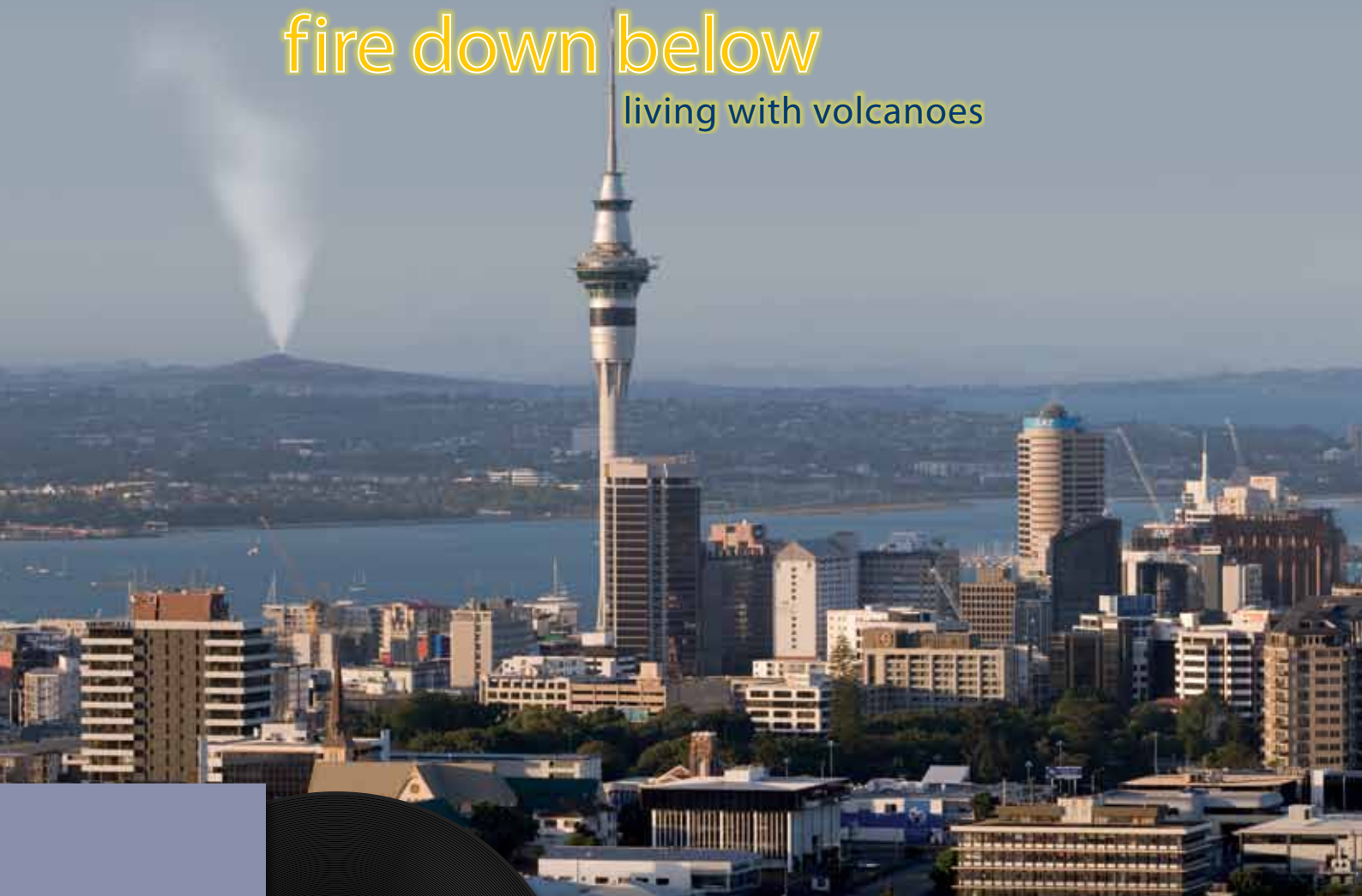


Massey

The magazine for alumni and friends of Massey University | Issue 27 | May 2010

fire down below living with volcanoes



Choosing the right track

Steven Joyce: from turntable to cabinet table

Plus: saying when + the joy of sects + tiger country





When we New Zealanders are trying to establish our credentials as a socially progressive nation, one of the 'firsts' we tend to mention (along with the introduction of votes for women in 1893) is the introduction of a state-funded old

age pension in 1898, making us the first British country to bring in such a measure.

There were, however, some buts when it came to that pension: to be eligible you had to be poor and deserving and you had to be old, remarkably old, by which I mean over 65. In 1898 the average life expectancy was in the mid-fifties, and a government could confidently vote in an old age pension knowing that few of its population would live to collect it.

Contrast that with today. If someone now dies at the age of 65 it is not unusual for them to be described as dying young. In 2007 the average life expectancy stood at 78 for men and 82 for women. We are living longer and, by and large, we are living healthier.

Why this vast leap in life expectancy? Partly one can thank advances in clinical medicine – many of us owe our lives to antibiotics. But equally, if not more, we owe the 'years in our life' and 'the life in our years' to measures that fall within the domain of public health: vaccination programmes, occupational and consumer safety measures, cleaner air and water, better nutrition, the promotion of healthy lifestyles, the success of anti-smoking legislation... the list goes on.

Over the past two decades, Massey has amassed a distinguished record in public health research, with a number of independent centres working on particular areas of expertise. Now these centres, while retaining their autonomy, have been brought together under an overdue Massey School of Public Health, headed by Associate Professor Cindy Kiro, the former Commissioner for Children.

Within their ambit falls research into such things as the critical role of sleep in health, the incidence and causes of asthma, cross cultural health service provision, changing patterns of illicit drug use, and our society's vexed relationship with that licit drug, alcohol.

It seems appropriate then that this issue of *Massey* begins with an interview with the School of Public Health's Professor Sally Casswell, an internationally renowned expert on alcohol policy.

With the alcohol debate in New Zealand about to enter a new phase, it is required reading.

Steve Maharey
Vice-Chancellor



The Main Building in 1962 as featured on the cover of the New Zealand Journal of Agriculture



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Massey is published twice yearly by Massey University, Private Bag 11-222, Palmerston North, New Zealand

www.massey.ac.nz

Website: news.massey.ac.nz

Editor: Malcolm Wood

m.wood@massey.ac.nz

Writers: Kereama Beal, Lindsey Birnie, Kathryn Farrow, James Gardiner, Bryan Gibson, Paul Mulrooney, Jennifer Little, Lana Simmons Donaldson, Amanda McAuliffe, Sonia Yoshioka-Braid

Photographers: Graeme Brown, Doug Cole, Mark Coote, David Wiltshire

Design: Grant Bunyan

For changes of address or to send in your news visit

alumnionline.massey.ac.nz or e-mail

alumni@massey.ac.nz.

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Above: John Dawick as Richard III in a 1973 production outside the Main Building entrance.

Plans are afoot to restore and renovate the Main Building and the Refectory. These two emblematic Manawatu campus buildings were designed in the 1920s by the then New Zealand-based American architect Roy Lippincott, New Zealand's only direct link to the celebrated Chicago School architects Frank Lloyd Wright and Walter Burley Griffin.

Left to right: Lord Bledisloe at the opening of the Main Science Building on 30 April 1931; the library in the Main Building; in the dressing room of the Drama Society's 1979 production *Love for Love*, staged in the Grid Theatre; the Refectory in the 1950s; cartoon from *Bleat*, "World Workers Removing Hostel Steam Pudding to Dominion Museum."

Images supplied by Massey Archives.



Saying when



According to legend, you began your career as a researcher with a freezer full of marijuana.

I did. Cannabis was of great interest in the '70s. When I first arrived in New Zealand I got some Medical Research Council funding and a licence from the Department of Health, as it was then, and for my PhD I measured the effect of cannabis on reaction time, cognitive behaviour and psychomotor skills generally.

Why the shift to alcohol research?

I was interested in recreational drug use and I realised that alcohol was the big one: that was where a lot of the public health issues lay.

So you don't make much distinction between alcohol and other recreational drugs?

They all have different impacts, and that has to be taken into account when thinking about

... matters to do with the understanding of alcohol and public health, **Professor Sally Casswell** has a reputation to be reckoned with.

In a June 2009 issue given over to alcohol and public health, *The Lancet* – the world's oldest and best known medical journal – ran a laudatory profile of her subtitled “champion for communities tackling alcohol”. A few months later she was appearing in a *New Scientist* editorial in connection with the drafting of the World Health Organisation's first global strategy on reducing health damage from alcohol.

And as well as being an eminent researcher, Casswell is the director of the highly successful Centre for Social and Health Outcomes and Evaluation (SHORE) based in central Auckland.

Born in Britain, Casswell arrived in New Zealand in the early 1970s as a postgraduate student, first studying the effects of cannabis for her PhD and then turning her attention to alcohol and public health.

Her interest was timely. The 1974 report of a Royal Commission ushered in the liberalisation of licensing laws – soon there were thousands of licensed sports bars, hundreds of BYO restaurants, and many more licensed restaurants – and further rounds of liberalising reforms followed, freeing

up licensing laws, allowing the sale of first wine and then beer from supermarkets, and dropping the minimum age of purchase from 20 to 18. The consequences for public health? A growing consensus seems to be that matters have gone too far.

In 1994 Casswell – who, incidentally, neither abstains from alcohol herself nor moralises about its use – was a coauthor of the book *Alcohol and the Public Good*, and, in 2003, of *Alcohol: No Ordinary Commodity*, republished early this year in a revised edition.

Casswell was a member of the WHO's expert committee that reported on alcohol-related harm in 2008 and has been working towards the drafting and international adoption of global strategy to reduce the harmful use of alcohol.

The strategy will be useful, but Casswell hopes it will not take the place of her larger, long-term goal (the subject of a paper coauthored by her in that same issue of *The Lancet*): a legally-binding international Framework Convention on Alcohol Control, much like the successful Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

On the eve of the Law Commission's recommendations on the reform of New Zealand's liquor laws, she spoke to **Malcolm Wood**.

them and the policy response. But alcohol has an enormous amount of harm associated with its use. It is a historical accident, if you like, that it is a legal drug and widely used. In the work we do I always refer to ‘alcohol and other drugs’ as the topic we work on to reinforce the notion that alcohol is a drug.

In public health terms, how does alcohol compare with that other legal-and-damaging drug tobacco?

Tobacco is responsible for a higher degree of premature mortality. But if you look at disability-adjusted life years – that is not just the years of life lost but the impact on quality of life following things like injury from driving while alcohol-impaired or violence while under the influence of alcohol – then alcohol and tobacco are very similar.

Talking of the comparison, I see the term ‘passive drinking’ is now cropping up in the alcohol regulation debate. What exactly does it mean?

For a long time we have looked at the health of the drinker, but ignored the family, the workmates, the other people around the heavy drinker. These people, even if they don't drink themselves, are being affected by alcohol consumption. This is sometimes being called ‘passive drinking’.

In one of our Health Research Council (HRC) funded projects we have found a relationship between having a heavy drinker in your surroundings and overall life satisfaction similar to that of looking after people with disabilities. This is interesting research from a policy perspective because those people who are stuck in a neoliberal individual-freedoms kind of

\$85 million

estimated weekly national spend on alcohol in 2008

30 per cent

fatal car crashes in New Zealand that are alcohol-related

9.5 litres

volume of pure alcohol consumed per person (aged 15 year and over) in 2008, the highest volume since 1994

framework don't argue that it's not important to respect the wellbeing of other people, and clearly [the concept of] passive smoking made a difference in the tobacco debate.

Where do you think we currently stand in our attitudes to alcohol and its regulation?

I think we are going through one of those periodic long-wave shifts in awareness, and not just in New Zealand. With increases in alcohol consumption and in the harm it does, so, with a bit of a lag, the degree of public concern has risen. Locally you can see expressions of that concern in the current Law Commission review and the submissions it received. Internationally you can see it in things like the World Health Organisation's work towards a global alcohol strategy.

How do New Zealand's patterns of consumption compare internationally?

It is complicated. We are similar to Australia; we drink more than many parts of the US and less than Britain. In fact, Britain is a really good example of what not to do. Their policy was very influenced by the alcohol industry. They deregulated matters to do with availability, pricing and marketing and instead relied on retailing a sensible drinking message – and the tactic has conspicuously failed.

The affordability of alcohol has gone right up, they have very high cirrhosis rates, very high rates of alcohol-driven crime, and they are just now starting to look at to how to use policy to control alcohol to turn that tide around.

What about the so-called drinking cultures of the Mediterranean.

France and Italy traditionally had a very high consumption of alcohol – their populations were largely poor and rural, and people would drink wine and brandy during the course of the day. They also had huge alcohol-related public health problems.

Now these countries are starting to display the global patterns. They are becoming more Anglo. Young people are drinking larger amounts than they have done in the past and they are turning to beer rather than wine, which many now regard as old fashioned.

Interestingly, France greatly restricts the marketing of alcohol – you can't advertise

alcohol on television or in the cinema for example – and since 1991, when the so-called *Loi Evin* was voted in, sales of alcohol have continued to decrease.

So are we different?

You often hear it said that we were a pioneering society with a very high rate of single young men and hence very high and socially unconstrained alcohol use, and that is why we ended up with our cultural drinking patterns. I am sure there is some truth to that; there are always really interesting cultural specificities. But I also know that if you go around the world, everybody says, 'we're different really, we have these cultural things around our drinking'.

The reality is that people seem to be very similar the world over. Many people drink too much and those that do experience similar sorts of harms and the people around them experience similar sorts of harms. And if you put in place those controls around price, availability and marketing they seem to have similar effects on consumption.

So I don't think there is anything very distinctive about us. We are a very good example of the Anglo Saxon pattern. We tend to have groups within society who don't drink every day or even all that often, but when they drink, if they can afford to, they drink to intoxication. Intoxication is the goal.

What about the patterns of consumption among Māori and Pacific peoples?

Pacific peoples are still abstaining at higher rates [than the general population], but when they drink they tend to drink more. For Māori the pattern is similar, but abstention rates have gone down.

Drinking disproportionately high amounts when there is a drinking occasion is common among colonised indigenous peoples. Alcohol is a means of escaping the pain of the situation they are in.

At what point do the social harms justify interventions that interfere with individual liberties?

I don't see that as a useful way of framing the debate. I think we are in a situation where a lot of the demand for alcohol is driven by the way in which it is produced and marketed.

It is reasonable to regulate where it can be sold, under what conditions, at what hours, and at what price. It is reasonable to regulate the marketing. It isn't a matter of restricting individual freedoms – that's the neoliberal rhetoric. No one is talking about any form of prohibition or of oppressive forms of restriction.

You are sceptical about the value of classroom-based education?

Classroom education does some things really well: it imparts knowledge, it may change attitudes. But outside the classroom, where the individual operates in a broader social context and is influenced by many other things, it doesn't appear to influence behaviour. It's also expensive if you do it year after year.

I don't argue against classroom-based education; it is a sensible part of any lifestyle or health curriculum. Tell people about alcohol; tell them about sexual behaviour. Just don't look at it as a measure to reduce harm, because it won't work.

Are media campaigns more effective?

There isn't very good evidence that media campaigns work in isolation when it comes to changing societal norms. You know the sort of thing: campaigns for moderation, calls for people to drink responsibly.

But they do have a place when allied to other measures. A compulsory breath testing regime in tandem with publicity that says 'you will get caught' – that will work.

And I suppose that even the lavishly funded campaign is a pittance set against the industry's advertising spend. Do you think New Zealand should have something like France's *Loi Evin*, which severely restricts advertising?

When the Law Commission went out for consultation, at every meeting they were told over and over again, we need constraints on marketing, we need regulation, so I hope that we will see some solid recommendations in their final report.

But the alcohol industry will fight to the death on the issue of restrictions on marketing. They have to replace the drinkers who are dying or who are moderating their drinking as they get older, have kids, get mortgages. And also they can't afford to have a denormalising process go on. Alcohol advertising helps to normalise the

Saying when

20,000-plus

violence offences committed in New Zealand in 2007/08 by an offender who had consumed alcohol prior to the offence

4.6 per cent

global burden of disease and injury attributable to alcohol in 2004

drug as part of our daily life; it shows only the positives, none of the negatives.

And these days marketing doesn't just mean advertising.

As part of some of the Health Research Council-funded research we are doing, we have been talking to 13-year-olds so as to understand the range of marketing they are exposed to and how they react to it. As an adult you are aware of the presence of alcohol advertising in the mainstream media, but you won't have seen the screensavers, the [alcohol] branding on the social networking sites.

There is no regulation of this, and the only regulation surrounding advertising in the mainstream media is a voluntary accord.

Can you tell me a bit about how alcohol consumption is affected by price?

In the sense of price, alcohol is a commodity like most others. Higher price means lower demand and reduced harm.

How much it affects demand, what the elasticities are, is complicated by all sorts of factors, but what you can certainly say is that in New Zealand we have a difficult situation where alcohol to take away is being sold incredibly cheaply from a variety of places, and that is definitely contributing to some of the harms.

You've got to control the price to the consumer. It doesn't matter whether you do it using taxation or by putting a minimum price in place.

In the debate that is sure to follow when the Law Commission releases its final recommendations, how is the alcohol industry likely to frame matters?

There will be no surprises. They will raise the usual issue of individual freedom. They will deny the evidence: they will say there is no evidence that price works, that there is no evidence that restrictions on availability and marketing work. They will distract the public by talking about things that don't make a difference. So, for example, in the marketing area they will talk about the voluntary codes that they have put in place. They will distract by talking about the value of education campaigns and their readiness to help fund them. It happens the world over – and it is going to happen here.

And we may see organisations entering the debate that sound independent and trustworthy, but are less than?

Industry front organisations are common practice where ever there is an issue that involves large amounts of money: tobacco, climate change, pharmaceuticals and alcohol. They are difficult because they are very capable. They push out publication after


publication after publication. And the material they put out is very well done, very simplified and, on the face of it, very reasonable. You can see why a policy maker new to an issue might think, 'that makes sense, that fits with my received wisdom'.

As public health researchers we just have to keep analysing away, pointing out that without fail these sorts of front organisations promote the ineffective strategies and argue against the effective ones.

I can imagine that some of your views may not always be politically palatable. Do you ever find yourself having to pull your punches?

There have been situations where journal editors have been worried about things we have written and had them checked by lawyers. It is one reason why I have stayed within a university. A university is the critic and conscience of society and it should be a safe place to make these arguments from – and so far it has been.

Finally, as the mother of a well-adjusted university-age son, do you have any advice for the parents of young adults?

I think the credit is his, but probably I would say don't give them alcohol during their teenage years. The evidence is that the later your child starts drinking alcohol the less chance he or she will have of running into problems. 



The School of Public Health

In March Minister of Health Tony Ryall (at centre) launched Massey's School of Public Health, an initiative recognising the combined weight of the expertise held within the University. The school encompasses the Social and Health Outcome Research and Evaluation Centre, headed by Professor Sally Casswell (second left, lower row), and its partner organisation Te Rōpu Whāriki, headed by Dr Helen Moewaka Barnes (absent); Te Pūmanaawa Hauora, based at the Wellington and Manawatu campuses, headed by Professor Chris Cunningham (far right) and specialising in Māori health; the Wellington-based Centre for Public Health Research, led by director Professor Neil Pearce (top row, second left) and co-director Jeroen Douwes (left, upper row), and internationally recognised for research into cancer and occupational health and safety; and the Sleep/Wake Research Centre, headed by Professor Philippa Gander (left, lower row). Associate Professor Cindy Kiro (third left, lower row), the former Commissioner for Children, is the school's inaugural head. Also shown: Pro Vice-Chancellor College of Humanities & Social Sciences Professor Susan Mumm (third right) and Assistant Vice-Chancellor Māori and Pasifika Professor Sir Mason Durie (second right, lower row).



This Diamond DA42 twin-engine aircraft, seen here over the Manawatu, is one of two in the Massey School of Aviation fleet. Officially handed over to the School in November, the two complete an \$8 million 14-aircraft purchase announced in 2008. Massey is now the sole provider of aviation training in New Zealand to operate a full fleet of glass cockpit aircraft. There are currently about 200 students studying in the Bachelor of Aviation Management programme and about 90 studying for the Bachelor of Aviation – Air Transport Pilot degree. There are 28 postgraduate students and 10 PhD students.



Weighing around 160 grams and travelling at speeds that can top 120km/hr, a field hockey ball is a fearsome projectile, as Annabel Goslin knows. In her final year at secondary school, a hockey ball broke her nose and left eye socket, temporarily blinding her and leaving her with two black eyes. Hence her final year design project, a prototype field hockey mask. Featured in a number of daily papers, the mask came to be emblematic of Exposure 2009, the end-of-year School of Design exhibition. Nor was this Goslin's only brush with fame. In November Goslin travelled to Singapore to receive an international design award: the Armadillo, her design for a waterproof, breathable, vented athletic rain jacket, won the concept design category in the Red Dot design awards. November 2009

At the opening of Te Waioira, the new Christian Centre on the Manawatu campus, former university chancellor Morva Croxson, who chaired the fundraising trust, and Sir Paul Reeves, who formally opened the centre, share a moment of humour in front of an Oamaru stone sculpture by Christian Hunt. Mrs Croxson describes the centre as a building that "can adapt to many social and spiritual needs as well as providing a wonderful new amenity for general Massey occasions". March 2010



THE SHORT VERSION

As you have probably noticed, this *Massey* magazine is ever-so-slightly different to its predecessors. Once again, as we did back in 2005, we have changed our page size, this time trimming a couple of centimetres off the height. This has allowed us to make some savings, and as we have added four more pages, the reader has not been shortchanged. You may also have noticed that the masthead has changed: *MASSEY* has become *Massey*. (We like to think the mix of upper and lower case is less strident.)



50 years and counting



Massey University, New Zealand's largest and pre-eminent provider of distance education, this year celebrates 50 years of distance learning through flexible and innovative delivery options.

You do not need to leave it until midlife for distance studies. Chris Butcher, now a lead engineer with Bungie and one of the creative minds behind the Xbox's blockbuster game Halo, began his extramural study at age nine, graduating with a BSc at 15.



Beyond the third degree

Kereama Beal talks to a remarkably well qualified Dennis Oliver.



"Come in Vanuatu... come in the islands," the voice of the University of the South Pacific lecturer crackled from a speaker into a Fijian classroom. At age 40 Dennis Oliver had joined a virtual classroom spanning 10 Pacific islands and thousands of miles of ocean. His subject was rural development. Unwittingly he had embarked on a 30-year-plus academic odyssey.

