



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear all,

Just a short message this time, as I am in the middle of preparing an array of grant applications (as I'm sure many of you are too).

I recently attended the British Society for Parasitology Spring Meeting in Edinburgh; unusually for the BSP there was a strong focus on veterinary parasitology – no doubt influenced by having a Moredun scientist on the organising committee. My overall impression, and it is very conservative, was that we in NZ more than hold our own in this research area. Long may this continue. Oh and the flat warm beer was wonderful.

One of the criticisms which have been levelled at our membership over the years is that we do not work more closely together (another conservative statement!). In my opinion, recent events, such as the establishment of the Hopkirk Research Institute, which has concentrated much of the parasitology research in AgResearch and Massey onto one site, and the proposal put forward by AgResearch and Lincoln University to amalgamate, provides the opportunity for the various research groups to grow together. My view is that presenting a united front to various (hopefully) interested parties such as government and industry bodies has to be an advantage. It would show we are thinking positively and progressively, and would be good for the image of our discipline. I intend speaking to as many of you as possible over the next few months to gauge your own opinion on how this can be best achieved.

Regards,

Ian

**World's largest blood-sucking INSECT
takes how much blood in a single feed?**

Dipetalogaster maxima, a reduviid bug capable of taking 3mL per feed. (Ryckman and Ryckman, 1967)

CONFERENCE 2009

Organisers for the conference are **Robin McAnulty & Paul Mason**.

If you have any suggestions or offers of assistance please contact them.

Robin Robin.McAnulty@lincoln.ac.nz

Paul masonp@earthlight.co.nz

FAREWELL TO...

At the end of March, AgResearch said farewell to two further staff members, Neville Haack and Aye Soe.

In Soe's farewell message to AgResearch colleagues she indicated she was off overseas in May beginning 7 month's training in Burma which she has described as long-term intensive mental training called 'Vipassana meditation'. Soe will be returning to Palmerston North before Christmas and then back to Burma again in May 2010 to continue training, which may take up to 7 years.

In Soe's words..."Vipassana meditation is a practical technique enabling the leading of a more positive, balanced and happy life. It was discovered by Gotama Buddha more than 2500 years ago and was taught by him as a universal remedy for universal ills, i.e., an Art Of Living".

LAUNCH OF A NEW DRENCH

Basel, Switzerland, March 31, 2009 – Novartis Animal Health announced the New Zealand launch of **Zolvix** (monepantel), the revolutionary, new sheep drench which kills gastrointestinal worms, even those resistant to existing drenches.

Zolvix – the first new drench family in 28 years was launched in Queenstown of 01 April.

Visit the website www.zolvix.com

Related Publications

Besier, B. (2009) A novel anthelmintic group: Welcome relief for sheep farmers. *New Zealand Veterinary Journal* 57 (1), 1 -2.

Mason, P.C., Hosking, B.C., Nottingham, R.M., Cole, D.J.W., Seewald, W., McKay, C.H., Griffiths, T.M., Kaye-Smith, B.G., Chamberlain, B. (2009) A large-scale clinical field study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of an oral formulation of the amino-acetonitrile derivative (AAD) monepantel, in sheep in New Zealand. *New Zealand Veterinary Journal* 57 (1), 3 – 9.

Some photos from the Queenstown launch....



2007 research showed women with a *Toxoplasma gondii* infection had more what?

Boys (Kankova et al., 2007)



**Alistair Polson
(NZ Trade Envoy
and Farmer)**



From L to R:
**Frank Jackson (Moredun),
George Gunn (Global
Head Novartis Animal
Health), Josef Vercruyse
(Ghent)**



**Colin McKay (Novartis
Animal Health) in his role
as Technical Brand
Manager**

See Colin in action drenching
sheep on the website video

WHAT IS THE TREASURER READING...

“The Art of Being a Parasite” by Claude Combes
(2005) The University of Chicago Press, 291pp

A review will be posted when Ian has finished.

**The German doctor who fed
tapeworm cyst infected meat to
condemned prisoners?**

Friedrich Kuchenmeister (In: Parasite Rex, by
Carl Zimmer)

Read a book recently with a parasitological theme?

Write a review and share it with the membership

CONFERENCE NOTICES

7th International Sheep Veterinary Congress

12 – 16 June 2009, Stavanger, Norway [www.isvc09.no]

Focus will be on various diseases of sheep as well as safe food and all matters relating to the use of sheep in a modern society.

