3 Following on
What has happened to some of the people in past issues of MASSEY.

4 Directions
News from around the campuses and colleges.

11 Just the answer
The origins of an indelicate gesture, plus advice on storing coffee.

12 Super-modeller
In the only post-Oscar interview he granted, we meet Oscar winner Richard Taylor.

15 Security man
Harawira Craig Pearless, who graduated from Albany this year with a Masters in Management in dispute resolution, talks about his work in East Timor.

17 Ta moko
Exhibiting painter, graphic designer, and Māori art consultant Julie Kipa talks about the return of ta moko.

18 Mason Durie
A national leader in Māori-centred research.

19 Groundbreaking research
The DNA of long-dead penguins is making researchers rethink the pace of evolution. Professor David Lambert heads the research team.

21 The makings of an entrepreneur
Want to know the ingredients? Researcher Claire Massey can tell you.

22 William Ferguson Massey
Revered, respected and reviled, the University’s namesake was no mean entrepreneur.

23 Going the distance
Caleb Huime-Moir meets Melissa Moon, 2001 world champion mountain runner, aspirant Olympian, and seasoned extramural student.

24 Lost and found
Beth and Andy Watson run a most unusual business.

25 Mahia i roto i te wairua Māori
In the Māori spirit: Mike Pehi is something more than a funeral director.

26 Offshore Assets
Will and Andrea Bruce are resident in the Cayman Islands.

27 Akekeia! Traditional Dance in Kiribati
Tony and Joan Whincup • Tourism for Development: empowering communities Regina Scheyvens • New Zealand Abroad: the story of VSA’s work in Africa, Asia and the Pacific • Parting Company: a guide to successful separation Allyson Caseley • Spirituality and Social Care Contributing to Personal and Community Well-being edited by Mary Nash and Bruce Stewart • What’s News edited by Professor Judy McGregor and Dr Margie Comrie • Royce Royce, the People’s choice: Author Peter Hawes reviews his reviewers • Anne Noble: States of Grace, Justin Paton (editor), Anne Kennedy, Lydia Wevers

32 Notes and news
What’s been happening in the lives of Massey alumni.
Rachel Chapman

Rachel Chapman, the first recipient of the Massey University Rita Angus Visual Arts Residency, was plunged into a Wellington winter when she took up occupation of the Rita Angus Cottage in Thorndon. But winters pass, and in September Rachel wrote, "Yes, sunshine is making everything seem much better - and my listed magnolia tree in Rita’s garden is blooming like there’s no tomorrow now!" Rachel is known for live art installations, created by the controlled growth of moulds and fungi. She has exhibited in New York, London, Europe and Australia and retains teaching posts at the University of Huddersfield and Manchester School of Art. Rachel reviews Anne Noble: States of Grace.

Lucy Taylor

Lucy Taylor gained entry into the one-year School of Journalism course after having been overseas for five years, the last six months as an intern in Japan with the Asahi Shimbun, an English-language paper. A highlight was taking part in an interview with the she’s-more-perfect-than-you-are Martha Stewart. Lucy, whose first love is radio journalism, now has a job with Today in Parliament. Lucy interviewed Cayman Islands residents William and Andrea Bruce via email.

Rebecca ter Borg

Rebecca ter Borg produced illustration for Just the answer while in the midst of her final year major project, based around fashion illustration. She admires the artwork that appears in The Face and Oyster magazines. Magazine work and overseas travel – perhaps to Berlin – are on her ‘to do’ list when she graduates.

Darrin Serci and Grant Bunyan

Darrin and Grant, who are Design Haus, were in the year behind Richard Taylor’s at the School of Design, and they remember sharing somosas with him. Neither of them was prescient enough to say ‘that guy is sure to win an Oscar’. Darrin and Grant take part blame for the look and feel of MASSEY.
Michelle Richardson, who featured on the cover of MASSEY issue 11, resigned from Villa Maria in January 2002, but stayed on to finish the 2002 vintage. When last heard of, she was holidaying in the Australian outback and making plans. Jan Stringer, who featured in Searching for the God of Ugly Creatures, is working for the Department of Conservation in Wellington and, from the same article, Halena Flanagan is back from her OE, importing with her a British partner, and having managed to hold a chameleon in the wild – a long-time ambition for this expert in reptiles. Don and Corrine Jones, last heard of working in Laos and featured in Defusing the Situation, are back in New Zealand with their new daughter Gwenn. Dr Mark Orams, who was with Peter Blake on the Amazon, is now involved with the Team New Zealand defence of the America’s Cup, gathering meteorological data. The two journalism students sojourning in Cambodia, Rachel Scollay and Sophie Wilson, are now reporters for the Nelson Evening Mail and the Marlborough Express respectively. Rachel is kicking herself for having missed a scoop: the story of the Amerasian children of the Vietnam War – who are now in their twenties and thirties – being repatriated to the United States, some accompanied by a retinue of bogus relatives. Gay Eustace, aka ‘Mum’ had a wonderful – though sometimes cold – trip in April 2002, encompassing Turkey, Sicily and Italy. She continues to host overseas students. Steve Maharey is now the Minister of Broadcasting as well as Associate Education Minister (Tertiary). Shaun Barnett, featured with Rob Brown in Going Bush, is the editor of New Zealand Wilderness magazine. North Island weekend walks are the subject of his latest book, published in association with Craig Potton. He is also a new father. Rob Brown is the editor of the FMC Bulletin. Watch for his article on Harry Ell and Christchurch’s Summit Road in the next issue of New Zealand Geographic. Anthropologist Ann Appleton of The Mild Woman of Borneo is immersed in writing her thesis and is no doubt longing to be back in Sarawak, where life was simple. Tom Scott was duly presented with his doctorate. In his speech he advised the audience not to peak while at university – “I haven’t peaked yet, and I don’t intend to” – and recommended people to enjoy their progress through life. “Too often we assume that if we want to send the magazine to the Tribunal, so be it, but they risk being laughed at, and hence are reluctant to make fools of themselves. “Surely everyone realizes that a decent capping magazine is an oxymoron?” MASSEY apologises unreservedly for any implication that any issue of Maskerade ever displayed anything approaching good taste. Finally, congratulations to all those associated with the success of Olivado Avocado Oil. Featured in issue 11 of MASSEY, the Extra Virgin oil won the Premier Award and the Enterprise Award at the 2002 Massey University Food Awards.

MASSEY Readership Survey

Our methodology is suspect and the sample size would make a statistician grimace, but thank you to the 40 people who went online to tell us what they thought of MASSEY. Among this discerning group, MASSEY was well received. Ninety percent rated the publication as excellent or good and most kept the magazine for longer than a month. The most-read sections of the magazine were features and profiles – always or usually read by 85 percent of those surveyed – followed by ‘Directions’ and ‘Notes and News’ at 80 percent. Literature came in as the topic of most interest, followed by alumni profiles, research, education, academic issues and alumni authors. Stainless steel mugs bearing the Massey logo are on the way to Irena Madjar, Garry Shearer and Bridget Peachey. May your coffee never go cold. Our thanks to everyone who took part in the survey.
The Dyson Product Design Awards

An integrated guitar and computer system that enables guitarists to record and then edit their music won 22-year-old Massey University design graduate Tee Smith the prestigious Dyson Product Design Award 2002.

He wins a trip to Britain, $3000 in travelling expenses and a visit to Dyson UK headquarters in Malmesbury.

“The concept is to use the midi guitar to record your ideas on the integrated, hand-held computer, then use that computer, together with its piano pad, to edit your songs down to the finished version,” says Mr Smith.

“Then later you can plug the guitar back in, and what you’ve written shows up in the led lights integrated into the fretboard.”

Steven Reese, a Massey alumnus, was a runner-up in the awards with his ‘Ambience’ full-surround home projector system.

The Marksman Design Awards

Bachelor of Design (Industrial Design) student Steven Yip won the $30,000 Marksman Design Award with a portable hotplate.

The Netherlands-based annual award featured a ‘Culinary Enjoyment’ theme. The jury members, drawn from the global design and culinary community, judged 305 designs from 112 design courses in 35 countries.

Four of the eight winners were Massey students.

Mr Yip said he designed the ‘Chef’ portable hotplate because he liked the idea of bringing people together to share good food, company and cooking experiences.

Three other Massey winners each gained honourable mentions and $1500 prizes.

Russell Haines’ ‘Amphora’ executive thermos flask has an injection-moulded ABS body with a rubber base that holds the cup when not in use.

Sophisticated, yet fun was the judges’ description of the ‘Cleanie’ from Aaron Johnston, a device that steam cleans and then dries a knife, fork or spoon as it passes through a slot.

Tim Collins won his honourable mention for an

Lawnmowers: the upgrade

For once the ‘cutting edge’ truth is. A mechatronics team based at the Albany campus has developed a robotic grass cutter that can be controlled over the Internet.

The team, led by Professor Glen Bright and Johan Potgieter and collaborating with Husqvarna, created the cordless, rechargeable mower which can precision navigate the lawn, cutting to the required height, according to instructions received over the Internet.

“We are adding intelligence, using mechatronic and robotic principles to Husqvarna’s already pretty-smart Auto Mower,” Professor Bright says. “At present the mower needs physical boundaries to navigate. By the end of the year, it will be able to self-navigate and carry out gardening tasks such as soil testing and adjusting to different grass heights, so it will have applications for golf courses and bowling greens as well as homes.”

The convergence of technologies means you could use your Internet-enabled phone to instruct the mower to go into action. What’s more, the auto mower – which is electric and near-silent – will head back to its recharger when the batteries start to run flat.

Husqvarna general manager David Boyd says the company jumped at the chance to support research that will keep their innovative products ahead of the game.

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The Benchmarking and Performance Improvement Resource www.bpir.com

The Benchmarking and Performance Improvement Resource (BPIR) at www.bpir.com is an innovative on-line resource developed over the last two-and-a-half years by the Centre for Organisational Excellence Research (COER) at the Institute of Technology and Engineering. The BPIR’s vision is to become the world’s premier performance improvement resource and it hopes to do this by offering information that can help organisations across the world to improve in all dimensions of business-related performance. COER’s design innovatively uses the detailed criteria of business excellence models to categorise and speed up navigation among its key databases containing thousands of benchmarks, measures, management/improvement tools/techniques, case studies, and surveys. This strategy and the depth and range of information differentiate the BPIR from any other on-line business improvement resource.

The BPIR’s development has been achieved with the help of key strategic alliances and partnerships including New Zealand Benchmarking Club, Industry Week, Unlimited, Cranfield’s Centre for Business Performance, Global Benchmarking Network, Emerald Library, Proquest, New Zealand Business Excellence Foundation, New Zealand Organisation for Quality, Benchmarking South Africa, Harrington Institute and many more. Launched in April 2002, the BPIR has already attracted many diverse organisations. A talented and growing team within COER is continually expanding the BPIR databases and services in order to maintain long-term success as the world’s premier resource for performance improvement.
A citation delivered by Chancellor Morva Croxson on the presentation to you of the degree of Doctor of Science (honoris causa) on your Majesty in recognition of your outstanding and sustained leadership in the social and economic development of your country.

Your Majesty, I have the honour today to offer this citation, on the occasion of the presentation to you of the degree of Doctor of Science (honoris causa) from Massey University of New Zealand.

Your Majesty’s unique record of economic and social development has created enormous and ongoing benefits for the people of Thailand and is everywhere admired. The projects you have initiated in areas as diverse as farming methods, afforestation, irrigation and pollution control have fostered development and sustainability in all parts of Thailand. This widely acclaimed record of development is informed by your powerful philosophy of ‘Sufficient Economy’, a philosophy that stresses the middle path as the over-riding principle for the appropriate conduct and way of life for the whole population. Your Majesty, your decades of unfailing service for your people demonstrates the potency of your philosophy in action. Your endeavours in social and economic development, as well as in cultural pursuits such as art and music are legendary. Massey University shares in the admiration of your outstanding achievements.

In this time of unprecedented economic, social and environmental change, moral and cultural values are constantly challenged. We respect your unfailing resolve to avoid conflict and to enhance the quality of life of all Thai people. Your wise and enlightened leadership is inspiring for us in New Zealand and the rest of the world.

In this, Massey University’s 75th anniversary year, we are very honoured to confer the degree of Doctor of Science (honoris causa) on your Majesty in recognition of your outstanding and sustained leadership in the social and economic development of your country.
Asthma myths challenged
The Centre for Public Health Research has debunked the widely-held belief that most asthma is caused by exposure to allergens such as house-dust mites and cats.

Centre Director Professor Neil Pearce says at most only about half of asthma cases are caused by allergic inflammation of the airways. The other half are caused by non-allergic mechanisms.

The collaborative research has been undertaken by Dr Jeroen Douwes and Professor Pearce at the Centre for Public Health Research, together with Dr Peter Gibson (John Hunter Hospital, Newcastle, Australia) and Dr Juha Pekkanen (National Public Health Institute, Kuopio, Finland).

Professor Pearce says the allergic response mechanism was always thought to be the reason babies became asthmatics in the first place. The Centre’s findings have now opened those beliefs to question.

“This new research shows that non-allergic mechanisms cause at least half of asthma cases, but we still don’t know what these mechanisms are because all of the attention has been focused on allergens.”

The Centre is now focusing much of its Health Research Council funding on learning more about these non-allergic mechanisms. A three-year study has also begun on why children living on farms are less likely to contract asthma.

$1 million commercial grant for Feline Nutrition
The University’s Centre for Feline Nutrition has received a further $1 million research contract from Heinz-Wattie for feline and canine nutrition.

The company has been funding the unit since its establishment in 1991. Dr Wouter Hendriks, Director Animal Nutrition and Physiology, said the grant would help in establishing a world-leading research front in pet foods.

Health research boosted
A $1.25m Health Research Council (HRC) Programme Grant for the University’s Centre for Public Health Research has ensured long-term funding for the Centre, says Director Professor Neil Pearce. The grant will support the Centre’s core infrastructure and two major new projects.

“We are now formally recognised as a Programme by the Health Research Council, with support confirmed for the next three years, and possible renewals for another nine,” says Professor Pearce.

“This gets us on to the same status as the University’s other HRC Programme – Te Pūmanawa Hauora, the Māori Health Research Centre within the School of Māori Studies.”

Until now, most HRC funding has gone to the Otago and Auckland University medical schools.

The Programme Grant application was supported by a number of research partners, including both Te Pūmanawa Hauora and the EpiCentre at Massey, the Malaghan Institute for Medical Research, Victoria University’s Health Services Research Centre and Environmental Sciences and Research (ESR).

The funding covers two new studies which will be a major focus for the Centre’s research over the next few years, in addition its existing research projects in asthma, cancer, Māori health and Pacific health.

One study focuses on asthma rates in children living on farms. The study is being conducted by Professor Pearce and Dr Jeroen Douwes at the CPHR, together with Dr Joanna McKenzie and Professor Roger Morris at Massey’s EpiCentre, Professor Graham Le Gros at the Malaghan Institute for Medical Research, and Dr Erika von Mutius at the University Children’s Hospital in Munich, Germany.

The other study is being conducted in collaboration with Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) and involves investigating occupational causes of bladder cancer, non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma, leukaemia and nasopharyngeal cancer in adult New Zealanders. The study is being done by Professor Pearce, Dave McLean and Dr Jeroen Douwes, together with Dr Evan Dryson and Dr Chris Walls from OSH.

FoRST funding tops $5 million
The Foundation of Research Science and Technology has allocated more than $5 million to Massey to develop solar technology and to conduct research that will generate value for New Zealand’s primary industries.

The latest funding comes on top of existing research grants provided by the Foundation to the University, which total $1.78 million this year alone.

A project to build cheaper and more efficient solar cells and batteries will receive $3.2 million over the next four years. Led by Professor David Officer, the $810,000 a year project will develop advanced materials for energy technology. Professor Officer’s team, which includes Dr Simon Hall, Dr Richard Haverkamp, Dr Keith Gordon of Otago University, Dr Tony Burrell of Los Alamos and Dr Gordon Wallace of Wollongong, is developing integrated solar harvesting and storage technologies.

These include existing titanium dioxide solar cells and nickel-zinc batteries developed at Massey University by Dr Hall’s PhD student, Michael Liu. The next generation technologies will use conducting plastic materials for the solar cells and the batteries.

The Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health’s Centre for Feline Nutrition will receive $500,000 per year for four years to develop high-value ingredients from meat and fish co-products for the manufacture of foods for companion animals.

Feline Centre Director Dr Wouter Hendriks says the funds will be used to further the Centre’s work into the nutrition of companion animals and to assist the meat and fish industries to transform low value commodity products into added value products.

The $2 million FoRST project involves five scientists from the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, three from Crop & Food Research and one from the Institute of Veterinary Animal and Biomedical Sciences. The research team also includes experts from the University of Illinois.

The Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health has obtained further FoRST funding through a consortium with Meat New Zealand and AgResearch Ltd.
Breathing easy aim of research

A team led by Dr Rodger Pack, Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, will work with The University of Auckland Medical School and South Auckland Health on a $3.6m research project for Fisher & Paykel Healthcare to find breakthrough treatments for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

Fisher & Paykel Healthcare Corporation has secured up to $NZ3.6m in funding over four years from the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology to establish a research centre with South Auckland Health to find treatments for COPD. The term COPD includes two closely related diseases of the respiratory system: chronic bronchitis and emphysema. It is projected to be the fifth major cause of death worldwide by 2020.
Kiwi saved by Wildlife Ward
A young adult brown kiwi caught in a gin trap has been operated on by bird medicine and surgery expert Dr Brett Gartrell in the Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences Wildlife Ward.

The bird, thought to be male, was brought into the ward by a hunter trapping for possums in the Ahu Ahu Valley, north of Wanganui. Its foot had been caught in a trap. One of its toes was almost severed and another was partially lacerated.

The kiwi was given pain relief for approximately 21 hours before the operation. Afterwards, the kiwi was kept under observation for a few days to ensure there were no infections, then passed on to a wildlife carer before being released back into the wild. Dr Gartrell says the bird should be able to cope well with only two toes and shouldn’t be hindered in the wild.

Injured takahe gets op before breeding season
After treatment at Massey’s Wildlife Health Centre, Eric the takahe returned to Maud Island in good time for the breeding season.

Eric was flown to the University from his home in the Marlborough Sounds after a hock joint injury, sustained while climbing through a fence several months before, had refused to heal with antibiotics. Dr Brett Gartrell says Eric recovered well after long and complicated surgery. The operation flushed a buildup of pus from the swollen joint.

Eric was able to return to his Maud Island home within a couple of weeks. Maud Island Resident Ranger Steve Ward said Eric’s absence caused a buildup of pus from the swollen joint.

Horses and courses
An equine high performance centre has opened on the Turitea site of Massey’s Palmerston North campus. Top riders no longer need to be separated from their horses when they head to university. Instead they can train and compete while getting an education.

The centre will feature in the academic programmes offered by the Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences, especially Equine Studies. The Bachelor of Applied Science (Equine Studies) is the only university-level equine degree available in New Zealand.

So far the centre has an 80m by 40m arena, four covered yards, 20 sets of jumps, a satellite station and grazing paddocks for up to 15 horses. A stable block with a seminar room overlooking the arena is planned.

Vet school awarded American accreditation
The American Veterinary Medical Association has confirmed its award of accreditation to Massey’s veterinary school. The accreditation means the Massey qualification will be accepted throughout the United States. It is already accepted in other Commonwealth and Asian countries.

Massey is one of just four veterinary schools outside North America to have been accredited, and the only university in the Southern Hemisphere. It joins an elite group of 30 universities worldwide, including the prestigious Cornell University and Universities of California and Pennsylvania.

Partnership for Nanomaterials Research Centre
The Nanomaterials Research Centre has formed a partnership with Nobel Prize winner Professor Alan MacDiarmid to further research into minute electronic devices.

Director of the Nanomaterials Centre Professor David Officer says the man known as the ‘father of conducting polymers’ will become an adjunct professor at Massey University and spend several weeks each year working with the staff at the Centre.

Aid for dolphin study
Local generosity has kept PhD student Karen Stockin’s research project afloat. Ms Stockin, a marine biologist, arrived in New Zealand in January to conduct a three-year study of the behaviour of the Hauraki Gulf’s common dolphins and the effects of ‘swim with the dolphins’ tourism.

But she was left high and dry when her boat’s 12-year-old motor blew up. The $20,000 needed for a new motor was not a contingency her budget allowed for. Ms Stockin, the only recipient of the prestigious Commonwealth Scholarship awarded by New Zealand in 2001, looked as though she would have to return to England empty handed.

That was until Craig Lewis of Whangaparaoa’s Gulfland Marine heard of her plight.

Along with Mercury motors, he stitched together a package that gives Ms Stockin the loan of a brand new ‘clean, green’ 90hp four-stroke motor, which will be updated every year and fully serviced for free.

Her research, which is being supervised by Dr Mark Orams, succeeds that of another international Massey PhD student, Dr Dirk Neumann, who returned to Germany after completing his doctorate last year. Dr Neumann studied the common dolphin at Whitianga and attracted the attention of Sir David Attenborough, who filmed him for a series of programmes. With the breeding season impending, Eric’s absence caused a significant shortfall in the population.

Maud Island Resident Ranger Steve Ward said Eric’s absence caused a significant shortfall in the population. Eric’s absence caused a significant shortfall in the population. Eric’s absence caused a significant shortfall in the population.

Ms Stockin will use the photos to find out whether the Whitianga dolphins visit the Hauraki Gulf and build upon Dr Neumann’s study to discover how eco tours such as ‘swim with the dolphins’ tourism affects them.

New Zealand has 35 active dolphin tour operators who take visitors to view and swim with Hector’s, bottlenose, dusky and common dolphins.

Injured takahe gets op before breeding season
After treatment at Massey’s Wildlife Health Centre, Eric the takahe returned to Maud Island in good time for the breeding season.

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Eric was able to return to his Maud Island home within a couple of weeks. Maud Island Resident Ranger Steve Ward said Eric’s absence caused a significant shortfall in the population. Eric’s partner Hilda began attacking another female takahe. The takahe is classified as being in a ‘nationally critical’ state by the Department of Conservation. There are thought to be 292 takahe in existence, 14 of them on Maud Island.
**Professor Sally Casswell**
A New Zealand leader in the field of alcohol and public health research has moved her research centre to Massey, cementing the University’s position as the leading provider of New Zealand public health research.

