

TE KUNENGA...

Future-focused Mr Fix-it

The do-it-yourself approach
inspires a young engineer

Music maker's Massey roots

Increasing the rate of cancer survival

Putting Māori authors into print

Te Kunenga
ki Pūrehuroa



MASSEY UNIVERSITY



Professor Mason Durie

“Our mission is not simply to accumulate knowledge for academic sake, but to transfer knowledge to te ao Māori, te ao whānui, to iwi, industries, professions, central government and to local authorities so that the benefits might be felt across the nation.”

Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa

Tēnā koutou

Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa – from inception to infinity captures the essence of Massey University’s mission. Over the years we have built up skills and knowledge in many areas; some are at a microscopic level, and others are better viewed through a telescopic lens; some are related to the past and to today’s challenges while others are more relevant to the longer term future; and some are grounded in Aotearoa while others have a global dimension.

In addition to teaching and research around mātauranga Māori and te reo Māori, we have developed strong programmes in agricultural science, technology, the health sciences, community development, education, business, and design.

Our mission is not simply to accumulate knowledge for academic sake, but to transfer knowledge to te ao Māori, te ao whānui, to iwi, industries, professions, central government and to local authorities so that the benefits might be felt across the nation. Our approach to knowledge creation is one of collaboration; our teachers and researchers work with communities to ensure that we can align our areas of expertise with their aspirations for ongoing development.

We are aware that Aotearoa/New Zealand is entering a period of rapid change – new technologies, a diverse population, an expansion of Māori business and developmental interests, and increasing links with global partners and other indigenous peoples. Not only will those changes bring fresh opportunities but they will also require our own people to be competitive, well qualified and ready to embrace change without losing sight of the values and traditions that have timeless relevance.

Preparing for the future is a major focus of Massey University. Our teaching programmes are now available in homes and communities that are distant from the campus; more and more students are finding that on-line learning makes it possible to live at home, stay involved with whānau and friends and at the same time enrol in courses of study that will improve career prospects.

New technologies allow that type of learning to happen. And our research programmes are aiming to build new knowledge in those areas that will be important to future generations – food production and processing, environmental sustainability, whānau development, management and governance, teaching, creativity, and workforce capability building.

This publication contains information about some of those questions but we are also keen to hear from you about other priorities that might be important to your iwi, hapū and kāinga.

Kia manawanui
Kia māia

Mason Durie
Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Māori and Pasifika)



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Maurice Tipene uses his farming background to develop his engineering skills.

TE KUNENGA...

defining^{nz}



TE KUNENGA is a special edition of *DefiningNZ* – a monthly publication produced by Massey University.
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Sacred Heart School six-year-olds Thomas Mannix and Cameron Davis-Herlihy hard at work painting rakau with Professor Chris Cunningham – Photograph: Mark Coote

Planting the seeds of expectation

Chris Cunningham’s fate was probably sealed when he was 11 and the Taita Intermediate deputy principal wrote “university material” on his school report.

He did not know at the time what “university material” meant, but he still has the report and, six years ago when he delivered his first lecture as Professor of Māori Health, he acknowledged Maureen Kós the teacher who wrote the comment and so planted a seed of expectation that influenced his career path.

Mrs Kós, now 88 and retired in Rawene on the Hokianga Harbour, remembers her former pupil fondly. “He was a lovely boy; shy, quiet, very respectful and seemed to absorb everything.”

He went from intermediate to Taita College and then, in 1979 at age 17, to Victoria University. Despite growing up in Lower Hutt he had made only a few previous visits to Wellington.

He studied fulltime, completing a Bachelor of Science followed by an honours degree and then a doctorate in chemistry, graduating in 1988.

He worked at Manatū Māori, one of two transition agencies between the former Ministry of Māori Affairs and the Ministry of Māori Development – Te Puni Kōkiri, then the Ministry of Health providing policy advice on how to provide better health services to Māori. He and his wife Joanne, who also holds a doctorate in chemistry, married when he was 30 and they now have four children.

In 1996 he received a visit that would change his path again, towards Massey University. “One day I was at work and a shadow appeared across my desk. I looked up and it was a certain Professor of Māori Studies [Mason Durie].

“He asked me, ‘are you happy in your work?’.”

Cunningham has worked at Massey ever since. He is a Professor of Māori Health and director of Te Pūmanawa Hauora (the University’s Research Centre for Māori Health and Development) and is also an Honorary Professor at the Wellington School of Medicine and an Honorary Professor at the University of Sydney. He is a full time supervisor and doctoral supervisor of 15 doctoral students.

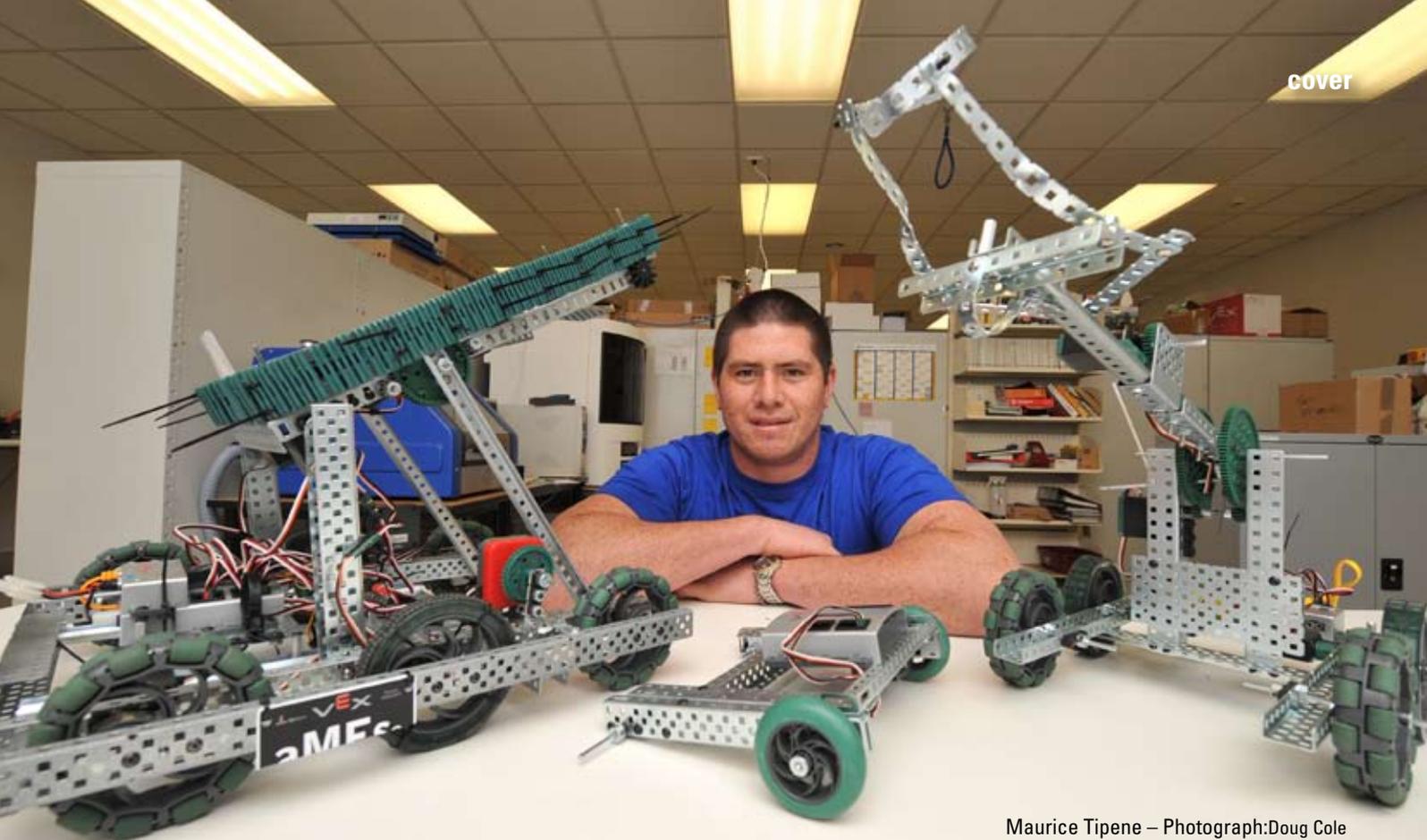
Cunningham (Ngāti Toa and Ngāti Raukawa) describes himself as an urban Māori. He grew up in a working-class family with a Māori mother and Pākehā father who are still living in the Hutt Valley. Most things Māori he learnt as an adult.

