


# Canterbury

The magazine for alumni and friends of the University of Canterbury • Volume 2, no.2 • Summer 2005

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

## *African outpost*

UC's new field station

## *Adventure ambassadors*

In search of new heroes

## *Literary doyenne*

Liz Calder's life of books

*Motivated by mystery*

Novel teaching methods at UC

*Behind the barriers*

A history of NZ gangs

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# Canterbury

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Cover: Dr Hazel Chapman collecting plant specimens in the montane forest of eastern Nigeria, where the University recently established its newest field station (Photo: Matthew Walters).

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# Vice-Chancellor's welcome



Welcome to the summer 2005 issue of Canterbury, the magazine for alumni, friends and supporters of the University of Canterbury. Canterbury has a circulation of 35,000 copies, several thousand of which are mailed overseas, so our readership is spread across many countries around the world.

I had the pleasure recently of meeting some of our overseas readers at functions in Malaysia, Britain and the United States.

Not only was the opportunity to catch up with alumni and supporters in these countries personally rewarding, it also allowed the University to promote its international charities and fundraising projects.

We were particularly keen to highlight our campaign to secure matching funding for the Government's \$9.7 million investment in the College of Engineering's ICT Innovation Institute. College of Engineering Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peter Jackson, outlines his vision for the institute on page 5 in this issue of Canterbury.

This purpose-built research facility will be the first of its kind in New Zealand, producing the kind of entrepreneurial graduates desperately needed in the ICT sector.

We were delighted that our application for support through the Government's Partnerships for Excellence scheme was successful. It was the product of a lot of hard work by many people.

When visiting the campus to announce that our funding bid had been successful, the then Education Minister, Trevor Mallard, said he shared our belief that the proposal was a "no brainer".

We are currently involved in discussions with potential supporters. The University's Alumni and Development Manager Shelagh Murray would be happy to handle any enquiries about the project.

Naturally, there are expectations that the institute will be a hothouse of ideas — some of which will have significant commercial potential.

We are well placed to capitalise on intellectual property developed at the University with our commercialisation arm, Canterprise.

By its very nature Canterprise works in the background. However, it was justifiably in the limelight at this year's Champion Canterbury Awards which celebrate the excellence and enterprise of business in the Canterbury region. Canterprise won this year's Service Small Enterprise category prize and The Press Supreme Award for Small Enterprise.

It was excellent to see Canterprise honoured in this way before an audience of about 900 people, which included many prominent members of the Canterbury business

community. Its CEO Dr John Chang was a gracious winner and told the gathering that Canterprise is only able to achieve what it does through the support of University management and the ideas generated and developed by our staff.

The Press Supreme Award for Medium/Large Enterprise was awarded to HumanWare, the electronics company co-founded by Canterbury alumnus Dr Russell Smith.

Russell and his wife Marian D'Eve, who were great supporters of the University, were tragically killed in a plane crash in August.

Russell was a member of the University Council, a member of the Engineering Faculty and a former staff member in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

The kind of drive and determination that made him so successful in developing technologies to improve the quality of life for people with visual impairments is common here at Canterbury.

This year our students continued UC's domination of the prestigious MacDiarmid Young Scientists of the Year Awards, won hundreds of thousand of dollars worth of scholarships and enjoyed successes in international competitions.

Similarly, our staff — academic and general — secured millions of dollars in research grants and enjoyed success in all manner of awards and competitions.

At this time of year, as hundreds of our students graduate, we all get to share in their sense of achievement.

One notable feature of this year's December graduation is the new Registrar's signature on our degrees. It belongs to Jeff Field, the former Director of Communications and Development.

At the end of July, Alan Hayward retired after 38 years at the University — 18 of them as Registrar.

Alan's loyalty was extraordinary and was reflected in the sentiments expressed at various farewell functions.

It is the kind of loyalty shown by so many of our alumni. I trust you will enjoy the news stories, alumni profiles and features on teaching and research in this edition of Canterbury.

Professor Roy Sharp  
Vice-Chancellor

## Canterbury University students dominate science awards

For the second year in a row, the prestigious MacDiarmid Young Scientists of the Year Awards have been dominated by University of Canterbury students.

Of the seven category prizes awarded this year, three have gone to Canterbury University postgraduate students — Shelley Scott, who was also named overall runner-up, Roger Dungan, who was also given a special commendation by the judges, and Matthew Keir. It follows the scooping of last year's awards by Canterbury University students who won the majority of category prizes and the overall prize.

Scott, winner of the Manufacturing and Materials prize, has been recognised for her nanotechnology research in which she has drawn on environmental phenomena for inspiration.

"I've taken some ideas from nature — like the way a snowflake grows — and thought about how we can mimic this sort of process to self assemble nanoscale structures," she says.

"Basically, a snowflake forms by absorbing moisture from the atmosphere and how big it gets depends on how quickly the moisture is absorbed into it and how cold the atmosphere and cloud is.

"What we want to do is fire atoms into a space and let them do their own thing. They have certain things they like to do by themselves but by changing their environment a little bit we can coax them into forming structures that are useful." She says nanotechnology developments are key to improving computer technologies, but believes it is just the tip of the iceberg.



PhD student Shelley Scott was named runner-up in the MacDiarmid Young Scientists Awards.

"Nanotechnology can also be used in the likes of drug deliveries so there is going to be a lot of medical advances with it as well. At the moment we're right at the beginning, so we really don't know just how far it's going to go. But certainly it's going to have a major impact on the way we live our lives."

Dungan was named first equal winner of the Environmental Sciences category prize for his research into tiny scale insects living in beech trees, which are helping forests absorb more carbon. Keir, winner of the ICT and Creative Industries category prize, is

working with augmented reality and the development of low-cost technologies capable of overlaying virtual images over what a person sees through their eyes.

The prestigious awards, organised by the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology, are named after New Zealand-born Nobel Prize-winning scientist Professor Alan MacDiarmid. A panel of judges selected this year's winners from a record 127 entries from around the country. Each category winner receives a cash prize of \$2000.

## UC establishes an Auckland Liaison Office

In order to meet increasing student inquiries from the greater Auckland region, the University of Canterbury is establishing an information centre in Auckland.

Hana-Maree Lambert has been appointed Senior Liaison Officer (Auckland) and is in the process of setting up the new office in Symonds Street. Staff in the Auckland Liaison Office will be available to provide advice to prospective and new students about courses and other aspects of university life.

Lambert said it was timely that UC was establishing an office in Auckland. UC's position as one of the top two universities in New Zealand (*Performance-Based Research Fund Report, 2004*), its continued reputation for student success, combined with an appealing and affordable student lifestyle had seen a growth in inquiries and the number of students from the Auckland region choosing to study at UC.

"The University has recognised the need to provide better support to parents, schools and students in this region. I'm here to

help with their inquiries, ensure students have all the information and advice they need, and assist with this big decision.

"We've signed the lease on a great ground floor space, so we'll be easily accessible for visitors. We should be fully operational by December and we encourage students to contact us for help with course planning and advice."

An official launch for the Auckland office is planned for 2006. The University also has liaison offices in Nelson, Timaru and on campus.

## Great ideas expected to grow in ICT hothouse

A hothouse of new ideas that marries high-level technological advancements with practical applications for daily life is how the University of Canterbury is describing its Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Innovation Institute.

Plans for the purpose-built research facility are well advanced after a successful multi-million dollar bid for funding from the Government's Partnerships for Excellence scheme.

The scheme was established to enhance innovation, encourage greater private sector investment in tertiary education and to foster relationships between tertiary institutions, business and industry. It allows tertiary institutions to seek funding for large-scale investment projects that will develop teaching and research partnerships with business.

A fundraising programme is currently underway to match the \$9.7 million awarded through the scheme, which makes contributions on the proviso that matching funding is secured from other sources.

When announcing the government funding in August, the then Minister of Education, Trevor Mallard, said the Government believed the proposal for the ICT Innovation Institute (UCi<sup>3</sup>) was a perfect fit with the Government's Growth and Innovation Strategy.

"By establishing UCi<sup>3</sup>, Canterbury University and its partners are creating an environment where innovation and invention can thrive. In doing this, the institute will ensure the ICT industry has graduates with relevant skills as well as access to world-class knowledge and resources," Mallard said.

ICT has been identified as one of three areas with the potential to make the greatest positive impact on the economy. But that optimism has often been tempered by concerns among those within the sector that its potential might not be realised unless more is done to increase the number of ICT qualified people and encourage innovative thought and creativity.

While addressing the graduate issue was an early motivation for establishing the institute, Canterbury University has identified numerous other likely benefits.

It is envisaged the environment created by the ICT Innovation Institute will generate new start-up companies.



(Clockwise from left) Cabinet Minister Trevor Mallard, Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Sharp and Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Engineering) Professor Peter Jackson celebrate the announcement of the new ICT Innovation Institute.

Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Engineering) Professor Peter Jackson is one of the main drivers of the project. He says Canterbury University is the natural home for such a facility.

"Not only do we have a great deal of research talent in ICT, but the fact that we've had degrees in engineering and computer science for a very long time is precisely the reason that Christchurch has become the ICT centre of New Zealand.

"A high proportion of ICT companies around Christchurch were started up by our own graduates, as has happened in many other university towns around the world. Having recognised this outcome, we want to accelerate it."

Jackson says innovation and entrepreneurship find strong appeal among students and he believes the institute's time has come.

"My vision is to have a hothouse of talent in one space where we mix up graduate students from different but related disciplines, rather than having them isolated in their own research groups.

"It's widely recognised that breakthrough technologies come from the boundaries of disciplines, not from within them. I guess that's why I'm keen to mix the different talents up."

He cites an example where the biological implications of nanotechnology could be explored under the one roof.

"Until you put a nanotechnology PhD student next to a biological sciences PhD student you're not likely to get them recognising that they can assist each other and maybe develop a nanotech sensor that solves a medical problem."

Jackson sees the institute as being more than a research facility. He wants it to sell ICT as a career option.

"The biggest constraint to the supply of ICT graduates is students taking the right subjects at school. So what we've got to do is get kids at a very early age to see what's going on at the ICT Innovation Institute and get so impressed by it that they say 'I want to be in that industry' and then start on the right path to get them there."

## Robed bear a reminder of Registrar's long reign



Alan and Viv Hayward with the specially-attired graduate bear.

Alan Hayward may have hung up his registrarial robes but a specially-attired graduate bear will be a permanent reminder of his 18 years in the job.

The bear was presented to Hayward on behalf of the UC Alumni Association by President Sylvia Lukey.

Nearly 200 current and former staff attended a special farewell function in July to mark Hayward's retirement from the University after 38 years on the staff.

His service spanned five decades of the University's history, from his town site start in 1967 to his time as Registrar, stretching from 1987 into the 21st century. As Registrar, he worked with three vice-chancellors and five chancellors.

Known to all as a true gentleman, his courtesy, human decency and calmness were extremely effective in a complex and demanding role.

Hayward could well be described as part of a registrarial dynasty given his father Jock's 26 years of service as Registrar of Otago University.

When the position of Registrar became vacant at Canterbury in 1987, Hayward spoke to his father about applying for the job and received good advice.

"He saw the reality of what I was getting into, but he was also very encouraging."

The Registrar's role is a broad one, working with the Vice-Chancellor, Council and Senior Management Team on statutory and legal matters and grievance and dispute resolution. It can be anything and everything.

"You have to tackle just about everything and sometimes you're facilitating what's happening and sometimes you're making sure that there is a bit more thinking going on."

Graduations have provided some of Hayward's most enjoyable moments. Along with the Chancellor of the day, his signature is on some 45,000 degree certificates. The colour and pageantry of the occasion is a highlight. The Registrar wears one of the University's four ceremonial gowns, but it does not pay to take things too seriously he discovered at a ceremony this year.

"As we came in there was a little voice from the back saying 'Mummy, why are they all wearing dresses?'"

Replacing Hayward as Registrar is Jeff Field who was previously the University's Director of Communications and Development.

## Awards recognise value of innovative University-business links

Canterprise, the University of Canterbury's commercialisation arm, scooped one of the top prizes at this year's Champion Canterbury Awards.

In the annual awards which celebrate the excellence and enterprise of business in the Canterbury region, Canterprise won the Service Small Enterprise category prize and The Press Supreme Award for Small Enterprise.

Canterprise Chief Executive Dr John Chang says the prizes recognise the work of many people.

"Without the commitment of Canterprise staff, the wonderful innovation of the academics and the support of the University management, this would not have been possible."

Canterprise's main role is commercialising intellectual property developed at Canterbury University.

The University has produced successful spin-off companies such as WhisperTech,

which manufactures combined heat and power generation units; Syft Technologies, which is marketing technology capable of detecting volatile substances; and Nano Cluster Devices, which is refining novel methods of manipulating atom clusters and forming them into electrically conducting wire.

Chang says Canterprise is a complex business with multifaceted operations involving contract research and consultancy work in addition to commercialisation of University inventions.

"In 2004 Canterprise worked with 47 overseas companies and more than 220 New Zealand companies, helping them access the high tech expertise of University academics.

"Canterprise is the bridge to link business and academia. We play a vital role within the Canterbury business community and New Zealand business in general. We turn ideas into real economic benefits for the region."



Chair of the Canterprise Board of Directors John Walley (left) and Canterprise Chief Executive Dr John Chang show off The Press Supreme Award for Small Enterprise won at this year's Champion Canterbury Awards.

## Researchers awarded millions in latest Marsden Fund round



Professor John Hearnshaw will be co-leading the first census of planets within our galaxy.

University of Canterbury researchers have been allocated nearly \$6 million in this year's Marsden Fund awards, including the round's largest single grant.

The awards, which are Government funded, are administered by the Royal Society of New Zealand.

The largest single grant (\$900,000 over three years) has been awarded to a project co-led by Professor John Hearnshaw (Physics and Astronomy).

He will collaborate with Dr William Tobin (Physics and Astronomy) and colleagues

from Auckland, Massey and Victoria universities to search for planets similar to Earth and to carry out the first census of all types of planets within our galaxy. Results of the survey will help guide future European and American astronomical satellites to target the most promising planets for additional study.

The researchers will be using the new 1.8m diameter telescope at Canterbury University's Mt John Observatory.

Other UC researchers who received grants in this year's round work in the areas of economics, chemistry, mathematics and statistics, philosophy, political science, geological sciences and biological sciences. Projects range from a study into how the Chinese Communist Party can maintain its monopoly on political power while dismantling the socialist system, to research into the driving force beneath caldera volcanoes to gain a better understanding of the processes that drive their eruptions.

Meanwhile the University of Canterbury's Marine Ecology Research Group has received significant funding in an aquatic research package announced by the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology (FRST).

Professor David Schiel and his team of researchers will be an integral part of the coasts and oceans programme led by the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA). The programme, worth almost \$60 million over 12 years, seeks to understand all the factors influencing the health and productivity of New Zealand's oceans. It is a world-first in bringing together experts in climate, oceanography, animal ecology, remote sensing, fisheries, social science and economics for such a research project.

Schiel said UC researchers would work primarily on the ecology of rocky coastlines, its interactions with other components of the marine ecosystems and the factors that affect its communities, productivity and health.

In a separately funded FRST project, the Marine Ecology Research Group is to receive more than \$1 million over four years to research the environmental pathways of native fish from stream to open ocean.

"By understanding the linkages between rivers, estuaries and coastal habitats, this research will provide essential knowledge for effective management," said Schiel.

## Queen's Counsel conferred on popular law lecturer



Professor John Burrows (above) of the University of Canterbury's School of Law has been appointed a Queen's Counsel.

It is believed to be the first time the honour has been conferred on a full-time academic. Burrows said it was a big surprise as he had been unaware that someone had nominated him for QC.

"I first heard the news from the Attorney-General when he left a message on my answerphone. I simply wasn't expecting it at all. You could have knocked me over with a feather," said the popular law lecturer.

The role of QC dates back many centuries to a time when lawyers in Britain were appointed to advise the Crown, but it has since lost its original purpose, Burrows said. It is now seen as recognition of services to the profession and has moved in recent years from only being bestowed upon senior barristers to being given to non-court people.

Colleagues in the School of Law were delighted with Burrows' appointment as a QC, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor Scott Davidson said.

"There is nobody within the legal academic community who deserves this honour more. John is not only a legal scholar of national and international eminence, but he has also made a significant contribution to professional legal education in New Zealand over the years."

Burrows graduated from the University of Canterbury with a Master of Laws in 1964, having won the Gold Medal in Law in 1961. As a Commonwealth Scholar, he went on to complete a PhD at the London School of Economics. He has been lecturing at the University of Canterbury since 1967 and was made a Professor in 1974.



Team Thinking Cactus – Chang Liu (left), Billy Chang and Tony Chang – celebrate being named the inaugural winner of the University of Canterbury's Entrepreneurship Challenge (entré).

## Competition serves up a feast of innovations

**Team Thinking Cactus is the inaugural winner of the University of Canterbury's Entrepreneurship Challenge (entré).**

Modelled on successful competitions run by universities worldwide, *entré* helps students turn their ideas into real businesses and allows them to test their business plans against other competitors.

Billy Chang, Tony Chang and Chang Liu took out the top honours with their idea of a line of USB driven desktop companions that interact with computer users in a humorous and user-friendly way.

CyKiK, a moving robot, salutes when the computer starts, informs the user of new emails and dances to tell the operator to take a break after a two-hour working stint.

Team Thinking Cactus has won \$10,000 seed capital and another \$20,000 of hands-on assistance from the Canterbury Innovation Incubator. Runner-up, Greenbird Systems (John Stowers and Hugo Vincent), has won \$10,000 seed capital for their unpiloted aerial vehicle (UAV) known as TerraHawk. TerraHawk is equipped with a digital imaging system suitable for general-purpose aerial photography, remote monitoring or surveillance, and is targeted at the commercial market. The TerraHawk system eliminates the need for a skilled pilot.

The competition attracted entries from 16 teams and six were selected as finalists.

The judges were looking for ideas that were novel and likely to produce a high return on investment.

Chris Hartley, chief executive officer of *entré*, said he was delighted with the standard of entries and the diverse range of ideas.

"Our industry judges found it really hard to narrow the entrants down to just six but we needed to concentrate on the projects which offered something new and that we felt had the most commercial potential.

"Canterbury is regarded as a centre of innovation in New Zealand and I think these finalists underpin that reputation. It's a huge ask for students to juggle their own studies with the demands of putting together a viable business plan for their ideas."

Hartley says *entré* topped its sponsorship target of \$80,000 with backing from national and trans-Tasman law firm Duncan Cotterill; international business advisors PricewaterhouseCoopers; giant engineering consultancy GHD; and the Government's economic development agency, New Zealand Trade and Enterprise.

"It's great to see how businesses of this calibre have got in behind *entré*. They have a lot to offer us, not just in terms of financial support, but advice and practical support.

