THE GAZETTE
and Letter to Graduates

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

SEPTEMBER 1987
OUR COVER —
Part of the University seen from the air (July, 1987). The RAAF Base, Williamtown, kindly provided The Gazette with the picture.

Many residents of Newcastle who are entertaining out-of-town friends can think of no better way to spend a peaceful afternoon than walking the time away inspecting the University. Visitors are always welcome and a look inside the Great Hall brings with it a spectacle of colour as items from the University's art collection unfold. Left: One of two banners by Rae Richards which hang above the doors, and (below) some of the University's art works.

Professor Keith Morgan has been Vice-Chancellor of the University since the beginning of this year. Previously a senior executive officer at the University of Lancaster in England, Professor Morgan has met with departments and students around the campus and established links with several organisations in the Hunter community. He says he is used to a style of University government which involves a lot of discussion and consultation.

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The Hunter Technology Development Centre takes shape

The Hunter Technology Development Centre is an independent project dedicated to the improvement and diversification of this region's industrial base for the creation of more jobs — is being built in the University's grounds.

A building from which the centre will initially operate has been completed at the Faculty of Engineering and the much larger main complex is taking shape adjacent to Kintaiba Community Child Care Centre.

The two projects required funding of approximately $5,000,000 being provided by the Federal and New South Wales Governments through the Steel Regions and Advanced Technology Programmes. An allocation of $1,000,000 for equipment is included.

Mr Lionel Wisbey, Director of the Hunter Technology Development Centre, sees the centre as stimulating individuals to develop new products and goods for export and providing a technological resource and consulting base for the region.

'There is a huge range of venture capital in Australia and when this is linked with technological skills, such as those available at Newcastle University, it usually results in successful commercialisation', he said.

The centre's initial administration will be carried out in the annexe to the Faculty of Engineering, a building costing $500,000 with a 750 square-metre floor area. Mr Wisbey describes it as 'the centre's eventual hardware area', because it will house machines and prototypes of manufacturing processes.

He is looking forward to TUNRA Ltd., the University's research and education consultancy, participating actively in various co-operative ventures with the centre.

The overall programme for the development of the $3,000,000 main complex embodies:

- The provision of an entrance in Rankin Drive, and a carpark with access from the University.
- The erection of a two-storey building with 2,750 square-metres of floor space.
- The division of the building into areas for offices and facilities, conference and meeting rooms, computing and data processing facilities, audio-visual facilities, exhibitions, quality assurance, an advanced manufacturing centre, incubator and research laboratories, an information service, consultants' offices and other uses, including possibly an atrium for environmental research.

'People wanting to set-up commercial enterprises will be able to obtain "incubator" space, interact with each other's ideas and gain technological skills', Mr Wisbey said.

'We'll even assist them to obtain finance and learn about marketing'.

Asked for comment on the University's role in the project, the Director said it was up to the staff to participate, or not, in the centre's functions, but if they wanted to 'walk the extra mile and work to turn the Hunter Region and Australia around economically' he was pleased to co-operate.

The main complex is expected to be completed in time for full occupancy in March, 1988.

Convocation Medal for Professional Excellence

Convocation has initiated a Gold Medal to be awarded annually to a graduate of Newcastle University with the most outstanding record of professional excellence that can be found. It is expected that, through the names of those to whom it is awarded over the years, it will become recognised as an Australian award for outstanding professional merit.

The graduate can be working anywhere in the world. The selection committee will look at the curriculum vitae of possible grantees, but in particular will be seeking a discovery, or a new understanding, which has significantly advanced some particular field.

The award may have to be announced in absentia, but it will be given much publicity. The medal will be forwarded, and the name will be recorded on a plaque at the University for all time. The award will not be made in any year in which the committee is of the opinion that no work notified to it has reached the high standard required for the medal.

The first award will be made in 1988, and it is hoped that the series can commence with a name that will be recognised world-wide in some particular field.

Any graduate who would like to be considered, or any person who would like to suggest a name, is invited to forward all relevant information to the Convocation Officer by 30 November, 1987.

NEWSFRONT

Semesters will replace terms

The University of Newcastle is to change over to semesters.

Council decided that the academic year, at present made up of three terms, will be changed to two semesters beginning in February, 1989.

The new academic year will consist of twenty-seven teaching weeks.

Semester one will consist of thirteen or fourteen weeks. Semester two will consist of fourteen or thirteen weeks.

The mid-year recess will be of five weeks duration.

The decision to change to a two-semester year was made following a review by Senate. A factor influencing the change was the adoption by the New South Wales Department of Education of a four term school year in primary and secondary schools.

Senate was also informed that most other universities were already operating on two semesters or half years.
ABORIGINAL ENCLAVE IN MEDICAL SCHOOL

An enclave is 'a country, or an outlying portion of it, completely surrounded by foreign land.' Up to four students per year are admitted to Newcastle under a special admission programme for Aboriginal students.