He and his team work on major projects relating to health research on breastfeeding, cancer, diabetes, mental illness, the elderly and children.

Te Pūmanawa Hauora has been successful in obtaining major external funding for its work, including in 2007 \$2.3 million from the Health Research Council. In the same year the team won the University’s medal for outstanding research.

He says the most fun current project is with Sacred Heart School, an integrated Catholic primary school in Petone. While the focus is on nutrition and physical education, the goal is to normalise the expectation that those children will attend university.

“It’s a really good community initiative and shows that academics are not all pointy headed time wasters. The motivation I received all those years ago from Maureen Kós made me determined to go to university. At that time and in that community I was the exception. For kids today, I want to make it the norm.” ❀



Maurice Tipene – Photograph: Doug Cole

Farm background developed engineering skills

Success in maths and sciences came relatively easy for Maurice Tipene. He was raised on a dairy farm close to his marae in Motatau, south of Kawakawa, attended the local kōhanga reo and primary school and then Bay of Islands College in nearby Kawakawa.

Tipene, 22, jokes that going to school was like a holiday from farm life, where there was always work to be done. “I really loved the farm and I liked going to school too and competing with my classmates to see who could get the best marks, then when NCEA came in it seemed to erode the competition and you didn’t have to try as hard.”

In his last year at school he was deputy head boy and won a \$5000 Massey scholarship for first-year Bachelor of Engineering students.

Now in his fourth year in the College of Sciences at the Albany campus, Tipene (Ngā Puhī) thinks growing up on a farm, where you have to fix things yourself, probably helped when it came to studying engineering.

He looked at the range of engineering offerings at several universities and picked Massey because “there seemed to be more freedom in the programme and a focus on product development (the area he chose to major in)”.

His current project involves taking a prototype of an electronic home gymnasium weightlifting device developed by someone else to a new level. “It will be a lot safer for users; there won’t be any risk of dropping the weights on yourself and the unit will be much lighter and safer.”

He lives at Orewa with his aunt Brenda Tipene-Hook, who graduated with a Bachelor of Health Science in 2004 majoring in Māori health and is now completing a Master of Philosophy with a major in Māori studies.

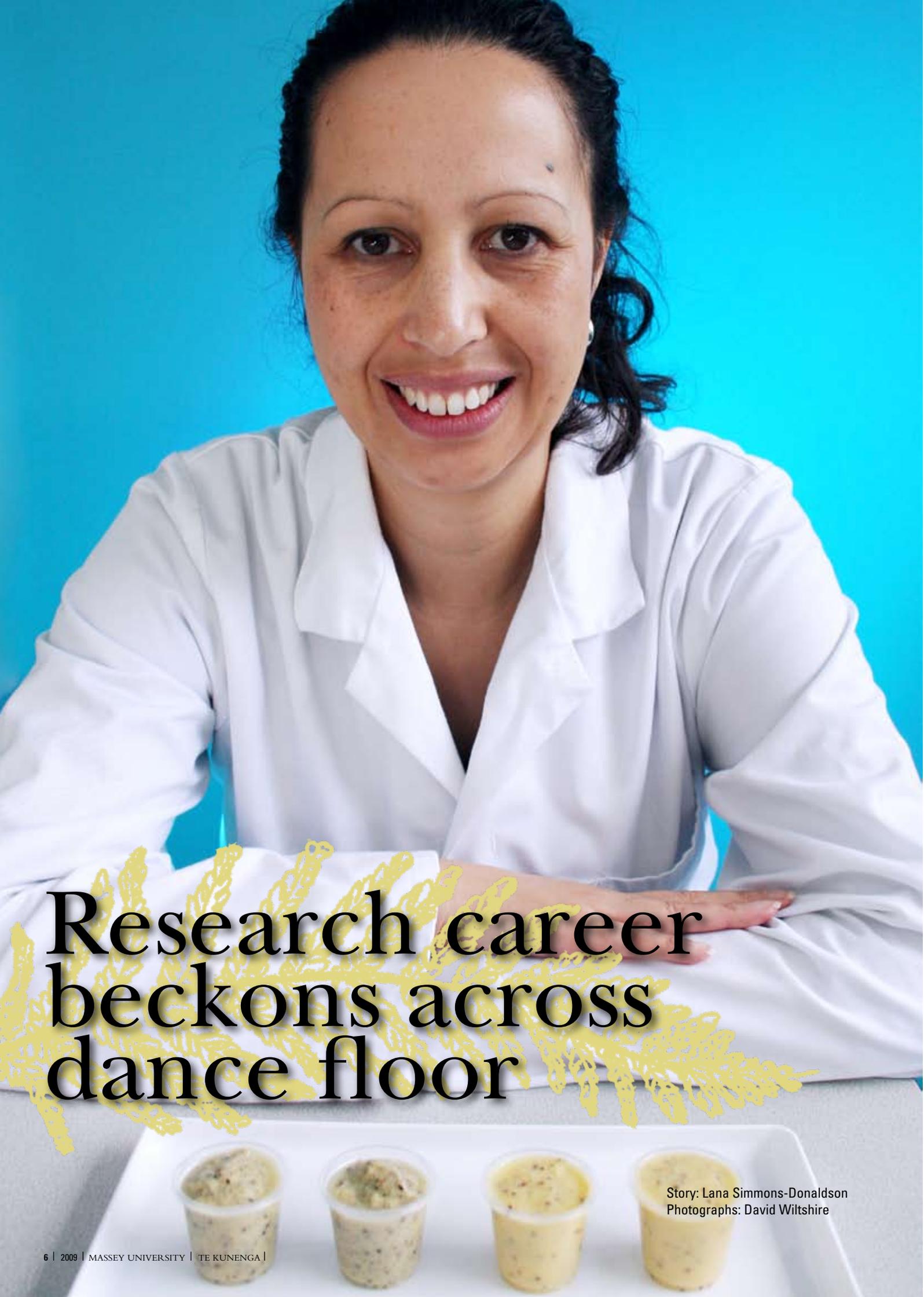
He says family support and proximity to campus helped because it took time to adjust to university. “You can’t just rely on what you learn in class to get you through; you have to do your own study.”

