MASSEY

The magazine for alumni of Massey University • Issue 22 • April 2007

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Julie-Ann Bell redefines an iconic restaurant

Fine tuned

Jazz musician Kevin Clark

Casting off

Goodbye to the bollard?

After school

The brilliant career of Massey's youngest-ever

Vaka Moana

The book and exhibition reviewed

+ fine wine and high finance • remembering the bomb
our changing ethnic mix • fixing the big city blues

Massey University
www.massey.ac.nz

In this issue of *MASSEY* we bring you interviews with alumni Chris Butcher and Kevin Clark. Chris is a twenty-something games developer who began studying extramurally with Massey at the age of nine. Kevin is a now sixty-something jazz musician who at 57 gave up a successful architectural practice to become a student on the Wellington campus. Chris lives in Seattle; Kevin in a Wellington seaside suburb. You might think of them as very different, but I see them as kindred spirits, for they share a consuming passion for what they are doing.

Something else they share? Their responses when asked what difference their ages made to their experiences as students.

As a teenager attending extramural block courses surrounded by students in their twenties and thirties, Chris would certainly have stood out, but other than denoting a certain lack of life experience his youth was little impediment.

Kevin too shrugs off the question of what it was like to be studying with students a good thirty years younger. There is nothing more democratising than talent and – that word again – passion.

In fact, in the main the challenges faced by students, be they young or old, are the same. Motivation and self discipline matter. Age is neither here nor there.

That age is irrelevant to learning is a message particularly pertinent to the baby boom generation. Here they are – the generation that famously warned against trusting anyone over 30 – now entering their fifties and sixties.

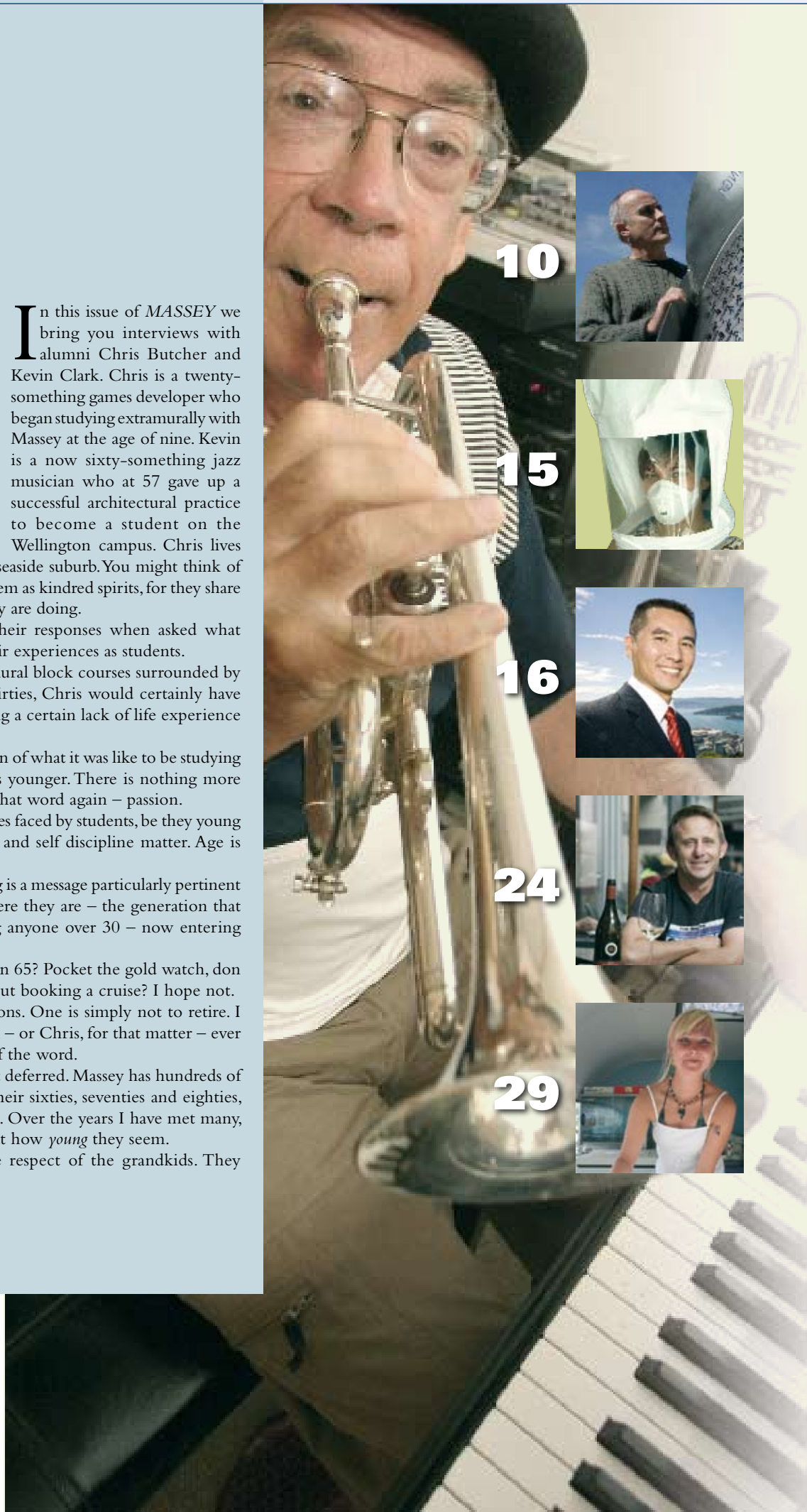
What do you do when you turn 65? Pocket the gold watch, don the carpet slippers, and think about booking a cruise? I hope not.

There are so many better options. One is simply not to retire. I can't, for example, imagine Kevin – or Chris, for that matter – ever retiring in the traditional sense of the word.

Another is to follow an interest deferred. Massey has hundreds of alumni who have graduated in their sixties, seventies and eighties, some of them with serial degrees. Over the years I have met many, often wondering along the way at how *young* they seem.

I am sure they command the respect of the grandkids. They certainly do mine.

Professor Judith Kinnear
Vice-Chancellor



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MASSEY

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Fixing the Big City Blues

Public policy specialist Jeff Chapman has a prescription for making Auckland work.

THOUGHTS

If, like me, you are an Auckland resident, it is very likely that we share some somewhat mixed feelings about the city. On the one hand, ours is a city with so much going for it: a magnificent harbour; beaches and bush at our doorstep; a temperate climate; a multicultural buzz that no other New Zealand city can equal. On the other, Auckland's seeming inability to get its act together sometimes makes me despair: the grid lock on the motorways, the infrastructure breakdowns, the imbroglio around the World Cup venue... need I go on?

How is it that Auckland has ended up like this? Why does it seem that problem follows problem?

I believe that Auckland's disarray is systemic and can be laid at the foot of the 1989 reforms of local government carried out under the direction of the Minister of Local Government in the Lange Government, the Hon Michael Bassett.

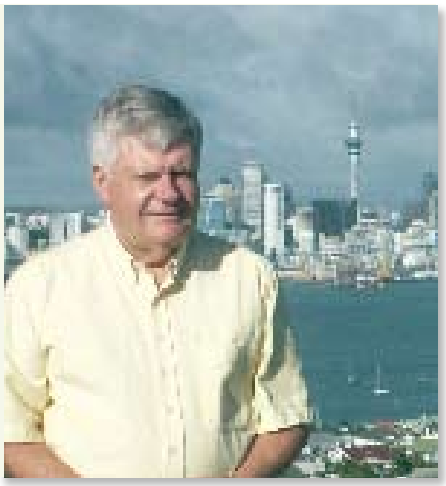
I also believe that answers lie not in rescinding his reforms, but in building on them.

When Bassett took office, the local government structure in New Zealand was a cluttered mess. There were hundreds of so-called territorial local authorities (city or borough councils in urban areas, and county councils in rural areas) and also hundreds of special purpose local authorities - such as hospital boards, power boards, harbour boards, catchment boards, pest destruction boards, river boards, drainage boards, cemetery boards and domain boards. Overlaps and inefficiencies were rife.

In place of all of this the 1989 reforms, and associated reforms in the energy and transport sectors, gave us the following:

- Twelve regional councils which absorbed the functions of catchment boards (indeed their geographical boundaries were based on the old catchment board districts) as well as the regulatory functions of harbour boards (actual operation of ports became the responsibility of port companies), regional land transport planning, regional emergency management and biosecurity (incorporating the functions of pest destruction boards).

- Seventy-four district and city councils that assumed the functions performed by the old borough, city and county councils together with the functions of all special purpose authorities except hospital boards (later to be area health boards), harbour boards and power boards (which in the energy reforms became retail power supply companies or line companies). Four of these district councils (Gisborne, Nelson, Marlborough and Tasman) also assumed the regional council responsibilities for their areas due to local geographical and political circumstances.



Jeff Chapman

- Community Boards, 144 of which were created as a tier of local government to recognise existing distinct, identifiable communities that had been governed by the small local authorities now absorbed into much larger authorities. Essentially these boards provide a mechanism for their councils to consult with these communities and seek advice on projects affecting the community. The boards also assumed an advocacy role for their communities.[1]

The structure seems to have suited most of New Zealand well enough. So what happened in Auckland?

The problem, as I see it, is that the reforms failed to take account of the historical governance of the Auckland region.

From the days of Auckland Mayor Dove-Meyer Robinson, Auckland had had its own unique regional government in the form of the Auckland Regional Authority (ARA) which built and managed all major infrastructure projects in the Auckland region. The ARA was heavily involved in delivery of services to the region, with little formal separation of policy, regulatory services, funding and service delivery.

However, this concept did not sit well with the structure imposed by the Bassett reforms or with the public management theories of the day, which held that policy, funding and purchasing should be organisationally separated from operational service delivery. So the operational functions of the ARA were given to a new body, the Auckland Regional Services Trust, the ARA was renamed the Auckland Regional Council (ARC) and its activities were restricted to those carried out by the other regional councils. Eventually, the assets and services taken over by the Trust were either privatised or transferred to companies owned by the councils in the region.

Thus Auckland's local government came to consist of a regional council with limited powers over regional infrastructure and seven councils, three of them district councils and four of them city councils. New Zealand's largest city had been Balkanised.

To make matters worse, while the three district councils served distinct, natural communities of interest, the four city councils did not necessarily do so: they were created as so-called economic units.

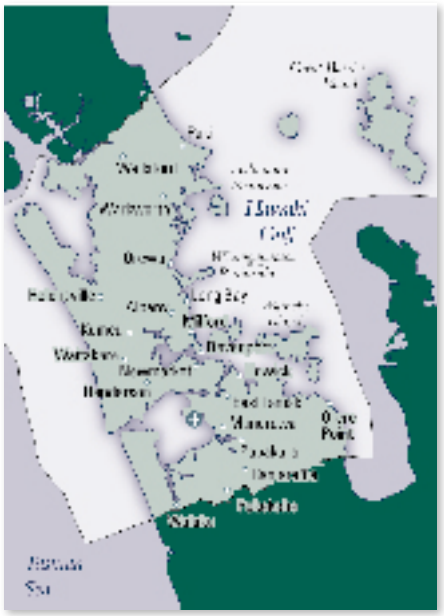
For example, although they fall under the same unit of local government, the residents of Devonport and Takapuna have little community of interest with Northcote and Birkenhead, and even less with Albany.

While the ward system of electing councillors has helped, there is still no sense of the individual city council belonging to its ratepayers and citizens.

The creation of community boards has been the only move that has kept citizens connected to their local government.[2]

Nor has the current arrangement been good for the delivery of services.

The decision to reduce the old ARA to a regional council with limited powers meant that any rationalisation of infrastructure in the region could only take place with the agreement of the other councils in the region. Unfortunately these had a vested interest in maintaining the *status quo*. Thus we have seven different water and sewerage systems and seven different roading systems (although in the latter case the ARC has assumed responsibility for some arterial 'regional roads'). All these infrastructure systems are local monopolies but, unlike other local monopolies, they are not subject to external regulatory regimes. This means that the consumers of these services are unprotected against predatory pricing by



maps by terralink

the councils that use their unrestricted monopoly powers. If such a regime applied to power line companies there would be outrage.

Over time, various attempts have been made to provide Auckland with the mechanisms to create long term strategies and articulate a representative voice. Take the Mayoral Forum, the Auckland Regional Transport Authority, and the Auckland Land Transport Strategy. Worthy initiatives all, they fall down because the model for the governance of Auckland is flawed.

The Local Government Act of 2002, which this Government sees as its landmark approach to local government, hasn't addressed Auckland's particular problems either.

So where to from here? The following is a set of moves that would effectively reform the governance of Auckland.

- Convert the Auckland Regional Council into a strategic authority with powers of direction over the other territorial local authorities on all matters other than those of a purely 'local' character – with either 'local' or 'strategic' being defined in statute. A corollary is that the regional body's presiding officer would be the effective voice for the Auckland region.[3]

- Convert the current infrastructural systems into economic units, with pricing structures subject to regulation by the Commerce Commission in the same way that it regulates line companies in the energy industry.[4]

- Abolish the four city councils and replace them with local authorities serving districts with genuine common interest. These may well conform to the current boundaries for parliamentary general electoral districts. If such a model was adopted, the need for community boards as an extra tier of local government might well disappear.[5]

- Allocate the roading taxation collected in the Auckland region to the ARC with the stipulation that it only be spent on land transport solutions.[6]

- Remove Transit NZ's responsibility for state highways in the Auckland region.[7]

Of course, I am not the only one to think that something needs to be done about Auckland's governance. The Government has signaled that it will consider legislation to reform Auckland governance structures before the local authority elections in October 2007.

Well and good, you might think, but I have two reservations. The first is the likelihood that the legislation will be based on submissions received within Auckland's current local government system – submissions that seem likely to favour the interests of those making them.

The second is the 2007 deadline. Locating the deadline in a local authority election year will almost certainly involve the sort of hurry and political horse-trading unlikely to serve Auckland's best long-term interest.

My suggestion is that the local authority elections in Auckland be deferred for two years, allowing the current systems to carry on until suitable legislation can be passed in 2008.

This time round, Auckland has to get it right.

[1] The members of these boards are elected at the triennial Council elections, with 48 of the 74 city and district councils currently having one or more community boards.

[2] The electorate boundaries under MMP (though these obviously weren't around at the time of the reforms) represent more suitable communities on which to base new local authorities.

[3] While not essential to satisfactory reform, a strong case can be made for this officer to be elected at large by the region's electorate as is the case in Greater London.

[4] The question of ownership of these entities (public or private) is irrelevant to this issue. Either way they are local natural monopolies where the consumer needs protection from predatory pricing policies. Public ownership of itself, without regulation, offers no such protection.

[5] There are currently seven councils and 30 community boards in comparison with 19 parliamentary electorates (20 after the 2006 Census).

[6] Clearly central Government will still need to specify the roading standards to be adopted for state highways and motorways, and employ some agency, possibly Land Transport NZ, to monitor compliance with those standards.

[7] These last two points would make a major contribution to shifting decisions about Auckland from Wellington to Auckland. Such a shift however can only occur where the regional body in Auckland has appropriate powers to formulate and implement strategic infrastructure decisions.

MASSEY welcomes letters from readers. E-mail the editor at m.wood@massey.ac.nz.

Hanging out at the digital mall

If you want to find other Massey alumni, and interact with them online, there are a number of ways of going about it. For instance, if you would like to get in touch with a friend you have lost touch with, the most reliable option is to contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations. The office holds the details of more than 88,000 individual Massey alumni, and while their details remain confidential, it is happy to act as a go-between, initiating contact for you. (Visit alumni.massey.ac.nz or e-mail alumni@massey.ac.nz.)

But there is another more immediate way of finding and interacting with your fellow alumni: sign up online with one of the growing number of social-networking websites. But which?

There are a number of obvious candidates. There is MySpace, once known as the website of choice for teens but now apparently attracting a more balanced demographic (more than half of the site's visitors in mid 2006 were over 35). There is Facebook, which began as a site restricted to college students, but has since embraced the world. There is Bebo. And there is New Zealand's own OldFriends, a sibling site to the massively successful TradeMe.

How do they compare feature for feature? Let me dodge this intimidating challenge by saying that in some ways it hardly matters. What does matter on a social networking site is who else hangs out there.

So *MASSEY* went visiting, looking for its own. Here's what we found on the day we visited. MySpace had six Massey alumni listed; Bebo had 37; Facebook had 330 (35 from Albany, 36 Wellington graduates, 259 from Palmerston North); and OldFriends (www.oldfriends.co.nz) had a commanding 8,093 alumni from the Palmerston North campus alone.

The editor

What you thought of us

Thank you to the 843 people who responded to our on-line survey with your thoughts on this magazine and on the University in general. Almost 80 per cent of respondents were alumni, and 13 per cent extramural students. About 60 per cent were female.

Overwhelmingly, you responded positively to *MASSEY*, with 86 per cent rating it as good or excellent. "Is informative and interesting", "inspiring", "well presented" and "helps people keep in touch with developments at the University" were just some of the many comments we received.

Almost all agreed that the writing is of a high standard and that it's easy to read. Features, interviews, the Directions section, and information about alumni are all popular. You'd like to see more about graduates and what they are doing now, application of research developments and how qualifications can benefit you in your lives. We're taking on board that you'd like to see more information about the University and where it is headed, and we're thinking about how we can incorporate some lighter material – though there is also a group wanting more in-depth articles with lots of information! And don't forget you can access *MASSEY* on line at masseynews.massey.ac.nz.

We were also interested to hear what you, as alumni or current extramural students, felt about your University. Ninety per cent of respondents have very positive or positive feelings about Massey, with 91 per cent saying you would recommend it – because it "has a great teaching and academic environment", "you can trust the education you receive", "it has good support for students" and because "Massey has a long history of distance teaching and experience in what is required". You felt that Massey's greatest strengths were our flexibility, the positive attitude of staff towards students, and our contribution to New Zealand agriculture. You said we're most well known for our agriculture and horticulture and veterinary science programmes, but also for social sciences and psychology, food and nutrition, business, aviation, and teaching. But you weren't aware of our proven strengths in design, communications and journalism and Kaupapa Māori – obviously something we need to tell you more about. And more than 50 percent thought we were innovative.

Notes from the editor

In Issue 20 we ran a letter from Adrian Pole who observed that our type size made for difficult reading. Hence in this issue we have bumped up the size of the type to 9.5 points on a line height of 11.2 points. This puts us in amongst the pack of mainstream publications. The typeface, incidentally, is Bembo.

Evelyn Hulse has sent in an account of her ongoing battle with cancer, one she is undertaking with admirable fortitude and humour. Unfortunately, we cannot run her account here, but it will be available on the magazine website: news.massey.ac.nz.

Evelyn studied extramurally and graduated with a BA in 2002 at the age of 84.

In 2005 she sent in update on what was happening in her life. People had asked her what she was doing with her degree in English. Her response:

"One mother asked if I would help her son, who was 26th in his class in English. Armed with a Rowe and Well grammar from 1933, the Strunk and White [*The Elements of Style*] written to help new university entrants with their worst English errors, and a glossary of literary terms, we began. In the first term my student was fifth. The next year I helped with his English and History essays. With this help he achieved a third in Scholarship, one point between the tied top two. So what if I was 86 when I finished helping? What has age got to do with it?"

What indeed.

I know that the University and its alumni community will join with me in wishing Evelyn well. Our thoughts are with her.

The editor

Prime Minister Helen Clark unveils a plaque to mark the official opening of the new $10.5 million Student Centre on the Palmerston North campus.

In October the College of Business Māori Research Unit Te Au Rangahau published *He Wairere Pākihi*, a book profiling 17 businesses owned and operated by Māori . Pictured are editor Malcolm Mulholland and Massey's Dr Farah Palmer. Purchase enquiries should be directed to Tania Jahnke. *T.Jahnke@massey.ac.nz*

Children returned to Kura Kaupapa Māori schools in 2007 have another book to enjoy – the final in a trilogy of space-adventure, code-busting chapter-books written in Te Reo Māori by Darryn Joseph, a lecturer in Te-Pūtahi-a-Toi (School of Māori Studies) at the University's Palmerston North campus.

Dylan Van Winkel with one of 60 relatively-rare Duvaucel's geckos that have been transferred to Motuora and Tiritiri Matangi islands in the Hauraki Gulf. Tiny transmitters are being used to monitoring the geckos' movements.

Flight instructor Kelly Nathan, Captain Ashok Poduval and Education Minister Steve Maharey test the new flight simulator. The Frasca Truflite simulator, at the School's Milson Flight Systems Centre at Palmerston North Airport, is probably the most high-tech available with any New Zealand aviation training provider. Modelled on the interiors of the Piper Seneca V and the Piper Warrior it offers controls with actual 'feel', accurate and realistic high quality Instrumentation, a high fidelity sound system, and, most importantly, a visual display system that provides 170 degrees of horizontal view, enabling pilots to look out of the side window. It has the capability to simulate various weather conditions, as well as day and night conditions.

No lame invention

If you are a dairy farmer, having an animal go lame can have serious consequences. Unable to graze properly, the cow will produce less milk. It may fail to calf. It may incur veterinary bills, or even have to be culled. So it is important to identify any problem early.

Engineering student Matt Stephenson's automatic lameness detector does just that. Designed as a final-year project, the walk-on plate measures the force and evenness of dairy cows' individual steps as they file from the milking shed. Stephenson estimates the annual cost of lameness to the dairy industry of between $45 million and $182 million.

Venice Biennale showing planned for digital media artist

Electronic media artist Rachael Rakena and sculptor Dr Brett Graham have been selected to exhibit a collaborative installation in the world's most prestigious international art exposition, the Venice Art Biennale. Ms Rakena teaches digital art and the art of the moving image in the Māori Visual Arts programme in Te Pūtahi-ā-Toi (School of Māori Studies) at the University's Palmerston North campus. Dr Graham is a former staff member.

Aniwaniwa, a sculptural and video installation, which has been exhibited at the Te Manawa gallery in Palmerston North, tells the story of Horahora, a village on the Waikato River flooded by the Karapiro dam.

Ms Rakena and Dr Graham now have to set about to raising the $350,000 to ship their installation to Italy and hire and prepare a venue for the four-month show.

E-learning guidelines

Massey is to lead a project to co-ordinate and implement e-learning guidelines across the tertiary sector. The e-learning guidelines project will cost about $930,000 and involves 20 collaborative partners from across the tertiary sector, including four other universities, 12 polytechnics, Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi and private training providers including the New Zealand Tertiary College. Gordon Suddaby, Director of the Training and Development Unit, will head the project.

Māori academic network

An inter-university Māori academic network is to be established with funding from the Tertiary Education Commission. MANU-AO (Māori Academic Network across Universities in Aotearoa) may include a virtual marae for academics to share teaching and research ideas. The network will be led by Professor Mason Durie, Massey's Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Māori).

Education and the primary sector

The University has been awarded $100,000 by the Tertiary Education Commission to investigate, develop and promote best-case models of tertiary education in the horticultural and agricultural sciences. The study's results, expected in late 2007, will be used to inform and shape educational practice, and case studies in course design, preparation, presentation and maintenance will be available for teachers and course coordinators. The research team members are Ewen Cameron, Dr Tony Morrison, Warren Anderson and Gordon Suddaby.

Fish Food

Professor Harjinder Singh

One of the remedies of old has had latter day vindication. Cod liver oil really is good for you. In recent times research has shown that the omega-3 essential fatty acids found in fish oil can play a significant role in preventing cardiovascular illness and may help to stave off a range of other afflictions, including arthritis and Alzheimer's disease. And we don't get enough of them. Research from the United States suggests that 60 percent of people who eat a typical American diet don't get enough omega-3 EFAs.

One obvious way to remedy this without insisting people eat more fish or take pills and supplements is to add omega-3 oils to the foods we normally eat, say cereals, bread, or milk.

