

definingnz

MARCH 2009



Future food solutions
for the way we live

What CEOs can learn from an
eighteenth century composer

Tracing the history of Māori rugby

Beach House

Commitment and innovation harvests accolades
for a family business and award-winning
Hawke's Bay winery

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Massey University

ALBANY MANAWATU WELLINGTON EXTRAMURAL
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Steve Maharey

Connecting with communities

Thank you for your interest in Massey's new *DefiningNZ* magazine. We have been overwhelmed by the positive feedback. It is great to receive comments on the work our staff and students are involved in – so please keep it coming.

Massey is a unique university in many ways. We seek to embody the central traits of what it means to be a New Zealander; our teaching and research programmes have helped shape what New Zealand is today; and Massey is spread across three major campuses in Wellington, Palmerston North and Albany on the North Shore of Auckland. Each of these campuses has specialisations that reflect the character of the region.

In Wellington, the “cultural capital”, our campus is known for its focus on creativity and design. On the booming, bold and entrepreneurial North Shore of Auckland at Albany, Massey is known as a leader in innovation and the new economy. In Palmerston North, the centre of the nation's food bowl, agri-food is most prominent.

It is worth noting that Massey is also the pre-eminent provider of distance tertiary education and has two smaller sites based in New Plymouth and Hawke's Bay.

Massey is, then, both uniquely placed to be New Zealand's university while at the same time having a close association with the character of the places in which we are located. It is our intention to further develop this unique aspect of Massey by becoming increasingly connected to the communities, organisations and businesses we serve. We believe all great universities have a sense of “place”; they know where they belong and what they stand for.

A clear illustration of our intention to be connected runs through many of the articles in this month's *DefiningNZ*. There is a focus on the Hawke's Bay region in our cover story about food technology graduate Chris Harrison's award winning winery, Beach House at Te Awanga. The Hawke's Bay A&P Showgrounds in Hastings is the venue for the Horse of the Year show this week, which will be attended by Massey veterinary and equine staff and where I will be hosting a breakfast on Saturday.

Other feature articles look at the exciting commitment Massey is making to its unique School of Aviation with the purchase of 14 new aircraft, the work being done by our new Professor of Human Nutrition to help reduce obesity, including work in the Counties-Manukau area, changes to our School of Health Sciences midwifery programmes, and profiles of two New Zealand leaders, Don Turner and Turoa Royal, whose services to business and education respectively, will be recognised with honorary doctorates from Massey in our upcoming graduation ceremonies.

As always the articles in this edition are just a sample of the work going on at Massey. If you are interested in learning more try <http://news.massey.ac.nz>. You might also like to receive our regular e-mail newsletters.

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definingnz



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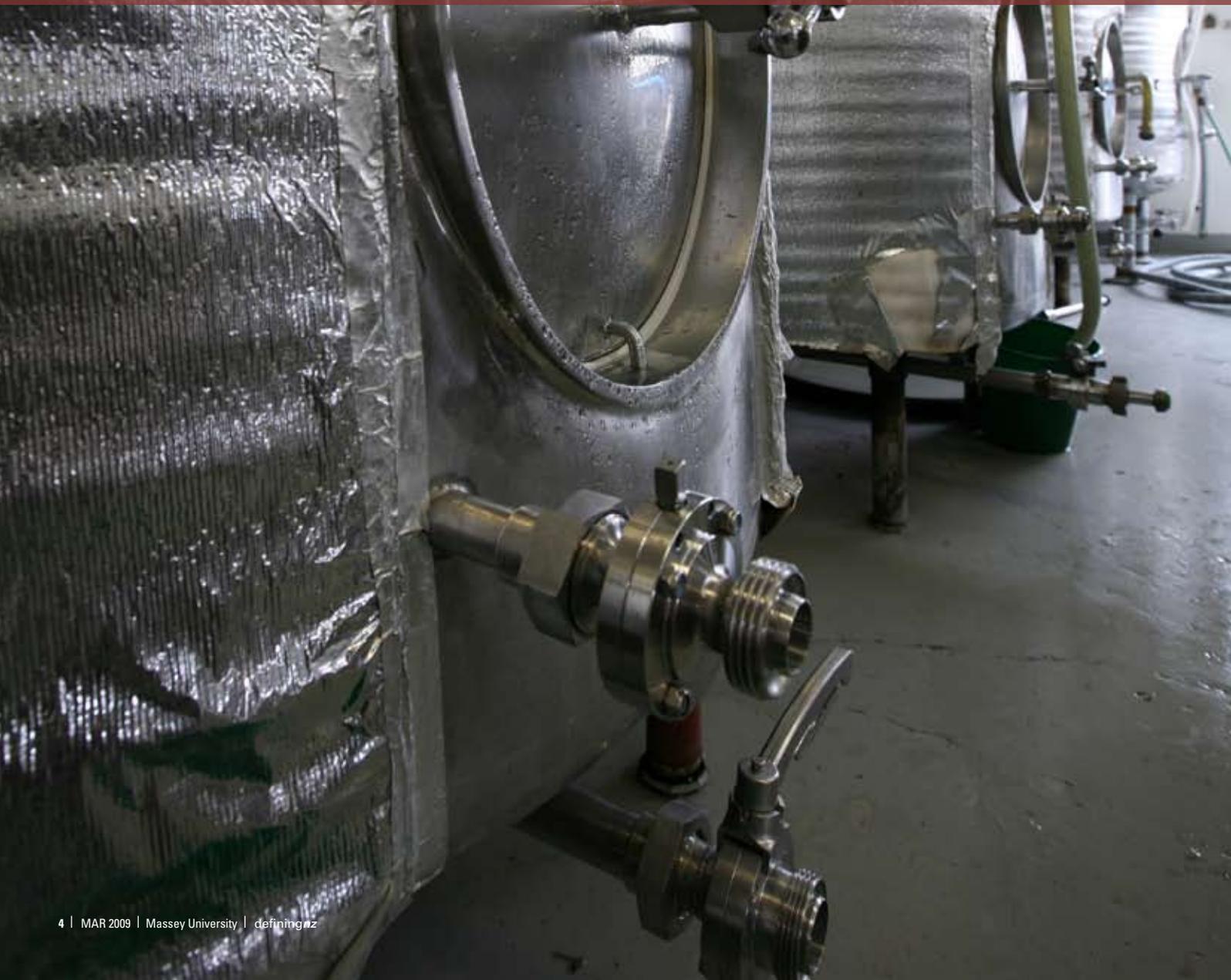
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COVER: Hawke's Bay wine-maker Chris Harrison
 © Massey University

Glass half-full for award-winning family business in Hawke's Bay





Winemaker Chris Harrison's grassroots approach has turned a family venture into an award winning business with growth on the horizon.

From hill country farming above the Pahiatua Track to award-winning Gimblett Gravels syrah and merlot and Te Awanga chardonnay, it's been a decade of change for the Harrison family.