"The whole idea of *entré* is to put what we've learnt at varsity as students into practice. *entré* gives real relevance to our studies."

## Le Grew portrait unveiled



Artist Martin Ball stands beside his portrait of former Vice-Chancellor Professor Daryl Le Grew.

**A portrait of former Vice-Chancellor Professor Daryl Le Grew now hangs in the University Council Room alongside portraits of other former rectors and vice-chancellors.**

The portrait is the work of Auckland artist Martin Ball and was commissioned by the University Council.

Le Grew was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Canterbury from July 1998 to October 2002.

The portrait, based on photographs taken by the artist, is an example of Ball's carefully observed and hauntingly evocative photorealist style.

Over the past five years, Ball has completed a number of portraits of New Zealand artists, including Lisa Reihana, Ralph Hotere and Stanley Palmer. The works' photorealist style engages with notions of realism and representation, while the portraits' large size allows Ball to explore ideas surrounding the "appropriate" scale for portrait works.

The Le Grew portrait received its first public viewing in June as part of the SOFA Gallery exhibition *Martin Ball: Selected Portraits 2000-2005*.

Meanwhile, the University Council has commissioned Ball to paint a portrait of the current Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Sharp.

## Scholarship success for UC students

Two Canterbury University science students have been awarded prestigious scholarships, worth \$100,000 a year, to study for doctorates at either Oxford or Cambridge universities.

Chemistry honours student Anna McConnell and ecology honours graduate Robert Holdaway are two of four 2006 Woolf Fisher Scholarship recipients and both will start studying for their PhDs in October next year. The scholarship covers three to four years of study, depending on the length of the doctoral course.

McConnell, who is graduating at the end of this year, has chosen to go to Oxford University where she plans to study co-ordination and supramolecular chemistry. Holdaway, who graduated at the end of 2004, is going to Cambridge University where he will investigate energy and carbon fluxes in forest communities.

The scholarships are awarded by the Woolf Fisher Trust, a New Zealand-based organisation that recognises and rewards excellence in education. It is the first time there have been four recipients in one year.

Each student receives a maintenance allowance of \$30,000 per year, full payment of their university and college fees and an annual return airfare from London to New Zealand.

McConnell, recipient of the 2005 Alumni Association Scholarship, said she has always wanted to go to England to study. "Oxford has a really good chemistry department and they have very interesting projects in the area that I want to specialise in, which is co-ordination chemistry. It's one of the reasons why I chose Oxford."

Holdaway said he was "blown away" by his selection.

"To get to study at Cambridge, which is one of the most prestigious and highly respected universities in the world, is a dream come true."

Meanwhile, Seven University of Canterbury PhD students have collectively secured about \$700,000 worth of scholarships in the latest round of the Government's Top Achiever Doctoral Scholarships.

A Top Achiever Doctoral Scholarship provides a PhD student with \$28,000 per annum for three years. The student's university fees are also paid for.

The scholarships are fully-funded by the Government and are designed to signal the value of high-level intellectual skills and abilities and their importance to New Zealand.

The Canterbury University students who have been awarded the scholarships are



Anna McConnell

Sheree Gibb (Behavioural Neuroscience), Julian Maclaren (Electrical and Computer Engineering), Katherine Moorhead (Bio-Medical Engineering), Brigid Moriarty (Clinical Sciences), Briar Wait (Antarctic Studies), Timothy Kerr (Hydrology) and Samuel Edwards (Physical Chemistry).

Edwards said winning the scholarship was a huge relief.

"You don't have to worry about money anymore. You can just get on with doing the research and you don't have to go home and think 'spaghetti for tea again'."

## UC graduate joins Rhodes Roll of Honour



Rosara Joseph with her father Professor Philip Joseph at her graduation ceremony in April.

Canterbury University Law graduate Rosara Joseph has been named a Rhodes Scholar.

Joseph becomes only the fourth Canterbury woman graduate to join an illustrious list of successful New Zealanders who have won Rhodes Scholarships. The scholarships, which are tenable at Oxford University, are administered by the New Zealand Vice-Chancellors' Committee.

One of three scholars named this year, Joseph says she was "a little dazed and overwhelmed" by her selection which followed a gruelling interview at Government House in October.

"When the names were read out — my one last — I was shocked and excited and also a little disbelieving."

Joseph, who is currently working in Wellington as a clerk for the President of the Court of Appeal, will head to Oxford in

October 2006. She plans to study for a BCL (an equivalent of a Master of Law degree) and perhaps stay on to complete an MPhil the following year.

Joining the Rhodes Roll of Honour has capped a remarkable year of achievements for the 23-year-old who graduated with a BA and LLB (First Class Honours) in April and was awarded the Butterworth's Gold Medal for the top law graduate. Away from the law books, she has taken top honours in competitive mountain biking and has her sights set on the 2006 Commonwealth Games in Melbourne.

Her proud father is Professor Philip Joseph from Canterbury's School of Law.

"She is a pretty amazing young person with a bright future. She has worked hard and can feel justifiably proud."

# Adventure ambassadors

By Maria De Cort

Adventure. It's what we Kiwis are known for, right? But how adventurous a spirit do we really possess these days? Who are the Ed Hillarys and Peter Blakes of our new millennium?

Two men who are happy to take on the role of adventure ambassadors and inspire others to seek their own adventures are Canterbury University alumni Graham Charles and Marcus Waters.

Charles, a freelance outdoor photographer and writer, and Waters, a human resource manager at Christchurch City Council, are two-thirds of the Adventure Philosophy team. Mark Jones, a senior lecturer in sport and recreation at Auckland's University of Technology, is the third member of the team of friends who have adventured and explored together in one way, shape or form, for the past 20 years. All three were outdoor instructors together at the Sir Edmund Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Centre in Turangi from 1989 to 1995.

Since 1999, the trio have completed three major expeditions under the Adventure Philosophy brand, the most recent achieved just as this magazine goes to print with their success in becoming the first team to sea kayak around the sub-Antarctic island of South Georgia.

"You couldn't put a pin in a globe and hit a more isolated, exposed coastline," said Waters in an interview a week out from "The Unclaimed Coast" expedition.

Twice in the 1990s British teams tried and failed a circumnavigation of South Georgia Island and Adventure Philosophy knew in their two years of preparation for the expedition that a British four-man team was hot on their heels for the coveted world first. They were banking on being able to show, like Hillary before them, that Kiwis are ahead of the pack.

The team says that South Georgia was one of the last great adventures. It is to sea kayaking what the mighty Tsangpo Gorge is to white water kayaking and what summiting K2 is to mountaineering.

If anyone had the credentials "to knock the bastard off" (to quote Sir Ed) it was these three. They had already proven themselves world-class adventurers, first in January 2001 by paddling down the length of the Antarctic Peninsula, one of the most inhospitable coasts on earth, and two years later they were in the Tierra del Fuego region in South America on a world first sea kayak/mountaineering expedition inspired by eminent British adventurers Charles Darwin and Eric Shipton.

Waters lists the Tierra del Fuego trip as one of the most intimidating challenges he has faced.

"For a lot of it we were traversing country that had never seen humans before and we were navigating from a satellite photo that was taken about 10 years ago on a cloudy day from about 5km up in space."

While there are many outdoors professionals who could technically slot into the team it would be almost impossible to implant someone new and get the same dynamic, Charles says. The team has come so far together and shared so much. In fact, he and Waters have known each other since they were 13, and they flatted together in the 1980s when they were students at Canterbury — Waters doing a BA in English and Charles a BSc in Geography.

"We were into mountaineering, kayaking, rock climbing, tramping. Back then there wasn't an adventure philosophy behind it, if you like, it was just 'this feels good, it's fun, we're good at it'. Marcus, another guy, Will, and I were three guys from small-town Blenheim that didn't play cricket or rugby, or ride motorbikes or play boom boxes around town. We were this weirdo threesome who lived for this stuff."

Waters says nowadays it is the fact that Charles, Jones and he are three musketeers of adventuring that makes them unique.

"Across the world there are no other adventure people who actively market themselves as a team like we do. I think that's unique, and one of the things that underpins that is a shared belief in the positiveness of getting out there and pushing the boundaries and then sharing those stories with other people. Our shared sense of values is what, I think, has held us together through lots of difficult times when there were plenty of opportunities to fall apart as a team."

Adventure Philosophy began life as simply a team name for an expedition but has snowballed into a concept for inspiring others through adventurous exploits, and now its mission is attracting support from major international sponsors.

The value of adventure is a message Waters and Charles are keen to hammer home as widely as they can. They even have an "adventure manifesto" on their website ([www.adventurephilosophy.com](http://www.adventurephilosophy.com)) which spells out their philosophy to "inspire others to seek their own adventures, pursue their dreams, be creative and value the world around them".

One of the ways they reach people to fire their imaginations is by storytelling via all forms of media.

"We actively share our story and journey with other people because we believe that adventure is one of the key elements of the Kiwi culture and it's an important part that we want to keep alive," says Waters. "If we weren't prepared to do that it would be a hell of a lot less work, but at the end of the day it would be three guys going off and having good fun by themselves, so to speak."



(From left) Graham Charles, Mark Jones and Marcus Waters.

In this year's Montana New Zealand Book Awards their account of their Antarctic Peninsula journey, *The Frozen Coast*, was a finalist in the Environment section.

Another way Adventure Philosophy plan to revive the adventure ethic in New Zealand is through the GORE-TEX "Good for Life" Scholarship. The annual cash scholarship offered through Adventure Philosophy is given to young New Zealanders to help them pursue their own outdoor adventures.

With outdoor clothing giant W L GORE coming on board as a naming sponsor this year, Adventure Philosophy can now give prizes worth in excess of \$11,000 each year to three teams.

"The scholarship is going from strength to strength. There is nothing else like it in New Zealand and very few of its kind in the world. Each year we are getting more applicants and they are inspiring expeditions in their own right," says Waters.

When people tout Charles, Waters and Jones as the next national adventure heroes to follow in the footsteps of Sir Edmund Hillary, Graham Dingle and the late Sir Peter Blake, that mantle sits okay on their shoulders.

"Probably a couple of years ago I would have said 'Nuh, it's not going to happen' but now I think 'Bring it on,'" says Charles. "And I mean, it doesn't even have to be me, I'm happy for someone else to do it, but no-one is putting up their hands and time is passing. Whether it is one of us or all of the team, I believe the values and the things we stand for have enough integrity to hold up."

Waters agrees that it would be a tragedy if the Kiwi adventurer was added to the endangered species list.

"Those guys — Ed Hillary, Graham Dingle and so on — they embodied part of what it used to be to be kiwi, in terms of that 'go out there and do it with a number eight wire' attitude, relying on your wits to make things happen. If we did not have successors, it would perhaps be a wake-up call that some of those core values are being eroded, and make us question whether we are being globalised into a value set that is totally based around making money and watching reality shows on TV rather than living our own adventures."

# African outpost

Thousands of miles from the Ilam campus is the University of Canterbury's newest field station. **Laura Sessions** reports on the completion of the facility at Ngel Nyaki, Nigeria.



Dr Hazel Chapman in Nigeria.



Canterbury University's research station at Ngel Nyaki.

Photos courtesy of Hazel Chapman.

Three years after initiating the Nigerian Montane Forest Project (NMFP), Dr Hazel Chapman (Biological Sciences) now has a permanent presence in the mountainous region of eastern Nigeria with the completion of a research station at Ngel Nyaki.

The research station will enable Chapman and her team to conduct year-round fieldwork, even in the difficult conditions of the rainy season, and to maintain computer, laboratory and library facilities that will enhance on-site research.

The station was built entirely by the local community using local materials (mostly mud bricks). The many jobs created by NMFP in building and maintaining this facility have created community support for the project and for conservation. The project's presence and the introduction of permanent watchmen and patrollers have also contributed to a decline in hunting and poaching in the forest.

Chapman plans to spend the summer at the field station, along with her University of Canterbury MSc student, Arne Mattheus, UC volunteers, and her two Nigerian postgraduate students from the Federal University of Technology at Yola (FUTY), with which UC has a Memorandum of Understanding. In addition, Chapman currently has three permanent research assistants from a neighbouring village, two permanent watchmen, and six patrollers.

Ngel Nyaki was chosen as the location of the new field station because the surrounding forest is the only vegetation of its type left on the heavily populated Mambilla Plateau. The forest has the richest plant diversity of any montane forest in Nigeria, with more than 24 endangered plant species, and it is an important bird area and home to several primates, including the endangered Nigerian chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes vellerosus*).

Chapman and her students and assistants are undertaking a number of research projects in order to understand this forest better and, in turn, to develop strategies for long-term sustainable management of Nigeria's montane forests.

Most of the team's research projects focus on some aspect of tree reproduction (fruiting, flowering and seed dispersal). One project has involved the labelling and identification of more than 2000 trees throughout the forest, which are monitored every month in order to determine their patterns of fruiting and flowering through time. These patterns are then compared to other forest types in lowland Nigeria and the Congo, in order to understand the role of food availability in the evolution of chimpanzee versus bonobo ape social structure. This research is being done in collaboration with a group from University College London.

Other members of the team are examining the effect of forest fragmentation on seed dispersal and what role primates, especially putty nose monkeys, play in seed dispersal. More broadly, the team is testing whether seed dispersal is a significant force in maintaining plant species diversity by measuring seedling composition both under and away from parent plants.

The success of the NMFP is due in part to its strong collaborations with both local and international organisations and researchers. In particular, the Leventis Foundation, the Nigerian Conservation Foundation, and the Taraba State Forest Service have provided crucial logistical support.

The research station was funded with generous support from various groups, including Nexen Nigeria, the Leventis Foundation, Chester Zoo, DHL Nigeria and the American Women's Community, Lagos. School children at the American International School in Lagos held a walkathon to raise US\$10,000 towards books for the new station's library.

Chapman hopes that the project will also lead to collaborations across colleges at the University of Canterbury. Discussions are already under way with Dr Richard Vokes (Sociology and Anthropology) to create a research project combining ecology with social anthropology.

## When the pumps run dry By Paula Travaglia

**Record prices at the pumps have everyone talking about petrol but what would happen if fuel supplies dried up? Two University of Canterbury academics hope their research will help cities prepare for a future where transportation could be affected by limited fuel supplies.**

Dr Susan Krumdieck, a senior lecturer in Mechanical Engineering, and Dr Andre Dantas, a lecturer in Civil Engineering, have teamed up for the 15-month project, funded by Land Transport New Zealand.

The goal of the project is to develop an analysis method that will help city and transport planners work toward cities that better handle disruptions to their fuel supply.

A city's layout and density will affect how well it can respond to a fuel shortage. Where people live farther from where they work, shop and go to school, they are more likely to feel the effect of supply fluctuations.

The pair says there has yet to be any investigation into the relationship between transportation and energy from a planning perspective. Krumdieck says transportation planners assume there will always be a fuel source allowing people to travel as much as they wish, believing "if there's a shortage, the price will go up and that will bring new supply into the market".

But Krumdieck says data from many sources indicates that the world has now hit peak oil production, which is reflected in high oil prices. Oil refineries are at full capacity and will never be

able to produce more. In fact, she says, the supply will gradually decline.

Dantas says when — not if — it declines, there is no theory available to help plan, design and operate transportation systems.

Krumdieck and Dantas aim to illustrate the nature and likelihood of certain petrol interruptions or shortages, as well as calculate how likely they are to occur over the next 20 years. The nature of the event will determine how significant its impact will be.

Small, short-term disruptions will cause few problems. However, more significant supply problems could lead the International Energy Agency to order member countries to reduce consumption. If the government chooses to control supply with petrol rationing, people in sprawling cities are more likely to feel the impact than those in smaller or more compact communities, both because their fuel needs are greater and because they may have fewer alternative transport options.

These shortages might seriously affect people's well-being, particularly the elderly or those with lesser mobility or small children to care for. Krumdieck says part of the research will be to determine just which groups will feel the greatest impact.

The research will also try to determine what types of cities would be the most resilient, that is, able to use other forms of transportation to carry on with their normal activities.

The nature of a shortage is just as important as its length in determining how people will be able to cope.

A shortage brought about by a political hiccup or natural disaster might have less impact than other types of shortage. If Australia decided not to allow us some oil because they took a dislike to one of New Zealand's political policies "we could actually have a strong national sentiment about that, and would hang together and do what the government asks us to do," says Krumdieck.

This would contrast with a situation where fuel is in limited supply, causing extremely high prices. "It's possible that what you'll see is just a really different distribution system to what you have now, because there'll be whole segments of society who drop out of that system, as opposed to everybody being in the same boat with a rationing system." This could create tension within a community between the haves and the have-nots, with those on lower incomes most affected.

The research will also try to place values on different transport activities, something that transportation planners have also overlooked. "They don't delineate that some activities and some trips that people take are essential while some aren't," Krumdieck says.

Getting to the doctor and getting food will be more important to ensuring people's well-being than taking a trip to the mall to shop with friends.

At this stage of the research, Dantas says they are being fairly arbitrary in deciding what is essential and what is not. "This is because we just want to have an initial idea of what is going to happen to urban development and the transportation system. In subsequent research efforts, we should get more money to study what exactly is essential."

The models created will be applied to two different urban forms, based on two city scenarios outlined in the Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy. One is a Christchurch where development has been concentrated within the city and at satellite points such as Rangiora and Rolleston. The other is where development has spread out across the Canterbury Plains.

"Those two urban forms we're looking at are rather abstract. But the point here is, if this analysis method does work out then we can apply it to existing forms to get some idea of how they need to change to be more resilient, to be more reliable," says Krumdieck.

If the research showed that certain types of cities did not function well in the face of oil shortages, then this would help both city and transport planners prepare for the future.

Both the Christchurch City Council and the contractors the city hires to design and build infrastructure systems are involved in the research. The council can then use the findings to regulate for a city that will best deal with the consequences of fuel shortages.

Krumdieck says the research is also important for city residents, because it could give them a basis to lobby against certain types of cities. Many people do not like urban sprawl, but feel they have no real leverage to prevent it from happening.

But if the research shows residents of sprawling cities are more likely to be affected by fuel shortages than those living in smaller cities, then residents could oppose sprawl on practical grounds as well as emotional.

Even when the project has finished, Dantas says there will still be more research to complete. "Susan and I have to write a book about the theory and concepts that we are developing." After that it is a SimCity type of game showing the link between energy and transport. "Then we will get people to realise that what we are talking about will work and it won't hurt. It will be much better; but we ought to start ASAP."

## Research obsession By Maria De Cort

**Groundbreaking research being completed by a doctoral student at the University of Canterbury could help improve the treatment of a disabling psychological disorder which affects two to three per cent of the population.**

Emily O'Leary (Psychology) is investigating the cognitive processes associated with specific subtypes of Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD), which is characterised by recurrent unwanted and unpleasant thoughts (obsessions), and/or repetitive ritualistic behaviours sufferers feel driven to perform (compulsions).

