Plan for sport and recreation goes before AIC

As the Bulletin was going to press, the Amalgamation Implementation Committee was considering a proposal by the Sports Union to approve a master plan for the development of sport and recreation facilities for the consolidated university.

The plan has the support of the Physical Education course lecturers at the Hunter Institute of Higher Education and represents a comprehensive analysis of deficiencies in sport and recreation resources and suggestions on how to prepare for projected needs.

The Sports Union submits that it now needs a major integrated complex of sport and recreation facilities that it can control from a single control area around the Auchmuty Sports Centre and a structure for the control of other facilities which requires minimal staffing.

The Amalgamation Implementation Committee accepted the Sports Union’s invitation to carry out an inspection of the University’s and the Hunter Institute’s facilities for sport and recreation. The inspection was expected to take place on August 23.

The Sports Union was set up to encourage the growth of sporting clubs on the campus and, accordingly, the traditional University sports — cricket, rugby, rowing and athletics — were established.

While the promotion of sporting clubs remains a main preoccupation (club numbers have increased to 29), the fundamental purpose of the Sports Union has changed. The benefits of a healthy lifestyle demand that the Sports Union and the University promote a high degree of fitness and health awareness among students and staff and provide facilities to fulfill that aim.

The Sports Union is also conscious of its obligation to share facilities and expertise with community sporting organisations and schools.

When preparing for amalgamation, the Sports Union can identify three significant challenges.

It is essential that the organisation accelerates efforts to provide better and more efficient facilities, because existing facilities cannot properly meet the present needs.

- The Sports Union sees a guarantee that the Hunter Institute’s facilities will be saved as equally important.

Next is the challenge of providing support for the development of the Hunter Institute’s Physical Education training program, given the increasing need for sports administration and leisure courses in the years to come.

Thirdly, the Sports Union will have to cater for students and staff of the Newcastle Conservatorium of Music and the new University campus at Ourimbah.

The Sports Union says the major integrated complex should embrace a well-planned, multipurpose health and recreation centre to cater for educational and recreational activities, a tennis centre, squash pavilion, five ovals including ancillary facilities for players and spectators, and car parking facilities.

In an interview with the Bulletin, the President of the Sports Union (Dr Bernie Curran) said the inspection would permit members of the Amalgamation Implementation Committee to carry out an inspection of the University's and the Hunter Institute's facilities for sport and recreation. The inspection was expected to take place on August 23.

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Implementation Committee to obtain a good appreciation of the proposed 'master plan' for the development of sport and recreation facilities.

Dr Curran said the Sports Union had these immediate problems to solve: an overextension of sporting activities, a deficit of facilities for team training (exacerbated by the Hunter Institute's inadequate sporting resources) and unsatisfactory drainage on No. 1 Oval and Ray Watt Oval.

Keeping the existing ovals and ancillary facilities was a fundamental objective of the Sports Union and any attempt to redevelop the University's oval would be forcibly opposed. In fact, it was proposed that the oval be upgraded in the early future, because of the vital role it played in the Physical Education course.

He said that with amalgamation the Sports Union would gain an additional 4,000 members. Although work on the new No. 3 Sportfield (near the main railway line) should be completed before the end of this year, the University's sporting resources were still insufficient to meet the needs of ever-increasing numbers of students and staff members and community organisations also wanting access.

The matter of developing sport, health and recreation services involved environmental issues and the provision of several ovals surrounded by trees was, Dr Curran said, historically in keeping with the University's ethos.

US post for UN graduate

Dr Shyam K. Singh who completed his PhD program in 1988 in the Department of Chemistry under the supervision of Associate Professor L.A. Summers, has been appointed Assistant Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the Medical University of South Carolina in the United States.

Dr Singh's thesis reported research on the synthesis of heterocyclic compounds of biological importance and his research in America continues in this area with particular reference to heterocyclic folic acid antagonists as anti-cancer agents. He also has become an expert in high resolution nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy.

Joint venture between University and Lingard Hospital

The University and Lingard Hospital at Mereleacher will enter a joint agreement to develop programs of co-operation aimed at teaching student doctors and conducting medical research.

The agreement was approved by the Council on August 11.

According to the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Professor John Hamilton, the formal association of a private hospital with a University for the purpose of providing training and services was 'a first in Australia'.

The Vice-Chancellor said the proposed programs reflected the broad range of activities conducted at Lingard Hospital and would greatly enrich the work of the University and its medical students.

The agreement grants Lingard Hospital permission to be formally designated as an Affiliated Teaching Hospital.

The joint programs which the University and hospital will undertake comprise a general program for education and designated special programs.

The general program for education envisages students seeing patients under the care of medical practitioners to clerk the patients and examine them.

The staff of the hospital designated to provide teaching and supervision of students will be appointed as Clinical Teachers.

Lingard Hospital will provide simple accommodation for study and tutorials and a basic library of reference texts.

The University and the hospital will develop joint special programs in order to achieve:

- a Centre of Excellence for clinical service, research and education;
- a contribution to overall clinical services within the Hunter area;
- co-operation between staff of the hospital and staff of the University;
- a research fund possibly in the form of a trust fund, and derived in the main from clinical service fees for the support of research; details of funding, access and administration will need to be further clarified; and
- full time members of the University Academic staff providing clinical services in cooperation with staff of Lingard Hospital.

The hospital will provide academic staff of the Faculty of Medicine with appropriate clinical privileges.

Fertility Medicine and Psychiatry have been designated as special programs for development under the terms of the agreement. Other programs will be considered for development from time-to-time.

The Fertility medicine program is already well developed at Lingard Hospital, initially with the In Vitro Fertilisation program, to which the University has contributed staff expertise. It is now being expanded. The intention is to provide the designated centre for this service in the Hunter Area and it will provide services for the public sector. University staff involved are from the Faculty of Medicine and the Department of Biological Science.

A Psychiatry Teaching Unit has now been established, under the supervision of Professor Vaughan Carr, Head of the University Discipline of Psychiatry.

The University will be represented in the governance of Lingard Hospital in several ways, including the appointment of the Vice-Chancellor as a member of the Board of Advice.

HECS Information

Students are reminded that their HECS liability for Semester 2 will be assessed according to their program on the Semester 2 census date, that is:

- August 31

In order to process changes to students' programs by August 31, it is necessary for Variation of Program forms to be submitted by Thursday, August 24.