He has been fully involved in student life and politics on the campus, holding positions with the Māori student association, the campus-wide student association and the engineering students’ association.

At Atamira, a biennial expo showcasing Māori innovation held in Auckland in July, he was awarded the prize for innovative mechanics in engineering as captain of the Massey University team that won the World Vex Robotics Championship in Dallas, Texas, earlier this year.

“I enjoy the robotics programme and taking it out there to get people involved and would like to be able to get involved with promoting it at my old high school.”

He will graduate next year and recently applied for a job promoting and co-ordinating the University’s robotics programme throughout New Zealand. “I’d definitely like to travel and work out in the field. I don’t want a full-time desk job.” ✎



Research career beckons across dance floor

Story: Lana Simmons-Donaldson
Photographs: David Wiltshire

In the space of four years Dr Sharon Henare became a mother at 16, finished secondary school, joined the New Zealand School of Dance then switched careers to become a scientist.

Henare (Ngā Puhi and Ngāti Whatua) says she had no definite career path in mind while growing up and attending Freyberg High School in Palmerston North. “I had always danced when I was younger.” So, with the help of a very supportive mother, she took her baby daughter to Wellington.

But in her second and final year any thoughts of becoming a professional dancer came literally unstuck when she dislocated her knee for the second time. She graduated in 1993. “I had to make a choice between knee surgery to keep dancing, or something else.” That “something else” turned out to be a return to Manawatu and enrolling at Massey.

She had planned to do physiotherapy but, after meeting physiologist and animal welfare specialist Professor David Mellor, decided “the work he was doing sounded interesting” so began a Bachelor of Science majoring in physiology.

After completing that in 1998 she began a Master’s degree, which turned out to be a larger project than expected, so was upgraded to a PhD. From 1999-04 she received a Tuapapa Putaiao Fellowship from the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology that

me,” she says. “I relied on Dr Nick Roskrige, the Kaitautoko Māori in the College of Sciences. I probably would not have completed my degree or PhD if it hadn’t been for Nick.

“I surrounded myself with the right support people. You need to take advantage of every opportunity you are given and be a little brave – don’t be scared of having a go.”

After graduating with a PhD in Physiology in 2005 she worked at the Riddet Centre now known as the Riddet Institute based at the Manawatu campus. “They were investigating the physiology of gut development. Examining the milk of wallabies, an animal in which development largely occurs outside of the womb, and investigating the molecules in wallaby milk that signal that development could be beneficial to the physiology of the human gut, especially after illness, surgery or in premature babies.”

“Milking a wallaby was really exciting; that’s not something everybody gets to do. Working with the calibre of researchers that are here – they are world class – is just amazing.”

She says scientific work is generally exciting. “No day is the same. Some days we meet to discuss research or plan the next experiment, collaborate with other organisations or industry or play in the lab with fancy gadgetry. Other days you could be running a clinical trial with members of the community, sampling

“I like animals, and working in the area of conservation of unique species in New Zealand was an opportunity I couldn’t turn down.”

– Dr Sharon Henare



helped her complete her doctorate in physiology as part of the Department of Conservation’s Kakapo Recovery Programme.

“The research project involved developing a method for increasing reproductive output, similar to that used in human infertility treatments. When a woman can’t get pregnant she can undertake a hormone treatment programme. The purpose of my research was to develop a similar programme for birds, specifically the endangered kakapo. The conservation aspects were really interesting: I like animals, and working in the area of conservation of unique species in New Zealand was an opportunity I couldn’t turn down.”

Henare says she found it hard during her undergraduate years, coming back into a ‘school type of environment’ after a long break. “It was hard until I worked out a way of studying that worked for

products you have developed and collecting urine and blood samples for analysis.”

One of the big projects she has just completed looking at the quality of protein, has “huge” implications for Māori communities, she says. She cannot discuss specifics because of commercial sensitivity but says: “People are living longer, so we looked at how well a specific protein targeted at the older age group, was digested and utilised by the human body. Quality proteins with high nutritional value are important as we age to maintain muscle mass and overall good general health.”

She says Massey and the Riddet Institute offer the perfect platform for high quality research. “This is a really stimulating environment, I have no regret choosing research as a career.”



Family man's musical roots at Massey

At school he says he was a "geek" who played the recorder, Now, **Warren Maxwell** is leader of the psychedelic blues quartet Little Bushman. Lana Simmons-Donaldson meets the man widely recognised as the creative genius heavily responsible for the award-winning success of bands TrinityRoots and Fat Freddy's Drop – *Photographs: Mark Coote*



At the New Zealand School of Music at Massey's Wellington campus teaching staff greet musician Warren Maxwell with hugs like a favourite member of the family. Maxwell has had a 20-year association with the school, and met all of the members of the bands he has played with, while they were either studying or teaching at Massey.

"Massey has been the catalyst for us. Without a doubt if I hadn't come to Wellington and studied music and jazz I wouldn't have met these people. Maybe I'll come back to study or teach in the future." For the moment though he still enjoys playing and being hands-on.

Little Bushman is distinctly different from his reggae roots. "I feel blessed to be playing with these dudes, they are the most professional and equally talented group I have ever played with. You start out in your early 20s, there's debauchery every night, dramas on the road. Now that we have all got our OEs out of our systems and got kids, we're more grounded."

Maxwell was born in Whangarei in 1970, a long way away from his mother's Tūhoe whānau in the eastern Bay of Plenty. His late father was of Scottish descent and comes from a lineage of lumberjacks. Music however, was part of his upbringing. "It was always around, we always had parties. Music engaged you, and I had a realisation that music made everyone happy.

"I had this small town boyhood dream of being a musician. Since I was six years old I played guitar and recorder – recorder leads on to the sax. I was a real geek. I wasn't really sporty or physical, I was quite skinny and more academic." Maxwell left Whangarei Boys High School at the age of 15 before completing School Certificate to take up a carpentry apprenticeship he finished when he was 18. "The work dried up, I wasn't a very good builder, I apply myself a lot more now to anything I do, I do everything with passion."

Maxwell moved to Wellington in 1989 in search of work after being on the dole in Whangarei and found a job within a day. He pumped gas at a petrol station for 18 months until, "my mate Willie saw an ad in the paper about the foundation jazz course in 1990. Back then, you just turned up and they took everyone. It was the first one [course] full of 20 dreamers".

Then, the Music Conservatorium was located at the former Fever Hospital, nestled into the South Western side of Wellington's Mount Victoria up Alexandra Road. Maxwell completed his exams for the foundation course and went on to complete a diploma course.

"I got through my first year not applying myself as much as I could have. I found in the second year the rest of the class had advanced away. The first year was about social standing, working out how you fit in, the second year you start working because otherwise you are going to get kicked out.