With awards now jostling for space on the walls of the Beach House winery, including a clutch of gold medals and an elite gold for chardonnay, company founder and winemaker Chris Harrison laughs when he says he now has room for only the gold medals. But the food technology graduate means business when he starts to talk about doubling the capacity of the winery and exporting.

Work is under way and a new 200-tonne winery will be operational for the 2009 vintage, nestled alongside the newer vineyard on Mere Road. In the Gimblett Gravels area, the free draining soil and Hawke's Bay heat produce exceptional reds. In 11 years of production, Beach House has scooped gold awards for its merlot and syrah.

Harrison is also growing Montepulciano, one of only a few winemakers in New Zealand to have tried the Italian varietal, a fruity and dry red. Already a trophy winner, the vines were grown from some donated by a friend who had imported and propagated them himself.

The wine industry is like that, he says. "There's always someone next door if you want to borrow a cup of tartaric acid. In the wine industry people get together and try to solve our problems."

Tackling challenges is at the heart of Harrison's approach. Making you a coffee means using beans roasted by his own hand using a custom-built roaster to process green Papua New Guinea beans.

"I saw Peta Mathias on tv one day and she was with a woman who went out and picked coffee beans from her garden, roasted them there and made fresh coffee. I thought that would be fun so I built a drum from stainless steel, found an old barbecue and adapted the fins to turn it. That's what invention is all about – I had lots of time and no money."

This hands-on approach pervades the business:

Though the new Mere Road winery will double production to 200 tonnes, at present the only employees are those who run the brewery food and an assistant winemaker. Beach House is a family partnership, Harrison says, with his wife Jill also supporting the business. Parents Ralph and Philippa relocated to Hawke's Bay in 1996 and live adjacent to the Te Awanga Levels vineyard.

Ralph undertakes many of the practical tasks around the operation, from working at the cellar door sales on weekends to building the straw bale property that is home to Beach House.

An agriculture student of the 1960s, Ralph's brothers David and Tim also graduated from Massey, in agriculture and food technology. Returning to the family farm – located where Harrison Hill Road is now, above the Pahiatua Track, Ralph married Philippa and the next generation included Chris and Gabrielle.

Wife Philippa returned to study as an extramural student and completed a degree in Japanese at Massey. Daughter Gabrielle (microbiology), Ralph's brothers David (agriculture) and Tim (food technology) are also graduates.

It was partly Tim's enjoyment of food technology that led Chris Harrison to the degree.

"There's always someone next door if you want to borrow a cup of tartaric acid. In the wine industry people get together and try to solve our problems."

- Chris Harrison



Chris Harrison grinding his own coffee (above left) and with father, Ralph (above right)



“To me you need a dream but you have to be practical. If you spend your childhood crutching sheep and foot-rotting lambs it gives you a level of determination to get the job done.”

“Uncle Tim was doing very well and food technology was a science-based degree. I was very science-oriented, very engineering and practical-minded.

“I guess because I came from a hill country sheep and beef background, where you did everything yourself, it became a trait.”

After graduation, Harrison travelled before moving to Hawke’s Bay to work for the then Apple and Pear Board making apple juice. Enjoying the Hawke’s Bay lifestyle – including the wine and the perfect conditions for his hang-gliding enthusiasm – he decided to undertake postgraduate study in winemaking in Australia. There he met wife Jill, a fellow New Zealander, and embarked on a career that has taken the pair from Montana to Chateau Passavant in France, from the Hawke’s Bay to the Loire Valley.

“But I didn’t enjoy the corporate winemaking environment,” he says, “so I left and had a job at a small brewery. I saw the synergies between brewing and winemaking and in 1994 built Roosters brewhouse and it has been very successful.”

Dad Ralph travelled to the Hawke’s Bay to help build the Omahu Rd brewery, which sells and supplies boutique beers. The success of the brewery – and the shared equipment – enabled Chris to produce his first wine in 1996 with grapes purchased from a friend.

“With beer you can make it and sell it in six weeks, but with wine you plant the grapes and it’s six years before you can sell it.” Ralph and Philipa moved to Hawke’s Bay in 1996, and the first grapes were planted at land purchased at Te Awanga. Soon after, the straw bale house was built, and Beach House became a label.

Chris says the business differs from many around him, as a family partnership built, quite literally, with their own hands.

“A lot of people buy wineries. They have a dream, make their money somewhere else and can buy a winery. To me you need a dream but you have to be practical. If you spend your childhood crutching sheep and foot-rotting lambs it gives you a level of determination to get the job done.”

The engineering focus of the food technology degree boosted these skills, he says.

“When you’re learning process engineering you can apply that to how fuel flows in a carburettor in your car or how to plan and size a heat exchanger and make decisions on a lot of things in between. I have met a lot of people in the brewing industry who won’t have that sort of qualification and they get lost, spend a lot of money on consultants and tradesmen.

“Even the new winery I have had to march tradesmen off the site because they didn’t know what they were doing. One was a drain layer – you need to have water flow it’s critical to a winery – he said the levels would be right but I got down and put some water down, got my level out for an accurate measure and it was 15mm out. So I spent Friday afternoon and Saturday morning digging up a drain by hand and put the drain in myself.

“You just need to be in a position to do that, otherwise it’s not possible.” ❖

*Beach House Wines: www.beachhouse.co.nz



Transition time for midwifery programmes

Following a mid-decade review of accepted pre-registration midwifery courses, the standards governing their education are set to change.

Subject to approval from the Committee on University Academic Programmes and the Midwifery Council, from next year extra hours will be added to the time student midwives spend providing care to pregnant women and those who have recently given birth.

It means that before registration student midwives need to be actively involved in at least 40 births instead of the existing requirement of 30 births.

Midwifery programme director and senior lecturer Jeanie Douché says from a teaching perspective it will mean Bachelor of Midwifery students will have more time “out in the field” providing the continuity of care to pregnant women from early in their pregnancy till up to six weeks after giving birth.

Enrolments for the undergraduate degree, based at the School of Health Sciences on the Wellington campus, rose around 10 per cent this year.

In the first year students learn a lot about biological and human sciences. They are also introduced to concepts of health and the foundations for midwifery practice such as working in partnership with women. The historical, legal and ethical dimensions of midwifery are also explored alongside some practical training. Student midwives are partnered up with a qualified midwife – a scenario that continues throughout the length of their degree.

The revised course requirements conclude a process started following the implementation of the Health Practitioners Competency Assurance Act 2003, which in 2004 saw the establishment of the Midwifery Council, the governing body for midwives in New Zealand.

Five years ago, when regulation of the profession was transferred from the Nursing Council to the Midwifery Council, it was time for a review of midwifery education.

“That review concluded there was a need to increase the clinical experience of student midwives. It is also anticipated the

new changes will increase the maternity workforce in the future,” Douché says.

The profession experienced a downturn in numbers during the 1980s with changes to the education of midwives that saw the repositioning of midwifery as a speciality of nursing as opposed to a profession in its own right. The subsequent shortage of midwives brought about calls largely from the Home Birth Association, to ‘save the midwife’ and reinstate direct entry midwifery education in New Zealand.

