

## Study gives hope in disease fight

SCOTS SCIENTISTS have taken a key step in understanding how parasites beat our immune systems, which could aid the development of the first vaccines for diseases that afflict some of the world's poorest communities.

The study, by scientists at Edinburgh University's School of Biological Sciences, showed that when

parasites enter the body, they are able to quickly adjust their survival strategy relative to the strength of the body's immune system.

The discovery could provide insight into the control of tropical diseases such as river blindness, which affect some 200 million people in tropical South-East Asia, Africa and Central America.

