Vice-Chancellor's Letter to Graduates

One of the pedestrian bridges linking academic areas.

A lunchtime concert in the Union Courtyard.

CONTENTS

Vice-Chancellor's Letter to Graduates 1
Expanding to cope with accommodation shortages 2
The Warden's Column 3
Union commemorated in 1980 4
Newcastle "meaningful and friendly" says graduate in Singapore 4
Tablet prevents lung disease 5
Convocation's Visiting Scholar 5
Mrs Cummings saluted 6
Convocation Benefits 6
Graduates on Council 6-7
Convocation's new position 7
The Vice-Chancellor 7
Finding VC's Successor 7
Drama Chair filled 7
Computer Science appointment 8
US Cultural Imperialism 8
Reflection of a MAS 9
University book 9
Best marked change - loss of authority* 10
Dr. S. Angus Memorial Fund 10
Glimpses at the past 11
Newcastle's foremost Rugby team 12
Surfriders' win 12

MY RESPONSE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

Conservation Foundation Appeal 1985

Designed by: Marie-Therese Wisniowski. Photography by: Roger Broadbent and Friedman Studios.
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University of Newcastle has been enriched by having overseas students mostly from South-East Asia as a part of its student body and the friendships made during a stay in Newcastle seem a remarkably good investment for the future of the region. Since the government has resolved that the maximum overseas enrolment in any university should not exceed 10 per cent (or 20 per cent in any particular academic area) a further planning uncertainty has been introduced for 1986. Some Australian universities make very little contribution to the training of overseas students - others, like Newcastle, have welcomed such an opportunity and have done so without any apparent racial tensions.

Now the debate has extended to issues such as the creation of private universities in Australia and to the export of education services through the establishment of Education Units in the major countries sending students to Australia. Under the new guidelines, full-fee places can be made available to overseas students over and above quota limitations but institutions will not be permitted to enrol Australian residents under the full-fee arrangements. My personal view is that these developments will prove very destabilising and could have quite unforeseen consequences unless the moves are made with the greatest of care. As with the confused debate about the reintroduction of fees, uncertainty and vacillation by governments introduce doubts in the minds of school leavers as to whether tertiary education should be embarked upon - at a time when the country should be "lifting its game" and realising the full potential of its most-talented young.

Elsewhere in this Gazette, I hope you will read of some of the developments within the University which are enhancing its stature and widening its contributions both to the region and further abroad. There is much to be abreast of and without the interest of its graduates, the University is much the poorer. As members of Convocation with a strong voice on the governing body, Council (possibly an increased voice, if the Minister for Education, Mr. Cavalier, proceeds with his foreshadowed amendments to the University of Newcastle Act) there is both the opportunity and the responsibility to contribute to the University's good health and future planning. The standing of your own degrees warrants this level of interest in our affairs.

With all good wishes for your careers as they add lustre and distinction to your alma mater.

D. W. George
VICE-CHANCELLOR.

Vice-Chancellor's Letter to Graduates

My Response to the University of Newcastle Convocation Foundation Appeal 1985

Reasonably well although some faculties exceeded their quotas. In Arts for example, the 1984 intake was 348 students and thus 400 seemed more an optimistic target than a real quota - in fact, on 30 April, 1985 (the official census date) there were 423 new undergraduate students enrolled. Other targets or quotas follow with (in brackets) the actual enrolment achieved: Architecture: 24 (20); Economics and Commerce: 220 (220); Engineering: 230 (230); Mathematics: 75 (60); Medicine: 86 (62); and Science: 200 (191). Of the total of 1538 new undergraduate students, 371 were part-time, reducing of course the "effective full-time student" load.

Cut-off marks in forms of the Higher School Certificate rose above our entry minimum courses (corresponding to the top 92 per cent of the leaving school year) in the areas of Architecture, Commerce, Civil, Computer and Electrical Engineering and Surveying, indicating the pressure for places in these disciplines in Medicine of course it remains the highest cut-off of all - 423 marks for the 32 student places based purely on school aggregate. Whilst there is always disappointment for some students in not achieving entry into the course of their first choice (or no entry at all), the higher cut-off marks over a period of time should be reflected in improved success rates, a good thing in itself.

The University thus is playing its part in meeting the government's policy of increasing access to tertiary education. With a total enrolment this year of 5236 students, it is almost a thousand students larger than three years ago and a far cry from the early 'Tighe's Hill days or even the first years at Shortland. I have never seen the view that growth of the university should be kept as low as possible, after the difficult years from '82, it is a pleasant change. It gives hope that, with growth, new academic initiatives will be possible that have been put on unassuming recent years. Needless to the pressure on physical space with a student body ageing at the rate of 5-10 per year is extreme and would intolerable without the large al works programme granted last year.

