A possibly irrelevant view

In his last public lecture before taking up his appointment as Bond University, the Vice-Chancellor set out a number of the major issues on which he believed the University needed to reflect.

He reported on the progress of projects set in train during the last 12 months, discussed the hard decisions the University will have to face should a 12% funding cut be brought down in the forthcoming budget, and highlighted the need for action in establishing a lead in the field of Environmental Science and Management.

The lecture, entitled The Future of the University: A Possibly Irrelevant View, was the first University Forum for the year and attracted a good lunchtime crowd into the General Purpose Building lecture theatre.

Professor Mortley emphasised that the University must take itself very seriously and ensure that the highest aspirations are entrenched in its procedures. The University, he said, must ensure "that the best staff are always appointed, and that it develops the procedures for finding the best staff. It should seek them out." He also made the point that planning was vital.

"If there are goals, no matter how far off they are, then they will tend to be realised or, at worst, partly realised," he added.

A new light

by Alison Grisbarnes

Last year's successful "Illumination Newcastle", a celebration of light involving the illumination of a number of Newcastle's historic sites, looks like leading to a further project.

Mr Allan Chawner, lecturer in photography in the University's Fine Art Department, who was involved in lighting and photographing the historic sites, and who continues to do so with people from Newcastle City Council, told the Ear that a booklet would almost certainly be published to coincide with next year's Bicentennial celebrations.

"What we are aiming to do is produce a colour booklet which will cover an initial 32 sites which I've photographed and give readers some cultural and historical background to them," Mr Chawner explained.

The booklet which will be written by Associate Professor Paul Kavanagh from the University's English Department, is just one of a number of projects which come under the umbrella "Newcastle Green Energy Project", coordinated by Peter Dormand from the Newcastle City Council.

"A joint application has been made for a $50,000 grant from the Australian Experience 1996, for what we are calling Illumination Newcastle and the booklet is a part of that application," Mr Dormand told the Ear.

Apart from Mr Chawner's photographs, the booklet will contain maps, diagrams, anecdotal histories, original creative drawing and archival materials. Its production has the support of not just the University and the Council but the Newcastle Regional Library, the Regional Art Gallery, the Newcastle Bicentenary Committee, the Awabakal Aboriginal Cooperative, the Maritime Museum, Energy Australia, Newcastle Newspapers, the University of NSW and the Hunter Port Corporation.

"When it has been completed we intend that the booklet will also be available both on the Internet and on CD," Mr Dormand said.

Mr Dormand said that the challenge for the future was to ensure that all the power used to light the buildings which Mr Chawner had photographed, would be "green".

"We hope that in the not too distant future all the sites will be powered by renewable energy - that is, energy that doesn't come from coal driven power stations, but from wind, solar, hydro and landfill gas which won't emit greenhouse gases," he said.

"Illumination Newcastle will be a testing ground for Australia's renewable energy technology developers to demonstrate and promote their world leading technologies to the national and international markets." The University is also involved in this aspect of Illumination Newcastle with Associate Professor David Wood from the University's Renewable Energy Technology Centre.

"The Obelisk opposite King Edward Park is a part of that," Mr Dormand said.

"A possible irrelevant view"
Berkeley's gain our loss

Chris Chaston, a PhD student in the Department of Physics, has just left the University for a post-doctoral position at the Space Science Laboratory at the University of California, at Berkeley, one of the leading laboratories undertaking space research in the USA. Chris has just submitted his thesis and will gain his doctorate in a few months.

"It's an exciting challenge," he told the Ear a few days before flying out, "and I look forward to furthering my research work. It's such a stimulating environment and will offer many opportunities."

In December last year, when attending the Fall Meeting of the American Geophysical Union to present a paper on his thesis work, Chris was invited to give a seminar at the Space Science Laboratory. At the same time, he was notified that there were no positions available but they were interested in hearing about the research he was undertaking for his PhD at Newcastle. Following the presentation of the seminar Chris was invited into the office of Dr Forrest Mozer, a world leader in the study of electric fields in space, and offered a two-year post-doctoral position.

"I couldn't believe it and was at a loss as to what to say, other than I would think about it," Chris said.

With other positions in the offering - a similar position at the Max Planck Institute for Aeronomy in Lindau, Germany - and a position with the Australian Defence Scientific and Technical Organisation (DSTO) near Adelaide, Chris had to make a decision.

"Deciding the Berkeley position as it was an opportunity too good to refuse. When I return to Australia hopefully there will be positions available. The Berkeley position will allow me to work with one of the leading groups in the world studying the properties of electric fields and plasma in near-Earth space."