It should be noted that dates for withdrawal without HECS liability are independent from those for withdrawal without academic penalty, which are listed below:

- Full-year subjects, Monday, July 24.
- Semester 2 subjects, Monday, September 4.

All students who have chosen to pay their HECS contribution Up-front were sent a request for their Semester 2 payment in early August, to be paid by August 24.
Dr Noel Rutherford seems to regard Newcastle as his spiritual home. He is to return as the first Warden of International House.

Born in Weston and the first student of this University to graduate with Honours Class I in History, Dr Rutherford has spent the last three years as Warden of Bruce Hall, a students' college at the Australian National University in Canberra.

When the Arts Faculty began operations at Shortland in 1966, Dr Rutherford started working for this University as a Lecturer.

International House opened last February. Work on extensions will begin shortly. When Dr Rutherford starts as Warden on January 13, 1990 he will be in charge of about 80 boarders.

It is proposed to add more student accommodation units to International House during 1990.

He explains that International House differs from Edwards Hall, the other student accommodation centre on the campus, in two important respects.

International House is much more pointed towards multiculturalism than Edwards Hall is. It is committed to admitting students from several overseas countries, whereas multiculturalism is a by-product of Edwards Hall's operations.

The second difference is that the basic structure of International House is self-contained flats and the basic operation is self-cook.

Dr Rutherford identifies three main challenges for the Warden. The executive officer, he says, has to build up a fully fledged residential community, with a full range of amenities. The facilities to begin with are very rudimentary and much more needs to be done.

The Warden will have to endeavour to integrate Australian and overseas students in a common community and to develop understanding and tolerance across national and cultural barriers.

Moreover, he will have to involve the wider community — both town and gown — in both the development and the operation of the place.

Dr Rutherford says that if he uses the word 'community' too often it is because he believes it is the central concept of the whole undertaking.

International House Pty. Ltd., a public company headed by Mr Brian Relf, is advising the University about the development of the hall and providing community involvement.

A resident members' body, probably called the Common Room Committee, will be established to also give advice.

Dr Rutherford says the support which the Friends of the University have given to International House is greatly appreciated. He has suggested the organisation might direct a large proportion of the proceeds of the Book Fair to sponsoring an outdoor recreation area, including a swimming pool.

He has hopes that inter-hall sporting and social interaction can be organised for the benefit of residents of International House, Edwards Hall and the hall to be built near the entrance to the Hunter Institute.

'One of the fine things about life in collegiate halls of residence at the ANU is the very active interaction between the six colleges. This does much to enhance student life and makes living in such a place a very memorable experience.'

Dr Rutherford spent 21 years in the Department of History, reaching the level of Associate Professor. He was a member of the Council (1970-71, 1987-88 and 1989-), Acting Warden of Edwards Hall, was on the Standing Committee of Convocation, and served as Vice-President of the Staff Club.

He will take over responsibility for the running of the on-campus live-in accommodation centre from the Acting Manager, Mr John Birch, of the Secretary's Division.

He has been re-appointed Associate Professor.

Whilst Warden, he will spend half of his time at International House and the other half teaching for the Department of History.
The Vice-Chancellor informed the Council on August 11 he intended to propose again that a Law School be established at the University. The proposal would be supplementary to several new academic developments at the University, including new Chairs in Information Systems and Social Work and the Introduction of a Building Sciences Course.

Professor Morgan said the time was rapidly approaching when the University would have to have a Law School — he believed by 1992 or 1993. He intended to talk to the Department of Law about a submission for the establishment of the Law School and then to make representations to the Department of Employment, Education and Training in Canberra.

He said that the proposal was of considerable importance to the University and one which the Federal Government would find hard not to support.

The Buildings and Grounds Committee reported that Stage IV of the Union Building extensions had been deferred by the Union because of the current high interest rates and the need to consider using available funds on extensions to the Union of the Hunter Institute of Higher Education.

It was proposed that construction of Stage IV would now commence in February, 1990.

The Buildings and Grounds Committee reported that complete agreement had been reached on matters raised concerning the plans for the joint student residential accommodation, except the separate common room and central laundry facility.

The Committee reported that all matters raised by members of the Council, including those in a report prepared by the Students' Representative Council, had been fully discussed again.

The Joint University and Hunter Institute Student Accommodation Committee, which included the presidents of the two SRCs, had considered the outcome of the discussions and had unanimously recommended to the Vice-Chancellor that the amended design be accepted.

The Vice-Chancellor had informed the Council that the buildings and grounds committee that the meetings had been most helpful, subject to a further review of a couple of matters by Leighton Contractors Pty. Ltd., contractors for the project, he expected to be able to sign a contract within the next few weeks.

Professor Morgan said funding constraints would not permit the construction of a separate common room and laundry. If a benefactor offered to provide funds for a separate building in the future it would be welcomed.

Council was told that although work on the new University campus at Ourimbah had been delayed by wet weather, the project was sufficiently advanced by July 10 to allow the first lectures to be conducted as had been originally planned.

The Buildings and Grounds Committee had placed on record its appreciation of the excellent work of the Buildings and Grounds Division in developing the site in a short time to enable the lectures to begin. The possible restoration of an old house on the campus for students to use was being investigated.

Council was told that preliminary investigations into the capacity and suitability of some architectural companies to undertake the planning of the amalgamated University site for a five year period was nearly completed. It was anticipated that, within the next few weeks, invitations would be issued to selected companies to lodge submissions.

The Vice-Chancellor advised the Building and Grounds Committee that the concept of a University railway station on the eastern side of the campus was still being pursued. The proposal would be raised again with the State Rail Authority at an appropriate time in the future.

Council appointed Selection Committees for the following Chairs which were advertised earlier in the year, or will be advertised: Chair in Information Systems; Chair in Computer Science; Chair in Sociology; Chair in Social Work; and a Chair in Mathematics.

Dr C.W.F. McKenna was appointed Head of the Department of English for three years from September 22. Council told that Professor D. Frost had resigned.

Dr F. Walla was appointed Head of the Department of Modern Languages for two years from August 22. Council was told that Dr B. Dawson's term of office had expired.

**Tai Chi Chuan**

If you would like to join the millions of Tai Chi enthusiasts who claim they have discovered the key to mind and body fitness, you have the opportunity to do so right here on the campus.

