defining nz

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Mr Fix-it turns to tertiary education

Steven Joyce on career advice and student radio

Public health: Groundbreaking research strength of new school

Jeremy Corbett on Monty Python and millionaires

Tracking the snow leopard in Nepal

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"The facts are that if New Zealand universities are to remain world competitive, they will need a much higher level of investment than they receive today" – Steve Maharey

The only constant is change. This certainly applies to the world of tertiary education where the year has started with a new Minister of Tertiary Education, Steven Joyce, and a new set of challenges for universities to come to grips with.

Mr Joyce is an alumnus of Massey University, having completed a Bachelor of Science degree in zoology in 1986, and is featured in this edition of *DefiningNZ*. He is yet another example of the impressive list of former students who have graduated from Massey and gone on to make their mark nationally and internationally.

Tertiary education is one of the most important cabinet portfolios. If New Zealand is to ever achieve the "step change" that is so often talked about, it is science, education, technology and research that will make it possible. The challenge is to ensure universities have the policy environment they need to meet the ends of a modern, knowledge-based society that can attract and retain smart people. For their part, universities must create economic, social, cultural and environmental value for New Zealand and the world.

At Massey, we have always been committed to ensuring our teaching and research is connected to the real world. During 2010 we will be advancing our plan to lift research performance – especially in our areas of specialisation, reform our teaching programme, deepen our engagement with stakeholders and partners, provide innovative solutions to the problems the nation faces, diversify our revenue streams and ensure that Massey is a great place for students and staff.

Also in this edition of *DefiningNZ*, readers will see evidence of what Massey is trying to achieve. We are, for example, launching a new School of Public Health because we believe that in the 21st century maintaining a healthy population will be paramount. The school and what it hopes to achieve is discussed by the head of school, former Commissioner for Children, Associate Professor Cindy Kiro.

Elsewhere readers will learn about the relaunch of the Massey Foundation with its aim of raising an endowment fund of $100 million dollars over the next 10 years to enable greater investment in our students and staff.

There is also report on the successful *Finance 2010* business gathering the University hosted in Auckland last month in conjunction with the Auckland Chamber of Commerce. Events like this highlight our connections with the New Zealand business community and our focus on innovation.

There are several other profiles, including Auckland comedian and broadcaster Jeremy Corbett, another alumnus; respected Wellington public relations specialist Glenda Hughes, a current extramural student; and the University's Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Sir Mason Durie, who was knighted in the New Year's honours for his extraordinary services to public health and to Māori health.

My hope is that readers of *DefiningNZ* will see that Massey is not only ready to face new challenges, we want to lead them. We want to inspire new possibilities at home and take what is the best of New Zealand's academic achievement to the world.

All the best for 2010.

Steve Maharey

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Wellspring of health research

From the outside it looks like an old warehouse, but within the walls of a Wellington building at the light industrial end of Adelaide Road lurks a wellspring of ground-breaking health research.

Everything from investigations into workplace disease, all you wanted to know about sleep and waking patterns, and the latest varying strands of cancer research emerge from the non-descript three-story concrete block known locally as the "No-Name building".

The three health research centres it houses are part of an initiative that will see them, and another centre based in Auckland, amalgamate to form the core of the School of Public Health.

Head of School Associate Professor Cindy Kiro says the launch, on March 24 at Te Papa, will confirm Massey as a national leader in public health research.

A forum examining health and social inequities will precede the school's launch.

Kiro will give an opening address while other speakers include Pro Vice-Chancellor of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences Professor Susan Mumm, Assistant Vice-Chancellor Māori and Pasifika Professor Sir Mason Durie and Health Minister Tony Ryall, who will officially open the school.

"One aim of the new school is to provide opportunities for postgraduate students to get higher qualifications in public health. The other aim is to explore the public health component of increasing health issues in New Zealand," Kiro says.

The school comprises:

- The Social and Health Outcome Research and Evaluation Centre, headed by Professor Sally Casswell.
- Te Rōpu Whāriki, headed by Dr Helen Moewaka Barnes.
- The Research Centre for Māori Health and Development, based at the Wellington and Manawatu campuses, headed by Professor Chris Cunningham, which leads research on Māori health.
- The Wellington-based Centre for Public Health Research, led by Professor Neil Pearce, which is internationally recognised for its cancer and occupational health and safety research.
- The Sleep/Wake Research Centre, headed by Professor Philippa Gander, which is recognised as a world leader in sleep science.

Kiro says bringing the five research centres together "is going to create new opportunities for students in public health and certainly create new research opportunities".

Staff, routinely elbow-deep in detailed research, are already showing the way ahead for the school.

Pearce has applied epidemiological methods to research other non-communicable diseases such as asthma. He leads one of the largest health studies in the world into the disease, which involves more than a million children at more than 280 health centres in 100 countries. He is currently president of the International Epidemiological Association.

His co-director at the Centre for Public Health Research, Professor Jeroen Douwes, has an international background in environmental and occupational health.

Their colleague, Dr Lis Ellison-Loschmann, juggles numerous projects exploring the epidemiology of illnesses such as asthma and cancer afflicting Māori in New Zealand.

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

The reputation of Sleep/Wake scientist Gander and associate director Dr Leigh Signal is internationally confirmed with grants from such corporate giants as Boeing to investigate issues like tiredness in the aviation and aeronautics industries. They also research other sleep-related issues, including sleep apnoea and insomnia and sleep in pregnancy.

In Auckland, Casswell leads 25 health researchers with a multi-disciplinary approach focusing on alcohol and drug research,

Associate Professor Cindy Kiro (Ngā Puhi, Ngāti Kahu, Ngāti Hine) is the inaugural head of the School of Public Health.

Her appointment marks a return to the university where she was previously director of its Waiora Centre for Public Health. In that position she applied a research focus to issues surrounding children and young people, public policy, public health and Maori development.

She holds a PhD in Social policy, an MBA (exec) in Business Administration and a Certificate of Competency in Social Work Practice, all from Massey.

In 2004 she left to become the first woman to hold the position of Children's Commissioner and, in many ways, views her new position as a natural progression – particularly with her interest in the welfare of Māori children.

"Some of the things which were major health worries a decade or two ago, like sudden infant death syndrome, is virtually under control, rheumatic fever is on the way down and immunisation rates are substantially up on what they were."

Professor Sally Casswell is director of the Centre for Social and Health Outcome Research and Evaluation, and Whāriki Research a collaborating centre with the World Health Organisation.

Her research interests are in social and public health policy, particularly in relation to alcohol and other drugs.

