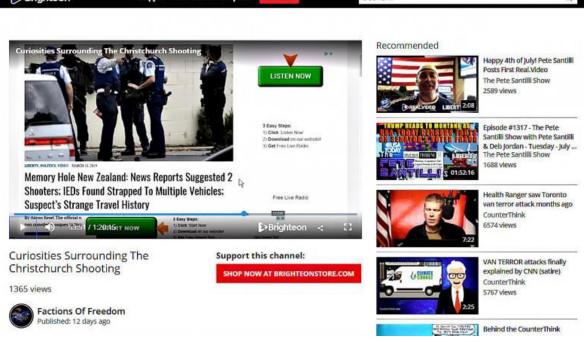


"To get something like this underway and to keep it quiet, particularly with the number of people involved, surprises me," former police negotiator Lance Burdett told

7:30am - Police say the death toll remains at 49, with two of the 42 injured in a critical condition. One of those is a four-year-old, who is being transferred to Auckland's

8:30am - Synagogues across New Zealand are closed this weekend on police advice.

"The Muslim community is at the forefront of our thoughts and prayers," Juliette Moses

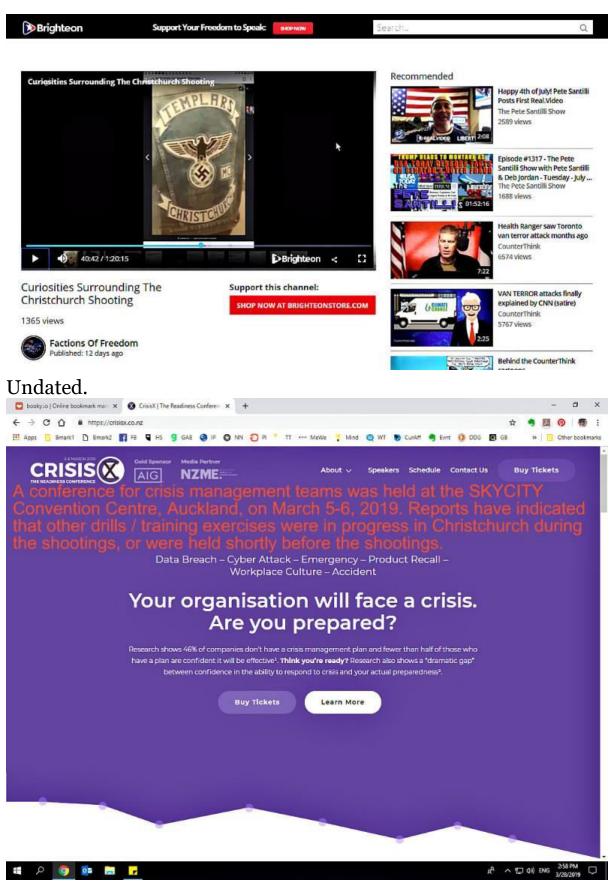


Undated.

Newshub.

Starship Hospital.

of the Auckland Jewish community told Newshub.



Those who study terrorist attacks will know that they often coincide with, or come shortly after, anti-terrorism drills.

Global sharpshooters trained in Christchurch as mosque shooting unfolded

Katie Kenny • 21:03, Mar 19 2019









another critically injured in Ashburton crash

Three people dead and

TO OUR MUSLIM

KIA KAHA.

most popular

WHĀNAU, THIS IS YOUR HOME. YOU ARE US.

UBS banker spied on guy sitting next to him on train to crack \$22 billion deal

Nine dead in three crashes,

including five members of one

Family speak after five killed in crash near Taupō

Trust or bust: How three women navigated life after their partner's affair o

Global fish experts could



Thanks to a police training course the same day as the Christchurch terrorist attack, specialist staff from overseas, as well as New Zealand's

A veteran ambulance officer who worked through the Canterbury earthquakes says the mosque terror attack

March 19, 2019.

was the worst scene he's ever attended.



March 18, 2019.

Muslims abandon city mosque

Janine Bennetts

Hundreds of Muslims are leaving Christchurch's mosque for alternative Islamic centres as the divided community continues to search for a unifying religious leader.

The 3000-strong community has been divided for years over the management of its association and

Deans Avenue mosque.

Iraqi community leader
Mohammad Al-Jabawe said many
members of the community were now
using a new islamic centre on Lincoln
Road or the prayer room at Canterbury
University to avoid conflict at the
mosque.

"We're not involved with this kind of fighting in the community," Al-Jabawe said. "It's not part of the

religion."

He said 200 to 300 people were attending Friday prayers at Lincoln Road and another 150 went to the university. The Lincoln Road building, an old church, was a religious space "away from the politics, away from the money".

