

July 2006



*This is the first edition of the new RSC News team. With a new team comes a new way of doing things, so from this issue onwards RSC News will be hosted on the RSC website with only limited copies being printed for the tea room. An email will be sent out once a month to remind everyone to check out what is new on our website.*

*There will be new regular features such as informative columns from Kevin Cooper, Lee Welling and the Business Group. We are also hoping that a student or students will make contributions.*

*With this new format it was felt that a new name for RSC News is needed, so we are providing a bottle of wine or chocolate as a prize to the person/group that nominates the winning entry. Please send all suggestions to Seona Meharg, [Seona.Meharg@anu.edu.au](mailto:Seona.Meharg@anu.edu.au) Remember keep it clean and try and think of something fun!*

## WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

### CONGRATULATIONS

*To the following completing PhD scholars:*

**Ms Kelly Ann Fairweather** BSc Auckland NZ, Hons. ANU.

*A Formal Total Synthesis of the Marine Diterpenoid Diisocyanoadociane*

Supervisor: Professor L N Mander

Currently: PDF, RSC

Submitted 6 July 2006.

**Mr Michael John Harvey** MSc Waikato NZ

*Towards the Assembly of the Binary Vinca Alkaloids: Strategies for the Synthesis of the Indole-Indoline Core of (+)-Vinblastine*

Supervisor: Professor M G Banwell

Submitted 2 June 2006

**Ms Maria Elizabeth Kubik** BA UQ, BAppSc Canberra  
*The Use of Non-Sampling Spectroscopic Techniques in Conservation: Improved Methodologies for Pigment Identification*

Supervisor: Professor E R Krausz

Submitted 13 July 2006

*also to the following student who has been admitted:*

**Dr Zachary Ivan Watts** BApplSc RMIT

*Studies into Hydrogen Atom Abstraction from Amino Acids and Peptides*

Supervisor: Professor C J Easton

Submitted 27 January 2006

Admitted 31 May 2006

*Congratulations also go to the following students who had their PhD Degree conferred recently:*

**Dr Christian Evenhuis** – Supervisor: Professor Collins

**Dr Mark Mulcair** – Supervisor: Professor Dixon

**Dr Amy Philbrook** – Supervisor: Professor Easton

**Dr Never Tshabang** – Supervisor: Professor Hill

**Dr Sean Yu McLoughlin** – Supervisor: Professor Ollis

### RECENT ARRIVALS

*A sincere welcome is extended to the following people who have joined us recently:*

**Dr Zhi Quiang Xu** who is working with Professor Nick Dixon's group as a Visiting Fellow until the end of 2008 (room E205, ext. 54181).

**Dr Namazian Mansoor** who has taken up a Research Fellowship with Dr Michelle Coote's group until July 2008 (room E105, ext 55411).

**Dr Ilham Maulana** who has commenced a Postdoctoral Fellowship with Professor Bruce Wild's group until July 2007 (room 132, ext 54091).

**Mr Patrick Sharp** who has joined Professor Martin Banwell's group as a Honours student (room 235, ext. 54032).

**Ms Katrin Hasse** who has commenced her PhD studies with Professor Martin Banwell's group (room 237, ext. 50793).

**Ms Amelia Irby** who has started working in reception relieving Kim whilst she enjoys a holiday in the tropics.

## DEPARTURES

Farewell and best wishes to the following who have left the School since our last issue:

**Dr Marta Cieslinski** has accepted a position as Project Officer, Scientist with the Victorian Government in Melbourne.

**Dr Andrew Scott** has commenced as a Trainee Patent Attorney with Davis Collison Cave in Melbourne.

**Dr Ken Robinson** has left to take up a position as Evaluator with the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority in Canberra.

**Dr David Carberry** has accepted a position as Research Associate at the University of Bristol

**Mr Bradley Stevenson** has also gone to the UK to commence a Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

**Dr Michael Backes** has left RSC to return to Germany.

**Dr Lorna Barr** has taken up a Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Notre Dame, Indiana, USA.

**Dr Stephen McAteer** has left to return to the UK.

**Mrs Lena Van Kampen** has left after 17 years at RSC, initially as a laboratory attendant and more recently as tea room attendant. Lena's welcoming presence in the tea room will be greatly missed.



## Soccer matters

The RSC's own Purple Shins team are pictured below in May wearing their newly acquired shirts – could this be Australia's next World Cup team in 2010?



.....and speaking of soccer

## Occeroos Speak

*My parents have been there for me, ever since I was about 7. - **Tim Cahill***

*I would not be bothered if we lost every game as long as we won the league. - **Mark Viduka**.*

*Guus Hiddink is the best manager I've ever had at this level. Well, he's the only manager I've actually had at this level. But he's the best manager I've ever had. - **Lucas Neill**.*

*If you don't believe you can win, there is no point in getting out of bed at the end of the day. - **John Aloisi**.*

*I've had 14 bookings this season - 8 of which were my fault, but 7 of which were disputable. - **Ned Zelic**.*

*I've never wanted to leave. I'm here for the rest of my life, and hopefully after that as well. - **Mark Schwarzer**.*