It was only with the passing of the Nurses Amendment Act 1990 that a greater autonomy to work independently was restored to midwifery.

The first day of semester one also saw midwifery being given a small fillip by the Government with the announcement of incentives for graduates to work in difficult to staff isolated rural areas.

Douché welcomes the announcement of the voluntary bonding scheme, also applicable for doctors and veterinary students.

Under the scheme, midwives will be given salary top-ups of up to \$5224 a year for three years to work in areas she acknowledges are in need of support.

“On the surface it appears beneficial to some rural communities and to prospective midwives (originally from the provinces) who would like to return to their rural communities to work.”

Bachelor of Midwifery programme coordinator Ann Noseworthy says the importance and relevance of midwives in the birthing process could no longer be ignored.

Up to 80 per cent of all pregnant women in New Zealand would be cared for by a midwife.

“Our philosophy is it’s a normal life event and in the majority of circumstances women can experience a birth which is uncomplicated,” Noseworthy says.

“Occasionally there are complications that arise but part of midwifery education is to recognise and refer when necessary, but the majority of births will be without incident as well as being an empowering event for women and their families.” ❖

Top equestrian Andrew Scott keeps equine students thinking, to overcome potential hurdles in the industry.

“There’s a lot of bluff and bullshit in the industry,” top equestrian Andrew Scott laughs. “If we can get equine graduates to come out able to do some good critical thinking about what’s going on that’s a good thing.”

A former world championship gold medallist and international coach and mentor to many, Scott is Massey’s newest adjunct lecturer, though he has contributed to the equine degree since it started in 2000.

With five top 10 finishes at four-star level, five wins in the top trans-Tasman team, five national titles and an enviable coaching reputation including coaching Brazil to win at the World Equestrian Games, Scott’s industry cred is undeniable. He is now a coach and mentor to the elite equestrian TEAM Massey students.

Scott is also an alumnus, graduating with a Bachelor of Agriculture in 1982.

“When I came through it was about high stocking rates and stock up, as long as they survive you’re all right because of subsidies. Now it’s about performance.

“Secondary to that academic stuff is the stuff completing a degree teaches you – how to critically think and analyse.”

Originally from Pongaroa, Scott and his wife Louise are now based outside Feilding.

“I do also farm but the main source of income is the equine business that we’ve run since 1984, taking slow racehorses and training them, then exporting. We run the business by trial and error but it’s been interesting to put all the science in behind it.

“A lot of the industry is run like that, on gut feel, but the problem is that takes you 20 years or more to learn some of those things. The equine major is giving people a more scientific approach and backing for these things you can achieve by gut feel. You can get to the gut feel a lot faster dealing with the quantitative information.

“I might look at a two-year-old filly and its recovery time – just watch it. Of course you could do that scientifically and use a heart monitor but that’s not practical if the bloody thing won’t stand still. So a combination of the two will get you there a lot faster.” ❖





Food for the future – a weighty issue

Preventing obesity should be as straightforward as convincing people to cut back on junk food and to exercise more, right?

On one level it might be that simple. But on another, reversing the obesity trend requires a better understanding of how drastic lifestyle changes over the past few decades have contributed to fundamental changes in human metabolism that defy a simplistic 'eat-less, move-more' remedy, Massey's new Professor of Human Nutrition Bernhard Breier says.

One of the conundrums illustrating this altered and evolving state of human metabolism is the observation that the more 'low-fat', 'lite' or 'diet' products there are on the market, the more obesity rates appear to be increasing, Breier says.

It's not just the nutritional qualities and abundance of food that concerns him. Everything from food production and marketing, to town planning, public transport and our car-centred culture has influenced the dramatic shift in human metabolism over the past few decades, he says.

The result: unprecedented weight gain across the population, leading to a raft of health problems such as heart disease and diabetes, as well as social and economic issues including poor quality of life, reduced ability to learn and concentrate, and lower productivity.

The effects of obesity have a massive impact on the health system and economy, says Breier, who trained in physiology and endocrinology at the University of Göttingen in Germany before gaining a PhD at the Auckland School of Medicine in 1988.

Internationally recognised for his work on the endocrine regulation of prenatal and postnatal development, metabolism and growth, his latest research published in *Endocrinology* (January 2009) reveals how low birth-weight babies born to

mothers who were undernourished during pregnancy had an increased capacity for exercise in adult life, despite being more susceptible to obesity and metabolic disease. It is a prime example of the workings of metabolic flexibility, which he says is "a key concept for sport and exercise physiology as well as obesity prevention".

"When I sit here in my office, for example, I need different food in comparison to when I go tramping 25 kilometres a day. Different circumstances have distinct metabolic needs."

Breier believes the most effective way to address the "obesity epidemic" – as he unequivocally calls it – is to pool the knowledge of experts from human nutrition, exercise and health sciences, food technology, engineering, marketing, and psychology to achieve a more sophisticated, more holistic understanding of its causes and possible solutions.

He is currently harnessing wide-ranging expertise from these areas at Massey, and is inspired by the opportunities for multidisciplinary collaborative research projects both within the University as well as with external stake-holder groups through Massey's established links with district health boards, Crown Research Institutes, schools and the food industry.

"It's unique – nationally and internationally – to have all these areas working together under one roof," says Breier, who joined Massey's Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health late last year from Auckland University's Liggins Institute, which he helped to establish.

Curbing the current obesity trend sounds a tall order, and one that is likely to call for major societal changes.



Bernhard Breier

According to the Ministry of Health, a quarter of all adults in New Zealand are obese. The ministry estimated the direct cost of obesity to our health system at \$460 million for 2004 – its latest figures.

Breier's armoury of obesity-reduction strategies include a

school science curriculum to include good nutrition and how metabolism works, more psychologists trained to deal with the behavioural issues causing overeating, and town planners being made aware of the need for more walkways, cycle paths and parks so people can get the daily exercise they need.

In one recent development, he has been working with Counties Manukau District Health Board and its 'Let's Beat Diabetes programme' to establish ways to encourage more Māori to study nutrition and health, to counter high obesity and diabetes rates among Māori and Pacific Islanders. The Let's Beat Diabetes community partnership programme aims to increase knowledge of its Healthy Eating- Healthy Action strategy throughout the community,

Investigating the properties of foods such as blueberries, fish oil and walnuts – known to enhance learning and brainpower – to see if their health properties are mimicked by other foods is another of Breier's research interests.

Ultimately, he hopes future research will not only help inform consumers about the right nutrition for their lifestyle but will also generate demands for foods that nourish our brains and bodies without burdening our bellies. ❖

Air Force leaves campus in a spin

Among new students arriving at Massey last month to begin their first semester studies were five who arrived in style.

Air Force officers were brought to class in an Iroquois helicopter, landing on the Manawatu campus oval.