Over recent years, many universities in Australia have recognised the need for positive discrimination towards Aborigines by allowing entry on reduced academic requirements. While a reasonable number of students have offered themselves for entry under these schemes, the measures have not achieved their objective of significantly increasing the number of Aboriginal graduates. This has been due to the very high drop out rate. Reasons for the high drop-out rate include loss of identity, alienation, separation from normal social support structures and all of those family problems typically associated with low socio-economic status.

The establishment of an enclave is intended to serve a number of purposes: it encourages group support among the Aboriginal students, promoting a collective identity, and in encouraging an emphasis on their particular cultural identity, strengthens their links with the wider Aboriginal community and their awareness of the health status of that wider community. The only physical evidence of the enclave is the Aboriginal Liaison Officer's office where a weekly tutorial is held.

As the enclave is part of a wider objective to improve the health of the Aboriginal community, the Medical School is endeavours to improve the level of education of all its students about Aboriginal health.

The members of the enclave are able to contribute to this from their own personal experience as Aborigines and also in some cases as professionals in a health or related field — of the 10 students at present in the course, five have had some previous university or college education.

Andrew Amor, aged 22, is a first year student and comes from Broome, Western Australia, where the rest of his family still lives. He was sent away to Perth to complete his schooling when he was 13. Andrew became interested in medicine as a career while working as a technical assistant in the Aboriginal Health Service in Perth. He had completed one year of a medical technology programme at Curtin University when selected for admission to Newcastle. Andrew enjoys the more independent approach to learning, and the integration of theory and practice, that he has found in the medical course here.

Ross Ingram, 20, is a second year student from Leeton, New South Wales. He was a good student at high school, but attributes his success to his parents, who are both actively involved in Aboriginal affairs, rather than the school. Ross remembers always wanting to do — science or medicine. On visits home, he is very conscious of the attitude of 'if you can do it, why can't (I)? Ross values the enclave arrangement very much as it provides support in both personal and academic problems. Sandra Eades, 20, is a third year student from Perth, Western Australia. Sandra comes from a family of seven children and was raised by her mother.

She had always wanted to work in the health field and intends eventually working in Aboriginal health. Now she understands how much specialised training she should have. Sandra has not found any difficulty in settling in Newcastle with support from the enclave, other students in her year and a church group.

Focus on Statistics

The significance of statistics has spread enormously and many organisations now employ people whose work is statistical. There are professional positions for statisticians in government departments, insurance companies, manufacturing companies, retail organisations, marketing and research enterprises and many other areas. To train students in statistical skills and carry out consulting and research in the fields the University's Department of Statistics came into being in January this year. Annette Dobson, who was appointed Foundation Professor of Biostatistics, prepared this report for The Gazette.

One of the challenges in developing statistics as a university discipline is the popular image of statistics as the dull occupation followed by people who produce obscure facts to fill in empty commentaries in sporting broadcasts.

In the new Department, one of the most important tasks is to show our students that statistics is an exciting field of study and that expertise in statistics is extremely useful for manufacturing processes.

Associ. Professor Bob Gibbard heads a team which works on health information systems, including funding formulas for the allocation of regional health budgets and the provision of health facilities to meet community needs. For several years Bob Gibbard has headed the Hunter Health Statistics Unit, which is run jointly by the University and the Regional Office of the New South Wales Department of Health.

My own work is mainly the study of heart disease in the local community, although I am also involved in other projects, for example in the occupational health field.

One distinctive feature of the Department is that we do not see our role as limited to teaching and research. To do this well we need to maintain a working knowledge of 'real world' problems outside the University. Therefore, we provide a consultancy service to organisations which require advice, or assistance, with statistical or data problems, particularly in the fields of industry or health. The Department works mainly through TUNRA Ltd, the University's research company.

In doing so, we do not compete unfairly with consultancies in the private sector. Rather, we work for commercial rates, with all the money being returned to the university and not to us. We need this arrangement to ensure that our teaching and research are practical and, in doing so, we also ensure that the expertise at the University is readily available to the people of the Hunter Region.

(Professor Dobson is happy to give more information about the new Department at 68 5559.)

NEWSFRONT

Very large grant for study

The University has received a grant of $430,000 for an evaluation of the effectiveness of Rimantadine as a drug to fight influenza.

The money, presented by F Hoffman — La Roche and Co, the USA, is one of the largest-ever single sums presented to a University research project.

The evaluation of Rimantadine is being carried out by a research team from the Faculty of Medicine. The team (Associate Professors Greg Tannock, Sandy Reid, Richard Barry and Michael Henley, Professor Nick Saunders and Dr Richard Heny) recruited volunteers to participate in an extensive clinical study of the antibiotic's abilities to fight influenza.