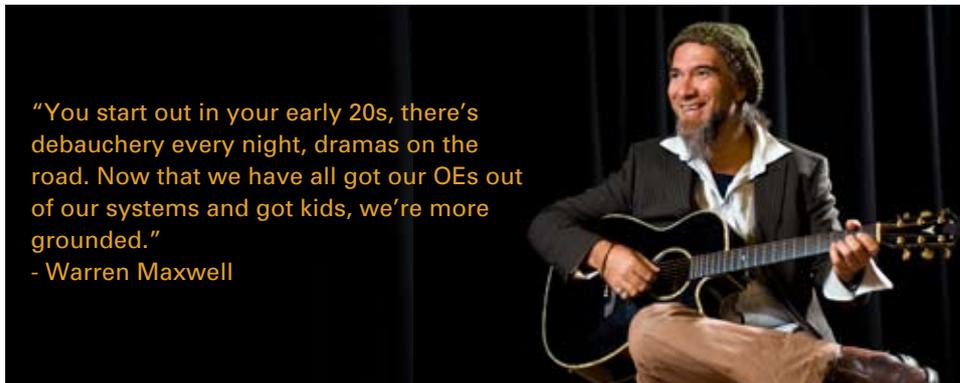
"The third year you apply what you have learnt to your practice. That's when I started thinking about who I was, and writing

composition based on tikanga [protocol], using kapa haka beats, looking at who I was through the music."

When Maxwell finished his diploma he became a founding member, guitarist and lead singer of TrinityRoots, the band released their debut EP in October 2000 it sold more than 3000 copies. Their debut album *True* was released in 2002, and *Home Land and Sea* in 2004. Both albums have gone Platinum selling more than 15,000 units each. The band separated in 2005 to pursue other projects.

Maxwell returned to Massey as a tutor of the foundation course and completed his Bachelor of Jazz in 2007. Fat Freddy's Drop was his next musical adventure as saxophonist with a Pacific reggae sound.

He is now leader of Little Bushman and writes, sings, and plays electric keyboards. "I was looking for a different direction, I'd been doing the roots reggae thing for six years and became fascinated with John Coltrane, Jimmy Hendrix, Pink Floyd, the whole late 60s, the Beatles, early David Bowie. 'Bushy' was a great opportunity, I needed to go in another musical direction."

A photograph of Warren Maxwell, a man with a beard and long hair, wearing a dark jacket over a light-colored shirt, sitting and playing an acoustic guitar. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is dark and out of focus.

"You start out in your early 20s, there's debauchery every night, dramas on the road. Now that we have all got our OEs out of our systems and got kids, we're more grounded."
- Warren Maxwell

For the past 10 years Maxwell has made a career out of music, his advice to others is: "to embrace every single day and utilise every single day, work hard and be unique, don't follow trends, embrace who you are as a person".

A two-acre section in Featherston is home base now, which he shares with his partner-manager, and his two children, his mum lives in the granny flat across the paddock from the horse and chickens. His studio is on the property too.

A typical week begins on Monday and ends on Friday and consists of getting the kids sorted to day care and grandma, followed by 10-4pm working in the studio. "Everything revolves around the kids." When the band has gigs or is on tour then it's slightly different. "Monday to Wednesday at home, on the road Thursday to Sunday. It's important to have routines with the family and it's good for musicians as well."

When he leaves the Massey campus Maxwell heads off to a meeting with another NZ School of Music luminary, John Psathas. The pair are working on a project that somehow epitomises the collaborative nature of all Maxwell's work: A concert involving the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra and Little Bushman in the Wellington Town Hall in October. ❧

Māori authors win inaugural book awards

Books about Māori written by Māori were the resounding choice of hundreds of voters in Massey's inaugural Ngā Kupu Ora Book Awards held to coincide with Māori Language Week.

Organiser Spencer Lilley, the University's Kaihautū Māori (Māori library services manager), says the idea for organising book awards recognising Māori literature was a result of other major book awards consistently failing to do so.

Nominations were invited, finalists in six categories were selected and the public given the chance to vote on-line.

"The overarching trend across the six categories was that books about Māori written by Māori were the most popular," Mr Lilley says. "This is a reflection of how far publishing has come in this country in the past 20-30 years. Back then you would have been very hard-pressed to find a book about Māori written by a Māori author."

Despite missing out on an award at the Montana Book Awards announced earlier in the week, Ngā Tama Toa: The Price of Citizenship by Massey graduate Dr Monty Soutar was a clear favourite in the history category.

The result of the te reo Māori category also differed from the Montana awards, with Tāhuhu kōrero: The sayings of Tai Tokerau by Dr Merata Kawharu of Auckland University narrowly beating He Pātaka Kupu te kai a te rangatira compiled by Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori (the Māori Language Commission).

Massey researcher Malcolm Mulholland's Beneath the Māori Moon was the winner of the sport and recreation category. Mr Lilley says the importance and popularity of Māori rugby to New Zealand's national game had been captured in the book. "Malcolm's win in this section reinforces the positive reception the book has received from reviewers and commentators."

An awards presentation will be held on Māori Language Day, September 14, to celebrate the success of the winners and acknowledge the contribution of the other finalists to Māori publishing. ☒

The complete list of winners in each category is:

Art, Architecture and Design – *Māori Architecture: From Fale to Wharenui and Beyond* – Deidre Brown

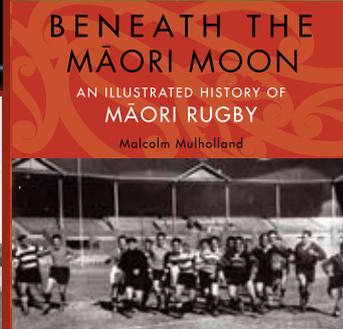
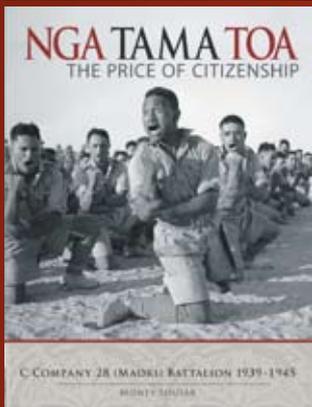
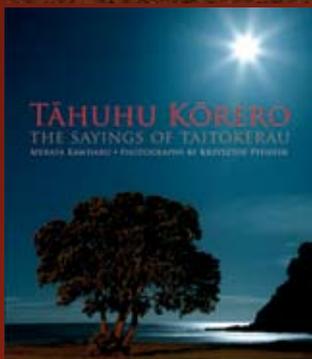
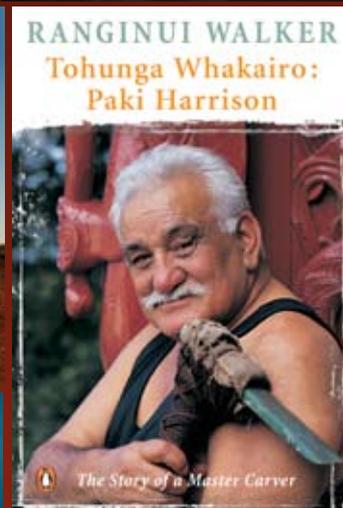
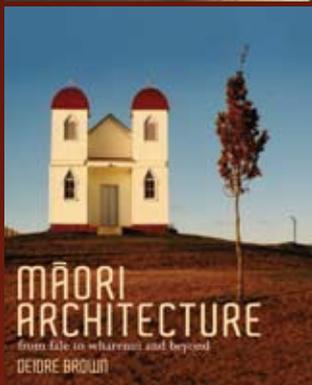
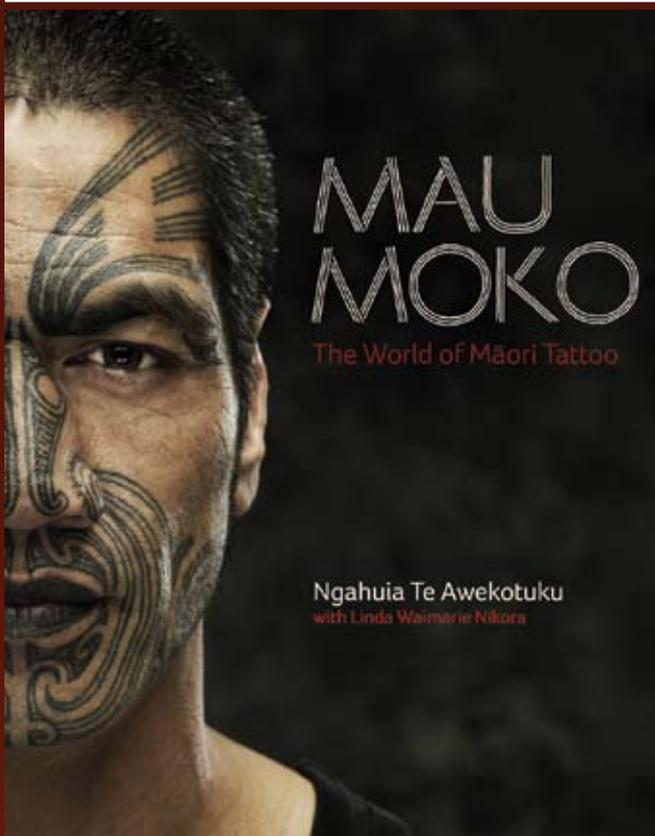
Biography – *Tohunga Whakairo: Paki Harrison: The Story of a Master Carver* – Ranginui Walker

