Massey University
1927-2002

75th Anniversary
In 2002, Massey University celebrates its 75th birthday, marking three quarters of a century of achievement, excellence and innovation. This publication marks that event by telling the University’s story, from its beginnings as an agricultural college to its present standing as an internationally-respected multi-campus university, with more than 36,000 students, including 1,700 international students and a wealth of international links and partnerships.

At its heart, however, the University has not changed greatly. The Massey tradition has always been one of innovation, problem solving and contribution to economic, cultural and social development. These are also defining attributes of our alumni.

I hope that you will join the University in its celebrations by taking part in the many events that are planned. I also hope you will enjoy reading our ‘story’ and that you will find your own connections within it.

On behalf of the University, I welcome you to our 75th celebrations.

Professor James McWha
Vice-Chancellor

This brief pictorial history of Massey University commemorates its 75th year. It is necessarily very selective, illustrating just some aspects of activities since 1927, and focusing on the original Turitea site of the Palmerston North campus.

The Massey Agricultural College was founded by statute in 1926 and was officially opened in 1928, developing from agricultural education activities at Auckland and Victoria Universities. It was named after William Ferguson Massey, Prime Minister in the early 20th century. The two founding Professors, Peren and Riddet, established a range of degree, diploma and certificate courses in agriculture. Expansion of courses, numbers of students and physical resources continued throughout the next 25 years.

In 1960 a branch of Victoria University was established in Palmerston North, to teach extramural courses in the Arts. This branch amalgamated with Massey College to form the Massey University of Manawatu in 1963. The name was shortened to Massey University in 1966. The University assumed national responsibility for extramural teaching, and introduced a wide range of new subjects over the next two decades, teaching and research being organised into eight faculties (now in five colleges).

Mergers and new initiatives in the 1990s mean Massey is now a multi-campus university, with a presence at Albany, on Auckland’s North Shore, and in Wellington, as well as two sites at the Palmerston North campus.
The topics covered in this booklet are:

- Founders, Chancellors and Vice-Chancellors
- Buildings
- Aerial views and gardens
- Student life, protest and pranks
- Sports
- University extension, extramural and international students
- Hostels
- Graduation
- Research and teaching
- Campus arts
- Town and gown
- Other campuses:
  - Albany, the Hokowhitu site,
  - Wellington

This publication has been prepared by Lucy Marsden, University Archivist, with the assistance of Dr Margaret Tennant, School of History, Philosophy and Politics, Dr William Broughton and Professor Richard Corballis, both of the School of English and Media Studies.

The photographs used are mainly from the Massey University Archives, with some recent additional donations which are gratefully acknowledged. Designed by Murray Lock Graphics, Palmerston North.

Donations of any further historic photographs would be welcomed.

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"Bank of New Zealand congratulates Massey University on achieving 75 years of excellence in New Zealand education.

Bank of New Zealand, one of the country's oldest banks, is proud to have had a long-standing involvement with Massey University, supporting blues and cultural awards and the recreation centre at Turitea campus. We are also happy to sponsor the 75th birthday celebrations, considering all such support a valuable investment in the future, and we wish all those connected with Massey University the very best for the next 75 years."
1 Sir George Fowlds, first Council Chairman and long-time advocate of an agricultural college for New Zealand.

2 Professor William Riddet, first Professor of Dairying at Massey Agricultural College and Director of the Dairy Research Institute.

3 Sir Geoffrey Peren, first Principal of Massey Agricultural College.

Chancellors:

4 Dr J.C. Andrews, 1963-1966
6 The Hon. L.W. Gander, 1970-1975
7 Sir Arthur Ward, 1976-1980
8 Dr L.R. Wallace, 1981-1984
9 J.D. Easton, 1985-1990
11 M.O. Croxson, 1999-

Vice-Chancellors:

12 Sir Alan Stewart (1959-1983) and Lady Stewart.
14 Professor James McWha (1996-) and Mrs McWha.
5. The Dairy Factory, another Lippincott building, constructed 1928.

6&7. Expansion in the 1970s necessitated an extensive building programme, including the Social Sciences complex and the Veterinary Science Tower.


9&10. Two award-winning buildings: the Student Centre (1966) and the adidas Institute of Rugby (1999).

1. The 1938 campus, showing around the Oval (clockwise from the centre) the Main Building, the Old Hostel, the Refectory, the Principal's House, and the Old Registry. The Russell homestead (Wharerata) is left background, and the Dairy Factory right background.