They are involved in a student scholarship scheme, which sees them undertake tertiary training at the University as they complete study towards their chosen trade.

Vice-Chancellor Steve Maharey says the scholarship programme adds to the strong relationship the University and the Defence Force enjoys.

“We’re very proud of the Defence Studies programme here, while our academics are involved in research across the University that’s relevant to the military,” he said.

Group Captain Shaun Clarke, the base’s senior officer, accompanied the five officers on the flight. “The scholarship programme offers a significant opportunity for our young people to gain a tertiary qualification that will aid in their training,” he said. “We hope to have five more officers in the programme next semester and boost that number to 20 next year.” ❖



Pilot Officers Tom Williams, Scott Finlayson and Levi Bell, Flight Officer Megan Hodges and Pilot Officer Nick Pearson with the Iroquois helicopter on the Manawatu campus.

Employees’ probation period under scrutiny

Professor Claire Massey will be closely scrutinising the impact of the Government’s new 90-day trial employment law.

The director of the New Zealand Centre for Research into Small and Medium Sized Enterprises says if the trial probation period is effective, it will be a long-term boost for small businesses by helping employers secure workers who are a better fit.

But she warns we must wait and see if removing the risk of hiring the wrong person on a permanent basis will encourage small and medium businesses to recruit in these tight economic times.

Massey will study the impact of the legislation as part of the BusinessSMEasure survey, which collects data to get a clearer picture of the changes that have taken place within firms in response to external events, such as the 90-day rule.

“We will certainly be asking questions about the impact of this legislation when we send out our next survey in October this year – and we will be very interested in the answers.”

The law change, which came into effect on March 1, allows smaller firms to offer new employees a trial period.

“My main sense is that employers are hugely positive, but they are not really

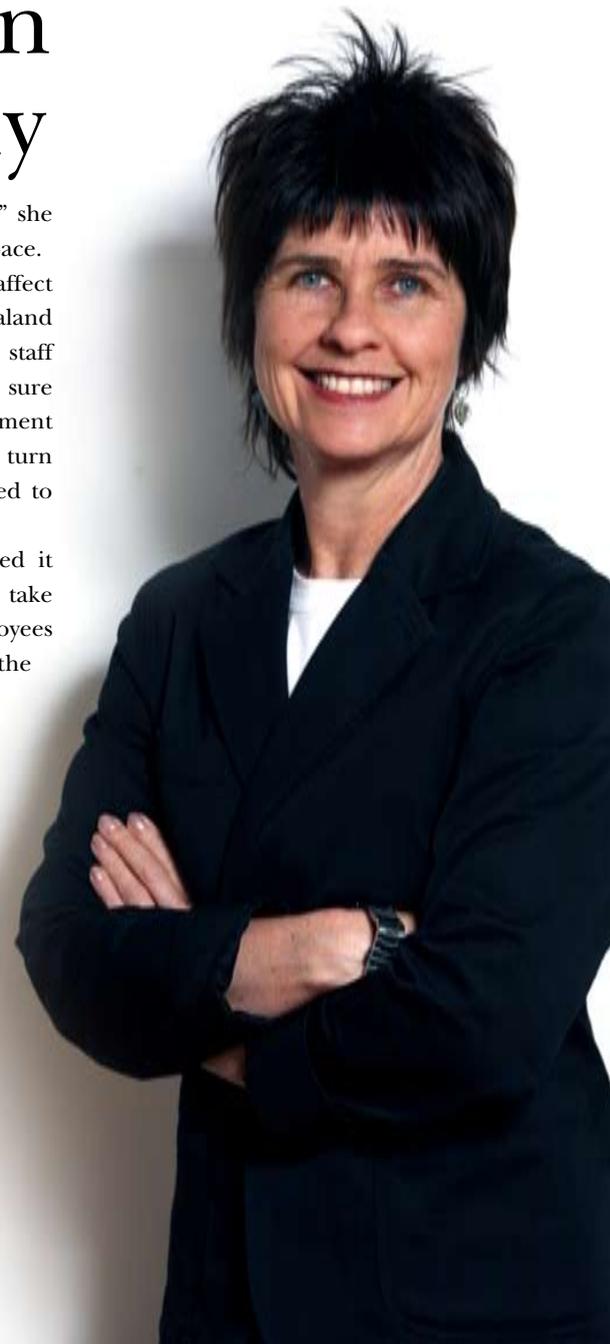
clear about how it will work either,” she says. “So they may be watching this space.

“The legislation will potentially affect almost 30 per cent of the New Zealand firms that employ fewer than 20 staff – about 140,000 firms – but I’m not sure if many will take it up as the employment market slows down – this might not turn out to be as useful as it was designed to be.”

“When the scheme was announced it was suggested that some firms will take the opportunity to exploit new employees – by dismissing them at the end of the period,” Massey says.

“But there is also the possibility that it will provide some individuals with jobs that would not otherwise have been open to them. The reality is that both scenarios are likely to happen, and it will be impossible to assess how widely spread each behaviour is until the legislation has been in existence for some time.” ❖

Claire Massey





Tracing the history of Māori rugby

An illustrated history of Māori rugby will be launched at Eden Park this month, with the unveiling of a hall of legends featuring 15 of the greatest Māori players.

Researcher and honours student at Massey's Te Pūtahi-a-Toi (School of Māori Studies) Malcolm Mulholland was approached five years ago by Huia Publishers to write about the history of Māori rugby. He has no doubt the new book will help the cause of the Māori team, which is currently embroiled in a controversy in South Africa, with the Springboks declining to play a team that is racially selected.

and New Zealand," he says. "Prior to 1970 Māori players weren't allowed to play there at all; from then until 1976 they were permitted to tour, but only as honorary whites.

"Māori players weren't received with open arms by white South Africans, in contrast to the reception from black supporters who turned out to see them in droves. That same year [1976] the Montreal Olympic games were boycotted by 28 African nations in protest at New Zealand's sporting contact with South Africa."

The book's title is also the name of a

in the book include Sid Going, Bill Bush, Pat Walsh, Waka Nathan, Tane Norton, Buck Shelford and Paul Quinn.

Mr Mulholland (Ngāti Kahungunu) says the book is divided into decades, with a focus on provinces that were strong at the time. "It begins with the oldest surviving player, Mick O'Connor (Ngāi Tahu), who lives in Temuka and played for the Māori team as a 19-year-old in 1936. Mick also played in a game in Palmerston North in 1936 when there was a fight between two players. He recounted the incident and controversy where one player died and the other was tried for manslaughter."

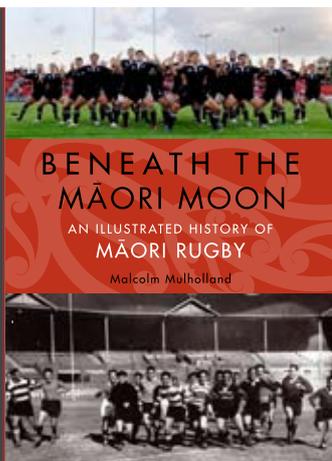
Sources for the book have included the Hocken Library in Dunedin, the New Zealand Rugby Museum in Palmerston North, the Twickenham Rugby Museum in England and the South African Rugby Museum. Mr Mulholland also conducted personal interviews with players and their whānau.