The Berkeley group currently has electric field experiments flying on the NASA POLAR orbiting spacecraft and the NASA-Japan GEOTAIL spacecraft which is exploring the distant magnetosphere of the Earth, in the nightside Earth's magnetic tail.

Chris gained his BSc degree with First Class Honours in physics and produced his first published paper from his Fourth Year Honours thesis. He then began his PhD under Professor Brian Fraser and Dr Yiying Hu, studying the properties of electromagnetic ion cyclotron waves in the nightside tail region of Earth's magnetic field. This required the analysis of wave and ionised particle data from the International Sun Earth Explorer (ISEE) spacecraft. To do this Chris visited the Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics at UCLA, the Los Alamos National Laboratories, New Mexico, and the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Iowa and gathered the data he needed using their computer systems. Following the analysis of data, Chris developed the linear and quasi-linear plasma wave instability theory necessary to explain the spacecraft results. It was this impressive effort in matching experiment with new theory which attracted the attention of the Berkeley scientists.

Chris will be a long way from home but he has already been assured of numerous visits since San Francisco is often the first port of call into the USA. And as he pointed out there are electronic mail and the Internet to keep friends and relations close together.

Global warming symposium

The University's recent one day interdisciplinary Symposium on Global Warming covered the climatological, economic, political and ethical issues surrounding global warming with speakers including Professor Howard Bridgman, visiting Professor Todd Sandler, Glenn Albrecht and Ko Doeleman who coordinated the event.

Professor Bridgman highlighted the global temperature record and the long run temperature prognosis under different assumptions concerning the heat trapping properties of the earth's atmosphere. He detailed the atmospheric life cycle of greenhouse gases and changes in weather patterns anticipated in Australia. Ko Doeleman spoke of carbon taxes and greenhouse gas licensing as well as the report card of Australia in coming to grips with greenhouse policy in the nineties. Professor Sandler explained how the political problem of global warming differs from that of acid rain and ozone depletion, the latter two being more amenable to international collaborative action.

And Glenn Albrecht questioned the dominance of a market-based economic decision making against a range of ethical criteria including the quantification of sustainability and that of the precautionary principle. His findings emphasised the need to be critical of short and narrow commercial and political horizons.

Bringing a smile to stern faces

One lone dog, snarled in red flannel - a yipping and a snipping - bongo drums pulsing, hooters sounding and 'clatter music' tinkling, the Newcastle Critical Mass cycling 'caravanserai' begins to roll out from Civic Park on a chilly winter's morn.

Ahead of the slow moving rubber-wheeled herd, moves a tall young man gliding in long bullet-like curves across Newcastle's chunky bitumen roads.

Flasky bikes, old no-gears bikes, a metre-high toy giraffe nodding with every bump from its passenger's pitch, there is even a 'recumbent' cycle - like a broom stick with a wheel at each end and Barry reclining as he gently pushes the cranks. Barry explains that some bikes have not really been made for coming up over the overbridge. The battle goes on, both lanes, causing needless and unnecessary accidents.

I think the University should be playing an active role in advancing safety cycleways, says John. The New University Transport officer John added that the Newcastle Critical Mass Critical Mass rides held last September as protest against the lack of action from the University East Cycleway Extension from the Uni to Waratah avoiding the Mater Hospital 'death trap' corridor which has been a part of the Newcastle City Bike Plan since 1987.

John says that although the Newcastle City Council has now identified the proposed extension as a high priority, the Council's plan would funnel cyclists across busy Maid Street - an extensively unhealthy and dangerous way to go.

Newcastle Critical Mass and the Newcastle Cycleways Movement, says John, want the Cycleway Extension to go along the verge of State Rail owned rail corridor and then under the Maid Street overbridge. The battle goes on and recently the Critical Mass people presented their case in a public access session of Newcastle City Council.

"The Council was sympathetic but the real problem will be convincing the SRA," says John.

"The Engineering Division of Newcastle City Council in its 1996-97 Budget has now recommended the extension as a top priority - but that is their route and we don't consider it satisfactory.

John adds that he is disappointed by the University's failure to advance the cause of cyclists particularly in the face of dangers to cyclists on roads leading to the University.

"They have not really contributed anything at all, apart from meeting with the State Rail Authority a few years ago because of this dispute over the route to the cycleway extension," he says.

The University has done some major things to improve public transport, but gives the way the campus is choked with cars as if it has deliberately heightened environmental awareness in the community. Hence, the University should be playing an active role in advancing safe cycleways.

Critical Mass rides are held on the last Wednesday of every month. They leave Civic Park at 8am.
The future of nursing

by Charles Graham

The role of nurses has changed dramatically in the past 50 years and is continuing to be redefined, according to Professor Helen Baker from the Faculty of Nursing.

