Canterbury

The magazine for alumni and friends of the University of Canterbury • Volume 1, no.1 • Winter 2004

UC
UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY
Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha
CHRISTCHURCH NEW ZEALAND

Vampiric spiders
Preying on blood-sucking mosquitoes

A Kiwi on the case
DNA specialist fights crime in the UK

Sharing Kāi Tahu voices
Ancient legends brought to life

Cinematic success
Dailianis — movie maker going places

Antarctic adventure
Canterbury's classroom at the bottom of the world

Contents

Canterbury

Volume 1, No. 1 — Winter 2004

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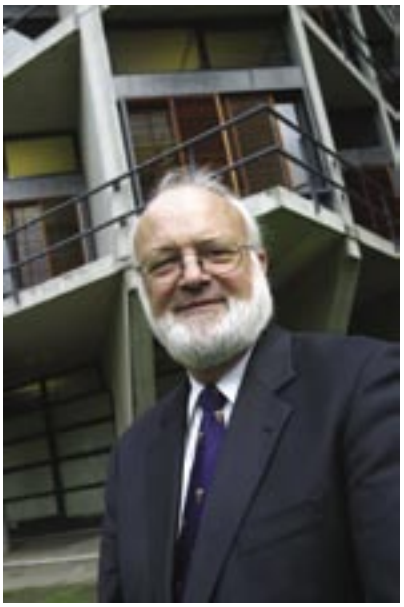
Cover: *Student Shona Muir wraps up against an Antarctic blizzard at the GCAS field camp. The course led to her getting a grant from the British Antarctic Survey to study the dangers of Leopard seal attacks.*

Canterbury is the biannual magazine for the alumni and friends of the University of Canterbury. It is distributed to 30,000 people worldwide. Views expressed are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the University. Articles may be re-produced with the Editor's permission.

Vice-Chancellor's welcome



Welcome to the first issue of Canterbury, a new magazine to be published twice a year for alumni and friends of the University of Canterbury.

Canterbury is an amalgam of three previous publications: *UC Alumni, UC Research* and *UC Teaching*. By bringing the content of these three publications into one integrated magazine and blending the distribution databases we can reach out more widely to our extended community with a mix of news, research and teaching articles, alumni profiles and other stories of interest.

This first issue of *Canterbury* has a circulation of 35,000 and a projected readership of more than 100,000 people in New Zealand and around the world. It goes to our graduates, our students and our staff, and to libraries, schools, embassies, businesses and our many other stakeholders.

The integration of the teaching and research publications also emphasises the defining characteristic of a university, the close interdependence of teaching and research. Indeed the University of Canterbury Act (1961) defines our purpose as "the advancement of knowledge and the dissemination and maintenance thereof by teaching and research".

Canterbury has always taken its role as a research-led institution very seriously so we were delighted with the recent Performance-Based Research Fund results. Canterbury came a close second to Auckland in terms of research quality and achieved very high standards across the whole campus, with high percentages of A and B-rated researchers and the country's lowest proportion of research-inactive staff.

Research stories feature prominently in the magazine and range widely across many of our disciplines.

The vampiric jumping spiders of Africa are a nightmare concept for most, but fortunately not for two Canterbury scientists researching the blood-sucking habits of spiders. Meanwhile in the rainforests of Panama a Canterbury biologist is working with colleagues from around the world to determine exactly how many species of all types occupy these lush forests. Our historians are conducting a major study of ties between Australia and New Zealand, while one of our classics lecturers throws new light on the hedonism, lechery and buffoonery of Greek satyric drama.

Canterbury is collaborating with 25 university and government laboratories around the world to build the IceCube in Antarctica, the world's largest detector of neutrinos.

Canterbury's extensive Antarctic teaching and research programme is also to the fore in an article by reporter John Henzell of *The Press*, who travelled to the icy continent with the Antarctic studies course run by our Gateway Antarctica programme — perhaps the world's most exotic field trip.

Other teaching stories include a profile of Emeritus Professor Graham Nuthall, who spent 40 years teaching, most of them at Canterbury, and who has made a lifetime study of how children learn in the classroom. Professor Kon Kuiper is the most recent recipient of our Teaching Medal, and he talks about his approach to university teaching and his use of e-teaching aids.

We also profile our Pacific Artist in Residence Programme which has been bringing the Pacific to Christchurch since 1996.

Several Canterbury alumni working in interesting areas also feature: biology graduate Delia Moss is the sole forensic scientist at New Scotland Yard; Fine Arts graduate Pericles Dailianis is the BBC Young Film Maker of the Year; and Nigel Harris has applied his engineering skills to designing violins and is making the Stradivariuses of the future.

Speaking of alumni, a current address is essential for us to be able to send you the magazine so please use the enclosed reply-paid address update form to let us know of any address or name changes, and of your email address. The email address allows us to let you know of regional events and activities you may want to attend.

Congratulations to the editorial and production team of *Canterbury*. I hope you enjoy reading it as much as I have.

Professor Roy Sharp

Vice-Chancellor

Best university south of the Bombay Hills – PBRF rankings

The Performance-Based Research Fund (PBRF) rankings have confirmed that the University of Canterbury is the best university south of the Bombay Hills.

Canterbury has taken top position in four subject areas, is first equal in two and is a close second overall to Auckland University.

The PBRF is the most comprehensive evaluation of individual research activities across the New Zealand tertiary education sector.

Expert panels judged more than 8000 academic staff at 22 institutions on their research between 1997 and 2002 and awarded grades: "A" (world class), "B" (very good), "C" (good) and "R" (inactive) — a category that included newcomers who had not yet made their mark in the period under study.

Canterbury's ranking as second in the research quality rankings reflects its relatively high proportion of "A"s (9.3%) and "B"s (35%) and the lowest proportion of "R"s in the country (15.7%).

Canterbury has the highest quality scores in the categories of engineering and technology, earth sciences, agriculture and other applied biosciences, anthropology and archaeology. It also shares the top scores in religious studies and theology, and architecture, design, planning and surveying.

The Department of Chemical and Process Engineering was placed at the top of the University's 30 nominated academic units. More than a quarter of the department were awarded "A"s in recognition of their world-class research.

The "A"s were spread across the University with 25 out of the 30 nominated academic units claiming at least one A-rated staff member.

The rankings are part of a shift from issuing tertiary research funding based on the number of enrolments to one which rewards institutions for the quality of their research.

This year the fund is paying $18.2 million, or 10% of the research component of existing Government grants, to tertiary institutes. This will rise to 100% of the research grants ($185 million) by 2007.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Sharp says the results underline Canterbury's reputation as a strong, research-led university.

Canterbury's Earth Science Team, comprising staff from geological sciences, geography, and Gateway Antarctica, celebrate being number one in the country.

"In the face of competition for student numbers, Canterbury has continued to focus on its core disciplines and to nurture its research capabilities.

"This exercise will have a positive benefit for tertiary education in New Zealand, as it has previously in Britain — we will all be looking to improve our performance."

Canterbury's strong showing is good news for students too, he says.

There have been claims that the PBRF system will encourage academic staff to focus on research at the expense of teaching. But Sharp points to a Canterbury University study four years ago which found a strong link between research and teaching excellence.

He believes PBRF will assist with recruitment of staff and students.

"The University already attracts some of the best quality candidates worldwide to our full-time academic staff."

One of those, the Director of the newly created Centre for Bioengineering, Professor Tim David, who chose to further his career down under after a period at Leeds University, says Canterbury is at least its equal.

"The breadth of research ability and practice being undertaken at Canterbury is quite astonishing. We have people of the calibre of Mike Steel from mathematics and Miles Fairburn from history — both eminently qualified in their field, both undertaking groundbreaking research. That is now being recognised not only in the PBRF but also with their elevation to membership of the Royal Society."

The Tertiary Education Commission will now use the PBRF rankings to allocate its research funding.

Canterbury will receive 11.87% of the PBRF this year, a total of $2.159 million.

Because each institution's staff numbers are also considered, Canterbury will receive less funding in dollar terms than two lower-ranking universities.

But Sharp is comfortable with that. He says Canterbury has always strived to be the best, not the biggest, and believes the University is capable of being number one north, and south, of the Bombay Hills.

Photo by John Henzell

University launches new visual identity

The University of Canterbury has adopted a new visual identity with new logo, colour scheme and design guidelines for all publications and marketing material.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Sharp said it was timely given the introduction of the new structure.

"We're launching a new look University this year; a University with the same high standard and solid tradition of research and teaching but with a new presence and a new structure that will take us into a more prominent, more responsive future."

The new identity has been developed by Strategy Advertising and Design, the company responsible for the award-winning identity for the new Christchurch Art Gallery.

They were selected by a panel comprising design, marketing, communications, senior management and fine arts staff from a number of local design companies that were invited to express interest in the project.

Sharp said the new look had been thoroughly researched with various sectors of the University community — students, staff, prospective students and alumni.

The former University logo, a murrey red rectangle "variously known as the barred gate, the bar-code or the pin stripe" and other stylised logos such as "UC" were adopted without research and discussion. This time, a marketing and communications team, led by

Marketing Manager Brigitte Murray with material for the launch of the new logo.

Marketing Manager Brigitte Murray, has used independent researchers to assess response to the proposed look.

"We believe the new visual identity looks professional, credible and will be easily recognisable. It is a combination of both modern and traditional," said Murray.

"The professional/sophisticated black and white colour scheme is clean and simple to reproduce and works well with other logos when joint branding is required. The murrey red and a complementary soft tone are being used in some stationery for external use."

The new visual identity allows for sub-branding of the four colleges and School of Law under the umbrella of the overall University identity. It also provides a palette of colours and guidelines on the placement of titles, date, and logos on the covers of publications, and over the next 12 months will be extended to include guidelines for vehicles, signage, clothing and marketing materials.

Course put on ice

Antarctica New Zealand has agreed to support the on-ice component of Canterbury's Graduate Certificate in Antarctic Studies for the next five years.

The formal agreement means Antarctica New Zealand will fly 20 students a year to the ice, and provide logistics, clothing, field equipment and food during their 10-day trip.

The Director of Gateway Antarctica, Professor Bryan Storey, said he was delighted Antarctica New Zealand had formalised its arrangements with the University.

"This is the first time that we have had a five-year commitment from Antarctica New Zealand which is great news for the course. The on-ice experience makes this trip unique in the world and provides a very valuable training experience for future Antarcticans."

Antarctica New Zealand CEO Lou Sanson said that logistically last year's GCAS event had been one of the best ever with everything going smoothly. "We value our association with Gateway Antarctica's staff and students and look forward to the relationship going from strength to strength."

Pro-Vice-Chancellors bring new level of leadership

On 1 January 2004 the University of Canterbury adopted a college-based structure with the academic departments grouped into four colleges — Arts, Business and Economics, Engineering, and Science — and a School of Law.

Heading each is a Pro-Vice-Chancellor, appointed after advertising the positions in New Zealand and overseas. Four of the five have arrived and the remaining one is due within the month.

Professor Kenneth Strongman is the new Pro-Vice-Chancellor for the College of Arts.

Strongman is a world authority on the psychology of emotion. His book, *The Psychology of Emotion*, is in its fifth edition and has been the definitive work on the subject since 1973.

Born and raised in England, Strongman completed his BSc Honours and PhD degrees at London University. He was appointed a lecturer at Exeter University in 1964, rising to senior lecturer and acting HOD before taking the chair in psychology at Canterbury.

Returning to Canterbury, this time to be Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Dean of the School of Law, is Professor Scott Davidson.

Born and educated in Britain, Davidson completed BA and MA degrees in law at Cambridge University's Downing College.

He lectured at the University of Hull for 10 years before moving to Canterbury's Law School, where he rose to associate professor.

He returned to Hull as director of the Law School in 2000, before returning to New Zealand to take up the role of dean of law at Waikato University.

Davidson is respected worldwide for his knowledge of international human rights law and the law of the sea.

Professor Ian Shaw, an expert on food safety, is the new Pro-Vice-Chancellor for the College of Science. He has had 20 years experience in academia, industry and government and was National Food Safety programme manager at the Institute of Environmental Science and Research (ESR), based in Christchurch.

Shaw completed a first class honours degree in biochemistry at the University of Bath and did his PhD in toxicology at the University of Birmingham.

Professor Scott Davidson (left), Professor Ian Shaw and Professor Kenneth Strongman are settling into their new roles as Pro-Vice-Chancellors. Absent from the photo are Professor Peter Jackson and Professor Nigel Healey.

Before emigrating to New Zealand in 2000, Shaw was appointed to the first British lectureship in toxicology, at University College London. He has also worked with a German pharmaceutical firm and headed the Biochemistry Department at Britain's Central Veterinary Laboratory. He was appointed as professor of Toxicology and head of the Applied Biology Department at the University of Central Lancashire in 1992.

After 27 years at Auckland University, Professor Peter Jackson is relinquishing his post as postgraduate dean and Professor of Mechanical Engineering to become Canterbury's Pro-Vice-Chancellor for the College of Engineering.

Jackson's specialist interests are in fluid mechanics and thermodynamics, particularly wind engineering and the aerodynamics of flexible membranes such as sails.

He set up Auckland University's Yacht Research Unit, was performance analyst for the 1987 NZ America's Cup Challenge and was involved in all the subsequent challenges.

He took his Bachelor of Engineering with first class honours and his Masters with distinction at Auckland University and has a PhD from Cambridge University.

Completing the line-up is Professor Nigel Healey, currently Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Dean of Britain's largest university business school, Manchester Metropolitan University Business School (MMUBS).

Healey arrives in June to take up the position of Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the College of Business and Economics.

Born in Britain, Healey holds degrees in economics and business administration from the Universities of Nottingham, Leeds and Warwick. He lectured at University College Northampton and Leeds Metropolitan University, before joining the University of Leicester in 1989, where he set up the Centre for European Economic Studies.

Healey's research interests include European economic and monetary integration and economic transition in post-communist states.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Sharp said a wide-ranging search for candidates, coupled with rigorous shortlisting and interview processes, had resulted in five excellent appointments.

"Each of the PVCs has a strong research background, management experience and extensive links beyond the university community. I am very confident they will provide the academic and managerial leadership needed to help Canterbury make the most of what is currently a very dynamic university sector."

Hight heirloom heads home

The mortar-board that once graced the brow of distinguished Canterbury alumnus Sir James Hight has returned to the University. The elder statesmen's great-niece, Gay Sinclair, presented the family heirloom to Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Sharp as a gift earlier this year.

Sir James, who was the second rector of the then Canterbury College from 1928 to 1941, graduated with first-class honours in 1894. He was appointed to the staff as lecturer in 1909, and by 1919 was professor of history and political science. His long service to the college ended in 1947.

The trencher was handed down from Sir James to his only daughter Doreen, who passed it on to her niece Sinclair. Sinclair's three daughters all wore the trencher when they graduated from Canterbury: Jacquie with a BA in English and French (1981), Michelle with a BA in psychology (1984), and finally Nicky, who wore it in 1987 for the conferment of her BA, and again in 1989 for an MA in psychology.

"Although the girls never met him they were all very proud of the family connection," Sinclair says. "They used to say good morning to him every day when they passed his portrait [in the library]."

Towards a biography of Sir James Hight (1870-1958)

Those among Canterbury alumni with personal memories of Sir James Hight are a diminishing band. Yet readers of the University's history will be aware of his great contribution to the character and structure of Canterbury (University) College and his active preparation for the University that he did not live to see.

His progress from country pupil-teacher (1887) to rector of the College (1928) was a remarkable example of upward mobility in a new, open society. His range of talents was shown in his role as teacher and mentor, in the variety of subjects he taught, and in his able and enlightened administration as College head in difficult times. As professor of history and political science he was deeply admired and respected by his students.

While Sir James has his memorial in the heart of the University with the Central Library tower named in his honour, it is timely to consider a more personal tribute, while reminiscences of former students and colleagues can still be recorded.

To this end, volunteers are requested to assist with two lines of research: firstly, an appeal to former students and colleagues, or their families, for letters, photographs, newspaper extracts and other relevant material. Suggestions of people who should be approached for interviews would also be welcome.

Secondly, interested persons are invited to consider undertaking research into specific aspects of Hight's life and career.

If you would like to help with the project, please contact Jim Gardner, 32 Hawthorne Street, Christchurch, ph: +64 3 352 9088, or John Small, 141 Major Hornbrook Road, Christchurch, ph/fax: +64 3 384 3225, email: johnsmall@hotmail.com.

Jim Gardner

Below: Under the portrait of Sir James Hight, Mrs Gay Sinclair presents her great uncle's mortar board to Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Sharp.

Photo courtesy of Sharon Beder

Kiwi makes top Aussie brain list

Yes, the Australians are at it again, claiming a Kiwi star as one of their own; but who can blame them, really. University of Canterbury engineering graduate Sharon Beder (BE, 1979), a world renowned social scientist and expert on environmental politics, has been named one of Australia's "Smart 100" by Australian business magazine *The Bulletin*. Beder, who has published widely on environmental and technological controversies and the rhetoric of sustainable development, was listed as one of the country's top 10 environmental intellects.

The former Hutt Valley High School dux, who featured in *UC Alumni*, Volume 9, No 1, is Professor of Science, Technology and Society in the school of social sciences, media and communications at the University of Wollongong. Along with numerous articles, Beder has authored six books, including the best-selling *Global Spin* and her latest publication, *Power Play: The Fight for Control of the World's Electricity*. Several of these have become recommended texts at universities as far afield as Finland, Mongolia, Canada, the United States and Costa Rica. In 2001, Beder received the World Technology Award for Ethics.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Sharp takes a closer look at a sample at the opening of the Cosmogenic Laboratory, while ANSTO chemist Charles Mifsud watches.

New lab set to improve geological dating

The opening of a new Cosmogenic Laboratory at the University of Canterbury will be a major boost for local scientists trying to determine the age of landscape features.

Cosmogenic dating — also known as Exposure Age Dating — is a major new technique and is likely to become as important as radiocarbon dating.

Associate Professor Jamie Shulmeister (geological sciences) said cosmogenic ages could be used to date events such as landslides, earthquake movement, river terrace formation and glacial erosion.

"It will allow us to address key questions about hazard assessment and climate change. It will also give Canterbury earth scientists a major boost in our scientific capabilities."

The cosmogenic technique requires very rigorous sample preparation under ultra-clean conditions. The Canterbury facility is the first preparatory laboratory in a university in New Zealand.

"The Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) has been fully involved in the establishment of the facility. We will feed our samples into their system. ANSTO is providing technical help to establish the lab and will effectively provide us with an ISO-like quality control procedure so that our samples can run through their system," Shulmeister said.

"The laboratory is providing the impetus for a strong research relationship between the Department of Geological Sciences and ANSTO. This cutting edge facility will give Canterbury a major new capability in geochronology and will support research in quaternary geology, neotectonics and engineering geology."

The new facility has been funded by the University of Canterbury with technical support provided by the ANSTO.

Alumnus scoops 2004 Japan Prize

Dr Keith Sainsbury received a surprise invitation to meet the Emperor and Empress of Japan in April this year after being informed he was one of four recipients of the prestigious 2004 Japan Prize.

Sainsbury (PhD, 1978, zoology) is only the second New Zealander ever to receive the award, after fellow Canterbury alumnus and leading international space engineer, the late Sir William Pickering.

Currently based in Hobart, Sainsbury is a senior principal research scientist with the marine research division of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation. He received the award for contributions to the understanding of shelf ecosystems and their sustainable utilisation. Sainsbury was the first to establish the importance of seabed habitats in determining the productivity of key species and the species composition of the Australian North West Shelf ecosystem. He was also first to demonstrate the impact of seabed trawling in altering seabed communities, which involved the first practical application of actively adaptive management in fisheries for sustainable exploitation of fishery resources. The impact of this research has been wide-ranging. Within Australia it led to restrictive zoning of seabed trawling on the North West Shelf and prevented development of trawl-based fisheries in the Australian sector of the Arafura Sea.

Sainsbury said the award was "quite amazing" and that he had not heard of it before receiving the telephone call from the Japanese ambassador.

The award is made by the Science and Technology Foundation of Japan and includes a cash prize of 50 million yen (NZ$728,000).

Right: Dr Keith Sainsbury (left) receives his award from Dr Ito Masami, President of the Science and Technology Foundation of Japan.

