



Massey University
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
Te Kura Pūkenga Tangata



Psychology News @MASSEY

School of Psychology, Te Kura Hinengaro Tangata

October/November 2008

Vol. 3, No. 4

The School of Psychology at Massey University is situated on three campuses, Albany in Auckland, Turitea in Palmerston North, and Wellington. This newsletter is issued bi-monthly and captures what's been happening and what's coming up in the School of Psychology at Massey University.

Active Links

If you are reading this newsletter on your computer the links can be clicked to access the listed webpages.

Previous issues of *Psychology News* can be found at: <http://psychology.massey.ac.nz/news/psych-news.htm>

Significant Events



New Zealand Psychological Society Conference 2008

This year's New Zealand Psychological Society Conference was held in Christchurch from August 29th to 31st. The school was well represented at the conference by staff and students (including one

alumnus presenting her PhD work). Our contributions included:

Symposium: *Emotion in behavioural change: Research studies at the developmental-clinical interface.*

Maria Luisa Ulloa and Ian Evans

Anita Darrah

Johanna Pibal

Vickie Amor-Ponter

Celia Falchi and Tomoko Yamaguchi

Rachel Andersen, Elizabeth Yan, Sarah Yee, and Shane Harvey

James Sanderson

Armon Tamatea

Judie Campbell

Other Presentations

Cheryl Woolley and Jan Dickson *The development of sexual abuse and mental injury practice guidelines for Aotearoa New Zealand: Where to from here?*

Lorraine Rowlands and Jocelyn Handy *Working in Wellywood: Freelance production workers' accounts of the New Zealand film industry.*

Armon Tamatea *Fighting monsters: Exploring psychopathic subtypes in treatment.*

Ian Evans *Why psychologists should stick to psychology.*

Allison Lamont *Cross-sectional and longitudinal analyses of age-related memory loss: 20-95 years.*

Julia Davis and Mandy Morgan Morgan "What was that about?!": Making sense of arguments in couple relationships - Discursive positioning as a site of conflict.

Posters

Judie Campbell and Jocelyn Handy *Bound to Care: Pakeha women's experiences satisfaction and the effects experienced of custodial grand parenting.*

Ian Evans, Tanya Breen, and Anne Wilkinson *Altogether autism: An exciting new service in New Zealand.*

Prof Ian Evans reported that nine Massey students presented from Ian's research group in the two hour symposium co-chaired by Ian and Maria Ulloa.



The presenters of the *Emotion in behavioural change* symposium. From left to right: Rachel Andersen, Anita Darrah, Johanna Pibal (hiding), Maria Ulloa, Prof Ian Evans, Judith Campbell, Jim Sanderson, Celia Falchi, Armon Tamatea, Vickie Amor-Ponter.

The symposium was very well received and lots of people came up and complimented Ian on the students' presentations. Judie Campbell also presented work with Jocelyn Handy. There were very few other student presentations so the Massey contributions stood out. This definitely proved to be an important showcase for the School and the University. Ian also reported "bumping into a number of our Maori students who were there on Ephra Garrett awards – great to see them (sporting TRP vests [using the American term for them]) and they seemed to be enjoying themselves, once again demonstrating the value of these awards". Special appreciation and thanks go to Melanie Robertson and Michael Donnelly for making all the very complex arrangements so successfully.

Domestic Violence Intervention Symposium in Palmerston North



On October 3rd the School of Psychology at Turitea hosted a day long symposium exploring domestic violence intervention. The day was an opportunity to discuss our mutual interests in domestic violence intervention with a Rotary sponsored domestic violence team from Denver in the United States (left). Presentations were given by from the Denver team and from the Massey team currently working with members of the Waitakere Anti Violence Essential Services Network (WAVES) and the Waitakere Family Violence Court.

The Denver Domestic Violence Team. From left to right: Liz Smokowski, Sharon Plettner, Ginger Sherlock, Katie Asmus, Rhea Staniszewski

The programme featured the following presentations:

Waitakere Family Violence Court Evaluation Programme: Massey Team

Mandy Morgan	<i>Implementation of the court's protocols</i>
Leigh Coombes	<i>Experiences of some women victims</i>
Sarah McGray	<i>Holding offenders' accountable</i>

Denver Domestic Violence Team

Liz Smokowski	<i>Safe Shelter of St Vrain Valley</i>
Rhea Staniszewski	<i>Court appointed special advocates</i>
Ginger Sherlock	<i>Denver City Attorney's Office Victim Advocacy Programme</i>
Katie Asmus	<i>Therapy with women who are in or have been in domestic violence relationships</i>
Sharon Plettner	<i>Legal practice with children from violent homes</i>

Massey Open Days



It was a season of Massey Open Days in August and September. At Albany, Kathryn lee reported that "Despite days of torrential rain and a hail storm at 5am, Saturday 16th August dawned fresh and sunny for Albany campuses Open Day. A sigh of relief went around the campus as this Open Day proved to be one of the most successful yet. The School of Psychology was set up in the Atrium Round room, resplendent with the crowd-pleasing mirror drawing table, rolling slide show in the Psychology movie theatre and hot-off-the-press prospectuses. We managed to clear an entire box of Undergrad Prospectuses which bodes well for 2009 enrolments". Thanks to all staff involved including Kathryn, Dave and Dianne who gave introductory lectures and also Janet, Heather, Ishbel, Paul, Jennifer, Kay, Jhan, Jaimie and doctoral student Margaret Sandham all of whom helped Kathryn staff the desk during the day.

Irene Crombie, our previous academic administrator in Palmerston North, travelled to Wellington on the 22nd of August, for the Wellington Open Day. Irene reported that when she arrived "mid morning at the Pyramid, the College of Humanities and Social Sciences desk was in full swing. Psychology (and the other arts subjects except Communications and Nursing) shared the College desk and throughout the day various staff dropped by to check out the desk and help out. There was a considerable amount of interest in Psychology in the morning with about half a box of undergraduate prospectuses being snapped up, and some enquiries about post graduate psychology programmes. The afternoon was much quieter with only a handful of questions".

Unfortunately the School was not involved in the Open Day events at Palmerston North. We hope that future Palmerston North Open Days will provide us with the same kind of opportunities to 'tout our wares' as the days on other campuses.

Massey Staff and Students attend Indonesia–New Zealand 50th Commemoration of Diplomatic Relations in Jakarta

In early August Associate Professor David Johnston from the Joint Centre for Disaster Research, along with PhD students Julia Becker and Heather Taylor (both from the School of Psychology), were amongst an invited group of twenty two New Zealanders attending a conference on *Promoting Initiatives on Disaster Risk Management*, celebrating 50 years of Diplomatic Relations between Indonesia – New Zealand. The conference was supported by Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Agency of Rehabilitation and Reconstruction for Aceh and Nias (BRR NAD-Nias), Earthquake Engineering and Natural Hazards NZ.



From left to right: PhD student Julia Becker, the New Zealand Civil Defence Minister the Hon. Rick Barker, PhD student Heather Taylor, A/P David Johnston from the Joint Centre for Disaster Research

The conference had several objectives:

- To bring together Indonesian and New Zealand expertise, experience, skills and approaches in managing post-disaster reconstruction in Aceh and Nias, and in reducing the risks of future disasters in both regions.
- To demonstrate to the Indonesian Government and Donors practical ways of empowering Indonesian and other Asian communities to be prepared and mitigate impacts of major earthquake, tsunami and volcanic disasters.
- To identify mutually beneficial areas of potential co-operation between New Zealand and Indonesia on disaster risk management.
- To identify particular areas or sectors where the combined expertise, experience, skills and approaches could be best applied in Indonesia but also in other countries in South East Asia and the Pacific.