Oliver was in Fiji working for the YMCA. Year on year, as he built what would become the largest rural youth movement in the Pacific, he plugged away at his diploma, gaining paper after paper, and when it was done he barely drew breath. His papers, he discovered, could be cross credited to an arts degree. He signed up.

"I enrolled extramurally through Massey and finished a BA in sociology and administration." So it began.

Back in New Zealand, a regime of two papers a year earned him, in succession, diplomas in training and development, in business administration, and in social services and psychology. Then came two masterates: first a Master of Philosophy in development studies, then a Master of Business studies.

By age 70, he was entitled to style himself Dennis Oliver, DipRD, DipTD, DipSocSc, PGDipBusAdmin, BA, MBS,

MPhil – not bad for someone who failed School Certificate twice. But looking back now, at age 78, Oliver says that it was not so much the letters after his name he was after as it was those other intrinsic benefits education brings.

"Education changes the way you view the world. Each course of study gives you a new 'thinking tool' that helps you grow personally and professionally."

In his 42-year career with the YMCA, Oliver built branches from scratch in Fiji and Samoa, reinvented the YMCA in New Plymouth, and rebuilt the debt-ridden Hastings YMCA into a profitable enterprise with a staff of 35 and an annual turnover of more than \$1 million.

He combated unemployment and suicide, built community development programmes in Pacific nations, and wrote four books: *Rural Youth*, *My Friends the Shoeshine Boys*, *Trickling Up*, and *Training the Unemployed*.

Oliver convenes the Hawke's Bay alumni chapter, which now holds up to three functions a year, attracting attendances of up to 60 people. Every function centres around an invited speaker. "One of the first things we were clear about at our inaugural chapter meeting was to make a point of always having brain food."

Hallmarked

Graphic designer Grant Alexander, photographer Jane Ussher and (posthumously) painter and printmaker John Drawbridge have been formally inducted into the College of Creative Arts Hall of Fame. Alexander and Ussher studied at the Wellington Polytechnic School of Design (which was incorporated into Massey University in 1999), where Drawbridge was a tutor.

Grant Alexander, who graduated 1969 with a diploma in graphic design, made his name as a designer of books and magazines, and then as co-founder of Designworks, a multi-award-winning company with offices in Auckland, Sydney and Wellington. Subsequently he and his daughter, Kate, established Studio Alexander in Kingsland, Auckland.

Trained in photography at Wellington Polytechnic in the mid-1970s, **Jane Ussher** was appointed chief photographer at the *New Zealand Listener* in 1977. She has photographed almost every major figure in New Zealand – including Sir Edmund Hillary, Helen Clark, Janet Frame and Jonah Lomu – and documented the changing social and political landscape of New Zealand. She is now a freelance photographer specialising in New Zealand, the Antarctic and the Pacific.

John Drawbridge (1930–2005) remains one of New Zealand's defining visual artists. During his 50-year career, his works included intaglio prints, oils, watercolours and large-scale murals. The murals include the 15-metre 10-panel mural for New Zealand House in London, created in the 1960s and familiar to generations of New Zealanders; the Expo'70 mural for Osaka, Japan (since rebuilt in Wellington's National Library); and the three-dimensional aluminium mural in Parliament's Beehive, completed in 1980. Drawbridge's passion for art and education drew him home in 1964 to teach printmaking and creative design at the Wellington School of Design. He retired from the school in 1990. October 2009



Wining & winning

Massey alumnus Caine Thompson, a 27-year-old viticulturist at Mission Estate, Taradale, is the 2009 Young Horticulturist of the Year. Representing New Zealand Winegrowers, Thompson took the title after competing with seven other finalists, all under the age of 30, in a two-day series of events.

Thompson's winnings include a Leadership New Zealand management course worth \$12,000 and a travel and accommodation package to the value of \$8000, with which he intends to visit the wine growing regions of Italy, Germany and France.

Thompson completed a Bachelor of Applied Science majoring in horticulture and a Postgraduate Diploma in Plant Science at the Manawatu campus. His aspiration is to have his own winery. Last year's winner, Jason Greene, was also a Massey alumnus. November 2009



Benchmarks

The class of '49 – 19 alumni who began their Bachelor of Agricultural Science degrees in 1949 – has gifted a custom-made outdoor table and bench seat to the Manawatu campus, where they have a position of honour close by the Wharerata homestead.

Peter MacGillivray, a former student and later senior lecturer (now retired), organised the gift "because Morva Croxson, the former president of the Manawatu Alumni Chapter and John Wheeler suggested several years ago that the campus needed more seating".

Wheeler, a Massey alumnus and Pahiatua dairy farmer, who recovers ancient native trees from local rivers, crafted the table and seat from ancient totara. (Two seats donated by 1957–58 Diploma in Agriculture course members in 2009 are also his work.) A second table and seat will be sited on the Oval, overlooking Refectory and McHardy Hall. In 1949 the roll of Massey Agricultural College numbered about 300. The '49ers now have an average age of about 80. January 2010



Professor Mason Durie

Professor Mason Durie, a hugely influential figure in the development of Māori education and of Māori health and social services, has been recognised as a Knight Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the 2010 New Year honours, and Professor Sitaleki Finau has been made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit.



Professor Sitaleki Finau



Professors Emeriti Richard and Mary Earle now have a \$1 million scholarship fund honouring their name. Set up by the Riddet Institute, the Earle Food Research Fund will assist postgraduate students whose work contributes to the institute's research programme. With the proviso that they be supervised by one of the principal investigators at the institute, the recipients can attend any university in New Zealand. Richard Earle was the world's first professor of biotechnology, headed Massey's Department of Process and Environmental Technology, and was dean of the Faculty of Technology. Mary Earle introduced product development courses into Massey's food technology degree and organised New Zealand's first four-year degree in product development. She also helped introduce food technology and product development degrees at five Thai universities. October 2009



The moa takes flight

How did moas come to inhabit New Zealand? The long established view has been that continental drift rafted the already flightless ancestors of the moa away from the supercontinent of Gondwanaland on the sliver of land that became New Zealand.

Now it has been shown that it is more than likely that the moa evolved from a flighted ancestor that embarked on a series of short-haul flights: from South America to Antarctica and finally New Zealand.

And a review of the literature shows that what is so of the moa is also true of most of New Zealand's bird species. The notion that many of them – including extant and extinct species – were carried away on 'Moa's ark' when Zealandia broke away from Gondwanaland is flawed.

Matthew Phillips (a Massey alumnus now with the Australian National University), Professor David Penny, Elizabeth Crimp and Gillian Gibb carried out the work on the relationship between moa and tinamou (an ancient family of some 47 generally poorly flighted bird species – one of which is pictured at left – found throughout central and southern America) using molecular genetics. They also found that a separate but related ancestor of the kiwi is likely to have flown to New Zealand. Their paper appears in *Systematic Biology*.

In a separate paper, published in *Ibis: The International Journal of Avian Science*, Dr Steven Trewick, of the Institute of Natural Resources, and Gillian Gibb have painstakingly reviewed the evidence for colonisation or of separation via continental drift, concluding not only that 'Moa's ark' lacked ancestral moa when it left Gondwanaland, but that the evidence is that the New Zealand avifauna is "neither isolated, nor [phylogenetically] stable, but demonstrative of prolonged and ongoing colonisation, speciation and extinction".



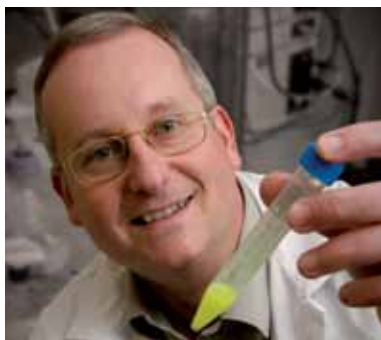
Turnbull, an eight-week-old hand-reared takahe, is operated on by veterinary ophthalmologist Craig Irving to repair an eyelid flap pecked by another bird. The eye is expected to heal and return to normal function. Takahe are classified as an endangered species.



Dr Wayne Patrick, from Massey's Institute of Natural Sciences at Albany, has been named the NZBio Young Biotechnologist of the Year. Dr Patrick, 32, is a biochemist heading a team of six undergraduate science students in the development of an enzyme engineering process with the potential to transform DNA sequencing technologies. Dr Patrick, at centre, is pictured at the awards presentation in Auckland this March with Research Science and Technology Minister Dr Wayne Mapp and NZBio chief executive Bronwyn Dilley.

Professor David Raubenheimer – at right – at work in the high-altitude Mustang area of Nepal's Annapurna Conservation Area. Using tracking technology, Raubenheimer is studying the relationship between the endangered snow leopard, its principal prey species, the blue sheep or bharal, and the local villagers. Snow leopards do, on occasion, take domestic stock, and the bharal compete for forage. The fear is that climate change will exacerbate the conflicts between people and wildlife in this already inhospitable environment.



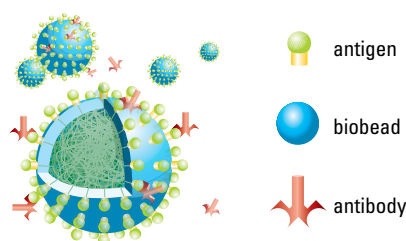


The plastic fantastic

Producing plastics without petrochemicals is not that difficult. Since the 1920s it has been known that in the right conditions certain bacteria will produce tiny granules in the form of plastic to store energy, and these days a number of firms are producing bacterially sourced biodegradable bioplastics to supply various 'green' markets. But bioplastics, being more expensive, face stiff competition from the more conventional kind. However, Professor Bernd Rehm – pictured above – has found that there are ways in which the granules in their near-raw form can be turned to advantage. He and his team have developed ways of linking custom-made molecules to the surface of the granules. These high-value biobeads might be used in processes such as medical imaging, the delivery of drugs or vaccines, purifying proteins, or performing diagnostic tests.

To exploit the potential of biobeads, a new biotech start-up called Polybatics has been formed, with Tracy Thompson, a former senior executive with the US multinational Agilent Technologies, as chief executive, and Professor Rehm as chief science officer.

With the help of Manawatu incubator the Bio Commerce Centre, Polybatics has raised \$1 million from the Manawatu Investor Group (MIG), Stephen Tindall's K1W1 fund and the government-backed New Zealand Venture Investment Fund.



When is euthanasia justified?

Public attitudes to euthanasia appear to depend on the pain a person is suffering.

Nearly 70 per cent of respondents to a School of Communication, Journalism and Marketing survey support assisted suicide for someone with a painful, incurable disease, provided a doctor gives the assistance.

Support drops to around 45 per cent if the person is not in pain. That level of support is also recorded for a person neither in pain nor with an incurable disease but who is permanently and completely dependent on others for all their physical needs.

The euthanasia questions were included in the school's annual survey of political and social issues carried out as part of the International Social Survey Programme.

Sent to 935 New Zealanders between July and November last year, the survey had a response rate of 44 per cent.

Professor Philip Gendall, who leads the survey research team, says the results of the doctor-assisted euthanasia question were almost identical to a similar survey carried out a year earlier.

"Management of pain is a critical issue influencing attitudes to euthanasia, but within the population there are groups that are either in favour or opposed to euthanasia regardless of the circumstances," he says.

In the latest survey, opposition to doctor-assisted euthanasia increased from 20 per cent to 40 per cent if the person was not in pain or did not have an incurable disease.

Also canvassed was public opinion on such matters as perceived versus deserved earnings, the characteristics essential for getting ahead in life, and legal abortion.



Luis Ortiz-Catedral's PhD research has received two awards this year, both for travel. A Claude McCarthy Fellowship carrying an award of \$3000 will fund his travel to the International Ornithological Congress in Brazil, while a Bob Stewart Environmental Award worth \$5000 has gone towards the cost of travel for 50 kakariki, which have been translocated by the Department of Conservation from Hauturu (Little Barrier Island) to Tawharanui Regional Park's protected open sanctuary. Ortiz-Catedral is seen here on Raoul Island where he spend part of 2009 studying kakariki.



Among science journals there are two held in unusual esteem: Nature, headquartered in Britain, and Science, its US counterpart. To be published in either can be a career-making move. Professor Paul Rainey, a geneticist who is exploring the workings of evolution using microbial populations, is no stranger to being published in Nature. But this time round he and his co-authors – Hubertus Beaumont, Jenna Gallie, Christian Kost and Gayle Ferguson – had one more reason to celebrate: their paper, Experimental evolution of bet hedging, had made the cover. In bet hedging a bacterium will, over generations, switch randomly between having different sets of physical characteristics, a strategem that improves its chances of succeeding when fluctuating environmental conditions hold sway.

Research in the mysteries of virgin reproduction – a mode called parthenogenesis – among stick insects has found that male stick insects are becoming increasingly redundant. Some New Zealand female stick insects can reproduce as efficiently on their own as with a male mate. Not only that, the females capable of reproducing without male help always produce female offspring. Some further oddities: the asexually reproducing populations of stick insects inhabit southern New Zealand and all appear to have the same ancestor; the sexually reproducing populations are to the north; and for some reason the eggs of mated stick insects mature more rapidly. Dr Mary Morgan-Richards' investigation into the distribution and evolutionary relationships of sexual and asexual populations of the stick insect was conducted in collaboration with Dr Steve Trewick, also of Massey's Ecology Group, and Dr Ian Stringer, from the Department of Conservation in Wellington. It appears in the international journal Molecular Ecology.





Campaign to raise \$100m endowment fund

The Massey University Foundation, the University's registered charity, has launched a campaign to raise a \$100 million endowment fund from private and corporate donations.

Called Advancing New Zealand, the campaign aims to ensure the University stays internationally competitive in terms of the facilities and support it offers its students and its staff. The fundraising will be based around three strategic areas of importance to Massey: agri-food, creativity and innovation.

Vice-Chancellor Steve Maharey says universities worldwide increasingly look

beyond core government funding to meet the real costs of supplying first-class teaching and research, and New Zealand is no different.

"Massey has no intention of waiting," Mr Maharey says. "To do so would be to the detriment of the students, staff and communities they serve. Instead we will respond positively to this issue and work in partnership with our friends, our alumni, our suppliers and our communities, to make Massey New Zealand's defining university."

He says by focusing on agri-food, creativity and innovation, the fundraising project will

be transformational. "What we need to demonstrate to potential donors is that an investment in Massey is an investment in New Zealand's future. It is from these key areas that, in the next 10 years, some of the most innovative and creative solutions to global issues will be discovered. By supporting the foundation and its work, you are supporting Massey in its quest to advance New Zealand."

The launch was held in conjunction with the University's inaugural Distinguished Alumni Awards.

Distinguished Alumni Awards 2010

Two scientists, a senior politician, a filmmaker, businesspeople and a sports coach were among seven outstanding New Zealanders presented with the University's inaugural annual Distinguished Alumni Awards.

Awards were given in four categories:

Outstanding Achievement: Richard Taylor and Sarah Kennedy

Meritorious Service to the University, Community or Nation: Dr Judy McGregor and Dr Lockwood Smith

Distinguished Young Alumni (restricted to alumni under the age of 40): Dr Shaun Hendy and Yvette McCausland-Durie

Sir Geoffrey Peren Medal for Services to Agriculture: Professor Sir Alan Frampton



From left: Dr Shaun Hendy; Tania Rodger, accepting the award on behalf of Richard Taylor; Sarah Kennedy; Professor Sir Alan Frampton; Yvette McCausland-Durie; Dr Lockwood Smith

There are now more than 100,000 Massey graduates around the world. Many have been extremely successful in business, some have distinguished careers in the public service, in politics, as national and international leaders and, in numerous cases, as noted academics, teachers and world-class researchers.



Clockwise from top left: Fran Wilde, Minister of Tertiary Education Steven Joyce and Suzanne Joyce; Dr Shaun Hendy; Marguerite Allan and Peter MacGillivray; Sir Alan Frampton, Pro Vice-Chancellor Robert Anderson and Roger Peren; the Hon Lockwood Smith





Sarah Kennedy



Richard Taylor



Yvette McCausland-Durie

Sarah Kennedy, distinguished alumni award for outstanding achievement; Richard Taylor, distinguished alumni award for outstanding achievement; Yvette McCausland-Durie, distinguished young alumni award; Dr Judy McGregor, distinguished alumni award for meritorious service to the University, community or nation; Dr Lockwood Smith, distinguished alumni award for meritorious service to the University, community or nation; Dr Shaun Hendy, distinguished young alumni award.

Sarah Kennedy

Told by a school teacher that she would never amount to anything, Sarah Kennedy fell in love with learning when she arrived at Massey at age 17 to study veterinary science. She practised as a veterinary surgeon before turning to aquaculture and nutrition. While with stock feed manufacturer NRM, Kennedy began studying marketing, management and business finance, and advanced through the company ranks to general manager. She then moved to Tegal Foods as business manager – retail markets and, in 1998, to Healtheries as managing director, guiding the company in its growth to the third largest health and wellbeing company in Australasia. When Healtheries and Nutralife were taken over by Capital Health in 2007, Kennedy was appointed group chief executive officer, integrating the two companies into Vitaco Health.

A graduate of the 2003 Advanced Management Programme at Harvard Business School, she has served on numerous business and community boards, including International Accreditation of New Zealand, Export New Zealand and Commercialising Research and Development Action Group. Kennedy resigned from Vitaco Health in 2009 to take up a Sloan Fellowship at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston, which she will begin in June.

Yvette McCausland-Durie

Yvette McCausland-Durie (Ngāti Awa, Ngā Puhī), the head coach for the Pulse netball team, and of last year's New Zealand Under-21 team, is known for her energy, focus, drive and commitment.

Until recently, the mother of two also worked alongside her husband, Nathan Durie, at Tu Toa, a tiny correspondence school they co-founded in Palmerston North. Tu Toa focuses on fostering of excellence in academic, sporting and cultural

programmes and is rapidly gaining a reputation as a national talent incubator for emerging Māori athletes.

McCausland-Durie represented New Zealand in track and field events in the World Junior Championships in Bulgaria in 1990. She began coaching netball at the age of 17, and played for the Silver Ferns from 1995–97. She completed a Bachelor of Education and Diploma of Teaching from Auckland Teachers' College, then a Master of Education at Massey in 2005 and a Postgraduate Diploma in Sport Management. Although she is now full-time with the Pulse, she still coaches the Tu Toa team, which won last year's national secondary schools netball championship.

She was named Māori Coach of the Year at last year's Māori Sports Awards.

"I love coaching and teaching, and enjoy giving time to the holistic development of athletes."

Richard Taylor

Multiple Academy Award winner Richard Taylor is the director and co-founder, with partner Tania Rodger, of the renowned special effects facility Weta Workshop. From *Spitting Image* to *Meet the Feebles*, *Braindead* to *Black Sheep*, and the global phenomenon of *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy, Weta Workshop has helped put New Zealand's creative industries on the world stage and to create a budding new economy.

His other business interests include a workshop producing limited edition high-end art pieces for collectors, and the television production company Pukeko Pictures, established with Martin Baynton and Tania Rodger, which has created the internationally successful children's programmes *The WotWots* and *Jane and the Dragon*.

His business awards include the Ernst & Young 2006 Entrepreneur of the Year Award and the World Class New Zealand Awards, of which he was the supreme winner. He is a member of the University's College of Creative

Arts Hall of Fame.

"I started the visual communication and design course at Massey some 25 years ago, never imagining that this course, at what was then a polytechnic, would be the gateway to such an enjoyable career and one that I could experience without leaving the city of Wellington."

Dr Shaun Hendy

Shaun Hendy grew up in Palmerston North, where his father, Professor Mike Hendy, worked in Massey's mathematics department and later was the founding executive director of the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Biology and Evolution.

Dr Hendy's first research paper came out of a summer school scholarship in 1992 with the mathematics department, working with Professor Graeme Wake on modelling the growth of wool on sheep exposed to various grazing strategies. Sir Paul Callaghan was also an influence, and Dr Hendy was soon torn between physics and mathematics.

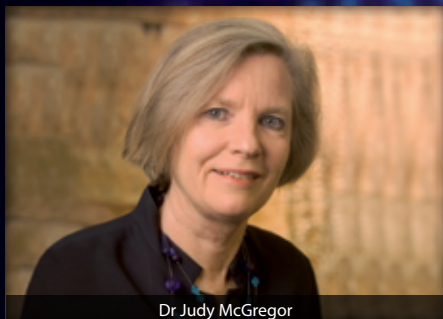
Graduating in 1993 with a BSc (Hons) in mathematical physics, Dr Hendy completed a PhD at the University of Alberta, Canada, calculating the patterns of gravitational radiation emitted from large objects orbiting black holes. In 2002 he was invited by Sir Paul to join the MacDiarmid Institute for Advanced Materials and Nanotechnology as principal investigator. Now the Institute's deputy director, Dr Hendy shares his time between Industrial Research Ltd and Victoria University.

"I am passionate about New Zealand science and devote a lot of time and energy to communicating the importance of science for our society's well being and development,"

Dr Lockwood Smith

Now in his ninth term, National MP Dr Lockwood Smith has been Speaker of the House since 2008.

Dr Smith grew up in Northland, attended



Dr Judy McGregor



Dr Lockwood Smith



Dr Shaun Hendy

Auckland Grammar School and completed a Bachelor of Agricultural Science and a Master of Agricultural Science at Massey, winning a Massey Scholarship.

Awarded a Commonwealth Scholarship, Dr Smith completed a PhD in animal science at Adelaide University in 1980 and represented South Australia in rowing. He also competed nationally in surfboat rowing in New Zealand. He worked as a junior lecturer at Massey, as a television presenter and as marketing manager for the New Zealand Dairy Board for Central and South East Asia. He established, and continues to run, a Belgian Blue beef stud in Northland.

Dr Smith believes Massey's science programmes, with their mix of theoretical and applied learning, influenced his thinking as Minister of Education when he developed the national qualifications framework.

He has held numerous ministerial portfolios. A highlight for him was chairing the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation forum in Auckland in 1999, and, that same year, a principal working group at the WTO.

Dr Judy McGregor

Since 2003 Dr Judy McGregor has been the Equal Employment Opportunities Commissioner at the Human Rights Commission, focusing on pay equity, ageism in the workplace and extending equal employment opportunities in the public and private sectors.

Dr McGregor spent 20 years in the newspaper industry, working as editor of the *Sunday News*, the *Auckland Star*, and the *Women in Management Review*. She has also, at various times, headed Human Resource Management and the Communication and Journalism School at Massey, founded and convened the New Zealand Centre for Women and Leadership, been a member of the Massey University Council, and chair of the University Research Committee and of the Harassment Committee.

She holds an arts degree from Waikato, legal qualifications from Victoria and Auckland universities, a doctorate in political

communication from Massey, and has written seven books.

