



## PRESIDENT'S POST

It was good to catch up with many of you recently at the Rugby Institute in Palmerston North and I hope you will agree that this year's conference was an enjoyable and enlightening occasion. Both of our visiting guests, Martin Nielsen and Pat Conrad, gave excellent presentations and with 34 talks in total, in areas as diverse as *Theileria*-associated bovine anaemia (just don't call it theileriosis!) and bald-headed kakariki, the 90 plus attending will have been as impressed as I was with the strength and depth of parasitology research in New Zealand. I am hugely grateful to Caroline Costall, Laryssa Howe and Tania Waghorn for organising the event.

I must also thank Caroline for her hard work over the last two years on the Society's behalf, Caroline stepped down from her position as Secretary at this year's AGM.

As this will be the last newsletter for 2013, I would like to wish everyone all the best for the upcoming holidays and New Year. May your anthelmintics work effectively and your transfusions be without reaction! Cheers!!

Ian

## NEW MEMBERS

### CLIVE BINGHAM

Although I am English, I have spent the majority of my adult life in New Zealand with a brief spell back in England and South Africa. I qualified as a Veterinary surgeon in 1990 from Massey University. While there I also completed a Bachelor of Philosophy in Anatomy and Physiology, investigated the use of real-time ultrasonic scanning for the diagnosis of pregnancy and the estimation of foetal age in Red deer. Since then I have worked as a mixed practice Veterinarian on the East Coast of the North Island and in the King Country. After 22 years of working with farmers both as a Veterinarian and a farm advisor I thought it was time for a change and have joined Zoetis as their Veterinary Technical Advisor for the Lower North Island. Over my career I have developed a health respect and fascination for gastrointestinal parasites of ruminant. By joining the parasite society I look forward to learning more about these fascinating creatures and meeting more likeminded people from other disciplines.



### Executive

<b>President:</b>	Ian Scott	<a href="mailto:I.Scott@massey.ac.nz">I.Scott@massey.ac.nz</a>
<b>Vice President:</b>	Victoria Chapman	<a href="mailto:Victoria.chapman@pfizer.com">Victoria.chapman@pfizer.com</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	David Heath	<a href="mailto:David.heath@agresearch.co.nz">David.heath@agresearch.co.nz</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Ross Bland	<a href="mailto:Ross.bland@agresearch.co.nz">Ross.bland@agresearch.co.nz</a>

## ROSS BLAND

My research path to parasitology has been quite windy. My BSc (Hons) work was on lactococcal bacteriophage (Massey University), my PhD thesis was on bone morphogenetic proteins in zebrafish development (University of Auckland) and my post-doctoral work included developing a rat Alzheimer's disease model. I then went to work for a small biotech start-up, ending up making viral vector used for the world's first ever clinical trial for Parkinson's disease.

Just over 5 years ago, my wife and I returned to NZ so our two children could be schooled here. While my wife now works as a lecturer at Massey University researching learning and memory in Drosophila, I took up a position at AgResearch applying my molecular biology skills to gastrointestinal parasites and ever since I've been juggling trying to learn all about GIN in livestock with applying gene therapy to livestock improvement.

Outside I work I'm a fairly keen cyclist and have just started getting into smallbore shooting. More recently, I've been trying to come to grips with trying to start up the biological filter in a 260 litre aquarium with a bottle of ammonia...

## RICHARD MCKINLEY

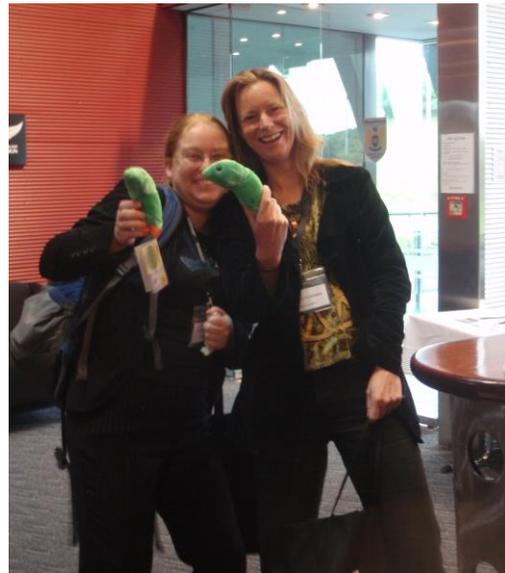
I am a vet and have worked in BOP and Manawatu doing production animals and horses. This was followed by a stint with ACVM. Then overseas on the OE had a great year off although was in Japan on a ski trip when the whole Fukushima thing kicked off...still stayed for another month. Then Europe was all play and no work, did a bit of a cycle trip through Sweden and Denmark for a month which was cool.

Now working for Merial Ancare as production animal product manager.

