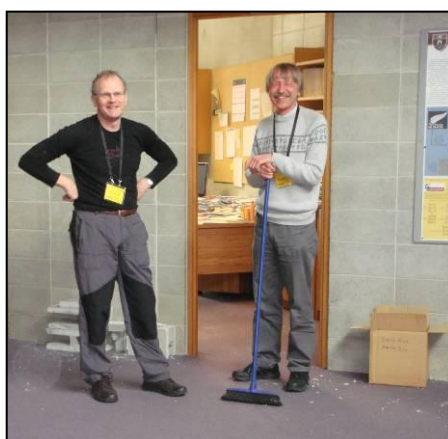
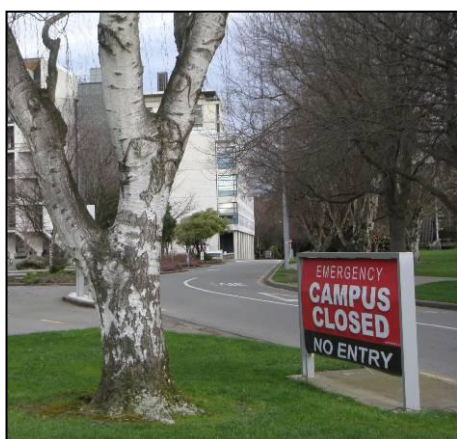


4 SEPTEMBER – THE AFTERMATH *(The Dream Team in Clean-up Mode!)*



The effect of the earthquake has continued on far longer than any of us would have thought, and now we are dealing with the reduced teaching term and assessment changes. Some office spaces still need a clean up, and we are reminded daily of the damage with holes in our walls and dust still lying around.

The earthquake has also meant that we saw some real team effort, and it was a humbling and a very warm experience to see the department pull together and work as one. I will always remember the smiling faces in the tearoom on the Friday clean up, and the ceremonial vacuum cleaner naming was a highlight for me.

Thank you to everyone who worked so well in getting the department back up running, with special thanks to Steve and Allen. Not many people will know about the long hours they both spent with the computing system and for Steve, with being on the College assessment team. Thank you to everyone.

- Jennifer Brown

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to **Jennifer Brown** for being elected to the University Research Committee.

Congratulations to **Ben Martin** and **Clemency Montelle** on the success of their Marsden applications.

Congratulations to **Ben Martin** who has been appointed a judge on the UC Tech Jumpstart competition. See following link for details: <http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/jumpstart/>

Congratulations to **Phil Wilson**, who was nominated for the UCSA Lecturer of the Year Awards 2010.



Congratulations to PhD student **Meghan Williams** and her partner Justin Tripp on the birth of their first child, a son named Finlay Idris Williams Tripp, 19 hours after the earthquake on 4 September.

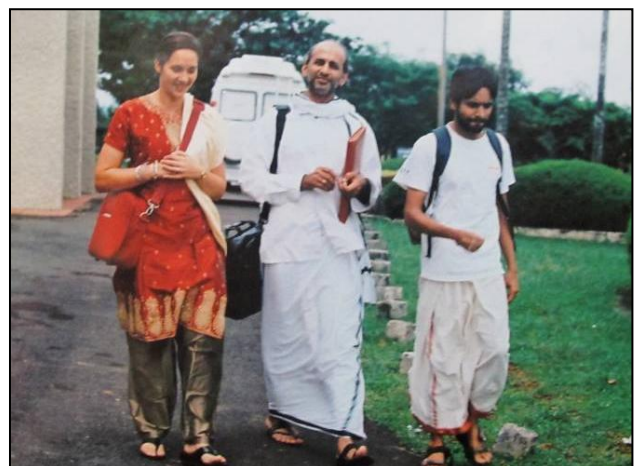


Congratulations to **Carl and Tiye Scarrott** on the birth of their second daughter, Meredith May (Merry-May) Scarrott on Monday 13 September. Mother and baby are doing well.

CONFERENCES & VISITS



(Left): **Clemency Montelle** with her colleague Prof. Kim Plofker (Union College, N.Y.) about to attend the ICM (International Congress of Mathematicians) Satellite conference at the Kerala School of Mathematics, Kerala, India. Clemency was one of the 12 international and national scholars who were invited to give a presentation at the conference that was entitled *Mathematics in Ancient Times*. She was on the conference organizing committee and is on the editorial board for an upcoming special issue of Ganita Bharati, one of India's leading journals for the History of Mathematics, which will publish a collection of selected articles based on papers presented at the conference.