There is just one *tiny* problem – the taste. "Fish oils are very susceptible to spoilage and oxidation, and you get off flavours and fishiness coming through quickly," explains Professor Harjinder Singh, co-director of the Riddet Centre. "Technically, that's a very difficult problem to solve."

Particularly difficult is arriving at a solution that allows the daily requirement of fish oil to be contained within a single serving of a product without any telltale smell or taste. One approach is microencapsulation: coating droplets of oil with a material that shields them from oxygen and light and moreover will withstand the rigours of cooking and processing. Again, this is easier said than done.

After two-and-a-half years of work, Professor Singh and his Riddet Centre team have produced a microencapsulated oil that can take the form of a liquid of cream-like consistency, with a shelf life of around two months, or of a more durable powder.

At the launch of a joint venture to commercialise the product internationally the finger food included omega-3 enriched muffins. The verdict? Moist, delectable and totally unfishy.

Shares in the technology – which could be worth hundreds of millions of dollars – are held by Massey, the Riddet Centre, the BioCommerce Centre and Spiers Group. Spiers Group has established Spiers Nutritionals in Marton to commercialise the technology internationally.

Million dollar smiles: Dr Mark Goellner, Professor Tony Parker, Professor Duncan Joiner, Associate Professor Anders Warell, Professor Claire Massey, Rodney Adank, and Lyn Garrett.

This time with feeling

A project focusing on tailoring products that people bond with emotionally has been awarded a $1 million grant over two years. Manufacturers Navman, Macpac, Gallagher Group and Tait Electronics are among the companies who will work alongside the Massey project members. The project is one of two funded under the Tertiary Education Commission's Growth and Innovation Pilot Initiative. The other, headed by Professor Bob Hodgson, has been granted $164,132 to develop well-qualified ICT professionals. The project will identify the knowledge and skills gaps of people who work in engineering and computer science-related roles but lack formal graduate qualifications, and design a qualification to raise their skills to graduate level.

Light work

Massey has been awarded $500,000 by the Tertiary Education Commission to host a New Zealand Synchrotron Support Programme.

Professor of Structural Chemistry and Biology Geoff Jameson says the successful application will facilitate New Zealand scientists' access to the A$220 million Australian Synchrotron facility, to be launched this year in Melbourne. Massey will act on behalf of Auckland, Waikato, Victoria, Canterbury, Lincoln and Otago universities.

The synchrotron is a football-field sized machine capable of creating beams of extremely intense light – a million times brighter than that of the sun – which are channelled into workstations and can be used simultaneously.

The synchrotron will feature 10 world-class beams that will benefit many areas of research across the University, including structural biology, nano-materials research, soil science, and medical imaging in the veterinary school. It will complement Massey's Nuclear Magnetic Resonance suite and X-ray crystallography facilities.

"It's a truly multi-use piece of equipment. It will transform basic science and applied science as well," says Professor Jameson. "It can be used not just for blue skies research but also in fields like engineering and technology. With any process which needs light – from hard X-ray light through to infrared – the synchrotron will do it better."

In 2004, Massey committed $450,000 as part of more than $10 million contributed by a consortium of New Zealand universities and several Crown Research Institutes, in partnership with the Ministry of Research Science and Technology.

Professor Jameson says the Synchrotron Support Programme will provide networking to help scientists access the facility, to negotiate research time at it, and to ensure that universities and institutes make the most of their investment in it. The programme will also provide seed money to projects that will use the Synchrotron and funding for scientists to travel to Melbourne.

The application to the Tertiary Education Commission (for the Innovation and Development Fund) by Massey's Research Management Services, under the direction of Michael Peters, is the first collective funding application made by universities and crown research institutes.

Professor Geoff Jameson

$260,000 for hydrogen energy research

A Massey scientist working on the development of nano-materials that could reduce global reliance on oil has been awarded a post-doctoral fellowship from the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology.

Dr Aaron Marshall, a researcher in the Institute of Technology and Engineering at the Palmerston North campus, has been awarded $260,000 to carry out the three-year study.

Dr Marshall's research has the potential to place New Zealand as a world leader in the production of nano-materials used in hydrogen energy technology.

He intends to prepare nano-sized (dimensions of around 100,000 times smaller than the thickness of a human hair) particles for use inside water electrolysers. Electrolysis splits water molecules into its constituents, hydrogen and oxygen. This is normally a slow process requiring large amounts of power. These nano-sized particles can speed up this process and reduce the amount of power required. Dr Marshall says the process is the reverse of that used in fuel cells, with water and electricity used in the cell to produce hydrogen gas.

"Natural gas is the most common source of hydrogen used in fuel cells, which of course is not sustainable. Water electrolysis is a clean and simple way to produce hydrogen gas from electricity," he says.

The electrolysers he is developing will compete in supplying hydrogen gas for industry and automotive fuel cell applications. If hydrogen is produced in electrolysers using electricity from renewable sources, the gas is a completely clean and renewable energy carrier with the potential to replace oil as a main fuel source.

Dr Marshall developed chemical processes to produce nano-sized particles as a PhD student at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology. In May 2006 he was awarded the Exxon Mobil Prize for his doctoral research and returned to Massey to take up a post-doctoral position.

Dr Aaron Marshall

Tracking the kumara

Three varieties of kumara subject to a Treaty of Waitangi claim are having their origins traced by genetic analysis by Andrew Clarke, a PhD student in the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution. The question is whether the varieties descend from plants cultivated by Māori in pre-European New Zealand or from those that arrived with early nineteenth century whalers and sealers. The results should be known later this year.

Losing their religion

Churches that aspire to be inclusive may find cause for concern in findings that show New Zealand lesbian, gay and bisexual Christians have quit mainstream religion at two-and-half times the rate of the general population. The findings come from a report by Dr Mark Henderson, a senior lecturer in social work at the Auckland campus. Dr Henderson has been working on *Lavender Islands: Portrait of the Whole Family* since 2004. It is the first national, strengths-based study of New Zealand's lesbians, gays and bisexuals.

Actuarially speaking

In the world of adventure sports, the experts are fond of making the distinction between real and perceived risk. Bungie jumping feels risky, but isn't; fishing feels safe, but people die doing it nonetheless.

So what are the risks? Tim Bentley, Keith Mackay and Jo Edwards of the College of Business in Auckland set out to find out by analysing the data contained in ACC (Accident Compensation Corporation) claims between July 2004 and July 2005.

They found that approximately 60 percent of the 18,697 adventure-sport related injuries they identified were incurred in just four activities: horse riding, tramping, mountain biking and surfing. Of these, horse riding is the riskiest; the injury claim rate was nearly twice that of mountain bike riding and four times that of tramping. Moreover three people died in horse riding accidents (a number of fatalities exceeded only by fishing and mountaineering, which had six each). Horse riding was also unusual in being dominated by injuries to women and not just because more women are involved in the sport; the incidence per 1000 participants for women was twice that for men.

Among the high claims count activities, mountain biking has the highest median cost per claim, but the category paragliding/parasailing/hang gliding had the highest median costs per claim overall, with injuries costing over twice that of rockclimbing, the next highest cost activity.

Adventure sport-related injuries exceeded $12 million in claims over the one-year period of the analysis.

The full report, which appeared in the *New Zealand Medical Journal*, can be found at http://tinyurl.com/35bln9.

Breeding bustards

Associate Professor John Cockrem's work in avian endrocrinology (hormonal systems) has taken him from Antarctica to Arabia. In Antarctica he studied the behaviour of Emperor penguins; in Saudi Arabia he is looking at how to extend the breeding season of captive Houbara bustards. The bustard, a threatened species, is being bred in captivity for release into the wild by Saudi Arabia's National Wildlife Research Centre. Dr Cockrem will introduce combinations of simulated rainfall, live green feed, and live crickets (both of which follow rainfall in the desert). He will also simulate longer daylight hours, a technique that has worked with other species. Dr Cockrem is monitoring the bird's physiological responses using faecal samples to measure corticosterone, the hormone produced in stressful situations, and the female reproductive hormone estradiol.

Saving the yellow-eyed penguin

It has been a calamitous breeding season for yellow-eyed penguins; all of the chicks hatched in the monitoring area on the north-west coast of Stewart Island have died.

In the Institute of Veterinary Animal and Biomedical Sciences, wildlife vet Dr Andrew Hill, Associate Professor Maurice Alley and Dr Rod Suepaul are looking what role disease may have played. The last of the chicks, Big Fluffy, died in late February. A post mortem at Massey confirmed the cause of death as a blood parasite, which destroys red blood cells and leaves the chicks weak and vulnerable to infection. The parasite does not seem to have caused deaths in the adult population, in which it is also present. Research is now being undertaken in to how the parasite causes mortality and interacts with other known threats such as diphtheritic stomatitus (also known as avian influenza) and starvation.

With fewer than 500 breeding pairs of yellow-eyed penguins remaining, any threat is serious.

The Yellow-Eyed Penguin Trust says this year's breeding season, with a success rate of less than three percent, is the worst since monitoring began four years ago when it started its five-year research programme into the island's declining penguin population.

With fewer than 500 breeding pairs of yellow-eyed penguins remaining, any threat to the species is serious.

Horses and courses

Equine veterinarian Dave Hanlon (pictured) is looking forward to his return to Massey and academia as a guest lecturer to fourth-year veterinary science students.

Mr Hanlon of is one of three newly-appointed adjunct lecturers. The others are David Keenan, also of Matamata Veterinary Services, and Bill Bishop of Canterbury Equine Clinic.

They are the first equine specialists to join the Institute of Veterinary and Animal Biomedical Sciences' staff of adjunct lecturers.

Professor Elwyn Firth describes the appointments as a further demonstration of how the University's links with its alumni can be "close, meaningful, longstanding, and mutually beneficial".

After completing a master's degree in large animal reproduction, Mr Hanlon undertook a three-year residency in the Institute of Veterinary and Animal Biomedical Sciences.

He then joined Matamata Veterinary Services where he continues to specialise in equine reproduction. This year he will deliver six lectures in a collaboration he says will benefit both Matamata business and the University.

As a senior lecturer he will also be involved in a research project to benchmark the reproduction performance of New Zealand thoroughbred and standardbred mares from conception to racing age.

Mr Hanlon graduated from Murdoch University (Western Australia) in 1992 with a Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery. In 2001 he became a Diplomate of the American College of Theriogenologists and a registered specialist in equine reproduction.

In 2002 he took up an invitation to lecture in equine reproduction at Cornell University, New York, becoming the resident veterinarian at Cornell's Equine Research Park for the northern hemisphere breeding season.

Business to business

On becoming head of New Zealand's largest school of business, Professor Lawrence C. Rose wasted no time in strengthening its links to the business sector.

Within weeks of his appointment as Pro Vice-Chancellor of the College of Business, Professor Rose had set up a high-powered, national advisory board with business representatives from throughout the country, chaired by Business New Zealand chief executive Phil O'Reilly.

"The College already makes a unique contribution to the business sector," says Professor Rose. "This includes a continuous supply of human capital, in the form of well-qualified business graduates. It also includes relevant research that business people can actually use and build on. The work done by our Small and Medium Enterprise Research Centre on how SMEs can make better use of limited resources is just one example.

"Less visible, perhaps, is the opportunity we provide for continuing professional development through our extensive extramural programme and the Graduate School of Business which oversees our excellent executive education programme.

"So, we have done well. But I believe we can do even better – and we have to continue to ensure that what we offer is aligned with business needs, which change over time, like everything else. The board – whose members, incidentally, represent industries which mirror our own diverse academic portfolio – will act as an ongoing health check and can provide a shot in the arm, if and when we need it."

As key stakeholders, board members will be invited to take part in programme and department reviews, participate in senior academic appointment processes and suggest research topics that will build closer relationships between industry and academics. "We will also continue to pursue appropriate international accreditations, as a signal to the market that our services are internationally benchmarked," says Professor Rose. "Work is well under way towards accreditation with the United States-based Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business and we are also evaluating other affiliations."

Phil O'Reilly says one reason he readily agreed to chair the board was its makeup of "active business people, at the coalface". He sees the move as part of a transformation that will see the business and university sectors working more closely together from now on, noting that Massey has already set a precedent. "The University has an excellent history of liaising with industry, beginning with its early close links to the agricultural sector. It is in Massey's DNA."

Professor Rose took up the role of Pro Vice-Chancellor in September last year. Announcing the appointment, Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear said he brought strong leadership skills and proven academic and research capability to the role, with the added benefit of organisational knowledge.

Professor Rose moved to New Zealand from the United States in 1994 and joined Massey as Professor and Head of the Finance Department at the Palmerston North campus. He was previously a Visiting Professor at the University of Toledo, Ohio, and a tenured Professor of Finance at San Jose State University, California.

In 1997 he moved to Massey's Auckland campus to head the Department of Commerce, a multi-disciplinary department including Finance, Economics and Marketing. Under his leadership, the Finance programme has been consistently placed in the top 12 finance programmes in the Asia-Pacific region, based on research outputs.

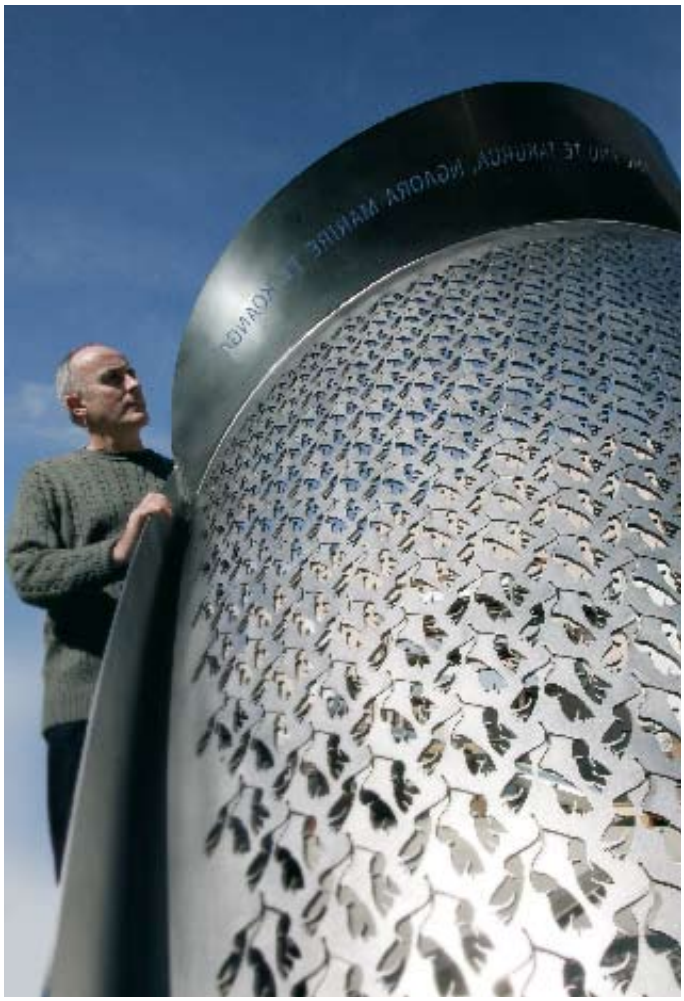
Professor Rose himself has refereed, published and presented well over 100 papers and is on the editorial boards of three academic journals. He was recently awarded an APEC Finance and Development Programme grant, with another Massey colleague, to study foreign portfolio investment and risk management in APEC emerging equity markets.

He heads a college of 14 departments, schools and research centres, 380 staff and nearly 15,000 students enrolled across three campuses and extramurally.

Professor Rose and Business New Zealand chief executive Phil O'Reilly

Monuments, Memory and Meaning

Fine artist Kingsley Baird talks to Malcolm Wood.



The monument stands two metres in height, a sinuous curve of stainless steel cleanly incised with a kowhai motif; the Escher-like pattern of interlocked flowers throws a fretwork shadow across the pebbled mosaic at its base as the sun moves across the sky. To the untutored eye it is simply a beautiful object.

But when you know where it stands – close to the epicentre of the Nagasaki atomic bomb blast – it takes on a terrible ambiguity. So too does the text running across the top, which appears in English, Māori and Japanese: "Remember winter. Spring's welcome consolation."[1]

"You might think of the work as a cloak sheltering and protecting you against the elements or, in the Māori context, about the korowai, or cloak, as symbolising mana," says the monument's designer, artist Kingsley Baird.

Or side-by-side you might apply another meaning: "A cloak can also be about smothering."

That bright, fretwork shadow: for Baird it summons one of the images taken of the bomb blast survivors – a young woman with the pattern of her kimono burned onto her flesh by the nuclear flash.

Kingsley Baird is no stranger to designing memorials. His first memorial commission (a joint partnership with the Studio of Pacific Architecture), the New Zealand Memorial in Canberra, was unveiled by Prime Ministers John Howard and Helen Clark in 2001. His next, the Southern Cross-inspired Tomb of the Unknown Warrior in front of the National War Memorial in Wellington, was completed in 2004. For his master's degree project he created an installation and video exploring the unresolved grief surrounding the death of his brother in a motorcycle accident many years earlier.

The Cloak of Peace – Te Korowai Rangimarie was donated by the Government and people of New Zealand to Japan to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Nagasaki and Hiroshima. It represents the unity of peoples for peace and the determination that weapons of mass destruction, capable of destroying humanity, should never be used again.

It is difficult to argue with these sentiments. Who would not wish for an end to the threat of nuclear destruction? The cold war may be done with, but the issue of nuclear proliferation remains. North Korea, one of Japan's immediate neighbours, is newly in possession of nuclear weapons (the first test took place during one of Baird's visits to Japan) and countries such as Iran are perhaps on their way to obtaining them. The 21-kiloton yield of the bomb that destroyed Nagasaki and killed more than 70,000 people now seems puny; today the average yield of a nuclear missile is 20 times that.

But Baird knows that it is all more complicated than that: memories can be constructed and construed in many ways, and memorials can be put to many uses. In the World Peace Symbol Zone of Peace in the Nagasaki Peace Park, for example, it seems likely that some of nations that donated memorials may have done so for reasons of realpolitik as much as idealism. How else do you explain the overrepresentation of the states of the former Eastern Bloc: Poland, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Cuba, East Germany.

Nor is Baird unaware of Japan's complicated relationship with the events of World War II. Japanese textbooks have tended to gloss over historic atrocities such as the Japanese Imperial Army's Rape of Nanking in 1937 and the forcible recruitment of 'comfort women', and there are Japanese right-wing readings of history that depict the nation at least as much as victim of the War as an aggressor within it.

At Yasukuni Shrine in Tokyo, which Baird has visited, 14 Class-A war criminals from World War II are among the 2.5 million war dead honoured.

In Japan there has been nothing akin to Germany's contrition.

Baird has no time for those who would excuse Japanese aggression, militarism or atrocities, but at the same time, he says, there are things the victor's history has been inclined to forget. That Japan was an aspiring colonial power which had come late to the table. That most of the territories Japan invaded (China and Thailand excepted) were not sovereign nations but European colonies. That the 'war criminals' commemorated at the Yasukuni Shrine were condemned under a set of conventions their nation had not been party to and had behaved according to Japanese military mores.

Nor was the dropping of the bomb less than morally complicated. "True, from the official American perspective the dropping of the bomb saved the lives of hundreds of thousands of men. But it is also true that in the lead in to the dropping of the bomb the United States stopped the conventional bombing of the candidate cities because they wanted to see how much damage the bomb would do."

Why was Nagasaki bombed and not some other city? Historical contingency. It just so happened that on the morning of August 9 1945, Kokura, the designated primary target, was under cloud cover.

Is nuclear-free New Zealand implicated? "We didn't drop the bomb, but we were on the same side that did," says Baird.

[1] The text is by Wellington poet Jenny Bornholdt; the typographical treatment of the text is a collaboration between Baird and typography lecturer Annette O'Sullivan.

"I am certainly going to write about these things. It won't be about blame; it will be like my artwork, that is, attempting to express the complexity of such events."

Most of the sculptures in the Peace Park are of figures. Baird's sculpture neighbours a skillfully carved peace maiden donated by the Peoples' Republic of China, and the centrepiece of the park is a 30 tonne bronze of a seated, heavily-muscled man, one hand outstretched and open in a gesture of peace, the other warningly pointing skyward. Memorials like these lend themselves to a particular form of interaction, says Baird. "People arrive, stand there, have their photos taken and move on. I didn't want that."

He prefers human-scale, abstract, understated memorials to which people can bring their own stories.

In Nagasaki he wanted a work that would invite people onto the site. "I wanted people to stand within the concave form of cloak."

During Baird's two visits to Nagasaki – the first to inspect the site, the second to oversee the final work and attend the unveiling – he was the guest of local peace activists. Most, like Baird, were baby boomers, at a generation's remove from the horrors of the bomb. He attended a family tea ceremony put on for his benefit and a Noh theatre performance in Tokyo. His hosts were warm, hospitable and open. There was none of the reticence or formal etiquette he had read of when researching the trip.

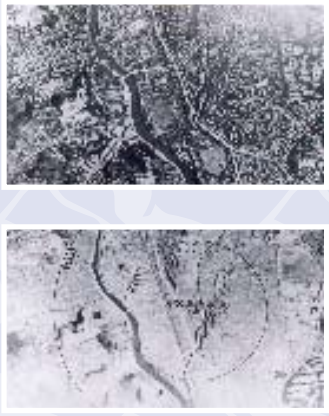
They made the memorial and it's meaning much more immediate. "I realised that the Nagasaki bomb fell on people like these. My sense of empathy became that much stronger."

The Cloak of Peace Te Korowai Rangimarie (at top left and right) was commissioned by the Peace Foundation and funded by contributions from the New Zealand Government and six local authorities: Christchurch, Wellington, Auckland, Whakatane, Waitakere, and Napier.

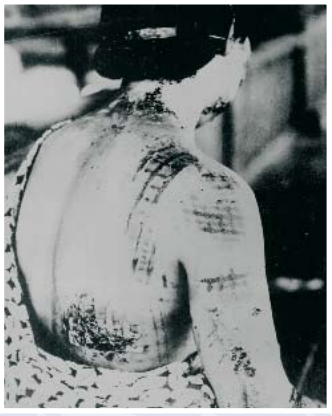
It was unveiled by Disarmament and Arms Control Minister, Hon Phil Goff, on behalf of the New Zealand Government in a ceremony at Nagasaki Peace Park on 21 October.

In early 2007 Baird will take up an inaugural two-month residency at the *In Flanders Fields* Museum in Ypres, Belgium. As part of the residency he will create works on themes of memory, remembrance, loss and reconciliation.

The view from a B-29 Superfortress of the Nagasaki bomb blast on August 9, 1945.



Nagasaki before and after August 9, 1945.



Skin burns on a woman replicate the darker patterns the kimono she wore.

Fine tuned

Kevin Clark has a hearing problem: a preternaturally acute sensitivity to pitch. An out-of-tune piano is not to be borne. So he has taken to carrying his own remedy, a mahogany-handled piano tuner's spanner, which he now pulls from his briefcase with a flourish, his eyes glinting behind thick bifocals.

Though the days of honky tonk pianos in halls are over, it is there in case of need.

It is mid November, the start of the Christmas season, a frenetic time for a jobbing jazz musician and band leader.

Clark's most recent gig was a corporate Latin-Mexican evening; his next, in a couple of days, is to be a music-of-the-twenties event "Cole Porter's *Begin the Beguine* played very tinkly, that sort of thing."

I wonder how many among his convivial yuletide audiences will realise that their piano player has a Tui Award-winning pedigree, that he was formerly a distinguished and prosperous Wellington architect, or that once the Christmas period is over he will head south to the Mackenzie country to spend his leisure time flying gliders.

The 66-year-old has notched up an extraordinary c.v., one that in many ways seems to embody the virtues of jazz: discipline, improvisation and a sense of play.

Plimmerton-based Clark, architect, composer, musician and glider pilot, was born and raised in a small town in South Africa's Eastern Cape.