She has worked with human rights institutions in Jordan, Palestine, Malaysia and with journalists in the Pacific Rim to develop media and communications strategies around human rights issues. In 2006 she was awarded the Companion of the New Zealand Order of

Merit for services to journalism.

"Like many other women in New Zealand, I began university study through Massey as an extramural student," Dr McGregor says. "Massey University should be very proud of its wonderful distance learning legacy for generations of Kiwis."



Sir Alan Frampton, awarded the Sir Geoffrey Peren Medal for services to agriculture

Sir Alan Frampton

Professor Emeritus Sir Alan Frampton was inspired to study agriculture by a Dairy Board consultant who visited the family's Morrinsville farm and talked about the scientific developments in pasturage, farm management and animal nutrition.

At 25, he appointed a farm manager and, with wife Rae and their two children, departed for Manawatu. He gained bachelor's and master's degrees in agricultural science and then went to Cornell University to complete a doctorate in agricultural economics. He returned to Massey as Professor of Agricultural Economics and Farm Management from 1968-77, was Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture and Horticultural Sciences from 1977-83 and also Assistant to the Vice-Chancellor (Farms and Research Units) from 1974-83.

He was instrumental in setting up the first market research centre, a marketing department and a school of business, and was appointed chairman of the Board of Studies administering the then School of Business. In 1973, he was appointed to the Dairy Board and over the next 20 years, helped it

focus on value-added products, research and the international marketplace. In 1982 he was appointed a director of dairy company Tatua, becoming chairman in 1990, and stepping down in October 2003. He was also the inaugural chairman of AgResearch and chairman of the NZ Association of Crown Research Institutes.

Awarded an honorary Doctorate of Science by Massey University in 2002, Sir Alan was made a Distinguished Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to agriculture in 2005 – an award later converted into a knighthood.

He is a Fellow of the New Zealand Institute of Primary Industry Management, the Institute of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences, and is a trustee of the Limestone Downs Trust, administering the Limestone Downs farm at Port Waikato.

"If New Zealand is to maintain and improve its wellbeing relative to other advanced countries, we must continually increase our stock of knowledge, particularly in fields where we may have a competitive advantage," Sir Alan says.



Choosing the right track

If you are an aspiring politician, a good biography is useful to have. For a member of a centre right party, Steven Joyce's biography could hardly be better. He is a self made man. His parents, both of whom left school at 15, were seven-day-week grocery store owners. Joyce is a multimillionaire. Now he is a Minister of the Crown – whose most recently acquired portfolio is Tertiary Education – and a set of trusted hands in a relatively new government.

And it all began at a student radio station. He talks to Paul Mulrooney.

What is it about not-quite-veterinarians? Why do so many do so well? Think cartoonist and all-round renaissance man Tom Scott, former Commissioner of Police Rob Robinson, or actor Peter Hayden. Had their grades been slightly better, or their resolution slightly stronger (Scott chose to switch degrees) they might all have led blamelessly virtuous lives ministering to creatures great and small well away from the public gaze.

Or think Steven Joyce, the horse-owning Taranaki boy, who wanted to be a vet, failed to make the cut, and went on to become a self-made multimillionaire and the Minister of Tertiary Education.

Joyce came to Massey in 1980, did the pre-veterinary year, and missed selection by a

whisker. This was no dishonour – veterinary studies was and is famously selective – but Joyce then had to decide on plan B; after dallying briefly with chemistry, he opted for zoology, heeding the advice of the careers counsellor who told him that, so long as he stuck with a major, what it was didn't much matter. Getting a degree was about learning how to learn. Arguably it worked. Joyce may not have much contact with animal life – except if you count the two cattle he keeps on his lifestyle block and the retrodoodle (a golden retriever-poodle cross) he enlists when rounding them up – but he has turned out to be a remarkably quick study.

In the past 15 months he has had to come to grips with being both a new MP and a Minister of the Crown. He has had to learn

the unaccustomed protocols of government and officialdom. Then there are his portfolios and their issues. Road transport: a plane crash in France, the parlous state of the railway system, clogged highways, questions around road rules and driving ages. Telecommunications: the need for national high speed broadband, the failings of Telecom's XT network, cellphone termination charges. And now Tertiary Education.

All of this he is taken in his stride. So capable is Joyce proving, he is already seen as being something of a successor to Bill Birch, the politician who for a time became known as minister of everything.

But the discipline of university study is in a way the least part of Massey's contribution to Joyce's career. It was Masskeradio, the first commercial student radio in New Zealand, that

woke Joyce to the passion that would consume him for the next 20 years.

Joyce debuted there as a presenter in 1983, the final year of his degree. As Joyce remembers it, this meant a cursory introduction to the equipment, and then being pointed at the music collection – all of it vinyl in these pre-CD days, and none of it familiar.

“[The departing deejay] said ‘just choose what you like,’ I thought ‘I have no idea, there is nothing here I know.’ I figured that generally most artists put their best songs pretty early on in the album so I thought side one track one and thought I’d work my way front and back, side one track one, and that worked pretty well for a while, till someone helpfully rang up and said that song I was playing probably sounded better on 45 [rpm] given it was an EP not an album.”



[there]. We bought them for \$45,000, 15 grand each – it was fantastic!” says Joyce, still exultant.

In 1997 Energy Enterprises and Radio Pacific merged, and at the close of 1998, with further acquisitions, Radio Pacific–Energy Enterprises had 80 stations around New Zealand. In 1999 they merged with Radio Otago and the combined enterprise, now called RadioWorks, continued expanding into provincial markets.

By 2000 RadioWorks had an office in every major town and city and 650 staff across four networks and 18 local radio stations.

It was, says Joyce, an amazing ride – “hard work all of the time and fantastic fun most of the time” – right up until the day it ended.

In May 2000 the CanWest Global group bought out 72 per cent of the NZSX-listed RadioWorks, and, in January 2001, they acquired the remaining 28 per cent. Joyce,

“We interviewed luminaries like Bruce Beetham and the late Trevor DeCleene for audiences of roughly 50 people each night, roughly 48 of whom would have preferred to hear the latest Joy Division track.”

Joyce was undeterred. In fact, by dint of hanging around, as he puts it, in 1984 (the year the station went FM) he became the programme manager and, the following year, the station manager.

Joyce took to his new responsibilities with zest. 1984 was the year of the snap election that brought in the first Lange government. As Joyce told Parliament in his maiden speech, “With seriously inferior equipment, a fearless group of us worked 24 hours at a time to bring together the hugely important radio Massey election specials on political issues of the day. We interviewed luminaries like Bruce Beetham and the late Trevor DeCleene, for audiences of roughly 50 people each night, roughly 48 of whom would have preferred to hear the latest Joy Division track.”

As Joyce has said, such experiences could have led him to journalism as a career. But his interests lay elsewhere.

Somewhere amidst those late night sessions he and four other students (one of them comedian Jeremy Corbett) banded together and decided to set up a commercial radio station. Each put in \$100, and so, with \$500 capital, Energy Enterprises was born.

For the next three summers, Energy Enterprises ran a makeshift radio station, lined with egg cartons as sound insulation, in New Plymouth, putting aside the sum they would

need to draw on to apply for a full-time FM licence application. They found shareholders and appointed a board of directors, went through an arduous licence hearing with the broadcasting tribunal, and then waited 15 long months for a decision to be released.

“During that time we lost three of our number – I think they got bored – and gained one more.”

Against all expectation, the bid was successful. “It was this sort of dream we wanted to achieve... It was really cool.”

In mid 1987 Energy FM had a licence to broadcast in Taranaki, and in November of that year it began broadcasting. So it was that Joyce’s ascent in business began.

It helped that in 1989, partly in response to lobbying by the radio industry, the government had, with the passing of the Radiocommunications Act and the Broadcasting Act, deregulated the radio spectrum. In the years 1990 to 1993 the Ministry of Commerce put 234 frequencies up for sale.

As Energy Enterprises prospered, it bought stations in Tauranga and Hamilton, started the Edge and Solid Gold FM and built them and the Rock into national satellite-delivered networks. It bought up lucrative radio spectrum at buyers’ prices. “Our best deal was, I think, when we bought three FM frequencies in Rotorua, which at that stage doubled the commercial market

who hadn’t wanted to sell up, retired as chief executive on his 38th birthday. His holdings had brought him a windfall of \$8 million.

After pouring all he had into RadioWorks and living for the early years as frugally as any university student, he was wealthy, unfit, and without obligation. He joined a gym and, not having run since he was 21, ran two half marathons.

And he joined the National Party – the best philosophical fit with his own values – put his name forward as a candidate, and almost stood in the 2002 general election. Not that his chances would have been good: Helen Clark’s Labour Government was re-elected; and National, with 21 per cent of the vote, had its worst-ever performance.

How had this calamity occurred and what should be done about it? The Party turned to Joyce, who in his RadioWorks ride, with all its mergers, acquisitions and restructurings, learned “about growing and running companies, about organisational cultures and getting the best out of people”.

Taking up an appointment as the National Party’s general manager in April 2003, Joyce chaired the campaign review and then conducted a full strategic review of the organisation. Pre-review, National’s regional offices had largely held sway over both the central office and electorates, one result being worrying national

inconsistencies in branding and message. Post-review, power emanated from the centre.

In the 2005 election, for which Joyce was the campaign manager, the party under Don Brash's leadership increased its share of votes by 18 per cent.

But the vagaries of coalition-building under MMP meant that National ended up once more in the Opposition, and its campaign is remembered more for the issues surrounding the Brethren Church's funding of an advertising campaign in support of the National Party and the anonymity of party donations than it is for the turnaround in National's electoral fortunes. In the wake of Nicky Hager's leaked or hacked e-mail-driven exposé of National's campaign, *The Hollow Men* – in which Joyce features – Brash soon resigned.

After the election, Joyce was quick to rebound. He became the director and then chief executive of Jason's Travel Media and the chairman of hospital bed manufacturer Howard Wright, and there were sea changes in his personal life: he married, moved with his wife Suzanne to a lifestyle block north of Auckland, and the Joyce family soon added baby Amelia and Gemma the retrodoodle to their number.

When the next election came around in 2008, both he and National were ready. This time the stars were in alignment: National won the largest number of seats of any party, formed a successful coalition, and Joyce became, as he has put it, "one of the lesser beasts" a list MP, and something more significant, a cabinet minister, first picking up the Transport and the Communication and Information Technology portfolios, and, in January 2010, Tertiary Education, succeeding Anne Tolley. (He is also the Associate Minister of Finance and of Infrastructure.)

Why such responsibility so early? Perhaps because Joyce is someone Prime Minister John Key likes and trusts. After the election, Key was quick to credit Joyce as the "man who ran the campaign, who rang me every morning at 6 o'clock, who was up at 4.30 in the morning to read every newspaper cover to cover", and when Key took up residence in Premier House, Joyce was offered the rare privilege of the use of the cottage in the house's grounds.

In fact Key and Joyce share a lot in common. They are near contemporaries (Key is slightly older). They came to positions of influence in the party at nearly the same time. (Key was first elected to Parliament in 2002; Joyce became general manager in 2003). Neither comes from a particularly advantaged background. (Key was raised by his widowed mother in a state house; Joyce is the son of self-employed grocers, both

In Control

Bryan Gibson finds that Manawatu student radio continues to thrive.



For someone who is never seen, Andee Jay is quite a sight. Standing at the microphone, his body and arms swirl to help articulate his words, which flow as freely as the beats pulsing beneath.

After three years behind the microphone, he's one of Radio Control's longest serving presenters, although some have been involved for more than 20 years. Today, his musings traverse a range of subjects, but it's not just the forum for his thoughts that drew him to student radio. "I'm utterly obsessed with music," he says. "Being here gives me the chance to share the music I love, my own tastes."

Andy began at the station when he was a student. He now manages a music store but says broadcasting is a career he is interested in pursuing, and Radio Control has given him the skills to do that. "The facilities here are great, but more importantly, the size of the station and the city make it accessible," he says. "If I lived in Auckland, there's no way I'd be able to walk into the station there and get a daytime show. I'd be on a waiting list for a year."

But while it is smaller and more community-focused than Auckland's BFM, Radio Control is linked closely to that and the other student stations through the b-net.

The link gives the station access not only to music, live performances and

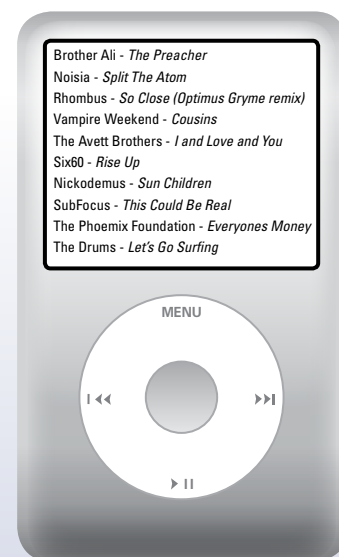
touring bands, but also advertising, according to station manager Alexander Hallag. "We're still a true student station, funded through the students' association, New Zealand On Air and advertising," he says.

Hallag has headed the station for two years, but the expatriate American has always been involved in the arts in some way. "People used to tell me my camera was an extension of my body, another arm, so to speak," Hallag, who is also a photographer and filmmaker, says. But his move from the visual to the aural field has him just as enthused, and Radio Control sees him at the cutting edge of new music. "We hear the best new stuff before it hits the mainstream – some of the songs we're playing now will be on commercial radio in six months' time."

Of course, not everything the station plays would be palatable to a mainstream audience, which is just the way Hallag likes it. "We air the underground here, the innovators and the exciting artists," he says. "It's also a great platform for local artists to gain airplay and create an audience."

This year is Radio Control's 30th on air, and the station has come a long way from the caravan out the back of the campus. But the ethos remains the same: play good music and provide a training ground for the future stars of New Zealand broadcasting.

On Andee Jay's iPod



99.4 FM

Radio Control is the most recent incarnation of Masskeradio, which received commercial licence in 1980 – the first commercial student radio station in the country. (It has also been known as Radio Massey and 2XM.)

Taking to the air

Sarah Young sits in at MUSE RADiO as a new deejay debuts.



It's late on a Tuesday night, and Massey's Wellington campus seems desolate, but for two security guards roaming the windy darkness. Then, as you round the corner of the Museum Building, the ambience changes. Lights glimmer on the walls of an inner courtyard; there is the murmur of music. Massey's MUSE RADiO studio is in session.

From a poster on one hot pink wall Che Guevara gazes out, all revolutionary zeal, on to a pocket-sized studio crammed with a computer, a workstation, a turntable, a floor-to-ceiling collection of CDs, the two co-hosts of the 'Broccoflowersaurus Rex and the Blueberry Biscuits' show, and this evening's guests, perched on the edge of a small couch.

An abyss of three hours of space-that-must-be-occupied stretches before second-year Massey jazz performance student and MUSE's first student deejay recruit for 2010, Thomas Friggens.

The self-proclaimed lover of "general debauchery", poetry and cooking admits to nerves, but this is one of the reasons he's doing the show. That same nervous energy is why, as a musician, he likes to play live gigs. And in any case all awkwardness soon passes as Friggens and co-host Thomas Mold start fooling around with their yellow foam microphones and exchanging good-natured insults with Dean Blackwell and Kane Tippler, members of Hawkes Bay three-piece band 'Polter'.

Tippler asks if there should be some sort of agenda, but the suggestion is lost as the clock hits 9pm, and a fleeting moment of seriousness descends as they welcome their listeners for the first time.

Five minutes in, and you could be forgiven for thinking they've done this all before. Music and comedic chitchat are soon spilling out on the airwaves and via the internet to local and not-so-local listeners. (Mold's father is Skyping the show to relatives in the UK.)

When the laptop fails to stream Polter's play-list, quick thinking and a supply of good old CDs lets the show go on.

The conversation dances around the merits of Doritos versus CCs, gigs they've been to recently, how Polter came up with song-names like *Seahorse Valley*, how bands such as Tool have influenced Polter's sound, and digresses into riffs around gender and language – Mold points out that changing 'the man' (as in the 'system') to 'the person' rather takes away the effect, and that 'the man' is a derogatory term to begin with.

The cluster of random interview questions kindly written on the wall in black marker by some other deejay are not going to be needed to inspire any word-less moments this evening. In fact, the biggest problem seems to be finding enough air-space and microphones for all of them to get their

views across without talking over one another.

Friggens doesn't like to define his own musical tastes too narrowly, although he does say he is a fan of acoustic, folk, and dub.

"(Thomas and I) have different tastes so it'll be a good mix. We might play some Mr Bungle followed by a Sigur Rós song. While there might be something from a popular album, it's probably not going to be the most well known song."

The show will feature local and NZ musicians, including Little Bushman drummer Rick Cranson, guitarist Cameron Bisley from Wellington folk-pop band Can We Talk, and third-year Massey jazz student Reece McNorton, who plays regularly at Wellington bar Good Luck.

"The crew are awesome – they're always eager to lend a helping hand, and go above and beyond the call of duty," Oscar says.

"We want to find out what our local and student musicians are listening to, and what makes them produce the music they do," Friggens says.

He seems well qualified to investigate. Friggens is a drummer in band John the Baptist, which officially released their EP at Wellington bar Mighty Mighty on May 1.

Recently returned station manager Sod Oscar says MUSE is reliant on volunteers like Friggens – many of whom have been there since the station was formed in 2002 by Oscar and Claire Medcalf.

They range from public service workers, to hospital receptionists, to well-known Wellington deejays.

The shows? Let the names speak for them. A sampling: *Large Rabbit*, *Herculean Cauliflower*, *Holding Out for the Unicorn*, and *Our Music is Better than Yours* with deejays Honey Bunny and Pumpkin (otherwise known as Erin Kavanagh and Matt Hall).

"The crew are awesome – they're always eager to lend a helping hand, and go above and beyond the call of duty," Oscar says.

OnThomasFriggens'iPod



The station known as MUNT FM until January of this year will be formally relaunched as MUSE FM at Massey Re:Orientation in June.

or <http://magnetomagazine.wordpress.com/muse-radio/>

88.5 FM

of whom left school at 15.) And, of course, both are wealthy, self-made men.

Joyce also seems a good fit with his portfolios. Who better to be Minister of Telecommunications than a man who has dealt with the intricacies of the allocation of radio spectrum for the past 20 years?

And if he has no explicit background in transport, he has certainly proven willing to grasp some nettles: new highways have been approved and funded; road rules are to be changed; the driving age will be raised. He gets things done. Even in his breaks he is deal-making by mobile phone. As Jeremy Corbett has said, “Steven expects everyone to work as hard as him and nobody does.” And thus far he has proven a safe pair of hands.

So, what of tertiary education? Study after study has shown that economic development hinges around the advantages that university

for the Government, we [tertiary education] would be struggling to put up an argument we should have more money.”

In the absence of there being more money for tertiary education, Joyce wants better value for what money there is.

Take qualifications. Currently, Joyce points out, there are more than 6000 qualifications on the New Zealand Register of Quality Assured Qualifications; Finland, with a slightly larger population, has 500. This profusion of qualifications – though most are outside the university sector – generates uncertainty, inefficiency and expense.

Or consider students who enrol for qualifications they never complete, either choosing to switch to other perhaps less-taxing qualifications or to remove themselves from study entirely. In 2006, across the university sector, the first-year attrition rate for degrees,

“You’re seeing things like Massey’s Foundation launching a big endowment fundraising effort, you’re seeing I think a greater focus on international students – though we have to get the balance right – and you’re seeing a greater focus on commercialisation on research. These are three potentially big income streams where, in international terms, you would say we are a bit underdone.”

Whatever Joyce does, his approach will need to be carefully judged. A recent Ministry of Education analysis looking at how New Zealand’s universities rank internationally, found them to be well regarded and, measured against GDP, highly efficient.

Which may be the right moment to raise a minor matter to do with Joyce’s own efficiency. Although he accumulated enough papers in his first three years of study to qualify for his BSc (and he would carry on taking papers during his

“I’m very proud that I’m possibly one of the few people to have their academic record celebrated by Parliament. It’s a rare privilege.”

education and research bring. A 2009 report by KPMG in Australia has estimated the real economic return on investment in higher education to be between 14 and 15 per cent. And, as Joyce and Key know, access to tertiary education is one of the key determinants of social mobility: higher level study, particularly at a degree level, brings a significant and life-long wage premium.

If New Zealand is to achieve anything like Australia’s growth in GDP per head – let alone exceed it, as would need to happen for us to catch up – then the tertiary education sector will be pivotal.

But these are straitened times; every week the Government borrows \$250 million to support public services. And, perversely, as happens in unsettled economic times, the demand for university education has risen.

But is New Zealand’s tertiary education system so poorly off? Joyce does not think so. New Zealand’s annual spending of \$4 billion represents 2.3 per cent of GDP, notably higher than the OECD average. We are, Joyce asserts, “pretty good”. (Though New Zealand’s generous student loan scheme – which, at 0.45 per cent of GDP, stands four times higher than the OECD average – accounts for a large part of the difference.)

“Even if it wasn’t a case of tight financial times

graduate diplomas and post-graduate diplomas was approximately one student in four.

Joyce intends to have some portion of tertiary education funding – and, for individual students, of the continuing provision of student loans – linked to student success. Students in tertiary education, he says, may well be “encouraged to more uniformly make academic progress” and institutions told “actually, we’re not going to pay you on enrolments, we’re going to include an element of performance during the year”, encouraging them to take more interest in their studies.

Then there is open entry. Currently, once they pass age 20, New Zealanders are – with the exception of some particular courses of study – entitled to entry regardless of whether they have formal school qualifications. Is this an enlightened policy that allows talent to flower? After all, many late entrants do well at university study, bringing with them a depth of commitment and maturity that would be the envy of many a new-from-school entrant.

Or, in a constrained environment, is it better to pick the winners – those who have already succeeded at school – rather than chance matters with people whose abilities are unproven?

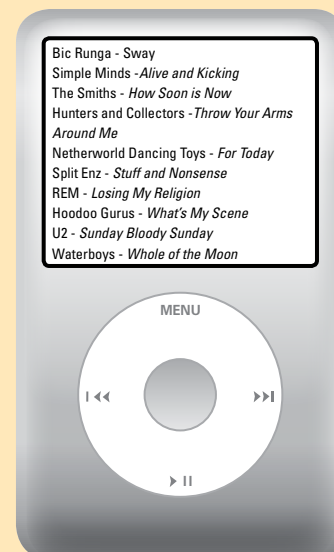
Finally, the tertiary sector needs to be cultivating non-governmental funding.

time with Masskeradio), it was not until 2002 that he took the time to have the degree conferred.