At the beginning of 1989, a group of staff members asked the Newcastle Branch of the Australian Academy of Tai Chi conduct classes on campus. The classes have continued successfully throughout the year, with two groups about to complete Levels 1 and 2 at the end of the session.

It is claimed that Tai Chi is a complete exercise which develops the whole person, and allows the natural development of the individual on all four planes — physical, mental, emotional and spiritual.

Classes are held in the foyer of the Great Hall on Tuesdays from 12.30 to 1.30 pm. To gain the full benefits of Tai Chi, you should attend every week of the session.

The third term for 1989 will be conducted over eight consecutive weeks, commencing on September 5 and concluding on October 24.

Classes for level 1 and level 2 will be conducted in third term.

Those interested in joining the class are requested to contact Sandra Hanchard, Extension 240, to register.
Central Coast campus receives $50,000 donation

The new University campus at Ourimbah has received a $50,000 donation from Wyong Shire Council.

The President of Wyong Shire Council, Cr Tim Farrell, presented the cheque to the Vice-Chancellor at a ceremony at the Council Chambers on August 22.

Special guests at the ceremony included the Chairman of the Central Coast Tertiary Education Action Committee, Emeritus Professor Cliff Ellyett, the Acting Principal of the Hunter Institute of Higher Education, Dr Les Eastcott, and representatives of both the University and the Hunter Institute.

Dr Eastcott, who has been responsible for the development of the Central Coast campus, said that on behalf of the new consolidated university he was delighted that such a generous donation had been made.

He said the donation will be a significant contribution to the development of a Stage 1 teaching building on the site.

This donation is a clear statement of the support of the Central Coast community for the provision of tertiary education in the region, Dr Eastcott said.

We have been grateful that such a good working relationship has been established with Wyong Shire Council which has been very helpful in the establishment of the new facility,' he said.

The first students at the campus commenced studies in three courses. These are the Bachelor of Business, the Master of Business and the Associate Diploma of Police Studies. Applications are currently being accepted for these courses and for a Bachelor of Arts course which will commence in March 1990 at the Central Coast campus.

Philosophy a Valuable Discipline

In a world which emphasises technology and scientific development, philosophy is still a valuable discipline, according to new philosophy lecturer, Dr John Wright.

Dr Wright, who teaches second, third and fourth year philosophy students, hails from Melbourne, where he completed his thesis.

He has also taught at the University of Adelaide. Papers which Dr Wright has written about the philosophy of language, the philosophy of science and metaphysics have been published. As well he is finishing a book about the philosophy of science, and is currently working on another, this time dealing with metaphysics.

The University of Newcastle has an active Philosophy Department, and has seen quite a few books published in recent years. The department also held a conference on evolutionary epistemology last year.

Dr Wright believes that the humanities and sciences can actually link together in the creation of new ideas and theories.

'Philosophy does have an impact on actual practical affairs,' said Dr Wright, 'but a much less direct influence — it might take many years for that influence to come through.'

Philosophers can play a role in the development of new projects by, for instance, making contributions to the ethical side of development, according to Dr Wright. He also believes that the humanities as a whole can place subjects like science and economics in a wider perspective.

Dr Wright enjoys landscape painting and has had pieces exhibited in small galleries in Melbourne. He said he is impressed by the beauty of the local countryside, which he hopes to paint in the future.

Blood Donors Wanted

The Mobile Blood Donor Unit will be on the campus on Wednesday, September 6 to receive blood donations from 10 am to 2 pm.

The Unit will be parked on the Plaza between the Union and the Auchmuty Library.

Do come and participate!
Focus on keyboard proves successful

Newcastle Conservatorium of Music's Keyboard Festival, a new cultural venture for the Hunter, has had an enthusiastic start.

The program for the seven-day festival covered a wide range of the repertoire for piano, organ, harpsichord and fortepiano.

Musicians of all ages participated in competitions and attended lectures and master classes.

The festival was a resounding success and, in fact, some aspects, in particular the competitions, exceeded expectations, said the Acting Principal, Mr Robert Constable.

He said the event would definitely become an annual one and would provide for the people of the region and the numerous visitors who had given their support.

'One of the most pleasing aspects of the festival was the response to the inaugural Jean Bogan Memorial Prize for piano competition,' he said.

'Despite the short notice given to composers around Australia and overseas, the response was overwhelming and the quality of the best compositions was undoubtedly world class.

'The winning composition, Stroke, by Sydney composer Michael Smetanin, is a work of great power and conviction and consummate craftsmanship. These qualities are rare in a composer so young.'

Mr Constable said naturally a major factor in the success of the festival for the Conservatorium was the new performance hall, which was now widely regarded as the finest in Australia. It had provided the perfect setting.

Among the most popular events were the performances on the harpsichord. Our photograph shows Mr Damien Geraghty with one of the harpsichords used, a Hubbard 'Taskin' model made in Boston in the United States this year specially for the Con.

African training program

Associate Professor Ross Telfer, Director of the University's Institute of Aviation, is in Africa until September 21. Professor Telfer is leading a team of four Australian consultants as part of an Australian aid program. The Education Program for Southern Africa is a $7.2 million project of the Australian International Development Assistance Bureau.

The Australian team, which includes Dr John Schiller, of the Hunter Institute of Higher Education, will provide training for executive staff of the education systems of seven English-speaking Southern African nations: Zimbabwe, Zambia, Swaziland, Lesotho, Tanzania, Botswana, Zanzibar. Four representatives of each country will attend a three-week training program in Maseru, Lesotho.

The program will cover topics such as planning, facilitating change, decision-making, policy formation, leadership and communication.

Manuals of these topics have been written for the African educators by the Australian team.

After the program, the participants return to their countries to conduct identical workshops and commence a multiplier effect.

Professor Telfer and another team member will remain in Africa for two weeks after the Lesotho workshop to monitor and advise on the first of the sub-regional training programs conducted by the participants.

General Staff Reclassifications

The closing date for submission of applications has been extended to September 29, 1989. Applications should be submitted in writing to the Secretary, Classifications Review Committee, C/- the Staff Office. They should include details of changes to duties and responsibilities that have occurred recently.

Further information can be obtained from Mr S. Quinn (Extension 202) or Mr M. Covill (Extension 375).
To complicate the issue, the PSA and HAREA have lodged claims for new federal awards for all general staff in Australian universities. The ACTU is co-ordinating the negotiation/arbitration of these awards—which has already commenced—and will include restructuring. These events are overtaking the local negotiations, because they have dragged on for too long.