2. By December 1973 most of the buildings are in place, including the Library, the Social Sciences and Veterinary blocks, the Student Centre, the first three Science Towers and the Riddet building, though the Registry is yet to be built. The Physics buildings (now the Commercial Centre) are bottom left.

3. A pleasant feature of the Campus, the plantings not only beautify the environment, but also supply study material for horticulture and botany students. This group of a cedar and conifers beside the Oval was planted more than 40 years ago.

4. Dave Bull has been Head Groundsman for more than 30 years, and has planned and supervised innumerable plantings at both Turitea and Albany campuses.

5. Native bush in the gully has regenerated impressively since exotic invaders were cleared out in the 1970s. The Social Science buildings are in the background.

6. The duck pond near the Veterinary Science complex has over the years been the site of many student pranks.

7. A touch of colour below the Main Building.
5. Another subject of student pranks was Prime Minister Michael Joseph Savage, who visited the campus in 1937. He was brought up the drive in a horse-drawn cart, then transferred to a wheelbarrow. He and the College authorities were remarkably tolerant of the escapade.

6. Capping revues tended towards the smutty, as can be seen in this revue programme from the 1960s.
In October 1996 students occupied the Registry as a protest against fee increases of some 16% for the 1997 year. Negotiations resolving the situation included the setting up of a hardship fund for students, financed by library fines.

The Concourse, surrounded by the Registry, Student Centre, Library and Science Towers, is the focal point for student activity on the Turitea campus, including concerts at lunchtime on Wednesdays.

Even more controversial was the capping magazine, Masskerade, sold during capping week to raise money for charity. The 1989 edition (with illustrations by Tom Scott) was declared indecent in the hands of persons under 17 by the Indecent Publications Tribunal – six months after thousands of copies had been sold. Masskerade continued to be published until the 1980s, with no noticeable change in the level of humour.

By 2000 'Procesth' and Masskerade had lapsed, but a new tradition of champagne breakfasts had grown up. This student, known simply as 'The Kruse', was photographed in the Square.

Student life does have its serious side. These four students were taking part in the television quiz University Challenge in 1982.

Protest has always been a feature of student life worldwide. In 1971 these students protesting against the Vietnam War had symbolically smeared themselves with blood from the Longburn freezing works.

Student Newspaper Chaff has at times debated serious issues, as this 1954 issue demonstrates. The formally dressed students on the 2001 cover epitomise the mood of the 21st century university.
1. Massey's first rugby match, against Palmerston North High School Old Boys, was played in March 1929, kicked off by Professor Peren's young son Roger. Massey lost.

2. This men's hockey team played in the 1930s. Note the coaches' plus-fours.

3. Students, under direction, built a swimming pool in the bush area below the Main Building, opened in 1935. It was finally closed in the summer of 1968/9, and has now been replaced by a carpark.

4. Organised sports days took place in the 1930s; this shivering group were lining up ready for the steeplechase in 1933.

5. The 1947 women's hockey team in their gym-slips.

6. Tramping was a popular sport in the 1930s.

7. Rugby is no longer a game reserved for men. Here is the women's rugby team, the Iron Maidens, 1990s.

8. Netball is a popular sport for women.

9. Cricketer Sir Richard Hadlee came to speak at a Blues Dinner in 1992, and also offered effective coaching courses.

10. Japanese martial arts add some colour and drama to the sports field.
University extension work was a feature of the 1960s and 1970s.

2. Early extramural students enjoy a break from on-campus classes at the Hokowhitu site, 1961.

3. One of the first 'extramural handbooks', 1962.


5, 6. Study guides and the Distance Library Service – central to extramural teaching.

7. The EXMSS bus delivers students to a contact course in Palmerston North.


9, 10, 11. International students add diversity to student life, and support services for them have expanded over the years. The University now markets itself internationally.
1. Students lounging outside Old Hostel on a Sunday morning in 1933.
2. Moginie House (Craiglockhart) — used as the first female hostel from 1944.
3. The utilitarian 'Reha' hostels were moved from Linton Army Camp in 1946.
4. McHardy Hall (the Pink Hostel), c. 1945, built as an Army staff college.
5. Fergusson Hall, formerly 'Atawhai' (built 1908).
6. Bindsloe was moved to its new site on Monro Hill, 1981.
7. A single room at the Court Hostels, opened from 1970.
1. The academic procession to the Opera House for the installation of the first Chancellor, September 1964.
3. Mary Skipworth has managed the Federation of Graduate Women’s Academic Dress Hire since 1974.
4. Two new graduates celebrate with autumn leaves at Tūneke. (1999)
5. On the stage during the 1999 graduation in the Regent, Palmerston North. Degree certificates stand ready in the foreground.
7. The academic procession leaves the Regent, led by the Marshall and Assistant Marshall carrying the mace. (1999)
9. Huwha Smith, the first Māori Visual Arts graduate, shows off the new hood specially designed by the students. (1990)
10. The saxophone ensemble Saxcess, led by Massey lecturer Debbie Rawson, leads the 2001 Wellington graduation procession. Former Prime Minister “King” Dick Seddon looks on.

