

PROF. PAUL MOON
PhD, MPhil, MA FRHistS

Paul left Massey High School in 1986. As well as excelling academically, Paul was involved with the magazine committee, drama club and played in the school band. He also assisted in the library, was on the school council and was a school prefect.

Since leaving school Paul has compiled an impressive career as an author and essayist. He is currently Professor of History in Te Ara Poutama, the Faculty of Maori Development at AUT University in Auckland.

Paul has been recognised for his study of the Treaty of Waitangi and has published two books on the topic. His many publications include biographies of Governors William Hobson and Robert Fitzroy and the Nga Puhi Chief Hone Heke as well as the best-selling “Fatal Frontiers – a history of New Zealand in the 1830s.”

Paul is no stranger to controversy but such labels have not concerned him as he explained in 2007 when he said, “As an historian, you have to expect some knocks. I generally pay little attention to what people say about my books – both criticism and praise. I am a great believer in Cromwell’s adage that the people who applaud you on your rise are the same ones cheering at your execution.”

Paul is estimated to be one of New Zealand’s most financially successful authors, based on a combination of his prolific output and estimated sales of each of his books.

In 2003 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society at University College London.

This was due recognition of his great contribution to New Zealand History.