Abstract (Filep):
A strategic approach to problem-solving with narrative capacity, urban design draws together many professions and prioritises mindfulness of environmental, economic, social and cultural consequences at these various scales. In this presentation, Dr Filep highlights the potential of urban design – through streetscape transformation and public art – to regenerate and extend site-specific stories that draw attention to these consequences. The recent pedestrianisation of Jetty Street in Dunedin – led by Dr Filep’s former urban design team at Dunedin City Council – is used as a case study for the purposes of this discussion. The presentation includes an original watercolour that explores the project’s reclamation of site-specific stories beyond conventional limits.

Abstract (Berghan):
Individualisation, private ownership and commodification of land tend to dominate the literature on housing and property. The danger of individualised systems is that they often separate land rights from social connections, responsibilities and relationships – you can be an unpleasant neighbour without compromising your property rights. But what happens when you introduce a social component to how housing and property is managed? This presentation outlines progress on a research project about the use of socially-based tenure principles in planning. Based on post-occupancy interviews with residents, site analyses and field observations, a pattern is emerging of certain principles contributing to the success of urban papaipāinga and cohousing communities.