"The rugby museum in Palmerston North was the best source of archival material, as well as television programmes and interviews," he says.

Mr Mulholland grew up with the stories of great Māori rugby players, in a rugby mad family in Linwood, Christchurch and is a relative of Kingi Matthews, a renowned player of the 1940s.

This is his third book. ❖

"Māori players in general bore the brunt of the bad relations between South Africa and New Zealand. Prior to 1970 Māori players weren't allowed to play there at all; from then until 1976 they were permitted to tour, but only as honorary whites."
- Malcolm Mulholland

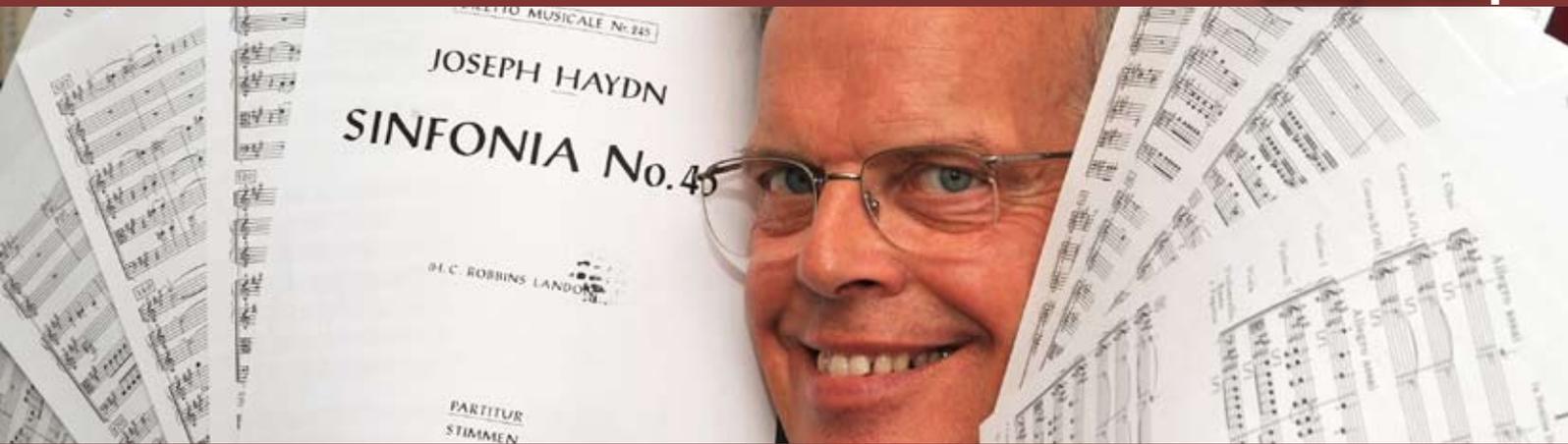


Mulholland says *Beneath the Māori Moon* is the first comprehensive history of Māori rugby and includes insights into the New Zealand-South Africa relationship.

"Māori players in general bore the brunt of the bad relations between South Africa

song performed by Māori rugby legend George Nepia and Mr Mulholland reflects on the expectation the side would, as well as play rugby, also sing waiata and perform haka for their hosts.

Other notable Māori players singled out



Why CEOs should take note of Haydn

Ask people to name a great leader and they may reel off Mandela, the Pope, Helen Clark or Richie McCaw.

Few would mention a musician – perhaps an ardent U2 fan might cite Bono – and surely fewer still would think of Joseph Haydn.

But Management and International Business lecturer Dr Ralph Bathurst thinks we can all learn a thing or two from the 18th-century composer.

He has written a paper on leadership, which shows how Haydn successfully achieved what all new CEOs and directors aspire to – he led without dominance and division.

“For contemporary leaders, it is all about leading the followers. But leaders can be damaging to an organisation’s progress if they assume too much control,” Bathurst says.

He was performing Haydn’s Symphony 82 ‘The Bear’ with St Matthews Chamber Orchestra when the ‘lightning bolt’ struck.

He went back over Haydn’s symphonies and selected #45 for his analysis. Now dubbed the ‘Farewell’, Bathurst says it is testament to the saying the ‘pen is mightier than the sword’.

The story goes that in 1772 fed-up musicians on the verge of revolt turned to Haydn for help when their boss, Prince Nikolaus Esterházy had kept them working

at his Hungarian palace instead of letting them return to their families.

Haydn knew he had to act and wrote an eyebrow-raising symphony so startling and unsettling that when it was performed to the prince, he realised that he had to give his staff a break.

Bathurst said Haydn’s success showed effective leadership at many levels – he quelled the growing anger of his musicians, voiced his own discontent, forced his employer to take remedial action and all without destroying relationships.

“Perhaps this is the most elegant and artful strike in the entire history of industrial relations,” says Bathurst. “He kept the relationship on both sides and protected both the dignity of his boss and his musical colleagues.

“There is a predisposition for new CEOs and directors to undertake restructuring programmes soon after taking up their positions, but the trick is to release everyone else into their own area of expertise.

“Creativity and leadership come from within, in spite of formal arrangements,” he says.

Haydn was the progenitor of the sonata structure and Bathurst believes this underpins his leadership theory.

“Sonata form is like a sandwich. Between

the outer stable sections it contains a middle period of chaos – we call that development.

“Chaos opens up the possibility of new solutions that we hadn’t thought of before.”

And Bathurst says sonata form could provide some ways of tackling the challenges of today’s economy.

“People are seeking control,” Bathurst says. “Haydn would say ‘yes we need structure but let’s not revise and revive old structures’. He would strive for new ways of doing business that are sustainable and creative.