Probably the most recognised "face" of the disorder is Melvin Udall, the obsessive-compulsive author played by Jack Nicholson in the 1997 movie, *As Good As It Gets*.

"When most people think of OCD it is washing hands, avoiding stepping on cracks, checking and rechecking locks (like Nicholson's character). People don't realise the intrinsic nature of how complex and covert the obsessions and compulsions can get, how disabling it is for people and how much energy it takes for a person with OCD to get through their day," O'Leary said.

It is this lack of understanding of the heterogeneity of the illness that O'Leary hopes will be reversed by a documentary on OCD being made by Production Line which will feature her research. The crew filmed participants taking part in O'Leary's behavioural study in May, and *Touch Wood* is scheduled for screening on TV1 as part of its "Documentary New Zealand" series in early 2006.

O'Leary has nearly completed her dissertation, having spent four years researching the etiological components of the disorder.

Her research is heavily driven by cognitive-appraisal models. Although differing in emphasis, these theories posit that certain predisposing beliefs lead to a misinterpretation of the significance of the intrusive thoughts or obsessions. Compulsive rituals are seen as attempts to reduce the associated distress.

In 2001 a group of international researchers, known as the Obsessive Compulsive Cognitions Working Group (OCCWG), proposed that six beliefs are critical to the persistence of OCD: inflated responsibility; importance of controlling one's thoughts; intolerance to uncertainty; perfectionism; importance of thoughts; and over-estimation of threat.

As part of her PhD research, O'Leary investigated whether these beliefs could be profiled according to OCD subtype. For example, she looked at whether individuals with hoarding obsessions have stronger

beliefs about the need to control one's thoughts compared to those with aggressive obsessions (intrusive thoughts about harming others).

In the largest study into OCD in New Zealand to date, O'Leary conducted a series of tests with 70 individuals diagnosed with the disorder.

For the third and final study participants were selected on the basis of their OCD symptom subtype (aggressive, symmetry, contamination or hoarding obsessions) and completed six behavioural tasks tapping into certain beliefs. One scenario involved participants approaching and putting their hands in a rubbish bin containing pseudo-contaminants.

Their anxiety levels were measured as they approached and when they put their hands in to touch the contaminants (which until the completion of the exercise they were led to believe were things like food scraps and animal hair). O'Leary clinically observed aspects of their behaviour and, in particular, how long they could keep their hands in the bin and for how long they washed their hands after the test.

The results supported previous conclusions, as strong correlations between certain beliefs and the individual's primary obsessional complaint (subtype) were observed. The use of experimental methods also proved extremely useful in allowing O'Leary to examine the subtleties in participants' responses.

"The use of experimental methodology was crucial, as the tasks really showed the strength of these people's beliefs. In some cases, the individual was unaware they had these beliefs until the experiment, as they had not endorsed them in earlier pen and pencil-type tests."

O'Leary's studies revealed that while the six beliefs were present in all OCD subtypes, each OCD subtype could be profiled according to prominence of belief types. For instance, the profile that emerged for the symmetry subtype was a strong preoccupation with perfectionism and control beliefs, and those with a contamination obsession exhibited inflated responsibility beliefs and over-estimated threat.

O'Leary believes that clarifying the role of cognitive processes in the disorder will enhance the treatment of people with OCD.

"By showing through my research that people display distinct styles of response depending on subtype, utilising these profiles will hopefully cut down time in treatment, make treatment more efficient, and basically give us, as psychologists, more of an idea about where to target."



# BEHIND THE BARRIERS

By Maria De Cort

When you think “field research” and the list of locations at which you might expect to find a PhD student conducting it, a gang clubhouse probably does not feature. But clubhouses, and many other gang haunts, are where University of Canterbury postgraduate student Jarrod Gilbert has spent a great deal of time undertaking groundbreaking research into the history of New Zealand gangs.

The sociology researcher has spent the past three years studying the rise and development of gangs in New Zealand, from the bodgies and widgies era of the 1950s through to the present day gang scene. The project is the first of its type ever done in New Zealand and will shed light on a facet of New Zealand history that has been neglected by researchers up until this point.

So what made Gilbert, a former UCSA president who grew up on Auckland's North Shore and had never crossed paths with a gang member, decide to immerse himself in the gang underworld for his PhD thesis?

He points to the Harassment and Criminal Associations Bill of 1998, a package of measures introduced to deal with gangs that included an explanatory note stating “there (was) no independent data or research about gang activities”.

“I thought, how can we bring in laws in the absence of no real research? It was a great opportunity to do some,” says Gilbert.

Gilbert says the value of his study will be in its understanding of how and why gangs come to exist and what factors have contributed to their endurance and growth. Such research, he says, is vital to building the foundations of sound social policy.

His thesis will look at the changing face of gangs — from being a part-time hobby or phase of life for rebellious youth in the post-World War II period to something much more a life focus from the 1970s onwards; from the heyday of the biker gangs to the rise of the ethnic patch-wearing gangs. He will examine specific elements of gangs such as the significance of the clubhouse, the importance of the patch, how individuals prospect for a gang, and attitudes towards police and authority.

While the dictates of fashion might be seeing the rise of ethnic and “homie” gangs over bike gangs which are not pulling in the same recruits as they once did, Gilbert says one thing hasn't changed about gangs since the early days.

“The *raison d'être* is still brotherhood, a sense of belonging. If you've got very little in your life and you don't perceive society's doors are open to you, then you put on that patch and suddenly you are not just one of the masses, you are suddenly something.”

Gilbert began his PhD research back in 2002 and the primary sources have been interviews with police, politicians, policy makers and current and former members of gangs themselves.

It took Gilbert the better part of two-and-a-half years to build up the network of connections he has today and he admits it has been a challenge.



Dennis Makalio, member of the Rogue Chapter of the Mongrel Mob (left), and presenter Ross Kemp during filming for a documentary for Sky UK.

“You've got to understand that gangs don't speak to the media. They're inherently suspicious of people like me, outsiders or ‘baldheads’ as they might call me.”

Looking back, he says he realises how “green” he was, asking ridiculous questions and trying hard not to look conspicuous.

“When I first started seeing the ethnic gangs I grew this terrible scraggy beard just to make myself look a little less like a baldhead and when I started seeing the white bike clubs I shaved my head; and yes, you drink a truckload of liquor and you learn that it's not about asking the right questions as much as it is about shutting your mouth until you are trusted.”

After making some initial contacts Gilbert said it was a “snowball” process — one introduction led to a few more, even between rival gangs.

It was Gilbert's research and his extensive connections which led a television production company, IWC Media, to his door and saw him score a stint as associate producer with a British documentary crew earlier this year.

IWC Media had been contracted by Sky UK to work on a series of four documentaries on gangs around the world, fronted by Ross Kemp, the actor best known for playing *EastEnders* hard man Grant Mitchell. New Zealand's Mongrel Mob gang was the first in the “Ross Kemp on Gangs” series screened on Sky One in July this year.

In the one-hour documentary Kemp gets a guided tour of various clubhouses and Mob events from a member of the Mongrel Mob's Rogue Chapter. Kemp also interviews police and victims of Mob violence and looks

back on historical footage of gang-related incidents in New Zealand history.

“The idea was to say ‘Here is the Mongrel Mob, this violent sort of outfit. Here is what the police and media say about them. Let's try to get inside them and see what they are really like.’”

Gilbert is quick to stress that there is much more to gangs than is portrayed in the papers or on our screens.

“To categorise them solely as a criminal enterprise is a long way from the truth and it is something that the police, politicians and the media tend to do. But it is a genuine misrepresentation and I think I was just as surprised as anybody by that.”

“One of the most curious features of this study is that when you get to know many of these people within the gangs they're surprisingly normal — a little rough round the edges it would be fair to say, and perhaps with a criminal inclination, but nevertheless when you see them with their son or daughter bouncing on their knee or at home mowing the lawns you realise that they've got very similar sorts of lifestyles to the rest of us on the whole.”

Despite the fact that Gilbert would now genuinely call some gang associates his friends, his path to earning his PhD has not been a smooth one.

“I've had a couple of what they'd call ‘blues’ and I've been threatened more than you'd care to imagine. But I was aware it's just part of the territory and while there have been moments that have been frightening, a lot of it is just everyday life — it is not always dodging bullets and knives.”

*Continued on page 18*

In cases where conflict has arisen, Gilbert says there is no winning formula for every situation but a quick wit can come in handy.

"I remember diffusing a situation one time where a guy came charging around a bar absolutely intent on taking my head off because he thought, through some terrible miscommunication, that I was challenging him to a fight. In the end I challenged him to a spelling bee which just made everybody laugh and made him lose track and things calmed down. But often humour doesn't work and I've found myself on the wrong end of a bar stool on occasions. There are a lot of Jake the Musses out there."

Gilbert is in the process of writing up his PhD thesis and hopes to have it published as a book, which he thinks will not only make "a gripping read" but also go a long way towards providing a foundation for future policy making.

He believes that in New Zealand the only avenue that has been travelled down to solve the problem of gangs has been staunch deterrent legislation and that is dangerous.

"To think you can bust the gangs through stronger and stronger law is just false. The police are charged with solving a problem that on their own they simply cannot. People join gangs because they want to rebel against society. Unless you can change them wanting to do that you are not going to change gangs."

While it is easy to see how Gilbert's research will help police and policy makers, what is not so obvious initially is how the gangs themselves benefit from letting him into their circle to conduct research. He says that it comes down to a natural desire to have their place in the historic record.

"I think all people want their place in history written down or understood and I think that the gangs, by and large, are really frustrated by the continual misrepresentation within the media, so they figure if they've got someone they can trust to portray the story accurately then that is in their favour."



## Health check By Norma Odendaal

**With the opening of the GeoHealth Laboratory, the University of Canterbury is establishing itself as the pre-eminent centre studying academic health geography in the southern hemisphere.**

High suicide and child mortality rates, healthcare inequalities, and air quality-related diseases are but a few of the current health and social issues in New Zealand that are being researched by the GeoHealth Laboratory at the University of Canterbury.

Begun as a joint venture by the Ministry of Health and the Department of Geography late last year, the GeoHealth Laboratory undertakes policy-relevant research into social, environmental or geographical impacts on a range of health issues.

According to co-director Dr Jamie Pearce, the study of the geographic determinants of health is becoming increasingly critical. He is hopeful research done at the University of Canterbury in collaboration with Public Health Intelligence — a key Ministry of Health unit that is leading the health sector in the delivery of specialised expertise and advice — will feed into the health policy debate and lead to improved policy formulation.

"We have to look at the reasons behind geographical variation — how the place where you live affects your health and why," says Pearce.

An example is the research currently being done to measure the health outcomes deriving from air pollution in Christchurch. The city's smog is thought to hasten the death of about 70 people per year. And already the study has found that there are also clear links between poverty and the effects of air pollution, with residents of the poorer suburbs more exposed to the smog problems.

"So far we have been looking at the smog issue within a Christchurch context, but we are now ready to look at it on a wider scale," says Pearce. Eventually the outcome of this study, and others, may lead to effective policies that will hopefully minimise smog-related health problems across New Zealand.

Other areas of research for the GeoHealth Laboratory are New Zealand's higher than average suicide and child mortality rates.

"Looking at geographical variations, researchers hope to ultimately understand why New Zealand finds itself in this position, thereby creating a policy framework in which we can start working on reducing them," says Pearce.

Despite New Zealand having a relatively small population, health inequalities are fast becoming a headache for both the authorities and for those not receiving their fair share of the health pie.

"The issue of health inequalities is a prime example of how geographics are applied to our research," says Pearce. "We are seeing different health outcomes in different parts of the country and we, as researchers, are faced with the challenge of finding answers to an extremely complex problem."

The research means close co-operation with a variety of healthcare providers, including many grass roots organisations. Apart from research, one of the most important functions of the GeoHealth Laboratory is to provide specialist public health training tailored to the needs of the health sector.

"We are now in the process of organising training courses and methodological workshops for people in the health sector, to point them towards geographical factors that may be important when putting policies together," he says.

Researchers at the GeoHealth Laboratory are also working closely with Ministry of Health researchers on a variety of other issues. "Our research and that done by the Ministry of Health had a lot in common and it was only sensible to double the results of our efforts by working together in a partnership," says Pearce.

So far it has proven to be a profitable relationship for the University, not only in financial terms, but also in putting valuable research into the public arena. "All too often research sits hidden in some obscure academic journal or library — this way our research gets exposed to useful public debate," Pearce says.

The financial advantages of such a partnership are obvious. With academic institutions worldwide struggling to meet the costs of thorough research, the GeoHealth Laboratory's work is core-funded by the Ministry of Health and also receives funding from the Health Research Council, Ministry of the Environment, University of Canterbury and Diabetes New Zealand.

The partnership has also opened new doors for many students. Besides the fact that some of them are already involved in current research by the laboratory, scholarships are now being offered to Masters and PhD students who wish to further their studies in areas that fall within the focus of the GeoHealth Laboratory.


The main advantage for New Zealand health authorities is the development of a practically-led research portfolio, focused on delivering high quality information to help better the understanding of the spatial patterns and determinants of disease in New Zealand.

And with new challenges constantly arising, the GeoHealth Laboratory has its work cut out — like for instance last year's anti-smoking legislation that was (and still is) the subject of passionate, sometimes bitter, debate among various sectors of New Zealand society. Pearce says with the ban now almost a year old, the laboratory is ready to start looking at the effects of those laws.

"Although research done in other countries would suggest that a smoking-ban, such as the one that came into effect last year, reduces the incidence of heart disease and other smoking-related diseases, we will have to do our own research into the effects it has in this country."

While it is too early yet for any conclusions, it is the type of research that is bound to emphasise the importance of such a study facility in years to come.

And, although the partnership has been set up for an initial period of three years, Pearce foresees an ongoing and growing relationship that should eventually lead to policies being put in place that ensure a healthier New Zealand.



## Forestry from a totally different angle

By Norma Odendaal

With a rainforest the size of Austria, Sarawak has the world's largest and most diverse ecosystem. It provides a home for the orang-utan, deer the size of cats, the world's largest flower, and plants that eat small mammals.

Situated on the island of Borneo, Sarawak is Malaysia's largest state and by far the most exotic. And every year a group of forestry students from the University of Canterbury is granted the opportunity to explore one of the world's largest timber producing areas as guests of the Sarawak Timber Association.

The relationship between the Sarawak Timber Association and the New Zealand School of Forestry at Canterbury University dates back to 2000 when two UC alumni involved in the association invited a group of students to experience forestry from a totally different angle.

And different it is. Dr Rob Douglas (Director of Studies, Forest Engineering), who accompanies the students, says everything there is the opposite of what his students are learning and experiencing of forestry in New Zealand.

"The situation is flipped," he says. "We are talking about a temperate versus tropical climate, where logging takes place in natural forests as opposed to plantation forests like we have in New Zealand."

He says it is an eye-opener for the students. "The idea is to take them way out of their comfort zone, because that is where you learn things."

Leaving New Zealand in the midst of winter, they move out of their comfort zone the moment they set foot in the sweltering equatorial heat of South East Asia. For the following two weeks they experience an industry where a massive 13 million cubic metres of logs per year are harvested.

Fourth-year student, Julia Stanley, who went on this year's trip to Sarawak, describes the experience as a "huge revelation".

"It opened my eyes to the very different approaches and attitudes towards forestry. Before we went, I thought everyone did what we were learning to do at the School of Forestry," she says.

It is a busy two weeks for the students. Visiting a national park, museums, a wildlife refuge and a cultural village may sound like a tourist itinerary, but the visits are essentially to gather data and information. Although the Sarawak field trip is not a formal part of the course and is made strictly on a volunteer basis, it definitely involves the academic hard yards.

A seminar is organised before the trip where a portfolio is allocated to each student, covering topics like marketing, soil, wildlife, plants and labour. Each student is responsible for gathering as much information as possible regarding his/her portfolio topic and the results are eventually shared with, and explained to, the rest of the forestry students.

But the main purpose of the field trip revolves around forestry. Many sawmills are visited where students are often overwhelmed by the sheer size and volume of the wood being processed. Douglas says that in New Zealand only about three species are harvested commercially. In Sarawak

they are looking at between three and four hundred commercial species.

It is also the world's second largest exporter of tropical plywood, about 21 times New Zealand's exports. That calls for a totally different operational process. There are also unique labour implications and totally different social challenges: people from 27 different ethnic groups living and working together in difficult conditions where they are paid very low wages compared to New Zealand workers and are not protected by the strict safety regulations New Zealanders are used to.

"I think it is safe to say they don't have an equivalent of OSH [Occupational Safety and Health] in Sarawak," says Stanley. "The workers in the mills don't have ear or eye protection and the few that were actually wearing footwear only had jandals on."

Another of the students who took part in this year's field trip, John Soutar, says he now has a greater appreciation of the controls placed on development in New Zealand, and for OSH.

"I would view the Malaysian forest industry to be several decades behind that of New Zealand on ground level operations. It will help me professionally by allowing me to reflect upon what we are doing right in the industry and the actions we need to take in order to remain competitive globally," he says.

Typically, the study tour also includes a briefing on sustainable forest management by the Sarawak Timber Association. This year the association asked some of the students to do a presentation about forestry in New Zealand.

Students usually visit a forest nursery and a charcoal plant as well as plantations. Stanley describes the first viewing of the plantation forest near Bintulu in the interior of Sarawak as a "huge shock". She says that the area where the trees are being established is secondary jungle, which is similar to rain forest.

"All merchantable species (timber with a commercial value) in this jungle are harvested and the remaining trees burnt. But then planting crews go in and plant into cleared land," she says.

The study tour group (only about seven to nine) typically consists of third and fourth-year students, with the occasional postgraduate student joining them. All of them are volunteers and they have to raise the money through sponsorships and fundraising initiatives to be able to go.

Douglas feels that exposing the students to everything associated with forestry on a global scale is worth the cost, and the Sarawak Timber Association also benefits in the sense that it exposes its staff to overseas people, thereby reminding them that they are part of a global economic community.

Sarawak Timber Association General Manager Barney Chan, a Canterbury University alumnus, says Sarawak is under intense scrutiny in forestry circles around the world, so the students obtain a first-hand insight into its complexities.

To do so while sampling the vibrant culture, unfamiliar food and fascinating scenery truly makes the study tour a trip of a lifetime for the students, and broadens their outlook just as they are embarking on their careers.



(Above) Students tour the large acacia seedling nursery at Grand Perfect Co.'s forest plantation facility inland from Bintulu.

(Below) Exotic flora and fauna are abundant in Bako National Park near Kuching.