The most interesting features of the study are that a large number of volunteers will be used (approximately 450) and everyone of them has to keep a daily record of any symptoms experienced.

The Rimantadine will be administered as tablets in differing doses so some of the participants will take placebos.

 Commencement of the study was scheduled for 20 July, a point in winter when, based on past experience, many Newcastle people should be suffering from influenza. In addition to the $430,000 grant, a further $250,000 was provided by F Hoffman — La Roche and Co to the University.

The grant was made to a team of researchers from the Medical School who included Professors Tannock, Reid, Barry, Hensley and Saunders for an evaluation of the effectiveness of Interferon as a drug to fight respiratory viral disease.
Why so few women engineers?

In secondary education, greater participation by schoolgirls in science is being encouraged and in industry the Federal Government is giving encouragement to promoting females into non-traditional apprenticeships.

In tertiary educational institutions, the proportion of female students enrolling in science-based or technological courses of study has increased notably in the past one or two decades, although engineering still has the lowest proportion of women of all faculties.

The Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Newcastle University has launched a staff initiative to help overcome the cultural barriers which sometimes exist between women and the technological disciplines.

Among these initiatives are:
- promotion of non-sexist language in teaching
- practical support of a group for women engineering students
- encouragement of a realistic appreciation of engineering as a career alternative for women school students; and
- advocacy of bridging courses where necessary to enable entry into technical fields of study.

Recently the Commonwealth Minister for Education, Senator Susan Ryan, said Australia was handicapped in its ability to become a more productive nation so far few of its women are engineers.

It has been concerns such as this which led Mr Bruce Penfold, of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Ms Rose Vivian, Stage IV Electrical Engineering student and SRC Faculty Representative, to decide to invite women students in the Faculty to meet and discuss their needs.

This meeting led to the formation of the Women in Engineering Group. The group’s intentions are to:
- provide a medium for women students to meet and talk with those women already working as professional engineers;
- develop a liaison with the Women’s Division of the Institution of Engineers;
- organise field trips to local engineering establishments to show ‘in the field’ applications of their general education;
- to provide a chance to meet on a social level other women studying in the Faculty.

Despite the cultural bias which discourages women entering the engineering profession, this year has shown a significant increase in the number of women being taught by the Faculty,’ Mr Penfold said.

In acknowledging this year’s increase in enrollments, the proportion of women students in the Faculty, remains low by contrast with other disciplines.

‘As individuals belonging to a minority group within the Faculty, women students can feel very isolated,’ Ms Vivian said.

If this problem alone can be resolved, the group will have gone a long way towards achieving its objectives.

The University's total number of applications for research scholarships this year was around 200, a 50 per cent increase on 1986.

The research scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic merit.

The quality of the applicants led the Commonwealth Department of Education to boost the number of Commonwealth Postgraduate Research Awards granted to the University from thirteen to twenty. They were offered to 11 Class I applicants who completed their Bachelor degrees at this and other Australian universities.

In addition, the University offered nine University scholarships, most of which were taken by highly qualified graduates. These included scholarships from the University to its high reputation as a research institution. These scholarships were offered to students from Australia, the People’s Republic of China, Brazil, Hong Kong and Singapore.

A Commonwealth Postgraduate Research Award is currently worth $8,126 per year and provides additional allowances for dependents.

University of Newcastle Postgraduate Research Scholarships provided by the University are similar to the Commonwealth awards but are available to world-wide competition.

FRANK BATES

The fact that a person has, or seeks, a qualification in law does not mean that she or he intends to practise as a lawyer, according to the University’s newly appointed Professor of Law, Professor Frank Bates.

There are many openings outside the daily practice of the law where a legal qualification is useful and appropriate.

It is likely that the route that the University’s Department of Law will have to take is providing legal education for those who deal with the law but who are less concerned with the procedures with which a legal practitioner must be familiar.

Formerly Reader in Law at the University of Tasmania, Professor Bates has filled the Chair which had been vacant since the resignation of Professor Kevin Lindgren.

Professor Bates said legal education in Australia was in an interesting condition. By the time this article is published, the Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission report on the legal education (the Pearce Report) will have appeared and, whatever its findings, there are bound to be some implications for the Department of Law.

He said the Department was in the happy position of being able to take advantage of any of the early challenges presented by the report.

At present, the system of legal education in New South Wales is a state of real imbalance, with all four of the state’s law schools situated in the greater Sydney area and three of these in the metropolitan area.

Since there is a perception that there is an over-supply of lawyers in the eastern states of Australia, it is most unlikely that the report will recommend the establishment of a new law school in Newcastle, or anywhere else.

This is rather disturbing,’ Professor Bates said, ‘as, first, there is indeed an over-supply of professional lawyers, there is much unnecessary community work which is not being done.