The Administration would be entitled to withdraw its offer on the basis that the matter is in the federal arena.

Unless agreement can be reached within a matter of days on the basis of the University's reasonable proposals then the other series of events (the unions seeking federal awards) will mean that a series of immediate benefits and improvements for key-board staff will not be available.

This is what is known in industrial circles as 'take it or leave it'. I have advised the Association that the Administration's offer is available until September 8 only.

**Student Equity and Access**

An interim Student Equity and Access Committee has been formed to support and advise on the University's equity project pending a finalisation of such arrangements after amalgamation. The Interim Committee comprises Associate Professor John Ramsland as Chair, Dr John Drinan, Director of the School of Technology and Administration at the HIHE, Mr John Todd, Academic Registrar designate and Head of the Student Development Unit, Mr Frank Hawkins, Head of Admissions and Enrolments in the University, Mr John Collins, Director of Community Programs, Ms Alethea Taylor, Assistant Co-ordinator of the EEO Unit, and members of the Equity Project (Ms Gail White and Ms Anita van der Wal). Further members are being sought including student representation. Other members will be co-opted as necessary and the membership will, of course, be extended after amalgamation.

The intention is that Aboriginal access in the new University is being taken up with the Institute and Wollotuka.

The high priority for the Committee will be preparation of proposals for a continuation and strengthening of the University equity commitment through Commonwealth funding and advice and assistance in the forthcoming Profile negotiations. Advice on

**Student Accommodation**

Others will be better placed than I am to deal with some of the misinformation being spread around on the new student accommodation, sadly, much of it emanating from Edwards Hall. Needless to say, the new accommodation has been carefully planned, among other things, after access to detailed plans and advice from the DEET authorities (to their credit, something that has never happened before).

What disturbs me about this campaign is how badly it misses the point. The University has a responsibility to all its students, not just those whose parents can afford the thousands of dollars involved in supporting them in colleges like Edwards Hall—at $105 per week.

The new University will have some 7,000 full-time students but only 210 of them or three per cent can be found or can afford full board and lodging places at Edwards Hall.

In the decade 1977 to 1987, the University added only 75 (self-catering) residential places to its single residential hall. As a result of Commonwealth funding and joint University and Institute funding some 200 places will have been added to our capacity in the last two years.

It should be added that the Hunter Institute is the majority contributor to the recently approved project which will add 33 places to International House and create 120 places on the Site B development.

'Sub-standard?' Hardly: the standards exceed DEET minimum requirements as a result of the injection of hard-earned University and Institute funds. Any further enhancement of the standards can only reduce the number of units and prejudice the provision of accommodation to those in need.

The University-Institute Joint Committee on Student Accommodation has recently considered the next steps following approval of both Councils to the Site B development. In alignment with Council policy in favour of quasi-collegiate development, the Committee will shortly be advertising for a Warden for this third residential development. It
envisages the development being known as 'Hunter House', to associate its character very closely with the region. We will be aiming at rents no more than $45 to $50 per week so that students from the less-favoured groups in our community can afford them.

In support of the University's equity initiatives for the region, we also envisage reserving some places for students from the different districts of the region outside Newcastle.

**Frigates**

My recent piece on Commonwealth funding of the University could, with hindsight, have been seen as rather aggressive.

That is, until the Frigates decision. The reaction from both sides of the New South Wales political fence has been 'what does the Hunter have to do...'.

Well, I guess one thing is obvious: we cannot expect goodies to drop from the sky.

One possible, frightening, indicator of Canberra knowledge of and interest in the Hunter is the (true) story from a senior officer of the Institute: at the tail end of a discussion on HIHE business, the DEET officer inquired: 'Now, where's the Hunter Institute again, north or south of Sydney?...'. Does this explain why Wollongong appears to do so well?

"Friends"

(Linda says there must be at least one; Geoff says 'whoever you are') Sitting alongside the recent story in *The Australian* on University of Newcastle funding was an item 'Second-hand Bookfest gets big and goes public'. It referred to a second-hand book sale at the University of Sydney, with 8,000 books and magazines 'twice as many as last year'. Interesting to compare with our own recently held Book Fair which presented some 60,000 volumes.

A separate announcement will be made on the proceeds from the Book Fair. I am pleased to confirm that the University will make suitable space available under the Library to support the 1991 Book Fair — when all those involved this year have sufficiently recovered.

L.F. Hennessy,  
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration).

**Don't be a dill**

A new safety video, *Don't Be A Dill*, produced by the Medical Communications Unit (MCU), was launched recently.

The 18-minute long video was scripted and acted by Mr Greg Dunford, a freelance actor and comedian, and was produced by Mr Greg Boddicker of the MCU.

The message of the video is that, every year, dills like Phil, the central character, call doesn't thousands of accidents in hospitals all over Australia. About 500 people die every year in Australia from accidents at work, while 300,000 more are injured. The video asks such questions as: How many lost-time accidents has your workplace had in the last year? What type were they? What caused them? How could they have been prevented?

The video explains that accidents can be caused by two dills operating independently. Dill I might leave something in the wrong place, while Dill II might not be paying attention.

The video also introduces a 'Dills and Spills' segment which shows how easy it is to spill something. A spill doesn't necessarily make you a Dill, but leaving it on the floor for someone to slip on, does. Therefore, we should remember to clean it up so that an accident does not occur.

A segment on the disposal of needles is a sobering insight into how easy it is to be neglectful.

Launching the video, Professor David Christie said it was everybody's right to work in a safe environment. There are two sides to it: an employer had a responsibility to his employees and an employee had a personal responsibility to his employer.

The reaction of those present at the launching was that the video was exceptionally good at presenting its message and, moreover, the use of comedy certainly held the viewer's attention. However, it was also claimed that the video could have been more ambitious because it failed to advise people who they should see in the event of an accident and what forms should be completed.

The video is 'a must' for all new employees.

Copies of the video can be obtained from the MCU for $105, which includes delivery and safety session notes.
Work to improve University entrance

The new roundabout at the University's entrance is expected to be opened in September and will provide safer traffic conditions at the main University access.

The roundabout is associated with construction of a four-lane divided carriageway on the Newcastle Bypass, which is known as State Highway 23, between Newcastle Road, Jesmond, and Sandgate Road, Shortland. The current route between these points is very congested and has a poor accident record.