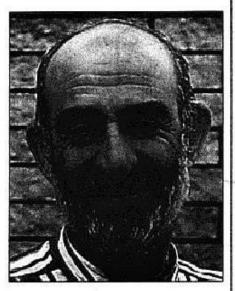
The centre was set up by Malaysian Ishak Mahyudin through a family trust late last year. Mahyudin said the size of the community necessitated another

centre for prayers.

Al-Jabawe said the community needed strong leadership to bring it

together.

The Muslim Association of Canterbury (MAC) has been searching for a new imam, or religious leader, since the previous one left six months ago. The association has been looking overseas for a replacement imam but it is understood it may consider someone



Man of faith: Mohammad Alayan has been voluntarily filling in as imam.

Photo: Dean Kozanic

local if money could be raised to fund

the position.

Palestinian Dr Mohammad Alayan has been voluntarily filling the role of imam for several weeks. He has filled the role before, for two years after arriving in Christchurch from Jerusalem in 1995.

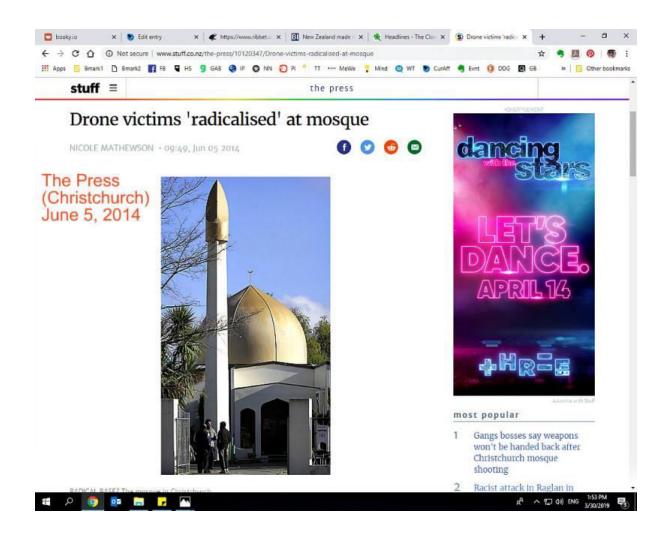
Alayan said that whoever was appointed imam needed to be a professional who could smooth re-

lations at the mosque.

"This is a critical position. To fill this position we need a person who is knowledgeable in religion and also knowledgeable in the application of the religion in western hemisphere environment."

MAC president Khalifa Al-Hasi could not be reached for comment.

The Press, 19.01.07. P A5



Screenshot, March 29, 2019

*** The Clover Chronicle**

During times of universal deceit, telling the truth becomes a revolutionary act

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Two Men Killed In 2013 Drone Strike Were Allegedly "Radicalized" At Christchurch Mosque

BY CLOVERCHRONICLE ON MARCH 16, 2019

According to a <u>report on stuff.co.nz</u>, two Islamic militants were killed in a U.S. drone strike in Yemen in 2013. The parents of one of the men claimed he was "radicalized" in the Christchurch, New Zealand mosque that was <u>recently</u>

8

+

National News

Police still armed for now

Joel MacManus

Police will continue to carry guns for the foreseeable future, while the national threat level remains at high.

All frontline police officers in all regions – rural and urban – have been instructed by Police Commissioner Mike Bush to carry guns while on duty "until we are satisfied that the risk to the community is reduced".

A police spokesperson said they could not give a specific timeframe on when that might be.

Police are unlikely to rescind the order to carry guns until the national threat level is lowered – a decision that lies with the crossagency Combined Threat Assessment Group (CTAG). All officers are carrying a Glock 17 pistol in a holster, and have a Bushmaster M4 semi-automatic rifle in each police car.

Officers tasked with protecting specific people and areas are carrying the Bushmaster on patrol. Under normal circumstances, police in New Zealand carry pepper spray, batons and tasers, though all are trained with the Glock and Bushmaster.

Police Association president Chris Cahill said arming police officers meant the public could have more assurance knowing that police could respond to situations immediately, and reduce the possibility of copycat attacks. In a 2017 survey of frontline police officers, 73 per cent said they would prefer to carry a firearm while on patrol.

Cahill said that "in general" the police association supported arming frontline officers.

"It's certainly going to be a discussion. Things have changed."

According to statistics made public by police headquarters, firearms were presented at police



Police officers will carry firearms on them at all times until the national threat level changes.

ALDEN WILLIAMS/STUFF

17 times in 2017. In four of those incidents, weapons were fired.

And of those 17 situations, 14 resulted in prosecutions.

Cahill said the recent gun law changes, combined with more that could come into effect, could "create an environment where there are less firearms and less risk to officers, and it may not be needed, but it will depend on the other changes".

