

# Massey

The magazine for alumni and friends of Massey University | Issue 30 | May 2017

Veterinary  
education  
turns

50



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MASSEY  
UNIVERSITY  
TE KUNENGA KI PŪREHUROA

UNIVERSITY OF NEW ZEALAND

THE ENGINE  
OF THE NEW  
NEW ZEALAND



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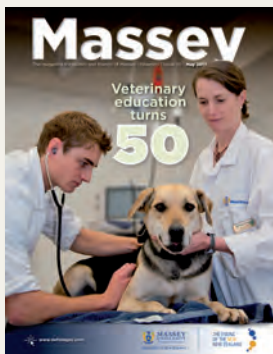
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The jubilee is also a good time to think about how far the veterinary profession has come and where it is heading.

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**W**edon'tknow when the first veterinarian arrived in New Zealand, but we may know how the first one – a member of the Clare family – met his end. In 1843 he was felled by a kick from a horse he was landing in the Taranaki surf. He would have been missed. Colonial New Zealand was powered, fed and paid for by animals: horses as transport; cattle for beef; cows for milk; and sheep for both mutton and the wool that was New Zealand's principal export.

New Zealand, as the saying goes, lived on the sheep's back, and it carried on doing so right up until the 1950s, its exports measured in wool bales and lamb carcasses.

In some ways, we have hardly changed. Overwhelmingly urban though we are, agricultural products, particularly those derived from pastoral farming, still account for most of our overseas income. The sheep's back has become the cow's udder.

We are that strangest of creatures, an advanced Western nation whose economic standing is partly determined by the world price of milk solids.

In 1963, it was that connection between agriculture and veterinary practice that

led to Massey Agricultural College – it was declared a university a year later – being chosen over the University of Otago as the site of New Zealand's first working veterinary teaching facility. In the 50 years since, veterinary science at Massey has gone from strength to strength. The student roll has grown, new advanced degrees and specialisations have been offered, and veterinary education at Massey has achieved an international reputation. Massey is one of a select few universities outside North America to hold American Veterinary Medical Association accreditation for its veterinary degree, and many of its veterinary alumni – people like United States-based equine academics, surgeon Professor Wayne McIlwraith and virologist James Maclachlan – are regarded as pioneers within their fields.

Ahead lies a \$75 million expansion and refurbishment, which will enable another 180 students to join the roll.

The vet school also brought something special to Massey's DNA. Taught in a pressure-cooker environment and exposed to life in all its gloriously messy organic reality, the students established a work-hard, play-hard reputation. In the '60s and '70s, vet students were some of the

stalwarts of the Massey revues. The multitalented satirist, cartoonist and writer Tom Scott began his career as a vet student (before being gently advised that his talents might be better employed in other realms). Some members of the Hokowhitu community may remember the infamous 1984 hoax in which they were invited to bring dog and cat faecal samples to the vet clinic – some of the vet clinic staff certainly do. Even in today's more buttoned-down times that spirit lives on. The *Barely There* vet calendar instituted in 2006, showing tastefully unclad students in rural surroundings, has become an institution, with the proceeds going towards fun and philanthropy.

What happens to these young people after they leave Massey? All sorts of things. Massey's veterinarian alumni have become cabinet ministers (Labour's Peter Hodgson), CEOs (Chris Kelly of Landcorp), entrepreneurs (Sarah Kennedy of Healtheries), distinguished scientists (too many to mention) and authors, both fiction (Danielle Hawkins's recent debut novel *Dinner at Rose's* has charmed reviewers) and non-fiction (such as *Cock and Bull Stories* by Blenheim vets Peter Jerram and Peter Anderson).

There is a reason why reality TV so often features vets: they really do have better work stories. And, as the attendees at this year's July Jubilee Dinner here in Palmerston North are sure to discover, they also tell them better.

The jubilee is also a good time to think about how far the veterinary profession has come and where it is heading.

Scanning through the class photographs over the years is revealing. The first intake in 1964: 30 earnest-looking, clean-shaven young men sporting woollen jerseys and ties, and just two young women. A class from 1975: 40-or-so young men with wild hair and staunchly folded arms, not a tie to be seen, and this time a handful of women. A graduating class from 2010: beneath the tumble of thrown mortarboards, the mass of faces is almost entirely made up of young women. (The turnover year when women outnumbered men in the classes was 1984.)

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According to the Companion Animal Council, collectively New Zealanders spend upwards of \$1.5 billion on their pets annually.

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Massey maintains a tradition of turning out graduates who have a passion for working in large animal veterinary practices; however, unlike the members of the class of '64, most of these more recently qualified vets will not see their futures as tied to farming.

Perhaps they will work in companion animal practices, looking after the 1.4 million-or-so pet cats, 700,000 dogs and assorted birds and reptiles that enrich and console our lives.

According to the Companion Animal Council, collectively New Zealanders spend upwards of \$1.5 billion on their pets annually.

Perhaps they will work in equine practices, where surgeons employ arthroscopic techniques on their multi-\$100,000 charges.

They may choose to involve themselves in the conservation of New Zealand's unique and imperilled wildlife, whether it be in enforcing the biosecurity that

keeps our shores safe from introduced pests, predators and diseases, or in treating individual animals, as happens at Massey's Wildbase facility.

Or they may choose to work in the new space that has opened up at the intersection of human and animal health, for when you know that of the 1415 known human pathogens, 62 percent arose in animals, the division between the two makes little sense.

This 'One-Health' philosophy is the reason why Massey is now at work in Asia, in partnership with the World Bank, educating veterinary and medical professionals, creating the first line of defence against the next worldwide pandemic.

All of which is not to diminish the importance of the veterinary profession to New Zealand's agricultural prosperity. The Government's Economic Growth Agenda calls for a near trebling of the

real value of agri-food exports, from \$20 billion to \$58 billion. If this is to happen, enlisting the veterinary profession in the endeavour will be essential.

Partly this has to do with animal welfare, as a matter of both moral obligation and of economic self-interest. Well-cared-for animals are, by and large, more likely to be more productive, and the people we want to buy our premium products – those grass-fed cuts of meat, that gourmet ice cream – care about animal welfare.

But increasingly veterinarians will be seen as farm health advisors, with the 'health' of a farm embracing everything from economic performance and environmental sustainability to feed management, and product quality assurance.

Vets like these are members of the team that is building the new New Zealand: a place that is clean and green, kind and accountable, and vigorously prosperous. ■



In an act of extraordinary philanthropy, Palmerston North couple Kenneth and Elizabeth Powell have left more than \$1.2 million to the Massey University Foundation.

The two decided several years ago that they wanted upon their deaths to establish a fund to support the study of technology in engineering and health. Mr Powell, an engineer and specialist in aircraft maintenance, said at the time that as technology and health had been central to their lives they wanted to give young enthusiasts in their home city "an extra edge".

Mrs Powell was a registered nurse, who trained at Wellington Hospital and completed her training as a midwife at Palmerston North Hospital, where she worked as well as at the former Rostrata Maternity Home in the city. She died in October 2006, aged 96. Mr Powell, a World War II veteran who served in the Pacific as an instrument fitter with the Royal New Zealand Air Force, died in February this year, aged 88. The couple married in 1958.

 [foundation.massey.ac.nz](http://foundation.massey.ac.nz)

Talking points



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The age at which Whistler's mother sat for her famous portrait, a fact pointed out by Retirement Commissioner Diana Crossan when discussing how life expectancy and our views of ageing have changed.

It's Our Future - the new New Zealand Forum, December 2012



Dr Mervyn Hancock has been conferred with a Doctor of Literature (*honoris causa*) in recognition of his influence on the professionalisation of social work and his national contribution to social work education. The 86-year-old is regarded as the founder of the modern social work profession in New Zealand. Pictured: Dr Merv Hancock (third from left) with Professor Robyn Munford, Dr Kieran O'Donoghue and Professor Steve LaGrow from Massey's School of Health and Social Services.

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The place assigned New Zealand in a ranking of the best places to be born in 2013. The editors of *The Economist* ranked 80 countries, with Switzerland topping the list.

Daniel Franklin, It's Our Future - the new New Zealand Forum, December 2012



The 10 percent of profits donated from sales of the 2012 annual veterinary students' calendar to Wildbase, the New Zealand Wildlife Health Centre. The remainder of the profits from the 'tastefully raunchy' calendar subsidise a half-way celebration: a two-day visit to Taupo by third-year students to celebrate their degree midpoint.

[vetcalendar.co.nz](http://vetcalendar.co.nz)



Former Reserve Bank Governor Alan Bollard has been awarded a Doctor of Commerce (*honoris causa*) in recognition of his outstanding service to the nation in the field of economic policy. New Zealand Post Chairman and former deputy Prime Minister Sir Michael Cullen introduced Dr Bollard at the afternoon graduation ceremony in Palmerston North. Bollard, from Wellington, is a former Treasury Secretary, Commerce Commission Chairman and Institute of Economic Research Director. He stepped down as bank governor in September after a decade in the role, and now heads the secretariat of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, based in Singapore.

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The 2012 London Olympics medal-count ranking that Massey would have had if it were a country.

During a visit to the Manawatū campus, cyclist Simon van Velthooven displays the bronze medal he won in the London Olympics men's keirin. Van Velthooven, a Bachelor of Applied Science student, is now in Japan racing on the professional keirin circuit.



## Prime Minister's Science Prize winners

Distinguished Professor Paul Moughan and Professor Harjinder Singh have been jointly awarded the \$500,000 Prime Minister's Science Prize.

Singh specialises in food protein structures and how they interact in food systems; Moughan, in the breakdown and absorption of proteins by the digestive system and the resulting physiological benefits.

"It is a marriage made in heaven," Moughan told *The Dominion Post*. "Between us we cover the whole spectrum of food protein science."

Moughan's and Singh's work in food protein science is internationally recognised and has led to a number of commercial applications.

The two established and now co-direct the Riddet Institute, a Centre of Research Excellence

dedicated to food, nutrition and health sciences. They also drove the formation of Riddet Foodlink, as part of which 90 companies are collaborating with the institute in research and intellectual property commercialisation initiatives.

Singh says he and Moughan plan to use \$400,000 of the prize money, which is tagged for ongoing research, to commercialise discoveries made at the institute. "We have a lot of bright minds that come up with really good ideas," he says. "The prize money will allow us to screen those ideas and take the most promising through to the next stage."

New Zealand's annual agri-food exports currently amount to \$20 billion. The Government's Economic Growth Agenda calls for the real value of our agri-food exports to reach \$58 billion by 2025.



Left to right: Vice-Chancellor Steve Maharey, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Robert Anderson, Prime Minister John Key, Professor Paul Moughan, Mrs Anne Singh on behalf of Professor Harjinder Singh and Minister for Science and Innovation Steven Joyce.



Professor Paul McDonald is the inaugural head of the university's new College of Health. McDonald, 55, was previously Director of the School of Public Health and Health Systems at the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada. He is known for his work in population health planning and in health interventions such as reducing tobacco use. He took up his position as Pro Vice-Chancellor in March 2013.



London Paralympian gold medalist and world record breaker Mary Fisher is back to the books on Massey's Wellington campus. But first, there was a celebratory afternoon tea with a cake baked and iced for the occasion. The gold medal Fisher won for the S11 200-metre individual medley in a world-record-breaking time was a particular audience pleaser. Fisher, who is visually impaired, also won two silver and a bronze medal in the swimming events. Fisher is in her first year of a Bachelor of Science majoring in psychology.



College of Health heads of school with Health Minister Tony Ryall and Vice-Chancellor Steve Maharey. From left, Associate Professor Annette Huntington (School of Nursing), Professor Steve La Grow (School of Health and Social Services), Professor Emeritus Sir Mason Durie, Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic and International) and College of Health Acting Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Ingrid Day, Mr Ryall, Mr Maharey, Professor Jeroen Douwes (Centre for Public Health), Professor Richard Archer (Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health), Professor Steve Stannard (School of Sport and Exercise) and College of Sciences Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Robert Anderson.

## College of Health launches

Massey now has a College of Health. Launched in February 2013, the new college has 310 full-time staff and 2000 students and brings together specialists from public health, Māori and Pasifika health, sport and exercise, rehabilitation, nursing, social work and social policy, food and nutrition, occupational health and medical laboratory science.

## Good eating

In September 2012 the cream of New Zealand's food industry gathered at a gala dinner in Auckland to mark the 2012 New Zealand Food Awards. Among the companies and products honoured this year were Auckland-based Paneton Bakery with its Ready to Use Flaky Puff Pastry, which took out the Massey University Supreme Award and the Ministry for Primary Industries Bakery Award; South Island artisan honey maker J.Friend and Co, which won the New Zealand Herald Viva Gourmet Award and the KPMG Export Award; and fledgling food enterprise I AM SAUCE, which won the Villa Maria Other Food and Beverage Award and the Foodbowl Value-Added Processing Technology Award. The panel of judges included Ray McVinnie, Geoff Scott and Nici Wickes.

For a full list of award winners visit [foodawards.co.nz](http://foodawards.co.nz).







## Flexible design: a new building opens

With a surprise cascade of foil confetti in Massey blue and gold, the ceremonies marking the opening of the new College of Creative Arts building on the Wellington campus came to a close. Doing the honours at the June 2012 occasion was the college's most celebrated alumnus, New Zealander of the Year Sir Richard Taylor, who placed a specially designed time capsule in the building's foundations, with both his partner, Tania Rodger, and his father, Norman Taylor, proudly watching.

The new building, completed under budget, employs massive timber framing tensioned using steel cables; a world-first innovation that allows it to flex, sway and right itself in the event of an earthquake.

Associate Professor Claire Robinson, the college's Pro Vice-Chancellor, thanked mana whenua (Tenths Trust, Te Ātiawa and Taranaki Whānui) for their gift of the name of the building Te Ara Hihiko. And she paid tribute to the design and construction team, notably Athfield Architects, Dunning Thornton Consultants (engineering) and Arrow International (project management).

Above left: Massey Wellington Students' Association President Ben Thorpe, who compèred the opening, presents a gift to Sir Richard Taylor while College of Creative Arts Pro Vice-Chancellor Claire Robinson applauds. Inset image: Stills from a video by students Leo Chida, Nikko Hull and Ly Nguyen using a push-puppet analogy to show how the building flexes. Their video can be seen at [definingnz.com/cocobot](http://definingnz.com/cocobot).

Rise from the Ruins, a garment constructed from paint tin lids collected in post-earthquake Christchurch, has won 24-year-old third-year fashion design student Nicole Linnell the Shell Student Innovation Award at the 2012 Brancott Estate World of WearableArt Awards Show (WOW).

Linnell has earned her success. Rise from the Ruins was her fourth entry in WOW (in 2011 her entry Proud to Wear the Pinny picked up third place in the American Express Open section), and she deliberately chose the lids as a difficult-to-work-with medium.

Other Masseyites who acquitted themselves with distinction were fashion design graduate Rebecca Maxwell and fourth-year student Sally Spackman, both first-time entrants.

Maxwell won the WOW Factor Award for Noor Reverie and Spackman was placed third in the Air New Zealand South Pacific section for Powelliphanta Pine.

Linnell's win brought with it an award of \$5000, as did Maxwell's. Spackman received \$1200.



## Campus wide

### Hallmarked

A New Zealander who now helps to lead Nike's footwear design, an Arts Foundation Laureate, and one of the country's most prolific artist-sculptors have been inducted into Massey's College of Creative Arts.



Julia Morison works in a variety of media including painting, photography, sculpture and installation. Her works have been extensively exhibited here and overseas.



Guy Ngan, now aged 86, is responsible for numerous public artworks as well as a large body of sculpture, design, painting, drawing, interior architecture and printmaking produced in a career that has spanned almost 70 years so far.



Matt Holmes is Creative Director of Innovation with Global Footwear at Nike.



**Jadon Calvert** is saving lives, one toilet at a time. In 2011, the Papua New Guinea-born Massey industrial design student visited the country of his birth. After a local flight from Port Moresby to Baimuru the Gulf Province, he travelled 10 hours by canoe to meet villagers, aid workers and staff in a remote hospital where water-borne diseases, such as typhoid, cholera and amoebic dysentery, kill far too many people. Calvert wanted to "do something" as part of his final-year design project. He has: this year 200 of Calvert's ISY Toilets will be constructed and installed in Papua New Guinea.



### It's fab and it's a lab

Australasia's first Fab Lab is open for business and busily fabricating. The lab was opened during Fab8NZ (the eighth annual meeting of the international Fab Lab network), an event hosted by Massey and MIT (the Massachusetts Institute of Technology).

Fab Labs began as an outreach project from MIT's Center for Bits and Atoms in 2003, and the Massey Fab Lab is officially MIT-affiliated – meaning that it adheres to a common set of operating principles and offers a standard range of equipment, including laser cutters, milling machines and 3D printers.

Industrial design lecturer Chris Jackson hopes the lab will be a catalyst, giving individuals and small firms access to technology and promoting multidisciplinary and cross-industry links.

Fab Lab Wellington will be open for use by the general public during designated hours and will be the venue for industrial design workshops.

At left: A hoverboard from the Fab Lab competes in a flying machine competition at the close of Fab8NZ. Below: The Fab Lab itself, with industrial design lecturer Lyn Garrett.



## The road to Rome

In 2012 a motorcycle made of clay took 20-year-old Wellington design student Sam McCafferty to Italy to intern with Honda – and he is still there.

Honda's Research & Development Department had challenged Massey's design students to come up with a motorcycle that would appeal to people their age. Of the 24 designs submitted, three were developed further and one – McCafferty's design – was then taken by a creative team of students and staff and made into a life-sized form.

McCafferty's design was based on research into how Generation Z views motorbikes. "Gen Z did not want a small-engine bike that looked like a larger superbike – that could be seen as trying too hard – but it still wanted something that stood out. The hype around the Vespa and fixed-gear bicycle runs off this idea as well; Gen Z relates well to them because they have an individualised, and sometimes personalised, aesthetic."

The motorbike model was designed to make the rider feel secure. "A bulky body in front of the rider implies safety and solidity and adds a presence to the bike when it is on the road. The rider feels more confident and the bike can be seen more easily by other vehicles."



During Sam McCafferty's initial three-month internship he worked in a small side studio, contributing to several concept bikes.

This year he is back with Honda for another five months, spending more time in the main studio: "It's a wide open space, all white. Having so many good designers

in one area inspires you to be much better yourself, and it's much easier to ask advice and bounce ideas off people. There are motorbike models all over the place, an old full-size Honda motorbike in perfect condition, and some famous design objects from people like Starck and Alessi. Plus all the design gear we could need."



The LA Brooks Cup has a long history. The rugby fixture between Massey and Lincoln Universities began in 1952, when both institutions were rival agricultural colleges and, following a 39-year hiatus after 1966, the event is again going strong, with netball joining rugby as part of the inter-university competition.

The 2012 results? In the rugby Massey managed an 11-7 win, its third since 2005. In the netball the Massey agriculture team won 36-34, pulling ahead in extra time, winning the inaugural Enid Hills Memorial Trophy, donated by the family of Enid Hills, Massey's first female student, who died in June 2012, aged 99.



For Storm Uru, 2012 was a year to remember. First the rower took bronze at the Olympics, then in November he graduated with a Masterate at a graduation ceremony in Palmerston North.

Even while training for the Olympics he had been pursuing his studies.

"It was a difficult process, and it wouldn't have been possible without the support of Massey staff who were always great," Uru says. "I'm very pleased I completed it and I think the harder something is, the greater the satisfaction you get out of it."

Uru intends to pursue a six-month contract working as a trader for BNZ and then, if all goes to plan, he will head to Cambridge University to study towards an MBA.



## Introducing Wildbase

The birds, reptiles and mammals in its wards will be none the wiser, but Massey University's 10-year-old New Zealand Wildlife Health Centre now has a new name: Wildbase. Nationally, Wildbase is known for its work with injured and sick native and endemic species. Internationally, it commands a reputation for its expertise in the rehabilitation and release of birds and marine mammals caught in oil spills. Wildbase staff led the wildlife response to 2011's *Rena* shipwreck in Bay of Plenty. Wildbase plans to partner with the Palmerston North City Council to build a wildlife rehabilitation centre on Victoria Esplanade, giving the public the opportunity to witness its staff at work and to come to a greater appreciation of New Zealand's extraordinary wildlife.

 [wildbase.massey.ac.nz](http://wildbase.massey.ac.nz)

# FOSTERING RESEARCH EXCELLENCE FOR THE NEW NEW ZEALAND.

Massey University research focuses on solutions to the big issues that challenge the world. It is research that supports and drives the new New Zealand because in Massey's key areas of strength – which are New Zealand's key strengths – it has more internationally ranked researchers than any other university.

## HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Massey's research is focused on nurturing healthy living, addressing questions around food and nutrition, lifestyle dynamics, modern health care provision and indigenous health. Our School of Nursing, part of our new College of Health, is ranked #1 in New Zealand. Researchers in fields ranging from sport science to social work and social policy, food technology, public health and business, support this focus.

## AGRICULTURE AND VETERINARY SCIENCE

For more than 80 years Massey has been the university of choice for the research and teaching that enabled New Zealand to lead the world in agri-food business and everything related to it: farming, food production, animal welfare, ecology, epidemiology and soil science. Our unique expertise in veterinary and animal health research is unparalleled in New Zealand. World-class research in physics and chemistry also supports this area.

## DESIGN FOR CULTURE, COMMUNITY AND COMMERCE

Massey design and visual arts researchers work with businesses to understand New Zealand's constantly changing cultural landscape in order to enhance our communities and create economic value. Our researchers are developing world-beating products, as well as creating new tools for commerce, community planning, disaster relief, an ageing population, and sustainable design.