Global giant working with Canterbury University on healthcare revolution

The multi-national Eastman Kodak Company is forming a joint venture company with researchers at the University of Canterbury, to develop the world's first non-invasive digital imaging breast screening technique.

The new company will use Eastman Kodak's photographic and imaging expertise to develop a technique researchers say could significantly improve detection rates.

The company will be based at the university's new Centre for Bioengineering, which will act as a central point for science and engineering research work in bioengineering at Canterbury University.

Its director, Professor Tim David, says the project with Eastman Kodak is expected to cost up to $12 million over five to six years.

The new procedure, which is being developed by mechanical engineering lecturers Dr Geoff Chase and Dr Eli Van Houten, would do away with X-rays and focus on movement of the tissue in the breast.

Cancerous tissue is between 5 and 50 times stiffer than healthy tissue. The new procedure would use digital imaging to measure tissue stiffness while a small vibration was being passed through it.

Chase and Van Houten envisage the new proceedure being more appealing to women and say the equipment would be small enough to allow it to be easily transported to medical centres, particuarly in remote areas.

"One of the big advantages of this is everything we're doing is non-invasive. There's also no compression required and there's no X-ray dose. These are all the things that women complain about and which cause lower compliance in mammography," Chase says.

He is confident that the procedure could increase the chance of smaller tumours being detected and improve the survival rate of breast cancer sufferers.

Chase says the multi-million dollar venture will be funded initially by the Ministry of Economic Development (MED) and the government's science funding agency, the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology.

Professor Tim David (left), Dr Geoff Chase and Dr Eli Van Houten.

Can I have a quick word?

Who talk faster — Americans or New Zealanders?

That was the question asked on both sides of the Pacific Ocean in a study involving researchers at the University of Canterbury.

Professor Michael Robb, who heads the University's Department of Communication Disorders, became interested in making the comparison after moving here from the United States four years ago and finding he had difficulty understanding the likes of broadcaster Mike Hosking.

"I was having a very difficult time perceiving the average New Zealander's speech. It just seemed very rapid to me."

The study involved people here and in the United States listening to audio speech recordings. Both groups said it was the New Zealanders on the audio recordings who were the fastest talkers.

Further analysis backed that up and confirmed Robb's suspicions.

He says the New Zealanders' speaking rate (which includes all silent periods and pauses) and their articulation rate (which does not include any silent periods longer than 50 milliseconds) were about 30 syllables per minute faster than the Americans.

American English was spoken at a rate of about 270 syllables per minute and New Zealand English at about 300 syllables per minute.

One possible reason for the difference, says Robb, is the pronunciation of vowels, which differs somewhat between American and New Zealand English. The next step will be to look at what contributes to the differences, he says.

Four years after his initial surprise at how fast New Zealanders spoke, Robb says he still occasionally has to ask people to repeat something they have said to him. "But it's getting better. I think that confirms what linguists would say, that if you're unfamiliar with the language it initially sounds fast, and as you become more familiar with it, it doesn't sound as fast.

I can understand Mike Hosking now a little bit better than I could a few years back."

Photo courtesy of Keith Sainsbury

New qualifications in international law and politics

Canterbury University's School of Law and School of Politics and Mass Communication have jointly introduced new masters qualifications specialising in international law and politics.

The LLM (International Law and Politics) and the Master of International Law and Politics, offered for the first time this year, are designed to examine the international order from two distinct perspectives, law and politics.

Programme directors Dr Jim Ockey and Dr Neil Boister say the degrees have been introduced in response to a growing interest in multi-disciplinary study in international law and politics.

"An LLM or an MILP (International Law and Politics) will provide a good foundation of knowledge for entry into specialised legal practice, the diplomatic service, the military, non-governmental organisations, intergovernmental organisations, academia and cognate disciplines".

Autumn Graduation a time for celebration

Graduation is always a guaranteed feel-good occasion, with graduands, their families and friends gathering to celebrate success. Good weather, however, is never guaranteed and this year inclement conditions prevented three out of four processions.

But the wet weather did not dampen the spirits of the more than 1500 graduates who crossed the stage at the Christchurch Town Hall and their day was no less special as they celebrated the culmination of their studies with family and friends.

For Lesley Tyzack, graduating with a BA in psychology was a triumph of the human spirit.

Paralysed from the neck down by multiple sclerosis, the 56-year-old grandmother crossed the stage in her chin-controlled wheelchair to receive her degree from Chancellor Dr Robin Mann.

Tyzack said graduation marked the end of an era.

"A whole section of my life has come to an end. I've been reborn as a completely new person."

But while graduation is an ending it is also a beginning as one-time Prime Minister and the former director-general of the World Trade Organization, Mike Moore, told graduates after he had been awarded an honorary Doctor of Commerce degree.

The degree recognises his active involvement in promoting trade during and beyond his political career.

In presenting the citation, Dean of Commerce Dr John Vargo said Moore's achievements were the "quintessential New Zealand success story".

"Becoming the director-general of the WTO has been the pinnacle of Mike Moore's career to date and was a test of this hearty Kiwi's endurance and character."

In his address Moore applied his global vision to the state of race relations in New Zealand, warning his audience that New Zealand "is too young a nation to go rotten before it's ripe".

"I have been blessed with many opportunities and experiences. I have sat with families from Rwanda who have lost their loved ones from the butchery of genocide. I was in Cambodia with a minister who had 70 of his family slaughtered, who sits in Cabinet with the Khmer Rouge.

"What I have seen is beyond what was my moral compass, my capacity to understand this different universe. The power and desire for peace and reconciliation is profound.

"I say this to put into perspective the subject of differences between New Zealanders over matters of race. We are not at a state of crisis but we do have differences that need navigating.

"What I have learned from some of the experiences I mentioned is that there must be a conversation, not a dialogue of the deaf."

Also receiving an honorary degree was Emeritus Professor Peter McKelvey, who headed Canterbury University's School of Forestry for 18 years. He was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science degree in recognition of a lifetime of service to New Zealand forestry and forestry education.

Presenting the citation, Professor Roger Sands said McKelvey was held in enormous respect by the forestry profession in New Zealand as well as internationally.

"He established the New Zealand School of Forestry at the University of Canterbury, and senior forest management in New Zealand is dominated by graduates who came under his influence.

"These graduates appreciate and acknowledge the important role that Peter McKelvey had in the shaping of forestry in New Zealand."

McKelvey, who retired 19 years ago, said his honorary degree was a "marvellous compliment".

McKelvey told graduates that he envied them for the tremendously rewarding times they had ahead of them.

"Grab the opportunity and go for it."

Ahead of the field in the "Best Dressed" stakes were "The Finger Wave Fluff": Gill Bryant (left), Dave Blizzard, Meeky Blizzard, Richard Green and Roslyn Kerr.

Crime queen's novel features in annual quiz event

The Macfarlane Dougall Stringer Canterbury Challenge mixed mystery with trivia this year, and took a macabre turn in celebration of famed whodunit author and distinguished University of Canterbury alumna Dame Ngaio Marsh.

The annual University of Canterbury Alumni Association team quiz event, held in the UCSA Ballroom on 6 April, was themed on the Cashmere Crime Queen's 1938 novel *Death in a White Tie*, intermingling questions about the writer's life and work with more general trivia, which covered the gamut from Gollum to Roman togas.

Ngaio Marsh was an art student at the former Canterbury College and for more than 30 years produced and directed plays in the University of Canterbury Students' Association theatre that is named in her honour.

Competition was fierce amongst the 22 teams battling for the silver Canterbury Challenge Cup, with the School of Law, represented by "The Justifiable Homicides", finally emerging triumphant. With just half points in it, a close second and third went to "Scumbag College" (Chemistry) and "The Mortal Errors" (Collection Services Library), with honourable mentions for "The Geek Gods" (Information Technology) and "The Alleyn Keys" (College of Business and Economics).

With participants invited to wear 1930s débutante ball style, it was a resplendent gathering in top hats and tails, ermines and pearls; and musical interludes provided by Barock helped put guests "In the Mood" with swinging classics of the era.

"The Finger Wave Fluff" (Computer Science and Software Engineering), named after a popular women's hairstyle of the 1930s, were victorious in the "Best Dressed" stakes, while "The Alleyn Keys" took out "The Best Team Title" for their clever twist on the name of Dame Ngaio's hero detective, Detective Inspector Roderick Alleyn.

The teams enjoyed complimentary nibbles, courtesy of the event's key sponsor Macfarlane Dougall Stringer Barristers & Solicitors, and a bottle of wine per table, supplied by the University of Canterbury Students' Association (UCSA).

This is the seventh year the Alumni Association has staged the Canterbury Challenge as part of Graduation festivities. The Association thanks members of the local community who have helped bring the event about: Macfarlane Dougall Stringer Barristers & Solicitors, The Caxton Press, Photo & Video International, The Canterbury University Press, The Fudge Cottage, Fran Muckle Therapeutic Massage, The University Book Shop, the UCSA, and Vivace Designer Coffee.

Special thanks also to Quiz Master Mr David Round of the School of Law and Dr Bruce Harding, Curator of Ngaio Marsh House.

A Kiwi on the case

Canterbury science graduate Delia Moss occupies a unique position co-ordinating DNA proceedures for New Scotland Yard. **Chanel Hughes** reports.

Population of London: 7 million; staff employed by the London Metropolitan Police Service: 40,000; Metropolitan Police DNA specialists: one University of Canterbury science graduate.

If former Ashburton College head girl Delia Moss feels like a rare bird a long way from home, it is little wonder. Since March 2003 she has held the position of DNA Development Manager, the sole forensic scientist based at New Scotland Yard.

Moss is also a master of modesty: "There was a fair bit of luck getting into it," she says of her steady rise to the role.

With a five-year background at the Institute of Environmental Science and Research (ESR) — New Zealand's Crown forensic service provider — Moss worked for almost a year as a forensic biologist for the UK-based Forensic Alliance (FAL) before securing the Metropolitan Police (MPS) position.

It was a role newly-created as part of the "DNA Expansion Programme", a government-driven initiative to increase the potential of DNA profiling for solving and reducing crime.

Moss works in an advisory capacity for the MPS, and is the link between the police and the three forensic service providers that undertake laboratory analysis of DNA: FAL, the Forensic Science Service (FSS) and the LGC (Laboratory of the Government Chemist).

"DNA has been around in forensic science for a number of years now, and it was recognised in the UK that all possible benefits were not being realised," Moss says.

"If you had to sum up the intention of my role, it is to use DNA better to solve crime. Basically, I look at every area of DNA handling and processing, and see how we can improve it."

DNA evidence is a powerful tool in crime investigation, but it is only as effective as the database that supports it.

Moss joined the MPS during a significant phase of development, when the impetus to boost the UK's National DNA Database began to have a transformative effect upon the success rate of crime detection. First established in 1995, the database held DNA samples for 750,000 individuals by April 2000. Between this date, when the DNA Expansion Programme was launched, and March 2004, the British Home Office invested £182 million to increase the level of DNA sampling from offenders and crime scenes, with the objective of including all known active offenders – an estimated 2.3-2.5 million – by mid-2004. Currently, numbers sit at just over 2 million.

The results have been dramatic, with a 132% increase in crime detection since 2000. The British Home Office reported in April that from 1999 to 2000, the DNA Database led to just over 20,000 matches between suspects and crime scenes; between 2002 and 2003, the number had risen to almost 50,000.

The report also states that there is a 40% chance that a crime scene sample will be matched immediately with a DNA profile on the database. While the overall rate of crime detection is 24% per year, where DNA evidence has been obtained the rate rises to 37%. In domestic burglary, the overall detection rate rises from 14% to 48%. In a typical month, matches are found linking suspects to 15 murders, 31 rapes and 770 motor vehicle crimes.

DNA not only contributes to crime detection, it also enables innocent suspects to be excluded from enquiries.

A crucial aspect of boosting the database was the funding and legislation that enabled police to take DNA samples from all people charged or cautioned with a recordable offence, and from as many crime scenes as possible.

This is where Moss enters the picture, working to improve police data collection and management procedures, as well as providing specialised consultancy for Operation Sapphire, New Scotland Yard's specialist sex crimes unit. Moss is not a scene-going scientist, but has observed enough sites first-hand to know how they are handled. She laughs at the image

Photo by Chanel Hughes

presented by popular TV series such as *CSI* of the uber-crime-fighting forensic scientist.

"I think forensic dramas are great. They generally have pretty up-to-date advisors. But I don't think there is anywhere in the world where one scientist gets to attend the scene, analyse the DNA, then make the arrest."

Moss has a thoroughgoing knowledge of all aspects of DNA analysis and archiving. While at the ESR, her primary role was profiling DNA samples from crime scenes, but she increasingly became involved in the management of the New Zealand DNA Databank, particularly in setting up the methods by which crime samples were handled.

In fact, Moss's experience in New Zealand could not have better prepared her for the beat at New Scotland Yard. Moss says the size of New Zealand means forensic scientists get to participate in a wide variety of activities rather than specialising in one or two areas, as they do in the UK, so she was well-equipped to provide consultancy across the spectrum. New Zealand is also a leader in DNA profiling. Established in 1996, the New Zealand DNA Databank was only the second of its kind in the world after the UK database.

When Moss first started at the ESR in 1998, analysis of DNA for existing unsolved crimes was just beginning. It had an immediate and profound impact: when DNA evidence from almost 2,000 unsolved cases was loaded into the Crime Sample Database, a 34% match was achieved with profiles on the National DNA Database.

Photo courtesy of Delia Moss

Delia Moss's experience in New Zealand could not have better prepared her for the beat at New Scotland Yard.

"I think forensic dramas are great. They generally have pretty up-to-date advisors. But I don't think there is anywhere in the world where one scientist gets to attend the scene, analyse the DNA, then make the arrest."

The strength and efficiency of DNA profiling in New Zealand was most recently demonstrated by the solving of the Teresa Cormack and Maureen McKinnel homicides, 15 and 16 years after the crimes were committed.

Moss finds the accelerating pace of technological advancement in DNA profiling one of the most exciting aspects of her field.

"The FSS has a fantastic research capability. This means that very new techniques can be used on some of our more difficult cases," she says.

The latest UK breakthrough is familial DNA screening, which was used in April to identify the assailant of truck driver Michel Little, who died of a heart attack after a brick was thrown through the window of his vehicle. While perpetrator Craig Harman was not profiled on the DNA database, police were able to link DNA found on the brick to a relative with similar DNA.

Not surprisingly, Moss says the most difficult aspect of the role is the number of staff in her department.

"There are so many areas where I can see potential for improvement, but there's only one of me."

She also finds the bureaucracy of working with 40,000 colleagues "a bit unwieldy".

"It took a long time to figure out how everything fitted together."

Moss was attracted to forensic science because of its practical application.

"When you study science there is a big risk you will end up researching areas that will never be applied; that's not somewhere I wanted to be.

"I really feel that I'm making a big difference. And I love working in the police environment."

Moss completed a Bachelor of Science in molecular biology in 1994, then headed for overseas shores on her OE. Upon return she answered an ad in the newspaper for the position of technician with the ESR, then worked her way up to forensic biologist, while completing a masters degree in molecular biology part-time at Auckland University. She applied for the position with FAL from New Zealand.

Shortly after winning the post with the MPS, Moss had the added pleasant surprise of being informed she had won the Mid Canterbury Top Young Achiever award for 2003, sponsored by the Ashburton Rotary Club and TrustPower Ltd. Moss plans to put her $5,000 prize money to future study, perhaps towards a business qualification.

"I want to return to New Zealand in the next few years and would love to do something similar to what I'm doing now, but I'm keeping an open mind. I really enjoy the management work, so I might look into that."

Classroom at the bottom of the world

By John Henzell

"So, have you blinked yet?" is the question posed to first-time visitors to Antarctica a few minutes, or even hours, after they emerge from the cargo hold of a military aircraft and set foot on the Ice. For the 20 students of the Graduate Certificate in Antarctic Studies who had just arrived by RNZAF Hercules for their field trip on the Ice, chances are the answer would be no.

Three of the tutors on the course were all old hands at this arrival business. Yvonne Cook was on her ninth visit to Antarctica and looked as if she was stepping out into a supermarket car park rather than onto the ice shelf Robert Falcon Scott trekked across and eventually died on. Brian Stewart had been there six times and even Kate Sinclair's sole previous time on the Ice had featured a long research sojourn on the glaciers of the Dry Valleys.

Any pretence of disinterested tutorial authority on my part was forlorn. Stepping off that plane was the culmination of a lot of effort, just as it had been for every one of the 20 students that make up Antarctica New Zealand's Event K200. After all, only one thousandth of one per cent of the world's population will make it to Antarctica, and most of those visits will only be to the peninsula. None of us need reminding that reaching the Ross Island — the real Antarctica, the "I'm just going out and may be some time" part of the continent — puts one in a truly exclusive club.

Suddenly all the landmarks that were so familiar from photographs and maps, history books and videos, were there in front of us. Except they had that extra element of reality that none of the other media can match.

Erebus was benignly puffing away in the distance, looking about as big as the Port Hills from Christchurch, but in reality about as high as Aoraki Mount Cook and 30km away. The name — both in terms of ancient mythology and the far more recent aviation connection — would suggest a brooding malevolence but the reality was anything but. The mountain became almost talismanic for nearly every one of us.

The paradoxical nature of Antarctica quickly becomes apparent. The sun is shining 24 hours a day, as it does for four months each summer, and you can do whatever you want at any hour so long as the weather is good. But we have to rush to the Scott Base canteen so we don't miss the cut-off for dinner at 7.30pm. It's the first taste of the base's bipolar nature of half anarchic climbing hut and half prescriptive boarding school.

It's the little things that make being there so different to simply learning about something. Aspects like the static electricity that builds up in this ultra-low humidity environment into computer-munching zaps. Like having to sign in and out every time you step foot outside. Like the fact that fire is by far the biggest risk in this environment.

However, it is not the base but the time on the ice shelf at Windless Bight, camping in tents effectively unchanged since Scott's day nearly a century earlier, that is the unspoken focus of what this field trip is all about.

The days are full of activities of one kind or another — survival training, visiting the historic huts, conducting seal

censuses at Hutton Cliffs, deciphering the geological puzzle that makes up Antarctic geomorphology, visiting the bizarre world of the United States Antarctic Program's neighbouring McMurdo Station, Christmas day dining at a table dug out of the ice shelf.

But for me at least, these were just sideshows. Ultimately the real lesson was simply being out there, away from the accoutrements of comfort that act as insulators between us and Antarctica. The nature of this emerges, almost insidiously, a couple of days after arrival. From the heady have-you-blinked-yet intensity of the first couple of days, a degree of normality has crept back into our collective consciousness. And with it comes unexpected impacts.

I had been sent by *The Press*, to describe this experience for those back home who will never join the Ross Island club. For 24 years as a journalist, I've defined my professional life by my ability to translate experience into words. And I couldn't do it. For the first week, I struggled to write anything that came close to doing it justice.

It wasn't just me. There was also a former professional photographer on the course who retains an abiding passion for the medium.

"I could get my camera and capture this," he said in the midst of digging emergency snow shelters, "but it would just seem like a chore."

Others felt it in different ways. In Antartica midnight just means the sun shines from due south, but it was usually at this hour, when we were most reluctantly surrendering to sleep, that others would head out away from camp. They would pick a spot looking out over the ice shelf then sit and stare into the distance, almost as if absorbing the experience by osmosis.

There were also group dynamics underway, and particularly the beneficial kind that emerge in isolated and hostile environments. Our group was already a tight unit, given the bonds of Antarctic interest and the hothouse characteristic climate of the intensive 13-week course.

But it reached a different level on the ice shelf when Antarctica decided it was time to show us the Big Chill by sending in a blast of driving snow with a windchill of minus 33deg. It was just a zephyr by local standards, where winds can reach 200kmh and visibility drop to 50cm, but enough to see everyone work together. Sometimes it was the practical

Opposite: Lenticular clouds over Mount Terror and one of the GCAS polar tents at the field camp.

Below: Christchurch environmental consultant Gareth Ward relies on Antarctica New Zealand's extreme cold weather clothing at the GCAS field camp.

"I could get my camera and capture this," he said in the midst of digging emergency snow shelters, "but it would just seem like a chore."