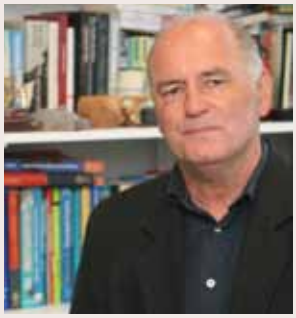
Professor Casswell is one of the collaborating authors of *Alcohol: No Ordinary Commodity – Research and Public Policy*, the revision of which was published this year by Oxford University Press. The book, widely used and translated into several languages, describes evidence-based and effective policies for the prevention and management of alcohol-related problems.

Current projects are concerned with alcohol marketing, impacts and policy, the measurement of alcohol's impact on those other than the drinker and the transferability of evidence on alcohol policy into emerging market contexts.

Associate Professor Helen Moewaka Barnes (Ngāti Wai, Ngati Hine, Ngāti Manu) is the associate director of the Centre and Director of Te Rōpu Whāriki.

She has worked on research in many areas, including relationships between health of people and health of environments, sexual health, alcohol and youth wellbeing, and identity.

Her work is both qualitative and quantitative. She is involved in developing Māori research capacity with a range of Māori organisations and has a particular interest in Māori paradigms.



Professor Neil Pearce is director of the Centre for Public Health Research.

Opened in 2000, its research programmes cover all aspects of public health but with a focus on non-communicable diseases, such as diabetes, cancer and respiratory disease.

Pearce has led from the front with his own research, conducting investigations into asthma and allergies in children and spearheading an international study involving more than one million children in 100 countries.

He gained a PhD in epidemiology from the Wellington School of Medicine, and conducted some of the first occupational epidemiology studies in New Zealand, including a series that led to the discovery that meat workers were at greater risk from certain forms of cancer.

He also found links between exposure to electromagnetic fields and increased risk of leukaemia in electrical workers.

In 2004 Pearce was conferred with a Doctor of Science degree by Massey.

Professor Philippa Gander, director of the Sleep/Wake Research Centre, leads a team of researchers investigating the instantly familiar, but still relatively unknown, phenomenon of sleep.

Gander, who was last year made a fellow of the Royal Society for her innovative research on the science of sleep and fatigue risk management, started her academic career as a zoology student at the University of Auckland, where she was introduced to chronobiology (the study of biological timing mechanisms).

Having completed her doctorate, she left New Zealand in 1980 to work at Harvard Medical School in Boston as a Senior Fulbright Fellow. In 1983, she moved to the NASA Ames Research Centre, in California, where she joined the Flight Crew Fatigue and Jet-Lag Program, subsequently, the Fatigue Countermeasures Program. She remained overseas for 15 years before returning home to establish the Sleep/Wake Research Centre, with a repatriation grant from the Health Research Council.

In recent years she has combined her interest in sleep science with artistic collaborations exploring links between the two disciplines.

Professor Chris Cunningham (Ngāti Toa, Ngāti Raukawa) is director of the Research Centre for Māori Health and Development. He has a PhD in quantum chemistry from Victoria University, is one of the most highly respected Māori public health researchers and an Honorary Professor at the Wellington School of Medicine and the University of Sydney. He is also a director of several organisations concerned with Māori health, including The Quit Group, the Hepatitis Foundation and the Cancer Control Trust.

Since 2000, the centre has run a successful doctoral training programme producing 18 PhD graduates with another 20 currently enrolled. The centre has two major research programmes - Te Pūmanawa Hauora (Māori Health) and Best Outcomes for Māori: Te Hoe Nuku Roa. Te Hoe Nuku Roa began in 1994 and is the only random, longitudinal study profiling Māori households. In the past three years the centre has received more than $10 million in external funding for Māori health and social research, including work on diabetes, cancer, school-based interventions in physical activity and nutrition, mental health, respiratory health and smoking cessation.

Māori and Pacific health and the effects of place on identity, youth and mental health.

Casswell is an adviser to the World Health Organisation on issues surrounding alcohol and drug use.

Much of the funding to keep the different centres running is competitively applied for, Kiro says.

"When you're focused on being the best in your field that's one thing, but when your very livelihood and of those people working at the centre depends on that [funding] you really are focused.

"A point of difference for the school is that most people think health and health research is based around disease and individuals, but in fact the assumption the work here takes is that we're much more concerned with the health of populations.

"We're not concerned with the individual management of the cases of disease, which is what other schools of public health tend to focus on, because they almost always grow out of medical school training, so their core business is basically training doctors.

"Out of that comes a great focus on disease and disease management, but we don't take that view at all as our core business is not training doctors, our core business is public health research."

As director of Massey's Waiora Centre for Public Health Research until 2004, Kiro's focus was on children and young people, public policy and public health, and Māori development in particular.

"The research centres show that public health can survive outside medical training institutions."
– Associate Professor Cindy Kiro

She says without the pioneering spirit shown by Durie, who led development of the school, none of the advances in Māori health research would have been possible.

"Even though the numbers of people [researching] are not huge, the mana that they have in terms of Māori health research stands Massey in very good stead."

Each research centre has dedicated, long-term staff to help maintain international profiles while recognising obligations within the New Zealand community of scholars.

"The research centres show that public health can survive outside medical training institutions."

They are also "crucial" to the University's rankings in the performance-based research fund, which measures the quality of academics' research.

Despite the disparate nature of having the school housed under multiple research centres and locations, Kiro says the intent of the school as one entity is assured.

"The whole is always greater than the sum of its parts." ■

– Paul Mulrooney

Empowering others

Twenty-five years ago Professor Sir Mason Durie introduced a new way of understanding health. It was to become pivotal for changes in attitudes towards health and wellbeing.
He talks to Lana Simmons-Donaldson. >>

Photographs: David Wiltshire

Te Whare Tapa Whā, established by Professor Sir Mason Durie and now widely used in health services and other social programmes, was a model of health that recognised Māori perspectives and gave Māori a sense of ownership and affirmation.

A Quarter of a century later, the Massey University Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Professor of Māori Research and Development continues to explore new approaches to accelerating Māori development. His research and leadership in health, education, Māori capacity building and whānau empowerment, has led to a wide range of innovative policies and methods of practice that are relevant to Māori.

In recognition of more than 40 years of service to Māori health, public health and education, Durie, 71, received a knighthood in the latest New Year's Honours.

Born in Gisborne, Durie (Rangitane, Ngāti Kauwhata, Ngāti Raukawa) showed early signs of academic success and leadership. He grew up in Feilding and, along with his two brothers, attended Te Aute College, the same school as his grandfather, after whom he is named. He was school dux in 1956 and head prefect in 1956 and 1957.