## PEOPLE-FOCUSED

Massey researchers are exploring the impact of a changing world on our daily lives and considering such issues as how we do business, the power of digital architecture, health and ageing, population demographics and immigration, and the impact of climate change, to help us understand how the new New Zealand will shape our lives in the 21st century.

At Massey we have the determination, focus and passion to find solutions. What drives us is our capacity to define the future of our nation, and to take what is special about New Zealand to the world.

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT MASSEY'S RESEARCH PROGRAMMES AND THE NEW NEW ZEALAND, VISIT [MASSEY.AC.NZ/RESEARCH](http://MASSEY.AC.NZ/RESEARCH)



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● ANNE NOBLE  
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FINE ARTS (PHOTOGRAPHY)



● PAUL MOUGHAN  
AND HARJINDER SINGH  
DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS  
ADVANCED FOODS



● PAUL SPOONLEY  
DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR  
SOCIOLOGIST OF NEW ZEALAND'S FUTURE



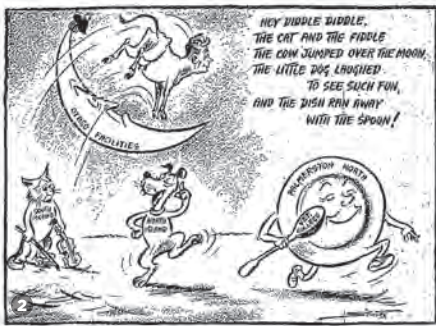
● JEROEN DOUWES  
PROFESSOR - PUBLIC HEALTH



# Veterinary education at Massey 1963 to 2013



Professor Frazer Allan writes.



It was a school holiday job that decided my career. I was working on a Waihi Beach dairy farm, and the idea of being a dairy vet had an irresistible appeal.

This was what took me to Massey's veterinary school in 1984. I went on to become a proud graduate of Massey's 25th class of vets in 1988, though in the meantime I had gravitated towards working with companion animals. Later, after working in Christchurch and Hamilton, I would return to Massey to complete Masterate and Doctoral degrees; my wife Rebecca, a qualified nurse, would undertake a BVSc; and, after another stint in private practice, I would become Director of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital in 2004 and head of the Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences in 2009.

I have never regretted my choice of career. From the very first, I found that the veterinary community, students and graduates alike, was full of extraordinarily

gifted and supportive individuals, all of them passionate about the profession.

At Massey I have seen veterinary education go from strength to strength. In particular the decision to locate veterinary studies within the Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences in 1998 has paid dividends. Veterinary and animal science are strongly complementary, and Massey's veterinary graduates are the better for the co-location, receiving a solid grounding in production animal practice that is standing them and New Zealand's agricultural prosperity in good stead.

Good things lie ahead. A more student-centred curriculum is to be rolled out this year, a major refurbishment of the veterinary school facilities is in its planning stage, and the university is fundraising for a new hospital to house New Zealand's leading wildlife health centre, Wildbase.

The best part of Massey's veterinary education timeline lies ahead.

## 1904

The University of Otago proposes establishing a vet school alongside its medical school, but it doesn't open until 1907 due to funding issues. However, there are no enrolments and the short-lived vet school closes the same year.

## 1952

Australian universities, facing increasing demand from their own students, can no longer guarantee the acceptance of Kiwi vet students. The New Zealand Veterinary Association and Veterinary Services Council (which superseded the Veterinary Services Committee) continue to call for a vet school.

## 1960

The Government agrees to a vet school and establishes a committee to choose a site. The contenders are: MAC; the University of Auckland on a satellite campus in Waikato; Lincoln Agricultural College in association with the University of Canterbury; and the University of Otago at the disused Taieri Airforce Station.

## 1962

The Council of Massey College appoints Ira Cunningham as foundation Dean. Dr Cunningham embarks on a 4.5-month tour of overseas vet schools to study curricula, staffing, buildings and finance. The Faculty of Veterinary Science opens on 1 May with orientation towards livestock. The inaugural faculty meeting is held on 31 October.

## 1963

The first intake of 51 students is admitted to vet science intermediate year. Teaching begins in World War II army mess huts and Bernard Chambers Clinic, which had been built to provide vet services to Massey farms.

## 1964

Thirty-two students, including two women, are selected for second-year vet science classes.

## 1904

### 1943

The Government sets up a Veterinary Services Committee to report to the Ministry of Agriculture on New Zealand's vet shortage. Its suggestion to set up a vet school is rejected in favour of importing United Kingdom vets and sending Kiwis to train in Sydney and Brisbane.

### 1954

The Senate of the University of New Zealand, representing the country's four universities and two agricultural colleges, recommends to the Department of Education that a vet school be established in New Zealand, preferably at Massey Agricultural College (MAC).

## 1960

### 1961

The Government awards the vet school to Massey despite stiff competition from Otago.

## 1963

### 1963

Preparations begin for the first student intake. Staff are appointed, including chairs of the three departments: Veterinary Biology (Donald Titchen); Animal Health (Maurice Lancaster); and Veterinary Clinical Services (Des Fielden).

### 1964

Work begins on permanent buildings.

### 1965

Clinical services begin. Large animal patients come from Massey farms and Rongotea Veterinary Club.



1. Students on a herd-testing course, MAC, 1929. MAC taught animal physiology and health to agricultural students. 2. Cartoonist Sid Scales' take on Massey winning the bid for the vet school. *Otago Daily Times*. 3. First intake of vet students, 1964. 4. Alan Alexander, Kiwi vet number one. 5. Vet clinic with lake and boiler house, 1968. 6. Vet students, 1964. 7. Vets with tiger, 1960s.

## 1967

The first edition of the Massey University Veterinary Students' Association's (MUVASA's) *Ihenga* magazine is published.

## 1968

The first stage of a single-storey building is completed and opened by Governor-General Sir Arthur Porritt.

## 1968

The first 21 vets graduate, including one woman.

## 1969

The first postgraduates graduate.

## 1970

The Duke of Edinburgh visits.

## 1972

Bill Pryor is appointed Dean.

## 1973

The student number increases to 60.

## 1974

Examiners from the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS), London, visit to appraise teaching standards.

## 1975

RCVS cements the Faculty of Veterinary Science's academic reputation by validating the BVSc programme. This gives Massey graduates automatic registration in RCVS and the right to work in the UK.

## 1978

The first Code for Ethical Research on Animals is drawn up.

## 1979

The horse-handling facility is completed, addressing animal welfare concerns and staff health and safety issues.

## 1980

Des Fielden is appointed Dean.

## 1980

Taking their cue from overseas vet schools, students celebrate Massey's first Halfway Day (the mid-way point of the degree).

## 1984

Lady and Sir David Beattie, the Governor-General, visit.

## 1984

Halfway Day celebrations get out of hand after students circulate a hoax notification to householders in Hokowhitu, asking them to bring faecal samples from their dogs and cats to the vet clinic. Halfway Day is officially cancelled for 1985, although students celebrate anyway.

## 1985

The Centre for Veterinary Continuing Education established.

## 1986

The Equine Blood Typing and Research Centre is established as a joint venture between Massey and NZ Racing Conference, to provide a blood-typing service for the thoroughbred industry.

## 1988

The Faculty of Veterinary Science celebrates its 25th Jubilee with a conference on advances in vet science, and a graduation in November instead of the traditional May.

## 1980s

Computer technology introduced to teaching.

# 1970

## 1970

Ira Cunningham retires, and dies in 1971. Bill Manktelow is appointed Acting Dean.

## 1971

The vet tower is completed, including the Ira Cunningham Lecture Theatre. Most vet students become all too familiar with ICLT.

## 1976

Bill Pryor retires.

## 1978

RF Riek is appointed Dean but resigns the same year due to the ill health of a family member. Bill Manktelow is again appointed Acting Dean.

# 1980

## 1981

Curriculum changes mean fifth-year students no longer have to produce a major essay.

## 1984

Women students outnumber men for the first time. In a "bathroom changeover", the female amenities become the male and vice versa.

## 1986

The Animal Health Services Centre is established to improve links between animal health industries and the vet faculty. Massey buys Jennersmead, Glaxo's animal health research farm at Bunnythorpe, to develop facilities for testing animal health products.

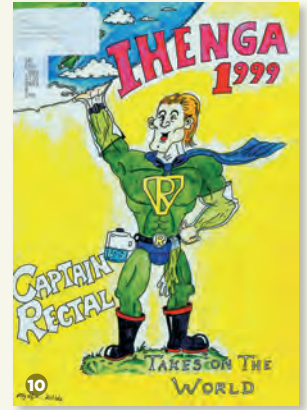
# 1990

## 1990

Des Fielden retires. Peter Stockdale is appointed Dean.

## 1992

The Best Friend Feline Nutritional Research Unit is established to research the nutritional requirements of cats. It later becomes the Centre for Feline Nutrition.



8. Boyd Jones with pug puppies. 9. Students celebrate the first Halfway Day in 1980. 10. MUVSA's *Ihenga* magazine, first published in 1967. 11. Vet sciences building, 1974. 12. Roger Morris and students using early computers.

**1993**  
Prof Stockdale and students successfully campaign against a Government proposal to increase fees from \$1700 to \$4100 a year and reduce the student allowance term from five years to three.

**1994**  
A Ministry of Education inquiry concludes that funding given to the university for vet science students is inadequate, and recommends a substantial increase, which comes into effect in 1997.

**1995**  
A two-year Diploma in Veterinary Nursing is offered in conjunction with Manawatu Polytechnic. Twenty students, all female, enrol in the first course.

**1996**  
The Faculty of Veterinary Sciences is accredited by the Australasian Veterinary Schools Accreditation Committee and the European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education.

**1996**  
Jessie the German wire-haired pointer becomes the first dog in New Zealand to receive a pacemaker at the Small Animal Clinic, in a pioneering operation.

**1998**  
Veterinary, animal and medical laboratory sciences are brought together as the Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences (IVABS) following a College of Sciences restructure.

**1998**  
Grant Guilford is appointed the first Head of IVABS and becomes the first Massey vet graduate to be appointed head of veterinary education.

**1999**  
Richard Norman is employed to run the Oiled Wildlife Response Unit in conjunction with the Maritime Safety Authority (now Maritime New Zealand).

**1999**  
Special topics are introduced for final-year students.

**2003**  
Massey opens New Zealand's only equine high-performance centre.

**2003**  
The Small Animal Clinic is upgraded and extended; a new reception is installed in the vet clinic. The building is a regional finalist in the Innovate NZ 2004 Awards.

**2006**  
Ian Dacre performs New Zealand's first equine root canal.

## 2000

**1994**  
The Large Animal Teaching Unit opens in Turitea Valley, with 40 hectares of grazing land and animal-handling facilities.

**1995**  
The semester system is introduced at Massey. Vet students are now selected in the middle rather than at the end of the first year.

**1997**  
Peter Stockdale retires. Tony Charleston is appointed Interim Dean.

**1997**  
A treadmill for equine clinical and research work is installed.

**1998**  
The New Zealand Wildlife Health Centre is opened with Pdraig Duignan as Director.

**1998**  
The EpiCentre is established.

**1998**  
The Animal Welfare Science and Bioethics Centre is founded.

**2002**  
A wildlife ward opens at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital; Brett Gartrell is employed as the first clinical wildlife vet.

**2002**  
Massey's vet school becomes the first Southern-Hemisphere education provider to be accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

**2006**  
Students produce the *Barely There* calendar as a fundraiser for Halfway Day, now a celebratory trip away rather than a day of drinking and pranks in Palmerston North. The calendar, showing discreetly covered naked students in vet-related poses, attracts much media attention and starts a vet school institution.





13



14



15



16



17

13. John Cockrem with emperor penguin in Antarctica. *Manawatu Standard*. 14. A kiwi on a treadmill in the wildlife ward. *Manawatu Standard*. 15. Elwyn Firth and Hugh Blair with the CT scanner. 16. Peter Wilson and vet students. 17. Vet graduates, 2010.

► **2007**  
The Equine and Farm Services building is opened by the Minister of Agriculture Jim Anderton.

**2007**  
The Master of Veterinary Medicine, a distance-taught programme, commences.

► **2009**  
A state-of-the-art Computed Technology (CT) scanner is installed in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital in partnership with Landcorp. The facility costs \$1.1 million and the scanner is the only one in New Zealand. The first patient is Sydney, an eight-year-old gelding with a cyst in his foot.

► **2009**  
The Master of Veterinary Medicine programme is opened to international students and has its first international enrolment.

**2010**  
The World Bank chooses Massey as its partner for an international education programme to train Asian public health specialists and vets to counter global epidemics such as avian influenza, SARS and AIDS.

► **2012**  
Massey announces a \$75 million upgrade and expansion of IVABS to increase student capacity from 100 to 140 per year. It includes an extensive redevelopment of the vet tower, vet hospital, pathology facilities and teaching and research spaces.

► **2012**  
The Infectious Research Disease Centre is launched to help combat infectious diseases that pose a threat to health, biosecurity and trade.

**2012**  
The New Zealand Wildlife Health Centre is rebranded as Wildbase.

## 2010

**2008**  
New Zealand suffers a vet shortage, particularly in rural areas. A new Bachelor of Veterinary Technology degree is introduced to increase rural technical expertise.

**2009**  
The Government introduces a bonding scheme for graduates who stay in rural practice for five years.

**2009**  
Frazer Allan, Director of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, is appointed Head of IVABS after Grant Guilford leaves.

**2010**  
The first cohort of Master of Veterinary Medicine students graduates.

**2011**  
A veterinary Emergency Response Team is formed and travels to Christchurch to care for animals affected by the earthquakes.

**2012**  
The Oiled Wildlife Response team sets up a facility at Tauranga to treat oiled wildlife when the *Rena* runs aground, in New Zealand's worst maritime environmental disaster.

## 2013

**2012**  
Camilla, the Duchess of Cornwall, visits the vet school.

**2013**  
The institute celebrates 50 years of veterinary education.

# Going the distance



**Liz Norman** is a senior lecturer in companion animal health, programme director of the Master of Veterinary Medicine (MVM) and a Tertiary Teaching Excellence award winner.

She talks to **Josie Brennan**.

**JB Why did you become a vet?**

**LN** For all the wrong reasons! I think it was the city girl in me wanting to live a country life and work with animals. As it turns out, what I liked best about vet science was learning and problem-solving.

**How did you end up at Massey?**

It was a convoluted path. After qualifying I worked in clinics in Melbourne and the United Kingdom, and did my Masterate degree in Glasgow. When my husband got a job at Massey I came with him, joining the Manawatū campus myself as a lecturer in 2001. And yes, just as in my childhood dreams, we live, if not in the countryside, very close to it.

**You have a special interest in small animal endocrinology. Can you explain the attraction?**

Endocrinology involves conditions such as diabetes and thyroid conditions. They are complex conditions that require a lot of thought. Looking after dogs and cats with endocrine conditions takes you back to physiological and metabolic principles. Another attraction, oddly enough, is that these are often long-term cases, so you get to develop relationships with owners. It's nice when you can really help.

**What do you enjoy most about teaching?**

Seeing the difference it makes to people's lives. I like to think of it as going beyond the textbook – giving the students the confidence to make decisions, so that when that complicated case comes through the door, they are eager to take up the challenge. Often students come back to us and say how much more they are enjoying their jobs.

## THE MASTER OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Delivered by distance, the **Master of Veterinary Medicine** provides continuing education for practising veterinarians. Established in 2007 with 13 New Zealand students on the roll, today the MVM has more than 150 students and the 8–10 papers it offers annually are sometimes oversubscribed. MVM students hail from countries as far afield as the US, UK, Australia, Hong Kong, Singapore, Canada, Mauritius and Africa.

**[mvm.massey.ac.nz](http://mvm.massey.ac.nz)**

### What excites you about distance online learning?

Distance online learning is going through a step change: it is putting education within the reach of anyone with the time and the motivation who has access to a computer and an internet connection. This is transformational. If you live in a developing nation, or you are working or raising a family, or you live in an area remote from traditional education providers, the developments taking place right now could change your life.

UNESCO has acknowledged the potential for learning and self-empowerment by publicly backing the open licensing of all educational materials produced with public funds, and another expression of the rise of distance online learning is the proliferation of consortia offering Massive Open Online Courses, or MOOCs.

But not all online learning experiences are equal. In the end, the quality of the teaching and interaction with students will determine which offerings survive.

### Where do you think the appeal of the MVM lies?

Being in veterinary practice can be quite a solitary experience – and even if you are working with other vets, they won't always share your interests. So entering a virtual room and engaging with people who feel as you do can be very inspirational. As lecturers, part of what we do is encourage the students to interact with one another and share their stories. A good teacher – and we have plenty of those – is one who can facilitate and encourage conversations.

### If you hadn't become a vet, what would you have been?

An astronomer. At school I was very keen on science in general and I loved astronomy and atomic physics. It was a big toss-up as to which to go for at university and I really didn't decide for sure until my final year at school. Turns out our furry and feathered friends are just as complex as the stuff of the universe. ■



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Research

# Calls of the wild

**In November of 2011, 25-year-old conservation biology Masterate student Jonathan Cope travelled to Shaanxi province to study the vocalisations of golden snub-nosed monkeys, a field untouched by English-language researchers for four decades. He talks to Andrea O'Neil.**

Photo by Jonathan Cope.



Visiting China for the first time usually involves some rough patches. Even so, Jonathan Cope's first patch was rougher than most.

Cope's fieldwork started badly when his luggage was lost for three days en route to the city of Xi'an. Then, on his first day in monkey territory in the Qinling Mountains, he slipped.

"When it happened we were trying to get down from the mountain, a thunderstorm was brewing, and the rocks were extremely slippery in the wind," he says.

He had broken an ankle and would spend two months recovering. "I was laid up in a bed in the mountains, looked after by a local doctor who gave me herbal medicine."

The accident was a setback. Cope managed a couple of days' recording in the mountains after his recuperation, before moving on to an eco-tourism region in southern Shaanxi and then on to a zoo to study the monkeys in captivity.

Cope's research project came about by chance. It was while volunteering with Massey students on a Ponui Island kiwi conservation project that Cope, then a University of Auckland undergraduate, met his future supervisor, Chinese-born Weihong Ji.

Working in conjunction with Chinese researchers, Ji had been studying golden snub-nosed monkeys for many years, and she and Cope hit it off.

So when Ji obtained funding from the Shaanxi Sciences and Technology Foundation to bring in postgraduate students to work on these monkeys, she recruited Cope to work on their vocalisations.

He had scored a more exotic location for his fieldwork than any of his fellow Masterate students. "I'm very lucky."

Golden snub-nosed monkeys are found only in a small area in the temperate, mountainous forests of central and southwest China, and the species is considered a national treasure.

But the felling of their native forests for firewood and building timber has put them on the endangered list.

"They've got the same status as panda," Cope says. "They're threatened by hunting, by habitat loss and by permanent barriers like roads and towns that prevent genetic migration through the larger population and cause inbreeding."

Cope hopes to discover whether monkeys that have been held captive in zoo breeding programmes or have been in regular contact with humans through eco-tourism exhibit anomalous language patterns. If so, this could have implications for their reintegration with wild populations.

"If you're supplementing the population with individuals that have lost key charismatic sounds that only their population would have used, you're losing cultural and behavioural diversity," he says. "It could mean that languages or behaviours are lost. They're just not passed on any more."

Until he began work with Ji, Cope had never studied animal vocalisations or heard of golden snub-nosed monkeys.

"The only prior experience I can claim is trying to mimic monkey noises when I was a kid growing up in South Africa," he says.

Most of the animal vocalisation research literature features birds, says Cope, but primate vocalisations have been a topic of interest for anthropocentric reasons.

"[People have] been interested in primate vocalisations for many, many years because of trying to understand the origins of our language."

The only existing English-language research on snub-nosed monkey vocalisations dates back to the 1970s and was carried out in US zoos.

Cope's fieldwork involved hundreds of hours painstakingly making audio recordings of monkey vocalisations and noting down the corresponding behaviours.

Back in New Zealand, he is finding distinct calls emerging from the data: contact calls, which allow a group of monkeys to keep tabs on each other's whereabouts when foraging or on the move; alarm and warning calls; questioning calls; and stress calls.

Cope has discovered a call unrecorded in the literature, made when the monkeys embrace one another. Cuddling is a trait unique to golden snub-nosed monkeys – they hug not just for warmth, but to soothe and socialise. "They embrace each other a lot, it's the major part of their social dynamic, more so than in any other species," Cope says. "Other species won't embrace and welcome each other, or reaffirm social bonds. These guys do it to end fights and it's as important

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"They embrace each other a lot, it's the major part of their social dynamic, more so than in any other species."

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as grooming would be for other primates.” When the monkeys hug they let out a series of high-pitched squeaks, the equivalent of a human’s “mmm” snuggling sound, he says.

In the face of such adorable animals, what could Cope do but fall in love? “They are the calmest, most gentle, beautiful monkeys in the world. They really are probably the most gentle of the primates. They’re really, really, really lovely.”

Cope was almost accepted as a member of the troupes he studied, he says, becoming especially close with a male he called Nose-less. “We would sun ourselves on

this big rock because it was approaching winter, and we would just lie there next to each other. He was my friend, I liked him.”

Another significant monkey call that Cope recorded is a wistful sigh given by male monkeys. In the wild, such sighs are like a quieter contact call – the call made by a male to reassure nearby females of his presence, Cope says. But males in the

zoo gave the sigh constantly, despite a lack of female companions. “The captive population that I studied seemed to have gone a bit further with their sigh. They give what we now call a ‘quiet sigh’. It’s almost inaudible and they give it pretty much constantly. It may be to do with lack of stimulation,” Cope says.

Similarly, in the eco-tourism region he found that the effects of human contact were showing up in his

recordings. “In the eco-tourism region, the population exhibits a significantly higher rate of alarm calls and stress calls.”