Several new opportunities for Massey are expected to result from the meeting.

Campus News on Staff Activities, Achievements, Awards, Appointments and Departures

@Albany

Albany Arrivals and Departures

Joanna Scheirlinck-Lyes, Margo-Ann Munro, and Lynoor Birrell

At the end of September we said goodbye to three of our teaching assistants at Auckland: Margo-Ann Munro, Lynoor Birrell and Joanna Scheirlinck-Lyes. Thank you all for your work this semester and best wishes for a busy summer of research.

News on Staff Activities, Achievements and Awards

Dr Kerry Gibson

Congratulations to Kerry Gibson who has been elected to the position of Director of Professional Development and Training on the executive of the New Zealand Psychological Society.

Turitea Arrivals and Departures



Helen Page

Helen Page joined us as the campus secretary at Palmerston North early in September. Helen replaces Rachel Geard and has already made her mark re-organizing things and providing welcome assistance in a number of areas. Welcome Helen.

Dr Kirsty Ross

In the first week of September also welcomed Dr Kirsty Ross to the Palmerston North Campus. Kirsty is taking up a fixed term position while Dr Jo Taylor is on parental leave.



Irene Crombie

Our Palmerston North academic administrator, Irene left us in September to go out and see the big wide world. A big thank you to Irene for all of your hard work over the year and best wishes for your big OE. Luckily for us as soon as Irene had got on the plane our new academic administrator arrived ...

Hope Wade

Welcome to Hope who takes over from Irene as academic administrator for Palmerston North, Wellington, and extramural students. You can find out a lot more about Hope (and see what she looks like) in the interview at the end of the newsletter.

Jack Noone

Jack Noone has returned to staff as a research officer for the project *A study of Health of Older Adults in the Transition from Work to Retirement* – Welcome back Jack.



@Turitea

News on Staff Activities, Achievements and Awards



Natasha Tasell

On September 4th and 5th Natasha Tassell represented our School at the first pan-discipline, pan-tertiary institution Maori Research Symposium in the South Island: Nga Kete a Rehua - Inaugural Maori Research Symposium Te Waipounamu. The symposium was hosted by Aotahi School of Maori and Indigenous Studies at the University of Canterbury. The aim of this symposium was to survey Maori subject research from established scholars, emerging researchers and postgraduate students across disciplines and tertiary institutions within Te Waipounamu (South Island); discuss research and engaging with Maori communities; identify strategies for building Maori research capacity and provide a forum for discussing new opportunities for Maori research. Natasha reports that they symposium was fantastic, and despite being somewhat exhausting, was extremely valuable. There were several presentations on wairua and Pacific-Maori / tuakana-teina relations that will feed well into Natasha's teaching and she had an excellent opportunity to network with people involved in Maori research and also stimulate ideas and thinking.

Dr Fiona Alpass

Fiona was successful in her application for Associate Professor in this year's promotion round. She will be joined by ...



Dr Chris Stephens

... who will also become an Associate Professor! These are fantastic achievements and well deserved. Congratulations to you both.



Dr Ross Flett

Dr Ross Flett will be appointed for a second term as the Massey University representative on the Board of the Palmerston North Medical Research Foundation. Congratulations Ross.



Prof Andy Lock's Travels in China



I was recently in Hangzhou, China, at the [Institute of Discourse and Cultural Studies](#) at Zhejiang University. The trip came out of funding from the government's Export Education Initiative Programme (EEIP) to secure overseas partners for Massey's postgraduate diploma in Discursive Therapies. I had never thought of China as a likely candidate for being interested in what we are doing, and

the contact with the Zhejiang people came about through one of our Diploma students, Andrew Duirs, going to a national conference they ran in 2007 while he was working as a teacher of English in China. It turns out Foucault is actually BIG in China! The whole trip was a bit of an eye-opener in many ways - like, if this is communism, bring it on - and here are some impressions along with some of the academic side of things.

My port of entry was Shanghai. I stayed in an old hotel on the river that had pictures of previous guests in the lobby: Ulysses S. Grant, Bertrand Russell, Albert Einstein among them. I had the receptionist take my photo for future reference. Shanghai is totally nuts. It took 15 minutes of concentration to figure out how to cross the first road I came to. No-one - cars, trucks, mopeds, rickshaws, motorbikes, buses or cyclists - pays any attention to traffic lights, zebra crossings, one-way streets, etc. The whole place is a crazy, polluted building site. Leaving was both a relief and a challenge. Shanghai railway station is about twice the size of Westpac Stadium and buying a ticket a major challenge. My advice to anyone attempting any transaction in China is to keep asking teenagers you see if they speak 'English', and they all seemed willing to help out in exchange for practicing their skill. All intercity trains have departure lounges and security, but since trains take around 1500 passengers the whole experience dwarfs an airport. The present train to Hangzhou takes a little over an hour at a fair speed, but is about to be replaced by a Maglev train running at 430kph.



Hangzhou is equally mad, yet very attractive, making it a major tourist centre. There are somewhere between 15 and 20 universities in the city. Zhejiang University is one of the oldest Western-style universities in China, with 5 campuses. The campus the discourse group are on was begun 5 years ago, is half complete, and larger than Palmerston North. The total building area of their libraries amounts to 86,000 square meters, with about 5,300 seats, and they issue 2.5 million loans each year. It is ranked between 3rd and 5th amongst all Chinese universities, depending on whose figures you believe. They are consequently able to be very selective in the students they accept, and from the grillings I got after graduate and undergraduate presentations, I reckon they are about as good as you will find in any top international university.



I presented the Institute with a gift from our School – a kotiata - that was the inspired choice of Mandy and Tracey Powis. The certificate I took with it explains the significance of the gift and what it was intended to signify (see below). It was well received. What I also had was an overview of what the broad discursive interests are in the School, along with brief details of the people who contribute to the Discursive Therapies Diploma. Our strengths here again really impressed them, and you can find [the draft outline on the web](#). We have agreed a memorandum of understanding with the Institute which enables us to arrange staff visits and exchanges, student visits and exchanges, explore ways of making our graduate courses available to their

students, and to look toward formulating joint research projects with them, and applying for funding. At this point it looks likely we will be hosting one of their PhD students here for a couple of months in early 2009.

The Kotiate is a traditional Māori weapon that, when given to another, represents coming together for peaceful conversation. It is often used by Māori men when speaking on important matters on the marae, adding meaning to what is spoken. The Kotiate may also be presented as a gift in recognition of a person's status.

This Kotiate is a gift from the Discursive Therapies Programme, in the School of Psychology at Massey University to our colleagues and friends at Zhejiang University in reciprocity of their friendship and generous hosting. This gift represents the promise of coming together in conversation for mutual benefit and collaboration.

Wellington Arrivals and Departures

Rosemary Chittenden

Rosemary Chittenden has taken up some part time administrative assistance for the Wellington campus for a few weeks starting late September. Welcome Rosie.

News on Staff Activities, Achievements and Awards

Dr Linda Jones

Dr Linda Jones' (on the right in the accompanying photo) tremor assessment work with Fletcher Construction led to her being invited to the ACC Community Safety Awards evening on September 1st at Te Papa. This is the fourth year the awards have run. They recognise, highlight and congratulate the extraordinary work that's going on around New Zealand to make our communities safer and better places to live, work and play.



Linda's Fletcher's Occupational Safety and Health team received a highly commended in the award category of 'Outstanding business or organisation that is contributing to the greater well-being of its own workforce and the community in general'. Linda reports that it was a glittering event with a live band, the Minister of ACC (Accident Compensation Corporation of New Zealand), Maryan Street, the ACC chief executive, Dr Jan White, and Dr Carolyn Coggan, the awards' chief judge and director of the Safe Communities Foundation NZ. Two hundred guests attended including the 20 finalist groups' representatives (the winners can be seen in the photo below). Congratulations to Linda and the team on their award.