In this context of planned th that other decisions, or sterilised decisions, of moment have such significance. Year has witnessed a revival of fe over the question of fees for education, a matter on which many people hold strong and varying views. The University believes that the reduction of fees would have a cur alyst detrimental effect on its int and potential students, due to the substantial proportion of mature age students, female students, part-time students and students from lower socio-economic backgrounds. Arguments relating to scholarships or other schemes of compensating persons from families with low incomes often fail to take account of the difficulties first generation students face when deciding to go to university. It would be a strange move for a government committed to the encouragement of increased participation in tertiary education by disadvantaged groups to make.

At the same time, it should not be overlooked that a significant number of our students; viz. private students from overseas, are already paying substantial fees in the form of annual visa charges. In 1986, these will be further increased to $4,340 for the more expensive courses (medicine, etc.) and $3,500 for all other courses. By no means are all these students from families readily able to contribute support at this level and often considerable sacrifices are made to permit children to study in Australia. The
The Greet Hall.

Students larger than three years

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Expanding to cope with accommodation shortages

Dr. Mike Blackmore has seen Edwards Hall, the students' residential building on campus, develop greatly since the first stage of the Hall opened in 1972. In this article, Dr. Blackmore discusses progress with new accommodation, the achievements of residents and former residents, the boon the Hall is to out of town students and the problem created by the shortage of student accommodation.

THE GAZETTE: Could you give us an overview of the capacity of the University to offer accommodation? Dr. Blackmore: BURNET and CUTLER HOUSES provide 210 single bedrooms and TUNRA HOUSE, the self-catering house, provides another 15. Under construction is an additional 50 beds, in the form of three self-catering houses. One of the new houses has been named FRIENDS HOUSE, the self-catering house, of the University. We have a small library in Edwards Hall comprising the recommended first year text books.

THE GAZETTE: Is it true that Edwards Hall has an impressive record in cooperating with overseas students? Dr. Blackmore: The college has attracted a very high percentage of overseas students. When it first opened in 1972, the first five blocks were completed. The first students who lived there were from overseas, mostly from Singapore. The percentage of overseas students then dropped to 25 per cent. Many residential colleges around Australia put a limit of around 10 per cent on the number of beds set aside for overseas students. The early students who lived in the Hall, particularly the ones from Singapore, were very high academic achievers. They collected about 10 University Medals and a string of First Class Honours.

THE GAZETTE: What will be the overall situation as far as Edwards Hall goes when the new student blocks have been completed? Dr. Blackmore: Although we only have one residential college, Edwards Hall will be the new accommodation the tenth largest college at Australian Universities. It has probably reached a stage where it would be unwise to expand any further. If additional accommodation is to be provided on the campus, the most useful form it could take would be as a separate residential college. I'm summing for from 15 to 20 years away. A residential college has great difficulty operating effectively on its own.

Edwards Hall, to a certain extent, because its the only residential college at the University, has built up its own particular character. But it is also the target of unnecessary criticism. If there was a second residential college, there would be competition, which would be good for both institutions.

greater numbers of beds. For example, the University of New England, has nearly two thousand beds on campus. It is much easier if a student can be told at the time he or she is offered a place at the University: Yes, accommodation is available on site.

THE GAZETTE: Is it wise for students, in particular country students, to try to go to Edwards Hall? Dr. Blackmore: At least for the first year. University is a sufficiently large trauma without, at the same time, having to learn how to fend for yourself in terms of cooking, washing, ironing, and that sort of thing. A college provides the services and the facilities enabling students to live in and they are also able to make friends very easily. Further, residential staff are available to every first year student to give advice in enrolment and academic matters.

We also take them to the University Library and we show them through the University. We have a small library in Edwards Hall comprising the recommended first year text books.

Dr. Blackmore: BURNET and CUTLER HOUSES provide 210 single bedrooms and TUNRA HOUSE, the self-catering house, provides another 15. Under construction is an additional 50 beds, in the form of three self-catering houses. One of the new houses has been named FRIENDS HOUSE, the self-catering house, of the University. We have a small library in Edwards Hall comprising the recommended first year text books.

THE GAZETTE: Why is the additional accommodation really needed? Dr. Blackmore: Apart from Flinders, Wollongong and Newcastle Universities, all Australian universities have more than one residential college. If you think of the older universities, like Sydney they have six or seven.

By comparison with the others, Newcastle is underprovided with student accommodation, not by a substantial amount, but definitely underprovided. And the infrastructure of Newcastle is such that the amount of accommodation available for rental to students is not as great as in the city area around Sydney and New South Wales Universities.

THE GAZETTE: Is the University disadvantaged by the shortage? Dr. Blackmore: Certainly. People perhaps discover on the 1st of February that they have received a place at the University and they have 20 days in which to find accommodation. If Edwards Hall is full, then they have to try to find private accommodation, which is not easy. Whereas, overseas universities have substantially more blocks available for rental to students.