Supported by a local fund and working alongside a local expert, one of Ji’s doctoral students, Brigitte Kreigenhofer, is working with the tourism operators to ameliorate the causes of stress.

“If the tourism operators understand how to improve the welfare of the monkeys, it will be good for everyone. The monkeys will be happier, and the operators will be able to run more successful businesses,” says Cope.

Cope finishes his research next autumn, and while he has yet to draw definitive conclusions from his data, he is already discovering things that are new to the English-language literature.

“In the research I read, they were in captivity and it was only done over a very short period, like a matter of hours,” he says. “So the stuff I’ve got is very different from what they found.”

With his degree coming to a close in a few months, Cope faces some hard choices. He could continue on to a doctorate, but Cope would like to try his hand at natural history filmmaking.

Whatever he does, he firmly intends to revisit the golden snub-nosed monkeys of Shaanxi. “I miss them,” he says. “I would give anything to be there right now.”

“They are the calmest, most gentle, beautiful monkeys in the world.”



To view video footage and hear some of the golden snub-nosed monkey vocalisations compiled by Jonathan Cope, visit [definingnz.com](http://definingnz.com).



Massey researchers Brigitte Kreigenhofer, Dr Weihong Ji and Jonathan Cope in the Qinling Mountains.

# Life under pressure

Malcolm Wood writes.



It is heady territory for a postgraduate student: making sense of the origins of life itself. And the key to it all, explains Chris Lepper, holding it up for inspection, is this beige-coloured ceramic tube. Theoretically, inside its three-millimetre bore, the specimen tube can contain 250 times atmospheric pressure, the equivalent of burying the tube's contents deep within Earth's mantle, which is more than enough for what Lepper wants to do.

His interest, and that of his PhD supervisors, Professor Geoff Jameson, Associate Professor Bill Williams and Dr Pat Edwards, is in how the molecules crucial to life's origins behave at the lesser pressures found in the ocean depths.

What do we know about how life began? Earth itself is known to be about 4.5 billion years old, and the earliest evidence of life comes in the form of fossilised mats of cyanobacteria called stromatolites in Australia that are about 3.4 billion years old. But these cyanobacteria are biologically complex; the consensus is that life began much earlier, perhaps around 3.8 billion years ago, and that the crucial molecule in the construction kit – the one Professor Jameson terms the 'cantilever' – was DNA's near relative RNA.

As for where life began, one of the best candidates is in the deep sea around the

hot, mineral-rich waters spewing from hydrothermal vents. Here can be found the sort of primordial stew of sulphur, carbon dioxide, hydrogen and trace metals in which simple organic molecules could be in form. But that notion is not without its difficulties, says Edwards.

"A lot of people liked the idea that the origin of life was at the bottom of the sea by these black smokers, but then people said, 'Well it's too hot down there, things will tend to fall apart'. But we haven't looked at whether pressure might compensate by conferring some stability."

This, then, is the basis of Lepper's project: first to look at how the individual bases that make up RNA and DNA behave under conditions of extreme pressure and temperature; then to do the same thing with short sequences of bases; and finally to test RNA itself.

He will use Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR), a technique that involves pulsing the samples, which are held in the intense field created by supercooled electromagnets, with radiofrequency radiation.

Whatever the outcome, the result will be scientifically significant, but Edwards is in no doubt about the one that would create the most excitement.

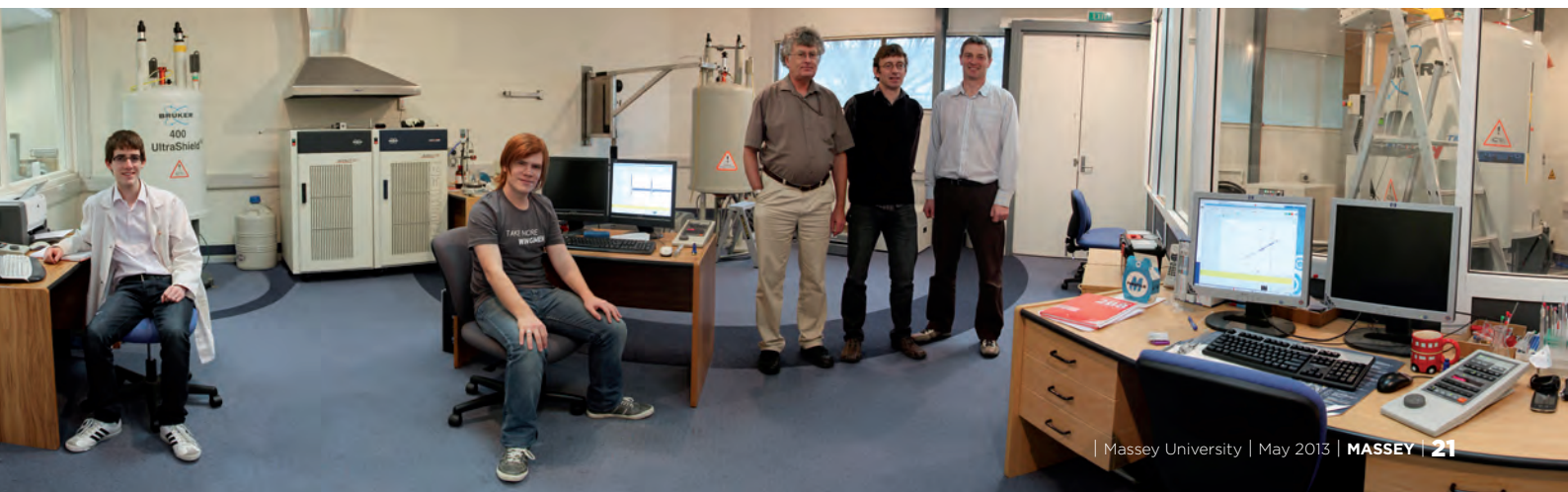
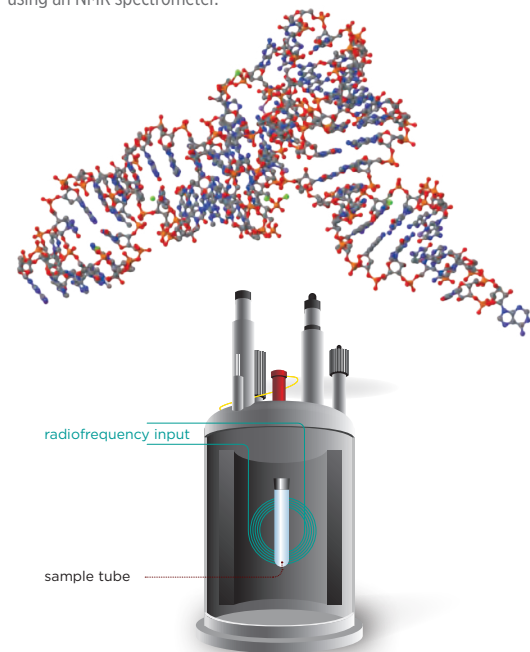
"The great thing would be if we found that the pressure did indeed confer greater stability." ■



Above left: The ceramic tube used to hold highly pressurised NMR samples.

Above: PhD student Chris Lepper standing alongside the set-up for pressurising NMR samples that he helped to design and build.

Below: A rendering of a cloverleaf RNA motif derived using an NMR spectrometer.



# Fields of gold

**Dr Chris Anderson** proposes to farm Indonesian mine tailings for gold, creating wealth for local communities and saving the environment from toxic run-off. He talks to Malcolm Wood.



*Manihot esculenta* - cassava

Coconut palms, white sand beaches, azure seas, surfbreaks and coral reefs, and behind it all the forested bulk of the volcanic Mount Rinjani. This is Lombok, the Indonesian island next along in the archipelago from Bali. In fact, some would say that Lombok is Bali as it once was. A Bali without the tourist hordes and rampant over-development. But this old Lombok is under threat. The culprit: mankind's hunger for gold.

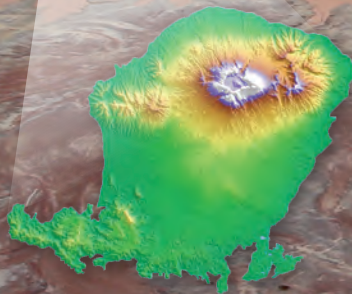
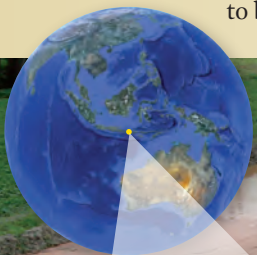
The evidence of the rush is everywhere, says Chris Anderson, a Manawatū-based senior lecturer in soil and earth sciences. On the hillsides, a sea of blue tarpaulins nestles among the greenery. Beneath each one, miners labour away in narrow, hand-hewn shafts and tunnels, filling their buckets with rocks, while outside porters heft the 25-kilogram sacks of ore down to the villages to be processed.

Gold has brought good things. Parents can afford to send their children to school, and leaky thatched huts are giving way to weatherproof concrete and corrugated-iron houses. But prosperity has come at a steep environmental price.

The problem lies in the same qualities that give gold its undimmed lustre. This is one of the least reactive solid chemical elements, which makes extracting and concentrating it difficult.

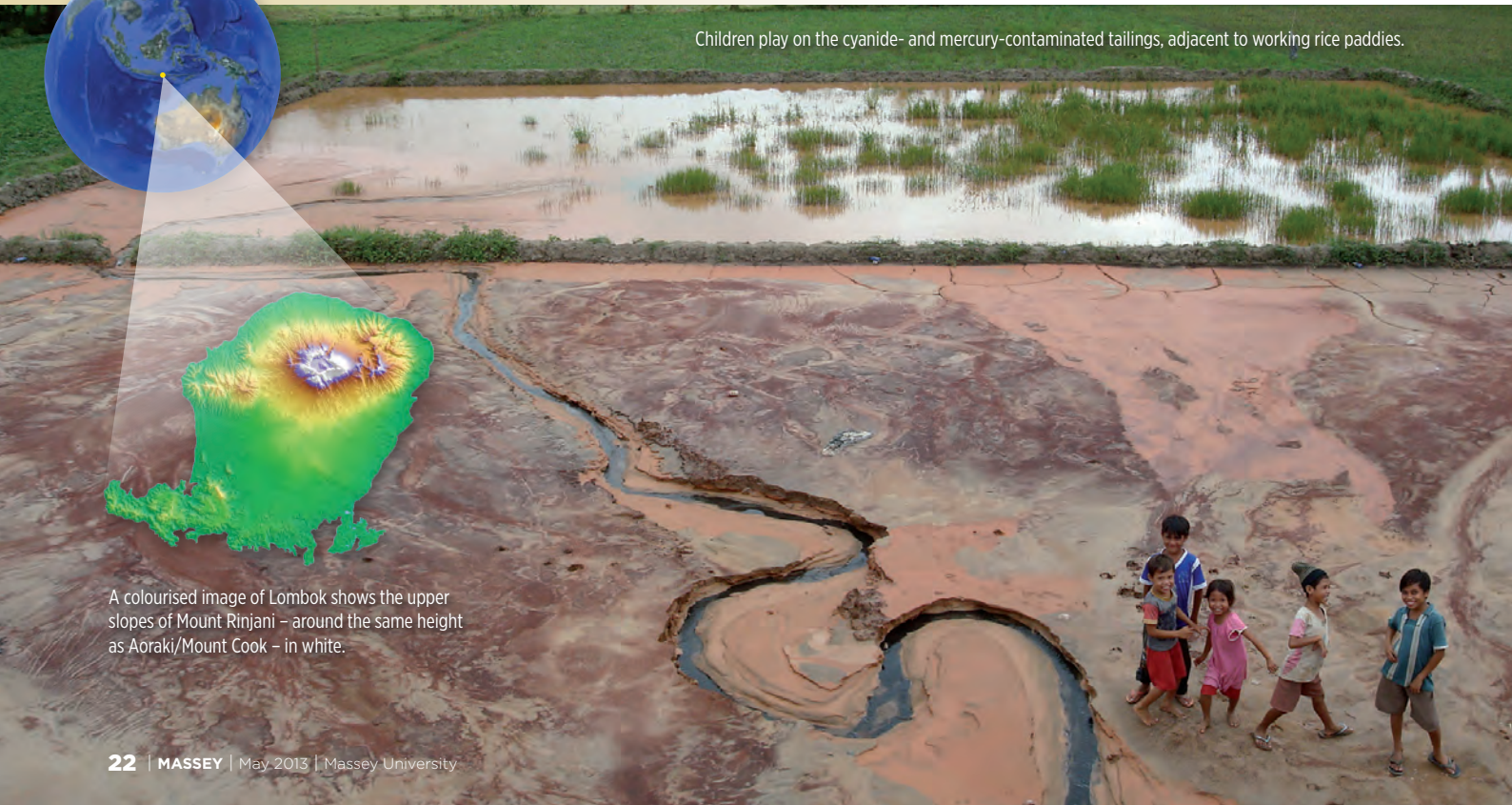
But fine gold particles can be collected by mercury to form an amalgam and gold will also dissolve in alkaline solutions of cyanide.

Dumps of mercury- and cyanide-contaminated tailings have become an environmental bane on Lombok. Below each dump site, a cyanide- and mercury-rich witch's brew discharges into nearby water courses and the water table, contaminating rice paddies and



A colourised image of Lombok shows the upper slopes of Mount Rinjani – around the same height as Aoraki/Mount Cook – in white.

Children play on the cyanide- and mercury-contaminated tailings, adjacent to working rice paddies.







Above from left: Cassava plants being used for experimental phytomining of arsenic-contaminated gold tailings in Fiji; one of Lombok's many mining encampments; breaking up the ore before it goes into the rod mills. Below: Dr Chris Anderson in the field gathering data about cyanide and mercury contamination.

turning streams and estuaries into dead zones. Coral bleaches. Sealife dies. Mercury enters the food chain with who knows what long-term effects.

Anderson brings up a picture on his computer. “These are tailings dumped in an old fish farm that connects to the sea. When we went back in January there were piles of dead shellfish.”

In paddy fields taking drainage from the cyanidation tailings ponds, mercury enters the harvest. “We have seen the worst methylmercury pollution of rice recorded in the world.”

Anderson believes he can help fix this.

Anderson did his PhD at Massey under the supervision of Professor Robert Brooks, who from the 1960s on had made his name exploring the unusually high uptake of metals by some plant species.

All plants take up metals, but Brooks had found that some take up huge amounts, far more than they would seem to need metabolically speaking. Hundreds of what Brooks called hyperaccumulator plants are now known. Most preferentially take up nickel, but others take up zinc, cadmium, arsenic, thallium, manganese, cobalt and copper.

Brooks and those who followed in his path could see the potential. Hyperaccumulator plants could be used in biogeochemical prospecting, as indicators for the favourable mineralisation of the underlying soils. They could be used to clean up unwanted elements from contaminated soils, a process called phytoremediation. They could even, given the right conditions, be used for phytomining: profitably harvesting minerals such as nickel from ore bodies too poor to warrant mining of the conventional kind.

But nickel is a low-value metal, coming in at under US\$8 per pound. What of gold, currently at US\$1660 per Troy ounce?

As Anderson helped to discover during the course of his PhD, gold can also be phytomined. During his second year, Anderson and his supervisors authored a paper in the journal *Nature* detailing how Indian mustard

(*Brassica juncea*) had been successfully employed to take up gold from crushed and cyanide-treated ore taken from the Waihi and Tui mines.

By Anderson’s calculations, the discarded mine tailings currently poisoning the soils and sea of Lombok could be profitably phytomined, with each hectare annually producing up to a kilogram of gold, worth more than US\$50,000 at today’s prices, plus hundreds of kilograms of mercury.

When farming the tailings no longer realises a return, Anderson proposes that they be stabilised with plantings of timbers such as teak.

In September 2012, Massey University, the University of Mataram and Brawijaya University launched the International Research Centre for the Management of Degraded and Mining Lands, which is based at Brawijaya University in Malang. ■



# Origins

Associate Professor **Murray Cox** is using genetic information to illuminate the perplexing human history of the island nation of Madagascar. Malcolm Wood writes.



**N**o record exists of what it was like for them, those first settlers, but a few things we can guess at. The sensation of sand beneath their feet. A splash of fresh water from a stream, to quench thirst and wash away the crusted salt. Perhaps there was a meal of shellfish up in the dunes, and fireside talk about the events of the voyage and the prospects for making a new life among unfamiliar terrain, vegetation and wildlife. For Madagascar, the world's fourth largest island, was a place in which now-extinct pigmy hippopotamuses, elephant birds and giant lemurs thrived. So far, so speculative.

Murray Cox can be more definite. He knows within a whisker of statistical doubt that Madagascar's first settlers arrived about 1200 years ago – late in the history of the settlement of the world, although earlier than that in New Zealand. That they came overwhelmingly not from Africa, less than 350 kilometres distant, but from the archipelago of Indonesia, an ocean and 6000 kilometres away. That this founding population consisted of 30 women and an as-yet-to-be-determined number of men. He knows because his analysis of the data held on his hard drives tells him so.

Cox's data – the variation in various sequences of mitochondrial DNA – came from 2745 individuals from 12 island groups spanning the Indonesian archipelago and from 266 individuals from three Malagasy ethnic groups. All told, the data amounted to tens of gigabytes, – the equivalent of a boxed set of Harry Potter DVDs and then some – and in order to deliver feasible scenarios for the present-day distribution of mitochondrial DNA

among the ethnic Malagasy, Cox ran 40 million simulations on a cluster of UNIX computers – the equivalent of running a single computer for 1.3 years. Of these simulations, just 671 were judged to be feasible.

His findings flesh out the detail of a connection that, while unlikely, is well known. The first ever written mention of Madagascar, by a 12th-century Arab geographer, talks of the Indonesian connection. At the beginning of the 17th century a Jesuit priest confirmed that one of the languages in use in Madagascar was similar to Malay, and in the mid-20th century a scholar pointed out the affinities between the Malagasy language and that spoken by an obscure group of the Dayak people in Borneo.

Unfortunately, because mitochondrial DNA is passed down from mother to daughter, Cox cannot say much about the men who were among Madagascar's first settlers. For this, he would need to draw on the genetic information held by the male Y chromosome, passed down from father to son. ■

Above left: A wooden double-outrigger sailed vessel of Maritime Southeast Asia depicted in bas relief on the 9th-century Borobudur Buddhist monument in Central Java, Indonesia. It may have been in vessels like this that Indonesians reached Madagascar. Above: A Malagasy girl with sugarcane. Below: Murray Cox



# In the beginning

**Aurélio Guterres** is one of a number of prominent Massey-educated graduates helping to create the new nation of Timor-Leste. Kelly Burns writes. Additional reporting by Malcolm Wood.

**T**here must be many a morning when Aurélio Guterres, the Rector of the Universidade Nacional de Timor-Leste (UNTL), wakes up and wonders at the Herculean scale of the work ahead of him.

He has been in the job for a little over a year, and there are so many things to be done, so many needing his urgent and immediate attention.

Timor-Leste, now entering the first year of its second decade of independence, faces immense challenges. This is a country where the average gross national income is just NZ\$2700 per annum; where many of the population suffer from chronic disease and malnutrition; and where around one in every two people is illiterate.

It is a country of around one million inhabitants, of whom fewer than 10,000 are tertiary educated.

Guterres is one of them. In two stints at Massey he has gained Masterate and Doctoral degrees, becoming the third staff member of UNTL to hold a doctorate. In comparison with most Timorese, his

life has been extraordinarily blessed. Now the time has come for him to pay it forward.

Postgraduate fine arts student Ryan McCauley visited Guterres in September 2012 during the course of a Masterate project. Guterres' office, he says, is pleasant but unremarkable, a book-lined space on the second storey of what was once a technical high school. But outside the office UNTL is a place of spartan classrooms crowded with wooden desks, yet empty of the sorts of thing that crowd most universities: computers, books, photocopiers. Even so, given the circumstances, for Timor-Leste to have a working university is remarkable.

Timor-Leste has had an unfortunate history. In 1975, the year Guterres turned 12, it was decolonised by the Portuguese only to be annexed by the Indonesians nine days afterwards. It was the beginning of a notably brutal occupation during which Timor-Leste was kept deliberately

isolated. "We didn't have any contact with the outside world," says Guterres.

The answer for many Timorese, like Guterres, was to look elsewhere for their education – to the main islands of Indonesia (Guterres gained his undergraduate degree from a university in Java) and further afield to places like New Zealand. "New Zealand was one of the few Western countries to give scholarships to Timorese under the Indonesian occupation," Guterres told McCauley. ▶





## Alumni profile

Guterres arrived in Palmerston North in 1994 on a Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade scholarship to begin a Masterate, discovering a place, unlike his homeland, where “everything was free, you could express your ideas, your views”.

Regina Scheyvens, then a fellow student, now a Professor of Development Studies, describes Guterres and his fellow Timorese students – some studying development studies, others agriculture and rural development – as “lovely people. They were extremely conscious of how lucky they were to be able to study abroad, and both humble and temperate”.

All of them were determined to return to Timor-Leste and to make a difference.

Scheyvens remembers Guterres boogying down on the dance floor of Palmerston North’s ‘Cossie’ club at a farewell function, shortly before his return to his still-occupied homeland, where he took up the position of International Director of Planning, Co-operation and International Relations at UNTL.

But things were about to change. In 1998 Indonesia’s President Suharto died and the way opened for a United Nations-sponsored referendum in which the Timorese voted for independence by a massive majority.

It was not an amicable parting. Pro-Indonesian militia went on a rampage, destroying homes and infrastructure and killing opponents. The university was

largely destroyed and the Guterres’ family home was among the many that were razed.

These were times of such ubiquitous and painful personal tragedy that Guterres and others like him seldom touch on them.

Unable to do much directly, Guterres concentrated on his studies. “My hope was to come back and build my country,” he says.