"Given the increasing competition in New Zealand, now and especially in the future, it will be critical to have well qualified Māori in all disciplines and in all sectors." – Professor Sir Mason Durie

After deciding to pursue a medical career at the University of Otago, he graduated with a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery in 1963. He went on to complete a Postgraduate Diploma in Psychiatry from McGill University, Canada, and subsequently became Director of Psychiatry at Palmerston North Hospital.

He sees the knighthood and other honours as a reward for the family for the work he did that "wouldn't have been possible without their contribution". He and wife Arohia (Ngāti Porou, Rongowhakaata, Ngāi Tahu), a Professor of Māori Education at Massey, have two sons and two daughters. All are Massey graduates.

His medical career was interrupted in 1986 when he was appointed to the Royal Commission on Social Policy for a two-year period that led to a change in direction. "The Commission experience made me much more aware and informed about the importance of social and economic policies for Māori. Although my psychiatric training had provided a rich introduction to social medicine, I knew that other avenues would offer greater opportunities for effecting change."

That other avenue was to be Massey University. In 1988 he was invited to accept a Chair in Māori Studies and took the somewhat unusual step of introducing papers in health as part of the Māori studies curriculum. Building on his earlier career, he established Te Pumanawa Hauora, a Māori Health Research Centre in 1993 and in the same year launched Te Hoe Nuku Roa, a longitudinal study of Māori households that is still in progress. Durie has been a strong advocate for Māori postgraduate education and has championed doctoral studies at Massey.

His *Decade One* plan sought to graduate 25 Māori doctoral students by 2010. Already more than 40 have graduated and by the end of this year there will be more than 50.

"Given the increasing competition in New Zealand, now and especially in the future, it will be critical to have well qualified Māori in all disciplines and in all sectors. If Māori are to compete favourably in national and international environments, and to excel in economic endeavours as well as social and cultural spheres, higher education will be an essential platform."

Durie takes some comfort in the advances made over the past 25 years or more. "In 1984 there was only one Māori provider organisation, now there are over 250. In that same timeframe, the number of Māori doctors has increased from 50 to 300 and, since 2000, Māori researchers who hold doctoral degrees have been increasing by almost 30 each year."

Durie has served on many boards and committees, including the Mental Health Foundation, the Alcohol Advisory Council, the National Health Committee, Te Papa Tongarewa, the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology, the Families Commission, and the Secondary Futures project. His more recent interest in Māori health workforce development is reflected in his active involvement in Te Rau Puawai, a Massey scholarship programme, now in its 11th year; the Henry Rongomau Bennett Memorial Scholarship Committee and Te Rau Matatini, a national Māori health workforce programme. He has also been Chair of Te Runanga ō Raukawa, Secretary of the National Māori Congress, and is currently Deputy Chair of Te Wānanga ō Raukawa.

But he sees his ongoing involvement with the Aorangi Marae as one of his more important commitments. "Being a member of a marae committee keeps you grounded. There are always very practical matters to contend with and the lessons learned in board rooms and on trust boards do not necessarily find a place there."

Apart from his recent knighthood he is also a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit. In addition he holds fellowships from the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists, the Royal Society of New Zealand, and the New Zealand Academy of the Humanities. In 2002 he was awarded the degree of Doctor of Literature from Massey University and, in 2008, received an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Otago. He has published widely and has regularly presented key note addresses at Iwi, national and international conferences.

Whether he would like to or not, there are no signs of him slowing down: "I wish," he says in mock seriousness. "I'm supposed to be writing two or three books, there is the launch of the new School of Public Health at Massey in March, in May I'm speaking at a conference in Hawaii on health promotion and in November giving an address at the World Mental Health Forum in Washington."

Durie is widely respected for his breadth of knowledge, the experience he brings as a a psychiatrist, an academic, a researcher, consultant and strategist. His ability to devote his full attention to a subject, to sum up what others are espousing and to find a way forward undoubtedly reflects his energy and his vision. ■

He made his fortune in radio and now is making a name in politics, but for Tertiary Education Minister and National's Mr Fix-it, Steven Joyce, the application needed to achieve started with a zoology degree from Massey. He talks to Paul Mulrooney. >>

Making waves

Photographs: Mark Coote

But for a quiet word from a careers counsellor, new Tertiary Education Minister Steven Joyce might have started off adult life as a university drop-out.

Nearly 30 years on Joyce, labelled by many as the star turn of the National-led Government, identifies that moment as a significant one in his approach to life.

He had missed the cut for the veterinary intermediate course in 1981, enrolled instead as a chemistry major but withdrew after two weeks, opting finally, but reluctantly, for zoology.

"Beyond vet [school] I wasn't that into science."

But Joyce did realise that his ambivalence about his studies was not healthy either.

"It's something I've held on to right up through till now," Joyce recalls from his fifth floor Beehive ministerial office.

"I went and saw one of the Massey career counsellors and said 'what am I doing here?'"

"This particularly wise gentleman said 'I'd find yourself a major and stay, and ultimately, even if you don't end up using it as a career, what it gives you is the ability to learn how to learn', and he was absolutely right … in what you do get out of it, even if you don't recognise it at the time."

At the same time he did the equivalent of an economics major finding he "loved economics" before the Associate Finance Minister adds almost disarmingly, "I haven't got anything to show for it actually, but I really enjoyed it.

"The other thing I was thinking about doing was plucking up the courage to go to the student radio station and be a radio DJ. It was sort of like, 'well you're here, do your degree and suss out some other things you want to do', and that's what I did."

What he also inadvertently did was find an alternative career and find his fortune.

"Radio was almost an accidental career choice. For those of us involved, our goal in life was reasonably short term, to run our own radio station."

At first Joyce wondered whether he would he would escape with his music credibility intact following the new experience – in the days of vinyl – of choosing and cueing records to play.

Before his first show he was taken into the studio, quickly shown how everything worked and just as quickly left to his own devices.

"I thought, 'this is pretty scary', so I looked in the box of music [left by the previous announcer] and didn't recognise any of it. She said, 'just choose what you like,' I thought 'I have no idea, there is nothing here I know'.

"So I thought 'what am I going to do here?' I figured that generally most artists put their best songs pretty early on in the album so I thought 'side one, track one' and thought I'd work my way front and back, side one, track one, and that worked pretty well for a while, till someone helpfully rang up and said that song I was playing probably sounded better on 45 [rpm] given it was an EP not an album!

"So I'll never forget that."

It is easy to forget that Joyce, 46, is in some respects a political tyro, earmarked for bigger things, which is rapidly seeing him become known as the Minister of Everything – the first true blue to earn such a sobriquet since former finance minister Bill Birch.

The difference being, Birch had trod Parliament's corridoors for more than 20 years.

Joyce, with a speed that has characterised his life since student

days, has built such a reputation in little over 12 months.