The new highway separates through traffic from local traffic and pedestrians, and will improve community amenity, as well as the efficiency of the overall transport system.

Work on Rankin Drive is being carried out in three stages - a roundabout at the northern end of Blue Gum Road, the interchange with State Highway 23 and the University roundabout.

The interchange in Rankin Drive is in the form of an elevated roundabout, which comprises two bridges over the highway, earth retaining walls, loading and unloading ramps and pedestrian and bicycle path links. The work is in its early stages.

Traffic in Rankin Drive will be directed on to the northern bridges, when it is completed in 1990, and work will then be commenced on the second bridge, which is to be located over the existing roadway.

The roundabout at the northern end of Blue Gum Road, which will be used during the stage construction, has already been installed.

Other works completed include a bridge over State Highway 23 leading to the Central Research Laboratory and the Steel Works Golf Links and a culvert over the main water supply line connecting Chichester Dam to Newcastle near the second tee of the Golf Links. A footbridge across the highway between Michael and William Streets near the Jesmond Shopping Centre is currently being constructed and is expected to be completed early next year.

Mr Kevin Hays, Roads and Traffic Authority Resident Engineer for State Highway 23, said that the work has been organised as a series of contracts with work under traffic being carried out by the Authority's Direct Control operations to allow flexibility in these areas.

Thiess Contractors were constructing Rankin Drive Interchange Mr Hays said. Tenders were recently closed for an overbridge over State Highway 23 at Janet Street. Further contracts for earthworks are planned to be let in 1990 with pavement works to follow.

Mr Hays said that by 1991 works would be in progress over full-length between Newcastle Road, Jesmond, and Sandgate Road, Shortland.

The construction work would result in a cutting approximately 16 metres deep in the vicinity of the Geology Building at the University and an embankment in the vicinity of the Medical Sciences Building.

The sketch of the roundabout near the University entrance shows that the bus stop, which has been relocated near the Kintalba Community Child Care Centre, will be permanently sited west of the University's entrance. This work will incorporate a new shelter and the provision of a bus waiting lane in Rankin Drive. On completion of the temporary roundabout, which allowed construction of permanent works free of the traffic, will be removed and the grounds landscaped.
Tales of the Open (Secret), a novel in short stories, by Bob Jones (Nimrod Publications, RRP $14.95).

This book is rather like a puddle of mercury, with shining globules which run into each other and separate again, and defy your efforts to pin them down. The short stories described in the title add up to a deceptively simple, low-key novel which, nonetheless captures some of the real essence and flavour of Australian life. The author (no relation, I promise) is described on the back cover of the book as an American-born poet who teaches at WEA in Newcastle. His landscape is therefore local, although landscape is not the chief preoccupation of the book.

Much of the novel seems autobiographical — but many first novels are based on the author's own life. The protagonist, Kava, is an expatriate American who sometimes teaches adult education classes, and is now writing his first novel. He's not sure people are going to understand it, but he is satisfied, when he finishes it, that he has said what he wanted to say. I'm not sure I understand what Bob Jones is saying, but the novel certainly caught my imagination. It layers reality, like those self-portraits where the painter paints himself looking into a mirror in order to see his own face. It's a poetic work, one to respond to emotionally rather than logically: a book about the experience of being alive. I guess that's the Open (Secret) of the title. We all have the experience of being alive, but none of us really understands it. For me, the meaning of this book is that life isn't to be understood, it's to be felt. It is good to be reminded of that in such a pleasant way.

[Tales of the Open (Secret) is now available in the University Bookshop.]

Susan M. Jones, EEO Co-ordinator

REVIEWS

The world premiere of Once a Bold Collier at the Playhouse was not precisely what we expected. The play is based on the true story of the Rothbury riots of 1928. Instead of a portrayal of people from the Coalfields who showed great courage during the 'lock-out', the production deals mainly with a love story.

Because too much heed is given to the plight of the somewhat bewildered lovers, a Scot in his late 40s and his landlady aged 18, the script seems to only scratch the surface of the story, which started with the Government asking the mine owners to forego one shilling per ton for coal and the miners to accept a 10 shillings a week cut in wages.

The play is set in the kitchen of a miner's cottage. At the start we learn that Fred (Paul Makeham) has brought Andrew (Mervyn Drake) home to live in his home with his wife, Annie (Cate Murray) and him. Andrew and Fred, who are pitched against each other, are effective as the gentlemanly miner who became embittered by authority as a sapper in the First World War, and the young lad from Cessnock who has never left The Valley.

As Annie, Cate Murray has a great challenge. Not only should she personate a young supportive wife of the 1920s, whom they call Miss Prim, but she should also 'treat history with an eighties perspective' and be a woman with feelings.

As the boisterous, miner's wife, Maggie, Annie's friend, Jacqy Phillips seems content to clown up the character for laughs.

If the script had been more ambitious, the audience would have been more closely involved in the miners' march to Rothbury and the confrontation with the police, and the play would have been more deeply moving human drama. The climax depends upon a taped narration of the incident played through the theatre's p.a. system. Opening night coincided with the 10th anniversary of the Playhouse — an occasion well worth a re-assessment of the theatre's first decade of endeavour. Sullace to say to this reviewer the Playhouse has never quite decided whether it is part of the dramatic mainstream, or just a community theatre.

Although the theatre has some problems with Once a Bold Collier, mainly because it dally's too long in the kitchen of the Moreton's cottage, it's mainstay over the years has been the district it serves and, with its last two productions, which have revived regional stories, its choices have been wise.

Once a Bold Collier runs nightly until September 9.

John W. Armstrong

Members will be interested to know that we have received a response from the University to our counter proposals on Clerical/Keyboard Integration. This counter proposal had been circulated to members who requested it.

The Association believes that the University's response raises a number of spurious issues. Especially in that it claims federal procedures currently underway (i.e. the federal log of claims and the national wage case) over-ride these local negotiations.

In addition the University has given the Association an ultimatum that we accept their last offer by September 8. As that lowered the starting rate of part time workers and the rate of pay at aged 21, as well as breaking a current single grade into three grades. We had previously rejected it.

A meeting will be held on Sunday to address this issue.

Susan McDonald, PSA Chairperson

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Play reflected Orton's life

Brendan Strahan has been busy learning about the late playwright Joe Orton for his director's role in The Erpingham Camp.