Dr Antonia Lyons

Congratulations to Dr Antonia Lyons who was promoted to Senior Lecturer, Range Two in the latest promotion round.

Research Matters

Research Funding and Contracts

Marsden Success for Meaning of Medications Research



Congratulations to Kerry Chamberlain, and colleagues at Waikato, Otago, and Victoria, on their Marsden Fund success for research on the *Social meanings of medication*. By all accounts this was a very tough round. The total grant over three years is for \$645,000. Thanks also to post-doctoral fellow Helen Madden for her work towards this fantastic achievement.

Massey News, Issue 15, p. 9 contains the following précis of the research:

"Medications abound in contemporary society, and many people believe there is 'a pill for every ill'. This project explores the social meanings of medications and their use within everyday life in domestic settings. Specifically, we will sample three types of households: those containing younger children, people with chronic illness and users of alternative medications. Information will be sought through interviews, discussions, observations, diaries and photographic tasks, and from the contents of first aid kits and medicine cabinets. Our aims are to discern what medications are present, their pathways through such households, their symbolic meanings, and social practices involving their use."

For more see:

<http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/about-us/news/article.cfm?marticle=54m-marsden-funding-boost-for-massey-researchers-23-09-2008>

Ministry of Health Research Award for Dental Jungle project

Congratulations to Linda Jones, whose Dental Jungle project has received a Ministry of Health Research Award for \$8,514.

Massey University Research Fund Successes

We have had a great haul of Massey University Research funding from the most recent round. This is especially pleasing given the significant increase in competition for funding this year. Congratulations to our successful MURF applicants: **Mei Williams**, **Ruth Tarrant**, **Antonia Lyons**, **Linda Jones**, and **Duncan Babbage**. Congratulations also to **Stephen Hill** who has received a University Research Award. We look forward to hearing more about the research projects that will be supported by this funding.

Massey University Research Awards 2008

The School of Psychology also did well in this year's research awards round – two staff, Dr Ross Flett and Dr Mei Williams, were profiled in Issue 15 of *Massey News* on their research-related achievements.



College Research Award – Supervisor: Dr Ross Flett

Dr Ross Flett received the College of Humanities and Social Sciences research award for supervisor. Ross has supervised 80 graduate research projects in the last 18 years – this award is well-deserved recognition for his sterling service as a top supervisor. Congratulations Ross.

For more see: *Massey News*, Issue 15, p. 6

<http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/about-us/news/article.cfm?mnarticle=awards-recognise-outstanding-research--research-medal-awards-2008-29-09-2008>

Women's Award: Dr Mei Wah Williams

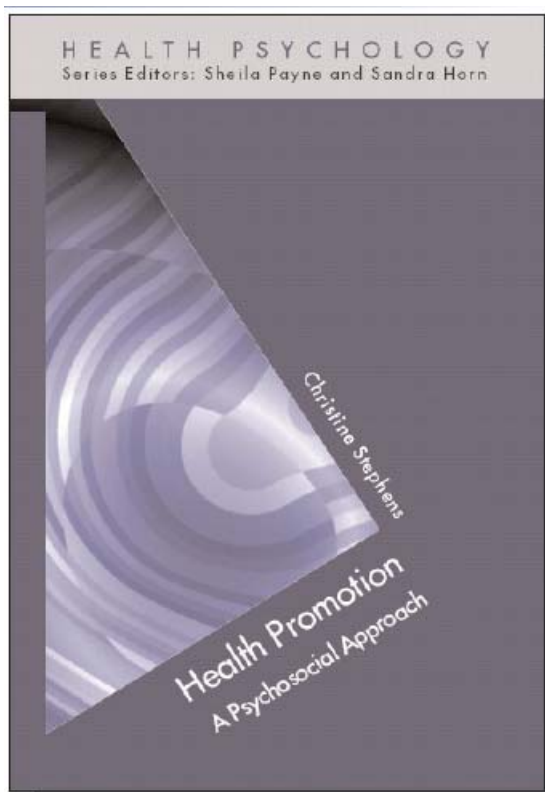
Dr Mei Williams continues on her winning way with yet more recognition of her topical research on the relationship between criminal behaviour and self-control. Congratulations Mei – we look forward to learning more about your research in future.

For more see: *Massey News*, Issue 15, p. 7

<http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/about-us/news/article.cfm?mnarticle=awards-recognise-outstanding-research--research-medal-awards-2008-29-09-2008>



Research Activity



Health Promotion: A Psychosocial Approach Dr Chris Stephens' New Book

Congratulations to Dr Chris Stephens on the publication of her new book *Health Promotion: A Psychosocial Approach*. The text, published by the Open University Press (McGraw-Hill), will be available in November

From the promotional material ...

- Can the health of individuals be improved through community health programmes?
- How can community health promotion programmes be more effective?
- How is health awareness measured and evaluated?

In recent years, health promoters have focused their attention not just on individual lifestyle change, but on daily social and physical conditions that surround the individual. They are now looking towards lifestyle change based on community or socially based interventions.

This book argues for the importance of theoretical explanations that inform investigations of the social context of daily life, the social relations that affect opportunities for healthy lives, and the needs of communities. Examining theories from a critical and values oriented perspective, it looks at current theories of health and health promotion, and discusses why health inequalities exist.

The book includes a practical grounding, using examples of community health promotion practice, such as community arts and local community models, based on material and research from Britain, New Zealand, Canada, the USA and South America. The media's role in health promotion is also investigated, drawing on current media theory and examining media representation and the public's interpretative response. Issues surrounding the evaluation of health promotion programmes are also discussed.

Health Promotion: A Psychosocial Approach provides a critical and theoretical basis for practice in social and community approaches to health promotion. It is a key reading for postgraduate students of health psychology or community psychology, as well as qualified practitioners in public health areas who are developing theory based community programmes.



Distinguished Visitor Award for Health, Work, and Retirement Study

The Health, Work, and Retirement study team have won a \$10,000 Distinguished Visitor Award to bring **Heidi Guyer** from Michigan to New Zealand for two weeks in February and March 2009. Heidi is based at the

University of Michigan's *Survey Research Center* and is Survey Director for the world's foremost longitudinal study of health and ageing; the US *Health and Retirement Study* (HRS) which involves over 22,000 US citizens. As Survey Director for the HRS, Ms Guyer is responsible for directing the survey development, interviewer training, and data collection process, and overseeing the sample management and tracking systems for HRS. In her capacity as Survey Director Ms Guyer also acts as a liaison for international ageing studies seeking to 'harmonize' with HRS, by helping design and implement HRS-compatible research methodology, surveyor training, and survey management systems.

Heidi is the key HRS collaborator on our US\$297,000 funding application being made to the US *National Institutes of Health* (NIH). This application proposes a pilot study to assess the feasibility of using HRS-developed 'enhanced-interview' methodology in the FRST-funded *New Zealand Longitudinal Study of Ageing* (NZLSA) in order to provide data compatible to the HRS-lead international ageing research network. Ms Guyer and a colleague will be undertaking interviewer training on the HRS enhanced-interview schedule, will be overseeing the initiation of field interviews, and will

be advising on the development and implementation of survey and sample management systems for both the pilot study and the forthcoming NZLSA project.

While in New Zealand Heidi will meet the entire NZLSA team (she has already met Dr Fiona Alpass and Andy Towers when they visited Michigan in 2006) and to plan pilot study methodology and the interviewer training schedule. As part of her trip she will also be giving three presentations (Auckland, Palmerston North, and Wellington) on innovations in interview methodology.