Photos by John Henzell

Boarding the USAF Starlifter on the ice shelf runway near Scott Base.

Dog kennels outside Shackleton's hut at Cape Royds. The three huts used by Shackleton and Scott during the heroic age at the start of the 20th Century were visited by the GCAS group.

A Weddell seal contemplates life while GCAS students take a census of the seal population.

realities like helping to string a rope between the tents as a navigation guide. Other times it was just a random hug as two people passed.

The bonds unravelled a little when we returned to Scott Base, where the appeal of the first hot shower in 10 days didn't quite offset the artificiality of life, but remained at a subliminal level.

It was demonstrated on New Year's Eve, when Scott Base's population tripled with Americans visiting for the famous Kiwi party. In deference to the seeming American desire to pretend not to be in Antarctica, the windows were blacked out as if this was an unseasonable night in the middle of summer.

One by one or in small groups, the Graduate Certificate members subtly slunk away. Outside, Mother Nature was putting on a spectacular New Year show of her own with rippling lenticular clouds capping mounts Erebus, Terror and Terra Nova. At midnight, more than half had responded to some unspoken tug upon a thread and met up on top of Observation Hill, the nearby landmark where Scott's men waited in vain to spot the party returning from the Pole. The aim? To experience Antarctica unadulterated, rather than an ersatz, alcohol-screened and artificially darkened version of it.

A couple of days later, we were heading back into the cargo hold of a military aircraft and heading back to Christchurch. The course work has put Antarctica in our minds. The field trip has put it in our souls as well.

• *John Henzell is a journalist with* The Press. *He travelled to the Antarctic last summer as one of four GCAS field trip tutors. He was also there on the Antarctica New Zealand media programme.*

Scientists probe Antarctic ice for secrets from the edge of the Universe *By Dr Laura Sessions*

Antarctica has been a hotbed of scientific discovery for many years, but few might have guessed that this icy continent could offer scientists their best opportunity yet to peer deep into the far reaches of space in order to unlock some of the greatest mysteries of our Universe.

Scientists in the University of Canterbury Physics and Astronomy Department are at the forefront of new research that may hold the key to some of the most hotly debated cosmological phenomena and puzzles in particle physics, including speculative theories such as supersymmetry, mysteries such as the nature of Dark Matter, and phenomena such as gamma-ray bursts.

The key to such studies is the neutrino telescope which, unlike traditional telescopes that analyse light or X-rays, detects a type of subatomic particle called the neutrino. The neutrino has no electrical charge and interacts very weakly with matter. These properties make it possible for neutrinos to travel vast distances without any interference and, as a result, they are the only particles that can act as messengers from violent cosmological events on the edge of the Universe.

Trillions of neutrinos pass through Earth every second, but the very properties that make these particles good messengers from afar also make them difficult to detect. Scientists have known for some time that neutrinos could provide valuable information, but the challenge has been to find technology that would enable them to monitor enough material to detect the ghostlike particles.

Canterbury physicists are part of an international collaboration of research groups from 25 universities and government laboratories that are working together to build a new telescope, called IceCube, that will solve this conundrum. Located at the South Pole, IceCube will consist of probes that span an area of ice a kilometre deep and wide. The probes are attached to cables and installed deep in the Antarctic ice cap through an elaborate procedure that involves drilling a column, using hot water to melt the ice, and then quickly putting the sensors down the hole before it freezes up.

Antarctic ice is an ideal medium for the telescope because it is transparent, free of radioactivity and dark far below the surface. When completed, IceCube will be the largest neutrino detector in the world.

Dr Jenni Adams, senior lecturer in physics at Canterbury, said the IceCube telescope was a powerful tool to search for dark matter. “It could reveal the new physical processes associated with the puzzling origins of the highest energy particles in nature.”

The project has secured $US295 million funding to construct the telescope over the next 10 years. Adams believes that Canterbury’s location at the gateway to Antarctica will place her team squarely in the centre of the action. The team also includes Dr Steve Churchwell, postdoctoral fellow Dr Suruj Seunarine and several postgraduate students.

The team was invited to join the IceCube project last year as a result of their previous experimental work with neutrino detectors. For five years, the team has been working on the Radio Ice Cerenkov Experiment (RICE), a Marsden-funded project that aims to detect radio radiation from the interaction of ultra high-energy neutrinos from space with the Antarctic ice cap. Other participants in the RICE project include physicists at the University of Kansas, the Bartol Research Institute at the University of Delaware, and MIT.

Along with trying to detect the highest energy neutrinos, the RICE group is studying the radio emissions from showers of thousands of particles produced in the atmosphere when high energy cosmic rays interact kilometres above the Earth’s surface. The term “cosmic rays” includes any particles produced by explosions in space.

“The reason this is interesting, is that it is actually still a mystery as to what the source of the highest energy cosmic rays is,” said Adams.

To date, the research has revealed that the radio emission from cosmic rays does exist, that it is coherent and that some of the emission will reach the RICE detector. The next stage is to determine how efficiently RICE can resolve this radio emission.

The Canterbury team will use their experience with RICE, and in particular their knowledge of radio detectors and high energy particles, to contribute to IceCube and the unravelling of the greatest of cosmic mysteries.

Canterbury lecturer gets to the top of Panamanian rainforest research *By Dr Laura Sessions*

Tropical rainforests are renowned for their extraordinary biological diversity, harbouring more plant and animal species than any other ecosystem in the world. However, scientists have never been able to agree on exactly how many species occupy these lush forests.

This question is the focus of a massive new international collaborative research project that includes Canterbury University biologist Dr Raphael Didham.

Didham and his wife, Laura Fagan, who is an entomologist at Landcare Research, travelled to Panama last year to work on the project thanks to funding from the Royal Society of New Zealand's International Science and Technology Linkages Fund.

The goal of project IBSCA — Investigating the Biodiversity of Soil and Canopy Arthropods — is to study the vertical stratification of insects in tropical rainforests and to estimate how many species live in the tropical forest canopy.

Ultimately, the IBSCA project will help scientists estimate "ballpark" figures for insect diversity in tropical forests.

Current estimates depend on the assumption that the number of insect species in the canopy represents almost two-thirds of all insect species. This assumption led researchers in the 1980s to suggest that as many as 30 million insect species might exist, but later work has challenged this estimate, suggesting that only 10% of insects live in the canopy.

Didham says that researchers have been "nipping at the edges" of this topic for some time, but previous studies have not been robust enough to be widely generalised to all insect species.

To achieve a more acceptable sample size, IBSCA invited 33 entomologists from 15 countries (over half of all tropical canopy entomologists in the world) to participate. They also chose a range of new technologies developed in the last five years to study the forest canopy including fixed canopy cranes, a giant helium balloon and a giant canopy raft.

The raft, constructed of plastic beams and netting and weighing more than three-quarters of a tonne, was flown into place by helicopter and fixed by professional climbers.

Didham and Fagan also had a memorable night sleeping in hammocks 35m above the ground in a fixed tree house called the "Icos". The pair spent the night fighting off swarms of biting insects attracted to the tree house by the light trap attached to its roof.

Didham said the hundreds of bites they received were a small sacrifice though, as the best moth sample of the entire study was caught that night.

After collection, all the samples were pooled and separated into 40 focal groups. Each group was then assigned to a pair of researchers with expertise in that taxonomic group for identification and analysis.

Didham and Fagan are responsible for the *Order Diptera*, or the flies. The collection includes the largest fly Didham has ever seen — stretching as long as his palm and more than 2.5cm wide.

Didham said that during the study, new discoveries were made every day, and it was expected that more than 70% of some groups of insect species collected would be new to science. Although Didham has worked in other tropical countries in the past, he said he was amazed by the "staggering diversity of insects" in Panama. This project complements Didham's current research programme in New Zealand, which focuses on fly species in the forest canopy.

Didham and Fagan plan to return to Panama in 2004 and again in 2005 to continue with the project. Phase II in 2004 will investigate seasonal variation in the vertical stratification of insects, and in 2005 a workshop will be held to discuss the results.

Also in 2005, the principal scientist for IBSCA, Yves Basset, will visit the University of Canterbury to share his knowledge of worldwide forest canopy research and technology, which Didham believes will help inspire scientists here to co-ordinate various canopy research already under way in New Zealand.

"There is a growing awareness of the importance of forest canopies in New Zealand, and the University of Canterbury has more researchers on aspects of the forest canopy than any other university in the country."

The IBSCA project is funded by the US Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama, the international companies SolVin and Solvay, and by a host of other international funding agencies including the Global Canopy Programme, UK. The total cost of the project is estimated at upwards of 1 million Euros.

Photo by John Henzell

Photo by Yves Basset and Laura Fagan

Left: The canopy balloon in action in Panama. The 400m³ single-person balloon allows the researcher to be almost neutrally buoyant and to walk freely over the top of the rainforest canopy — tethered to a strong safety line.

Loathe thy Neighbour?

By Diana Moir

Ever since New Zealand declined to join the Australian Federation in 1901, Australia and New Zealand's national stories have ignored each other," Dr Philippa Mein Smith says."Yet that doesn't mean the ties don't exist."

A major project, "Anzac neighbours: 100 years of multiple ties between New Zealand and Australia," takes a new approach to Australian/New Zealand relations. The research, a collaborative effort of Professor Peter Hempenstall and Associate Professor Dr Philippa Mein Smith of the History Department, and Dr Shaun Goldfinch of the School of Political Science and Communication, moves beyond assumptions of separate histories to demonstrate the continuous interactive dimensions of trans-Tasman relations from 1880 to 2000.

The research aims to address a gap in knowledge which the researchers say impoverishes the histories of Australia and New Zealand, and diminishes public commentary in both countries. The project has been awarded $345,000 for three years (2003-2005) from the Marsden Fund of the Royal Society of New Zealand.

Love thy Neighbour

The usual approach of "Loathe thy Neighbour" rather than "Love thy Neighbour" focuses on rivalry, as in sport, and on difference — if Australia notices at all.

The stereotyped views that Australians and New Zealanders hold of each other are so familiar that they are even seen in our cartoons and advertisements.

Yet in delving into the history of the two countries, the researchers are able to demonstrate a close and complex "family" relationship on multiple levels — political, intellectual, cultural, social and economic — since European contact.

For a few short months New Zealand was actually part of what was to become Australia, when it was annexed by New South Wales in 1840. New Zealand being granted separate crown colony status in 1841 did not end the link, and while it was separated from the Australian continent by the stormy Tasman Sea, this was easier to cross than the even larger distance between eastern and western Australia at that time. Immigrants, labour, goods and capital moved easily between the colonies — as did economic and political élites, Maori, missionaries and trade union leaders, entertainers and crooks.

Links formed at the highest intergovernmental level. Edward Gibbon Wakefield applied his planned settlement model to both South Australia and New Zealand, and the colonies co-operated widely on everyday issues, including a royal commission into the rabbit problem in 1888.

One hundred years ago, we adopted a shared model of state development, balancing new export economies with a fresh start at consolidating an ideal society. The Australian Settlement established at Federation was really an Australasian settlement with key elements developed in New Zealand. Its five planks — "White Australia", industry protection, wage arbitration, state paternalism and "imperial benevolence" — were in reality a colonial settler response to the perceived

Right: Dr Phillipa Mein Smith, Dr Shaun GoldFinch and Dr Peter Hempenstall demonstrate the continuous interactive dimensions of trans-Tasman relations from 1880 to 2000.

global threats of the time and adopted on both sides of the Tasman. Again, in tandem some 80 to 90 years later, Australia and New Zealand responded to global forces by deciding that the workers' welfare state, a feature in both countries, had to be pensioned off.

At one time it even looked like New Zealand would become part of an Australasian Federation. Some say that this did not happen partly because New Zealanders, then as now, did not want to be swallowed up by their larger neighbour.

Did the Federation of 1901 mean the end of Australasia and the beginning of a separate Australia and New Zealand? This is the view of New Zealand historian, James Belich, who claims that after 1901 New Zealand turned away from Australia and back towards Britain in a process he calls "re-colonisation". Instead of being sister colonies, New Zealand and Australia became competitors, hawking similar primary products to the northern hemisphere, until Britain joined the EEC in 1973.

Foreign policy also took divergent paths — Australia turned towards Asia and the United States while New Zealand moved away from the US, abandoning the ANZUS pact in 1985.

Similarly, the cultures diverged — Australia became more Americanised, but at the same time more self-consciously Australian. New Zealand remained more British for a while, but also drew more strongly on Polynesian elements, from the indigenous Māori, and from the Pacific Islanders who became a significant part of the population.

Yet links continued in myriad and complex ways. Significantly, both nations have tried to find national identity in their ANZAC stories. New Zealand youth shares the Australian trend towards pilgrimages to Gallipoli as part of the (also shared) tradition of the Big OE. And while Australia has criticised New Zealand for "not pulling its weight" in defence, first for withdrawing from the ANZUS alliance, and then for refusing to take part in the invasion of Iraq, New Zealand and Australia often work together as regional peacekeepers, in East Timor and the Solomon Islands, for instance.

We also share many "cultural icons". Phar Lap was born in New Zealand, Fred Hollows, the famous Australian eye doctor, grew up in New Zealand, and both cultures claim Russell Crowe and pavlova as their own.

At the religious level, too, there have been many links. Marist and Christian Brothers established Roman Catholic Schools in both countries and Seventh Day Adventists considered Australia and New Zealand one mission field for well over a century — reflected in the Adventist-owned Sanitarium, which provided Weetbix and Vegemite to generations of Australians and New Zealanders.

In that other religion, sport, links are also extremely important. New Zealand teams play in Australia's domestic rugby league, soccer and basketball competitions, and Super 12 rugby union generates loyal followings in both countries.

A trans-Tasman business élite has developed, as Australia has become a magnet for New Zealand business talent and as companies spread across Australasia. New Zealanders have top CEO jobs in Australia, and vice versa. Much as in the 19th century, Australian companies dominate the banking industry and shopping malls across the country are overwhelmingly Australian owned.

Mambo T-shirt.

Indeed, trans-Tasman trade has become increasingly significant following the 1983 Closer Economic Relations pact, one of the most comprehensive free-trade agreements in the world. Australia is New Zealand's biggest trading partner and New Zealand ranks fifth in Australia.

In the professions and academia, New Zealanders and Australians hold important jobs in both countries. Professions are organised into Australasian associations while medical specialists belong to trans-Tasman colleges.

Government links, both formal and informal, are extensive, and have been so for a long time. Officials frequently deal at informal levels over such things as trade and defence issues, and New Zealand now has membership or observer status on the majority of Council of Australian Government's intergovernmental committees. We are also moving towards shared business law, financial regulation and standards.

In short, the two countries share a history of co-operation, and while Australia is more important to New Zealand than vice versa, the trans-Tasman relationship is important to Australia, too, both for economic and security reasons, and in fashioning identity in both countries.

Meanwhile, the "Anzac Neighbours" researchers aim to do their part in "thickening" New Zealand's ties with Australia. Because of the research and insights, Hempenstall was invited to take part in the first Australia-New Zealand Leadership Forum in Wellington in May 2004.

• *Diana Moir is a freelance journalist.*

[Note: This column draws on two Marsden project articles: a keynote address by Philippa Mein Smith to the History Teachers Association of Australia in Brisbane in October 2003, "The Ties that Bind (and Divide) Australia and New Zealand", History Now, *9: 4 (Autumn 2004), and Shaun Goldfinch, "Taking each other for granted",* Australian Financial Review, *5 March 2004.]*

New scope for star-gazers

The University of Canterbury has gained resource consent for a new observatory building at its renowned Mt John site near Lake Tekapo to house a new 1.8m diameter astronomical telescope.

It has also successfully negotiated an agreement for funding of this new building with local Tekapo tourist company Tekapo Tours. Shelagh Murray, Development Manager at the University of Canterbury, said the agreement was an exciting development for the University, Mt John and the Lake Tekapo community.

"The new observatory will be funded by a joint venture with Tekapo Tours, a local company which takes tourists from all over the world to view the stars from this incomparable star-gazing region. In exchange, the University of Canterbury will provide exclusive tourist access on Mt John to Tekapo Tours and allow its customers to view the observatory where possible."

Tekapo Tours Managing Director Hide Ozawa is a permanent resident of Lake Tekapo and has contributed to the town's economic development through his night-sky and eco-tourism activities. Ozawa has also been an astronomy student at the University of Canterbury for the past three years, studying asteroids under the supervision of Alan Gilmore, Superintendent of the Mt John University Observatory. Co-director of the company is Graeme Murray, Chairman of the Mackenzie Tourism and Development Board.

The new 1.8m telescope, set to be operational later this year, is part of the MOA project (Microlensing Observations in Astrophysics). MOA is an international collaboration between astronomers at the universities of Canterbury, Auckland and Victoria in New Zealand, and Nagoya University in Japan. The project aims to detect black holes and planets that can not be seen with existing telescopes because brighter stars outshine these dimmer objects in space.

The Japanese Government has granted 433 million yen (about NZ$7 million) over five years for the project. The 1.8m telescope — nearly three times larger than the existing microlensing telescope at Mt John — is currently under construction in Japan. Aspects of its unique optical system were designed in New Zealand, and the New Zealand universities have been given the contract for fabricating some of the telescope's optical components. The new telescope is expected to be delivered in August and installed at Mt John in September 2004. An official opening will be held at Mt John on 1 December 2004.

John Hearnshaw, Professor of Astronomy at University of Canterbury, said the MOA telescope would help raise the profile of astronomy at New Zealand universities and in the education system generally. "Astronomy is a popular science, and for many students it is astronomy that attracts them to studying science in the first place," he said.

The New Zealand partners are responsible for providing a building to house the new telescope, as well as undertaking routine maintenance. A rotatable dome, about 9.3m in diameter, will cover the observation area. The development includes a single-storey technical support block housing a computer room, control room, workshop and other facilities.

The new microlensing telescope will assist MOA to achieve its goals of finding dark matter in the Milky Way Galaxy and of detecting planets similar to Earth orbiting around other stars, Hearnshaw said. Microlensing, a phenomenon first predicted by Einstein, has only been made possible in the last decade, due to advances in the fields of optics, electronics and computing.

"The technique involves detecting peaks in light intensity as bright stars pass behind darker objects in space," he said. "Einstein predicted that light rays passing through a gravitational field are bent. The microlensing technique senses the existence of the dark object because the light rays from the brighter star behind are amplified."

The southern hemisphere is the ideal place to see this phenomenon because you need to observe millions of stars, such as exist in the Milky Way and the two Magellanic clouds, in order to spot those few in which the light has been temporarily amplified by the gravitational microlensing effect.

The University of Canterbury has dedicated one of its smaller telescopes at Mt John to the MOA project since its inauguration in 1995.

Photo from budgetstockphoto.com/NASA/NSSDC

Photo by Fraser Gunn, Lake Tekapo

The Mt John University Observatory attracts star-gazers from around the world.

Three grants from the Marsden Fund have supported all three New Zealand universities involved in the project as well as at the Carter Observatory. Five New Zealand research assistants have been employed as MOA observers.

The MOA astronomers, working with collaborators in the USA and Poland, can already lay claim to the first probable detection of a planet outside the solar system using the microlensing technique — a discovery that took place in 2003. An earlier detection in 1998 may also have been of a low-mass planet. They have also made some of the most precise observations of the limb-darkening phenomenon in another dwarf star similar to the Sun.

At the conclusion of the MOA project in about 2010, the telescope will remain in New Zealand and be used for on-going research collaborations, Hearnshaw said. "It has long been a dream of mankind to find other planets like Earth where life could in principle survive and flourish. We would like to confirm the existence of such a planet in our Galaxy but lying beyond the solar system," he said.

USA not-for-profit established for benefit of University

The University of Canterbury has recently established a new, not-for-profit organisation compatible with the laws of the United States so it can receive US tax-deductible gifts from US donors and funders and use them to support the University of Canterbury in New Zealand.

The University of Canterbury Foundation in America, Inc is registered under Section 501 (c) (3) of the US Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as a charity. It is eligible to receive US tax-deductible gifts and pays no tax on its income or donations.

The primary activity of the Foundation is to promote education by soliciting contributions in the United States and elsewhere for the benefit of the University of Canterbury in Christchurch, and to help other related educational and charitable institutions.