In March, attempting to filibuster the passing of legislation, Trevor Mallard moved that Steven Joyce be congratulated for having his degree conferred 21 years after he started it. Joyce took his ribbing good naturedly.

“I’m very proud that I’m possibly one of the few people to have their academic record celebrated by Parliament. It’s a rare privilege.”

On Steven Joyce’s iPod



At writing, Joyce was publicly mooting a cut-off term of seven years of study for eligibility for student loans as well as fee increases for some more costly courses. Additional research by Malcolm Wood.

the joy of sects



Heather Kavan is fascinated by religious experience.
She talks to Malcolm Wood.

Though perhaps no saint, Heather Kavan has done her share of suffering for religion. For 11 months, Kavan, constitutionally not a morning person, rose before 6am to join a group of Falun Gong practitioners for half an hour of silent exercises.

Did she find transcendence? Not exactly. For Kavan, who is of slim build, a defining memory is of penetrating cold.

"I was stuck in the lotus position in a temperature below zero when I knew I just had to get my coat. And when I tried to stand up, I found I was paralysed from the waist down. So of course I went crashing down to the ground, and I crawled over to get my coat, and one of them looked at me and said, somewhat offhandedly, 'If you had been meditating properly you wouldn't have felt the cold.'"

It doesn't help that the 6am exercise sessions seem to have gone into abeyance when Kavan stopped attending.

She suspects her presence was the impetus for the sessions all along.

Kavan's small, corner office on the Manawatu campus is surprisingly pleasant. Long and narrow, with two intersecting rows of windows, it feels a little like the bridge of a ship, and the view, while largely of concrete, is softened by Kavan's thriving collection of indoor plants.

On the wall is her framed 2009 national award for sustained excellence in teaching, and, alongside, its tongue-in-cheek complement, a Pre-Raphaelite print entitled *The Accolade* and featuring a kneeling Prince Valiant-like figure in chainmail being knighted by a white-robed, long haired damsel.

So far, so standard. While radiating more order and serenity than most, this is just another academic garret, and the books – Bill Bryson's *Mother Tongue* and Lyn Truss' *Eats Shoots and Leaves* – are those you would expect to find in the collection of someone who teaches speech writing and the art of writing.

What isn't in evidence is Kavan's alter ego: Kavan the investigator of religions, cults and 'altered states'.

The room is bare of religious iconography, crystals, and uplifting homilies.

Yet here is a woman who professes to be, if anything, more comfortable in a revivalist meeting or meditation group than in the confines of academia.

And away from the university surrounds, Kavan's clinical remove falls away. "Most of us can suspend reality for a temporary period when we go to a movie; I suspend it when I go to a religious meeting." She shares the fervour of those around her.

Some things, she says, have to be experienced to be understood.

Take, for example, the case of Janet Moses, the mother of two who drowned during a marathon exorcism session. Were those who forced cold water on her to expel the demons guilty of manslaughter? A jury thought so.¹

Kavan, who attended the six-week trial in the cause of research, is not so sure.

"The Moses case hinged on the consent issue. The judge advised the jury that if they

believed that the accused had an honest belief that Janet Moses consented to the water being poured down her throat just before death, then they would have to find the defendants not guilty.

"The prosecutor argued, eloquently, – he should have been a writer – how can anyone say they thought she consented; they weren't thinking at all; there was no thought involved – at least not towards the end. And it did ring true. They were so much in an altered state that they weren't thinking.

"Similarly, what the defence said rang true, that at times Janet called the shots during the exorcism; she would say 'the demon is here' and the defendants would rush to expel it for her; she believed she was possessed. They were trying to help her. They did have an honest belief she was consenting because she declined offers to take her away from the situation."

There is no denying that the events surrounding Moses' death were bizarre. Up to 50 people were present at any time in the small lounge where the exorcism was held. The windows were tightly sealed to prevent demons entering. The temperatures rose to "furnace-like" levels. The laundry – which held clothing contaminated by vomit – and the toilet beyond were declared off limits. The room was awash with water. People had taken to relieving themselves in a corner.

"It's understandable that people who hadn't experienced [anything like this] couldn't comprehend the defendants' responses," says Kavan.

"Witness after witness testified that Janet had a strange look in her eyes and that was what convinced them that she was possessed: while there were other unusual behaviours, it was this very strange look in her eyes that everyone recalled. I've seen that look in people's eyes, and it is frightening. I don't interpret it as possession, but I can understand how someone else would."

How then does Kavan propose to interpret the trial for the purposes of her research?

Her proposal to the presiding judge was that she apply the lens of collective entrapment, a subset of group think², in which members escalate their commitment to a course of action even though it is obviously failing.

Now she is more inclined to interpret the events surrounding Janet Moses' death in terms of trance or altered states.

She also finds herself interested in the issue of gender: in most exorcisms it is the woman who is exorcised, the man who is the exorcist.

"Usually that is because the exorcist sees women as easy targets, less likely to say 'no, what a load of rubbish'. But in this instance the people who were perceived as possessed were often those who fainted under the heat. So they were more likely to be female. The stronger males had a better chance of being able to physically endure.

"If you're in a group and someone is checking out who has a demon, and they see you as the next target for an exorcism, there are really only a couple of ways of getting

"I often think that exorcisms are like a game of spiritual poker: it's about bluff. Whoever can bluff the best wins."

out of it. You can't say, 'no, I'm not possessed', because that would just be evidence that you are. You could fake deliverance, which one of the witnesses in the Lee case³ did: he went along with it, and at the first possible moment [he faked deliverance]. And, of course, the other way is to turn on someone else really quickly. 'Yes, there it is. It's just flown to you!'

"Whoever is quick-witted enough to put themselves in the position of the discernor [and say], 'it's on him', or on her – usually it's her – is the survivor.

"I often think that exorcisms are like a game of spiritual poker: it's about bluff. Whoever can bluff the best wins. However, I don't believe anyone was bluffing in the Moses case. The family were tragically inexperienced."

Set out in print – or related to a jury – the events leading up to Janet Moses' death in fact sound insane. In coldly rational terms, what was to stop someone opening the windows, stepping outside the door, asking for help, simply saying "enough"?

Those caught up in the events – even those who stood accused of her manslaughter – acknowledged that to an outsider how it all played out would seem incomprehensible.

Yet at times during the testimony, Kavan was seized by an almost overpowering sense of empathy: she wanted to approach the defendants and say, "I do understand".

Similarly, many other religious phenomena can only truly be understood through direct experience.

"When the anti-cult people criticise cult members, I often think that they've never been near a cult leader. Because the big-name cult leaders, the gurus, emanate an energy: it's magnetic, it's addictive. People let down their guard, all rational thought goes out the window. It's like falling in love."

What is the lure for Kavan personally? Part of it is that as a self-described child of the sixties and seventies she comes from a generation of spiritual seekers.

But there is also a certain in-the-moment thrill. "You can feel the adrenalin that goes around the room. Even if you're a sceptic, the most mundane activity takes on an air of excitement.

"If I go into a room where people believe in spiritual entities, even a simple act like choosing where to sit takes on a whole new dynamic. I could inadvertently sit on a chair that someone believes an invisible entity is occupying. Every move is filled with adrenalin. There's a whole game that goes on. It's compelling."

She enjoys the sense of uplift that revival meetings and meditation groups sometimes achieve. She likes the camaraderie, the moments of transcendence, and the "fantastic stories" they weave. In some groups, she says, the intimacy is closer than you would find in many families.

But unlike the true believers, Kavan does not believe there is only one true path to the divine.

Indeed, you could almost think of Kavan as a spiritual mystery shopper, sampling the range and setting out her insights in academic papers.

It is time-consuming work. Often the face a group of believers presents to the outside world will be at odds with the behind-the-scenes reality.

"With a cult, particularly an extreme cult, you have to spend about six months with the organisation before you even discover the cult. Usually there is a fairly straightforward-sounding religion, which is a front. And after six months you discover that there are other meetings."

Even for the non-cult-like manifestations

of religions, developing an understanding takes time.

To produce her research on glossolalia – aka speaking in tongues – Kavan spent over three years observing the practice in two very different religious groups⁴ – a Pentecostal congregation and an apocalyptic millenarian yoga-based sect. For her paper on Falun Gong⁵ there was the 11-month period of rising before daylight to participate in 6 o'clock group exercises.

Her approach to Falun Gong was made when she discovered it was inviting academic institutions to conduct unbiased research.

Kavan immersed herself in her research topic, conducting ethnographic research (part of which was her 6am exercise attendance), analysing Falun Gong leader Li Hongzhi's speeches and writings, and extensively consulting external courses.

To begin with, her sympathies lay firmly with Falun Gong, but as she became more knowledgeable a shift took place. Though the Falun Gong members she met were "humble and courageous", Falun Gong itself was less attractive: it was adept at working the media to its advantage, was less than forthcoming about some of the less palatable aspects of its dogma, and was only too ready to bring defamation suits against anyone who published unfavourable material.

Is Falun Gong a cult? It certainly seems to display characteristics that are cult-like, writes Kavan: "An idolised charismatic leader who exploits people by letting them believe he – and it is usually a 'he' – is God's mouthpiece; mind control techniques; an apocalyptic world view used to manipulate members; exclusivity ('only our religion can save people'); alienation

from society; and a view of members as superior to the rest of humanity."

In her eclectic approach to religion, Kavan may be unusual, but she says the quest for ecstasy – to be outside of ourselves – is one of the most basic human drives.

By international yardsticks, New Zealand is highly secular, but, as seems to be embedded in the nature of being human, many of us hunger for something more.

In a recent survey, 30.5 per cent of New Zealanders agreed with the statement "I don't follow a religion, but am a spiritual person interested in the sacred or the supernatural"⁶.

"What's the old saying?" she jokes.
"I love Jesus; it's his fan club I can't
stomach."

The trouble, says Kavan, comes when the spiritual experience people seek – "which is a state of higher consciousness" – becomes encumbered with other people's ideas. "The person's genuine experience becomes interpreted in terms of the group's ideology, and the leader's ego and dogmas and rules start dominating the experience.

"What's the old saying?" she jokes. "I love Jesus; it's his fan club I can't stomach."

And unlike Kavan, who will in the end return to her office to question and analyse every aspect of her experience, many people lose all scepticism, however strange the doctrines they are asked to believe.

"[People] get into the habit of suspending doubt for such long periods it becomes part of their personality; it becomes a way of living."

Can the benefits be come by without the drawbacks? Imagine.

"One of the things I've been looking at, and other scholars have been searching for, is a way that people can have these amazing experiences without having a leader who will manipulate them."

This is no longer so far fetched. With the neurological basis of religious experience being increasingly well understood, perhaps the day will come when drug- and guru-free spiritual epiphanies will be available on demand.

"If people could have these experiences without being driven by someone else's ideology and ego, that would be great," says Kavan. "There would be a lot less religious violence in the world." ■



1. The five people convicted of Janet Moses's manslaughter were sentenced to a mix of community work and supervision, the latter including the options of counselling sessions and of Tikanga Māori and educational programmes.
2. A mode of thinking that people engage in when they are deeply involved in a cohesive in-group, when the members' strivings for unanimity override their motivation to realistically appraise other courses of action.
3. The death of Janet Moses has a New Zealand precedent: in 2001 Korean immigrant Pastor Luke Lee was convicted of the manslaughter of Joanna Lee, who died during the course of being exorcised. In one of the stranger aspects of the case, following Joanna's death, Pastor Lee and his congregation were convinced that Joanna would rise from the dead. While serving his sentence, Lee successfully mounted appeal based around the issue of consent. Having served his sentence, Lee was deported to Korea while awaiting retrial. Kavan, H. (2007, Aug.) The Korean Exorcist meets the New Zealand Justice System. *AEN Journal*. 2(2), 53-58
4. Kavan, H. (2004, May) Glossolalia and altered states in two New Zealand religious movements. *Journal of Contemporary Religion*, 19(2), 171-184
5. Kavan, H. (2008). Falun Gong and the Media: What can we believe? In E. Tilley (Ed.) *Power and Place: Refereed Proceedings of the Australian & New Zealand Communication Association Conference, Wellington*
6. The survey was conducted in 2008 by Massey's Department of Communication, Journalism and Marketing as part of the International Social Survey Programme. 1000 responses were received and analysed. Of the respondents, 40 per cent said they had no religious affiliation, 53 per cent said they believed in God (though half admitted to doubts), and 57 per cent believed in life after death.



tiger country

He's the Indiana Jones of the Department of Commerce, or so some say. The similarities between the Hollywood character and Massey University senior lecturer Dr Brendan Moyle are clear to see. Both university academics by profession – Jones in archaeology and Moyle in economics – their 'crusades' take them on exciting adventures in far-flung destinations in pursuit of the bad guys. But while Jones' role is confined to the silver screen, Moyle's mission to save the tiger species from extinction is very real. It has come with its own perils as he works covertly in China to try to understand the complex black market in trade of tiger products. He has tracked smugglers' routes and is a rare breed of conservationist, studying the issue from an economic perspective in pursuit of a solution.

He speaks to Kathryn Farrow.

Tell me about your strategy for saving the tiger species?

I'm a conservationist but economics is my tool to understand how and why the illegal trade in tigers takes place. You cannot fight the black market unless you know how it operates and there has been no analysis of what drives demand, until now.

How serious is the threat to tigers?

The wild tiger population is in deep trouble; there are only an estimated 3500 to 4000 left. When I started my research two-and-a-half years ago, we thought there were 4000 in India alone but 12 months later that had gone down to 1400 tigers. About 300 to 500 tigers a year are poached and the biggest single market is China. In Tibet, the skins are made into costumes (chupas) and the bone is in high demand across China as a traditional medicine to treat severe bone diseases.

Surely poachers face the death penalty – why does this not deter them?

A poached tiger commands a very high price – up to US\$50,000 (NZ\$78,000) to an Asian smuggler. A lonely hunter who is offered US\$1500 (NZ\$2350) to shoot a tiger – a hundred times his annual salary – is not going to say no. The death penalty has been handed out but it is no deterrent; it has just made trade in illegal tiger products more secretive.

How did your work with tigers come about?

I'd been working with crocodiles, parrots and butterflies. I was one of those people who stuck to the conservation of the underdogs because no one gives you lavish amounts of money to help these species as they do with

whales and tigers. But through my connections with International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) I was asked by the Chinese authorities to look into why the hunting ban was not working.

Why do you think the hunting ban has not been effective?

In 1973 there was an international ban on tiger poaching and in 1993 China imposed a domestic ban after pressure from the West. But tiger poaching hasn't been stigmatised, is badly enforced and the demand has not changed while supply has been constrained – pushing prices higher. You are wasting your time if you want to control the poaching with interdiction or education. There have been campaigns launched about the traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) shops but they only sell fakes. Tiger bones are highly prized in China for their perceived medicinal qualities and people will pay for this. They order the tigers knowing they are threatening the species and poachers will deliver despite the threat of the death penalty or 20 years in a Chinese prison. That, combined with the fact that poachers come from hunting cultures and resent government restrictions on hunting, paints a very complicated picture. If a wild tiger ate your children or grandchildren you'd have no hesitation in killing it.

Have you always had an interest in wild animals?

As a child I was a member of Hamilton Junior Naturalist Club and I was always fascinated with false scorpions. My grandfather gave me a book on New Zealand spiders by Ray Forster when I was 11. It was a hard cover book with colour photographs, which would have cost a bit in 1977. I think I am the only grandchild

who still has their present from that year and now my children are using it. I had lizards, bugs and spiders in my room as a child. Nobody was really afraid of spiders then – well not boys anyway. They were just used to scare girls in the classroom. When it came to doing a degree, I studied a BSc in biology followed by an MSc at Waikato University with my master's thesis focusing on New Zealand's false scorpions and then I did a PhD in economics at Waikato. As time has gone on, I seem to have progressed to bigger, more scary animals!

Your research in China was recently published in criminology journal *Global Crime*. What did it expose?

I found many myths about the illegal trade in tiger products – lots of stuff is made up by conservationists. To give us a chance of saving the species, we have to try to make sense of the black market and find out how it operates. The issue is about markets, not about zoology. The black market operates on networks that were established long before the ban.

What are the myths?

I guess the first main myth is that there is one homogenous black market, when my research indicates it is actually geographically separate, with different product mixes and subspecies. Second, there is a misconception that tiger bone is marketed through the TCM shop network but it would be very stupid for smugglers to sell through the TCMs because it's easy to leave a trail. My studies found that there were small conspiracies operating secretly outside formal markets. Third, my work shows that the bans from Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) and the Chinese



“You are wasting your time if you want to control the poaching with interdiction or education.”

domestic ban have not reduced demand, as is commonly thought. High prices indicate that demand has been sustained, while supply has been constrained and most of the costs come from the distribution side, avoiding detection, not procurement of the tigers. Lastly, I found that tiger products are not widely available. During my three trips, the closest I have come to a tiger part is in a photograph. Fakes are very widely available but the real stuff is not. The market for fakes becomes confused with the market for real tiger parts.

How did you carry out your research?

Detecting poachers in reserves is difficult because of terrain, corruption and lack of resources, but I interviewed rangers and local people to learn how the market operates. They were happy to give me information. They think it is interesting that people want to know that stuff because they actually haven't been asked before and these are the people with the knowledge. I was also one of the first people to gain access to Chinese arrest and interception data that has shown that gangs are very small.

What dangers did you face tracking tiger poachers?

I've tramped over many miles of unforgiving territory and been arrested and detained by the Chinese army. I've had to clear plenty of cockroaches out of my bed and I've had to talk my way out of situations when faced with people with guns. But my previous work researching crocodiles was more dangerous—try being in a swamp with a five-metre crocodile. Oh, and in Papua New Guinea I came back from the Highlands in a bullet-peppered landcruiser, but there are some things I don't want my mother to know. My work is risky, but it's risky in the same way a fireman has a risky job. I've fallen off a cliff face once. When you go into wilderness areas it is physically challenging. I've not stared death in the face through my conservation work—that only happens when I'm out cycling on Auckland's roads.

So, what is the solution to saving the tiger species?

I'm not sure. I've been working with the Chinese wildlife authorities who are looking at using captive tigers to reopen the trade

in tiger bones and skins. There are two very large tiger farms in China—one in Guilin in the Guangxi province and one in Harbin. It is hard to distinguish something that is a zoo from something that is a farm. They do the same thing—breed animals and show them to the public. The tiger farms don't kill the animals for trade, because that is illegal. They are stockpiling bodies because tigers do die of natural causes.

Isn't tiger farming an extreme solution?

Yes, it is controversial but we can't carry on doing what we are doing—the death penalty isn't working. People hate the idea of a tiger farm because they see tigers as cute and fuzzy. I am not thrilled by the idea of tiger farms but do not see a reason why we should play nice with the Asian criminals. I was approached to look into this by the wildlife authorities because I have come from a crocodile background as a member of the Crocodile Specialist Group, which is a worldwide network of biologists, wildlife managers, government officials, independent researchers, NGO representatives, farmers, traders, tanners, fashion leaders, and private companies actively involved in the conservation of the world's 23 living species of alligators, crocodiles, caimans, and gharials in the wild. We managed to suppress poaching.

So you're from a Crocodile Dundee background....

(Laughs) Yes, there are similarities! Both crocodiles and tigers are huge carnivores, can be turned into high value products and have been involved in human/animal conflict—hence they are hunted. Crocodiles can be farmed and tigers can be farmed; it is just not a popular solution. Farms cannot compete on price but can compete on quality. People do not want crap quality crocodile shoes or belts. Farms offer high quality skins with no scratches. They can also compete on volume. If people want to buy skins, farms can deliver that and these consumers are assisting crocodiles to survive. The danger is that the Chinese people may think that if you can buy it legally it must be fake. But this may encourage some people to leave the black market and opt for legally sourced tiger skin and bone—and tigers are so scarce we have to look at this as an idea. It is not a popular solution and I'm not saying it

is going to work but what we have got at the moment is not working.

Where to from here?

I'm hoping my work can leverage into a full research programme and finding out who is buying tiger bone for medicine. I never came close to a real tiger or tiger skin or bone during any of my trips. People who aren't sick are buying the bone now just in case they get sick. It is not impossible for them to think tiger bone can help strengthen human bones, because bone contains amino acids, but obviously we cannot prove otherwise. We cannot do clinical trials unless it is on tiger bone that is illegally traded—because that is the only way. I want my paper to lead to more research into how the black market works and how Tibet might be different from China. The local culture there is to use tiger skins as costumes (chupas). Similarly, I'm hoping to look at the picture in India, where there are 1400 to 1500 tigers still in the wild. Wild tigers are sliding to the brink of extinction and we have to do something differently before it is too late.

So, are you Massey University's answer to Indiana Jones?

If I am Indiana Jones, then I'm Indy with more mud and meetings and less gunfire—I'm also not afraid of snakes. ■





fire down below

When the Mt Ruapehu crater lake dam broke in 2007, volcanologist

Professor Shane Cronin and his team
were poised to go. He talks to Malcolm Wood.



It was a wet Sunday morning in Palmerston North in March of 2007 when the call Shane Cronin had been waiting on for three years came through. He was lucky to get it at all. His cellphone was playing up, but when, alerted by some sixth sense that the game was afoot, he switched batteries, it rang almost instantly.

High on Mt Ruapehu, at 11.20 that morning, during an intense rain storm, the wall of the crater lake had breached.

Trip wires and seismic sensors registered the initial non-eruptive collapse and at a remote sensing station seven kilometres away from the lake, the needles leapt on seismographs as a massive lahar, eight metres high at the peak of the initial wave, swept down the plunging catchment of the Whangaehu River.

In Palmerston North, Cronin and his colleagues moved at speed, with the coordinator of the team plan, Cronin's PhD student Jon Procter, making phone calls, assembling teams and vehicles, and throwing equipment together.

Within the hour, the pair and a contingent of 20 staff and students were rallying towards Ruapehu, with five teams assigned to agreed positions along the Whangaehu.

Shane Cronin grew up alongside the massive caldera of Lake Taupo with the volcanic cones of Ngāuruhoe and snow-capped Ruapehu part of the backdrop to daily life; Ngāuruhoe, he remembers, last erupted on his fifth birthday.

But don't suppose too much. Cronin's ambitions when he arrived at Massey in the late 1980s were not volcano-related. First

he signed on for a year's study towards an industrial engineering degree, and, following that, he switched to a year of chemistry. But while he enjoyed both years – and the maths and chemistry has proved useful – neither subject grabbed him. Pragmatically, he thought industrial engineering would eventually mean working in a factory; chemistry would mean working in a lab. Cronin did not want to do either.

