

REMEMBERING OUR ANZACS

Massey University’s Professor Glyn Harper (QSM) is heading an initiative to write the first ever full account of New Zealand’s involvement in the First World War. Professor Harper is writing the first book in the series The New Zealand Soldier At War 1914 - 1918, and hopes to publish the book next year to coincide with the centenary of the first world war.

In terms of human suffering, World War I is the greatest tragedy this country has ever experienced. From a population of just over one million people New Zealand sent over 100,000 people to war. Almost 60,000 became casualties and nearly 18,000 were killed.

We have teamed up with the NZ Defence Force (NZDF), The Ministry for Culture and Heritage and the Royal New Zealand Returned Services’ Association (RNZRSA) to produce the first full and detailed account of New Zealand in the First World War.

Your donation towards the project will help produce the books, which will be sold. The proceeds will fund scholarship, study and research at Massey University.

Help us publish their stories before they fade away.



Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, at the Equestrian Centre

RIDING HIGH ON SUCCESS

The Massey University Foundation is home to the Equine Trust. The Trust has been funded by a partnership for Excellence - an official partnering of equine industry groups and government. The Trust utilises the capabilities of Massey University and many other partners inside and outside New Zealand to improve the equine industry’s future progress. The Foundation manages and invests the \$5 million (PFX monies supplied by the government). The income from this investment is made available each year to the trustees of The Equine Trust to invest in research and education projects. In 2012 the Equine Trust, chaired by eminent equine orthopaedic veterinarian and Massey alumnus, Dr Wayne McIlwraith, received around \$300,000 from the Foundation to support research projects in various areas of Equine health and well-being.

The trust’s focus includes training more New Zealanders to gain world-leading expertise in the areas of equine science, technology and business; helping ensure we lead the world in the performance of New Zealand horses, equine biosecurity, health and welfare, better equine veterinary care and increased research that advances veterinary science (particularly related to equine). We’re always looking for help.

To read more about the Trust’s work go to <http://www.massey.ac.nz/equinetrust>

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THE ENGINE
OF THE NEW
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MASSEY
UNIVERSITY
TE KUNENGA KI PŪREHUROA
UNIVERSITY OF NEW ZEALAND

MASSEY UNIVERSITY
FOUNDATION

MASSEY UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION
NEWSLETTER NO 4

SAVE THE DATE

- May 2013**
Annual Alumni Appeal
- June 2013**
Alumni Functions:
19 June: San Francisco
20 June: Los Angeles
24 June: New York
26 June: London
- Friday July 5 2013**
50 years of Veterinary Education
Symposium and Fundraising Gala Dinner for
Wildbase. Palmerston North



DIBBLE SCULPTURE AT GALA
DINNER

In 2013, Massey University’s veterinary school celebrates its fiftieth anniversary.

To celebrate, a gala dinner and symposium will be held in July. At the event the Foundation will be holding an auction of some memorabilia, travel packages, and artwork (including the Paul Dibble sculpture pictured). Proceeds from the function will go to the Wildbase hospital build.

Our thanks to Fran and Paul Dibble for their generosity.

To find out more email: m.hoare@massey.ac.nz

NEW TEESHIRTS FOR WILDBASE

Show your support for Massey’s work with wildlife in New Zealand with our new fundraising teeshirt. Help us fundraise for the new Wildbase hospital with this 100% cotton teeshirt, featuring a stunning wing design.

Find out more: alumnishop.massey.ac.nz

KIA ORA TĀTOU

Thanks to the generosity of our alumni, staff and friends the Foundation is off to a great start this year and has raised over a million dollars in the first quarter of the year and has received pledges for a further \$400,000. These donations have been given to a variety of causes right across Massey, they will all make a meaningful difference to research and discovery and I thank all our donors however big or small for their generosity.

It is thanks to gifts like these that the Foundation’s endowment fund has blossomed to \$16,918,000. This money is invested in a managed fund and will exist in perpetuity to support scholarships and research at Massey. Scholarships remain crucial to many students who, in these uncertain times, face the additional challenges of increasing tuition fees and reduced allowances.