As Transport Minister he is giving funding priority to build Wellington's inland motorway Transmission Gully, a project stalled for decades as authorities debated its merits. He is now tasked with tackling the financially constrained tertiary sector.

His appointment as Tertiary Education Minister late last month, in addition to his communications/IT and Associate Minister of Finance and Infrastructure portfolios confirms him as one of the safest pairs of hands the Government has.

Prime Minister John Key certainly thinks so. In the scramble for ministerial digs Joyce was handed the keys to the small cottage in the grounds of the Prime Minister's official Wellington residence, Premier House, a gesture then Prime Minister Jim Bolger made to Birch, his right-hand man in the 1990s.

Despite the apparent trappings of political success, Joyce has never forgotten the significance of his early radio days and slips easily into the seemingly laid-back but always learning student environment ways.

"I really enjoyed student radio. I got to know a whole bunch of music I wouldn't have otherwise. I ultimately became programme director then station manager of Radio Massey. There's a good principle in student radio, in that if you hung around you'd get a bigger job each time, which has turned out to be true with most things in life."

"There's a good principle in student radio, in that if you hung around you'd get a bigger job each time, which has turned out to be true with most things in life." – Steven Joyce

What Joyce and his radio mates did next was to gain a short-term broadcast authorisation licence to go to air for six weeks over three summers.

"A lot of us were from Massey. In the first year just about everybody was Massey. Second year less so, but we ended up with three partners pretty much all the way through who had all met at Radio Massey. So it really helped."

They eventually secured a full-time warrant.

"It was such a big thing to do and difficult to get through the tribunal process and nobody expected us to achieve it… it was this sort of dream we wanted to achieve, so once we got it we went with the dream for a while. It was really cool."

New to the radio market, but with an acute antenna for the demand for different types of radio stations, Joyce and co. set to "scarfing up" radio frequencies at auctions.

At this point in the conversation Joyce's penchant for numbers takes over.

"Our best deal, I think, was when we bought three FM frequencies in Rotorua, which at that stage doubled the commercial market [there]. We bought them for $45,000, 15 grand each – it was fantastic!"

From lining their first makeshift station with egg cartons, Joyce and his business partners bought into The Rock and started The Edge. By 2001 they ended up with 22 branches and 650 staff at the head of Radio Works, a $60 million-a-year operation.

Comedian Jeremy Corbett, who was also involved in the early days has wryly observed that he left and the others became millionaires.

That happened when Canadian company Canwest "came over the hill" and launched a takeover bid.

Joyce was personally left with a cheque for $8 million in his hand and the same question that had challenged him 20 years earlier, "What do I want to do?

"I've always been interested in politics. Join the National Party. Haven't run in 18 years, go to the gym and just try to build a life as I'd been so sort of [all] about radio.

"I also went and picked up my degree." [He had always been too busy to actually graduate back in the 1980s and '90s].

After overseeing an internal National Party review and then two successive general elections, Joyce, who had travelled, married and retired with ride-on-mower to a lifestyle block north of Auckland, was coaxed to stand in 2008 on the party list.

With victory secured, Joyce was immediately catapulted into Cabinet, where pundits tend to agree he has landed on his feet.

It has not all been a walk-in-the-park however, with opposition to his Wellington highway plans coming from some Kapiti Coast residents anxious that their pristine weekend playground is going to be scarred forever.

Joyce used to ride horses around the coast when his family lived at Raumati and he attended Kapiti College.

"Opponents [of the road] would say I've got less empathy, but I think I have got some empathy for the area .The challenge is you've got a narrow beautiful space where you've got a State Highway 1 through the middle of it whether you like it or not."

Some hard truths might also be ahead for the tertiary sector too at a time of economic downturn when more people want to study.

"That's always the dilemma," Joyce says.

"It's always counter cyclical and it doesn't change the reality that we're borrowing a fair heap of dough as a country every week so every sector has to actually think through value for money, and whether we're doing the right things. And we're going to be in that situation with tertiary as we are with everything else."

Another less pressing, but potentially fraught, issue faces Joyce. He has been asked on to Corbett's satirical TV show *7 Days,* where a panel of comedians quiz a politician, trying to the get them to answer a straight yes or no.

Laughing, Joyce concedes "he [Corbett] has invited me on to the show, but I have reserved my judgment!" ■

Out of office

tracking the snow leopard in Nepal

When nutritional ecologist Professor David Raubenheimer activates his "out of office" e-mail reply, there is a good chance he is on a field trip dodging danger and difficulty in some far-flung wilderness. Jennifer Little tracks down the man who tracks chimpanzees, gorillas, colobus monkeys, sea otters, tigers and the great white shark. >>

Severe cold, heat, dust storms, altitude sickness and stomach bugs did not deter Professor David Raubenheimer from a literally breathtaking ascent to nearly 5000m in search of the elusive, rare snow leopard in his latest adventure in Nepal last November.

Scrolling through images of rugged, desolate, vast mountains from a 16-day November trip to the Himalayas, he recalls the highlights and perils of being the first non-Nepali scientific researcher to gain a permit for free-range travel to that country's remote, high-altitude Mustang region of the Annapurna Conservation Area.

His mission was to visit Massey PhD student Achyut Aryal, and set up a study on the endangered snow leopard and its prey, the blue sheep, or Bharal. This will enable the team, which includes other Massey scientists, Associate Professor Dianne Brunton and Dr Weihong Ji, to investigate the bigger picture of changing interactions between wildlife species and humans resulting from climate change.

Professor David Raubenheimer

The emerging picture is that recent changes in climate in the region have forced blue sheep and thus snow leopards to move lower down in search of food. But loss of grazing livestock and crops to these species has created conflict with villagers struggling to survive in already harsh conditions.

"This raises the risk that retaliatory killings will undermine the conservation of these iconic species," says Raubenheimer.

"There are therefore potential problems for the conservation of snow leopard and their principal prey species, the blue sheep." Many villagers told him and Aryal that the situation had deteriorated over the past five years, "a development they associate with decreased rainfall and a retreat of the snow-line. This is consistent with the evidence for large-scale warming in the Himalayas over recent years," he says in a report on the project.

This ambitious, groundbreaking work is linked to a parallel study in which the team will use global positioning satellite technology to track blue sheep to study their movements, grazing habits and population structure. "The great challenge of this work is getting into the area, darting blue sheep and attaching the satellite collars. Once this is done, we may as well make the very most out of our opportunities."

He and Aryal were based in ancient Lo Manthang – "the last walled city in the world" – and capital of the Mustang region known as "the Forbidden Kingdom", which is in Nepal but semi-independent from it. Just getting there was a challenge, albeit with interesting research detours along the way.

