Ceremonies to confer degrees and diplomas on April 30 had a special significance because the first group of medical students from the University received their degrees.

From humble beginnings in January, 1975, when the Dean of the Faculty, the late Professor David Maddison, took up full-time duty in a wooden hut at the University, the Medical School has grown into an innovative medical school with approximately 300 students at present and admitting 64 students each year.

The 39 graduates who received the degree of Bachelor of Medicine belonged to the Medical School's first intake in 1973 and completed a five-year course. Twelve of the students graduated with Honours.

On Graduation Day the first University Medal for a Bachelor of Medicine graduate was awarded to Dr. Douglas Routley.

Dr. Routley and Dr. Suzanne Hill were awarded Australian Medical Association Prizes, the first that have been given in the history of the Medical School.

Dr. Joan Asher, President of the New South Wales Branch of the AMA, made the presentation at a Gala Luncheon in the Union -- specially held to mark the first medical graduation.

Some 580 students received their degrees on Graduation Day. They had graduated in the Faculties of Economics & Commerce, Mathematics, Medicine, Science, Architecture, Arts, Education and Engineering.

The Premier of New South Wales, The Hon. Neville Wran, QC, MLA, accepted an invitation to give the occasional address at the morning ceremony.

Professor Cyril Benock, Director of the Hunter Valley Research Foundation and a Member of the Council of the University, delivered the occasional address in the afternoon.

The colourful and important day was again the occasion for recognising those who have made distinguished contributions to the University.

Canon Victor Pitcher, former University Chaplain and Tutor, received the honorary degree of Master of Arts, and Mr. Alec Forsythe, a long-standing Member of the Council and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Edwards Hall, was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of the University.

After the first group of candidates for the degree of Bachelor of Medicine had been admitted they cut the cake at a Gala Luncheon in the Union.
From the vice chancellor

In my letter to Graduates last year, the prospective amalgamation with the Newcastle College of Advanced Education was featured as the issue occupying the University's management and raising grave concerns to both alumni and current students. With the change of Government in Canberra on March 5, 1983, this particular discussion, which has been hovering over us for two full years hopefully has blown away at last and things can get down to the business of running the University.

As the editorial in the Newcastle Herald on the Monday afternoon after the election put it, "If Fraser, whose Government ordered the merger for unconvinced reasons, now presented a case for sticking it out, he would serve the full term (it) that by November or December, the merger process would have gone too far to be undone".

This would seem to be true of the University of Wollongong's case. Wollongong, although of course in no hurry to amalgamate, had been actively sought by both past and present students. It appears that the merger will be going ahead as planned.

As some very interesting things may be very interesting to see what effects such amalgamation will have on these establishments and whether they will still retain their university standards and, in the future, their graduates will be discerned. Some very interesting things may well happen against universities as centres of research which should be preserved as such.

As the Newcastle Herald editorial states, "we are very much concerned about the fact that a number of factors will be magnified by the amalgamation, the financial and administrative, and the need to reverse the marked decline in the University's enrolments and its research and teaching programs which have been so greatly diminished in the last 10 years. We are concerned that the University will not be able to continue its role as an important contributor to the community, and we are concerned about the future of the University as a centre of research and teaching."
flated in the City, Department of Creative Arts at the University of Newcastle began teaching in 1975, with the appointment of Professor Robert Jordan to the Foundation Chair of Drama. It was originally envisaged that the Department should comprise two equal, fully developed sections devoted to drama and to music, together with a smaller-scale, owing to the history and theory of the fine arts. But the restrictive government funding policies, and contracting student body, of the late 70's made it impossible to proceed, and in 1977 a decision was made that the Department should be refitted. In the discipline of Drama the object under study is not the play itself, but the play in performance. From Drama I onwards students were required to take an appropriate configuration of time and audience seating, so that students can only be learnt by taking a "way through" under the control of staff to full-scale major productions with only two full-time staff. The book concentrates on the first 30 years of this century and has gathered, and slowly infilt- rate the youth groups to establish the Indonesian Association of Youth Organizations. Dr. John Smart, of the Sociological Interpretation, Dr. Smart argues that the re- cent "take off" in white wine consumption is related to needs and changes in the social landscape. In this paper, Dr. Smart observes the social habits of Australian drinkers. In the study, e...
for the academic as for his students (this has certainly been my own experience with my own current production of 'Apology'). The Libation Bearers, for which the Studio has been adapted into a miniature of the ancient Greek theatre shape.