As a child he fell asleep to the lilt of lullabies sung to him in Xhosa by his Bantu nanny, and he remembers the call-and-response work songs of the black work gangs digging the trenches for a sewage reticulation scheme on his street – an event that drew tape-recorder carrying ethnomusicologists from Rhodes University.

Clark's own musical career began with the ukulele. At seven his rendition of *Home on the Range* won him the under-10 section of a talent quest. And at age 15 he had progressed to playing the trumpet at church concerts and in the school marching band.

Jazz, however, was no part of his upbringing and when, as a university student studying architecture, he ended up with a jazz musician as a flatmate he needled him mercilessly: "I said, 'There's no tune. You can't whistle it.'"

Famous last words. Soon Clark – by now having heard jazz live and seen several jazz shows during a trip to the States – was hooked, playing in jazz bands himself, learning from and mixing with the likes of

The young Kevin Clark on his travels

jazz musician/composers Hugh Masekela and Dollar Brand (Abdullah Ibrahim).

Clark then headed to London where he practised architecture and played in rhythm-and-blues bands and pubs on the side. In 1962 he and a fellow architect rode a Matchless motorbike from Europe, across Asia Minor and into the Middle East, stopping along the way to research the works of the 16th century Ottoman empire architect Sinan and passing through the middle of an Arab-Kurdish war in Iraq.

London was also where he met and married Barbara, a Kiwi from Wanganui.

In 1967 the couple moved to Wellington. It came as a shock. Capetown, even if blighted by the iniquities of apartheid (Clark's friend Hugh Masekela, for one, was forced into exile in 1961) had been vibrant and multicultural. London had been grimy, but again a wellspring of culture. Mid-sixties Wellington felt like dropping off the edge of the world.

His first impressions of New Zealand as an architect? "Where ever man had been he had made a mess of it: old corrugated iron, wrecked buildings, ugly towns and cities with poles and wires everywhere. But the landscape was fantastic."

Nonetheless, he and his wife settled in. They started a family, and within three or four years Clark had his own architectural practice. "Eventually we became Kiwi-fied." And he began playing gigs, his first being at the Las Vegas Cabaret in Miramar.

Through the late sixties and seventies, Clark played in dance bands for a succession of weddings, parties and rugby club socials, in the process discovering New Zealanders' peculiar love affair with alcohol. Looking to find a more sophisticated – and less inebriated – audience, he formed The Kevin Clark Group (aka, for obscure reasons, Gruntphuttock's Revenge). Soon the group was featuring in jazz festivals, radio programmes and – in something of a coup – as a fixture in Brian Edwards' new weekly television show, *Edwards on Saturday*. "Very, very scary," Clark terms the experience of being broadcast live to air.

How influential was *Edwards*? You could call it compulsory viewing; with much of New Zealand receiving only the one channel, for many viewers it was *Edwards* or nothing.

Overnight, Clark and vocalist Fran Barton became national celebrities, launching an era in which Clark would appear on numerous television shows, ranging from pop to jazz, often alongside overseas artists and the New Zealand Jazz Orchestra.

And while Clark of the Kevin Clark Group was becoming familiar to middle New Zealand, Clark's other band, the 40 Watt Banana, was building another audience with a repertoire of experimental music, blending jazz with traditional Indian musical forms utilising ragas and Indian instruments, such as the tabla and sitar. They recorded with the renowned mridungum (double-ended drum) player Dr Balu Balachandram.

One pop track, *Nirvana*, made it into the New Zealand top twenty and the group became a darling of the student circuit, with the early Split Enz playing, on one occasion, as the supporting act - "an event one of my sons dined out on for years," says Clark. Concurrently, Clark the architect worked on a gamut of projects: sports stadia (the Renouf Tennis Stadium is one of his); commercial residential and industrial buildings; churches; electrical substations, water and sewage treatment plants. Commissions took him overseas to work on urban design in Brunei and Malaysia.

But by the late nineties it had all begun to pall. The Resource Management Act was becoming, as Clark terms it, a drag. He and Barbara had a house on the beachfront in Plimmerton; the children had left home. "I would get up in the mornings and say, 'Why am I doing this? Another day hassling with bureaucracy? I really don't need this any more.' I think I had just run my course."

At age 57, Clark threw it in, selling his practice, to become a student, musician, composer, ethnomusicological explorer, and, more recently, a part-time jazz tutor.

Now would be the time to explore some of the musicological questions that had long intrigued him. When he set out to complete his bachelor's degree in jazz at what is now the New Zealand School of Music (he would later complete an honours degree, again with an emphasis on ethnomusicology and jazz), he had his thesis topic already in mind. "I was interested in the differences between Cuban music and music in the southern states of America, when both had drawn African slaves from the same source."

The allure was more than intellectual; for a proper investigation, he and Barbara would need to make an odyssey to Cuba, a place the two inveterate travellers had long wanted to visit.

Cuba, Clark remembers, was falling to bits, but the people were "fantastic, absolutely marvellous" and the experience of playing and learning with Cuban musicians was a revelation.


Cuba

"They were so relaxed and easy. I would be trying to play something on the piano and the guy would push me aside saying '*muy mecánico*' – too mechanical. But then when I tried to teach him some jazz, I would say '*muy mecánico*!'"

And what of the musicological question he was trying to answer?

He attributes the differences that emerged between the evolution of the musical traditions of the slaves brought into Cuba and America's South to differences in the social and religious environment. Protestant America vigorously tried to deAfricanise the slaves, whereas the Roman Catholic church in Cuba was somehow more *laissez faire*. "That, or they were conned," says Clark. Either way, many African traditions that failed to survive in North America would persist in Cuba. (For example, even as their forms evolved, African deities would live on in Cuba rebadged as Catholic saints).

Another musical conundrum that had puzzled him for years – the origin of a Latin American-type rhythm called the *ghouma* or *sakie sakie* used in the music of the Cape Malays and Boers – resolved itself recently when he attended a lecture about the folk music of Indonesia.

"I heard that rhythm again, and it dawned on me. In the Middle East and the Arab traders and Muslim missionaries had taken

their music and religion to the Spice Islands - now known as Indonesia. This rhythm became embedded in the folk music. The Dutch later colonised these islands [The Dutch East Indies] and when they in turn settled the Cape they brought their Malay and Indonesian slaves to Cape Town. I then started hunting round and I found some interviews with old Cape Malay musicians and there it was. Their ancestors had brought the rhythm of their music to Capetown from Java and Sumatra. The Arabs also took that rhythm to Spain, and as a result that rhythm is an essential ingredient of Latin American music. Fascinating stuff."

40 Watt Banana in its heyday

How did it feel at 50-something to be studying alongside students as young as his sons? Age didn't come into it, he says. In jazz circles all that matter are talent and skill. "I was asked by other chronologically-challenged people, 'How did you get on? How did you feel?'

'About what?'

'Being old?'

I said I didn't notice. It didn't occur to me."

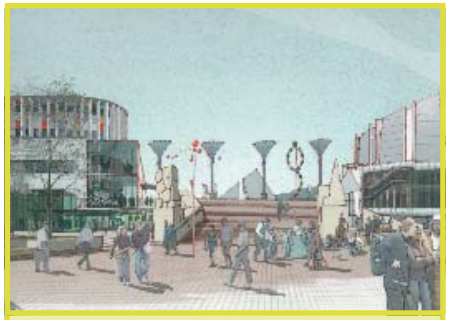
Clark is no jazz purist. Rap and hip hop get short shrift, but otherwise he is man of few prejudices.

Afro-Cuban and Brazilian music were staples when Clark and his group played regular gigs at Paremata's Sandbar Pub (no longer, alas, a jazz venue), but there was always a certain unpredictability. "Sometimes we'd play jazz interpretations of pop songs or Duke Ellington or bizarre renditions of corny old tunes that you'd never expect in a jazz setting." How eclectic is he? "I have a two piece band, called The Two Man Band that does idiotic things with tuba, piano, trumpet, trombone, double bass, swanee whistle and vocals. We sometimes do reharmonised versions of *Stairway to Heaven*, *Smoke on the Water* and other rock anthems. It's all deliberately absurd, but audiences love it."

Light jazz, boogie woogie, classic hits, Dixie. old-time... as Christmas draws nigh Clark will play a repertoire to suit his audience's tastes, appearing either solo, in a jazz trio or quartet, or as part of a larger band. Vocalist Fran Barton often joins him, extending the musical possibilities still further. One of his bands, Los Gringos, specialises in Afro-Cuban and Brazilian jazz. Another, the Dixie Dudes, plays traditional Dixieland, music that is, according to Clark's website, "Fun, Frolicky and Festive".

This is the lot of the jazz musician in New Zealand. Pure jazz has a small following; to make a living, you must be prepared to turn your hand to anything. Not that Clark seems to mind.

"As long as the music is good and played well you can always have fun."



Building a new home: At press, Wellington MPs had set aside political differences to lobby the Government to give the New Zealand School of Music a new home in Wellington's Civic Square, at a cost of up to $50 million. MPs Chris Finlayson (National), Marian Hobbs (Labour), and Heather Roy (ACT) are working with the Wellington City Council to lobby the Government. The New Zealand School of Music is a joint venture between Victoria and Massey universities.

Clark's latest album, *Zahara*, shares its name with the small, sleepy, Spanish hilltop town in the mountains outside of Cadiz where Clark and his wife Barbara sojourned while he pursued an interest in flamenco.

Clark's interest in flamenco, and particularly jazz flamenco, was first awakened by two films: *Latcho Drom*, about the Roma, the travelling people better known as Gypsies, and *Calle 54*, a documentary about Latin-jazz, which crucially featured a segment by flamenco jazz musician Chano Domínguez. He began ordering in CDs from Spain. "Eventually I thought I really have to go to Spain and see what I can find."

From the town of Zahara, Clark made excursions to gypsy bars in the major cities (some very seedy), to CD stores, and to flamenco dance classes. "Not to learn to dance, but to understand the connection to the music." Sometimes the music would come to Clark, as when in a bar or restaurant people would spontaneously take up instruments, sing, clap and dance.

Is *Zahara* then a flamenco album? Clark would not call it that, even though a number of the tracks employ flamenco forms, such as the solea and buleria, and feature palmeras (flamenco hand clappers) and the cajón (flamenco box drum). Better to say, as do the liner notes, that these original Clark compositions exhibit "a healthy dose of the Spanish tinge". Jazz with a flamenco flavour.

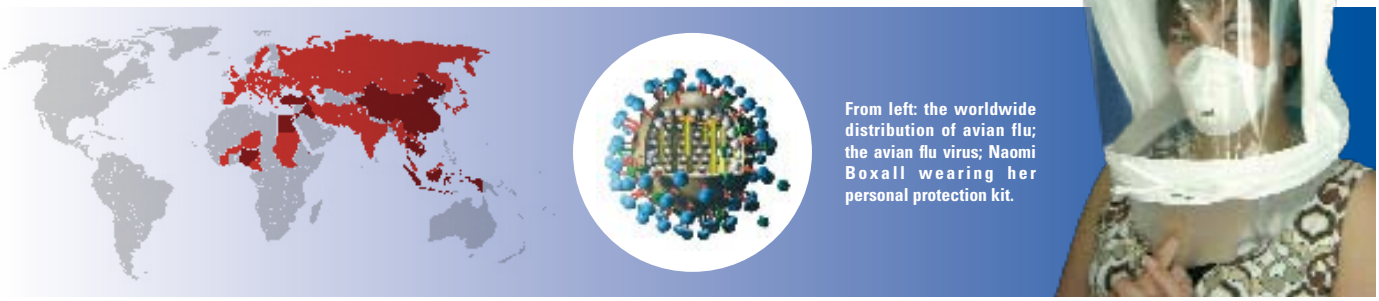
To play flamenco, explains Clark, you must grow up immersed within the traditions and rhythms of flamenco, some of which, using the additive rhythms of Middle East rather than the West's divisive rhythms, are alien to the Western ear. "The closest we get to a flamenco jazz feel is a solea track, which is of those nasty 12-beat cycle things with the harmonic rhythm in a strange place. We have barely scratched the surface."

Zahara follows 2002's *Once Upon a Song I Flew* and 2004's album of live performances, *The Sandbar Sessions*, both of which won Best Jazz Album in the New Zealand Music Awards.

Wellington's *DominionPost* reviewer has described *Zahara* as Clark's best work yet. *Zahara* is available from all good CD stores or directly from clark@xtra.co.nz .

Battling the Flu

Prague-based epidemiologist Naomi Boxall talks to Jennifer Little.



From left: the worldwide distribution of avian flu; the avian flu virus; Naomi Boxall wearing her personal protection kit.

There you are, chatting to a bunch of suspected bird flu carriers in remotest Azerbaijan – surely a nightmare scenario?

Not for 29-year-old New Zealand epidemiologist and former Massey student Naomi Boxall. Interviewing families last year in the impoverished rural backblocks of the little-known Caucasian state about a mysterious disease that had claimed a life and put others in hospital was for her a career highlight.

During a mission to Azerbaijan to assess whether the nation could handle an outbreak of avian flu, she was on hand when a dead swan tested positive for H5NI (avian flu).

"We interviewed the most affected family," says Boxall, from Prague where she is spending two years with the European Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training (EPIET) – a scheme which places an epidemiologist from one EU country into another for field work experience.

"All the sick members of the family were, by then, in hospital under the care of the clinicians."

Aided by a translator, she set out to determine the relationships within the family, where everyone usually slept, and what they'd done in the days before becoming sick.

"I also had to try to convince everyone to give throat and blood samples. Some did, some didn't. If someone coughed, I had to be extra persuasive."

One woman had lost a daughter already, with another severely ill in hospital and thought to be close to death. The woman at first refused to be tested, but was heartened when she learned that her hospitalised daughter was still alive.

"By the end of the day, she was making sure that all the 25 children in the village lined up for their test. The sweets in my purse were handy, as I had something to give the children who were crying after their blood sample withdrawal," Boxall recalls.

Her last visit was to a neighbouring family who had lost their 17-year-old daughter. She was the first person in the area to have died of avian flu, so it was imperative to collect information on her history, Boxall explains.

The father related details of the daughter's illness and hospital visits, while the mother "sat on her chair sobbing her heart out".

Boxall, at the time, wondered "how on earth I could sit there passively writing down notes".

During the heart-wrenching interview, Boxall sat next to, and comforted, the distraught woman; they hugged tightly when it was over.

Afterwards she found herself in tears. "It was emotionally exhausting, but that day was the best day of my mission," she concludes.

So just how risky was it?

Before going, Boxall had updated a couple of vaccinations and been vaccinated against seasonal influenza. In her baggage she carried a kit of personal protective equipment.

"You're at little risk of exposure when you interview people outside in the wind and sun," she says reassuringly.

Vigilant hand-washing is also a very effective safeguard against infection, she adds.

Back in her Prague office, where she works for the Czech government under the EPIET scheme, it's business as usual: there is an outbreak of mumps in Moravia in the eastern part of the Czech Republic, which must be investigated (6000 people have fallen ill), and a project investigating side effects attributable to a mass vaccination campaign of Czech Republic newborns is under way. The infants are vaccinated with the BCG vaccine to protect against tuberculosis (TB). Boxall collects data on the extent of adverse effects and where in the country they are occurring.

"We'd ideally like to change the vaccination schedule to only vaccinate babies in high risk groups: those born into families with a TB history, the Roma (gypsy) population and those with HIV exposure. We'll lend strength to this proposal by measuring and creating a baseline of adverse events."

Boxall comes across as feisty, fearless and funny – qualities that stand her in good stead. She is, after all, the first EPIET fellow to be sent this far into central Europe. What's more, she understands she's the first New Zealander to land a job with the Czech government.

Getting into the EPIET programme in the first place was no mean feat. She had completed her doctorate, having gained a Bachelor of Science, majoring in Biochemistry and Genetics, followed by a Master's in Veterinary Studies at the Palmerston North campus, and was working for the Institute of Environmental Science and Research in Wellington, dreaming of being a field epidemiologist studying Ebola outbreaks in deepest Africa.

A colleague in the United States mentioned the EPIET programme, which she was eligible for, thanks to her British passport.

After a rigorous application process and several nail-biting telephone interviews – one of them conducted in high-speed French – she was granted a face-to-face interview. Abandoning a role in the Porirua stage show of *Les Miserables*, she flew to Stockholm to compete with 21 other hopefuls for one of eight EPIET positions. A month later, back in New Zealand, she learned she was in.

Now into her second year of the programme, Boxall is challenged by some aspects of life in Prague and charmed by others. The intricacies of the Czech language are a daily struggle. "It's one of the most difficult languages to learn, ever," she says. She has found that her Czech colleagues are less familiar with the team approach to sharing scientific knowledge, and she observes that many more people smoke.

The compensations? One is the city itself, with architectural splendours that span a thousand years. The blog she maintains to stay in touch with family and friends records a lively social life. She performs in an ex-pat jazz *a cappella* group around the city, and manages the occasional weekend trip to London for shopping and catching up with friends.

But it is easy to imagine Boxall taking her leave of cosmopolitan Prague to head to the disease hot zones of Africa.

She wants to do good. For her, the practice of epidemiology is above all a humanitarian enterprise.

"I want to feel like I've made a difference and helped people. That's all I want to do."

Chosen Land

New Zealander-by-choice Kefeng Chu talks to Malcolm Wood.

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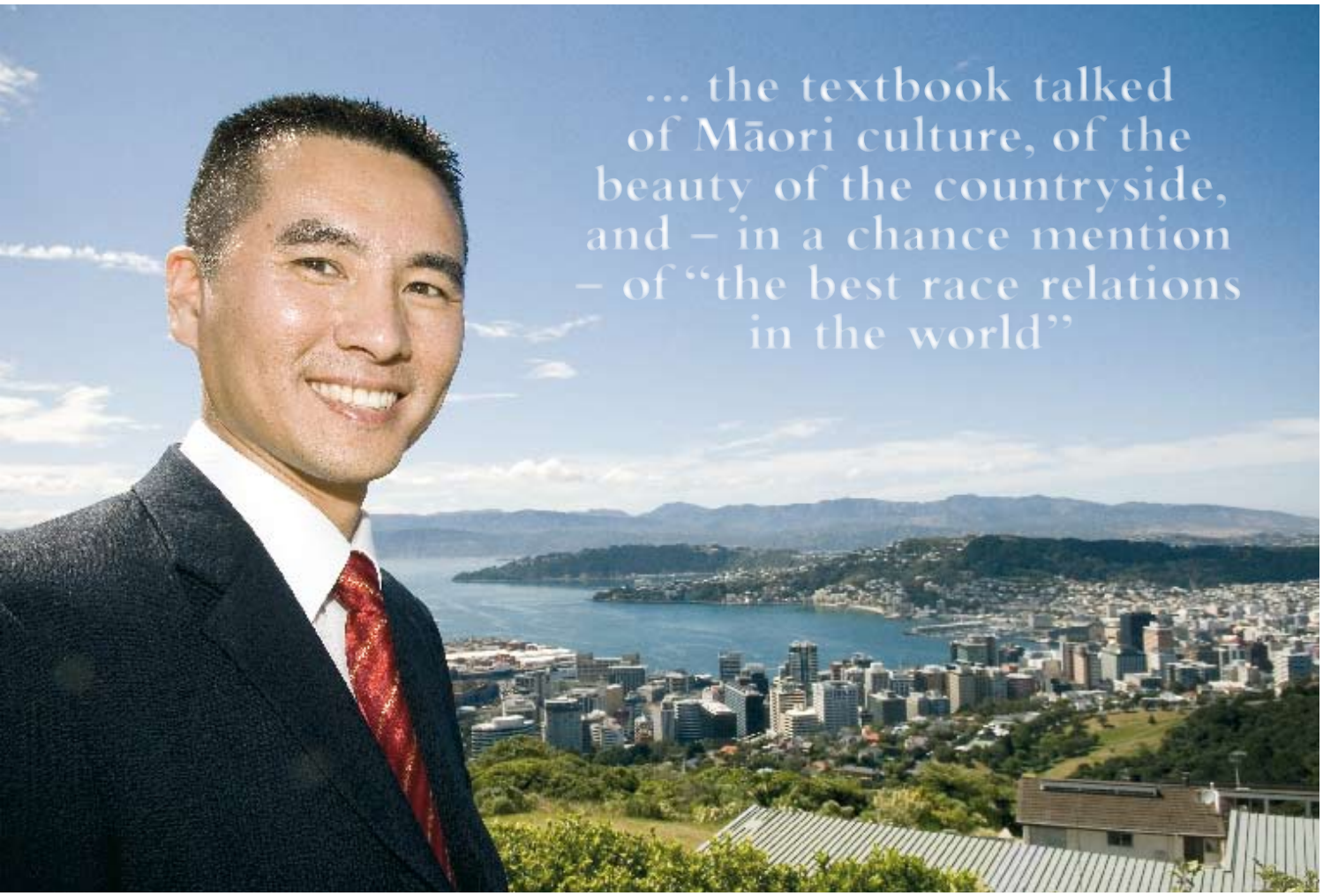


The first time Kefeng Chu came across New Zealand it was in the pages of a textbook. Kefeng was a high school student in China's Fujian province, and the textbook talked of Māori culture, of the beauty of the countryside, and – in a chance mention – of "the best race relations in the world".

Now New Zealand is very much his home. He has a wife and two children here. (His New Zealand-born son will turn seven shortly.) He has a mortgage. He's acquired the national weakness for beaches and barbeques (if not for beer, cricket or rugby), and he holds a highly responsible job as one of three strategic Māori/Pacific/ethnic advisers in Police national headquarters. "I look after the portfolio of Asian, Middle Eastern, African, Latin American and some Eastern European communities," he explains, in well-articulated if Chinese-accented English.

Kefeng is trim and smartly dressed. The 40-year-old has an angular face and a well-barbered brush of black hair, and there is a barely-contained energy to him. From his small glass-walled office overlooking the Government precincts of Wellington's Molesworth Street, he is doing his bit to realise "the best race relations in the world" he once read about. And while there remains plenty to be done, he and his colleagues are making progress. There are websites, publications, and an 0800 telephone interpreting service that attest to their success. There is a formal ethnic strategy, launched in 2005. There is the composition of the Police service itself, especially in Auckland, which in the last three years has changed to better reflect New Zealand's increasingly cosmopolitan society.

Kefeng's one frustration is that things can't be made to happen more quickly. It is no criticism of the New Zealand Police, more that the country in general lacks the frenetic pace of post-economic liberalisation China.

On the other hand, a more leisured approach to life has its up side.

"My problem is that I want some things done yesterday. Being here has slowed me down in some ways, but it has given me the opportunity to think and to plan and to advance the things I want to do."

Kefeng Chu was born in China's mountainous coastal province of Fujian in 1966, the year the decade-long chaos of Mao's cultural revolution began. China's gaze may have been fixed firmly inwards, but, as he made his way through childhood and into adolescence, Kefeng's wasn't. He was intensely curious about the world beyond China's borders.

In his town library he found Chinese editions of those Western novels admitted into the Communist canon: works by Mark Twain, Hemingway and a number of Russian authors. They were his window into the outside world. "A very narrow window," he admits.

Meanwhile China was changing. In 1976, the year Kefeng turned 10, Mao died, and university entrance exams – in abeyance for a decade – were reinstituted. Three years later, Deng Xiaoping introduced the new era in Chinese history labelled officially as "Reforms and Opening up to the Outside World".

At 16, Kefeng took his university entrance exams, winning marks that put him among the elite four percent of high school students who would go on to university. He embarked on first a bachelor's and then a master's degree in British literature and English language.

His English was learned while studying the Jacobean language of Shakespeare and the Scots dialect of Robert Burns under

the tutelage of a medley of lecturers from across the English-speaking world: English, Canadian, American and Australian. "They messed up our accents, but they taught us there was no one way to speak correctly," Kefeng says cheerfully.