But some other good things were happening. He was now married to Humbelina, also from Timor-Leste (who was studying towards a postgraduate diploma in business and now runs her

development studies, divides the challenges into three interdependent realms: the economy, health care and education.

In many ways, Timor-Leste has already made great strides. Take UNTL. In the year 2000 there was nothing – no phone network, no IT systems, no audio-visual equipment, no accessible library.

Today, Guterres’ campus has wireless internet – a very recent arrival – and plans are well advanced to build a campus outside Dili in the village of Hera, where it is quieter and less crowded.

Timor-Leste has a significant advantage over most third-world countries: it has money to spend. The Timor Sea holds major gas and oil reserves; and tankers are a common sight off the coast.

The revenue will go to fund roads, bridges, airports, port facilities, schools, health clinics and hospitals. But in tandem, the university will need to provide the country with the human capital it so desperately needs: people like doctors, engineers and teachers.

It also needs to help guide how development takes place.

Most of Timor-Leste survives on subsistence agriculture, and the new influx of money could, if not carefully managed, be socially destructive, crowding the towns and cities with young unemployed people in search of opportunity and creating social, political and environmental problems. Under the Indonesians, the movement of the

### The Kiwi connection

Since the early 1990s more than 100 New Zealand scholarships have been awarded to Timorese students according to New Zealand Aid’s Mike Burrell. Many have chosen to study at Massey – leading to joking references to a Massey mafia. Among Massey’s other distinguished alumni are Timor-Leste’s Minister of Justice Deoniso Babo Soares; the Minister of State Administration, Jorge Teme; and the Secretary of State for Art and Culture, Isabel Ximenes.



own business consultancy), and during their time at Massey the couple had two boys, one of whom they named Zelandini.

And when he and his family returned to their homeland of Timor-Leste it was, at last, free.

How do you build a nation from scratch? Guterres, whose qualifications are in





## Changing the world

From her office on the Manawatu campus, Professor Regina Scheyvens works with a United Nations of student bodies. On the roll are Kiwis, Zimbabweans, Burmese, Lao, Solomon Islanders, Timorese, Brazilians, Pakistanis, Chinese and Papua New Guineans. Just as varied are their professional specialisations. There are aid workers, architects, accountants, missionaries, lawyers, midwives and diplomats, all of them united by their desire to improve their skills and understanding and make the world a better place.

Scheyvens herself has been interested since childhood in other cultures and in alleviating poverty and inequality, and after an honours degree in geography and anthropology followed by a year's travel in Asia, she enrolled in a PhD in development studies at Massey.

"I did my fieldwork on the empowerment of women in the Solomons. I was really impressed by the way they used their resources. Even during the political crisis in the late 1990s, their agricultural and fishing traditions meant they could still feed themselves. They had a different sort of poverty to struggle with, a poverty of opportunity. They lacked educational and health resources."

In recent times Scheyvens has focused on the Pacific and the economic sector that has grown most strongly in the past 20 years, tourism. "Making sure that Pacific peoples and governments can capture the benefits."

A number of Massey's development studies students and graduates are working in nations that are rebuilding themselves after conflict: Timor-Leste, the Solomons and Papua New Guinea.

"It is very satisfying for us to see."



Countries where Massey has development studies students studying extramurally.

population was both coerced, by resettlement, and restricted, by requirements for household registration and travel documentation. Rural-to-urban migration patterns were a particular focus of Guterres' PhD thesis.

"You need to have access to medical facilities and schools at the village level, so the population doesn't have to come to town. Then you can start to use public education to address pressing issues like disease and malnutrition. But you also need to raise people's incomes, and many of our people have no experience of a market economy."

Timor-Leste does not lack aid and development advisors or advice. The challenge is for the country to determine its own way.

Guterres also talks of other risks. Oil revenues can be as much of a curse as a blessing, creating socially divisive disparities in wealth. "Timor doesn't have rich people. The president and the prime minister are not rich. If we can stay this way, we can minimise social jealousy."

As for UNTL, many universities are keen to help. Guterres has visited a number, enjoying near celebrity status. In the US, during a visit to Stanford University, he secured an introduction to Mark Zuckerberg, founder of Facebook.

In New Zealand, Waikato and Massey Universities have strong relationships with UNTL through their development studies programmes.

Guterres has been known to speak of working towards the 'Massey model', and his former classmate Professor Scheyvens is actively fostering collaboration between the two universities and has championed a memorandum of understanding. Massey has sent lecturers and university administrators to UNTL to assist the university in developing its teaching and research culture, and a deputation of six UNTL representatives visited Massey in August 2012.

Under Guterres' leadership, Scheyvens thinks UNTL will prosper. He has passion, energy, vision and something else. "His heart is in the right place." ■

# New Zealand in

# 2050



In the first of a series of features, we ask Massey academics for their thoughts on how New Zealand will look in the years leading up to 2050. In this issue we cover demography, security, banking and illicit drug use. In future issues we will cover matters such as business, farming, religion, public health, biodiversity and climate change.



## Looking forward

Vice-Chancellor Steve Maharey writes.

**A**s a slogan I saw on a t-shirt recently ran: ‘This was supposed to be the future. Where is my jetpack?’ There you have it, the essence of baby boomer disappointment. Whatever the world was supposed to be like in 2012, it was never supposed to be like this. Who would have thought back in 1969, when Neil Armstrong took that “small step for a man” onto the moon’s surface, that it would effectively be the high point of the first – and so far only – great era of manned space exploration?

But then predicting the future is the definition of an iffy business. In the 1970s, when I was a university student, *Future Shock* by Alvin Toffler seemed to be on everyone’s shelves. *Future Shock*’s thesis was that the giddy pace of change, the accelerative thrust of the times was such that it was leading to social and psychological dislocation. Toffler’s work set the template for many a futurist book thereafter: an illustrative anecdote followed by a sequence of breathless speculations. You don’t need to read much of Toffler today to see how wrong or mistimed or self-interested most of his speculations were or how grounded they were in the 1960s, the decade in which he was writing. Certainly these days that ‘furious pace of change of the 1970s’ angle doesn’t work the way it used to.

Toffler’s book was calculatedly populist, but sharing the bookshelves were also more sober-minded books of prophecy. I think of 1968’s *The Population Bomb* by Paul Ehrlich and 1972’s *The Limits to Growth*, commissioned by the Club of Rome, both of which forecast calamity as pollution, overpopulation and resource depletion manifested themselves around the globe.

Again, these apocalyptic visions have not come true – though some would say that matters have merely been deferred.

As the physicist Neils Bohr put it, “Prediction is very difficult, especially about the future”.

Today *Future Shock* and *The Limits to Growth* have their counterparts in a new crop of books. Off the top of my head, I can think of *Hot, Flat and Crowded* by Thomas Friedman, *Megachange 2050* by the editors of

*The Economist* and, in the environmental sub genre, *Here on Earth* by former Australian of the Year Tim Flannery and *2052*, a follow-up to *The Limits of Growth* by one of its original authors, Jorgan Randers.

These are hugely well informed books. One of the differences between the world of the 1970s and that of today is the extent to which we know and understand the world in which we live. Back in the 1970s, we were still getting over seeing the world viewed from space. Today we can view the world in miniature on the screen of any smartphone and, with God-like powers, zoom down to soar above the landscape, viewing our houses and workplaces. This is a digital world, awash in detailed data, much of it generated in real time.

The books also share some other things in common: urgency and – apart from the less sanguine views from the author of *2052* – optimism. None of the problems confronting us is beyond the power of human agency to solve.

I too am an optimist about the future, both of the world and of New Zealand’s place in it.

What might New Zealand be like in 2050? Just look at what we have accomplished since 1970. In the 1970s we were a land of tariffs, import restrictions, subsidies, government-regulated wage bargaining and high inflation. Britain had jilted us in favour of joining the European Common Market, leading to a precipitous drop in overseas income. We were flailing. In response, the government of the day set up the Task Force on Economic Planning and, if you thumb through the Courier typeface-set pages of the resulting report, 1976’s *New Zealand at the Turning Point*, you can see how perilous our situation was. New Zealand had to change; there really was no choice. In the decades since, sometimes smoothly, sometimes lurchingly, New Zealand has transformed itself to an extraordinary degree. We are a very different place, more confident, cosmopolitan, varied and outward looking, and we live in a vastly changed world.

Once again I think we are at a turning point, but this one has more to do with opportunity. The rising economies of Asia with their demand for New Zealand

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Now is the time to arrive at a common vision of the sort of place we want New Zealand to be and to set to work on making it a reality.

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commodities, particularly food, have bought us breathing space. Now is the time to arrive at a common vision of the sort of place we want New Zealand to be and to set to work on making it a reality.

Will we do any better at predicting the future than our predecessors? Some things I think are givens. Friedman seems to be on to a sure thing with the title of his book *Hot, Flat and Crowded*. The world's climate is warming and 'weirding', as a species we are increasingly interconnected and, in some ways, levelled by the technology we have created, and somewhere around 2050 the world's present population of seven billion will break the nine billion mark.

In New Zealand, as in many Western nations – and in China for that matter – the average age of the population will rise, and New Zealanders are set to become both browner and more Asian; the days when 95 percent of the population defined themselves as Pākehā are long behind us. Auckland, our one super city, and the largest Polynesian city in the world, will continue to grow apace, adding the population equivalent of present-day Blenheim every year.

In the labour market, there will be a continuing erosion in the number of semi-skilled jobs in farming and manufacturing. But the number of professional new-technology jobs will grow and so, at the other end of the market, will unskilled jobs in the service sector.

There will be continuing structural changes in our labour market, and by and large this will be a good thing as resources are reallocated from less to more productive areas of the economy. Here the State can help ease the pains of transition by adopting a policy of 'flexicurity': a combination of flexibility in the labour market, social security and an active labour market policy. The rise of women's paid employment – now at greater than 60 percent of the workforce – will lead us to look afresh at the relationship between paid employment and domestic work.

To shift from prediction to advocacy: if New Zealand is to prosper, I believe it should play to its areas of competitive strength, such as agri-food, but not solely. Sir Paul Callaghan was a great advocate for the creation of a more scatter-shot, harder-to-define, high-value economy based on research-based light engineering targeted at niche markets, and this too will have its place.

Our record of domestic savings and investment has been abysmal; it needs to change. In a world where multinational corporations earn more than individual nations, our autonomy depends on it. At the moment, our largest domestic investors are KiwiSaver and the major Māori tribal holdings.

We need to place a proper value on our natural environment and the ecosystem services on which much of our prosperity and quality of life depends and that we have hitherto taken for granted.

Will there be 'black swan' events? Certainly. Think of 9/11 and the Global Financial Crisis. And it is almost impossible to predict what tomorrow's science will bring. As Karl Popper pointed out back in the 1950s, if we could accurately predict tomorrow's science it would already be today's science.

But the future is not just a matter of prediction, but one of choices – choices in which we all participate every day of our lives, sometimes consciously, sometimes not.

If we work together, knowing what we are working towards, we can make the new New Zealand a special place indeed.



Illustration by 2012 fourth-year design student Carol Wu.

## Where to from here?

It's Our Future – the new New Zealand Forum, December 2012



Daniel Franklin, Executive Editor of *The Economist*, talks to Future U winner, 18-year-old Stephen Lines.

At the It's Our Future – the new New Zealand Forum, with, from left to right, Vice-Chancellor Steve Maharey; Justin Mowday, Managing Director, DDB; Diana Crossan, Retirement Commissioner; Rod Oram, business commentator; Daniel Franklin, Executive Editor of *The Economist*; Adjunct Professor Mai Chen, Founding Partner, Chen Palmer; Paul Brislen, CEO, TUANZ; Adjunct Professor Rawiri Taonui, Professor of Indigenous Studies, AUT University; and Dominick Stephens, Chief Economist, Westpac.

**N**ew Zealand is “surprisingly well positioned for 2050” Daniel Franklin told the new New Zealand Forum during his keynote address, which outlined the mega-trends.

Dr Franklin, the Executive Editor of *The Economist* and co-editor of the book *Mega-change: The World in 2050*, identified population growth as one of the key drivers of change, as well as the growth of Asia's economy.

“New Zealand is surprisingly well positioned for the world in 2050 for a number of reasons. It's close to Asia where a lot of the economic action is going to be, and it has a relatively big agricultural sector in a world that will need to feed nine billion people,” Franklin said.

“The implications are even more dramatic than the actual population numbers suggest. The world's population is not only increasing but also getting richer... so we will need to produce something like 70 percent more food.”

Franklin believes that New Zealand's agri-food expertise means it should be in a position to not only produce valuable food products, but also export its agri-food technology, helping other countries to increase their own food output.

“There may be some complications due to climate change,” he acknowledges, “but New Zealand has a relatively enviable environment so it also raises the issues of managing that

great heritage well.”

The fact that English is one of New Zealand's official languages will also be to its advantage, Franklin says.

“English is probably going to continue to be the main language spoken, despite the rise of China, and New Zealand's links through the Commonwealth to Africa will be important. There is going to be tremendous population growth in Africa and it will be a very fast-growing part of the world's economy.”

Massey University Vice-Chancellor Steve Maharey says the university organised the forum with Westpac to create a stronger focus on New Zealand's future. He believes that the university is already responding to

the future needs of New Zealand and the world, particularly in terms of agri-food research and education.

“New Zealand can't feed nine billion people, but we can provide some of the thinking and knowledge it will take to do this, at the same time moving our

products up the value chain.”

Westpac's Managing Director Private Wealth and Insurance Simon Power says: “Thinking long term is exactly what we as a country need to be doing, and having someone of Daniel Franklin's stature to assist with leading that discussion is an extraordinary opportunity. Westpac is proud to back any forum that gets us focused on what those opportunities may be.”

“New Zealand can't feed nine billion people, but we can provide some of the thinking and knowledge it will take to do this.”





## The way forward

Business commentator and journalist Rod Oram reports from 2012's new New Zealand Forum.

**W**e humans are confronted by a speed and scale of change beyond our comprehension, thanks to unprecedented and accelerating pressures from population growth, resource depletion and technology change.

Wild-eyed techno-optimists reckon science will save us. The American futurist Ray Kurzweil, for example, says unlimited opportunities beckon because both the rate and impact of technological change are accelerating exponentially.

In his 2005 book *The Singularity is Near* he predicted that we would soon experience in a decade 80 times the technological advancement we had in the previous 100 years. In the 21st century we will see 1000 times as much progress as in the 20th century. Some time around 2045 technology will be more powerful than biology. Men and machines will merge in the great singularity, he asserts.

Profound pessimists, however, are sure that we are already doomed. They say our only chance of survival is to shrink human population to a billion or two, with all of us living a simple, subsistence lifestyle.

Yet even influential business organisations such as the World Economic Forum, globalisation's torchbearer, are deeply worried about trends. Its annual global risk assessment this year concluded that only excellent political and corporate governance could guide the world through the thicket of interrelated, high-probability, high-risk challenges it faced. Financial system shocks, income inequality and food, energy and water crises are just a few of many it named.

The forum even asked itself whether the Occupy Movement was merely an anomaly – a brief quirk of the Global Financial Crisis – or a harbinger of social unrest. It chose the latter.

*The Economist*, though, offers some light amidst the gloom. Its collection of essays, *Megachange: The World in 2050*, argues that biotech will heal us, IT will connect us, political science will lead to genuinely free and democratic societies, greater public spiritedness will arise thanks to social media, and governments will slim and prosper in public-private partnerships with business. It predicts that nine billion people will be living on US\$20,000 a year per person (at 2012 prices).

*The Economist* is “confident that with the right policies progress is possible on most fronts”. The world will be “richer, healthier, more connected, more sustainable, more productive, more innovative, better educated with less inequality between poor and rich and between men and women, with more opportunity for billions of people”.

Within these changes lie abundant opportunities for New Zealand, Daniel Franklin, one of *Megachange's* editors and

*The Economist's* Executive Editor, told a ‘new New Zealand’ seminar hosted by Massey University in Auckland in December.

The shift of global economic momentum to Asia is opening up new markets for our primary products. Moreover, New Zealand, as a spacious place, will flourish in fields such as education, farming, ecological management and tourism.

But, he warned, New Zealand will only thrive if it remains a country open to those possibilities. If we showed any signs of withdrawing from the world, we would condemn ourselves to a far poorer future.

While many New Zealanders agree with such a view of our potential, we're starting to see, though, a divergence of opinions on how we must respond.

On one hand the Government and leaders of the primary sector believe we will prosper from catering to the needs of hundreds of millions more middle-class consumers in Asia; on the other hand, some business and technology leaders warn we must push for much more sophisticated, high-value products and services.

The simple arithmetic of this shows the latter is right. If we tried to, say, double the size of our economy in the next 15 years the export sector would have to do most of the heavy lifting because domestic growth is partially geared to population growth. Recognising this, the Government has set a goal of increasing exports from 30 percent of GDP, their rate of the past 50 years, to 40 percent of GDP by 2025.

But if we were to lift exports by only doing much more of what we already do, perhaps helped by some price lift, we would among other goals have to treble the value of food and beverage exports by 2025, which is a second Government target.

But if we tried to do that, we would run very quickly into physical constraints. For example, most water catchments in the country already suffer from full water allocation and nutrient loading.

Science could come to our rescue in two ways: by helping our farming practices to restore ecosystem health and biodiversity; and by helping us to produce nutrigenomics and other very sophisticated high-value foods and quasi-medicinal products.

Every sector of the economy has to make equivalent leaps. But we barely discuss these issues, let alone devise and commit to the business, social and government strategies required to address them.

We could console ourselves with the thought that very few other people in the world are ready to embrace and deliver what *Megachange* offers. Or we could seize this liberating future.



## The perils of prediction

Professor Martin Hazelton, Institute of Fundamental Sciences  
Malcolm Wood writes.

“**B**eware of prophets” is the blanket warning given by Professor Martin Hazelton – even of those who have been right before. That successful stockbroker of the moment with a record of picking winner after winner may be truly prescient, but in any population of stockbrokers there will always be a few who have had unbroken runs of good luck – and that is an equally plausible explanation. Statisticians are natural sceptics.

Does more data always mean better predictions? Not necessarily, says Hazelton. In theory, the more information the better, but only if you can winnow out the relevant information from among the irrelevant chaff; the signal from the noise.

It is human nature to want to impose patterns, even where there is none. “If you toss a coin repeatedly, you will see patterns emerging.” Patterns like these are artefacts.

Then there is the issue of black swans: events with major consequences that are so seemingly unlikely that they are completely discounted. The Global Financial Crisis was a black swan, as was the Christchurch earthquake. “I don’t think we are very good at say distinguishing between the one-in-a-hundred-year event or the one-in-ten-thousand-year event.”

Hazelton stresses the importance of factoring in the consequences of an event alongside its likelihood.

“Even if the percentage chance of a major earthquake is tiny, a few percent, it is still something for which you would want to prepare.”

Finally, he warns against the biases that arise from predilection and gut instinct.

In the last US national elections, a media consensus seemed to have been reached that it was ‘too close to call’. Every poll result with any sort of swing – even if

that swing were close to the margin of error – would bring a flood of punditry, ‘experts’ offering rationalisations – the latest employment figures, or the success of a campaign ad – for things trending the way they were, divining patterns where there was none, and bringing in herds of other experts on their heels.

Meanwhile, Romney was reportedly certain enough of victory to have ordered a fireworks display.

“He would have been following the pundits and listening to the voices of encouragement in his inner circle.”

Yet some more sober-minded statisticians always gave the odds to an Obama win, with one of them, Nate Silver of the FiveThirtyEight blog, pulling off a coup by picking all 50 state winners.

The secret? “He used statistical models to aggregate and weight the poll results across states and across time to filter out noise.”

If Hazelton were to devise a code of practice for prognosticators, central to it would be one thing, confidence intervals – those plus-or-minus margins of error we know from election polls.

Silver was lucky to get his numbers precisely right; he probably surprised himself. In many states the tipping point lay only just outside his 95 percent confidence intervals: in one in 20 instances he might have expected to be wrong.

The importance of confidence and prediction intervals is the first thing Hazelton impresses on his first-year statistics students.

“If a financial advisor recommends a stock to you on the basis that it will rise 10 percent in value in the next year, you will probably invest. If he says that the stock is likely to rise between 8 and 12 percent in value, the same applies. But if he says that the stock’s range of values is likely to be somewhere between a 20 percent loss and a 40 percent gain, you might have second thoughts.”



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It is human nature to want to impose patterns, even where there is none. “If you toss a coin repeatedly, you will see patterns emerging.” Patterns like these are artefacts.

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## Demography

Professor Paul Spoonley, Research Director, College of Humanities and Social Sciences Bevan Rapson writes.

**P**rofessor Paul Spoonley identifies an ageing population, a hugely disproportionate growth of Auckland, a population decline in some regions, and the increasing importance of immigration as key elements in changes unfolding in our population. Each of these factors will help to shape the New Zealand of tomorrow.

New Zealand's population recently topped

# 4,444,444

### Ticking past five million

Projections suggest that the New Zealand population – which recently topped 4,444,444 – will hit five million by 2031. That number should not be seen as a certainty, however. Spoonley points out that previous projections have consistently fallen short of the reality. “Every time there has been a projection about population size – when New Zealand would reach one million, two million, etcetera – they have under-estimated. The population has reached the target earlier than estimated.” He believes that the historical forecasts reflected a conservatism over the attractions of New Zealand for migrants. Today, immigration continues to loom large in any view of New Zealand's future – and in population projections. We have been close to the top of OECD rankings of immigration rates and, unlike some countries, have continued to attract high flows of newcomers since the Global Financial Crisis.