Giving her inaugural lecture at Gosford's Laycock Street Theatre last month, Professor Baker said that until the Second World War any nursing research which did occur was carried out within the bio-medical framework. A new generation of nursing theorists emerged in the fifties, she said, and developed new methodologies or adopted from other disciplines to produce new knowledge in nursing.

"The activity of nursing has been carried out for thousands of years," Professor Baker said, surveying the history of nursing, "and we can only wonder about the nature of nursing research in those times. It is likely it consisted mainly of trial and error. It was not until Florence Nightingale appeared on the scene in the 19th century that nursing became a formal occupation and the idea of nursing research was legitimised."

Yet even she, the founder of modern nursing, associated nursing very closely with medicine.

"To do what she did, in face of opposition from society and the military authorities, she must have been a shrewd, persistent and generally tough woman. But when Miss Nightingale agreed that she would treat patients in accordance with doctors' orders, she placed nursing in a position that was closely related and subservient to medicine."

In the early days of nursing research, when nursing was regarded as merely an appendage of medicine, all research was carried out in this paradigm, but from the 1950s on, a series of theorists emerged such as Hildegard Peplau, Virginia Henderson, Lydia Hall, Ida Jean Orlando, Joyce Travelbee, Martha Rogers and Dorothea Orem. They and others researched and wrote papers leading to the acceptance of nursing as interpersonal interaction, and propounded the notion of nursing as being therapeutic in its own right.

By 1984 Pearson and Vaughan were able to list characteristics common to all nursing to that time and in concept of health, the concept of holism, the concept of humanism, autonomy of the client and therapeutic relationship.

From such beginnings, nurses arrived in universities.

"Most nurses graduating in 1996 will graduate with a Bachelor's degree. Within the university, research is a required activity, and graduates should emerge with some understanding and appreciation of its endeavours," Professor Baker said.

In spite of advances, the present still has its problems for nurses, which need to be addressed for the future. Clinical practice is changing rapidly. Nurses educated to provide bedside care 24 hours a day are discovering clients are no longer held in hospitals for long periods. Many ill clients are cared for in the community where nurses come into their territory instead of the other way around. The proportion of aged persons in the population is growing, providing nurses with unique opportunities to care in this field.

The number of journals devoted to nursing is growing, in Australia and overseas. The Royal College of Nursing has established documented Nursing Research Targets for the year 2000.

"Nursing research has travelled an enormous distance in a relatively short time," Professor Baker concluded.

"Florence Nightingale would, I hope, be proud if she could see it today. But nurses still have much work to do to be recognised as equal partners and colleagues in the health and research communities now and in the future. But my colleagues and I are not daunted by the prospect of difficulty."

The costumes are on display at the Drama Resources Centre, and are part of the University's Centenary celebrations.

Costumes on a shoestring

Beautiful clothes for an 18th century rake and his young lady have been made by the Drama Department's costume designer/wardrobe mistress Ms Julie Kirby with nothing more to guide her than pictures and drawings of fashions of the time.

Operating on a shoestring budget, Julie used cost-saving curtain fabrics instead of expensive brocade and craft braid instead of gold braid. The effect, as the photograph shows, is stunning.

They took months of work (she even made her own patterns for the costumes) and were completed within a budget of only a couple of hundred dollars!

The costumes will be worn by the lead actors in an 'in-house' production of Pamela or the Reform of a Rake, a play which was adopted from the famous novel written by Samuel Richardson in 1740.

According to Dr Victor Emeljanow, the Director of the University production, this particular adaptation was commissioned by the English company "Shared Experience" and first performed by them in 1985.

"It was directed by Giles Havergal who together with Fidellis Morgan adapted the novel for the stage." However, adaptations of Pamela have a long history.

"As early as 1741 Thomas Giffard's stage adaptation served as a vehicle for the young David Garrick while Voltaire wrote a French adaptation and Goldini, an Italian one. The play is a study of 18th century manners and behaviour seen through the filter of 20th century sensibility." Dr Emeljanow said.

The costumes are on display in the former Commonwealth Bank Building which has been refurbished and is now known as the Drama Resources Building.
Liberating the dominant sex

by Kim Britton

What began as a reflexive feminist movement among Anglo-Saxon left wing American academics in the early 1970s had presented a solid body of research in a serious and passionate field. Professor Bob Connell, author of Masculinities and Australia's first and only professor of masculinity studies at Sydney University, told participants at the Third Interdisciplinary Gender Studies Conference: "In the context of the growth of the women's movement in the 1970s, it wasn't long before some academic men applied to the production of knowledge the same logic of comparable oppression that was being applied in gay politics and the women's movement," Professor Connell said.

The process of creating an Australian Centre for Research into Gender Studies would have been a complex task that involved the abolition of male identity and gender. "It was an essentially complex task that involved the abolition of male identity and gender," Professor Connell said.