Raubenheimer flew to Kathmandu then travelled overland to Pokhara via Nepal's Chitwan National Park, where he rode an elephant in search of tigers and rhinoceros for another PhD study he is planning. From Pokhara, he flew to the tiny village of Jomsom, where the team set off on a six-hour walk then two-day trek by horse to reach Le Manthang.

"The communities in this area represent the most intact remaining example of Tibetan culture as it was before Chinese-built roads opened up access to the Tibetan Plateau from the north. The rugged terrain and different economic circumstances of Nepal have left the Upper Mustang area largely untouched by the outside world.

"These were extremely hostile conditions in which to work. Being physically active at altitudes of over 4000m is a very different thing to being physically active at sea level."

He attributes his stamina and ability to endure hardship partly to training he underwent as a conscript in the South African army. "Among the scant benefits of those two years as a soldier in the 1970s is that they taught me to cope with adversity," he adds.

In the Annapurna Conservation Area Raubenheimer, Aryal and a team of trackers explored the region for traces and sightings of snow leopard and blue sheep, as well as lynx, wolf and brown bear as a precursor to further research.

Photo: R Gurung, Ghami, U. Mustang

They also engaged with villagers, staying with them in basic dwellings and sharing meals of rice and barley with lentil sauce, yak meat, and Nepalese wine, "which, at about 40 per cent alcohol, is to be treated with the greatest of respect."

Raubenheimer plans to deploy the geometric modelling system he has developed over several years as a means of understanding ecological interactions of competing species in the region.

The method, which he has applied to the study of the nutritional needs of a wide range of animals – including insects, spiders, fish, primates, rats, mink, birds and humans – will provide results that he hopes will inform the Nepal Government's environmental management plans for the Annapurna Conservation Area – "one of the last refuges for these iconic wildlife species and some of the remotest human cultures", he says. ■

Virginia Warbrick, Susan Young, Kerry Shippam, Ann Rutledge, Mitch Murdoch.

Foundation charged with raising $100m

Formed in 2004, the Massey University Foundation is a charity with a remit to foster philanthropy for the University – garnering financial support for projects, research, facilities and scholarships that would otherwise remain unfunded.

Last year the foundation was given an ambitious new task of endowing $100 million for the University. Since then, it has undergone rapid restructuring to ensure it is fit for the job.

Director Mitch Murdoch has been driving the changes. Originally from Palmerston North, Murdoch spent the past 16 years in London working in communications, marketing and public relations and she offers fresh insight into Massey's fundraising strategies.

"The time is right for Massey to pursue a more aggressive fundraising strategy," Murdoch says. "In a faltering economy it is clear that public funding for tertiary education will not increase beyond the staple and we must look elsewhere for additional capital. We will never be like the United States – but we are certainly moving closer to that model.

"If Massey is to achieve an international reputation as New Zealand's defining university and a world centre for tertiary teaching and learning and research excellence we must have world-class facilities and staff.

In some areas we already do, but that needs to be a standard across the campuses and the colleges. Core funding will always cover the basic costs, but it will be the generosity of alumni, friends, staff, students and the wider community that will bridge the gap between adequate and outstanding."

This year will be something of a landmark for the foundation. On March 25 at the Wellington campus it will launch its first major fundraising strategy with a black-tie dinner in the Museum Building that will coincide with the inaugural Distinguished Alumni Awards presentation.

The transformational project will raise money for areas of strategic importance to Massey and New Zealand's future: agri-food, creativity and innovation.

"There is recognition that Massey has played an integral role in shaping New Zealand's economy and society and it will continue to do so. Investing in agri-food, creativity and innovation will bear fruit, not just for Massey, but for New Zealand as a whole. It is from these areas that innovative and creative solutions to global issues will be born – and it will be Massey academics and scholars that make them.

"Our challenge is to demonstrate how much Massey already contributes to New Zealand and its businesses and communities and to global advancement in technology and understanding, and to show what we will being doing and could be doing in future to increase that contribution."

Murdoch is adamant the target is realistic. "Massey has a strong history of philanthropy; it was the gifts of Sir John Logan Campbell and Sir Walter Clarke Buchanan that, in 1927, funded two chairs in agriculture to allow Massey Agricultural College to be formed. Since then Massey has been gifted land, art work , books , bequests and scholarships by staff, former students, business leaders and philanthropists.

"We have a great team, and over the next 12 months we will be concentrating on engaging with Massey's many communities, especially alumni, and involving them in our planning. After that we will be out asking for support to achieve our goals." ■

For more information: http://foundation.massey.ac.nz or phone +64-6-350-5159.

THE REST BECAME MILLIONAIRES

Comedian Jeremy Corbett launched his comedy career at Massey University, he made friends and he missed out on becoming a millionaire. He talks to Kathryn Farrow about his student days and his striking resemblance to Steve Maharey.

Photograph courtesy TV3

Broadcaster and comedian Jeremy Corbett fancies breaking through new frontiers as a geneticist.

He is fascinated by the genome and says if he could have a "brain injection" he would be a research scientist.

"If I was to return to study I'd love to delve into that," he says. "I like the glory side of it, the exciting side of it, standing on the shoulders of giants."

He is not yet sure what area he would look into but knows it would have to be pretty specialist.

"Scientists are always looking for the next thing to study," he says. "Like the colour of pubic hairs of an African whistling moth."

The son of a doctor and a nurse, it is no surprise that Corbett is interested in genetics, but his academic life took a different path.

He decided early on that he did not want to follow in his father's footsteps because it "seemed like too much hard work".

Instead, Corbett took a BA double major in English and computer science at Massey in Palmerston North, pedalling his bike 16km to lectures each day from the family home and completing his degree in 1983.

"I had no particular direction in mind but I had a creative side so I did English. The computer science side was to get a job, plus I have always been a bit of a computer nerd."

Summarising his academic prowess as, "I passed, I didn't shine, I was workmanlike", he says it was outside the lecture theatres that he found his forte.

On his profile for his *7 Days* television show he credits the capping revues at Massey as the start of his comedy career.

He says these short sketch shows, which he performed with his younger brother Nigel, an agricultural science student, taught him how to think on his feet.

"When we saw we could goof around on stage, we gravitated towards that. We were the next Monty Python – but without the talent.

"I learnt a valuable skill – how to die on stage.

"One time, I went blank. Nigel just walked off stage leaving me standing there on my own. I suppose that is where I started my improvisation skills."

Corbett says the audiences in Palmerston North put up with a lot but didn't shoot the performers down. "That gave us the confidence to continue."

Nigel is now executive creative director at Sugar Advertising and Corbett went on to enjoy success as a stand-up performer, radio broadcaster, and television funnyman.