New Zealand politicians have mostly chosen to take a softly-softly approach to population policy. Some business leaders, frustrated by the nation's lack of scale, would like to see a major population increase. Most recently, the New Zealand Institute of Economic Research suggested that a population of 15 million by 2060 would be beneficial. That politicians haven't typically been so gung ho probably reflects an ambivalence to the idea among voters. Our annual immigrant target of 45,000, attempting to meet certain skill shortages, effectively becomes our de facto population policy.

Spoonley: “The idea of having some magic figure or some mix of the population is not something we've seemed enthusiastic about at all.” This is in contrast to

Australia, where environmental pressures mean population numbers are the subject of intense politics. Here, “we're building a population but we're building it particularly in Auckland and we're diversifying it – and nobody is calling it a population policy”.

**1/3** of New Zealanders live in Auckland already

### Big Auckland

Of that projected five million, two million will live in Auckland. Spoonley believes that the city's continued growth will dominate New Zealand's population picture for the next quarter of a century. He says the proportion of New Zealanders living in our biggest city is already unusually high. “It is not simply a classic primate city,” he says. “Apart from Dublin, in the OECD no other city dominates its country to the extent that Auckland does.”

One-third of New Zealanders live in Auckland already. In the next 25 years the city will grow to account for 38 percent of the total population, surpassing even Dublin's dominance in Ireland. Half of New Zealand's regions will lose population in the same period. ▶

“Apart from Dublin, in the OECD no other city dominates its country to the extent that Auckland does.”

'Agglomeration effects' mean a snowball effect for Auckland as demand for goods, services, schools and hospitals helps to drive growth. The reverse is also true. Spoonley: "In smaller centres, there is often a tipping point reached that means the loss of health services, or the contraction of such services, and so there is less reason for households and individuals to stay."

While a sudden influx of immigrants might once have been expected to lead to some tensions, Christchurch appears relatively ready to welcome newcomers.

Spoonley believes that we haven't yet fully appreciated the demographic changes ahead. "What I think is a little disturbing is the lack of recognition of how significant the Auckland growth is going to be whereas, already, half of New Zealand's regions are flat-lining and some of them are beginning to decline."

Auckland's rise, while sometimes resented in other parts of the country, can be seen as an important strength for New Zealand in the next two decades. The city will have the scale to be competitive internationally, and with other Pacific

rim cities in particular. Spoonley: "City economies are actually really important to any nation."

Spoonley notes that the city's growth will lead to "pinch points" in its infrastructure, whether that be in housing, transportation, education or healthcare, but the creation of a 'super city' under the Auckland Council has brought at least the potential for a greater degree of co-ordination as the city expands. He says the council's economic development plan "signals a very aggressive, forward-looking strategy to grow the Auckland economy".

A bigger Auckland will act as a magnet for immigrants, who have overwhelmingly preferred it to other parts of the country. "The bulk of migrants will come to Auckland and stay in Auckland.

They're not interested in the rest of New Zealand." Auckland's character will increasingly differ from that of other parts of the country. Europeans are expected to be in the minority in Auckland within the next few years.

"The thing that interests me is that there's an increasing two-nations effect," says Spoonley. Already, 40 percent of Aucklanders are immigrants; including the children of immigrants lifts the figure to 56 percent. "That is seriously cosmopolitan." The proportion of immigrants in Sydney, Australia's most cosmopolitan city, is just 32 percent.

**The number of New Zealanders identifying as Asian will have risen to 800,000 by 2026 – not far short of a Māori population of around 811,000.**

## Mixing it up

Where New Zealand traditionally relied on migration from Europe (and specifically the UK), since 1987 the bulk of immigrants have come from non-traditional sources. That will continue. In Auckland, says Spoonley, Asian communities will be easily the fastest growing in the coming decades, rising to between 25 and 30 percent of the population.

Our ethnic mix will change in other ways: "Nationally, the age profiles of Māori and Pasifika populations will mean that they contribute more to education and prime working-age populations."

The long-predicted "browning" of New Zealand, now most apparent in the under-15 population profiles, will contribute to an increasing ethnic diversity, although it will be much more pronounced in those regions such as East Coast and Northland that already have major Māori populations. Spoonley says the "two nations" division can be expanded to three by identifying those predominantly Māori regions as quite different from other areas.

Formerly high Māori and Pasifika birth rates have begun tailing off, although the age of first birth remains much lower among Māori than among Pākehā.

Historically, immigration has been a contentious issue, but it is all that prevents our population from shrinking; one estimate suggests that shutting our doors to immigrants would within a decade bring an 11 percent fall in GDP. Spoonley says that polling shows the public has become noticeably more positive towards immigrants and immigration since 2000 – and also more positive towards immigrants compared with Australians. Yes, there is still evidence of anti-immigrant feeling – it can easily be found online – but it is very much a minority. The one exception: Māori, who have increased in their negative views about immigrants since 2000. "This is an issue," says Spoonley. He identifies a number of dimensions to this sentiment: "Job competition; tension between biculturalism and multiculturalism; and probably the sense that migrants don't understand the history of this country, nor the Treaty of Waitangi". Projections suggest that the number of New Zealanders identifying as Asian will have risen to 800,000 by 2026 – not far short of a Māori population of around 811,000.

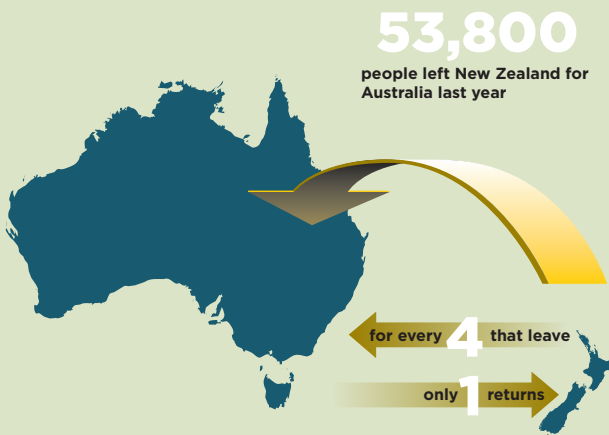


# New Zealand in 2050

It seems likely immigrants will continue to be primarily attracted by the quality of life here, but also by our education system, legal system, relative lack of corruption and the relative ease of doing business.

While there has always been a 'brain drain' effect, where some of the brightest and best-qualified New Zealanders are attracted overseas, our overall skills and qualifications base will continue to be enhanced by immigration. Spoonley: "The immigrants who come here are better qualified than the people who are already here, so we're also topping up the human capital pool with immigration."

New Zealand will also continue to benefit from expats returning home after spells working overseas. Typically they return for lifestyle reasons; starting a family is often cited as a big motivator for coming back to New Zealand. But Spoonley points out that there was also a spike of returns after the Bali bombings of 2002 – "international terrorism also sends New Zealanders home" – which suggests that international geopolitics and security will also play a major role in how attractive New Zealand is perceived to be in the next two decades.



## The Australia factor

Most New Zealanders who leave for other countries go to Australia. 53,800 left for Australia last year. Currently, for every four who go to Australia, only one returns, although tougher economic times on the other side of the Tasman can lead to more Kiwis coming home. Our neighbour's fortunes and the lure it has for New Zealanders will therefore have a major impact on our population changes in the coming decades. "We are transferring a very significant number of our population to Australia," says Spoonley. "Migration will determine the shape of New Zealand in the future but emigration will also be a major factor and the movement between Australia and New Zealand is the most important emigration we have going on."

## Regional ageing

The ageing of our population will play out as a major policy and political issue in the next 20 years, especially as 'dependency' rates (the number of those in employment compared with those relying on benefits of some sort) adjust. The pace and impact of ageing will be partly determined by immigration and emigration, which both involve prime working-age populations. "Already, elder care is a major growth industry in New Zealand, and there are a lot of implications for healthcare generally – and the cost of it," says Spoonley.

The average age in many regions will rise markedly. "The centre of gravity will shift, both in terms of where the population will live and in terms of regional age profiles." In some areas, an ageing population will mean that those exiting the workforce, as retirees, exceed the number entering the workforce.

'Retirement belt' areas such as the Kapiti Coast, Tauranga and Queenstown Lakes will grow – against the trend for many other regions – but have markedly older populations than elsewhere.

Spoonley also refers to a "kohanga reo vs grey power" population shift. "Younger age groups will increasingly involve Māori and Pasifika as older age groups – those over both age 65 and 85 will be dominated by Pākehā."

## Labour pains

Technology will continue to transform the way we work – and the nature of what jobs are available. One estimate is that automation will replace more than two billion jobs globally by 2030 and a McKinsey Global Institute analysis has found that most job growth in mature economies "involves complex interactions, not routine production or transaction work". That means that an increasing proportion of jobs requires complex problem-solving skills, experience and an understanding of context. While jobs involving interactions have increased, those involving transactions have fallen and those in production – that is, the processing of physical materials into finished goods – have declined even further. It seems inevitable that anything that can be automated – think bank teller work and retail sales – increasingly will be. For now, the trend is also away from full-time, permanent jobs towards more part-time, casual and contract work.

The past two decades have brought a huge growth in post-secondary education and training, which has in turn led to a growth in over-educated employees. Spoonley

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It seems inevitable that anything that can be automated – think bank teller work or retail sales – increasingly will be.

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says that “credential creep” means that employers are using higher qualifications as a sifting device to identify potential employees.

One thing to be particularly concerned about, Spoonley says, is that a high proportion of those without work in New Zealand today are young people. He identifies three main challenges ahead: identifying what encourages job creation; learning how to reverse youth non-participation rates; and deciding what the education and training sector should look like and focus on.

### Quake questions

The Canterbury earthquakes have influenced demographic expectations, with some Cantabrians prompted to shift

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... the influx might even mean that Christchurch becomes the second “super diverse” city of New Zealand.

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across the Tasman and between 30,000 and 40,000 workers required for the rebuild (and ancillary services) by the third quarter of 2013. While some of those workers will be recruited from elsewhere in New Zealand, there will also be a significant immigrant component. Workers from overseas – notably from Britain and Ireland – are already on the job, but it is unknown how many of those arriving for the rebuild will become long-term settlers.

The city currently lags behind the national immigrant

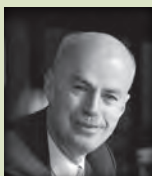
population of about 24 percent, but Spoonley expects that to change and believes the influx might even mean that Christchurch becomes the second “super diverse” city of New Zealand.

While a sudden influx of immigrants might once have been expected to lead to some tensions, Christchurch appears relatively ready to welcome newcomers. Spoonley says the Asia New Zealand Foundation noted a spike in warmth towards Asian countries after the involvement of Japanese teams in the aftermath of the February 2011 earthquake. “The data tends to suggest that there has been a shift in the way in which immigrants, in particular visible immigrants, are seen in Christchurch.”

### Climate issues

Climate change could be beginning to have an influence on global migration by 2030, if only marginally. For New Zealand, that could mean people from low-lying Pacific countries seeking to immigrate while Australians who fear that their country will face more droughts and calamitous weather events might also be looking to relocate here. “It may well be that the major weather-related events will have a much greater effect on Australia than New Zealand,” says Spoonley, though “if we’re going to see environmentally prompted migration, it’s some way away.”

# “It may well be that the major weather-related events will have a much greater effect on Australia than New Zealand”



## Banking

Associate Professor David Tripe, School of Economics and Finance  
Malcolm Wood writes.

**N**ew Zealand is a small, technologically advanced nation with a chronic balance of payments problem and a banking system dominated by Australian-owned banks, and, barring unforeseen circumstances, that is how it will remain, says Associate Professor David Tripe.

What will change is the nature of the business environment of which retail banking is a part. The disruptive force of the internet is not spent. iTunes and

its ilk have displaced the local record store and the EPUB (electronic publication) market threatens to do the same to many of the local bookstores that have until now withstood hard-copy competition from the likes of Amazon. But this is just the beginning.

Pervasive high-speed internet access is going to affect many more mainstream bricks-and-mortar retail businesses. In the US, Walmart and Amazon are testing same-day delivery services for online purchases. “If I



can order something online more cheaply and conveniently and have it in my hands the same day or the day after, why wouldn't I do it that way?" asks Tripe.

Competition with online retailers will be the death knell for some physical retailers, the result being a hollowing out of traditional shopping precincts. As more and more banking transactions take place online and over the phone, the need for physical bank outlets will diminish. Some will close. Most will change the nature of the services in which they specialise.

How then will banks distinguish themselves from one another if most of their customer interactions are virtual? "Banks still need to offer the right products at the right price, and when you ring them up there still needs to be someone there to answer your enquiry sensibly. Competition will still be important."

Tripe is similarly cautious about the shift to a cashless society. Cash is convenient; it will be with us for a long time yet. He himself has some financially anachronistic behaviours. "Someone came to do some work on the house this morning. I gave him a cheque, he gave me a receipt – it was easy."

In the US, there has been some excitement about the potential of near field communication (NFC) devices. Phones like Samsung's Galaxy SIII can be used in contactless payment systems, similar to those currently used in credit cards and electronic ticket smartcards, and NFC devices will no doubt develop increasing market penetration.

Yet New Zealand is quite well served by its current payment systems, says Tripe. "The US payment system is very clunky by comparison. New Zealand is one of the few countries where there is very little use of PayPal. That is because we don't need it. We use direct bank transfer, which is cheaper."

Nonetheless, new payment options will be developed and some of them will certainly be part of our future.

It is highly likely that New Zealand's dominant banks will continue to be Australian owned. "The only chance I can see of that changing is if an Australian bank were to get into difficulty or were to be sold to a non-Australian bank. It is possible that one or other might want to sell down its interest in its New Zealand subsidiary, although the challenge would be that there isn't much share market activity in New Zealand."

The one difference may be the factor of Asia, as the

Australian banks seek to increase their Asian presence and Asian banks, in turn, seek a presence in Australasia.

Geopolitically and economically, New Zealand and Australia are likely to be drawn closer together. "We have so much Australian business in New Zealand, it's inevitable that there will be stronger linkages. It makes sense that there be more government links as we have more issues in common."

A common currency – an idea recently bruited by Massey's Professor Christoph Schumacher – would bring some advantages. Schumacher argued for a reduction in transaction costs; Tripe thinks that a common currency could lead, as it did in the European Economic Community, to cross-border banks.

As for New Zealand's larger problem, its persistent balance-of-payments deficit, Tripe suspects that it will persist in persisting. "That deficit is funded by an inflow of investment funds to New Zealand, which is reflected in the sales of assets to foreigners and the inflow of foreign funds to the banking system. That's why we have foreign-owned banks – because we have chosen collectively to invest in housing rather than own businesses. It is all very well bemoaning foreign ownership, but ever-increasing foreign ownership is a necessity to balance the balance of payments."

The escape routes, he says, are few, and the principal one is unpalatable. "The established way of escaping the cycle of balance-of-payments deficits and ongoing borrowing is by having a major financial crisis.

"Maybe if we found huge quantities of oil somewhere and continued to ship dairy and other products we might be able to buy back some of the assets we have sold. Or investing overseas, countering the net impact of overseas investment in New Zealand."

However, if New Zealanders were to improve their saving rates, that would have a positive impact, and if they were to tone down their love of the house on the suburban section in favour of well constructed and managed medium-density housing – and the banks were to adjust their lending criteria accordingly – this might lead to a productive shift in investment.

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"It is all very well bemoaning foreign ownership, but ever-increasing foreign ownership is a necessity to balance the balance of payments."

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**"Banks still need to offer the right products at the right price..."**



## Illicit drug use

Dr Chris Wilkins, SHORE and Whāriki Research Centre  
Redmer Yska writes.

**T**o predict the future, look to the past, says Chris Wilkins. Consider BZP, a drug with amphetamine-like effects that became a popular ‘legal high’ in New Zealand during the mid-2000s.

His findings show that one in 20 people aged between 16 and 64 took a BZP legal high – known as ‘party pills’ – before BZP was prohibited in 2008.

One in five users had taken six or more BZP party pills and one in nine had taken eight or more BZP party pills at one time. The dosage recommended by manufacturers was one or two pills per session.

“An alarming 90 percent of BZP users mixed BZP party pills with alcohol and 22 percent combined them with smoking cannabis. The product instructions on BZP party pills advising against using them with alcohol or any other drug were widely ignored,” he says.

As a commercially marketed, synthetic, legal high often used in combination with other drugs, BZP party pills may be a portent of things to come.

Wilkins believes that by 2030 we will face increasing challenges controlling a growing number of both illegal and legal psychoactive substances. And he predicts that alongside the alcohol and tobacco industries a third legal drug sector will

emerge selling vetted and approved legal highs.

“Tomorrow’s sellers of low-potency psychoactive substances will have to provide evidence that the products they are sponsoring are ‘low harm’.

“This new sector will offer opportunities to respond to drug problems in different ways, but will also bring the same challenges related to intoxication, risk-taking behaviour and vulnerable groups, and the lobbying of a powerful industry,” he says.

Wilkins says that by 2030, concepts like the ‘war on drugs’ and prohibition may seem increasingly

meaningless. However, he does not favour the legalisation of illicit drugs as a way forward.

“Retailers and others argue that alcohol and drug use is a consumer choice issue but my experience as a researcher tells me that for some, substance use is used to cover up underlying problems such as stress, anxiety and depression.

“That’s why I don’t believe that the legalisation of illicit drugs is a realistic option. Our past record in trying to control industries selling legal drugs like alcohol and tobacco is not reassuring.

“The political response to the commercialisation of alcohol and drug use is often timid, with controls progressively eroded over time. What we are left with is legal products that are cheap, very available and socially acceptable.

“What we do know is that people will use whatever substances are available to them that are socially sanctioned, and heavy users will tend to choose the cheapest substances available to get intoxicated. Prohibition is not the only policy response but as a policy tool, it does have a number of strengths. It can reduce the availability of a substance, force the price up, and some sectors of society won’t use illegal substances.”

What Wilkins thinks will certainly shift is the perspective from which we view illicit drug use: it will come to be seen as less a criminal justice issue and more one of public health.

This is already apparent in the provision of dedicated drug treatment units in nine local prisons and the recent setting up of full-time drug courts in Auckland.

“We can see evidence of an appetite to do things differently in places like the Netherlands and Portugal, where the possession of small amounts of drugs has been decriminalised and referral to treatment is being emphasised as the primary institutional response,” he says.

“Our own Misuse of Drugs Act 1975 includes a public health dimension, but this perspective has been neglected in the past.” ■

“That’s why I don’t believe that the legalisation of illicit drugs is a realistic option. Our record in trying to control industries selling legal drugs like alcohol and tobacco is not reassuring.”

**“What we do know is that people will use whatever substances are available to them.”**



## Hut book

### ***Shelter from the Storm: The Story of New Zealand's Backcountry Huts***

Shaun Barnett, Rob Brown, Geoff Spearpoint, Craig Potton Publishing

*Reviewed by Malcolm Wood.*

**W**hat did I do when I first picked up *Shelter from the Storm*? I did exactly as you might expect: I looked for the huts I knew. Empress Hut (page 111) at Mount Cook, into which I once stumbled, drunk with tiredness, with a climbing partner out of a gathering nor'west storm; Fenella Hut (page 309) with its stained glass window in the loo; and Goulund Downs Hut (which is absent), in which I not so long back steamed dry before the fire during a very wet mountain-biking trip across the Heaphy Track.

I don't think I am unrepresentative. A vast number of New Zealanders have overnighted in what is, as the preface to *Shelter from the Storm* puts it, the "most extensive collection of simple public huts" in the world, and it is understandable – if a bit ego-driven – to look for where you have been.

But *Shelter from the Storm* offers much more than this. In format, this 364-plus-page door slab of a book may look like a coffee table book, but to call it that would be an injustice. It may have requisite production values and glossy photographs, but it also runs to 150,000 words of text, including 7000 words of captions, and while it is ostensibly all about huts it turns out to be just as much about New Zealand's social and economic history.

From New Zealand's more than 1000 huts, the authors have chosen to profile 90. They are arranged

according to a typology of origin and purpose. Pastoral huts, for example, constitute one category, as do mining huts, huts for tourism and climbing, club huts and New Zealand Forest Service huts. There is even a small category of huts as monuments (Fenella Hut is one of these).

Each category begins with an essay followed by a series of (usually) double-page photo-and-text spreads about the stories of the individual huts that fall within it. It is an eclectic approach. At one moment you are with Samuel Butler on a 19th-century high country station, at the next experiencing the trials of a city dweller dispatched into the wilderness to mine for gold on a government pittance during the depression years of the 1930s.

If nothing else, the book gives you an appreciation of the labour that went into building many of these huts and the comparative ease in which most of us now live. A simple construction of corrugated iron takes on a different complexion when you realise that each of its elements was once laboriously carried in on someone's back from a distant road end.

Rob Brown and Shaun Barnett are alumni of Massey and the Massey University Alpine Club (which is still going strong). They, their fellow author Geoff Spearpoint and Craig Potton Publishing have produced a work that is monumental in more than one sense.

## Extraordinary and overlooked

### ***Your Unselfish Kindness: Robin Hyde's Autobiographical Writings***

Edited by Dr Mary Edmond Paul, Otago University Press

*Redmer Ysaka writes.*

**D**r Mary Edmond Paul grew up in a house where the name of author 'Robin Hyde' (Iris Wilkinson) was well known. But Edmond Paul, senior lecturer at Albany's School of English and Media Studies, did not delve into Hyde's writing until the mid-1980s when she began her Doctorate in New Zealand literature and history

"It was then that I first read her autobiographical fragment, *A Home in this World*. My father, Blackwood Paul, had been a friend of hers in 1930s' Auckland. Her son [Derek Challis] first offered that manuscript to him as a publisher. But my father died in 1965, when I was only 12, and long before Longman Paul's 1984 edition eventuated."