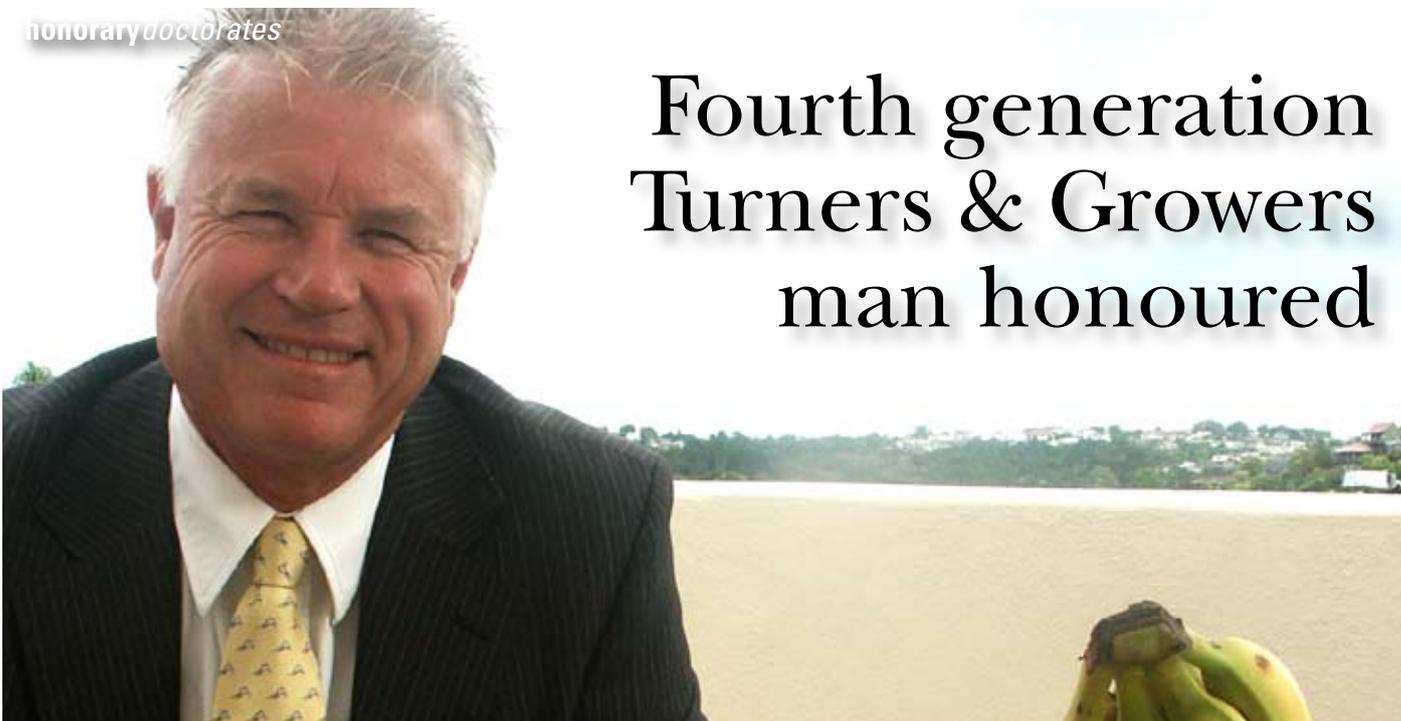
“If we allow the chaos for a little bit, over time something new will come out of our economic system that is more productive than is now in place and that will be for the greater good of everyone.”

Bathurst and colleagues will present a Haydn festival in May to mark the composer’s bi-centenary and explore 18th century influences on contemporary culture.

A series of open seminars will be held on the Albany campus to link with concerts at the end of May in Wellington organised by Massey and the New Zealand School of Music. ❖

“There is a predisposition for new CEOs and directors to undertake restructuring programmes soon after taking up their positions, but the trick is to release everyone else into their own area of expertise.”
- Ralph Bathurst

Fourth generation Turners & Growers man honoured



“Kiwis have enormous talent in all manner of business pursuits, but our country will always have a competitive advantage in the agriculture sector.” – Don Turner

From his cliff-top home in Northcote, Don Turner can see across the Waitemata to the portside Auckland site where he used to accompany his father, Grahame, by ferry to Turners & Growers Ltd auction rooms in the school holidays. He recalls being captivated by his father in full-throttle auctioneer voice amid the bustle of traders and retailers, the crates of fresh fruit and vegetables.

It is no surprise that auctioneering was to become his favourite job in the fruit and produce industry. “It’s in my blood,” says Turner, 59, who will next month receive an Honorary Doctor of Science degree in recognition for his outstanding leadership and contribution to New Zealand horticulture and business.

In his blood is something of an understatement. He is from four generations of the Turner family that established and ran the business for more than a century. For 37 years he was involved at every level of wholesale produce merchandising as produce auctioneer, pioneer exporter of kiwifruit and squash to Japan, and 15 years as its managing director.

The firm originated with his great-grandfather, Edward Turner, who came to New Zealand in 1883 with his wife, Maude, from Cambridge, England, and opened fruit shops in Auckland, planted orchards and vegetable gardens in Waitakere and set up the wholesale fruit trading business.

Sir Harvey Turner, the third of Edward’s nine sons and Don’s grandfather, oversaw the flourishing of Turners & Growers Ltd as it became the country’s leading produce wholesaler, handling a widening array of import and export fruits and vegetables.

Turner entered the family business after completing a law degree at Auckland University and a year as a professional tennis player. Being an auctioneer for five years in the 1970s was among the highlights of his roles with the company.

“Auctioneering first-time stage fright can make grown men weep,” he says. “You’ve got to keep an auction moving, have something to say and be able to add. If you’ve sold 500 bags of

potatoes to numerous buyers, you don’t want to undersell or oversell.”

Outside the company he had major roles in the Kiwifruit Authority and the Horticultural Exporters’ Council

His honorary doctorate, to be presented at the College of Sciences graduation ceremony at the Bruce Mason Centre in Takapuna on April 21, is also in recognition of his role as a member of the Massey University Agricultural Research Foundation for over a decade, including six years as its chair.

Turner has been a keen supporter of the University’s activities in research and development. Turners & Growers contributed to Massey’s 2000-01 fundraising campaign and still funds scholarships for Massey students – recognition of the vital part the University and its graduates play in horticulture and the other sectors within New Zealand agriculture.

College of Sciences Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Robert Anderson says Turner’s contribution to the sector, to the nation and to Massey has been immense. “The foundation, which he chaired, was an important component of Massey Agriculture, combining faculty members and industry leaders for direct focus on our research programmes,” Anderson says.

Turner says he is “surprised and honoured” to be selected. “It means more to me than anything I’ve had in recognition in this field.” The University’s influence on New Zealand’s primary production has been “huge”, he says. “While it has developed into a multi-faceted organisation with many areas of excellence, it remains New Zealand’s foremost agricultural education and research organisation.

“Kiwis have enormous talent in all manner of business pursuits, but our country will always have a competitive advantage in the agriculture sector. Business in our primary produce will continue to be led by Massey agriculture graduates.” ❖

Recognition for education work of a ‘learned gentleman’



“I’ve been part of a transformation from assimilation to indigenous self-management in education. Where Māori now manage their own education institutions.” – Turoa Royal

Turoa Royal was told throughout his early education that to become a “learned gentleman” he needed to study and speak other languages.

At Wellesley College, Pukekohe, in the late 1940s he was told that Latin was the language he must learn.

At Auckland University in the 1950s he was told the language of learned gentlemen was, in fact, Italian. Having learnt both, he decided the language a learned gentleman in New Zealand should speak was Māori.

Royal (Ngāti Raukawa ki Te Tonga, Ngāti Wharara, Ngāti Hine and Ngā Puhī) grew up on a farm at Kaiāua and assumed he would become a farmer. “I just wanted to milk dad’s cows. My parents and uncles wanted me to have an education, they told me ‘no, you are off to uni’.”