Professor Sally Casswell joined Professor Mason Durie, Professor Paul Spoonley, Associate Professor Marilyn Waring and Dr Neil Pearce and their staff in the Auckland-based Centre for Whanau and Family Health. She was formerly with the University of Auckland.

**Professor Rolf Cremer**
College of Business Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Rolf Cremer is departing to work for the China Europe International Business School in Shanghai. He will up the new position full-time in January 2003.

Professor Cremer was the Dean of Social Sciences at the then University of Macau before joining Massey.

He hopes to maintain strong links with Massey University.

**Professor Geoff Jameson**
Chair in Structural Chemistry and Biology
Associate Professor Geoff Jameson has been appointed to a personal Chair in Structural Chemistry and Biology.

Professor Jameson’s research centres around explaining the structural framework necessary for understanding the form and function in chemical and biological systems.

**Professor Tony Signal**
Chair of Physics
Tony Signal has been appointed to the University’s Chair of Physics. He is expected to bring a renewed research focus, particularly in mathematical physics and

**Professor Rao Bhamidimarri**
Palmerston North Principal Professor Rao Bhamidimarri is departing Massey to become Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Computing at Napier University in Edinburgh, Scotland.

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**Family definition ‘misleading’**
Statistics New Zealand’s definition of ‘family’ is distorting family statistics – and potentially government policy – according to research from the Department of Applied and International Economics.

If the members of a family don’t live under the same roof, they fall outside the definition. Even the official definition of ‘extended family’ refers only to people living in the same household. “This clearly does not represent the Maori concept of whanau, and it has implications for most others in society. Grandparents, aunts, uncles and others are significant members of our families, but are invisible in the current statistics,” Assistant Lecturer Robert Hodgson says.

The distortions are magnified when parents live apart, he says. As family members are only considered to live in one household, children are assumed to be in that household all the time. If one parent lives elsewhere, they are not identified as being part of that family. If the recognised parent is in a new live-in relationship, Statistics NZ considers them to be a two-parent family. There is no way to distinguish between a natural parent and a new partner, Mr Hodgson says.

“There are 300,000 children in the child support system, over a quarter of all the children in New Zealand. For many of them, both parents are active emotional and financial participants in their lives. The data does not acknowledge this.

“This distorted picture has serious policy implications. Policies based on this information will ignore children’s time with parents who do not live in the same house as them, and will assume that live-in partners are a perfect replacement for birth parents.”

Even poverty and income distribution studies are distorted because of the definition, Mr Hodgson says. The frequent emphasis on sole-parent families by these studies presents an unduly negative picture of their situation. These studies don’t account for children spending time at two houses, which means the cost of a child’s upkeep is shared.”

Mr Hodgson says his research shows the importance of definitions in shaping how policy makers understand the issues.

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**Jazz work marks Massey anniversary**
The premiere of a jazz composition by jazz tutor Phil Broadhurst to celebrate the University’s 75th anniversary was a highlight of The Masters and Their Music concert at Albany in July.

Mr Broadhurst, who last year received a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit award for his services to jazz, wrote a three-part suite that loosely chronicles the development of Massey from its inception in 1927.

The composition was premiered by Massey jazz tutors, including trombonist Rodger Fox and saxophonist Brian Smith.

The concert was preceded by a series of jazz workshops.

**Chemistry lecturer wins national teaching excellence award**
Chemistry lecturer Dr Tony Wright was awarded an inaugural Tertiary Teaching Excellence Award by Associate Education Minister (Tertiary) Steve Maharey.

The awards, worth $20,000 each, recognise excellence in tertiary teaching, promote good teaching practice and enhance career development for tertiary teachers. Eleven awards were presented to 14 recipients, as well as a supreme Prime Minister’s award. Forty-four nominations for the awards were received from tertiary institutions ranging from universities to polytechnics and private training establishments.
Gap in life expectancy growing
The gap in life expectancy between rich and poor is continuing to increase, according to new research from the Centre for Public Health Research. Centre director Professor Neil Pearce has already studied social class differences and death rates over two periods in the mid-70s and mid-80s. Working with Professor Peter Davis and Andrew Sporle at the University of Otago’s Christchurch School of Medicine, he’s now updated these figures with a similar analysis for the mid-90s.

Classification of the mortality data was based on the current, or most recent occupation. The findings have been published in The Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health.

Professor Pearce says death rates have generally dropped and life expectancy has improved during the past century. This has mainly been due to better living conditions such as better housing, improved nutrition and recent decreases in smoking. Some of these declines have been quite marked – there was a 21 percent drop between 1985 and 1995. But the difference in death rates between the wealthiest and the least advantaged socio-economic groups has not diminished, and may have even increased.

Professor Pearce says in any given year, if a group of unskilled manual workers is compared to a group of professionals, twice as many manual workers will die. He says although some of the deaths are due to the nature of work – to manual workers having more accidents on the job – most can be traced to general living conditions.

High cost of free education
New Zealand parents are paying schools about $30 million a year in donations for the ‘free’ state education of their children. And the widespread practice of charging parents for outside-classroom education and learning materials is largely illegal, says public policy researcher Sandy Latimer. In her Masters study, User Pays In New Zealand’s Free Compulsory Education System, Ms Latimer argues that the Tomorrow’s Schools model does not adequately protect the right of New Zealand’s children to free compulsory education.

“Chronic underfunding of education is being masked by parent top-ups and it’s time New Zealanders drew that line in the sand about reaffirming the right to free education,” says Ms Latimer.

She says the Education Ministry does not monitor implementation of its policy and many schools disregard the policy when imposing additional charges. Ms Latimer also found that, under current policy, parental inability or refusal to pay for activities such as school camps and field trips meant that many children, particularly in large, urban schools, could be excluded from curriculum activities.

Ms Latimer found that as well as exclusion, some children were shamed in front of classmates by having materials withheld when payment had not been received.

Food Technology scholarships
Four $6000 Food Technology scholarships are being offered to Massey students by cereal king Dick Hubbard in a bid to help solve an industry shortage.

A Massey graduate in food technology himself, Mr Hubbard says he studied the subject in the ’60s when it was a ‘new fangled’ degree.

“Thirty-seven years later, I’m still in the food business and the degree in food technology still exists. Please! I did this particular degree course? You bet!” he wrote in Clipboard, the folksy newsletter that accompanies Hubbards cereals.

The successful students will receive $1500 a year for the four-year Bachelor of Technology (Food Technology), which focuses on the design and development of new food products.

Mr Hubbard says he has just employed another food technologist and that final-year students are being “snapped up” before they graduate.

Scholarship applicants must write to Mr Hubbard outlining their reasons for wanting to be a food technologist. He is looking for people with a genuine desire to do the degree, not necessarily those who

Fellowship for Māori researcher
Information sciences doctoral student Janette Hamilton-Pearce, a descendant of Te Whānau A Apanui, Ngāti Kahungunu and Tawharetoua, was awarded a Tūāpapa Pūtaiao Māori Fellowship from the Foundation of Research, Science and Technology. The Fellowship brings funding of $25,000 a year for three years. She will also receive a Massey University Māori Staff Award for 2003.

Ms Hamilton-Pearce is an Information Systems lecturer within the Institute of Information and Mathematical Sciences at Albany. Her PhD study will explore the best way to develop an information system for an indigenous community, in this case a Māori community.

Her work will look at developing a framework to unify information systems development methodologies with Māori cultural philosophy, with a theoretical focus on Kaupapa Māori theory, practices and processes. The framework will then be evaluated by analysing, designing and implementing an information system for a specific

Lynda Hager, 92, graduate
Although she died a few months shy of graduating, 92-year-old student Lynda Hager graduated nonetheless. Her place at the Palmerston North graduation was taken by her son, John, who collected her mother’s Certificate of Arts on her behalf.

Mrs Hager began academic study extramurally at age 88, fulfilling a lifetime ambition. A full degree had been her intention, but her failing eyesight intervened and she chose the certificate. “Mum was so determined and dedicated, despite having to read all her text books through a magnifying glass during her last year. Study gave her a reason to wake up each morning,” says daughter Katherine Broadbent.

“I hope that Mum’s example will show other seniors that you are never too old to study, and encourage them to take up the challenge of life-long learning.”

Basil Poff, from the School of History, Philosophy and Politics, who took Mrs Hager for his Medieval Europe paper, remembers her as a wonderful lady, bright and interested. “She was a good writer, poised and always tremendously grateful to her lecturers.”

Born in Christchurch in 1909, Mrs Hager spent her early life on the West Coast. Her father died when she was 14 and after two years at the Auckland Technical Institute she worked as a telephone operator before moving to Palmerston North to study. She had a Certificate of Arts by the time she was 20, but did not continue her studies.

She eventually married and raised two children, both graduates of Massey University. Their youngest son, John, who collected his mother’s Certificate of Arts for her, is now a successful lawyer.

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Born in Christchurch in 1909, Mrs Hager spent her early life on the West Coast. Her father died when she was 14 and after two years at the Auckland Technical Institute she worked as a telephone operator before moving to Palmerston North to study. There was no money for university, Mrs Hager spent most of her married life in Auckland, where she raised two children and helped her husband in their shoe business. Mrs Hager’s son, John, graduated with an Agricultural Science degree in the 1960s.

Massey’s MBA enters Chinese market
Massey is the first New Zealand university to enter the competitive Chinese market to deliver university-level business education.

The University is currently teaching its first Masters in Business Administration (MBA) course to business executives in the Gangzhou region of Southern China. This is the first time Massey has offered its MBA programme offshore.
English archers would have their index and middle fingers cut off. As these were the fingers required to draw back a bowstring, the archer’s career would be ruined and any prospects of future employment severely limited. Unfortunately for the French though, Agincourt was a decisive English victory. The English archers took a severe toll of the dismounted knights advancing to meet them and then, not relishing the prospect of being separated from their fingers, drew their swords to have a go at hacking the knights to death at close quarters. After the battle, and in future ones, English archers held up their two fingers and waved them at the French. It was a sign intended as an insult and a warning and as such was an effective gesture. It showed the French that the archer’s two fingers remained intact and he still remained a deadly adversary.

The gesture is still effective today, but its meaning has significantly changed.

Dr Glyn Harper
Centre for Defence Studies

Essentially yes, although the insult, which is delivered with the index and middle fingers, has changed its meaning considerably since it was first used in the fifteenth century.

The origin of the gesture derives from the appearance of the longbow towards the end of the thirteenth century. The longbow, which soon became the standard armament of English infantry, was a weapon of tremendous accuracy and power. An English archer was expected to be able to hit a person-sized target more than 200 yards distant. The power in the bow, derived from the 100 foot-pounds of pressure required to draw the bowstring, could penetrate the very expensive armour of a noble knight with ease. At Crecy in 1346 and at Poitiers, 10 years later, attacking French cavalry fell in large numbers before a hailstorm of English arrows. The French aristocracy was somewhat concerned at seeing the cream of their society laid low by this devastating weapon. In their next big battle they decided that drastic action was needed.

It was at Agincourt in 1415 that the ‘two finger salute’ appeared. The French, with their superiority of numbers, expected an easy victory. They therefore felt it safe to proclaim that henceforth any captured English archers would have their index and middle fingers cut off. As these were the fingers required to draw back a bowstring, the archer’s career would be ruined and any prospects of future employment severely limited. Unfortunately for the French though, Agincourt was a decisive English victory. The English archers took a severe toll of the dismounted knights advancing to meet them and then, not relishing the prospect of being separated from their fingers, drew their swords to have a go at hacking the knights to death at close quarters. After the battle, and in future ones, English archers held up their two fingers and waved them at the French. It was a sign intended as an insult and a warning and as such was an effective gesture. It showed the French that the archer’s two fingers remained intact and he still remained a deadly adversary.

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There’s nothing more delectable than the aroma and taste of freshly roasted and ground coffee, and I am afraid there is no way round it, fresh is best.

The roasting of coffee beans, a process that takes place at temperatures of 200°C or above, rids the beans of most of their moisture and causes a wide range of chemical reactions. The sugars caramelise and eventually begin to char, and aromatic chemicals are formed. The longer the roast, the darker the colour, and the stronger the flavour. The beans in espresso coffee are generally roasted longest of all.

From here on, oxidation takes its toll. Unground and left exposed to the air, the roasted coffee beans will go stale over a period of one to two weeks. Freshly ground coffee will begin to go stale in just a few hours. If you really like your coffee, grind the beans as you need them.

Coffee lovers without a coffee outlet nearby or a grinder to hand can buy packaged ground coffee. Flushed with a nitrogen/carbon dioxide gas mixture to exclude oxygen — and hence oxidation — the ground coffee is vacuum-sealed into tin cans or very thick, flexible aluminium-foil-based sachets. The opaque packaging excludes sunlight, a very important cause of oxidation in foods.

Oxidation is a chemical reaction, so the colder the storage temperature, the longer the shelf life. If you keep the sealed bags in a freezer you can add several weeks on to the shelf life of most coffee beans. There is, however, a proviso: allow the beans to warm up to room temperature before opening the package. If moisture gets into the beans — and a really cold bean will invite moisture condensation — then very fast and undesirable flavour changes will occur. Once these fancy packages have been opened the shelf life of the coffee is very short.

For tea drinkers who only bring out the ground coffee for the occasional guests, I am sorry, there really is no good long-term way of storing ground coffee once it has been opened to the air. Go and buy some fresh coffee beans. After all, you wouldn’t serve your guests flat beer.

Ray Winger, Professor of Food Technology
Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health
Richard Taylor
Bachelor of Design

Richard Taylor
Oscar Winning Special Effects

Richard Taylor and Peter Jackson looked like the products of an aberrant evolutionary path, it is because they are. Hollywood blockbusters, sure. A movie industry? Taylor claims that until he was 17, he’d imagined Close to Home (the Shortland Street of the day) was a true story, shot in somebody’s home. Taylor went to Wesley College in Pukekohe. A Māori boys boarding school, it specialised in agriculture, Māori studies and rugby. (Jonah Lomu would later be a student there.) Still, for all that, an art department had started up at around the time of his arrival and he remembers a “wonderful” art teacher. “I wasn’t a rugby player, but there were students there who were wonderful in helping me through – I can’t ever recall feeling any peer pressure. Wesley College was good at celebrating people who had a focus, who had a purpose. They could see I had that focus, so they left me to it. I guess I was very tenacious and pragmatic.”

He read precociously: “I had a slow start – I’d been severely dyslexic as a child – and at Wesley, more out of fear than through any good tutoring, I managed to learn to read well. So I began reading very heavy novels, from what I guess was a very early age.” He read Graham Greene, then Aldous Huxley, and H H Munro – better known by pen name Saki – whose perfectly formed short stories usually carry a mordant twist. (Taylor names Saki’s Open Window as his “all-time favourite” story.) “As an Edwardian satirical writer, Saki has the driest wit. I still read his stuff heavily and repeatedly. I love the way he engenders these dignified worlds of pomp and ceremony, but once you get under the skin, it’s all hilariously embarrassing,” says Taylor.

As for what he wanted to be: “I had developed this almost belligerent belief that I would one day be doing art for a living, without even understanding what that meant.”

In the seventh form, with the school careers adviser having fixed on the idea of his becoming a dentist, Taylor came across a Wellington School of Design brochure. “I immediately knew this was it,” he says. “I was already three months behind in starting a portfolio, but I jumped on a plane and flew down to the open day. This was the first time I had ever met another individual my age who did art, who did things with their hands, and it was like God’s rays had burst through the clouds and hit me,” he says. “I was shy and quiet, and I had no ability to chew the fat with the other prospective students, but I just knew I had to be there.”

He went home and put a portfolio together. The work was poor, he says – he lacked much guidance – but he submitted it and hoped. “I was never able to get in. It was a very sad time. But then, three days before the course started, somebody dropped me out, so (former Design School head) Bill Toomath rang me up and offered me a place.”

At this point, Taylor famously stayed into the wrong enrolment queue – graphic design instead of industrial design. “It was all very, very embarrassing,” he says. “But I was soon thanking my lucky stars, because I’d come from a boys boarding school, and I quickly became very appreciative of the interaction and inspiration within this co-ed graphic design class. Besides, I


Through all of this, Taylor was obliging. This was an event he wanted the nation to share; there were messages he wanted to convey. Then, as the brouhaha began to die down, Taylor quit the limelight. Like Bilbo, he slipped on the ring and vanished from the party. This is his sole post-Oscar interview.

If, among the celebrity guests at the Oscars, Richard Taylor and Peter Jackson looked like the products of an aberrant evolutionary path, it is because they are. Hollywood blockbusters, sure. A Miramar blockbuster? It strains belief.

Weta Digital, an enterprise based in a small industrial estate in suburban Wellington, has been cited by Wired magazine as one of the world’s top five digital effects houses. How unlikely is that?

And in this wildly improbable saga, the story of Richard Taylor’s climb to become the armourer of Middle Earth and an Oscar winner is as unlikely as any.

Taylor grew up on a cattle farm at Hihi, near Pukekohe. It wasn’t the underprivileged upbringing that Middle Earth and an Oscar winner is as unlikely as any.

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Taylor grew up on a cattle farm at Hihi, near Pukekohe. It wasn’t the underprivileged upbringing that
Don’t get Taylor wrong, he liked going to the Oscars and it was a thrill for him, but the greatest thing about the event was the rebranding of New Zealand’s business and creative talent – photographers, designers, inventors, entrepreneurs – as mentors and role models. “It’s wonderful the way we celebrate our sportspeople, but it is our music, our art and our design that will brand us in the twenty first century.”

Prime Minister Helen Clark wins praise. “She is with her hands. “I would alter the brief so it was applicable to my skill,” says Taylor. “And fantastically, the tutors were understanding. They very graciously and cleverly allowed me to explore these different media, so over those three years I really got to understand materials at an incredibly high level.”

Taylor didn’t want to be a designer or an illustrator. He was singularly focused on making things with his hands.

“If of course, in design school you spout on about what we thought we might achieve.”

On graduating, Taylor took up an “incredibly well paid” job at a Wellington design studio, creating board games. He quit after six weeks, taking an 80 percent pay cut to work for the Gibson Group, painting ‘flats’ for blue screen advertising shoots. Within two weeks he’d switched departments to become a model maker for TV commercials.

“I started out directing the cheapest and cheesiest TV commercials you have ever seen. Those 10 second frames for Weetbix [breakfast cereal] where I cajoled people into lending me their husky dogs, scrounged Antarctic explorer gear, made my own artificial snowfield, then acted in it... In the process I was able to engender in my bosses the sense that there was a lot more in my mind than in my hands.”

When he overheard a conversation about the Gibson Group being lined up to make Public Eye, the local version of the British satirical TV series Spitting Image, Taylor immediately went out and sculpted a bust of boss Dave Gibson from margarine. “I put it on his desk, under a rubbish sack. He said ‘Great, you’ve got the job, you should have just asked’. Some of his puppets are still a feature of Wellington’s parliamentary watering hole, The Backbencher. It was “crude and immature” work, he says, but lots of fun at the time. By then he was working full-time with his partner Tania Rodger.

“Fast and cheap, that was the idea. Carved in margarine, moulded in plaster and poured in latex, with roll-on deodorant balls for eyes. It’s incredible to think that three of us turned two puppets around a week, while the Spitting Image team in the UK were doing one every 18 days, with a crew of 36.”

Wellington being a small city, it was inevitable Taylor and Peter Jackson would cross paths. The two were already aware of each other’s work. “We were doing a TV commercial, and I recall Peter wandered into the shoot. We hit up a friendship, and he said ‘he’d just finished Bad Taste and was moving on to Brain Dead, would I like to be part of it? I said ‘I’d love to’ and left Public Eye to join him, only to find six weeks later that the whole thing had fallen over through lack of funding.”

The next morning Jackson called to say he had another film up and running, the ‘muppets on acid’ feature film Meet the Feebles. “This was a crude pissed-take, a satirical look at life within a theatre, while taking the mickey out of the much-loved Muppet show,” says Taylor. “And it was also immense fun. Tania and I were two of a team of four puppet makers working under Cameron Chiddick. The working environment was abysmal, but the community was such that everyone had a ball. For me, Meet the Feebles was an incredibly euphoric experience.”

On the back of Meet the Feebles, Taylor and Rodger were employed by Jackson to run the effects workshop for the resurrected splatter movie Brain Dead. “We hired nine talented young New Zealanders and did that for a year. Again, we were raising the bar on what we thought we might achieve.”

For Heavenly Creatures – Jackson’s first art-house movie – Taylor and Rodger first made the Plasticien models for the extended fantasy sequences, then turned to a then-powerful Silicon Graphics computer. Filmmaking was going digital.

“George Port started the digital effects division using this one computer, and when the film ended we realised it would be tragic if the computer went back to America,” says Taylor. “So we pooled our resources, formed Weta Digital and bought this one computer.” The purchase lumbered Weta with years of debt.

From there Jackson and Weta went on to make the mockumentary Forgotten Silver, Jack Brown Genius, and The Frighteners, which for its time had the largest number of digital effects ever used in a movie.

“Off the back of The Frighteners we did pre-production work on the King Kong remake, but it fell over after six months – other movies in a similar vein were crowding the market,” says Taylor. “Luckily, we then picked up work on the Robert Zemeckis movie Contact. We did everything from when Jodie Foster climbs into the pod until when she arrives on the beach. We also did miniatures on an American television movie. These projects saw us through the desperate time after King Kong fell over.”

Meanwhile, Peter Jackson had spent $70,000 of his own money making a documentary to pitch New Zealand as having the skills and technology to make The Lord of the Rings. So impressed was New Line
When I was 11, I was taken to The Louvre in Paris by my mum and dad. I was touched by the beauty of sculpture. Now the problem for me and my earning capacity is there is no way for me to own beautiful sculpture in my home. The bronzes are vastly expensive.”

Taylor – for a moment sounding Franklin-Mintish – is talking about The Lord of the Rings’ line of collectibles. Fifteen years ago, he says, he discovered ‘garage kits’, the models produced by fine art fantasy sculptors.