Parasite interests are production animal related although parasites of zoonotic potential are also

interesting!

Outside interests are pretty much all sports related with skiing, mountain biking, tramping and watersports.



**Malaria meets its match!**  
**Ellen Schöner & Danielle Sijbranda**  
[both ladies presented papers on avian malaria]

## BRIAN JONES

I studied for my PhD at Victoria University on parasites of commercial shellfish (granted 1976) then worked with the then Department of Agriculture and Fisheries until 1995 when I moved to Perth, Western Australia. During all that time in New Zealand I was a member of the Parasitology Society and published extensively on parasites of aquatic animals. In Perth, I worked for the WA Department of Fisheries as their Principal fish pathologist, mainly dealing with pearl oysters. Unfortunately I lost touch with the Society and thought it had collapsed.

While in Perth I also co-supervised a variety of PhD students on parasitology topics and became (and still am) an Adjunct Professor with the School of Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences at Murdoch University.

I returned to NZ in January to work as "Principal Advisor, Aquatic Animal Health" with the Ministry for Primary Industries at the National Centre for Biosecurity and Infectious Diseases (on the old Wallaceville site).



## SUBSCRIPTIONS

The annual subscription of \$20.00 for ordinary membership is due.

Please make cheques payable to **The New Zealand Society for Parasitology**

Cheques can be sent to the Secretary or direct transfer details are **NZ Society for Parasitology Inc, West Pac, 03 0774 0857331-01**

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## CONFERENCE 2013

### Welcome Function

This was held on the Sunday even at the Rugby Institute from 5 – 7pm. Local vendors displaying tastes of the Manawatu included – **Pohangina Valley Estate** with a selection of wines and their olive oil, **Munchkins** – large slices of colourful nouget and a selection of tasty sausages and sauces from **Palat-A-Bull**.

This year there was a little something different in everyone's conference bag – a small fluffy parasite (or a giant microbe)!

This is Chagas (*Trypanosoma cruzi*) – [www.giantmicrobes.com](http://www.giantmicrobes.com)



## FROM THE AGM

### Presidents Report 2012-2013

Welcome to the AGM of the New Zealand Society for Parasitology, held for the first time in the Sport and Rugby Institute at Massey University, Palmerston North. I am delighted that we have over 90 delegates attending this year's conference, and thank all those who have diligently stayed on to attend the AGM.

I would like to officially acknowledge the generous financial support of this year's conference provided by:

Bayer (New Zealand Ltd) – Animal Health, Zoetis, AgResearch, Coopers/Merck, Gribbles Veterinary, New Zealand Veterinary Pathology, Novartis Animal Health, Ravensdown, Merial Ancare New Zealand Ltd, PGG Wrightsons Ltd

I would also like to thank the conference organisers, Caroline Costall, Laryssa Howe and Tanya Waghorn, for their excellent work this year. I must also thank Martin Nielsen and Pat Conrad for travelling here to address us. I enjoyed Martin's talks this

morning immensely and look forward to Pat's tomorrow.

This year also sees the first time we have added the Wormwise Advisory Day to the programme. Thanks to Victoria Chapman and Andrew Dowling and Tanya, Caroline and Laryssa for organising this, and to all those contributing their time. I hope it will be a useful day for those attending.

Undoubtedly, recent events have highlighted the continuing importance of Parasitology to New Zealand, with the emergence of bovine theileriosis being perhaps the single most important recent development in animal health in this country. At the same time, another parasite, Toxoplasma has been hitting the headlines, here and overseas, not only because of the worrying possibility that latent infections in humans may not be that benign after all, but also since it has been linked to disease and even death in some of NZ's native and endangered species.

Thus parasites remain of tremendous importance, yet there are worrying trends all

too evident for the discipline as for all branches of science.

It has been estimated that half of all the world's scientific findings have been published since 1987, and the numbers of papers published per year has increased dramatically. At the same time however there is greater competition for what may be a diminishing resource. NIH funding in the US has been declining since 2003, and the chances of securing NIH R01 funding, equivalent to the Marsden in NZ, has declined to less than 20%. For the Marsden fund in NZ, researchers are estimated to invest up to \$16 million in writing applications for a total pot of \$54 million, with only a 7.7% chance of success. The Royal Society also concedes that the selection process may bias against more 'intellectually edgy' applications, and admit that with emphasis on track record, the rich get richer.

As a University lecturer I noted with concern that New Zealand's institutions are falling down the world's rankings, their hard earned reputations largely squandered. Yet the programme at this year's conference points to NZSP members overcoming these hurdles and continuing to produce the pieces that will comprise the greater parasite picture. Current membership sits at 142 and I gladly have noted a number of new faces at this year's meeting.

Innovation is undoubtedly the key to future success and if we ourselves are not innovative we have a duty to ensure that those who follow receive the right training to allow them to be.

