

New Kapiti book's watery launch

Shannon Gillies

Kapiti is home to someone who could be "CK Stead's literary god-daughter".

The high praise was awarded to Kapiti writer Linda Niccol at her second short story collection launch at Thornodon Pool, Wellington, on Thursday night.

Just under 30 invited

guests gathered poolside in Wellington's famous brisk tropical climate to welcome *The Temperature of Water* and to offer their support to Ms Niccol.

Silver Owl Press publisher David McGill compared Niccol's second short story collection to All Black Ma'a Nonu's rugby career.

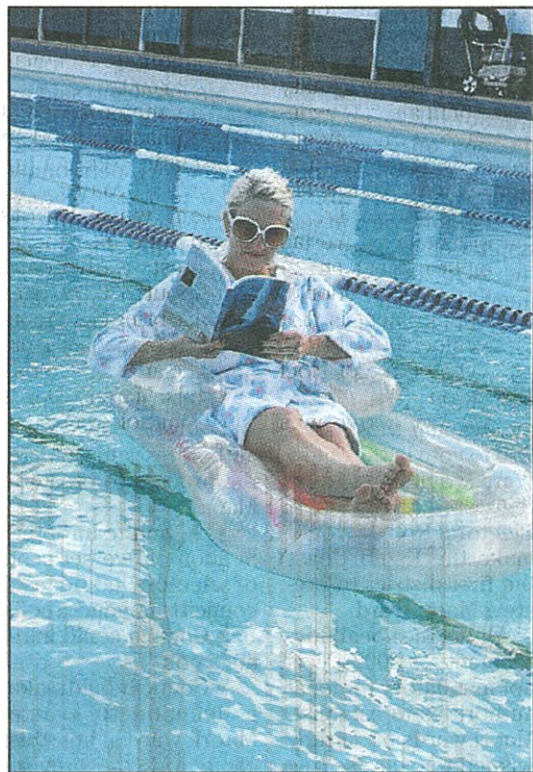
"He came into the

All Blacks young and with a hiss and a roar. Now he's 26 he's much more mature and has the complete game. This is the complete game. I think this will be her breakthrough. I think this is CK Stead's literary god-daughter. One of the things I like about her writing is you are propelled forward - there's always tension in her writing."

Niccol dedicated her book to her parents and gave her heart-felt thanks to those who had helped produce it.

Short stories were an art form in themselves, she said. This collection comprised of a series that had an environmental bent.

The book was available in a variety of stores now, including Moby Dickens, Unity Books and Paper Plus.



Wellington's Lisa Taylor officially launches the new book.



Writer Linda Niccol and publisher David McGill toast the launch of *The Temperature of Water*.