He knows that the trademarks of Orton's plays are sex, violence and death, so the playwright was considered to be a subversive.

However, people were scandalised by Orton's lifestyle just as much as audiences were scandalised by his creations for the British stage. However, his wit made the plays memorable.

The Erpingham Camp is being presented by the Drama Department in the Drama Studio and opens on September 12. The Mason continues on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays and Tuesday, September 19, at 8 pm until September 23.

Mr Strahan said The Erpingham Camp premiered in London's Royal Court in 1967, only two months before Orton's death. Joe Orton was bludgeoned to death with a hammer by his boyfriend, Kenneth Halliwell, who promptly committed suicide. He was at the peak of his popularity.

Orton is best known for his two major plays, Loot and What the Butler Saw. However, he was about to finalise a screenplay for the Beatles when he was murdered.

Mr Strahan says the theatre became an ideal outlet for Orton's anarchic sense of the absurd. The Erpingham Camp is no exception, satirising the Church, the State, marriage, the monarchy, bureaucracy, and authority in any form.

The holiday camp in which the play is centred is run by Erpingham, a kind of paternalistic dictator with a propensity for pomposity and prudery, who acts as a spokesman for the establishment and upper middle class/Tory values. A popular uprising among the campers calls the values of British society into question.

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Have you heard about the Old Wares Shoppe yet?

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Remember — the Old Wares Shoppe, 3 Beaumont Street, Islington.

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Wanted to Share

Person to share five-bedroom home with two others in Belmont. Rental: $50 per week plus expenses and bond. References required. Person must be clean and tidy. Please telephone 45 8706 after 4 pm.

For Sale

Amstrad DMP4000 (15" side) in excellent condition (software included). Asking price: $550. Please telephone Extension 337 or 71 2479.
LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

The University is wanting to erect student residential accommodation, self-catering style for 10 residents per flat. This flat will have two bathrooms, one having laundry facilities included. The 10 students will share a small communal kitchen. Thirty-three (33) beds will be constructed next to International House while another 120 beds will be built at the rear of Edwards Hall next to the Institute.

The University, namely Lance Hennessy and Maurie Edmonds, reportedly said earlier this year that the Government (DEET) stipulated that the Uni must build self-catering style accommodation, but in fact, this now appears not to be true according to Deputy Secretary of DEET, Mr Paul Hickey. Good quality affordable accommodation in whatever format institutions deem appropriate is DEET's policy. The first question that must be asked is who is the accommodation being built for? First years would probably prefer catered style accommodation, whereas older students would prefer self-catering style accommodation. Therefore who does the Uni want to cater this accommodation for?

A mix of styles is provided at Edwards Hall, where a resident must at first spend a year in the main hall accommodation before transferring to the more independent self-catering style accommodation. This system is extremely successful.

International House was built in 1988 and began operation in 1989. I would estimate that International House has had a student turnover rate of 25 per cent this year. This speaks for itself. This is in no way the fault of anyone running the accommodation, but the fault of lack of planning, preparation, consultation and listening to experience.

International House is the same style of self-catering accommodation as Edwards Hall self-catering; however, International House has an extra room per flat, whereas Edwards Hall has a lounge room. International House’s buildings all look into a courtyard. Here garbages are situated and people have their washing hanging on makeshift clothes line ropes attached between trees. Recently two external telephone booths have been installed. An extension of planning is that the building facing the road was constructed with five out of six rooms facing the noisy Rankin Drive. If the building was built in the reverse order, only one room would have the noise and five rooms would get sunlight.

Another problem with International House is cleanliness. It was stated to me, after talking about upkeep of residences with John Birch earlier this year, that no monitoring system of cleanliness would be kept. In June, I was invited into a unit at International House and, together with the Deputy Manager was appalled at the condition and filth of that unit. This is a health risk to the students and a maintenance cost problem for the Uni. If six students have this problem, what will happen with 10 students? Edwards Hall has overcome this problem with fortnightly inspections to make sure a general standard of cleanliness is maintained. This is just one example of the forward planning ideas which could have been overcome earlier with consultation with people in the field of student accommodation.

Another problem area was that wrong locks were installed and have to eventually be replaced as students were constantly locking themselves out. These are just two small problems with International House. These and all of the rest should have been ironed out in planning. I only wait for the management problem of the next 150 rooms the University constructs. This just shows where physical construction planning and administration preparation is essential.

Look! Students of Newcastle University need more on-campus residential accommodation. With amalgamation the Uni will have 2 per cent of its students housed in residential accommodation on campus, whereas most other Unis have approximately 10 per cent of students housed on campus. This University can be thankful for this, because we have the opportunity to build the best accommodation possible by looking at the past mistakes and experience of others. Therefore, I am pleading with the University to scrap the ludicrous ideas they have, start from scratch, no building works started now will be built in time for next year anyway use the knowledge, experience, and time available for proper planning, preparation and consultation, and build accommodation that will most importantly be conducive to study requirements and will be somewhere that students will want to live.

As I see it, we can start again as no formal contracts should have been signed. I look to the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor to do something about this matter for the students. Please look at what is going on and fix the mess up.

Tony Hanson.
Member of Student Accommodation Committee, Member of Edwards Hall Board of Trustees.

Kurri Kurri study to be continued

The University's investigation of the lung function of workers at Alcan's Aluminium Smelter at Kurri Kurri has received a grant of $450,000.

Alcan Australia has made the grant so that the longitudinal study of respiratory symptoms can be continued for three-and-a-half years.

Professor Michael Hensley, Associate Professor in Clinical Epidemiology, who is the principle investigator, together with Mr John Wlodarczyk and Dr Geoff Field will continue to study the entire workforce at Kurri Kurri (co-investigators).

The project is run by the Steering Committee, consisting of union representatives, management representation and members of the University's research team.

Professor Hensley said the study had been a very good example of collaboration between the University and Industry. Industry had received scientifically sound information about an important health question.