"Then one of my friends suggested earth sciences as a fill-in subject. I went along and was immediately hooked – primarily by the prospect of the travel and outdoors."

Cronin completed a BSc in earth science and then an honour's year in which he took the eruptive history of the lava domes of Mt Taranaki as the subject of his research project.

For his PhD he turned to the landscapes surrounding Ruapehu and Ngāuruhoe volcanoes, "looking at processes of volcanic activity, climate change, what rivers were doing... all the combined influences that had shaped that landscape".

What about volcanology proper? "I guess I was always looking at the active volcanology thing and thinking, 'Oh yes, that would be terribly nice to do, but that's kind of a fantasy. I can't really do that. I'll have to find some real job.'"

Then providence intervened. On September 18 1995, while Cronin laboured over his thesis and skiers readied for the final run of the day, Ruapehu woke from a 50-year slumber, sending up a towering plume of ash, ejecting boulders,

and sending a lahar down the Whangaehu river bed.

Cronin promptly suspended his PhD and took up a job working with Massey's Professor Vince Neall and a range of organisations, (including the ministries of Civil Defence, Health, Agriculture; fertiliser companies, and regional councils).

For the next 18 months he lived in the shadow of Ruapehu, heading home only at weekends – and even then decamping back if the mountain launched any surprises, as it was apt to do on weekends.

"Because I was right at the end of doing my PhD I kind of knew where that area of science was at. And we had the opportunities to do things that no one else had.

"Basically we got everything, every type of volcanic process. If it didn't happen one day, it would come the next. We would joke in the evenings about what we wanted to experience the next day, and to our delight we would often get just that."

Among the processes was an abundance of lahars. Some 35 passed down the bed of the Whangaehu. "We could go along and sample one as it went past, and then we would have a think and say 'Wouldn't it be good if we could sample here and there?'"

The most intriguing lahar was the first, a "really bizarre snowy flow", which they sampled extensively before the next lahar wiped out the evidence a day later.

From that "one-day's-worth of fantastic data" came Cronin's first paper for the prestigious journal *Geology*. »

Living within the lore



Mount Taranaki, technically speaking, an andesite volcano, has an alter ego: it is a sorrowing lover. According to legend, Taranaki once lived on the volcanic plateau together with the other mountains only to unwisely fall for the beautiful hill of Pihanga, the wife of Tongariro. After a fiery battle Taranaki – in translation the ‘gliding peak’ – was banished and made his way to the coast, where he mourns his lost love.


The depiction of volcanoes as powerful, often battling personalities with their own loves and enmities is a feature of cultures around the world. Indeed, the story of Taranaki is uncannily mirrored in some of the traditions from the Pacific North West.

Cronin is fascinated by the way in which volcanism features in cultural lore. Sometimes the traditions can be seen as the embodiment of well-founded measures for living with volcanism. In Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea, the signs that a volcanic event is nearing are set out in the traditions. For hazard management professionals, cultural

traditions like these represent a folk wisdom that can be both drawn on and augmented – and Cronin has co-authored work on just this subject (see Cronin, S.J., and Cashman, K., 2007: Volcanic oral traditions in hazard assessment and mitigation. Chapter 9 in Grattan, J., Torrence R. (eds) *Living under the shadow: The cultural impacts of volcanic eruptions*).

But the oral traditions also represent much more. For New Zealand’s tangata whenua the mountains of Taranaki, Ruapehu and Tongariro embody indissoluble ancestral links to the land and landscape and are located within a profoundly spiritual world view. When, for example, there was talk of breaching the crater lake wall to achieve a controlled release of the pending lahar, the iwi Ngāti Rangi expressed its absolute opposition: Ruapehu was a sacred mountain and natural processes should be allowed to follow their course.

Cronin is deeply interested in the way in which culture frames natural events. Within mainstream Western culture a lahar is seen as principally a hazard, but there are other no less valid ways of conceptualising the event.

Nor are the world views necessarily incompatible. Cronin and his students have worked with Ngāti Rangi, using carbon dating and sediment cores to help the tribe compile a long term history of environmental events on their portion of the volcanic plateau. 

New Zealand’s volcanoes fall into three categories: cones, volcanic fields, and calderas. Cone volcanoes, such as Taranaki or Ruapehu, are the iconic landscape feature. At these sites, eruption succeeds eruption at roughly the same point on the Earth’s surface.

In volcanic fields many smaller eruptions occur over a wide geographic area and over time intervals of thousands of years, each one building a single small volcano (think Mount Eden or Rangitoto), which is unlikely to erupt again.

Finally there are caldera volcanoes – from the Spanish for cauldron – of which Taupo is one and Okataina (which extends from Lake Rotoma to the Wai-O-Tapu thermal area) is another.

Caldera volcanoes characteristically have a history of moderate to very large eruptions. When Taupo last erupted, about 1800 years ago, it was the most violent eruption in the world for the past 5000 years. The present-day lake occupies the cavity left behind by the emptying of the underground magma chamber.

By world standards, eruptions are unusually frequent in New Zealand, and while the past 150 years have been generally quiet, volcanologically speaking, over this period deaths due to volcanism (the majority from the Tarawera eruption of 1886 and the Tangiwhai lahar of 1953) represent the biggest single source of fatalities from natural disasters.

» For a humble PhD student this was a coup – and the paper aroused widespread interest, particularly in North America. Snow lahars, though understood to be potentially powerful destructive phenomena, were not well described.

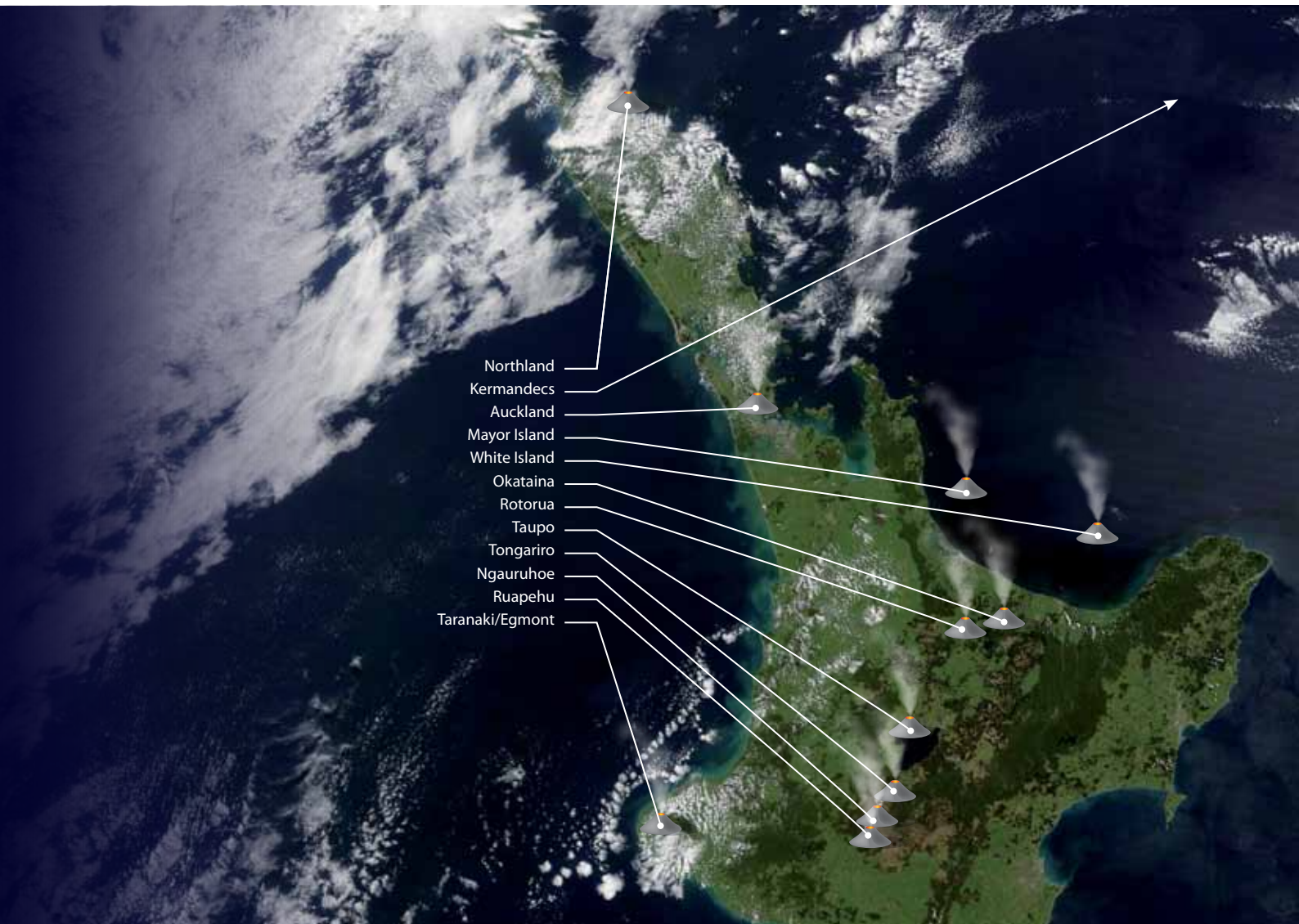
One of the greatest volcanic tragedies known is the 1985 destruction of the township of Amaro in Colombia, where 23,000 people perished during the night when a small snowy flow grew into a massive downstream lahar.

“My big point in the 1996 paper was that a very small amount of water can erode and entrain a huge amount of snow. Small floods can produce large and dangerous lahars very quickly, that also move incredibly quickly, far faster than their physical properties would indicate.”

By the time Ruapehu had subsided in 1996, Cronin was a fully fledged volcanologist



Professor Cronin in Vanuatu with local researchers. Douglas Charley, at second left, of the Vanuatu Department of Geology, Mining and Water Resources spent a year at Massey as an NZAid Research Fellow.



The process of participatory rural appraisal at work in hazard mapping on Savo in the Solomon Islands.

with a publication record and a reputation for being one of the go-to people for the science of lahars.

He finished his thesis and began thinking about his career.

Cronin shifted to Fiji to take up a position within the United Nations Development Programme in their South Pacific Disaster Reduction Program office. Here his duties were twofold: investigating the volcanism of Fiji's third-largest island, Taveuni, and travelling the Pacific, "mostly to political hot spots like the Solomon Islands that no one else wanted to visit", conducting hazard education.

The novelty of Taveuni fascinated Cronin; it was totally unlike either Taranaki or Ruapehu, the volcanoes he knew best. Rather than being centred around one conduit, Taveuni was a distributed volcano system, like that

of the Auckland field (see "The day after tomorrow" overleaf).

Hazard education, on the other hand, would send Cronin journeying around the Pacific ring of fire to some of the poorest, most isolated and least Westernised locations on Earth.

Take the island of Savo, close by the Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands. Just 6 kilometres in diameter and dominated by a 1500 metre cone and crater, Savo supports a coastal population of 3000 people when times are good – and no one when times are not.

In 1568 a Spanish mariner described the island being covered with "roads" of white carving down from the summit crater through the tropical jungle, and there are missionary accounts of further eruptions in the 1830s and 1840s and of intermittent activity into the 1880s. » continued on page 30

The day after tomorrow...

One day the Auckland volcano field will erupt again.
The questions are when, where, and how severely?
The best place to look for the answers: the South Korean island of Jeju.



To live in Auckland is to live with volcanoes. All around is the evidence: the extinct cones of One Tree Hill, Mount Eden, and Mount Wellington; the craters of Lake Pupuke and the Panmure Basin; and, across the harbour, the iconic outline of Rangitoto, the Johnny-come-lately. If you were around 700 or so years ago at around the time of the Crusades – a geological blink of the eye – you could have watched as Rangitoto lit up the night sky, spewing forth lava and ash. In fact, people were there to bear witness: footprints have been found between the layers of Rangitoto ash on the adjoining Motutapu Island.

In its 250,000-year life the Auckland volcanic field has accumulated around 50 volcanoes. Will it host more eruptions? In geological time, count on it. But when, where and how big will the eruptions be? These questions are less tractable.

One problem is the age of the field: a quarter of a million years old is too short a period

to draw good statistical inferences. A second is the apparently haphazard manner in which new vents pop up, making predicting when and where the next will do so at the frontier of hazards problems. The third major problem, says Cronin, is Rangitoto.

“[The Auckland volcanic field] puttered along producing all these little eruptions, and suddenly, wham, it produces Rangitoto.”

Rangitoto’s lava output is more than half the entire volume of the field, dwarfing, by a factor of up to 50-times, the next biggest cone, One Tree Hill, and the composition of its magma is very different to that of the numerous small basaltic cones. The magma in the cones has come from deep in the crust relatively directly; Rangitoto’s lava has taken its time on the way up.

How, then, do you work out what will happen? Look for good analogies. For Auckland, a good proxy is the Korean Island of Jeju. Like Auckland, Jeju is peppered with

small volcanoes but has one – Halla-san, a massive central cone the equivalent of many stacked Rangitoto volcanoes – that is notably different.

The differences? Age – the Jeju field is 850,000 years old (the most recent eruption happened 1000 years ago) – and the ready availability of data. Being without surface streams, Jeju is reliant on artesian water and bores have been sunk at numerous locations around the island, the resulting rock cores showing the island’s eruptive history in great detail.

“Cores this big,” says Cronin, extending his arms as if to encircle a telephone pole.

Upwards of 5000 cores have been drilled around the island, some to depths of 600 metres plus, cutting through the volcanic pile and the oceanic sediments beneath. What is more, the Koreans have proven willing to drill more strategically located cores at sites suggested by Cronin and his coworkers.





The Auckland volcano field

- Key**
- Volcano
 - * Obliterated volcano
 - Ash, lapilli, tuff
 - Lava, scoria
 - Extent of volcanic deposits



Leaving the big city

What would happen if a city the size of Auckland, with an eruption imminent, had to be substantially evacuated? This is not a frivolous question. Auckland sits squarely atop a volcanic field. Renewed activity could happen at any time, and while there would be some warning signs of a nearing eruption, the period of grace might be days rather than weeks.

If that were to happen, then somehow perhaps a million people would have to be evacuated from this sprawling heterogeneous city, one that, even at the best of times, is beset by traffic and transport problems.

In Albany, doctoral researcher Yasir Javed is working on computer software that might smooth the way. SAVER (Situation Aware Volcanic Eruption Reasoner) is an internet-enabled integrated information management system that will display the real-time unfolding of events and the allocation of resources.

Javed's interest in emergency management came about in 2005 in Abbottabad during his final year of a Bachelor of Information Technology. It was the year a massive earthquake, its epicentre close to the city of Muzaffarabad, hit north Pakistan, killing an estimated 79,000 people and affecting eight million. Abbottabad was nearby, and Javed responded by setting up a computer database of victims admitted to the local hospitals, allowing survivors to trace their missing or injured family members.

"I also volunteered to help in the rescue, relief and recovery operations helping with the reconstruction of homes destroyed in the earthquake," he says. He developed a system to collect data reporting on the progress in building new earthquake resistant homes, streamlining a massive government exercise.

Javed is based at the Institute of Information and Mathematical Sciences on the Albany campus and is collaborating with the University's Wellington-based Joint Centre for Disaster Research.

Cronin heads a consortium of researchers whose numbers include statisticians, economists, planners from Massey and Auckland universities, GNS Science, Beca Infrastructure Ltd and Market Economics Ltd / Ecological Economics Research New Zealand. They are funded by the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology for \$966,000 over three years.


For their part, the Koreans – being Gyeongsang National University and the Jeju Special Self-Governing Province – have agreed to \$3.8 million in in-kind support over the life of the project, which officially began in April 2009. In fact, says Cronin, the Koreans are contributing considerably more than this, and, personally speaking, they have proven extraordinarily generous and accommodating hosts.

Jeju takes great pride in its landscape – the island's central volcano and its network of lava tubes form part of a UNESCO World

Heritage site – and its distinctive culture. Cronin talks about the network of dry stone walls that crisscross the terrain, the Easter-Island-like 'grandfather' statues (a miniature sits on a window sill in his office), the island's popularity among mainland Korean honeymooners, who often appear in matched dress (Jeju attracts around four million tourists annually), and the seafood, for which Jeju is renowned. He runs through his Powerpoint show.

Then he pauses. The images are of a sequence of drill cores left at the side of a road. See? So many cores have been taken around Jeju that they can be casually abandoned. Can you believe it?

For a geologist used to inferring rock sequences from surface exposures this is extraordinary. Jeju – the Auckland volcanic field's older sibling – stands to tell him and us so much.

"I'm like a kid in a candy shop," says Cronin. 



From below far left: Jeju is pockmarked with extinct volcanic cones; shore landscape, Jeju; looking across the inland landscape, with many small cones in evidence; PhD student Marco Brenna inspects cores. At base: a panoramic view of Jeju.

» But the oral traditions – or *kastom* stories – record hints of other events for which no literate observer was present, the most devastating being the so-called toghavitu eruption, which rendered the island uninhabitable for a period of years.

In the oral tradition, large rocks fell all over the island, red-hot pyroclastic flows, and mud and debris poured down the valleys, and either 7000 or 1007 people died (toghavitu can be translated in either way).

Savo remains active, and hazard planning needed to be set in place. But the people of Savo, with their own customs and language, were suspicious of the plans laid down for them in the far-away capital of Honiara, and, as Cronin found, the island itself was in the grip of unrest.

It fell to Cronin, on behalf of the UNDP, to be the mediator. He organised reciprocal visits: the Savoans to Honiara; the Honiarans to Savo. He helped conduct village workshops which drew on the islanders' own store of cultural knowledge – which Cronin found was considerable.

On Savo there were indigenous words for phenomena he knew in technical terms as lahars, ash eruptions and pyroclastic flows. There were areas that were tapu or *tambu* – “you don't go here, you don't go there, because it is dangerous” and areas of refuge.

Even the signs of a coming eruption are part of the lore. “They know the cyclicity. They know the signs in the crater: the vegetation begins to die or water starts ponding. They know that when your island shrinks, the coast erodes, you are ready for your next eruption.”¹

Cronin developed a long-term interest in the role of traditional knowledge and oral tradition in planning and education for volcanic hazards, as well as becoming, as he puts it, “a fervent convert to the Oxfam principles of participatory rural appraisal”, not just for volcanic events, but for most forms of natural disaster. “So I got into that for a few years, and we did this kind of work in the Solomons, Vanuatu, Fiji, Niue and Kiribati – so many different islands.”

Those links with the South Pacific remain intact, and even now Cronin is liable to run away, Indiana-Jones-like, to some remote

island when something volcanologically interesting is happening.

And Cronin has other reasons to remember his time with the United Nations Development Programme.

While in Savo, Cronin was kidnapped and held for ransom. He was rescued, he remembers, by the intervention of a posse of armed, naked, body-painted warriors from a neighbouring village accompanied by the quick-thinking – and loudly cursing – Geordie colleague who had raised the alarm. Cronin (who, unbeknownst to his kidnappers, had been carrying the UNDP cash they wanted on his person) was left on the beach together with a large pig and baskets of yams and kumara as a conciliatory gesture.

It was while based in Fiji that Cronin caught dengue fever – to his frustration he was left bed-bound and could not view the cyclone then raging outside.

He became fluent in pidgin English and Bislama, the *lingua franca* of Vanuatu.

Then he shifted to Germany.

In Germany, as an Alexander von Humboldt Fellow based at the University of Kiel, his first task was to translate his supervising professor's volcanism textbook into English. At the time, he spoke some German, but nowhere near enough. “I went in the deep end,” says the now conversationally fluent Cronin.

Otherwise he was able to use his time in Europe to visit such well-known volcanic sites as the island of Gran Canaria and Iceland, where he helped a team of geochemists find the rock formations they wanted. “Like the Rangipo Desert [near Ruapehu], just bigger,” is his description of Iceland, and no challenge to someone used to inferring the geology of jungle-obscured landscapes.

What Germany taught him most importantly, he says, was the art of building a research group of coworkers, postdoctoral researchers and postgraduate students. It was knowledge he would draw on when he returned to Massey in 2003.² He had 18 months worth of funding. To sustain his work beyond that, he would bring in more.

He began work on a proposal to the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology for a six-year programme he

Now with fluoride



Ambrym volcano releases up to 1100 tonnes of fluorine as fluoride every day and between 14,000 and 20,000 tonnes of sulphur dioxide.

If there is a flip side to the damage volcanic eruptions cause, it may be in the contributions they make to the fertility of volcanic soils.

When, in 1996, Ruapehu finished discharging lahars from its crater lake, it began erupting ash, which was swept by the prevailing winds over vast areas of the central and northern North Island. Cronin followed, mapping the distribution of where it fell.

The maps turned out to be of wide interest to farmers, fertiliser companies and health authorities. Massey's Soil Science Department (now within the Institute of Natural Resources) analysed the ash content and issued a pamphlet for farmers explaining the implications. The ash carried with it fertility-promoting elements such as selenium, potassium and sulphur.

dubbed *Living with volcanic risk*, enlisting a team that had in its ranks economists, statisticians, Māori studies experts, geologists and soil scientists. Focusing on the most likely suspects, Ruapehu and Taranaki, he proposed to provide “probabilistic hazard forecasts and new risk management tools in order to reduce socioeconomic losses from volcanic events to New Zealand”.

It was a good proposal, but ambitious; in his heart of hearts, Cronin thought the prospect of funding was slight.

The phone call that set him right came through when Cronin was standing on the summit of Ngāuruhoe.

“You got it.”

“How much?”

“You got it.”

1. One of the projects Cronin began during this period was a investigation of colossal explosive eruptions – eruptions large enough to disrupt the global climate and disperse ash as far distant as Antarctica – originating within an arc of volcanoes close by Tonga. Several of these eruptions have occurred in the past 6500 years. Currently Cronin is supervising two Macquarie University-based PhD students who are working on this topic. He is also currently a part of two community education programmes in the Solomon Islands.
2. Volcanic Risk Solutions, the Massey-based multidisciplinary centre for applied volcanic hazard and risk management research, now numbers more than 20 staff, 13 based at Massey, the remainder at other New Zealand, Australian, German, British and US universities. Postgraduate placements with the centre are highly sought after.

But, as some farmers discovered, not everything the ash brought was beneficial. Out on the Rangitikei plains, soon after ashfalls, a number of sheep and cattle died, and when Taupo veterinarian Don Shanks performed autopsies he found their guts contained masses of ash and their kidneys, pale and swollen, carried the signature of fluoride poisoning.