We are hoping to occupy the first house in mid-February, 1986. We soon and expect to have all three houses available for rental to students.

Edwards Hall at night.
UNION COMMENCED IN 1960

During 1985 the Union held its 25th Anniversary celebrations, the highlights of which were the Silver Jubilee Union Dinner on September 20 and the Staff Reunion. Others in the Historic Room were Mrs. Freda Bartlett, Mrs. Mary Maddison, Mr. Roy Labor and Mr. Sue Barwick.

A room was named the Ritchie Room in recognition of Professor Ritchie’s contribution to the establishment of the Union. The room offers students reading material and a television set.

In recognition of the contribution of past Presidents and Board members, an honours board incorporating the arms of the University was erected in the Union.

Two debates were held to celebrate 25 years of Union debating.

Professor Geoffrey Tanner recalled the commencement of University debating in March, 1960, when Paul Walsmsley and David Karpin debated against two young doctors from a RNH Staff Debating Club.

“The function was held under my Chairmanship,” Professor Tanner said. “In the old, ugly Mrs. Arts Common Room at Tighe’s Hill. Though liberally lubricated with large draughts of Jimmy Dodd’s beer sherry, the function was felt to have been a great success, despite some doubts about the actual results.

Professor Geoffrey Blainey, the historian and author, was a guest speaker at the Silver Jubilee Union Dinner. He spoke on the bicentenary of British settlement in Australia and our difficulty in deciding what exactly we are celebrating.

Newcastle “meaningful and friendly”, says graduate in Singapore

“We looked back on all those years with a tinge of satisfaction, joy and pride, for you found Newcastle a meaningful and friendly place,” Tan Khee Huat, 1973 Industrial Engineering graduate of the University, said in Singapore.

“We remember the city for its beautiful beaches - Newcastle, Bar and Merewether, and its suburbs with fine homes - Merewether Heights and New Lambton Heights. We also, remembered the grime and poverty of Broadmeadow, Mayfield and Hamilton”. Tan Khee Huat said. “Last but not least, we appreciated the University for its excellent faculties and beautiful campus, and for forcing us to the appropriate moral values to lead our lives.”

Tan Khee Huat was toasting Edwards Hall at the reunion dinner of former members of the Union held at the Mandarin Hotel.

And at least 50 persons who enjoyed a traditional nine-course Chinese banquet, were some 52 former Hall members, Dr. Alec Forsythe, Deputy Chancellor of the University and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Edwards Hall, Mrs. Forsythe, Warden of the Hall, Mr. Blackmore.

The reunion dinner was arranged by an executive committee of former members of the Hall in particular, including Tan Khee Huat, Chow Kock Aun, Kwan Tuck On, Tan Chin Nam and Ong Thiam Huat.

The Hall supplied the last-known addresses of the some 100 Singaporean students who resided in the Hall since 1972 and the organising committee selected those who made all other arrangements.

“When this function was first mooted,” Tan Khee Huat said, “the members of the organising committee began to reminisce over the days we spent at Newcastle and were pleasantly surprised that we all shared similar, fond, sentiments of Newcastle University, Edwards Hall in particular.

“We looked back to the days when we improvised the various facilities in the Hall to indulge in some of our favourite pastimes that were so typical a part of our Asian culture. We took out the drawers beneath the bed, covered them with a piece of bed sheet and played mahjong sitting on the floor, cross-legged, through the night.”

Professor Clancy’s group has concentrated on the link between the gut and the lung, providing evidence that the best way to create immunity against infection in the respiratory tract is to stimulate the gut immune system. These activated cells migrate to the lung, where they make antibodies against organisms responsible for the infection.

Professor Clancy said studies were being continued to establish the extent of value to subjects with milder disease, e.g. cigarette smokers with chronic bronchitis, exposure to industrial dusts, etc. Professor Clancy said that his group, in conjunction with an overseas pharmaceutical company, which had supported the research, expected to consider issues involved in obtaining a patent on the tablet.

The chronic lung disease research group comprises Professor Clancy, Dr. Allan Cripps, Keith Muir, Stephen Yeung and Sr. Morag Engel.

Convocation’s Visiting Scholar

Mr. Don McNair, Convocation’s Visiting Scholar, has rendered a service to the many people interested in Australian flora. He has completed his survey of the flora of Port Stephens. His efforts are currently directed to the completion of a survey of the flora of the Illawarra area. His efforts are currently directed to the completion of a survey of the flora of the Illawarra area.

Dr. Forsythe talks to David Choo, 1973 University Medallist in Industrial Engineering, who is a member of the Singapore Parliament.

A team from the Faculty of Medicine and Royal Newcastle Hospital defines the first group in the world to develop an antitrojan agent for the treatment of bronchitis in patients with chronic lung disease.

The work on developing the agent has taken 12 years and has put the Faculty and RN Hospital in the forefront of research centres worldwide capable of such a task.