Today Edmond Paul is an acknowledged authority on this dazzling but often overlooked New Zealand novelist, poet and journalist. She has just edited another important book on Hyde, *Your Unselfish Kindness*, an anthology of her autobiographical writing, published by Otago University Press. It follows her earlier books on aspects of Hyde's writing: *Her Side of the Story: Readings of Mander, Mansfield and Hyde* (1999) and *Lighted Windows: Critical Essays on Robin Hyde* (2008).

*Your Unselfish Kindness* is the final product of the Marsden grant that Edmond Paul was jointly awarded with poet and academic Michelle Leggott and Dr Pat Sandbrook, in 1999. Since then, the project has encompassed the production of a major and definitive biography, *The Book of Iris*, written by Hyde's second son Derek Challis and poet Gloria Rawlinson (2002), and a new edition of poems, *Young Knowledge* (2003), edited by Leggott.

The book includes a chronology of Hyde's 36 years, a brief life that was rarely happy. Born in South Africa in 1906 and raised in Wellington, she spent most of her adult life working as a journalist for a range of local newspapers and magazines, writing luminous poetry on the side and getting some of it published.

However, her private life was chaotic. When Hyde attempted suicide by jumping into the Waitemata Harbour in 1933, she had already given birth to two children whilst unmarried (one was stillborn) and had been battling depression and medically acquired drug addiction for years.

Hyde agreed to go into a residential clinic attached to Auckland Mental Hospital at Avondale and came under the humane care of Dr Gilbert Tothill, probably New Zealand's first psychologically trained doctor. The clinic she called Grey Lodge would be her home base for the next three years. Tothill urged Hyde to write down her life story, to face and resolve what he called "the evil hour of remembering".

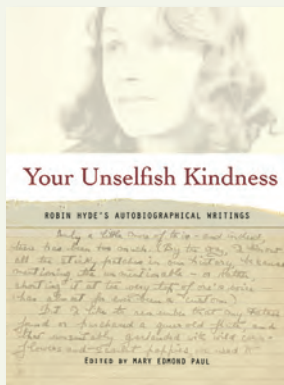
The result of this intensive therapy, the core of *Your Unselfish Kindness*, was a 1934 autobiographical manuscript, running to 190 handwritten pages, directly addressed to Tothill. The results make for sometimes wrenching reading: the botched operation that left her lame at 18, the undiagnosed depression, and the grief over losing her son Robin Hyde (whose pen name she used thereafter).

A torrent of creativity was unleashed. At Grey Lodge, Hyde would produce her most important work: poems, short stories and a brace of major novels such as the powerful World War I story *Passport to Hell* and *The Godwits Fly*.

"But without the community that might have helped her to retain the practices of truthfulness and acceptance when sick and under mounting strain in London in 1939, she took her own life."

Edmond Paul, whose introduction to *Your Unselfish Kindness* explores the landscape of mental illness at the time of Hyde's 'recovery', praises her subject's fearless approach to writing down her life story.

"Her frankness is also a model for a sensitive version of increasing contemporary directness about emotional distress (and symptoms) caused by grieving and trauma, and about consequent self-medication of one kind or another. Virginia Woolf was the first to use the term life writing; she said around the time Hyde was writing that we had yet to learn about women's lives – even just private lives. Hyde's is one story she might have imagined," she says.





## Small town love

### ***Dinner at Rose's***

Danielle Hawkins, Allen & Unwin

Bonnie Etherington writes.

**D**anielle Hawkins's debut novel brings cancer, betrayal, physiotherapy, farming and lovers together with humour and sensitivity. At first glance, the title and blurb of this book gave me the impression that it would be a dainty bit of chick-lit, but these features belie the depth in this story that carries it beyond the standard 'girl-hopes-to-get-back-together-with-boy' plot line, and elevates it into a book of substance and heart.

After discovering her boyfriend having sex in a chair with her best friend, Jo Donnelly leaves her life in Melbourne and returns to her tiny hometown of Waimanu in the North Island to take up a temporary physiotherapist position. While there she spends much of her time with her honorary 'aunt' Rose Thornton. Rose is an eccentric and lively woman with four dogs and a pig called Percy, who cooks such concoctions as scalloped potatoes with strawberry yoghurt and prune curry, and who, despite these adventurous inclinations, always insists that everyone in her house call the evening meal by the refined English 'dinner' rather than the standard New Zealand 'tea'. Rose's nephew is Matt King, Jo's childhood friend with whom she had a "spectacular" one-night stand years previously, and subsequently has never quite been able to get out of her head.

When Rose is diagnosed with cancer, dinners at her place become even more central in both Matt's and Jo's lives as they do all they can to help her get through the illness. Meanwhile, under their noses, Rose is pulling strings that will reignite desires that have long been buried.

Hawkins's strength clearly lies in her humour. In this way she is able to treat subjects that could become heavy, dreary and clichéd with a light yet sensitive touch. She writes cheesy so well that it doesn't feel like cheesy any more, but she is equally good at writing more biting and sarcastic comedy, which prevents the story tipping over into over-sentimental territory, while still retaining the emotional depth that such topics like cancer require.

Hawkins has also managed to capture the essence of small-town New Zealand in this novel. So many other writers, trying to be 'authentically Kiwi', stuff their books with the kinds of detail you might find in an airport souvenir shop, but Hawkins has managed to avoid this. Instead, she uses details like the intricacies of milking and lambing, one character's preoccupation with turning off lights to save power, and a particularly poignant storm episode, to create a world that any New Zealander who has experienced small-town living will recognise. Hawkins is a large-animal vet when she isn't writing, and this gives her an edge when she describes some of the 'finer' aspects of farming.

With such courageous, endearing and (frankly) peculiar characters, this moving look at illness and love is one you could (and I did) devour in an afternoon or two. It goes particularly well with a cup of tea.



Author **Danielle Hawkins** is married to a farmer and lives in Otorohanga, where she practises as a vet part-time and attends to her two small children – writing in the blessed intervals when both are napping. This is her first book.



Reviewer **Bonnie Etherington** is a Master of Creative Writing student at Massey. Her fiction, poetry and travel writing has appeared in various publications including *Bravado*, *AA Directions* and *Let's Travel*. She is currently working on a novel.



# Fly boys

## ***Dogfight: The Battle of Britain***

Adam Claasen, Exisle Publishing

Reviewed by Paul Mulrooney.

John Gibson, Air Force Museum of New Zealand.

**A** journalist who once asked the Australian cricketer great and World War II fighter pilot Keith Miller to compare the pressures of sport to those of war got the answer he deserved. “I’ll tell you what pressure is,” Miller said dryly. “Pressure is a Messerschmitt up your arse. Playing cricket is not.”

The 171 airmen from Australia and New Zealand who fought in the Battle of Britain would have applauded.

Their stories are the subject of senior lecturer in modern history and international relations Dr Adam Claasen’s book, *Dogfight: The Battle of Britain*, the latest in the ANZAC Battles Series edited by historian Professor Glyn Harper.

Claasen first became interested in Australians and New Zealanders in the Battle of Britain while a graduate student of the University of Canterbury’s late Dr Vincent Orange, an internationally recognised authority on all things Royal Air Force (RAF).

The Antipodeans, Claasen says, warrant special coverage. Unlike the British, they were not public-school educated. A few

months before their arrival in Britain they were beginning their working lives as clerks, bank tellers and farm-hands.

“The Kiwis were egalitarian, and it was not uncommon for them to become friendly with their engineers and armourers. They earned respect because they were good at rugby and brilliant pilots.”

Brilliance was needed. If Britain lost the air war – and as Claasen recounts, several times in that summer Hitler and his Luftwaffe chief Hermann Goering believed the RAF was on the verge of collapse – Germany would have a free hand in its assault on the Soviet Union.

So who were these Australians and New Zealanders? Claasen covers the full cast of individuals, from Air Vice-Marshal Keith Park, whose command bore the brunt of the Luftwaffe’s air attacks, to the pilots themselves – people like Alan Deere, John MacKenzie and John ‘Gibbo’ Gibson – through to the people who dealt with the consequences, notably pioneering plastic surgeon Archibald McIndoe. All are vividly drawn.

Kiwi Air Vice-Marshal Keith Park was an imposing yet engaging figure who

won the admiration of pilots with his tactical nous, organisational abilities and egalitarian approach – he never forgot that cooks, aviation engineers and armourers were essential to maintaining a group’s operational readiness

He made a habit of sitting in on officers’ meals to gauge morale and pick up first-hand information.

A World War ace himself, Park also flew, piloting his personalised Hurricane to 11 Group bases to get an accurate appraisal of the fighting.

Claasen is good at conveying the psychological pressures the pilots faced – flying three or four sorties a day with the possibility of an agonising death, disfigurement or the loss of close friends constantly present.

“They suffered increasing fatigue, running on fumes and the intensity of combat. They became more snappy, they lost weight and they often drank heavily.”

They also became local celebrities. These were the ‘Brylcreem boys’ (in reference to the hair product), with a reputation for being seen off duty wearing flying jackets, trousers tucked into boots,

## Mixed media

holstered pistols and a woman on each arm.

“Young airmen lubricated their nights on the town with beer or spirits as they let off steam and tried to forget the terrors of the fight. The patrons of English country ale houses welcomed Churchill’s airmen with open arms,” Dr Claasen writes.

The ‘eat, drink and be merry for tomorrow we die’ ethos is understandable, for many did: 20 New Zealanders were killed in the Battle of Britain – the youngest being just 18 years old.

(However, some of those who escaped lived on well into old age. I was a young reporter on the local community paper in Balclutha in the early ’90s when I heard a colleague getting a blast down the telephone from pilot John MacKenzie about some over-exaggerated detail in an account of his exploits. It must have been a chastening experience.)

Noted World War II plastic surgeon Sir Archibald McIndoe, who worked for the RAF, was one of three New Zealand plastic surgeons in the war.

“He developed techniques to deal with the massive burns that fighter pilots suffered and he revolutionised treatment. If a plane, like a Hurricane, caught fire and fuel entered the cockpit, the pilot could end up with horrific burns if he survived at all.”

Mindful of the psychological effects that such burns and long-term scarring could have on the self-esteem of young men suddenly facing irrevocably altered lives, McIndoe, known by his patients

cockpit of the aircraft, and you turned it upside down, it would douse you in fuel. I think you were so pleased to get rid of the thing you didn’t think about how you did it.”



A Hurricane pilot prepares for battle, Air Force Museum of New Zealand.

as ‘the Boss’, applied compassionate pragmatism.

“Employing handpicked staff and co-opting local townspeople into his plans meant the Boss was able to create an environment that side-stepped medical conventions of the times, but ultimately eased the airmen back into a life beyond their injuries.”

Yet not everything in this account is dark. The Battle of Britain was ultimately won, and along the way these young men accumulated a record of courage and of boy’s-own derring do that still astonishes.

Let Gibson, a pilot who “gathered bale outs like prized possessions” stand as an example. (He was one of many pilots who made a custom of generously tipping their parachute packers.)

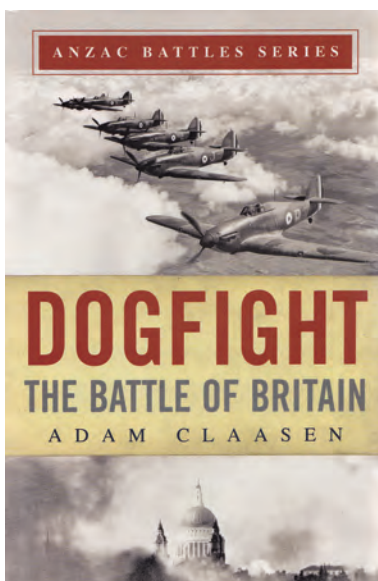
Gibson earned the Distinguished Flying Cross for steering a flaming Spitfire, which he had earlier used to shoot down eight enemy aircraft, away from the town of Folkestone, baling out at the perilous height of 1000 feet.

How do you bale out? Gibson described it thus:

“Some people said you turn the thing upside down and fall out, some people climbed over the side. Some people thought that if there was fuel in the

On one ill-fated sortie, at the end of which he had to bale, Gibson happened to be wearing a brand-new pair of handmade shoes from Duke Street in London.

“Fearing a sea landing, and hence damage to his shoes, he had the presence of mind to take them off and drop them over land before his parachute carried him over the Channel. Remarkably, an astute farmer sent them on to the base – a greater reward than the DFC in the mind of the New Zealander.” ■





### ***Incredibly Hot Sex goes to Frankfurt***

*Bryce Galloway explains zines to Michele Hollis.*

“I grew up in Hamilton, which is the butt of national jokes. There was one cool café and I was on my way there, and there was a little circle of people guffawing. They had a copy of this fanzine called *Truck Guy*, by a guy called Glen Frenzy – that’s his punk name.”

**Fanzine** (noun): a magazine, usually produced by amateurs, for fans of a particular performer, group, or form of entertainment. [*Oxford English Dictionary*]

“It was photos of truck guys; the archetypal big Mac truck, budgie smuggler Stubbies, muscle shirt, baseball cap guys standing outside their cabs. So it was a rather ironic homage to the macho truck guy. I don’t think there was any text at all; just these images.”

Bryce Galloway had known about the fanzine phenomenon before his first ‘real life’ encounter in 1980s’ heartland New Zealand. He’d read about them in the UK music magazine *NME*, when punk rock was new and dangerous. Zines like the London-based *Sniffin’ Glue* were a strident alternative to mainstream commercial music media, sloughing off advertising and editorial pressures, writing idiosyncratic articles, using the cheap production methods of the time (photocopy and Letraset), which created a rough-and-ready look: “Vivid marker titles, typewriter texts, really rudimentary reviews – even though the final circulation was quite



extensive, it never really got much flasher than that in terms of aesthetic.”

Twenty years on, Galloway is a lecturer in fine arts and one of New Zealand’s best-known zine artists. His quarterly zine, *Incredibly Hot Sex with Hideous People*, is up to 46 issues. It “plumbs the embarrassing”, diarising in words and sketches the minutiae of life as a middle-aged man with a mortgage and two kids. (His wife has right of veto – rarely exercised.)





**Excerpted from *Incredibly Hot Sex with Hideous People* #46, Frankfurt 2012.**

"No. I'll catch the next flight." So now, with a yawning 6 hours before my flight, I'm ever so casually checking my bags in and getting ready to make a tour of the terminal. "Don't head through the gates until a half hour before your flight sir, there's just one overpriced café through there." Before sending my exotic looking luggage on its way, I fossick around for a clean T-shirt and socks. I do not want to subject my very close economy flight neighbours to my rising stink.

*Flashback: 1993 and I am on a long haul flight from London to New Mexico. My shoestring budget insists I take a flight that includes a night in Charles De Gaulle Airport, slumped in a plastic chair. I have a bandaged broken ankle, and a pair of crutches from the National Health Service in Scotland (too much alcohol and weirdness on summer solstice). The labour of heaving around on crutches is working up more of a sweat than usual. I know this, but the reality of its perfume is masked by the fact that my intolerance to dairy means I always have a blocked nose. On the flight from Paris to the US, I hobble off to the bathroom and with considerable dexterity, I soap my sweaty feet in the hand-basin. Now I can relax without shoes. How considerate I am.*

Once we touch down in New Mexico and the safety belt light blinks off, the woman two seats to my right leans over and glares at me. "Your feet stink!" she scolds. "It's bad enough for me, but for the last 11 hours, this poor woman right next to you has had to endure even more. Shame on you." I pout, and with a hopeless expression, I make a show of collecting my crutches. Perhaps she will forgive an invalid. She shows no sign of it.

That horrible woman could have told me earlier in the flight. I would have put my shoes back on. No, not so brave. She'd rather chew me out once she could safely run away. Of course I'm quite mortified by the memory of this and now intensely sensitive to the idea that I should make any noses suffer.

So now I'm killing time: buying a copy of the trashiest US souvenir I can find (*The National Enquirer* on Randy Travis's drinking binge, and the existence of angels), checking Facebook on the free Internet service, searching the - also overpriced - franchise eateries for something... anything... gluten free, and finally, indulging in a sponge bath in the terminal toilets, with a fresh T-shirt and socks at hand.

As a genre, zines are loose and unpredictable. Some are one-offs, others are regular series. They may be a self-indulgent vehicle for someone's lousy poetry or a delightful piece of comic whimsy. Formats and production values vary wildly. Since they derive from an anti-capitalist, anti-authoritarian counter-culture, most cost little or nothing, and few carry advertising. In theory, they answer to no-one, although over time, well established zines may evolve a clear voice, consistent aesthetic and

strong audience expectations. What unites them, perhaps, is their diversity; their content is more varied and their personality less massaged than in the press.

By Galloway's guesstimate, there are currently about 200 titles across the country. Most of the larger centres have thriving zine-scenes, except Hamilton where there has not been an institution, group or person mentoring new zinesters. "The current crop of Auckland zines emerged from a craft house, so tend to reflect more

attention to making (hand-stitched binding, different paper stocks on each page, tooled vinyl on cover...). Wellington's scene was stimulated by the public library's decision to start archiving ephemeral publications, so there's no common stylistic or thematic concern. Dunedin came from a couple of indie rockers running the local gig guide."

At 46, Galloway admits he is probably one of the oldest zine-makers in New Zealand, although there's growing interest from people born before 1990. "It is one of the reasons I do the autobiographical narrative. If you're concerned about your skinny jeans and the fact that someone stole your iPhone, what's it gonna be like to read about domestic fatigue of the father and some kind of ailment that's to do with getting older? The mortality and complications of age that play out in my narratives might be a challenge to the forms of self-obsession that are part of being young."

The cover of issue 44 is a self-portrait of Galloway's shirtless torso with underpants on his head. That image graced posters advertising the recent Zines aus Neuseeland show at the Weltkulturen Museum, an ethnographic museum in Frankfurt. The exhibition, coinciding with the book fair, was curated by Galloway and Associate Professor Heather Galbraith, head of Massey's School of Fine Arts, and featured about 110 titles by 36 New Zealand zine-makers.

There were few glass display cases. To apply that treatment to fanzines would be "quite precious",

argued Galloway. Instead, they provided a photocopier and long-armed stapler and encouraged visitors to make their own irreverent mix of articles and drawings from the zines on display. Even zines with national or international distribution, such as *White Fungus*, agreed to waive copyright. "They believe that the mainstream channels for publication in New Zealand do not allow for very varied content. So I think they're happy to allow me to celebrate what fanzines are."

The very notion of curating a zine show, however, is anathema to some in the zine-scene, since it suggests hierarchy and elevates the curator's taste. But despite his love of the medium, Galloway knows there would be plenty of dross between gems in any random selection. "Whilst it's an all-comers medium, I do like that the Wellington zinefest has a Best of the Fest award, because it does say 'let's not make it a total love-in, let's look at what's good writing, good drawing, what's well made, what's intriguing, what's not.'" ■



## World famous in New Zealand

### **Great Kiwi Firsts**

Astral Sligo, Allen&Unwin

*Reviewed by Malcolm Wood.*

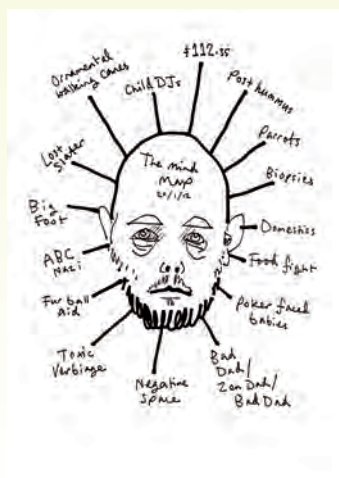
In newspaper circles they are sometimes called 'Hey Martha's, as in 'Hey Martha, listen to this...'. Here's one from the pages of *Great Kiwi Firsts*: [New Zealand's] "first (Christian) wedding ceremony took place on 23 June 1823 – the marriage also ended that day when the bride bolted for the bush". Or how about this? "In 1903 a Dunedin inventor patented New Zealand's first device capable of 'obtaining a workable power of commercial value from the force exerted by the action or movement of wave'."

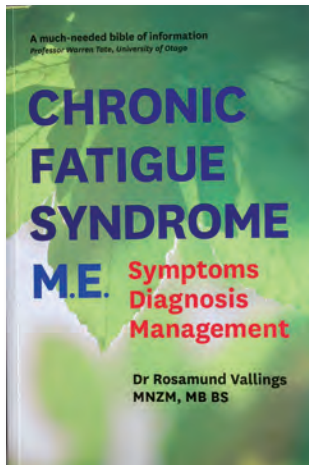
Slightly eccentric in format as befits its often eccentric content, *Great Kiwi Firsts* is a trove of odd facts and interesting people. The usual suspects – aviator (after a fashion) Richard Pierce, motorcycle speedster Burt Munro, Bill Hamilton of jet boat invention fame, and, of course, the no-introduction-needed Sir Ed – jostle with such fairly and unfairly forgotten types as Cantabrian John Matson, who was the first to import ostriches to New Zealand, and Joseph Burns, the murderer and ne'er-do-well who was the first European to be hanged in New Zealand.

Much the same goes for inventions. You might know that the electric fence and spreadable butter are New Zealand innovations, but did you know that we can also claim the lipped airtight lid on tins, the stamp-vending machine and the disposable syringe?

One thing that is good to see is the generous coverage given to New Zealand science and scientists.

Travel writer and author (and Massey alumna) Astral Sligo has a light touch. A good choice for that Kiwiana-ish gift to round out birthday or Christmas gift-giving. She blogs at [greatkiwifirsts.com](http://greatkiwifirsts.com).





## Tireless efforts

### **Chronic Fatigue Syndrome M.E.: Symptoms, Diagnosis, Management**

By Dr Rosamund Vallings, Calico Publishing

In 1955 an epidemic of a flu-like illness struck London's Royal Free Hospital, affecting 292 of its staff and resulting in the hospital's closure for four months. But that was not to be the end of it. When Rosamund Vallings was studying medicine at London Hospital in the 1960s, many of those same staff remained chronically ill. Some she would meet during bedside visits. The illness now had a name – 'Royal Free disease' – and a place in the textbooks and curriculum.

