

**SD news:** One of last year's MSc Sustainable Development students has gone on to work with the team re-introducing the great bustard back into Britain. The great bustard is Britain's largest bird and has been brought back from extinction with juveniles from Russia. This year's class includes students from China, Bangladesh, Scotland, Spain. The class has a strong interest in the processes and indicators that ensure communities can develop sustainably and has already assessed how the Scottish malt whisky industry and the university could become more sustainable.



## Meeting tomorrow's challenges today

### MSc/PG Diploma/PG Certificate in Sustainable Development

The challenge of sustainable development is emerging as the biggest issue for human societies in the 21st century. There is a growing need for skilled people capable of providing policy leadership and practical application. The University of Stirling has a longstanding international reputation in the key background areas of sustainable development, and in developing innovative, high quality multidisciplinary learning. From September 2001 the Faculty of Natural Sciences will offer the following new programmes covering:

- Principles and Challenges of Sustainable Development
- International Development • Sustainability & Livelihoods
- Information Technology & Communication • Community & Processes
- Measures & Methodologies • Sustainability & Business

The courses will develop a particularly valuable set of skills - a qualification for the future - for participants from a range of backgrounds, providing a unique mix of theory, practical skills and applications. It will also focus on building close links with community, commercial and governmental sectors, nationally and internationally, and involve opportunities for placements and practical work in the UK, Europe and in key areas of international development expertise.

For further details and an application pack, please contact Rose Goodacre, Course Administrator, School of Biological and Environmental Sciences, University of Stirling, Stirling FK9 1LA. Tel: 01773 847842 Fax: 01773 847843 E-mail: rose.goodacre@stirling.ac.uk

[www.stirling.ac.uk/departments/natural\\_sciences/teach\\_dev/links](http://www.stirling.ac.uk/departments/natural_sciences/teach_dev/links)

## Professor Alan Matty

The whole department was greatly saddened to learn of the death earlier this year of Alan Matty. I first met Alan back in 1975 when he supervised my own PhD at the University of Aston in Birmingham. At that time he was very active in building up a fish culture unit at Aston alongside Niall Bromage and I fondly remember converting the old gardeners store/garage on the Aston campus into a fish culture facility under his direction.

The shared office/lab accommodation for the fish researchers also housed the brewing and mushroom farming research groups and I can assure you that opportunities to combine outputs from these research areas into good substrates for a party were never missed. On the whole the fish culture group was extremely successful and turned out a number of postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers who went on to prominent roles in aquaculture.

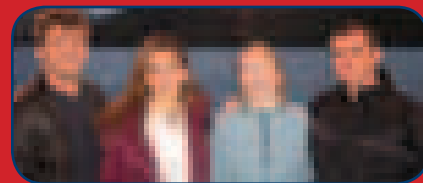
When I came to Stirling in 1979 my association with Alan continued and he went on to act as external examiner (1983-1986) for our MSc programme in Aquaculture. Alan finally joined the newly formed Unit of Aquaculture Nutrition in the Institute of Aquaculture, on a part-time basis, in 1986 as Professor of Fish Nutrition and for a number of years subsequently contributed to growth and development of this area.

All of his former students and colleagues will, I am sure, agree with me that his contribution to our field was significant and that he will be missed.

Kim Jauncey

# ASA News

by Sean Kennedy



A new Aquaculture Students Association (ASA) committee was elected in October 2004 comprising a number of PhD students from various nationalities and fields of research. The role of President of ASA has been awarded to Vasileios Karalazos (Greece), currently working within the Institute's Nutrition group. This term's Vice President is Sean Kennedy (Scotland), also working within the Nutrition group. Saravanane Poobalane



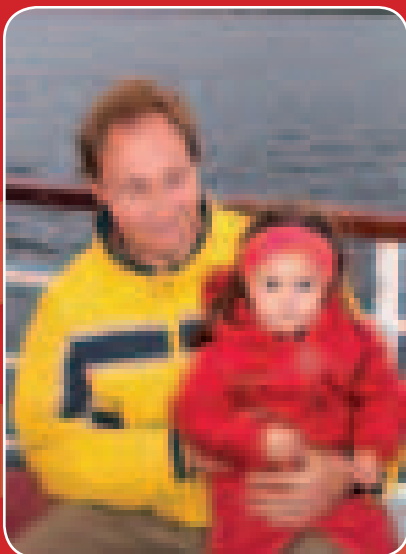
Peter Wilson, awarded honorary degree in 2000

Peter Wilson, who died in January this year, will be sadly missed by friends and colleagues at the Institute. He was an active member of the Institute's Advisory Committee, providing strong guidance to deal with university issues and the Research Assessment Exercise. His strong international background in both the academic and commercial sides of agriculture has helped to focus the work of the Institute within the wider agricultural context. In recognition of his contribution to the work of the University, he was awarded with an honorary degree. He was a distinguished agriculturalist and a dedicated family man. Our thoughts remain with his family.