## UC Foundation

### Provincial Finance directors investing in their past

All Black great Colin Meads has already given his backing to Christchurch-based Provincial Finance Ltd; now the company founded by two University of Canterbury alumni is giving its backing to a new professorial chair in the College of Business and Economics.

Provincial Finance has agreed to contribute \$400,000 over the next five years towards the running costs of what will be known as the Provincial Finance Chair in Investment Finance.

Formed in 1987, Provincial Finance is led by CEO John Edilson, who graduated in 1985 with a BCom, and the company's founder David Lyall, who graduated with an LLB in 1987. Provincial Finance has grown to become one of New Zealand's most successful second-tier consumer finance companies.

The arrangement brokered by the University's own charitable trust, the University of Canterbury Foundation, is the first of its kind at Canterbury University. It will allow Provincial Finance to contribute funds incrementally over the next four years instead of the traditional lump sum contribution.

The University will fund the core costs of the Chair, and the funding from Provincial Finance will be used to supplement the professorial salary and to support a doctoral student and a personal research grant.

UC Foundation's Executive Officer, Shelagh Murray, says the arrangement with Provincial Finance is a model the University hopes to emulate in the future for sponsored chairs.

"The ability for companies to make contributions without having to front up with a lump sum is a win-win situation. We think an arrangement like this will be attractive to other companies and individuals looking to support the University."

Edilson's passion for finance was fired well before his days at Canterbury University.

"I can remember when I was at high school lending money to my fellow pupils to buy their lunch. Lending money is the basis of making society work. When you lend money people can buy a house or people can buy a business and it makes the whole world go round. That's the reality."

Edilson says Provincial Finance's enthusiasm for the new professorship is based on more than just sentimentality.

"The fact the arrangement is something different and that it's our old varsity was a big influence on us. But we want it to help



John Edilson (left) and Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Business and Economics) Professor Nigel Healey finalise the details of the new professorial chair, watched over by UC Foundation Chairman Colin Averill and Foundation Executive Officer Shelagh Murray.

the College of Business and Economics become more interactive with the business community.

"I think it is very important for the University and for the students to understand that what they learn here and what they do here does have some relevance for the market place."

Those views are shared by College of Business and Economics Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Professor Nigel Healey, who says the College wants to establish itself as a leading research centre in the Asia-Pacific region. It also aims to produce highly-employable students from world-class programmes and to make a major contribution to the economic development of the region.

"This exciting new initiative with Provincial Finance, in which a major investment company will be sponsoring a chair in investment finance, represents a significant step forward in achieving these goals.

"Provincial Finance's support will allow the College to attract a world-class academic to the University, to lead the development of new research and teaching programmes in the area of investment finance."

Healey hopes to make an appointment in time for the 2006 academic year.

### Fund launched in memory of former forestry lecturer



An annual award fund has been set up by the University of Canterbury Foundation in conjunction with Canterbury University's New Zealand School of Forestry in memory of Dr Graham Whyte (above), who died earlier this year.

The establishment of the fund has also been supported by the New Zealand Institute of Forestry.

Whyte, a specialist in forest management systems, forest planning and production forecasting, died in June, aged 66, after a long battle with leukaemia.

Whyte retired in January 1995 after more than 25 years at the University. He was the "first to sign on the dotted line" in the recruitment campaign carried out by the School's founding professor, Peter McKelvey, in 1968.

He was promoted to reader in 1981 and was Head of School from 1992 until he retired.

The purpose of the Graham Whyte Fund, in accordance with Whyte's wishes, is to provide

an annual prize to the best performing postgraduate student after one year of study.

University of Canterbury Foundation Executive Officer Shelagh Murray said donations to the fund were flowing in.

"We are very pleased with the level of support that individuals and companies are providing."

She said just over \$5600 was raised within the first couple of weeks of the fund being established.

One company that donated to the fund said many of its consultants were well taught by Whyte "and they continue to appreciate the skills he imparted".

"We wish recipients of this award all the best with their future studies and we thank you for extending the invitation to make a contribution," the donor said.

Whyte, who knew the fund was being set up before he died, also made a contribution.

Whyte was a graduate of Aberdeen and Oxford universities, a Fellow of the New Zealand Institute of Forestry and a recipient of the institute's Thomas Kirk Award in 2000.

He will be remembered for his passion for forestry, his fearlessness in debate and his commitment to forestry education.

- Those interested in making a donation to the fund should contact:  
Shelagh Murray, Executive Officer  
University of Canterbury Foundation  
Private Bag 4800, Christchurch  
Ph: +64 3 364 2550  
Email: shelagh.murray@canterbury.ac.nz

### UC seeks funding in USA

The University of Canterbury has extended its official fundraising activities to the United States.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Sharp joined alumni and prospective financial supporters in New York, Washington and San Francisco at functions in September 2005 to promote the University of Canterbury Foundation in America, Inc.

Sharp, who visited the United States with Chancellor Dr Robin Mann, Registrar Jeff Field and Alumni and Development Manager Shelagh Murray, says the functions were an ideal way to promote the new charity.

"Aside from the fact that it is always a pleasure meeting alumni wherever they are in the world, these functions were a great way of making our alumni in the US aware of our charity and projects they might want to support."

Sharp says the fundraising potential in the United States is very exciting.

"For a long time now the tax structure in the United States, for example, has made it easier for individuals and businesses to provide charitable financial support. We want to tap into this by providing a means for our supporters in the US to contribute to the University of Canterbury's fundraising efforts."

Prior to visiting the United States, Sharp attended alumni events in Malaysia and the UK (see page 40 for details).

## The Gift of Learning

*Making a bequest to the University of Canterbury Foundation*

Situated in Christchurch, the University of Canterbury is New Zealand's second oldest university. The Gift of Learning, a bequest to the University of Canterbury, is your opportunity to invest in future generations by helping to assure the world-class education offered at this University. It is an investment that requires no financial commitment now, yet ensures a continuing contribution to higher education in the future.

If you or your lawyer would like further information on making a bequest to the University of Canterbury Foundation, please contact the Executive Officer. In all cases we shall be pleased to discuss the possibility and options with you. We will ensure that your support for the University meets your requirements and will be applied in the most effective way.

**The Executive Officer**  
University of Canterbury Foundation  
Private Bag 4800, Christchurch, NZ  
Telephone: 64-3-364 2550 Facsimile: 64-3-364 2679  
Email: ucfoundation@canterbury.ac.nz

**University of  
Canterbury  
Foundation**



# A career by negotiation

By Chanel Hughes

## Career diplomat Rosemary Banks steps onto the world stage with her latest ambassadorial appointment.

In July this year Rosemary Banks took up a role to which she has been gravitating for much of her diplomatic career, as New Zealand's Permanent Representative to the United Nations (UN).

She joins a select group of just 18 women amongst the 191-strong membership, which includes the also recently appointed female ambassador for Latvia and Croatia.

However Banks is unfazed about being in the feminine minority and is well accustomed to being the only woman in the room. Now 54, she has worked for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade since graduating from the University of Canterbury in 1975 with a Master of Arts in Russian. Among other positions with the ministry, she has been deputy high commissioner to the Solomon Islands (1985-7) and Australia (1992-5), and for the past four years, deputy secretary for multilateral affairs.

The UN has been a recurring theme in her career. Banks' first role was in the United Nations and Commonwealth Division; her first overseas experience was a six-month fellowship at the UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) Headquarters in Paris; and her first overseas posting was to the United Nations in Geneva. As deputy secretary, she has been responsible for all of New Zealand's United Nations-based multilateral efforts.

Going into her new role Banks has clear objectives. With the UN currently undergoing reform she wants New Zealand to make contributions to the process, particularly in areas of importance to our government, such as peacebuilding, human rights and the strengthening of UN management.

A second objective is to promote New Zealand candidate Sir Kenneth Keith's appointment to the Court of International Justice, which would be a Kiwi first.

"Overall I hope to continue to build on New Zealand's positive reputation at the UN, so we can use this as leverage in pursuing our national interests," she says. A particular focus over the next four years will be oceans management and the challenges posed by over-fishing, illegal fishing and pollution.

Banks says New Zealand's reputation at the UN has been won by the hard work and

creativity of generations of ministers and multilateral diplomats.

"We are seen as constructive in the way we try to find solutions and flexible in our ability to work with countries from all regions.

"We are not powerful as a country in conventional ways, but we can exert considerable influence through being seen as independent-minded and objective in our approach to issues."

The reform initiative, launched in 2003 by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, follows on the heels of criticism of the organisation by some of its major financial backers, including the United States, and a sense of frustration shared by many countries at how the structure operates.

"The UN, by its own admission, is at a turning point in the road," Banks says. "What we have right now is an organisation whose underlying processes and structures have remained largely unchanged throughout its 60-year history.

"The purposes of the organisation set out in its Charter are just as fresh and relevant today as ever — to protect future generations from the scourge of war and to promote development and individual freedom. And the core values need no updating: respect for human rights and human dignity, equality, tolerance, respect for nature, the rule of law, and non-resort to the threat or use of force. What does need to change is the way the UN goes about its work and the way in which the member states support this."

Banks says that one of the many challenges the UN faces is how it adapts its style of operation to the size of its membership, which has grown from 51 member states at its establishment in 1945 to the current 191, a sometimes unwieldy number for decision-making.

Another problem is the growing complexity of the issues that countries are facing — "the magnitude, on a global scale, of HIV Aids, for example, has required the establishment of a new UN organisation to respond".

With growing complexity comes an increasing demand for resources. "Responses to humanitarian crises often appear to be slow," Banks says, "but that is determined

by whether member states give the UN the funds and resources it needs to carry out such missions. It is easy to blame the UN when we should be looking at member states' reactions."

An important milestone in the reform process was the September 2005 World Summit at the UN Headquarters in New York, the largest gathering of world leaders in history, which established a starting point for a number of reforms, from human rights, terrorism and peacebuilding to economic development and management.

One important outcome was the decision to establish an advisory body to be known as the Peacebuilding Commission. "This will support countries coming out of conflict and ensure a holistic and co-ordinated involvement by UN agencies."

Banks says there will still be bumps ahead, as general commitments are translated into practical details, "but most countries are optimistic that there will be some genuine improvements and commitments to update and renew some of the creakier parts of the UN system".

A typical day for Banks in her New York office involves a mixture of formal meetings and "behind the scenes" work. On this particular diary day, she has a breakfast meeting with Pacific Forum ambassadors to discuss counter-terrorism measures in the Pacific and the regional co-ordination of Security Council reporting obligations. Next on the agenda is an appearance before the Security Council to deliver a statement on the conclusion of the UN mission to Bougainville.

Around noon there is a call on the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs in the UN Secretariat. "Acting together as we often do, the representatives of Australia, Canada and New Zealand have, on instruction from our governments, sought a discussion on the role the UN could play in Zimbabwe.

"In the afternoon, I dip into so-called informal consultations on how to set up a new UN human rights body, as decided at the September summit. These 'informal' consultations are, despite the description, quite formal. Speakers take the microphone at the Chair's invitation and deliver statements that have been carefully prepared and, in many cases, cleared with capitals."

After that she heads for a genuinely informal consultation, a coffee in the delegates' lounge with a group of ambassadors who are meeting to discuss ways to improve the working methods of the Security Council.

There is still time after this for two calls on ambassadors — one African and one Caribbean — to promote Keith's candidacy for the International Court of Justice.

"Then it's back to the office to catch up with staff, clear away the work that has been piling up on my desk, and read the usual flood of emails. In the evening, I attend a national day reception hosted by Egypt. I set out with a checklist of the people I need to see to get particular pieces of information or to check perspectives on negotiations of special interest to New Zealand."

Banks did not always have her sights set on a diplomatic career. It was friend and mentor Alex Lojkine, a lecturer in the University's Russian Department, who encouraged her to consider the foreign service.

"He was aware that postgraduate studies in Russian did not automatically open doors and took a close interest in his students' career options. I was aware that several other students who had majored in Russian had followed this path."

And it is a field she has clearly thrived in, excelling at times of high pressure, such as during the New Zealand Tsunami of 2004 and the 2002 Bali bombings.

"There is enormous satisfaction in being able to use our well-oiled systems of government to get help to where it is needed," she says. "While stressful, these events test all systems — human resources and

communications, information management, and co-ordination around the world with posts and partner countries."

Banks has also enjoyed the quieter moments, such as the opportunity to lay the wreath on ANZAC Day at the Australian National War Memorial in Canberra when she was acting high commissioner. "This is a moment of intense symbolism in the Australia-New Zealand relationship and of personal poignancy for me in that my father was proud to have had wartime service in the New Zealand Army."

The only drawback Banks can identify about the life of a diplomat is the high degree of mobility. "Everything has to be portable," she says, "partners, pets and pastimes."

"Some people thrive on this; others grumble and carry on, and some find they are not prepared to pay the price. I am well aware that this has been a challenge for my husband, Brian Lockstone, who has been wonderfully adaptable and a constant source of support.

"You have to be able to hold onto the excitement and keep the disruption to your personal life in perspective. It is still a great privilege for a diplomat to represent his or her country, and everyone I know in our Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade feels highly motivated by this."

• Sir Kenneth Keith was successfully appointed to the Court of International Justice on 8 November.



Rosemary Banks presents her credentials to His Excellency Mr Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Photo courtesy of Rosemary Banks.



# Media mogul

By Chanel Hughes

MTV, Music Television: arbiter of fashion, shaper of contemporary global culture, and one of the biggest American brands worldwide influencing the youth market is controlled outside of the US by 50-year-old New Zealander Brent Hansen.

Based at the bustling MTV Europe headquarters in the heart of Camden, London, Hansen sits at the helm of a billion-dollar industry that shapes the tastes, trends and desires of youth culture around the world, as Editor-in-Chief and President of Creative for MTV Networks International (MTVNI). With eight channels alone in the UK, MTV Europe beams out to 132 million households, and 1 billion households are connected worldwide. Hansen is responsible for overseeing the creative and editorial for all 89 international channels, as well as the branding and editorial output for all global initiatives led by MTVNI, covering the gamut from T-shirts and awards shows to programming policy.

"I'm kind of like the philosopher of the company," he says. "My job is to inspire people." And it's not difficult to see how he came by that role. Easy-going, down-to-earth,

charismatic and abundantly enthusiastic, he blends more than 20 years' experience in the music industry with a phenomenal knowledge of music and an enduring passion for the product.

It's a job that involves firing the creative energies of 2500 staff worldwide (800 of them in Europe), a considerable amount of travel, and a lot of music — "I go to at least two or three gigs a week".

And it just grew exponentially with the launch this year of MTV's first pan-African music channel, MTV base, a 24-hour channel that airs in Uganda, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Angola, Senegal, Cameroon, Ghana and Tanzania.

It's difficult to imagine Hansen in a more perfect role. Music has been such a central part of his life. "I've been deeply interested in good music since the age of seven or eight," he says. His precocious tastes for Jimi Hendrix and The Who followed him to university where he first completed a Bachelor of Arts in English and History at Otago University, and then a Master of Arts in History at the University of Canterbury (1978).

While at Canterbury, he wrote music reviews, worked on the student-run Radio U, booked the bands for the Student Union's regular entertainment slots and indulged himself with frequent browsing through the University Bookshop's "wonderful record collection".

"This whole experience set the tone for me in a way," he says.

A year at teacher's college followed, where he enjoyed the teaching but not so much the theory. Meanwhile his music reviews had attracted the attention of staff at South Pacific Television and they offered him a weekend job as a "runner", assisting with arrangements for the programming.

Hansen took a job teaching at the end of his training, but shortly after was offered a full-time position at the TV station as an assistant floor manager, or "floor sweeper". Excited by the new opportunity and eager to try something outside of academia for a while, Hansen set himself a three-year plan. It turned out to be a pivotal experience.

"I worked on lots of projects, had lots of training on the job and ended up fairly quickly becoming a floor manager proper with much more responsibility. I worked on all sorts of programmes, including *A Week of It* and *That's Country*.

However New Zealanders might cringe retrospectively about *That's Country*, it featured some surprisingly big hitters in the international music industry — Emmylou Harris, for example. Through his involvement with this programme, Hansen undertook a considerable amount of music research, which he thrived on, and in 1982 he landed his dream job as the producer of *Radio With Pictures* in Wellington.

"It was the ultimate job," he says, "and still is." The three-year plan was now out the window. "It was completely where I wanted to be, because of my interest in music. I'd got myself into a whole different world."

Hansen says he sweated considerably over the one 45-minute programme a week ("At MTV they knock one of those off in the 10 minutes before they have a coffee break") and it was a blow when the show was taken off air in 1986 because of video rights issues. When *True Colours*, the new show he created, was canned also, Hansen and wife Philippa Dann (a former *Shazam* presenter) decided to take a six-month break in Europe.

In a moment of surreal serendipity, Hansen wrote to MTV in America saying he would like to visit their offices during his travels, because what they were doing in the USA affected what he was doing in New Zealand. He sent his résumé as proof of his credentials and the next minute was offered a job.

"They said they were just about to start up their Europe

office and would I like a job. It wasn't part of my plan, but I thought, I'll test myself.

"I think they thought, 'You're cheap, you work hard, you probably won't stay very long'.

"They don't take into account that [New Zealanders] are also very competitive and that we want to prove ourselves to the world."

In his first year, at the age of 30, Hansen found himself rising rapidly through the ranks, through four or five positions from news producer to programme director, planning the programme for MTV's pan-Europe operations. "The Americans hired lots of people for the Europe office who just left after a very short space of time."

By 1996, he was president of MTV Networks Europe. In this role, Hansen began with a philosophy that has ensured MTV Europe's pre-eminence in an increasingly cut-throat market.

"We had to find ways for small countries to feel like they were part of the club. In this sort of context you can be very neutral and irrelevant rather than exciting. We realised we had to be relevant to everywhere. So the idea was to keep a centre of excellence and maintain brand excellence but have 85 per cent of the decisions being made locally."

It is this approach that deflects detractors who might see MTV as a cultural juggernaut, and where Hansen's depth and breadth of musical interest plays an important part. With the new African channel, for example, a major part of the agenda will be to encourage and develop grassroots African music talent. Hansen's ultimate goal is to have a 50 per cent weighting of African sourced videos and music. "Africa is the root of all modern popular music, there is no doubt about that; it has influenced everything."

Hansen concedes he does sometimes feel uncomfortable about working for a big corporation and about the current state of the music industry, which has become "more about making money than scaling the artistic heights", with a market that is frequently driven by 12-year-old girls.

"A lot of good artists are below the radar now, which is difficult, since MTV is a commercial network. In the '70s we had much better artists. The best artists now have to bring off a large commercial hit within six months, unlike previously when they might have had the luxury of three years. Even the big artists like Madonna and Britney have to keep re-creating themselves, whereas the likes of Rod Stewart and Elton John became superstars for life.