He has recently fronted the satirical news quiz show *7 Days*, produced by Jon Bridges, his pal from the capping revues, and is hopeful it will soon be back on screen.

He is still enjoying a stint on MoreFM that is 16 years and counting, and his love of radio is also traced back to his student days when he presented on Radio Massey.

John Duncan, Stephen Mikkelsen, Johnny Tawharu, Jeremy Corbett

Corbett admits he got in by luck and determination. He had failed three auditions "miserably" by his own admission, and was just having a scout round the studio when he saw there were two gaps on the roster.

"The programme director had literally run out of names and I was there."

Corbett clearly embraced his role on the air, although it was not entirely without controversy.

"I talked nonsense and played whatever songs I liked." His love of music extended to playing and his university band Dosage B was the first release from the Meltdown Records label.

The band reformed – under a slightly different line-up – and played at his wedding to actorMegan Nicol two years ago.

Dosage B: Jeremy Corbett, Johnny Tawharu and Stephen Mikkelsen behind the kit.

After he left university, Corbett kept an interest in radio, setting up Energy FM, with a group of friends, including Steven Joyce, before pursuing new adventures in Australia.

They bought up several stations and quickly sold them for a huge profit.

"In a nutshell, the story goes that I left and the rest went on to become millionaires," he says.

Connections to Massey have popped up throughout his career, but there is one last thing that Corbett mentions. He could have been separated at birth from the Vice-Chancellor.

"Kerre Woodham said to me 'you look like Steve Maharey', I said 'you are right – but I am not sure who is prettiest.'" ■

THE MEDIATOR

Media manager Glenda Hughes is adding mediator to her list of qualifications – with study of the delicate art of dispute resolution. She talks to Paul Mulrooney.

Photograph: Dionne Ward

It could be argued that Glenda Hughes has been mediating disputes all her adult life but the former policewoman turned media manager now plans to take that vocation to its logical conclusion.

Whether intervening in a domestic dispute on the beat as a Wellington police constable in the 1970s, or offering guidance and support to troubled 21st century celebrities, Hughes' name has become synonymous with clearing up other people's problems.

The past decade was bookended for Hughes by the tribulations of two of New Zealand's most high profile sports personalities – equestrian Mark Todd and sports broadcaster Tony Veitch.

Now Hughes, who is midway through a Graduate Diploma in Business Studies (dispute resolution) at Massey University, wants to take a step away from such media management and focus more on community arbitration issues.

After all, she notes, it is kind of where her career first started and where she gained a reputation for being able to hear both sides of a dispute and work out what was best for everyone.

"I put that down to my time in the police. I think people underestimate the skills a police officer has when they leave. I spent 18 years frontline, where problem–solving skills, negotiation skills and mediation skills were gained."

Even today, on the floor she owns of an inner city Wellington apartment building, the former national shotput champion remains a stone's throw from her earlier police life based round the corner on Taranaki Street and her first memories forged at Te Aro School.

"Mediation is one of those things, you go in with a clear mind and you approach it without having to do masses and masses of paperwork. So I quite like the action of the mediation where you're able to talk backwards and forwards." – Glenda Hughes

She credits a primary school teacher, who taught her for two years, with having the patience to show her "how to learn" and her parents who, though frustrated with her as a child, could still see her ability to reason.

This year marks a series of milestones for Hughes, who turns 60 in July. It will also be 40 years since graduating from Police Training College, then based at Trentham, and a varying career trajectory, which continues to this day.

"Through my career I've found that a huge amount of it is mediation and negotiation. Whether it be lawyers you're working with, with offenders, or whether it be negotiating a position where an offender would agree to make a statement, or whether it be dealing with a group of disaffected people and trying to get them to move on."

Then, of course, there is the wheeling and dealing with the media she undertakes on behalf of clients, who also include Danyon Loader, Bernice Mene and Tana Umaga.

While much of this, and the lobbying she does for organisations like the Real Estate Institute, is bread and butter stuff, she really earns her crust with issues that can pull her into the spotlight as much as her clients.

Both Todd and Veitch's tribulations are well known; less familiar is the toll it took on their minder – someone Veitch refers to as "Mummy Glenda".

She earned the sobriquet by guiding Veitch through the media maelstrom that engulfed him after revelations he had paid $150,000 to a former girlfriend he assaulted.

He says it was to cover her loss of income, his ex-partner called it hush money; the police said it was injuring with reckless disregard. Veitch was convicted, fined $10,000 and sentenced to community work.

That court appearance ended a nine-month saga coloured by claim and counter-claim in which he enlisted Hughes' help as she puts it "to correct the story, not spin it".

Conversely, she says her approach with Mark Todd, the target in 2000 of sensational allegations by an English Sunday tabloid, was to opt not to correct errors made by the newspaper lest it give the media and the story more mileage.

As Hughes notes in her 2003 book examining the New Zealand media, *Looking For Trouble*, "the biggest issue was that a high-profile sportsperson chose not to respond, and this was a new experience for many of our media, who couldn't believe it was happening".

Hughes is acutely aware that such media management is "exhausting".

"That is mediation in crisis situations. Because everyone is reacting emotionally and you're the one person required to bring some objectivity and some calm.

"After the last one [Veitch] I went away to Europe for five weeks just to purely and simply to get a rest. I felt that I'd come to the stage where I was likely to lose my objectivity so I took a good break… and closed off completely."

Hughes, who already has a degree in sociology and criminology from Victoria University, is now looking to take her career in other directions and says the Massey course helps meet that need.

The course, run extramurally from Manawatu, and including some mediation role-play scenarios, features papers in evidence and advocacy, dispute resolution, law and mediation and the mediation process.

"Mediation is one of those things, you go in with a clear mind and you approach it without having to do masses and masses of paperwork. So I quite like the action of the mediation where you're able to talk backwards and forwards.

"I think what's good about Massey is that I can do that. I don't need to study the stuff I don't want.

"It's done two things for me. It's given me more confidence in what I am actually doing and it has added and broadened my knowledge in the area of disputes mediation and arbitration."

She believes her studies will also help her make the transition into the area of social services and family mediation.

With that in mind she has joined the Arbitrators and Mediators Institute of New Zealand and has been invited to speak at their annual conference.

"I often have people coming to me and asking for a template about how to deal with crisis management.

"I say the template is a series of questions, it's not a series of answers. I think dispute resolution and mediation is the same. You don't go in with a series of answers you go in with a series of questions. And the next step that you take depends on the response to the question." ■

LIFTING THE GAME

Massey University has a unique and important role to play in economic change as Kathryn Farrow reports.