Graduation
1. Students gain practical experience in surveying, under the watchful eye of O.J. Dolan. (1928)

2. Students on the Herd Testing Certificate course work in the laboratory. (July 1929)

3. W.J. McCulloch, the Farm Manager, was known as 'The Boss'. This photo, in which he supervises students haymaking, is dated 1927, suggesting that students were on site gaining practical experience before the College's formal opening in March 1928.

4. The Dairy Research Institute was established 1927, with close connections to Massey, and Professor William Riddet was its Director. This photo shows butter making.

5. The Certificate in Wool Classing was offered from 1929. This shot of the Wool Room dates from the late 1940s or early 1950s.

6. Dr F.W. Dry joined Massey in 1929. He bred a sheep that produced wool particularly suited to carpet manufacture – the Drysdale.

7. Degree courses in horticulture were offered for the first time in 1948, and the Nursery Research Centre was established in the mid 1970s. Here are three of those involved in the Centre.
DESIGN, FINE ARTS AND MUSIC

1. Fashion students model their colourful designs.

BUSINESS STUDIES

1. The Faculty of Business came into being in 1977. A lecturer gives practical advice on marketing.
2. The Tu Tangata scheme, set up in the late 1970s, provided support for Māori students in Business Studies.
3. Nigel Craig and Paul Simpson were bursary recipients in Occupational Safety and Health.
4. Massey's staff travel to some interesting places to teach. Here a team teach banking in Papua New Guinea. (August 1997)

EDUCATION

1. A recent education study looked at how family affects student school performance. (1999)
2. Dr Kon Ryba organised a hui to discuss methods and strategies for bi-cultural professional training. (1999)
3. An example of published research on teaching. (Dr Sarah Farquhar, 1997)
HUMANITIES
1. Dr John Owens wrote a history of Massey's extramural teaching programme. (1985)
2. Dr John Ross uses an old printing press in his research.
3. Dr Norman Austin escorted a group to Greece to study classical history. (1994)

SCIENCE
1. A science research lab in the Main Building. (1940s)
2. Professor Batt's 1970s research on alcohol metabolism used willing students as subjects! Ken Couchman checks a student's blood alcohol with an alcoholometer.
3. Dr Ted Baker with a model of the crystal structure of ecinidin, a protein in kiwifruit. (1970s)
4. Dr Lou Gurr did research into bumblebees. (1970s)
5. The survival of our national bird, the kiwi, has been a research topic for Dr Murray Potter. (1993)
6, 7, 8. Dame Ella Campbell is a world authority on liverworts and orchids, as Professor Paul Callaghan is on NMR microscopy, and Professor Robert Brooks was on biogeochemistry.
SOCIAL SCIENCES
2. During the opening of refurbished psychology labs Dr John Podd puts the Vice-Chancellor in the hot seat. (1998)
3. Veterans Barney Kirk and Darcy Nepia were interviewed by Dr Monty Soutar of Māori Studies for his research project on the Māori Battalion’s C Company.
4. Dr Patrick Hesp received a prestigious award in 2001 from the American Association of Geographers for his research on coastal dunes.

TECHNOLOGY
1. Meat inspection. (1980s)
2. Food Technology Research. (1980s)
4. Some technology student projects.

VETERINARY SCIENCE
1. Measuring calf growth. (1970s)
2. Wally Webster was the Veterinary Science lecturer from 1936 to 1959, and had a flamboyant style when dealing with animals.
3. Dr Alex Davies and video technician Nic Bloomfield display how X-ray tomographic images of a sheep can be created. This project resulted in an atlas of sheep anatomy. (1987)
4. Researchers before the dissection of a Shepherd’s beaked whale. (1994)
5. Professor Grant Guilford researches puppy nutrition. (1991)
6. In 1995 the Avian Unit hatched 73 emu chicks.
7. Wellington Zoo’s tiger Rokan had 11 operations at the Veterinary Clinic for a narrowed oesophagus. (1999)
From its beginnings, Massey Agricultural College had small but active groups engaged in drama and literary activity, but it was with the development of the institution as a full University from the 1960s that the arts began to burgeon.