On graduating, he taught English at Fouzhou University for a year, then applied to become an official with the Fujian's Department of Foreign Affairs. (Fujian is a province of more than 30 million people.) After two days of exams, he was declared one of two successful applicants.

During his three years with Foreign Affairs, Kefeng met foreign diplomats, experts, businesspeople and investors, and travelled the cities and counties of Fujian talking with officials. "We were starting to get overseas investment. It was a very exciting time," he says.

His personal life also prospered. He was now married, and his wife, a former classmate, had a skilled job in an import-export firm. They had a daughter, and Foreign Affairs provided them with an apartment at a nominal rental. But he still had aspirations, and in 1993 he left Foreign Affairs and China itself to head for New York University. He took papers in natural history and American literature and he nurtured hopes of bringing out his wife and child. New York, however, was not quite as he had expected. The modernity, the universities, the American democratic process: these things impressed him. But he also met many "not-so-lucky people": new migrants working in poorly paid jobs in factories and restaurants. "It wasn't really the land of milk and honey. There was poverty I had never expected.

"I also saw the difficulties involved in obtaining a green card. If I stayed I would join that first generation of many migrants who sacrificed their lives in the hope that their children might prosper."

In the meantime, however, his wife, who had heard good things about New Zealand, had successfully applied for the family to emigrate here. So it was that in 1995 Kefeng found himself flying over the Manukau estuary to the shed-like Auckland terminal, scanning the green surrounding fields in vain for the sheep he was sure must be there.

Kefeng and his wife both had masterates; both had successful careers behind them; both spoke good English. Neither could find satisfying work that would draw on their work experience and academic background. "I thought that with my master's degree I could teach in a secondary school. But I was told I lacked the New Zealand teaching qualification." says Kefeng. "Then I decided I should study educational psychology but again I was told that to gain entry I would have had to have taught for two years in New Zealand. I thought it would be easy to find a job; I couldn't even become a student."

As a Chinese migrant with fluent English he had quickly been seized on as an interpreter by friends who needed to deal with agencies like Income Support (now Work and Income) and the health system. The experience prompted him to rethink his aspirations. "I was interested in psychology, and I saw the difficulties they faced. So I chose to study social work."

Kefeng was accepted for a master's degree in social work at Massey's Auckland campus. "It taught me about the history, culture and social policy. It was a really good choice. It helped me adapt to this new society."

When he graduated in 1997 he became a portfolio worker: he taught English for beginners at a language school, did contract work for Child, Youth and Family and started working part time for the Compulsive Gambling Society (now the Problem Gambling Foundation). Soon part time became full time, and Kefeng became one of the principals behind the creation of the Asian Problem Gambling Service.

Is gambling then a particular problem for Asians? Not so, according to Kefeng.

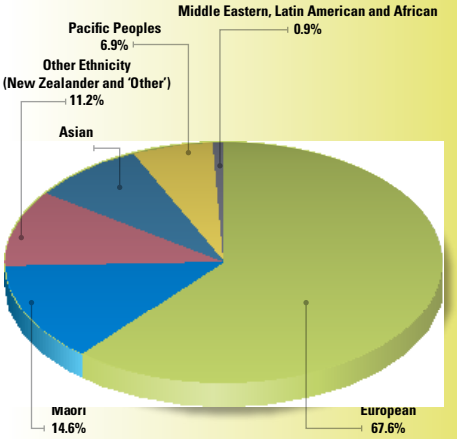
He says the perception is an artefact created by the way we view different forms of gambling. Some forms of gambling – feeding the pokies, taking a punt at the TAB, buying a Lotto ticket – are seen as simply being a part of normal social life. Some, such as visiting a casino, are not. (And this is irrespective of relative social harm, a measure by which the pokies would surely be damned.) It's not that Asians have a particular predilection for gambling. It's the type of gambling where they have a visible presence: casino table games.

"Table gambling involves more money," explains Kefeng, "and it is more conspicuous. When you visit a casino you see this beautiful space, and these large tables, and they seem to be packed with Asians. They have black hair, dark eyes. They are simply more visible."

Figures showing that New Zealand's Asian population has a lower incidence of problem gambling than the general population are powerless in the face of an entrenched stereotype.

"I met an artist in a flea market when I was working for the foundation. He said, 'You Asians are all problem gamblers'. And then, when he realised he might cause offence he said, 'Well, I'm a West Aucklander and all Westies are problem drinkers.' Of course neither statement is true."

Meanwhile New Zealand's demographic mix, and particularly the percentage of Asian New Zealanders, was changing dramatically. In 1996 the Asian population was 173,502; in 2001 it had reached 237,459; in 2006, 354,552.



New Zealand's ethnic composition is changing. In 1996, 173,502 New Zealanders identified themselves as Asian; in 2001 the figure had become 238,176; and in the 2006 census, 354,552. 'Asians' now make 9.2 percent of the New Zealand population.

In 2003, the Police national headquarters, aware of the need to work more closely with the Pacific Island, Māori and Asian communities, set up an office of Māori Pacific Ethnic Services. Kefeng, who took on the Ethnic portfolio, was one of the first appointments.

Ethnic Chinese, like Kefeng, are probably the best recognised face of New Zealand's Asian population. And in the 2001 census over 40 percent of New Zealand's Asian population identified themselves as Chinese. But New Zealand's Asian population is multifarious. That other 50-something percent includes Tamils, Pakistanis, Japanese, Koreans and many others. Even to regard Chinese New Zealanders as anything resembling a homogeneous mass is a mistake. They can be Northern, Southern, Taiwanese, Malaysian or Singaporean Chinese. They can be first generation, second generation, or the descendants of nineteenth century gold rush immigrants. Some have permanent residence, some work permits. Some are refugees, some international students; some are residents, some New Zealand citizens.

What they and other New Zealand 'Asians' share is a vulnerability to prejudice.

Asian Angst, Is It Time To Send Some Back, screamed the inflammatory cover headline of the December 2006 issue of *North & South*.[1] Written by former ACT MP Deborah Coddington, the article recounts a number of high-profile criminal cases in lurid detail.

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Then – lest it be seen to generalise from the particular – makes some oddly ingenuous use of statistics.

Coddington cites a 53 percent increase in total offences committed by Asiatics (not including Indian) between 1996 and 2005, but omits to mention as an explanatory factor that the Asian population doubled over this period.[2]

All of which is but a distraction from the one commanding statistical comparison. In 2006, 9.2 percent of the New Zealand population identified themselves as Asian, yet, according to 2005 police statistics, Indians and Asiatics together make up less than three percent of apprehensions for crimes.[3] Cut it as you will, how menacing can the "Asian crime menace" be?

Of course there is little defence against the innumerate, as Kefeng well knows. "I read an article a few years ago which said that Asians were two percent of total apprehension and 6.7 percent of the population, so one in three Asians walking down the street was an offender. There are lots of people who aren't particularly good at maths."

For Kefeng, articles like *Asian Angst* are nothing new. All that is unusual is the timing: immigrant scare stories are more usually instigated in the lead in to elections.

"Some people just don't realise the extent to which the comments they make hurt these communities. People don't feel as secure. They become uneasy."

Sometimes legitimately so. Race hate crimes, ranging from harassment to property damage, do occur in New Zealand. An internal Police website details eight successful prosecutions. Here are two, not high profile but surely distressing. While travelling on a train, a woman spills cold water over two Chinese women for talking in Chinese. A man tells a woman to go home and accuses her of being a terrorist for wearing a hijab (Moslem headscarf) in public.

And when it comes to making judgements about ethnicity, what of those other high profile crimes? What of Graeme Burton, who gunned down a father of two and wounded four mountain bikers while fleeing police? What of Daniel Moore who stands accused of murdering Tony Stanlake, allegedly his business partner in a drug-growing enterprise, and of dumping the headless body on Wellington's coast? Burton, Moore, Stanlake: names as British as Coro Street.

"Do we talk about Caucasian crime or British crime?" asks Kefeng. "Of course we don't."

One of the major problems facing a significant number of migrants is their lack of English. "One of my Chinese professors used to say the best way to punish a person is to get him to learn English. The grammar, structure and pronunciation are very difficult," says Kefeng. One initiative he has launched is a pocket-sized multilingual phrasebook; another, a Police public website with basic safety information in 12 language options. And a handbook has been published to help the Police understand the differences between cultures and religious observances.

But for Kefeng the most important thing is that the Police themselves should include Asian New Zealanders in their ranks. This is happening. Consider Auckland, the most ethnically diverse region in the country and the home to its largest Asian population. In 2003 it had a handful of bilingual Asian police officers; today there are more than 50.

In the next few years, Kefeng hopes, New Zealand will have its first Asian inspector and in maybe 10 years its first superintendent.

"I want to have more young people join the police. I want to have parents tell their teenagers, 'After university, maybe you should consider the police as a career option.'"

By joining the police young people can participate in society and change the way it works. Few other vocations offer as much.

Although now very much a New Zealander, Kefeng has not sundered all of his ties to China. His most recent visit to his home province in

December 2006 was the fourth in two years. His friends and former colleagues drove him around Fuzhou. "I couldn't recognise it." A landscape of farmland and rundown houses was now a lively and prosperous metropolis. They ragged him about his circumstances. How could it be that he, a New Zealand government official, still had a mortgage? Their dwellings were all freehold. Some had become landlords themselves.

He quotes Napoleon: "China is a sleeping lion, when it wakes the world will tremble". China, says Kefeng, is waking.

Kefeng believes China's destiny is to become a wealthy superpower, and that political freedoms will be an inevitable consequence of growing economic prosperity.

"When I was last there China announced media freedom for foreign journalists visiting for the Olympics. I believe the trend is for China to open up. It can't go back."

1. While Kefeng studied towards a masterate in social work, his wife studied towards a masterate in business studies, also at Massey. Her class was full of Chinese who, like her, had found it difficult to find employment commensurate with their skills. She is now with the Ministry of Education.
2. The article generated responses in the form of blogs, an article in the *Listener*, and numerous letters to *North & South*. At going to print, the article is the subject of complaints to the Press Council.
3. A 104 percent increase can be observed between the 1996 and 2006 census figures. The 2006 figures were not available when *North & South* went to print.
4. 'Asiatic' makes up 1.64 percent of apprehensions and 'Indian' 0.94 percent.
   For these and other figures see www.statistics.govt.nz

He Iwi Tahi Tatou?

Professor Paul Spoonley writes.

Captain William Hobson's statement in 1840 that "we" are now one people was always rather ambiguous, but in 2007, the question of how best to describe, and to acknowledge, New Zealand's growing cultural diversity is challenging.

In 1840, the issue was to find common ground as the basis for colonisation to proceed. The subsequent dismissal of what was agreed in the Treaty of Waitangi, and then the initiatives to more adequately recognise Māori interests in the latter half of the twentieth century, provides one major strand in debates about equitable citizenship in New Zealand.

The other is associated with two waves of non-European immigration. The first came from the Pacific in response to labour needs in expanding urban economies in New Zealand from the 1960s. The second was a product of the changes to immigration policy in 1987.

Professor Paul Spoonley

New Zealand has more overseas born as a proportion of its population than Canada, and only slightly less than that of Australia. Auckland has more overseas born than any other Australasian city.

In 2007, the result is what Steve Vertovec (University of Oxford) labels "superdiversity".

New Zealand has more overseas-born as a proportion of its population than Canada, and only slightly less than Australia. Auckland has more overseas-born than any other Australasian city.

Non-European migrants and their descendants now comprise a much more significant presence in New Zealand, a factor which will be emphasised by future trends. New Zealand's Asian communities are expected to grow by almost 400,000 in the two decades from 2001 to reach 700,000 by 2021; Pacific peoples will grow by 170,000 to reach 420,000 in the same period.

The effects will be seen most obviously in Auckland as the major destination and residence of many of these communities. By 2016, Auckland's Pakeha population will have dropped to 54 percent while Asian communities will make up 25 percent of the city's population.

The size of these populations and the fact that many are recent immigrants is part of superdiversity; but there is also the range of different ethnic groups as Auckland's growing calendar of festivals and events reflects. New Zealand is the destination for significant numbers of migrants and refugees from many parts of Asia, Africa and the Middle East, as well as from Europe (but no longer confined to the United Kingdom) and the Americas.

The rapidity with which this superdiversity has emerged has, understandably, created a certain anxiety and a political reaction. The most obvious negative response was apparent in New Zealand in the mid-1990s, particularly in the 1996 election. Since then, public opinion polling indicates that New Zealanders are becoming more accepting of the diversity of their country, city or neighbourhood. This is partly driven by the recognition that immigrants from around the world are important for our collective economic future.

It is ironic then that the economic contribution of immigrants is not being maximised. The human capital that immigrants bring is inadequately recognised by employers in particular, and overseas qualifications and experience, particularly from Asia, is quite significantly discounted. Research with both employers and immigrant job seekers shows that there are significant barriers to employment, not the least in surname and accent discrimination, despite the best efforts of organisations such as the Chamber of Commerce and the Employers and Manufacturers Association.

This prompts the question of how well our major institutions are responding to superdiversity. The age profile of immigrants means that they are concentrated in the school and working age populations. Whether it is our education or health system, or gatekeepers such as employers and landlords, the challenge is to welcome and respond appropriately to cultural diversity.

This, in turn, has focused attention on New Zealand's policies and approach to immigrant integration: how should we recognise and incorporate cultural diversity? Are we doing enough to encourage successful integration? Is our understanding and practice of citizenship appropriate?

New Zealand, like Canada or Australia, along with a number of countries in the European Union, is considering high level policy goals such as social cohesion. Biculturalism provides some important examples (e.g. language maintenance) and a touchstone, but the details of a local multiculturalism are still some way off, even if superdiversity is already apparent in the demography of our communities.

The Place

Julie-Ann Bell redefines an iconic restaurant. Di Billing catches up with her.

There was a time when Iguaçu restaurant was the toast of Auckland. The city's glitterati simply couldn't afford not to be seen there. As celebrated as its downtown rivals like Cin Cin on Quay and The French Café might be, Iguaçu had an edge. It was one of Auckland's biggest and most elegantly decorated restaurants. It had the right address in the heart of wealthy Parnell.

The restaurant and its habitués regularly featured in the monthly glossy *Metro*, often behaving with newsworthy disgrace. In the food pages, it was lauded as one of the first restaurants to introduce fusion food and a Pacific influence.

Iguaçu reigned in Parnell for a memorable eight years but in the early years of the new millennium it stagnated. More moderately-priced restaurants and cafes were opening. In a period when change was fashionable, even Iguaçu's familiarity and former popularity worked against it.

By late 2005, when Julie-Ann Bell was completing her MBA, the business was struggling, with no clearly defined style, ambience or client base. Julie-Ann was looking for the right investment. Having sold her online travel business (the first of its kind in New Zealand when she started it in 1998), she wanted a business with the potential for development, with weaknesses that could be identified and corrected and strengths that could be enhanced. She had no experience in the restaurant trade but she had done her research: few New Zealand restaurants, she found, were managed according to good business practice.

By the time she had completed due diligence on Iguaçu, she was confident she had a potential winner. "The tired decor could be brightened and modernised, still keeping the natural, rustic feel of the place. The furniture definitely needed replacing. The size – 1,100 square metres – was an asset that was not being exploited.

"Staff training was almost non-existent. There was room for a much greater focus on customer service, which has always been a priority for me and was certainly reinforced during my MBA studies. Some members of the management team clearly didn't have the right skill set – nor any sense of working as a team."

Julie Ann bought the restaurant at a price that reflected the red in the balance sheet. Then she prepared a strategy. Among other things she planned to redefine Iguaçu's clientele: They were to be people in their late thirties upwards, already doing well in their careers and with disposable income. They would perhaps have children. They would appreciate quality food and wine but at the same time prefer a more relaxed dining environment. Perhaps they would retain some loyalty to the Iguaçu of their youth.

One of her first moves was to create a staff-training programme, bringing in expert tutors and preparing a blueprint based on advice from the Hospitality Standards Institute. "It was all about customer service and communication. That means looking after people from the moment they walk in until they leave the restaurant. It means taking a constructive approach to any complaints: if someone isn't happy with their food, our staff replace it immediately. It also means understanding that all customers are different in their expectations and needs."

She introduced a system, again supported by MBA wisdom, under which staff would classify customers' personality styles by colour as they came in the door, and plan their approach accordingly. "A Red person, for example, is likely to be flamboyant and to enjoy being made a fuss of. They love to talk and engage in conversation with restaurant staff and are always looking for recommendations on what to order.

"A Blue person is very focused, strong-willed and decisive. In all likelihood they are in a position of authority in their career. A Blue person has high expectations: they

know what they want and would be insulted if you told them otherwise.

"A Green person is often a perfectionist who likes facts and precise information. They tend to like assurance that they have made the right choices, so this type of person appreciates a detailed explanation of menu items.

"A Yellow person is very warm and most concerned about the needs of others. They present the greatest challenge from a satisfaction perspective: they dislike confrontation so they may not give you their honest opinion. Body language is the best way to determine if you have met the expectations of a Yellow diner."

The training programme, plus regular staff awards for good performance, improved customer service and produced an added bonus, "Staff turnover dropped dramatically," says Julie-Ann. "Some of the casual staff, who are usually the bane of the restaurant trade, asked for permanent jobs. Several who were studying for other degrees, one in IT for example, decided to study for a hospitality qualification instead."

A vision statement was established, a rarity in the restaurant business, and, in a still rarer move it became a prominent feature of the menu: "To develop a lifetime relationship with our customers by delivering an experience that consistently exceeds their expectations."

It runs just below the welcome to Iguaçu by Julie-Ann herself. This touches on the many awards the restaurant has recently won and reveals that its kitchen team make many of the items that other restaurants have to buy in. The bread, the biscotti, the chocolates... all are made in house. Iguaçu is also one of the very few restaurants in Auckland to pickle its own pickles and smoke its own meat.

Most important to Julie-Ann, the welcome urges diners to tell her what they did or did not like so that improvements can be continuously made. A simple questionnaire – almost always filled out – also helps.

"I haven't made any changes without getting feedback from the customers," she explains. "I didn't even buy new chairs until we had trialed them in the restaurant to make sure diners found them comfortable. We consult them all the time. And they like that."

Before Julie-Ann arrived, she says the printed menu left a lot to be desired. "Cumbersome and uninviting with paper pages that often showed traces of the food and wine chosen by previous diners." The new professionally-designed "sales tool" is laminated and features vivid, clearly-written prose complemented by photographs of the food, the restaurant and the featured wines.

A neglected separate private dining room complete with open fire was renovated and is now regularly hired for private functions. Up to 65 people can be seated here and in the adjoining enclosed pergola. Because Iguaçu has the rare asset of a double kitchen, these events can be serviced without disrupting regular business.

The mezzanine floor, which includes the area known as The Landing, also received a spruce-up. Overlooking the main dining area, The Landing is ideal for avid people-watchers. Here new furniture was installed, including clean-lined, tall, bentwood chairs, but the famous big gilt mirror, and the photograph of Iguaçu in an earlier life as the Alexandra Hotel, remain.

Live music was introduced one night a week and on Sunday afternoons and evenings. On Sundays the private dining room is turned into a dedicated children's' area, with games and a 42-inch flat-screen TV to screen the kids' favourite movies. A new eight-page kids' menu encourages children to "build their own meal" and includes puzzles and colouring-in pictures as well as a section on how to find fun in healthy foods. A Sunday 'kids' club' is a meeting place for the offspring of regulars.

For the grown-ups, special event nights have become a popular feature: Iguaçu is now the place to be for the Melbourne Cup and New Year's Eve, and plans are under way for a themed mid-winter's ball in June. The restaurant's website was extended and restyled and an e-mail newsletter introduced for regular customers and other stakeholders.

But Julie-Ann had the ace of hearts in her sleeve. Throughout the restaurant's lean times, the quality of the food, with its emphasis on Pacific meets European, had remained high. As a long-time patron, she had first-hand knowledge. Iguaçu's food had always been her favourite. Award-winning head chef Mohammed Arun has been with Iguaçu since leaving Cin Cin 12 years ago.

In February, diners voted Iguaçu Best Fine Dining Restaurant in Auckland in the authoritative, international *Entertainment Guide*, beating the likes of Cin Cin, Sails and the Hilton Hotel's White. This, and the black in the balance sheet, proves the pudding, says Julie-Ann.

What's in a name? For reasons apparently now forgotten, Iguaçu takes its name from Brazil's famed Iguaçu Falls. But the name sounds good, and it has that other allure, the defining challenge of pronunciation: those in the know give equal emphasis to all three syllables.

Casting off

Peter Montgomery, has invented a vacuum mooring system which makes hawsers redundant. He talks to Gerry Evans.

It is small wonder that alumnus Peter Montgomery's new vacuum mooring system initially met some resistance from ship owners. His brilliant concept for mooring ships is now working successfully on the interisland ferry the *Aratere*, and on many other ships worldwide. But the idea is as revolutionary to the maritime industry as space travel would have been to the pilots of Tiger Moths. His system does away with mooring ropes, and the ship is held alongside by a powerful vacuum system.

Ship owners have always been conservative, especially the European ones. They resisted steamships. The Finns and the British had square-rigged sailing ships, which were sailing the seas carrying cargo long after other nations had changed to steam. It took the Second World War to convince them that ships could be built by welding instead of riveting. They thought a welded ship would break its back in heavy seas and would not stand up to Atlantic gales. During the Second World War, American liberty ships, often built in three days, were welded, and were still sailing the sea 20 years after the war ended.

Many ship owners also refused to fit radar to their ships until the sixties. They were convinced it would cause accidents by making officers neglect to keep a good lookout. Steel hatches and hydraulic hatches were also resisted, as was automatic steering, and any other labour saving device.

To understand just how revolutionary Montgomery's invention is, you need to know how the present mooring system works. Ships are normally moored by sending heavy hawsers to the quayside, which are then secured to bits (or bollards) embedded on the wharf. The hawsers are mooring ropes. They are fixed to winches on board that heave the ship alongside the quay. It is a dangerous procedure because it places a great strain on the ropes, which sometimes part under the strain, dismembering crew members or mooring gangs handling the ropes on the quayside. When a nylon rope parts under strain it will slice through steel as though it wasn't there.

The new system is a great saving in time for ship owners. Mooring a ferry, for example, can take up to 15 minutes, which, over the course of 24 hours of operation of a ferry, can amount to a several hours. The old system also requires all the deck crew and the deck officers to be present when the ship is moored - which breaks the sleep of those off watch.

Peter Montgomery's invention has changed all of that: no ropes, no men, and no winches groaning as they tighten the lines. His system, initially marketed by his small Christchurch company, Mooring Systems, is changing work practices in ports throughout the world.

The impetus for the invention was an incident he witnessed when he was a deck officer in the 1980s. "I was in Melbourne on a Tasman Express Line cargo boat, discharging paper pulp," he says. "We were shifting the ship to the dry-dock when one of the nylon mooring lines parted and killed an able seaman. It was a shocking moment. I still remember it vividly, and that was more than 25 years ago.

"He was a nice guy and hadn't long been married. I wrote to his wife to express the feelings of all aboard the ship, and give our condolences. Then I started thinking that there must be a safer way of mooring ships. It has taken years of design and trial and error, but it is now up and running. We will continue to refine and improve the system but it has already made the mooring of ships a safe practice."

All the same, Montgomery appreciates that it is a big investment to make. Typically, it will cost around $2 million, rather more than a set of mooring ropes. Those costs will be recouped over a period of years, with savings from greater safety, productivity and speed. However, Montgomery acknowledges that it is a big decision for a port operator or a shipping company to remove ropes and go to an unfamiliar vacuum system.

Before offering the system on the world market, Montgomery and his team first had to overcome an early hurdle: how to design around the different structures of wharves worldwide. That solved, he then started the hard slog of trying to convince multinational companies that the investment was worth their while. Frequently asked questions included whether the company would still be there in a year's time, and whether Montgomery's group could support the product from the other side of the world.