'The University team has carried out research which is leading the way nationally and internationally, providing a number of publications and research for two PhD degree students,' he said.
staff changes
from August 28, 1989 to January 22, 1990, Mrs Myra Keay will be on secondment in Jakarta, assisting in the Library Program of the International Development Program of Australian Universities and Colleges. We have been fortunate in arranging to have Ms Robyn Emanuel replace her in the Monograph Acquisitions Section for this time. Robyn is a very experienced librarian and presently is Technical Services Librarian at the HIHE. She begins on August 14 and will share the office with Mrs Mary Rabbitt, with the telephone Extension 745.

recent online developments
The Auchmuty Library has recently been offering access to overseas and local databases for a decade, with 260 searches on 11 systems in 1988. In coming years, we are likely to see the heavily used databases purchased on CD-ROM and made accessible to all members of the University. Less used databases will continue to be searched online by library staff. Some staff and students will always prefer to have their searches done by an experienced librarian, whether on CD-ROM or online.

For those enthusiasts who wish to do their own searching, it is now possible to access over 850 databases world-wide with the minimum of equipment, documentation and accounts. A dumb terminal hooked to VAXB can connect to Austpac (the Australian packet switching network) and link us to a range of overseas and Australian database providers via OTC’s INTELNET. The latter is a commercial gateway facility that provides menu-driven access to 13 systems without opening accounts for each. The user specifies the subject and the system will select the relevant databases and carry out the search based on a list of terms submitted. INTELNET will soon be providing sophisticated searchers with a command driven system that allows the user to specify the database and the appropriate subject headings.

To do your own searching all you need to do your own searching is an account at the Computing Centre and completion of an electronic mail/message handling form which authorises Austpac charges to be billed to your department. INTELNET costs $50 to join, $10 per month and around $20 per successful search. The more expensive databases incur a surcharge. Membership forms can be obtained from Jim Cleary in the Library or by contacting OTC at (02) 28 73003. Most members of the University will find that they do not do enough searching to justify paying out $170 per annum on top of the search cost. They will also prefer a search carried out by a skilled librarian who regularly uses the databases and who knows their respective strengths and weaknesses. But for the academic who wants to browse in a variety of databases or who uses a few databases regularly, INTELNET may be a handy tool.

Jim Cleary and
Elizabeth Guilford

study and preparation for examinations
This time of the year, with the end-of-year examinations coming up, is crucial for organising what you have learnt so far while keeping up with new work. Review of notes, study techniques and orientation to the coming examinations need to be complete before the examinations commence. In the examination itself, time management and marshalling your resources quickly and economically are vital to achieving the results you want to get.

The course will cover these and other important issues in the two one-hour sessions held over two weeks. A preliminary meeting to arrange a suitable time will be held in the University Counselling Service, Courtyard Level, Library Building on Wednesday, 30 August at 1 pm.

Makerere University

Mr P.D. Alexander, Secretary to the University, is holding some material provided by the Australian Vice-Chancellors’ Committee concerning the possibility of staff proceeding on Outside Studies Programs spending time at Makerere University in Uganda.
Public Relations review reaches final stages

A sub-group of the Administrative Structures Working Group (ASWG) has submitted proposals for meeting the public relations needs of the amalgamated University.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor K.J. Morgan, said the key proposals should be implemented in the very near future.

The Information Services Sub-Group was established by the ASWG to analyse the information and publicity services provided by the University, the Hunter Institute of Higher Education (HIHE) and Newcastle Conservatorium of Music and make recommendations for the future.

Brian Cogan and Associates, public relations consultants of Newcastle, was commissioned to conduct an audit to review the institutions’ PR resources and the firm’s report was considered by the sub-group.

Both the sub-group’s interim report and the Cogan Audit were circulated throughout the University, the HIHE and the Conservatorium prior to the sub-group conducting an open final meeting, which interested staff members attended.

The sub-group considers that the University will benefit by a continuation of the majority of the information services provided within the three institutions, and furthermore, the interests of the University will be best served by the amalgamation of the services into one unit.

The new unit, the sub-group says, will have a central and paramount role in promoting cohesion within the University and presenting the desired image to academic and general staff and other students, and to the regional, national, international and political community.

The Sub-Group asserts that from an examination of the public, public relations, promotional and corporate image material produced throughout the institutions there is an extremely wide range in standard and professionalism.

We are entering a new era where the University needs to be completely up-to-date and professional in its approach to its clients in the student, commercial, industrial and political community in regional, national and international areas, where there are other aggressive competitors and where we will often be judged initially on the face value of our communication material.

'It is essential, therefore, that the University use the professional services of the Unit to improve the standard and quality of its approach to these markets. As soon as possible, a promotional logo and design code should be produced and exploited,' the Sub-Group says.

The proposals in the Information Services Sub-Group’s final report include:

- The new unit be called the Community Relations Unit (CRU).
- UNINEWS be the standard-bearer of the institution and continue on a monthly basis, along with the Bulletin and Staff News on a fortnightly basis and be improved wherever possible. A review of The Gazette be carried out. Consideration be given to discontinuing The Gazette and each quarter ‘upmarket’ editions of UNINEWS be distributed to members of Convocation.
- The Publications Section, located within the Secretariat Division, has a logical place, from a functional point of view, within the CRU.
- The University must make a decision on the standard of equipment to be maintained, and the standard of product desired from the Printery, and whether new technology is to be introduced. It is recommended that a working party be established to consider this question as soon as possible.
- The Schools Liaison effort mounted by the HIHE is recognised as one of the most effective in the State. This expertise should be incorporated in the marketing of all university courses.
- A University ‘shopfront’ in Newcastle could be set up within the Conservatorium of Music. The concept deserves further examination. There will be also a Visitors’ Information Centre in the new 2NUR-FM building on the campus.
- To promote University research, the publication of a regular quality Research Newsletter should be explored as soon as possible.

Referring to a proposed staff organisation chart, the Sub-Group notes that if the recommendations are accepted the CRU will have a higher profile than previously, with a central role in interfacing with the Media and community at all levels. It would seem that there should be an identifiable Head of Unit who could assume these responsibilities.

In addition, given the proposed increase in total staff, the entry into new areas of activity in marketing and communications and a need for additional journalistic input, it is recommended that a Director be appointed to manage the new Unit as soon as possible.

It is anticipated that the Graphic Artist attached to the Information Office at the HIHE will be fully occupied servicing the CRU and the Sub-Group considers that the Unit will have sufficient work to keep a full-time photographer employed.

Finnish visitor

A leading Finnish educationalist who is in Australia as part of a world tour will visit the University.

Dr Kauranne’s special interests are recent Finnish educational history, educational administration, and current issues in Nordic education.