Photographs: James Ensing-Trussell

Finance Minister Bill English spoke about the need for New Zealand to "lift its economic game" at a business function hosted by Massey University and the Auckland Chamber of Commerce last month.

More than 100 business leaders attended the *Finance 2010* event at the Floating Pavilion at the Viaduct Harbour.

English told the guests that universities were a vast reservoir of knowledge with intellectual capacity, bright ideas and focused people who could help bring about change. "It is great to see a bit of leadership from Massey University teaming up with the Auckland business community," he said.

Chamber chief executive Michael Barnett said the business community had remained "battered but resilient" through the recession. He said the University was a great partner for the event.

In his speech, English said the Government's economic programme was not a one-off exercise. "We're embarking on a consistent programme of considered, broad-based reform, year after year. There is a real need for change in this country if we are to deliver the jobs, the higher incomes and the better living standards New Zealand families deserve. We can continue to muddle along – or we can aim higher."

Vice-Chancellor Steve Maharey said the University was part of change, flying the flag for New Zealand by taking expertise all over the world. "We want to be doing things in this country but leading things around the world as well. We refer to ourselves as a university that likes to be "forever discovering", pushing out the boundaries, doing thing that are very different, that is the theme of Massey.

"We are developing a link between ideas and commercialisation; we see ourselves as making a significant contribution to the Auckland region as well as around the country."

Maharey added that the University's focus in the areas of creativity, agri-food and innovation would be drivers towards change.

College of Business Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Lawrence Rose welcomed English's infrastructure programme, saying it had

Above: Auckland Chamber of Commerce chief executive Michael Barnett with Finance Minister Bill English and Vice-Chancellor Steve Maharey. Inset: Bill English talks with College of Business Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Lawrence Rose.

the potential to increase productivity for New Zealand. But he said the capping constraints on universities could mean there would be a great infrastructure in place with fewer people with the skills to take advantage of it. English replied that the recession had led to a greater demand for a university education. "The issue is where do we find the money to fund this? We want to look for it internally through the system rather than borrow." ■

Reason to stay

Graduate Anna Hamilton-Manns hit the headlines at the *Finance 2010* event when she challenged Bill English, saying his tax policy was not strong enough to stop talented young people from leaving the country.

She was interviewed on TV1, TV3 and by newspaper journalists after she asked the finance minister for a "good reason" to stay in New Zealand.

The following day English invited her for a one-to-one discussion to see what ideas she had to prevent "brain drain".

No stranger to offering advice, Hamilton-Manns, 33, is on the University's College of Business Advisory Board.

She returned to New Zealand four years ago after working overseas and runs her own event management company.

"Coming back, I don't see the opportunities in New Zealand apart from having babies, and maybe that's not what we all want," she told English.

"I have my own company but, your proposition, I'm doubting whether it's strong enough and whether I'm thinking about getting back on that plane."

English replied that the Government wanted to cut personal taxes to give people "incentives to work hard, to improve their skills, to save, to invest and to get ahead here in New Zealand". But he said there was no silver bullet solution.

Hamilton-Manns, who had voted for National at the last general election, said it did not go far enough and emailed him the next day. He replied and arranged a meeting.

"I told him I wanted to be part of the solution, not to create a headache.

"I wanted to speak out for the thousands of young, bright New Zealanders out there who want to stay in this country but feel they have to move overseas to find the career opportunities and earn the incomes they deserve."

Since graduating from Massey in 1998 with a Bachelor of Science (chemistry) and a Diploma in Secondary Teaching, Hamilton-Manns has travelled the world, working in Qatar, Kuwait, Britain, Italy and South Africa for five years as a teacher and then as an event manager.

She is concerned that others would not return.

"We are going to have more and more people leaving for economic reasons rather than just to check out the Taj Mahal and tick off 40 countries in 40 days. This problem around the world is not unique, but we do have it."

She says she is encouraged that English is prepared to listen. ■

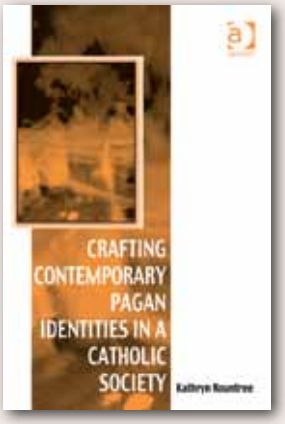
Anna Hamilton-Manns

The truth about Maltese pagans

Associate Professor Kathryn Rountree pictured in San Anton Gardens in Malta.

Social anthropologist Kathryn Rountree had been researching and writing about contemporary witchcraft and paganism for 15 years, beginning with a PhD on goddess spirituality in New Zealand, when she received an intriguing email in 2004 that propelled her into a new research project.

The message was from a person in Malta offering to introduce her to a young Maltese witch involved in the local neo-pagan movement. It was the starting point for her next five years of intensive research into the little known world of modern pagans living in a deeply Catholic society – a scenario that struck her as fascinatingly paradoxical.



"I was intrigued and knew instantly that I wanted this to be my next field project, if the Maltese witches would agree to talk with me. I wondered what it would be like being pagan in such strongly Catholic society; none of the pagan scholarship I had come across at that stage had been based in a Catholic society."

The culmination of numerous field trips to the small Mediterranean island, where she interviewed neo-pagans and participated in some of their rituals, is the publication this year of her book *Crafting Contemporary Pagan Identities in a Catholic Society* (Ashgate, UK). It is the fourth in a series by Ashgate titled *Vitality of Indigenous Religions*.

The significance of her research is its unique exploration of this religious subculture within a predominantly Catholic society. She has observed that an interest in ancient pre-Christian concepts thrives partly through its global connections – via the Internet – to modern pagan communities elsewhere. But she also explores the relationship of the global to the local culture, and argues that perhaps Maltese neo-pagans have more in common with Maltese Catholics than pagans elsewhere, as a result of specifically local shared social and cultural traditions.

However, neo-paganism, which she broadly defines as an ecology-oriented "green religion" giving sacred status to nature, is far from tolerated or accepted in mainstream Maltese society, which is 98 per cent Catholic. For many, paganism is synonymous with Satanism, or devil worship.

Her book includes an account of the experience of one young neo-pagan woman who went to hospital to give birth. When medical staff saw a pentagram (a five-pointed star with mystic symbolism for pagans akin to the cross of Christians and Star of David of jews) tattooed on her wrist, they called in a priest. He armed the staff with crosses and had several wards exorcised after she had had a Caesarean birth. "It was like a modern-day witch hunt," Rountree says.

She hopes her book will soon be available in Malta, and that it will go some way towards educating people about what neo-pagans really stand for.