An impressive number were convinced. Clients now include Australia's top shipper, the Patrick Corporation, which has two vacuum mooring systems, Britain's Port of Dover and the St Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation. The Port of Salalah in Oman is testing a system.

In April last year the company signed a contract worth up to $45 million to supply the United States Navy with another of its products. Working with an American partner, Texas-based Oceaneering International, Montgomery's team will develop mobile sea bases, to provide high capacity transfer of 20-foot containers between big ships at seas.

Toll New Zealand is using the mooring system for the ferry Kaitaki and it is also in use on the rail ferry *Aratere*. Wellington Harbourmaster Captain Mike Pryce is convinced of its value and admires its ingenuity. "One item of equipment which has been working well are the 'iron sailors'. There are four units, all fitted on the port side, and grouped together in twos. Each unit consists of two square-section rubber pads. Which, when gun port doors in the ship's side are hydraulically lifted inwards and upwards, extend outwards through the opening and make contact with steel plates specially fitted to the wharf. These plates are supported by wires and pulleys and can move vertically over a limited distance.

"When contact is made, a vacuum is mechanically produced, 'sticking' the ship to the wharf. It is all done solely from the bridge, with the Master merely pushing a button marked 'moor' to extend the pads, and 'unmoor' to retract them. That is amazing!

"It usually takes a few minutes for anyone seeing the system in use for the first time to realise what is different about the berthed ship – there are no mooring lines out. And at sailing time, there's no early warning of departure, which used to be given by linesmen in high-visibility jerkins who made their way up to the bollards and stood by to let go. Now the only indication is a burst of smoke from both funnels as she suddenly pulls away from the wharf."

Peter Montgomery is well equipped to make a success of a maritime-based world business. He learnt his craft on New Zealand ships, sailing as a cadet on Union Steamship vessels and is a qualified Master Mariner. He also has a Masterate in Business Administration, graduating from Massey in 1995.

In early February his company officially become part of an international group, merging with the Netherlands-based Cavotec Group to form Cavotec MSL Holdings. Cavotec MSL Holdings will be 80 percent owned by 65 shareholders of Cavotec, with New Zealand shareholders holding 20 percent.

Cavotec companies have customers in 30 countries, and seven manufacturing plants in Canada, France, Sweden, Norway, Italy, Australia, and Germany. Cavotec have predicted the mooring system will be worth billions and its new chairman, Stefan Widergren, is confident that what are now called MoorMaster products are increasingly gaining recognition as a state-of-the-art mooring system for ferries, roll-on-roll-off-vessels and container ships.

For Montgomery the merger also brings much needed organisational and financial support.

He remains in charge of the bridge in the local company, renamed Cavotec Moon, as a subsidiary of Cavotec MSL Holdings, and will be one of three local directors on an eight-man board.

In the meantime he is already a hero to New Zealand shareholders who have seen the value of their shares increase nine-fold over the last six years. He took the trouble to ring more than 300 of those shareholders during the merger negotiations to explain why it was a good move.

Montgomery describes his work as "not a job but a way of life" and he is already planning future projects: His goal is to create a stable of about seven innovative MoorMaster products.

Courtesy of *The Christchurch Press*

Fine wines and high finance

John Williams talks to Rachel Donald.

In May 2003 marketers and brand strategists were smiling. For years they'd been trying to convince clients that success was all about the brand – not the product, not the bricks and mortar, but 'the story' – and that it was worth something on the bottom line.

They were smiling because they'd just been proved right by an international wine company that was willing to pay $18 million for a New Zealand name.

While the Crawfords owned land in Marlborough and Blenheim, none of that was included in the sale. What was sold was Kim Crawford Wines (KCW) brand and Kim and Erica Crawford's commitment to stay on for five years to realise the potential of the company that had so attracted North America's fourth largest wine company, Vincor.

The sale rattled the wine glasses in the industry as well. While there had been recent sales of other New Zealand wine companies to overseas interests – Montana sold to Allied Domecq for $1 billion in 2001, Wither Hills Winery was bought by Lion Nathan for $52 million and Ponder Estate went to Foster's Group for $11 million – they had all included land and physical assets in their deals.

For Massey graduate John Williams the 2003 deal was breaking new ground – not only for the wine industry but for him also. The accountancy graduate – "whatever you do don't call me an accountant" – was the business manager of KCW at the time. He had joined the company in 2000 to provide the business and financial expertise that the entrepreneurial couple lacked. It was he who had to work out how to maximise the sale of the virtual winery to the Canadian company Vincor International.

"I'd never sold a business before. I'm reasonably proud of what we achieved. We had the business professionally valued – and threw the valuation away. It wasn't enough. We knew what we wanted. We wrote up a heads of agreement and then started negotiating the sale and purchase. Vincor came all the way out here but in the negotiations we couldn't agree on some things – so we said 'no' and sent them home."

A month later they came back to sign the deal. "We were country boys from down under. I was a young, wet behind the ears accountant who didn't know anything about business, bit I was fortunate to have good advisors and an experienced board and the Vincor head said it was one of the toughest negotiations he'd been through."

The sale of the Kim Crawford Wines brand was a logical progression for the company that started out as a 'virtual' winery. Normally anyone getting into the wine industry sinks a lot of money into a vineyard, into the romanticism of growing grapes, but that path is very cash intense for little return. "To grow, you need a lot of cash. But if you sink all your capital into your vineyard you can't develop your brand," says John.

The Crawfords did exactly the opposite. Cash poor, they couldn't afford a winery but Kim had the awards to prove he was a very good wine maker and Erica had the strategic vision to market it. So they formed strong partnerships with contract growers, rented space to actually make the wine – and grew from nothing to become the fifth biggest wine company in New Zealand in just nine years.

From the beginning the focus was on the export market. In 1998 the company sent its first cases to the United States, Canada and Australia and began its long-term relationship with a United States distributor that eventually become the owner of KCW. Hogue Cellars distributed Kim Crawford Wines in the United States via its marketing arm, Vintage New World. In 2001, Vincor bought out Hogue Cellars, which eventually led to the purchase of the brand and intellectual property of KCW by Vincor in 2003.

From the outset the export strategy was to position the brand at the top of the market. The Crawfords had identified a place on the United States wine shop shelf for a premium priced wine. "We owned the $15 price point while others were squabbling over $8 to $10."

KCW launched their US invasion with a sauvignon blanc right when the world was recognising the quality of sauvs from down under. "You've got to have a good product but the branding, timing and positioning was also right," says John.

In New Zealand, while the Kim Crawford brand was becoming established in restaurants and off-licenses, the Crawfords realised that to sell volume in New Zealand you have to be in supermarkets, where 65 percent of wine is sold. Not wanting to diminish the quality of their brand, they developed Kim Crawford diamond label to be sold only through supermarkets.

"From brand point of view (selling in supermarkets) drives the brand down but it adds to the bottom line."

John joined Kim Crawford Wines in 2000 in a roundabout fashion that began as a favour to the fledgling company from some Hawke's Bay investors with whom Kim and Erica had formed a joint venture. The board were providing the corporate governance the company needed to grow and John was offered to KCW on a part-time basis to help implement the directives.

Kim had the winemaking ability and Erica contributed hugely to the company through management of the KCW brand, says John, but they needed someone to focus on the financial management of the business. "Fortunately we got on. They were able to let go and for me, it was like running my own business. I had a lot of autonomy."

"I'm an entrepreneurial person, so we got on well. None of us get bogged down in detail – one year I produced a one-page three-lined budget. And we learnt to focus on what was important. We were growing so quickly we didn't have time to be bogged down in detail. We knew what was important – sourcing grapes, sourcing cash to pay for the grapes and keeping control of costs – that was our financial management."

But the company was growing and it needed to be able to talk the language of business. It needed backing from banks and investors and to do that it needed to provide financial information in their language. With Kim's proven wine making ability, Erica's strategic marketing vision and some business management from John, the company flourished.

At the time of sale to Vincor, KCW was the tenth largest winery in terms of global sales and the sixth largest in New Zealand sales; in 2002 it sold 86,000 cases. In 2001, the company was exporting 15 containers a year to the United States. Soon after the sale it was sending 15 containers a month.

The decision to sell the brand was made to realise the potential of the business.

Says John: "Kim had a vision – to increase production from 80,000 cases to 300,000 in three years. To achieve that they needed a major investment."

At the time, the Crawfords said the sale would provide the company with the advantages of scale, streamline the operations and enable Kim to concentrate more on making quality wine, while remaining "a proudly New Zealand label".

The final price - $18 million - recognised the then value of the business and the growth and profit potential of the company over the next three years. But the Crawfords had to stay on and deliver on the vision of increasing exports to the US four-fold in three years, while maintaining the $15 price point.

"It was good for both sides," says John. "They got growth, we got to achieve the vision."

But there was a downside. "Suddenly we had to have monthly accounts, auditors, internal controls. It was a great learning curve but three years working for a public company – I never want to do it again."

Since 2003, KCW has changed ownership again. In April last year, Constellation Brands, the world's largest wine company, merged with Vincor International, buying the KCW owner for C$1.27 billion. The merged company, which already owned Nobilo, Selak and Drylands in New Zealand, now has over four percent of the global wine market.

John saw this as his opportunity to exit KCW. He's still heavily involved with Kim and Erica, spending two days a week managing their trust. He's also a part-time director, sitting on the boards of other wineries and wine industry companies. As a manager of the Kim and Erica Crawford Trust, he has the opportunity to identify business opportunities for the couple to invest in "We have a lot of intellectual property between us and there is a lot of opportunities out there."

Kim Crawford

Kim Crawford, the man behind the $18 million brand, first arrived at Massey intending to become a vet. Thankfully, say those that swear by his unoaked chardonnay, a lecturer suggested that he instead consider the rapidly expanding wine industry. In 1983 Kim, having pursued majors in microbiology and botany, graduated with a BSc. He followed this with a postgraduate diploma in winemaking at Roseworthy College in South Australia and winemaking experience in Australia, California, and South Africa where he met Erica, the other half of Kim Crawford Wines.

Arriving back in New Zealand in 1988, Kim started at Coopers Creek as assistant winemaker. A year later he was the winemaker. During the decade he was with them, Cooper's Creek claim to have won more medals and trophies than any other small-to-medium scale New Zealand winery.

He also developed a consultancy, working alongside smaller wineries in the increasingly important Marlborough region.

In 1996, while still working about a day at week at Coopers, he and Erica formed Kim Crawford Wines, a 'virtual' wine company run from a spare room in their Auckland home. Kim sourced grapes from contract growers, and made the wine in leased wineries; Erica managed sales and marketing from home. Although it owned neither vines, nor land, nor a winery, the winery produced 4000 cases of wine that year, half exported to London.

They have since focused on sauvignon blanc, merlot and chardonnay, producing natural, uncluttered, frequently medal-winning wines using the best grapes from every premium wine-growing region in New Zealand.

In 1999, in a joint venture with Te Awanga vineyards, the company opened a cellar door to public. Nonetheless, Kim Crawford Wines still remained a 'landless' winemaker.

In 2000 the Crawfords themselves, in a joint venture with other Marlborough wine companies, acquired a winery and land in Marlborough. This supplies quality grapes that can be harvested at their best.

After school

He was Massey's youngest ever extramural student. Now he is a lead engineer for the blockbuster Xbox game Halo. *Meet Chris Butcher. Malcolm Wood writes.*

Preparing a new world for its opening is a painstaking job. February 2007, and on game developer Bungie's web site hints are being dropped about what awaits: foliage that parts as you push through it, generating plays of dappled shadow; water that flows, that is rippled by winds; and hyperrealistic gunfire that takes on different characteristics when heard close by or off in the distance.

Near Chris Butcher's office in Seattle, a host of human and alien life forms, good and evil – marines, brutes, elites, prophets – are being prepared to meet their public. Their dialogue is being scripted and recorded, their behaviour tweaked.

This is, as Chris terms it, the golden time. "All of the tools are there, all of the ideas are solidified. Now it's really about execution and commitment to quality. Every hour counts."

The world is that of *Halo 3*, the latest incarnation of a franchise that for the last six years has been the de facto standard by which the first-person-shooter video game genre is judged. Other games like it are often referred to 'Halo clones' or, if the anticipation is particularly eager or the hype particularly heavy, as possible '*Halo* killers'.

How successful has *Halo* been? *Halo Combat Evolved*, released in November 2001 as a launch title for Microsoft's Xbox platform, sold more than five million copies worldwide. It was the Xbox's 'killer app'. *Halo 2*, released in November 2004, was the most popular video game on Xbox Live for two years, selling over seven million units by 2005.

Halo has spun off a series of novels. There is a fraternity of fans who use the graphics engine to create their own dubbed *Halo* movies (or machinima). There are even professional *Halo* players, Chris tells me, whose sponsorship contracts can go into six figures.

Little wonder that when I buy my copy of *Halo 2* for research purposes, the salesman presses me for anything I may have learned from Chris about *Halo 3*'s release date. I tell him the topic was out of bounds.

"That figures," he says.

Chris has been there through it all. Indeed Bungie's web site places him among the company's 'grizzled ancients'. Not bad going for a 29-year-old. But then Chris has stolen a march on most people: he passed School Certificate before turning 10; began his studies at Massey at nine, and graduated with his first degree at 15.

Chris Butcher was born in Canterbury in 1978 to parents who were then working as scientists for the DSIR. But within a few years of his birth the family moved south. His father, Peter (whose varied career would include chemist, soil scientist, and botanist among the job descriptions) became a soil conservator for the Waitaki Catchment Commission based in Kurow, gateway to the tussock expanses of the Mackenzie country. His mother, Hilary, devoted her energies to Chris and his two siblings until they reached school age.[1]

Over these years the family alternated between workday weeks in Kurow, where they rented, and weekends and holidays in the seaside settlement of Kakanui where they owned a house.

They were, recalls Chris, idyllic times. In Kurow, he says, "we'd go and fly kites on the top of the hill in the nor' west wind that blows down from the Alps, or we'd wander round and find little streams and river basins in this gorgeous tussock land".

He and his siblings would roam the beach on weekends. "Even though I am not what you would call an outside person any more, having all that when I was growing up was really beautiful."

He was also fortunate in his family culture. Both of his parents were, to use today's terminology, lifelong learners; his mother Hilary in particular was there to read books to her toddler and talk to him whenever he wanted. "She deserves any and all credit for instilling a love of learning [in me] at an early age."

When Chris entered Kurow Area School [now Waitaki Valley School] at age five, principal Stuart McDonald, noticed, in Chris's words, "a little bit of potential", and summoned an educational child psychologist. Chris's reading age was assessed as that of a 12-year-old; in short order he was advanced two academic years and was receiving supplementary coaching in advanced mathematics from his mother, who would come into school to go over the textbooks with him.

His first experience of gaming came when he was four or five. The Waitaki District Catchment Commission housed a minicomputer (a Digital PDP 11/23), and sometimes Chris's father Peter would sneak his precocious child in to surreptitiously play one of the resident games. They were games only a geek could love, the input going through a keyboard, the output emerging line by chattering line from a dot matrix printer.

"There was a Star Trek kind of game. It would print out the sector surrounding your spaceship, you would type in numbers for where you wanted to fire torpedoes, and then it would print out the sector again. That was fun."

A few months later his father purchased a Sinclair ZX81, a computer console, which loaded its programmes via cassette tape and connected to a television as a monitor. "I would start by typing

in games that I found in magazines and then I would modify them, changing little things." On a more sophisticated Spectravideo SV-328 he installed a lunar lander game. "I'd make my own levels for it and change it so it would drop little weapon crates that the lunar lander would go and pick up. And I would get my brother to go and play it and tell me what he thought, and I would go and change things."

At age eight, Chris remembers, he became intrigued by the content of the computer science classes his father Peter was taking extramurally through Massey.[2] Programs coded on to punch cards would be sent to Palmerston North to be run on a mainframe computer and the results posted back. "That sounded really interesting, so I asked him if I could join in and do a few exercises."

(Peter's account is slightly different. He had intended that he and Chris should enrol in the same year when Chris was eight, but his son needed special approval and delays in the paperwork prevented him from enrolling until the following year.)

The next year, at age nine, with his father's blessing and the help of the Massey Extramural Students Society [EXMSS] he enrolled in two papers, the first in a series that would lead to a double major in science and computing. (But for a delay in the processing of his application, Chris would have begun extramural study at the age of eight.)

For the first couple of years, he and Peter studied papers in common. Chris found it easy enough to grasp abstract concepts but his lack of life experience sometimes left him floundering. "There was a topic on managing your information systems and how to keep your projects on track, and I think I got an 'E' or something. I had no idea about business processes or anything like that. I was about 12. Still, an 'E': it was kind of humiliating."

He sat the extramural exams in nearby Oamaru. "One of my fondest memories is of the woman who ran the examinations. She had this beautiful, large house with a gorgeous garden. I would get my parents to take me there early because I liked to talk to her, have tea and explore her garden. Sometimes I would try to finish the exam early just so I could wander around and read some of the interesting books she had."

Chris also became a regular visitor to Palmerston North for vacation courses, first staying in motels with his father, then staying in student dormitories, and, finally, boarding with EXMSS president Liz Hawes and her partner, author, playwright and actor Peter Hawes.

"I loved taking time away from school and focusing on the courses for a couple of weeks. Going to six or seven hours of lectures a day focused on a particular mathematical topic was really exciting. I remember thinking, 'Boy, the students going to college and attending lectures have it made. It's so much easier than going through a text book and trying to figure it out for yourself'."

How did he find the experience of being the solitary youngster in a class of adults?

"You put a kid in that sort of situation and they will be looking to make friends. If all the people in your class are 30 to 35-year-old men and women then you are going to try to make friends with them as best you can."

One postgraduate teacher took him off to play Dungeons and Dragons with some of his postgraduate friends.

Liz and Peter Hawes remember Chris well. They have anecdotes of how he took a manuscript of Peter's latest book to bed with him one evening and delivered an incisive critique the following morning ("not necessarily a most favourable one," says Peter), of how when taken to a regional netball game the slightly-built Harry Potter-like youngster displayed an uncanny knowledge of performance and form, of how he achieved effortless mastery of the sound control system for one of Peter's theatrical productions.

And they remember how well he was able to relate to everyone. Indeed, Chris was fascinated by his fellow students and the many walks of life they came from.

In the popular imagination giftedness shouldn't be like this. Giftedness or genius, in Hollywood terms, should confer other compensatory disabilities. The gifted should be socially autistic or even schizophrenic, as in *A Beautiful Mind*, or at least dislocated and conflicted as in *Good Will Hunting*.

Chris isn't that way at all. He seems almost distressingly well adjusted. To be sure, there is some link between autism-like conditions and mathematical ability, he says. (Asperger's is sometimes called the 'little professor syndrome'.) And some of the people he works with are certainly extraordinarily focused and single minded. But this isn't him.

"I do like doing well and achieving things but I have always been more about learning and having fun and experiencing things. And that's served me very well. I have never been that worried about being the best."

At 15, Chris graduated from Massey with a BSc; at 16, while in his final year at school, he continued extramural study, acquiring a Postgraduate Diploma in Mathematics.

Then it was on to Otago, the nearest university to his family home. Strangely enough, although he took papers in computer science, he wasn't sure he wanted to carry on with it. "I was really excited about being a scientist and discovering new things and helping make the world a better place." He took papers in physics and chemistry, but computers, computer games, computer graphics were so much fun. Nothing could displace them.

"I loved the idea that you were creating these worlds that existed only inside the computer and then you were able to write code to render them and to look at them."

"I always remember the disappointment of the chemistry professor at Otago when I told him I wasn't going to go and do honours in chemistry because I just wanted to go on and do some computer graphics work.

"I loved the idea that you were creating these worlds that existed only inside the computer and then you were able to write code to render them and to look at them."

He joined Otago's computer graphics research group, and in his third year he and his fellow students would gather in the computer labs to play *Marathon* (another Bungie game) on the Macintoshes. An arms race between the systems administrators and the students ensued: the sysadmins determined to maintain network security, the students intent on bypassing it to run fragfests late into the night.

Chris added a masterate in computer science to his academic resumé, then commenced working on his PhD; his thesis addressed real-time visualisation of graphics for computer-aided modelling. "Things were going alright, but I wasn't that happy with the progress I had made. I was looking at starting over or writing something that I thought would be sub-par. I was also running tournaments on the internet for *Myth*, another more strategic game Bungie had put out. So I was running these tournaments for hundreds of thousands of people on the internet. Then I saw that Bungie had a position for a computer graphics programmer on their web site."

On spec, he sent in a couple of demos.[3] Bungie liked them. He was interviewed by phone, flown to the United States, interviewed in person, and offered a job.

Who was his new employer? Bungie was set up in 1992 by Alexander Seropian to publish his self-penned *Operation: Desert*

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[1] When her youngest child entered school, Hilary became a food technologist at Nestlé in Oamaru. Chris's brother is now an airline pilot. His sister works for the Ministry of Education.

[2] Chris's father Peter was the EXMSS coordinator for North Otago.

[3] One of them being an adaptive-level-of-detail terrain rendering engine allowing players to fly over Myth maps.

Storm. Bungie's first significant success came with 1993's *Pathways into Darkness* written for the Macintosh. *Pathways* was followed by *Marathon* in 1994, Myth in 1997 (Mac and PC), and *Oni* (Mac, PC and Playstation 2) in 2000. All garnered praise and awards.

The game that would become *Halo* was demoed at a Macworld in 1999. It looked spectacular. Certainly Microsoft, which was quietly preparing to enter the market with its own console was impressed; shortly afterwards it bought the company.

Although slated to work on *Halo*, Chris was first flown to San Jose to work on the artificial intelligence for *Oni*.

Bungie had found cheap office space amongst the urban sprawl, not that surrounding physical environment mattered too much to Chris.

"I was spending all my time at work back then. We were working 100, 110 hour weeks, and when I'd go do my laundry – I didn't have my license at that time – the only other people I'd see walking would be wearing bathrobes and pushing shopping carts full of plastic bags."

Once, so Bungie legend has it, he was so bushed that he fell asleep in a park on the way home.

"I think it was the fourth of July actually, because there were fireworks over San Jose, and I was walking home earlier than usual. I was so tired, I knew I had to go home and get some sleep. It was probably only around 10 or 11 and there were fireworks over downtown and I saw these people sitting out in the high school playing field. They had a nice view of downtown from there and they had folding chairs. I thought I'll watch for a few minutes and then I'll go home, and when I woke up I was cold and clammy and there was dew on my face."

From *Oni*, Chris went on to work alongside fellow games developer Jaime Griesemer on the artificial intelligence for *Halo 1*, or more accurately, on working out ways of making the game's characters act in ways that convey the illusion of intelligence.

Real artificial intelligence, according to Chris, is still many years away.

When Bungie was developing *Pathway into Darkness* in the early 1990s the development was done on a Mac IIFX. Described then as 'wicked fast', the IIFX ran at 40 MHz. Today the Xbox 360 gaming console runs with a three-core chip, each core running at 3200 MHz.

Advances in graphics processing power have allowed ever-increasing levels of detail and realism in gaming worlds. In fact, so real have the worlds become that game developers now contend with something they call the uncanny valley: when a character becomes cosmetically close to being real any aspect of its behaviour that seems unnatural will jar disproportionately.

"Games like *Halflife II* have very elaborate facial animation systems," explains Chris, "and Ken Perlin [a professor at NYU] can create completely synthetic characters that appear to express emotion through their animation and through their reaction and their movement. But there is no real emotion behind any of that. We haven't made any progress whatsoever towards actually simulating any kind of social interaction. There's such a long way to go."

What of the latest platform, the Nintendo Wii? Chris dismisses it as a toy. A clever toy that with its easy-to-use gaming wand will widen the game-playing demographic, but a toy nonetheless.

"Ultimately it's a dead end. For me what is really interesting is creating game worlds that are stimulating and immersive."