# Alumni News

(India), researching within the Aquatic Vaccine unit has been appointed treasurer while the responsibility of social convener falls to Adrianna Garcia-Basquez (Colombia), studying parasitology. This year's secretary is Marine Herlin (France) working within the Reproduction and Genetics group. Janina Costa (Portugal) was also recognised for her invaluable assistance last year by becoming an honorary member of ASA. For the first time ever in the history of ASA elections a number of MSc representatives were appointed, namely Alvaro Ortega Colina; Begona Garcia Montuliu, Jessica Jane Mettam, and Nicole Rhody. The new committee members take on a number of responsibilities including the convening of social evenings and maintenance of IT equipment. The committee will strive to continue the excellent work achieved by last years ASA team spearheaded by former President Farah Manji. "The committee has a lot to live up to following last years great accomplishments, which I'm sure we will all try to maintain" explains Mr Karalazos. Indeed, a number of successful ASA parties and social gatherings were organised over the previous year including a scenic boat cruise around Loch Lomond followed later in the year by a welcome bash for the recently enrolled MSc students.

The new committee have already organised a Christmas Ceilidh held at Smiths Restaurant on the 3rd of December with a buffet and live ceilidh band. Just like last years festive outing, everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.



Martin Van Brakel and his daughter Estella enjoying the cruise.

## **Phoebe Carter** **PhD 2002-2003**

Working for The Mammal Society in London as their Surveys Officer. Currently coordinating their National Water Shrew Survey as well as planning and organising other surveys - so sort of an aquatic theme continuing! Still have dog and we commute to work on the train from Surrey each day. Drinking plenty still and enjoying myself.

## **Hannah Chubb** **MSc Aquatic Pathobiology** **2002-2003**

I'm living very happily in St Andrews, working at the Gatty marine laboratories within the fish muscle research group. I'm busy researching adductor muscle growth in the king scallop. I'm enjoying my work especially as it involved a trip to Bergen in May to inspect some scallop shells.

Hope everyone is happy in Stirling

## **Ph.D. awarded to N.** **Basavaraja**

Mr. N. Basavaraja (MSc Aquaculture 1990-91) has been awarded a Ph.D. by Mangalore University, Mangalore, India, for his thesis entitled 'Studies on cryopreservation of spermatozoa from mahseer, Tor khudree'. His thesis was prepared under the guidance of Professor S.N. Hegde, a former Vice-Chancellor of University of Mysore, India. Dr. N. Basavaraja is working as an Associate Professor at Department of Aquaculture, College of Fisheries, University of Agricultural Sciences, Mangalore, India. Presently, he is operating a research project on Development of induced breeding technology for the Indian sand whiting, Sillago sihama, funded by Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi. E-mail ID: n\_b\_raju@yahoo.com / basavarajan2002@hotmail.com.

## **Richard Newton** **MSc Aquaculture 2002-2003**

I was given some vaccinating work in Machrihanish and now the contractors have taken me on for a month and so I'll be going to Shetland for a week and then I'm going to go to a few other sites in Northern Scotland.

## **Mauro Gongora** **MSc Aquaculture 2002-2003**

I am now heading the Capture Fisheries Unit of the Belize Fisheries Department. I am also heading a \$3.5m US regional (Central American) fisheries and aquaculture project in Belize.

## **Don Griffiths** **MSc Aquaculture 1984-1985**

Since leaving the Institute of Aquaculture in 1985 I've worked on donor funded aquaculture training, extension and development projects primarily in Bangladesh, Thailand, Vietnam and Cambodia for the British government (ODA/DFID), the Danish government (Danida) and the EC.

Since June 2004 I've been the senior advisor of the Support to Freshwater Aquaculture (SUFA), a bi-lateral project funded by the governments of Vietnam and Denmark which runs until the end of 2005.

Domestically I'm married to a beautiful Thai lady called Pond, we have 2 bi-lingual girls called Cherry and Kitten and our 'home' is on Koh Yor island, in Songkhla Lake, southern Thailand.

M.Sc. class of 84/85 where are you all now? I can be contacted at dongriffiths@fastmail.fm.

## **Echono Idoko Amali from** **Nigeria**

I now live in Arizona in the United States. I am trying to develop a commercial culture of the cleaner shrimp *Lysmata amboinensis*. The place is a desert and so the idea of ornamental fish culture seems more reasonable.

Echono Idoko Amali (Ph.D)  
a.amali@att.net

## **Yit Wee Tan** **MSc Aquaculture 2002-2003**

Ok, a brief update... My Job - back to Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore, but a small switch in job scope, now doing more work on the water quality of farm water in Singapore, Trevor might be happy to hear that ha ha ha. My life - Going to the registrar of marriage on 17th April 2004, going to get engaged... then next year will be the wedding ceremony.... that's why so so busy... found my new place too... Anyhow, will try to go back Scotland for my honeymoon.... miss good old Scotland you know.... Will sign off from here, promised will keep you guys back there posted soon. Take care!!