"I want to emphasise, as have other researchers, that I never came across anything remotely akin to Satanism or devil worship during my research," she says in the book's introduction. "This is particularly important to note in the Maltese context where the Devil is popularly believed to be actively trying to destroy people's Christian faith."

Rountree began her academic life as an archaeologist, having previously worked as a primary school teacher in Auckland in the 1970s. She wrote 10 books for primary school children on Māori and Polynesian prehistory, published in the 1980s by Longman – some illustrated by renowned artist the late Peter Gossage. She teaches papers in social anthropology, the anthropology of religion, ritual and belief, and ethnographic research methods at the School of Social and Cultural Studies at the Albany campus.

Her next research project takes her to Ireland, where she is studying the iconic Hill of Tara as a "contested site" – a site whose meaning and importance is contested by many groups including archaeologists, local communities and county councils, road builders, neo-pagans, folklorists, green activists, politicians, historians, journalists and others. ■ – Jennifer Little

Making a postive contribution to the nation's health

Most people have a poor understanding of what public health is, so we aim to improve this. Public health is concerned with the question of how we improve the health of populations. A focus of our work is therefore on the prevention of illness and disease and the promotion of healthy environments, social determinants and behaviours.

Public health has a long history of this from the early work of John Snow, who identified the effects of contaminated water in London during the mid-1800s and then advocated for adequate treatment of water as central to the good health of Londoners. A century later, Sir Richard Doll identified the link between tobacco and cancer, something that was strongly refuted and challenged at the time.

Through research within the University's five health research centres, we better understand causation of respiratory diseases such as asthma, the interaction of policy and personal behaviour in alcohol and illegal substance consumption, circadian rhythms and how these shape our waking and sleeping experiences from birth (as examples); and are thereby making a positive contribution to the health of the public. Work on cancer, the physiology of exercise for high-need populations such as Māori, and the health effects of gambling and models of youth development are all part of the rich tapestry that makes up recent and current work in our research centres.

One of the strengths of the new school is the strong presence of Māori health, with the Research Centre for Māori Health Development and Whāriki bringing a wealth of expertise and experience in Māori health research to the University. The research centre has housed Te Hoe Nuku Roa, the Māori Family Longitudinal Study, which has collected the most extensive Māori specific household data in our history. Whāriki has developed tools for evaluation of Māori initiatives and relationships built around community capacity enhancement within Māori communities, including with Māori youth. In addition, all the research centres have taken their responsibility to promote work on vulnerable populations, such as Māori and Pacific very seriously, with projects in these areas within their centres.

The Centre for Public Health Research offers the Master of Public Health degree, with other centres offering specialised teaching in specific areas. Currently, the CPHR is working with the Institute of Veterinary Animal and Biomedical Sciences Centre on an exciting web-based Masters programme to train veterinarians and doctors throughout Asia, Central Europe, and the Pacific so they can deal more effectively with zoonoses (Infectious diseases). Collaborations with indigenous peoples from Hawaii, Canada, Australia, Asia Pacific and work being done with organisations, such as the World Health Organisation, place the new school in a strong position to contribute not only to New Zealand, but also to the rest of the world.

From fundamental science, including laboratory work, epidemiology to policy advice, there is a lot of public health and Māori health research going on at Massey University. Applied, practical and multidisciplinary work is a hallmark of the work done in the new school. ■

– Associate Professor Cindy Kiro

Associate Professor Cindy Kiro is the inaugural head of the School of Public Health.

Vice-Chancellor Steve Maharey (right) hears more about a pasture trial taking place on the University's farmlets from newly promoted Associate Professor Paul Kenyon.

Massey to partner central districts Field Days

MAR 18–20

Visitors to a new Massey pavilion at Central Districts Field Days will glimpse innovations shaping the future of New Zealand agri-food, access world-leading researchers and meet with Massey alumni.

Central Districts Field Days general manager Rebecca Stuart says she is delighted to have Massey on board.

"It's just a great fit because Massey is a leading agricultural university and of course is grounded at the heart of the Central Districts Field Days in Manawatu.

"Massey pavilion also brings an enhanced knowledge transfer opportunity – naturally all farmers are looking to take their farming to the next level and we believe Massey's support will enhance our ability to contribute to the farmer's bottom line."

Vice-Chancellor Steve Maharey says the field days enable Massey to connect with its regional community and the agri-food sector.

"We are extremely focused on agri-food, with a commitment to provide innovative responses to the issues facing the sector – be they social, environmental or economic. We have more than 400 staff working in support of our agri-food industry, from soils to animal science, biosecurity and environment, and a renewed focus on what we can do to support New Zealand's place in global agri-food markets."

University alumni manager Robyn Matthews says alumni will be invited to a field days event, and the University has negotiated special admission rates for alumni and current students.

Held at Manfield Park in Feilding, Central Districts Field Days is New Zealand's largest regional field days event, attracting more than 37,000 visitors.

Projects to be showcased in the Massey pavilion include:

- Sustainable water use
- Distance education reshaping agriculture in the developing world
- Organic dairying
- Food safety
- Anlene milk
- Volcanic risk solutions for the central North Island

MAR 25

Distinguished Alumni Awards and Massey University Foundation launch

The University has introduced a series of annual awards to honour the achievements of its outstanding alumni and recognise their contribution to society, either in the community, their profession or both.

Recipients will have their awards presented at a dinner held at Wellington this month.

Visit: https://alumnionline.massey.ac.nz

APR 13–16

Graduation: Albany

Graduation is the greatest celebration of the University year and ceremonies follow the ancient procedure which has been established by many universities throughout the world.
It is a time for families and friends to acknowledge the hard work of graduates as well as to share in their success.

The Graduation Ceremonies in Albany are held at the Bruce Mason Theatre in Takapuna.

Visit: http://graduation.massey.ac.nz/

Advancing New Zealand

Massey University has played a defining role in the development of New Zealand through its contribution to land-based industries, commitment to innovation and close links with business and the community.

Massey University Foundation raises money to fund research, facilities and scholarships.

Last year the Foundation launched a fundraising programme to preserve two iconic buildings on Massey's historic Manawatu Campus – Old Main Building and Refectory.

This year is another landmark year for the Foundation with the launch of its first major fundraising campaign, **Advancing New Zealand**. Fundraising priorities for this campaign are agri-food, creativity, and innovation. It is from these areas that, in the next decade, some of the most innovative and creative solutions to global issues will be discovered – and Massey scholars will make them.

For more information or to give to Massey, visit http://foundation.massey.ac.nz, or telephone 06 350 5276

MASSEY UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

Enabling Excellence

Forever discovering

Our lives are shaped by the discoveries we make

Te Kunenga
ki Pūrehuroa

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