The Bungie of today is very different from the one he entered back in 1998. Microsoft's acquisition and *Halo*'s success have meant many changes. For one thing, a change in location: Bungie is now located just outside Seattle, close by Microsoft's Redmond campus. For another, a change in scale: 80-plus Bungie staff are dedicated to the *Halo* project, 18 of them engineers. Chris is one of five lead engineers.

For Chris, too, things have changed markedly. Living in Seattle, with its culture, climate and surrounding natural landscape, suits him well. He is happily married.

Does he miss the old days of 120-hour weeks? Not really.

"Everybody goes through that phase. You stay up late, you eat pizza, you drink Mountain Dew and write computer games. It's the most fun thing in the world to be there with a bunch of people with a shared passion."

He stays in touch with the people he worked with back in 1998 though. "Put people through hell together and they will form a bond with each other."

As a lead engineer (and 'grizzled ancient') he can now even at times step back a little and think strategically about where next. So where will *Halo* go? Legions of *Halo* gamers want to know. Chris is somewhat bemused by the extent of the game's fan base and he is fascinated by the many different ways people relate to the game: to the backstory of the *Halo* universe; to the sheer wonder of the game's landscape; to the choice of playing in single or multiplayer mode.

His father, for example, still plays the original *Halo* release – which he prefers – and *Halo 2* in single-player mode. They are, he says, the only Xbox games that hold an attraction for him.

Chris's reaction to the phenomenon of his father the *Halo* player? "It's surprising and really heartwarming and funny."

Bungie is of course constantly reacting to the feedback from its fans, but not too slavishly. Sometimes what players say they want is not what they really want, Chris explains. The game's aesthetic overrides all.

"One of the people I admire most is J.K.Rowling. She's under such incredible pressure from the public to do X or to do Y or do Z. She has this real integrity. She respects and appreciates her fans, but she knows what she wants to do with Harry Potter. She knows how she wants to finish the tale."

Playing by numbers

Gender of US gamers: 62 percent male 38 percent female.

Percentage of US heads of households who play computer or video games: 69 percent.

Average age of US frequent game purchaser: 40 years.

Percentage of US gamers over the age of 50: 25 percent.

Percentage of US gamer parents who report that they play video games with their children: 80 percent. Percentage of these who feel that playing games has brought their families closer together: 66 percent.

2005 US revenues for entertainment software products and directly related accessories: $10.5 billion.

Source: Entertainment Software Association www.theesa.com

Learning across the ages

The urge to learn knows no age boundaries. Massey's extramural students have historically ranged from nine-year-olds through to people in their eighties, some of whom have racked up multiple qualifications. So, if your child has been identified as gifted, should you be considering extramural study? Tracy Riley, a senior lecturer specialising in gifted and talented education says deciding whether 'accelerated learning' – the category to which extramural study belongs – is appropriate depends very much on the qualities and circumstances of the individual child.

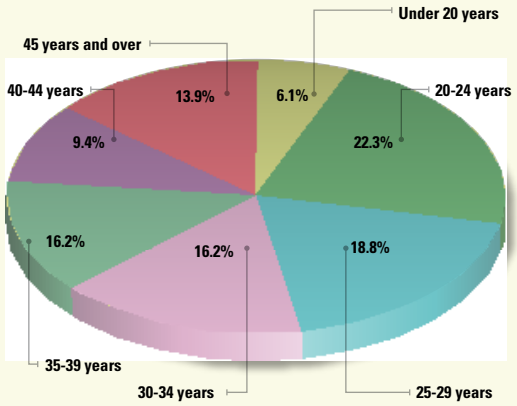
"For one thing, you need to have sound evidence that your child will be able to perform at a more advanced academic level. For another, you have to be certain he or she has the desire and eagerness to move ahead. Then there has to be support - from the home, from the school and from the university."

She also warns that extramural study demands that students, whatever their age, have a strong sense of autonomy and self direction.

What effect will accelerated learning have on the gifted child's social and emotional development? Despite some folk wisdom to the contrary, the research evidence, according to Riley, is overwhelmingly positive; Chris Butcher's experience is not atypical. With the right support and monitoring a gifted child offered accelerated learning makes gains academically, emotionally and socially.

For information about papers in gifted and talented education: http://tinyurl.com/yrg92y.

For resources for gifted and talented education: http://tinyurl.com/2gmuc6.



Age at enrolment of new extramural students

A flying start

Imagine that you are Yanina Kovalchuk. You are 19 years old and a graduate of the St Petersburg Forestry Academy, with a degree in forestry business. You enjoyed the study and are thinking about doing a masterate. You pay for your studies by working at Subway outlets in St Petersburg and you rather enjoy that as well. But you love surfing and fresh air, and you miss your mother who is a long, long way away; four years ago she followed her new partner to his farm at Akitio, a tiny coastal settlement in New Zealand. What is a girl to do?

Yanina, known as Yana, took the plunge. Two years ago she left Saint Petersburg (population approximately 4.5 million) for New Zealand. When she arrived she decided, in words she uses often, to "start my life again". She discovered that her forestry degree "was not much use in New Zealand and the cross crediting process was too complicated." She lived briefly in Palmerston North, where she attended English speaking classes, then enrolled as an extramural student at Massey before joining her mother at Akitio (permanent population perhaps 300).

She is now half way through a Bachelor in Aviation Management degree and has a particular interest in the human resources aspects of the industry. She plans a career in aviation, and after she graduates she may start her life again, with a move to Australia where she perceives there may be more opportunities.

To fund her studies she set up a novel business at Akitio Beach with her mother, Tanya Banks. The township sits alongside one of the best beaches in the Wairarapa region, with fine views and rolling surf. But it is isolated and there is certainly no Starbucks or Subway outlet. "I loved it immediately," Yana says. "But I missed my lattés."

Mother and daughter bought a caravan on TradeMe, painted it and set it up as a mini café. They called it 'Rush In Takeaways': "Two Russian girls, what else?" says Yana. They sell espresso, latté, cappuccino, sandwiches, salads, sushi and fish and chips. In the summer, they have good takings and they do well during a special event, such as the Shark Hunt competition at Akitio in February. Other times, they may take the caravan into Dannevirke, 75 kilometres away, to a sports event.

On a typical day, Yana will study in the caravan between customers, help out on the farm, grab her board in the late afternoon to catch some surf and work on her computer in the evening.

She expects to finish her degree within two years and has used summer school to fast track. Extramural study, she says, is exactly right for her. "I love the freedom of it and the way it requires you to practise good time management. Every day here is like a holiday but with study part of the holiday. It is perfect for someone like me who likes the fun of making big changes to her life."

MASSEY UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

Massey University Foundation's role is to fund and support projects that enable excellence in the delivery of teaching and research at Massey. Most of these projects require additional funding. We work with alumni and other individual supporters, industry, commerce and Government to find that funding. All donations are spent in accordance with the wishes of the donor. Funds received are held on trust, and invested in an approved investment plan. The costs of the Foundation are all met by our University and the activities of the Foundation are governed by a board committed to the future of the University. Board members donate their time and expertise.

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The best solution isn't always the most obvious one. That's why Massey University staff and students are constantly coming up with new ideas, and why they're gaining well deserved recognition. The Foundation is dedicated to finding new ways of igniting imagination. A wide range of their innovative and compelling projects and activities are in need of your support. Current projects include:

Dr Peter Snell, Visiting Fellow in Exercise and Health Sciences
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To find out more about these projects and how you can support excellence at Massey University, please contact the Foundation office.

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Trusts are dedicated to the furtherance of specific areas of research and education. Each has its own trustees and programme of activity. Details of the work undertaken by each of these trusts is available from the Foundation and all welcome contributions to support their activities.

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MESSAGE FROM VICE-CHANCELLOR PROFESSOR JUDITH KINNEAR

"Massey University Foundation has been established to support the achievement of our researchers and students and, at the same time contribute to national growth. By contributing through the Foundation and providing enriched opportunities for students and researchers, you become a partner of Massey in that national contribution. Because the University meets all the administrative costs of the Foundation, all funds received through the Foundation are used for the purposes specified. I commend the Foundation to you and encourage you to become involved with the achievements of the staff and students at Massey University."

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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MASSEY UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

THE KEN & ELIZABETH POWELL BEQUEST

Ken Powell knows how things work. And how to fix them if they don't.

In fact, he has spent a lifetime correcting precision equipment. Since WWII, Ken and the 'boys' in his Palmerston North shop have serviced all sorts of gauges and levels, survey and aero equipment. For decades, items would be sent to Ken, from as far north as Kaitaia to Bluff in the south, to be restored, mended, adjusted and modified.

Over time, Ken has developed a keen perception of the importance of being able to measure and describe the world with accuracy.

Enter Elizabeth, the real love of Ken's life. Elizabeth helped deliver thousands of children into the world in her role as a local midwife and registered nurse. Together, they have witnessed huge changes in technology in their fields of work.

Ken and Elizabeth decided to make a bequest within the Foundation to enable students to explore the wonders of technology.

"Having no children of our own, we see this as our way of giving technology students in our home town a helping hand", says Elizabeth. "Technology has been at the heart of our lives and work and we want our bequest to give people enthusiastic about technology, an extra edge", enthuses Ken.

The Powell Bequest will be used to support scholarships and research in aspects of technology within the University. Funding like the Powell Bequest ensures that Massey students are given the help they need to really imagine new ways to measure and describe the world, now and in the future.

Students share the same passions as you do. Consider the impact you could have in nurturing the development of their futures. Like the Powells, you could leave a bequest to Massey University specifically targeted to areas important to you.

MASSEY UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

FUNDING THE FUTURE

MAKING A BEQUEST TO MASSEY UNIVERSITY

Please contact Mike Freeman at
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+64 04 801 4820

REVIEWERS

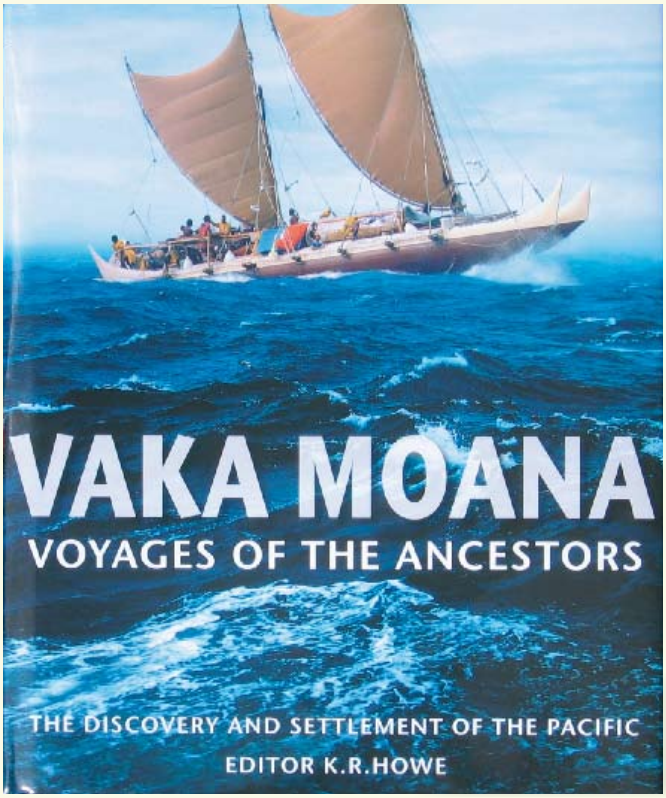
Professor Barrie Macdonald is Pro Vice-Chancellor of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. In a previous life as a Pacific historian, he had a particular interest in decolonisation, development and good governance in the countries of Oceania.

Gavin Hipkins is a Wellington-based artist and writer. His photographic projects have been widely exhibited throughout New Zealand and internationally. He teaches in the School of Fine Arts.

Head of the School of History and Politics, James Watson teaches the papers Modern New Zealand Politics; New Zealand Rural History; and Fascism.

Patrick Morgan is a Wellington-based journalist.

Associate Professor Dianne Brunton is, as *MASSEY* readers will know, an expert in the science of birdsong and in species relocations.



Vaka Moana: Voyages of the Ancestors. The Discovery and Settlement of the Pacific.

Edited by K.R. Howe. Auckland: David Bateman/Auckland Museum, 2006.
ISBN: 9781869536251. 360pp. Plates, maps, index. $90.00.
Reviewed by Barrie Macdonald

Few who have lived, worked or travelled in the Pacific Islands can fail to ponder on questions posed by Captain James Cook 250 years ago concerning the origins of the Polynesians. How did the Polynesian peoples, with their similar languages and cultures reach their remote and scattered islands, and where did they come from?

For me, these questions were first posed in the late 1960s, before I even went to the islands. At the Australian National University, I had the office next to that of Dr David Lewis who gathered and preserved ancient navigational knowledge that was remembered but not written, and helped to encourage a renaissance of canoe building and inter-island voyaging.

A few months later, as I was engaged on research in the islands of Kiribati, located where the equator intersects with the international dateline, I sat as an audience of one as Lewis gently interrogated a renowned navigator. He led his informant through intricate matters of navigation and land-finding. The old man explained how, when sailing between the island we were on and its neighbour, he could always identify his position by interpreting waves, swells and currents even when cloud prevented his use of sun, moon or stars.

With regard to land-finding, the navigator spoke of bird flight paths and the interpretation of cloud patterns. At one stage it was clear, even to me (for I had witnessed it from the trading vessel on which I had travelled to the islands) that Lewis wanted comment on the colours reflected on the underside of clouds (especially the milky green that indicated an atoll lagoon). The navigator spoke in great detail about the building of clouds and the subtle interpretation of their shapes and movement, but made no mention of colour. Making no progress, Lewis finally asked a direct question and after a short silence, was given a gentle explanation. Lewis's reputation had come before him from the Micronesian islands to the north; he was himself a navigator and had proved this by turning up in his small, battered ketch. The cloud effect he referred to was so obvious that anyone could see it; for a real navigator, it was merely confirmation that land already identified from a much greater distance was now close at hand.

The next revelation came a few weeks later when, on a larger island to the south – in reality, several scattered islets along a reef and enclosed by a large lagoon – I needed to travel between two villages almost at opposite ends of the lagoon. Too impatient to wait for the government ship that was not due for several days (or might take weeks), I decided to hire the Island Council's canoe which came complete with boatman and a prisoner as crew.

As an aside, under British colonial

regulations, our crewman was an 'Extramural Prisoner', my first introduction to extramural anything. Extramural means 'outside the walls' after all and, in this case, it meant living at home, providing your own meals, and working on public works for no pay. For small remote islands, extramural imprisonment, despite its contradictions, made sense. The main offences were drunkenness (from fermented sap of the coconut tree) and fighting with (very sharp) knives, usually in combination. Until I came to Massey, I assumed the words extramural and prisoner to be inextricably bound, which is, perhaps, why I have always preferred "distance education" to "extramural studies".

The canoe was about eight metres long, pointed at both ends, with the hull standing 1.2 metres high but less than half a metre across the top at its widest point. The timber may have been imported, but the construction was all traditional. Thin, narrow planks, most no more than a metre or two long, were tied and caulked with string and wadding made from coconut husk fibre. All was tied; no nails, screws or glue were used. A lattice of poles about three metres wide provided a deck from which was suspended an outrigger float shaped from a single log. There was a triangular sail suspended from a central mast.

We had a journey of two halves – the first laboriously tacking across the lagoon making, it seemed, little progress towards our destination. Laborious because every tack meant that the boatman and prisoner had to change ends – the former carrying his steering oar, and the latter having to transfer the downward point of our triangular sail from one end of the canoe to the other so that the outrigger would always stay on the windward side.

The second half was altogether different. After a final tack, we turned towards our destination, now too far away to be seen, and began an exhilarating downwind run of some 35 km. As the passenger hung on grimly, the prisoner tried to maintain his balance as he moved in and out on the outrigger to the shouted instructions of the boatman so that we obtained the maximum speed with the outrigger float staying largely clear of the water and just skimming the top of every fourth or fifth wave. For his part, the boatman seemed to have no difficulty in managing the steering oar by tucking it under one arm while rolling a smoke (using pandanus leaf rather than paper), and singing 'It's a long way to Tipperary', the only discernible evidence of his mission education at the hands of Irish nuns.

Decades later, the fascination and questions remain, which is why I picked up *Vaka Moana* with keen interest, and I was not disappointed. At the heart of *Vaka Moana* is that same question posed by Captain Cook – of where the Polynesians came from and how they reached their widely scattered islands with cultures and languages that were clearly related. And what was the stepping-off point – Asia, specifically Southeast Asia as commonly assumed (even by Cook on the basis of his observations of material culture) or South America, India, or the remoter reaches of the Nile, or were they one of the lost tribes of Israel? All have been the subject of speculation across the past 250 years.

> ... after the end of the ice age and the consequent expansion of the oceans, Polynesians reached the remote islands of the Pacific with boat-building, navigation and land-finding skills thousands of years in advance of any other population of the time.

To make the puzzles even more intriguing, the movement of Polynesians to colonise the south and eastern Pacific – the last region on earth to be settled by humans – was the first migration to cross significant stretches of water. In other words, after the end of the ice age and the consequent expansion of the oceans, Polynesians reached the remote islands of the Pacific with boat-building, navigation and land-finding skills thousands of years in advance of any other population of the time. Whereas most of the rest of the world was settled by people who walked to their destinations, crossing short stretches of water using primitive craft and a measure of hope, the Polynesians sailed. Even if they did not know what lay ahead, they knew where they had come from and where they were, and were confident upon the ocean. The DNA evidence suggests a 'founding' female population for New Zealand of between 70 and 190, which means that the canoes reaching New Zealand were bent on exploration or settlement and not warfare or fishing, both of which were male preoccupations.

It is, perhaps, the romantic heroism that was constructed around this great undertaking that has perpetuated the myths promoted by the likes of Thor Heyerdahl (South American origins) and Percy S. Smith (the settlement of New Zealand by a great canoe fleet) long after they had been discredited, and has kept scholarly interest in the subject alive over recent decades despite the resolution of most of the unanswered questions, using new scientific techniques.

In its own origins, *Vaka Moana* is the book of an exhibition of the same name that opened in December in the Auckland Museum. The exhibition is a huge undertaking – demonstrating not only the 'family tree' of Polynesian settlement (where DNA sequencing is finally resolving arguments carried on by generations of archaeologists, linguists and plant biologists), but the means of migration and the evolving material culture and social organisation of the newly settled societies. As well as the

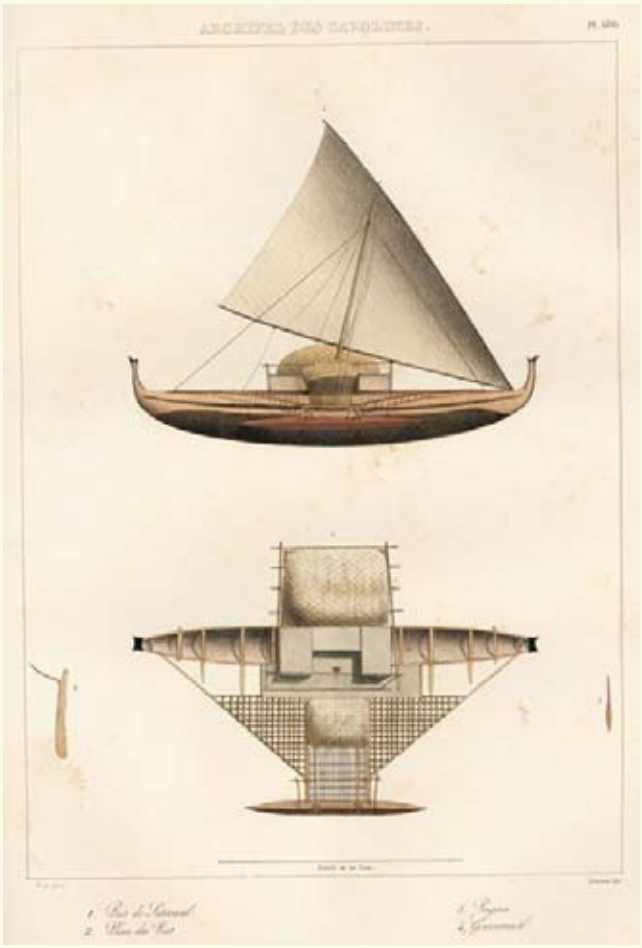
expected canoes, carvings and stories of the founding gods and goddesses of Polynesian mythology, there is a chance to see original works from Cook's voyages by Webber and Hodges, and to explore islands and oceans for oneself through artefacts and multimedia displays; a real highlight is a night sky as it was seen, and used, by Micronesian navigators. *Vaka Moana* is the book of the exhibition, and a valuable complement to it, but it is also much more.

Vaka Moana has more maps, reproductions of artworks, and photographs of people, places, events and artefacts than an exhibition could possibly accommodate. It also has a broader scope, with an extensive coverage of canoe and sail types, the star compasses and other concepts and devices used for inter-island voyaging, and land-finding techniques. It covers post-settlement societies, later voyaging (including for head-hunting) and the later interaction of the 'two worlds' – Polynesian and European. Just as fascinating are the accounts of the dispersal of plants and the non-human (and often unintended) migrants, notably the Polynesian rat and dog.

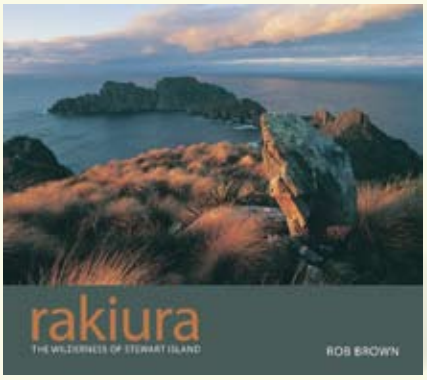
As editor (and with a hand in the curating of the exhibition), Massey University's Professor Kerry Howe has gathered an international who's who of scholars to provide this state-of the-art-account of Polynesian migration and settlement. Under Howe's over-arching editorship, each section has a lead author and may include contributions by a number of others. It includes, among others, Rawiri Taonui on oral traditions, Geoff Irwin on the archaeological evidence of voyaging and settlement; Ben Finney on canoes, navigation and the voyaging renaissance, Roger Neich on voyaging in the post settlement period, and Anne Salmond on European voyagers and the meeting of Polynesian and European cultures. Howe rounds off the book with an analysis of western views of Polynesian migration and the ways in which these have been bounded more by European perceptions than by Polynesian realities.

The book is well written, lavishly illustrated and beautifully produced; it gathers the current state of knowledge and packages it well. It is a fitting tribute to epic voyages, Polynesian and European, and brings great credit not only to the editor and authors but also to the museum and publisher who have sponsored the whole enterprise; it has been an epic journey of its own.

So: should you buy this book, despite its price? Absolutely, if you are fascinated by the sea or want to learn and understand more about New Zealand's past and its Pacific connections. If you buy a copy from the museum, you could get the exhibition T-shirt and cap as well, and have a matching set.



Dumont D'urville, Archipel des Carolines.



Rakiura: The Wilderness of Stewart Island

by Rob Brown, Craig Potton Publishing, ISBN: 1877333476, $64.99

Reviewed by Gavin Hipkins

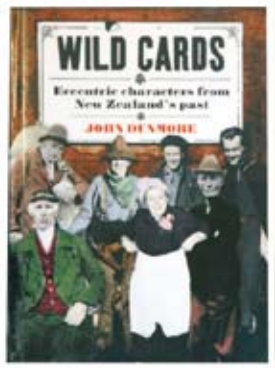
Craig Potton Publishing specialises in richly printed collections of New Zealand landscape photography. This focus reflects Craig Potton's own status as a celebrated landscape photographer and his broad interest in preserving and creating personal engagement with New Zealand's extraordinary landscape. In this light, Rob Brown's Rakiura is certainly Pottonesque. Stewart Island (Rakiura) is presented in luscious plates interspersed with short essays.