Today Royal Free disease – among a clutch of other debilitating conditions, such as Icelandic disease, Tapanui flu and post-viral fatigue syndrome – is recognised as being a manifestation of chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS) or myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME).

CFS often occurs in the wake of a severe viral infection, such as glandular fever. Its symptoms are various: fatigue, generalised aches and pains, poor sleep, memory difficulties and extreme and prolonged exhaustion after mental or physical exercise.

And it presents another problem: there is no definitive laboratory test. Hence diagnoses of CFS have sometimes met with a certain scepticism, with CFS dismissed as being all in the mind.

Dr Vallings' engagement with CFS began when she collaborated in a university project in the 1970s, and she is now one of New Zealand's leading authorities. Her book is a well written, sympathetic and highly accessible overview of CFS and how to cope with the condition. It is essential reading for anyone who has CFS (around four in 1000 New Zealanders) or is close to someone with the condition.

In January 2008 Vallings was awarded Membership of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to CFS/ME in the Queen's New Year Honours. Vallings graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from Massey in 1987.

## POPULATION TWO

You probably meant to hide out there for an hour, wouldn't want me to see the way you stare at the skyline, as though mentally dismantling the bank tower, bakery, post offices.

Are you wondering whether it is too late to dismantle what we have built without our even knowing the design until intention is revealed not just in its structure but in every structure that composes it?

Just a guess. Look at the mountains, how they compose the dusk, the script of history, is what I would tell you, were we speaking. Look at the puddles of pale silence, spilled like old milk, like weak wattage from the bedside lamp. Imagine a clay that vanishes, leaving the abstract design of structure, the outline of an idea.

What we have built can still be seen as the glimmer of a ghost town at the moment of waking or when given shape by the sound of a train, which cuts like a kettle's whistle through an unpleasant thought.

Look over your shoulder.  
The deck's sliding door is open.  
I'm watching you  
watch the long-dead stars still  
shouting their message in light:  
*Remember us. Remember us.*



Dr Bryan Walpert teaches creative writing as a senior lecturer at the School of English and Media Studies in Palmerston North. This poem is from his new collection of poetry, *A History of Glass*.



Dr Wendi Roe

# EXCLUSIVE MASSEY ESCORTED TOUR

## EXPLORE ANTARCTICA & ARGENTINA

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 Zodiac Cruising Amongst Majestic Icebergs • Land on the Antarctic Continent • Bustling Penguin Colonies • Sail in Comfort Aboard a Custom-built Expedition Vessel

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Together with your Massey host, discover the best of Buenos Aires, Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego.

Sail to the Antarctic where your understanding of this polar wilderness will be enriched by guided excursions ashore and presentations on ornithology, marine biology, geology and polar history.

While you're out experiencing the adventure of a lifetime, back home Alumni Travel is donating \$1000 (NZD) per person to Massey's Wildbase hospital, which is nursing our most vulnerable native species back to health.



Tour from \$13,575 pp twin share\*

Contact Alumni Travel – New Zealand's foremost Antarctic travel expert

PH: 0800 468 728 EMAIL: [info@alumnitravel.co.nz](mailto:info@alumnitravel.co.nz) [www.alumnitravel.co.nz](http://www.alumnitravel.co.nz)

\*Pricing subject to currency fluctuations – correct as of 12/2/2013



# Alumni

notes and news



“There is such a strong coffee culture in New Zealand, and in Wellington especially, so tea has been a bit forgotten. This is changing now and people are looking for great quality tea as well as coffee. At the moment I’m really the only Fairtrade-certified company out there providing boutique, herbal blends.” **Katie Hammond, owner of KTea**



### Snapshot

Jasmine Groves writes.  
Alumni Relations Manager

It seems that change is a constant in today's world and this year at Massey has been no exception. We have seen some big changes in 2012. Here are a few highlights from the past 12 months:

- Professor Robert Anderson became the university's new Deputy Vice-Chancellor
- Dr Selwyn Katene joined us as Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Māori and Pasifika) following Sir Mason Durie's retirement
- Camilla, the Duchess of Cornwall, visited Massey's equestrian centre and Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Professor Paul McDonald was appointed as the inaugural Pro Vice-Chancellor of the College of Health
- a new Institute of Education was formed within the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, with Professor Patricia Hardré appointed as its director
- Dr The Rt Hon Lockwood Smith officially opened the new Watson Science Laboratories on the Albany campus
- Massey's new creative arts building, Te Ara Hihiko opened.

We have launched some new benefits for alumni, including access to online journals as part of the alumni library membership. You can now purchase discounted ski holiday packages and join a tour through Argentina and Antarctica. We are also developing an expertise directory to make networking more meaningful.

One of the most rewarding parts of my role is hearing your stories and discovering how they connect with the Massey of yesteryear as well as influencing its future direction. There were copious success stories and personal and career highlights for many of you this year. As alumni you are a valuable part of our history and our future, and it was exciting to engage with so many of you throughout the year. In the next 12 months you can look forward to being kept up to date via the newsletter, alumni events, social media or just by sending us an email ([alumni@massey.ac.nz](mailto:alumni@massey.ac.nz)).

Take care and I look forward to hearing from you.

PS: Please keep in touch – if you move house or change your job during the year, do let us know so we can keep you updated about events being held in your area.

## SHARE A STORY

### HAVE YOU EVER WORKED IN A FAR-OFF PLACE?

Started a company? Climbed Everest? Undertaken ground-breaking research? Run a marathon? Whatever your journey, we'd love to know what you've been doing since Massey!

Just jot down 200 to 250 words about any success, event or news and we'll try to share it in our publications and e-newsletters. If you have a photo to go with the story we can include that too.

Email stories and images to [alumni@massey.ac.nz](mailto:alumni@massey.ac.nz) or log in to the Online Community and post them as part of Notes and News: [alumnionline.massey.ac.nz](http://alumnionline.massey.ac.nz).





# Katie's tea party

Jessica Sutton writes.



**A** piquant fragrance sneaks out from the simple brown paper bag that holds Katie Hammond's organic Fairtrade BreakfasTea, and when brewed, the tea is fresh and delicious. Her range also includes a lemongrass and ginger infusion, a vanilla-flavoured tea and a green tea among others.

Katie started her business in 2010 after completing a Bachelor of Business Studies at Massey, majoring in management and enterprise development. In her last year of study she had to develop a business plan for a viable company. That's when KTea was born.

"I started drinking tea at university. I'd gone to a farmers' market and tried some herbal blends of tea and I thought they were amazing. I'd always wanted to own my own business, and make it Fairtrade – I had been studying social entrepreneurship at university and I really wanted to do something that was good and sustainable."

Hammond says the Massey business degree has been an excellent preparation for her working life.

"It's been really valuable with the practical accounting side of things. I got a good grounding in business and that theoretical learning you get from university. I don't think I'd be where I am today without my degree."

Starting small, Hammond began selling at the City Market and Underground Craft Market in Wellington, ordering tea in three-kilogram boxes from a third-party supplier in Australia. Today she imports 100kg boxes of Fairtrade black and green teas directly from the world's first certified organic tea garden in Sri Lanka, with South Island herbs mixed in to make creative flavour combinations.

"It was a matter of trial and error. I had an idea of what I wanted to do and just played with the flavours and combinations. It was a lot of fun."

KTea is currently sold in five cafes in the lower North Island and top of the South Island, in two Wellington supermarkets and at specialist fine food retailers Moore Wilson's, Commonsense Organics and Urban Harvest. Her focus for 2013 is to grow brand awareness, and she hopes her tea will be sold by stockists throughout the country in the near future.

Katie blends her tea at a nearby commercial kitchen on Monday nights. Although she still has a part-time day job, she is looking forward to the day when her new business demands her full attention.

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"I had been studying social entrepreneurship at university and I really wanted to do something that was good and sustainable"

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# Events

In 2012 the Alumni Office introduced two national tours, which travelled through New Zealand in July and October. They were very well received, so we're going to do it again. Keep your eyes out for our national tours in 2013.

We ran other events in New Zealand as well as visiting alumni overseas, and had wonderful welcomes in Samoa, New York and Sydney.

If you would like to find out about upcoming events near you, please make sure we have your current postal address. That way we can invite you to events in your area.



Professor Ingrid Day (second row, fourth from right) with some of Massey's alumni in Samoa.

In September, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Robert Anderson hosted an Alumni After 5 function in Sydney.



At the Albany graduation After 5 function, a new group of Massey graduates is welcomed into the alumni body.



## Celebrating 50 Years of Vet



Come and join us to celebrate 50 years of veterinary education at Massey on **Friday 5 July** in Palmerston North.

A professional development symposium will run during the day and a gala dinner will be held in the evening.

Join the LinkedIn group [Vets@Massey](#) to find out more.



## LA Brooks Trophy



As of 2012, netball is part of the traditional LA Brooks rugby weekend and brings another opportunity for rivalry between Lincoln and Massey Universities. The winning university receives the Enid Hills Memorial Trophy, which commemorates Massey's first female student. Enid died in June 2012, aged 99.

Pictured left, Enid's daughter Diana Bevins (centre) presents the award to the Massey netball captains.

Below left, Fergus anxiously watches the action on the Manawatu campus.

Below, the Lincoln (in white) and Massey (in blue) rugby teams run on to the field. The LA Brooks was fiercely contested again this year, with Massey winning the rugby 11-7.



## Lake Taupo Cycle Challenge



Fergus welcomed a record number of alumni, students, staff and friends to the Massey marquee at the Cycle Challenge in November.



Alan White survived the gruelling 160-kilometre ride around Lake Taupo. He was one of many Massey staff who took part in the ride.

# 2013 events

Events are added to our calendar as they are planned, so please visit [alumnionline.massey.ac.nz](http://alumnionline.massey.ac.nz) or email us ([alumni@massey.ac.nz](mailto:alumni@massey.ac.nz)) for details and the most up to date list.

## June

### National Fieldays - 13 June

Join us at The Ferrybank in Hamilton to meet up with other alumni and agribusiness professionals.

### US and UK

Functions in San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York and London, 19-28 June.

## July

### Celebrating 50 Years of Vet

Gala dinner and symposium in Palmerston North, 5 July.

### Tour 1

Our first tour for 2013 will travel through the North and South Islands. Venues and dates tbc.

## September

### LA Brooks

It's Lincoln's turn to host the annual rugby and netball fixture between Lincoln and Massey. If you're in Christchurch, make sure you get along to support your team.

## October

### Tour 2

A second tour will travel throughout New Zealand. Venues and dates tbc.

## November

### Lake Taupo Cycle Challenge

(30 November 2013)

Whether you're riding the challenge or part of a support crew, make sure you pop into the Massey marquee. We'll be there throughout the day and during prizegiving.

# LOOKING FOR LOST ALUMNI?

## DO YOU RECEIVE *MASSEY*, BUT HAVE ALUMNI FRIENDS WHO DON'T?

Does *Massey* get delivered to your parents, friends or flatmates but not to you? Do you get *Massey* but not our bi-monthly e-newsletter or invitations to events?

If any of these scenarios fit you or your alumni friends, colleagues or family, let us know your latest contact information. It's easy to keep us updated: email your latest details to [alumni@massey.ac.nz](mailto:alumni@massey.ac.nz) or visit [alumnionline.massey.ac.nz](http://alumnionline.massey.ac.nz) to update your profile.



# Help us help you!



LinkedIn



Facebook



Online Community

### Networks

Network face to face with other alumni or join one of our virtual networks: Online Community, LinkedIn and Facebook.

### Access more from the Massey library

As part of your alumni library membership you can now access selected journal articles, eBooks and databases as well as borrow books. See [alumnionline.massey.ac.nz](http://alumnionline.massey.ac.nz) to find out more.

### E-newsletter

Keep in touch with news from the university and find out about events that are planned in your region by subscribing to our bi-monthly e-newsletter. To subscribe, visit [alumnionline.massey.ac.nz](http://alumnionline.massey.ac.nz) and follow the links, or email [alumni@massey.ac.nz](mailto:alumni@massey.ac.nz). This is also a great place to showcase your stories, so if you have something to share, please let us know.

### Online Community

This is where you'll find everything you need to know about Massey's alumni and what the alumni office has planned. Register as a member to keep in touch with other alumni, find out about networks, view the latest news and events and discover the benefits and services available to you. Don't forget to update your details so we can stay in touch.

### Find a classmate

With a database of more than 100,000 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 you would like to catch up with, and, if possible, we will help you. Note: this process is carried out in accordance with the Privacy Act (1993).

### Let's get together

Reunions are a great way to stay connected to your class group or people with similar qualifications. If you let us know what you're planning and when, we can contact those in your class to tell them. You get their responses directly but we can support you to organise your reunion. We would love to hear from alumni groups who have reunions planned.

### Alumni benefits and services

Alumni have access to a number of benefits and services from:

- Igloo Insulation NZ
- Kevin Bills Photography
- Albany Recreation Centre
- Massey Sport and Recreation Centre Manawatu
- PaCE (Professional and Continuing Education)
- Sunset Island Resort Apartments, Gold Coast, Australia
- Snomad Ski Adventures.

If you are associated with a business or service and would like to offer a benefit to Massey alumni, please email us at [alumni@massey.ac.nz](mailto:alumni@massey.ac.nz) or read more on [alumnionline.massey.ac.nz](http://alumnionline.massey.ac.nz).

### Career and employment service

As a Massey graduate you have lifelong access to job vacancies and career events through the MasseyCareerHub portal. We are seeing more and more roles under GRAD+ where employers are looking for applicants with university qualifications and work experience. We also use the portal to publicise career-related events on Massey's campuses that everyone is welcome to attend. So if you are looking for a change in career or returning from overseas, be sure to log in regularly to see what's on the site: [careerhub.massey.ac.nz](http://careerhub.massey.ac.nz).



## Massey Defining Excellence Awards 2013



Distinguished Alumni (from left): Barry O'Neil, Frances Hughes, David Kelly and John Luxton.

### Distinguished Alumni 2013

Hon John Luxton QSO, Sir Geoffrey Peren Medal, for significant service to the nation through his career in politics. Dr Frances Hughes, RN, DNurs, ONZM; Distinguished Alumni Service Award for services to the global community. Dr Barry O'Neil, Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award for his work in biosecurity and animal welfare. David Kelly, Distinguished Young Alumni Award in recognition of his fast-growing business, Zeald.



Research Medal Award winners – Early Career (from left): Drs Sarah-Jane Paine, Max Schlesler and Karen Stockin.



Professors Nigel French (above) and John O'Neill (below), winners of Research Medal Awards.

### Massey University Research Medals 2012

Professor Nigel French, Research Medal Award – Individual; Drs Sarah-Jane Paine, Max Schlesler and Karen Stockin, Research Medal Award – Early Career; Professor John O'Neill, Research Medal Award – Supervisor; Health and Ageing Research Team, Research Medal Award – Team.



Teaching Award winners (from left): Dr Elizabeth Gray, Liz Norman and Dr Zoe Jordens, and Teaching and Learning Support Award winner: Ken Cage.



### National Award for Tertiary Teaching Excellence 2012

Dr Zoe Jordens and Liz Norman.

### Vice-Chancellor's Teaching Awards 2012

Dr Elizabeth Gray, Dr Zoe Jordens, Liz Norman and Amanda Yates.



The Health and Ageing Research Team, winner of the Research Medal Award – Team.



Associate Professor Cindy Kiro and Masterate graduate Frank Pega (pictured) are Massey's newest Fulbright alumni. The Fulbright programme offers New Zealand students and researchers the opportunity to study, teach and research in the US. Scholarships are also given to their American counterparts to study in New Zealand.



Distinguished alumnus Dr Lockwood Smith has taken up an appointment as New Zealand High Commissioner to the UK, following a career as a Member of Parliament. Smith, who gained his Bachelor of Agricultural Science (1970) and Master of Agricultural Science (1973) and lectured at Massey before completing a PhD in animal science at the University of Adelaide, left Parliament to take up the new role early in 2013. In 2010 Smith was a recipient of one of the inaugural Massey Distinguished Alumni Awards, presented for meritorious service to the university, community or nation.

## 1969

**Hugh Davies**, Bachelor of Veterinary Science writes: "I have just written, illustrated and published my first book, *From the City to the Seals – a Complete Guide to Wellington's Coast*. I retired as the Director of Biosecurity New Zealand's (as it was then) Investigation and Diagnostic Centres in August 2010. I am now fully occupied as a volunteer with community groups and as an author and photographer. We know you can't beat Wellington on a good day, a day with a crystal clear blue sky and not a breath of wind, but these are not the only good days on Wellington's coast. This book covers everything you need to know to have a good day around the Wellington coast – its physical origins, settlement by Māori and Europeans, major geological and man-made features and local history. It also covers places to swim, dine and see wildlife, illustrated and described as you travel from the inner city to the seals at Sinclair Head. The book is available from independent book sellers, museum stores around Wellington and from me directly."

## 1970

**Richard Collins**, Bachelor of Agricultural Science and Master of Agricultural Science writes: "I have now been back from Western Australia for six years and have a BioGro certified organic citrus orchard. In Australia, I worked in no-till seeding and alternative weed control research for 11 years with the Department of Agriculture and the Western Australian No-Tillage Farmers' Association. Pat had several librarian jobs including at Curtin Muresk campus and Northern town library."



**Dianne Daniels** writes: "Mine has not been a linear or a logical path but rather a cramming in what I could as I raised three children and cared for my mother. I gradually became more involved in the workforce and was a community volunteer with the Women's Health Collective and Project Waitangi. I graduated from Teachers' College in 1976, gained a SPELD Cert in 1981, Cert Social Studies in 1998 and an MED from

Victoria University in 2007. During this time I had numerous part-time contracts coordinating community education at Whitireia Polytechnic and lecturer in Te Tiriti Education across four tertiary institutions. I was also an academic support tutor and treaty coordinator at CIT and WelTec, and even had a stint on the vet nurse cert for NMIT! This frenetic hauling of resources from one campus to another made my car boot feel like my office, so I was happy to take on the coordination of the Computers in Homes programme. This began as a 0.2 job which I have actively grown to a team of 15 eclectic and gifted regional coordinators. Together we take ICT, digital literacy and internet connections to underserved communities around Aotearoa New Zealand (computersinhomes.org.nz). That Dip Tchg at Massey was such a great grounding for a multi-faceted career at the coalface of educational and social issues where I feel we can make a difference. Nga mihi to all on that journey."

## 1984

**Andrew Gore**, Bachelor of Veterinary Science writes: "After leaving Massey with my vet degree in 1983 I moved to what was then the remote location of Raglan – the road had a good deal more bends in it then! From Raglan I moved to Golden Bay. After a number of years there, much more experience and a small family, I was off again to a larger, more challenging practice in the North Island. I had several years of settled dairy practice and family-raising there, and was then off to Kyrgyzstan, a truly remote place, where I set up some vet practices in the mountains near Naryn. I was then home long enough to gain a postgraduate business diploma from Waikato, then off to Chile to do some consultancy work. Home again and with an insatiable appetite for challenges, I started my own client focused business, Global Veterinary Services in 2010. The journey continues."

## 1985

**Ramakrishnan Swaminathan (Rama)**, Master of Business Administration (Agriculture) writes: "I gained my MBA from Massey University, Palmerston North. During that time I was the only one in our community who had gone abroad to study. I returned to India and started a business that now employs over 1000 people, which has inspired many youngsters in my community to take up higher education abroad. Massey has changed my life. I always remember those best days in life."

## 1987

**Neil Green**, Graduate Diploma Business Studies 1987 and **Tracey Bridges**, Bachelor of Arts (Humanities) 1990. Neil and Tracey were two of the founders of leading Australasian communications firm SenateSHJ and first connected at Massey. Tracey's father was Professor of Marketing and later Dean of the Business Faculty, and Neil was his student. While they never actually met at Massey, Neil says he greeted Tracey like an old friend when they began working together at Logos Public Relations. Neil is now the Chief Executive of SenateSHJ and Tracey is a partner and manager of SenateSHJ's Wellington office. They launched the company in 2003. SenateSHJ now has four offices and more than 40 consultants. In 2009, it was named Australasian Consultancy of the Year by The Holmes Report, and was a finalist in 2010 and 2012. Neil helped manage the communications around the Royal Commission's report into the Auckland Super City and the failure of the CTV building in Christchurch. In 2012, Tracey became a Fellow of the Public Relations Institute of New Zealand.

## 1988

**Wendy Joy Baker**, Diploma in Horticulture writes: "Studying at Massey has inspired my life in many ways. I am proud of all my achievements. The Massey tutors were great people and I enjoyed living on campus in the YFC hostel. 25 years on from winning the inaugural Sports Person of the Year and double sports blues in harriers and cross country, I still keep fit and am passionate about sport. I won nine medals at the 2005 and 2007 Masters Games in running and swimming events and competed at the 2009 World Masters Games. My environmental career utilised my Diploma in Horticulture and included working for BOP Fruitpackers Te Puke, Isthmus Group Ltd and BOP Regional Council. I won a QEII technicians study award in 2001 and travelled to Australia to study environmental initiatives. The last four years have seen me living on a small lifestyle block in a converted church in Hawke's Bay. I have planted hundreds of plants and nurtured regenerating ferns and native plants. I have also had some of my poetry published in local newspapers and presented on radio." (hawkesbaynz.net/wendyjoybaker)

## 1990

**Malcolm Ting**, Bachelor of Science writes: "At the time I didn't realise it, but my Massey education taught me



Lindsay Alexander, his now late wife Shirley and all his seven children have studied at Massey University. The last will graduate in May. Pictured from left are David (PhD), Samuel (PhD), Lee (BEd), Craig (MBA Hons), Rosalind (BA Hons), Guy (BSc Hons), Kirsten (BBS), Lindsay (BA and DipEd) and Shirley (BA). Lindsay writes, "It is a great sorrow that Shirley fell asleep last August, but I know that she too would have been justly proud of the family's achievements."

to be open-minded and adaptable – something that has served me well over the last twenty years in my work and personal life. When the ISO 9001 bubble grew in the early 90s, I became a quality consultant, then a quality management systems auditor to implement and audit management systems in NZ, Australia and Fiji. As ISO 9001 grew worldwide, the job took me to the US where I was employed as a lead auditor in a large quality certification, inspection and testing company. I stayed with them for 17 years, enjoying technical, marketing and project management positions for large global accounts in the food, automotive, industrial engineering, consumer goods manufacturing and healthcare delivery sectors. In July I changed fields completely. I am now vice president of an internet company in New York that provides a cloud-based medical records, practice management and billing system. Along with emergency medical technician training and practical experience in a hospital emergency room, the education I received at Massey under Drs Brown, Clarke and Byron still comes in handy when talking to healthcare providers about disease management, lab tests and clinic workflows.