History – *Ngā Tama Toa: The Price of Citizenship* – Monty Soutar

Sports and Recreation – *Beneath the Māori Moon: An Illustrated History of Māori Rugby* – Malcolm Mulholland

Te Reo Maori – *Tāhuhu Kōrero: The Sayings of Tai Tokerau* – Merata Kawharu and Krzysztof Pfeiffer

Book of the Decade – *Mau Moko: The World of Māori Tattoo* – Ngahuia Te Awekotuku



\$1.2 million for Māori cancer care and cervical cancer research

Statistics showing Māori are 9 per cent more likely to get cancer than non-Māori – and 77 per cent more likely to die of it than other New Zealanders – have prompted the Health Research Council to fund two Massey University research projects aimed at improving overall cancer care for Māori patients and increasing the rate of survival for cervical cancer.

Dr Lis Ellison-Loschmann, from Massey's Centre for Public Health Research in Wellington, will lead both projects thanks to grants totalling more than \$1.2 million from the council.

While one study will look at the issue of care of Māori patients, the other will investigate differences in cervical cancer survival rates between women of different ethnicities; the study will also look at differences in survival by socio-economic status, age, and proximity to health services at time of diagnosis.

A team of 16 researchers including three of Massey's most highly regarded academics – Professor Chris Cunningham, Professor Mason Durie and Professor Neil Pearce – will conduct a national study of Māori diagnosed with cancer, their whānau and cancer care service providers.

Other researchers in that study, which has funding of \$574,465, are drawn from District Health Boards, Māori primary health organisations, hospice organisations and the Cancer Society.

Dr Ellison-Loschmann (Te Atiawa, Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Toa Rangatira, Ngāti Raukawa and Tahitian) says access to care, and the quality of care, can have a substantial impact on cancer outcomes, both in terms of quality of life and survival.

"The worldwide burden of cancer has been increasing for the past few decades," she says. "Cancer now surpasses chronic heart disease as the leading cause of death in New Zealand.

"There is evidence of ethnic differences in cancer incidence and mortality, with an approximately 9 per cent higher age-sex-standardised incidence rate, and a startling 77 per cent higher age-sex-standardised mortality rate for cancer overall in Māori compared to non-Māori."

The findings of the study will form the basis for an integrated framework across primary, secondary, tertiary and palliative care services to improve the co-ordination of services for Māori experiencing cancer, and will include the development of a pilot programme in four primary care settings.

"Māori provider organisations have had a crucial role in increasing access to health services for Māori in a variety of ways, ranging from the provision of Māori specific services through to playing an advocacy role in the interface with mainstream service providers."

She says there is growing evidence from overseas studies that primary care can play a key role in offering continuity of care and information that is person-centred and holistic.

"The role and potential of community-based cancer care have not been previously explored in New Zealand. There is a key opportunity for Māori providers and primary health organisations to provide guidance and facilitate access to treatment, psychosocial,



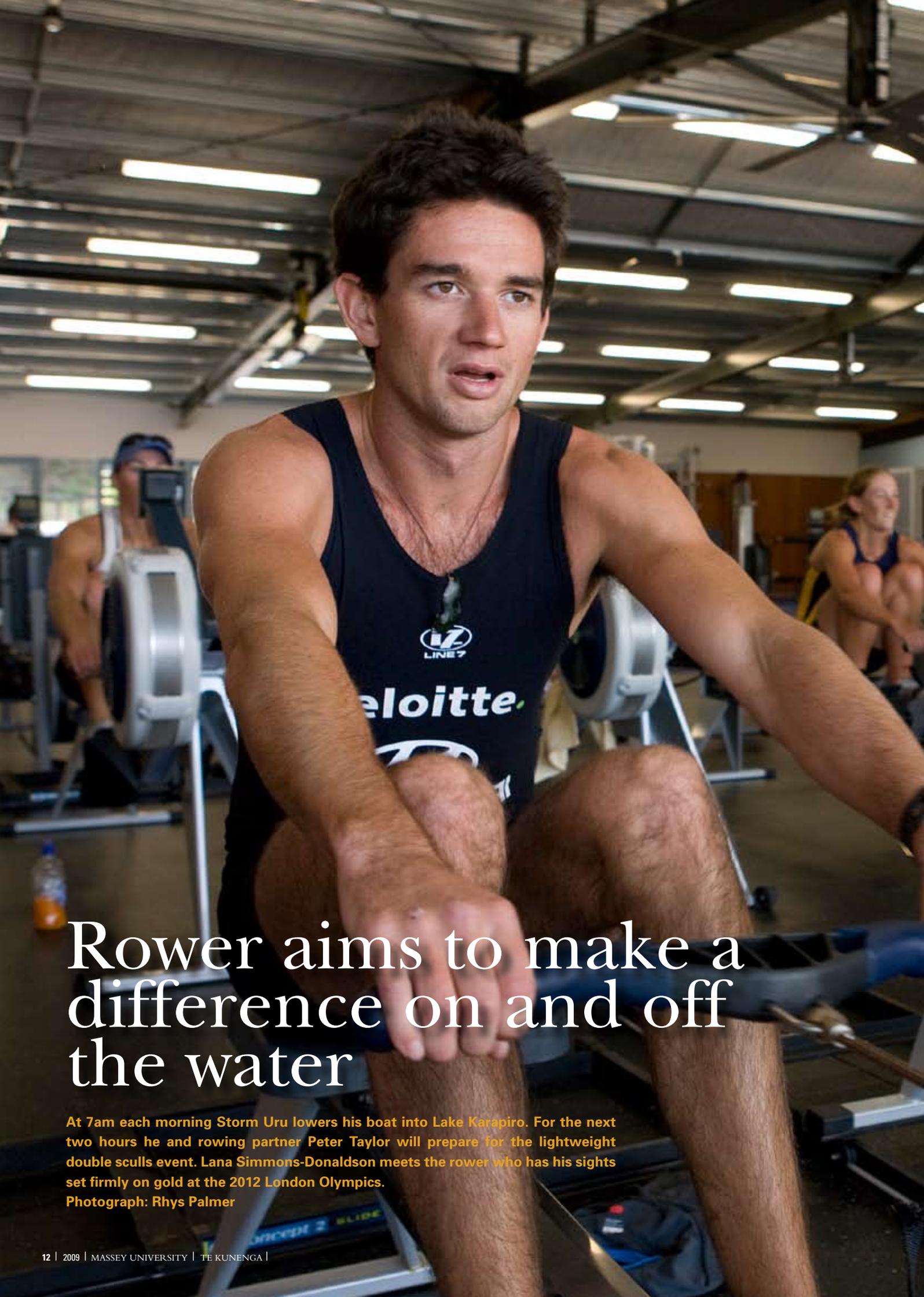
Dr Lis Ellison-Loschmann

medical and palliative care support services for Māori with a cancer diagnosis within the context of whānau ora."