He is calling for a gun register, "so we know who has them, what they are, and where they are".

He would also like to see more

stringent security requirements.

"What we know is most criminals get them [guns] by stealing them from law-abiding gun owners," he said.

Firearms licensed owners must have a secure gun rack, safe, or "receptacle of stout construction", to store their weapons.

Frontline police officers in Canterbury carried guns while on patrol February 28-March 3 while a man suspected of involvement in a shoot-out in Christchurch was on the loose. cover of a fashion magazine.

Major probe into attacks announced



Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern has announced a royal commission of inquiry into the Christchurch terror attacks.

Last week she said an official inquiry would look into the specific circumstances leading up to the mosque shootings on March 15 that left 50 people dead.

Yesterday, she announced a royal commission of inquiry, which is typically reserved for "matters of the gravest public importance".

Cabinet also discussed some of the detail around the new gun legislation but was still waiting on advice from police on the issues of licensing and a gun register, she said.

Questions were quite rightly being asked about how the terror attack was able to happen here, Ardern said. This included questions around the accessibility of semi-automatic weapons, the role social media has played, and the focus of the intelligence and security services.

The key agencies taking part in the inquiry would include the New Zealand SIS, GCSB, NZ Police, Customs, Immigration and any other relevant Government agencies or departments.

"There are questions I too have asked and want answers to as well." One was whether these were the activities of an individual, that the intelligence community could or should have known about, Ardern said.

The purpose of the inquiry was to look at what all relevant agencies knew or could or should have known; about the individual and his activities; including his access to weapons and whether they could have been in a position to prevent the attack.

It would look at events leading up to the attack and the actions of the agencies. "There will be a focus on whether our intelligence community was concentrating its resources appropriately and whether there were any reports that could or should have alerted them to this attack."

It was important no stone was left unturned to get to the bottom of how the terrorism occurred and what, if any opportunities there were to stop the attack, she said. "I want recommendations on how any such attack in the future could be stopped."

The terms of reference and a timeframe would be finalised in the next two weeks, Ardern said.

The inquiry would find out if there were any impediments to the sharing of information, such as legislative or intelligence sharing challenges, she said.

It would also look at the individual's travel movements, his use of social media, and his connection to others. An official inquiry is, almost by definition, an inquiry that cements the official narrative in place. Furthermore, it is hard to envision any "recommendations" that don't consist largely of more spying, more random searches, more restrictions on public gatherings, more security cameras, more screening, more scanning, more censorship. . . The list goes on. The country is screwed. We are truly entering a Dark Age.

My comment: A tall tale from Mohamed Jama...

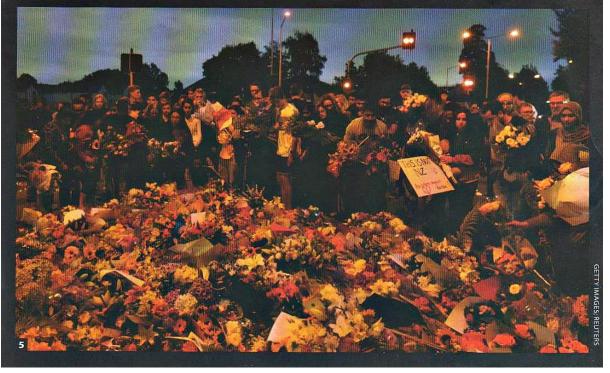
WHAT DO WE DO? WHAT CAN WE DO?

In the wake of Christchurch's mosque shootings, there has been a huge upwelling of love and support. But is that enough to make Muslims feel safe in this community? by SALLY BLUNDELL

A bullet hole in his clothing is the grim reminder of an encounter that will haunt Mohamed Jama. The former Canterbury Muslim Association president was at the Al Noor Mosque overlooking Hagley Park at 1.40pm on March 15 when he found himself face-to-face with a man with a semi-automatic rifle and camera. "He came in the gate – the first person he came to was me. We were just one step away, very close. He looked at my face, I looked at his. He walked past me. I said, 'Where are you going? Do not enter.' But he went inside the mosque and started firing."

In the hours and days that followed, first one, then four, then 50 people were declared dead – shot at the Deans Ave mosque and another in the suburb of Linwood.

 Prime Minister Jacinda Ardem visits Wellington's Kilbirnie mosque two days after the Christchurch shootings.
 Akhtar Begum, whose husband Maheboob Khokhar, was killed.
 & 4. Mourners comfort each other.
 People pay their respects outside Al Noor Mosque in Deans Ave.



From the New Zealand Listener, March 30-April 5, 2019.



O'Doherty was just one of the astute commentators who immediately saw through the Christchurch event.