Second, it is questionable whether governments and instrumentalities, should seek to redress an over-supply of legal education through such means as the elimination of law in all universities. If, after the last election, there was no demand for law education throughout Australia, the larger accounting firms were actively seeking to recruit law graduates.

In addition, many members of the public service had a direct, and personal, contact with legislation.

Employees of the Department of Social Security were required to deal with the Social Security Act 1947 in a detailed and policy-oriented manner often not required even of legal practitioners; hence, training in law was desirable at the very least.

On the other side of the social security counter, applicants for benefits are far more likely to approach welfare workers than legal practitioners and, hence, it is appropriate for them to have a detailed knowledge of the law in the area.

Similarly, Professor Bates said, much of business activity was regulated by legislation and, although legal practitioners were retained, or employed, by business, familiarity with the law and its processes was necessary if day-to-day disputes were to be avoided.

Because of the market for the legal education of those outside daily practising law, there were various possibilities which came to mind and would be viable within the structure of the Faculty of Economics and Commerce.

First, a successful graduate Diploma and Master’s degree in Welfare Law, for which I was responsible, was organised in the University of Tasmania.

Another desirable development might be a degree aimed at catering for potential managers, executives and public servants, which would seek to combine a substantial amount of law with disciplines through which the student considers relevant to his or her intended career path.

It was certainly a more general aim to keep in mind that law was not only a professional discipline, but a great humane study, Professor Bates added.
THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES was established in 1973. Now, after 14 years in the saddle, the Foundation Director, Dr Brian Smith, is about to retire. John Armstrong, Editor of the Gazette, talked with him about what he feels about the Department.

Question: I remember you explaining your plans and hopes to me when you came here. How do you feel these have been achieved?

Dr Smith: Not altogether — but then, very few people ever achieve all that they set out to achieve. You'll recall that the hard times set in very shortly after the Department started so that any ideas of rapid expansion became quite unrealistic. Even so, we have, I think, seen Community Programmes quite well established in Newcastle as a University function. People seem to know who we are and what we do — and to appreciate it.

Question: Well, it’s accepted these days that universities need to be recognised and supported by their communities. Do you feel that Community Programmes has helped to achieve this?

Dr Smith: Very much so. I honestly believe that this university is more built into its community — that people see it as their university, something that everyone has a stake in — and a part of the services — to a greater extent than any other university in Australia. And I’m pretty sure that Community Programmes is at least partly responsible for this. It brings to the University every year four or five thousand people; I can see that it isn’t an ‘ivory tower’, that it does concern itself with issues that are important to them.

Question: That really is a lot of people. Would you say, from your experience, that people here are especially education conscious?

Dr Smith: No, I would say that they are comparatively education-resistant. It’s much harder work selling community education in Newcastle than in Perth or in Canberra, both of which I know well. People here still tend to see education almost exclusively in vocational terms and to be a bit suspicious of the idea of being educated just for the sake of it. A lot of activities to which there’d be an automatic response in most cities have to be promoted quite vigorously here. But that, of course, is the situation we’ve been trying to change — and it is why our kind of university operation is more important in Newcastle than it is in ‘easier’ cities like Canberra or Perth.

Question: Why, then, if it’s such a matter of promoting the programme at what people do want — and know that they want — and gradually introducing the ‘straight education’ concept as people get to know us and trust us, does the education you have to be very aware of your community; what would be a successful approach in one place might well be a total flop in another.

Question: So what has been your strategy?

Dr Smith: Very broadly, to maintain four kinds of programme, fairly evenly balanced between ‘for-its-own sake’ adult education, the courses and workshops and summer schools and such like, but mostly; they are interesting — studies directly related to people’s community commitments in specific areas, to help people to understand their community, or to meet better their own work obligations — the forums and seminars programme by way of the WEA — and the ‘bridging’ programme by way of the WEA — to get the way for people to on-going mainstream educational channels. And in each area we’ve always tried to start from where people are rather than to tell them that they ought to be in ‘other’ cities like Canberra or Perth.

Question: When you say ‘opening the way to further education’ you are thinking of the Open Foundation Course or the General Bridging Course, that come into the same category.

Dr Smith: Mainly that — yes. Though there are other courses, like our General Bridging Course, that come into the same category.

Question: The OFC has been very successful. How long has it been running?

Dr Smith: Yes. I think I can say unequivocally that the OFC has been Community Programmes’ one outstanding success. It started officially in 1975 but the simple message that anyone at all who had ‘always wanted to go to university’ could go to university if they were keen enough and bright enough. The response was overwhelming. And a kind of University staff were astonished at the quality of the people attracted by the course. In a few years OFC products were a significant part of the student body and, indeed, of the graduate population of the area. I had expected it to have ‘tapered off over the years. Community Programmes has been valued and supported by the administration and enjoyed excellent co-operation from all sections of the staff — both academic and administrative. In all my years here, I’ve never encountered any of that snobbery and petty jealousy that can make adult education people feel insecure and on the outer in universities. And for that I am immensely grateful. I would not have set the contact and safety of a Philosophy Department twenty-two years ago to go into Adult Education if I had not been convinced that their involvement with the wider community is very important to both the universities themselves and to the nation — but I am aware that I am very lucky to have spent my spell as Director of Newcastle University which seems to share this view.