As well as a fundraising vehicle, it will be an important tool for the running of events and activities in the USA. Tax effective giving is a key part of US society — without tax-deductibility, an organisation stands little chance of receiving anything other than small gifts.

The Board of Directors of "The University of Canterbury Foundation in America, Inc" are United States residents who are either alumni or significant supporters of the University of Canterbury. They are Justine Kirby (President), Richard Easther, Jolisa Gracewood and Peter Condliffe. The Secretary/ Treasurer is Shelagh Murray, Development Manager at the University of Canterbury.

Queries should be directed to Shelagh Murray, email: shelagh.murray@canterbury.ac.nz or phone +64 3 364 2550.

Pacific Arts

For many, the Pacific Islands bask in tradition, but their arts are frequently relegated to "craft" or souvenirs. Yet, contemporary Pacific art has flourished in New Zealand for more than a decade. Surprising to many, the development of these arts has been strongly supported in Christchurch and at the University of Canterbury, as **Dr Karen Stevenson** reports.

In 1996 the Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies (MB), working with Creative New Zealand, created a Pacific Artist in Residence Programme. This unique programme has added to the Christchurch art scene and provided opportunities for many of New Zealand's best Pacific artists, starting with the "big three": Fatu Feu'u, Michel Tuffery and John Pule.

Shortly after the art history programme in the School of Fine Arts initiated the teaching of Māori and Pacific Art History in 1994 — the first university in New Zealand to do so — the board of the Macmillan Brown entered into negotiations with Creative New Zealand. The exhibition *Bottled Ocean* was touring galleries throughout the country, and contemporary Pacific art was beginning to be recognised. The Centre for Pacific Studies believed it should host a residency programme that would highlight and encourage Pacific artists — a programme that would give artists the time and space to develop their art practice.

Since 1996 the Macmillan Brown Centre/Creative New Zealand Artist in Residence programme has hosted 10 of our nation's best Pacific artists. The three-month residency has welcomed a full range of artists: painters, sculptors, actors, choreographers, textile, multi-media and performance artists — allowing them the luxury of time to reflect on their work, to research new directions and to create new art.

The programme has not only opened new doorways for the artists, but also for students and members of the wider communities who have joined their workshops and performances. Supported by the centre, the University's School of Fine Arts and Theatre and Film Studies departments, the Macmillan Brown Library, the Canterbury Museum and COCA (Centre of Contemporary Art), the artists' performances and exhibitions have benefited both "town and gown".

The artists who have participated in this programme have joined the Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies and the wider University community, enriching our lives as the artistic, academic and Pacific communities of Christchurch come together.

The residency is awarded to an artist through an annual application process. The artist proposes a particular project or area of development. In return for the opportunity to explore and create — and supported by the centre's and University's provision of time, space and materials — the artist offers "workshops", and interacts with the University, artistic and Pacific communities. Exhibitions or performances conclude their time in Christchurch.

As he is the "father of Pacific Art", it was fitting that the first residency was awarded to Feu'u, followed by Tuffery and Pule. Each of these artists had already made a name for himself, not only in New Zealand but internationally, prior to their stay at the Macmillan Brown. For each, the residency provided the time to experiment and explore, which is vital to the creative process.

The opportunity to develop new work and to interact with fellow artists and others interested in both their work and the

Left: You Make Me Nobody, *gifted to the Macmillan Brown Centre 1999 by artist Andy Lelei. The painting represents the blue-collar working class, whose experience of working in factories is imbued with silent frustrations, stress and pressure.*

Pacific provided a foundation to strengthen their arts practices. Feu'u utilised his time to push his signature work into areas of abstraction; Tuffery collaborated with many in the creation and engineering of his mechanical bulls, turtles and crabs; and Pule further developed his visual language, incorporating image and text in numerous works.

In 1999 Andy Lelei quietly changed the direction of the arts produced during the residency programme. In his very subtle yet blunt way, he addressed the social realities not only of Samoans living in New Zealand, but of many immigrant societies. Language and illiteracy (in English) are brought to the fore in his "word paintings" and he addressed the difficulties of "settling-in" through references to suicide.

These works do not express the colourful, easy-going, laughing cliché so often associated with the Pacific. Both Lonnie Hutchinson (2000) and Lurlene Christiansen (2002) also addressed this stereotype in their work. Looking at how the Pacific has been constructed in the collective consciousness of the West, both asked their viewer to reassess their perceptions and attitudes towards the Pacific.

In contrast, Filipe Tohi (2001) and Emma Kesha (2002) demonstrated how traditional Pacific arts and technologies could be reconstructed so they have meaning in a contemporary urban society. Tohi and Kesha utilise lashing and weaving traditions to recreate patterns inherent to the Pacific, speaking across island boundaries. Enlarging their scale a hundred-fold, Tohi turns lashing traditions into abstract sculpture.

Exalting in what it is to be a Pacific artist, these artists believe that art is more than something hung upon a wall. It is community; it is song, dance, smell and action. It is difficult to forget the evening performance staged by Tuffery and his team on the lawn of the centre. Corned beef tin bull "cannons", crabs, and kerosene lamps, lighting the path of a mechanical turtle, integrated fragrance, sound and dance in one performance. The object is not always the focus. Yet, within the guise of fun and humour, serious issues are being enacted, witnessed and debated.

This highlights the importance of the site — the Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies. In the University setting, the artists have access to academics, visiting Pacific scholars, and to fellow artists and key resources such as the Macmillan Brown Library and the Canterbury Museum. The Macmillan Brown Centre was funded by a bequest from one of the Canterbury College and University of New Zealand's founding professors. John Macmillan Brown was keenly interested in the history, tradition and arts of the Pacific. A classicist and philosopher by training, he travelled widely in the Pacific prior to World War I. His extensive library and commissioned Pacific photographs formed the foundation of the Macmillan Brown collection, one of the nation's foremost Pacific libraries. His ethnographic collection, housed at the Canterbury Museum, is currently being researched by Professor Karen Nero, centre Director, and Dr Patricia Wallace, Research Fellow, in preparation for exhibitions in 2006, the anniversary of the Macmillan Brown/ Creative New Zealand Artist in Residence Programme.

Photo courtesy of Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies

New Zealand-born Samoan artist Andy Lelei was artist in residence in 1999.

The artists' and scholars' residency programmes are increasingly blending. 2003 performance and visual artists Erolia Ifopo, Siaosi Mulipola, and 2004 MB Scholar Dan McMullin, combine research at the MB Library with prose, poetry, audio-visual and choreographed theatre productions. The synergy of these relationships fuels the excitement of the residency programme.

Ifopo, a founding member of Pacific Underground and a recognised writer and actress, utilised her time at the centre documenting the development of this theatre and writing an autobiography of her work as a Pacific artist. She supported Mulipola as rehearsal director for his first play, *Paper Flowers*. Their relationship with Theatre and Film Studies has provided another direction to explore within the arts of the Pacific.

Key to the residency is community interaction, often created through workshops. Tuffery and Hutchinson both worked with students in the development and creation of exhibitions held in Christchurch. Feu'u and Kesha taught courses in printmaking and weaving. Ifopo and Mulipola worked with young students and community members to create *Paper Flowers* at the University Theatre, honouring their parents and the older generation who underwent hardships as they prepared the way for new lives for their children. As an essential component to Pacific communities, one gives back; a generosity of spirit and time underlies many relationships these artists had with Christchurch's communities.

Continuing the centre's new direction in the performing arts is Dave Fane who arrived in May to research and prepare a new work on Tamasese and the Mau. Visual artist and poet Dan McMullin from American Samoa has also joined the centre as an MB Scholar. His arrival heralds new directions, bringing artists from the Pacific to work with Aotearoa/New Zealand artists.

The diversity of the Pacific is not only demonstrated by different island communities, but the issues these artists explore in their work — environmental degradation, socio-economic realities of migration, stereotypes and the perceived exoticism of the Pacific — each is very real and the foundation of Pacific art today. The Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies has created the foundation for a programme that brings the Pacific to Christchurch.

• *Dr Karen Stevenson is a senior lecturer in the School of Fine Arts.*

Teaching Awards recognise excellence

Since their origins in the 13th century, universities have been founded, first and foremost, to teach students.

"Teaching excellence is what we aim at because it is excellence in this very craft that is definitive of universities," says former Teaching and Learning Committee chairman Dr John Freeman-Moir. "A university without teaching is an anathema."

The teaching achievements of University of Canterbury staff were recognised at last December's graduation with the presentation of nine Teaching Awards.

Dr Bob Peffers

Management

"The most important thing that I learned from my career in business — and now pass on to students — is that all marketers come to a challenge with the same tools, whether they are beginning students or seasoned professionals. The beginner has just as much chance of scoring a home run as anyone else."

Dr Chris Connolly

History

"The role of the teacher is, I think, to inspire and to guide. I teach only what fascinates me, and I try to communicate this fascination to my students, so that they want to know more." Colleagues regard Connolly as a teacher who "excites students' desire to know, but more vitally, earns respect as a personal exemplar".

Professor Steve Weaver

Geological Sciences

Weaver's main objectives as a teacher are to "stimulate and enthuse students and lead them into discovery, to help them to discover new methods of learning and to take responsibility for their own learning". His methods of teaching — based on lots of listening to students and gently questioning — reflect these objectives.

Dr Antonija Mitrovic

Computer Science and Software Engineering

Mitrovic believes "in learning by doing. Only active learning can provide long-lasting results." Mitrovic is investigating ways in which "computer-supported learning environments can be tailored to the knowledge, needs and learning ability of each individual student". This work has received international acclaim, and she is regarded as one of the best in the world in intelligent tutoring systems.

Ms Liz Ackerley

Mathematics and Statistics

Ackerley has specialised in mathematics teaching at the introductory levels and is particularly sensitive to the needs of students, whether academically outstanding or mathematically more challenged. "A great deal of my teaching has been at the interface between school and university, and this is where I feel that the teaching skills I have developed can best serve the department and the University."

Dr Matthew Hirshberg

Political Science and Communication

Hirshberg cares passionately about teaching and in the view of his peers, "has shown a total commitment to excellence in teaching, challenging his students to think for themselves and to question conventional wisdom". He encourages students to "consider what their roles are and ought to be, so that they can then critically challenge the very basis of their political selves".

Dr Juliet Gerrard

Biological Sciences

In the view of her colleagues, Gerrard "has not only raised the bar in the courses she teaches in, but has delivered dramatic improvements in curriculum design and organisation". Gerrard sees her teaching role primarily as "coach". "My aim is to lead all students to a point where they take responsibility for their own learning, and are enthusiastic and excited about doing so."

Dr Philip Armstong

Culture, Literature and Society

One of the marks of an outstanding teacher is the ability and desire to encourage intellectual curiosity and independence. Students speak of Armstrong in just these terms. "As a teacher, he assists students' creative development by fostering their self-confidence. His classes are motivating, inspiring and innovative." Armstrong says, "teaching is most successful when it is most interactive".

Dr Roger Nokes

Civil Engineering

Nokes identifies the three cornerstones of his teaching as enthusiasm, organisation and commitment to the students. He aims to inspire students to learn, to help them to develop as independent learners and to provide an environment in which they gain the technical knowledge, skills and understanding fundamental to their chosen career.

Innovative teaching techniques bring medal for linguist

The 2004 University of Canterbury Teaching Medal has been presented to Professor Kon Kuiper (Linguistics).

Kuiper was appointed to the University in 1975. He is interested in syntax and lexis and has published on generative theory of the lexicon, word formation, literary theory and oral formulaic theory. He was awarded a DSc in 2001 by the University of Canterbury for his groundbreaking research in formulaic theory.

Last year, in conjunction with the Information Technology Department, Kuiper developed a way of storing the Powerpoint presentations from his stage one lectures alongside recorded voiceover, for access via the web.

In presenting the medal, Professor Ken Strongman, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Arts), acknowledged that "university teaching used to seem simple".

"Once, perhaps, it was enough to plan the content of a lecture series, to speak loudly and clearly, and to write legibly on the whiteboard. But nowadays, that is where good university teaching starts, not where it finishes.

"Face-to-face contact in the classroom may now be just the tip of an iceberg. The submerged bulk of the iceberg is all the teaching material — not just handouts but quizzes, assignments and multimedia presentations — that can be stored on the web and accessed by students 24 hours a day, seven days a week."

But the Teaching Medal does not recognise merely "technical wizardry", Strongman noted. Good teachers, he said, were like actors, able to enliven their subject matter.

"For decades, Professor Kuiper has worked at becoming a better and better actor. His publication record includes a steady flow of pieces reflecting on his experience of teaching, as well as articles and reviews in publications aimed at the teaching profession."

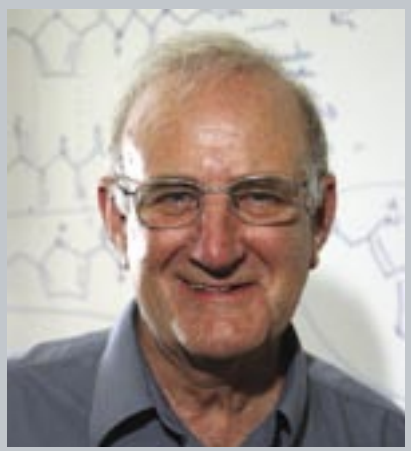
Kuiper said he was pleased to gain the recognition of not only his peers but also the institution. He was delighted that the University acknowledged the importance of teaching alongside that of research.

"Teaching medals are more common in North America but are relatively new in New Zealand."

Kuiper said that while web technology offered advantages in some courses, it was not appropriate for all.

"You have to be sensitive and adjust teaching to ensure you meet course objectives and be responsive to classroom interaction."

Professor Jim Coxon awarded 2003 Research Medal



The University Research Medal for 2003 was awarded to Professor Jim Coxon for his outstanding contributions in the field of organic chemistry.

Coxon earned his PhD from Canterbury and has worked at the University since 1967.

Chemical reactions form the basis of all molecular processes and Coxon's research has led to important new insights into the process.

For many years he has focused on organic reactions involving molecular rearrangement. He has also modelled such molecular transformations, showing that it is possible to conduct chemistry on computers as well as in the laboratory.

More recently Coxon has been part of a team trying to develop a compound that might be applied in eye drops to halt the progress of cataracts.

He is a distinguished international expert and has had a long series of collaborations with colleagues at the Christchurch Clinical School, Oxford University, and a number of prestigious universities in the USA.

Coxon has been awarded many honours, among them Fellowship of the Royal Society of New Zealand and Fellowship of the New Zealand Institute of Chemistry.

The medal was presented to Coxon during the December graduation ceremony. In his citation, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Bob Kirk said Coxon's record of achievement was remarkable "not just for the number and quality of its contributions but also for its ground-breaking nature".

"Together with his research students, he has often led the way into new understandings of puzzling and challenging phenomena and these understandings are now widely accepted as established knowledge."

Coxon said the best part about the award was being "recognised and nominated by my colleagues".

"Working in the Chemistry Department has been and is still exciting, because my colleagues share a strong drive to make a significant contribution to science — to make discoveries that matter."

Students are a key reason Coxon has enjoyed his research at Canterbury over the past 36 years. "The bulk of my research is with very talented students, and the pleasure is in seeing their success in the laboratory as they identify with, extend and solve a chemical problem. Then once they leave here, in whatever they choose to do, they use the problem solving skills that they learned at Canterbury."

Flying the Kiwi flag in Washington

With a US-based role in each decade of the last 30 years, Ambassador John Wood is well-positioned to handle NZ-US relations. **Matthew Peddie** reports.

Fire had put the embassy out of commission on the morning of my interview with His Excellency John Wood, New Zealand's Ambassador to the United States of America, late in October 2003. We met instead at his residence, in the presence of his two labradors, Mollie and Blackie. Photographs on the side tables showed the Ambassador shaking hands with the Clintons, Bushes and other eminent American public figures, while in another photograph he was surrounded by a fleet of gleaming motorbikes. The Ambassador appears equally at home in the corridors of power as he does with a cavalcade of Harley Davidsons, an adaptability that is reflected in his interests listed on the embassy website: interests that include literature and V8 cars.

Lionel John Wood was born in Kaikoura. His father, a motor mechanic and small-business man, was "a bit of a wanderer, so we moved all around the South Island when I was a kid". A peripatetic upbringing had nothing to do with his decision to join the civil service, even though this career has taken him all over the globe promoting New Zealand's trade interests, to places as far flung as Tokyo, Tehran, Bonn and now, Washington DC.

After completing high school in Christchurch, Wood enrolled at the University of Canterbury, where he majored in English literature, also studying geography, history and French language and literature.

"I am sure my Canterbury education had a strong positive impact on the development of my career, but an indirect one," said the Ambassador, noting the particular strength of the English faculty at the time.

"Dr Ray Copland was one of the best lecturers I have encountered anywhere," he said, adding that his teachers "went beyond their formal responsibility to expose us to the very best of language and literature," Other lecturers who made a positive impression on Wood include Professor Winston Rhodes, whose political activity was "unusual and refreshing for the time" and Vincent Orange, who was "new and brilliant as a history lecturer".

When he received his MA with first class honours in 1964, his class was among the last to graduate from the University's old site in the centre of town.

"For a young undergraduate, the lifestyle on the old UC campus was both exciting and stimulating," said the Ambassador, who appreciated the well-appointed student union and the easy access to "movie theatres, bookshops, hotel bars, where we drank under age, and cheap Chinese restaurants".

"We are always, in my experience, in the inner core of negotiating countries. We're there because of our intellectual contribution, our negotiating skills."

Having already rejected the option of taking a teaching college scholarship that would have paid his university tuition fees, and declining an offer of a junior lecturing position at the University of Canterbury, Wood applied for and received a scholarship to study at Oxford University in England. There he received a BA(Hons) in politics, philosophy and economics, disciplines that laid the basis for his subsequent career as a trade negotiator and diplomat.

"It was not a career with the Government, per se, that attracted me in the finish but a job in international relations," said the Ambassador of his move to the civil service. "At the time the Government offered the only available opportunity for that."

This is Wood's second appointment as New Zealand's Ambassador to the United States, and his third time working in DC.

"I'm a trade negotiator by profession," he said, while stressing the very practical reasons for his repeat assignments to Washington. As Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission in DC between 1984 and 1987, he witnessed the breakdown of the ANZUS agreement, and his skills were seen as vital in restoring political ties with the US when he was sent to DC again as ambassador by the National Government in May 1994. While he is now reprising the role of Ambassador under the Labour Government, the rationale behind his appointment this time, he said, is in "pursuing our free trade possibilities".

Wood is acutely aware of the relative lack of clout New Zealand wields in dealing with its bigger trading partners.

"New Zealand has always had to negotiate from a position of great weakness," he noted. "We are, in global economic terms, insignificant, measured by the size of our economy." This position has determined the style of New Zealand's negotiating approach, and he believes it is unlikely to change. "We have to take all the initiatives."

But he also believes New Zealand tends to box above its weight internationally and at World Trade Organization level makes an important impact.

"We are always, in my experience, in the inner core of negotiating countries. We're there because of our intellectual contribution, our negotiating skills."

In any case, New Zealand is perhaps able to use its smaller economic stature to good advantage, as "we can be a bit more adventurous in exploring alternative paths to a solution [than larger countries]".

As a witness to the demise of ANZUS, Wood has had an intimate insight into the way military ties between the two countries have influenced political relations, but he stresses

Photo by Matthew Peddie

"I don't see nuclear policies or any other particular policies as being an impediment to a Free Trade Agreement with the United States."

that past differences should in no way be seen as impinging on present trade relations. In the Ambassador's view, New Zealand's political relationship with the US is much better now than when he finished his last term as ambassador here.

"There's more substance, depth and breadth to the relationship," he noted, adding: "I don't see nuclear policies or any other particular policies as being an impediment to a Free Trade Agreement with the United States."

Wood's work as ambassador and trade negotiator leaves little time for pursuing his own interests. Having spent four years out of each of the last three decades in the US, he sees the benefits of deepening ties as professional rather than personal.

"One of the greatest advantages of me having come back is that people I've dealt with before at a somewhat lower level are now back in power and at a much higher level. It's a tremendous advantage obviously to come back here and be on first name terms with people who re-emerge on the other side of the revolving door."