“I have a significant collection of sixth scale human figures that I have assembled myself.” Some people, he admits, would label them as nerdy. “But I collect them because they are beautiful pieces of fine art. So I have 100 fine art sculptures in my house. Luckily Tania tolerates them.

“I always wanted to have another arm to our company that did this sort of work. I delved into it in Meet the Feebles: I made up a kit and sold it around the world. But with LOTR, I had the opportunity to reinvent our company and start up another branch.”

Sideshow Weta Collectibles is named after Weta’s fifty-fifty collaboration with a small American company that makes action figures. “We develop the original masters; they distribute and manufacture,” explains Taylor. “We now have 120 LOTR products on the market.”

Recently the company won the contract to make muppet models for Hensens. “That was a major coup,” says Taylor. Talks are also under way with
T he moko is a work in progress. On each visit home it extends a little further. Those who know the visual language, the intricate koru and mangopare motifs, can read something of the man who bears it.

In East Timor, where Harawira Craig Pearless is a district security adviser with the United Nations, his moko-in-instalments fascinates the locals and the multi-national peacekeeping force alike. In the eastern end of East Timor, ‘moko’ is the indigenous word for tattoo. Other words such as ‘wai’ for water and ‘mate’ for death are identical to the Mäori words, linguistic proof that Polynesian origins lie in South East Asia.

“Everybody stops and looks. They asked me what it is called and from then on people called me Moko. It doesn’t matter if I’m in Dili or somewhere else people are always yelling out ‘Moko!’.”

Of Ngati Huia and Ngati Raukawa descent, Craig graduated this year with a Masters in Management majoring in dispute resolution. He had taken leave from the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) to do so. As a district security adviser with UNTAET, he is responsible for the “care and protection of UN property and personnel and investigation of ‘oversights’ by UN personnel”. Before his recruitment by the New York office of the UN, he was a soldier in the Territorial Force for 12 years and an award-winning policeman for 20 years in the Wellington and Gisborne regions where his specialty as an iwi liaison officer was making and keeping peace.

A wave of interest ripples through the crowd at the graduation ceremony in Auckland. Neighbour nudges neighbour. Ta moko looks magnificent and perfectly in place at this solemn, ceremonial occasion on this tall, noble-looking man dressed in gown and cap. And so it is that I am somewhat (privately) taken aback when Craig welcomes me to his Gisborne home for an interview two weeks later. He is wearing civvies, common or garden slippers and black-rimmed glasses over ta moko. The twenty first century ordinariness of it all seems almost a desecration. We settle down for a chat over cups of tea and the local bakery’s best, set out by Craig’s wife, Ava. Four of their six children scamper round before going off to watch the school’s kapa haka group, and slowly, very slowly, ta moko begins to look at home on a loving dad immersed in his family on days off.

“This is for my grandchildren,” he explains to my inevitable question as to why he decided to go under the needle gun of ta moko artist Derek Lardelli. “This is to say we are still here.”

His motives for acquiring ta moko are political as well as personal. “A lot of people – high ranking army and air force people – approach me at different times and have a good look and say how great it is and that they are going to get one.

“I want to see ta moko back on the pae pae, the speaking platform on the marae. That’s the way it used to be; it was the norm. I think Once Were Warriors did a lot to set ta moko back. Okay, it alerted people that ta moko was here, but it also demonstrated that the gangs were the only group in Mäori culture that had maintained the moko. I want to see it worn by people in all walks of life.”

The symbol on Craig’s forehead is the sign of the hammerhead shark and signifies Tumatauenga, the god of war. Tumatauenga is commonly adopted by Mäori in the army as their guardian. At first this is incongruous – a warrior motif on a man whose role is to help bring a lasting peace to a nation ‘gutted’ by violence. But the peace in East Timor is one that has been arrived at by force and is still defended by arms.

Craig accepted the assignment to East Timor two years ago because he wanted to become involved in an international peace organisation. At the same time he started his Masters extramurally. For the first nine months, he wrote assignments with pen and paper in a tent and sent them home via “anyone going to Dili”. The UN eventually provided a computer and over the two years Craig funded five trips back to New Zealand for block courses.

“The easy thing about extramural study is that you get all the guides, you sit down with a calendar, you work out all the assignment due dates and then you get on with it. It’s a really flexible thing. I just fitted study in when I could – the books were always on my desk.”

Craig’s day job begins at 6am with an hour-and-a-half of training. (He is into endurance sports, finishing the Independence Day Half Marathon in one hour and 45 minutes – no mean feat in tropical heat).

The first task of the day is to check overnight happenings and the day’s anticipated events with the local constabulary who maintain civil security – about 45 East Timorese police are supported by 20 UN civilian officers in Craig’s district of Maliana.

“I speak to Civil and Military Affairs, the army groups who liaise directly with the UN administration and the Australian military, I’ll find out about any incidents, the state of the road. If they say ‘we have this...
critical point here. I advise our people that they can’t travel in that area. During the monsoon I find out what the rivers are doing. If the roads are impassable, I put travel restrictions on our people.

“Then it’s on to speak to the UN military observers at each border post. They are in constant contact with the Indonesians on the other side. Then I file a flash report on the general state of threat to Dili.”

The rest of the day could be taken up with the local guard force looking after the UN compound, or maintenance of the evacuation plan of UNTAET staff. If, for example, the Indonesians were seen to be massing on the border, Craig’s job would be to relocate the UN admin staff to Dili until things were sorted out by the peacekeepers. Craig has to know who is on his patch. When new people arrive, he must meet them in the place they are going to live and even find out where in the building they will sleep, in case they have to be taken out in a hurry. Another duty, relegated to the afternoon, is investigating the euphemistically named ‘UN oversights’. Criminal activity is not unknown among the United Nations internationals. This might take the form or theft, illegal trade, or improprieties with local women, says Craig. Although many are earning seven or eight times what they would be in their own countries, they are still subject to temptations.

Craig deals with many groups involved in East Timor’s reconstruction. When the time came for a research paper on dispute resolution, he realised he had a bewildering array of conflicts and crimes being dealt with all around him from which to choose. He decided to focus on the reintegration of the East Timorese militia into their villages. The militias are a special group when it comes to repatriation. They are made up of about 40,000 East Timorese enclaved into taking up arms by Indonesian promises of money, land and women. “The militia formed a power base in West Timor. They forcibly removed whole villages of people and put them in refugee camps.”

When the vote on independence went against Indonesia, the militia went on a spree of killing and destruction. Fifty thousand people died, a quarter of the country’s infrastructure was ruined. Many members of the militia turned against their neighbours, sometimes their own families.

Despite the record of carnage against their own, the UN and the East Timorese themselves know that militia members must somehow be disband, brought back to East Timor and resettled into normal village life. Somewhere along the line justice has to be applied and be seen to be applied if aggressor and aggrieved are ever to live alongside each other.

Craig sees this as a crucial challenge in the rebuilding of East Timor. According to the UNTAET website, the Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation in East Timor has been set up with the “dual goals of reconciliation and justice”. The Commission aims to seek “the truth regarding human rights violations in East Timor within the context of the political conflicts between 25 April 1974 and 25 October 1999”. It will “facilitate community reconciliation by dealing with past cases of lesser crimes such as looting, burning and minor assault by using a panel comprising a Regional Commissioner and local community leaders to mediate between victims and perpetrators to reach agreement on an act of reconciliation to be carried out by the perpetrator”.

Craig used his contacts among the local authorities to attend community reconciliation sessions of militia members being reintegrated into their villages. The basis of the reconciliation process was the traditional local dispute resolution method of ‘nahe biti boot’.

“Nahe biti boot is initiated by village katua (elders) on the request of a person with a grievance against people in another village. The katua organises an open meeting with the katua and villagers of the person on the other side of the dispute.

“Katua from each group, the disputants and their families and villagers meet to discuss matters until a resolution is reached acceptable to both parties. The katua and the community oversee the process and the administration of penalties. Katua have the authority to get things done and each side monitors the implementation to ensure penalties and corrective actions are carried out.”

Sounds ideal. But on the four occasions Craig observed nahe biti boot he could see that essential ingredients of the process were missing. At one session there was no one from the victim’s family or their village. In another, a militia man, who had confessed to the murder of two people, was to be integrated into his home village, even though the katua of the village of the man’s victims said he would not attend a nahe biti boot and warned that he would not be responsible for attacks on the former militia man if he ventured outside his village.

Craig understands that nahe biti boot was never meant to deal with serious crimes such as murder, kidnap or rape. Its province is disputes over land or resources. During their 500 years of domination by the Portuguese and Indonesians, the Timorese had resorted to the law courts of their former occupiers to deal with serious crimes, rather than using nahe biti boot or other less formal methods.

According to the UNTAET website, this is reinforced by the Commission being set up to “complement the formal judicial process” because “serious crimes such as murder, rape or the organisation of systematic, widespread violence will be referred to the Office of the General Prosecutor”.

But it seems that on the ground the traditional system for resolving minor disputes is being used to deal with serious crime, because the judicial system cannot cope. Jails are overflowing and the courts are backlogged, says Craig.

“The militia man who had murdered two people had cut out their tongues and eaten them in front of their families. He returned to his village after his own katua reluctantly agreed to take him back as long as he remained in the village and did not visit public places, while the katua of the victim’s village had flatly refused to be involved and warned he would not be responsible for the militia member’s safety.”

“My impression is that the UN civilian police involved in reintegration are eager to deal with cases as quickly as possible. There is no protocol for the civilian police or UN Human Rights staff for...
It worries him that people are being expected to live next door to someone who has committed hideous crimes against them and their fellows as if nothing has happened. He sees the process as being cosmatically applied, falling short of the aim of stopping the killing hurt of perceived injustice forming and growing in this generation and poisoning the next.

“For people to have any hope of putting their worst experiences behind them, they need to see the offenders punished and remorseful. They need to feel they have been dealt with. There needs to be repair of the harm caused, if possible. In East Timor there are not enough resources or serious crimes investigators to deal with all the crime. The prisons and courts are backlogged. They appear to be dealing with the minor offenders and not the big players. Timorese militia leaders are just coming back, setting up and carrying on. “When the UN backs off and the families of the victims see that nothing has happened to this guy, they are going to take the law into their own hands and dish out their own justice, and that comes at the end of a machete from what I’ve seen.”

The irony is, Craig believes, that the people, helped by their predominantly Catholic beliefs, have a strong will to forgive and put their trauma behind them. Simple processes of justice, if properly applied now, would have much success with a population who genuinely have no wish to be burdened forever with their past.

Craig’s neck will wait some future graduation. The last part of ta moko – the tattooing of Craig’s neck will wait until he’s completed that PhD. No doubt it will catch public interest at some future graduation.

“Ta moko died out in the 1840s to 1860s. By the ‘60s it was not practised anymore. It was being discouraged in favour of cultural assimilation. Men’s faces and culture was established just over a year ago. Committee member and ta moko practitioner Julie Kipa would like to see greater numbers of young Māori embrace and wear facial moko, the traditional form of Māori tattoo, in everyday life.

“I think it’s really important because it’s so personal – so visible. It’s an important expression that Māori won’t let their identity be sub-served.”

While increasing numbers of Māori are seeking moko, Julie thinks many are choosing to wear it on their bodies, hidden beneath clothing, rather than on their faces. She believes a shift in attitude is needed before Māori feel strong enough to project the full facial moko again.

Despite its resurgence, social connotations associated with modern tattoo can reflect negatively on moko. Julie takes the example of tattoo’s association with gang membership. She says for Māori members of underground groups such as gaugs, tattoo was a form of rebellion or reaction to losing their traditional moko and culture.

“Ta moko died out in the 1840s to 1860s. By the ‘60s it was not practised anymore. It was being discouraged in favour of cultural assimilation. Men’s faces disappeared first, then women’s. The body was last.”

Goldie’s portraits of the 1900s have immortalized Māori of the time with full face moko. While these portraits have preserved a time in Māori history, they have also been charged with creating images of a people through a colonial perspective.

Some have argued that those early images and stereotypic ideas of Māori and moko have carried through into today’s media, bringing the question of ownership and intellectual property rights both in New Zealand and internationally. “People don’t think about what it means to Māori. They don’t look at the impact of media misrepresentations on the community,” Julie says.

Julie was teaching art in Ruatoria in 1992 when she became aware of the growing interest in ta moko. While studying anthropology at Massey in 1986, she met her husband and business partner, Rangi Kipa, who was interested in exploring moko. “We started the journey together,” she says.

With four Massey qualifications, Julie has experience as a Māori art teacher and lecturer, and has a broad interest in Māori art development. She has also been an exhibiting artist, writer, commentator and curator for Māori art development. Central to this work, Julie and her husband run their own New Plymouth business ArtMāori Ltd which also has an in-house ta moko studio.

There was a demand for women ta moko artists and Julie says she graduated from preparation and skin stretching to being a practitioner. “It was just naturally an extension of my art.”

Traditionally ta moko artists came from a carving background. Julie says she draws upon her design knowledge and thinks it has helped to be part of a husband-and-wife ta moko team.

Significant moko – those that are extensive and carry an important story deeply connected to a person’s genealogy are traditionally done at the ma-rae. However, Julie says studios are increasingly being encouraged for health reasons.

She says practitioners now use a mixture of traditional tools and their own fashioned needles. The fine needles are similar to the ones used in standard tattooing and allow for more detailed elaboration of traditional designs.

But, she says, today’s challenge is for Māori to choose whether or not to accept moko. And with the national committee moving into its second year, Julie hopes it can not only establish and set standards of health and safety best practice, but also proactively develop ta moko knowledge and standards of excellence.

“The growth in 10 years is really significant. Now artists are practising for a living and are a lot more confident. The national committee is now looking at

Day 2

Craig’s lips will wait for PhD. No doubt it will catch public interest at some future graduation.

Exhibiting painter, graphic designer, and Māori art consultant Julie Kipa talks about the return of TA MOKO

Ta moko has undergone a quiet resurgence over the last decade, with increasing numbers of Māori seeking traditional moko and more practitioners performing the art.

The first national ta moko committee, Te Uhi was established just over a year ago. Committee member and ta moko practitioner Julie Kipa would like to see greater numbers of young Māori embrace and wear facial moko, the traditional form of Māori tattoo, in everyday life.

“I think it’s really important because it’s so personal – so visible. It’s an important expression that Māori won’t let their identity be sub-served.”

“It’s the language too. It’s a language of Māori recognition. In some ways it’s more powerful than what is commonly understood as language because it can’t be taken away from you.”

While increasing numbers of Māori are seeking moko, Julie thinks many are choosing to wear it on their bodies, hidden beneath clothing, rather than on their faces. She believes a shift in attitude is needed before Māori feel strong enough to project the full facial moko again.
Mason Durie came to Massey in 1998 to head up the University’s new Department of Māori Studies after almost two decades in clinical practice as a psychiatrist and two years on the Royal Commission on Social Policy.

Those two years on the Royal Commission, one of the biggest research efforts New Zealand has seen, greatly affected the way he approached his job — even though at the time some politicians dismissed the massive report as the biggest doorstop ever produced.

“...it was an intensive course in social policy and research into social policy,” Professor Durie says.

Although the politicians had a problem with it, the state has used it. Many things, particularly in volume two about the Treaty of Waitangi, are accepted now. It is a valuable resource used by thinking people."

He says historians will probably put the Royal Commission in the context of the fight going on at the same time between then Labour prime minister David Lange and his finance minister Roger Douglas on how far New Zealand should adopt a ‘new right’ agenda.

“Historians may say we didn’t support Douglas. If we had gone the other way, the ‘new right’ development would have escalated very quickly.”

What marked the Royal Commission out from earlier similar exercises was the effort it made to hear from Māori communities.

“I was very much aware at the end of that experience that the way Māori saw social policy and the way Māori were articulating their aspirations for development had a different base and a different reality from what others were saying,” says Professor Durie, whose roots lie deep in Rangitane, Ngati Kawhata and Ngati Raukawa.

In his work as a clinician, Professor Durie was already looking for ways to describe the different ways Māori considered their health needs, influenced in part by his exposure while studying at McGill University in Toronto, Canada, to pioneering work on what was then called ‘transcultural psychiatry’.

“When I went to Massey, I built on what I had gained in my understanding of health and what I had gained in the understanding of social policy. I began to look at Māori-centred approaches to research where you put Māori experience, Māori values, Māori aspirations at the middle of your methodology.

“You don’t say, ‘how do I adapt this approach to Māori?’. You start from the premise ‘what is important to Māori’ and build around it.”

Professor Durie says Massey’s research is Māori-centric, rather than comparing Māori and non-Māori.

“We do not do any bicultural research. I would not claim to be an expert on Pakeha health. Well, actually, I am,” he laughs.

In te ao Māori, the Māori world, Professor Durie is known as a softly spoken man who should always be listened to.

He is seen as someone who is able to stand above narrow rivalries, which is one of the reasons he was chosen to serve for six years as the secretary of the Māori Congress.

The medical community also values Professor Durie’s input through his work on bodies such as the National Health Committee and the Mental Health Foundation.

Professor Durie sees the role of Māori Studies departments in universities as being to facilitate research into Māori development in its broadest sense.

He has launched a raft of projects, many reflecting his health background, which are building up an unprecedented amount of empirical data about Māori life and society.

The largest is Te Hoe Nuku Roa, a longitudinal study of 700 Māori households, which is in its seventh year.

Every three years researchers visit each of the households to quiz whanau members on what they do, what they eat, their health condition, their use of Māori language and what it means to be Māori.

Two major projects, Te Rau Puawai and Te Rau Matatini, are linked to the development of a Māori health workforce.

Te Rau Puawai targets people already working in health and encourages them on to degree programmes with scholarships, support and mentoring.

Te Rau Matatini aims to expand and extend the Māori mental health workforce.

“To do that we looked at a number of problems, such as how do you make the primary healthcare sector more able to handle mental health problems so you don’t have to wait for people to be admitted to hospital.”

The Māori Studies Department has developed close links with other researchers, working with Auckland and Otago universities on a major survey of child nutrition.

“It is a national study looking at 3000 children aged from five to 15, 1000 of whom are Māori. So our contribution has been to help shape the protocols and to help shape the design of the programme and then to train field workers who can interact with Māori clients and get the best results out of them.

“As part of a World Health Organisation project, we are collaborating with the University of Auckland on a mental health prevalence survey, which has never done before. Everyone can tell you how many people go to hospital, but no one can tell you the actual pre-valence in a community of certain mental conditions.”

Much of the department’s work comes under the heading of heritage research, such as Dr Monty Soutar’s oral history of the Māori Battalion C Company, which recruited from the East Coast.

“We have a project, Toi te Kupa, that has been going since 1995, which is about how best to provide resources that will encourage or lead to better Māori language skills.

“We have analysed and catalogued a whole range of Māori language resources — some written, some videos or recordings — and talked with teachers and schools.

“Part of that study is looking at what are the characteristics of households where Māori is spoken. While education is a good start, unless you have that transferred to households, it will not be a core Māori experience.

“As part of that, Ian Christensen has done some interesting work on cues — when you talk Māori, when you don’t talk Māori.”

As well as producing new knowledge, the research programme is growing the academic workforce. Te Hoe Nuku Roa, for example, has already produced four doctorates and three masters theses.

The programme has also ensured the department remains attractive for Māori. Student numbers have remained stable at about 250 full-time equivalents, almost half of them doing extramural papers, while Māori Studies departments at other universities have shrunk as Māori students venture into other fields of study.

Fifteen years ago a common complaint of Māori people was that they were over-researched, and many communities were hostile to academics.

Professor Durie sees now that better methodologies for Māori research have been developed, Māori people are flooding into the field.

“The fundamental issue was that researchers were not attuned to the Māori situation, so there was no gelling between researcher and researched.

“If the methodologies you use and the rationales you use are not linked to Māori realities, they are not going to have much impact or be of much use to anyone later on. That is in no way discounting Western methodologies. It is saying, though, that the approach you use needs to have account of the values of the people you are researching.

“We have also been very much about getting an empirical basis to research, that although we are looking at a Māori methodology, we also do recognise you need an empirical base, where it is quantitative research as much as qualitative.”

The research emerging from Massey is now being used for planning by government agencies, local government and iwi rūmaungapōhanga.

“We needed to move beyond rhetoric and get evidence. In the world we live in we need empirical data.”
Summer 2001. A group of labourers quarry away at the Antarctic permafrost. Only now, at summer’s height, has the ground softened enough to be workable. The miners are a team of scientists, headed by Massey University’s Professor David Lambert. Their paydirt – the frozen confection of guano, feathers, bones, sand, pebbles and rocks beneath an Adélie penguin rookery – will lead to a rethink of the pace of evolution.

Adélies are the emblematic Antarctic penguin. They feature in every Antarctic documentary, are the stars of advertising campaigns, and are the most popular penguins with researchers. Around present-day Antarctica the Adélie population is estimated at 2.5 million pairs. Their colonies occupy islands, beaches and headlands at particular places around the Antarctic coastline. Some colonies of Adélies number in the hundreds of thousands. Year after year the birds return to the same sites, nesting in dense colonies, each nest no more than a shallow depression in the ground lined with carefully chosen pebbles. Here in the rookeries, they court, reproduce, defecate – and die. Beneath them the residue of generations – air-dried and deep frozen – can be metres deep and the lowest layers thousands of years old.

How rapidly does evolution occur? The long-established method has been to compare two living species, then go back through the fossil record to find when it was that they shared an ancestor. More recently, with the arrival of gene sequencing techniques, attention has turned to DNA as a far more precise means of finding out how fast the evolutionary clock ticks. Most DNA is not much good for timekeeping. This is because of the garbling effect of sex: the recombination of the mother’s and father’s DNA. There are, however, two sets of DNA that remain largely intact down the generations: the male Y chromosome and the DNA contained in the cell compartments called mitochondria. Mitochondrial DNA is passed down from mother to child. Your mitochondrial DNA came from your mother who inherited it from your grandmother and so forth. The genetic alphabet is restricted to four letters: the bases adenine (A), thymine (T), cytosine (C), and guanine (G). On the odd and infrequent occasion, copying mistakes – or mutations – occur as the genes are passed down through the generations. In one generation a sequence might run ATTCGA and in the next, after a mutation, ACTCGA. The attraction of this for evolutionary scientists is that if you know the rate at which mutations accumulate you can compare two sets of DNA and determine when there was a common ancestor. If – it bears repeating – you know the rate at which mutations accumulate.