Question: And what about the other academic studies area?

Dr Smith: Well, I would like to have achieved more. We are constantly being told by the public that there is a vast demand for ‘continuing education’. But that, of course, is the way that university-type study is always available for those people who do want it. Indeed, once a few people have the WEA over the years — I would say that the name is now so well-known that people here are much more generous. It is one of the things that has kept the University open — and seems to be open — to everybody and made it possible for Hurter people to have a well-coordinated full range of continuing education. And I simply cannot understand why other universities, Sydney and Adelaide, have broken off their student body connections; we’ve always valued our high profile.

Question: What and this last area, I feel that Community Programmes has been valued and supported by the administration and enjoyed excellent co-operation from all sections of the staff — both academic and administrative. In all my years here, I’ve never encountered any of that snobbery and petty jealousy that can make adult education people feel insecure and on the outer in universities. And for that I am immensely grateful. I would not have set the contact and safety of a Philosophy Department twenty-two years ago to go into Adult Education if I had not been convinced that their involvement with the wider community is very important to both the universities themselves and to the nation — but I am aware that I am very lucky to have spent my spell as Director of Newcastle University which seems to share this view.

Question: Yes, we believe that the University is somewhere that public authorities and voluntary organisations or even pressure groups can come to with ideas for discussions of current felt questions about which there is a current felt need for discussion, and it is very effective in ‘building the University’. Do you feel that Community Programmes has been valued and assisted by the University as much as it should have been?

Dr Smith: Yes, very much so. I honestly say ‘opening the way to further education’ you are thinking of the Open Foundation Course or the General Bridging Course, that come into the same category.

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**Commerce Department Prepares to Meet Challenges**

In January 1987 Professor Frank Clarke took up the Chair in Accounting in the Department of Commerce. Professor Clarke holds particularly strong views on the direction accounting education should take if it is to meet future challenges. He holds the firm conviction that the Department of Commerce at the University of Newcastle has staff with the capacity to break new ground.

At the time of his appointment Professor Clarke was Head of the Faculty of Business. He is a specialist in the area of business accounting and his primary research interest lies in the development of the ideas underlying accounting education programmes in disciplines with vigorous, demanding, professional bodies seeking short-run solutions to their labour shortages. The opportunity at Newcastle to construct an accounting education programme which could alleviate those short-run problems, but have long-run benefits was an important factor in Professor Clarke accepting the Newcastle Chair.

The introduction invoked by the current planning exercise within the University brings all this to the surface. The introspection invoked by the disquieting state of affairs in the Hunter Region where first employment opportunities for graduates have declined. The introspection is concerned with the current doings of the University and its alumni. It is concerned with the need to put to bed the idea of a second class graduate, a genuine service to your Alma Mater and its current students.

However, the Careers and Student Employment Office wishes to draw the attention of past graduates to the disquieting state of affairs in the Hunter Region where first employment opportunities for graduates have declined. If you as a past graduate, can influence your company, firm, bank or department to draw to the CSEO's attention employment opportunities for which newly emerging graduates can compete, a genuine service will be rendered to your Alma Mater and its current students.

**ELECTED TO COUNCIL**

Dr Diana Day and Dr Noel Rutherford are among the six new members elected by Convocation.

Dr Day was a successful election for which there were six candidates. Dr Day is a research fellow in the Centre for Environment and Environmental Studies at the ANU and Dr Rutherford, formerly an associate professor of the Department of History at the University of Newcastle, is now Warden of Bruce Hall.

The other Convocation places on the Council are held by Dr Peter Hendry, Emeritus Professor of History, Short Mr Carl Boyd, Dr Tom Osborn and Mr Trevor Waring.

**Foundation gives second donation**

Newcastle Convocation Foundation has made a further $10,000 funding to Convocation House, one of the new blocks of self-catering accommodation units at Edwards Hall.

Three new blocks of self-catering units have been constructed next to TURRA House. The Council has named them. The Foundation has received $25,000 in donations to the appeal to build Convocation House from members of Convocation.

The Chair of Newcastle Convocation Foundation Professor Hendry said that to date the Foundation had received $25,000 in donations to the appeal to build Convocation House from members of Convocation.

Seeing giving in the rain while Professor Hendry (second from left) makes the presentation at Convocation House are the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ken Morgan (left), and Mr Ralph Avison, Co-ordinator of the Benefactors' Fund, and Mr John Lambert, a Director of the Foundation.