"We're not just cookie-cutting music in the UK, though; we are bringing edgier, attitudinal music to the fore."

For all his international success, Hansen is still passionately attached to New Zealand and proud of his antipodean origins. It still amuses him enormously that MTV hired someone from a country at the bottom of the world with no business acumen to run their European operation.

Sitting in his office beneath a huge mural that was painted spontaneously in a day for a Crowded House music video, Hansen talks animatedly about the landscape and the people. The boy who cycled regularly to the Robert McDougall Art Gallery has become an avid collector of New Zealand art — Hoteres, Hammonds, McCahons and Fomisons — and "lives and dies" on every All Blacks game, in spite of never previously being a rugby fan.

It is a proviso of his contract that he is allowed to travel back to New Zealand with his wife and two children once a year, but Hansen still misses home "terribly".

"I've been in London for 18 years now and I hope to retire soon. Now I feel like I should be able to make time for my relationship with New Zealand."

Photo: Jonas Karlsson

By Jeanette Colman

# A treatment in sight

Researchers at the University of Canterbury are pioneering an eye drop to halt the development of cataracts.

Cataracts are the major cause of blindness worldwide. Until now, the only option has been corrective surgery.

However, researchers from the University's Chemistry Department are trying to identify a compound which would act as an inhibitor and prevent cataracts from developing.

Cataracts cause the lens of the eye to become cloudy and prevent the passage of light. Scientists believe that an increase in activity of calcium dependent proteases, or calpains, break down the major lens proteins, the crystallins, leading to opaque lenses.

The Canterbury team, led by Professor Andrew Abell and Professor Jim Coxon, believe the inhibition of calpain activity could halt cataract formation.

"It is our goal to develop a compound that can be incorporated into an eye drop and prescribed to treat cataracts," said Abell.

The UC researchers have been working closely with colleagues at Lincoln University who have developed an animal model to allow a study of the progression of cataracts.

"The results using this model are promising as they support our hypothesis that calpain activity is important in the development of the cataract and showed that inhibitors could interfere with cataract progression," said Abell.

Coxon said the research put the University of Canterbury at the forefront of a new way of developing drugs.

"What we are doing is very different from the rest of the world. We are trying to develop a paradigm that is new and unique. This involves using computational methods to

carefully define a specific peptide geometry and then use the information to design molecules that mimic it and have selectivity for specific proteases."

Abell said the team was now working on developing new and improved inhibitors of the target calpains.

"We have also recently established the capability to test compounds in a lens culture system. This allows further screening of compounds before they enter more expensive trials."

The Canterbury team is working with Douglas Pharmaceuticals (NZ) to develop more efficient eye delivery systems and has links with Senju, a Japanese pharmaceutical company that specialises in eye care products.

"Once we are able to prevent cataracts in the animal model the next stage would be testing the calpain inhibitors in humans.

"Long waiting-lists exist for cataract surgery in most affluent countries and one of our goals is to improve the quality of life for those who currently face blindness while awaiting a cataract operation. This is of even greater importance to third world countries."

Abell said the research provided a basis for developing related inhibitors for the treatment of other disorders associated with overactive calpains including muscular dystrophy, traumatic brain injury and Type II diabetes.

The project has been a valuable research experience for the team's three young postdoctoral fellows. Dr Matthew Jones, originally from Birmingham, UK, and Dr Axel

Neffe from Hamburg, Germany, saw the positions advertised on the Internet and thought it was a unique opportunity to further their careers and at the same time explore a new country. Neffe had earlier met Abell at a conference so knew the University "did some quite exciting stuff".

Completing the postdoctoral trio is Canterbury alumnus Stephen McNabb who graduated with a BSc(Hons) in biochemistry in 1997. He has spent the past eight years overseas — completing a PhD at the Australian National University and, for the past two years, undertaking postdoctoral research in Japan.

"It is great to be able to come back and have the chance to do research in New Zealand," said McNabb.

All three agree that the cataract project has opened up opportunities they wouldn't have had overseas.

"Most positions either offer you the chance to do laboratory work or to do theoretical work. Here I can do both," said Neffe.

"It has been a great opportunity to have been involved in a project from the beginning — from the chemistry in the lab, all the way through to testing and, potentially, to the formation of a company to take it to the final stage," said Jones.

"A standard medicinal chemist normally makes something and passes it on, never to see it again. At Canterbury we are being given the chance to take what we've made and try and make something out of it."

## Outlook for Zana Feuchs By Marita Vandenberg

**Take a sociology degree, one-third of a commerce degree, combine with a fashion diploma, and you could well have the recipe for the success of New Zealand fashion designer Zana Feuchs.**

Feuchs, who has her own well-established label, Zana Feuchs, and store, ZFA, in Wellington's Customhouse Quay, credits the sociology degree she gained from Canterbury University in 1985 with helping her develop a winning edge in the competitive local fashion industry.

"Studying sociology encouraged me to analyse things from all sides and to be an independent thinker," she says. "My ability to think outside the square and not do what everyone else does has enabled my label to be so successful."

Feuchs says she applies her sociology skills to the fashion industry by using them to predict trends and interpret patterns of behaviour.

However, sociology was not her first study choice. In her initial year at Canterbury, Feuchs studied accounting after her parents said she could leave Villa Maria College in the sixth form if she went to university. Commerce seemed a sensible career option at that time, she says.

Though she gained 'As' for all her maths and statistics papers, it was the filler sociology paper she took that interested her most, so she switched degree courses in her second year.

Feuchs says she had loved sewing from the age of four, making dresses for her dolls with the help of her dad, a glassblower, who had migrated from Austria and married a Kiwi. In the early 1980s, fashion was yet to develop as a viable career option in New Zealand. Feuchs adds, "I guess it was looked upon as a lesser industry".

But by the time she was at university that was starting to change. In 1984 she started writing fashion reviews for *Canta*. The following year she was finishing her studies part-time and working in retail.

"I was getting a good feel for how shops work. I was buying fashion and learning about merchandising.

"There was hardly anything on the market apart from the more mainstream fashion. If you wanted to see anything really interesting you looked to overseas magazines where there was a whole new generation of young designers emerging."

Her inability to find the sorts of clothes she wanted to wear encouraged her to move to the capital and enrol in a Diploma of Fashion course with Wellington Polytechnic.

After completing the course she became involved in a project that had her seriously contemplating a career in costume design. She worked on the set of one of Peter Jackson's early films, *Meet the Feebles*, mainly making "prissy-coloured outfits for the Miss Piggy figure".

"I'd always been a big film fan, and when I set up my label it was quite a big decision whether to establish my own label or work in the film industry."

Soon after, she set up a stall at Wakefield market — then a launch-pad for other fledgling designers, such as Laurie Foon, Kate Sylvester and Alison Blain.

Her growing success led to a shop in Cable Car Lane but she quickly moved to bigger premises. In 1999 she moved to her current location in Customhouse Quay. Her clothing is now sold throughout New Zealand and she has a staff of 10.

The ZFA look is modern and well-tailored, with unusual detailing. Feuchs says she likes her clothing to be highly wearable, durable and to endure the faddish nature of fashion — able to be worn comfortably by "real" women, not just catwalk models.

Several of her collections have had political themes. One collection, "Changing Climates", included tops featuring weather maps. Another range, "Modified", was her response to the genetic engineering debate.

Recently Feuchs decided to open a new chapter in her life. She is currently negotiating the sale of her business and intends to move to London early next year.

ZFA will remain and Feuchs will independently supply the business with designs from overseas. She says there are no firm, fast plans for her first year away. She wants to remain open to possibilities and looks forward to travelling from a London base.

In the medium-term, her aim is to go to university in the UK and study business at postgraduate level. She says she is also open to the idea of eventually making Sydney her base.



"Changing Climates Collection," Summer 2003.

# The only way is up

By Norma Odendaal

Now well established as a course that provides the Canterbury region with top business leadership and management expertise, Canterbury University's internationally accredited Master of Business Administration programme is 21 years old this year.

Since it was accredited by the Association of MBAs (UK) in 2002, the programme has enhanced its reputation for being a strong, regionally orientated yet globally relevant qualification.

MBA Director Piet Beukman describes it as a "no frills programme" that produces graduates with strong appeal to the local business market. And with an estimated 60 per cent of graduates occupying leadership positions in New Zealand, it has become a valuable asset, not only for Canterbury but the country as a whole.

"We are not trying to be a Harvard or a Stanford," says Beukman. "Instead we are looking towards the local market and liaising with local business leaders to develop good talent for New Zealand in New Zealand. And as far as I know, we are the only university in the country with such a strong local focus."

However, he also says many of the graduates who eventually leave the country are generally well sought after and seem to excel wherever they decide to go.

One of the 1996 graduates, Mark Whalley, occupies a senior position in Agilent Technologies in Melbourne. He describes his MBA as a "career parachute".

"During my studies I discovered a number of very relevant areas of knowledge and developed real-world commercial skills," he says.

In an era when tertiary institutions are increasingly looking at attracting overseas students to prop up their student numbers and their finances, Canterbury University's MBA programme takes a different approach.

"Although international students who meet our strict quality standards are more than welcome, we do not actively pursue the recruiting of overseas students," says Beukman.

To be admitted to what is often referred to as the flagship programme of the College of Business and Economics, candidates have to undergo a strict screening process that even involves an executive recruiting company to assist with screening protocols.

While admitting this is something of an elitist approach, Beukman says it would not be sensible for both the University and candidates to waste their efforts if the inherent ability and talent to occupy leadership positions is not manifested.

The yearly intake is limited to 30 students, with the result that all receive a high degree of individual attention. It is also strictly a residential programme with classes being offered after hours.

"Most of our students are mature people, the average age being 38, which means that they usually have full-time jobs," says Beukman.

As part of the strong link with the business community, currently five business people and a Member of Parliament, the Hon Clayton Cosgrove, himself a Canterbury MBA graduate (1996), are involved in teaching the programme.

"That way we can offer our students first-hand input on what will be expected of them out there," he says. "Likewise it provides the business community with an insight into our programme and an opportunity to canvass the available talent."

Beukman is in constant conversation with the business community, and knowing what the need is out there helps him ensure the programme has the edge over many other MBAs offered in New Zealand.

"I believe we offer one of the best MBAs in the country, if not the best," he says. He describes the course as "pracademic" — a sound academic basis, with a strong focus on hands-on business practice.

That view is echoed by the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities at the Christchurch Polytechnic Institute of Technology, Dr Shirley Watson, who is currently doing her

MBA at the University of Canterbury and has been able to relate many of her assignments to her current work.

"In my opinion, regional relevance and social skills are extremely important," she says. "I find that the courses are increasing my capabilities as a manager."

Kay Poulsen, a project manager at the Canterbury District Health Board, has had similar experiences.

"I have applied many of the lessons and case scenarios to my own work environment," she says. "My weekly entertainment is to watch *The Apprentice* on television, confident in the knowledge that the Canterbury MBA is producing far more effective future leaders than anything Donald Trump's producer can muster in the US."

Poulsen adds that the many opportunities that have already arisen for her as a result of undertaking this course mean it is likely the cost will be paid for before she completes it.

"I have no doubt therefore that the Canterbury MBA has not only provided me with a postgraduate degree and current education, but has already paid for itself in future career opportunities and has rewarded me with the added bonus of some lifelong friends."

However, Beukman stresses that the programme is not only interested in educating high-powered business people.

"As long as potential students have a proven track record and the ability to achieve, we want them," he says.

Over the years the programme has educated many people for the non-corporate environment and non-profit organisations. "Even the voluntary sector needs strong leadership," he says.

One of the MBA graduates who does not have his eye on the corporate world is Stratford High School Principal Paul Howison, who says that the MBA programme appealed to him as a general leadership and management course.

"I have found almost all aspects of the course to be very relevant to my role as a secondary school principal. In particular papers in human resource management, change management, strategic planning and marketing have all provided knowledge and skills which I am keen to apply when I return to school later this year," he says.

Beukman believes one of the points of difference that gives Canterbury University's MBA programme an edge over many others is the personal attention each student receives — not only in terms of the student/teacher ratio, but also in its approach to students. Beukman says MBA programmes are known to many as the "divorce course" because of the pressure on relationships and families due to its full-on nature.

"It takes a high level of commitment from students and we are therefore encouraging the involvement of families wherever possible."

So a family-friendly study environment is being promoted with, among other innovations, movie nights for the whole family on a regular basis.

Beukman, who took over the directorship of the programme in 2004, is constantly looking to improve the course. New Zealand has the highest number of MBA programmes per head of population, and the competitive market means that constant reviews have to be undertaken to ensure the relevance of a Canterbury MBA qualification. Beukman is currently working with the MBA board on the redevelopment of the programme to ensure improvements in the structure and the relevance of the programme to all applicable sectors are in place for a major international accreditation review in March 2007.



## Hotel Pyongyang By Dr Anne-Marie Brady

**North Korea is a society on the cusp of change. Since economic reforms were introduced in 2002 the country has been engaged in a slow but unstoppable progression towards opening up to the outside world and modernising its economy. More than 30 years ago in China a similar sort of process began when China and the US signed the 1972 Shanghai Communiqué.**

In August this year I travelled to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) for two weeks as part of a foreign delegation to commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the Japanese occupation. I found a society that has been a world apart for many years, but is now inevitably being drawn back into the international community.

As in China in the 1970s, so in North Korea in the present day the rate of progress often seems minimal and stop-start. But the changes are significant. In Pyongyang a new free market has opened up, allowing those who can afford it to buy outside the State rationing system. Pedlars, bike repairers and other small entrepreneurs can be seen in small numbers where before there were none.

The department stores are stuffed full of things to buy, though few seem to be buying. When price reform was introduced in 2002, salaries did not rise accordingly. Government employees were impoverished by the reforms, as were the peasants. Everyone, even the privileged elite, is lean, not an ounce of extra flesh. Food rationing keeps starvation at bay, but even in Pyongyang, the food shops offer a very limited choice. In North Korea, as with China in the 1970s, displays of wealth are frowned upon. Indeed, citizens are officially encouraged to donate any profits they make to the army to strengthen national defence. So those with money must display their wealth discreetly. I saw one young female official with a mobile phone wrapped furtively in a handkerchief. The same official seemed to have an endless supply of name-brand handbags, from Prada to Gucci, which she wore to accompany her de rigueur dowdy suit.

Our guides initially denied that there were any mobile phones in the DPRK (all foreign visitors have to surrender theirs for safekeeping at the border), but eventually admitted that the only reason they didn't have one themselves was that they couldn't afford it. All of our guides regularly used the Internet and email, and told us the only restriction (apart from firewalls to sensitive sites which they took for granted) was money, as going online is expensive in the DPRK.

The whole trip was subsidised by the North Korean Government. Our conversations with North Korean people were limited to foreign affairs personnel such as our guides, as ordinary people were strongly discouraged from interacting with us. The assumption is that many foreigners are spies in disguise. We were forbidden from leaving the hotel without a guide accompanying us; one of our group was detained by the police and threatened with expulsion after he went for a walk on his own.

Most of our group's two week stay in North Korea was actually spent locked up in our luxury hotel on an island in Pyongyang's central river. We were taken out for short expeditions and returned to the hotel for every meal. On longer journeys we were not allowed to eat at local restaurants and had to either endure or wait until we arrived at a hotel permitted to host foreigners.

Hotel rooms for foreigners are bugged; some have closed-circuit television. More than half the people in the hotel were not guests but rather government cadres in their distinctive dark-coloured shirt-suits with the obligatory Kim pin all North Koreans must display. They inhabited multiple floors of the hotel off-limits to foreign guests and were presumably there to keep an eye on us.

Few dared to break through the invisible barrier the guides put around foreign visitors, though people were extremely welcoming when we greeted them in their own language or bowed in greeting, as is the custom. Once, after I attended a Mass at the only Catholic church left in Pyongyang (formerly hailed by missionaries as the new Jerusalem), an old man came up and spoke with me in English. Our guide quickly intervened, speaking to the man in Korean so he would retreat. The policy of keeping foreigners and North Koreans apart is a useful means of controlling the population and preventing them from being tainted by outside influences. Yet the government has announced an ambitious new plan to expand tourism and, as with China, increasing numbers of foreign visitors coming in to the country will likely eventually force a lessening of restrictions between locals and foreigners.

Despite the controls on interactions with foreigners, there was no feeling of xenophobia or hostility towards the outside world, though there is a deep fear of American invasion. At every major intersection, bridge and tunnel, armed soldiers are posted and vehicles are checked as they enter the capital. The reason for this is that North Korea is a country still at war. The Korean War has never officially ended

and the nation is kept in a constant state of war-preparedness.

There is a very real fear amongst the elite of a threat to the survival of the regime and all the privileges it grants them. The DPRK has only 18 per cent arable land, and in every era since its founding in 1948 has always required a larger power to support it. Throughout the Cold War it depended on the USSR and the People's Republic of China to underwrite its economy. Since the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe and the fall of the Soviet Union the North Korean government has relied on nuclear scare tactics and exaggerating the impact of natural disasters as bargaining tools for foreign support.

Neither of these approaches are a long-term solution to North Korea's needs, which is why the government has begun what it euphemistically calls "economic development" policies, that is, opening up the economy to Chinese-style market reform. The likely outcome of such policies, in the short to medium-term, is the DPRK's increasing integration into the Chinese and South Korean economies, with a high probability of eventual reunification with South Korea.

The most effective means to encourage the continuance of such a positive direction is engagement with the DPRK, not demonisation and international isolation, the policy which the current Bush administration has been following until recently. The successful outcome of the Six Party Talks is an indication of what engagement can achieve. The parallels with China and Vietnam are clear: engagement leads to peace, containment and threats lead to conflict. And for such a strategic country on the cusp of major change, it would be better for the whole of the Asia-Pacific region if the predicted transition comes as a gentle, rather than a rough, landing.

• *Dr Anne-Marie Brady is a senior lecturer in Chinese and Northeast Asian politics in the School of Political Science and Communication.*

## Speak easy, read easy By Jane Lucas

**We take for granted the ability to communicate, to speak to friends, and to read and write.**

Yet some people face severe and persistent difficulty in aspects of both their spoken and written communication. Efficient development of spoken language is crucial for reading and writing — if there is a phonological speech problem in a young child it is probable there will be literacy problems later.

Professor Gail Gillon (Communication Disorders) is looking at how young children with unintelligible speech develop awareness of the sound structure of an alphabetic language, or phonological awareness. She is investigating how these children store and retrieve information about phonological composition, as it may hold the key to more effective intervention.

Currently many young children with speech and language impairment have difficulty learning to read and spell even when their speech problems have been resolved. It is hoped that the new interventions Gillon is trialling internationally will not only improve spoken language abilities but will also resolve underlying phonological deficits that can cause reading and spelling disorders.