Students have absolute freedom in the choice of shows they wish to direct themselves — as long as their proposal is practical! All departmental productions are supervised both by one of the academic staff and by the full-time Theatre Technician, who advises and instructs students on all practical aspects of the theatre.

Despite all this internal activity, there is still time for liaison, where possible, with Newcastle theatre groups, both amateur and professional, and for staff to undertake a limited amount of outside activity.

A successful recent achievement of this kind was the production in the Playhouse of Stephen Spears' The Execution of Benjamin Franklin, a one-act play which Gary Maclean (a recent graduate of the Department) acted under the direction of Department Lecturer Robert Page, who was assisted by tutor and post-graduate student Tara Bardfield.

Michael Evans

A large woven tapestry based on the academic gowns worn at graduation has been placed in the Great Hall on the wall of the foyer opposite the Convocation Wors. It is the creation of Mary and Larry Beeston.

Recently added to the works of art in the vicinity of the Great Hall — a large head in terra cotta by the late Otta Steen.

The University now has collegiate self-catering student accommodation on the campus. This type of accommodation, provided in TUNRA House, the new block at Edwards Hall, is unique at Australian universities. Whereas self-catering and self-contained student accommodation exists at other universities, it is not associated with, nor managed by, the residential colleges. Students who reside in TUNRA House are full members of Edwards Hall, which is adjacent and of which the House is an integral part. Fifteen students are accommodated in the House which is a building composed of three self-contained units, each with a kitchen, bathroom, lounge, living room and a single bedroom. The cost, $370,000, was met by donations of $70,000 from the University's research company, TUNRA Ltd., and $60,000 from Edwards Hall and an allocation of the balance from the University.

Senator's Visit

Dear Member,

The Annual General Meeting of Convocation of the University of Newcastle will be held in the foyer of the Great Hall at the University on Wednesday, June 19, at 8 pm. All members and especially new graduates are invited with their wives, husbands and friends.

Senator Susan Ryan, who was sworn in last March as the Australian Minister for Education and Youth Affairs, will be guest speaker at the annual general meeting of Convocation in the foyer of the Great Hall at the University on Wednesday, June 28 at 8 pm.

A member of Cabinet, Senator Ryan, is the only woman in the current Ministry, and is also Minister Assisting the Prime Minister in Women's Affairs.

She was first elected to Parliament in 1975 as one of the Australian Capital Territory's first two Senators.

Senator Ryan, 40, holds BA and MA degrees and is a former school-teacher and tutor at Canberra College of Advanced Education. She was national executive officer for the Australian Council of State School Organisations from 1973 until 1975, education officer in the secretariat for International Women's Year in 1975, and a founding member of the Women's Electoral Lobby.

Senator Ryan, in March of this year, was sworn in as a Senator for the Northern Territory. She was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in 1978 and a Companion of the Order of Australia in 1982. She was also a founding member of the Australian Women's Studies Association in 1975.

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**Standing Committee of Convocation offers Convocation members an opportunity to obtain a selection of excellent quality wines from the Hunter Valley. A percentage of the charge will be returned to Convocation, so, by enjoying the wine, you will help the University.**

The wines have been especially selected for Standing Committee by the Hunter Valley Wine Society, which represents nearly all the wineries in the Hunter Region.

The Society has a bistro, wine tasting bar and sales centre in Wollasbi Road, Cessnock, near the vineyards at Pokolbin. Here, more than 250 varieties of wine are offered to visitors.

The Society assembled a panel of professionals, including wine makers and wine judges to select the Winter '83 offer. The judges took part in a blind tasting and the wine came from the stocks of the best wineries in the Hunter Region.

Three types of dozens are available -- a white dozen, a red dozen and a mixed red and white dozen. Each contains three bottles of each of four different wines. The wine will be delivered by road transport to your door. Each carton will contain the panel's tasting notes.

Just fill out the order form below and mail it to Convocation, c/- the University.