As an undergraduate, he was one of a small number of Māori students who argued that Māori language should be a curriculum subject. He has campaigned successfully ever since then for Māori educational advancement.

“It was the first time I realised the system could change. We decided the language needed to be taught in schools and later I was involved in developing a curriculum for Māori and New Zealand kids that was more appropriate to them.”

On May 13, Royal, 74, will receive an Honorary Doctor of Literature degree at one of the Massey University graduation ceremonies in Palmerston North, in recognition of his sustained contribution to education

Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Māori and Pasifika) Professor Mason Durie says Royal piloted the introduction of whānau-based learning and was an early advocate for recognising cultural identity as an important determinant of educational achievement – a theory he was able to convert into practice, both in the curriculum and in the school’s overall culture.

His pioneering efforts at the secondary level were later to be replicated in the tertiary sector as foundation chief executive officer for the Parumoana Community College (now Whitireia Community Polytechnic).

At that time he also became involved with the fledgling Te Wānanga ō Raukawa in Otaki and through his efforts enabled the wānanga to launch its first programmes in 1981. By 1990, in addition to heading Whitireia he was chairman of the wānanga and played a key role in facilitating the recognition of Te Wānanga ō Raukawa under the Education Amendment Act 1990.

He has also been a part-time lecturer in education at Victoria University and in education and Māori studies at Massey.

His reputation as an educator and innovator is widely acknowledged in Māori and indigenous education circles and he has recently stepped down from two key roles, one was as chair of Te Tāhuhu ō Ngā Wānanga the Association of Wānanga and the second was a six-year term as executive chair of the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium.

He has been a government adviser on Māori education, a board member of Capital and Coast district health, a member of the Porirua Business Development Society, the JM McKenzie Trust, Unesco and the New Zealand Planning Council.

His work in government public service was recognised with the award of the Companion of the Queen’s Service Order in 2005.

He is currently writing the last chapter of a book about the transformation of Māori education in New Zealand from assimilation and invisibility to self-management. “The final chapter is what I call unfinished business about the challenge for the future of this country towards nationhood.

“I’ve been part of the transformation from assimilation to indigenous self-management in education, where Māori now manage their own education institutions,” he says. ❖



Richard Shaw

The first 100 days

John Key's first 100 days as prime minister have passed, and polls show that both he and his party are more popular than at the time of last year's election. National will be hoping the honeymoon lasts as it continues to roll out policy in increasingly turbulent times.

All new governments hope to make substantial progress during the first few months of a new parliamentary session, when the political climate is as conducive to getting things done as it is ever likely to be. Voters – and the media – remain curious about the new kids on the block, members of the former government are still finding their way to the Opposition benches, and the next election seems a long way off.

Not only does National retain significant goodwill amongst voters, it is led by a prime minister who is quickly growing into the role and who has become a major electoral asset for his party. Further, the Government's ministers and MPs have the drive that comes from having spent the past nine years in the wilderness of Opposition, and the arrangements National has negotiated with parties on its left and right flanks give it plenty of leeway in the House.

But stiff challenges lie ahead. For all his popularity, John Key is a relatively inexperienced parliamentarian, as are several of his ministers. Paula Bennett, Kate Wilkinson and others are going up against a rejuvenated Opposition that did not suffer the protracted blood-letting that often follows an election defeat. Expect a unified Labour caucus to relentlessly pursue any opportunity to expose ministers who are unfamiliar with their portfolios or with House procedure.

Look, too, for the Opposition to keep probing away at the relationships National has with its support parties (and at those amongst the support parties themselves). Late last year Labour made much of the Māori Party's support for tax legislation shifting money from low-income earners – including many Māori – to those on higher incomes. Much more of that and the Māori Party's arrangement with National may start to creak.

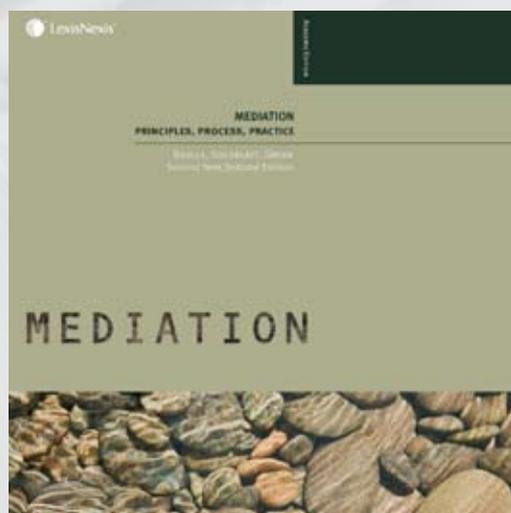
And then there is the economy. National finds itself in office at a time when centre-right parties the world over are having to re-define themselves. Their standard policy menu – tight fiscal and monetary policy settings, less state intervention in the economy, privatisation – holds little appeal in a global environment where the state is the only player left standing with the resources required to address problems caused by market failure on a colossal scale.

Of necessity, then, National has had to accept a role for the state that is more active than it might naturally wish for. This will increasingly chafe with ACT, and with the more orthodox elements in National's own caucus. The Government also has to manage the tricky business of taking people with it while at the same time hosing down public expectations of what it can actually achieve.

In short, the circumstances confronting John Key and his ministers are arguably tougher than those faced by any other new government in recent history. But in adversity there also lies opportunity. The Prime Minister is showing an aptitude for the cross-party relationship building that is crucial to governing under MMP. Eventually this may help him articulate the new role for government demanded by these uncertain times. There are difficult days ahead, but if he rises to the occasion – and to do so he will have to carve out a political space that no other National administration has occupied – then Key and his Government will have well and truly proved their mettle. ❖

Dr Richard Shaw is a senior lecturer in Politics at Massey University. In 2004 he received a National Tertiary Teaching Excellence award, and a Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching.

“For all his growing popularity, John Key is a relatively inexperienced parliamentarian, as are several of his ministers. Stephen Joyce, Paula Bennett, Kate Wilkinson and others are going up against an experienced and rejuvenated Opposition that did not suffer the protracted blood-letting that often follows an election defeat.”



Mediation: Principles, Process, Practice
 Laurence Boulle, Virginia Goldblatt, Philip Green
 (Lexis Nevis)

A new book co-authored by Virginia Goldblatt considers the growth of mediation practice in New Zealand.

It looks at how mediation fits within the legal system, the diversity of conflict resolution practice and developments of theory and principles.

Goldblatt, director of the Dispute Resolution Centre at Massey University, says mediation is now widely endorsed in the public sector in New Zealand, having been incorporated into legislation.

The book also contains a section examining cross-cultural negotiation in conflict situations and how styles of communication and behaviour can be interpreted differently according to culture, sometimes posing a challenge to problem solving.