The essays provide an engaging account of Stewart Island's history from pre-European contact onwards, covering the island's social, cultural and economic changes. Absent is the visual complement: photographs showing the presence of people and their impact.

In 2002, Stewart Island became a national park. In one essay Brown reminds the viewer to remain ever-conscious of the increased demands that tourism and national-park-as-commodity can have on local communities and unspoilt nature. He hopes that the island will retain its wildness and survive the potential threat of "crowded viewing platforms."

Of course there is an irony here. In recording an idealised nature the book is also functioning as postcard for the reader. Having seen these beautiful – at times sublimely otherworldly – photographs, and noted that the last chapter is titled 'Tramping on Stewart Island', I too now want to visit. In celebrating the apparently untouched beauty spots on our most southern island, Brown cannot help but invite the very tourism of which he himself is so wary.

Rob Brown holds a BTech (Hons) Product Development from Massey and featured alongside Shaun Barnett (see the back inside cover of this issue) in MASSEY *issue 8.*



Wild Cards: Eccentric Characters from New Zealand's Past

by John Dunmore, Auckland: New Holland Press, ISBN: 186966132X, $34.99

Reviewed by James Watson

In this book John Dunmore, Professor Emeritus of this university and pre-eminent historian of French exploration in the Pacific, has gathered together a substantial pack of 'wild cards', colourful characters from New Zealand's past, and has provided short biographies of each, highlighting their eccentricities. Some of these characters are comparatively well known, having been the subject of full-length books, while others are obscure to most of us. Individuals who arrived during the gold rushes are particularly prominent, the South Island seems to make a disproportionate contribution, and many of those covered had literary inclinations. On the other hand, some, like James Mackenzie, the sheep stealer or Russian Jack, the itinerant, may well have been illiterate, at least in English.

It is tempting to imagine what might happen if the characters in this collection were ever brought together in one room. Baron Charles de Thierry, who had proclaimed himself Charles I, King of Nuku Hiva (in the Marquesas Islands) and Sovereign Chief of New Zealand, might well find a natural conversation partner in Geoffrey de Montalk, poet and claimant to the throne of Poland. They might have deigned to include William Larnach, who aspired to be a laird in his castle out on Otago Peninsula. Lionel Terry, hopefully required to leave his revolver outside, would doubtless be reassured to find that there were no Chinese in the gathering. The Reverend Norman McLeod, the fiercely Calvinist Presbyterian minister who led a party of Scottish immigrants from Nova Scotia to Waipu, would be glaring across at the women who had been admitted to the gathering. These included Flora MacKenzie, sex therapist, brothel keeper and heavy drinker; Amy Bock, cross-dresser and thief; and Katherine Mansfield, the brilliant writer with a decidedly bohemian lifestyle. Even more offensive to him might well have been the presence of the charlatan known in New Zealand as Arthur Worthington, who founded the Temple of Truth in Christchurch and whose liaisons amongst some of the pious and gullible womenfolk of that city provoked an outburst that necessitated the reading of the Riot Act. Chances are that Worthington would be chatting with the ladies, focusing on the comparatively well-heeled Flora and on Katherine, a possible heiress. Having been married innumerable times himself, he might be a subject of interest to Professor Alexander Bickerton, the socialist scientist who lost his job at Canterbury University College for, amongst other things, denouncing the institution of marriage. Charles Thatcher, 'the balladeer of the goldfields', would probably find much common ground with the iconoclastic poet Rex Fairburn and they might have struck up a tune with the diminutive pipe-smoking goldminer Bridget Goodwin, 'Biddy of the Buller'. A trio of 'hermits in the bush', Donald Sutherland, Māori Bill and Jules Berg, if they attended at all, would be standing wordlessly and uncomfortably on the margins of the gathering, wishing they could return to their chosen solitude. On the other hand, John A. Lee's voice would certainly be heard booming away, perhaps being heckled by an irate Mabel Howard, denouncing him as a traitor to the Labour Party.

When one considers this collection and then adds to it a few of the great range of possible additions that could be made, I'm not sure that New Zealand society has ever been quite as 'drab and conformist' as the introduction to this book implies. Again and again one finds fascinating characters cropping up in the columns of old newspapers, not least in the accounts of court cases. If "Ordinary mortals vanish into the pattern of daily life and become the wallpaper of existence: eccentrics are its ornaments", then the room that represents New Zealand is positively cluttered with bric-a-brac. There are some splendid examples here and Professor Dunmore is to be congratulated on writing up such lively accounts of some of the characters that illustrate the diversity in our country's past.

Massey Emeritus Professor John Dunmore is a pioneering historian of the French exploration of the Pacific. In February he became the first New Zealander ever to be awarded the French medal of Officer of the Legion of Honour.

Adverse Reactions: The Fenoterol Story

by Neil Pearce, Auckland University Press, ISBN-10: 1869403746, $40.00

Reviewed by Patrick Morgan

Beginning in 1976 deaths from asthma in New Zealand rose suddenly, tripling by 1979. In *Adverse Reactions: The Fenoterol Story*, epidemiologist Professor Neil Pearce tells the story of how he and a group of researchers discovered that the asthma drug fenoterol was the cause of this alarming epidemic.

Facing pressure and opposition from conservative medical opinion and the drug industry, they persisted in exposing the link between fenoterol and asthma deaths, and finally saw their conclusions accepted, the drug restricted, and the death rate fall.

Dr Pearce draws attention to many issues about drug safety in New Zealand and internationally, and about the contest between money and science in medical research.

He says the same problems have occurred many times when university-based researchers have discovered that a particular drug or chemical is dangerous.

"Other examples include the controversies about oral contraceptives and stroke, the toxicity of benzene, diesel fumes, passive smoking and chromium (the chemical featured in the Erin Brockovich film).

"The usual approach is for the company concerned to hire consultants to criticise the research publicly, either when it appears in print, or even prior to publication. In recent years, these efforts have been further developed and refined with the use of websites and publicity that stigmatises unwelcome research findings as 'junk science'. In some instances these activities have gone as far as efforts to block publication.

"In many instances, academics have accepted industry funding which has not been acknowledged, and only the academic affiliations of the company-funded consultants have been listed. Thus, the fenoterol story is still relevant today."

Neil Pearce, PhD, DSc, FRNZ, is an epidemiologist (a health researcher who studies the causes of epidemics). A professor at Massey's Wellington campus, he is Director of the Centre for Public Health Research, which he established in 2000. The centre conducts a wide range of public health research including respiratory disease, cancer, diabetes, Māori health, Pacific health and occupational and environmental health research.

Beautiful Birds of New Zealand
by Rod Morris and Alison Ballance, Random House, ISBN:1869418107, $49.99
Reviewed by Dianne Brunton

This lovely little book will appeal to almost all New Zealanders and visitors to this country. It celebrates the splendour of New Zealand's birdlife by presenting the author's top 100 birds. The book's arrangement is simple and effective; birds are sorted by the habitats in which they are most commonly found, and both native and introduced birds are represented.

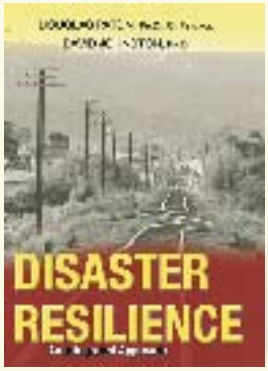
This book does not aim to be a field guide (although anyone interested in watching birds could use it to help with bird identification). It is, as the authors claim, a celebration of the beauty and diversity of New Zealand's birds. Each species gets a two page layout with a stunning photograph facing a full page natural history overview that is both enlightening and well written.

The detailed information provided on each species has come from the many scientists, naturalists and conservation practitioners who live and work in New Zealand. In a small corner of each photograph is a brief fact about the species, which itself is fascinating. My favourite is the one at the bottom of the bar-tailed godwit's photo and concerns its epic migration: "During its average lifespan of fifteen years, a bar tailed godwit flies at least 385,000 kilometres, equivalent to a journey from Earth to the moon".

The birds included in this book range from the very rare, such as the seldom seen majestic red-tailed tropicbird and the endangered kakapo and stitchbird, through to common native backyard species such as our beautiful tiny grey warbler. Introduced birds are also well represented. The beauty of many of these birds that have been accidentally or intentionally established in New Zealand is often overshadowed by their roles as pests or invasive species. In this book the attractiveness of these species cannot be ignored. The distinct markings of the male chaffinch on page 90 and the cryptic plumage of the brown quail on page 122 are eye-catching. The photographs taken by Rod Morris are breathtaking and make this book well worth adding to any collection. The final features of this book that I really like are the New Zealand maps (front and back covers) and the inclusion of a small glossary; the latter is particular well done and an obvious help for those new to bird-watching.

New Zealand's native birdlife is, beyond any doubt, in a fragile state. The native birds that have survived on our mainland islands are for the most part at densities far lower than their pre-human levels. Indeed, the story of New Zealand's native birds is representative of what has happened to New Zealand's wildlife as a whole. Encouraging greater appreciation of New Zealand's birdlife by our human population is an essential component of improving advocacy of conservation in this country. Despite what many of us in this field hope, the fact remains that many New Zealanders know and care very little about the birdlife around them. This book, with its stunning photography and informative text, will hopefully also perform a role as advocate for all of our birdlife.

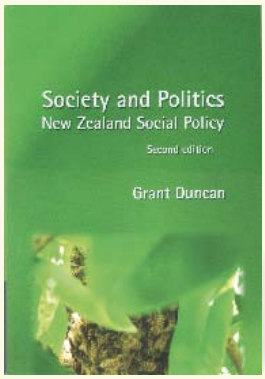
Alison Ballance has an MSc from Massey and is profiled in MASSEY *issue 18.*



DISASTER RESILIENCE: An Integrated Approach
by Douglas Paton and David Johnston, Charles C Thomas Publisher, ISBN: 9780398076634, US$48.95

Explored here are the factors that make communities resilient to disaster impacts. The authors discuss how risk can be managed by identifying factors that influence individuals and communities capacity to coexist with hazardous events and adapt to their consequences.

David Johnston heads the Disaster Research Centre, a joint initiative between Massey and the Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences.



Society and Politics: New Zealand Social Policy
by Grant Duncan, Pearson Education New Zealand, ISBN: 9781877371646, $34.99

In a review in the *New Zealand Journal of Tertiary Education Policy,* Steve Matthewman of Auckland University described the first edition of this text as "a refreshing antidote to customary works of social policy" and "a timely and able publication". Among the topics covered are sovereignty, social contract and the Treaty of Waitangi; liberalism; socialism; feminism; nationalism, imperialism and racism; neoliberalism and conservatism; and the contemporary third-way model.

Grant Duncan is a Massey senior lecturer in public policy.

Greetings to our alumni and friends! We are currently in a growth phase and we are excited about the year ahead. In particular there is real buzz around the establishment of the new chapters. These will help us foster all sorts of possibilities for involving you in the life of the University.

Communication with you is our main focus this year. We have established a quarterly e-mail newsletter that may become more frequent, depending on developments during the year. In addition, we are considering those forms of communication that may be of most benefit to you. Amongst these, we are currently looking at the feasibility of developing our website and e-mail capability to increase our interaction with you. During our chapter meetings around New Zealand and overseas the wish for alumni to connect with each other in business and personal pursuits has become evident. We are looking to see how we can achieve this.

Elections to University Council have recently been held and it is with great pleasure that we announce that the two new members elected by the Court of Convocation are Dr Susan Baragwanath, of Auckland, and Bruce Ullrich, of Christchurch.

Leanne Fecser
Alumni Relations Manager

Win an iPod Nano

Enter our competition to update your details between the 5 March and 5 June 2007 and you will go into a draw to win an Apple iPod. Simply send us back the Alumni and Friends brochure included with this magazine or update your details via our website http://alumni.massey.ac.nz and you will automatically be in the draw.

New Zealand Alumni and Friends Chapters

These chapters continue to provide a means of communication between the University and its alumni and friends. The aim is to create an environment of opportunity and support that is beneficial to both the University and our alumni. The chapters are a fundamental part of our strategy to engage meaningfully with our alumni. The strategy is unfolding in close association with the work of the Massey University Foundation.

In New Zealand we are continuing to create a network of regional chapters so as to best engage with a wide range of the University's alumni in their own localities.

Auckland Chapter

The Auckland Chapter Committee held their first event in November with a dinner at Bracs Restaurant in Albany. The evening was enjoyed by all with the Massey wine being a big hit! The Committee will continue to work on ideas and activities for 2007.

Hawke's Bay Chapter Launch

The Hawke's Bay Launch (5 March) was attended by 120 people. The audience was addressed by the Vice-Chancellor. The Alumni Relations Office will work with alumni to establish a chapter committee in this region.

Palmerston North Chapter

The first Palmerston North Chapter Committee was established in November with a committee of eight. This followed on from the launch of the chapter in September. The convenor of this committee is former Chancellor Morva Croxson and the deputy convenor is ex staff member Douglas Coles. The committee has been surveying other alumni chapter members for ideas as to how the chapter should operate. Morva and Douglas have met with the Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Warrington to obtain their perspective on the role the chapter can play.

Wellington Chapter

The first Wellington Chapter Committee was established in November with a committee of 15. This followed on from the launch of the chapter in September. The convenor of this committee is Mr Trevor Stone and the deputy convenor role is shared by Krystle Dorn and Janelle Foster. In February, the Wellington Chapter arranged for new students to the city to be taken on a tour around Wellington followed by a sausage sizzle back at campus.

Christchurch Chapters

The Christchurch launch (2 April) is currently being organised. Alumni will be addressed by the Vice-Chancellor. The Alumni Relations Office will then work with alumni to establish a chapter in this region.

Hawke's Bay

Jo Blakeley, Sue Humphreys, Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear, Sook Huo Lee and Maureen Slater.

Peter Collett, Leanne Fecser and Jim Spall.

Palmerston North

Palmerston North Chapter Convenor Morva Croxson and Deputy Convenor Douglas Coles.

Wellington

Wellington Alumni Chapter members and students enjoying the sausage sizzle on 24 February.

Alumni Relations • Private Bag 11 222 • Palmerston North • New Zealand •Phone: 64 6 3505865 • Fax: 64 6 3505786
E-mail: alumni@massey.ac.nz • Web address: http://alumni.massey.ac.nz

Alumni and Friends calendar of major events to November 2007

To date we have listed:

1 April	Palmerston North Chapter Afternoon Tea
2 April	Launch of Alumni and Friends Chapter, Christchurch
18 – 20 April	Auckland Graduation
14 – 18 May	Palmerston North Graduation
19 May	Reunion (1927-1977 graduates), Palmerston North
29 May	Wellington Graduation
13 – 16 June	Mystery Creek Fieldays
31 August	Old Rivals Dinner at Lincoln University
1 September	LA Brooks Trophy Rugby Match – Lincoln vs Massey (Lincoln University)
30 November	Palmerston North Graduation

Please note that these details are provisional and should be confirmed with the Office of Development and Alumni Relations. We will continually add events to this list, so to confirm a reunion or event, contact us at alumni@massey.ac.nz or visit our website at http://alumni.massey.ac.nz

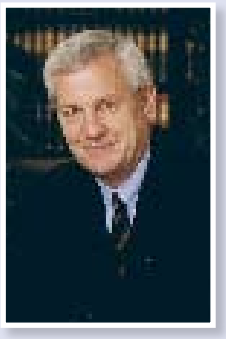
Contact us if you would like to have a reunion or Alumni and Friends event you are organising published in this calendar.

Class of '96 reunion – May 25th to 27th 2007, Palmerston North.

The Massey Vet class of 1996 (graduated May 1997) are organising a reunion from Friday 25 May - Sunday 27 May. All graduates and their families are encouraged to attend and any staff of the veterinary school that taught during 1996. A dinner and a tour of the veterinary school is planned along with a few surprises! Accommodation specials are available. Please contact Kim Kelly (nee Rutherford) at VetSouth Ltd in Winton on (03) 236 6090, (021) 275 6667 or e-mail krpk@woosh.co.nz for more details (we would like to hear from you even if you cannot make it).

BAgrSc Reunion

The BAgrSc class of 1977 to 1980 held a successful reunion early in November last year. A total of 27 members of the class gathered in Taupo, along with their partners and a few of their many offspring. Organised by Kerry Harrington, Pete Barwell, Jenny Couldrey and Lorraine Illston, the gathering based their activities at the Caboose Lodge on the lake front. Apart from several events that were centred, we are told, around a bar where people caught up with recent and ancient history, the group also went on a boat trip, soaked in the local hot pools and enjoyed a barbeque at Kinloch. A database of the present location of class members has now been set up (contact K.Harrington@massey.ac.nz) so as to organise future reunions.



Court of Convocation election results

The Office of Development and Alumni Relations is pleased to announce that the two new members elected by alumni through the Court of Convocation to the University Council are Dr Susan Baragwanath, of Auckland, and Bruce Ullrich, of Christchurch.

Dr Baragwanath is a former Massey extramural student and research affiliate and was awarded an honorary doctorate by Massey in 2005. She was founder of the chain of 35 He Huarahi Tamariki schools for teenage parents.

Mr Ullrich, OBE, is an accountant who runs an international business firm with close links to the Chinese education sector. He has been Chef de Mission of three New Zealand Olympic and Commonwealth Games teams, has an accountancy degree from Canterbury and an MBA from Massey.

Dr Baragwanath and Mr Ullrich replace Dr Liz Gordon and Dr Dick Hubbard who have completed their terms on Council. Our thanks to them for their service over the past four years.

Massey University

ORDER FORM

ITEM	PRICE PER ITEM	QTY	SIZE	SUB TOTAL
APPAREL Please indicate size				
1. Beanie (merino) One size	$ 25.00			
2. Beanie (possum-merino) One size	$ 35.00			
3. Rugged outdoor women's vest XS - XL	$140.00			
4. Cap One size	$ 25.00			
5. Hoodie (navy/grey) S - 2XL	$ 65.00			
6. Ladies Microfleece Jacket XS - XL	$ 65.00			
7. Lightning men's jacket S - 3XL	$225.00			
9. Polo shirt navy/white short-sleeved S - 4XL	$ 65.00			
9. Polo Shirt (grey/navy) S - 3XL	$ 65.00			
10. Pearlsheet shirt navy/white long-sleeved S-3XL	$ 75.00			
11. T-shirt (navy/white) XS-4XL	$ 16.00			
12. Polarfleece Sweatshirt S - 3XL	$ 57.50			
13. Polarfleece Vest XS - 3XL	$ 55.00			
14. Rugby Jersey (stripes/plain/hoops) S - 4XL	$ 70.00			
15. Beanie (merino)	$ 25.00			
16. Beanie (possum-merino)	$ 45.00			
17. T-Shirt - Ladies' Sizes (short/long) S - XL	$ 30.00			
18. University Tie	$ 35.00			
19. Workout women's jacket XS - XL	$225.00			
20. Warmlite men's vest S - 3XL	$140.00			
MEMORABILIA				
21. Book Pack	$ 20.00			
22. Bookmark	$ 10.00			
23. Bookcase Card Holder	$ 10.00			
24. Briefcase (men's)	$295.00			
25. Briefcase (women's)	$295.00			
26. Coasters (Menu set of 4)	$ 60.00			
27. Coffee Mug	$ 13.00			
28. Degree Frame	$ 65.00			
29. Key Pak	$ 7.00			
30. Lanyard (red/blue)	$ 6.00			
31. Leather Purse	$ 75.00			
32. Leather Wallet	$ 45.00			
33. Pen (in gift tube)	$ 10.00			
34. Photo frame (10cm x 15cm)	$ 45.00			
35. Umbrella	$ 22.00			
36. University Crest	$ 60.00			
37. Willow Bear (bachelor graduation regalia)	$ 45.00			
38. Willow Bear (PhD regalia)	$ 55.00			
39. Wine Glasses (boxed set of 2)	$ 45.00			
JEWELLERY				
40. Charm (silver)	$ 15.00			
41. Earrings (silver)	$ 20.00			
42. Earrings (gold)	$ 65.00			
43. Lapel pin (silver)	$ 25.00			
44. Necklace (silver)	$ 65.00			
45. Tie slide (silver)	$ 45.00			
46. University ring (silver, men's)	$165.00			
47. University ring (silver, women's)	$ 75.00			

Postage & handling $

NZ $5.00 • Overseas $20.00

Total $

All prices GST inclusive • GST number 11-365-975

1927

ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

Massey University

ORDER FORM

To place an order:

FAX this form to:

+64 [illegible]

POST this form to: (no stamp required)

Free Post Authority 114304
Alumni Relations Office
Old Registry Building
Massey University
Private Bag 11 222
Palmerston North
New Zealand

Or drop in and see our range at the following locations:

Alumni Relations Office
The Old Registry Building
Palmerston North Campus

Contact Office
Ground Floor, Block 4
Wellington Campus

Contact Office
Davidson, Quad A
Albany Campus

You can also download the order form from our website:
[illegible]

If you have any queries please contact us on:
[illegible]

DELIVERY DETAILS

Name (for order) _____

Delivery Address _____

_____

_____

Country _____

Phone (work) _____

Phone (home) _____

Email _____

Signature _____

Date _____

PAYMENT METHOD

☐ Cheque (made payable to Massey University)

☐ Visa

☐ Mastercard

Credit Card Number

Expiry Date ☐☐ 2 0 ☐☐

Cardholder's Name _____

Cardholder's Signature _____

Massey University and Hunter's Wine

The release of the Massey University Alumni Wine has proven to be very successful with many enjoying our wine over the summer.

The wine is made by Hunters Wine in Marlborough. Dr Jane Hunter OBE is the most acclaimed and awarded woman in the New Zealand wine industry. In 1994 Jane was awarded an OBE for her services to the wine industry and in 1997 she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Science from Massey University. In 2004 Jane won the inaugural Women in Wine Award at the prestigious International Wine & Spirit Competition.

Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2006

$16.38 per bottle

The wine shows gooseberry herbal aromas balanced with ripe tropical fruit flavours of passionfruit, peach and melon. The palate has crisp acid and is textured with herbaceous, citrus and tropical fruit flavours.

The Chase 2004

$14.85 per bottle

Pinot noir strawberry and cherry flavours blend together with the earth and plum of merlot and the cassis/chocolate aromas of cabernet to form a wine of medium weight with light oak and berry fruit flavours. The delicate flavours and aromas will increase in complexity over the next three years.

Profits from the sales go towards an alumni scholarship for PhD students. We encourage you to enjoy the wine and support the scholarship fund by ordering via our website (http://alumni.massey.ac.nz).

1963

Grant Scobie, Bachelor of Agriculture Science, was awarded the NZIER prize for the Outstanding Economist in New Zealand in 2004. He is currently president of the NZ Association of Economists.

1973

Chas Hamilton, Diploma in Meat Technology, writes that he is a life member and co-founder of the NZ MRI Cattle Society Inc, a red-and-white dual-purpose dairy breed. The society was formed in 1990, and Chas has served as secretary and herd book keeper, a position he still holds. "The society has grown from almost extinction to being a developing growing breed with major advantages and traits for the 21st century," he says.

1977

Andrew Logan, Diploma in Horticulture, writes that he also completed a National Certificate of Horticulture through TCI. "After an extended OE in Western Australia and Western Europe, I returned to New Zealand and spent five years with Parks & Reserves. I am now a full time self-employed landscape gardener and part-time tutor in agribusiness. I am married with three sons, aged 12 to 19."

1978

Ahmada Mahiza, Diploma in Agriculture, is currently employed by the Ministry of Livestock Development in Tanzania as a principal livestock field officer, at the National Livestock Research Centre, Mpwapwa. He writes: "I am in charge of the Information Documentation Unit and as an IT specialist. My day-to-day activities include production of extension documented material for livestock keepers of the semi arid part of central Tanzania. I am married with four children and two grand children."