Research in the News

Te Puawaitanga and the Te Waka Rangahau Hinengaro Hui at Auckland

The Te Waka Rangahau Hinengaro hui held at Albany on August 29th, has made the news, inside and outside of the university (see last issue for an overview of the programme for the hui). Taumata Maunsell-Petersen (undergraduate Te Puawaitanga support tutor at Albany and Masters student) told *Massey News*, Issue 13, p. 2, that appropriate support for Maori psychology students is vital for meeting the demand for Maori psychologists, especially clinical psychologists, in Aotearoa/New Zealand. Te Waka Rangahau Hinengaro was formed three years ago to provide this support to Maori psychology students at Massey, Auckland, AUT, and Waikato universities. Massey at Albany has its own support group Te Puawaitanga (who ran and hosted the hui). Te Puawaitanga provides motivation and focus to help Maori students push on in their graduate studies.

For more see:

The Dominion Post, 17th September

<http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/about-us/news/article.cfm?marticle=shortage-of-mori-psychologists-focus-of-hui-in-auckland-28-08-2008>



For more see:

<http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/about-us/news/article.cfm?marticle=study-to-explore-modern-meanings-of-medication-20-08-2008>

Social Meanings of Medication Research

Massey News, Issue 13, p. 3 also covered the research being conducted by Prof Kerry Chamberlain, Helen Madden, and colleagues from other universities on the uses and understandings of medication which is being supported by a Marsden grant (see above) and Health Research Council funding. Kerry is quoted as saying that the research "... aims to develop new knowledge about the meanings of medications, their safety and risk, and the influence of media and social processes in their use and misuse."

Global Task Force to Tackle Poverty

The Poverty Research team have been in the news again, with Prof Stuart Carr being featured in a *Massey News* piece (Issue 15, p. 16) examining the multinational (Uganda, the United States, Italy, Hong Kong, Ireland, and New Zealand) research group that Stuart leads.

For more see:

<http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/about-us/news/article.cfm?marticle=psychologist-leads-global-task-force-to-tackle-poverty-22-09-2008>





Wiring Up Teachers Improves Pupils' Academic Performance

Dr Steve Humphries has been working with Dr Stuart McLaren of the Institute of Food, Nutrition, and Human Health on examining the benefits of using mobile microphones in school classrooms. The research done in schools in Auckland and Wellington was featured in *Massey News* (Issue 12, p. 3) and has been widely covered in national newspaper stories, on radio, and television (see *Massey News*, Issue 14, p. 14 for a listing of the media coverage).

For more see:

<http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/about-us/news/article.cfm?marticle=sound-system-boosts-classroom-performance-18-08-2008>

Research Seminars

And the Walls Came Tumbling Down: Surviving Future Disasters in New Zealand

Dr David Johnston (Joint Centre for Disaster Research, GNS and Massey University at Wellington)

On Thursday, 2nd October our own Dr David Johnston of the JCDR gave the following public lecture at the Museum Building at Massey in Wellington.



ABSTRACT

Globally, rising losses have shown that advances in physical science and the increasingly sophisticated technology of warning systems cannot alone prevent disasters. New Zealand is vulnerable to a wide range of potentially devastating impacts from diverse natural hazard phenomena, including earthquake shaking and fault rupture, volcanic eruptions, landslides, flood, tsunami, climate change and extreme storm events. Although New Zealanders have been subject to significant earthquakes in the past (e.g. 1931 Napier earthquake) we have had a relatively calm period over the past 77 years. The fact that few New Zealanders have experienced disastrous hazard events is a good thing. The downside, however, is the resulting complacency and limited understanding of natural hazard risk. The benefits of improved risk awareness include: increased support for risk reduction activities, increased readiness and response capacity and a capability to recover from events in an efficient manner and in a way that contributes to the future social capital of the country. Furthermore, building these capabilities at individual and community levels can reduce our economic exposure to future natural hazard events. Much inherent strength lies within communities and this can and should be harnessed to improve resilience. The active involvement of formal and informal community networks in hazard education and other mitigation activities has been shown to be a key predictor of preparedness. This talk will focus on the strategies for surviving future disasters in New Zealand, the importance of community-based hazard education, and the opportunities that exist to increase preparedness and resilience in our community.

Massey News, Issue 15, p. 15

<http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/about-us/news/article.cfm?mnarticle=disaster-specialist-warns-nz-aint-seen-nothing-in-past-70-years-23-09-2008>



Tales from the Crypt: How to Enjoy the Monsters, Madness, and Mayhem of Postgraduate Study

Prof Ian M. Evans, PhD, FRSNZ (School of Psychology, Massey University at Wellington)

On October 1st Prof Ian Evans gave the following presentation at the Museum Building at Massey in Wellington for those wanting to find out more about the pleasures and perils of postgraduate study. The lecture was followed by there will be networking with colleagues and postgraduate students over light refreshments.

ABSTRACT

My first act as a new doctoral student was to drop a sandwich onto my supervisor's prize Persian rug. I have never looked back-or down. The purpose of this talk is to share some personal stories, reflect on insightful anecdotes, and reminisce over the downright bizarre after my 38 years of postgraduate teaching. I have supervised over 40 doctoral theses, which you can calculate is more than one every 12 months. Have I learned anything of value over this time period? Maybe, maybe not, but either way I am emboldened to comment on post-graduate supervision across three university systems - British, American, and New Zealand - and offer some thoughts about getting the most enjoyment and value out of graduate school, given that my supervisor is now deceased and I never knew what happened to the Persian rug.

Staff and Student Publications

Journal Articles

- Anderson, G., & Kazantzis, N. (2008). Social problem-solving skills training for adults with mild intellectual disability: A multiple case study. *Behaviour Change*, 25(2), 97-108.
- Breheny, M., & Stephens, C. (2008). 'Breaking the Cycle': Constructing intergenerational explanations for disadvantage. *Journal of Health Psychology*, 13(6), 754-763.
- Dalton, S., Madden, H., Chamberlain, K., Carr, S., & Lyons, A. C. (2008). 'It's gotten a bit old, Charity': Young adults in New Zealand talk about poverty, charitable giving and aid appeals. *Journal of Community & Applied Social Psychology*, 18, 492-504.
- Kahu, E. R. & Morgan, M. (2008). Making choices: Contradictions and commonalities in the valuing of caring and working by government policy and first time mothers. *New Zealand Research in Early Childhood Education*, 11, 1-17.
- Kahu, E. R. (2008). Feedback: The heart of good pedagogy. *New Zealand Annual Review of Education*, 17, 187-197.
- Kyne, K., & Williams, M. W. M. (2007). Attributional bias of offenders in rehabilitation therapy workers. *Australian Journal of Rehabilitation Counselling*, 13(2), 88-100.
- Pond, R., & Morgan, M. (2008). Excusing themselves: Judges' judgements of qualitative/quality research. *The British Psychological Society QMIP Newsletter*, 6, October 2008, 7-11.
- Pond, R., & Morgan, M. (2008). Protection, manipulation or interference with relationships? Discourse analysis of New Zealand lawyers' talk about supervised access and partner violence. *Journal of Community & Applied Social Psychology*, 18, 458-473.
- Singh, N. N., Lancioni, G. E., Singh, A. N., Winton, A. S. W., Singh, J., McAleavey, K. M., Adkins, A. D., & Joy, S. D. S. (2008). A mindfulness-based health wellness program for managing morbid obesity. *Clinical Case Studies*, 7(4), 327-339.
- Singh, N. N., Lancioni, G. E., Winton, A. S. W., Singh, A. N., Adkins, A. D., & Singh, J. (2008). Clinical and benefit-cost outcomes of teaching a mindfulness-based procedure to adult offenders with intellectual disabilities. *Behavior Modification*, 32(5), 622-637.
- Stillman, J.A. (in press). Psychophysical influences on the validity of anomaloscopic assessments of color vision. *Perception & Psychophysics*
- Tassell, N., & Flett, R. (2007). Obsessive passion as an explanation for burnout: An alternative theoretical perspective applied to humanitarian work. *Australian Journal of Rehabilitation Counselling*, 13(2), 101-114.
- Taylor, J. E., Deane, F. P., & Podd, J. (2008). The relationship between driving anxiety and driving skill: A review of human factors and anxiety-performance theories to clarify future research needs. *New Zealand Journal of Psychology*, 37(1), 28-37.
- Veale, J. F. (2008). The prevalence of transsexualism among New Zealand passport holders. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry*, 42(10), 887-889.
- Wahab, M. A., Nickless, E. M., Najjar-M'Kacher, R., Parmentier, C., Podd, J. V., & Rowland, R. E. (2008). Elevated chromosome translocation frequencies in New Zealand nuclear test veterans. *Cytogenetic and Genome Research*, 121, 79-87.