He has published many articles on aspects of education in Finland and has participated in international congresses dealing with educational problems facing the Nordic countries.

Dr Kauranne will give an address on The Finnish educational system: Current trends and future perspectives in Room W215/218, Social Sciences Building, on September 11 at 1 pm.

He will give an address on The Recent History of Education in Finland in Room W215/218 on September 12 at 5 pm.
Conference on the crisis in science

The global environmental crisis has been caused by human domination of the planet fostered by the growth of scientific knowledge.

Yet, it can only be solved by further scientific effort.

Are there enough scientists to come up with solutions for our ecological problems?

And, are they being properly trained for the job?

These and other questions relating to the role, education and public perception of scientists in Australia will be discussed at a conference organised by the New South Wales division of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science (ANZAAS), to be held on September 6 at the CSIRO National Measurement Laboratory in Lindfield, starting at 4 pm.

Mr Tony Cooke, ANZAAS New South Wales Chairman and Research and Development Manager at James Hardie Industries Ltd., said it would be a different sort of scientific gathering in that its aim was to produce a 'scientists' manifesto' to present to policy makers.

'We are trying to get working scientists in all areas of science out of their laboratories and more actively talking about their work,' Mr Cooke said.

'What we are seeing is not just a lack of support from government and industry in terms of funding for research and development. Scientists are being ignored and even the general community no longer appreciates what scientists do."

Mr Cooke said a lot of young people were choosing to pursue careers in accounting, law or economics, rather than science.

'This is alarming at a time when there are critical environmental problems to be solved, such as land degradation or the Greenhouse effect, and when there has been a tremendous decline in our manufacturing sector. It could lead to a shortage of scientifically trained people in the future and to Australia becoming a technologically backwards country.'

For further information please telephone Mr Cooke at (02) 63 89727 (business hours) or (02) 87 21700 (home).

Kidney group to gain from La Traviata

The Hunter and Northern Kidney Association will receive the proceeds of the production of La Traviata, by Verdi, to come to Newcastle next month.

The Australian Opera team are in the final stages of mounting three performances of Verdi's world-renowned opera of love at the Civic Theatre.

THE TRAVIATA will be presented by the same team which staged La Bohème in Newcastle in 1987, with proceeds that year going to Lifeline.

Tickets are on sale at the Civic Theatre, by mail, or by telephone at (29 1977). Prices range from $16 for children under 16 years to $36 for A Reserve seats each night.

New approach needed for new university system

The Australian Vice-Chancellor's Committee has urged the Federal Government to recognise the university system as an essential national resource which must be adequately funded.

In a statement the AVCC says that Australia's commitment to educational quality will be tested as higher education undergoes a radical restructuring to a university-only system. It warns that the transformation of the system through amalgamation will not succeed without additional resources.

The statement says that the decline in the average grant per student over the current triennium is 'bleeding the system' and seriously reducing its effectiveness and potential.

The Chairman of the AVCC, Professor Brian Wilson, said that the rolling funding triennium or three-year funding cycle, for higher education which was introduced this year by the Federal Government provided increased funding stability for the system. Under this system, higher education knew its global funding up to 1991.

However, the AVCC was disappointed that global funding for 1992 would not be announced in the Budget as the universities had expected and would be delayed until October.

The system could live with this delay so long as the Federal Government maintained its original timetable of announcing the allocation to individual institutions by December this year.
Rugby champions again

When this year's Newcastle rugby union premiership finished on August 26, the University first grade team were the minor premiers. University has won five premierships in the last six competitions.

The team: (back row) Warwick Bright, Ian Neale (captain), Bob Blyth, Paul Heanly; (second row) Graham Cowan (Manager), Toby Smith, Mark James, Damien Brown, Dave Scharkie, Steve Arnold, Graeme Gill, Bruce Wilson (coach); (front row) Matt Gralton, Anthony Eckert, Scott Goninan, John MacMaster. Absent: Corin Long and Tony Hogg.

The third and fourth grade teams are also into the finals.

Diary of Events

Wednesday, August 30, noon
German Feature Film entitled Katzeimacher* plus Deutschlands splicege (English sub-titles), Room 132 McMullin Building. Admission: free.

noon
Lunchtime concert in the Union Courtyard featuring the band Moonscope (to be held in the courtyard if fine, in the bar if wet). Admission: free.

Thursday, August 31 noon
Movie: Dangerous Liaisons will be screened in the Bar. Donation: 50 cents.

Friday, September 1, 1 pm
Film Buffs Club presents Tout Va Bien, Auchmuty Room. Admission free.

Monday September 4, noon
Department of Geology seminar, Speaker: Ms Kelly Williams-Sweeney. Topic: Modelling Rain-induced Landslides at Speers Point, NSW. Room CG04, Geology Building.

1 pm

7 pm

Tuesday, September 5, noon

8 - 11 pm
African high life dance featuring Afrodisa with two dance singers fronting this big band. Tickets available at second hand bookshop, $3 students, and $5 guests.

Wednesday, September 6, noon
Department of Statistics seminar. Guest Speaker: Mr Inge Koch, Australian National University. Topic: Cross-Validation in Image Analysis. V207, Mathematics Building.

noon

7 pm
Heat 4 of the Battle of the Bands featuring The Antichrist and at 8.15 pm Headbin in the Bar. Admission free.

Thursday, September 7, Noon
Movie: Twins in the Union Bar. Donation: 50 cents.

Friday, September 11, 1 pm
Entertainment in the Southern Cross Lounge featuring Maria Murphy (pianist). Admission: free.

Saturday, September 12, 1 pm
Mini World Festival - Tazzad (Indo/Persian variations) led by Persian musician, Davood Tabrizi.

7 pm
Heat 5 of the Battle of the Bands featuring Leaf by Niggle and My Brother George's Band in the Union Bar. Admission: free.

Wednesday, September 13, noon
Geology Department seminar. Guest Speaker: Professor John Talent, School of Earth Sciences, Macquarie University. Topic: Bararismo - The Gupta Affair. Room CG04, Geology Building.

Bargain Wines

Limited quantities of best vintage wine (as described below) are available for the exceptional price of $11 per bottle: 1979, 1982, 1983 - St. Andrew Cabernet Sauvignon 1981 St. Andrews Hermitage. Be early and book in now for your Christmas function. Contact: Richard or Dallas at Extensio