Since making the agent, the team has tested it on 50 patients at the hospital’s Outpatients Department and 90 percent protection against acute bronchitis was found through a winter period.

Professor Robert Clancy, Professor of Pathology, who led the team that tackled the task, said chronic lung disease was a very common complaint, which often caused death. “It is very satisfying to have worked in an area for years and come up with something which looks as though it will effectively combat a serious form of bronchitis,” he said.

Tablet Prevents Lung Disease

Research assistants, Diana Taylor and Maria Cork, working on the agent for the treatment of bronchitis.

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BOOK SUPERMARKET

After raising $23,000 for new student housing from the first Newcastle University Book Fair in 1983, The Friends of the University held a follow-up this year, with the result an improvement on the first. Books and more books... and where there weren't books, there were magazines, recordings, cassettes and sheet music. The giant supermarket produced a profit of $29,000. In the light of the contribution made by The Friends towards new student housing, the University will name one of the additional blocks of self-catering accommodation at Edwards Hall FRIENDS HOUSE.

MRS. CUMMINGS SALUTED

Our photo shows Mrs. Joy Cummings receiving an Honorary Degree of Master of Arts from the Chancellor, Sir Bede Callaghan, at Graduation Day. Honorary Degrees were also conferred on Sir James Balderstone, Sir Rodenck Carnegie and Sir Gustav Nossal. Mrs. Cummings held the position of Lord Mayor of Newcastle for nine years until her retirement through a stroke in August, 1984. She was a member of the Council of the University from 1976 to 1980.

Convocation Benefits

The fact that members of Convocation can have continuing access to various facilities of the University will be of interest to readers of The Gazette. The facilities include:

SPORT
Continuing use of the University sporting facilities and membership of affiliated sporting clubs by becoming Associate Members of the Sports Union (currently the charge is $60 per year). Associates have access to squash and tennis courts, a sauna, a spa and weight training facilities in the Sports Centre, saiboads and canoe and other sporting equipment and facilities. Inquiries to the Sport and Recreation Office (049) 685-600 or 685-344.

ACCOMMODATION
A few places are available in Edwards Hall for visitors during the May and August vacations; tariffs are $36 per night (includes meals) or $175 per week (includes meals). Enquiries about accommodation (049) 672-644.

LIBRARY
Members of Convocation have available to them the whole range of Auchmuty Library services available to undergraduate students of the University. These include borrowing six books at a time for two weeks, assistance from Reader Service, Staff and photocopying facilities. Computerised literature databases, providing access to databases listing millions of books, articles and reports, are also available to members at the charge applicable to staff and students of this University.

UNION
Members of Convocation are eligible for membership of the Union by paying a $15 yearly fee. The Union provides dining and recreational facilities, a Stationery and Gift Shop, Westpac Bank and Credit Union services and a licensed Bar. Visiting members are free to use the facilities as invited guests.

STAFF HOUSE
Members of Convocation are able to become members of the Staff House by joining as Associate Members. The yearly fee is $50.

To become a member of Convocation a graduate of another university must apply, show proof of having graduated and pay a membership fee of $10. Applications are lodged at the Publicity Office, Room G60, in the McMullin Building.

Graduates on Council

Mr. Carl Boyd, Dr. Tom Osborn and Mr. Trevor Waring are new members of the Council. The ballot determined that Mrs. Elizabeth Morrison, Dr. Hendry and Emeritus Professor Lawrence Short should also fill places on the Council held by Convocation members.

There were 14 nominations for election.

Mrs. Morrison and Professor Short had their terms of office renewed. Dr. Hendry was previously serving on Council as one of the members elected by the other members.

Mr. Boyd is a solicitor in suburban practice in Toronto. Dr. Osborn is a Lecturer in Computing Sciences at N.S.W. Institute of Technology. Mr. Waring is a Senior Clinical Psychologist with the Royal Newcastle Hospital.

University in the Mattara

People who visited the university for this year's Mattara enjoyed a fair and feast. In the afternoon the area around the Great Hall featured folkloric dancing, arts and crafts displays, ethnic and medieval costumes, jousting displays and carnivale, Gourmet food stalls traded briskly in the Purdum Room.

FINDING VC'S SUCCESSOR

The University has commenced a search for a new Vice-Chancellor to replace Professor Don George, who retires at the end of 1986. Council in April entrusted a selection committee with the responsibility of considering candidates and recommending Professor George's successor to the Council. Applications appeared in newspapers in Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United Kingdom and in the Bulletin of the Association of Commonwealth Universities.

Moreover, the Chancellor wrote to the Chancellors of other Australian universities, and the Vice-Principal wrote to the Vice-Chancellors, seeking suggestions as to the names of persons who might be considered for appointment.

Applications closed on July 31 and Professor Dutton, Convenor of the selection committee, said the committee was very impressed by the number and quality of applicants.