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**the wine**

**WHITE DOZEN**

- Arrowfield '82 Rhine Riesling Bin HR16 $4.40
- Hunter Estate '82 Fume Blanc 5.95
- Mr. Dangar '80 Riesling 3.50
- Wyndham Estate '82 Private Bin Rhine Riesling 4.50

**RED DOZEN**

- Allandale '80 Leonard Shiraz $6.00
- Sobels Qualidings '78 Shiraz 4.50
- Terrace Vale '78 Hermitage Bin 6 4.95
- Tulloch '78 Dry Red Hermitage 4.33

**MIXED DOZEN**

- Arrowfield '82 Rhine Riesling Bin HR16 4.40
- Wyndham Estate Private Bin Rhine Riesling 4.50
- Terrace Vale '80 Hermitage Bin 6 4.95
- Tulloch '78 Dry Red Hermitage 4.33

In the event of any wines being sold out a wine similar in quality and price will be substituted. You may order whole dozens or any of the wines indicated above.

**order form**

**QUANTITY AMOUNT**

White Dozen
Red Dozen
Mixed Dozen
Other:

PLUS: Freight per carton (local postcode 2250 to 2335) $2.40. Remaining of New South Wales $4.25 and all other States $6.50.

**TOTAL: $**

Enclosed to my Cheque/Money Order for $ (Please make out cheques to the Hunter Valley Wine Society)

Please charge my Credit Card

**SIGNATURE:**

**NUMBER:**

**delivery address**

**NAME:**

**ADDRESS:**

**Postcode:**

(I will this form, with payment, to the Secretary of Convocation, c/- the University of Newcastle, N.S.W., 2308.)
The University village appeal was launched in the Great Hall on May 16 and since then, Mr. Boosey has arranged for all members of Convocation and University staff, as well as other companies, to be canvassed for donations.

The University village project involves the relocation of six student housing blocks each providing accommodation for 10 students. The blocks would probably be similar to Tupper House being self-service with a living room, kitchen, bathroom and laundry.

In the next few months Mr. Boosey intends to continue to work on the proposal that a student house be established at the University to meet the needs of students who come from Malaysia, assist ethnic bodies in Newcastle to provide food stalls and dance groups for an Open Day to be held on the second day of the Book Fair, July 31, make final arrangements for a Dinner for Graduates in Canberra at which the University village project will be explained, and produce a new colour publication, Look ahead for Newcastle Convocation Foundation.

Soon after Mr. Boosey took up his appointment the feasibility attracted a great deal of media attention because of his suggestion that Newcastle should seek approval to host the 1987 World Student Games.

The feasibility of this major sporting venture was held in Newcastle was consid-...
University topics

The Chancellor

The Chancellor, Sir Bede Callaghan, was re-elected for a second term as Chancellor of the University at the April meeting of the Council. He was elected unopposed.

Sir Bede first came to the Newcastle area in 1935 as the longest serving member of the Newcastle Teachers' College. He was appointed Deputy Chancellor in 1973 and served as Acting Chancellor in 1977. He was elected to the Board of Governors of the University in 1977.

Sir Bede was born in Newcastle and has had a distinguished banking career, collaborating in his appointment as Managing Director of the Commonwealth Banking Corporation. He was also a director of the Newcastle Teachers' College and the University of Newcastle College.

In 1973 the University conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Science upon his retirement.

The Queen's New Years Honours List included two honours for members of the University community. The Deputy Chancellor, Professor J.K. Winsen, was elected a Fellow of the Library Association of Australia, and Professor Brian Robinson, Director of the University Library, was made a Member of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

Emeritus Professor Ian Stewart, former Director of Chemical Engineering, was made a Member of the Order of Australia in recognition of his outstanding contributions to Government and Education.

Budge Kirby, who was recently appointed to the Federal Council of Australian University Librarians, is the new Librarian of St. Michael and St. George.

Mr. Edward (Ted) Flowers, University Librarian, has been appointed by the Library Association of Australia for his outstanding work in the development of library services. He was awarded the University Librarian Award in 1977 and has been a member of the Library Management Committee since 1975.

Professor J.K. Winsen, Professor of Commerce, was advanced to Fellow of the Australian Society of Accountants.

Professor Brian Robinson, a former Professor of Economics, who is now Director of the Bureau of Industry Economics, Canberra, was appointed to the Board of the University by the Council.

Professor Alan Barrow, Associate Professor of Education, has been appointed a Fellow of the Australian College of Teachers for his outstanding work in the fields of Social Science Education and for his promotion of Teachers' Education in Australia.

