

WELCOME TO

- Mrs **Kym Knights** who has commenced permanent employment as a Laboratory Technician in Launceston.
- Mr **Patrick Caldwell**, an exchange student from Warwick University UK, working on a project in Hobart for 4 months under the supervision of Dr Jason Smith
- **Dr Milko Novic** from the National Institute of Chemistry, Ljubljana, Slovenia who returned to Slovenia on 19 April after five weeks working with the ACROSS Group.
- Ms **Chisato Obara** from Hokkaido University, Japan, an Honorary Research Associate who has joined the ACROSS group in April for a year
- **Dr Narumol Vachirapatama** from Thammasat University of Thailand who is visiting the ACROSS Group for two months - her second visit following completion of her PhD with Professor Paul Haddad in 2000.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

- **Tim Astley** who now has resigned from his position as Research Fellow for full time employment with the Office of the Tasmanian Energy Regulator (OTTER) as a Senior Research Officer. Tim says, "I am in the performance management branch (in fact I am half of it!) and enjoying it immensely though I do have to wear a jacket and tie which is a real strain". Tim hopes to continue his research activities with Dr Brian Yates and Dr Michael Hitchman.
- **Dr Greg Dicoski** and **Dr Barry O'Grady** for Teaching Development Grants to enhance the learning experience in 2nd and 3rd year physical chemistry laboratory (\$5000)
- **Dr Michael Gardiner** for a Teaching Development Grant (\$5000) for "A virtual laboratory exercise in chemical analysis"
- **Dr Brian Yates, Dr Greg Dicoski et al** for Teaching Development Grant for "faculty wide teaching and assessment of scientific communications skills (\$80,000)
- **To Baoguo Sun** who has been selected to receive an IICS 2002 Student Award of US\$1300 to attend IICS 2002 in Baltimore (USA) at the end of this September.
- To **Chemistry students** awarded **University Prizes for 2001**:
 - Percy Ash Scholarship, best second year Chemistry student - **Juliette Tria**
 - J.N. Baxter Memorial Prize, outstanding proficiency in first-year organic chemistry - **Shan-Shan Lu**
 - J.N. Baxter Memorial Prize, outstanding proficiency in second-year organic chemistry - **Samantha Fung**
 - Royal Australian Chemical Institute 1st Year Prize - Hobart, excellence in Chemistry 1 with intention to continue in chemistry - **Damien Stringer** and **Claire Trenham**
 - Royal Australian Chemical Institute 3rd Year Prize, most outstanding graduate in chemistry at the University of Tasmania - **Shane Robertson**
 - E.J. Browne Memorial Prize, outstanding proficiency in organic chemistry in third year - majoring in chemistry - **Michael Bermingham**
 - Harry Bloom Memorial Prize in Chemistry 4, best performance by a first class honours student in Chemistry 4 - **Tell Tuttle**

SCHOOL SAUSAGE SIZZLES



The School would like to thank Dr Vicki Tolhurst and Dr Michael Gardiner for arranging the School barbecues in Hobart for all undergraduates held in early March to welcome students and provide an opportunity for them to meet with staff and peers.



STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES 2002

The School would like to thank 2001 representatives for their efforts last year and to thank this year's volunteers: **Liam Hoppitt** has taken over from Alison Radford as the undergraduate representative in Hobart; **Mel Denney** (Hobart) and **Tim Jordan** (Launceston) will continue as postgraduate representatives this year.

VISITING LECTURER

The School was pleased to host Associate Professor Bill Maher, from the School of Resource, Environmental and Heritage Science, Division of Science and Design, at the University of Canberra, during April. Bill was the Ecka Granules Honours Visiting Lecturer for 2002. He presented an entertaining 9 lecture course to our honours students on environmental chemistry and management. Bill was also kind enough to present Royal Australian Chemical Institute (Launceston) and School of Chemistry (Hobart) seminars during his stay. Both of these seminars were well attended by staff and students, and Bill's enthusiasm for his research field was conveyed to the audience. During his time with the school, Bill also took the opportunity to interact with staff on both academic and research matters. It was indeed a pleasure to have Bill with us and we hope that he may return in the near future.

VISITOR

Professor Tetsuo Okada from the Tokyo Institute of Technology visited the ACROSS Group for discussions with Professor Paul Haddad on 4 March. Although in Tasmania for only a few days, he enjoyed sightseeing in and around Hobart.