This experience of the impacts of ashfall on grazing animals in spring conditions in New Zealand has recently been invaluable for Icelandic and Northern European authorities, with the European Food Safety Authority, the Food and Veterinary Authority of Iceland, and the UK Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board calling on Cronin to help them develop risk assessments and management plans for grazing animals, pastures, crops and food.

Fluoride is a Jekyll-and-Hyde ion: in small doses in drinking water (1 part per million or less) and in toothpaste it protects against tooth decay with no discernible ill effects; in greater concentrations it causes, progressively, dental fluorosis (>1ppm), skeletal fluorosis (>4ppm), and crippling skeletal fluorosis (>8ppm).

Fortunately, fluoride, being highly reactive, is quickly bound by the soil, and most plants (the notable exception being the camellia family, of which tea is a member) do not take up fluoride strongly. The risks lie in ash

that is eaten when it covers pasture or when it contaminates drinking water. Around Ruapehu, the risk of fluorosis passed soon after the ashfalls did.

But in parts of Vanuatu, where high fluoride ashfalls are just one of those things and many homes rely on roof water, the health risks are substantial and ongoing.

The volcano of Ambrym on the island of the same name pushes out up to 1100 tonnes of fluoride every day.

Cronin began work on volcanic fluorosis as a human health issue in Vanuatu in 1999 on contract to the World Health Organisation. It was the first time the effects of chronic volcanic fluorosis had been documented in this part of the world – and they proved substantial.

On West Ambrym more than 250 children in the critical years for bone and teeth formation were surveyed by Cronin's student Rachel Allibone. Over half showed the diagnostic signs of moderate-to-severe dental fluorosis: chalky, discoloured and pitted teeth.



Well water being sampled. Generally fluoride is captured in the soil before it enters groundwater; reticulated groundwater may be the best way of preventing fluorosis.

As at Ruapehu, the prevailing pattern of ashfall seems to dictate the incidence of fluorosis. In one instance, Cronin and his colleagues found a high incidence in an island 70km away from the source of contamination.

The long-term answer, says Cronin, lies in a shift to reticulated groundwater-based systems and ongoing environmental monitoring. [M](#)



A child's teeth shows evidence of severe fluorosis, including pitting, discolouration and chalkiness.

The project had been allocated \$4,248,000 for 2004–2009 from the Public Good Science and Technology Fund.

Cronin soon had another project in mind. His career had effectively begun with the lahars of 1996. In late 2004 the crater lake was overfull and another major lahar seemed imminent. This time Cronin wanted to be poised to document every aspect of its behaviour and consequences.

Together with Vern Manville of GNS Science, Cronin successfully bid for a \$720,000 three-year Marsden Fund Project.

Cronin knew that the existing state of lahar science was inadequate. Numerical models existed around which real world decisions could be based, but they were based on over-simplistic assumptions.

Using a light plane and LiDAR (Light Direction And Ranging), the upper 62 kilometres of catchment surrounding the anticipated path of the lahar would be overflowed and mapped to a resolution of 10cm. Pore- and load-pressure cells would



Lava being deposited on Hawaii's Big Island in July 2003.

Going downhill fast

When a volcano has the right combination of height and latitude to sustain glaciers and permanent snowfields, this brings a new menace: snow-rich lahars. Lahars – rapidly flowing mixtures of rock debris, mud and water – are in themselves a cause of destruction and loss of life. Add snow, and they gather volume and acquire new physical characteristics. And because, as Cronin puts it, snow-rich lahars “happen in places you can’t get to generally” and are hard to identify in the geological record, first-hand studies arouse great interest.

The Ruapehu lahar of 2007 has been a goldmine of data. Among Cronin’s findings have been the amount of snow a lahar can entrain – 60 parts snow for one part of crater lake water on the upper slopes of Ruapehu – and the frightening speed at which the lahar can move while in this semi-solid phase, lubricated by a layer of water at its base.

The 1996 lahar that made Cronin’s name had ratios of snow to crater water of 3000 to one.

Downstream, Cronin’s research has revealed a more nuanced

picture of how lahars behave. For example, a lahar can consist of a number of distinct phases carrying varying amounts of sediment; pulses of material can travel along the lahar’s length, sometimes separating out, sometimes overtaking one another; the model for sediment deposition is not simply drag-and-drop – throughout its length the lahar will be dynamically picking up and depositing material (a process Cronin and co-workers have computer modelled with some success).

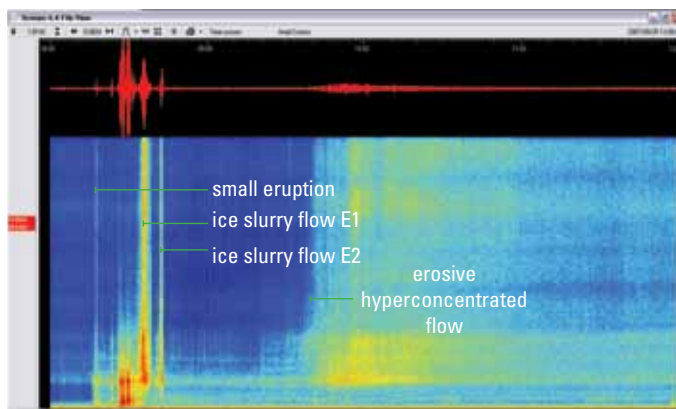
Snow-and-ice lahars are a real and present hazard. In North America’s Cascade mountain range, Mt Rainier and Mt St Helens have generated snow-and-ice lahars, and many other volcanoes in the range are good candidates.

Globally, the worst lahar-related disaster of recent times occurred in 1985 when a relatively small snow-and-ice lahar from the volcano Nevado del Ruiz Colombia created a mud flow that engulfed the town of Armero, causing 23,000 deaths.

Cronin’s findings have been incorporated into the Ruapehu early warning system. [M](#)



The summit of Ruapehu showing, at left, the breach of the crater lake, the source of ice slurry flow E2, and, at right, the source of ice slurry E1.



A seismograph reading shows the eruption and two ice slurry flows. One of the lessons Cronin has taken from the 2007 lahar is how useful seismograph readings can be in giving a measure of the volume of sediment passing by.



Dr Anke Zernack has worked on debris avalanche flows from Mt Taranaki.



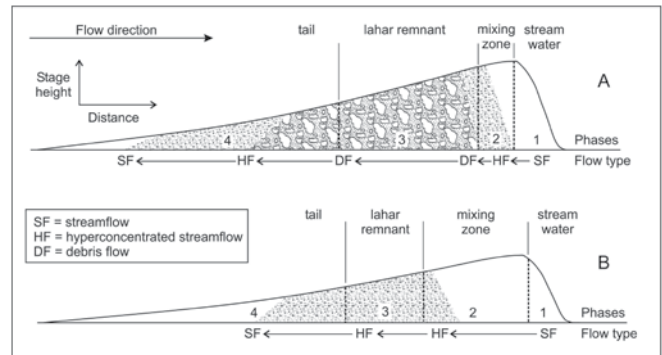
Dr Emma Doyle with postgraduate Susan Cole, who hails from Britain and is working on the internal dynamics of lahars.



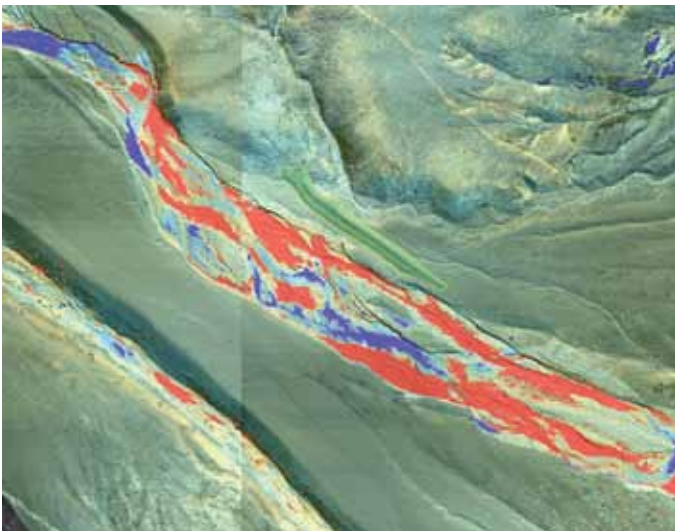
German postgraduate Anja Möbis is working on Tongariro's and Ruapehu's volcanic deposits.



The two snow slurry slides took with them 180,000 cubic metres of snowpack.



Model for Ruapehu lahar interaction with stream flow.



In the upper river bed of the Whangaehu the red areas show where material has been deposited, the blue areas where material has been entrained. The image combines before and after LiDAR mapping.



Having combined with the water of the Whangaehu River, the 2007 lahar sweeps towards the sea. On December 24 1953 a Whangaehu lahar washed away a span of the railway bridge at Tangiwai. Minutes later an overnight express train plunged from the bridge, with the loss of 151 lives.



3500 people were evacuated during the eruption crisis on Ambae, Vanuatu, in 2005–2006. Cronin and Dr Karoly Nemeth helped the authorities manage the crisis and are heavily involved in research to improve volcanic crisis response around the South West Pacific.



Lava lake at the Marum crater on the island of Ambrym in Vanuatu.

Bang, bubble or fizz?

For the project *Living with volcanic risk*, Cronin and his team have focused on the scenarios likely to arise from eruptions of Ruapehu, Ngāuruhoe and Taranaki.

Of these, Taranaki is the wild card. Cronin knows the mountain well: since spending his BSc honours year investigating the lava domes – intact and remnant – that encase its summit he has spent many months with students and co-workers on its slopes.

The domes – mound shaped protrusions of highly viscous lava formed over time – seldom remain intact; once in a geological while, vast, hot, block-and-ash flows roar down the sides of Taranaki, inundating areas many kilometres out onto the surrounding plains.

These cataclysmic flows will often be preceded, in a kind of clearing-of-the-throat way, by small explosive pumice eruptions.

Then there is the remaining item in Taranaki's repertoire: large explosive pumice eruptions, the last of which was in 1655.

In short, Taranaki is quite capable of serving up “bang, bubble or fizz”, as Cronin puts it.

How will Taranaki behave in the future?

Probably in much the same way that it has in the past – a past that is set out in layer on layer of volcanic sediments and deposits.

Close by the mountain, each eruption stands some chance of wiping out the evidence of its predecessors, so Cronin and his PhD graduate Michael Turner have developed eruption chronologies by moving some 25 kilometres distant and turning to cores taken from lake-bed sediments. In one

colleague Associate Professor Mark Bebbington has calculated the rough chances of Taranaki erupting in any 50-year period as approaching 50/50.

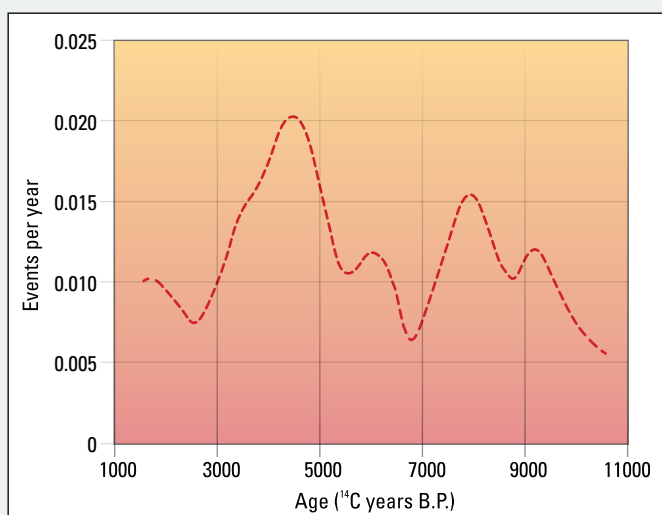
But what types of eruption do the ash layers represent? For a while it was difficult to distinguish between lava dome and pumice eruptions until Turner, in an inspired moment, looked at the oxidation of the iron content: dome eruption ash deposits are less oxidised than those from pumice eruptions.

Then there are other indicators – investigated and identified by a succession of Cronin's graduate students – that tell of the type of magma that has fuelled an eruption. These include the forms of the minerals feldspar and hornblende.

By separating out the kinds of eruption and the sources of magma, Bebbington, Cronin and Turner have identified certain periodic cycles.

The eruption pattern, for example, is generally one of small explosive pumice eruptions leading to lava flows and dome building and finally a period of repose sometimes accompanied by the release of gases, before the cycle repeats.

Similarly, the recharge of magma beneath the mountain is cyclic.



Overall smoothed eruption rate for Mt Taranaki in radiocarbon years before AD 1950 (termed B.P.). M. Bebbington

four-metre core, representing the course of 8500 years, the pair have found evidence for 103 eruptions.

Taranaki erupts so often that Cronin's

» be embedded in the bedrock of the river bed to measure the height and pressure of the overlying flow. Seismographs would be sited alongside the Whangaehu catchment to measure the noise and ground vibration caused by the moving slurry of water and rocks.

But Ruapehu was fickle. Summer on summer, the crater lake rose to the point where a lahar seemed near, then subsided.

“We got sick of waiting. We had three years of the Marsden fund to have this lahar and time was ticking by and it wasn't coming. So we started working in Indonesia.”

The volcanoes he chose were Semeru and Merapi in Java,

both of which have been erupting almost continuously since 1967; every wet season lahar after lahar rush down their slopes.

These volcanoes were the test bed for the Ruapehu instrumentation (cabled instruments, for example, were swiftly destroyed) and the site of a close-ish call.

Cronin was somewhere on the upper slopes of Merapi when the volcano disgorged a pyroclastic flow, which he heard and felt in the heavy mist but could not see.

For someone who is the father of two children and consequently puts himself in the class of volcanologists who are “less enthusiastic about lowering themselves into red hot craters and are more enthusiastic about developing remote sensing techniques” that was close enough.

When Ruapehu let loose with its lahar in 2007 Cronin and his team were ready. As the front of the lahar passed down the

Whangaehu River he and his team were there to observe, and the instrumentation, fine tuned in Indonesia, worked well. Later, he would overfly the path of the lahar, with a visiting UK student who happened also to be a hobby pilot.

From a one-day event came enough data to sustain five years of academic papers.

Few New Zealanders have much idea of how much disruption and destruction even a moderate scale eruption could wreak. Ruapehu's eruptions in 1995 and 1996 were spectacular and a cause of serious inconvenience, but in the scale of what might have been they did not amount to much. Eyajafallajoeikull's eruption in Iceland is a small event on a global scale, yet its dispersed ash plume over northern Europe has had massive economic consequences and may continue to do so for several years to come.

Combining what they know about the cyclicity of eruptions and magma recharging enables the group to set the odds in a much more sophisticated month-by-month way.

Taranaki has been napping for an unusually long time, but the group can say that at the present point in the cycle it appears that the chances of the mountain erupting are, if anything, diminishing – though at some point in future they will begin to rise again.

If an eruption is in the offing, Taranaki is

likely to let us know. As fresh reservoirs of magma intrude beneath the mountain there will be earthquakes, slips from around the summit and episodes of vent clearing.

One of the possibilities, a lava-dome eruption, could continue for many years or decades.

What any renewed activity at Taranaki or Ruapehu or Ngāuruhoe might mean for us is the other major component of the *Living with Volcanic Risk* project.

Cronin and his colleagues, particularly Garry McDonald of Ecological Economics Research NZ and Market Economics Ltd, and Professor Anton Meister (Applied Economics), have conducted a number of sectoral analyses and regional analyses projecting the economic loss for various eruptive scenarios.

Even a relatively small ash eruption would severely disrupt energy distribution, agriculture and air travel. ☒



The summit of Mt Taranaki and lake core sediments showing ash layers.

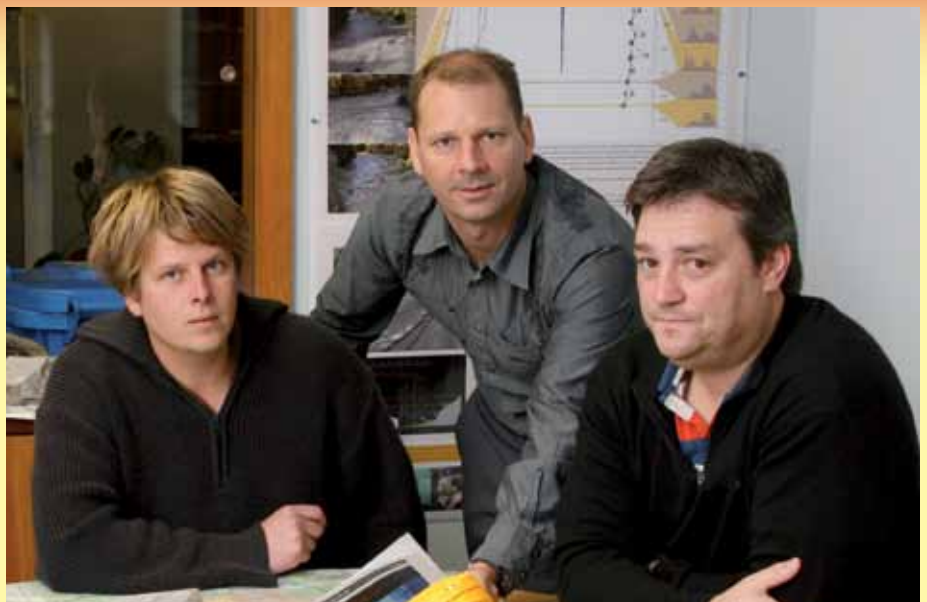
Here in New Zealand even a relatively small eruption could severely affect energy distribution and air travel.

We should count our good fortune. Certainly Taranaki is behaving in a way that is out of character: a volcano that has erupted on average once every 90 years – sometimes violently – has been quiet for two centuries.

Cronin knows what happens when volcanoes behave badly. In fact, he is the sometime South Pacific correspondent at large for one of two e-mail bulletins that go out weekly to volcanologists worldwide.

He brings one up on screen. There is an update on the eruption of Eyafjallajökull and new activity reports from from Reventador in Ecuador, Santa Maria in Guatemala, and Tongkoko in Sulawesi. Seventeen different conspicuously active volcanoes are listed.

New Zealand is absent. It won't be always. ☒

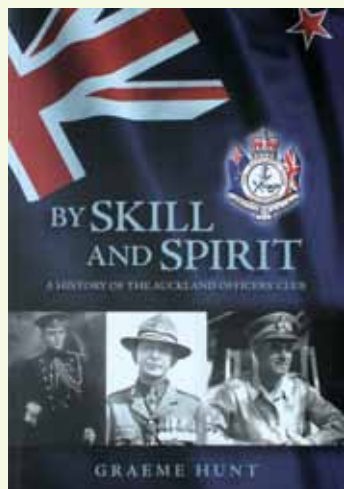


Research Officer Dr Gert Lube, Professor Shane Cronin and research Officer Dr Jon Proctor.

By Skill and Spirit: A history of the Auckland Officers' Club

Graeme Hunt, Waddington Press, Auckland, 2009.

Reviewed by Glyn Harper



The history of a club that was a by-product of Edwardian military adventurism and whose members were predominantly conservative serving or retired military officers may have limited appeal for many readers. Yet *By Skill and Spirit* offers much more than just a group of middle-aged men swapping war stories. It provides a window, albeit a narrow one, into Auckland and into New Zealand's history.

The club's Roll of Honour is testament to this. Twenty-six of its members were killed in action in the First World War,

nine of whom died at Gallipoli. The Second World War was even more costly, with 36 members being killed in action, including four of the surviving Gallipoli veterans. The turbulent events of the 1930s make interesting reading. Immediately after its election in 1935, the Labour Government demanded the club supply a list of its members who had volunteered to be Special Constables during the industrial unrest that had occurred in Auckland in 1932. A police sergeant was sent to the club on three separate occasions to collect the offending list of names but the club refused to release this information. It should come as no surprise either to learn that two of the Four Colonels involved in the "revolt" of 1938 were members of the Auckland Officer's Club.

The "passing parade" of members makes fascinating reading. It includes war heroes like the Victoria Cross winners Reginald Judson and Cyril Bassett. A former New Zealand Prime Minister, Major Gordon Coates MC and Bar, was also a member. Then there were senior officers like Sir Harold Barrowclough, Sir Keith Park and Lieutenant Colonel Lawrence (Curly) Blyth. Blyth played a leading role in the liberation of Le Quesnoy at the end of the First World War. He died in 2001, aged 105, having been a member of the club for more than 60 years.

Graeme Hunt, a Massey alumnus, is a former editor of the *National Business Review*. He has published a number of books ranging from understanding the sharemarket to an examination of spies and revolutionaries in New Zealand. A gaze through the window he has provided in *By Skill and Spirit* is well worthwhile.

Glyn Harper is Professor of War Studies and Director of Massey University's Centre for Defence Studies.

New Zealand's First Airline: Hoki to Haast

by Richard Waugh, Knyaston Charitable Trust in conjunction with Craig Printing Company, 2009.

When it comes to documenting New Zealand's aviation history, Richard Waugh must be in a class of his own. In the past 20 years he has written 10 books of aviation history, taking variously as his subjects particular aircraft, airlines and notable accidents.



In this book – number 11 – he follows the West Coast's Air Travel (NZ) Ltd from its founding in 1934; through the era in which, in the absence of roads, it provided a lifeline to the "far-downers" in places like Haast; right up to its final days in 1967 in the incarnation of West Coast Airways.

Like all of Waugh's books, *Hoki to Haast* is exhaustively researched and lavishly illustrated with photographs and mementos. Boxed text and short essays (one of them about pilot Brian Waugh, the author's

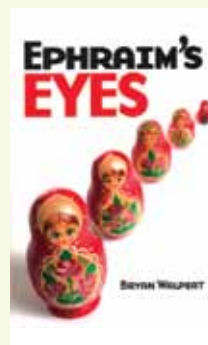
father) further vary the mix. Magnificent scenery, the romance of early aviation, and a window in the pioneering years of the West Coast: what more could you want?

Malcolm Wood

Ephraim's Eyes

by Bryan Walpert

Perhaps better known to *Massey's* readership as a poet (and creative writing lecturer), Bryan Walpert is also a short story writer. In fact, in 2007, one of the stories appearing here, *16 Planets*, appeared in



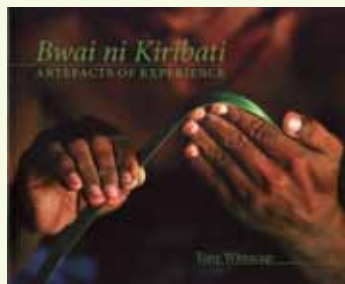
The Listener after winning the Royal Society of New Zealand Manhire Prize for Creative Science Writing. *16 Planets* is a moving if bleakly discomfiting story in which it slowly becomes apparent that the narrator's concern about climate change is masking a more personal, less easily articulated tragedy. This is not a lighthearted read, and in this, and in the use of first-person and the slow-reveal of circumstance through almost peripheral detail, it is typical of many of the stories here.