Dr Ellison-Loschmann has also secured funding of \$665,198 for research into inequalities in cervical cancer survival in New Zealand. "Most of the attention to date has been focused on cervical cancer in general, and very little consideration given to demographic differences in cervical cancer risks, screening treatment or survival," she says.

For the next three years she will lead a team of 10 researchers, including Naomi Brewer who will work on the project for her PhD, and also Massey researcher Associate Professor Barry Borman. They will link all cases of cervical cancer notified between 1994 and 2005, to death registrations to identify which factors account for ethnic differences in survival.

"The findings will be used to minimise barriers and reduce inequalities in cervical cancer survival in New Zealand." ❖



Rower aims to make a difference on and off the water

At 7am each morning Storm Uru lowers his boat into Lake Karapiro. For the next two hours he and rowing partner Peter Taylor will prepare for the lightweight double sculls event. Lana Simmons-Donaldson meets the rower who has his sights set firmly on gold at the 2012 London Olympics.
Photograph: Rhys Palmer



Storm Uru is just 24 and is 1.88m, taller than many rugby players, but weighs just 74kg. His physique is ideal for rowing, with his height and reach giving him an advantage over shorter rowers.

After breakfast at home, Uru will spend another 90 minutes with his books and papers out studying towards his other goal, a Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration from Massey. Later, at about noon, he will return to New Zealand Rowing's new complex at the lake and work out at the gym. Then it is another 90 minutes' training on the water and home to more study in the evening.

Once a month, on average, the weather gets too rough at the lake and the only training option is the gym. The day I visit Uru is, unfortunately, one of those days and there is a palpable tension and twitchiness in the air of the gym, which is full of the elite of New Zealand rowing.

"We haven't been able to get out on the water for 24 hours," Uru explains, "so we're going to train on the Ergs [rowing machines]."

Uru lives by the philosophy of no boundaries – anything is possible if he puts his mind to it – an outlook he attributes to his parents, who "supported me 100 per cent in everything".

He may live and breathe rowing, but he is already looking beyond that. Last year he completed a Bachelor of Business Studies extramurally to add to the Bachelor of Science in chemistry he did at Canterbury University after leaving James Hargest College in Invercargill five years ago. He plans to enrol in a Master of Management degree next year.

When he left school he thought he would be a chemical engineer, like his father. Now he would like to be "a manager in a successful business and work in international money markets".

He is driven to complete what he starts. "Once I decide it's the right thing for me I have to complete it. Many times I wanted to pull out of study and questioned whether in the big scheme of things qualifications were important. When I do finish I feel proud and thankful that I did.

"It has been great studying extramurally. Massey provides a way I can continue to study wherever I am. I am only in Cambridge for five to six months of the year. During the term I could be anywhere in the world."

He completed two papers last year despite his busy schedule. "I had to complete work for one paper in three weeks after I got back from Beijing. It was really intense."

This semester he is taking an international business paper. "I am interested in international financial systems, money markets and the financial environment.

"Lightweight double scullers have a very long shelf life; they peak in rowing between the age of 29 and 32 years. I've got a lot of time left in me. It's a sport that has become a career. Having my sponsors, Hyundai and Deloitte, on board has given me a shift in opinion. I am definitely going to stay in the sport for a number of years. When I first got interested I didn't think rowing was going to develop as a career or that I would get to develop the business side through study and exposure to different people and circumstances."

Since July Uru and the New Zealand rowing squad have spent three months competing overseas, in two world cups, the prestigious Henley Regatta and finishing with the world championships – his main rowing goal this year – in Poland.

Of Ngāi Tahu descent, he says he didn't have much connection with his Māori side growing up. He is proud to be Māori and has been back to his marae and local schools as a guest speaker. As a Sport and Recreation NZ lifestyle ambassador, he chooses to attend events with a Māori focus as a role model. "It has been a cool part of what I have done. Five years ago I never would have thought I'd be doing this. The students' response is overwhelming. Hopefully I can make a difference in other young people's lives." ❖

Huia taking on the world of indigenous publishing



Robyn and Brian Bargh are the Wellington-based publishers who have published more than 150 books by Māori authors in just two decades. By Lana Simmons-Donaldson – Photographs: Mark Coote

Walking in the doors of Huia Publishers in the heart of the public service precinct in Wellington is more like visiting friends at home than a business meeting. Huia headquarters is a two-storey Victorian villa in Pipitea St, Thorndon, with double sash windows, native timber joinery and a large Moreton Bay Fig tree outside – part of the stark contrast between historic homes, churches, pubs and Parliament, and the modern high-rise offices, apartments, courts and shops that make the suburb so fascinating.

Co-founders Robyn and Brian Bargh established the business in 1991. They met as students at Massey 16 years earlier and married the same year. In recent years Huia has branched into publishing Pasifika writers and subjects, and the company's vision is definitely global: They aim to be the world's leading indigenous publisher.

The company is one of a handful of independent commercial publishers in the country and has a strongly indigenous focus. In

the past two decades it has published more than 150 books largely about Māori or by Māori authors, including Hirini Moko Mead, Keri Hulme, James George, Briar Grace-Smith, Professor Mason Durie, Maria Bargh (Robyn and Brian's daughter) and, most recently, Massey researcher and student Malcolm Mulholland.

Mr Mulholland, whose book about the history of Māori rugby, *Beneath the Māori Moon* was published in March, says Huia is a very supportive and family-friendly business, understanding of the personal circumstances of writers. "It's really good to deal with a Māori kaupapa focused organisation that is very focused on delivering a high quality product for Māori."

When they met in 1974, Brian was completing a Master of Agricultural Science and Robyn a Bachelor of Arts. She had trained as a teacher in Hamilton, and he had worked in Australia after graduating with a Bachelor of Agricultural Science in 1971.

After they graduated, Brian worked for the Marlborough Catchment Board while Robyn stayed at home with their two young children. In 1980, they decided to do something “different” and moved to Papua New Guinea for three years. Brian had a job with the PNG government and Robyn worked as a researcher and editor at the University of Papua New Guinea, where she had her first introduction to publishing. “Back then it was really basic; computers had just come in so we were working with electronic typewriters. I’d have little dreams that one day I would like to be a publisher. It was always in the back of my head as something I would like to do.”