## 1991



**Jim Edwards**, ONZM, Bachelor of Veterinary Science 1973, Graduate Diploma Business Studies 1991. Last year he undertook a mission to Qatar where he worked on biosecurity, food safety and aspects of zoonotic disease in the Qatar

National Food Security Programme. The programme was established in 2008 to reduce Qatar's reliance on food imports by becoming self-sufficient. It not only develops recommendations for food security policy, but also joins regional, international and non-governmental organisations to develop research for best practice and optimal use of resources in the agricultural sector. Jim recently travelled to Colombia to speak at the PANVET Congress. As well as his overseas work, he is Managing Director of World Veterinary Consultants.

## 1992



**Len Ward**, Master of Business Administration. Len has recently been appointed Chair of Gifted Kids ([giftedkids.co.nz](http://giftedkids.co.nz)) having been a board member since 2011. He is enthusiastic about this new role. Gifted Kids was founded in 2000 to meet the educational and social needs of gifted children in New Zealand. Services are delivered in northern Wairoa, Auckland, Rotorua, the Hutt Valley, Wellington, Masterton, Dunedin and Invercargill. Len has senior executive and company director experience primarily in the financial and energy markets. He is a qualified lawyer with his own practice, Tusk Legal Services. Len has a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) from the University of Auckland, is a Fellow of the New Zealand Institute of Management and a Member of the Institute of Directors in New Zealand.

## 1994

**Brett Shadbolt**, Graduate Diploma in Business Studies writes: "I founded, and am currently CEO of Censere Group, a pan-Asian valuation and advisory firm with 12 offices across the Asia Pacific region. We were recently awarded the Quamnet 2012 Outstanding Enterprise Award for Business Appraisal and Valuation. My interview for the award can be seen at [tinyurl.com/bdq7ble](http://tinyurl.com/bdq7ble) and our announcement about the award is at [tinyurl.com/bc4zplc](http://tinyurl.com/bc4zplc)."

## 1997

**Keith Roberts**, Bachelor of Business Studies. Several years ago Keith Roberts and Mark Dickson BSc (Hons) (1997), along with Jeremy Wyn Harris, started Builderscrack. The online business enables customers to choose a proven tradesman and get a competitive price for their work. It is now New Zealand's leading website for comparing quotes and customer reviews from tradesmen and in October last year, Builderscrack celebrated the 25,000th job being posted ([builderscrack.co.nz](http://builderscrack.co.nz)).

**Murray Crossett**, Graduate Diploma in Business Studies writes: "Technically I haven't left the Massey fold, quite yet. As an alumnus, my greatest pleasure has been in seeing what my learning has done for my children. From babies they have watched their father struggling over assignments and studying for exams, so I think I have instilled in them a desire to learn, to challenge and to succeed."

## 1998

**Brynn Neilson**, Bachelor of Arts (Social Sciences) writes: "I started my first web company ([nzmade.com](http://nzmade.com)) while studying Media and Communications at Massey Palmerston North. We did really well with that company and created EziBuy's first e-commerce website, as well as live video streaming for [Hollywoodmusic.com](http://Hollywoodmusic.com) in California. Once I graduated I sold the company and started Spinning Planet LLC in the US. I'm back in Palmerston North now because I love the region, but Spinning Planet is still going strong with clients in Australia, the US and several hundred in New Zealand. We've now moved our servers to Palmerston North and this year we'll be releasing our own internet marketing software."

**Bo (Steven) Liang**, Master of Business Administration writes: "In 1995, I gave up a banking job in Shanghai and emigrated to Auckland. After a year at Auckland University



**Enid Hills**, the first woman to graduate with a Massey University qualification, died in Palmerston North in 2012 aged 99. Mrs Hills was the first female student to enrol at Massey in 1932. "Down at the main entrance they'd made a guard of honour out of farm implements to mark my arrival. My friend Jeff told me to go in the back way," she laughed when interviewed in 2006. She was soon joined by two other women but later joked they were outnumbered 50 to one by men. Hills graduated from Massey Agricultural College in 1933 with a Certificate in Poultry Farming and went on to be a poultry farmer, journalist and mother of four. The Enid Hills Memorial Trophy went up for grabs for the first time as part of the LA Brooks weekend between Lincoln and Massey Universities in 2012. This netball match will now be an annual feature. See photos on the events pages.



**Dr Ashley Burrowes**, Bachelor and Master of Business Studies (1981), is Professor of Accounting at Woodbury University in Burbank, California. Burrowes joined a panel to discuss entrepreneurship at a MidSweden University conference in October, where His Royal Highness Prince Carl Philip chaired the panel after presenting the Swedish Entrepreneurship Award. Burrowes was a founder of the Swedish Centre for Accounting & Auditing Research.

## Alumni notes

I began an MBA in Palmerston North. About 70 percent of my classmates were also from China. After graduation I struggled to find work in New Zealand, so after several months I returned to Shanghai without my family. They joined me three months later. I had several short-term contracts for the next few years and it was a difficult time. In 2000, I eventually got a job in a multinational company establishing credit management for Chinese companies. I have now been with them for 13 years. So my real story after leaving Massey is more about failure than success. Every morning when I drive to the office, I recall the blue sky of New Zealand. Although my time at Massey was short, it profoundly influenced and changed my life. Compared to this, success or failure seems less important.”

**Steven Knutson**, Bachelor of Science writes: “I graduated from Massey Palmerston North with a BSc in Computer Science. I worked in local government and for an IT Services

company as an infrastructure engineer and solutions architect and in April 2011 founded Canterbury Business Solutions, a software development, business intelligence and SharePoint consultancy. In the first 12 months we have built a strong client base in New Zealand and Australia and grown from a team of three to 13. It has been quite a steep learning curve but also a rewarding and enjoyable experience.”

### 1999

**Neil Sinclair**, Bachelor of Business Studies writes: “I was sponsored through Massey University by the Royal New Zealand Air Force to complete a BBS with a double major in Marketing and Advanced Strategic Management, which I completed in 1998. I left the RNZAF in 2001 to become an ActionCOACH business coach and now work in the UK as a master licensee with a team of 20 business coaches helping change the UK business world. I have been with ActionCOACH 11 years this year

and have travelled the world while coaching business owners to achieve greater levels of success.”



**Peter Blaikie**, Bachelor of Veterinary Science 1999, Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration 2002 and **Nick Gorman**, Bachelor of Applied Science 1999, Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration 2001.

RxVet was co-founded by Peter and Nick and recently launched in New Zealand to provide niche products to the veterinary market. It has a range of products from international manufacturer Dechra and plans to build upon this with

more innovative products to fill niches in the local market. A key goal is to offer vets greater choice and make a difference for veterinary practices and ultimately the care of animals. They have four territory managers around the country and have begun spending time finding out what additional products vets might like and seeing if they can help close some of those gaps. Peter and Nick welcome product suggestions from vets and nurses.

**Matt Comb**, Bachelor of Science writes: “I’ve had another great year with Imarda. As CTO and chief architect, I was delighted that our i360 platform was named as preferred solution for the New Zealand Police and I also learned a great deal during Imarda’s march toward listing on the NZX. I’m now fortunate to be working alongside some of New Zealand’s top high tech icons who are empowering and enabling me to continue to paint my piece of the architectural landscape.”



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## Alumni notes

### 2001

**Hemamali Morton**, Executive Master of Business Administration writes: "I completed my MBA at Massey University. After a full-on ten years as a finance manager in the corporate world, I am now focussing on expanding our successful accommodation business. Working with my husband John, we provide a short and medium-term themed rental accommodation in 2700 square metres of beautiful landscaped gardens that lead on to the Mount Hobson Domain in Remuera." ([mounthobson.com](http://mounthobson.com))

### 2002

**Christopher Morrison**, Bachelor of Business Studies writes: "I graduated as a Massey Scholar with a BBS majoring in Sport Management and Coaching. I studied part-time while running my own training consultancy business. I have maintained my interest in sport and recreation through voluntary coaching and governance roles. Since graduating, my professional career has been focussed on the people aspects of organisational change, predominantly in the professional services, IT and finance sectors. I have most recently been accountable for developing and implementing people strategies to support a leading professional services firm. Leading a team of 30 HR professionals, the role enables the attraction, retention and development of more than 1300 employees and 110 partners across New Zealand."

### 2003

**Karl Lijun Qin**, Executive Master of Business Administration writes: "My Massey MBA gave me more than I expected! I met my business partner Ken Lilley in the programme and began to supply Ken's business (BDT Ltd) with home appliances. Then Ken and I jointly set up Haier New Zealand Ltd. I was appointed as CEO of Haier Australia to set up the operation in Oceania, and in 2007 to set up my own venture, TDES, which supplies international companies such as National Oil, Halliburton, Outotec, Fletcher Insulation and CQMS Razor. The MBA from Massey helped me to reorganise my knowledge and gave me the confidence to take on any challenge. Most importantly, it's helped me make enough money to enjoy life."

### 2004



**John-Daniel Trask**, Bachelor of Information Science writes: "I started building businesses in high school and through university - mowing lawns, selling software to hide questionable browser history (it seemed to be big with teenage lads) and a PC repair company. I went on to spend three years with the amazing guys at Intergeren - learning what I could about a rapidly growing company. I joined when they had about 40 staff and left when they had around 150. I left Intergeren to do what I knew I would always do, start my own business. I formed Pervasive Group as an investment company and launched Mindscape with some friends. I've not looked back and the businesses continue to grow at a great rate. Mindscape generates over 90 percent of its product revenue from exports and has been profitable for years. I've been blessed to be surrounded by great mentors as well as people who have been so willing to support me. My overall goal is to continue growing Mindscape and the various other interests of Pervasive Group to benefit those involved, the wider community and New Zealand."

**Isis Nair**, Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) writes: "Since leaving Massey, I worked for Fisher & Paykel in Auckland, moved briefly into consulting before getting an awesome job with Google in Sydney. This job allowed me a transfer to the US where I worked in the main office in Silicon Valley and then San Francisco. Now we are back in Australia with two little kids. I'm now moving into the world of development and social change by doing a Masterate at the University of Queensland."

### 2006

**John Ju Seok Lee**, Bachelor of Design writes: "As soon as I graduated from Massey I spent two years working for local consultancies, then studied for a Master of Design at Umea Institute of Design in Sweden. After the first year I was fortunate enough to have a year of internships around the world for design organisations and consultancies such as IDEO, Lunar Design and Nokia. My thesis

## Women on Boards



Lesley Whyte and Rosanne Hawden co-founded Women on Boards New Zealand Incorporated in 2010. Both Massey alumni (Rosanne has a DBA and Lesley an MBA), they started the organisation to promote greater gender diversity at the C-suite and board level and to prepare and empower the next generation of board-ready women.

Lesley writes: "We believe that the boards of all companies, large, small and not for-profit, will benefit from the diversity that a gender balanced board will bring. Our focus is the 'two way street' where senior women directors share their skills with aspiring women directors. This ensures the flow of competent future directors, fostering the growth and development of the next generation of women on boards."

The organisation has been very successful and has branches in Auckland and Christchurch. The Wellington branch is being launched in the first quarter of 2013. [wob.org.nz](http://wob.org.nz), LinkedIn (Women on Boards NZ) or Twitter (@lesley\_whyte).

## Welcome Fergus George Massey Featonby



Amy Featonby (née Deller) shared this touching story with Massey. She writes: "My husband Tom and I met in Dr D'Cruz's English class as 18 year olds in semester 2, 2005. We married in January 2008 at Wharerata and our first child was born in 2012. He is a boy, named Fergus George Massey Featonby. We decided to include Massey as his second middle name because Massey is a special place to us - we met there, married there and regularly take walks in the grounds since we live in Palmerston North."

Amy has a Bachelor of Arts, 2008 and Tom a Graduate Diploma of Teaching (Secondary) 2009.



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## Architecture for Humanity



Andy Florkowski's concept of making tourist rest stops from World War II bunkers north of Napier secured his place as a finalist in the Architecture for Humanity 2011–2012 Open Architecture competition.



The global competition challenged designers to work with community groups and come up with innovative solutions to re-envision closed, abandoned and decommissioned military sites. The competition attracted more than 600 international teams from 70 countries. A jury of 33 international professionals evaluated the submissions according to community impact, contextual appropriateness, ecological footprint, economic viability and design quality. They filtered the entries down to 10 finalists – all of whom exhibited work as part of the 2012 Venice Architecture Biennale. Andy gained his Bachelor of Design from

Massey University in 2010.

project (with an NGO called Riders for Health) allowed me to travel to Lesotho where I visited local health care providers to identify design insights and the needs of end users. During my study I gained international recognition for some of the work, which included IDEA Awards (gold), RedDot Awards (concept awards) and Braun Award (top 50). Because I enjoyed my internship in San Francisco so much, I wanted to go back to the Bay Area in California. Prior to graduating, I contacted Nokia and have landed a full-time job with them."



**Matt Cowley**, Bachelor of Resource and Environmental Planning writes: "I graduated with a BRP in 2005. I was awarded Tauranga's Young Professional of 2012 in the young employee category. Read more at [tinyurl.com/aydaynd](http://tinyurl.com/aydaynd)."

### 2007

**Logan Wait**, Bachelor of Technology (Honours). Logan completed a Bachelor of Technology majoring in Product Development at Massey (Albany). During his studies, he worked at the e-Centre for a company called Cleanflow Systems, developing high-tech pipe inspection equipment. In 2012, he completed a PhD in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Auckland, developing a method to support the strategic innovation process within manufacturing companies. During his PhD, he co-founded ecoPortal with some colleagues, which is an advanced software program that simplifies the management of sustainability issues for large organisations. Fonterra and the University of Auckland now use ecoPortal, and Auckland Council showcased it at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, as a system they are using to become the world's most liveable city.

### 2008

**Dione Joseph**, Bachelor of Arts. 2012 was a theatre-inspired year for Dione. It included travel to the US to participate in the Lincoln Center Theatre Directors Lab in Chicago, the Planet IndigenUS Festival in Toronto, a guest residency with Indigenous Storytellers Debajehmujig on Manitoulin Island and three weeks as a Creative in Residence in China. Dione spent the winter in Europe, primarily to present her research

on Aboriginal Australian theatre at an international theatre conference in Liebnitz, Austria.



This was accompanied by various other theatre-research related activities, including a presentation at Manchester Metropolitan University. Having been accepted into three more conferences in Europe this year and with two shows already in the pipeline, Dione is preparing for another busy year (including trips back home to New Zealand).

### 2010

**Nats Subramanian**, Master of Business Administration writes: "I finished my Exec MBA (NZ1 cohort) in 2009–2010 and have been working in the IT Industry for close to two decades now. I am looking to start my own business with my wife around the end of this year. We want to take small groups of Kiwis to Southern India, with the option of the world famous Golden Triangle as an add-on, to show them the real country.

### 2011



**Riaz Khan**, Master of Veterinary Science writes: "I belong to the Pakistan tribal area of Bajour agency, also known as FATA. I am from a poor, backward area. My admission to the KP Agricultural University in Peshawar in 2001 encouraged other people in my area to give their children higher education. Before that, it was thought that higher education was only possible for rich people. Within a year, three students from my area who also had a poor background had followed me in the same course, and another one went to a different university. After graduating in December 2005, I worked as a farm production officer and advisor with small rural farmers in the settled and tribal areas in northwest Pakistan for three years. In 2010 I was selected for an online Massey University course funded by the World Bank and the EU. I graduated in 2011. Massey polished my skills and gave me exposure to the outside world. After a year I was selected for another scholarship and ended up in Australia to do an M.Phil. My research was focused on small rural dairy farmers in Pakistan and I

## Alumni notes

presented my work in AAA congress last year in Thailand. My plan is to join a university in Pakistan after completing my PhD. I am looking for funding and my proposal is currently short listed, so am hopeful of receiving a grant for this higher study. I may or may not be a source for inspiration, but surely Massey is an inspiration for me.”

**Kelly-Jose Lenihan**, Bachelor of Communication writes: “I graduated in 2011 with a Bachelor of Communication. Since then I have moved to Australia and have been working at Cisco as a virtual business manager for New Zealand and South Australia.”

### 2012

**Anna Hart**, Bachelor of Business Studies writes: “I have only just graduated, as I moved to Australia during my degree and had to finish it off by distance while working full time. Since then I have become a product manager for CareerOne in Australia. My most recent project is the CareerOne Virtual Careers Fair for Graduates.” (virtualfair.careerone.com.au)

**Hashim Alzaki**, Bachelor of Business Studies writes: “Shortly after graduating, I returned home to Saudi Arabia and was able to secure a place in a graduate programme offered by one of the country’s leading commercial banks. It was a dream that became reality! When I was studying for my BBS in finance, I had wondered if I would ever be capable of starting a career in banking with such vicious competition for scarce opportunities like this. The selection process was rigorous and applicants had to go through a number of assessments, eliminating hundreds of them at each stage.”

**Mareta Marsters**, Bachelor of Arts writes: “After completing my degree in English in 2012, I decided that I wanted to de-stress and enjoy the rest of the year with a little art and creativity until graduation in November. I have now enrolled in a Graduate Diploma in Business Studies majoring in Entrepreneurship and Small Business for 2013.”

**Jill Darragh**, Bachelor of Arts writes: “I have recently self-published a mystery novel called *The Case of the Distant Relative* based on the

New Zealand suffragette movement in 1893. Much of my research was gleaned from the *Evening Post* from March to September 1893 when women achieved the vote. I suppose this could be called a media studies novel, being influenced so much by the newspaper reports of the time, as well as some of the amusing letters and references to women that seem quite outrageous to us now. My heroine Sophia Holmes, a distant relative of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, becomes involved in fighting against a campaign of murder, arson and kidnapping designed to stop votes for women. The aim of my fiction writing is to make everyday New Zealand history more accessible and enjoyable to my readers. I have found that many young women have never heard of the suffragettes or Kate Sheppard and believe that women always had the vote – this is quite horrifying to me.

The book is available from Amazon or email [rangitawa@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rangitawa@xtra.co.nz) for details.

### 2013

**Yvette Morrissey** writes: “Well, I am still at Massey and loving it. Only five more papers until I will have finished my degree – but since I started at Massey I feel that my career has taken off. I am working part-time for a magazine which I LOVE. I have had tons of things published (my folder is overflowing now!). I never thought I would get anywhere academically because I left school at the start of 5th form and didn’t pay much attention when I was there anyway, but now I have started writing a novel and I have a lot more confidence in myself since taking up studying at Massey. So thanks for changing my life!”

It’s easy to keep us updated: email your latest details to [alumni@massey.ac.nz](mailto:alumni@massey.ac.nz) or visit [alumnionline.massey.ac.nz](http://alumnionline.massey.ac.nz) to update your profile.



Geoff Sharp, a Massey University short course teacher and graduate of Massey’s dispute resolution programme, has won the inaugural Mediator of the Year award at the New Zealand Law Awards. Sharp, formerly a litigation lawyer and partner in Bell Gully in Wellington, has operated as a full-time mediator for a decade, with his practice taking him to Amsterdam, America, Malaysia, Hong Kong and Dubai.

## Speechless by nature

Massey alumnus Richard Sidey captured dramatic video footage of large chunks of a glacier falling into the sea in Spitsbergen. A filmmaker and designer, Sidey used the footage as part of a web series called *Speechless*, featuring nature photography without music or narration to create a more realistic experience.

*Speechless* won the Voices4Climate video competition at the World Bank in Washington in February and has been selected as a finalist in the Environmental Photographer of

the Year competition. Finalists will exhibit their work at the Royal Geographical Society in April. Now based in Wanaka, Sidey completed a Bachelor of Visual Communication Design in 2004. In response to the Voices4Climate win, Richard sent a video from Antarctica saying, “I am truly honoured to win the video competition and I look forward to receiving the prize whenever I get home.” View the video at [vimeo.com/53580996](http://vimeo.com/53580996).



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## Life is a Masskerade

Capping revues at Massey University 1933–1998

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Swan Lake Ballet from Peter Panties, 1949

**“Ballet, performed by large males dressed as female ballet dancers, an important element of capping revues, was unfailingly popular with audiences and often singled out for praise by the reviewers of the local press. It was mainly friends from the same hostel who got involved so they could go to the very popular review parties where beer was cheap.”**

‘Smut, satire and hairy fairies: Massey University capping revues’, by Lucy Marsden, was recently published in *The Manawatu Journal of History* (Issue 8, 2012). The university archives provided valuable material for the article but archivist

Louis Changuion notes that the records of programmes are incomplete. If you have photographs or programmes of Massey revues that could be donated, or loaned to the archives for copying, please contact Louis ([l.a.changuion@massey.ac.nz](mailto:l.a.changuion@massey.ac.nz)).



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