I now ask if there are any questions. And ask that the President's report be accepted.

Ian Scott  
21<sup>st</sup> October 2013

### **Election of Officers**

<b>President</b>	Ian Scott	Proposed:	Robin McAnulty
		Seconded:	Tony Charleston
<b>Vice-President</b>	Victoria Chapman	Proposed:	Colin McKay
		Seconded:	Robin McAnulty
<b>Treasurer</b>	David Heath	Proposed:	Dave Cole
		Seconded:	Colin McKay
<b>Secretary</b>	Ross Bland	Proposed:	Caroline Costall
		Seconded:	David Heath

*Many thanks to **Caroline** for her time and efforts as secretary*

### **Conference Dinner**

This was held at the Manawatu Golf Club. Remember how you were asked to submit questions for the quiz? Well, there was a little hint of what was to come on the tables – a set of 8 laminated pictures of various parasites – no they weren't coasters!

Laryssa Howe and Kevin Lawrence were the hosts - with Kevin (and his wry sense of humour) as quiz master. The picture cards formed one of the rounds – identify the parasites (did the fluffy bugs help?)

And the winning team was – Allen & Maria Heath, David Heath, Dave Cole, Paul Mason, Bethany Jackson – did I miss anyone?

This year the whiskey was a 10 year old Spring Bank Single Malt.

## Venue for Conference 2014

Next years conference will be held in Wellington.

Organising committee includes Allen Heath, Geoff de Lisle, Alex Vlassoff and Dallas Bishop.

Any other offers of assistance would be very welcome.



**Invited speakers Pat Conrad & Martin Nielsen visited the Wildbase Hospital**

## PARASITE ADVISORY DAY - 23 October, Massey Vet School

A parasite advisory day sponsored by Wormwise and organised by vets and industry attracted so many attendees at Massey University last month planning is already underway for next year.

The event was designed as a neutral forum and timed to follow the annual two-day NZSP conference, to help get more vets to the Society's conference and vice versa. Organisers initially planned to limit attendance to 50, but ended up having to find room for close to 80 vets and industry people which included representatives from OTC distributors, parasitologists and Beef and Lamb, making it a truly industry wide event.

It included a 90 minute workshopping session where groups were challenged to test their hypothetical parasite management plans against real world results from two properties which are part of an on-going SFF project seeking to identify best practice

management on farms with multiple drench resistance.

Bill Pomroy led an interactive Q&A session where delegates could choose the answer with a remote control device which generally invoked good discussion around epidemiology in parasites, and there were several short sessions covering use of pour ons and oral treatments in cattle, parasite control in deer, farmer extension activity, the recent WAAVP conference and targeted selected treatment in cattle.

Feedback from vets and others who attended was hugely supportive and positive. It was organised by NZVA sheep and beef committee member & Dannervirke Vet Simon Marshall, PGG Wrightson Technical Expert-animal health Andrew Dowling & Vet Ops manager for Zoetis Victoria Chapman.

*..... Contributed by Victoria Chapman*

## Exceptional food! Sport and Rugby Institute



# WORLD FEDERATION OF PARASITOLOGY

The social side of the World Federation of Parasitology (WFP) is in the care of Christopher Weir at Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, Australia. Christopher has notified us that there is now an official facebook page for WFP –

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/worldfederationofparasitology/>.

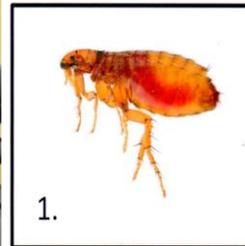
The site is described "as a place for people including researchers, students, doctors, epidemiologists, other professionals and members of the public to openly discuss parasites, post interesting articles, advertise jobs/student positions, conferences and anything else of relevance (this is in addition to researchers etc posting information on the official WFP website [http://wfpnet.org/tab\\_home.php](http://wfpnet.org/tab_home.php))."

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## PARASITOLOGY DINNER 21 October 2013

### Specialty breads

A selection of specialty breads & spreads

### Entrees

Twice cooked pork belly, red cabbage & pickled ginger salad with homemade chilli jam  
Salad of seared haloumi, roasted beetroot, almonds & mint

### Mains

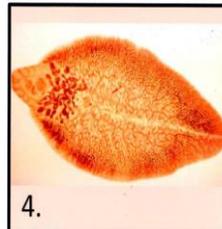
Oven roasted Angus prime beef fillet on a spinach & potato cake with creamy horseradish hollandaise  
Fresh market fish encased in filo pastry with salsa verde & lemon hollandaise

*All mains served with a selection of fresh seasonal vegetables*

### To finish

Lemongrass crème brulee with vanilla pod ice-cream & passionfruit compote  
Decadent chocolate silk pie with chocolate chards & berry couli

Plunger coffee and a selection of specialty teas



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