*I'd like to play for an Italian club, like Barcelona. - **Vince Grella**.*

*You've got to believe that you're going to win, and I believe we'll win the World Cup until the final whistle blows and we're knocked out. - **Harry Kewell**.*

*I'm as happy as I can be - but I have been happier. - **Mile Sterjovski**.*

*Leeds is a great club and it's been my home for years, even though I live in Middlesborough. - **Mark Viduka**.*

*I can see the carrot at the end of the tunnel. - **Craig Moore**.*

*I took a whack on my left ankle, but something told me it was my right. - **Harry Kewell**.*

*I couldn't settle in Italy- it was like living in a foreign country. - **Vince Grella**.*

*Germany is a very difficult team to play . . . they have 11 internationals out there. - **Zeljko Kalac**.*

*I always used to put my right boot on first, and then obviously my right sock. - **Jason Culina**.*

*The Brazilians were South American, and the Ukrainians will be more European. - **Scott Chipperfield**.*

## COMMUNICATION & MEDIA REPORTS

*RSC people in the media*

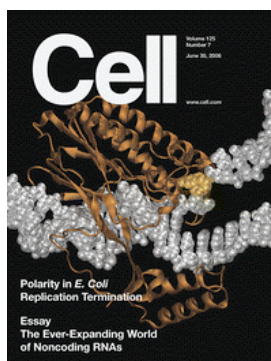
**The Engine room of life.** How Professor Elmars Krausz, PhD student Joe Hughes and Post Doctoral Barry Prince took one road trip which turned a 20 year old theory of photosynthesis on its head. Reported in ANU Reporter Autumn 2006.

[http://info.anu.edu.au/mac/Newsletters\\_and\\_Journals/ANU\\_Reporter/097PP\\_2006/02PP\\_Autumn/\\_photosynth.asp](http://info.anu.edu.au/mac/Newsletters_and_Journals/ANU_Reporter/097PP_2006/02PP_Autumn/_photosynth.asp)



Professor Elmars Krausz, Dr Barry Prince, Lesley Debono and Joe Hughes. Photo by Belinda Pratten

**ANU Scientists crack DNA replication mystery.** Work by Mark Mulcair, Patrick Schaeffer and Aaron Oakley in Nick Dixon's group was recently published in "Cell", and attracted wide media coverage. See the report on the ANU Media website (30th June 2006). [http://info.anu.edu.au/mac/Media/Media\\_Releases/2006/June/300606DixonDNA.asp](http://info.anu.edu.au/mac/Media/Media_Releases/2006/June/300606DixonDNA.asp)



**The Devil's in the [diffuse] detail.** Professor Richard Welberry's article in CSEM's Materials Monthly (June-July 2006 Issue) on Modelling nano-scale disorder in crystals. [www.anu.edu.au/CSEM/newsletter.php](http://www.anu.edu.au/CSEM/newsletter.php)



## BUSINESS NEWS

Reminder that -

**International Scholarship** round closes 31<sup>st</sup> August 2006.

[www.anu.edu.au/graduate/scholarships/](http://www.anu.edu.au/graduate/scholarships/)

**Summer Research Scholar** applications close 31<sup>st</sup> August 2006.

[www.anu.edu.au/graduate/srs/](http://www.anu.edu.au/graduate/srs/)

## KEV'S COLUMN

The next Ride2 Uni breakfast will be held on Fellows Oval, 8am-9.30am, Thursday 3rd August. If you ride your bike to Uni that day please come along.

<http://transport.anu.edu.au/Cycling/index.html>



## SAFETY MATTERS

Just prior to this month's Safety Inspection, Kurt, the School's Requisitioning Officer, reported that a large number of partially emptied solvent bottles had been 'dumped' in the solvent cabinet in the Chemical Store (Room 228). The timing and their sudden appearance would suggest people were shedding excess solvents before the Safety Inspection. Only Kurt should put solvents into this particular cabinet and the bottles he stores there are always full. If you do have any excess solvents, please combine any duplicates into the minimum number of bottles and then notify Stephen Lee (Room 106) who will store them in an appropriate place.

The winner of this month's Lovely Lab competition goes to the occupant's of Room 114. The inspectors were so amazed at the transformation from what was witnessed here during previous inspections, that they had to go outside and check the number on the door. Congratulations!

*Each student lab member wins a voucher for a coffee & muffin at the Purple Pickle.*

## STUDENT MATTERS (please feel free to change the name of this column)

This is a newly opened spot. So if you would like to add your voice to RSC News the editorial team would like to hear from you. Email [rsc.admin@rsc.anu.edu.au](mailto:rsc.admin@rsc.anu.edu.au)

## STAFF PUBLICATIONS since last issue as at 25 July 2006

- Altin J G, Banwell M G, Coghlan P A, Easton C J, Nairn M R, Offermann D A **Synthesis of NTA<sub>3</sub>-DTDA – a chelator-lipid that promotes stable binding of His-tagged proteins to membranes.** *Aust. J. Chem.* (2006), 59(5), 302–306. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1071/CH06112>
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- Fairweather K A, Mander L N **A formal total synthesis of the marine diterpenoid diisocyanoadociane.** *Org. Lett.* (2006), 8(15), 3395–3398. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1021/ol061228f>
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## PATENTS

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