Most importantly for Gillon, she has discovered that stimulating phonological awareness and phonological processing development can have a dramatic effect on accelerating reading and spelling acquisition. Most of the children aged three to four years in her pilot study who received this new intervention were well above the level expected for their age in reading at six and eight years of age.

"When I first started as a speech-language therapist I noticed how some children I saw as preschoolers for speech and language difficulties often surfaced again as older children in need of intervention for reading disorders. Thus, when I had the opportunity to undertake a PhD I decided to explore in more depth the relationship between spoken and written language disorders."

The earlier the better, says Gillon, when identifying and working with speech impairments. "We want to try to prevent these children experiencing reading failure when they start school. Anyone who knows, or has worked with, individuals who have experienced years of failure trying to learn to read will appreciate the struggle these people face in completing tasks that many of us take for granted, such as reading the newspaper, reading instructions on the forms we fill out, or skimming through text to quickly access the author's intended meaning.

"Young children who struggle with reading are forced to face their weakness every day in school and it simply compounds across most curriculum areas as they get older — think of all the reading required to tackle some children's maths problems or science experiments.

"Identifying problems earlier is critical to preventing them compounding. Many children who are poor readers look for alternatives. For example, their behaviour may become disruptive — perhaps in their minds it's better to be viewed as a 'class clown' than as the child who can't read. Sometimes children who have reading difficulties develop low self-esteem which can negatively impact on their social development as well as the career choices they will later make. Thus, if a reading problem can be alleviated it can prevent a child suffering the negative academic, behavioural and social consequences that unfortunately are well documented in children with reading disorders."

A passion for working with children and seeing their success in reading and spelling — and of course their improvement in speech development — is Gillon's driving force. "When children know they are succeeding their smiles light up a room."

Gillon's previous phonological awareness intervention trials have attracted strong international interest. Her work has been widely published and she receives emails from other researchers, speech-language therapists and educators in many English-speaking countries around the world, as well as some European countries, indicating they are successfully replicating her intervention findings with children, or are adapting the phonological awareness techniques for children with differing language experiences,

to achieve similar positive outcomes.

"Every parent wants their child to succeed. Understanding why some children fail to make expected progress in reading is a critical step in ensuring success. But the ultimate advancement is to prevent reading disorders from even surfacing when we are faced with children we know are statistically highly likely to encounter written language difficulties when they enter school."



Fraser Westphall (4) uses a computer program to identify correct pronunciation of words.



Photo: Chanel Hughes

Liz Calder in her Soho Square office.



## Blooming at Bloomsbury

Chanel Hughes meets with publishing phenomenon Liz Calder who has significantly shaped the face of 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century literature.

A small, well-worn book on a shelf in a sunny Soho office, London, bears testament to an extraordinary personal journey for one of publishing's literary doyennes. The class text edition of *Three Novels* by Thomas Peacock, with "University of Canterbury" inscribed on the inside cover, has accompanied Liz Calder from student days in Christchurch to the top of one of the world's most successful independent publishing companies.

A founding director of literary giant Bloomsbury Publishing Plc, famous for its Booker, Pulitzer, Whitbread and Nobel Prize-winning authors and the rise of Harry Potter, Calder has launched the careers of some of the greatest writers of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries: Salman Rushdie, Julian Barnes and Anita Brookner; and nurtured the careers of the likes of Margaret Atwood, Michael Ondaatje, Joanna Trollop, Angela Carter, John Berger, Rupert Thomson, Ahdaf Soueif and Jeanette Winterson. In 2003, she launched what is rapidly becoming a dazzling cultural highlight of the international literary calendar, the *Festa Literária Internacional de Parati* (International Literary Festival of Parati, or FLIP), which in 2004 earned her an Order of Merit for services to culture from the President of Brazil.

It is little wonder this poised and remarkable woman is often hailed as the "Queen of Literature", though she says humbly that the job still brings her a sense of "incredible privilege". Frequently in the company of some of the greatest literary minds of our time, Calder says she "has never failed to relish and wonder at that opportunity".

Born Elisabeth Baber in London in 1938, she immigrated to New Zealand via America at the age of 11. Her parents were conscientious objectors during World War II and left a grocery business after the war to take up sheep farming in Palmerston North.

She attended Palmerston North Girls' High School, and subsequent study at Canterbury reflected her lifelong love of literature with the completion of a Bachelor of Arts degree in English in 1958.

At university she met and married Richard Calder, an engineering graduate, who immediately whisked her back to London where he took up an apprenticeship with Rolls Royce. Postings in Montreal, Winnipeg, San Francisco and Washington were followed by four years in Brazil, which marked the beginning of Calder's great passion for all things Brazilian.

"That was a very significant moment for me because I found a place where I felt more at home than I'd ever been before," she says. "I didn't expect to, because I didn't know much about the country or know any Portuguese."

While initially struggling with the language, Calder accepted a friend's offer to take up modelling, both on and off the catwalk, which proved a great entrée into Brazilian life. "I actually picked up quite a lot of Portuguese sitting listening to the other models," Calder says, "and I met lots of journalists, photographers and artists."

On returning to the UK at the end of 1968 with two young children, Calder realised she wanted a career.

"When I left university I thought getting married and having children would occupy me," she says, "but I soon recognised I had to do something more substantial and challenging."

Newly separated from her husband, Calder pursued her interests in books, film and journalism, answering "hundreds" of ads in the British newspapers before finally securing a job in MGM's story department, reading fiction and writing reports. Short-lived though this was, Calder made valuable contacts in the publishing world and was

invited to become a publicist for the left-wing publishing company Victor Gollancz, of which her parents were loyal supporters.

After four years she was promoted to editor, and remained there until 1978 when she was offered a position by the prestigious Jonathan Cape publishing house. It was while at Cape that she first struck publishing gold. Lodging with a then unknown Rushdie, she persuaded Cape to publish his second novel, *Midnight's Children*, which won the Booker Prize for 1981, going on to be voted the "Booker of Bookers" in 1993. Just three years later, she had another Booker Prize winner with Anita Brookner's *Hotel du Lac* (1984).

From her Victor Gollancz days, Calder had become close friends with Australian publisher Carman Callil, who co-founded Virago, the first feminist press of the 1970s, and soon developed a hankering to be involved in a start-up company of her own. She was more than ready when Nigel Newton approached her in 1986 to join what would become the "Bloomsbury Four", along with David Reynolds and Alan Wherry.

They started with 30 books a year and a particular strength in fiction, which continues to be their flagship list. In an environment that was becoming increasingly dominated by large conglomerates, their philosophy was to promote quality and stay author-focused.

"Bloomsbury was aiming for high literary standards across a broad range of genres — fiction, reference books, historical, etcetera. We also wanted to operate a publishing company that put the author at the centre of the operation, with input into the publishing and production of the book."

A major list for the company initiated by Calder in 1990 was the Bloomsbury Classics, which began with her discovery that

Janet Frame's *The Lagoon* had never been published outside New Zealand. When searching for a suitable format, Calder came across her *Three Novels* by Thomas Peacock and other classic editions of the 1930s and '40s used as set texts at varsity — the Nelson Classics, World Classics and Longman Classics. The pocket-sized hardbacks were an ideal model for the Bloomsbury series, which is dedicated to literary works of high originality and the books that bibliophiles everywhere wish to keep for posterity.

The Children's List did not emerge until the mid-1990s, with J K Rowling coming along shortly after, a publishing relationship that has catapulted Bloomsbury into a luxurious financial independence.

"For an independent company that publishes literary books it's a struggle to keep afloat and we had many years that were like climbing a mountain. Since that success [with the Harry Potter series] we've had more help up the mountain. It has been an enormous blessing."

The greater financial freedom has seen annual book production climb to 160 volumes in the past five years, but Calder is adamant that the Bloomsbury philosophy remains the same: "We're still committed to producing the best literature". And they are determined to remain a medium-sized company that puts its authors first.

In spite of her success picking winners, Calder claims never to have had a good sense for what will sell. "I've been lucky to choose novels I feel passionate about. What I look for is a unique, arresting voice. That to me is more important than everything else; that recognisable voice."

"Rushdie, Thomson and John Irving all have that, and they were published in the first Bloomsbury list."

With such a definite presence in the publishing industry, Calder could not help but shape its evolution. While she claims not to have had an explicitly feminist agenda, she certainly aided the literary world's feminisation and was a co-founder of Women in Publishing in 1979.

"Twenty years ago publishing was very male-dominated. When I worked at Victor Gollancz both the staff and the list were male-dominated, and both Gollancz and Cape publishing houses were very traditional and set in their ways. I definitely tried to bring in more women writers."

Calder has also played a part in the internationalisation of literature, recommending Rushdie at a time when "foreign" writing was very much ignored, and deliberately including Brazilian authors in the Bloomsbury list for the past 15 years.

In 2000, Calder's passion for literature, her love of Brazil and the discovery of the picturesque fishing village of Parati — a quaint colonial town nestling in a large bay four hours from Rio — germinated into the idea for a literary festival. With her second husband, children's writer Louis Baum, Calder bought a holiday house and began plotting her project with a small group of publishers.

"The best places for literary festivals are special places that have a unique charm and that people want to visit. Not only is Parati beautiful, it has 200 colonial houses that have been converted into hotels, and it already had lots of festivals — film, religious, gastronomic."

Finally launched in 2003, the *Festa Literária Internacional de Parati* was warmly embraced by the Brazilian media and created an immediate sensation. The anticipated 300 participants flourished into an astonishing 6000, which doubled to 12,000 in 2005.

"The media went berserk," Calder says. "Every newspaper, every television station gave us coverage. It was absolutely staggering."

The four-day festival brings together up to 35 authors: 11 of them from overseas, including luminaries such as Ondaatje, Rushdie and Israeli writer David Grossman, and the remainder from Brazil, with writers such as Ariano Suassuna, Jo Soares and Ana Maria Machado.

This year's festival coincided with the London bombings and Calder was asked if she would shut it down. "But, I thought, we've got authors here with a better understanding of violence, terrorism and international conflicts than any other five people in the world. What an amazing opportunity to be here."

"What Rushdie and Grossman said was so inspiring and sustaining — not comforting but giving insight."

In recent years, Calder has downscaled her publishing activities to run the festival and look after the 20 authors she has worked with most closely over the years.

Calder says one of the things she has loved most about her job is "the hunt".

"In a way, that's why we had Diana the huntress as [the Bloomsbury] logo. The hunt for the new voice, and those occasions when the new voice is pulled out from the pack and recognised by the public, that's really exciting."

And then there are the people. "Publishing as a profession is as agreeable and as filled with interesting people as you could ever hope to find. And you are working amongst people who are likeminded and become great friends. People don't do this for love of money; they do it for love of books."



# Motivated by mystery

By Norma Odendaal

Murder mysteries and robotic games are part of a new wave of innovative teaching methods at the University of Canterbury.



**New and innovative ways of teaching have emerged at the University of Canterbury in recent years as a result of experiments with interactive programmes by several lecturers.**

One such programme is being used in the School of Biological Sciences where undergraduate students apply their scientific skills to solving a murder mystery.

Once a year, Associate Professor Jack Heinemann applies his love and talent for writing murder mysteries to creating a way to teach students how to use their scientific knowledge to look for clues and design experiments that will test their theories.

“I found taking laboratory classes as an undergraduate science student to be an extremely boring experience,” says Heinemann. “The only thing more boring than taking those classes has been to turn around and teach them.”

So, with the chances being good that his students felt the same way, he decided to use murder as a motivational tool.

After earning his PhD, Heinemann took a job at a research laboratory in a small town in Montana (USA), where he became involved in a theatre group that used to perform interactive murder mysteries to raise money to restore an old building.

Before he left, he wrote a production for the group and, realising it could be used as a way to drive the learning experience, he decided to write murder mysteries to teach his students ways of solving difficult scientific problems.

He uses the exercise to effectively guide students’ critical thoughts and experimental design skills. Instead of the conventional “follow the recipe to obtain the end result” approach, he motivates his students to find out who “committed the crime” and why.

“It’s all about how they go about solving the problem. Instead of giving them a problem for which they have to work out the answer, I give them the result and they have to work out the recipe to get there,” says Heinemann.

Given just a few weeks to order critical forensic laboratory work, the students have to plan very carefully to get the experiments right the first time. They have to design the protocol that Heinemann, in the role of laboratory technician, then performs exactly to specification.

“That means that if they give me a shoddy experiment to do, they get shoddy results and can’t prove their theories,” he says.

The “game” requires students to think creatively and outside the square. The “what if?” factor needs to enter their thought processes.

The play is often designed to have some contemporary relevance too, including such issues as human cloning. For example, earlier experiments done on fruit flies, where earlier generations were required to mate with later generations, formed the scientific basis for last year’s game.

The outcome of those experiments became the “what if” factor in the human context, and although the story-line resembled something like science fiction, the scientific principles that had to be applied were sound, according to Heinemann.

Although students are not graded on the six-week long murder mystery programme, they feel stimulated by the experience, having had a chance to apply their knowledge in a practical and fun way.

And other incentives are built into the programme. Several corporate sponsors, having recognised the value of the murder mystery teaching method, annually contribute a range of prizes.

One of the students involved in last year’s programme, Leighton Turner, says he found the exercise to be most rewarding. He says it allows students to think independently and gives them a taste of what it is like to be scientists instead of just students of science.

Also in the School of Biological Sciences, a computer game has been developed to teach students animal behavioural strategies. The game was designed by Dr Culum Brown, who recognised the inherent shortcomings in teaching the principles of animal behaviour the traditional way.

“Ideally, students should have the opportunity to interact with animals and spend lots of time with them in order to collect data on their behaviour,” he says. However, since that is practically impossible, given budget cuts and time constraints, Brown came up with the idea of a computer game to allow students to collect data on the benefits of group-living and optimal foraging among animal species.

The game is simple and easy to play, yet highly effective. Students playing the game take on the role of predator or hunter for food, and play out a number of different foraging scenarios. In one part of the game the number of hits it takes to successfully

target a specific prey item are recorded, thereby indicating the chances of any living animal becoming the “victim” of a predatory attack.

Another aspect of the game gathers data on the economics of foraging — on how animals go about searching for and selecting food resources, while minimising the energy spent on the search.

Once again the game gathers data based on the students’ (predators’) behaviour by monitoring their decisions as they forage for cyber prey items.

“This enables us to collect massive volumes of data, with the added advantage that it doesn’t have the unpredictable variability that is inherently associated with studying live animals in contrived conditions,” says Brown.

Moreover, it allows students to do much of their data gathering in a fun way and within the comfort of their own home. At the end of the course students hand in reports interpreting the data they collected and detailing their findings.

Another teaching programme initiated this year engages final-year electrical engineering students in building their own complex game environment. Developed by newcomer to the university, Dr Russell Webb, the programme simulates a set of robots playing a game reminiscent of rugby. The class is organised into a virtual company to develop a “Java Virtual Machine”, software implementing the Java computer architecture (basically a computer-within-a-computer).

The students write Java programmes describing increasingly complex moves to

control the simulated robots. While the students have previously learned how to use Java, the object of this programme is to show students how Java works internally by building those internal workings.

For example, if students want to change or add certain software functions to the game or their robot, they also have to develop the architecture in the virtual machine that will enable the new software to run.

“Electrical engineers increasingly incorporate software into their designs,” says Webb. “They also increasingly use high-level, abstract languages like Java, yet they still need to understand the computer architecture.”

Modelled on industry practises, the project gives students the experience of working as a team on a large project. “It prepares them for the job market, which often involves software development in a large team,” says Webb.

Credit for the project is assigned by individual performance and contribution assessments, much as it is by managers in the industry. Acting as product manager, Webb is able to track changes made by the students and assess their contributions to the programme as a whole.

So, while teaching will probably always involve some degree of lecturing and book-slogging, it certainly is not a case of all note-taking and no play anymore. Modern technology, combined with the innovative ideas of some lecturers who recognised the inherent shortcomings of traditional teaching methods, has opened up a whole new world in tertiary teaching.

## Books in Brief

### **Is it Safe to Eat? Enjoy Eating and Minimize Food Risks**

Ian Shaw

Springer, 2005, RRP NZ\$84.99, 251pp, hardcover, ISBN 3-540-21286-8

Professor Ian Shaw's latest publication might make you think twice about that next mouthful of food. Did you know that those almonds in your baking contain cyanide, or that washing an oven-ready chicken spreads an aerosol of *Campylobacter* bacteria around your kitchen? Shaw discusses these and many other food safety issues and questions, ranging from GM food to natural toxins, examining the risks of food, food-borne pathogens and food contaminants in the context of other everyday life risks.

*Is it Safe to Eat?* will be of interest to everyone concerned with food and food safety, culinary science or cooking – from the home kitchen cook and corner dairy owner to the farmer, food processor and head chef.

Shaw is Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University of Canterbury's College of Science and highly regarded as an international expert on food science. He chairs the UK Pesticide Residues Committee, is a fellow of the Institute of Food Science and Technology (UK), and is a member of the New Zealand Food Safety Advisory Board.

### **Anthony Wilding: A Sporting Life**

Len and Shelley Richardson

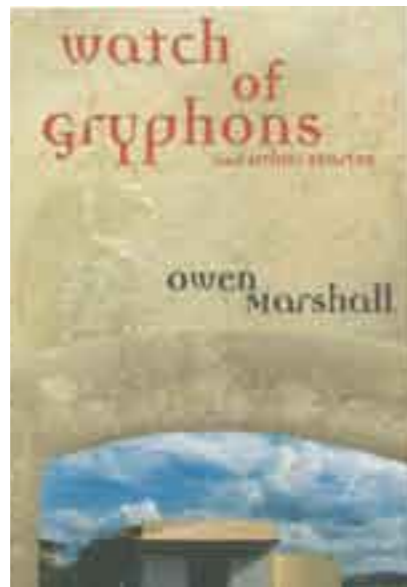
Canterbury University Press, 2005, RRP NZ\$49.95, 451pp, paperback, ISBN 1-877257-01-X

Described as "tennis' first matinée idol", he remains the only New Zealander to have won the Wimbledon men's singles title, yet many Kiwis today know little about Anthony Wilding.

Written by father-daughter duo Len and Shelley Richardson, who are both historians and Canterbury graduates, this biography fleshes out the life of the sporting legend who sits alongside the likes of Olympic champion Jack Lovelock as one of New Zealand's most important sporting icons of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Wilding won the Wimbledon men's lawn tennis title in 1910 and dominated the international tennis world for three years, defending his title at three successive championships. In 1913 he won world titles on clay, grass and wood, and was thought invincible, though his life was abruptly cut short in action on the Western Front in May 1915.

As well as sporting content, this biography provides a fascinating window into the social and cultural milieu of Wilding's day.