Scientific Program Main Topics - Chronic/Slow diseases / Management/Flock Health / Reproduction / Caseous lymphadenitis / Medicine and Disease / Parasitology / Virology / Diagnostics / Toxicology / Mammary Gland / Genetics / Nutrition / Pneumonia / Welfare / Zoonosis and Food Safety / Pasture and landscape / Sheep and Future market

Australian Society for Parasitology Annual Meeting

12–15 July 2009, University of Sydney [<http://www.parasite.org.au/arcnet/conference/index.html>]

WAAVP Conference

8 – 13 August 2009, Calgary, Canada [<http://www.waavp2009.com>]

Registrations are now open.

Register on-line via the secure web link or download the Registration Form and return it to the WAAVP Secretariat.

ICOPA XII

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

Australasian Epidemiological Association Conference 2009

31 August – 01 September 2009, Dunedin [<http://www.aea.asn.au/annualmeeting.htm>]

Included will be a workshop on 'Uncertainty Analysis' presented by Sander Greenland on 30 August.

The call for papers has closed.

Abstract Streams include (but are not limited to): Aging, Asthma and other atopic conditions, Cancer, Cancer registries, Child health, Chronic disease, Environmental health, Epidemiological methods, Health-related behaviour, Infectious diseases, Injury and injury prevention, Molecular epidemiology, Nutrition, Occupational health, safety and injury, Perinatal health, Physical activity, Reproductive and maternal health, Social epidemiology, Surveillance, Teaching epidemiology, Use of communication technology (internet, mobile phones, etc) in health research.

EPIDEMICS 2

The Second International Conference on >Infectious Disease

02 – 04 December 2009, Athens, Greece [<http://www.epidemics.elsevier.com>]

QUIZ QUESTIONS

Unfortunately there were no correct answers from the February newsletter (Quiz #2)

- QUIZ # 3**
1. The maori names for these creatures include Puruhi, Keha and Tuiaiu. What are they?
 2. The 1962 book, Silent Spring, by Rachel Carson, focussed on the adverse environmental effects of which chemical?
 3. The human head louse is closely related to the lice of chimps. Which primate is host to the closest relatives of the pubic louse of humans?



NZSP MEMBERSHIP

Still a few outstanding subscriptions for this financial year (2008/2009).

- Cheques should be made payable to the **New Zealand Society for Parasitology** and sent to the Treasurer (Ian Scott).
- Direct payment can be made to the Society's account:
NZ Society for Parasitology Inc, West Pac, 03 0774 0857331-01

Please include your name in the reference for the transaction.

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

NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY FOR PARASITOLOGY SUBSCRIPTION 2008 / 2009

The subscription for this year is \$15.00.

NAME: _____

AMOUNT PAID: _____

CORRECT EMAIL ADDRESS: _____



A global leader in animal health, Novartis has one of the most exciting product ranges and pipelines in the industry today. Our products are brought to life by diverse, talented, performance driven people who are passionate about animals. All of which makes us one of the most rewarding employers in our field.

Professional Services Veterinarian (South Island)

- Provide High Level Technical Advice & Sales Support
- Foster Relationships With Customers & Industry Bodies
- Christchurch & Broader Sth Island

This challenging and diverse role is responsible for the technical stewardship of the company's products throughout NZ in support of the sales process. You will ensure that all sales, marketing & communication activities are executed to the highest standards of technical accuracy. You will also foster relationships with key customers, research bodies and industry groups to stay up to date with industry developments.

If you are a degree-qualified Vet with significant practical experience and knowledge of products, pests and diseases relating to large animals, we're keen to talk to you.

Please email your resume with cover letter and contact details to tgraham@talentontap.com.au quoting the job title in the subject line.

Sales Executive (North Island)

- Build Key Farmer & Reseller Relationships
- Drive Product Awareness & Sales Performance
- South East Territory- North Island

Reporting to the Regional Sales Manager, you will be responsible for building product awareness and achieving sales, productivity and performance targets within a defined territory. This involves building and maintaining effective commercial relationships with key farmers and major resellers in the territory. As a senior member of the team, you will also take on key account responsibilities and play a role in leading, coaching and developing the other members of the team.

We invite applications from individuals with similar field sales and KAM experience in animal health, agriculture or farming.

Please email your resume with cover letter and contact details to tgraham@talentontap.com.au quoting the job title in the subject line.

If you would like further information, please contact our recruitment partners at TalentOnTap. Enquiries should be directed to **Travers Graham** on **+61 3 9225 4321**.

