Jobs & Events & Competitions

NZIBS service for graduates

New Zealand Institute OF BUSINESS STUDIES

www.nzibs.co.nz

#253 **16 October 2009**

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Are we fortunate, lucky or blessed?

Newspapers and television shows us the disasters in Samoa, Tonga, and Philippines. I've never been that close to a huge disaster, but when I see what has happened I ask myself "Am I fortunate, lucky or blessed?" Thankfully, all three!

I remember talking to then Prime Minister David Lange and making a case that our New Zealand Armed Forces should switch from fighter planes, frigates and tanks, armed and trained to combat human intruders to being ready to do instant battle with Mother Nature.

History tells us we will be called upon sooner or later to combat the ravages of floods, bush fires, earthquakes, subsidence, hurricane winds, maybe even a tsunami.

Instead of a ship full of armaments, I argued the need for a few floating hospital ships equipped with helicopters, 4WD vehicles, bulldozers, bailey bridges, chainsaws, blankets, tents, planks, power generators, water bottles, tarpaulins, off-road motorcycles, desalination plants, emergency radios and medical supplies. Plus the people skilled to use them.

Until we have these facilities standing ready for action 24/7, in duplicate or triplicate, can we really say we are ready for whatever nature sends us?

Brian Morris Principal

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Karen Phillips wins Novice Section of **Katherine Mansfield Competition,**

Creative Writing course student **Karen Phillips** has won the prestigious **Katherine Mansfield Competition,** novice section. The enormity of this win (from 662 entries in this category) hadn't fully sunk in when I spoke to her. "But it has validated the whole study course effort for me."

Short Story competition novice category judge Carl Nixon said *The Visit* 'brings a tear to the eye and a smile to the lips'. Her story is a deserving [novice category] winner that could hold its own with some of the best of New Zealand fiction."

Brian Morris, Principal

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Chat To Your Tutor Days, Oct - Nov

This is your opportunity to speak to your personal tutor. The toll-free number 0508 428 983 operates only at the times listed below. Mark your calendar now. Make a list of the questions you want to ask.

Michael Morrissey	Thursday 29th October	10am – 2pm.
David Pardon	Friday 30th October	8:30am – 5:30pm.
Bartha Hill	Monday 2nd November	8am – 6pm.
Robert van de Voort	Tuesday 3rd November	8:30am – 5:30pm.
Dick Ward	Thursday 5th November	9:30am – 1:30pm.
Dick Ward	Friday 6th November	9:30am – 1:30pm.
Angela Pyke	Saturday 7th November	10am – 12 noon.
Janice Marriott	Monday 9th November	9am – 4pm.
Joan Rosier-Jones	Tuesday 10th November	8.30am – 5.30pm.

Call early in the day to avoid the rush at the end.

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Janice Marriott reports

"Last night I was at the **Katherine Mansfield Awards,** New Zealand's most prestigious annual event for short story writing. It is sponsored by BNZ and was held in their astonishing new building in Wellington.

There are three award categories: secondary school students, novice (for previously unpublished writers) and the premier award, open to all writers.

The winner of the novice category was NZIBS student Karen Phillips, who is tutored by Joan Rosier-Jones.

This winning story, *The Visit,* started as an exercise in Assignment 3 of the course. This assignment asked for a story with a beginning, a middle and an end, a limit of 4 characters, and 400 - 500 words. After Karen wrote it Joan suggested she extend it and enter it in the KM awards - and the rest is history.

You are an inspiration to us all, Karen. Our best congratulations to you, and to Joan too.

Link to Karen's short story = www.bnz.co.nz/binaries/2009-KMA-The-Visit-Novice.pdf

Link to judge Carl Nixon's comments = www.bnz.co.nz/binaries/2009-KMA-Judge-Report-Novice.pdf

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School leavers under-prepared for work

There's a real difference between writing school essays and the kind of writing employers want workers to do. However, 12 weeks of practical transition study between school and starting work can be worthwhile. Having a certificate in business writing will give job-hunters a distinct advantage.