**The Old School Tie**

It is now generally recognised that "old school ties" connections no longer exist. Indeed, in Australia today (fighting for its very economic existence), this feature of life in past generations cannot, and should, not be tolerated.

However, the Careers and Student Employment Office wishes to draw the attention of past graduates to the disquieting state of affairs in the Hunter Region where first employment opportunities for graduates have declined. If you, as a past graduate, can influence your company, firm, bank or department to draw to the CSEO's attention employment opportunities for which newly emerging graduates can compete, a genuine service will be rendered to your Alma Mater and its current students.

**NEWSFRONT**

Professor Frank Clarke says the changes in the accounting profession have to be reflected in the curricula of universities.

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Hopefully, in the future, more resources will become available to mount a Newcastle version of the "Sons and Daughters" movement, so successfully operated in some American universities and colleges. In this movement past graduates are invited to participate in, say, a week of cultural, social and sporting activities based around their old seat of learning.

In the meantime, the Careers and Student Employment Office is always interested to hear from, and learn about, the current doings of the Hunter graduates, who have passed through the doors of the University over the years. Our telephone number is (049) 68 0401, Extension 466.

**UNIVERSITY BENEFACORS' APPEAL**

In the first half of 1987, the pledges made to the University of Newcastle Benefactors' Appeal increased the fund to $260,000.

Mr Ralph Avison, co-ordinator of the appeal, commented that the tally was pleasing, considering the relatively few people who had made contributions.

"Graduates, staff members and other people concerned about the chronic shortage of accommodation for the University's students are currently being invited to subscribe to the appeal, which is a charitable giving programme."

Mr Avison explained: "It's an exciting programme in which a donor takes out an insurance policy in his or her own name and transfers the ownership to Convocation."

"The cash value accrues to Convocation, and upon the donor's death or the maturation of the policy, Convocation receives the full policy settlement."

"The life insurance is an amplified, or leveraged, plan enabling the donor to make a substantial gift with small tax deductable contributions."

"The donors can raise their sights and increase the value and recognition during their lifetime from having $2000 contributions of a size normally only made by the wealthy."

If you would like to know more about the Benefactors' Appeal, please telephone Ralph Avison at (02) 26 2622.

**GIVE-AWAY MEMENTOES**

The last three Newcastle Lectures have been published and a limited number of each is available free as a community service.

If you would like copies of the lectures, please telephone (049 — 66 5370) or write to the Convocation Officer, Second Division, University of Newcastle, New South Wales.

**TALK ABOUT EXCHANGES**

Three Presidents of universities in Beijing, capital of the People's Republic of China, visited the University of Newcastle.

Professor Shi Yuan Chun, of Beijing Agricultural University, or Wang Run, of Beijing University of Iron and Steel Technology, and Professor Ou Meng Xiang, of Beijing Medical University, met with the Vice-Chancellor and senior officials of the University and visited a number of departments.

The three Chinese university presidents visited this University to discuss ways of establishing student exchanges so that collective work can be done between China and the University, in particular for PhD students.

Beijing Medical, Beijing Agricultural and Beijing University of Iron and Steel Technology Universities are separate learning institutions. The iron and Steel Technology being the largest with around 80,000 students.

The Coca-Cola Foundation has donated $32,000 to the University of Newcastle for part-time candidates. Full-time masters candidates should be invited to subscribe to the Benefactors' Appeal, which is a charitable giving programme."

Mr Avison explained: "It's an exciting programme in which a donor takes out an insurance policy in his or her own name and transfers the ownership to Convocation."

"The cash value accrues to Convocation, and upon the donor's death or the maturation of the policy, Convocation receives the full policy settlement."

"The life insurance is an amplified, or leveraged, plan enabling the donor to make a substantial gift with small tax deductable contributions."

"The donors can raise their sights and increase the value and recognition during their lifetime from having $2000 contributions of a size normally only made by the wealthy."

If you would like to know more about the Benefactors' Appeal, please telephone Ralph Avison at (02) 26 2622.
WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Andrew Lu-Wing Siu
Murray Neill
Steven Hughes
Carol Foster
Julie Edman
Heather Powell
Janeke Ashmore
HeLEN MowbrAn


Sara McKenhan, BCom 1973, has been working in investment banking since graduating. Last year Sara moved to London and joined Salomon Brothers International Ltd, a New York
investment bank. Her current position is Vice-President with that bank.

After finishing her medical internship, Julie Adamson, BMED 1985, joined Westmead Hospital as a Resident Medical Officer at a position she is enjoying.

Julie Edman (nee Bernard) graduated with a BSc in 1981. Julie has been working in the Hunter Valley developing skills pertaining to underground mining in her position as geologist with BHP Steel Division Collie.