KOONYA CAMP FOR 2ND YEARS

By Vicki Tolhurst

Another successful study weekend for 2nd years was held at Koonya Field Station on 27th/28th April week. The weather was fine enough for our planned activities and the fires inside kept everyone cosy while students revised the work they had done this semester. 11 students were able to come for the Saturday tutorials and lunch, 3 students kept Michael and myself company overnight and four students were tempted by the offer of a barbecue lunch on Sunday. **Prof Allan Canty** gave a KRA211 tutorial on Saturday after finishing his second breakfast for the day (or was it brunch?). You can't keep **Dr Barry O'Grady** away as he was eager to help out on the weekend by giving a tutorial on kinetics to the KRA210 students. A first for Koonya tutorials was the "Prac Report Writi session held by **Dr Michael Gardiner**. Both **Dr Brian Yates** and **Dr Adrian Blackman** gave tutorials on Sunday. All the tutorials must have been very successful as they all ran well overtime. It was the perfect opportunity to ask extra questions as neither staff nor students had to run off to their next lecture or meeting as happens during normal teaching hours.



I must thank all the people who helped make this weekend a success and hope to see many more people in second semester.

The School would like to thank Dr Vicki Tolhurst for coordinating and catering for the weekend.

CONFERENCES

The 56th **Appita** Annual Conference and Exhibition was held 18th to 20th March in Rotorua New Zealand. This year **David Vercoe** represented the pulp and paper research group. The conference enables people from the pulp and paper industry to come and hear a range of papers covering aspects of forestry, pulping, papermaking, environmental and management issues. Three parallel sessions were run consisting of technical papers with a forum also run each day on different topics with over 280 delegates from all over the world attending. An exhibition is also held in which suppliers to the industry can display their latest products and services.

Although not presenting a paper David made many new contacts from the industry ranging from suppliers to other mill workers. He represented the University at the technical sessions and all social events that were scheduled.

The Principles of Papermaking course was held 17th and 18th April at Monash University, Melbourne. This year **David Vercoe** represented the pulp and paper research group. The course enables people new to the pulp and paper industry to come and hear a range of seminars covering aspects of forestry, pulping, papermaking,

environmental and management issues at a beginner's level. Sixteen seminars were held over the two days with demonstrations given on some of the procedures used in a paper mill. Speakers ranged from academics, mill workers and suppliers of mill machinery.

Although not actually working in a paper mill David gained an essential understanding of how a paper mill worked and the chemistry behind the processes used. This knowledge will be profitable to his research in pulp and paper group.

THANKS TO SEMINAR SPEAKERS

Prof Jochanan Blum, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, "The Utility of Intramolecularly Stabilized Alkylaluminium, -gallium and indium Reagents for Selective Cross-Coupling Processes"

Assoc Prof Bill Maher, Ecochemistry Laboratories, University of Canberra and Ecka Granules Australian Visiting Lecturer, "The Use of Passive and Active Biomonitors"

Doug McLean, Postgraduate Introductory Seminar, "Wood Pitch Deposition - Compositional Effects"

Honours Introductory Seminars

Margaret Mary Dooley, "Biomimetic Synthesis of Galanthamine"

Alison Radford, "New Methods for the Synthesis of the Stemona Alkaloid: Stenine"

Bonnie Atkinson, "The Degradation of Natural Pyrethrins in Crop Storage"

Samra Tulumovic, "Analytical Applications of Spectrophotometry Through Opaque Phases Using LED's"

Amanda Glover, "Determination of Carbohydrates in Combat Ration Packs by Anion-Exchange Chromatography"

CHEMISTRY CLUB

By Alison Radford

Committee 2002

President: Alison Radford

Vice President: Adele Wilson

Secretary: Margie Dooley

Treasurer: Amanda Glover

General Committee

Helmy Cook, Patrick Caldwell, Gina Kalodimos, Mel Denney, Lauren Wise, David Nielsen, Bonnie Atkinson, Juliette Tria