Later this month will see the Foundation’s second ever Alumni Appeal – all contactable alumni will be invited to make a donation and support the University. I look forward to reporting the results of this and other initiatives in our next newsletter.

Mitch Murdoch, Foundation Director

BOOST FOR WILDBASE FUNDRAISING

The Massey University Foundation has announced a major ten-year partnership between Shell New Zealand and Wildbase Hospital. The partnership sees Shell contributing \$800,000 to the Hospital expansion project (\$400,000 towards the build and \$40,000 per annum in operational costs for the next ten years). This major contribution takes fundraising for the \$1.47 million build to around half way.



Shell New Zealand has supported the centre since its inception in 2001 and has seen the significant benefits of the work to the management of endangered species. “We are proud to partner and support Wildbase and its dedicated team who are the unsung heroes of New Zealand conservation,” says Shell New Zealand chairman Rob Jager.

“We’ve been working Wildbase for over ten years now and we’re excited about this new chapter, and the new hospital, which will enable staff to treat more animals and give them the best possible care and rehabilitation.

“Shell sees real value in promoting and supporting the things that are important to all New Zealanders. Looking after our threatened species so that they can thrive is critical to maintaining a healthy natural environment we can all enjoy.”

The Wildbase Hospital is New Zealand’s only dedicated wildlife hospital and cares for some of the most endangered species on the planet.

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Dr Brett Gartrell, Wildbase director, says for the past decade Massey’s Wildbase team has treated more than 1800 native animals, half of which come from threatened or endangered species, but they now needed help to do more.

“Our caseload, staffing levels and contributions to conservation has grown annually, but the physical space we work in has not. The Wildbase hospital consists of three small rooms, which are used to hospitalise patients, carry out treatments and do food preparation and orthopaedic surgery. The physical size of the hospital is now limiting both the quality of care and the caseload we can provide.”

“We are currently fundraising to build an expanded Wildbase Hospital, that will directly raise our capability to provide veterinary services for conservation of native wildlife in New Zealand.”

The new Wildbase hospital will expand from 25m/sq to 250m/sq and will allow Wildbase to treat more animals to a much higher standard.



For more information:
www.massey.ac.nz/wildbase

ANNUAL ALUMNI APPEAL SET FOR MAY

Our wonderful graduates like the Class of '58 are helping fund the future of Massey – and we'd like to say thank you! Massey’s alumni are hugely loyal and for this we are really appreciative.

In May we will be running an appeal for more alumni to help us with our various fundraising activities. All contactale alumni will receive an email or a postal invitation to contribute to the appeal.

There are a huge range of different projects that we are fundraising for, including a new Wildbase Hospital, equine work and the World War II project, to restoring our heritage buildings, and developing scholarships for New Zealand’s young up-and-coming scientists.

Watch this space for more information! And thank you again for your help so far.



LITERACY RESEARCH FUND RECEIVES GIFT

The Massey University Foundation has received a very generous donation of \$50,000 from alumnus Matthew Abel to support a literacy programme aimed at helping children with reading difficulties.

“Literacy is such an ongoing problem facing New Zealand,” says Massey Professor of Educational Psychology James Chapman. “The continuing poor state of literacy among a significant number of children and adults is draining the country’s potential. For New Zealand to keep up with the world, and for everyone in New Zealand to have the basic tools for participating in the economy, we must do something different to improve the literacy abilities of children and adults. Throwing more money into doing the same thing will not solve this corrosive problem.”

Professor Chapman is heading the programme, which is a joint effort between a Massey PhD graduate and Institute of Education staff. The programme involves assessing children who have reading difficulties and finding ways of helping them.

The gift will cover a significant amount of the programme’s costs.

“We are very grateful for Matthew’s support of Education in New Zealand.”



NEW RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS FOR EMERGING SCIENTISTS

A contribution of \$50,000 per year for three years from the Massey University Agricultural and Life Sciences Trust is helping support two new research fellowships for two promising young scientists.

Dr Carla Eaton and Dr Kee Sohn, have taken up the positions, created to provide leadership in research and teaching of molecular plant pathology and plant pathology within the College of Sciences at Massey University, and to establish strong national and international research linkages.

