

# NEWSLETTER

Department of Mathematics & Statistics

Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> July 2002

**This Week:** Visitors  
New Staff  
Well Done  
Research Award  
Congratulations  
Problem Corner  
Puzzler

## DEPARTMENTAL VISITORS

Let us welcome Prof. Kostia Beidar arriving yesterday from National Cheng-Kung University Tainan, Taiwan. He will be visiting the department for 2 months.

Prof. Jean Pedersen and Prof. Peter Hilton. will arrive on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2002 from for 5 weeks. Both Prof. Jean Pedersen and Prof. Peter Hilton will be giving talks so keep an eye on the noticeboards.

## NEW STAFF

Let us welcome Paul Brouwers who has been appointed as programmer/computer technician. He joined the department on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2002. He is in room 420, extension 8872. At this stage Paul is acclimatising himself to our computer system.

## WELL DONE

Congratulations to Leigh for completing the Gold Coast Marathon in 4 hours 9 minutes.

## RESEARCH AWARD

Congratulations to Beverley Horn on her winning a Research Award for 2002, to support her PhD research on modelling during decompression illness..

*Graeme Wake*

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Simona Vita on two counts. First, she has successfully defended a second doctoral thesis (this time in theoretical computer science), at the University of Bucharest. Secondly, she has been awarded an NZ Science & Technology Post-doctoral Fellowship for three years from 1 November 2002. Her research programme with Douglas Bridges will be "Foundations of Constructive Topology".

*Douglas Bridges*

**PROBLEM CORNER**

1. (easy) What is the next letter in this sequence: A E I O ?  
HINT: The gaps between the letters progress like x, x, y, y,...
2. (harder) Without doing the calculations, determine which power is the larger:  $e^{\pi}$  or  $\pi^e$ .

*Bill Taylor*

**PUZZLER**

“Which one is the real mathematician?”

