

Ages

You are
a surfer and a meteorologist
the sun shines into your bedroom this October morning touching
bare skin comfortable in the sea
and moles that give you board rash,
so I tell you that my mother read in the paper that people with moles age better.

I remember when the puddles in the netball court froze over
and I lived my dream of being an ice skater, on a very small scale.
We were taught that water expands when it freezes or increases in temperature.
I think of my drunk uncle at my cousin's wedding crying and saying
 'It's all about people'

I think about the Paekakariki surf club at the end of The Parade.
My cousin had a son last year and named him Noah Wark.
In the future
will we still be concerned about the extinction of Maui's dolphin?
The school of meteorology was built on the tallest hill in the city, like a periscope,
like they could see what was coming.

I wonder, do you have a well considered process for aging?
or only a small room in an earthquake prone building
an eye for the weather
and the next wave.

Isobel Cairns