Heather Powell (nee Agland), BA 1969 and MA 1973, has been a language/history teacher at Newcastle's Church of England Girls' Grammar School, Ravenswood, Gordon and SCEGGs at Darlinghurst. She is presently teacher of Latin at St Augustine's College, Brookvale.

Toni Single graduated with a BA in 1974 and a MPsych(Clin) in 1980. Toni currently holds the position of Senior Clinical Psychologist with the Child and Family Psychiatry Team, Hunter Region.

Jennifer Witschon, BSc 1982, worked as a laboratory supervisor with the Hunter Estate Winery and a research assistant with the Treasury Commission in Victoria. Jennifer now works in Sydney with Roche Pharmaceuticals as a microbiologist.

In 1967, Helen Mornora (nee Brown) graduated with a BA. At present she is teaching English as a Second Language in Sydney's Adult Migrant Education Service. Helen has also worked in psychology and education in Queensland and Japan. She is working on children's stories, and a novel based partly on several years of travel in Asia, United States of America, Mexico and other countries.

Marion Halligan (nee Croftall), BA 1961 and DipEd 1962, began her career teaching and at one stage taught English at college level. Marion has also undertaken freelance journalism. She is currently a full-time fiction writer with a fellowship from the Literature Board of the Australia Council. Marion is becoming established as a fiction writer, with more than 30 short stories to her name.

Helen Griffin (nee Samuels), BCom 1970, is a PhD candidate at the University doing Japanese as a non-degree subject. Since graduating Helen has owned, operated and sold two successful small businesses. She then became Office and Promotions Manager for a building company, followed by Promotions Consultant to an oil company.

In 1971 Chun-Loong Chu graduated with a BSc(Eng) and 1973 graduated with a MEngSc. Chu is the Principal Consultant with the Industry Department of the Hong Kong Government which involves promoting investment in Hong Kong industry.

Alan Mather, BCom 1966, presently holds the position of European General Manager of ACTA Shipping in the United Kingdom. Alan has also held the positions of Audit Manager with Peat Marwick in Sydney and Finance Director with ACTA Shipping in Australia.

Professor Clifford J. Hawkins is presently the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Biological Sciences) and Professor of Inorganic Chemistry at the University of Queensland. Clifford graduated with honours from the University of New South Wales in 1960.

Bill Meany, BA 1971, is at present lecturer in the South Australian College of Advanced Education. Bill undertook further studies at Glasgow University and the University of New South Wales. Bill became an exchange student to Mohawk College in Ontario and a member of the Australian Development Aid team to the Republic of Kiribati. Bill is looking forward to becoming an exchange student at Shaanxi University, X'an, People's Republic of China this year.

Professor Kevin Mornorants, a member of the Economics Department of the University of Newcastle, graduated BSc in 1959. After a decade of research and academic research career, he recently accepted appointment as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Adelaide.

Barry Hughes says the Department of Economics has areas of special competence and has set up applied economics research centres.

On computer we have the DX data base system, embodying 10 floppy disks and covering all the historical Australian macroeconomics time series, going back for several decades. Three thousand and two hundred separate series from the Australian Bureau of Statistics and another 400 from the JEG database are included and, eventually, the US-based Data Resources Inc. series will be added.

Other centres are also in the pipeline.

Like many residents of Newcastle, Professor Hughes has strong links with coal mining. He was born in 1943, the son of a New South Wales coalminer. He admits to liking the idea of coming to a region which duplicates towns in Wales such as Cardiff, Swansea, Aberdare and Rhondda, but he still prefers the warmer weather and less rain.

ECONOMICS OFFERS TO HELP BUSINESS NEEDS

Offering a number of centres for applied economics techniques the business is how the University's new professor of Economics, Barry Hughes, views the role of an already strong Department of Economics.

We have a strong core of research talent with commercial significance and the task is to focus that talent and put it in contact with sources of financial support," Professor Hughes said.

"What I am trying to do is get a number of units to act together like a Meccano set and support each other.

An economist with a long history of forecasting for Government, business and newspapers, Professor Hughes wants to strengthen the applied end of the Department's economic spectrum.

Professor Hughes, 44, is a graduate of the London School of Economics and holds an AM and PhD from Princeton University. His appointments prior to coming to Australia included a lecturing post at the University of Economics at Princeton University (1965-67) and Research Officer at the National Institute of Economics and Research, United Kingdom (1967-68).

He was appointed a Lecturer in Economics at Auckland University in 1968, promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1972 and Reader in 1976. From 1976-79 he was the Director of the Institute of Labour Studies at Flanders University.

He took leave of absence between 1976 and 1979 to become Economic Adviser to the Australian Government in South Australia, Mr Don Dunstan.

Since 1983 Professor Hughes has been an economic adviser to the Federal Treasurer, Mr Paul Keating.