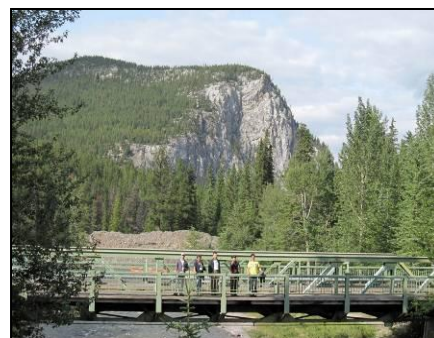
(Right): Clemency with a History of Mathematics colleague Prof. Ramasubramanian (IIT Bombay) and PhD student Venketeswara Pai, during a break at the conference.

Liz Ackerley to attend the NZMS Colloquium in Dunedin from 7 – 9 December.

James Degnan to give a talk entitled *Identifying Species Trees from Clade Properties* at Phylomania in Tasmania from 4-5 November.

Rachael Tappenden to give a talk entitled *Reconstruction of Signals with Non-sparse Components via Compressed Sensing* at the NZMS Colloquium in Dunedin from 7 – 9 December.

Neil Watson to give a talk entitled *A Unifying Definition of a Subtemperature* at the 54th Annual Meeting of the Australian Mathematical Society at the University of Queensland from 27-30 September.



Phil Wilson attended a Focused Research Group on Cortical Spreading Depression (CSD) and Related Phenomena hosted by the Banff International Research Station for Mathematical Innovation and Discovery in Banff, Alberta, Canada. CSD is a poorly-understood wave of suppression of electrical activity in the cortex of the brain, associated with migraine with aura, stroke and brain trauma. Pictured top left are part of the eight-person group, including Professor Huaxiong Huang of York University Canada, an Erskine visitor to this department last year.

PAPERS PUBLISHED

Broughton, R., Coope, I., Renaud, P., Tappenden, R., : *Determinant and Exchange Algorithms for Observation Subset Selection* (IEEE Transactions on Image Processing, Vol 19, Issue 9, September 2010).

Bui, H-Q., Laugesen, R.S.: *Frequency-scale Frames and the Solution of the Mexican hat problem* (Constructive Approximation, 2010, DOI: 10.1007/s00365-010-9808-3, online)

Bui, H-Q., Laugesen, R.S.: *Wavelets in Littlewood-Paley Space, and Mexican hat Completeness* (Applied and Computational Harmonic Analysis, 2010, DOI: 10.1016/j.acha.2010.08.003, online)

WELCOME TO OUR DEPARTMENT VISITORS

James Oxley – Erskine Fellow
 Currently Alumni Professor of Mathematics at Louisiana State University, James Oxley completed his undergraduate education in Australia before obtaining his PhD at Oxford University under the supervision of Dominic Welsh, who is also soon to revisit this department. Professor Oxley has written over 100 papers on matroid theory and graph theory, given more than 50 conference talks, and written a book on matroid theory. He is hosted on this visit by Charles Semple and is based in Room 620 (extn 7431).



Visitor	Organization	Host	From	To	Room	Extn
James Oxley (Erskine Fellow)	Lousiana State University	C Semple	4/9/10	1/12/10	620	7431
Helmut Schwichtenberg	Ludwig-Maximilian Univ.	D Bridges	28/9/10	15/11/10	605	8028
Richard Law	University of York	M Plank	29/9/10	7/1/11	710	7694
Roberto Baragona	University of Rome	M Reale	29/9/10	11/12/10	720	8337

FAREWELL TO JEROEN SCHILLEWAERT

Jeroen has been a departmental Postdoctoral Fellow for 16 months, working with Gunter Steinke. Jeroen headed back to Belgium on the Tuesday after the earthquake. Luckily, he had already cleared out his office before the earthquake hit, but sadly he missed the morning tea that was planned for his farewell and the opportunity to say goodbye to the department. Jeroen first went to the University of Ghent for a research visit before taking up a 2-year lectureship at Universite Libre de Bruxelles on 1 October. - Gunter Steinke

SCHOOL VISIT

Mike Steel and Charles Semple spent the afternoon of Wednesday 22 September presenting a pre-exam brush-up session to Year 13 scholarship Statistics students from Canterbury secondary schools. The session was organised by our former PhD graduate Michelle Dalrymple, now Head of Mathematics at Cashmere High School, and two other teachers. Besides going through past years' exam questions, the students were entertained and challenged with various probability puzzles, problems and paradoxes. The feedback was positive, with a tentative plan for a similar day next year. - Mike Steel

CAPTION CONTEST!



While the earth was moving here in Christchurch, Penny was doing her best to stay grounded in the Nevada Desert, though no logical explanation has yet been forthcoming for the pumpkin costume.
A chocolate fish to the person who supplies the best caption!

- Pauline Auaer