Sir Bede Callaghan, Chairman of the committees, said in October that the number of applications which would be actively considered had been reduced by the committee, which was seeking to arrive at a final short-list of those applicants who should be called for interviews.
Announcing the commencement of

Newcastle University Benefactors' Fund

An exciting charitable giving programme within the reach of a large number of our graduates with the primary objective of building Convocation House, a proposed accommodation block at the University of Newcastle.
CONVOCATION HOUSE
Convocation House is part of the plan for a number of self-contained living units to relieve the shortage of accommodation for students at the University. Every one of the units is based on the existing TUNRA House, opened in 1982, which accommodates 15 students who cater for themselves. Convocation House will be made available to donors to the Benefactors' Fund who wish to visit Newcastle during long vacations.

WHAT'S BEEN RAISED TO DATE?
The Executive of the University of Newcastle Convocation Foundation comprises these trustees:

- PROFESSOR CYRIL RENWICK, AO, Formerly Director of the Hunter Valley Research Foundation (Chairman), Member of Council, The University of Newcastle.
- SIR BEDE CALLAGHAN, CBE, Chancellor of the University.
- PROFESSOR DON GEORGE, AO, Vice-Chancellor of the University.
- DR. BILL JONES, Lecturer at Newcastle College of Advanced Education.
- MR. JOHN LAMBERT, Director of the Computing Centre, University of Newcastle.
- MR. RICHARD MURPHY, A Newcastle solicitor.
- EMERITUS PROFESSOR BERYL NASAR, OBE, Foundation Professor of Geology, University of Newcastle.
- MR. BRIAN RELF, Business Manager of a firm of licensed surveyors in Newcastle.
- DR. KEVIN WHITE, A Newcastle pathologist.
- MR. ALEX YOUNG, OBE, Chairman of the Hunter Development Board.

In 1984, the Executive launched an appeal for regular donations from members of Convocation and University staff to a fund for the building of Convocation House. The donations currently exceed $23,000. The Benefactors' Fund is to be directed towards meeting the need for more income, while also enabling graduates to feel enriched by virtue of helping future students to experience what they themselves gained from going to university. The names of all donors to the Convocation House appeal will be listed on a plaque inside the Building.

HOW DOES THE FUND WORK?
We suggest that you pledge contributions on a regular basis to the Newcastle University Benefactors' Fund. With these donations you will purchase an investment programme with cover on your life.

MINIMUM DONATION IS $4 A WEEK, FOR WHICH THE FUND SECURES AROUND $10,000.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?
- Would you like to make a substantial gift to the University by minimal contributions from your income?
- YOUR DONATION ENABLES YOU TO MAKE THIS SUBSTANTIAL GIFT TO THE UNIVERSITY BY MINIMAL CONTRIBUTIONS FROM YOUR INCOME.
- DONATIONS ARE TOTALLY TAX DEDUCTIBLE AND YOU RECEIVE AN ANNUAL STATEMENT OF DONATIONS FOR TAX ASSESSMENT PURPOSES.
- You receive the satisfaction and recognition of having supported your University with a major gift during your lifetime (usually only available to the wealthy).
- Through small convenient automatic deductions from your bank you are able to make a significant contribution to your University without taking any major assets away from your beneficiaries.

ADMINISTRATION
Although new to Australia this type of programme has enabled Universities in the U.S., Canada and the U.K. to accumulate many millions of dollars with low investment levels from donors. The Executive of the Newcastle Convocation Foundation has resolved to launch the Newcastle University Benefactors' Fund, designed in accordance with advice obtained from the Prudential Assurance Company, which administers many successful endowment programmes throughout the world.
WHAT’S IN IT FOR THE UNIVERSITY

Your support through the Benefactors’ Fund provides benefits for the University of Newcastle in the following ways:

- A large percentage of donors will have the opportunity to make major gifts to the University.
- The University is the owner and beneficiary of the policy derived from your donation.
- Delay often involved in deferred giving through wills and trusts is avoided.
- The University has available in the life insurance contract significant cash value immediately earning current investment return during your lifetime.

HOW DO YOU PARTICIPATE?

Please complete the form below. MR. RALPH ARVIDSON, the Fund Co-ordinator WILL GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU.

Yes, I want further information (tick) □

NAME .................................................................................................................................
ADDRESS ...........................................................................................................................
...................................................................................................................... POST CODE...
TELEPHONE: Work ................................................................................................................
......................................................................................................... Home ......................................

Please return this form to the Secretary of the Newcastle Convocation Foundation, C/ the University of Newcastle, NSW, 2308.
A LETTER TO ALL MEMBERS
CONVOCATION HOUSE
UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE
N.S.W.

December 16th, 1985

Dear Convocation Member:

At this time last year I wrote to urge you to support the University appeal for funds to build Convocation House.

Many of you replied to the appeal and to date we have received $23,500 in donations. Thank you for your response.