He has been a prolific newspaper commentator, including articles written for 'The Australian', 'The National', 'The Financial Times', the Adelaide Sunday Mail, 'The Sydney Morning Herald' and 'The Australian Financial Review'.

Professor Hughes says a macroeconomics research group which compiles up-to-date data and disseminates it to anybody from inside and outside the University.

REUNIONS FOR GRADUATES

Have you ever thought about getting together with your fellow graduates, but realised how much time would be involved in tracking people down?

The Convocation Office is willing and able to locate graduates and to help organise re-unions. You may wish to organise a re-union of say, science graduates from 1974, OR a gathering of Newcastle University graduates in say, Canberra, OR the formation of a branch of the University of Convocation in Singapore of the United Kingdom?!!

PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO CONTACT THE CONVOCATION OFFICE ON (049) 68 5370 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION,
**CRICKET CHAMPIONS**

For the first time ever, the University’s First Grade cricket side is Newcastle champion. The team clinched the title by beating Belmont in the final of the district competition at No 1 Sports Ground on 28 and 29 March.

After winning the toss and batting first, University lost an early wicket, but an excellent partnership between David Johnston (72) and Tony Fort (31) helped to place the team in a strong position.

Following a small, middle-order collapse, Robert Merlo (45) and Greg Lloyd (36) combined in a fine partnership, which helped the side reach the impressive total of 242.

The following day Belmont was in early trouble, losing three quick wickets, which placed them in a position from which they were unable to recover, to be finally all out for 148.

The University side bowled, and fielded, superbly. Medium pacer, Cameron Ross, finished with four wickets, while Tim Curran, Ian Robertson and Chris Rudd all took vital wickets.

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**INTERVARSITY PREMIERS**

Newcastle University Surfriderz Club tookout many of the events at this year’s inter-varsity contest at Bell’s Beach, Victoria, and were winners for the third year running. Seeing if the 'surf's up' are, from left standing: Justin Gordon, Richard Finlay-Jones, Paul Freeman, Darren Stinson, Gina Capone, Alison Lynch, Steve O’Connor and Mark Crisp. Kneeling: Tim Crisp, Mark Whilahan, L intim. Liz Murray, Peter Cupitt, Michael Edwards, John Walker, Brad Lewis, David Rees, Ross O'Brien and Phil Burns.

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![Image of Newcastle University students listening to an entertainer while relaxing in the Union Courtyard.](image)

**TO THE SECRETARY, CONVOCATION FOUNDATION, UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE, NEWCASTLE NSW 2308**

**DATE: ________**

**ENCLOSED IS MY CHEQUE FOR THE 1987 STUDENT'S ACCOMMODATION APPEAL: $______**

**I WISH TO MAKE FURTHER DONATIONS IN FUTURE YEAR(S):**

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Please tick if already promised: ☐

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* Delete as required.

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The new Greater Newcastle teaching hospital at Rankin Park, which will be the regional centre for several specialties in Medicine and Surgery and academic base for several Chairs. Work is ahead of schedule. The photograph kindly taken by the RAAF Base, Williamstown, shows the stage reached in July, 1987.
At Convocation's annual dinner the 1986 Newton-John Award was presented to Brian Gilligan and Convocation officially welcomed the new Vice-Chancellor, Professor Keith Morgan. Brian received the award for his environmental and educational work associated with the Shortland Wetlands Centre, of which he is Acting Director. He is seen with Father James Bromley, Warden of Convocation.

The culmination of several years' study — a conferring of degrees ceremony inside the Great Hall.

INTERVARSITY PREMIERS

Newcastle University Surfriders Club was one of the events at this year's inter-varsity contest at Bell's Beach, Victoria, and were winners for the third year running. Seizing the 'surf's up' are, from left standing: Justin Gordon, Richard Frank-Jones, Paul Freeman, Darren Shone, Gina Capone, Allison Lynch, Steve C-Connor and Mark Crisp. Kneeling: Tim Chapp, Mark Whalan, Absent: Liz Murray, Peter Cupitt, Michael Edwards, John Walker, Brad Lewis, David MedJo, Ross Dineen and Phil Burns.
GLASS COMMEMORATIVE PLATE
Made of glass, designed and manufactured by Newcastle Glass Works.
COST: $25

ALBUM & GREETING CARDS
Sketches & descriptions of the University by the artist Allan Gamble.
COST: $7.50

GREETING CARDS
A set of six greeting cards & envelopes (illustrations by Allan Gamble).
COST: $3.50

GLASS PAPERWEIGHT
The glass paperweight features the Arms of the University and is 8 cms in diameter.
COST: $10

WALL PLAQUES
Made of teak and embossed metal, suitable for mounting in offices, living rooms and studies.
COST: $30

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE
An Introduction
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: $5

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 momento/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/o The University of Newcastle, New South Wales, 2308.

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