This is where the Adélie colonies come in. For here you have an unsurpassed source of well-preserved DNA held in datable sequences. Lambert’s team was able to take the DNA of 380 living birds and compare these sequences with DNA samples from 96 radiocarbon-aged bones ranging from 88 to 6424 years old.

In the laboratory each gene fragment was multiplied – or ‘amplified’ – using a process called Polymerase Chain Reaction. In the course of a few hours each fragment became several million copies, allowing its constituent bases can be mapped out.

As part of his Massey PhD programme, team member Dr Peter Ritchie was able to isolate and analyse a 1600 base pair (each base is paired with another as part of the DNA helix) sequence from the mitochondrial control region of a bone dating back to 523 years before present. A 390 base pair fragment could be sequenced from 66 percent of all of the subfossil bones.

With the sequences known, the next set of problems called for advanced mathematical techniques. If you have a two similar sequences of bases, how do you know that they came from a common ancestor and are not just coincidental and separately derived. This problem – known as homoplasy – and others like it had to be resolved by looking at the statistical likelihoods.

The conclusion? That the evolutionary clock is ticking unexpectedly quickly, two-to-seven times faster than had been thought.
accumulated these differences over 60,000 years rather than the 200,000 years of earlier estimates. According to Lambert, the 60,000 year mark fits perfectly with the Last Glacial Maximum, a time when there were “few if any, ice-free areas in the Ross Sea, and Adélie penguins were likely to have been restricted to refugia”. Isolated from one another by the ice, this was the time for the two Adélie lineages to diverge genetically. “This is the first time anyone has measured the rate of evolution using ancient DNA,” he says. “It’s the first time anyone has been able to apply confidence intervals to an estimate. We are 95 percent confident the rate of evolution in Adélie penguins is two to seven times faster than originally thought.”

If this is so of penguins, then how far out of whack are our estimates for human origins? The rates of change for birds and mammals have been commonly accepted to have similar values. In the 1980s, Allan Wilson – the Allan Wilson Centre’s namesake – famously looked at the mitochondrial DNA of 135 women from all around the world. After comparing the number of copying mistakes separating each woman from each other woman, he concluded that we all share the same maternal ancestor, a woman who lived around 150,000 years ago, swiftly dubbed Eve by the media. (This does not mean that we do not have other female ancestors who were contemporaries of Eve.)

Could the rate of change for mammalian mitochondrial DNA have been underestimated as it has for penguins? Do we and our primate relatives share a more recent common ancestry than has been thought? The ancient DNA from Adélie penguin colonies raises all sorts of questions.

As well as Dr Peter Ritchie, Professor Lambert’s team includes Dr Craig Millar, Lara Shepherd and masters student Gillian Gibb, based at The Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution. They have worked in collaboration with Barbara Holland of Massey’s Institute of Fundamental Sciences, A J Drummond of Auckland University and Carlo Baroni of Pisa University, Italy.

Genetics can be something of a numbers game. The smallest known genome for a free-living organism (a bacterium) contains about 600,000 DNA base pairs; the human and mouse genomes have some 3 billion. These sorts of numbers demand serious computing power, and this is what The Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution will soon have.

Linked by highspeed – gigabit – networking, 128 processing units are to be yoked together to provide the power of a conventional supercomputer at the firesale cost of $250,000. The computer, New Zealand’s fastest, will conduct 400 billion computer operations – 400 gigaflops – per second, easily relegating the current record holder, at a mere 160 Gflops, to second place.

“It is only with the recent advent of fast networking that the concept of linking many machines to work together became possible,” says Dr Chris Messom, who heads the project. “Now the cost versus performance equation favours this cluster approach over the old, multi-million dollar, room-sized single computer.”

The experience to build the supercomputer has been accumulated over the past two years as a processing project at the Albany campus. Nicknamed the ‘Chatty Sisters’, it has linked four, and then 16 computers to work in unison.

The Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution

The Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution, the first of the Government-funded Centres of Research Excellence, is now open. The Massey University-hosted centre, which brings together researchers from Massey, Auckland, Victoria, Canterbury and Otago universities, specialises in gene research into molecular ecology and evolution.

Officiating at the September opening, Minister of Research, Science and Technology Pete Hodgson described the Centre as an excellent example of cross-disciplinary collaboration between institutions. The centre would combine theoretical and structural biologists, ecologists, biological anthropologists and mathematicians. “Such collaborations have proven value in sparking innovation and establishing fresh perspectives on complex problems,” he said.

The Minister praised the Centre’s Directors, Professors David Penny and Mike Hendy, for pulling the world-class team together and for attracting the interest of established scholars and postgraduate students from all over the globe.

Professor Hendy says the work of the ‘gene historians’ involved in the centre will focus on four themes: how New Zealand’s plants and biota have evolved in response to changing conditions; the rates and modes of evolution, based on work done on Adélie penguins in Antarctica; the stories our genes and that of plants and animals tell about human settlement of Aotearoa; and developing new analytic models to handle the exponentially growing genomic databases and to model evolution occurring over periods ranging from months to billions of years.

He thanked Leona Wilson, the widow of Professor Allan Wilson, for allowing the Centre to use his name. Allan Wilson was a pioneer in realising that molecular sequence data can be used to interpret recent human evolutionary history. He introduced the world to the concept of the molecular clock and to that of the mitochondrial Eve. Born in Ngāruawāhia, he spent most of his academic career at the University of California, Berkeley.

Mrs Wilson cut the ribbon on the centre’s new facility, accompanied by Professor Wilson’s brother, Gary, and niece Siobhan.

The Centre will receive nearly $7 million in CoRE funding for the next three years, with another $5 million for capital equipment.
The makings of an entrepreneur

If you want a formula for entrepreneurial success then there are a host of conferences and authors eager to sell you one. There is Bill Gates’ formula: “Maintaining focus”; Anita Roddick’s: “Be passionate. But it’s also about survival.”; and Amazon.com’s Jeff Bezos with “Aim to be the biggest.”

Whether this will help you much is arguable, and really for the likes of Gates, Roddick and Bezos their days as hardscrabble entrepreneurs are long over. To find out about entrepreneurship, Dr Claire Massey would advise you to go to the small and medium sized businesses that represent 93 percent of the New Zealand business economy. Here, not on the 20th floor of some high-rise, but staring the real world in the face day by day, is where to look for the entrepreneur. Most senior executives, she believes, could not cope with the hands-on culture of a small business.

Claire runs the Centre for Small and Medium Enterprise Research, based in Wellington. The Centre helps businesses, economies and communities to create and follow the right strategies.

And Claire has done her share of staring the real world in the face. When she became a self-employed clothing designer in 1981 she had a BA in Humanities from Massey, but no design experience. Her two shops in Palmerston North were wildly successful. (She opened them, she says, because she was uninspired by the clothes she was offered elsewhere.) After five years in the game, she closed the shop and did an MBA at Massey. She became CEO of the Palmerston North Enterprise Board (and later director of the Business Unite group of the Palmerston North City Council). She worked as a management consultant for a medium-sized business while in London for three years. Back home, she completed a PhD, lectured at Massey and became head of its then new SME centre. She is also a director of the Palmerston North-based Training Company and acts as a consultant to government and other organisations in New Zealand, the UK and South Africa.

Claire’s family history validates one of her beliefs: that family is a key element in the making of an entrepreneur. Her great-grandfather was William Ferguson Massey – former Prime Minister, the University’s namesake and a leading entrepreneur of his day.

Says Claire, “You cannot farm successfully without being an entrepreneur.” Farms are the archetypal New Zealand SMEs. William’s progeny were entrepreneurs as well, and, in turn, their children and their children, of whom Claire is one.

If he were still around, William would have made a suitable subject for Claire’s latest book, produced with Dr Alan Cameron from the College of Business. Titled Entrepreneurs at Work – Successful New Zealand Business Ventures, the book presents interviews and profiles of 22 SME runners. William Massey would sit well beside the likes of Wellington caterer Ruth Pretty, Mike and Doug Tamaki of Tamaki Tours, Auckland’s ‘Mad Butcher’ and Palmerston North bookseller Bruce McKenzie.

The authors are in-
terested in what kickstarts an SME entrepreneur. Most, they note, start out in a necessarily small way. “Mention entrepreneurs,” they say, “and one immediately thinks of such people as Bill Gates or Richard Branson. However, entrepreneurship is important at all levels. But New Zealand is short of good role models of ordinary entrepreneurs who are happily and successfully making their way in life.”

The book complements the pair’s earlier publication Small and Medium Enterprises – a New Zealand Perspective, and the Small Business Directory 2002, produced in conjunction with BIZ and Industry New Zealand. The new book was a team effort. Claire and Alan and students of the University’s Enterprise Development Programme did the interviews and wrote up the profiles and Massey photography students took the photographs.

Claire believes in fostering young talent. She works closely with Massey graduate Kate Lewis and encouraged her in an evaluation of the Young Enterprise Scheme, commissioned by the Enterprise New Zealand Trust and completed this year. One objective was to find out what turns a high school student into a successful entrepreneur. The results did not surprise Claire.

Kate reported that high school students with the right role models are more likely to become entrepreneurs. If a student’s parents are self-employed, then he or she is much more likely to become a successful, self-employed business operator. Siblings, relatives or even friends could also be role models.

Kate says the findings have important implications for developing policy to encourage self-employment. “If we’re serious about developing an enterprise culture in New Zealand, then understanding the environment that creates that culture is critical.”

The appropriate adoption of technology is also important to an enterprise culture. Claire’s great-grandfather owned and leased out what is now Suva, a model of developed cropping land, cultivated pasture and improved flocks. Eventually Grigg would sell it off in small blocks.

William watched attentively and saved. In 1876 he returned to Auckland to top up his savings by working for his parents. Then, at age 21, in an astonishing move, he imported one of the earliest steam threshing machines, still a novelty in the United States. He leased out the machine to arable farmers and it was widely used throughout the district.

With his profits, William bought a leasehold farm of 100 acres at Mangere. Over the next decade he continued to buy land. He also began establishing himself as a farmers’ advocate. Settlers clearing their blocks of bush land lacked the time to lobby politicians. They needed leadership from established farmers who understood their problems.

As a self-made farmer and entrepreneur, William had great credibility. He lobbied for roads to smallholdings, becoming a member of the Mangere Road Board. He worked his way up through the leading lobby groups of the time, including the Mangere Farmers Club, which revived the Auckland Agricultural and Pastoral Association. William became president of what was then the only provincial organisation of farmers.

By 1899, when he was elected to lead the National Association – previously the National Liberal Association – William was the recognised spokesman of New Zealand farmers. The association opposed the “socialistic tendencies of Liberal legislation”. William’s well-known values were self-reliance, individualism and private enterprise. His ‘slogan’, used later in electioneering, was: “Every man his own landlord”.

After one defeat (in the Franklin electorate), William was elected as an MP and entered the House in 1894. He was Leader of the Opposition from 1903 and became Prime Minister in 1912. He held office until he died in May 1925, when all schools closed and church services were held throughout the country and at Westminster Abbey.

Depending on your politics, William Massey, the Prime Minister, was either revered and respected (particularly during the war years), or deeply reviled. Most notably he was vilified by some for his role in the Waihi goldmine strike in 1912 and the general strike of 1913. ‘Massey’s Cossacks’ became emblematic of union bashing. Others saw his hard line as courageous and resourceful, and Massey as the saviour of the country’s export trade.

Massey Agricultural College was founded by statute one year after William died, and officially opened in 1928. The choice of the name of a recently deceased prime minister for a new and prestigious learning establishment was an obvious one. Less remarked today (but noted at the official opening), was the aptness of Massey’s earlier background as an entrepreneur. William was no mean entrepreneur. He had the right family background – of dogged ambition and risk-taking – and his family were also immigrant New Zealanders, another criterion for success.

William Ferguson Massey was born in 1856 in the small market town of Limavady, east of Londonderry. His father, John, was a self-made man, a substantial smallholder, living on 10 acres and leasing part of a nearby farm.

In 1869, when William was 13, John brought the family to Auckland, attracted by the provincial government’s ‘liberal’ land-grant system to self-supporting families. John put his capital into a leasehold farm at Tamaki, just outside Auckland. Smaller holdings were becoming increasingly popular, and farms such as John’s were the SMEs of their day.

In the 1870s and 80s, progressive New Zealand farmers were looking to new export markets, new roads, the subdivision of existing large estates in the South Island and the opening up of bushland in the North Island to provide them with opportunities.

William took up a job as a ploughman at Longbeach Station near Ashburton. John Grigg, his employer, had owned a neighbouring property in Tamaki, and served as role model for William. Grigg was known as a progressive, and Longbeach was a model of developed cropping land, cultivated pasture and improved flocks. Eventually Grigg would sell it off in small blocks.

In a nice coincidence, Claire is heading a team of academics examining the farming industry’s take-up of new technology. The work has been contracted by the Foundation of Science, Research and Technology. “We are examining ways in which individuals in agricultural businesses approach the decision to adopt technology,” Claire explains. “We are focusing on the competencies needed for the technological learning process.”
Waiting for Melissa Moon in a local café, I am apprehensive. Will the women’s world mountain running champion even drink coffee? I see myself slouched over my latte while my interview subject primly sips her water and frets about her training schedule slipping. After all, in three weeks Melissa is off on a European tour with her title on the line. Time out in a café is probably the last thing she wants just now.

But Melissa turns out to be three cups of coffee ahead of me. And – and I mean this in a nice way – she doesn’t seem the least like a world champion. Slightly built, pig-tailed and attractive in a Spice Girl look-alike kind of way, she has a ready laugh and a down-to-earth manner.

She doesn’t seem temperamentally driven or single-focus or puritan in the way I have a feeling elite athletes are meant to be. From her flat in Thorndon, hard by central Wellington, she enjoys doing the things normal people do: heading out to movies, night clubs and sports games. “I don’t have heaps of runner friends,” says Melissa. “Most sportspeople are focused and disciplined all year round. I lead a completely different life. Sometimes it makes me feel a bit guilty.”

But the athlete who takes her place at the starting line of the 9.2km Patscherkofel course in Innsbruck, Austria for the World Championship will be a different creature. “The key for me is knowing when it’s time to be focused and disciplined,” says Melissa.

Last year in the championship in Arta Term in Italy, Moon took the lead early and never relinquished it. Arta Term was her fifth attempt on the title. She won’t give it up easily.

“My philosophy as defending champ is not to go in with the ‘I’m going to win’ attitude,” says Melissa. “Instead I will line up on the day knowing I’ve done the hard work and prepared myself to the best of my ability. That gives you a wonderful confidence.” And if she loses? “Defeat is a part of life as a sportsperson. Sure, you can be disappointed, but the key is to turn negatives into positives. You need disappointments to make you more determined.”

Mountain running is a relatively new sport and not a media darling. The first world championships was held in 1985. Most competitors are European or British. Its allure has to do with its peculiar challenges and rewards: the highly individual courses, the oxygen-depleting ups and ankle-twisting downs, and all amidst scenery that is seldom less than spectacular.

In the lead-up to her title defence, from January on, Melissa has clocked up an average 160km a week, becoming a familiar sight on the tracks of Mount Kaukau or Mount Victoria. Wellington’s terrain is perfect. “Every time you step outside your front door you can’t avoid the hills. You build up tremendous leg strength without even knowing you’re doing it.”

When she returned to New Zealand at age 22 she took stock. That’s when she set out to get some qualifications – and started running seriously. She had not competed since her school years when she made the New Zealand secondary schools cross country team.

Nine years later she is a world champion mountain runner, a teacher, and she has her Masterate in Business Studies, after painstakingly notching up the papers over eight years of part-time extramural study. Whenever she travels to compete, the texts go into her luggage alongside her running shoes. “When you’re away competing there are plenty of days when there isn’t a lot to do. I can go off to my room for a couple of hours to work on an assignment. It can be quite nice to get away from sport for a while.”

Melissa has laboured over assignments in hotel rooms in Sicily, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland, Northern Ireland, Malaysia and Reunion Island off the Madagascar coast. Currently she is taking three advanced papers focused on teaching. “Students have special needs. “After spending time working with intellectually disabled youth at a Wellington fitness centre I decided I wanted to do more,” Sport, she says, offers them mental as well as physical benefits.

The MBS is a part-acknowledgement that one day her running career will come to a close. At 31 she is getting on in athlete-years. “The reality is that my time in the sport is going to end one day and what challenges will I have to continue with if I’m not developing them along the way? It would be a pretty shallow life if all I had was running.”

In the meantime, her dream is to run in the marathon at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens. Although not the event of first choice – way too flat – the marathon is nearest thing to mountain running on offer.

Running a marathon in the land where the event originated, now that would be something, says Melissa.
When you walk into Beth and Andy Watson’s dining room you can’t help doing a double-take at the hooded skeleton sitting in the corner.

And the severed head lying on the sideboard.

A walk down the hallway takes you past a bedroom with two skeletons lying on a bed, one still bearing bits of flesh. On the other bed lies a body with a knife in its back.

Another room in their house is filled with ghoulish masks, costumes, skeletons and jars of ‘body parts’.

They’re all props for ‘Fright Night’ – the horror maze the Watsons developed in the second year of their successful Amazing Maze ‘n Maze ‘n Marton.

The maze idea germinated in 1999, when Beth was looking for a project to diversify their farming activities. “I had looked at unusual crops like wasabi, but nothing had clicked until I saw a small line at the bottom of an American newsletter that said ‘Have you seen the maize maze?’”

After meeting at Massey, where Beth graduated with a Diploma in Horticulture and Andy with a BAgSc, the couple farmed at Pipiriki and in the Wairarapa before operating a garden centre /

farm in the town of Marton.

The maze opened on Boxing Day 2000, with the Watsons’ hope that it would be a success. By Christmas the maze was sold out, with 1,620 visitors. “We had to bring in portaloos to cope with all the visitors,” says Beth. The maze was extended to two years for the group. Beth and Andy mentored the students for two years, providing special back-up for them and bringing them up to speed in areas like literacy. They are justifiably proud of the Watsons’ working lives changed course when Andy was offered the chance to manage, and later lease, the 420-ha farm Westoe. He jumped at it. “It was the premier mixed crop farm in this district and I had worked on it as a kid during school holidays,” says Andy.

The Watsons took over the lease of Westoe in 1995, when Beth was half way through a Diploma in Rural Studies. Beth studied extramurally and tailored her diploma to suit her interest in rural tourism. She also won a DD Baker Award to travel to England to study horticultural tourism for the elderly and people with disabilities.

Once Beth had finished her diploma, she started searching for a way to use Westoe for rural tourism. And that’s when she came across the reference to the maize maze.

Andy had just planted the maize crop – about 120 hectares – so they had to wait a year before starting the maze. In hindsight, the couple say, the delay was a blessing in disguise. “It gave us a year to plan, get consents and work out budgets, so when it went ahead it all just fell into place,” says Andy.

Beth’s year of careful planning was the key to the maze’s success, he says. “Her budgeting and projections were incredibly accurate. That first year she estimated we would have 15,000 people through; we had 16,200. She predicted TV would be here in week six; they came in week five.”

The maze opened on Boxing Day 2000, with the Watsons hopeful, but not really sure how successful it would be. For the first four days there were just 17 visitors per day. Then it took off. A month after opening, on Wellington Anniversary Day, there were 600 visitors. “We had to bring in portaloos to cope with the numbers, and quickly arranged for a builder to come and extend the facilities,” says Beth.

The Watsons say the aims of the project were to create a stand-alone business and to support agriculture, the town of Marton and KiwiCan, a value-based primary school children’s programme.

And to provide family-orientated fun.

The maze is suitable for all ages – they’ve had a 97-year-old through – and it can easily be negotiated with pushchairs or wheelchairs. The ‘Kernels of Knowledge’ trivia questions scattered throughout the paths add to the fun.

Much of the cost of developing the maze has been met by sponsors. Local agricultural contractors have worked for free. Pioneer provides seed, Ballance supplies fertiliser and Bayer and CropCare pay for chemicals. The Watsons are now in the awkward position of having companies asking to be involved in sponsorship.

Beth designs the maze herself. The first one was a man shearing a sheep. Last year it was a medieval picture and the restaurant, set up in a converted hayshed, served medieval-themed meals. This year – well, the Watsons are keeping that secret for now.

Planting time is extremely busy. Apart from planting about 200 hectares in crops at Westoe, Beth’s maze picture has to be transferred from paper to field.

It is time-consuming and laborious work, but Beth has seen mazes in the United States where the maize has been cut or sprayed and says the difference in quality of the finished product is enormous. “It’s worth putting in the effort at the beginning to get a professional result. And even though it takes us at least a week, it’s worth doing it ourselves because it’s got to be right. If we make mistakes at that stage, the maze will be ruined,” she says.

This year the Watsons’ will expand their maze business. They have leased land at Te Kauwhata for a maize maze, which will be run by their daughter, Julia.

They anticipate between 30,000 and 35,000 people will visit this summer. Next year they are expecting a huge increase in numbers.

Another maze is to be started this summer in Nelson, where a licence agreement has been signed with land owners. The mazes in all three locations will be based on the same theme, but the patterns will differ.

The Fright Nights have been too successful in some ways, says Andy. People drive from as far away as Wellington to be scared out of their wits. Last season, when the word got out that it was the last Fright Night, the Watsons were inundated with 900 ‘victims’.

Because the horror maze involves large numbers of people going through the maze in the dark, they are very conscious of security. “We have made them strictly R16 and we employ security guards. Andy briefs the actors and visitors about appropriate behaviour every Fright Night,” says Beth. The Watsons employ 30 staff for Fright Nights and the actors are carefully trained and vetted. They carry walkie-talkies and the female staff have personal alarms.

These precautions have paid off – there have been no problems and the visitors just love to be
New Zealand pākeha culture deals with death in a particular way, Māori culture in another. So while you might, for the purposes of a census, describe Mike Pehi as a funeral director, the culturally-circumscribed description is a poor fit. He does what he does in the Māori spirit. Mahia i roto i te wairua Māori.