Chapter in a book

- Taylor, J. E. (2008). Driving phobia consequent to motor vehicle collisions. In M. P. Duckworth, T. Iezzi, & W. T. O'Donohue (Eds.), *Motor vehicle collisions: Medical, psychosocial, and legal consequences* (pp. 389-416). San Diego, USA: Academic Press, Elsevier.

Book/Article Review

- Evans, I. (2008). Love behind the mask of mental illness. [Review of Assessment of parenting competency in mothers with mental illness.] *PsycCRITIQUES*, 53(37), 1-6. Retrieved 10/09/08 from: <http://psycinfo.apa.org/psyccritiques>

Other

- Bellringer, M., Pulford, J., Abbott, M., De Souza, R., & Clarke, D. (2008). *Problem gambling - barriers to help seeking behaviours. A final report prepared for the Monitoring Team*, HealthPAC, Ministry of Health, Dunedin, NZ. Gambling Research Centre, National Institute for Public Health and Mental Health Research, School of Public Health and Psychosocial Studies, Faculty of Health and Environmental Sciences, Auckland University of Technology, Auckland, NZ, pp.1-187.

Conferences/Workshops

- Amor-Ponter, V. (2008, August 30th). *The influence of cultural and emotive images on mothers' attributions regarding the nature of misbehaviour and its deserved consequences*. Wellbeing: The Annual Conference of the New Zealand Psychological Society, Christchurch, NZ.
- Andersen, R., Yan, E., Yee, S., & Harvey, S. (2008, August 30th). *Teachers have feelings too: Children and teachers reflect on the emotional climate of the classroom*. Wellbeing: The Annual Conference of the New Zealand Psychological Society, Christchurch, NZ.
- Campbell, J. (2008, August 30th). *So what's really bugging them: Identifying matters that concern New Zealand's ageing population*. Wellbeing: The Annual Conference of the New Zealand Psychological Society, Christchurch, NZ.
- Campbell, J., & Handy, J. (2008, August 29th). *Bound to care: Pakeha women's experiences of custodial grandparenting*. Wellbeing: The Annual Conference of the New Zealand Psychological Society, Christchurch, NZ.
- Caseley, A. (2008, August 31st). *Psychological torque about weight change*. Wellbeing: The Annual Conference of the New Zealand Psychological Society, Christchurch, NZ.
- Darrah, A. (2008, August 30th). *Maternal feelings and expectations in first-time pregnancy*. Wellbeing: The Annual Conference of the New Zealand Psychological Society, Christchurch, NZ.
- Davis, J., & Morgan, M. (2008, August 30th). *"What was that about?!": Making sense of arguments in couple relationships - Discursive positioning as a site of conflict*. Wellbeing: The Annual Conference of the New Zealand Psychological Society, Christchurch, NZ.
- Evans, I. (2008, August 30th). *Forum: Emotion in behavioural change: Research studies at the developmental-clinical interface*. Wellbeing: The Annual Conference of the New Zealand Psychological Society, Christchurch, NZ.
- Evans, I. M. (2008, August 31st). *Why psychologists should stick to psychology*. Wellbeing: The Annual Conference of the New Zealand Psychological Society, Christchurch, NZ.
- Falchi, C., & Yamaguchi, T. (2008, August 30th). *Children's perceptions of fairness within families: The influence of step parenting experience*. Wellbeing: The Annual Conference of the New Zealand Psychological Society, Christchurch, NZ.
- Madden, H. (2008). *Integrative medicine: Paradoxes for a contested practice*. September 9th – 12th. British Psychological Society: Division of Health Psychology / European Health Psychology Annual Conference, Bath, UK.
- Pibal, J. (2008, August 30th). *I wonder what is inside? The role of imaginary play in young children's emotion regulation*. Wellbeing: The Annual Conference of the New Zealand Psychological Society, Christchurch, NZ.
- Pond, R., & Zander, C. (2007, August 3rd). *New Zealand rural families affected by serious mental illness: The challenges and needs*. Annual Schizophrenia Research Meeting, Auckland, NZ.
- Rowlands, L., & Handy, J. (2008, August 30th). *Working in Wellywood: Freelance production workers' accounts of the New Zealand Film Industry*. Wellbeing: The Annual Conference of the New Zealand Psychological Society, Christchurch, NZ.
- Sanderson, J. (2008, August 30th). *Feelings of justification and retaliation in teenage text-bullying*. Wellbeing: The Annual Conference of the New Zealand Psychological Society, Christchurch, NZ.
- Tamatea, A. (2008, August 30th). *Emotion recognition skills in psychopathic offenders: Do they have any?* Wellbeing: The Annual Conference of the New Zealand Psychological Society, Christchurch, NZ.
- Ulloa, M. L., & Evans, I. M. (2008, August 30th). *Introduction to the Forum: Winnicott meets Wolpe (in heaven) -- Do they have a message for us?* Wellbeing: The Annual Conference of the New Zealand Psychological Society, Christchurch, NZ.
- Woolley, C., & Dickson, J. (2008, August 29th). *The development of sexual abuse and mental injury: Practice guidelines for Aotearoa New Zealand. Where to from here?* Wellbeing: The Annual Conference of the New Zealand Psychological Society, Christchurch, NZ.

Address to the Community

- Towers, A. (2008, August 5th). *Barriers to exercise in an ageing population*. NZAG Palmerston North Group, Education Centre, Palmerston North Hospital, Palmerston North, NZ.

Media Interview

- Towers, A. (2008). *Regrets, we've had a few*. *My Generation*, May 2008, 19-20.

IMPORTANT! Please send information about in press or published research to S.R.Hill@massey.ac.nz. We will include research outputs information that you forward to Melanie Robertson. However, since outputs information does not include in press or in preparation research we'd still like you to keep us updated directly about such material.

Please let Melanie Robertson know if you do not wish your outputs to be released in the Psychology News.

Student Activities, Achievements, and Awards

Notes from the Doctoral Coordinator

Each issue A/P Keith Tuffin, the School of Psychology's Doctoral Coordinator, keeps us up-to-date with Doctoral news.

Doctoral Oral Examinations

Dr Claire Russell (Turitea)

Congratulations also to Claire Russell who successfully defended her doctoral thesis in August. Claire was supervised by Ross Flett.

Dr Sue Street (Wellington)

Congratulations to Sue Street who successfully defended her doctoral thesis in August. Sue was supervised by Ian Evans, John Spicer, and Stephen Hill.

