



CONFERENCE 2008

**23 & 24 October
Travelodge Hotel
(formerly Novotel)
Palmerston North**

CONFERENCE 2008

The 2008 conference organisers will be making a call for papers within the next few weeks.

Suggestions for symposia topics will be readily accepted by Ian Scott

Half Day Symposium

As well as contributed presentations, this year's conference will include a half day symposium which will explore the role of parasitology and parasitologists in areas which are not the traditional focus of the majority of the NZSP membership.

This will include livestock sectors such as dairy and deer, wildlife parasitology / parasite ecology and human parasitology (including zoonoses).

The Executive welcomes suggestions from the members for potential speakers, topics etc.

CONFERENCE NOTICES

ASP CONFERENCE

6 – 9 July 2008, Stamford Grand Hotel, Glenelg, South Australia

One comment received about the conference was with regard to the Poster Session. This was a session entitled speed posters where the author stood up and spoke for 2 minutes on their poster. The session drummed up a lot of interest for attendees to visit the poster area and with the strategic positioning of the food and coffee within the poster area so that you had to walk through the posters to get fed and watered this increased their exposure.

ICOPA XII

15 – 20 August 2010, Melbourne [<http://www.icopaxii.org>]

A submission was made by the NZSP to the organising committees of both the Novel Approaches and ICOPA conferences, scheduled for 2010 in Melbourne. The original

plan was to hold these conferences sequentially, meaning at least a 10 day trip for those wishing to attend both. The NZSP Executive asked for this to be reconsidered, and agreement has now been reached to accommodate Novel Approaches within the ICOPA program.

PEOPLE

Mirek Stankiewicz, Professor of Immunology at Lincoln University retired earlier this year. But rumour has it – he will be back.

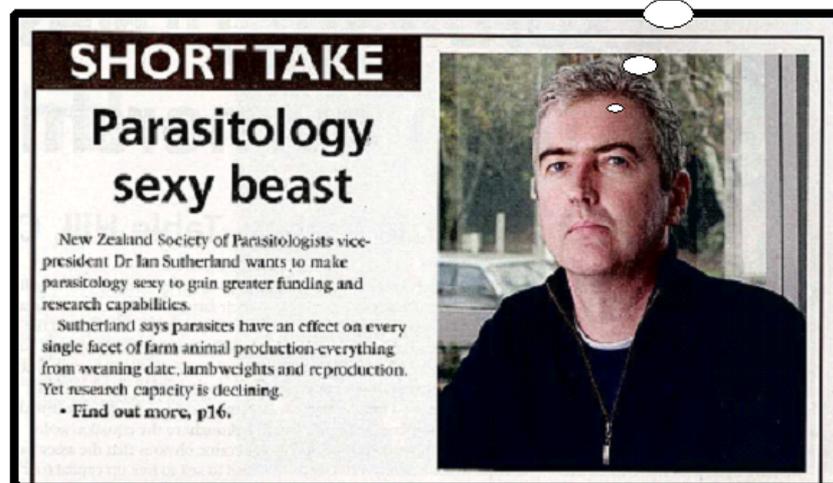
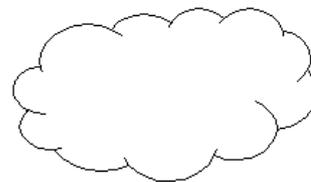
Andy Greer is also back at Lincoln after his overseas travels.

Jo Wrigley is now back working for Ancare but in Australia. Jo is now a member of the Australian Society for Parasitology. Email: jo.wrigley@ancare.com.au

Ian Sutherland also made the news back in the May (North Island) edition of rural newspaper, Country-Wide. Ian's intention was to raise the profile of the society with an article entitled "Society out to make parasitology sexy" (by Erin Hutchinson).

Ian claims that this article didn't appear in the online version. However – it was noted and became a topic of conversation (and competition) at the AgResearch Grasslands campus.

A caption was sought for the thoughtful / contemplative look (see page 5 for solutions). Maybe this picture could be put to use a little later in the year?



RECENT ARTICLES

Fresh hope to can the worms

Prichard R.K. & Geary, T.G.