Māori have always had their own skilled people and methods for preparing the tupapaku, the body of the dead for the tangihanga, or funeral. There were differences between iwi. Some, for example, used salt water to wash the body daily; others used shark oil. The tangihanga traditionally lasted two or three weeks. Above all, the tupapaku was never alone.

Among Māori, most of these traditions are kept to – where possible. Most funeral directors, however, do not welcome the participation of family and other mourners in the dressing of the body, nor their presence at the embalming. Some deaths are sudden or violent, requiring the loss of the body to police ‘custody’ and an autopsy. And the atmosphere of the mortuary, you recreate a sense of ownership and connection. You are inviting people to be part of preparing the dead for the journey home, giving them protection along the way. That is a privileged connection.

Mike combines conventional funeral directing services with Māori traditional and ritual. He offers full participation in preparing the body for the funeral as well as a sort of guardianship, when necessary, so that the deceased is never alone. Family and friends can decorate the casket interior, watch and take part in the embalming process, and dress and talk to the deceased.

“Funeral homes are cold places, especially for Māori,” he says. “We want people to feel comfortable here and to find the experience less frightening. Some people may find the idea of attending a loved one’s burial preparation macabre. But Māori have a different perception of death.”

Mike also provides advice. “For Māori and others, they need knowledge of the process and who to contact. This is particularly important after a sudden death, when an autopsy is required. The family wants the body returned as soon as possible. I have to explain that the police have a job to do as agents for the coroner.”

Dr Tai Black, associate professor in Māori Studies, praises Mike’s work: “He provides a link between the burial and the marae. The tangi lets people express themselves honestly about how they feel. Important events and shared experiences will be recalled. Ancestors will be remembered. It is a forum for collected ideas, for historical and contemporary experiences, which provide a framework for the life of the deceased and the mourners of the decades. By taking those values and beliefs and feelings into the mortuary, you recreate a sense of ownership and connection. You are inviting people to be part of preparing the dead for the journey home, giving them protection along the way. That is a privileged connection.”

“Tangihanga often occur in the mid-week, and it can be a difficult time for families, especially if the relatives are spread across the country. Mike’s knowledge of Māori cultural practices and his ability to work with families is invaluable.”

Mike Pehi is a funeral director with a difference. He provides a unique service that is tailored to the needs of Māori families. His approach is based on the principles of the Māori way of life, which places a strong emphasis on family, community and whanaungatanga (connection).

Dr Black says Mike, as a Māori-speaking undertaker, is a rarity. “When he acts as poutiriao he is allowed into places that family are excluded from. He will explain: ‘The law does not allow you to be here but I will be here to act on your behalf.’ He is able to talk to the family in Māori; to assure them that the spiritual cloak is one, that he is there as a guardian, for the family. This is very, very unusual.”

Mike grew up in the Hokianga as one of 23 siblings and was often called on to help coordinate tangi. He spent two decades teaching and for three years he lectured in kurakauapa (total immersion) at the Palmerston North (now Massey University) College of Education. He became deputy principal of Turakina Māori Girls College in 1997.

AAA Colenso-Pehi Ltd Funeral and Monumental Services opened for business in Feilding in 1999; the triple A pushing the business to the front of directory listings, and ‘Colenso’ honouring an ancestor of that name. Mike’s eldest son Adrian (also a Massey alumnus) recently qualified as a mortician, and joined the business: this is an industry of family-run enterprises. Mike still uses his teaching skills for training programmes, working with Occupational Safety and Health and local police. He intends to offer training in funeral directing, embalming and headstone production and looking at doing a Masters thesis.

In Palmerston North, coincidentally, another Massey alumna and non-Māori, Dr Jean Hera, is also questioning the way society deals with death. She leads a support group and has produced a publication helping to encourage more ‘home deaths’. She is particularly interested in restoring the role of women in the death and burial process. Her PhD research has a strong focus on Māori custom and she says pākeha are increasingly recognising there is much to be learned from the traditional Māori ways of death. But her driving passion is to raise awareness of the real traditions of pākeha culture.

“It isn’t well recognised that the present mainstream pākeha experience that sees death treated with detachment and hidden away as much as possible, is not our death culture as pākeha. It was not handed down to us over generations by our ancestors, but has been a recent intervention. Watching over and caring for our dead, as is the Māori custom, is also our culture and we need go back less than a hundred years to discover this.”

The Palmerston North Women’s Hometead Support Group can be contacted on 06 358 7139.
Offshore Assets

John Grisham’s best-selling novel The Firm is an unlikely prospectus for life on a Caribbean island, but that is what it turned out to be for William Bruce, 27, and Andrea Bruce (née Cooper), 28.

“Will was working for Ernst & Young in Auckland and the opportunity to transfer to Ernst & Young in either the Cayman Islands or Bermuda arose. We didn’t really know much about either but we decided on the Cayman Islands. We had heard a little about the islands from reading some John Grisham books,” Andrea says.

In The Firm, the Cayman Islands is a place where the beaches are beautiful, the water is warm, and the financial dealings are dodgy. The first two are true to life. Will and Andrea can vouch for the beaches and the water – as well as for the diving, the windsurfing, and for a great expatriate community.

The dodgy financial dealings? “Interestingly enough, now that we are here, the Cayman Islands couldn’t be more different from how they are portrayed in the Grisham books. With all the anti-money laundering rules, the Cayman Islands would be one of the hardest places for money to be laundered,” says Andrea.

Andrea and Will met while studying at Massey’s Palmerston North campus in 1993, discovering shared interests in the outdoors and sport. At the beginning of 1995, Andrea moved to Auckland to complete her final year of a Business Studies degree in marketing and tourism at the Albany campus. At the end of that year, having finished his BBS in accounting, Will also headed to Auckland, where he had been offered a job with Ernst & Young.

Andrea went on to do a Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration in 1998.

The move to Grand Cayman from Auckland came in October 2000. They found accommodation in an apartment complex filled with expatriates. The Caymanians were friendly and welcoming; the lifestyle relaxed. “The Caymanian people really do operate on island time,” says Andrea.

Will stepped straight into his new job at Ernst & Young. In 2001 he started an assignment working one week out of every month at Goldman Sachs. And in April this year he left Ernst & Young and took on the role of senior accountant for Goldman Sachs’ equities division.

For Andrea, whose career had been in sales and marketing for the L’Oréal Group, followed by a promotions specialist role for Lion Nathan, the Cayman move meant a career shift. After a lag while her one-year work permit application was processed – a notoriously slow procedure – she began employ-

ment as a paralegal for a law firm, specialising in commercial and civil litigation. Andrea says she has been studying for a legal executive certificate by correspondence through the New Zealand Law Society and will soon qualify.

The job market in the Caymans is less certain than it was. “The economy was affected by the September 11 attacks. The Cayman Islands relies heavily on the US market for most of its business such as tourism, law and accounting.

“It is easiest to find a job if you are an accountant or a lawyer. Otherwise it can be quite difficult,” Will says.

(The Cayman Islands, with a population of 35,000, is host to 2,240 mutual funds, 500 insurance funds, and 570 banks and trusts.)

Andrea and Will often work long hours, so it is good to have a close-knit New Zealand expatriate community to turn to. Often they will meet friends for happy hour drinks at a seaside bar or at the Cayman Islands rugby club. (Will recently played in the island’s International Rugby Sevens tournament.)

Both certified divers, Will and Andrea use their weekends to explore numerous dive sites around the island, including a snorkelling spot, ‘Stingray City’, where the stingrays are plentiful and docile.

“You can decide at a whim to go diving and be out in the water within 30 minutes,” Will says.

But there are serpents in this paradise. For an expatriate it is difficult to make long-term plans. “As with all other expats here, we are on work permits which must be renewed every year. The local immigration law directs that if there is a local person who can do your job, then your permit will not be approved,” Will says.

The heat and humidity over summer can be debilitating, and with summer comes the threat of hurricanes. The Bruces say hurricane insurance, to fly people from the island in the event of a disaster, is commonplace.

While there is no risk of the deep winter blues, ‘rock or island fever’ is endemic. “There is not a lot of variation here, so you need to get off the island every few months and get back into a city,” says Andrea.

New Zealand, family and friends – for the girl who grew up in Lower Hutt and the boy from the 7,500 acre Waiohiki Valley sheep station – can seem, at times, very far away. They sometimes pine for mountains, lakes and fresh air and for Kiwi shopping and coffee. “We both really miss our weekends away in Whanganui in the Coromandel Peninsula, the great bush walks and scenery,” says Andrea. The pair plan to travel home in 2003.
It is unusual for a review book to arrive wrapped in tissue paper. It’s odder still when you feel like reverentially rewrapping it between readings. Akekeia! Traditional Dance in Kiribati is an exquisite artefact: a seamless – and bilingual – mix of sociology, anthropology and fine art. You can see why the judges of the 2002 Montana Book Awards described it as “simply beautiful... a painstakingly constructed work of art in itself”, and awarded it the prize in the illustrative section.

In a way the book is almost too perfect, too crafted. There is little sense of the labour that has gone into it away from the studio: the wading ashore through coral to outlying islands; the photographer’s battle with condensation, salt, sand and with the heat that congealed film on to camera sprockets. Nor is there much sense of the 20 years-plus acquaintance with Kiribati that gave authors Tony and Joan Whincup their privileged ‘in’.

Kiribati is a nation of 33 coral atolls scattered about the equator, inhabited by only about 90,000 people. Its economy is based on foreign aid, copra, fish and a dash of tourism.

Tony and Joan went to Kiribati in the mid-70s when it was still a British dependency, Tony’s work as a teacher was financed by British foreign aid. “I went there to teach 6th and 7th formers painting and photography, and to do photographic work for the Government, documenting skills and traditions as well as work for posters and postcards,” he explains. Joan also taught.

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

It was 13 years on from their settlement in Wellington that a return visit to Kiribati rekindled their interest in dance and prompted the idea for the book. Massey University gave Tony – who in the meantime had gained a MA in anthropology – the time for the research project, Kodak sponsored the film, and, in a philanthropic gesture, Kiribati local Susan Barrie paid for the book’s production.

A flick through the photographs in Akekeia! shows something close to the Gauguin-ideal of a Pacific idyll: coconut palms, coral, aquamarine seas, even a dusky maiden or two. The realities of day-to-day life are different. This is a society of severe resource constraint. Little grows on the dry coral soil and only the fruit of a few hardy plants can be harvested. Most of the land that can be, is cultivated. With the harvest of the sea, a comfortable subsistence is realised, but no more.

Kiribati society has coped with scarcity by becoming conservative. People fulfil their allotted, often hereditary, roles and take pride in the associated sense of identity. Were an islander of several centuries ago to arrive in the Kiribati of today, he or she would be familiar with the way of life, quite unlike, says Tony, say transplanting a colonial American to Times Square.

It is a society with little in the way of painting
or carving. In place of these, dance has become the receptacle for oral history, music, poetry, and movement. Dance relates the myths of creation and immigration, and the great battles of Kiribati history, some centuries old, others dating back to World War II, when the islands were fiercely contested by the Allies and the Japanese. Dance, too, is the one opportunity to stand out in a society that discourages conspicuous displays of individual achievement. It gives licence to laugh, shout or burst into tears.

‘Akekeia!’ Traditional Dance in Kiribati, runs excerpts of the transcripts of interviews of dance teachers, performers, costume makers and composers, together with a stunning array of photographs, black-and-white and colour. The photographs are Tony’s; the interviews Joan’s.

Had things changed since Tony and Joan left Kiribati in 1984? Strangely enough, the dance costume had reverted to more traditional forms and materials. (A convenient substitute for a black dyed grass skirt perfumed above a fire is made using strips of video tape and a splash of Impulse.) On the other hand, on the main island of Tarawa, Tony found no trace of the skills he had once documented that are needed to make a particular kind of ball for the game ‘te oreano’. “A lethal thing. I am not surprised they gave up making it,” he says. The Catholic Mass is knowingly incorporating dance into its celebration: an odd spiritual amalgam, for as well as once having been viewed as lascivious, Kiribati dance has strong links with sorcery.

‘Akekeia!’ Traditional Dancing in Kiribati was launched in Kiribati in 2001 on the anniversary of Independence Day. “Presenting the book to President Tito was a special moment, a symbolic return of the knowledge that we had been entrusted with,” says Tony.

The book is dedicated to Nei Tieningare, Susan Barrie’s daughter, who died at age three – killed by a falling coconut, a common cause of death in Kiribati. “But she was in bud… still learning, but how she loved to dance. Whenever we couldn’t find her we would look to where dance practice was happening, and sure enough that was where she was,” reads the dedication.

Joan is an early childhood teacher at the Correspondence School. Tony is now head of Photography in the School of Fine Art. Julia Parkinson, the book’s designer, is a former Massey lecturer.

“Often we hear about wealthy foreign companies going into Third World countries, developing a lucrative tourist venture and then taking all the money offshore. It doesn’t have to be like that,” says Dr Regina Scheyvens from Massey University’s School of People, Environment and Planning.

In Tourism for development: Empowering Communities, Dr Scheyvens suggests tourism in Third World countries can be both good for local communities and environmentally friendly. Travellers are becoming increasingly aware of the impacts – environmental, social and economic – they can have. “A growing number of travellers, especially from Europe, are demanding tourist operators adhere to strict ethical guidelines. This is now becoming an effective marketing tool,” says Dr Scheyvens. Companies can do well by doing good.

Dr Scheyvens has spent time in Southern Africa, Asia and the South Pacific. In the book she outlines a number of travel styles she found of benefit to local communities. Budget tourism, where backpackers stay in locally owned accommodation, buy food from local stores and use local transport, makes for a cheap holiday and supports tourism at a local level, Dr Scheyvens says. Eco-tourism attracts travellers who want to experience – and protect – the natural environment. For those with yet more altruistic impulses there are vacations that embrace voluntary work on conservation or development projects.

Dr Scheyvens’ book looks at the role local governments and non-government organisations (NGOs) play in protecting the interests of local communities. “Some governments are providing small-scale credit schemes and training programmes to get more people from poorer communities involved in tourism and many NGOs act as watchdog organisations and promoters of ethical tourism in Western countries.”

The book, published in England, is being used in geography and development studies papers and can be ordered through New Zealand bookstores. Dr Scheyvens says the book will be of interest to those travelling to Third World countries and also has implications for the development of Māori tourism.

Dr Scheyvens is co-authoring a text on practical and ethical guidelines for fieldwork in developing countries, which will come out next year.
New Zealand Abroad: The story of VSA's work in Africa, Asia and the Pacific

Among the contributors to this book are three Massey alumni: Nichola Dove and Bryn Evans are design graduates and Jeremy Rose a graduate in journalism.

New Zealand Abroad: The story of VSA’s work in Africa, Asia and the Pacific features 15 photo essays based on the countries in which VSA currently works: Bhutan, Bougainville, Cambodia, East Timor, Laos, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, South Africa, the Tokelau, Tonga, Vatuatu, Vietnam, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

Nicola Dove has photographed in Cambodia and India. Her work regularly appears in North & South, The Listener and Cuisine magazines. She recently exhibited at Wellington’s 52 Gallery. Her work in New Zealand Abroad features Tanzania, the Solomon Islands, and East Timor.

After graduating from the Wellington Polytechnic School of Design in 1996, Bryn Evans quickly established himself as one of this country’s leading documentary photographers with his portfolio of photos on Bougainville, then in the midst of a bloody civil war. Evans’s work has featured in Time magazine and numerous other international titles. He currently works for an international agency and is based in India. His New Zealand Abroad photographs are of Samoa.

Jeremy Rose, who writes about the Pacific, graduated from the Wellington Polytechnic School of Journalism in 1986. He has since worked as a newspaper journalist, co-founded City Voice newspaper, tutored the interviewing module of the Advanced Diploma of Journalism and run the Whitireia Polytechnic journalism programme.

The other photographers in the book are Bruce Connew, Glenn Jowitt, Terry O’Connor, Gil Hanly, Louise Hyatt and David Gurr. Margot Schwass writes about Asia and Trevor Richards about Africa.

Parting Company
a guide to successful separation
Allyson Caseley

Love. It’s all you need. As a society we are smitten with love and its endorphin rush and not, understandably, with the misery and anger that all too often accompany relationships when they end, as end they mostly do. What hope have we when Barbara Cartland, the queen of romantic schlock, divorced within a few years of marrying? Look, yes look, at the British Royals.

There’s now the phenomenon of the ‘starter marriage’, a fast-forward marriage that is over before the participants are out of their twenties. And that’s not to talk about the breakup toll for unsanctified relationships.

Breakups seem to be the normal order of things now days. But what a hash we make of them. A relationship breaks up. Two warring camps form. The possessions are divided into his and hers; the friends ditto. Lawyers thrive on the pickings. The rancour may last decades.

Caseley doesn’t talk about breakups, but about ‘separation’, which she sees potentially as a time of “constructive transition”.

Caseley has been there. As the book jacket nicely puts it, she has been participant and observer in the process of separation. The observer status derives from the decade she spent compiling psychological reports for the Family Court. As an author she has the hard-to-beat combination of empathy and objectivity.

Parting Company divides its contents according to a typology of separation: the parting (get mad), the sorting (get sad), rebuilding yourself (get over it), and moving on (get on with it). Much of it dwells on establishing who you are and what your needs are. Interspersed through the text are boxed accounts of people who have undergone a separation.

Some readers may find there is something about the book – the four stages, the ten steps, affirmations, the writing of lists – that feels a bit pat, and the extracts from someone’s ritual of separation, terribly adult though this may be, may make some readers squirm. They did me.

But a world lived according to Caseley’s advice would be far more civilized than the messy one we live in. There would be less breakage, less collateral damage, and fewer damaged children.

If you – or someone you know – are in the throes of a separation you will find this a useful and optimistic book.

Caseley graduated with BA in Psychology from Massey in 1975.
Spirituality and Social Care: Contributing to Personal and Community Well-Being
edited by Mary Nash and Bruce Stewart

This book will be a much-welcomed resource for those practitioners who wish to engage with the spiritual dimension of their therapeutic work, and it may well find a wider readership than the students and professionals it is aimed at.

“Many Māori, for instance, are immersed in the spiritual world,” says co-editor Dr Mary Nash. “And when people in hospital are facing death, spirituality and religion may be at the forefront of their minds.”

The book enlarges on the work carried out by volunteers, a group that has previously been undefined, almost invisible. Volunteer work is becoming increasingly important, as successive governments insist the community must take more responsibility for those in need.

What motivates volunteers? We know it isn’t money. "The needs that move a person to volunteer can be generalised into the need to belong and be with other people, the need to achieve and the need for power, either personal or social."

The book also discusses working with grief and loss, community development, communicating across cultures, social justice, social work teaching and learning.

Bruce Stewart, a former Massey postgraduate student, is now a senior social worker in Canada. He works closely with Native American clients who often suffer from alcohol or mental health-related problems. Dr Nash, of the University’s School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work, teaches undergraduate and postgraduate students on aspects of spirituality and social work.

What’s News?
Reclaiming Journalism in New Zealand
edited by Professor Judy McGregor

When John Campbell and Carol Hirschfeld visited the University recently to talk to Media Studies students, they were on the defensive. On the way to Palmerston North, the 3 News presenters had read the opening chapter of What’s News? edited by Professor Judy McGregor and Dr Margie Comrie. The new book, subtitled Reclaiming Journalism in New Zealand, is a follow-up to their first, a take-no-prisoners examination of the media called Whose News?, written nearly 10 years ago.

Both books contain comment and analysis on aspects of the news media by journalists, academics and other informed commentators. In the latest book, Brian Edwards checks out his own earlier comment on the quality of television news and finds his conclusions wanting.

In 1992 he had analysed two weeks of One News, labelling its style and presentation, “coochie coo news”. The reporting “was either coloured by the perceptions of the journalist, bureau chief, producer or newreader who wrote the script... or overlaid with sentiment in an attempt to hook the viewer into an emotional response”. In 1992, 3 News was spared any such analysis and praised for offering the better news service, “largely free of uninvited editorialising and inane babble”.

That was then. This is now: After the appointment of a news reading duo (Hirschfeld and Campbell) on 3 News, Dr Edwards found that suddenly there was plenty of uninvited editorialising and “the infection of inane babble was allowed to spread”. Indeed, the survey of both news programmes for the new book “revealed a much greater propensity for editorial intrusion on the private channel”.

Over seven days Dr Edwards found two examples of inappropriate comment on One News and nine on 3 News.

To their audience of students and academic staff, Campbell and Hirschfeld made no real attempt to deny the ‘cootchie-coo’ news culture but did argue that as presenters they are not to blame. They said they have only minimal influence on news selection, style and even reader scripts. They had the advantage over their audience, most of whom had not yet read What’s News?, which had only recently reached bookshops. It is essential reading for thoughtful news consumers who are living in a culture described by Professor McGregor as having a poor tradition of criticism and debate on the media. Other topics covered in the book’s 17 chapters include chequebook journalism (Jim Tucker), MMP and journalism (Sir Geoffrey Palmer), the parliamentary press gallery (Oliver Riddell), objectivity (Al Morrison) and news media ownership (Paul Norris). There is also an excellent analysis by Margie Comrie of the pervasion of PR practitioners.

A ring on a folded newspaper
A brown stain inside a white cup
The aftermath of an idle chat
‘Tea will only surrender completely to water just off the boil
But in a scalded pot it prepares to yield
Coffee for intellectuals
Tea for diplomats
Mornings, I drink coffee, putting my world in order, so that afternoons, I may sally forth and drink tea

A storm
in a teacup would sound
like this:
brew-ha-ha-ha
brev-ha-ha!

A clock
ticks on a wall
A saucer
clicks on a table
A cup
chinks in the saucer
A spoon
chinks in the cup

Up the Cape I saw
a musterer on a mountain
milking his mare –
squirtng her teat straight
in his old tin mug
while she just stood there

Over my cup
I watched you watching me
over yours
As my glasses fogged
I realised the danger:
serious tea drinking
can engender
steamy looks

A caddy for clubs
and one for tea,
Ah-tish-oo?
A tisane!
Earl Grey for me.

My husband fixed an electric urn
For a lady around the bay
He took a really long time
And so
She took a long time to pay
I bet heaps of people were glad of that urn
When she recently passed away

Sheri O’Neill from Hot Ink, an anthology of poetry by Massey 139123 Creative Writing students.
Anne Noble: States of Grace

Justin Paton (editor), Anne Kennedy, Lydia Wevers

To look through the pages of States of Grace is to immerse oneself in the world as photographer Anne Noble journeys through it – looking, noticing, watching, absorbing, being part of, reflecting on and quietly celebrating as she goes.