But this is far from adequate for our needs and purposes (our immediate target is $100,000), so I am writing to urge those who are still considering the matter to support the appeal now.

Even if you feel that your means are limited to the point of extreme difficulty in sacrificing income for this purpose, I am sure our new Benefactors' Appeal of subscription by weekly, or other regular, payments will open your eyes to the new and easy possibilities of your meeting your responsibilities to help your University and its students in time of severe need.

We have finally decided upon a scheme that really excites us because we know that with your help it's going to work!!

Charitable giving through insurance products is in its infancy in Australia, but has been particularly successful overseas. The attached brochure explains it further.

By participating in this programme you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you have given others the opportunity of a wonderful enriching experience, so that they can make greater contributions to our community.

I can sincerely recommend the programme. A feeling of self-satisfaction and personal gratification is obtained from assisting students and young graduates who are just beginning their careers.

Please be generous. The needs we represent were never greater.

Professor Cyril Renwick, A.O.,
Chairman, the Convocation House Appeal
December 15th, 1985

KEEPING IN TOUCH

This is an appeal to Convocation members for information concerning their present whereabouts and experiences since being admitted to their degrees.

Interest has been prompted by the continuing augmentation of graduate numbers (now 11,000), which makes effective communication difficult, and by the institution of the annual Newton-John Award for a graduate who has demonstrated innovation or creativity in any field.

If you have no objection, details of your activities since leaving the University and what you are doing will be published in the next Gazette. Your friends during your period of study at Newcastle will be interested.

It will be no surprise to learn that many of our graduates have progressed to significant positions in their fields and/or produced work which is beneficial to the quality of life in the community.

We would be most grateful to hear from you and receive a photograph of you. Complete the following questionnaire and return it to:

The Secretary of Convocation,
University of Newcastle,
New South Wales, 2308

NAME: (Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms, Prof, Dr) .................................................................
ADDRESS: ................................................................................................................
............................................................................................................................... Postcode .................
Year of Graduation: ............... Degree(s) Diploma(s) held: ................................
Present Appointment: ...........................................................
Other Positions held since graduation (if any): ..................................................
News of experience since graduation: .................................................................
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If you have any interesting facts or anecdotes about people who were your fellow students at the University of Newcastle then a letter from you giving this information would be sincerely appreciated.
**US's Cultural Imperialism**

Mr. Philip Adams, the well-known author, critic and film producer, delivered the first of the Newcastle Lecture at the University. More than 400 people squeezed into the Drama Theatre, which has 270 seats, to hear Mr. Adams speak on "The Triumph of the Market Place". He contended that: "Where you reach this stage, you look at your university and ask yourself - 'Where is it going?'" He observed: "I am a M.A.S. (mature age student) who was hoping for something much more honourable - to become a scholar, not just a teacher.

"And so you are changed. Reading and writing are now your main activities; the world of learning is open to you. The library becomes a sort of post office as well as a treasure store. You are unable to make your friends at the club understand why you are doing it all. "They say: 'Where will it get you? What will you use it for?' and you cannot answer. They are mystified; others, still embroiled in the work-ethic, are envious; but your family is happy for you and has more respect of this new dedicated role."

For those M.A.S.'s who identify with Mr. Miller, he has this story: "I'm first year at University, a young poet asked me how I liked being at University. I said I liked it fine - but felt so self-conscious being at University. I said I liked it fine - but felt so self-conscious. I think the young students feel that spending many hours there, that they have 'so much more time'! Mr. Miller says that these are the young who, perhaps rightly, feel that the beach, the dances, and the parties are also as necessary to life as going to the university. There is such a lot of iron in our twilight that there's so much more time!"

"However coming to university is not a denial of our mortality, but like the noted writer, who, when in his seventies, took up his first piano lessons, it is an affirmation of how much we value life."

**Reflections of a MAS**

Mr. Ted Miller's reason for coming to University was an awareness of impending early retirement. He says his first days as a M.A.S. (mature age student) were horrific.

"When one walked towards the first lecture or tutorial after half a lifetime spent out in the marketplace, humility was the dominant mood! In this new and strange environment, you were unsure of what responses were expected of you, wondering what that turbulent sea of young students thought of you, but more importantly what your tutor thought of this strange, too-well-dressed, middle-aged creature who was trying to look sufficiently hard to belong to the group. You had to learn a new jargon. Mr. Miller says, "the parking regulations and most importantly you had to learn all over again how to listen and analyse what was being said. One had to mimic the proverbial duck serene on the surface but paddling like hell underneath."

"I don't mean in radical directions, like voices against or equally active student politics, but joining in with the idea of extra-curricular societies, lunch-time seminars, philosophy lectures, and even creative writing. This is the only arena where students can meet and mingle socially without any unspoken competitive pressure inhibiting conversation. Here is where the aged M.A.S. eventually finds out that his/her paranoid gap exists only in the imagination; that he or she is simply accepted for personality and intellect."