The fellowships are a co-investment initiative between the Bio-Protection Research Centre, the Massey University Foundation Agricultural and Life Sciences Trust, Institute of Natural Resources and the Institute of Fundamental Sciences.

Dr Eaton, a Massey graduate (with a PhD in genetics) is focussing on molecular plant pathology (within the Institute of Fundamental Sciences). Since her PhD she has held post-doctoral fellowships in the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology at University of California at Riverside, as well as in the laboratory of Prof Barry Scott at Massey University, studying the signalling involved in maintaining the mutually beneficial association between the fungal endophyte *Epichloë festucae* and perennial ryegrass. She will continue working on this model system to study the balance between symbiosis and pathogenicity.

Dr Sohn will focus on applied plant pathology, within the Institute of Natural Resources. Dr Sohn received his PhD in 2009 from The Sainsbury Laboratory through the University of East Anglia, one of the top research institutes in the world for molecular plant pathology. His PhD research with Prof Jonathan Jones focused on the properties and applications of pathogen effector proteins in *Arabidopsis thaliana*. He will continue working on bacterial effector proteins but will start a new research programme on psa disease in golden kiwi fruit.



Dr Carla Eaton



Dr Kee Sohn

CLASS OF '58 HELP HERITAGE PROJECT

Massey University alumni have raised \$45,000 to fund a new alumni centre at Massey Univeristy. Massey University’s class of '58 had its 40th reunion at Massey in May 2012. The group met at Wharerata and by all accounts had a fabulous time. The class decided to establish a fund to support the development of an alumni centre within the historic Tiritea House.



The beautiful building was built in 1902-03 for local businessman Richard Abraham.

Tiritea was originally situated where the Old Main Building now stands. It had 24 rooms to house the family’s seven children and was surrounded by 12ha of mostly bush. Its sweeping driveway entrance is now the main drive into the University.

In 1920, it was sold to Percy McHardy, a sheep farmer from Hawke’s Bay, and became known as the McHardy Homestead. Six years later it was purchased by the Palmerston North Borough Council, and then donated to the new Massey Agricultural College. Part of the land was set aside as a reserve, which is now Bledisloe Park.

Tiritea was later literally cut in two and moved, the larger section forming what became known as the principal’s residence (where the Vice-Chancellor lived) and the rest initially used for teaching space before becoming the College Registry, now Old Registry.

The plan is to set the building up to be used for visiting alumni to work or meet and reconnect with other alumni, for catered functions, and as a place to display and exhibit the University’s heritage.

Find out more: <http://foundation.massey.ac.nz>

CLASS OF '58 FULL OF LAUGHS

The Class of 58 have many fond memories of Massey University.

“We were the first that had the opportunity to do all four years of the B.Agric. Sci. at Massey,” explains alumnus John Reid. “Previously we had had to do our ‘First Year Intermediate’ (the same for Medicine, Veterinary, Dental and Agriculture) at one of the four full Universities. It was also Alan Stewart’s first year in charge and the genesis of the move to the Massey University of today. We had small classes and intimate connections with all our lecturers. We were an incredibly lucky group.

But it was not all serious study – bedstead races, risqué drama clubs, revues, evenings at the local watering holes, even the terrible food at the canteen are what made their years at Massey memorable to the group.

John recounts a multitude of pranks, the most audacious of which had to be ‘kidnapping’ the Governor General of the time, Lord Cobham, and having him ceremonially open the road behind the Pink Hostel, “a road down which we often needed to jump start recalcitrant cars, and which had been blocked with three concrete posts to prevent just that activity.” John says when Cobham later spoke to the Raleigh Club in Oxford he claimed it was one of the highlights of his time in New Zealand.

“We received an excellent education for money that we were able to earn on the 52 weeks of practical farming that we had to accomplish before graduation,” says John. “We grew as the University grew - hopefully both we and the University have at least partially paid back something to society.”

Above - Kidnap of the Governor General Viscount Cobham, outside YFC Hostel.
L:R - Don Hutchison, Jim Richardson, Lord Massey (Bill Schroder), Lady Massey (Dougal Gilmour), Tony Chisholm, Viscount Cobham, Jock Macmillan.
Right - Ballet – off stage – Revue 1961