Nature, 452, 13 March 2008

Parasitic worms kill many livestock, and the drugs used against them are becoming less effective. The discovery of a class of compounds that kills worms resistant to existing drugs is thus a welcome development.

A new class of anthelmintics effective against drug-resistant nematodes

Kaminsky R., *et al.*

Nature, 452, 13 March 2008

Abstract

Anthelmintic resistance in human and animal pathogenic helminths has been spreading in prevalence and severity to a point where multidrug resistance against the three major classes of anthelmintics — the benzimidazoles, imidazothiazoles and macrocyclic lactones—has become a global phenomenon in gastrointestinal nematodes of farm animals. Hence, there is an urgent need for an anthelmintic with a new mode of action. Here we report the discovery of the amino-acetonitrile derivatives (AADs) as a new chemical

class of synthetic anthelmintics and describe the development of drug candidates that are efficacious against various species of livestock-pathogenic nematodes. These drug candidates seem to have a novel mode of action involving a unique, nematode-specific clade of acetylcholine receptor subunits. The AADs are well tolerated and of low toxicity to mammals, and overcome existing resistances to the currently available anthelmintics.

BLOOPER!

Spotted at Te Papa recently by a student from Massey University.



A BIT OF HISTORY – 20 YEARS HAVE GONE BY

1988 Conference, Flock House, Bulls



On the step – Tony Charleston, Mark Ralston, Mere Roberts, John Andrews, David Heath, Ron Brunsdon (squatting), Allen Heath, Dallas Bishop, Helen Fisher, (unknown), Dave Cole.

Standing in front – (unknown), Barry McPerson, Peter Kettle, Tom Watson, Paul Mason, Maurice Watson, John Tasker, Alex Vlassoff, Brett Wesney, Mitch Venning, Jan McKenzie, Ruth Ainsworth.

At the back – Keith Collins, Phil McKenzie, Robert Dempster (obscured), Peter Weekes, Jan Thulin, Stewart Bisset, Gavin Harrison, Steve Lawrence, Allen Rodrigo, Bill Pomroy, Paul Hughes, Dave Rutherford.

Anyone help with the unknowns?

SUBSCRIPTION NOTICE

Still not paid your 2007 subscriptions? Please send your \$15.00 to the **Treasurer**.

Return Subscription to: Dr Ian Scott
IVABS, College of Sciences, Massey University
Private Bag 11-222, Palmerston North

Detach here

NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY FOR PARASITOLOGY SUBSCRIPTION 2007 / 2008

The subscription for this year is \$15.00.

NAME: _____

AMOUNT PAID: _____

CORRECT EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

With my right eyebrow I demonstrate the normal swimming form of *Parastrongyloides trichosuri* while, with my left eyebrow, I demonstrate the more kinky form of the dafT mutant...

I believe in miracles... (a la Marvin Gaye)

Ok, the joke is over: which one of you parasites stole my whip?
(Winner: Eve Pleydell)

Hey look, I can smile in the same shape as my eyebrows....

Given declining funding for parasitology research I've been working on alternative projects. So here's my latest invention – the invisible cigarette.

I am too sexy for my worms...

This bubble reminds me of the ewe I was with last night... her name escapes me...

Mumble fmmumunnnmffmm mumble fimmunm...

No, it's not a 20 ft tapeworm.... It's gas!

Wee, sleekit, cow'rin, tim'rous beastie? ... My arse

The cameraman's fly is undone... if I look all serious and not move my eyes down I'll be okay!

No sex please, we're English Scottish

La la la... I'm too sexy for this photo

CountryWide this week. Cosmopolitan centre-fold next month! Yee haa!

Note to self.... Just don't mention crabs!!!

God, I'm gorgeous... and man that woman has big ...

I don't have a big ego... I'm way too cool for that

I always wanted to be a pin-up model... Now everyone can see me at my sexiest.

Ewe are wanted!

SHORT TAKE

Parasitology sexy beast

New Zealand Society of Parasitologists vice-president Dr Ian Sutherland wants to make parasitology sexy to gain greater funding and research capabilities.

Sutherland says parasites have an effect on every single facet of farm animal production-everything from weaning date, lambweights and reproduction. Yet research capacity is declining.

• Find out more, p16.