Dr Angela Jury (Turitea)

Congratulations also to Angela Jury who successfully defended her doctoral thesis *Fruit and vegetable intake among men in New Zealand: An evaluation and extension of a stage and continuous model of dietary behaviour* in September. Angela was supervised by Dr Ross Flett and Dr Paul Hirini.

Doctoral Confirmation Events

Congratulations to ...

- Elizabeth Cotton
- Siu Tse
- Ishbel McWha
- Margaret Sandham

who successfully completed their confirmation events and have had their doctoral enrolments confirmed.

The confirmation events continue to provide each campus with regular seminars where the doctoral students present to staff and students. These events are an important milestone in the doctoral journey and it is great to see them working so well and being supported so positively within the School.

New Doctoral Enrolments

We welcome the following doctoral students and wish them every success in their studies.

- **Susan Page** - *February* - thesis title "Investigating the prevalence of seasonal affective disorder within a New Zealand population sample, or vulnerability to seasonal symptoms". Susan is working with Nik Kazantzis and Dave Clarke.
- **Heide-Marie Strauss** - *February* - thesis title "Assessment of cognitive functioning in older adults in New Zealand." Heide- Marie is working with Janet Leathem, Duncan Babbage and John Podd.
- **Christopher Raine** - *August* - thesis title "Complexities of volunteerism associated with New Zealand emergency management. Christopher is working with David Johnston and Dianne Gardner.

Scholarship and Award News

Kimberly Good Top Achievers Doctoral Scholarship

Congratulations (again!) to Albany student Kimberly Good who has been awarded a Top Achievers (Bright Futures) Scholarship for her Doctorate of Clinical Psychology research entitled *Is the Black Dog Really a Dalmatian?* The \$99,682 award will be used to investigate whether cognitive behaviour therapy outcomes are different for different types of depression. Kimberly has also received a \$30,000 William Georgetti scholarship and a Kate Edger award (see Issue 13 of *Psychology News* for details).

Robyn Tuohy Social Science Research Award

Congratulations also to Robyn Tuohy, a health psychology masters student who has just received a Social Science Research Award from the Ministry of Social Development of \$5,000 to support her research: "Older Peoples Experiences of the Kaitaia Flood evacuation".

Laura Buckley Maori Summer Studentship

Laura Buckley, a DClinPsych student, has been awarded a Maori Summer Studentship by the Health Research Council. These awards provide financial support for research over the summer months on topics related to Maori health. Laura says that "It's a studentship that allows me to develop my research skills in an area related to Maori development. My DClinPsych thesis involves children who have developmental disabilities and emotional or behavioural difficulties. The theoretical model that I am using for this intervention is called the four-component model (Prof Ian Evans and Prof Luanna Meyer). The summer studentship will focus on analysing this model and its utility for working with Maori families and I will make suggestions/amendments where possible and then incorporate these changes into my thesis should I have a Maori participant."

Maria Ulloa Massey Doctoral Scholarship

PhD student Maria Ulloa has been awarded a Massey doctoral scholarship. Congratulations Maria.

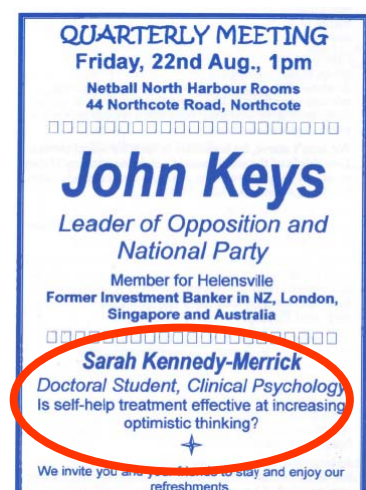
Inaugural Undergraduate Prizes to be Awarded at End of 2008

From this year onwards, there are going to be six different undergraduate prizes awarded to our top undergraduate students. There are two prizes for each year level, one for the top internal student and one for the top extramural student. Two of our prizes are named prizes: the *Pennington Prize in Psychology* being awarded to the top internal 100 level student and the *Shouksmith Award* being given to the top 300 level extramural student. Our Prizes Committee will be meeting towards the end of this year to decide who our inaugural prize winners are. Thanks to the work of Dr Jo Taylor and the committee, our prize regulations have gone through the College approval process with very few problems and have been used as a model for other Schools.

Other Student News

Sarah Kennedy-Merrick Upstages Leader of Opposition

Well, not really. In late August Sarah Kennedy-Merrick, a DClinPsych student, talked about her thesis research to the North Shore branch of Greypower in Northcote in the hope that she could attract some volunteers for her study. Sarah's talk took place after a presentation by a politician that some of you may have heard of. We are told that Sarah was somewhat daunted by the prospect of following the Leader of the National Party but, if the spelling on the poster is anything to go by, she needn't have been ... you'll notice that Sarah's name is spelt correctly and John Key's is not! We hope that you managed to convince some of those attending to participate in your research Sarah.



Other School News

COMING SOON! Health Psychology Student Day 2008

This year's Health Psychology Student Day will be held at Turitea Campus, Palmerston North on Thursday December 4th. The meeting is designed as a get together for all health psychology endorsement students and any others who are interested in health psychology. The programme will be similar to last year's and will include student presentations, visitor and staff presentations, and discussions around important issues such as thesis or practicum topics or any other issues raised by students. It is a good opportunity to hear from other students and get together with those who are completing the endorsement.



A more detailed programme will be available later from the Health Psychology team (Chris Stephens, Kerry Chamberlain, Linda Jones, and Antonia Lyons). Meanwhile you can still see last year's programme, photos, comments, and lots of Health Psych-related information on the Health Psychology website: <http://healthpsychmassey.myblog.net.nz/en/index.aspx>.

Forensic Psychology Students Hear from Community Youth Offending Team

The afternoon of September 3rd, students at the Forensic Psychology (175.309) contact course were privileged to hear from members of a local Palmerston North community youth offending team: Peter Knight (NZ Police), Justina Webster (Social worker, Highbury Whanau Centre; Lecturer in Social Work) and Anj Butler (Teacher, Alternative Education) shared their mahi with local rangatahi who are at risk of offending, and how an integrated community response can provide successful intervention.



New Zealand Association of Positive Psychology

The New Zealand Association of Positive Psychology was formed in May of this year. The mission of the NZAPP is to promote the science and practice of positive psychology and its research-based applications, and to foster communication and collaboration among researchers, practitioners, teachers, and students around New Zealand and across disciplines who are interested in the new field of positive psychology. The NZAPP is free to join, so if you would like to know more, check out: www.positivepsychology.org.nz. The Association's president is Aaron Jarden, an alumnus of Massey psychology, and currently a psychology lecturer at the Open Polytechnic of New Zealand.

Loud Shirt Day at Albany

Friday September 19th was **Loud Shirt Day** which aims to raise awareness and money for deaf children. Although most people at Albany forgot and showed up, in the words of Kathryn Lee, "in the regulation academic colours" some of the more colourful members of staff got involved.

'The Colourful Ones' at Albany from left to right: Dr Mei Williams, Bev Haarhoff, Janet Mak, and Kathryn Lee.

We look forward to the release of their first album ...



Peace Week on Albany Campus

Albany campus held its inaugural 'Peace Week' from the 15th September to the 19th September. As a member of the organizing committee, Dr Heather Buttle hosted an Interpersonal Conflict Resolution seminar led by Dr. Gabriele Schaefer (Senior Lecturer at AUT) with Dr. Heather Devere (Senior Lecturer at AUT) informing follow on discussion. The event was a success and they will hopefully return for next year's *Peace Week*. Other events during the week included: the Cultures of Peace exhibit, Dr. Tracey McIntosh's (University of Auckland) lecture, and poetry reading. Next year's *Peace Week* is planned for the week beginning 21st September.