Since 1982, Noble has been making photographic essays, which are documentaries, histories, observations and personal narratives. She has made studies exploring the places and people that make up the landscape in all its definitions as she has encountered it.

The book is a survey of Noble’s work over these two decades, a collection of beautifully reproduced photographs, published in accompaniment to her exhibition of the same title, at Dunedin Public Art Gallery and the City Gallery, Wellington earlier this year.

Eloquent essays by Justin Paton and Lydia Wevers reflect on some of the themes of the work, while Anne Kennedy considers Noble’s work through poetic prose.

But overall, critical opinion concurred that I had written what dust jacket hacks call an ‘acclaimed’ novel. So, why can I expect to sell a couple of thousand copies when the Scottish writer of Cross Stitch has sold 50,000 books in New Zealand alone? My initial reaction to the news of Cross Stitch’s success was based upon some drastically erroneous assumptions: “Damn!” I raved, “first I’m knocked off the best-seller list by Favourite Potato Recipes (entirely true, this was the fate of my first novel, Tasman’s Lay at the hands of Allison Holst’s latest... dare I say it... pot-boiler) now I’m gazumped by a book of bloody knitting patterns!” I was then told — in a shout — by an outraged fan that it was actually about a heroine’s travels back in time to the troubled seventeenth century Highlands. So, why do 50,000 New Zealanders want to go back to antiquely unbonny auld Scotland? They certainly didn’t want to go back to olde New Zealand when I time-travelled to the days of Te Rauparaha in company with Napoleon. (Playing Waterloo — I’d always wanted to know who’d win if these two had gone to battle. Te Rauparaha, in case you want to know. A customary 2000 souls did, indeed, want to know.)

Are sales small because I’m a bloke, whereas our readers of novels are not? No, because Wilbur Smith’s flummery outsells the Scottish book two to one — and John Grisham’s drek doubles that.

Maybe re scrutiny of my reviews will cast light. Ah, here we are: “Not for the humourless...” The H-word has been my literary bête-noir. My first novel, Tasman’s Lay was intentionally ‘straight’. I was subsequently told by many disappointed readers that all my jokes had fallen flat. Now, in Royce etc I am damned with humour — and 48,000 readers put the book back on the shelf. Not for the humourless.

Another review warns: “Don’t be misled by the beery bars and filthy fishing boats...” Aha, beerless pubs and clean fish boats are the secret to sales; they will certainly adorn my impending pages. The same review continues: “And as for the sexual antics, they might happen in cramped cabins or small boats, but never in a vacuum...” Right, vacuum sex it is, for my future (presumably short-lived) characters.

Wisdom, according to another critical extract, is of minority interest: “It (Royce etc) is a very wise insight into the struggles of... etc.” Right, wise insight sells mere thousands, it must be abandoned in my bid for hundreds of thousands.

And I have, to my cost, broken some rules: “Hawes has written a book that breaks with New Zealand’s tradition of introspective and slightly melancholy literature.” There we go again, we really do, it seems, want humourless books. So, subjective gloom will suffuse my next work, probably to be called Contemplating Sighs.

And I have been warned that “there’s also a fair amount of language that could offend and Rabelaisian romping”. Even worse: “A story about a boy who falls in love with a fish?” I don’t know if the word ‘ piscinerast’ has yet entered the lingo, but it was obviously on the tips of several critical tongues.

To heed one’s critics is fatal — the result is the eternal conundrum; which came first, the chicken-out or the curate’s egg? I shall ignore even the lovely bits of Royce’s reviews, bolstered by the experience of Alun Coren who, when he was editor of Punch, studied literary themes for the secret of immediate success. He decided upon gardening, golf, animals and war and wrote a book called Golfing for Cats, with a cover photo of Hitler smoking a rose. It bombed.
To celebrate the University’s 75th anniversary, eight one-off Massey University Anniversary Medals have been awarded to alumni who have made special contributions to their communities and their country. They represent something of the span of Massey talent.

Massey alumni have well and truly celebrated the University’s 75th anniversary year. At reunions and anniversary functions the Massey community has gathered to reminisce, celebrate, and look forward to what might yet be. Many a case of Massey’s 75th celebration wine – the Massey Half Dozen – has been broached, and the Massey rose – developed by well-known rose breeder and honorary doctor of Massey, Sam McGredy – will be in bloom in gardens around the country.

MASSEY magazine is pivotal to the extended Massey community. As a reader you are emphatically not alone. Our circulation is 55,000, and with each graduation it climbs. What do you do to make sure you keep getting it? Simply let us know if your address changes.

We – by which I mean the Massey community – are also keen to find out what else is going on in your life. We want to celebrate and share your successes and hear your stories. In this issue of MASSEY you will find a greatly extended alumni news section. If you are interested in what has been happening in your classmates’ lives, why not tell us about your own? A ‘Keep us Posted’ form is enclosed with every edition of MASSEY, or you can visit our website, http://alumni.massey.ac.nz

This December two alumni seats on the University Council will be open for election. The University Council is the body providing essential governance in the establishment of policies and practices for our university. The election process is conducted through what is called the Court of Convocation. The register for the Court of Convocation includes every graduate of Massey University (as well as the graduates from a number of other universities). The elected members will serve until the next election in 2006. Do vote. These positions matter. The nominees’ biographies and your voting details are in the pack that accompanies this magazine.

Dr Brian Wickham (BAgSc 1970, MAgSc 1972) has helped sustain the income of New Zealand dairy farmers during his 22-year tenure with the Livestock Improvement Corporation. He developed a database to generate the production worth of individual animals, created a uniquely New Zealand evaluation system that allows genetic comparisons across breeds, and has worked internationally to promote the excellence of New Zealand’s animal evaluation schemes.

Professor Peggy Koopman-Boyden was one of the University’s first arts students in 1961 while studying at Palmerston North Teachers’ College. Currently Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor at the University of Waikato, she has held a number of teaching and academic roles, has advised the Government on policy, sat on various women’s committees, including the Expert Group on the Cervical Screening Programme, and chaired the National Council of HIV/AIDS. She has a long publication record, including three books relating to her contribution to her community and the development of education and young people. She recently retired as Principal of Murray’s Bay Intermediate school, which is highly regarded academically. She played an active role in campaigns for equal pay and promotion opportunities for women, mentoring young teachers into leadership roles. She has gained her recent qualifications extramurally and part-time as a mature student.

North Shore’s Fay Mason (BEd 1980, DipEd 1983, MEdAdmin (Hons) 2002) has been recognised for her contribution to her community and the development and education of young people. She recently retired as Principal of Murray’s Bay Intermediate school, which is highly regarded academically. She played an active role in campaigns for equal pay and promotion opportunities for women, mentoring young teachers into leadership roles. She has gained her recent qualifications extramurally and part-time as a mature student.

Dr Paddy Bassett (née Elsie Thorpe) was Massey’s first woman graduate student, gaining a BAgSc in 1941. She was a pioneering female student when there were many social barriers to women getting higher science degrees. Her early innovative research was into animal husbandry practices and, although now in her 80s, she is an honourable staff member of the pathology department at Otago’s Wellington School of Medicine, working on connective tissue change.

Professor Christine Winterbourn studied for her PhD from 1965 to 1968, commencing her career at the Christchurch School of Medicine in 1970. She pioneered research into free radicals in biological systems in the 1970s. In recent years she has applied this expertise to diseases and cell damage caused by free radicals and today she is an acknowledged international authority in the field. She was recognised for her contribution to her field with an ONZM in 1997.

Robyn Bargh (BA 1981) pioneered Māori publishing, establishing Huia New Zealand 10 years ago. It now includes publishing, communications and educational arms, and is the biggest publisher of books for Māori. The communications group has a wide client base and the education division Huia – te Manu Tuku Korero produces high quality education resources for Kura Kaupapa Māori. Ms Bargh has a commitment to making Te Reo an important part of New Zealand life and uses innovative approaches to connect with and engage young Māori.

Dr Russell Ballard, (BAgrSc 1967, MAgSc 1969) has had a distinguished career in the public service, heading five government departments and establishing the Ministries of Forestry, Education and Land Information, over the last 15 years. He has played a leading role in government reform initiatives relating to the environment, education, science, biosecurity, animal welfare and land administration. As Director General of Agriculture he had a key role in developing the phytosanitary agreement under GATT. He was also Director-General of Education and is now chief executive of Land Information New Zealand.
Alumni Benefits

Discounts, benefits and services have been negotiated for Massey University alumni:

Massey University Library

Massey University alumni are granted special borrower status with the Massey University Library. An annual payment of $100 (which is a 50 percent discount on the normal rate) entitles alumni to the borrowing privileges of an undergraduate distance student. You can borrow the books in person or have them sent to you by post within New Zealand. Contact alumni@massey.ac.nz for more information.

Career Move

Massey's unique on-line career management programme specifically designed for alumni, students and staff. The program is provided at a special Massey rate of $125.00 (incl GST). This enables you to register on-line and access information about what you need to do to be a front runner in today’s job market, as well as activities that will sharpen your career management skills and accelerate your progress towards your career goals. For more information go to http://careers.massey.ac.nz/career.move.html

Kanuka Grove Book and Resource Centre

Kanuka Grove supports Massey University alumni with a special discount of 10 percent on all trade items. Open Saturdays from 11am to 2pm, and happy to respond to e-mail requests for that special title, they would love to hear from you. Kanuka Grove is New Zealand’s biggest Teachers Resource Centre, stocking a huge variety of products. These include fabulous books for children and adults, as well as educational resources more specifically focused for teachers and parents. Just drop them a line. Contact Adrian Phillips, Director, Kanuka Grove, College of Education, Hokowhitu site, Centennial Drive, Palmerston North, phone 06 3513329 fax 06 3513324 http://Kanukagrove@massey.ac.nz

Massey University Credit Card

If you choose the Massey credit card, the University automatically receives a minimum of $10 a year from Westpac. This will contribute to the range of scholarships we can offer.

Plus, the Massey Credit Card offers you the same interest rate as the Westpac Visa Classic (currently 19.95 percent for cash and retail) and, depending on the date you make your purchases, you can receive up to 55 days interest-free credit. In addition, use your card to pay for travel and you will receive complimentary en route travel accident insurance. You are also eligible to accumulate frequent flyer points.

Find a Classmate

Looking for a fellow classmate, graduate or staff member? The Office of Development and Alumni has an up-to-date database containing over 50,000 names. Email, write, phone or fax us with as many details as possible and we’ll help you make contact. Also, check out our ever-improving website where we post information if someone is looking for you. Please note, the Office of Development and Alumni complies with the Privacy Act and will not release personal information without permission.

1937
Malcolm Driver, MAgSc ’37, spent his career in plant breeding—but for the years of World War II spent serving on a British rural destroyer in the Atlantic. He worked variously for Lincoln College, the DSIR, Cambridge University and Canterbury University While at Cambridge, from 1941 until 1945, Malcolm researched wild potatoes. Later, back in New Zealand, he bred Ross potatoes. Fifty or 60 years ago New Zealand’s culture of potatoes was very poor, writes Malcolm. His work helped raise average yields. Malcolm retired in 1978.

1943
Kenneth Alfred Swindells ’43 DipAgg passed away in January 2002. Among his possessions was a photo of a 1941 Massey rugby team. One of Kenneth’s sons and one of his daughters have attended Massey and a grandson is currently a third-year student.

1946
Dick Denton. DipAgg ’46, attended Massey University in 1944 and 1945 and graduated in 1946. Until his 1989 retirement Dick farmed in Levin. Dick attended the 25th and 50th reunions, and, when he wrote, was looking forward to the 75th function.

1949
Dom Flux. MSc ’48, was with the Dairy Research Institute from 1951 to 1952, before heading off for PhD studies at the University of Reading in Britain. Around 1954 he transferred to the Dairy Husbandry Department of Massey University as a senior lecturer, becoming a professor in the early 1970s. In 1983 he relinquished his head of department position and in 1985 he retired. As well as teaching, Dom was an active researcher, dealing mostly with endocrinology relationships in animal production. He remains a Massey emeritus professor.

1951
Syd Pargeter, DipAgg ’51, recorded the top exam average for his course. After graduating he returned to rural broadcasting, education and information for several years, then went farming, first on the family dairy farm in Victoria, and then as the manager of a Poli Dorset stud farm. His animals won show prizes in Victoria and New South Wales and were sold throughout Australia. In a foray into local body politics, he became the mayor of Berwick for three terms, working to create “the best city in Australia”. He also taught agriculture for 30 years. Syd is the holder of an Order of Australia Medal. When last heard from, he was looking forward to reuniting with old classmates for a reunion in Palmerston North.

1952
Alan Jones. DipAgg ’52, writes: “I went to Australia for a working holiday in 1953. Worked in all the states, added a wife in Western Australia in 1959, moved to Tasmania in 1965.” He worked as sheep and wool adviser for the WA and Tasmanian departments of agriculture. Since retiring he has been involved in quality assurance and a variety of consultancies.

1954
Jim Keir. DipAgg ’54, now retired, remains interested in the dairy industry. When heard from, he was looking forward to meeting his classmates at the 75th celebrations.

1968
Mrs Olufunde A Egunjobi, MSc ’68, was Massey’s first MSc graduate and Massey’s first African woman student. After graduating, she was employed briefly as a specialist scientist by the Taita Soil Bureau, and Massey’s first African woman student. After graduating, she was employed briefly as a specialist scientist by the Taita Soil Bureau, part of the DSIR. She headed home to Nigeria in 1968. There she tried to introduce plant nematology into the university curriculum. She concluded a part-time PhD programme in 1981. After rising from Postdoctoral Research Fellow to Senior Lecturer, she left the Department of Agricultural Biology of the University of Ibadan in 1987 to assist in building a new faculty of Science in the newly created Osun State University, now the University of Ado-Ekiti. She became Head of Department of Zoology, Dean of Science and a member of the University’s governing council. She was invited to serve as a State Commissioner (Minister)
Chintan Puri, BA '58, was a research associate in the Humanities Research Group of the Centre for Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Melbourne.

John Gandar, BA '69, has now retired and is a Justice of the Peace and Judicial Officer and an elected Member of the Waitangi Tribunal Business Unit servicing the Waitangi Tribunal. He is a member of the Peace and Judicial Officers and an elected Member of the Capital and Coast District Health Board. He has two children and five grandchildren.

Noel Holmes, BA '72, now retired, describes himself as enjoying life greatly, with plenty of time for concerts, plays, and museums-going—pursuits he finds with the income from his dabbling in the sharemarket. Ham radio enthusiasts may know Noel as 2LRLW. Noel has four children and six grandchildren.

Joanne Read, BA '80, has been a principal at a government high school for the last six years.

Gaye Anderson, BEd '80, has recently moved to Christchurch after 16 years in Napier. In Napier she has taught reading and English in New Zealand and is now at Trident High School in Whakatane.

Gregory Edmeades, MAgrSc '73, studied for a PhD from the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada. He was two years with the International Center for the Improvement of Maize and Wheat (CIMMYT) based in Mexico and Ghana, West Africa. Currently he is with Pioneer Hi-Bred International and based in Hawaii, USA.
As a young woman, Sister Basil spent several years in Paris, first working as a governess to a French family and later joining the British Society for Immunology. elected member of the Biosecurity, Marian Hobbs

MBA ‘84, came to NZ as an international student to study towards an MBA. After graduating he returned home. “However, I missed NZ, and after some time, I decided to settle.” His interests include video photography, family activities, professional reading, documentaries and educational programmes.

William Francis, DipEd ‘84, has retired after having taught in New Zealand, Vanuatu and Nauru, and having been a Presbyterian clergyman in New Zealand, Western Samoa, USA, and England.

Peter Hirst, BHerSc ‘84, who also holds a PhD from Ohio State University, was recently awarded tenure at Purdue University and promoted to Associate Professor.

Terry Ploeger, BSc ‘84, worked at the Massey Computer Centre just after graduating. After eighteen months he moved to Cambridge, UK, where he spent ten years as a senior software engineer working on project management systems. Then came Uppsala, Sweden, where he worked for five years as a Technical Author for a database company, and Nottingham, UK where he is “currently semi-retired, thinking about possibly becoming a Psychologist or an Author or both!” If any alumni from McHardy Hall 1979 or from my time at Massey (1979-1983) want to get in touch, drop an email to terry.ploeger@usa.net.” For more contact details contact the Alumni and Friends office.

Jennifer Shaw, BSW ‘84, has five children, including a long-term foster child, and has spent 13 years homeschooling them. She has also spent five years with the Manawatu Branch of the Open Home Foundation Christian foster care – first as a social worker, then as Director – and five years of hiking and selling day-old chicks. Jennifer is on the Board of Trustees secretary for the local school, a Weight Watchers leader, and a Parenting With Confidence course facilitator.

In 2000 he graduated with a BTch from the JeT programme. In 2000 he graduated with a BTch from the JeT programme. "I was hoping to continue to work in administration. Among the positions he held was as a Senior Software Engineer working in a large software company.

Nenita Ramos, MAGeSc ‘83, is still teaching, though since 1998 she has been designated College Secretary/Executive Assistant. Nenita and her husband also work for the International Commission of Texas, USA, a religious organisation.

Amanda Young, BA ‘83, travelled extensively and lived in the UK and Australia for a few years before returning to New Zealand about six years ago. Amanda took a postgraduate course in secondary teaching. "I'm not sure which terms to follow that up with something academic," she says. She still keeps in touch with Professor Dunmore, her French lecturer from those many years ago.

1987

Megan Campbell, BSc ’87, went to Britain, retrained as a nurse and has now been living there for 10 years. Megan works at Mayday Hospital, doing a neurology rotation.

Alan Fielding, BA ‘87, spent 1991–1992 in Japan as an AET on the JET programme. In 2000 he graduated with a BSc from the Christchurch College of Education. In 2001 he had research on Rewards and Punishment published in NZ Principal and the New


Robert Taucher, BA(Hons) ‘80, went on to graduate with a MSc (Dev. Econ) from the University of London and has been based in Scotland since 1983. He is now an international development consultant.

His expertise, he writes, includes agriculture and livestock, rural development, small-scale credit and microfinance, and institutional reform. Among his clients have been the World Bank, the EU/AsAid, the UK government and the United Nations, and he has been widely employed in Africa (Egypt, Nigeria, Ghana, Gambia, Ethiopia, Swaziland, Kenya, Zimbabwe) and in the Asia Pacific region (PNG, China, Mongolia, India, Pakistan, Philippines, Cambodia).

1982

Rod Carter, BEd ‘82 retired as principal of Mauchline Intermediate School in 1989, and has since taught computer programmes and saling, the last of these to intermediate age children. He is also the initiator of The Northern Traverse, a multi-sport event – with kayaking, running and cycling sections – from Lake Ferry to Waikare.

Mark Karulus, BHerSc ‘82, is the owner of Karulus Gardens, a 3.5ha property he has developed into a cut flower and foliage business, supplying local and export markets. His pedigree within the horticulture industry includes managing a kiwifruit and asparagus orchard in Te Awamuto, working as a field representative for Turners and Growers, and, after gaining a teaching qualification, seven years teaching horticulture at Gisborne Girl High School.

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1985

Christopher Martin, Dip Hort, Fruit Prod, ‘85, has built an international products trading company with offices in New Zealand, Japan, Los Angeles, Miami and Peru and has farming operations in Peru and New Zealand.

1986

Susan Baragwanath, DipEd ‘86, founded New Zealand’s first school for teenage mums. There are now 16 such schools. In the 2001 exam sessions, Susan’s students topped New Zealand with a 77 percent pass rate. Students who had been at risk or dropouts are now winning scholarships and prizes. “In Susan’s words, ‘innovative education with excellent results’.”

Nigel Cooper, Dip Hort, Fruit Production, ‘86, owns and leases 200 hectares of orchard. He supplies pear and stone fruit to Heinz Wattie in Hastings, exports 250,000 cartons of stone fruit, and produces 150 tonnes of stonefruit for the local market.

Nigel Little, BBS(Hons) ‘86, worked for eight years with IBM in New Zealand, then for six more years with IBM in the UK. He returned to New Zealand in 1994 just before the birth of his first child. After holding managerial positions with Network Communications and Wang NZ he became the head of a small software company, which he subsequently purchased.

Laosabirong Suwit, PhD ‘86 has been actively involved in research and teaching at Khon Kaen University, Thailand, though these days, he writes, he is more involved in administration. Among the positions he has held has been Vice President for Foreign and Public relations 1992–1995 and founding Deputy Director of the Mekong Institute 1996–2002. (this is the biggest New Zealand–Overseas Development Aid project in the greater Mekong sub-region). Since 1999 he has been the Dean of the Faculty of Technology, Mahasarakham University.

1987

The Northern Traverse, a multisport event – with kayaking, running and cycling sections – from Lake Ferry to Waikanae. The Northern Traverse, a multisport event – with kayaking, running and cycling sections – from Lake Ferry to Waikanae.

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Jenny MciDowall née Raymond, BHerSc (Hons) ‘82, has lived for the last six years with her husband Bruce and their four children – Clara (8), Sam (6) and twins Luke and Esther (4) – in Qinghua, China, on the Tibetan plateau. Their employer, the Jian Hua Foundation, is working to improve the livelihood of the people of the region and focuses on health, jobs and development. Jenny has studied Mandarin and is now trying to get her tongue around Amdo Tibetan.

Jacky McLaren née Green MPH (Age/Hort) ‘82 has raised her two children over the last 15 years, and each year takes on a little more secondary school teaching. Two years ago she won an Excellence in Teaching Award and a Teacher Fellowship from the Royal Society of New Zealand. This let her assemble information about Genetic Engineering. “I am continuing to communicate at conferences and service groups on a weekly basis on this topic though I am back teaching,” she writes.