### **Watch of Gryphons and Other Stories**

Owen Marshall

Vintage, 2005, RRP NZ\$27.95, 316pp, paperback, ISBN 1-86941-706-2

The latest offering from prolific short-story writer Owen Marshall takes the reader from the empty tussock dryness of New Zealand's South Island to the ancient stone buildings of Italy's Perugia, from unsolved murder to the capricious indignity of Alzheimer's disease. In classic Marshall style, he explores the minutiae of everyday lives, revealing the extraordinary in the ordinary, spanning every subtlety of emotion from the unbearably touching to the wildly absurd.

In "Fellow Citizens" a conservative middle-aged school teacher on a professional development course makes an unlikely friendship with a Croatian immigrant. A student escaping from an upsetting emotional entanglement with a twin brother and sister discovers buried truths about the farming relatives he seeks sanctuary with in "Buried Lives". In the story that gives the book its title, a New Zealander working in Italy learns more about the complex and demanding lives of his Italian neighbours than he expected.

Fans of Marshall will be delighted to find a number of longer stories than his usual fare, giving an added depth and resonance, including the striking "Minding Lear" which is more than 40 pages long.

This is Marshall's 11<sup>th</sup> short-story collection and brings his total number of stories published to more than 180. Marshall is a Canterbury Master of Arts graduate (1964) and was awarded an honorary LittD by the University in 2002.



### **The Love Apple**

Coral Atkinson

Random House, 2005, RRP NZ\$27.95, 336pp, paperback, ISBN 1-86941-720-8

Named for the tomato, a little known fruit in 19<sup>th</sup> century New Zealand but which symbolised love and lust to those who encountered it, this vivid and sensuous novel brings to life the rugged West Coast of New Zealand's colonial gold-mining days. *The Love Apple* chronicles the life of Anglo-Irish immigrant and gentleman photographer Geoffrey Hastings, still grieving over his recently deceased wife but captivated by 16-year-old part-Māori beauty Huia, and suffering a deeply conflicted conscience. Interwoven with Hastings' story is that of fellow Irish immigrant P, an orphan with Fenian sympathies who longs to right the wrongs of his native land.

*The Love Apple* blends a multi-stranded love story with sophisticated political commentary on Ireland's troubled history, New Zealand at war in South Africa, and Irish immigrants confronting new challenges and old prejudices in their adopted land.

Born in Ireland, Coral Atkinson (MA, 1969) moved to New Zealand as a girl and studied history at the University of Canterbury. She has worked as a secondary school teacher, educational journalist, in publishing, and currently tutors a publishing course while also running adult education seminars. Her short fiction has been published in New Zealand, Ireland and England, and she has published various non-fiction articles and educational texts. Her next novel, *The Paua Tower*, is due for release in early 2006.



### **Humming**

Rachel McAlpine

Hazard Press, 2005, RRP NZ\$29.99, 248pp, paperback, ISBN 1-877270-97-0

In this new comic novel, set in New Zealand's idyllic Golden Bay, artist Ivan is plagued by a low frequency hum, identified variously as whale song, tinnitus, electromagnetism, a weapon of the CIA or possibly the voice of God. His sensible lover Jane, who runs a successful café, believes her life to be perfect. And then Xania arrives from Argentina, on a one-woman crusade to improve the world, beginning with the local t'ai chi club.

This witty and smart story of delusions and visions, with alternative healing and an undercurrent of spirituality thrown into the mix, was inspired by Rachel McAlpine's own experiences living in Golden Bay, where some people have heard a mysterious and maddening hum. It marks a welcome return to fiction by a popular New Zealand writer, who already has eight poetry collections, five stage plays, three novels and a number of radio plays and non-fiction books to her name. In recent years, McAlpine, who has a Bachelor of Arts from Canterbury (1960), has devoted her attention to the field of web content and training systems, publishing books on international and electronic business communication, including *Web Word Wizardry*, and running her training company Quality Web Content.

*Humming* has reached fourth on the New Zealand Adult Fiction Bestseller list since its release.



### **A Concise History of New Zealand**

Philippa Mein Smith

Cambridge University Press, 2005, RRP NZ\$39.95, 320pp, paperback, ISBN 0 521 54228-6

New Zealand was the last major landmass, other than Antarctica, to be settled by humans. In this first concise history of New Zealand, Associate Professor Philippa Mein Smith (History) provides a thorough overview stretching from New Zealand's origins in Gondwana 80 million years ago to life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Along the way, she examines the effects of the country's smallness and isolation, the comparative lateness of its settlement by Polynesian voyagers, and even later colonisation and settlement by Europeans, and explores the evolution of the Māori and Pakeha identities through the interactions of these two groups and their struggles for land. Attention is given to the trans-Tasman connection – the cross-pollination of social and economic practice between Australia and New Zealand, as well as the cultural ties. It examines New Zealand's place in the Pacific and its enduring links with Britain which set the country's global and regional context. Mein Smith also explores how key moments such as the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi, the ANZAC landing at Gallipoli and the sinking of the *Rainbow Warrior* have contributed to the country's nation-building myths.

This book belongs to the series of Cambridge Concise Histories, which comprises 16 national histories to date, including Australia, with further titles in preparation.

Mein Smith is Director of the University's NZAC (NZ-Australia Connections) Research Centre.

### **along Blueskin Road**

James Norcliffe

Canterbury University Press, 2005, RRP NZ\$24.95, 88pp, paperback, ISBN 1-877257-33-8

*along Blueskin Road* is a diverse collection of poems from one of New Zealand's leading poets. Whether tender, lyrical, quirky or comic, the poems are invariably richly imaginative and beautifully crafted.

Many were written in Dunedin during Norcliffe's tenure as Burns Fellow at Otago University and are imbued with a sense of this most poetic and individual of New Zealand cities. Others derive from places as diverse as Borneo and the ante-bellum American South.

Many have also been published worldwide in such journals as *Island* and *Southerly* (Australia), *Antigonish* and *Malahat Reviews* (Canada), and the *Gargoyle*, *Sycamore* and *Manhattan* reviews (USA).

Norcliffe graduated from Canterbury with a Master of Arts (1968). His work includes a number of novels for young people, a short-story collection, and four collections of poetry, of which *Letters to Dr Dee* (Hazard Press, 1994) was short-listed for the New Zealand Book Awards.

### **Julius Haast in the Southern Alps**

Colin J Burrows

Canterbury University Press, 2005, RRP NZ\$49.95, 215pp, hardback, ISBN 1-877257-08-7

This beautifully illustrated book celebrates the pioneer geologist who produced the first maps of New Zealand's Southern Alps. As provincial geologist for Canterbury, Julius Haast (1822-87) was the first scientist to enter the central Southern Alps, employed to make topographical and geological maps of the vast, unsurveyed hill and mountain country of the Canterbury/Westland region and to look for mineral resources.

Burrows traces the expeditions of Haast's survey parties between 1861 and 1869, focusing on his innovative studies of the glacial geology of the Southern Alps and observations on the evidence for glacial activity. Burrows uses his own research to update Haast's work, examining the region's glacial record from the beginning of the Ice Age 2.5 million years ago to the present day.

Among his many achievements, Haast founded the Canterbury Museum and was professor of geology at Canterbury University College.

Burrows taught plant science at the University of Canterbury (1960-1993) and is currently a University Council member.

# Alumni Activities



Christchurch-based alumni enjoyed an overnight visit to the Mt John University Observatory in September.

University of Canterbury alumni around the globe have enjoyed various activities since the publication of the last issue of *Canterbury*, ranging from the Annual General Meeting featuring the art of prominent New Zealand printmaker and Canterbury alumnus Barry Cleavin to the first series of social events to be held in the United States for our US-based graduates.

The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting on 26 May took place against the backdrop of Cleavin's retrospective *Sweet & Sour / Then & Now* exhibition at the UC School of Fine Arts' city-based SOFA Gallery (26 April – 29 May). Curator of the exhibition, Melinda Johnston, who this year completed a Master of Arts thesis on Cleavin's work (*Upon Reflection: Parody, Satire and Irony in the Prints of Barry Cleavin*), presented a floortalk to the assembled alumni, giving an insight into the complex and varied ideas Cleavin has explored in more than 20 years of printmaking.

Cleavin (DFA, 1967) was this year awarded an honorary doctorate (*LittD honoris causa*) by the University. He has taken part in numerous exhibitions, both in New Zealand

and internationally, and been the recipient of several major awards, including being made an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit (ONZM) in 2001.

The evening also presented an opportunity to personally congratulate the two 2005 Alumni Association Scholarship winners, Anna McConnell and Rosamund Nolan.

During the AGM, the following were elected to the Alumni Association Executive Committee: Mrs Sylvia Lukey (BSc, 1997) (President); Mr Don McBeath (LLB, 1971) (Vice-President); Dr Dugald McDonald (PhD, 1988; MA, 1977; BA, 1966); Dr Prue Tobin (MA, 1953); and Mr Matthew Walters (BSc, 1997). The positions of Treasurer and Secretary are appointed by the University and held by Adrienne Watson and Alumni Relations Manager Chanel Hughes (MA, 1998; BA(Hons), 1997) respectively.

At the **Mid-Winter Wellington Get-Together** held at the Wellington Club on 13 July, Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Mr Simon Murdoch, gave a presentation to the 65 guests entitled "A New Zealand Perspective on Global Issues". The Canterbury MA graduate (1972), who majored

in American Studies, provided a fascinating overview of the workings of the ministry, New Zealand's role in influencing global issues, and the qualities that make a good diplomat.

"Diplomats are not born, they are made," he said. "But the qualities that enable people to succeed in this career are: the ability to keep your head; a sense of perspective and proportion — to be able to read the real meanings of events and the intentions of key actors; patience in getting results; an ability to see the funny or quirky side of things; an instinct for credit sharing; a willingness to learn and change in new and different cultures; and an understanding of people and what makes them tick professionally."



(From left) Huong Kee Yui, Eileen Ho and Tony Wong at the Alumni High-Tea in Kuching.

Photo: Chanel Hughes

Christchurch-based alumni experienced a special treat in September with an **Overnight Visit to the Mt John University Observatory** in Lake Tekapo, one of the University's research outposts and New Zealand's major astronomical observatory. Forty guests participated in the two-day trip, which left from Christchurch on 9 September, with a stop for morning tea at The Oaks Café in Geraldine. Resident Superintendent of the observatory, Mr Alan Gilmore, provided an afternoon tour of the facility, which includes the \$7 million MOA (Microlensing Observations in Astrophysics) telescope launched in 2004 and the High Efficiency and Resolution Canterbury University Large Echelle Spectrograph (HERCULES).

This was followed by a presentation on "Astronomy and the Mt John University Observatory" by Director of the observatory, Professor John Hearnshaw (Physics and Astronomy), at the Godley Resort Hotel. After a buffet dinner at the Godley, guests returned to the observatory for a night-time viewing of the stars, where they had the opportunity to look through two of the telescopes and were blessed with near-perfect conditions for visibility. On the subsequent day, guests were encouraged to explore the sights of Tekapo before a leisurely trip back to Christchurch.

Norman Hardie (BE [Civil], 1948), who visited the observatory many years before, said he was "delighted" with the trip. "Let's hope many more such things can be arranged."

"The weather was fabulous, the company was good and the clarity of the information provided was wonderful."

Photo: Chanel Hughes



(From left) Emi Piulla-Afitu, Matt Sturge, Annabel Waterfield, Simon Titheridge and Regan Tullett at the September London function.



Julia Lorentz and Zoe Farnsworth enjoyed the 17<sup>th</sup> floor view from New Zealand House in London (UK).

Photo: Chanel Hughes

In the first of a series of overseas alumni functions held in September, 90 guests enjoyed the hospitality of HE Mr Geoff Randal, New Zealand High Commissioner to Malaysia, who hosted an **Alumni Buffet Dinner** at the High Commissioner's Residence in Kuala Lumpur, along with Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Sharp, who brought guests up to date with the latest developments at Canterbury.

This was followed on 6 September by an **Alumni High-Tea** in East Malaysia at the Hilton Kuching, Sarawak, where 60 alumni enjoyed the opportunity to re-connect with their *alma mater*, hosted by Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Engineering) Professor Peter Jackson.

The **Alumni Cocktail Reception** held at New Zealand House, London (UK), on 9 September drew a crowd of 150 guests eager to enjoy the spectacular night-time view from the 17<sup>th</sup> floor Penthouse, hosted by New Zealand High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, the Right Honourable Jonathan Hunt, Chancellor Dr Robin Mann, and the Vice-Chancellor.

In the USA, alumni functions were held in **New York** (12 September), **Washington** (14 September) and **San Francisco** (16 September) to mark the launch of the new charity, the University of Canterbury Foundation in America, Inc. Around 50 alumni attended each of the events, which in New York was held at the New Zealand Consulate General, and in Washington, hosted at the New Zealand Residence by Canterbury alumnus and New Zealand Ambassador to the United States, HE Mr John Wood (MA, 1966). The San Francisco event was held at the Haas School of Business, University of California, Berkeley, where guests enjoyed a New Zealand wine-tasting generously sponsored by Canterbury alumnus and businessman Professor David Teece (MCom, 1971), who is a part-time lecturer at the business school.

**To receive information about future alumni events and reunions, please ensure your contact details are up to date with the Alumni Office, phone +64 3 364 2344, fax +64 3 364 2679, email alumni@canterbury.ac.nz or see www.canterbury.ac.nz/alumni.**

## Event Diary *Mark these dates on your calendar*

**Alumni and friends of the University of Canterbury are warmly invited to participate in the following events. For regular event updates, see [www.canterbury.ac.nz/alumni](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/alumni) or contact the Alumni Office (details below).**

**14 Dec** *December Graduation, Christchurch Town Hall*

All faculties are involved in this colourful summer ceremony. For further information, phone +64 3 364 2987, ext 8981, email [graduation@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:graduation@canterbury.ac.nz) or see [www.canterbury.ac.nz/acad/graduation](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/acad/graduation). For Alumni Association Graduation services and gifts, see [www.canterbury.ac.nz/alumni](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/alumni).

**2006**

**13-17 Feb** *Habitat for Humanity House Build*

A Habitat for Humanity house will be constructed on campus during Orientation week. Voluntary labour and materials sourced at low cost will make permanent accommodation affordable for a low-income Christchurch family in need. The majority of helpers will be student volunteers. Assistance from friends and alumni of the University, with both construction and sponsorship, will be warmly welcomed. The project has been organised by Golden Key, an academic honour society that prepares students for lives of leadership and service to their communities.

If you are interested in volunteering or providing sponsorship, please contact Hayden Peacock, phone: +64 27 446 8282, email [community@goldenkey.canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:community@goldenkey.canterbury.ac.nz) or see [www.goldenkey.canterbury.ac.nz](http://www.goldenkey.canterbury.ac.nz).



2005 Alumni Association AGM at the SOFA Gallery.

**30 Mar** *UK Alumni Branch Function*

The UK Alumni Branch will be holding its first event of the New Year in the New Zealand House Penthouse, London. Tickets: £5 per person.

To register your interest in attending this event or participating in other UK Alumni activities, please email Sam Jeffs at [ucukalumni@hotmail.com](mailto:ucukalumni@hotmail.com).

**11 & 13 Apr** *Graduation, Christchurch Town Hall*

Four ceremonies over two days of celebration, amidst Christchurch's autumn finery. For further information, phone +64 3 364 2987, ext 8981, email [graduation@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:graduation@canterbury.ac.nz) or see [www.canterbury.ac.nz/acad/graduation](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/acad/graduation).

**12 Apr** *Annual Canterbury Challenge Quiz*

This annual highlight of the Graduation festivities, organised by the Alumni Association and sponsored by local businesses, brings together staff, students, and graduates for a fun-filled evening of trivia.

Contact: the Alumni Office. See [www.canterbury.ac.nz/alumni](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/alumni) for details of the 2005 quiz.

**18 Apr** *AIESEC 3M New Zealand Motivational Seminar — Awards Evening*

AIESEC Canterbury will host the 2006 national conference and would like to invite AIESEC alumni to join them for the Awards Evening. The event will be attended by corporate supporters and conference delegates from around the country.

Contact: Yat Wan Yeung, National Alumni Co-ordinator (AIESEC), ph: +64 21 123 5156, email: [yat.yeung@aiesec.net](mailto:yat.yeung@aiesec.net)

**25 May** *Alumni Association 13<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting*

The Annual General Meeting will combine business with a campus highlight and light refreshments. Details to be confirmed closer to the date. Contact: the Alumni Office.

**Aug** *University of Canterbury Arts Festival, Christchurch*

The UC College of Arts is delighted to announce the launch of an inaugural University of Canterbury Arts Festival. Showcasing the talent of both staff and students, the festival will offer something for everyone. From Monteverdi's fabulous baroque opera, *La Coronazione di Poppea*, featuring Dame Malvina Major, to avant-garde theatre, silent films, modern art

exhibitions, film screenings and public lectures, the festival will be an expression of the University's diversity in the arts. To be kept up to date with the festival, new events and programme details, email 'Subscribe' to [artsfestival@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:artsfestival@canterbury.ac.nz).

**5-8 Nov** *2006 New Zealand Alumni Convention — Connecting Asia with Aotearoa, New Zealand, Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington*

Hosted by the Wellington City Council, this Convention for tertiary alumni of the Asia-Pacific region will celebrate the life-long connections of student days while exploring business opportunities between New Zealand and Asia (see page 40 for further details). The convention will start with a bang at Wellington's spectacular annual Guy Fawkes fireworks extravaganza on 5 November and culminate in a gala dinner on 8 November. See [www.wellington.govt.nz/rd/alumni](http://www.wellington.govt.nz/rd/alumni) for regular updates or email [alumni@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:alumni@wcc.govt.nz).

**11 Nov** *Engineering Alumni Function*

More details available soon. Contact: Naomi Murfitt, Marketing and Outreach Co-ordinator (Engineering), ph: +64 3 364 2813, email: [naomi.murfitt@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:naomi.murfitt@canterbury.ac.nz)

**Reunions coming up in 2007**

**30 Mar-1 Apr** *Bishop Julius Hall 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion*

2007 marks the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the original Bishop Julius Hall. Register at [www.bishopjulius.ac.nz](http://www.bishopjulius.ac.nz) or contact Lynne Williams, 78 Greendale Ave, Christchurch or email [pete\\_lynnne@snap.net.nz](mailto:pete_lynnne@snap.net.nz).