End of an Era: 'The Annexe' at Turitea Trucks off into the Sunset



On September 18th the prefabricated building behind the Psychology building at Turitea was hoisted onto the back of a truck for removal. A couple of days later it was actually moved. Apparently it didn't get very far - the truck got stuck in the waterlogged ground somewhere else on campus.

The history of the Annexe (or 'Annex' or 'Shack out the Back' as the building was known) seems shrouded in mystery. Requests from *Psychology News* for firm dates and information about the place were met by a collection of inconsistent whispered musings. What we did find out was that it has been around for a long time – longer than most staff and students at Turitea can remember – and for a good deal of that time its imminent removal has been threatened. Because speculations about pre-history are problematic the following multi-textual narrative should not be taken to be an objective rendering of the Annexe's history but rather a comforting mythology that in part defines the psychological community at Massey.

Somewhere between the late 1970s and early 1980s the Annex was installed behind the Psychology Building. One story has it that it originally served as a building for newly formed Museum Studies. Later, according to another oral tradition, it housed the Psychology Clinic. Over the years the building has been home to a large number of psychology (and non-psychology) staff and students (and students who have since become staff), as well as a not insignificant number of non-human tenants. As recently as last year a number of post-graduate psychology students worked in the Annexe, following the lead of many who had been through the rite-of-passage of studying in a building famous for its ability to be colder inside in winter than it was outside, but also justly famous for its amazing unthermostated heaters (which no doubt kept the university bank balances perilously low).

A number of staff and students shared their memories of the Annexe with *Psychology News*. Here are a few:

"I was fortunate enough to have an office in the annex in 1999 while completing my PhD. While it was old and musty, the bush was pleasant - the sound of the tui and the flight of the kereru were wonderful writing companions. I never did see a rat, despite the rumours."

"Woweee...wonder what they will put there now....a three storey palace? I think the rats were possums....as they seemed way too big!"

"I was Head of School for five years. Every year I was told by the University not to use the Annexe for offices as it was going to be demolished *the very next week*."

"Michael and I used to go down to the Annexe, and finding only one poor international student there from another College, we asked no questions and commandeered all available offices, except for the shower room, which was full of old furniture"

"The annex for me was all about the wildlife - the rats in the roof, the ants in the sugar and, on a positive note, the birds right outside my window."



'Social Psychology'

Massey University's School of Psychology – the Most Productive in New Zealand

If the *R* in *PBRF* stood for *Reproduction* then we would be swimming in money. In the last few months the school has seen the birth a whole gaggle of children to staff and students.

Turitea High Pressure Baby Shower

Staff, students, and families held a mass baby shower at Turitea to celebrate the births and impending births of 4 of the 5 babies in September. Here are a few photos of the great event.



All of the little ones have now been born. In chronological order of arrival they are ...

Gracie Andersen

Congratulations to Rachel Andersen (MA student, Marsden Team) and husband Kurt on the birth of Gracie on June 4th. Here is Gracie! →



Mia McGregor

On August 11th Mia McGregor was born to Liz Yan (DClinPsych student, Marsden Team) and Jermaine McGregor. Congratulations to all three.



Piata Bennett

Congratulations to Simon Bennett and his partner, Em, on the birth of their third daughter, Piata Bennett (the only non-Turitea baby). Piata was born on August 12th in Wellington. Here she is (on the left) with her two big sisters.



Elysha Harvey

Congratulations to Dr Shane Harvey (Palmerston North Clinic Director and Marsden team co-leader) and his partner Steph on the birth of their daughter who arrived on Friday September 5th. Baby arrived weighing 7 pound 8 ounces and Shane says she's been "a joy so far"!



Emma Pryce

Dr Jo Taylor and husband Greg were next in line. Jo emailed us this: *Greg and I welcomed our baby daughter into the world on the 17th of September at 3:59pm. Her name is Emma Elizabeth Pryce and she weighed in at 7lb 5oz. The family arrived home on Sunday and are all doing well!*

Congratulations Jo and Greg (and Emma)!

'Team Sponge': Champion Auckland Psychology Quiz Team

The challenge came through on the email ... All those ready, willing and able were to gather their smartest and most knowledgeable around them and make their way to the annual Albany Staff Club Pub Quiz. A lot was on the line, the team originating in the DVC's office had won the previous two years and were looking pretty cocky about their chances this year.

"Of course we know we're going to win, but we'd like some respectable competition. You know, so it's not a complete white-wash. Hope you're going to be there!"

It was on! Lead by our fearless Captain Ishbel McWha, Team Sponge, made up of the below pictured Psych-Bods as well as colleagues from Social and Cultural Studies and the Biological Sciences, made a bit of an unimpressive start. We like to think that we were lulling them into a false sense of security but alas I fear it was truly a lack of knowledge about rugby and soccer in the "Kiwis vs Poms" section. However, we stormed home in the last two rounds with our superior music awareness and pipped the reigning champions by a nail-biting, edge-of-seat margin of ONE POINT.

The Psych component of the team is pictured here with our 'Bragging Rights Shield'.

From the left (back): Ishbel McWha (team captain), Jaimie Veale
From the left (front): Margaret Sandham, Kathryn Lee

Kathryn Lee



Psychologists outside of Psychology

*In this new column **Psychology News** talks to psychologists with Massey connections who do not reside in the School of Psychology.*

If you have suggestions of suitable candidates for future issues please let us know. Suitable candidates include psychology researchers or psychologists who work at Massey outside of our School, or who have a Massey connection but work outside of the university.

Dr Andrew Gilbey Lecturer in Aviation at Massey, Palmerston North

Can you tell us about your background in psychology – how did you end up where you are?

I was about 11 years old when I first became interested in human behaviour; I recollect I'd been grounded for bad behaviour at the time (maybe I should have paid more attention to my own behaviour!). Whilst confined to the house, I found and read my sister's copy of Berne's "Games people play". Although it didn't quite make sense, it did give me an interest in human behaviour which I have never lost.

Although I had that brief encounter with psychology, for reasons I'll never quite understand, I left school and joined the army for six-years. (I guess it's rather ironic I went from seeking to understand human behaviour to trying to extinguish it!) Anyway, I wanted to be a paratrooper, but psychometric selection tasks determined I'd be better doing something else. Given I had a fear of heights and was a bit of a softy probably validated their tests. In the end I joined the army, trained in avionics, and then was attached to the commandos. There were plenty of fun times and plenty of not-so-fun times. Eventually I left, because having become left-wing, pacifist and vegetarian (I'm not sure which they thought worse) it had become untenable to stay.



After a few years, I enrolled in an evening class to take 'A' level psychology. For me, this was a turning point - I discovered education was enjoyable. By chance, my tutor and I had both served at the same time in the commandos and he encouraged me to enrol for a psych degree at Plymouth University, UK. I did and had an extremely good three years as an undergraduate – I missed only one hour of lectures in the whole three years. I don't think I missed a night out, either! Following that, I was fortunate enough to gain a scholarship for a PhD at Warwick University, in which I conducted research into loneliness. After that, I moved to New Zealand where, following a short period of touring the South Island and tutoring for the Open Polytechnic, I began a lectureship at Massey University's School of Aviation, where I am able to put to good use my earlier experience in aviation and my new found knowledge of psychology.

What about your background in general - where did you come from? Do you have any non-psychological interests, hobbies, or quirks that you feel like sharing?!