The remainder of their undergraduate years completes the metamorphosis of the mature student, Mr. Miller says. "We learn that the library is the sanctuary sanctum and the very nerve centre of the University and that spending many hours there, reading and writing, does pay off in higher grades. We probably have less distractions. We place a great deal of emphasis on organising our time and our study material, and we gradually, but inexorably, are being made aware of our own intellectual limitations. Perhaps this latter self-knowledge is the single most important step."

"By the time they are facing the pleasures of Honours, the M.A.S.'s will have heard the envious remark from some of the young students: "Ah but you have so much more time". Mr. Miller says that these are the young who, perhaps rightly, feel that the beach, the dances, and the parties are also as necessary to life as going to the university. There is such a lot of iron in our twilight that there's so much more time!"

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University becomes such a dominant influence in a M.A.S.'s life and eventually he/she wants to earn the genuine respect and approbation of his/her peers there. "Where does one reach the goal?" Mr. Miller says, "you are now a 'lifer' and belonging to the aegis of the University.

"And so you are changed. Reading and writing are now your main activities; the world of learning is open to you. The library becomes a sort of post office as well as a treasure store. You are unable to make your friends at the club understand why you are doing it all. "They say: 'Where will it get you? What will you use it for?' and you cannot answer. They are mystified; others, still embroiled in the work-ethic, are envious; but your family is happy for you and has more respect of this new dedicated role."

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**Computer Science Appointment**

Professor Leslie Keeley, Former Professor at the Technical University of Darmstadt, West Germany, has recently been appointed to the Foundation Chair of Computer Science. Professor Keeley, who is 45, was educated in the United Kingdom, and first studied theology at King's College, London University. This was followed by a Doctor of Philosophy in Theology from Trinity College, Oxford University. From 1966 to 1974 he worked with International Computers Ltd. in the UK and West Germany.

He went to Monash University in 1974 as Lecturer in the Department of Computer Science. He was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1978 and completed a further Ph.D. (Computer Science) as a staff member of that University. In 1982 he was appointed Full Professor of Computer Science and Head of the Operating Systems Research Group at the Technical University of Darmstadt.

Professor Keeley's research interests (in which he has gained a notable international reputation) are in the areas of operating systems, computer architecture and hardware, software engineering and programming language design.

The Chair of Computer Science is located in the Department of Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science. The policy of the Department is to promote the application of mathematical disciplines and other fields including physical, social and life sciences, engineering, economics, commerce and the management sciences.

Professor Keeley's initial aims include the introduction of a first year Computer Science course. He is also interested in promoting the use of computing throughout the University, including areas not conventionally associated with modern technology.
"Most marked change — loss of authority"

"If I am asked what change within the University over the last 30 years seems most marked to me I must answer that it is its loss of authority within the community and its representatives," Professor John Bach said at his Retirement Dinner.

"Those who remember the Tighes Hill days will understand me," the Associate Professor in History, said.

John Bach retired after 31 years' service to the University and its predecessor, Newcastle University College, as teacher, researcher and member of several University Committees.

The leading maritime historian said: "It might be true that the authority and respect accorded to academics in those early days were understood by that academic community as one having romantic fantasy, but the respect and authority of academics have been overshadowed by romantic fantasy and rationalism within the College.

"It may also be true that a regional community, overshadowed by the capital in the usual Australian fashion, was affirming its own identity in much the same way as Third World countries, unable to feed themselves, must nevertheless have national shipping and airlines.

"There was nevertheless, an underlying willingness to accept the academic community as one having values and objectives that were different from those of the everyday life of the city, values and objectives which were better understood by that academic community than by the ordinary citizen.

That respect for scholarship, as distinct from the ability to produce profitable technical inventions, has entirely disappeared and I believe that we, the scholars involved, are mainly responsible.

"Society, as I conceive it, is a delicate artefact built upon the acceptance of social distinctions; we have deliberately sought to blur these distinctions with our incessant pleas to be regarded as ordinary people doing a job like any honest tradesman, indistinguishable from labourer or merchant.

"Our pleas have been heeded, and we are now judged by the standards familiar to those classes of society, those of material success.

"I believe that every time an economist, an educator, a sociologist or an historian publicly exploits the residual respect of the common man for the university scholar to make a pronouncement on television or the wireless, which, more often than not, is shown to be wrong by the events of the next day or week or year, the authority of universities is further reduced.

"During those early days we now fondly recall there was a specific prohibition placed by James Auchmuty on the use of one's university status in such things as letters to the Editor on current political controversies. If an academic wished to participate in such activity he was asked to do so as a private citizen," Professor Bach said.

**D. S. ANGUS MEMORIAL FUND**

In August, 1984 the members of the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Newcastle lost a valued colleague and friend with the untimely death of Donald Scott Angus, Senior Lecturer in the Department.