On their return to New Zealand, they moved to Wellington. Brian worked for State Coal Mines, then the Ministry of Energy and the Department of Māori Affairs in the Treaty Issues Unit in 1987. “I’m just a Pākehā – our family came from Yorkshire. Before I met Robyn, I didn’t have much contact with Māori people, only learnt what you did at school. Now I’m very comfortable on the marae. The Treaty Issues Unit was a great group; it was at the cutting edge of treaty settlements, we also took part in the review of the Resource Management Act.”

For seven years Robyn was also working in the public service, with roles at the State Services Commission, Justice Department and Women’s Affairs Ministry, until she decided it was time for a new direction. “I was coming up to my 40th birthday,” she recalls. “I thought ‘God, I’m not going to be doing this for the rest of my life’. I couldn’t cope with not having control over what happened. I could only give advice – which could be ignored. It was 1991 and it was a recession, the public sector was being restructured. I didn’t want to be part of it.”

Her plan to be a publisher was still there. “The main reason was because I am a reader. I read a lot and in New Zealand there just weren’t the books about Māori people. I grew up in a Māori community in Horohoro, just south of Rotorua – a rural community, on a farm, where there was a marae, church, school and we all lived on farms. I grew up going to stuff at the marae, with aunts coming over to yack to mum about land issues.

“I was sent to a pākehā school in Rotorua to get good at English things and broaden my horizons. I caught the bus every day, I was living in a bicultural world that my classmates didn’t know anything about. Everyone else lived around the school. Some days I would come home and there was a tangi on so I’d go to the tangi to see if mum there. I never talked about it at school. I just had a sense they wouldn’t know what I was talking about.”

Robyn, who is of Te Arawa descent, discovered that there were a lot of Māori children in similar situations, but they were largely

ignored by New Zealand literature. “Our books didn’t talk about the bicultural interface that we all knew. Māori kids have to cope with a whole lot of things that are not well understood. My dream was to get people to write books about the tragedies, dramas and joys.”

In 2002 Robyn was singled out by Massey as one of only eight recipients of the University’s 75th anniversary medals in recognition of her commitment to making te reo an important part of New Zealand life and using innovative approaches to connect with and engage young Māori.

Today Huia employs 20 staff. As well as the commercial arm, managed by Brian for the past 10 years, the company has a successful Māori language educational publishing arm managed

by another Massey graduate and former lecturer, Brian Morris. Established in 1997, it produces about 50-60 books and resources each year, which keeps the overall business profitable.

“Essentially the educational publishing profits are ploughed back into the losses in commercial publishing,” Brian Bargh says. “Over the 18 years we have been going, we have lost a lot of money on books that have never paid for themselves. You never know when you are going to have a winning author or book that is a blockbuster. We have had winners of the Montana and New Zealand Post children’s book awards and they have always sold well, but we have a lot more flops than books that break even.”

It is not for want of trying, Robyn says. “If you get a book that sells, you can do all sorts of things. Otherwise it’s pretty hard going and you have to plan carefully. But we have set ourselves this kaupapa and we are making progress – we have published a whole lot of books and educational resources that tell a Māori story. It’s not like running a shop; you have to develop writers. It takes a long time for some of the writers to come through to be really great writers.”

Nurturing writers is one of the things Huia has been focusing on since 1995 with the establishment of the Pikihiua Awards for Māori writers held biennially, attracting more than 300 entries in each of the seven years it has been run.

“There is no limitation on the subject matter that has been published to date for children and adult readers from novels, poetry, plays, sport, cooking and collections of academic papers to waiata, children’s books, and dictionaries,” says Robyn.

“What we are trying to do is capture stories and ideas by Māori writers – books that harness and store knowledge to be accessed by people in the future.” ❖



“What we are trying to do is capture stories and ideas by Māori writers – books that harness and store knowledge to be accessed by people in the future.”

– Robyn Bargh



Professor Murray Patterson

Iwi partnership aims to restore coastal ecosystems

A project led by Massey in partnership with Tauranga Moana iwi, Ngāti Raukawa and other organisations has received \$6.6 million from the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology to restore and enhance important coastal ecosystems.

Manaaki Taha Moana: Enhancing Coastal Ecosystems for Iwi project leader Professor Murray Patterson from the New Zealand Centre for Ecological Economics (a joint venture between Manaaki Whenua and Massey University) and the Cawthron Institute in Nelson will work closely with iwi and hapū in the case study regions to develop tools and approaches to facilitate the update of knowledge about the ecosystems and the degradation processes that affect them. Mechanisms will also be put in place to facilitate uptake among other iwi throughout New Zealand.

Dr Huhana Smith (Ngāti Tukorehe, Ngāti Raukawa) whose PhD thesis focussed on coastal ecosystem restoration will lead the iwi and hapū based team of established and emerging researchers along with Shad Rolleston and Carlton Bidois. They anticipate the results of the research will provide

favourable outcomes for coastal ecosystems and their services in the case study areas. The data and knowledge generated by the research will have the following immediate benefits for the participating iwi:



Dr Huhana Smith

- Improving the understanding of the causes of the degradation of coastal ecosystems and identifying what can be done about it.
- Producing action plans for improving coastal ecosystems in their rohe.
- Empowering participating iwi in resource management planning, by arming them with robust data on coastal ecosystems and the cases of their degradation.
- Capacity building in applied coastal ecosystems research.
- Benefits will also flow to other iwi and others through transfer of the research to other parts of New Zealand.

Seventeen agencies have confirmed they will co-fund the research with an additional \$390,000 per year. ☒



Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Māori and Pasifika) Professor Mason Durie, Dr Nathan Matthews and Vice-Chancellor Steve Maharey.

New role to support Māori doctoral candidates

More than 80 Māori doctoral candidates will get the best possible opportunities for study with the appointment of a new Māori doctoral studies coordinator.

Vice-Chancellor Steve Maharey says the appointment of Dr Nathan Matthews, formerly a Māori studies lecturer at Otago University, is a milestone appointment. It will add to Massey's strong reputation built over the years by the late Hugh Kawharu, and maintained by Assistant Vice-Chancellor Māori and Pasifika Professor Mason Durie and Professor Tai Black.

Professor Durie says the position will play a pivotal role in supporting doctoral candidates to complete their doctorates.

"Many of our PhD students study at a distance, and are not always able to participate in academic networks. One of the main elements of Dr Matthews' role will be to create a network that includes the cyber portal for PhD students trialled last year. The support Dr Matthews will provide will be in addition to that received from their tutor and supervisor."

Matthews is a well qualified Māori researcher. He is a former student of Hato Paora College in Feilding and was a lecturer in Māori studies for 10 years. He completed his PhD in 2006 examining Māori Catholic secondary schooling. He has also researched and published in the field of Māori performing arts,

particularly haka and its use as a vehicle for the transmission of social and political messages.

Matthews is of Ngā Puhī descent. He is excited by the opportunity of moving his family to Palmerston North and welcomes the challenge the new role presents.

"It is great to be in a role that will help other Māori students complete their doctoral studies. There is considerable focus on undergraduate students but not so much beyond that. To my knowledge, Massey is the first university to create a fulltime position for this type of role.

"I am pleased to work at a university I perceive to be outgoing, proactive and motivated to make a difference for Māori." ❖

More choices for Highbury graduates

At a dinner for this year's graduates from the Highbury Scholarship programme Vice-Chancellor Steve Maharey said it was important to acknowledge the support of others in achieving their dreams.

"When I look at the four of you, in many ways I see myself," Maharey said.