Although the Ambassador lists sport as one of his interests, even this is pursued in the spirit of work. Every year his invitation rugby team made up of ex-pat Kiwis takes on the Mid Atlantic Rugby Union in an effort to "bring around greater exposure to a New Zealand style of rugby".

The match is played as a fundraiser for a high school in a depressed part of the District that has a good rugby programme but no money, and until 2003, the Ambassador's 15 had never lost a game. With screenings of the final matches of the 2003 World Cup arranged for local dignitaries at the embassy, Wood's hopes that the All Blacks would "rain on [Australia's] parade" were unfortunately not met. When I contacted him in March this year, he was positive that his own team, however, would regroup from their surprise upset of November 2003. "My Ambassador's Invitation 15 will win this year's match. No question."

Left: John Wood at home in Washington DC with Mollie and Blackie.

• *Matthew Peddie graduated BA(Hons) in 1998 and is currently studying journalism in Canada.*

Young film maker of the year

Success in a prestigious film competition has propelled fine arts graduate Pericles Dailianis on a dream trip to New York for a foray into the international film scene. **Chanel Hughes** reports.

The 27-year-old film and art history major was woken by telephone in January to be told he had won the prestigious inaugural BBC World *Talking Movies* Young Film Maker of the Year award.

Four months later, he was mingling with the glitterati at film premieres and conducting interviews with the stars during an all-expenses paid trip to New York to work on the set of BBC *Talking Movies*.

Launched at the 2003 Cannes Film Festival and sponsored by Stella Artois Screen, the BBC competition was open to film makers aged 18 to 30, who were asked to submit a short film not exceeding two and a half minutes. It attracted diverse entries, with the United Arab Emirates, India, Ireland and Mexcio all represented on the short-list of competitors.

Dailianis took top honours with *The Shadow Man*, which he wrote, produced, directed and edited specially for the competition. His dark and quirky tale, shot in just one day in the attic of Riccarton House, tells the story of a 15-year-old boy who is tormented by his imaginary friend. Inspired by the sinister top-hat wearing shadow of a Hans Christian Anderson story, the spooky persecutor is the embodiment of the boy's feelings of sadness and depression. The boy finally resolves to be rid of the Shadow Man and to leave his self-annihilating thoughts behind him. Local actors Paul van Uden and Daniel Perinam star as the boy and Shadow Man respectively.

Dailianis said the idea was based on his own childhood experience of an imaginary friend and had been in his mind since film school days. Completed in just one month, he says *The Shadow Man* has been his most "low key" production to date, yet is bringing him the greatest recognition.

In a competitive field described by the BBC *Talking Movies* jury as "inspiring and of an extremely high standard", Dailianis' entry impressed as "a haunting, complex work, exceedingly well told, using a series of arresting images".

The effort earned him a week on the set of the BBC's flagship entertainment programme, with the invaluable opportunity of extending his industry contacts.

More significantly, the award means international exposure for the young up-and-coming film maker, whose film is now showing around the world via television and the Internet. Already, he is receiving feedback from a full-length screening of the film on CNN. The Director of the Mental Health Stablisation Unit at Maine State Prison emailed Dailianis to say she was "blown away" by *The Shadow Man* and would like to use it for training staff in the signs of mental illness and suicide risk.

The BBC award marks the high point so far in a steady string of successes for Dailianis since graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 2002. His final year project, *Sanctify*, a 17-minute drama set in an historic Fendalton home, received an honourable mention in the 2002 Damah International Film Festival in Seattle (USA) and won the international Kodak Student Cinematography award. Various other short works, either of his own making or that

he has contributed to, have screened at film festivals around New Zealand. Last year he won a commission from the Christchurch City Council to have his work on permanent public display as part of an historic tour of the old Provincial Chambers. The 14-minute documentary *A Sense of Place* runs in a small theatrette set up in the original vault.

With his strong aesthetic affinity for historic buildings and deep admiration for the architect of the chambers, Benjamin Mountfort, it was a dream assignment.

"I worked really hard on the project. Mountfort put so much passion and energy into creating something stunning that would last for generations that I really wanted to do him justice."

Dailianis is the youngest in a highly arts-oriented family: mother Patricia has a BA in English literature from Canterbury (1999); brother Achilles (BA, 1994) also studied art history; and sister Anastasia (BA(Hons) 1999) is a theatre and film studies graduate and involved in running the local experimental theatre company, The Clinic.

The former Rudolf Steiner School pupil says he always wanted to do something in visual arts, but only discovered a passion for film while completing a BA in art history (1999). Now art and film have found a happy juxtaposition and, with a part-time position at the Christchurch Art Gallery to support his film work, Dailianis is not short of stimulation.

In his pantheon of filmic heroes, Dailianis most admires fellow Canterbury film graduate Vincent Ward, whose first feature film *Vigil* (1984) was the inspiration for *Sanctify*. Stanley Kubrick is also a favourite, and he greatly admires the cinematography of Jane Campion and the surreal theatricality of Peter Jackson's mid-career work, as in *Heavenly Creatures*.

Inevitably, Dailianis dreams of his own feature film and the possibility of one day having a film selected for the prestigious Cannes and Sundance film festivals. He is also keen to undertake television work, with its allure of high-tech equipment and steady funding.

In the meantime, he is enjoying the thrill of the Big Apple experience, where his humble aspirations of "holding the microphone when they interview the stars" have been more than fulfilled. Writing from New York, he says the city itself is the best highlight of the trip: "It's just so huge and fantastic".

Dailianis is combining the BBC prize with further travel in Europe, after which he plans to complete a sequel to *The Shadow Man*.

Left: scenes from The Shadow Man.

Film at Canterbury

Head of the University's Fine Arts film studio Bill de Friez is visibly delighted that another of his young protégés has scored a prestigious international award.

"It's fantastic news," he says of Pericles Dailianis' BBC Young Film Maker of the Year award. "This will be marvellous for him."

The film studio has been running since the early 1970s, when British artist Maurice Askew, formerly of the Granada Television Group (UK), launched a fledgling department of graphics, photographics and film. This was inspired by two students eager to study film who have since achieved outstanding success in the field: Vincent Ward, executive producer of *The Last Samurai* (2003) and director of the feature films *What Dreams May Come* (1998), *Map of the Human Heart* (1993), *The Navigator* (1988), and *Vigil* (1984); and Tim White, head of Working Title Australia and producer of many Australian films, including *Two Hands* (1999), *Oscar and Lucinda* (1997), *Cosi* (1996), and *Death in Brunswick* (1990).

Since then, the film studio has produced a steady stream of individuals who are contributing significantly to the national and international film industry.

"Three years ago, four of the five New Zealand films at the Cannes Film Festival were by graduates from here," de Friez says, listing Glen Standring, director of *The Irrefutable Truth About Demons;* Vanessa Alexander, award-winning writer and director of *Majik and Rose*; Paul Swadel, producer of *Infection*; and Nigel Bluck, the cinematographer for *Stickmen* and a director of photography on the *Lord of the Rings* film trilogy.

This year, the film studio will again be represented at Cannes with writer/director David Rittey and producer Amanda Jenkins in the running for the Palme d'Or award for short film *Closer.*

"We're arrogant, and with bloody good reason," de Friez grins.

One of 26 institutions teaching some form of filmmaking, the Canterbury film studio alone specialises in cinema. Film students enter the programme at the second level of a Fine Arts degree, after a brief sample of it at stage one. It's a limited entry course that accepts nine new students from a pool of 16 each year.

"The first half of the year is a steep learning curve," de Friez says, "because we have to bring the students up to speed as writers and directors. They also have to come to terms with a complex technology — not necessarily because they have to use it, but to develop the language to discuss with the others what they want to achieve. Film is a highly collaborative process."

In the second year, the students embark on de Friez's own specialty, the art of documentary-making. De Friez, who is head of local documentary company Raconteur, has the students create a false documentary, an exercise in comprehending the fragility of truth and the power of documentary as a medium.

The senior year of the programme is devoted to one major project, for which the students create an independent work.

"Most students will identify a successful film for this project," de Friez says, "and this will be the most important thing on their résumés when they leave."

continued on page 30

Photo courtesy of Nigel Harris

Nigel Harris inspects one of his revolutionary creations.

Good vibrations — earthquake engineering and the future Stradivarius *By Diana Moir*

A Canterbury engineering degree has led to a radical approach to violin making.

London-based Dr Nigel Harris is a top violin, viola and cello maker. His revolutionary instruments are sought by leading music makers around the world. Musicians praise the Harris instruments for their tonal clarity and projection, for their beauty and ease of playing. The Harris violin is being hailed as the Stradivarius of the future.

What is not always known is that the principles Harris learned as an engineering student have been applied to violin making.

New Plymouth-born Harris always loved music. The son of a violinist, he learned to play the piano and violin as a child, but a strong interest in building things led him to study civil engineering. After graduating from Canterbury University in 1962, he worked for a team of architects and engineers, analysing the forces, stresses and movements of multi-storied building structures under earthquake vibrations. At the same time he continued to play the violin and soon developed a deep interest in the instrument itself.

"I was in the rare position of seeing how the techniques I was employing in my work could be used to analyse violins, to find the forces, stresses and movements caused by sound vibrations," he says.

Harris decided to test his theories by building his own violins. As his interest grew, he realised he needed to travel to the Italian city of Cremona, principally to study the Italian tradition of varnishing.

"Even long after the death of Stradivari, Guarneri del Gesu and other instrument makers of the Cremonese school, the Italians have maintained a characteristic sound, which arguably stems from the varnish," he says.

"The violin as we know it was improved by the Cremonese violin makers in the 200 years from 1550 to 1750. They experimented constantly and sought to understand the reasons for what they heard."

Since then, violin making has largely descended into the copying of instruments of the period without a rational understanding of what the early instrument makers were doing, Harris says.

"My engineering training taught me to ask questions and seek rational answers. I needed to understand why the violin is the shape it is, what happens if something is changed, and what it is tonally sensitive to."

By a mathematical process of structural analysis, Harris developed a theoretical understanding of the shape of the violin body as a whole and the difference in shape between the front and back of a violin. He tested and confirmed this theory in his recently completed PhD programme at the Institute of Sound and Vibration Research at Southampton University.

Harris has been a full-time violin maker since 1981, and based in England since 1984.

"My instruments are designed to meet the needs of performance in the modern concert hall," Harris says.

"Like the Cremonese makers before me, I believe in the possibility of improvement — through rational analysis, then making, testing and playing."

Film at Canterbury *continued from page 29*

"Film is such a complex, layered subject that often, up until this point, the students are learning what they don't want. They're making things that to the casual observer aren't going to look that fantastic but which are hugely valuable as a learning experience."

With a third of the film student's degree composed of papers on the Bachelor of Arts schedule, the English Programme's Creative Writing for Stage and Screen course and papers in Theatre and Film Studies are popular complements.

The film studio itself is a labyrinthine network that includes four editing suites, an animation studio, and a large studio for blue screen effects, that also transforms into a theatre seating 60 people. At the heart of the studio is what de Friez refers to as "the notorious Red Room": windowless, with red walls and a large white projection screen at one end, it has a subterranean quality to it, or perhaps might more accurately be described as womb-like — a perfect environment for the embryonic development of the creative process.

"This is where we critique work and scripts, watch rushes, and have fearsome arguments!" de Friez says.

"From the first year right through, everything everybody makes is screened to an audience and viewed in the cinematic medium — on the big screen, in the dark."

The students also have state-of-the-art camera technology at their disposal, which at senior year includes a $120,000 super 16 camera, using motion picture film in wide-screen format.

At any given time, the film studio is a scene of intense activity. "With four editing suites and 30 directors, we run pretty much 24 hours a day," de Friez says. "Even at this time of year, someone is doing the midnight to 8am shift."

De Friez is filled with enthusiasm about the students' work and proud of their accomplishments, which he in turn finds inspirational.

"Just when you think there's not a new take on something, somebody does it!"

He is also optimistic about the current state of New Zealand film, which he describes as "nervous but buoyant".

"Every year we seem to reinvent the wheel. There are peaks and troughs, but fortunately, we are now developing a group of elder statesmen with the likes of Gaylene Preston [also a Canterbury Fine Arts graduate] and Peter Jackson, who help smooth out the bumps."

Chanel Hughes

Going Google in New York *By Diana Moir*

When Canterbury computer science graduate Craig Nevill-Manning was asked to set up a world-class software engineering office for Google Inc in New York, his biggest challenge was to persuade people to leave good jobs to come to a brand-new office, without knowing who else might join.

That was in April 2003. A year later, after pursuing several key people for top positions, holding a recruiting reception for 200 people in the lobby of the 25-storey building on Broadway where the new office is housed, more than 30 people work for Google Engineering New York. As Google's Director of New York Engineering, Nevill-Manning has been interviewed by a number of news outlet's including *The New York Times*, the financial news cable network, CNBC, and *ComputerWorld*.

The challenge was nothing new to Nevill-Manning.

A former assistant professor in the Computer Science Department at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, he still supervises graduate students, assesses doctoral dissertations, serves on grant panels for the US National Science Foundation, gives invited talks at computer conferences all over North America and reviews papers for academic publications.

After graduatating BSc (Hons) in 1989, Nevill-Manning worked full-time as a programmer in Christchurch for two years before completing a PhD in computer science at the University of Waikato (1996). His doctoral dissertation concerning the problem of detecting structure in sequences led to SEQUITUR, a revolutionary new technique that infers structure from a diverse range of sequences in space and time, including natural speech and music. This research was written up in the prestigious *Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research* in 1997, and led to a postdoctoral fellowship in the Biochemistry Department at Stanford University (1996-1998).

At Stanford he developed the eMOTIF research system that is currently being licensed to more than 10 biotechnology companies within the United States. eMOTIF allows biochemists to identify the function of newly discovered proteins by recognizing particular patterns of amino acids.

Nevill-Manning then moved to Rutgers, where he combined teaching with research into computational biology, information retrieval and data compression.

Photo courtesy of Craig Nevill-Manning

Craig Nevill-Manning (left) with Craig Silverstein, Director of Technology and the first to join the NY Google staff.

An earlier aquaintance with Larry Page and Sergey Brin, the founders of Google, the Internet search engine, led to a job offer in 1999 that he couldn't refuse.

"At Google I have access to more computer-readable information and computing resources than anyone has had before. It's exciting to think up new ways of making this information useful to people around the world."

Recently, he produced a feature that provides definitions of terms.

"For example, typing 'define: iwi' (without the quotes) into Google gives nine definitions from various sources."

He also came up with "Froogle", a product search that enables browsers to sort by price or restrict to particular categories.

"Canterbury University reinforced my love of intellectual challenges and of building artefacts — in this case, software artefacts — that better people's lives," Nevill-Manning says.

"As an undergraduate I became interested in questions relating to information retrieval, and investigating ways of automatically discovering structure in sequences of various kinds.

"These interests continue to the present day, and have led to research in the related areas of data compression and machine learning, which have had immediate practical benefits in the fields of biology and agriculture, among others.

"I'm fortunate to be working in a job where my research interests combine with practical benefits for people."

"There was this whole half of New Zealand that I knew nothing about, and as a New Zealander, I needed to do something about it."

Sharing Kāi Tahu voices

Christine Tremewan has passed on the legacy of ancient legends through the publication of her PhD research. By **Dr Bruce Harding**.

Christine Tremewan is a modest but accomplished alumna, a linguist par excellence, for many years a lecturer, and now an Adjunct Senior Fellow in the University of Canterbury Department of Māori, and an exacting scholar of written Māori. This latter skill is to the fore in her critically important new book, *Traditional Stories from Southern New Zealand: He Kōrero nō Te Wai Pounamu* which was based on her Canterbury PhD thesis (Māori, 1993) and published by the Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies.

Tremewan (married to Peter of the French Department) was rigorously trained in classical and modern European languages and decided to deepen those aptitudes by enrolling in 1958 at Canterbury (then a college of the University of New Zealand). She recalls, with gratitude, encountering a slew of fine teachers — Dr Marion Steven (Greek) and professors Kidd (Latin) and Sussex (French).

Her brilliance was recognised in 1961 when (after a First-Class MA in French) she was awarded a two-year postgraduate scholarship at the Sorbonne where she studied French language and literature (1962-63) for a Licence ès Lettres and supported herself in the third year (1964) as an assistant at a girls' high school (CEG Sainte-Geneviève des Bois). Peter joined her and a romantic French wedding ensued, but reality invaded the idyll and early in 1965 the couple returned to New Zealand where Peter took up an appointment in the UC French Department. Tremewan completed secondary teacher training and worked as a part-time temporary assistant

lecturer in the UC French Department but had to stop as, in those days, Canterbury had a rule prohibiting intellectual cohabitation by spouses in the same department.

She retreated into the whole motherhood bit and brought up three children but academic inertia could only be kept at bay for a limited time. Increasingly concerned — as were many social liberals — at the tenor of 1970s New Zealand under then Prime Minister Muldoon, the Tremewans visited Auckland over the summer of 1978 following the Bastion Point confrontation and met several Māori leaders, such as Hone Kaa. They simultaneously made the decision to enrol in Māori language classes at Canterbury.

"There was this whole half of New Zealand that I knew nothing about, and as a New Zealander, I needed to do something about it," says Tremewan.

The Tremewans enrolled in 1979, before "the real boom period" in Māori study, and were taught oral language by the first HOD Māori, the late Bill Nepia, who was extremely kind and welcoming to the mostly Pākehā students. Mary Carver taught Māori in the traditional grammar-based methodology then used for classical and modern European languages, and this proved great training for studying the transcribed form of "old" Māori as taken down in the 1850s by Pākehā missionaries and administrators such as Sir George Grey.

Tremewan and her husband were in the same classes and she remembers them becoming querulous if one gained a half-mark more than the other. For her part, Tremewan was absolutely fascinated by the linguistic detective-work involved in unpacking the very compacted, "terribly condensed" form of transcribed "classical" Māori of the nineteenth-century.

"They'll say a lot in a few words," she notes, and the nuanced meanings have to be dug out carefully. Tremewan was utterly fascinated by the syntactical structure of Māori, which is strikingly different from basic European grammatical patterns. Importantly, she notes that "you can see a different way of looking at the world in the vocabulary and structures" of Māori.

Her doctoral research project involved translating much of the written work of a dedicated Lutheran missionary, the Reverend Johann F H Wohlers, who ministered to the Kāi Tahu people of the small offshore island called Ruapuke (in Foveaux Strait, between the South Island and Stewart Island). Tremewan is confident that "Brother Wohlers" was a good multi-lingual ethnographer with a thorough (Germanic) philological training who made every effort to accurately record the narratives of Kāi Tahu elders. Her book presents eighteen "myth" structures as circulated there by the groups of survivors of inter-tribal conflicts. Sir Tipene O'Regan has jested that in the old days Ruapuke was "a type of metropolitan railway station for Māori".

Tremewan started her research when doing some archival work in the 1980s for Mary Carver in the Paris archives and then while acting as a research assistant in 1982-83 for Professor Margaret Orbell on a Waikato manuscript. The latter gave her practical experience in assessing the reliability and provenance of textual materials.

"You can see a different way of looking at the world in the vocabulary and structures [of Māori]."

Her chosen PhD topic was dependent on locating some substantive South Island material. Orbell had located some Wohlers materials in the Dominion Museum and shortly afterwards, while Tremewan was "pecking around" the Turnbull Library, its Manuscript Librarian showed her a big manuscript by Wohlers (nine ledger books in long-hand). The project of textually "excavating" a sturdy Mainland linguistic fossil had begun.

Tremewan discovered that Wohlers ministered to the Ruapuke community for 40 years from 1844 and was treated as a Pākehā tohunga. He gave renewed voice to the often arcane stories of Kāi Tahu, and fashioned a kind of logic in his arrangement of the 18 major ancient legends and narratives of battle heroes which he transcribed. She decided to respect the integrity of that arrangement and to duplicate Wohlers' flow in reproducing the material with commentary in full from eight of the ledger books.

An additional reason for undertaking this important work of cultural salvage was that John White, in producing his *The Ancient History of the Māori, His Mythology and Traditions (1887-90)*, used a grab-bag and pan-Māori approach to varying tribal traditions, and utilized most of Wohlers' Ruapuke material but distorted, bowdlerized, chopped up and mislabelled it. (White was a North Islander with no knowledge of Kāi Tahu dialectal forms and an amateur ethnographer.)