Theatre, literature, the visual arts, music and entertainment have all profited from the talents of Massey University's students and staff members alike.

The University has three collections of artworks, its main collection of contemporary works, that gifted by the Riddet Memorial Trust, and that of the College of Education Arts Trust.

1. Staff member Robert Jahnke in front of his panel, the Ranginui door, at the entrance to the marae in the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa.
2. E.B. Lattey's "Mt Cook" from the Riddet Collection, acquired 1971.
3. Jeff Thompson, working on a sculpture with traditional "Massey" associations at the Hokowhitu campus.
5. The novelist Janet Frame, with Chancellor Hugh Williams, on the occasion of her being presented with the Massey Medal. (1993)
6. Massey University and Creative New Zealand jointly funded a Writer in Residence scheme from 1993 to 1999. Seven important writers, both Pakeha and Mori, held the Residency. Here the first appointee, poet Anne French, talks with Lauris Edmond, herself a former extramural student and tutor, and Honorary Doctor of the University, at a poetry reading. (1993)
7. Professor Roly Frean was the Foundation Professor of English from 1964 to 1983. Lauris Edmond's poetic tribute to him was published in Driving to the Airport, 1984.

Roly's Poem

It worked hard
making intricate angular gestures
with figures and references
as it walked towards the page.
"Too much intelligence" you thought
"too little simplicity" wanting kids to be any
make friends with itself.

Suddenly I knew he is dead
somewhere in Switzerland. I see
his square walk
his poetry, elegant, unfinished grief
and I want much more than this for him
not silence
for his elaborations
for his repetitions

but it was his poem, after all
he must forever have moved too far back
for one touching.
I wish I had said I liked him.
8. The cover of Musings 1986, an occasional publication presenting literary work by students and staff.

9. Professor Keith Thomson contributed widely and generously to the arts as a patron and an administrator. One of his great loves was drama. Here he is seen in the University Drama Society's 1989 production of Arthur Pinero's Trafalgar of the Wells.


11. Jon Bridges, then a student at the University, as Gobbo in the Drama Society's 1990 production of The Merchant of Venice.

12. The annual Lunchtime Concert Series brings major musicians to perform before a local audience. Here composer David Farquhar is honoured by the Massey String Quartet at the first performance of his String Quartet No 4 (2001).

13. The internationally renowned pianist Michael Houstoun, Honorary Doctor of the University, and a frequent performer in the Concert Series, is photographed here with tenor Keith Lewis, at the Regent on Broadway, Palmerston North (1999).
1. Massey staff have made an important contribution to the local political scene. City councillors Merv Hancock, Pat Kelly and Vern Chettleburgh, and local MP and former lecturer, Steve Maharey.
2. The 1981 Massey University open day.
3. Public lecture series link the University and the city.
4. Students bring colour and economic benefits to the city.
5. The Crest Award programme promotes science and technology in schools.
6. A collaboration with the Tindall Foundation, the e-centre business incubator is based at the Albany campus. (2001)
8. The opening of the Science Centre, 1992. Professors Sylvia Rumball and Vince Neall played a major part in its development.
I. The Palmerston North University College building at the Hokowhitu campus on opening day 15 March 1960. This building is now the Mateaumua building of the College of Education.

2. Staff of the Palmerston North University College inspect new books received for the College Library, initially housed in Caccia Birch House, Te Awe Awe Street. (1960)

3. The Te Haonui Marae on the Hokowhitu campus, opened 1980.


5. University Council visited the proposed Albany Campus site, 23 November 1991. Here Morva Croxson and Professor Mason Durie, complete with Massey-style white gumboots, check the fence line.

6. The Quadrangle Building at the Albany Campus houses academic and administrative offices.

7. The 2001 aerial view of the Albany Campus shows the Study Centre in the foreground, with the Quadrangle and Atrium Buildings behind it. Residential and industrial areas of Albany are in the background.

8. The merger with the Wellington Polytechnic, 1 July 1999, gave Massey a presence in the capital. The two Student Associations marked the occasion by holding a mock wedding.

9. The former Dominion Museum building now provides teaching and office space for Massey Wellington.