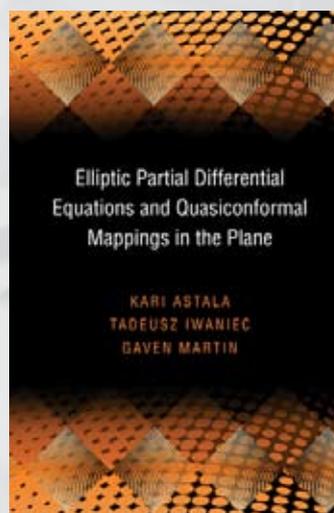
In particular, there is a section on Māori and mediation, which the authors hope will encourage further discussion and commentary on this important aspect of the topic. Māori Land Court Judge Carrie Wainwright, provided a valuable critique of this aspect of the section on and the Māori Land Court itself, which, as with both general and other specialist courts, is also adopting mediation to resolve a broad range of issues before it.

“There has been a significant growth in the endorsement of mediation in the public sector in New Zealand with its incorporation into legislation by the Government over the last decade,” Goldblatt says.

“However, the private sector is becoming increasingly aware of negotiation and mediation processes, and a knowledge of when and how to use these should now be seen as a core competency in business.”

The book is a second edition updated to reflect the rapid development in mediation over the past 10 years and is aimed at teachers and students of mediation, legal practitioners, mediators and court officials.

Laurence Boulle is the acting dean of the Faculty of Law at Bond University in Australia and Philip Green is founding president of the Arbitrators and Mediators Institute of New Zealand. ❖



Elliptic Partial Differential Equations and Quasiconformal Mappings in the Plane
 Kari Astala, Tadeusz Iwaniec and Gaven Martin
 (Princeton University Press)

Co-authored by Distinguished Professor of Mathematics Gaven Martin, this new book explores the most recent developments in the theory of planar quasiconformal mappings with a particular focus on the interactions with partial differential equations and nonlinear analysis.

It gives a thorough and modern approach to the classical theory and presents important and compelling applications across a spectrum of mathematics: dynamical systems, singular integral operators, inverse problems, the geometry of mappings, and the calculus of variations. It also gives an account of recent advances in harmonic analysis and their applications in the geometric theory of mappings.

The book explains that the existence, regularity, and singular set structures for second-order divergence-type equations the most important class of PDEs in applications are determined by the mathematics underpinning the geometry, structure, and dimension of fractal sets; moduli spaces of Riemann surfaces; and conformal dynamical systems.

These topics are inextricably linked by the theory of quasiconformal mappings. Further, the interplay between them allows the authors to extend classical results to more general settings for wider applicability, providing new and often optimal answers to questions of existence, regularity, and geometric properties of solutions to nonlinear systems in both elliptic and degenerate elliptic settings.

Gaven Martin is Distinguished Professor of Mathematics at Massey University. Kari Astala is the Finnish Academy Professor of Mathematics at the University of Helsinki. Tadeusz Iwaniec is the John Raymond French Distinguished Professor of Mathematics at Syracuse University. ❖

New wings



Massey University has shown its commitment to having a world-leading aviation school by signing an \$8 million agreement to buy 14 new aircraft for its School of Aviation.

The purchase of two high-performance twin-engine Diamond Aircraft 42 (DA42) and 12 DA40 single-engine planes will keep the school at the forefront of pilot training in New Zealand.

Massey is New Zealand's only university with an aviation school and one of just a few worldwide to offer degrees in aviation with professional pilot training incorporated.

The aircraft will operate from the Milson Flight Systems Centre at Palmerston North Airport. It is expected that the first four aircraft will be delivered by the end of May and the entire new fleet will be in place before the end of the year.

School general manager Ashok Poduval says Massey will now be the first flight training organisation in New Zealand with an entire fleet of training aircraft that have state-of-the-art Garmin 1000 cockpit display systems that will enhance safety and improve training quality.

"Flying an aircraft today is not merely about 'stick and rudder' skills – it is about managing a technologically-advanced machine. We are investing resources to keep our students ahead of the rest."

The aircraft will be fitted with Spidertracks, a device – developed with the aid of Massey University mechatronics graduate James McCarthy – that enables real-time tracking of the aircraft position from the flight operations centre. ❖

definingnz



Massey University

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The University's top vet and equine staff are available on-stand throughout the Horse of the Year show in Hastings.

Equine programme leader Dr Chris Rogers says medical and surgical experts will be available for "consultation" on the stand from 10am to 3pm each day, with assistants – all veterinary lecturers – manning the tent for the whole day supported by final-year vet students and the Team Massey elite rider programme students and mentors.



7PM: 2009 Professorial Lecture Series, Albany Campus, Sir Neil Waters Lecture Theatres, NW200

Professor Paul Rainey
The evolution of biological complexity

Darwinian evolution requires nothing more than a population of reproducing organisms in which offspring inherit variation from their parents. Darwinists argue that this simple process – differential reproduction – alone is sufficient to account for the evolution of biological complexity. I shall take up this challenge and paint a picture of life's evolution from the perspective of major evolutionary transitions.

These include the transition from unlinked genes to chromosomes; from single-celled to multi-celled organisms; and from solitary organisms to societies. During each transition, lower level entities – each capable of independent replication – have formed into a larger unit, thereby creating a new level of biological organisation. Just what caused lower level entities to sacrifice their individuality and merge to become part of a corporate body is a profound puzzle.

7PM: 2009 Professorial Lecture Series, Albany Campus, Sir Neil Waters Lecture Theatres, NW200

Professor Kerry Chamberlain
A pill for every ill? The social meanings of medications in society today

Medications are ubiquitous in society today. They occur in multiple forms, are widely promoted, and routinely consumed. This lecture will consider how this has arisen, examining the involvement of changing understandings of health, new ways of consuming health, and the medicalisation and pharmaceuticalisation of everyday life. Medications have social lives as well as pharmacological lives, being both material and symbolic. We will examine the complexity of medications as social objects, their symbolic meanings and uses, and the identities and social relationships bounded by them.



Graduation 2009 begins with Albany ceremonies at the Bruce Mason centre in Takapuna.

Graduation is one of the most important celebrations of the university year.

Albany Campus students, staff and Alumni will be attending ceremonies to congratulate graduates on their successes, alongside their families and friends.



Pā-inspired home in the Marlborough Sounds, designed by Amanda Yates.

Traditional Polynesian and Māori-built environments, with a focus on Māori pā, are behind the architecture of three houses designed by Massey Master of Design student Amanda Yates.

The design work of the Coromandel, Whitby and Marlborough Sounds homes will featured in an exhibition by 10 graduates of the College of Creative Arts in Wellington last month.

Ms Yates (Ngāti Whakaue, Rongowhakaata) says the design techniques include digging into the ground to form recessed spaces found in Māori pā sites.

“Polynesian and Māori building traditions also featured light-weight materials leading to an emphasis on temporary and transient buildings. The design addresses the needs of the people who will live there with a concern for linking the interior and exterior via moveable sliding doors and louvre walls that open to the environment.”

Ms Yates has been a staff member at Massey since 2004. She handed in a 16,000-word thesis about her design research last month and the exhibition completes her requirements for the degree.

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