Rod Spooner, Bachelor of Education, writes that he had some successes at the freestyle (powerwalking) races at New Zealand Masters games, Dunedin, in February 2006, winning both the 5km and 10km road walks in the 75-79 age group. In Oct 2006 at the South Island Masters games at Timaru he won the 10km and half marathon road walks in the 75-79 age group, and was third in the 70+ age group crosscountry walk.

1982

Rod Carter, Bachelor of Education, writes that he is enjoying retirement through travel to interesting parts of the world. He has just completed seven days in a self-drive, self-catering houseboat on the Murray River, South Australia with three other couples. "The scenery, accommodation and company were a five star," he says.

1987

Debbie Rothsay, DipHort in Nursery Management, was a road cyclist in Wellington and competed for Wellington. She has been working as a podiatrist for 10 years, the past two-and-a-half in Australia.

1988

Mary James, Bachelor of Social Work, writes: "After graduating I worked as a probation officer in Wellington for a total of seven years (two of those part time). After marrying and having three children, I was extensively involved in voluntary church work. In 2001, together with my family, I moved to sunny Nelson. I am currently working part time as a social worker at Nelson College for Girls."

1989

Russell John, Bachelor of Resources & Environmental Planning, worked as a planner for four years after graduating from Massey. He decided on a career change in 1995 and is currently working as a medical sonographer after completing a Grad Dip in Ultrasound with Monash University, Melbourne.

1990

Rachel Hill, Graduate Diploma in Business Studies and Bachelor of Horticulture Science 1989, writes that she is married to Jeremy Hill, another Massey graduate and is Head of Science at Tauraroa Area School. She has a nearly two-year-old daughter, Jessica.

1991

David Parkinson, Bachelor of Business Studies, has recently returned to New Zealand after 21 years residing abroad, the past 18 years in Perth, Western Australia.

1992

Pat Dale, Bachelor of Arts (Humanities), was an entomologist in Samoa from 1956-60, a lecturer in Zoology at Massey from 1960-69, a scientist with MAF in Auckland from 1969-86, a Mt Albert City Councillor from 1987-90, a biosecurity consultant for UNFAO from 1988-93, and became a farm/forester in 1993. He was a part-time lecturer in plant protection at Unitec from 1984-97 and a member of the Epsom U3A committee from 2000-2005.

1993

Mike McKenna, Bachelor of Business Studies, writes that he moved to Australia in 1985 with Carter Holt Harvey and subsequently held marketing roles with Black and Decker and Arthur Andersen before moving into sports marketing with Essendon Football Club in the AFL. "I have now been with Cricket Australia, in the role of General Manager Commercial Operations, for the past 18 months."

1994

Michael Godfrey, Master of Arts, writes: "After 24 years in Australia I have returned to New Zealand, having been appointed priest for Urban Ministry at the Christ Church Anglican Centre, Whangarei. I am effectively a 'vicar' but the church structure and titles have been revamped."

1995

Graham Christensen, Post Graduate Diploma in Applied Science, was practical work coordinator for College of Sciences at the Palmerston North campus from 1993 to 2005. In January 2005 he moved to Australia and joined the staff in the College of Business at Griffith University. "I bought management rights for a holiday complex in Surfers Paradise in mid-2006 and look forward to any Massey staff or alumni visiting us for a holiday in Surfers - refer www.sunsetisland.com.au."

Melvin (Mel) J.Galletly, Graduate Diploma in Business Studies, endorsed in Personal Financial Planning, writes that he enjoyed the challenges of studying second tertiary qualification whilst being self employed fulltime. Melvin, who is in his 21st year in financial services recently established investment advice firm InvestaCare® NZ. He hopes his two daughters, Julia and Rosanna, will join the business. He invites visits to his website www.invest-online.co.nz, his first venture into web design. In 2006 Melvin became a foundation member of the Wellington Alumni Chapter.

Len Restall, Master of Education, writes: "I graduated BEd in 1984 and MEd (Hons) in 1995 and then took the opportunity of completing a PhD at Curtin University in Perth, West Australia. The PhD was in educational matters within the Science, Mathematics and Educational Department of Curtin University. My PhD thesis was *The Relationship Between Individual Type, Underachievement and the Attributional Motivation of Secondary School Science Students: Intervention Approaches for Underachiever*. Much of my success can be directly attributed to the help and assistance gained from my time at Massey University and inspiration gleaned from such tutors as professors Alan Webster, James Chapman, and Don McAlpine, to whom I am very grateful."

1997

Rodney Hartles, Graduate Diploma of Business Studies, writes that he has been self-employed for 11 years with a very successful financial planning practice, and is a member of the Decision Makers financial services group. "I'm a strong advocate for professionalism in our industry and implementing best practice and the highest standards of financial advice."

1998

Amran, Tasrif, Bachelor of Arts (Humanities), has been teaching English and Physical Education in Loyang Primary School (Singapore) since 1998. "I am currently heading a department that oversees the students' development in Physical Education, Aesthetics and Co-Curricular Activities. I am also pursuing a Master of Arts (Educational Management) in National Institute of Education/ Nanyang Technological University - Singapore."

2000

Rhian Arnott, Bachelor of Education (Teaching-Primary), writes that she taught in Rotorua for three years at Murupara Primary School, Westbrook Primary School and Owhata Primary School. "I went to England to teach for two years, came home to Palmerston North and taught at Shannon School for two years. I am currently taking a year of absence as I am about to move to Australia to teach."

Marianne Evans, Graduate Diploma of Business Studies, helped to set up Manawatu Access Radio AM999 in Palmerston North in a voluntary capacity, then worked part time as the recording engineer and operations manager. She moved to Hamilton in 2000 and worked in sales for an IT & T company called OCOM. She set up Evans Technologies Ltd in 2002 - an electrical, audio-visual and home automation design and installation company. www.evanstech.co.nz

Norman Goh, Bachelor of Information Science, writes: "After graduating, I moved to Auckland and found my first job at Forman Building Systems Ltd as web developer and IT support person. After almost three years, I moved on to a more senior web developer position with Fisher & Paykel Appliances where I stayed for about two years. From there I became the website production manager for Flight Centre NZ for 10 months before accepting the position of web centre manager at AUT University at the end of 2006."

Laurence Groot, Diploma in Agriculture, is 50/50 sharemilking on a dairy farm (380 cows). He entered the 2006 Sharemilker of the Year competition.

Jason Hobbs, Diploma in Teaching (SecforGrads), taught at Feilding Agricultural High School for two years then shifted to London and has been teaching there for five years.

Jason Lewthwaite, Bachelor of Business Studies, writes: "After being with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia for four-and-a-half years, I moved to HSBC a year ago seeking a new challenge. A recent restructure has seen me assume additional responsibility, and as a result I now look after a small team focused on the property sector."

Peter Mueller, Master of Business Studies, writes that he returned to the UK shortly before he completed his research for the MBS, where he took on a role with a specialist publisher, being responsible for developing a new line in the provision of Continuing Professional Development and event organising. "When the company was taken over, the new owners soon restructured and I was made redundant. This was a wonderful opportunity and motivator to set up in business myself. I now have a growing business in training and coaching people in public speaking, giving keynote speeches myself and increasingly providing self-development/personal change and therapeutic services as an NLP (Neuro-Linguistic Programming) professional. In addition I have acquired new language skills and, together with my wife, am in the process of planning for three new businesses in various industries."

2001

Beth Allardice, Master of Philosophy (Development Studies), worked as the gender coordinator in the large (850-plus staff) Oxfam Humanitarian Relief Programme – post tsunami – in Aceh and Nias, Indonesia, between July 2005 and July 2006.

Sarah Flavall, Master of Science and Bachelor of Resource Planning (Hons) 2000, writes: "After six years of working in Whangarei and Tauranga for local government and consultancy firms, I've made the move to Santo, Vanuatu, to work as an environmental advisor for the Sanma Provincial Council. I'm here for two years, enjoying the tropical climes, excellent fresh fruit and the chance to toktok Bislama and parle Francais."

2002

Miles Lacey, Bachelor of Arts, writes: "I am now a case manager at Porirua Work and Income handling national superannuation matters. No kids, no partner."

Pataka Moore, Bachelor of Arts, is continuing his research with his hapu and iwi. He maintains that "working with locals is a unique experience and is an opportunity to extend the already existing whanaungatanga within one's whanau". He enjoys all aspects of his work especially the oral history interviews that allow him to visit and spend time with the elders of Otaki, Levin and further afield. He says he holds close to him the stories and memories that are shared.

2003

Rachael Wall, , Bachelor of Technology, is currently in her final year of a PhD in chemical engineering at Melbourne University. Her research topic is *Dairy Sludge Dewatering*, and Rachael is working with Fonterra looking at the options available for reducing the volume of waste produced by the dairy industry in both New Zealand and Australia.

2004

Phumzile Magagula, PhD (Business), writes: "Since graduating, I have worked as Economics lecturer at the University of Swaziland. I then moved to work for research department at the Botswana National Productivity Centre. The job entails conducting research on productivity related issues and producing productivity statistics for the country. For details visit www.bnpc.bw.

Pia Marty, Bachelor of Arts, writes: "After I had completed my 'Kiwi' BA (psychology), I worked at Howick College as the teacher of a class with students with intellectual disabilities. I coined a name for the class as I did not see the word 'unit' appropriate. It had a notion of a clinical approach! My class is called Te Korowai class. Te Korowai stands for coat and should symbolise the protection I give them, but at the same time indicate their status in the school. I found my postgraduate studies in special education very valuable. Theory could be applied straight away and new concepts have been constructed. Now I am moving to Rotorua where my partner and I have bought a small farm. I hope to find a job in special education again. I would like to expand my expertise as well as support students and their families/whanau. To make a difference in some people's lives is my goal!"

Emily Quelch, Bachelor of Arts, studied further at Auckland University and completed a Postgraduate Certificate in Health Science and is half way through a Graduate Diploma of Counselling. "I'm writing a book on methamphetamine and I'm working at Auckland City Mission Social Detoxification Service as an alcohol and drug professional."

Stephanie Wells, Bachelor of Education, writes: "I have just been ordained as a Presbyterian minister in the Maniototo (Central Otago). While there I will be continuing work on a Masters of Theological Studies through Bible College of New Zealand as well as a Masters of Ministry from Otago."

2005

Stu Cottam, Bachelor of Education (Teaching) Early Years, writes that two years after graduating he is now a head teacher, has just passed a PGDipEd and is starting his thesis.

Ben Green, Diploma in Tourism & Travel, writes: "Since graduation I have now become the manager of Triangle Television Wellington. Very happy."

Jimmy Zhang, Bachelor of Business Studies, writes: "The Cambridge International Centre I am working in provides IGCSE and A Level studies for Chinese and some other Asian students who would like to study overseas. I am interested in cooperating to build a bridge for the students to go to Massey to study."

2006

Guy Bridson, Bachelor of Engineering and Technology, continued work in the Army as the fleet manager for combat systems equipment at the Logistics Executive. "I will move into the Army's Development Branch in 2007 to work on integrating high capacity tactical digital radios and situation awareness platforms on to the Army's new fleet of armoured and non-armoured operational vehicles."

Jo Eagle, Graduate Diploma in Teaching (Secondary), writes: "After five long, hard years of full-time study, balancing a family with my educational commitments, I have done it! I have my dream job as HOD of the Art Dept in a local high school. I love it!! Life sure is grand!!"

Herbert Feng, Bachelor of Aviation, writes that he left NZ straight after graduation for a series of job interviews and examinations with EVA Airways Corp in Taiwan. "If I'm accepted by the organisation, then I will start my one-year ground course and simulator training in August. One year later I might be flying as a First Officer on a Boeing-777 for the company. I will keep you guys updated on how it went."

Harry Frost, Bachelor of Arts, writes that he feels privileged to have come through the English programme along with the linguistic strand and media and to have had such a high standard of teaching. "It has been all to my advantage as I participate in my Teaching Diploma year."

Gareth Hagan, Bachelor of Business Studies, says he started at Massey as a 17-year-old in 1990, completed two years' internal study, took a year off and continued extramural study and ceased study for a period of eight years. During 2004 and 2005 he completed seven papers extramurally while changing jobs twice, to graduate in May 2006 with BBS.

Brian Halisanau, Bachelor of Aviation Management, headed straight back to the Solomons after graduating. "I got my formal appointment with the Government mid-July and since then have worked as senior civil aviation officer. I was very pleased to be working alongside a Kiwi by the name of Bill MacGregor, who has been the Controller of Civil Aviation since 2005."

Michael Lovell, Bachelor of Science, writes that he is currently an intern associated with Northcross Community Church and is studying at Bible College of New Zealand for a postgraduate diploma focused on Theology and will then move into a Master of Theology programme in 2007. "I desire to be a full-time pastoral worker in a church, using and continuing to develop my knowledge of psychology and counselling to help people within my community.

Benefits for Alumni and Friends

The Office of Development and Alumni Relations continues to work to improve its services and to expand the range of benefits it has negotiated for you, the alumni and friends of Massey University.

Several of the benefits currently offered or under negotiation were initiated by Massey University alumni. If you own, or are employed by a business or service that would like to provide a benefit to Massey University alumni and friends, staff or students, please contact us:
http://alumni.massey.ac.nz
Telephone: (06) 350 5865
E-mail: alumni@massey.ac.nz
Postal: Private Bag 11 222, Palmerston North

Massey Library

Massey University Library offers alumni and friends a 50 percent discount on membership. For only $100 per year, you receive the same borrowing privileges as an undergraduate distance student. You can borrow books in person or have them delivered to you anywhere in New Zealand.

Karleri Photography

Karleri Photography in Auckland offers Massey alumni and friends a discount of 10 percent on the cost of a portrait sitting plus print order over $250, or the choice of an extra 18 x 12 cm print. For every print order over $400, Karleri Photography donates $10 to the Massey University Scholarship fund. This offer applies to any individual, graduation, business, family, child and parent portraits in the Castor Bay studio or at a North Shore location.

Westpac University Visa Card

Earn great rewards with Hotpoints and support Massey students at the same time. At no cost to you, Westpac will donate one percent per annum of the interest-earning balance or a minimum of $10 per annum for each card – whichever is the greater – to Massey's scholarship fund. Apply today for a Westpac University Visa card!

Kanuka Grove Book and Resource Centre

Receive a 10 percent discount at Kanuka Grove on all trade items. With fabulous books for children and an extensive range of educational resources, Kanuka Grove has a product for you. Visit Kanuka Grove online: http://kanukagrove.massey.ac.nz or send your query via e-mail to kanuka.grove@massey.ac.nz. The centre is located on the Hokowhitu site, Centennial Drive, Palmerston North. Opening hours are Mon- Fri 8.30am – 5.00pm, and Sat 10.00am – 2.00pm. You can contact the centre by phone on (06) 351 3329 or fax (06) 351 3324.

DUTY FREE STORES NEW ZEALAND

Duty Free Stores New Zealand

Duty Free Stores New Zealand offers a five percent discount at all airport stores, a 20 percent discount on phone orders and internet orders, and a five percent discount on electronics and cameras at all locations (discounts can not be combined with other offers) to Massey University alumni at all of its stores across New Zealand. For every $50 or part thereof that you spend in their outlets, Duty Free Stores New Zealand will donate one dollar to the Massey University Scholarship Fund. All you need to do is present the required coupon when making a purchase, or use the required code when placing an order over the Internet or telephone.

Career Move

In order to be a front-runner in today's job market, subscribe to Career Move, Massey University's unique career management programme. For only $125, the programme provides activities that will sharpen your career management skills and accelerate your progress towards your career goals. Visit http://careers.massey.ac.nz/careermove.html for more information.

Services for Alumni and Friends

Find a classmate

With a database of over 70,000 names, we can assist you to get in touch with your former classmates. The process for this is carried out adhering strictly to the Privacy Act (1993), so you can be assured that your privacy is protected. Contact us with information relating to the person(s) you wish to catch up with and, if it is possible, we will assist you to make contact.

Networking

Attending Massey University alumni and staff reunions and other events, or being involved in a Massey chapter, is an opportunity to maintain and extend your professional and social networks.

Reunions

Reunions organised by the Office of Development and Alumni Relations are held throughout the year. Visit our website and check our calendar for the latest details. If you are organising a reunion, there are a number of ways we can support you and help you to contact people you wish to attend. Contact us and we'll let you know how.

News from Massey

Keep up to date with the latest at Massey when you receive MASSEY magazine or when you subscribe to the Alumni and Friends newsletter or to Massey News.

- *MASSEY* magazine is posted twice annually to all alumni and friends. If you do not currently receive a copy either update your details via our website or contact our office (see base of page).
- *Massey News* is an online news service, published every fortnight. Subscribe online today at: http://masseynews.massey.ac.nz
- The *Alumni and Friends Newsletter* is a bulletin with the latest on events and activities of particular interest to alumni and friends. Visit our website to subscribe.

Memorabilia and apparel

Looking for a graduation gift or for something special as a memento of Massey University? Massey-branded memorabilia and apparel are available for purchase at all three campuses or by postal order. Visit our website to view our range online.

Share your news

Massey values the achievements and significant events in your life. Share your personal, professional, cultural or other achievements with your fellow alumni and the University community online and via MASSEY magazine. If you would like to submit images for publication, contact us directly.

For more information, visit our website or contact our office.
Web: http://alumni.massey.ac.nz Telephone: (06) 350 5865 E-mail: alumni@massey.ac.nz Postal: Private Bag 11 222, Palmerston North

I also aim to use the computer science aspect of my degree to find part-time work in the IT industry to generate income for myself while working towards pastoral work. I also recently got engaged to Kristyn Symons and we will be getting married by the end of the year."

Aaron Mayhew, Bachelor of Business Studies, writes that he moved to the United States, and travelled the east coast of America, including New York, Philadelphia, Boston, New Hampshire, Long Island (the Hamptons). He visited London, Ireland and Poland, and is planning more trips in the next few months.

Angela Norton, Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Business Studies, has moved from working at the Telecom Xtra broadband helpdesk to working for Gen-i as a technical analyst on the Air NZ account.

Nathan Penny, Bachelor of Science, says he has just returned from a two-month holiday in Nepal and Tibet. "I did the Annapurna Circuit Everest Base Camp from Nepal and Tibet sides. The Maoist strikes and the government-imposed curfews were a problem, closing shops and stopping most transport services."

Kristina Pervan, Bachelor of Arts, has worked as a reporting analyst, and performance advisor since leaving Massey, and is currently a policy analyst. "Embarking on a degree in Economics is the best thing that I have ever done and I thoroughly enjoyed my study time at Massey University."

Chris Raine, Masters in Philosophy (EmergencyMgmt), and GDipEmergencyServMgmt 2000, is continuing his work in enhancing the Community First Response programme in Southland with provision of automated defibrillators to 23 communities and development of an integrated response framework between New Zealand Fire Service Southern Rural Fire Authority and St John.

John Shone, Bachelor of Arts, writes: "Completing my BA has been the fulfilment of a (almost) lifetime ambition. I just wanted to prove to myself that, being well into my middle-age, the grey matter was alive and well even if the body is slowing down somewhat! Extramural study is to be thoroughly recommended: juggling the responsibilities of family and work with study is not only possible, it's downright fun! Now for postgraduate studies in 2007! "

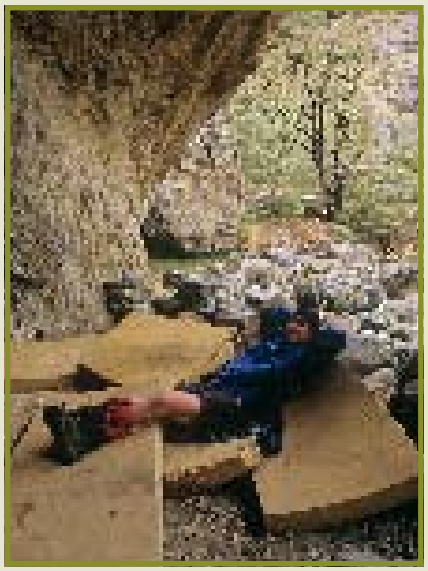
Clarinda Stirling, Bachelor of Veterinary Science, has moved to Australia to work at Birdwood Veterinary Clinic in the Adelaide Hills in South Australia.

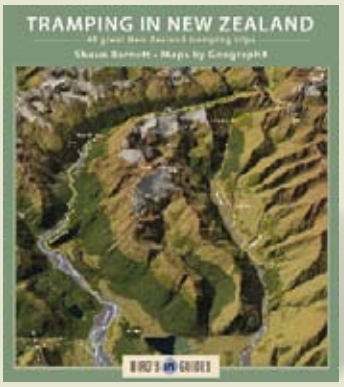
Nithya Tharmaseelan, , PhD (Business), writes: "I am working as a senior lecturer in management at the University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka and raising four kids under five years old (including a set of triplets who are one-and-a-half years old."

Kristy Tien, Bachelor of Health Science, says she will continue her psychology study overseas. "I have been educated by New Zealand education and culture for six years. Now it is time for me to contribute my knowledge back to my hometown and share what I have learnt in New Zealand."

Andrew Wilson, Graduate Diploma in Teaching (Secondary), writes: "I organised the 28th New Zealand Magicians' Convention in Palmerston North in October, 2006, and won Best Illusion Trophy."

Vanessa Wintle, Bachelor of Business Studies and Bachelor of Science, writes that she has recently begun work at the Poultry Industry Association of New Zealand in Newmarket, Auckland, where both her science and communication degrees come into play every day.





Bird's Eye Guide Tramping in New Zealand, written and photographed by Shaun Barnett is a guide to 40 of New Zealand's best tramps. Set apart from other guides in its use of the latest generation of 'bird's eye' computer-generated maps, the book is published by Craig Potton Publishing and retails for $34.99.

Shaun Barnett

Shaun Barnett developed an interest in mountains and tramping whilst a teenager living in Napier. Since then he's tramped throughout New Zealand, visiting all of the country's National and Forest Parks. He has also hiked in Australia, Nepal, South America, Italy, Canada and Alaska. Sea kayaking and climbing are activities he enjoys too.

A full-time writer and photographer since 1996, he has written over 450 articles for popular magazines and newspapers both in New Zealand and overseas. His publishing credits include *NZ Geographic*, *The Listener*, the *Dominion Post*, *Forest & Bird*, *Action Asia*, *Geo Australasia* and *NZ Wilderness* magazine. From December 1999 to May 2003 he was the editor of *NZ Wilderness* magazine, and since June 2003 he has been roving editor.

He is the author of *Classic Tramping in New Zealand* (1999) co-authored with Rob Brown, (winner of the 2000 Montana Book Award for the Environment category), *Natural New Zealand* (2001), *North Island Weekend Tramps* (2002, revised 2004) and *Tramping In New Zealand, 40 Great New Zealand Tramping Trips* (2006) with Roger Smith (who did the maps).

He is currently researching and writing another book, this one on the history of New Zealand's Forest Parks, which has been supported by grants from the Ministry for Culture and Heritage, and Federated Mountain Clubs (FMC).

Since 1999 Shaun has been an active member of the FMC executive. In this role he has produced several posters (on hypothermia, the Adams Wilderness Area, and celebrating clubs) attended many DOC hut and track review meetings, written submissions, advocated for Wilderness Areas, and edited a booklet on high country tenure review called *Freedom of the Hills*.

His tramping ambitions include a piecemeal traverse of the Southern Alps from St Arnaud (Nelson Lakes) to Milford Sound. This has involved linking tramps, completed in stages, with various companions. In 2001 he completed the most arduous section of the traverse on a 28-day, 250-kilometre trans-alpine tramp from Aoraki/Mt Cook to Arthur's Pass, and in 2003 completed another significant chunk when he walked from the Karangarua Valley to Haast Pass. Shaun now has just one five-day trip and one four-day tramp to complete the traverse.

Shaun, 37, lives in Wellington with his wife Tania, and two sons, Tom and Lee.

Winter moonrise over Harper Pass and the Hurunui Valley. Shaun Barnett/Black Robin Photography