**20-21 Oct** *Ten Year Reunion for Speech and Language Therapy Graduates of 1998 (students of 1994-7)*

Contact: Sandra Leak (née Sapwell), 100A George Street, Ashburton, ph: +64 3 308 6648, mobile: +64 27 659 5133, email: [sandra.leak@xtra.co.nz](mailto:sandra.leak@xtra.co.nz)

For enquiries contact:  
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[www.alumni.canterbury.ac.nz/alumni](http://www.alumni.canterbury.ac.nz/alumni)

## Connecting Asia with Aotearoa New Zealand

2006 New Zealand Alumni Convention (5-8 November)



Photo: Neil Price

**The Wellington City Council, with support from the New Zealand Government, extends a warm invitation to the alumni of all New Zealand universities and other tertiary institutions to attend the 2006 New Zealand Alumni Convention, to be held from 5-8 November 2006 in Wellington.**

Following on from the successful inaugural conference held in Kuching, Sarawak, in 2004, the 2006 convention will provide the opportunity for New Zealand alumni to re-connect with old friends and colleagues, to be inspired by leading New Zealanders and commentators, to share some of New Zealand's successful business stories, and to learn more about New Zealand today and the exciting opportunities that exist for business and investment in New Zealand.

Designed particularly for alumni based in the Asia-Pacific region, this convention will also be of interest to government representatives in the areas of trade, business, foreign affairs, education and investment; to companies, entrepreneurs and investors who wish to explore business opportunities in the Asia-Pacific region; and current or prospective students intending to pursue study in New Zealand at undergraduate or postgraduate level.

The convention programme will have something for everyone, combining stimulating presentations by expert and internationally-renowned speakers with site visits to world-class facilities and fun social activities. The programme will

explore the following themes: re-connecting — hear stories from fellow alumni on what they have achieved and made of their New Zealand education; doing business in New Zealand and Asia — find out how Asia Inc and New Zealand can do business together for mutual benefit; New Zealand today — learn about the changes that have taken place in New Zealand over recent times and what continues to make New Zealand a great place in which to live, work, learn, play and do business; understanding the world at large and our place in it, which will examine recent developments between Asia and New Zealand; and celebrating innovation and emerging technologies within New Zealand and Asia.

Additionally there will be an "Ideas Gallery", featuring leading developments in biotechnology, biomedicine, food technology, nanotechnology and robotics, and providing information on exciting research, investment and business opportunities in New Zealand, as well as the postgraduate study programmes now on offer.

Delegates will also enjoy a unique venue experience with the convention's location at the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, in the heart of Wellington City. With a worldwide reputation for its fresh and bold approach to presenting the nation's treasures and stories, Te Papa is an important waharoa, or "gateway", for engaging with the essence of New Zealand's land and people.

The convention has been organised and sponsored by the Wellington City Council, with the support of the New Zealand Government through New Zealand Trade and Enterprise, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Ministry of Education, and with the support and involvement of New Zealand's eight universities.

At the close of the convention, delegates are invited to visit their respective universities for activities over the 9-10 November. A programme for University of Canterbury alumni during this weekend will be published shortly.

To register and for regular updates on the convention, visit [www.wellington.govt.nz/rd/alumni](http://www.wellington.govt.nz/rd/alumni).

Alumni are also most welcome to contact the organising committee, led by Wellington's Deputy Mayor, Mr Alick Shaw, at email: [alumni@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:alumni@wcc.govt.nz).

The Wellington City Council, New Zealand Government and universities of New Zealand look forward to welcoming alumni back to New Zealand for what will be an inspiring and auspicious event.

**New Zealand TRADE & ENTERPRISE**

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**  
Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga



## Class Notes

**Adamson, Michelle T** (BCom, ACCY, 1995) worked at the Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu office in Christchurch from January 1995 until September 2000 and then transferred to Deloitte & Touche New York (October 2000 – July 2005). She has since joined the consulting firm Protiviti Inc in New York City as a senior manager.

**Baghaei-Rad, Leili** (BE(Hons), ENEL, 2004) was awarded the Rebecca Lynch Scholarship, Graduate Student Travel Award and Microelectronics Research and Communications Institute (MRCI) research grant for 2005, and is currently studying towards a Master of Engineering degree at the University of Idaho while simultaneously undertaking research for the MRCI. Husband **Ian Downes** (BE(Hons) ENEL, 2004) also began overseas studies this year, enrolling at Stanford University in August after winning the J R Templin Graduate Scholarship for 2005.

**Campbell, Gary** (BSc, BIOL/ZOOL, 1990) is enjoying the opportunity to travel throughout Canada because of his job as a district sales manager and sales representative for pharmaceutical company Lundbeck Canada Inc. He has continued to play guitar and is currently in a band called Skully (see [www.skully.ca](http://www.skully.ca)) that plays mostly in Atlantic Canada.

**Clement, Nicola** (BSc, BIOL/ZOOL, 2000) went on to do a Postgraduate Diploma in Marketing and Management and spent three years working for an agricultural chemical company in Melbourne, Auckland and London, followed by one year working for SAP Consulting, a professional services company in Auckland. She is currently contracted to healthcare company HSA in Hampshire (UK) to redesign and build the company's website.

**Connelly, Michael P** (BE(Hons) ENEL, 2002) was doing automation engineering in Rotorua and is now working on communications and surveillance engineering for Airways Corporation in Christchurch. He is currently the project manager for a \$10.5 million voice switch project.

**Dibnah (née Batty), Lana R** (BCom, BSAD, 1996) spent a year each in Perth (Australia) and Wellington before embarking on her OE. For just over five years she was based in London, working in human resources for a German insurance company, before returning to New Zealand with her English husband. Dibnah is currently human resources advisor at the head office of children's clothing chain Pumpkin Patch, which is based in Auckland.

**Hua Yan** (BA, PSYC, 2004) is delighted to have joined one of China's top 10 management consulting firms, Zuoyou Management Consulting Co Ltd, as a junior consultant based in Shenzhen – a career goal she says she always dreamed of.

**Hunt, Robyn** (BA, ENGL/POLS, 1971) is a part-time Commissioner for the Human Rights Commission. She has worked as a consultant and has 20 years' experience in the fields of human rights and equity issues, with a focus on disability and equal employment issues. Hunt was the first president of the Council of Workbridge Inc and co-chair of the Disability Strategy Sector Reference Group. She is also a writer, trainer, coach and mentor, and director of an accessible web services company. She was made an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to people with disabilities in 2001.

**Jongens, Richard** (PhD, GEOL, 1997; BSc, 1993) has been working as a geologist with New Zealand's Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences (GNS). His main project for the past three years has been mapping rocks in Fiordland and the West Coast for the 1:250,000 QMAP: Geological Map of New Zealand programme funded by the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology (FRST).

**Keen, Thomas W** (MSc, CHEM, 1994; BSc, 1991) founded his own mechanical product design business in 1997 called Industrial Alchemy Limited, based in Christchurch (see <http://home.clear.net.nz/pages/tomkeen>). As product designer and director of the company, Keen has collaborated on projects with Britten Prototypes, Trimble Electronics and DirtThingz engineer Glenn Anderson.

**Narayan Ramanath, Deepak** (ME, ENCH, 2004) returned to his hometown of Bangalore, India, to work as a project engineer in the field of hypersonic flows at the Indian Institute of Science, one of the world's foremost science institutes. He is currently working at Ansys Software Limited (formerly CFX), which is part of Ansys Inc, USA.

**Roberts, Cynthia M** (BA, HIST, 1970) has been teaching Educational Management at the Christchurch Polytechnic and running her own outdoor adventure company, Bushwise Women, for the past 10 years. In 2004 she completed a Master of Applied Science in biology and conservation at Lincoln University and is now on a scholarship at the University of Tasmania, undertaking a PhD in ecology.

**Safa, Abbas** (ME, ENEL, 1990) initially worked as a high frequency radio design engineer in Waihi before becoming the project manager for the Tehran Province Water and Waste Water Telemetry and Telecontrol Project in Iran. He is currently a national telecommunication officer for the United Nations, based in Tehran.



**Sardina, Vicente** (MForSc, 1993) is currently Officer-in-Charge and Provincial Head of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENIR) in the province of Antique, Philippines, managing three offices with 155 personnel. He is married with four children.

**Smith, John F** (DipClinPsych, 1973; MA, PSYC, 1972; BA, 1970) has worked as a clinical psychologist in New Zealand, Australia and the United States since graduating, and held academic positions at the University of Waikato and Auckland University of Technology, where he is currently Programme Leader for Health Promotion in the National Centre for Health and Social Ethics. He has also undertaken a number of projects and consultancies for the World Health Organisation (WHO) and other health organisations in the Philippines, Laos, Vietnam, Tajikistan and Thailand.

**Taylor, Joanna M** (LLB, 1994; BA, HIST, 1993) worked as a judge's clerk at the Christchurch High Court for two years and then spent five years with Russell McVeagh in Wellington as a senior solicitor. For the past four years she has been an associate at Allen & Overy LLP in London.

**Van der Sprong, Frank** (MCom, BSAD, 1997) now works for General Electrics Fleet Services and is currently the pricing leader for the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg. He is based in the Netherlands and is married with one daughter.

**Von Biel, Victoria** (MA, ENGL, 1981) is Executive Editor for *Bon Appétit*, the popular American monthly food magazine under *Condé Nast*, which has been in print for more than 50 years and has a circulation of 1.3 million.

**Voykovic (née Blacktopp), Linda J** (BA(Hons), PSYC/EDUC, 1995) took up volunteer work after graduating before landing her dream job as a child, adolescent and family therapist in a mental health service for six years. Since then she has taken time out to be a full-time mum to her three daughters and has been based in Melbourne since 2003.

**Wadsworth, John R** (BCom, BSAD, 1995; BSc, ECON, 1992) was appointed Chief Executive Officer of Enterprise Waitakere, Waitakere City's economic development agency, in August. He was previously business manager for the organisation and is a regular speaker at social policy and economic development forums around New Zealand. Wadsworth is one of 18 participants in the Future Leaders programme run by the corporate-led Committee for Auckland. He was president of the University of Canterbury Students' Association in 1993.

## Alumni Networks

### University of Canterbury Alumni Association

All graduates, former students (who have completed at least 12 points), past and present staff members, and friends of the University of Canterbury are eligible for membership of the Alumni Association. See [www.canterbury.ac.nz/alumni](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/alumni) for more information or contact the Alumni Office.

### Wellington branch

Contact: Brian Lynch  
Ph: +64 4 970 3444  
Email: [brianice@paradise.net.nz](mailto:brianice@paradise.net.nz)

### International branches:



### Germany

Contact: Silke Deselaers  
Danziger Str 35  
Sonnenberg  
D-65191 Wiesbaden  
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Mobile: 0 171/5474747  
Email: [silke.deselaers@web.de](mailto:silke.deselaers@web.de)



### UCAM (University of Canterbury Alumni, Malaysia)

Contact: Richard Tankersley, President  
PO Box 10565  
50718 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
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Email: [ucam@tm.net.my](mailto:ucam@tm.net.my)  
[www.ucam.org.my](http://www.ucam.org.my)

### Kuching Branch, UCAM

Contact: Dr Chua Ching Geh  
PO Box 321  
93704 Kuching  
Sarawak, Malaysia  
Email: [chingeh@pc.jaring.my](mailto:chingeh@pc.jaring.my)



### United Kingdom

Contact: Sam Jeffs  
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### Western Australia

Contact: Stephen Alpers  
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250 St Georges Terrace  
Perth, WA 6000  
Australia  
Ph: +61 8 9322 0877  
Email: [stephena@gda.com.au](mailto:stephena@gda.com.au)

### Other Associations

### New Zealand Federation of Graduate Women Inc (NZFGW)

The NZFGW is open to all women graduates of New Zealand universities, polytechnics, colleges of education and Wānanga, and currently has 15 branches nationwide, with links to the International Federation of Graduate Women. Contact the National Secretary for your nearest branch (PO Box 3057, Wellington, email: [wendyz@ihug.co.nz](mailto:wendyz@ihug.co.nz)), or see [www.nzfgw.org.nz](http://www.nzfgw.org.nz).

### Christchurch Classical Association

Meets regularly to hear lectures from invited speakers.  
Contact: Secretary, UC Classics Programme  
Ph: +64 3 364 2987, ext 8580  
Email: [secretary@clas.canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:secretary@clas.canterbury.ac.nz)

### New Zealand Geographical Society (Canterbury Branch)

Meets monthly for seminars and discussion.  
Contact: Secretary, UC Geography Department  
Ph: +64 3 364 2900  
Email: [secretary@geog.canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:secretary@geog.canterbury.ac.nz)  
[www.nzgs.co.nz](http://www.nzgs.co.nz)

### Canterbury Historical Association

Meets monthly for presentations on historical topics by UC staff, visiting lecturers, postgraduate students and local historians.  
Contact: Professor Geoffrey Rice  
Ph: +64 3 364 2283  
Email: [geoffrey.rice@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:geoffrey.rice@canterbury.ac.nz)

### Other Alumni Communications

### CE News (Civil Engineering)

Phone +64 3 364 2250 or  
email [enquiries@civil.canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:enquiries@civil.canterbury.ac.nz)  
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[www.civil.canterbury.ac.nz](http://www.civil.canterbury.ac.nz).

### Geophiles (Geography)

See [www.geog.canterbury.ac.nz](http://www.geog.canterbury.ac.nz).

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### UC School of Law Newsletter (School of Law)

See [www.laws.canterbury.ac.nz/newsletters](http://www.laws.canterbury.ac.nz/newsletters),  
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email [law-enquiries@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:law-enquiries@canterbury.ac.nz)  
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Fax: +64 3 364 2679  
Email: [alumni@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:alumni@canterbury.ac.nz)  
[www.canterbury.ac.nz/alumni](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/alumni)

## Obituaries



Dr Russell Smith

**D'Eve, Marian May** (BEd, 1999), b. 10 August 1947, d. 8 August 2005

**Smith, Russell Peter** (PhD, 1973; BE (Elec), 1967), b. 22 October 1944, d. 8 August 2005  
University of Canterbury Council member, patron of the UC Foundation and successful businessman Dr Russell Smith and his wife, Marian D'Eve, were tragically killed in a plane crash when their Cessna 182 crashed into the sea off North Canterbury in August.

Smith was head of HumanWare Group (formerly Pulse Data International), known internationally for its Braille and speech technology, screen-reading software and video magnification solutions for the visually impaired.

After completing his PhD at Canterbury, Smith went on to become the founding managing director of Wormald International Sensory Aids, which subsequently became Pulse Data in 1988, rising rapidly as a world leader in information access for the blind. Pulse Data merged this year with Canadian firm VisuAide to become HumanWare Group. In 2004 Smith was made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM), celebrating a career dedicated to improving the lives of the visually impaired.

D'Eve was a well respected early education expert and a former teacher at the Christchurch College of Education.

**Kennedy, Henry James Forbes** (BE(Hons) (Civil), 1949), b. 25 June 1926, d. 6 June 2005  
Henry Kennedy worked for 36 years for the Ministry of Works and Development Power Division, seven of them as chief design engineer in charge of designing hydro, thermal and geothermal state power schemes, and was involved in most of the power schemes built between the 1950s and 1980s, specialising in major hydraulic structures and soil mechanics. During this

period of rapid growth, up to five stations were under construction simultaneously. A top scholar at Timaru Boys' High and Canterbury University College, Kennedy joined the ministry after completing an MSc at Victoria University College (1951). His first major project was as a member of the engineering team working on the Roxburgh Power Project, supervising the construction of the dam and powerplant on the Clutha River.

From his retirement in 1985 Kennedy continued to work as a consultant for mining companies and other organisations involved in soil and water issues.

**Stokes, Dame Evelyn Mary** (MA, 1960), b. 20 May 1930, d. 15 August 2005

A distinguished New Zealand geographer, Dame Evelyn Stokes played a significant role in establishing Waikato University's Geography Department, where she was professor from 1964 until her death.

After graduating from Canterbury she was appointed a geography professor at what was then Auckland University's Waikato branch, the same year the University of Waikato was established in its own right.

Dame Evelyn founded and edited the *New Zealand Journal of Geography* (1969-1986) and was a long-time member of the Waitangi Tribunal and New Zealand Geographic Board. As a member of the Nga Tuwharetoa Tribal Trust (1980-1991), she was involved in landmark negotiations for the first leasing of Māori land for a power station, the Ohaaki geothermal power plant.

Her life work was devoted to recognising contributions made by marginalised groups, particularly women and Māori, and she published widely on New Zealand's historical geography, Māori land tenure and Treaty of Waitangi issues. She was made a Dame Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit in 1999 for services to tertiary education and Māori.

**Tungol, Norman** (PhD, 2002), b. 16 June 1965, d. 28 April 2005

Norman Tungol was tragically killed in a helicopter crash in the Philippines while on an aerial assessment of a potential landslide danger at Dingalan, Aurora province.

Tungol graduated from the University of the Philippines in 1987 with a BS in Geology and worked as an exploration geologist with Benguet Mining Corporation before joining the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS) in 1991. As a science research specialist he participated in the monitoring of Pinatubo Volcano lahars. He was awarded the Civil Service Commission-

PAGASA Award as member of the PHIVOLCS Quick Response Team in 1995, and in 1996 won a New Zealand Overseas Development Agency (NZODA) scholarship to undertake postgraduate study at Canterbury.

After completing his studies, Tungol returned to the Philippines. He was appointed Chief of the Geology, Geophysics Research and Development Division (GGRDD) in 2004.

**Williman, Alan**, b. 1914, d. December 2004

Alan Williman taught in the University's Civil Engineering Department for 27 years, from 1952 until retiring in 1979, covering drawing, design and surveying before settling into his speciality of highway and traffic engineering. He was the driving force behind the development of New Zealand's first and only pavement testing facility, known then as the "Willywheel". Now known as the Canterbury Accelerated Pavement Testing Facility (CAPTIF), it has since been used for numerous research projects, including a major international study for the OECD on the performance of pavements under dynamic loading.

Williman completed a BSc in engineering at London University in 1936. He worked as a civil engineer until WWII, during which he served in the Royal Engineers, undertaking bomb disposal and road upgrading in France and Germany.

He joined the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology (UMIST) as a lecturer in 1949, gaining an MSc in 1951, before immigrating to New Zealand with his family.

**Woodward, Otway George William**, b. 28 January 1924, d. 2005

Emeritus Professor Otway Woodward held a chair in the University's History Department for 21 years, 20 of them as head. He also served on the University Council, was a member of the Student Liaison Committee, a member of, and chairman, of the Library Committee and the Board of Studies in Journalism, and a member of the Appointments Committee.

Educated at the Belfast Royal Academy, Otway was awarded a junior exhibition in classics to Trinity College, Dublin. The Second World War intervened and he joined the Royal Air Force instead, qualifying as a pilot. At war end he returned to Trinity, graduating in 1950 in political science and history with first class honours before going on to complete a PhD (1955).

He lectured at the University of Nottingham from 1952 to 1967, when he was appointed at Canterbury.

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### Sign up for CareerHub

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### UC memorabilia

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UC clothing may be purchased at the Students' Association.

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### Maintain your gym membership

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### The Alumni Office

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