It is little wonder, then, that Sir Tipene O'Regan was delighted with Tremewan's careful, loving scholarship premised on proper historical principles. After making a few comments, "he gave it his very kind approval" and later launched the book. *Traditional Stories* recounts the exploits of a whole clutch of "characters" including Whakatau, Tāne, Hāpopo, Māui, Rata, Rona, Ruru-teina and Paowa. Tremewan adds that "the stories themselves are very good, basic southern stories, many chiming in with North Island ones (but with their own little twist) and some that are totally different".

Traditional Stories from Southern New Zealand, *426pp, ISBN 1-877175-18-8, may be purchased from the Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies, University of Canterbury (ph: +64 3 364-2957; fax: +64 3 364-2002; email: m.matthes@pacs.canterbury.ac.nz or visit www.pacs.canterbury.ac.nz) for $38.95 (please add $4 for postage within New Zealand). A catalogue of the Centre's other publications is available on request.*

• *Dr Bruce Harding is a Research Associate at the Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies.*

Playful tragedies

By Diana Moir

A Marsden Fund award has helped Dr Patrick O'Sullivan research Greek satyr plays.

Western drama owes its origins to the Greeks who left one of the greatest and most influential legacies of the ancient world. Not only is Greek tragedy still performed all over the world today, but its influence on subsequent western literature and philosophy, as well as theatre, has been enormous.

An important form of Greek drama is the satyr play, which, with its "folktale" and burlesque elements, has been characterised as "tragedy at play". A major project on the Greek satyr plays has won a Marsden Fund award for Dr Patrick O'Sullivan of the School of Classics and Linguistics. O'Sullivan has received a grant of $100,000 over two years for work on his contracted book, *Euripides' Cyclops and the Major Fragments of Satyric Drama: Introduction, Translation and Commentary*, to be published by Aris and Phillips.

Satyr plays involve a chorus of mythic followers of the god of wine and theatre, Dionysos, and were performed at the same festivals as tragedies in the fifth and fourth centuries BC.

These part human, part animal creatures, whose conduct exhibited a mixture of hedonism, lechery, cowardice and buffoonery, were often inserted into well-known myths to parody the style and concerns of tragedy and epic poetry. At the same time, as immortals, closer to the gods than to humans, satyrs could be paradoxical sources of wisdom and insight into human affairs.

"Much of the humour stems from the interaction between these naïve, rural-dwelling creatures and the more sophisticated citizens of the Greek polis or city state. Often they are confronted with civic inventions such as the use of fire, athletic equipment, new forms of music and art, and wine-making — with predictably disastrous results," O'Sullivan says.

"Only one satyr play, Euripides' *Cyclops*, survives complete, but there are extensive fragments of other plays, which deserve fuller treatment than they have received to date."

The publication of O'Sullivan's book means that for the first time a translation and commentary on *Cyclops* and the chief remains of other satyr texts will be provided for an English reading audience in one volume, with facing Greek texts.

Intended as part of a series that aims to provide texts, translations and commentaries on the most significant remains of Greco-Roman literature, O'Sullivan's book will also take into account aspects of performance, as well as offering discussion of satyrs in Greek mythology and art.

The book is aimed at a wide readership, both for use in the university classroom and as an aid to further serious research.

"These plays, which made up one quarter of the output of the great tragic poets, form a genre of great significance for anyone interested in theatre, myth, religion, anthropology and/or the art of Classical Greece. Anyone who bothers to think about what makes us laugh and why, should consider satyric humour, which anticipates the "straight man/funny man" brand of comedy we know today. Harpo Marx is rather like a latter-day satyr, as is Kramer from *Seinfeld*."

Much of the commentary will incorporate O'Sullivan's recent findings concerning the central figure of Euripides' drama, Polyphemos the Cyclops, the cannibalistic monster blinded by Odysseus. O'Sullivan argues that this character, who in Euripides' version has enslaved and brutalised the satyrs, is best understood as a parody of a tyrant as typically presented in Greek literature of the time, including other dramas by Euripides.

O'Sullivan completed his BA and MA degrees at the University of Melbourne, and his PhD at Cambridge in 1998. In 1999 he was appointed a lecturer at Canterbury, where he teaches Greek language and literature, art and philosophy. His wide-ranging research interests have focused on archaic and classical Greek literature and the history of ideas, including ancient aesthetics and theories of psychology, emotion and desire, as well as Greek theatre.

Besides Greek drama, he has published on Greek lyric poetry, Greek and Roman art, and has forthcoming publications on Homer, Pindar, the Sophists and ancient rhetorical theories.

Receiving the Marsden award enabled him to spend part of his study leave last year as a Visiting Fellow at Wolfson College, Cambridge, during which he was able to access the well-resourced Cambridge University and Classics faculty libraries, and examine artefacts depicting satyrs in Cambridge's Fitzwilliam, Oxford's Ashmolean and the British Museum in London.

"I also made valuable trips to the United States and Italy, where I was able to attend a timely conference on satyric drama and enjoy access to many resources and artefacts otherwise hard to come by in New Zealand.

"The fact that the Royal Society supports the kind of research I am undertaking indicates a welcome breadth of vision in recognising the importance of the Humanities. I'm grateful to the Society and hope we see a continuing trend in which more Humanities projects can enjoy significant financial backing."

Teaching management with breadth and depth

By Dr Leo-Paul Dana

A great accomplishment for the University of Canterbury has been accreditation of its Master of Business Administration (MBA) Programme by the Association of MBAs — an independent UK-based body that assesses the quality of MBA programmes around the world.

Accreditation confirms an MBA programme meets certain standards, and that the Canterbury course is now recognised as being on par with those offered at leading overseas business schools, including the Helsinki School of Economics, INSEAD (France/Singapore), and the London and Manchester Business Schools.

The accreditation service monitors the quality of programmes, and their relevance to employers as well as students. What, then, is relevant in the emerging business environment?

While we may live in a global village, the reality is far from a homogeneous world culture. Business increasingly involves interaction with foreign suppliers, employees, distributors, clients and government officials, and each operates in an environment where interactions involve implicit and explicit assumptions. A lack of sensitivity to accepted norms in other cultures has caused numerous Westerners to fail in their attempts to do business. It is, therefore, essential for people in business to understand cultural differences.

Many Asians have mastered comprehension of Western culture and developed the ability to benefit from it. By contrast, Westerners seldom have the patience or the inclination to invest time in learning an Asian language, let alone come to grips with the subtleties of a foreign culture. In the long-term, however, increased knowledge will pay off.

In China, for example, *guanxi*, the unwritten system of obligations and preferential treatment based on relationships, is of prime importance. When a relationship is more valuable than a transaction, it is likely the transaction will go smoothly. In the absence of a strong relationship, Chinese businesspeople may opt to ignore a contract. For example, although 18 years remained on its lease, McDonald's was evicted from a Beijing site in favour of a newcomer with stronger *guanxi*.

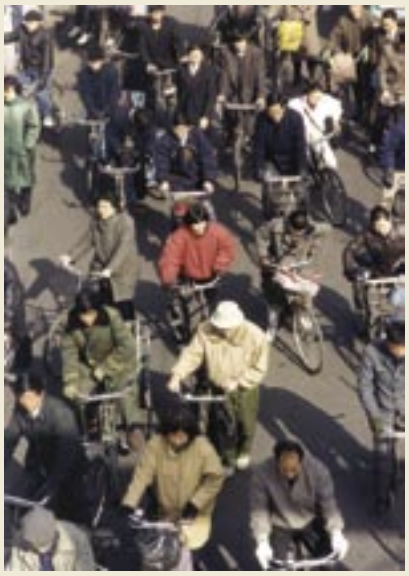


Photo by Leo-Paul Dana

"It is essential for people in business to understand cultural differences."

One of my own professors, McGill University's Henry Mintzberg, explained in what later became a classic *Harvard Business Review* article that some of the best-known management professors had little interest in the reality of organisational life, and tended to teach the theories of mathematics, economics and psychology as ends in themselves.

For MBA students, who have fully-booked appointment books, it is not just the theory that matters. Learning must be fun and relevant, otherwise content is easily forgotten.

The MBA class at Canterbury consists of about 40 students, around half of whom have full-time jobs, often in management. Average work experience is 13 years. How does Canterbury attract the best candidates, and how is the MBA Programme structured to help these students promote themselves to senior positions?

Traditional business school education has concentrated on the left hemisphere of the brain, encouraging analytic logic through a rational approach to problem-solving. At Canterbury, there is now a new focus on the right hemisphere of the brain, with the development of a course component designed to improve people-skills and the processes of creativity, innovation, and intuition.

Included among the papers is Global Marketing Co-operation & Networks, which teaches advanced marketing principles while exposing students to a broad variety of culturally-sensitive managerial situations, with examples from China, Greece, the Kyrgyz Republic (a former Soviet state with an Islamic majority), Myanmar (formerly Burma), and Vietnam.

Each class follows the Experiential Learning Model pioneered by David Kolb, which does away with the instructor at the front of the classroom. Instead, the classroom is transformed into an overseas management boardroom, with students role-playing actual scenarios where results went awry because of ethnocentric decision-making.

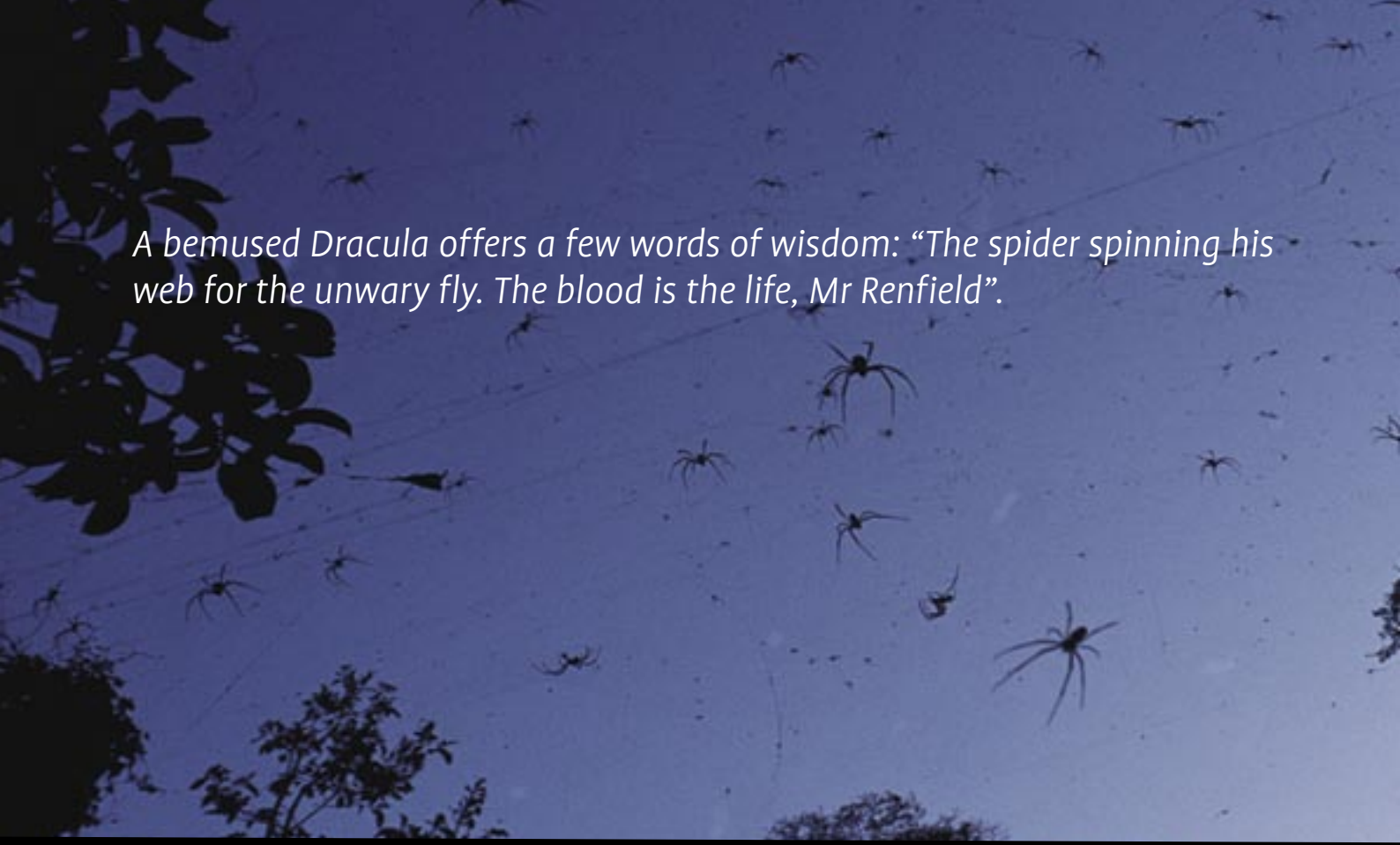
Do students find this to be a valuable learning experience? Class evaluations would suggest yes.

More importantly, are the aims being met? Already several graduates have commented they feel comfortable in the overseas context thanks to this experiential learning model. One graduate said he took up a position in Laos only because this country was covered in the course.

While most employment opportunities are less exotic, a significant number of graduates from the programme now hold managerial positions overseas: Robert Carlisle is a manager in Sydney, Australia; Cynthia Carson is an analyst with Levi Strauss in Melbourne; Murray Dempsey is the Business Improvement Manager for Flight Centre in Brisbane; Andrew Goode is a Key Account Manager for UPS in Dubai; Sheila Hailstone is Key Account Manager for BT and BP for Gartner in the UK; and Grant McKenzie is Licensing Compliance/ Marketing Strategist for Microsoft, also in the UK.

In summary, efforts by the faculty, combined with those of dedicated MBA directors, have helped Canterbury graduates to become successful businessmen and businesswomen in the global marketplace.

• *Dr Leo-Paul Dana is a marketing lecturer in the Department of Management. He previously taught MBA students at McGill University, in Montreal, and briefly served as Deputy Director of the International Business*



A bemused Dracula offers a few words of wisdom: "The spider spinning his web for the unwary fly. The blood is the life, Mr Renfield".

Vampire Spiders and the flying

Professor Robert Jackson in the School of Biological Sciences and Dr Simon Pollard, Curator of Invertebrate Zoology at Canterbury Museum and a Senior Fellow in the School of Biological Sciences, are principal investigators in a $630,000 Marsden funded programme entitled, "The Mosquito Terminator: Processes underlying selective attention in miniature brains". **Dr Simon Pollard** writes about how the story of these tiny vampires unfolded.

Hearing about the feeding habits of *Evarcha culicivora* reminded me of a line from the 1931 film *Dracula*. Soon after Renfield, a visitor from England, arrives at Dracula's castle, he struggles to get through an unnaturally large spider web spanning a staircase. A bemused Dracula offers a few words of wisdom: "The spider spinning his web for the unwary fly. The blood is the life, Mr Renfield".

Evarcha culicivora is living testimony to these words, for it is a jumping spider that sucks the life out of flying insects, especially mosquitoes that have been feeding on vertebrate blood, including that of humans. This tiny vampire lives around Lake Victoria in Kenya and Uganda, where the air is filled with countless midges and mosquitoes. Jackson is an expert on jumping spiders (family *Salticidae*) and when he first spotted *Evarcha*, he never imagined this tiny, eight-millimetre spider with a grey-brown body and red face would lead him into the world of arachnid vampirism. For the last eight years, he has been a regular visitor to Mbita Point on the shores of Lake Victoria, where the International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE) runs its Malaria Vector Programme. With technicians at Mbita Point and students at the University of Canterbury, our main interest with *Evarcha* is in understanding vision-based cognition in miniature animals. ICIPE, on the other hand, is especially interested in *Evarcha* for its ability to kill mosquitoes that transmit malaria.

Jackson's curiosity about the spiders was first aroused when he noticed they often had blood-filled mosquitoes in their mouth. He suspected that they were after the blood inside the mosquito, rather than the insect itself. To test this he offered *Evarcha* a choice of prey: midges and male (males don't eat blood) and female mosquitoes that had and had not fed on blood. His hunch was right. *Evarcha* preferred female mosquitoes that were full of blood.

But why would a spider want to drink blood in the first place? Most spiders normally prey on insects and some feed on other spiders, but they are all fluid feeders that need to turn their prey into soup with digestive fluid before sucking up the dissolved liquid nutrients. Prey are usually paralysed with venom injected through a pair of fangs, so the spider can feed without a struggle. For a fluid feeder, prey that is full of rich and nutritious blood is mechanically ideal, since the meal is already liquid. In fact, it is like take-out fast food, in that the spider just has to take it out of the prey and it has an instant meal. *Evarcha* does not have the mouthparts to pierce thick vertebrate skin and suck up blood. Instead, it captures and kills blood-fed mosquitoes (or "winged syringes" as Jackson calls them) and siphons off the blood second-hand.

Of course, this rich source of food would not be available to *Evarcha* if it did not have the ability to pick out a blood-fed

blood bags of Africa

mosquito in a crowd of traditional spider food. Jumping spiders have excellent eyesight, six times better than any insect's, and close to our own. They have eight eyes, with the two front eyes being especially big. Their two large eyes assess size, colour and shape, while the six other smaller eyes detect movement. Each of the large eyes has a fixed lens, which magnifies images enormously onto a small curved retina at the back of the tubular eye. Because the spider's retina is so small, it can only capture a portion of the image, but by scanning with its eye tubes, the spider may be building up a more complete picture of what it is seeing.

This takes time, but a hypothesis we are investigating is that the spider has evolved a way of speeding up the process, by searching for specific details in the image. Imagine looking at the *Mona Lisa* with binoculars. If you are expecting to see a painting, you only need to see the mouth to know it's her. Similarly, the shape of a leg or some other feature may be all the information a jumping spider needs before it knows what it is looking at.

The smell of blood seems to be what makes the spider expect to see a mosquito, but what visual cues does *Evarcha* use to identify by sight its preferred prey, a blood-fed female mosquito?

To answer this question, Jackson appears to have been inspired by another famous figure of horror films, Dr Frankenstein. Jackson and one of his technicians at Mbita, Godfrey Sune, show *Evarcha* dead mosquitoes mounted in life-like poses on corks. The bodies are often a combination of different body parts taken from male and female mosquitoes. They then sit back to see which composite creatures the spiders try to attack. The experiments seem to be showing that the antennae and shape of the abdomen are especially important features. Males have hairy antennae with a feathery look. Females don't have hairy antennae. Blood-fed females have distended abdomens and *Evarcha* was more likely to attack these females than those that had not fed on blood and had slender abdomens. However, a blood-fed female with male antennae was less likely to be attacked than an intact blood-fed female. But, stick a male head on the body of a blood-fed female and this composite was more likely to be attacked than an intact male or intact female with a slender abdomen.

Unlike Dr Frankenstein, one of our graduate students, Ximena Nelson, has not tried to reanimate the dead; instead she has animated virtual mosquitoes for *Evarcha* to watch on a miniature movie screen. The spider watches these digital mosquito chimeras as if they were the real thing and this allows Nelson to manipulate them more precisely than stitching together mosquito body parts.

Although *Evarcha* leads a life with vampiric overtones, Dracula is at least metaphorically a spider, as he spins a web of deceit for the unwary Renfield and makes him his slave. Like his master, he develops a craving for blood, but like *Evarcha*, he prefers it packaged in a fly. He pleads to Dracula, "You will see that I get lives, not human lives but small ones, with blood in them". Well, no matter how you get it, the blood is the life, Mr Renfield.

Photo by Simon Pollard

Research brings new focus to classroom teaching

By Fiona Cassie

Bright, busy classrooms of eager students are just one half of the learning equation, says Emeritus Professor of Education Graham Nuthall.

Unfortunately the other essential half — minds engaged in effective learning — is often missing, believes Nuthall after 40 years of internationally acclaimed classroom-based research into learning and teaching. Thirty-eight of those 40 years were at the University of Canterbury.

Nuthall and his research colleagues have spent decades as "flies on the wall" taping, videoing and observing how New Zealand children learn in the classroom. By the 1990s, particularly in work carried out with Dr Adrienne Alton-Lee, Nuthall's team had developed the most sophisticated and complex methods in the world for studying teaching and learning in the classroom.