The Elective Studies Sub-Committee.

The elective studies programme at the Newcastle Faculty of Medicine extends a trend which is common in many medical schools throughout Australia and the rest of the world. It allows students to spend a period of self-directed study on a topic of their own choosing related to medicine. The philosophical basis is that while a considerable part of the students' time is taken up with learning experiences and assessments required by the Faculty, time should be allocated to allow students to undertake study topics of their own choice in greater depth to safeguard the students' need for a degree of choice of their own.

A distinguishing feature of an elective is that it is a student-originated activity both in content and process. The Elective Studies Subcommittee of the Faculty has therefore attempted to leave the major responsibility for assessment of the students' work to the students, and are prepared to approve almost any medically related endeavour, providing these activities are sufficiently diverse and can be selected from the available programme to develop skills in independent learning, to provide an opportunity to pursue excellence in study, and to increase their awareness of the students' experiences.

The elective programme is instituted approximately two-and-a-half years after entering the medical curriculum. This time is allocated to two mini-electives, each of two weeks duration at the end of the first and the end of the second year, and one full-elective, one semester long, during one of the four terms of the final year. Term electives are assessed as pass/fail. Students are given a high level of autonomy and imagination in their choices of electives. Areas of interest have varied from traditional medicine to more positive experiences in the students' undergraduate careers and in one of the most valuable innovations of the Newcastle Faculty of Medicine. The elective programme is an opportunity for students to experience new environments and to broaden the range of their clinical experiences. It is a time for students to accept responsibility for their own learning and to apply what they have learned in clinical experience.

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The University of Newcastle is committed to the provision of elective studies in the medical curriculum. The elective programme is instituted approximately two-and-a-half years after entering the medical curriculum. This time is allocated to two mini-electives, each of two weeks duration at the end of the first and the end of the second year, and one full-elective, one semester long, during one of the four terms of the final year. Term electives are assessed as pass/fail. Students are given a high level of autonomy and imagination in their choices of electives. Areas of interest have varied from traditional medicine to more positive experiences in the students' undergraduate careers and in one of the most valuable innovations of the Newcastle Faculty of Medicine. The elective programme is an opportunity for students to experience new environments and to broaden the range of their clinical experiences. It is a time for students to accept responsibility for their own learning and to apply what they have learned in clinical experience.
Professor Geoff Curthoys, who came to Newcastle four years earlier than Professor Parker, retired as Reader. Professor in Chemistry early this year. The year after Professor Curthoys took up his appointment at Newcastle Technical College he transferred to Newcastle University College. He gave the College and its successor, the University, meritorious service as researcher, teacher, unionist and sportsman. He taught all branches of Chemistry -- physical, organic, inorganic and analytical and said, when he retired, that his greatest reward had been "the outstanding successes achieved by some of his students". Professor Curthoys was a member of the Council of the University from 1978 until 1987. He accepted a prominent role in Staff Association activities and was a long-serving member of the Staff Cricket Team, the Venerable Gentlemen.

Three members of the University's academic staff were appointed to Chairs in other universities in 1982. Professor Brian Anderson, the University's Foundation Professor of Electrical Engineering, was appointed to the Chair of Systems Engineering at the Australian National University in Canberra. Dr. A.G. Hassall, of the Department of English, left to occupy the Chair in English at the James Cook University of North Queensland in Townsville.

Dr. T.M. Caelli, of the Department of Psychology, was appointed to the Killian Memorial Chair in Science at the University of Alberta in Canada.

The aims and objects of the Friends of the University are perhaps self-evident. It is an organisation that fosters an awareness of the University and its place in the community and conducts activities, including fund-raising, which promote the interests of the University. Unlike the University's Convocation, which is a body composed largely of graduates, the Friends is a community group which also has some graduates and staff as members. In the last year the Friends have demonstrated their interest in the University by forming an organisation to run the first University Book Fairs from July 30 to August 6, 1983, conduct successful art and ceramic exhibitions in the Great Hall and organise the showing of a new tapestry that was added to the University's Art Collection.