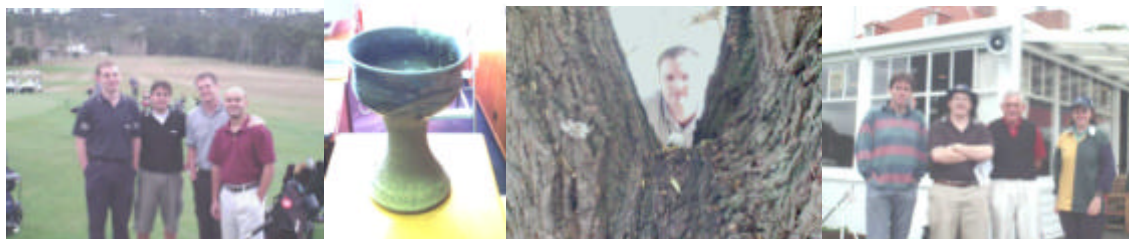
Mascot: Doug McLean

The Chemistry Society held a Cocktail Party on 19th of April which was a great success. It saw **Alison Magill, Dave Graham, Peter Traill, Anna Paice** and **Doug McLean** win prizes for their very inventive and in some cases, daring costumes. Many thanks to all those who helped out on the night, especially, **Patrick Caldwell, David Nielsen, Mel Denney, Alison Magill, Bonnie Atkinson, Amanda Glover, Margie Dooley** and **Adele Wilson**. Look out for our wine, beer and cheese night coming up soon and don't forget the Quiz night on 17th May.

I hope to see you at our upcoming events...

GOLF...POSTGRADS VERSUS ACADEMIC STAFF

By Doug McLean



What started as a friendly challenge between postgraduate students and academic staff turned into a sledging no holds barred fight for the spoils of victory. The event was held at Kingston Beach golf club in conjunction with the Irish Stableford ANZAC day tournament. The School of Chemistry won its share of prizes including a sprinkler system, a cordless drill and a bottle of Port.

Messrs Graham, Johns, Hutchinson and McLean won with a very small margin over **Doctors Gardiner, O'Grady, Smith and Tolhurst**. Problems in handicapping may well mar this win and it is possible that a rematch will be needed to settle any and all doubt.

The shot of the day went to Joe Hutchinson who hit a long drive of the fourth tee into a tree on the left-hand side of the fairway, unfortunately he was only awarded a penalty for this amazing feat.

Tasmania has the oldest Golf Course in Australia and the fourth oldest University. This year's tournament between academic staff and postgrads revitalizes the tradition of golf within the School of Chemistry, which was last strong in the mid 70s when names like Canty and Hitchman were yelling fore at the then eighteen arduous hole Royal Rosny. The tournament also places the Chemistry Cup (aka Canty Cup, circa 1977) in the hands of the postgrads. The Chemistry Cup is traditionally awarded to victors of Tennis and Cricket matches but for the first time it has been awarded for a golf tournament.

MAINLAND EXCURSION

On 11 April, Dr Trevor Lewis took Shane Robertson and Nathan Newman to be initiated into the world of electrochemistry at Wollongong University. After Trevor's return, Shane and Nathan stayed on for two weeks to complete their education and to see the Swans' game.

NEWS OF PAST STUDENTS

2001 Honours Students

Bronwyn Larnar is undertaking her PhD in Launceston; Bjorn Lunstedt is working for Tasmanian Alkaloids; Jeff Mason worked at Tasmanian Alkaloids during the summer; and Tell Tuttle is doing a PhD in theoretical chemistry at the University of Gottenburg in Sweden.

2001 3rd Year Students (those we know about):

(Hobart) Alison Radford and Margaret Mary Dooley are undertaking UTas Chemistry Honours; Michael Bermingham is still finishing his UTas Science Degree whilst undertaking his Music degree; Anna Paice is finishing her combined UTas Science-Arts degree, in her fourth year finishing Biochemistry, Political Science and Journalism majors to add to the Chemistry major she finished in 2001; Erin Arnold is studying UTas IASOS Honours; Marcus Alexander is continuing his studies at UTas taking a B.Teach; Mark Waller is studying Honours at University of Sydney; Alan Williams his completing his UTas Science degree and working on casual basis with Dr Vicki Tolhurst; Claire Fulton has a job with Aurora Energy, Georgina Kalodimos is completing her combined UTas Science-Arts degree; David Ng is studying Honours at Monash University; Makrina Tsinoglou is completing her UTas Science degree; Simon Tyler is studying UTas Physics Honours; Luke Wallace is studying UTas Geology Honours ; Nicole Green is studying UTas Zoology Honours; Ross Cuthbertson and Ben Carpenter are completing UTas Science degrees; **(Launceston)** Shane Robertson and Nathan Newman are undertaking Honours at UTas Chemistry Launceston campus, Bonnie Atkinson Honours at UTas Chemistry Hobart campus.

Thank you for your contributions for this issue of *ChemNews*.

The next *ChemNews* will be issued on 28 June 2002

Please e-mail all contributions (as and when you think of them) to

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