Stuart and Pamela née Mirfin Pedersen, BAGrEcon 1982 and BSc 1983, now running the world by boat, will be an inspiration to many. The two were neighbours in Cuba Street in 1980 and met again in 1988. After a successful career teaching secondary school mathematics, Pamela started a family with Stuart in 1993. Stuart was involved in the founding of leading financial planning and investment firm Spencer in 1987. In March 2001 the couple sold their shares, Stuart resigned, and four months later the family took to the water in their 14-metre yacht ‘Essence’. They are currently cruising in the Andaman Sea, Thailand. Their current career aspirations are limited to successfully teaching their children, keeping the boat in good order, and laboriously lugging their possessions from boat to boat to their new locations. Next step: the Mediterranean via the Suez Canal. They would love to hear from long lost Massey friends: s_eswen@hotmail.com

Brendan Tuohey, BA ‘82, co-founded Reddish interegadic with Harry North and Sam Murray, also Massey graduates. Reddish specialises in Maori language and union software, and has also authored Kakura, an add-on listserver product for Microsoft Exchange. Kakura has a world-wide client base and can be purchased over the web at www.reddish.co.nz

CHRISTCHURCH PRESS

Sister Bass

Sister Basil always knew she wanted to be a nun.

Now, 90, Sister Basil is still teaching French to Year Seven and Eight pupils at Saint Teresa's School in Christchurch. "I've been teaching all my life, and I'm not about to stop any time soon," she says.

English-born, Sister Basil learnt French as a child, when her father sent her to a Catholic school taught by French nuns.

As a young woman, Sister Basil spent several years in Paris, first working as a governess to a French family and later joining the Saint Joseph de Cluny convent.

After two years in the Parisian convent, she moved to Fiji, where she taught French for 17 years, before migrating to New Zealand in 1952.

Sister Basil came to Massey as an adult student in 1964 and 1965, studying French 1 and II extramurally, while she was living in Taumako.

"I already spoke fluent French but I wanted to follow that up with something academic," she says. She still keeps in touch with Professor Dunmore, her French lecturer from those many years ago.
There are exercises to help match your likes and strengths with career and job options at your disposal and activities for you to set specific career goals. There are modules to equip you with essential job search skills, from resume writing, compiling job applications and networking, to interviewing, negotiating job offers and developing a career action plan.

The final part of the programme provides job search management tools to achieve your immediate goals.

At the end of it you will have a tailored resume, a personalised career action plan, a more sharply defined view of what your next career move will be and the path to take you there.

Sound easy? It is. The programme is conducted exclusively on-line, so you can use it wherever you are and whenever you choose. You can register and pay on-line. In addition, Massey users can choose to register for a personalised careers service that is available nationally either face-to-face or via phone.

The programme is provided at a special Massey rate of $125.00 (incl GST). This enables you to register on-line and access information about what you need to do to be a front runner in today’s job market as well as activities that will sharpen your career management skills and accelerate your progress towards your career goals. For more information go to http://careers.massey.ac.nz/careermove.html.
Judi Grace, BA(SocSc) ’91, facilitated training in customer service and induction programmes for Ansett New Zealand. She then set up her own training consultancy and worked with corporates nationwide. She employed 12 consultants to help with the massive workload. Judi won New Zealand Self Employed Woman of the Year 1997/1998. She is a JP and a marvellously celebratory lady who wrote, as a winner of The New Zealand Business & Professional Woman’s Association Scholarship and has had her work published in business magazines.

Don Johnston, MBA ’91, is now the Campaign Manager for Gordon Trettl Consulting, a position he took up in 2001 after having been the business broker for Harcourts in Wellington.

Christine McCarragh, BA (Hons) ’91, headed overseas in 1967, living in about six countries before returning home in 1987. Now, she writes, “I have a university education and I own a house.” In July of this 2002 Christine was to take time off from her work as a medical philanthrobonist and interviewee to head back to Europe for five weeks. She expected the trip to “fire up memories and emotions”.

Craig Morrison, BBS ’91, spent two years with the ANZ bank in Wellington before moving to Palmerston North for two years at Management Consultancy. This was followed with three years teaching at Palmerston North Boys High School. After working in the UK for Gillette Ltd as business analyst for four years he returned to Palmerston North in 2001 to his current teaching post at PNBHS.

Ann Niven, BA (Hons) ’91, taught for six years in Singapore’s North International College. In 1999 she returned to New Zealand, where her husband took up the position of Minister/Pastor, Union Parishes, Perton. Ann is involved in church youth programmes. In 2001 and 2002 she taught MTH students on 4-6 weeks English courses in College A School.

Martin Snellie, BBS ’91, writes from Amsterdam; “I am vice president of product management and marketing for KPN’s Quest’s European operation. I have also lived in London, where I married Sharon. Prior to this I lived in Hong Kong for four years where I was regional marketing director for WorldCom’s Asia Pacific operations.”

Cornelia (Corrie) Van Selun, BA ’91, has now retired. “I called it recycled.” she writes. “It is incredible that I ever had time to raise a family and study. Now I often have to cut on the hop or in the car going off to some voluntary project. Play croquet. Only half-managed a horticultural diploma. We now have a lifestyle block, grow mushrooms and chestnuts. Lost my husband three years ago. Try to keep up with house maintenance, family, travel, gardens and three acres.”

1992

Simon Berry, MIBorSe (Hons) ’92, has been in Australia for ten years, nine of them in the Mildura area. He is now the CEO of a 900-acre vineyard and 3600-tonne winery, based in Rutherglen in northeast Victoria. He would be interested in hearing from other winemakers.

Rowly Brown DipSnM ’92, Formerly a Senior Occupational Safety and Health Inspector and Business Analyst, Rowly has been a health and safety adviser/consultant and health and safety inspector for the last six years. Rowly services an active client portfolio in every industry, provides an advisory service to ACC, and tutors health and safety courses for local and national trainers.

Heather Clay, DipSocSc ’92, is working in mental health services and is completing a masters of health science through Otago University. Her major interests are child psychiatry and intellectually and multiply disabled children.

Sue Davis née Ward, BA (SocSc) ’92, taught for many years in the nursing department of what is now UCOL. While there she established the Bridging Programme, which allowed registered psychiatric nurses to become registered comprehensive nurses. Sue now owns her own business on “[f]or work 16 hours a day, seven days a week catering to the accommodation needs of budget-minded people” she writes.

Margaret Fricker née Lidgey, CertRefab历Training ’92, writes: “I had been working in the UK and when my husband UK to came to NZ in 1970 and moved into social work. I retired in January 2002 from a position as a social worker in the area of schizophrenia. My husband and I moved from the Hutt Valley to the beautiful area of Golden Bay, where we hope to grow our own vegetables organically.”

Janine Jones, MA Hons ’92, now the spa therapist at a major tourist facility in Rotorua, writes: “I have travelled to South Asia, living in Sri Lanka for three-and-a-half months in the middle of a war zone. Also visited Colombo and stayed in beautiful, quaint Eureka in Northern California, where Julia Butterfly lives up the top of a giant redwood!”

David Keen, BA (Hons) ’92, a senior lecturer with the Dunedin College of Education and is conducting research into multilingual and gifted education. Now the holder of a PhD in history from the University of Otago. Keen has co-published Feeding the Lambs, a 125th anniversary history of the DCE.

James Muesch, MAAgSc ’92, PhD part-time study 1986–1992, was director of research and training for the Central Zone of Tanzania, based at Mkwawa between 1993 and 1998. Currently he is the principal livestock research officer responsible for animal genetic resources management.

Andrew Wells, BBS ’92, is now the marketing manager for Mdlford/ Rutlands Track Guided walks and lives in Queenstown. Andrew has spent three years working in Japan, one in the USA, and one in Australia. He has studied Japanese in Japan and Spanish in Latin America and along the way travelled to various countries in Asia, South and Central America, and Africa.

1993

Edwin Boul, MAPhil ’93, “writes: “On returning to Sahal, I was posted as group manager (livestock) to the Rural Development Corporation. Holdings. I was seconded to the Wildlife Department Sahal from 1994–2000 and was Chief Veterinarian-cum-officer in charge of the famous Ongarutin Rehabilitation Centre at Seipok. I took an optional retirement from government service and now focus on conservation work. I am presently working for SOS Rhino, a US-based conservation organisation that focuses on the rare and critically endangered Sumatran rhino in Borneo, as Programme Director. You may want to know more about my work, SOS Rhino (Borneo) and SOS Rhino Borneo volunteer programme through our website: “I am also with the University of Malaya Sahal (UMS) as Research Fellow at the Institute of Tropical Biology and Conservation. I am supervising postgraduate students, both foreign and local. If you are interested in taking up postgraduate study here or in collaborative research, you can contact me.”

Geoff Corbeela, Dip Meat Tech ’93, was employed by Meat NZ while at Massey, but the Production and Quality Department, of which he was a part, was closed in 1999 and the staff made redundant.

Anne Perera, MBA (Distinction) ’93, is now living in Singapore and working as a nutritionist scientist and regulatory manager. After graduating with her MBA, Anne set up her own business as a consultant, and she was employed for a period as a senior lecturer in food technology on the Albany campus. While with Albany, Anne and her co-writer Pip Duncan won the Wallace Nutrition Writer of the Year award for their book Nutrition 2000. Anne prides herself on her gift for writing poetry.

Jeanie Pressey, BEd ’93, has spent the last two summers working for the Department of Conservation on contract monitoring endemic “rare” kokako (blue warbler endem) in the Huia Ranges near Auckland. Conservation intervention began in 1994 and last season was the most successful yet, with ten chicks fledging. The population had been down to one breeding female. With five breeding pairs and with young birds, the species’ future in the Ranges now looks brighter.

Roy Weaver, MBA ’93, was appointed chief executive officer of the Port of Tauranga in 1997 and chief executive officer of Wintec Port Taurakini in 2001.

1994

Rowena de Leon Geleria, GDip Meat Ind Oop ’94, married with two sons and is a production manager with KFC in the Philippines. “The knowledge and technical advancement that I have learned during my entire study have helped me in my career advancement,” she writes.

Manohar Gopal, BAg ’94, is now a Senior Member of the Property Institute and an Associate of the NZ Institute of Valuers and is based in Auckland after having been in Whangarei for two years.

Tracy Gould, BEd ’94, worked in Hawkeville North at Te Mata Primary School for three years, took two years leave teaching in the South West Scotland and in London, then returned to Te Mata for a further two years. Today she is in her second year of teaching Year Five students at the Methodist Ladies College in Sydney.

Andrea Herrick, MA ’94, has been raising her “gorgeous son,” in half-way through an Art Diploma in painting, and is otherwise “also involved in art, growing chidren number two, contemplating home schooling, and generally living a happy and fulfilling life.”

Kevin Taylor, MBA ’94, is the project manager developing New Zealand’s first biotechnology incubator Centre for Innovation at the University of Otago. Kevin has been involved in marketing, tenure integration, leasing, website development and a host of facilitation tasks.

Professor Ian Campbell

Professor Ian Campbell, the University’s first Dean of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences, passed away on 19 September. Born in Gore in 1915, Professor Campbell entered the Bachelor of Agricultural Science degree at Massey Agricultural College in 1933, following secondary education at Scots College in Wellington. He was the College tennis singles and doubles champion, played fullback for its rugby team and became a Manawatu cricket and rugby representative.

Upon graduating in 1936, he joined the Dairy Research Institute as Officer in Charge of the No. 2 Dairy Unit. He later undertook a PhD degree at the University of Missouri with the renowned Professor Charles Turner, studying the function of the parathyroid gland and its impact on calcium metabolism in dairy cows. Four years later, Professor William Riddit recruited Professor Campbell to the Dairy Research Institute, as Head of its Physiology Unit. In 1948 the unit was transferred to the Massey Department of Dairy Husbandry and Ian Campbell was appointed Professor and Head of Department. He was the third professor to be appointed to the College and his appointment gave renewed impetus to its programme.

In 1962 he accepted the additional responsibility of Foundation Dean of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences. He was Massey’s first Dean of any kind, and faced the challenge of building the structural and operating arrangements for the Faculty from scratch and he was innovative in his approach. He held the dual role of Dean and Head of Department until 1966.

Professor Campbell served on many bodies – the Agricultural Training Council, NZ Pork Industry Board, Standing Advisory Committee of the Herd Improvement Council, President and Honorary Life Member of the NZ Society of Animal Production and President of the NZ Dairy Science Association. He was also elected to a Fellowship of the NZ Institute of Agricultural Science.

He undertook work in Kenya and Buruna on behalf of the World Bank and the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation.

Professor Campbell formally retired in 1977, at which point he was named Professor Emeritus, but he elected to remain part-time at Massey in the capacity of Assistant to the Vice-Chancellor. In 1980, Emeritus Professor Campbell finally hung ‘up his gown’ and in 1993, in recognition of one of the more illustrious careers in the history of the institution, he was deservedly awarded a Massey University Medal.

Professor Campbell was known for being fair to staff and students, approachable, thorough, and totally committed to all aspects of his work – teaching, research and extension. By the time he retired, he had well and truly earned the title of ‘a Massey man’. His loyalty and devotion to all that the institution stood for were obvious. As Dean, he did not seek the limelight for himself, but rather he quietly and effectively worked to create opportunities and support for his students and staff. He was a true gentleman.

Professor Robert Anderson
1995
Sue Freeman, BA (SocSc) ’95, after suffering a traumatic brain injury, which prevented her from working, began developing a smoking cessation programme. She will be publishing this as a workbook and CD-ROM and selling it through the Internet and retail outlets. Longer term, she would like to do her doctorate and become a leader in the field of smoking cessation.

Glenda Giles, PGDipSALT ’95, writes: “I’m teaching English and science in a high school located in Papua New Guinea in a rural area near the PNG-Indonesia border. The school is surrounded by rainforest and access from Vanimo on the coast is only by plane. We have 250 students, all of whom are Boarders.”

Julie Harris, BBS ’95, was recently appointed General Manager of the only Kauri Museum in the world at Matakohe. The job has taken her from Wellington, where she had contracted and taught, and into rural Northland. The Kauri Museum is the largest museum in the Northland region and a major heritage development. “Over 90,000 visitors annually visit this rural enclave ‘off the beaten track’.”

David Hewes, IA ’95, trained as a primary school teacher after graduating from Massey, spent two years teaching in New Zealand to gain registration, then, as his parents write: “He went to summer camp in New Hampshire and as a result of contacts was offered a position at this private school close to Hollym. Here he met an American girl and will be marrying her and probably staying in the USA.”

Rose McConnachie, BA(GStr) ’95, qualified as a teacher, then taught agriculture and horticulture at Stratford High School for three-and-a-half years before heading overseas. In Manchester, she found herself teaching a difficult primary school class. No other teacher had lasted more than a week. Rose won her laurels by lasting six weeks and making steady progress, a feat that won her a short-term contract. “In the end they were a lovely class,” she writes. From her base in Manchester, Rose visited 12 countries in Europe as well as the USA, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Spain and Hungary. In September 2001 she returned to New Zealand and now teaches at Hamilton’s Fraser High School.

Heather Newell, DipBusStud ’95, is the director of Foresee Communications, a niche business serving the needs of non-profit sector, and specialising in sponsorship. Heather is now in her third term as an Upper Hutt city councillor and has twice run for the mayoralty.

Mike Pehi, DipMaoriDreypt ’93, was a lecturer at the Massey College of Education from 1996 until 1999 where he became Deputy Principal of Turakura Maoris College. His marketing efforts were instrumental in raising the school roll from 69 to 160 – plus a waiting list. In 1999 he formed his own funeral and monumental company in Marion, while also developing a training programme focused on tikanga Maori and sudden Maori death. In 2002 he opened a second funeral and monumental home in Palmerston North.

Phelcio Utuba, MAphil (SocSci) ’95, writes: “I got married in 1998 to Dr Manaia Manufahi [Dentist]. We have a three-year-old son named Thasaulo. I was appointed as trainer consultant at Bobobeki Environmental (Pty) Ltd in 1995 shortly after I arrived from New Zealand. A big surprise to me! I didn’t have time to take a holiday from a long trip. In 1996 I was recruited by Gauteng Province as a Deputy Director, Environment Inspectorate Division. In May 2001 I started my own consultancy company, Enviro Afrik (Pty) Ltd. I have six staff.”

1996
Malcolm Cos, G DipBusStud ’96, is the managing director of Cox Partners, the family real estate business in Napier. While at Massey studying towards a BBS in Industrial Engineering, Malcolm was recruited by AHI Industries as an industrial engineer. On graduating he became the Quality Control Manager for the Metal containers division of AhI Industries as an industrial engineer. On graduating, he moved into the Metal containers division as part of the bacterial identification section. She also worked for Thames Water, managing water and wastewater treatment plants just out of London. After several years of work and travel we have returned and I am now providing water and wastewater operational and project support with my own company, Edhos Environmental Ltd.”

Aliya Saleh, MBA ’97, is now a marketing manager in New Orleans. He’d like to get in touch with his fellow MBA graduates from ’97.

Penni Williams, PGDipAppSci ’97 has just started her own farm consultancy business in Tasmania, specialising in dairy farm business management.

James Windle, MBS (Distinction) 1997, a manager with Associated Chemists in Dunedin, writes that he likes MASSEY. “For which company we thank him.”

1998
Syed Abbasi, PhD (Sci) ’98, has worked for the FAO in Rome and, from March to September 2001, served as a UN observer in Iraq. Today he is the Principal Engineer with the Pakistan Agricultural Resource Council in Islamabad.

Robert Hu, MBS ’98, went on an ELB after graduating from Massey, and is now a barrister and solicitor in Auckland.

Mohammed Miah, PGDipBusAdmin ’98, who is an overseas medical graduate, completed a Masters in OSH with distinction, but, being unable to find work in the field, he went on to complete an AUT qualification in the international classification of diseases. He now works as a clinical coder in Auckland hospital.

Nigel Sinclair, BSc ’98, is now a trainee accident investigator.

Stacey Townsend, BMedDelSc ’98, worked in the UK for five years as a locum biomedical scientist, in Brighton, Manchester, Greater London, and Harrogate. Interspersed with this she travelled widely, getting to America (as part of summer camp USA), Canada, the Middle East and South America. She is now a secondary school student teacher.

Willie Worsa, MApepe ’98, has been teaching at King George VI School in Solomon Islands. He takes forms one, four and six and seven in agricultural science and is also a tutor. Willie has initiated the establishment of Homia Piutuya Potters’ Association.

1999
Shane Cooke, MA (Hons) ’99, travelled through Canada and Europe; working in London, then returned to New Zealand to work as New Zealand Project Co-ordinator for ATM Banking NZ.

Darren Diprose, BScGp ’99, is working in the United States for Greenstone Holdings and has also worked in Britain and Europe.

Rose Hague, MEd ’99, an assessment adviser with the Dunedin College of Education, is now working with the Ministry of Education on the Access to Learn contract. Before this he had worked for 18 months at Orongo University as a research fellow at the Education Assessment Research Unit.

Cesar Jr Salario, PGDipDevStud ’99, has promoted to Senior Trade and Development Specialist in Davao City in the Philippines. He had been in charge of the regional Trade and Crafts Training Production centre, a training and production venue for the region. Cesar – Jun to his friends – who has been asked to speak on Sustainable Development, extends his thanks to Dr John Overton, who helped him come to his understanding of the topic. He also acknowledges his gratitude to “the lecturers, staff and fellow students at the Institute of Developmental Studies who have, one way or another, made my stay at Massey University worthwhile and enjoyable.”

43
Tanya Rissman and Antics Ltd

After a decade of extramural study, Tanya Rissman graduated with a BEd in 2000. During that time she had also taught at primary school level, undertaken training in education for the deaf, taught hearing impaired children and worked as an adviser for the Group Special Education Service.

It was when she left GSE to return to teaching that Ms Rissman saw “gaping holes” in schools’ ability to provide services to children with behavioural and learning problems.

That prompted her to start her own company – Antics Ltd – in her home town of Timaru at the beginning of this year. Her aim for the company was to provide a counselling service for children with behaviour and social difficulties.

Ms Rissman soon had all the work she could handle, with referrals from schools and approaches from parents seeking help for their children. What started as a one-person operation has grown into a company with a staff of seven in less than a year. The team includes a behaviour specialist (Ms Rissman), a clinical psychologist, a reflexologist and an adult trainer.

With the expanded staff has come the ability to deal with a much wider range of problems, says Ms Rissman. “Good mental health is an important facet of our lives. We all have times when we are stressed, anxious or life just becomes too hard. And yet too often we try to grin and bear it when we should seek help much sooner. We go to the hairdresser for healthy and strong hair. It is wonderful that people are starting to take the same attitude about their state of mind.”

Antics also runs a pain clinic for ACC dealing with the psychological aspects of coping with pain and is preparing to provide homicide counselling for the Victim Support Service. It provides child and family counselling for the Child and Youth Service and the Department of Courts.

The behavioural counselling service for schools and parents has remained an important part of Antics’ work, however. “We run training courses for staff or groups of parents and concentrate on counselling children through challenges, games and physical activity,” Ms Rissman says. Making counselling fun for children gets them to open up much more quickly, she says.

With the Group Special Education service only able to reach a small percentage of children, Antics provides an accessible solution for those with problems not deemed serious enough for to be referred to the government agency.

“Often there is a difference between what the school sees as a problem and what the parent sees as a problem, and the schools can only refer the worst cases to GSE,” says Ms Rissman. “For minor problems it might only take one or two sessions to give parents the tools they need to handle it.”

Ms Rissman is now working towards franchising her business nationally and internationally.

Jo Smith, BAppLite. (Hons) ’99 spent two-and-a-half years travelling overseas, training gun dogs, managing a mansion and its staff in France, spending a month in Buddhist monasteries in Nepal, and taking ladies on holiday in the UK. As a consulting officer in the diary industry, Jo is now engaged in running discussion groups in the north-west Waikato.

Nigel Yarham, BREP (Hons) ’99, Nigel left New Zealand in April 2000 and began officer training at the Royal Naval College in Dartmouth in January of 2002.

Robert Barnfather, GDipplusStudies ‘99, started at Peace Software November ‘99 as a Software Developer before moving to Vodafone NZ as a Software Developer. There he was soon leading the support team looking after second and third level system support for Vodafone’s Billing and Customer Relationship Management system. In mid-2001, after having been seconded to a product development team as the IT representative, he became a Project Manager. He has also bought a couple of acers in the Northern Waikato and intends establishing a hydroponic business. “I see some horticultural papers on the horizon in a year or two,” he writes. “A weel shifty from IT”

David Miller, BIS Marketing ’99, was the author of the report that successfully recommended the establishment of the Regional Economic Development Agency for Wellington. He also proposed a range of economic strategies for Wellington Region, several of which have been implemented. He has been instrumental in establishing the Business Growth Funding Programme in Industry New Zealand.