Professor Frank Henderson, who occupied the Chair of Civil Engineering at the University for 16 years, retired in January, 1982. The early part of Frank Henderson's career was spent at the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research in New Zealand, with a short stint in the Army during the Second World War. Then, he took up an academic job at the University of Canterbury, Christchurch, and was appointed to a Chair in Civil Engineering in 1964. When he took up his appointment at the University of Newcastle in 1968, the University was autonomous and slowly being established on its present site. The Faculty of Engineering Complex was completed soon after Professor Henderson joined the University. Civil Engineering moved from Tugger Hill to Shortland in 1971. Professor Henderson's main research interest is hydraulics, i.e., fluid flow, particularly in rivers and open channels. In recognition of his service to the University the Council conferred the title of Emeritus Professor upon him.

Reflecting on changes he had seen at Shortland over the near-decade he spent planning the physical development of the University, Professor Eric Parker said he had regarded the coal trains from Wallsend as the only disadvantage of the site. The trains often failed to surmount the hill where the Child Care Centre now stands and sand had to be placed on the lines to give them traction. The clutter was dreadful", he said. Professor Parker left the University in July 1982, having been very involved in two major tasks during his 25-year career with the University. He was the first Full-time Lecturer in Architecture at Newcastle University College (from 1957 until 1965) and from 1979 until his retirement, was Professor of Architecture. In the break between these two appointments he undertook the other major task, planning the development of the University at Shortland. From the start of the University's life Professor Parker had his staff spend a lot of time looking after the site. We chose natives when we planted new trees, because they are inseparable from the character of the site. Also, they thrive in this environment and require minimum maintenance", he said. Professor Parker first came to Newcastle when one of his colleagues at the new South Wales University Technology in Sydney, who was going on study leave, asked him to give his lectures at Newcastle University College one day per week.

The Premier of New South Wales, The Hon. Neville Wran, QC, MLA, with the Chancellor, Sir Bede Callaghan, and the Vice-Chancellor, Professor George, on Graduation Day 1983.
top cricketers

University Cricket Club's performance was most impressive last season, with several notable "firsts".

The First Grade XI were premiers, finishing ahead of Charlestown on averages. This was the Club's maiden First Grade premiership. In fact, the Firsts had not previously reached the semi-finals.

A member of the team, David Johnston, won the Jimmy Dickinson Shield, which the Cricket Association awards for the best batting average in First Grade. Johnston scored 584 runs and his average was 64.88.

Johnston's innings of 230 not out (against Hamilton-Wickham) was a record score in one afternoon's batting in District Cricket Association matches.

The Third Grade team were also premiers, winning ahead of Hamilton-Wickham on averages. This is also the Club's maiden Third Grade premiership.

A member of the Third Grade, Al McKinnon, scored 144 not out against Southern Lakes and this was a new record innings for University batsmen from this grade.

For the first time since Fourth Grade was changed from one-day to two-day cricket, University Fourth Grade reached the semi-finals.

Peter Long's innings of 144 runs against Wallsend was also an extraordinary achievement and a new record score for University batsmen from this grade.

The Fifth Grade team finished in second position -- equal to our previous best (the 1979-80 season) -- and defeated Merewether in the final.

John McDonald, with 110 not out, has the achievement of the first century ever for University in Fifth Grade.

Saxon White's batting average and Joe Drzyzga's bowling average for the season topped all performances in the Fifth Grade competition.

University's all-round performance resulted in the Club winning the Club Championship (by 13 points from the strong Belmont Club) for the first time ever. The Club's previous best was fifth place.

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FRIENDS of THE UNIVERSITY

BOOK FAIR

THE UNIVERSITY WILL BE BUZZING FROM JULY 30 TO AUGUST 5, WITH THE FIRST BOOK FAIR PLANNED FOR THE GREAT HALL.

IF YOU LOVE BOOKS, WANT BARGAINS AND RARE VOLUMES --

**come to the fair!**

- OFFERINGS WILL INCLUDE MAGAZINES, SHEET MUSIC AND RECORDINGS.
- THE 30 CATEGORIES OF BOOKS TO BE SOLD INCLUDE TEXT BOOKS, FICTION, CHILDREN'S BOOKS AND AUSTRALIANA.
- RARE BOOKS WILL BE SOLD AT A SLOW AUCTION.
- ALL PROCEEDS WILL BE USED TO SUPPORT NEW STUDENT HOUSING.

IF YOU HAVE SUITABLE DONATIONS, PLEASE TELEPHONE 61 2059 TO HAVE THEM COLLECTED.