During the nine and a half years that Don was associated with the University he made a valuable teaching contributing to the Department of Biological Sciences and was extremely active in research, both pure and applied.

The academic staff of the Department of Biological Sciences wish to acknowledge the many contributions made by Don to the University, and to perpetuate his memory by making an annual award, to be known as "The D. S. Angus Memorial Prize", to the student in Biology III attaining the highest standard in the topic of Cell and Molecular Biology. The award would reflect both Don's teaching interests and one of the fields of research in which he was most actively engaged at the time of his death.

We feel that there are many other of Don's former students who would like to join in remembering him in this way. Contributions to "The D. S. Angus Memorial Prize" may be sent to the Secretary, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Newcastle, N.S.W. 2308.

The late Don Angus

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**Glimpses at the Past**

1. Braving showers when College graduation ceremonies were held in front of the Edge worth David Building at Tighes Hill in 1958.
2. Police said to keep a close watch on participants in Arsonnism Day marches in Newcastle.
3. When the transition from Tighes Hill to Shortland commenced, there were problems with the completion of work on the Union.
4. Engineering students celebrated their transfer from Tighes Hill to Shortland in 1970 by staging a mock funeral between the campuses.
5. A police escort was provided. A "service" was conducted by "Father" Godfrey Tanner over the cardboard coffin.

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**The late Don Angus**

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**The D. S. Angus Memorial Fund**

"Most marked change — loss of authority"
Newcastle’s Foremost Rugby Team

University First Grade Rugby team was Newcastle Premiers and New South Wales Country Champions in 1985.

University’s win over Mayfield East in the grand-final gave the team its second consecutive Newcastle premiership.

The team also defeated Port Kembla in the final of the Sterling Cup, the NSW Country Rugby competition.

Four members of the First XV finished in the first 10 places in the Anderson Medal, the district Best and Fairest Competition - Gareth Wannford, Ken Howard, Nick Wright and Ian Neale.

Ian Neale won the award for most improved player having represented Australian Universities and NSW Country in the year.

Tony Hogg was the leading try scorer in the district competition.

Surfriders’ win

Newcastle University is currently Inter-Varsity Surfing Champion. Newcastle was in first place when the results of the 1985 IV contest, held at Shelley Beach on the Central Coast, were announced. Macquarie University came second and Wollongong University came third. Eleven universities entered surfing teams.

Ian Gordon, a member of the Newcastle team, took out fourth place in the grand final of the Individuals event.

Chris Tola won the reserve event and Mick Whital came second.

Newcastle’s performances in IV Surfing Contests since 1982 are: 1982 (Newcastle) 2nd, 1983 (Stradbroke Island) 1st, 1984 (Pacific Palms) 4th, and 1985 (Shelley Beach) 1st.

Jollification in the dressing room after the grand final match — the University First XV.
Kintaiba, a community Child Care Centre operated by the University, is a valuable resource for staff and students with children of pre-school age.

The Auchmuty Sports Centre contains a wide selection of fitness equipment, and is popular with staff and students alike.

Exercise studies in the Human Performance Laboratory of the Medical School.
Standing Committee of Convocation has produced a range of fine quality mementoes of the University which feature the University's Coat of Arms. By purchasing these items (see below) you will be helping to support Convocation and also the University. The items can be sent as gifts to members of families and friends if the necessary details are supplied. No charge is made for postage.

**GLASS COMMEMORATIVE PLATE**
Made of glass, designed and manufactured by Newcastle Glass Works.
COST: $25
(For an extra $5 the plate will be numbered and engraved with the name of the graduate).

**PORCELAIN COMMEMORATIVE PLATE**
Produced by Bing & Grondahl of Copenhagen as part of a series of Universities in Australia, 18 cms in diameter.
COST: $25

**WALL POSTER**
Decorate your wall with this spectacular aerial colour photograph showing the University and the city which it serves, measures 65 cms by 45 cms.
COST: $2.50

**WALL PLAQUES**
Made of teak and embossed metal, suitable for mounting in offices, living rooms and studies.
COST: $25

**UNIVERSITY BOOK**
This new 16 page publication is an overview of the University, its system of government, research strengths, courses and student services, etc., with beautiful colour illustrations.
COST: $4.95

**ACADEMIC DRESS**
This well-illustrated publication is a brief guide to the origins and history of the various items of apparel seen on graduation days at Australian universities, written by K. R. Dutton.
COST: $3

Please tick the memento/mementoes you wish to purchase. Complete the form below and either send it together with your remittance or debit the cost to your Mastercard or Bankcard. Cheques should be made payable to Convocation, c/- The University of Newcastle, New South Wales, 2308.

NAME: ........................................ ADDRESS: ........................................
POST CODE: ........................................
MASTERCARD/BANKCARD No. ........................................ EXPIRY DATE: ........................................
SIGNED: ........................................