For me, the thought of going to university was really quite strange; a little bit scary, to be quite honest. Back then, none of my family had degrees and pupils from my school just did not go to university. Little did I realise back then how much support and encouragement I would later receive from family and friends, lecturers, and my supervisors.

As much as I could do so, I try not to think about psychology all of my waking hours. Recently I started learning to dance tango, salsa, and a dance that sounds a bit like a cake. I also ski, jog, ride a motorcycle (when it starts) and garden (when the sun shines) - none of them very well. Animals have always been a big part of my life.

What do you teach in the School of Aviation and how does psychology fit into things? Is psychology an important part of what aviation students learn?

The School of Aviation is actually part of Massey University's College of Business and our main degree is in aviation management. In my current position I teach research methods to undergraduates and postgraduates. This I enjoy very much – particularly at the end of the course when those who took my paper just because it is compulsory admit it was actually quite interesting. I also teach aviation security and supervise postgraduate research that is psychology-oriented. Most of my colleagues have backgrounds in areas other than psychology; however, we still have plenty to talk (and occasionally argue) about, as there are quite a lot of shared theories (e.g., game theory, decision making, group processes).

Psychology is as important to aviation management students as management itself, as evidenced by texts covering both management and psychology that span almost 100 years: from Gilbreth's (1914) "The psychology of management" through to Statt's (2000) "Using Psychology in Management Training". Massey University's library returns 772 hits for a keyword search using 'psychology' and 'management'. At a more basic level much of your psych knowledge of areas such as social loafing, groupthink, perceived invulnerability, moral reasoning, have clear relevance to business.

What areas of psychology interest you most? What have you researched and what are you currently researching?

The only part of psychology I dislike is that which involves animal experimentation. Other than that, I cannot think of anything in psychology that is not of interest. The possible downside of my broad fascination with all things psychological is that I haven't yet developed a specific area of specialisation.

Currently I am interested in fallacious reasoning in aviation; together with Stephen Hill, a cognitive psychologist, I'm working on a project investigating what pilots do when they get lost - in particular we're focussing on the role of confirmation bias in making potentially dangerous decisions. I'm also running a small project looking at research collaboration and another one in alternative medicine with a famous professor from the UK.

In the past, I've carried out research in loneliness, health and nutrition, perceived invulnerability, and alternative medicine. The latter project led to me and three others being sued for defamation, which was rather a pain in the neck (which is a truly awful pun, given who sued us).

What would you like to do with your psychology in the future? Future research? Teaching? What directions would you like to take it in?

I suspect many people have this answer on the tip of their tongues - but I don't. There are a lot of areas in which I'd like to teach and conduct research, but at present I'm very satisfied where I am. What I am sure of, though, is that if I'm fortunate enough to live to 100 I'll still be finding new areas of psychology that inspire me and questions that I want to investigate. In fact, just driving to work and reading the internet news when I get here normally throws up some research problems worthy of the attention of an interested psychologist.

What about working with students?

In addition to research, the students are what it's all about. One thing that makes me particularly happy is when I add up final course grades and see that students who thought they were going to struggle have done well. It saddens me when the opposite happens. I also like to emphasise that students have very balanced lives – I always mention the importance of including socialising and sport in with studies.

Favourite books

I'm dreadful for starting books and never finishing them. However three I could not put down until they were finished were: Flanagan's, 'Science of the Mind'; Washburn and Thornton's, 'Dumbing-down: essays on the strip mining of American culture'; and Singh and Ernst's, 'Trick or Treatment'. The first helped me understand how to think about psychology (and many other areas), the second greatly saddened me, and the third amazed me as to what people believe.

Favourite films/TV

Journey to the Darkside, Metropolis, The Office (US), Top Gear.

Favourite meal

Anything with eggs is good.

People in the School of Psychology

Interview with Hope Wade

Hope Wade

New Academic Administrator at Massey, Palmerston North



Hope Wade joined the staff Turitea on September 22nd. She tells us a little bit about her background in psychology, likes and dislikes, and thoughts about her new position as Academic administrator for our Palmerston North, Wellington, and Extramural students.

You have just started as our new Academic administrator in Palmerston North. What attracted you to the position and what were you doing before starting here?

I was working in the Massey Contact Centre before I came over here and before that I worked for Ezibuy. I was looking for something where I could really connect with students in an area that I enjoyed studying myself. I was used to knowing a little bit about each and every programme and process in the University and was wanting something where I could expand my knowledge in one area.

Tell us about your background in psychology - where did you study? What aspects of psychology interest you? Do you have a background in any other disciplines or professions?

I originally enrolled at Massey in a BSc in Biochemistry however, after taking 102 as an interest paper I changed my programme and major after my first semester - psychology was more me than biochemistry was! I graduated with my BA in Psychology from Massey in 2005. A lot of aspects of psychology interest me - forensic, cultural and women's mental health are three that are of interest to me at the moment - my interests change a lot though and could be completely different tomorrow!

What would you like to do in the Academic administrator position? How do you see your role developing?

I'd like to provide ongoing support for undergraduate students, especially extramural students, and those who are struggling with the demands of tertiary study. I want to try to speak to as many extramural students as I can throughout the year to provide support, advice, assistance and just to let them know that they're not on their own. I have some ideas of how I would like to see this role develop mostly around student support and promotion of the programmes - but I'm still learning the ropes at this stage!

What is your favourite thing about your work?

Supporting current students and providing advice to prospective students - it's great to be able to chat with them and see where they're up to, how they're doing and where they want to go. Also, having my own office with amazing morning sun is awesome - just quietly!

Do you have any interesting quirks or hobbies that we should know about?

I played the trumpet for a while as a hobby but haven't for some time - much to the neighbours relief as I wasn't very good! Not sure if I have any interesting quirks although I like to collect interesting quotes and I own an absurdly large collection of herbal tea!

Favourite Quotes of the Moment

"No great genius has ever existed without some touch of madness." - Aristotle

"An unexamined life is not worth living." - Socrates

"No man is so foolish but he may sometimes give another good counsel, and no man so wise that he may not easily err if he takes no other counsel than his own. He that is taught only by himself has a fool for a master." - Hunter S. Thompson

What's your favourite book?

Favourite book is hard! I'm really someone who can read just about anything although I prefer books that are a bit different. I'm quite a fan of Hunter S. Thompson so it would probably have to be *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*. Also, I really like Irvine Welsh and I'm currently reading *A New Earth* by Eckhart Tolle.

What is the last movie you saw?

Last movie I saw was 1408 - its pretty out there (as anything originally written by Stephen King is) but its pretty good edge-of-your-seat watching! I also hear there a Saw 5 coming out soon - horror films are my thing esp. the Saw variety.

Favourite food?

I'm not really a fan of red meat so anything chicken is good - really love spicy food - the hotter the better! I put chilli in everything!



Next Issue

An editorial note: Starting this issue, we have changed to a Volume and Issue numbering system. A volume will be made up of a year of 4 or 5 issues. In addition our month dating system will now be 'forward looking' – thus, this issue is for October and November rather than August and September.

*For those of you who want to renumber your back issues of **Psychology News** ...*

*Volume 1 (2006) Issues 1-5, correspond to old Issues 1-5
Volume 2 (2007) Issues 1-5, correspond to old Issues 6-11
Volume 3 (2008) Issues 1-3, correspond to old Issues 12-14*

The next issue, and last for the year, (Vol 3, No 5, December-January) of **Psychology News** will be produced in late November/early December. If you have any news, or fabulous photos, or research and publication information that you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please send the information to Stephen Hill, S.R.Hill@massey.ac.nz before 21 November.

Editor: Dr Stephen Hill
Co-editors: Dr Ruth Tarrant (Wellington), Kathryn Lee (Albany)
Technical Support: Harvey Jones