"I left school at 15 without any qualifications, rode motorbikes and played in a rock band. I met up with some [university] students and found out they had just as good a time, but didn't have to go to work. I was talking to them; they had dreams, dreams I couldn't dream or think about – I didn't have the education. I went back to school to complete UE. Education gives you a lot more choices. You didn't get here on your own – you cannot do it without people."

The Highbury Scholarship programme was initiated by Peter Butler and Apa Watene of the Highbury Whānau Centre six years ago as a joint initiative between the University, the Highbury community, and the Tertiary Education Commission.

Palmerston North Mayor Jono Taylor said he received many invitations from Massey at this time of the year. "I wanted to come and acknowledge the reason we are here today, and acknowledge Peter Butler and Apa Watene and Mason Durie for having receptive ears."

Others in attendance at the dinner included former Highbury graduates Veronica Tāwhai, who gained a Master of Education (First-Class Honours), and Jonathan Howe (Bachelor of Arts



Highbury Scholarship recipients who graduated earlier this year, from left: Amanda Pene, Leeland Ruwhiu, Kristina Sue and Gael Watene (nee Bosman)

majoring in media studies and English) last year; and Yvonne Marshall, a former Massey staff member and well-known Highbury advocate who was awarded a Queen's Service Medal for services to the Palmerston North community this year.

Mrs Marshall recalled the day a feature article came out in the Manawatu Standard about Howe.

"It was so great; we had practically a whole page on your achievements. You are now those role models." ❧

Academy to address dearth of Māori leaders

An inter-university academy to support Māori academic and professional leadership was launched in Wellington in June.

Manu Ao – the Māori Academy for Academic and Professional Advancement is led by Massey University under the chairmanship of Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Māori and Pasifika) Professor Mason Durie and Te Kāhui Amokura, the Māori standing commitment of the New Zealand Vice-Chancellors' Committee.

Dr Selwyn Katene, appointed academy director in April, is based at Massey's Wellington campus. He says there is a dearth of Māori academic leaders. "We have a crisis; where is the next Mason Durie? The academy is part of succession planning to promote and foster Māori leadership."

The launch took place at Victoria University's Te Herenga Waka Marae. Speakers included Professor Durie, Vice-Chancellors' Committee chairman Professor Roger Field, Tertiary Education Commission chief executive Dr Roy Sharp, Oxford University graduate Dr Ngapare Hopa, and Māori Affairs Minister Dr Pita Sharples.

The initiative has \$2.5 million funding from the commission for three years and is supported by all eight universities. A pilot project for the past two years has provided weekly seminars, Professor Durie says.

"It was established in response to the need for a well-qualified Māori academic and professional workforce of high calibre

Māori leaders," he says. "The expanded project has three main aims – advancing Māori scholarship, strengthening links between Māori professionals and Māori academics and accelerating Māori leadership. These aims will be met through a series of academy sponsored activities including seminars, lectures, leaders' groups, fora and symposia."

Dr Katene (Ngāti Toa, Ngāti Tama, Ngāti Tūwharetoa) is a graduate of Victoria and Massey universities with a Doctorate of Philosophy in Māori Studies in 2007 from Massey.

His PhD research focused on the experiences of Ngāti Tama and its relationship with the Crown and other iwi and Māori groups in Wellington from 1997-2004.

He says part of his work will involve developing partnerships between professional organisations and academics. "I have a background in health and have always been interested in Māori leadership. My master's dissertation was on Māori leadership, and this is the academy promoting Māori leadership."

Weekly 'interactive seminars' featuring keynote speakers began in July with Sir Tipene O'Regan on the subject of how Māori reclaim usage of Māori place names.

Planning is also under way to hold a national symposium on Māori leadership in Wellington next year. ❧



Dr Selwyn Katene

Decade of Māori mental health workforce leadership

An ambitious bid made a decade ago to secure funding for health scholarships has led to more than 200 Māori students gaining qualifications in mental health.

A symposium to mark the 10th anniversary of Te Rau Puawai, a scholarship programme administered by Massey and funded by the Ministry of Health, was held at the Manawatu campus on Friday, February 13.



Te Rau Puawai programme manager Monica Koia, Ministry of Health Director-General Population Health Dr Janice Wilson and Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Māori and Pasifika) Professor Mason Durie.

The symposium showcased increased capacity and leadership made within the Māori mental health workforce and how Te Rau Puawai has contributed to the mental health sector. Speakers included Riki Nia Nia, one of the first graduates of the programme, who is the Capital and Coast District Health Board's Director of Māori Health.

Mr Nia Nia was managing a public health service in Whanganui when he enrolled in the Master of Philosophy (Māori Studies) programme extramurally under the supervision of Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Māori and Pasifika) Professor Mason Durie, then Head of the School of Māori Studies.

"The mentoring and financial support I received from Te Rau Puawai was pivotal in enabling me to achieve my Master's degree," Mr Nia Nia says. "The programme itself has contributed to the increase of professional capacity and capability in the mental health workforce and has enabled many Māori health workers to achieve academic success.

"It would be great to have similar programmes running in other areas, particularly where there are workforce shortages. It was a privilege to participate in the programme, I strongly recommend it to other potential recipients and I am committed to supporting current and future students."

Te Rau Puawai, which translates as the First 100, is offered internally and extramurally. As well as being one of the largest scholarship programmes at Massey, it also has the highest success rates. Since 1999, students have had a pass rate of 85 per cent and in the past two years that increased to between 90 and 95 per cent.

Professor Durie recalls when he and Professor Taiaraha Black were due to meet with the former Health Funding Authority to discuss their proposal to fund 100 scholarships and did not think they would get what they asked for.

"Initially our proposal was for a scholarship programme for Māori health. The best we thought we might get was five to 10 scholarships. The authority offered to fund the entire programme as a workforce development programme specifically for mental health. The agreement was that the authority would provide funds for scholarships and administration and Massey would guarantee 100 graduates over a five-year period."

The target for the first contract was met. When the authority was disestablished the Ministry of Health's Mental Health Directorate took over funding the programme with consequent targets consistently met and exceeded.

Durie says the programme has pioneered a new approach to learning support built around active outreach to extramural students. "Te Rau Puawai has a whānau philosophy, uses expert tutoring, twice-yearly hui, course advice, regular telephone counselling and has created a wide network of graduates in the mental health sector."

Monica Koia has been managing the programme for Massey for the past seven years and is based at the Manawatu Campus in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. She attributes the success of the programme to having support for learning from the students' workplaces, whānau and the university's academic staff as well as not having the stress of finding money to pay for fees. ☒



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Published by Massey University
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The Space Between is a collection by Massey Scholar Samara Vercoe (Ngāti Mutunga) that will be shown at the Miromoda showcase of the 2009 Air New Zealand Fashion Week to be held in Auckland in September.

Vercoe's collection was a finalist in the emerging designer category of the inaugural Miromoda Māori Fashion Design Awards held at Massey's Wellington campus last month and earned her a place at fashion week.

The collection expresses the concept of grief through fashionable mourning etiquette. Using clothing as a means of protection and disguise, to hide emotions behind in times of vulnerability. Each outfit is joined together to create one whole garment. Vercoe graduated with a Bachelor of Design (First-Class Honours) from Massey in May.

Photograph: Lisa Wilson; models: Upper Hutt College students Tamara Donnelly, Courtney Kauika-Stevens and Carma Bell.