They gathered information before, during and after a specific topic was taught. Then, by using research tools and painstaking analysis, they were able to match selected children's classroom experiences — from facial mannerisms and whispered asides to questions put by teachers and formal written work — with what subsequent interviews and tests showed the children actually learned.

The research involved 9-12 year olds in 16 Christchurch classrooms and built up a wealth of data on how students learned or did not learn about 3000 concepts in science, maths and social studies. Nuthall has built up such a solid picture of how students learn in school that his research team can now predict with 80-85 per cent success which concepts each student will learn and remember, and which concepts they will not.

Some of his findings include:

- Students learn no more from experienced teachers or award-winning teachers than from beginning teachers or "average" teachers.
- Students already know 40-50 per cent of what teachers try to teach them.
- Low ability students learn just as much as high ability students when exposed to the same experiences.

Nuthall does not blame teachers for assuming that providing interesting and engaging activities within bright and attractive classrooms naturally flows onto learning. Nor does he blame the students or their backgrounds for failure to learn.

He blames an education system that does not measure its success on what students are actually learning.

"It is a multi-billion dollar industry of which the main purpose is to promote learning, but it does not pay the serious, informed attention to learning that it should be," he wrote in a strongly worded summary of his research findings.

His critical comments are based on detailed research that has been internationally recognised in the "bible" on research on teaching — *The Handbook of Research on Teaching* — since 1972. In the latest edition (2002) he and Dr Alton-Lee were cited as one of the leading research teams in the history of research on teaching.

Nuthall believes there needs to be a culture change in the education system so it is focused on student learning.

He says teachers tell researchers they know when a lesson is going well by the "light" in students' eyes, lots of eager hands in the air and by the questions students ask.

But his research has confirmed that these are superficial signs about motivation and do not automatically lead to learning.

The research also indicates that the teacher can have less to do with what a child learns at school than they would like to think. "Quite a significant amount of what they (students) learn is from their own activities. The teacher's influence is quite small."

Students often already know the information or they pick up a concept — sometimes correctly, sometimes incorrectly — from their classmates or they extend their knowledge through their own learning outside the classroom.

There is also a powerful peer culture operating that the teacher is often only partially aware of.

"Teachers don't know what's happening to individual kids all of the time — they simply can't with 20-plus something kids in the class."

But what he thinks teachers can do is spend more time finding out what individual students in their classes are actually learning.

His painstaking cross-analysis of transcripts, video-tape, tests and interviews (before and after teaching a knowledge concept) consistently found that a child needed three to four experiences of the same information, with no more than a two-day gap between them, for children to remember a concept.

It was not boring repetition that was needed, but for the child's mind to be engaged so they could relate the concept to their own knowledge or experience, and then "store" the concept to be "retrieved" at a later date.

Children of high ability tended to come to the classroom with more background knowledge (and similar cultural norms to the teacher) that made it easier for them to connect a new concept with what they already knew.

Transcripts of small-group work also showed that children working co-operatively together were more likely to remember the concept being discussed than a group in which children, often of low academic ability, doubted or knocked each other's ideas.

But the research found that if a child was taught "relevantly and frequently" enough then he or she learned the concept regardless of academic ability.

Nuthall says classrooms need to be viewed as learning communities where teachers help students develop the mind habits that stimulate the "complex, multi-layered process" that is learning.

He acknowledges this is not an easy task for a teacher facing a classroom of individuals with different abilities, different backgrounds and a peer culture that doesn't get left behind in the playground.

But he believes that excellent teachers are already doing it and other teachers can do so.

"If a school is effective, all children are successful regardless of their background."

While there is a fashion for learning programmes — such as "brain gym", "thinking hats" or "learning styles" — Nuthall knows of no systematic study showing such programmes improve a child's ability to think or learn.

Instead, teachers must use a variety of techniques and skills to encourage learning in the classroom.

First and foremost, they need to spend more time with individual students finding out what they already understand and what they don't. He says New Zealand teachers are already good at doing this with tracking reading skills but they need to widen this to include other curricula areas such as mathematics, science and social studies.

Nuthall's research has also found that students are often more preoccupied with the practical tasks involved in a classroom project — tasks such as "how many pages are required?" or "do we need a cover page?" — than the actual learning involved.

"Nobody lets them into the secret that (the project) is supposed to be about learning and helping them to learn." So teachers need to state the practical tasks and learning goals of each topic in a way that is clear and transparent to the children.

Teachers also need to realise that low ability children, particularly from other cultural backgrounds, are often less successful in using class activities, (such as small-group work), to promote learning. Teachers need to provide a diversity of learning tasks so that the different backgrounds and expertise of the students can be valued and recognised.

"If a school is effective, all children are successful regardless of their background."

He knows of excellent teachers who can create a classroom culture that can overcome or "interrupt" the peer culture that stops some children from thriving in the classroom.

Finally, the teaching activities themselves need to be designed to be busy and bright and to encourage children to develop good "habits of mind", such as questioning, explaining, evaluating and making connections between related pieces of information. These habits could in time become automatic and the research indicates they help develop memory skills and, possibly, academic ability itself.

The recpient of the inaugural Graham Nuthall Classroom Research Award, Anna Johnstone, enjoys a celebratory lunch with Emeritus Professor Graham Nuthall.

Nuthall believes what is also important is to slow down and spend time on a topic or knowledge area to ensure children really understand and absorb the new knowledge rather than jumping on to the next thing.

Likewise, he is not a supporter of students cramming for tests and exams, as that knowledge is forgotten soon after and this process does little to reflect true learning.

Nuthall says teacher educators and a number of teachers who have attended his workshops from around the country are enthusiastic about putting his findings into action and are using them as a basis for their work.

"We're talking about shifting a culture and that's going to take a long time."

The long-term aim for his work — his research articles have been translated into German, Spanish, Swedish and Chinese — is to convince the international research audience so it continues to get into the teaching textbooks. "Then it's the stuff that student teachers read and believe because it is in a textbook."

To honour the internationally recognised work of Nuthall, a trust has been established to continue to foster classroom-based research, particularly observational research, that reflects Nuthall's student-focused approach.

Trustees come from the School of Education at the University of Canterbury, the Christchurch College of Education, the Canterbury Primary Principals' Association, the University of Canterbury Foundation and the Nuthall family. The trust, which comes under the aegis of the University of Canterbury Foundation, was launched officially on 5 May this year. It will offer an annual award and access for qualified researchers to Nuthall's extensive database.

Support is being sought for the trust from the general public, fellow researchers, scholars and teachers.

More information is available from: Associate Professor Alison Gilmore, email: alison.gilmore@canterbury.ac.nz.

• *Fiona Cassie is a freelance journalist.*

Books in Brief

My Garden, My Paradise: The Garden in New Zealand Literature

Christina Stachurski (ed)
Photography by Sally Mason

Hazard Press, 2003, RRP NZ$29.95, 124pp, hardback, ISBN 1-877270-09-1

Delightfully illustrated by photographer Sally Mason, this anthology celebrates the New Zealand garden in all its diversity through selections of prose and poetry from 50 of New Zealand's finest writers. From colonial gardens to spring in the High Country, Māori salad ingredients and Pukeiti in bloom, the collection explores family, aging, love, philosophy and humour, intertwined with pruning, mulching, weeding, bonsai, bulbs and roses. Christina Stachurski has assembled an eclectic collection of writers, including Lady Barker, Barry Crump, Joy Cowley, Katherine Mansfield, Frank Sargeson and Robin Hyde, to name a few.

Stachurski completed a PhD in New Zealand literature at Canterbury and teaches poetry part-time in the University's English programme (School of Culture, Literature and Society). Mason teaches montage and flower photography at the University's Centre for Continuing Education.

Broken English/Breaking English: A Study of Contemporary Poetries in English

Rob Jackaman

Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 2003, RRP US$47.50, hardback, ISBN 0-8386-3991-7

Through discussions of a number of prominent contemporary poets writing in English, Dr Rob Jackaman explores post-colonial poetic discourse and the influences of hitherto marginalised languages and cultures, such as Māori, West Indian, and Celtic, in creating multiple "englishes". The book explains how the English language was used as a colonising device and how the notion of a single, uniform, "standard", or "pure" English has been superseded in contemporary writing by a language that's multivalent in nature.

"It's more than dialectical differences," Jackaman says, "it's the shape of the language. For instance, West Indian writing in English is full of rhythm, which is important in poetry."

Jackaman himself has published 13 books of poetry. He recently retired as lecturer from the University's English programme after 32 years.

Making the Foreign Serve China: Managing Foreigners in the People's Republic

Anne-Marie Brady

Rowman and Littlefield Publishers Inc, 2003, RRP US$ 24.95 (limpbound), US$65 (hardback), 312pp, ISBN 0-7425-1862-0

Following on from her revisionist biography *Friend of China – The Myth of Rewi Alley*, Dr Anne-Marie Brady offers another ground-breaking work, tracing the development of the Chinese Communist Party's foreign affairs system, *waishi*, from 1921 to the present day. Incorporating state-to-state diplomacy, so-called people's diplomacy, foreign propaganda, foreign trade and tourism and foreigner management, Brady argues that *waishi* has been the most effective tool in the CCP's repertoire for building and sustaining its monopoly on power.

Brady became interested in *waishi* while researching Rewi Alley, when she realised the terms "Friend of China" and "foreign friends" had a specific political role.

"[They are] political classifications, almost a job description. Friendship is part of a strategic approach to international relations," Brady says.

Brady is a political science lecturer in the University's School of Political Science and Communication.

Yesterday's Dreams

John Freeman-Moir & Alan Scott (eds)

Canterbury University Press, 2003, RRP NZ$59.95, 324pp, limpbound, ISBN 1-877257-23-0

Bringing together writings from leading educationalists and social theorists, *Yesterday's Dreams* examines the relationship between education and social class, and the underlying principle of "equality of education" that has guided education in Western democracies for more than 50 years. It was believed that through a sincere application of this principle, meritocratic societies might be achieved in the post-war era, but the pursuit has been beset with difficulties. Lending their weight to the debate are Michael Apple, Peter McLaren, Michael Peters, Stanley Aronowitz, Elizabeth Kelly and Hugh Lauder, in chapters covering New Zealand, Australia, the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada and South Africa.

Dr John Freeman-Moir is a lecturer in the University's School of Education and former dean of Undergraduate Studies; Alan Scott is

Head of the Centre for Performing Arts at the Christchurch College of Education.

A Guide to Reading and Writing Japanese, (3rd Ed)

Florence Sakade

Revised by Ken Henshall, Christopher Seeley & Henk de Groot, Tuttle Publishing, 2003, RRP US$22.95, 322pp, ISBN 0-8048-3365-6

The textbook "bible" of students of the Japanese language has received a welcome update by Associate Professor Ken Henshall, former head of Asian Studies Dr Christopher Seeley, and PhD student Henk de Groot, all of the University's School of Languages and Cultures. The highly popular student guide was first published in 1959 and has not been revised since 1961.

The latest edition expands upon the 1850 officially approved Japanese kanji characters to include the official list of 1945 released in 1981.These are divided into two sections: the 1006 essential characters taught in Japanese elementary schools, and a further 939 characters adopted by law for use in publications for a general readership. Stroke-order diagrams are provided for the essential characters.

Photo by Sally Mason

Above: The illustration for "Red Geranium" by Wendy Vink, from My Garden, My Paradise.

Working Voices

John O'Connor & Eric Mould

Hallard Press, 2003, RRP NZ$20.00, 102pp, limpbound, ISBN 0-86477-048-0

Dog trials day, the All Blacks, council flats, pig hunting, clocking on – this collection of poems by Canterbury graduate John O'Connor and Eric Mould evoke the quintessential flavour of working New Zealand. With memorable titles that celebrate the Kiwi idiom, such as "Thirteen Savs," O'Connor and Mould mine their memories of grass roots rural and suburban New Zealand to produce a volume that's quirky, earthy, poignant and rugged.

O'Connor presents three clusters of poems: "The mechanical piano", comprising thumbnail sketches of school days; "Six Sketches, I M", depicting an assortment of humble characters; and "Public bar", offering colourful snippets of conversation snatched at bar-side.

O'Connor was co-winner of the 1998 NZPS International Poetry Award. His latest solo work, *A Particular Context*, was selected by the NZPS as one the five best books of New Zealand poetry from the 1990s. For Mould, winner of the 2002 NZPS International Haiku Award, *Working Voices* is his first book of poetry.

Worlds Apart: A History of the Pacific Islands

I C Campbell

Canterbury University Press, 2003, RRP NZ$39.95, 360pp, limpbound, ISBN 0-908812-99-X

Associate Professor Ian Campbell's latest publication provides an in-depth look at the history of the Pacific Islands, from first habitation through to the tumultuous decade of the 1990s, in a comprehensive and accessible style. It is a much-revised and expanded follow-on from his previous work *History of the Pacific Islands*. Noting the lack of general literature on the background to many island events covered by news media, Campbell has styled his work for non-academic historians, students, travellers, business people, and anyone with a general interest in this area. Campbell, who currently lectures in the University's History Department, will shortly assume the position of Professor of History and Politics at the University of the South Pacific in Fiji.

The Life and Science of Léon Foucault: The Man Who Proved the Earth Rotates

William Tobin

Cambridge University Press, 2003, RRP £40.00, 338pp, hardback, ISBN 0-521-80855-3

Léon Foucault caused a sensation in 1851 when his famous pendulum was displayed, providing the first non-astronomical proof that, while the stars appeared to spin around the earth, it was in fact the earth that was spinning.

Dr William Tobin, a senior lecturer in the University's Department of Physics and Astronomy, has spent nearly two decades researching Foucault, who lived from 1819 to 1868. In this accessible and beautifully illustrated biography, he reveals that there was much more to the self-taught French experimental physicist than the pendulum that bears his name.

The French edition of Tobin's book, *Léon Foucault: Le miroir et le pendule*, was published in October 2002 to coincide with the exhibition on Foucault's life and work at the Paris observatory.

Flight of the Huia: Ecology and conservation of New Zealand's frogs, reptiles, birds and mammals

Kerry-Jayne Wilson

Canterbury University Press, 2004, RRP NZ$49.95, 412pp, limpbound, ISBN 0-908812-52-3

As the last major land mass to be settled by people, New Zealand has suffered one of the most severe but perhaps best documented extinction cascades during the two thousand years since first human contact. This book tells the story of New Zealand's birds, mammals, reptiles and frogs, from their Gondwana origins to the arrival of the first people. It also reviews the way our attitudes to, and management of, conservation have changed over the years, concluding with a debate on future directions. This book will be invaluable for ecology students and conservation professionals, and has been written in a style that is also accessible to the non-specialist.

Wilson is a senior lecturer in ecology and conservation at Lincoln University and has been actively involved in conservation for 30 years.

Slash Your Taxes Now!

Peter Sibbald

Reed Publishing, 2004, RRP NZ$24.95, 160pp, limpbound, ISBN 0-7900-0940-4

"Our biggest expense is not purchasing our home, car or boat," writes Peter Sibbald, "our biggest expense is the taxes we pay to the government. Every time a business owner finds a new legitimate tax deduction, they give themselves a pay rise."

A runaway best-seller on the 2004 non-fiction list, *Slash your Taxes Now!* is designed to be of practical value to the average small to medium business owner, including tradesmen, professionals, manufacturers, retailers and rental property owners. Included is an A-Z directory of more than 500 possible tax deductions, a comprehensive guide to tax types and rates, and a basic schooling in tax terminology, plus a free 12-month subscription to a newsletter informing of tax changes.

Sibbald (BCom, 1996) is a chartered accountant and member of ICANZ, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of New Zealand, with more than 20 years' experience in public practice and company accounting.

Alumni Activities

Exercise your voting rights in the 2004 Council elections

As members of the University of Canterbury community, graduates have a say in determining the membership of the University Council, the University's governing body. The alumni, who are identified collectively as the Court of Convocation, have responsibility for appointing four representatives of the graduate community to the Council's 20-member body. Look out for voting papers for the 2004 election in your letterbox in September.

The University Council is responsible for the governance of the University. Its powers, which are set out in the Education Act (1989), include overseeing the institution's policy, degree, financial and capital matters. The Council is chaired by the Chancellor.

Please note that if you have not voted in the previous three elections, you will not receive voting papers. You may, however, request to have your voting rights re-instated through the Alumni Office.

Civil Engineering Reunion — Class of 1969

22-24 October 2004, University of Canterbury

A dedicated and enthusiastic group have planned a weekend of fun and nostalgia for fellow alumni of the graduating Civil Engineering class of 1969 (1st Pro class of 1967), and other interested Civil Engineering alumni who overlapped these years.

Proposed Programme:

Friday 22 October

- Lunch & Registration
- Tour of the Civil Engineering Department
- Afternoon Tea
- Keynote Address in School of Engineering
- Cocktail Party at University Staff Club

Saturday 23 October

- Coach Trip to Arthur's Pass Viaduct and Candy's Bend
- Lunch at Otira
- Dinner at the Christchurch Art Gallery

Sunday 24 October

- Lunch at Rossendale Winery, Old Tai Tapu Road

To register for this event contact the Alumni Office.

Plan B — Community and resources for young enterprise

The University of Canterbury is one of three universities participating in the exciting new entrepreneurial pilot programme, Plan B, which aims to identify, encourage, coach and mentor young entrepreneurs in New Zealand by providing an entrepreneurs club/community on campus.

The pilot clubs, which are to be launched in early June, will encourage members to share ideas, develop entrepreneurial skills, participate in networking opportunities, and take advantage of business development resources, all with a view to forming an enterprising venture. These opportunities will be provided through weekly campus meetings over a 12-week period, advertised on campus and on the official website www.planb.ac.nz. Members will also have access to business resources, a bulletin board, and on-line mentoring provided by the programme's various partners.

UC students, staff and alumni are all encouraged to be part of this. To find out more, see www.planb.ac.nz, or contact Helena Parsons, ph: 027 4906 552, email: enterprise.life@planb.ac.nz.

Inaugural New Zealand Alumni Convention (NZAC) — "It's a small world for New Zealand Alumni"

8-10 July 2004, Kuching, Malaysia

Alumni of all eight New Zealand universities are invited to this special first-time event which celebrates the Kiwi tertiary experience and the ongoing opportunities of shared experience, knowledge and connections.

The NZAC programme includes an exciting range of cultural and social events, informative presentations and networking opportunities, concluding with a "Fellowship Night" at the Sarawak Cultural Village, in conjunction with the 7th Rainforest World Music Festival (9-11 July).

The Patrons of the NZAC are New Zealand Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Helen Clark, and Chief Minister of Sarawak, the Right Honourable Pehin Sri Dr Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud.

For a Programme and Registration Form, please contact The Secretariat, NZ Centre, Kuching, Malaysia, ph: +(6082) 334 299, fax: +(6082) 482 999, email: nzac@nzcentre.biz, www.nzcentre.biz/nzac, or the University of Canterbury Alumni Office.

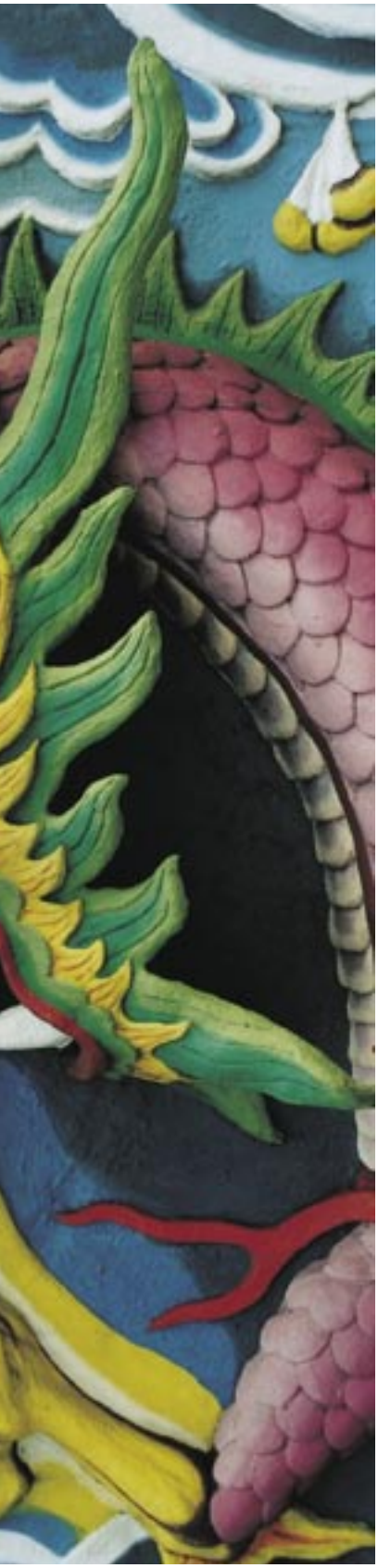


Photo by Chanel Hughes

Colourful local culture in Kuching, Malaysia.