Malcolm Wood

Bwai ni Kiribati: Artefacts of experience

Tony Whincup, Steele Roberts, 2009

There is a quote attributed to the science fiction writer William Gibson that runs “the future is already here – it is just unevenly distributed”. It is a statement that can also be applied to the past: still here, just unevenly distributed. Take Kiribati. On the outer islands of Gilbert Island group in the Pacific nation of Kiribati life in its essentials is played



out as it has been for hundreds of years. There are compounds to be swept, thatch to be woven, crops to be tended, fish to be caught, all to the ever present soundtrack of waves dashing on reefs. It is a largely self-sufficient existence based around traditional knowledge, with few of the material trappings of modernity in evidence.

Such is the world stunningly documented in Tony Whincup's recently published *Bwai ni Kiribati: Artefacts of Experience*.

Tony and his partner Joan went to Kiribati in the mid-1970s, when it was still a British dependency. Tony's work as a teacher was financed by British foreign aid. “I went there to teach 6th and 7th formers painting and photography, and to do photographic work for the Government documenting skills and traditions, as well as work for posters and postcards,” he explains. Joan taught too.

They were there on July 12, 1979, when Kiribati became independent. In 1984, when they left for New Zealand, they had spent around eight years Kiribati. “It's a wonderful place if you have something to do,” says Tony. The Whincups had plenty. While there, they authored three books about Kiribati and contributed to a number of others.

The relationship has been enduring. The Whincups – Tony is now an associate professor and head of Massey's School of Visual and Material Culture – still spend part of each year in Kiribati. Their book *Akekeia: Traditional Dance in Kiribati* won a Montana book award in 2002, and Tony was awarded with the Kiribati Order of Merit in 2008.

The book is divided into five sections – sense of place, living things, the canoe, traditional dance, and the meeting house – each consisting

of an explanatory essay and a sequence of masterfully-composed (in September 2009 Whincup was made an honorary fellow of the Institute of New Zealand Professional Photographers) and lightly captioned photographs. For an understanding of the workings of Kiribati society and culture, you could hardly do better.

From the days of Rousseau's noble savage, the Pacific has been portrayed as an arcadia, and if you want images of a tropical paradise, many of Whincup's photographs fit the bill: turquoise waters, peerlessly blue skies, white coral sands, smiling people.

And, as Whincup observes in a poignant afterword, although the subsistence life on the islands is not easy, “no one is hungry, young and old are cared for, and everyone has a role and a contribution to make. Laughter is never far away and there always seems to be time to laugh and sing. Possessions are not the driving force – family, friends and social life are.”

But there is a looming threat. As the world's climate changes and sea levels rise, Kiribati's very existence is imperilled.

“No amount of additional technology will combat a rising sea level or an increase in rainfall, There is nowhere for the I-Kiribati to go...”

A land, a people and a culture are at risk. *Malcolm Wood*



At the launch of *Bwai ni Kiribati*, author and photographer Tony Whincup talks to I-Kiribati Vice-President Teima Onorio, while Robert Kaiwai, the New Zealand High Commissioner to Kiribati browses.



ECO-RANGERS SAVE THE PLANET: Earth-friendly missions for green Kiwis

by Maria Gill, illustrated by Vivienne Lingard

Eco-rangers save the planet is structured around 12 missions (save energy, sustainable living, and global problems being a sample). It is well pitched for its intermediate-age readership, many of the stories of “eco heroes” it offers up are quite inspirational, the practical projects look like fun, and there are websites to turn to for more information.

Parental warnings: the sections labelled “brain train your olds” might equally well be called “hassle your parents”, and whether an egg, oil, lemon juice and vinegar shampoo will compare to the products of industry... well, I await word. A great book for a school library.

Formerly a primary school teacher, Maria Gill writes children's books about birds and conservation. She is currently studying towards a Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism.

Malcolm Wood

First to care: 125 years of the Order of St John in New Zealand 1885-2010

Graeme Hunt (2009). Auckland: Libro International
Reviewed by Mary Nash

First to care begins by connecting the Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem in England back to the era of the crusades, when Knights Hospitallers were formed, and forward to the present-day St John Ambulance Brigade in New Zealand. The reader is given to understand something of the Masonic style of the organisation, which, while leading the way in modern first aid facilities, nevertheless preserves its ancient rituals, emblems and historic vestments.

This beautifully illustrated book documents the history of the St John's ambulance service we all know and depend on, from its beginnings in New Zealand in the 1880s. It depicts people, places and events that form part of our heritage, whether we know it or not. There are charming scenes of monasteries and almsgiving in medieval Jerusalem, followed by the 19th-century dignitaries who helped to establish the Order in England and then New Zealand, and a fascinating collection of illustrations, including such diverse items as the large and small Victorian ambulance hampers, photos of Christchurch brigadesmen demonstrating their ambulance work, and a 1930s photo of the Palmerston North Free Ambulance. From the 1940s there is a photo of St John parcels awaiting despatch to prisoners of war, and we learn that the organisation was responsible for sending more than 1.1 million prisoner of war parcels (a deed often incorrectly attributed to the Red Cross). Photographs of regalia are well-displayed throughout, worn by priors of the Order across the decades. This book preserves the story of how a colonising community brought out from the 'mother country' an organised approach to first aid and turned it into a local fixture.

There are nine chapters which proceed in chronological order and end with a discussion of the future of St John Order and the dilemma of whether accepting state funding will result in a public perception that it is part of the welfare state and therefore not an appropriate target for volunteering and donations. The other challenge is whether the organisation, with its colonial origins, can more closely represent modern New Zealand society, including tangata whenua, Pacific island peoples and immigrants from further afield.

There is an impressive collection of informative and useful appendices, including, among other items, the chronology of the Order of St John (c1080 – 2009), statistical information covering membership and motor ambulances, lists of governance and executive officers, officials, lifesaving medals and awards, and different ceremonies.

The book was commissioned by the management of the Order of St John in New Zealand to commemorate the work of many 'ordinary' New Zealanders over a period of 125 years. The preface is by the current prior, the Honourable Sir Anand Satyanand, Governor-General of New Zealand.

I recommend this book to anyone looking for a handsome gift or prize. It will be valued by the general public, and anyone who has experienced the services of the St John's ambulance service will be able to gain a greater appreciation of its history by reading or dipping into its pages.



Mary Nash is a senior lecturer in the School of Health and Social Services. Her doctoral research was in the history of social work education.

Legacy of Occupation: Stories of Occupational Therapy in New Zealand 1940-1972

Researched and compiled by Beth Gordon, Sunny Riordan, Rowena Scaletti and Noline Creighton, The Bush Press of New Zealand, Auckland, 2009

Reviewed by Bronwyn Labrum

Although there were forays in the interwar period, occupational therapy was established in the wake of WWII as it was realised something should be done about the demoralising effects of long-stay and institutional care in mental hospitals, general hospitals and tuberculosis sanatoria. A landmark in the New Zealand profession was the establishment of the Occupational Therapy Training School at the Auckland Mental Hospital in 1940.

This handsomely produced volume, which centres on the school, is a labour of love. Featuring copious images, archival documents and the memories of occupational therapy trainees, it is both professional and a cultural history, with insights into the mores of the postwar decades, as well as medical history, professional health issues and training. And because for a long time the course was for women only, it is also a women's history: both of the trainees and their female teachers.



Chapters are devoted to the setting up of the original school and the first principal and teachers; the 'pioneer' students and their student days in Auckland – including boarding with 'character' ladies and then flatting, and 'scootering' everywhere; holidays at Waiheke Island at the hospital bach or at the Chateau at Tongariro; the expectation that students behave 'like ladies'; and practical experience at the other centres of training in Te Awamutu at Tokonui Hospital, Porirua Hospital, Seacliff Hospital in Dunedin and Sunnyside Hospital in Christchurch. The larger changes in psychiatric care in the 1950s and '60s form a sobering backdrop. Other chapters focus on the second and third decades of training, working abroad and occupational therapy in people's homes. One key chapter, 'Beyond Baskets and Bunnies', tells the little-recorded story of art and craft from a therapeutic perspective, which emphasised creativity and applying arts and crafts (including weaving, basketry, leatherwork, knotting, netting, embroidery, toy making, hand press printing, book binding, and art and design) as therapies for both psychiatric and general patients. Some beautiful and whimsical examples of art and crafts appear as full-colour images.

The closing of the Auckland school in 1972, when it came under hospital board jurisdiction, is a fitting finale. The final chapter focuses on how training and subsequent work in the profession wrought profound changes in the life of the therapists, as much as the patients.

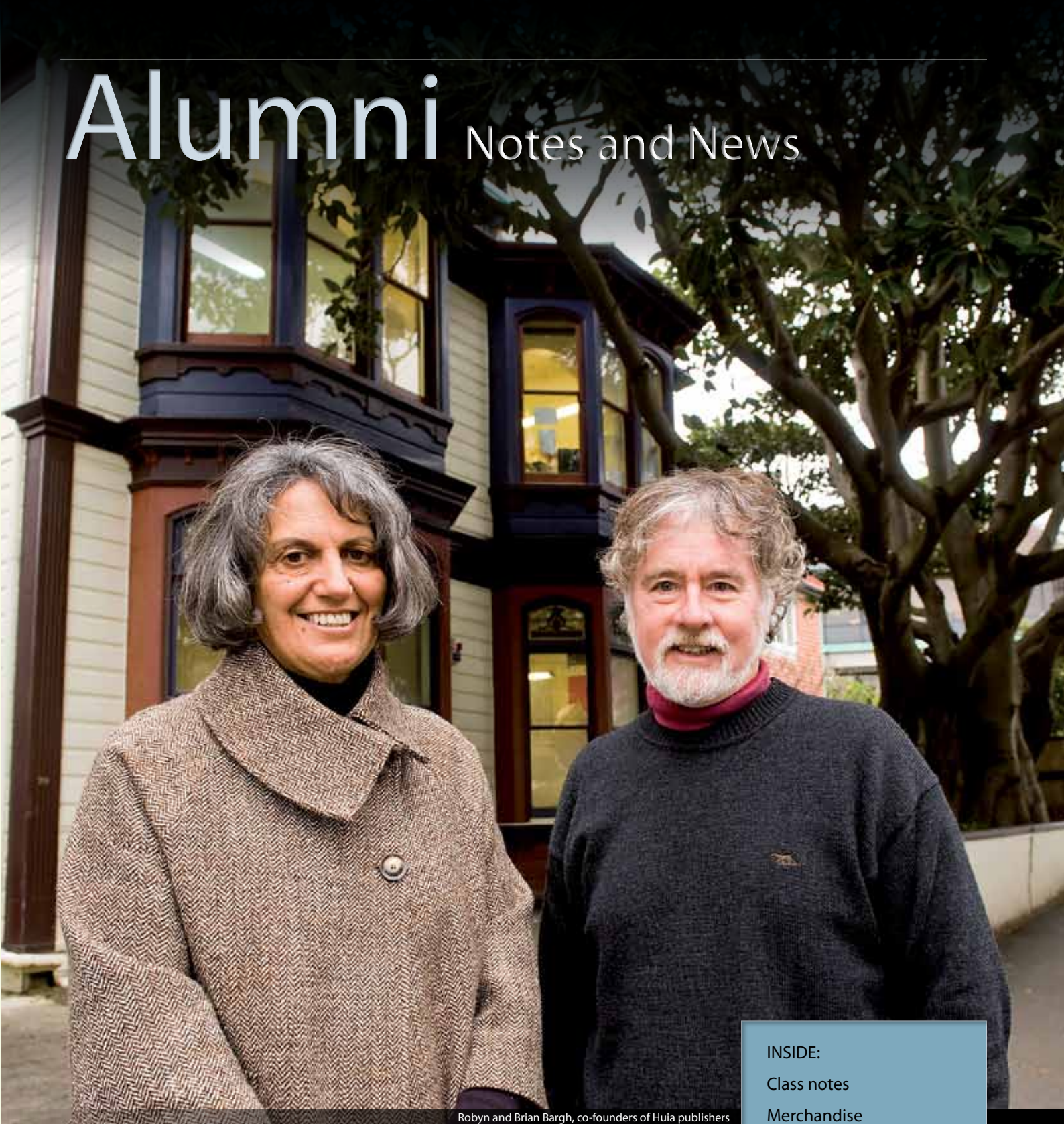
Perhaps I should end with one of my favourite vignettes from the late 1950s, Beth Bunt recounting her experience of getting in to the course:

I used my dressmaking skills and a Vogue pattern to make a stylish dress with matching jacket to wear. Gloves, hat, matching shoes, seamed stockings and handbag completed the outfit, and I boarded the NAC plane for Wellington. It was a major adventure to locate the street, building, correct floor and use a lift before reporting to the receptionist. I duly waited in silence with three other applicants, all of us from the South Island. Prepared for formal questions from one person, I was confronted instead by a panel of people with the question, 'What do you think of teddy boys?' I do not recall my answer.

Editor Rowena Scaletti is a Massey alumna. Reviewer Bronwyn Labrum is a senior lecturer in the School of Visual and Material Culture in the College of Creative Arts.

Alumni

Notes and News



Robyn and Brian Bargh, co-founders of Huia publishers

INSIDE:

Class notes

Merchandise

Alumni benefits

Alumni

“My dream was to get people to write books about the tragedies, dramas and joys. What we are trying to do is capture stories and ideas by Māori writers – books that harness and store knowledge...”

—Robyn Bargh of Huia Publishers (see page 44)



Jasmine Groves
Alumni Relations Manager

Looking ahead Jasmine Groves writes

We are only in the first quarter of 2010 and already it promises to be a great year for alumni engagements – both in New Zealand and across the globe.

At the Central District Field Days in March, Massey took on a leadership role by partnering with the Field Days team and installing a Massey Pavilion, which was

the ideal venue for the Manawatu Chapter event. Vice-Chancellor Steve Maharey spoke to a large group of attendees about the future direction of the university and the integral part the agri-food industry would play.

March also featured the inaugural Distinguished Alumni Awards, held in the great hall of the Museum Building on the Wellington campus. This was a black tie evening recognising seven alumni for their contributions to business, the community, early career achievement, and a lifetime's service to the agriculture industry.

Wellington's May graduation will see the launch of an annual cocktail function to welcome graduates into the alumni fold and introduce them to other alumni from the region.

In June we will be involved with a New Zealand universities alumni event at the Expo in Shanghai. We encourage all China-based alumni to get in touch if they would like to attend. We are also looking at hosting a USA alumni event, and a trans-Tasman foray in September, with events in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne to look to setting up new chapters.


Lincoln University's LA Brooks team will travel to Palmerston North in September for the annual LA Brooks rugby match, which will be as competitive as ever. The traditional Old Rivals Dinner will be held the night before the match.

As well as events, the office is busy working on the Court of Convocation election to be held later this year. Additional details on the election are enclosed with this magazine.

The Massey University apparel and memorabilia range has been updated and can be viewed and purchased online at: <http://alumnishop.massey.ac.nz>. We also have an exclusive wine range. If you would prefer to receive a physical catalogue, e-mail alumni@massey.ac.nz.

We are always eager to include your stories in our newsletter or on our website, so please send us your thoughts, ideas and photographs. If you're looking for an old colleague or former classmate, we can help with that too – just send us an e-mail or letter.

Our website is the first port of call for alumni, and we encourage you to keep your details up-to-date so we can keep you informed of all the exciting local and international events that are planned. The website is also going to undergo a face-lift during the year so that it is a better tool for you. With that in mind, we would like to update our benefits page; if you have a benefit you would like to offer to other alumni please let us know so we can spread the word.

As I am new to this role, and with so many great initiatives planned for this year, I would really love to hear your feedback. We're always looking to improve on what we have to offer, and we're really looking forward to the exciting year ahead. 

Alumni Relations grows team

Alumni Relations has strengthened its team with the appointments of Mitch Murdoch as director and Jasmine Groves as manager. Mitch worked in communications and marketing in the UK before returning to New Zealand and taking up a post with the Massey University Foundation in mid 2009. She now directs the Foundation and Alumni Relations. Jasmine also has a background in marketing and communications and worked with Massey's College of Education before joining the alumni team.

The addition of a team member will help alumni relations cater to the needs of alumni groups and develop overseas alumni organisations.

Mitch Murdoch comments: "Jasmine and I are very much looking forward to meeting and working with our alumni. Our goal is to increase the connections between Massey and its alumni through the development of lifelong relationships that will begin at Orientation.


"While our immediate focus will be in New Zealand, we will be developing a strategy to better connect with some of our many alumni that live abroad."

Contact the Alumni Relations Office on + 64 (0)6 350 5875.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS 2011



In 2010 Massey introduced a series of awards to honour outstanding achievements of the University's alumni and recognise their contribution to the greater good of Massey, their professions, their communities and New Zealand.

The second annual awards event will be held in 2011, and we will keep in touch with you closer to the time on the nomination process. In the interim, if you want to find out more about the awards you can visit  <https://alumnionline.massey.ac.nz> or email us at alumni@massey.ac.nz.

Register as a chapter member to be invited to events in your local area. Visit alumnionline.massey.ac.nz.

Court of Convocation Election 2010

The 2010 Court of Convocation Elections will be carried out via internet voting. This means you can vote from anywhere, at any time during the voting period. We need you to update your email and postal details. If you don't have access to a computer or prefer not to vote online, you can register

to vote by paper.

E-mail alumni@massey.ac.nz, or write to:

Court of Convocation PaperVote
Alumni Relations
Massey University
Private Bag 11 222
Palmerston North, 4442

Further details on the election are included in the Chancellor's letter, information for prospective Nominees and Electors, and the nomination form enclosed with this magazine.

Stay In Touch



E-newsletter

The alumni relations office invites you to subscribe to our bi-monthly e-newsletter. This is the best way to keep in touch with news from the University and its national and international alumni chapters or to find out about events that are planned in your region.

To subscribe visit <https://alumnionline.massey.ac.nz> and follow the links or e-mail alumni@massey.ac.nz

Show and tell

Let your fellow alumni see where you are and what you are up to. The alumni relations office welcomes digital photographs as e-mail attachments. To be publishable, photographs must be at a print resolution of at least 300dpi. The preferred file format is jpeg. Images can be sent to alumni@massey.ac.nz



Alumni portal

The alumni portal <https://alumnionline.massey.ac.nz> is where you will find everything you need to know about Massey's alumni and what the alumni relations office has planned.

Here you will find the alumni online community. Register as a member to keep in touch with other alumni, find out about joining chapters and networks, view the latest news and events, and discover the benefits and services available to you. When you visit, don't forget to update your details so we can stay in touch.

Online shop – memorabilia, apparel, souvenirs

Our expanding range of memorabilia and apparel now includes casual clothing with a contemporary campus feel, and heritage-inspired Heartland apparel – a tribute to Massey's spirit and unique place in the world.

As the range grows, we're sure you'll find the perfect souvenir. Visit our new online store at <http://alumnishop.massey.ac.nz>

Benefits and services

We are always on the lookout for benefits and services that can be offered. If you want to find out what benefits and services are currently available, visit the alumni portal.

If you are associated with a business or service that would like to provide a benefit to Massey alumni and friends, staff and/or students, contact alumni@massey.ac.nz



HERE I AM

Karen Tribbe writes about her time as an exhibition graphic designer at Oxford University's Ashmolean Museum.



"It's not like I'm going to save the world as a graphic designer, is it?!" It was in the middle of design research tutorial, during the very stressful final year, that I decided to vent.

If, at that moment, matters of aesthetics and composition seemed trivial to me, perhaps it was because I was fresh from a career as a New Zealand Army officer. I had trained to be at my most effective when faced with life-threatening situations; I had been into areas of conflict; I had feared for my personal safety. Aesthetics? Composition? When it came down to it, how important were these things really?

Now, of course, my pronouncement makes me cringe. Maybe graphic design is not going to save the world, but in small yet satisfying ways I know that graphic designers can help make a positive difference.

For me, I am thinking particularly about the past 18 months spent with the Ashmolean Museum – founded in 1683 as part of Oxford University – working with curators, writers and spatial designers responding to a storytelling strategy dubbed 'Crossing Cultures, Crossing Time'.

Traditionally museums have been about displaying objects in galleries that divide the world and history up according to geography, time or civilisations. One gallery might address the Egypt of the pharaohs; another, the Romans in England; a third, Bronze-Age Greece. With 'Crossing Cultures, Crossing Time' as the underlying theme for redisplay, the Ashmolean has chosen to emphasise the interrelationships and exchanges between cultures. It is an invitation to tolerance and perspective, for how do you stigmatise someone or something as 'other' when you hold so much common?

I learned, for example, that long before the Euro, states bordering the Mediterranean Sea periodically traded using a common currency. There are several of these gold coins displayed in the Mediterranean World gallery, the most striking of which is Byzantine emperor Basil

II's gold solidus of the late 10th century. We all know the Muslims and Christians fought at times – think Richard the Lionheart and the Saracen leader Saladin – but they also peacefully shared and borrowed ideas at the most domestic level. On opposite walls of the gallery, corresponding to their position on the map, you can find similar hare motifs on pottery bowls from Fatimid Cairo and Byzantine Greece. The enormous map, which rests in a back-lit 6m x 2.5m table case and was my most challenging graphic to design and produce, dominates the gallery and allows you to physically experience the region from different perspectives. Local school children marvel at how peripheral and small England looks when set against the mighty Roman and Persian empires.

My greatest experience – one I never anticipated – was connecting with certain special individual objects; it was like making a new friend. My favourite was a little clay female figurine from ancient Cyprus. She's raising one arm to her mouth and we nicknamed her 'the burping lady'. Her playful humour and painted cross-your-heart-bra (actually a representation of female dress of the time) struck a chord with me. There were many other little Aphrodites like her and they are displayed lined up on a tiered plinth, just as the girls are in my old class photos.

Very early on in my contract I needed to open a display case, for the first time ever, in order to understand spatial and lighting issues. Inside were unsurprisingly, irreplaceably precious things: the treasures from Greek Bronze Age tomb. The owner had been a warrior, and, because once-a-soldier-always-a-soldier, I tipped him a respectful salute as I carefully closed up.

Despite many hours on the parade ground, I never had such a magnificent sword as his.

Her Majesty the Queen opened the Ashmolean Museum, complete with a new building containing 39 new galleries, on 2 December 2009. Karen arrived back in New Zealand in March 2010.