Thomas Munro, BApp’99, has been an agricultural inspector, a lending officer with GE Finance, and has spent five months traveling in Asia and Europe. Newly back from his travels, he is seeking employment and is starting his own business.

Richard Winder, MEd Admin 2nd Class (Hons) ’99, was the Academic Registrar of CIT at the time of its disestablishment and has subsequently been responsible for the amalgamation of the quality management systems of Weltec and the CIT.

In 2000

Gareth Arnold, DipAg 2000, has spent the last two years working in Britain and America. In Britain he ran a sweetcorn packhouse for a growing company; in the States he did travel and ranch work. Gareth is now a management trainee with Richardson Ltd, a meat processing and export company.

Rebecca Barclay, BA 2000, was accepted into the New Zealand Broadcasting School where she trained to be a broadcast journalist.

Douglas Bishop, B Nurs 2000, has enjoyed working in the private and public sectors. He recommends nursing “to any individual who has a passion for people and wants to be challenged academically.”

Hayley Campbell née Evans, DipDigitalTech 2000, moved from being a plant operator to relief supervisor, after completing her diploma, then into the product management group. Now, as the supply chain co-ordinator for cream products, Hayley looks after customers in the USA, Japan, Vietnam, and South East Asia.

Supavit (Nick) Chiravechatchai, PGDipplusAdmin 2000, joined the New Zealand Embassy in Bangkok for two years before starting his own education consultancy. He now works with the CP Group as an international trader.

Kim Cross, MBS 2000, has been with Cap Gemini Ernst & Young working on a variety of projects in Auckland and Melbourne. Her speciality is as a management consultant in Customer Relationship Management, but she has also worked as a Siebel configurator, customising software. Her greatest joy, she writes, is her husband of one year.

Jim Cummings, DipArts Chinese 2000, claims to have developed a Marco Polo complex, undertaking three cycle tours in China between 1998 and 2002, “while studying Chinese and then forgetting most of it after graduating. My life has been enriched by knowledge of this enduring culture and language.” When not off adventuring, Jim is the Business Development Manager for Fluid Fertilisers in Mt Maunganui. He studied extraunmally for his DipArts.

Margaret Davis née Mikkelsen, BA 2000, has opened a luxury lodge – Parklands Lodge – in Wanaka.

Tony Greer, BEd 2000, is now teaching at Opiki School and is married to Masene Joffares, another Massey graduate.

Allen Hickson, Cert Hort 2000, has established a small home-based plant nursery, specialising in small plants such as herbs and perennials. He is also establishing a garden maintenance business.

Patricia Jack, BAppEcon 2000, started out working as a data processing assistant in the Admissions office of the College of Macromedia, before beginning work in October 2001 as a fisheries economist/information specialist with the National Oceamic Resource Management Authority. She writes: “I have been to Fiji and the Solomon Islands on training in the last six months… My lack of experience was a disadvantage when I was trying to get a job, but my degree surely helped me to land this one… I’d like to thank all the faculty and staff of the International School of Economics and (particularly) Professor Antonie Minter as well as another supporter whenever I felt discouraged, Mr Angus White, who appeared in the last issue of friends and alumni.”

Nigel Langston, MEd 2000, has retired as a school principal and is now an author. His last book, Remembering This: A history of the Auckland Primary Principals’ Association, 10 years in the writing, was launched by Minister of Education Trevor Mallard. Currently Nigel is at work on two biographies. His subjects – one a New Zealander, the other Dutch – were PCWs in WWII.

Elenisia Maloma, MEd 2000, is working as a senior education officer for the Tuvalu government. She is responsible for curriculum planning and development and was one of the Tuvalu delegates to the Special Session for Children held in New York. She compiled the Tuvalu CRC report – the initial report as well as the Minister’s presentation at the United Nations – and has been involved in the interview panel for Government scholarships.

Nirmid Matani, MBA Finance and FT 2000, is the financial adviser for the Ministry of Education’s Northern Region, a role in which he provides financial planning, risk management and total financial advice to the 650 schools. He is also a member of the sustainability interest group of ICANZ on Triple Bottom Line Accounting.

Vignesh Nadarajah, MBA 2000, started an IT business, Singular Technologies in 2001. It did well in its first year, he writes, has good clients, and is now expanding.

Mere Naulu, BIS 2000, a senior accountant with Pricewaterhouse Cooper, still keeps in touch with other international students from PNG, Vanuatu, Samoa, San Francisco, Botswana, Indonesia and Malaysia. She passes on her regards to the International Students Office.

Helen Ngatai née Stannard, BA 2000, has become more involved in teaching colleagues and students. In the maternity field within North Shore Hospital she has moved into more of an independent practice role. She is involved with various committees at ALT.

Paew Nepporn, MPhil 2000, is an assistant professor in Veterinary Public Health at Khon Kaen University in Thailand. His work focuses on food safety and hygiene.

Jesse Staines, B Tech 2000, jointed Criterion, a manufacturer of home, office and computer furniture; after he graduated. His work as a design engineer and product designer has involved developing product for new export markets in the USA and Australia and travelling to
international trade shows in Europe and the USA to follow the latest developments in the industry. Frances Stevens, MA (Distinction) 2000, has, with the help of email and a website, begun tutoring 137. 107 Written Communications since 1998 from her base in Nelson.
Kate Stewart née Beaton, MSW 2000, is a senior clinical social worker in Whanganui and is studying towards a PhD, her chosen topic Critical Incident Stress Management for Adolescents in Aotearoa New Zealand.
Catherine Strachan née Plowman MBS 2000, has moved with husband, Andrew, to Redmond Washington, USA. She is assisting the Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of East King County as a grant writer. Catherine is setting up the systems and contacts, as well as writing proposals seeking funding from private and corporate foundations that serve non-profit organisations in the Pacific Northwest. Habitat for Humanity of East King County is an Affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, a nonprofit ecumenical Christian housing ministry seeking to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness. Homeless are built with volunteer labour, supported by donations of money and materials. Habitat houses are sold to families at no profit, financed with affordable no-interest loans. These families also invest hundreds of hours of their own labour into building their Habitat house and the houses of others. Catherine and her husband recently participated in a Habitat walk-a-thon to raise money to build 24 Habitat townhouses in Redmond.
Barbara Stringfellow BA 2000, whose degree is in Classical Studies, writes: “As I was 76 years old when I graduated I did not contemplate employment at all. I was very pleasantly surprised at the ‘side’ benefits of having a degree: I seem to have become a person that gets asked for an opinion on everything! Very flattering, even if don’t always know the answer!”
Kerrie Thomson, Ad Dip Fashion Design and Tech 2000, is the production coordinator for a long-established clothing manufacturer. She has been with them for two years. She writes: “I have trained in various areas of the production office and find the job and the people I get to work with enjoyable.”
Laurence Jujnovich, MBA 2000, is continuing to work at TAB National offices, where he was recently appointed Manager, Purchasing and Property. He also tutors in the evenings at Whitiwaka Community Polytechnic delivering papers on Human Resource Management and Operations Management.
Nidhalma Alphonse, PhD (Ed) 01, who is with the University of Dars el Salam, writes: “Since coming back from New Zealand (Massey) I have been teaching a number of courses: Planning and Administration at my university. Last year I was appointed co-ordinator of the soon-to-be-established Southern Universities Co-operation for Social Development (SADC) Centre of specialisation in educational policy management and implementation.”
Becky Bain, BE 01, has moved to Christchurch with her husband to start a Bible teaching Christian church. The couple have an 11-month-old daughter and another baby on the way.
Lori Gibbs, BA 01, employed by Mandarin Audio Post, a television post production company, and although Lori’s job title changed over this year from account and office management (as she was involved in marketing the business when she wrote), she has also done some voice work and appeared in a commercial.
Joe Green, BA Hon 01. Over the years, Joe, a manager of licensing and writing for the Office of the New Zealand Police Commissioner, has gained a Diploma in Business Studies, a BA and a BA Hon, all via extramural study. His studies have, he writes, contributed to his knowledge of both business and the business of policing.
Jenny Hay, BE 01, who is a tutor on the Bay of Plenty Polytechnic, spent three months in 2001 managing a pre-school in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, for the Centre of Palmerston North for the bible Church and is looking forward to some extramural study in 2003.
Elizabeth Hirst, PGDipMaori Devp 91, is a president of the Nelson/ Whakatari Maori Women’s Welfare League and chairman of the Health & Social Power Trust which now has six contracts and employs nine people. She also teaches Maori development at Ruakura in Hamilton.
Tanya Rasmussen née Mayson, BE 01, is now a children’s behaviour specialist, a turn of events that amuses her “as behaviour, or namely children’s behaviour, used to scare me.” Tanya started out as a tertiary student, entered the field of deaf education, then broadened her expertise to all special education. Over the years Tanya came to feel frustrated and powerless “in the system.” From working in special education she moved back into school life, learning first-hand the struggles and disappointments and working with the children, and vetting with the Office of the New Zealand Police commissioner, who was turning over £20 million a week! After six months of upskilling she was appointed an Internet developer for Europe’s largest betting web site – which was turning over £20 million a week! After six months of upskilling and living in London, I found myself back in New Zealand. I have recently secured a senior online editor (Internet developer) role with Telecom New Zealand’s e-Business unit.
De Eric M Ojala
If you were at some of Massey’s 75th celebrations, you may have noticed a man in his eighties wearing a much-treasured Massey Medal. Or perhaps not, for despite a distinguished international career Dr Eric Ojala was an unassuming man. Staying in the center of Palmerston North for the celebrations, Dr Ojala would make his way in to the campus on foot, only occasionally resorting to his walking stick – carried on the advice of a doctor son – for assistance.
Dr Ojala’s association with Massey began as an undergraduate at Massey Agricultural College. With jobs window cleaning, sweeping and scrubbing floors having helped him pay his way, Dr Ojala graduated in 1937 with a BAgSc, taking up work as an instructor in agriculture the following year. After army service in the Pacific, Dr Ojala was released to serve as Agricultural Officer in the British Solomon Islands, for the Colonial Administration.
Over the next decade, Dr Ojala set about establishing his academic credentials. He gained a BA in economics from Auckland University, a MA in Economics from Massey and in 1948, after two years of intense study, a PhD from the Agricultural Economics Research Institute of Oxford University.
His doctoral thesis, Agriculture and Economic Progress, published as a book in 1952 was a prescient work. Dr Ojala foresaw that economic progress would come at the inevitable expense of agriculture as increasingly affluent consumers switched their spending towards non-food items. Fewer people would be employed in agriculture. Higher wages would attract them elsewhere, and any impediment to their leaving – such as a lack of education and skills – would only serve to suppress levels of agricultural income. On the other hand, he predicted there would be opportunities for agriculture as newly-affluent consumers chose to consume more animal protein (witness the New Zealand’s success in exporting meat and dairy products to Asia and South America), and there would be greater needs for rural products for reasons ranging from clothing, carpet, pharmaceutical and paper industries have benefited from the world food problem would be “solved by evolutionary rather than revolutionary processes.” It was advice that countries like China and some in Africa would have done well to heed.
In 1952 Dr Ojala was seconded by the New Zealand Government to serve as Deputy Chairperson of the Research Council of the South Pacific Commission, based in Nouméa. So began 25 years of international service.
Four years later Dr Ojala was appointed the Regional Economist for the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation in Asia and the Far East, based at their regional office in Bangkok, then transferred to FAO headquarters in Rome, where he was to be based for the next 16 years. In 1970 he became Assistant Director General of the FAO in charge of the Economic and Social Policy Department, influencing policy decisions about international agriculture and the world’s sometimes precarious food situation.
The FAO’s launch of the concept of world food security – that there should always be an international back-up of supplies for needy countries – was a source of particular pride.
In 1976 Dr Ojala took his first ‘retirement’ – from the FAO – and took up his first post-retirement appointment with Massey as a Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Farm Management. Here he helped establish the Centre for Agricultural Policy Studies in 1981, and he became its first Director. He also undertook a series of short-term consultancies. Working for the likes of the FAO, the World Bank and the World Food Council, he visited Pakistan, Cambodia, and Papua New Guinea looking at food production and agricultural development.
Dr Ojala’s second retirement – this time from Massey and the Centre – came in 1984, though he continued as an honorary consultant.
Dr Ojala’s work did not go unrecognised. In 1977 Massey conferred an Honorary Doctorate on him, and in 1986 he was awarded a QSO for public services, and in 1988, when Massey established the Distinguished Alumni Award, in honour of Sir Geoffrey Petre, Dr Ojala was the first recipient.
Dr Ojala’s legacy lives on in the Venture Trust, a fund seeded by a donation from Dr Ojala. By dint of careful management (and a lucky (or to a trustee) the Trust has come to be worth almost a quarter of a million dollars. The Trust has made grants totalling almost $65,000 over a 10-year period to Massey University researchers and international visiting scholars.
Certainly an exciting and interesting position working on a number of high-profile Internet technologies in conjunction with Telecom's national and international partners.”

William Te Ao, BBS; Management '01, has, over the last 12-18 months, begun operating his own training and development business, E-training. The business has grown reasonably well in its core generic education products, he writes.

Nick Tipping, BMus '03, is studying for his Master of Music in jazz performance at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where he is one of two New Zealanders. “I am working as a musician in the canyons and on the Strip and have played for celebrities such as Buddy Greco, Marlene Racci and Bill Clinton,” he writes.

Kazuko Uchibayashi, MEd '01, writes: “I was approved as a school psychologist in Japan by the Japanese Association of Educational Psychology after graduating from Massey. Then I had the chance to twice talk about Education in New Zealand at training workshops for teachers and officials in Japan. At Japan is innovating in a new way of supporting students, I introduced NZ as a good model of psychol- education in modern changing society.”

Brett Young, BBS '01, has been employed by Arena Manawatu since October 2001. Arena Manawatu is the busiest venue in New Zealand, if not Australasia, writes Brett, booking over 7,000 events annually. Brett has been involved with events such as Super 12, the secondary school volleyball nationals and the Palmerston North Homebush bowl. Brett can now confirm the international double header with New Zealand vs South Africa and the Tall Blacks vs Basketball in basketball. He is also currently working on two of the biggest events to come to the Manawatu in 2003 and 2004. “Really exciting stuff,” he writes.

2002

Hazel Abraham, BEd '02, has been running a pilot programme in sport fitness and recreation in Whakatane.

Simon Adams, BTech '02, has joined the Navy as an engineering officer.

Chris Addington, PGConSci '02, is currently principal of Cromwell College

Ursula Albrecht, BAppSci (Hons) '02, had applied for a job with Carter Holt Harvey before she finished her studies – just for the hell of it – and got it. She left Massey in February 2002 to start work in the field as an environmental planner for the northern region. After three months on the job – the point at which she got in touch with MASSEY – she already had her own blocks and was involved in forest certification.

Brigitte Avery, BEd '02, has landed a full-time permanent position with the Ministry of Education in Wellington

Rachel Bell, PG Dip BusAdmin '02, is one of just three people in Australia and New Zealand to be chosen for Lion Nathan's graduate scheme. She is loving her first role in the field as a sales planning/field marketing executive.

Rebecca Bird, BSc '02, writes that two highlights in her varied, recent work history have been working as a support assistant at the Cawthron Institute of Scientific Research and as a mental health co-ordinator at a residential facility in Nelson.

Mark Burnoughs, BBS '02, is now completing a DipBusAdmin internally in finance.

Hisham Mohd Ghazali, BBS '02, writes: “Currently I am working as an accounts executive at the Malaysian Liver Foundation. It is the only national voluntary non-profit charitable organisation dedicated to the treatment and care of liver, gall bladder and pancreatic diseases through education training and research. Here I handle and control every aspect of the extramural course, and now after I have graduated. Before this I was working as a support assistant at the Cawthron Institute of Scientific Research and as a mental health co-ordinator at a residential facility in Nelson.”

Jannie Jayanatha, NZDipBus '02, gained her first degree in civil engineering while in Sri Lanka. She worked as a civil engineer seven years, then took time out to raise two children: her son, now 14, and a daughter, now 12. After completing the Diploma at the Wellington campus she began working for a chartered accounting firm. She hopes to do more study and develop her career in accounting.

Maegda Kestec nee Hasbrook BA '02, is taking a six-month study break before beginning a Graduate Diploma in Teaching. “I really enjoyed working with children with special needs – such as dyslexia, learning disabilities, ADHD, Aspergers and autism – but not so much with a student with conduct disorder. My long term goal is to study for my MEd Psych through Massey.”

Julie Kipa nee Paama-Penkgely MMVA 1st Class Hons '02, has been a secondary school teacher and a lecturer at Wellington Polytechnic, Massey, and the Wellington Institute of Technology. She is an exhibiting painter, and graphic designer, and a practising ta moko artist. She is also a writer, comprehension and curator on Maori art and development. As well as being the Maori art development coordinator for Taranaki, Julie is the manager of conceptual development at artmaori, a New Plymouth-based consultancy and retail design firm.

Cheryl Kirkness, PG DipBusAdmin '02, completed a BA in Nursing in 2000. Currently, and immediately, she embarked on her postgraduate diploma. Mid-way through 2001, after 26 years in nursing, Cheryl switched careers to human resources. She is still working for the Government-funded health industry, but would eventually like to work in the private sector.

Jo McDonald, BEd (Tchg) '02, continued working in a special needs teacher aide and nurse after graduating while looking for full-time teaching in Wellington. She is now a full-time ECE teacher at the Ministry of Health. ECE teaching is, she writes, “a big change from primary teaching.”

Pip Matheson, née Clouston, BBS '02, writes: “I started my degree in 1980 when I was working full-time, and was a solo parent with two small children. I did one or two papers two years most, and, after several career changes, from supervising dental nurse, staff development GFW, quality management, rest home manager, to [currently] tutor.”

Pitaka Moore, BA '02, spent two years based in London, traveling to, among other places, Europe, Africa, and South-East Asia. Now a researcher for Tr Wenang-ono-Bankau, Pitaka has begun a project focusing on enhance water quality and developing Masi water quality indicators. It is, he says, progressing well and attracting great interest.

Jason Paul, BEd '02, has started a company with his brother-in-law making care for the music industry, while also managing and running concerts and band events.

Shona Ratana, BSW '02, began studying extramurally for a Certificate in Social and Community Work in 1992. In 1999 she shifted her from home in Whakatane and she completed a Bachelor of Social work as an internal student at Albany. Shona is the pakeha mum to seven children, grandmother to 15 mokopuna, and in June 2002 was set to become a great-grandmother.

Jan Rhodes, MMgt (Distinction) '02, writes: “I completed both the DipBusAdmin and half of the MMgt while studying overseas in Mauritius – reading only, sitting in cubicles full of eager young Hindu and Muslim students.”

Andrew Rooney, BEd '02, was posted back into the engineering branch of the RNZAF in Wellington where he is to assume the post of P-3 Orion Project Engineering Manager. He is also commencing an extramural Master of Business and Technology through the University of New South Wales.

Laurence Sherriff, MRF '02, has been a farmer, merchant banker (accountant), rancher (in the USA), environmental adviser and consultant.

Diana Shirley, BEd '02, sent out two CVs and was successful with the second application. She is finding the work, teaching at a secondary school, enjoyable and demanding. Her colleagues are, she writes, “a great team of professionals”.

Narayani Tiwari, MPhil (Arts) '02, looked at gender and environmental household waste management for her Mphil, and she has now embarked on a PhD looking at population and environment. Narayani's home, when she is not domiciled in New Zealand, is in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Gavin Treadgold, GDIpEngSysMgt '02, is studying extramurally towards a GDIpEng in Geographical Information Systems. He writes: “In May 2002, the day after graduating in Wellington, I left for the United States to do a summer internship with the District of Columbia Emergency Management Agency in Washington, D.C. This experience involves primarily working on maps for use in an emergency in the capital, but also doing shifts in the 24/7 Emergency Operations Centre, events management in the mobile command vehicle, terrorism training, and even serving water on hot days when emergency drinks centres are set up to combat the heat. Some people thought I was crazy coming to the centre of activity after the terrorist attacks last year, but the first few weeks have proven an invaluable experience. I would not have been able to gain in NZ. I am very grateful to the Ministry for Civil Defence and Emergency Management for contributing towards the cost of my airfares and travel insurance to get over here. It is sadly ironic that because of changes in INS after the attacks last year I have been unable to arrange a working visa, so am currently just getting experience and not being paid, which is difficult in an expensive town like Washington.”

Jane Turnbull, MPhil '02, has been offered a scholarship to study for her doctorate at the University of Canterbury while still living in Fiji. She is researching the political sociology of environmental management in the South Pacific.

Nicky Vaughan, B(Nursing) '02, continues to work as a registered nurse and has started art classes. In May she was heading off for a European trip. She recommends extramural study.

Dianne Wepa, MPhil '02, who is a senior lecturer in health and sport science with the Eastern Institute of Technology, has completed her thesis. An exploration of the experiences of cultural safety educators in nursing education: an action education approach.

Russell Wood, PG DipBusAdmin '02, became training manager for the NZ Fire Service for the upper North Island after graduating with a BBS in 2000. He then, while studying towards his postgraduate diploma, moved to the position of national recruitment manager. Currently he is the deputy chief for the Auckland City East Fire District.

Shona Yu, BSc (Hons) '02, who in 2000 became New Zealand's youngest-ever graduate, writes: “After completing my degrees honour in mathematics at Massey, I was fortunate to be offered a place at the University of Sydney to do my PhD under the University Postgraduate Award and a supplementary top-up scholarship. So since March 2002 I have been doing my PhD in algebra at the University of Sydney, which hopefully I will finish in three years or so.”

Former Staff

Dr John Owens is retiring and is negotiating with a publisher about the biography he has written of the Wanganui missionary, the Rev. Richard Taylor (1805-1873).
Photograph by Tony Whincup from *Akekeia! Traditional Dance in Kiribati*