Departmental Alumni Services

Chemical & Process Engineering

Sign up for the annual *Chemical & Process Engineering News*.

Contact: Sue Howie, ph: +64 3 364 2543
Email: sue.howie@canterbury.ac.nz
www.cape.canterbury.ac.nz

Chemistry

See the on-line alumni newsletter at www.chem.canterbury.ac.nz.

Civil Engineering

Register for the annual *CENews* and on-line CE Communicator at www.civil.canterbury.ac.nz/new_alumni/CE-Com.htm.

Geography

See www.geog.canterbury.ac.nz for the department's regular on-line newsletter.

History

Distributes the biannual *Clio Canta*.
Contact: Pauline Wedlake
Ph: +64 3 364 2254
Email: paulinewedlake@canterbury.ac.nz

Law

Sends out the annual *School of Law Newsletter*. For the on-line version see the Alumni page at www.laws.canterbury.ac.nz.
Contact: Richard Scragg, email: richard.scragg@canterbury.ac.nz.

Alumni Networks

National

University of Canterbury Alumni Association Inc.

All graduates, former students, past and present staff and stakeholders of the University of Canterbury are eligible for membership of the Alumni Association. Membership is automatic upon graduation. Non-graduates must contact the Alumni Office to register their contact details.

President: Ms Glenda Murphy
C/- The Alumni Office
University of Canterbury
Private Bag 4800
Christchurch, NZ
Ph: +64 3 364 2344
Email: alumni@canterbury.ac.nz

Wellington Branch

Co-ordinator: Mr Brian Lynch
Ph: +64 4 970 3444
Email: brianice@paradise.net.nz

Auckland Branch

Co-ordinator: Mr Chris Treleaven
C/- Worley Consultants Ltd
PO Box 4241,Auckland
Email: ctreleaven@worley.co.nz

International

UCAM

(University of Canterbury Alumni in Malaysia)
President: Mr Richard Tankersley
PO Box 10565
50718 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Ph: +60 3 2141 0822
Email: rntank@tm.net.my

Kuching Branch

Co-ordinator: Dr Chua Ching Geh
PO Box 321
93704 Kuching
Sarawak, Malaysia
Email: chingeh@pc.jaring.my

Other Associations

New Zealand Federation of Graduate Women Inc (NZFGW)

The NZFGW is open to all women graduates of NZ universities, polytechnics, colleges of education and Wānanga. It currently has 15 branches throughout the country and is affiliated to the International Federation of University Women. For more information, contact Vice-President & Membership Convenor Glenda Murphy, NZFGW
PO Box 13872, Christchurch, NZ
Email:g.murphy@paradise.net.nz
www.nzfgw.org.nz

Canterbury Historical Association

Meets monthly for presentations on a wide variety of historical topics and issues.
Membership: $40 with subscription to *History Now*, or $15 per annum.
Contact: Dr Geoffrey Rice, Secretary
Ph: +64 3 364 2283
Email: geoffrey.rice@canterbury.ac.nz

Christchurch Classical Association

Meets monthly for a lecture and supper.
Contact: Professor Tim Parkin
Ph: +64 3 364 2987, ext 8575
Email: tim.parkin@canterbury.ac.nz

New Zealand Geographical Society

(Canterbury Branch)
Meets monthly for a late afternoon seminar and discussion.
Contact: the Secretary
Ph: +64 3 364 2900
Email: secretary@geog.canterbury.ac.nz

Event Diary *Mark these dates on your calendar*

Note: if you are planning your own alumni event or reunion, please be sure to inform the Alumni Office so we can advertise the details.

***17 June** Mid-Winter Gathering for Alumni in Wellington*

5.30-7.30pm, The Wellington Club, 88 The Terrace, Wellington

The Wellington Branch of the Alumni Association invites alumni and partners to an informal gathering, with guest speaker Mr Clayton Cosgrove, MP for Waimakariri and a Canterbury BA and MBA graduate, who will speak on "The Politics of the Day".

Tickets: $25pp. RSVP: to Brian Lynch, ph: +64 4 463 6545, email: brian.lynch@vuw.ac.nz.

***6 & 7 July** Information Days, University of Canterbury*

This two-day event run during the school holidays includes a programme of introductory lectures in each subject area, campus tours and tours of the University's libraries, recreation services and halls of residence. Discount ski passes will be distributed to participants for use during the school holidays.

***8-10 July** Inaugural New Zealand Alumni Convention (NZAC) Kuching, Malaysia "It's a small world for New Zealand Alumni"*

Alumni of all eight NZ universities are invited to this special first-time event which celebrates the Kiwi tertiary experience. See page 42 for details.

***21 July** Alumni Cocktail Reception at New Zealand House Penthouse, London (UK)*

Join in the first University of Canterbury alumni event to be held in the UK, hosted by Chancellor Dr Robin Mann and Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Sharp. For more information and an invitation, please contact the Alumni Office.

***18 August** Di Gala, Christchurch Town Hall*

Enjoy a unique musical extravaganza at the annual showcase of the UC School of Music and CPIT Jazz School. Tickets on sale from July through Ticketek.

***15-17 October** "Securing a Peaceful Pacific: Preventing and Resolving Conflict in the Pacific", University of Canterbury*

A major international conference, bringing together Pacific peoples and others with first hand practical experience of dealing with conflict in the Pacific Island region, and academics and graduates who work in the fields of conflict resolution and Pacific Studies. For more information, contact Sheryl Boxall, School of Political Science and Communication, ph: +64 3 364 2987, ext 8682, or email pacificconf2004@canterbury.ac.nz.

***22-4 October** Civil Engineering Reunion - Class of '69*

Civil Engineering alumni and staff of the graduating class of 1969 (or 1st Pro class of 1967) are invited to join in a weekend of fun and nostalgia. See page 42 for details.

***21 November** Alumni Association Garden Party at "Frensham"*

Join in the annual event favourite, which this year is to be held at "Frensham" garden on Old Tai Tapu Road. Tickets: $25 (includes $5 entry to garden). Contact the Alumni Office to register interest.

***15 December** Graduation, Christchurch Town Hall*

All faculties are involved in this colourful summer ceremony. For further details, phone +64 3 364 2987, ext 8981, email graduation@canterbury.ac.nz, or see www.canterbury.ac.nz/acad/graduation.shtml.

Ongoing Tours of the Logie Collection, University of Canterbury

Guided tours of the Collection are held on the first Monday of every month from 12 to 1pm. To make a booking, contact curator Roslynne Bell, ph: +64 3 364 2987, ext 8671, or email roslynne.bell@canterbury.ac.nz.

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Ph: +64 3 364 2344
Fax: +64 3 364 2679
alumni@canterbury.ac.nz
www.canterbury.ac.nz/alumni/intro.htm.

Class Notes

Barker, Nigel M, BA, 1997 (Japanese/Chinese), taught English in Japan for a year before completing a postgraduate diploma in commerce at Lincoln University. Nigel is now Japan Area Manager for Tip Top Ice Cream, and is studying part time for an MBA through Southern Cross University.

Brathwaite, Michael J, MA(Hons), 1982 (American studies), also completed a TCL in music at Trinity College, and now works as an accountant while pursuing music and writing in his spare time. His latest CD is *Sunrise* (2003), released under the stage name of "Ritchie Venus".

Chua Hui Lian, BSc, 1992 (zoology/chemistry), works as a laboratory manager for ExxonMobil Asia Pacific. In her spare time, she enjoys singing a capella and with jazz and pop ensembles.

Coates, Glen F, BSc(Hons), 1977 (geology), initially worked as a geologist before setting up Kahu Publishing Ltd, which specialises in panoramic postcards and murals of Glen's own wide-format landscape photography.

Craven (née Hawkins), Mary A, BSc, 1964 (geography), taught science at Mairehau High School (1964-6), in Victoria, Australia (1966-8), and at the Wellington Diocesan School for Girls (Nga Tawa), where she was head of science from 1978-2003. Mary has three children and her current interests include geology, sketching and poetry.

Curr, Jonathan A, BA(Hons), 2001 (Chinese/political science), is the Deputy High Commissioner for Nuku'alofa in the New Zealand Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Trade.

d'Alquen (née McMillan), Kim R, MSc, 1997 (organisational psychology), joined Andersen Consulting after graduating, transferring to Berlin in 1997 to work for a German, Austrian and Swiss practice until 2000. Kim recently relocated to Melbourne, Australia, with her husband and two children, where she is working with IKEA(Australia)'s customer service team.

Estcourt, Nola I, BSLT(Hons), 1997; BA, 1991 (English literature/Māori), is working as a speech and language therapist in Whakatane for the Ministry of Education. Nola and her partner Tom Mahon (BA, 1993) have bought a house at Ohope Beach, and are enjoying the eastern Bay of Plenty lifestyle and climate.

Guard, Emma H, BA(Hons), 2001; BSc, 2000 (geography), is Assets Administration Officer for the Gore District Council.

Harper, David E, BSc, 1999 (plant & microbial sciences); BCom, 1997 (business & finance), has been in Stockport, Cheshire (UK), since 1998, returning to New Zealand once in that time to marry Rosemary Harper (née Button), a Canterbury BE(Hons) graduate, in the Christchurch Cathedral. For the last four years, David has been the financial controller of International Sports Management Ltd, which manages international cricketers and professional golfers, such as Michael Campbell, and promotes golf events in the UK, Europe and the Caribbean.

Hill, **Vivienne F,** BA, 1976 (religious studies), was the district commissioner of apprenticeships for the Department of Labour in Hamilton until 1986, when she was ordained as a minister in the Anglican Church. Since 2003, Vivienne has specialised as a celebrant in rites for pet namings and funerals.

Islam, Shafiqul, PhD, 1973 (civil engineering), spent more than 15 years working for Porirua City Council, holding the positions of assistant city engineer and design manager. In 1996, he joined Standards New Zealand, where he was involved in the development of engineering standards. Recently retired, Shafiqul is a keen sports fan, with a strong interest in tennis.

Julian (née Honeyman), Rae S, BA, 1963 (English), completed a diploma of education at Massey University and taught at secondary level before joining the Labour Research Unit (1977-86). From 1987-92, she held the position of Human Rights Commissioner and since then has pursued a career strongly committed to development and work with non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Rae joined the UN mission to Cambodia in 1992-3, and was a USA field representative in Cambodia, Vietnam and Laos (1994-7); from 1998-2001, she was the Canada fund co-ordinator in Fiji, Kiribati and Tuvalu, and is currently the Executive Director of the New Zealand Council for International Development (CID).

Logan (née Barrett), Mavis L, MusB, 1947, now retired, taught music theory for many years at the Christchurch School of Instrumental Music.

Mackay, Angus M, BSc, 1963 (chemistry), worked for BP(NZ) Ltd (1963-77), the NZ Coal Research Association (1977-8), and was chief chemist at G L Bowron & Co Ltd (1978-97), before establishing his own business producing dyes for the New Zealand craft industry.

Mackintosh (née Finney), A Claire, BSc, 1963 (botany), completed a diploma of business studies at Massey University and has filled a variety of roles since graduating – head of science at Rangi Ruru Girls' School, running outdoor furniture and public relations businesses, and managing development for St Andrew's College and Presbyterian Support. Claire is now Director of Development at Rangi Ruru Girls' School.

Maling, Peter B, MSc(Hons), 1934, now aged 92, edited *The Torlesse Papers 1848-51*, comprising the journals and letters of Charles Torlesse, which show how the Canterbury Settlement in New Zealand was founded. A second edition of the volume was published by The Caxton Press in 2003. Peter has also exhibited photographs at the Canterbury Museum, in a collection entitled "Glimpses of Persia".

Ngai Hok Yan, ME, 1985 (civil), is the Director of Troika Engineering Ltd, and last year formed three companies: a consulting firm, a construction firm and a firm specialising in building renovation.

Newton, Ronald G, PhD, 1999; BA(Hons), 1990 (music); MusB, 1985, teaches organ and piano, conducts the Oamaru Choral Society, edits *The Triad* (a music, art and literature newsletter for North Otago), and is Director of the NZ Organ Manufactory, which restores and maintains pipe and reed organs. He is currently establishing a New Zealand Organ Museum in Oamaru's Historic Quarter.

Ren, Jeffrey S, PhD, 2001 (shellfish energetics & modelling), is an ecological modeller for the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA), where he also researches shellfish aquaculture.

Von Tunzelmann, Adrienne F, MA(Hons), 1969 (economics), also completed a masters degree in public policy at Victoria University in 1979. Adrienne has spent much of her career in the public service, reaching senior executive levels in policy management for Treasury and the Justice Department. During 12 years with the House of Representatives, she was head of the Select Committee Office and deputy clerk of the House. She now provides private sector consultancy on public policy and regional development, and is the Vice-President of the Tauranga Region Chamber of Commerce.

To have your news considered for publication, please complete the "News" section of the enclosed Alumni Update Form and tick the appropriate box. Items are published at the Editors' discretion. Please note that due to space constraints, not all news received can be published.

Obituaries

Michael Jeffrey Baldwin, MEd, 2003 (Waikato), BA, 1970 (Cant), b. 24 September 1947, d. October 2003. A dedicated teacher and athlete, Michael Baldwin commenced his teaching career at Motueka High School and was one of the first New Zealand teachers to be sent to Papua New Guinea after it gained independence. He taught at Madang Secondary School for two years and transferred to the Teachers' Training College in Goroka, where he became deputy principal. After 10 years he returned to teach in Wellington, becoming a founding lecturer at Waikato University's Foundations Studies department in 1996. He coached the Papua New Guinea athletics team at the 1978 Commonwealth Games in Edmonton, Canada.

Patrick James O'Farrell, PhD, 1964 (ANU), MA, 1955 (Cant), b. 1933, d. 25 December 2003. Born into a working-class West Coast Irish family, Patrick O'Farrell was one of Canterbury University College's most distinguished history graduates. His MA thesis, "The Workers in Grey District Politics, 1865-1913", was a pioneer study in the harsh realities of West Coast history and won him a scholarship to the Australian National University in Canberra. There he completed his PhD thesis on the life of Labour leader H E Holland, which was subsequently published as *Harry Holland, Militant Socialist*. At the University of New South Wales, where he became Professor of History, he devoted himself to the study of Irish (especially Catholic) immigrants and their contribution to Australian history. In *Vanished Kingdoms* (1990), he combined family history, poetry and religion in what many claim is his greatest work.

Sir William Hayward Pickering, DEng (*honoris causa*), 2003, PhD, 1936 (Caltech), ME, 1933 (Caltech), b. 1910, d. 2004. Often referred to as "New Zealand's greatest gift to America", Sir William was a central figure in the space race in the 1960s and 70s. As director of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, he led the development of space probes, including the first United States satellite, *Explorer I*. He also oversaw the first successful American around-the-moon probe, *Pioneer IV*, the *Mariner* flights to Venus and Mars in the 1960s, the *Ranger* photographic missions to the moon and the *Surveyor* lunar landings of 1966-67.

Sir William, who began his engineering studies at Canterbury in 1928, returned to the University last year to be awarded an honorary Doctorate of Engineering. Throughout his life he received many accolades and twice graced the cover of *Time* magazine. In 1976, he was given an honorary knighthood and last year received New Zealand's highest honour, the New Zealand Order of Merit.

Suzanne Worrall

George Turner, b. 1922, d. January 2004, a former lecturer in Canterbury's English Department, went on to become editor of *The Australian Concise Oxford Dictionary, The Australian Pocket Oxford Dictionary*, and author of *The English Language in Australia and New Zealand*. Turner showed an early interest in language and wrote revue scripts as a student at Victoria University and Auckland Teachers' College in the 1940s. After a brief period of teaching, he studied librarianship and became head of the reference department at Canterbury Public Library. He joined Canterbury's English Department in 1955, and in 1965 become Reader in English at the University of Adelaide, retiring in 1986. A brilliant teacher, with the gift of making scholarship fun, his main teaching achievement was to establish the linguistics programme at Adelaide University. He was an elected Fellow of the Australian Academy of the humanities and an honorary Life Member of the Australasian Languages and Literature Association.

Bernard Wilson, DipEd, 1966, BA 1950, b. 20 November 1915, d. 4 December 2003. During his 30-year career, Bernard Wilson rose from teaching in small country schools to head of the Department of Education in the South Island. Appointed as a school inspector in Southland in 1957, he transferred to Canterbury in 1962, assuming responsibility for special education. In 1963, he used a British Council Award to study special education training in London. Following retirement as regional superintendent for the Southern Region in 1975, he acted as warden for the Hogben House in-service teacher training centre for five years. He also gave many years voluntary service to the Hearing Association, earning universal respect for his ability "to express concisely and with sound common sense, matters of importance to the hearing impaired". A quietly sociable man who loved people, he was an avid reader and wrote poetry as a hobby, with a keen interest also in sailing, camping and fishing.

Suzanne Worrall, MBA, 1990, BA, 1972, b. 1949, d. 19 January 2004. Suzanne Worrall trained as a history teacher before returning to Canterbury to complete her MBA. Serving briefly as training and communications manager for the New Zealand Schools Trustees Association, she joined Telecom in 1991, rising to the position of service delivery manager. She joined Canterbury's Management Department as MBA Director in 1996, in which role she demonstrated a tireless commitment to the programme and justifiable pride when it gained international accreditation in 2002. As well as her energy and enthusiasm, colleagues recall an outstanding organisational ability and great sense of fun. She had a passion for perfection, a love of elegant solutions, and a determination that ensured the success of this world-class programme.

Brian Garner Wybourne, PhD, 1960, MSc, 1958, b. 1935, d. November 2003. Upon completing his PhD at Canterbury, Brian Wybourne worked at Johns Hopkins University, the University of California (Berkeley) and Argonne National Laboratory, before returning to Canterbury's Physics and Astronomy Department in 1966. His early theoretical work on rare-earth spectroscopy is still regarded as a strength of the department to this day, and he was significantly involved in the development of the Mount John University Observatory. Wybourne was head of department from 1982-9 and held numerous visiting professorships overseas during his tenure. As International Secretary for the Royal Society of New Zealand, he played a significant role in developing New Zealand's international science policy. In 1991, he moved to Nicolaus Copernicus University's Institute of Physics in Toru, where he wrote 80 of his 190 publications. The Polish Ministry of Education acknowledged his significant contributions with an award for "lifetime scientific achievements". He is remembered as an enthusiastic teacher and researcher, who inspired students and colleagues in many countries.

Alumni Benefits

In many instances you will require an Alumni Association Membership Card to access these benefits. This card is free upon request to the Alumni Office.

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UC Memorabilia

The Alumni Office stocks a wide range of items to commemorate your time at UC (see enclosed order form). All products may be purchased over the counter, year-round, when you visit the Alumni Office (opening hours: 8.30am-5pm, Monday-Friday).

UC clothing may be purchased at the Students' Association's Unimart.

Sign up for a UC Visa card

Apply for the credit card with a difference: it both commemorates your time at UC and raises funds for student scholarships, at no extra cost to you. Contact the Alumni Office for more information.

Organise a reunion

Keen to meet up with old friends? Why not organise your own event or reunion? The Alumni Office can provide advice and assistance. Contact the Alumni Office for more information.

Maintain your gym membership

The UC Recreation Services & Sports Science Centre offers alumni competitive rates for gym membership. Services on offer include weight-training, circuits, aerobics (step, pump, spin, etc), squash, team sports, recreational classes, climbing and much, much more! Phone +64 3 364 2433, or visit www.phed.canterbury.ac.nz.

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