Send us your news

To appear in notes and news either

- visit alumnionline.massey.ac.nz and fill in the online form
- send your information to
Alumni Relations
Private Bag 11 222
Palmerston North
New Zealand
- send an e-mail to alumni@massey.ac.nz.

Information may be edited for clarity and space.



NZUniCareerHub

If you are an employer, then NZUniCareerHub will allow you to easily distribute information about your organisation and vacancies to jobsearching students and recent graduates throughout New Zealand. To connect with employers and find out about their job vacancies, graduate programmes and employer events, visit careerhub.massey.ac.nz.

Join the Massey Library

Massey University library offers alumni and friends a 50 per cent discount on membership. For only \$100 per year you can have the same borrowing privileges as an undergraduate distance student. Borrow books in person or have them delivered to you anywhere in New Zealand. Contact the alumni relations office for more information.

Find a classmate

With a database of over 103,000 names, there is a good chance that we can help you to get in touch with your former classmates. Contact us with information about who it is you would like to catch up with and, if it is possible, we will help you to get in touch.

To protect the privacy of alumni, this process is carried out in accordance with the Privacy Act (1993).

NOTES

1969

Prithiviraj Oogarah, Master of Agricultural Science returned to Mauritius after his studies, becoming an agronomist and later a divisional scientific officer in the Ministry of Agriculture. In 1977 he was appointed general manager of the Mauritius Tobacco Board, and, in 1995, director of the Farmers Service Corporation dealing with extension work in sugar cane. Now retired, he and his wife were intending to visit the Manawatu campus in April 2010 en route to Wellington and the South Island as part of a visit to New Zealand.

1973

Neville Chandler, Master of Agricultural Science, returned to the Victorian Department of Agriculture at Ellinbank Dairy Research Station after graduating. He then joined Dalgety to commercialise a CSIRO-developed technology, in the course of which he transferred to the UK in 1980. When the project concluded he stayed on, first working for a company blending oils and fats for the animal feed industry, then becoming a consultant to the National Renderers Association (NRA), a US trade association. In 1994 he returned to Australia, serving as principal of Marcus Oldham College, before returning to the UK and an appointment as regional director of the National Renderers Association. Retired since August 2007, he now lives in Nirvana in New South Wales' Batemans Bay. He has four children – one in Ireland, three in England – and eight grandchildren. If you remember Neville from your days at Massey, he invites you to get in touch.

1981

John Dickson, Diploma in Dairy Technology, last worked in the dairy industry in 1987. He has since added a BEd(Adult) from the University of Technology in Sydney in 1993 and an MA (Applied Anthropology and Development Studies) Macquarie University (1996) to his qualifications. "Since 1993 I have worked in the adult and tertiary education sectors in Sydney, New Zealand, South Africa and Mozambique... I am currently involved in curriculum and evaluation work at Tairarwhiti Polytechnic, and am also studying towards a PGDSSER with...Massey University!"

1985

David Gordon, Bachelor of Arts, writes: "I am the Convenor of 60+ Continuing Education for Tauranga. A great privilege of the job is that my wife and I get to lunch with some of New Zealand's top academics, such as Profs Bill Hodge, John McCraw, Bryan Gould etc, after their addresses to us. I also teach Latin to a small group of late bloomers, the two oldest of whom are 88 and 89. We particularly enjoy Caesar and Virgil."

Ramakrishnan Swaminathan, Master of Business Administration, worked as a manager for a year after his return to India, but he had always wanted to have his own business. In Tirupur, a small town in South India, he started his own garment export company. "I started this factory [in 1985] with 10 men and within 10 years I was employing 1200 employees and had expanded to Chennai. My business also provided employment to another 1000 people indirectly." In 1997 he won a national Best Quality Producer award in the garment manufacturing category. His business interests now include a joint venture with Australian partners to sell imported industrial cleaning equipment. His time at Massey, he writes, was a personal turning point. "The major success of my professional life is due to the education I had at Massey University."



In the unlikely environs of the ground floor of a parking building, the Albany campus has a new social venue: a campus bar where students, staff and visitors can mingle, play pool, feed the jukebox, and, if so-minded, dance the night away. This is the Ferguson Bar, where proprietors Andrew Jackson and Andrew Waite are very much on traditional home turf; the business partners, now in their early thirties, are Albany BBS graduates. During his time studying tourism and marketing (and putting in time as a student union executive member) Waite, who is now the Ferguson Bar's manager, managed then campus bar, Scholars. Jackson, for his part, had several small businesses going even when still a student, and he never liked the idea of working for other people. So at age 24 the then sales representative joined up with two staff to buy out their employer, Neat Feet and take it global. (He sold his interest in Neat Feet about four years ago.) The two also own the Saint and restaurant Flax in nearby Browns Bay.

webextra <http://tinyurl.com/27sv78d>



Hunter's Wine

Support our new PhD Scholarship

Support our new Alumni Doctoral Scholarship

In 2007 the University began a scholarship appeal based on the sales of Hunter's Massey wine. Support our Massey University Alumni Doctoral Scholarship by ensuring you download an order form from <http://alumnonline.massey.ac.nz>.

Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2009

\$18 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 2008

\$16.20 per bottle

Pinot noir strawberry and cherry flavours, combined with the earth and plum of merlot and cassis/chocolate aromas of the cabernet blend together 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.

Alumna Jane Hunter began supplying us with our own Massey label in 2006. Sales have been impressive since. The wine is extremely well priced and very good drinking!

1990

Antoinette Eklund Holm, Bachelor of Arts, is now a first-time author with the publication of her crime fiction novel *Steel River*. After graduating from Massey, Antoinette headed for Australia where she completed a first class honours degree and then a doctorate in English, her particular interest being New Zealand and Australian literature. She has since taught New Zealand literature at the Australia and New Zealand Centre at Georgetown in Washington DC. *Steel River* centres around a young woman whose train ride into the city “heralds the beginning of a trip into a sinister and callous world of violence, exploitation and murder”.

1991

Sam Johnson, Graduate Diploma in Business Studies, has had a career trajectory that has taken him from the Rural Bank in Thames to Farmers Fertiliser (as a Whangarei-based technical consultant) to the BNZ as an agribusiness manager. He is now a partner in BNZ Partners in Northland, where he and his family – “wife Debbie (née Fraser), who also graduated in 1991, but with a BAgrSci, and children Cameron (15), Bridget (13) and MacKenzie (10)” – are very involved in sport. “All the family is involved with hockey and squash over winter, and cricket and tennis in summer.”

1993

Marcelo Cirne Lima, Diploma of Agricultural Science, is a successful entrepreneur in his native Brazil. When he completed his diploma, Marcelo

had a commitment to returning to a job being held for him in his native Brazil. So, after spending time in Asia and Britain, that was what he did. But Brazil was in the grips of recession, the job was no longer there, and he may well have regretted turning down the scholarship he had been offered to complete a master’s degree.

However, he soon found a job with a technology company that, among other things, was the distributor for the US firm Texas Instruments. His employer was developing a Brazilian EID-(Electronic Identification)-transponder system to trace beef cattle. Marcelo found himself the solitary agronomist in a group of 20 engineers manufacturing military aviation products.

It was here he came in renewed contact with New Zealand-made Tru-Test animal weighing scales – which even then had been integrated with many animal EID systems.

Marcelo had used Tru-Test scales to weigh bulls in 1990 at Limestone Downs station, working alongside station general manager Derek Warwick. He suggested to his employer that they think about integrating the electronic scales and the EID system, but they were reluctant – the EID system itself presented commercial challenges and the agriculture sector was outside the realm of their normal activities.

Marcelo saw an opportunity going begging. He completed a course in logistics and external trade course, costed the importing of electronic weighing systems, and in 1994 set up in business with a veterinarian to import Tru-Test scales.

“Today we are exclusive distributors of Tru-Test scales and Speedrite Electric Fencing for Brazil, this year completing 15 years in Brazil (1994 – 2009). Our company is called Farm Tech S/A and also includes a small share of Tru-Test Ltd from NZ. We bought from NZ about US \$1.5 million a year in top technology New Zealand products.”

See www.trutest.com.br or www.speedrite.com.br

1997

Jesus Edullantes, Postgraduate Diploma in Technology, is based in Tagum City in the Philippines, where he holds the title of City Government Department Head I (City Veterinarian). “I still continue to apply the basic knowledge I gained while in Massey.” He would love to revisit the Manawatu campus. “If wishes were horses... [beggars would ride].”

1998

Leonard Lagisa, Master of Philosophy (Social Sciences) works in the Papua New Guinea mining industry specialising in community relations. This means addressing community issues, compensation, and sustainable social and economic benefits for landowners and affected communities. In 2008 he was appointed executive manager of the Ok Tedi Development Foundation (OTDF), an independent charitable organisation responsible for promoting and implementing sustainable development projects for 155 communities living within mining-affected regions.

Huia Publishers



Robyn and Brian Bargh of Huia Publishers.

Putting it in print

The native bird it is named after may be extinct, but Huia Publishers is anything but. Since it was founded by Robyn and Brian Bargh in 1991, the firm has published more than 150 books largely about Māori or by Māori authors – the latter including Hirini Moko Mead, Keri Hulme, James George, Briar Grace-Smith, Professor Mason Durie, Maria Bargh (Robyn and Brian’s daughter) and, most recently, Massey researcher and student Malcolm Mulholland. In recent years Huia has branched into publishing Pasifika writers and subjects. Eventually, so the plan goes, they intend be the world’s leading indigenous publisher.

Robyn and Brian met at Massey in 1974 and married the same year. He was completing a master’s in agricultural science; she a bachelor of arts. After graduating the two followed varied career paths (including a three-year stint in New Guinea), eventually ending up

in Wellington, Brian in the Treaty Issues Unit of the Department of Māori Affairs and Robyn in the Ministry of Women’s Affairs.

“I was coming up to my 40th birthday,” she recalls. “I thought ‘God, I’m not going to be doing this for the rest of my life’. I couldn’t cope with not having control over what happened. I could only give advice – which could be ignored. It was 1991 and it was a recession, the public sector was being restructured. I didn’t want to be part of it.”

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

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

Robyn, of Te Arawa descent, found there were many Māori children in similar situations, but they were largely ignored by New Zealand literature. “Our books didn’t talk about the bicultural interface that we all knew. Māori kids have to cope with a whole lot of things that are not well understood. My dream was to get people to write books about the tragedies, dramas and joys.”

In 2002 Robyn was honoured with one of Massey’s eight 75th anniversary medals, recognising her commitment to making te reo an important part of New Zealand life and using innovative approaches to connect with and engage young Māori.

Massey Apparel

Our expanding range of memorabilia and apparel now includes casual clothing with a contemporary campus feel, and heritage-inspired Heartland apparel – a tribute to Massey's spirit and unique place in the world.

Our graduates are our greatest ambassadors – pioneers and visionaries who have defined New Zealand for generations. Be a part of that legacy, stay connected, and carry your university with pride.

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Te Kunenga
ki Pūrehuroa



MASSEY UNIVERSITY



When Warren Maxwell – leader of the psychedelic blues quartet Little Bushman, and presenter for arts show *The Gravy* – turns up at the New Zealand School of Music on Wellington's campus, it is as if a long lost family member has returned; there are hugs all round. The former Massey student (Diploma in Jazz, Bachelor of Music 2007) and tutor is now domiciled across the hills in the Wairarapa on the two acre property, with family home, granny flat and studio, he shares with his partner-manager, his two children, his mother, a horse and a number of chickens. Little Bushman's last album *Pendulum* (2007) was given a five star review by Wellington's *Dominion Post*, and the band finished 2009 with a collaboration with New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, playing music arranged by composer John Psathas. Also Massey jazz alumni are the three other members of Little Bushman, drummer Rick Cranson, bassist Tom Callwood and guitarist Joe Callwood.

webextra <http://tinyurl.com/2c7dcg2>

Katharina Staerk Stärk, PhD Vet, PhD Humanities, who was appointed Professor of Veterinary Public Health in January 2007 at the Royal Veterinary College in London has been appointed director of the newly opened Centre for Emerging, Endemic and Exotic Diseases. She also leads the RVC's research group in infection and immunity.



John Wallaart, Master of Business Administration, who also holds a Graduate Diploma in Business Studies 1997 and a Graduate Diploma in Occupational Safety & Health 1995 has since acquired another significant qualification: a PhD in occupational safety science from Sydney's University of New South Wales. "Most of the work was done in the area of respiratory protection for industry and elsewhere, which has become a topical issue due to pandemics and the advent of CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear) warfare." Part of his PhD research involved the design of a FPBR (Fan supplied, Positive pressure, Breath responsive Respirator) which is now used by military and emergency response teams world wide. Currently John is a programme manager injury prevention with the corporate office of ACC in Wellington.

2000

Joseph Rangan, Bachelor of Applied Science, has moved from academia to industry. The former senior lecturer in environmental health and safety at Divine Word University (a national Christian university in Papua New Guinea) is now a health, safety, environment and security analyst for Oil Search Limited. Attached to the safety and environmental department, he is also the safety and environmental administrator, and, in his capacity of financial controller, is responsible for a budget of US\$2,600,000.

2001

Susan Hawkins Carey, Bachelor of Education, was the co-ordinator of Adult and Community Education (ACE) at Otumoetai College when she last contacted *Massey*. Otumoetai had then been running adult education classes for 44 years; Susan had held the position for 18 of them. However, in the wake of the government-announced massive cuts to school-based adult education, her position was disestablished in December 2009. She believes the end of ACE in schools is a huge loss to communities all across the country.

David Speary, Master of Business Studies, is back on Auckland's North Shore after seven years' teaching at Huanggang Normal University in China's Hubei Province (where he was Leader of

the Foreign Teachers and taught English as well as, occasionally, economics and aspects of business). But, on his return, his planned retirement was deferred: a senior tourism lecturer at AIT Auckland University of Technology before leaving New Zealand, David found himself called on by the university to stand in for a semester for a lecturer who had fallen ill. David's time in China has made him a sought-after speaker, particularly for service group audiences. In October 2008 he was interviewed on National Radio's *Nine to Noon* and he has been fielding invitations ever since. On average, he writes, he has a speaking engagement a month.

2002

William Su, Master of Business Studies, Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration 1999, moved from Wellington to Melbourne in February 2009, where he has taken up a new job.

2003

Andrea Corbett, Master of Philosophy (Humanities and Social Science), now has a doctoral degree from Monash University. For her master's thesis, Andrea looked at aspects of disability among Māori. For her PhD research, for which she received an Australian government grant, Andrea examined how inequality and inequity are perpetuated in health delivery across primary and tertiary health services. Andrea currently teaches in a bachelor of nursing programme.

Mike Hace, Bachelor of Aviation, writes that after a few years in Australia building up his flight experience he is "flying a Boeing 747-400 for Cathay Pacific Airways all over the world".

Garrick Parr, Bachelor of Business Studies, is the Senior HR Generalist for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

Nicky Tirtadarma, Bachelor of Applied Science, works for Spinwell International, one of Asia's leading cotton agents. Her career, she writes, has allowed her to travel the world – "and experience things I never thought possible, such as viewing the NYF trades directly from the trade floor of the New York mercantile exchange...". Nicky works alongside "prominent business companies and [the best] minds in the industry". Spinwell sources its cotton from a range of nations, including Africa, Brazil, Greece, Australia and the US. Nicky is a firm believer in the virtues of her product. "I believe cotton will continue to hold major market share as the needs for textile/clothing grows."

2004

Melissa Hsieh Chung, Postgraduate Diploma in Second Language Teaching, and her husband Ricardo, run an English language school in Taiwan (the aptly-named Melissa's English Language School), catering for students from primary school to senior high school. On staff are two expatriate teachers – one English, the other African – and three Taiwanese. Melissa's two sons, of whom she is intensely proud, maintain the New Zealand connection: both work in Auckland. Melissa and her husband are strong proponents for practising meditation.

Daisy Jin, Postgraduate Diploma of Technology, worked as an Auckland-based laboratory technician



"Strong, sometimes wrong, but 'one of us'" is the popular verdict on cabinet minister of Paula Bennett according to journalist Simon Collins, writing after National's first year in government. A Herald/Digipoll survey in late October placed Bennett, who holds the Social Development and Employment portfolios, the third most-effective minister after Prime Minister John Key and his deputy Bill English. How will Bennett fare in the year ahead? Albany campus regional registrar Andrea Davies describes Bennett, who has a degree in social policy, as a fast learner. "She came in quite naive but soon found her way," Davies says. In April 2009, Bennett, who has Tainui ancestry, was the guest speaker at the ceremony to honour Albany's Māori graduates.

On a side note, another Massey alumnus, Lockwood Smith (a contemporary of Tom Scott), has been winning praise for his performance as Speaker, with journalist Guyon Espiner describing him as "easily the most fair, unbiased, and straightforward Speaker Parliament has had in years".

Paula Bennett is pictured alongside works of art by Massey alumna Megan McLay.

webextra <http://tinyurl.com/2dzbs4k>



Hamish Mackay became a sports commentator early in life. "I've been doing it since I was seven, basically ever since I could memorise two teams-worth of names. It was all played in my head, of course, but I used to go out to a paddock at the back of the farm and pretend it was a pitch and call all the plays and the names." He fondly remembers the heyday of the Manawatu Turbos. "The '70s and the early '80s were the best – it would be like being a child in Christchurch now and having the Canterbury Crusaders as your home team. Put it this way, when the Springboks came here in '81 they played three tests against the All Blacks and one against Manawatu. Although the Springboks beat us, there wasn't much in it, and at that time there were seven All Blacks in the Manawatu side."

So when, back in his days as a Massey student, McKay heard that that radio station 2XS had secured the rights to cover local rugby, he was soon down at the Broadway Ave studio offering his services. "The

following Saturday I was on the sidelines at Johnston Park with an old brick of a cellphone giving a live report of the Feilding Yellowbills vs Marist top club rugby match," McKay says. "After that they always called me 'that guy who came up the stairs', because that's literally what I did. I just walked in and asked them if I could help."

His attachment to the Turbos remains. When Rugby New Zealand mooted dropping the team from the Air New Zealand Cup, McKay spoke out on their behalf.

McKay has now been at TV3 for 14 years, 11 as sports reporter and rugby commentator and the past three as sports presenter. He still does three or four stories a week himself, and was a finalist in two categories for 2009's TP McLean Sports Journalism Awards.

The highlight (and lowlight) of his career? The Rugby World Cup 2007. "The best six weeks of my life and the worst two weeks of my life, because although I got to call the final we weren't in it."

webextra <http://tinyurl.com/2u2tasr>

for a pharmaceutical company for several years before returning to her hometown of Shanghai in 2008, where she is helping her children with their Chinese. Daisy's husband runs his own laboratory and has a new pharmaceutical plant under construction. Eventually she intends to work alongside him.

Richard Maloy, Bachelor of Business Studies, is the inaugural recipient of the Fulbright-Wallace Arts Trust Award. Richard, who also has a degree in fine arts, won the award with *All I Want to Be is a Sculpture*, a montage of nine self-portrait photographs of the artist wrapped in silver foil. The prize is a three-month residency at Headlands Centre for the Arts, which is near San Francisco.

Zhi Shen, Bachelor of Science, is back in his home city of Shanghai working in logistics. He invites any Massey alumni with business in logistics who are passing through Shanghai to contact him: zhishen@lanshenglogistics.com.

Yulin Wang, Bachelor of Business Studies, moved with her family from Wellington to Melbourne in February of 2009.

"... anyway, last night I have a very exciting gig with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra in Amsterdam, which is of course one of the top orchestras in the world. Actually, I thought it was very fitting for my first concert with them, as we played Gershwin's famous *An American in Paris* and I was a Kiwi in Amsterdam! Anyway, it was a really great concert which was to open the 20th anniversary series of the Robeco Zomerconcerten (summer concerts) at the Concertgebouw."

Melissa Plews Christie, Bachelor of Education, the current EXMSS representative for UK/Europe, began her Bachelor of Education degree as an internal student, in the early 1990s, but other matters intervened, and, on the strength of a Diploma of Teaching (1991-PNCE), Melissa taught for five years around Motueka and Tapawera before heading overseas. She now lives in London, is married, has two children and three stepchildren, teaches primary school, and has managed to fit in completing the remaining third of her degree. She has thoroughly enjoyed extramural study.

2008

Robert Kilgour, Master of Technology (Hons) – Energy Management, is a Dubai-based senior engineer with the firm GHD. Robert recently presented a research paper to the European Council for an Energy Efficient Economy's (ECEEE) Summer Study in Côte D'Azur, France. The paper, co-authored with Dr Attilio Pigneri, discusses the use of energy performance contracts and green leases as ways of cutting energy consumption in commercial buildings. In his professional life, Rob advises the property and buildings sector on materials durability and building energy efficiency. He completed his masterate extramurally.

Raj Sarin, Bachelor of Business Studies, has been a freelance marketing manager, a business banking consultant with the National Bank of New Zealand and is now a financial advisor with Wealth Works Ltd. He intends to return to Massey in the next few years for an honours year in finance.

2009

Katrina Leather, Postgraduate Diploma in Science, won the Human Resources Institute of New Zealand's Wellington Region title of Young HR Practitioner of Year Award 2008/2009.

Penelope Bradford Muncey, Master of Education, is working with Transparency International and the Ministry of Education in Vanuatu to produce a civic education curriculum for years 1-13.

Philip Tyler, Bachelor of Business Studies, who graduated from Massey after four-and-a-half years of extramural study, thanks his wife Phoebe and his family for all their support. "I have obtained a fantastic job with SCA Hygiene... and look forward to one day returning to Massey to complete my master's."

Cheryle Parker Willoughby, Bachelor of Arts, runs her own business, Supreme 4 Schools, supplying schools New Zealand-wide with teacher resources.

In memoriam

1960: Donald Lockwood, Bachelor of Agriculture. The very large attendance at Don's funeral in February was a tribute to a man who had touched the lives of people in a wide range of activities in Taupo and many other parts of the country.

2006

Cameron Rhodes, Bachelor of Information Systems, writes of the joys of fatherhood. "My son, who is 11 months old, took his first steps over the weekend and we haven't been able to keep him still since :)"

2007

Michael Jamieson, Bachelor of Music, now lives in Holland where he is studying towards his masterate in saxophone at the Messiaen Academie. He writes



Catsuit4 (Panoramic Drawing), Frances Denton, 2009.



Wayne Barrar Associate Professor, School of Fine Arts,
has a major exhibition at the Dunedin Public Art Gallery, ending June 27.

The result of a seven-year
photographic research project,
“An Expanding Subterra” is
also to be published as a
book.

“An Expanding Subterra”



Design school entrance/mural, Park University, Parkville, USA 2006