The project included the creation of a new Australian Centre for Research into Gender Studies (ACRE) and the development of a national research centre for gender studies.

ACRE would be established along these lines, he said, and should be looked at as an investment in future gender policy.

Professor Mortley also discussed the establishment of ACRE, the Australian Centre for Research into Gender Studies, which he said had a structure that could serve as a prototype for future developments.

Here he had in mind the creation of an Australian Centre for Environmental Science and Management.

In declaring Environmental Science and Management a "frontier field" for universities, Professor Mortley said that he and the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Newcastle are critical in the creation of such a centre.

As to funding a Centre for Environmental Science and Management, Professor Mortley told the audience that the University Foundation Interim Board had recently been renovated. "I have been pleased to note that the Chairmanship of Professor Jenny Graham, and had its first meeting. Part of its activities will be bringing people onto the site, familiarising them with it and endeavouring to ensure that the University of Newcastle is placed in their hearts and minds, it is the objective of the University to obtain bequests, endorsements or contracts. Although it was inevitable that money was at the centre of most of the Vice-Chancellor's lecture, he added, "I am one who believes in inquiry for inquiry's sake." He said that neither the Avocational or the Avocational Education policy stated was to be honoured.

"We will never retrench from this position, but we are unwilling to offer comment on any creative policy proposals which will enable universities to maintain their commitment to quality and teaching and research and their competitiveness internationally." Professor Gale said the Minister had lessened the education policy shaped any budget measures rather than the budget measures shaping higher education policy, and the AVCC welcomed the Minister's willingness to listen to the views of the higher education sector.

"The policy issues involved are too complex to be addressed merely by listening with the user pays elements. We need to consider major structural changes to the higher education funding base. Unless the changes are forthcoming, quality, diversity and choice - the Government's goals for higher education - can never be realised," Professor Gale said.

"But the AVCC has not been immune. It's a complex system, not the whole education system, but a part of it," Professor Gale said. The AVCC had, nevertheless, called for funding for environmental science and management, which was "the only way to make a city".
NOTICES

Retirement Message

I would like to say farewell to all staff for making the past eight years at the University memorable and enjoyable. I am grateful to the University for opening up many doors that may otherwise have remained closed.

Julie Wein - Perspective Students Unit

The Hunter/Chancellery Staff Association

The "Inside the Chancellery" luncheon held on Thursday 16 May raised $272 which has been donated to the Special Education Centre. The committee would like to thank all those who came along and all those who were so helpful.

Christmas in July

Where: The Branan Room
When: July 19, 7pm drinks 7.30pm eat
What: 2 course meal, drinks, at cost
How much: $27.95 non members
$20.00 members & partners
Lucky draw prize and $500.00 travel voucher - as drawn members only.
Please use Down or Margarita for tickets.

Cleaner's Corner

Effective 30 June the current standing order on GTC Recycling (aka Thes Environmental Services) at Redhead will ease.

Parties wishing to have documents shredded can still avail themselves of this service by ringing 87799 and quoting their own departmental appropriations.

GTC will provide and collect security shredding bins in the usual way. The only change to the system is that now it is a user pays expense rather than a general cleaning cost.

David Heggert, Senior Facilities Officer
Security and Cleaning

(049) White Pages Telephone Directories

The 1996 edition of the above directory is currently being distributed on campus. There will be one directory per handset, and it is expected distribution will be completed by the end of July.

A collection bin from Pacfic Waste has been delivered to the front of Engineering Building. KP (opposite the Chancellery) and staff are encouraged to drop their old directories into this bin.

Anyone wishing to organise a collection on behalf of a group or charity should write to their departmental notice boards and nominate their own drop-off point for collection of old books.

BP garages are again providing collection bins for old telephone books as part of the recycling program. Participating BP garages will have bins available until the end of July. There may be one in your neighbourhood.

Classroom & Theatre Services

1994 Lecture Theatre Ugrades
Basden, V1 & ATV255

During the period 8-16 July the Basden Lecture Theatre V1. Lecture Theatre in the Mathematics Building and ATV255 Lecture Theatre in the Visual Arts Building will be undergoing major audiovisual equipment upgrades with the installation of new public address systems, audio recording/ replay facilities, auditory loops for the hearing impaired and video/data projection facilities.

So that academic and technical support staff can take the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the new facilities, Classroom and Theatre Services staff will be in attendance on the following dates for an informal introduction and demonstration of the use and features of the equipment.

Wednesday 17 July between 10am and 12noon and 2pm and until 3.30pm has been allocated for the demonstration sessions in V1 Lecture Theatre in the Mathematics Building.

Thursday 18 July between 10am and 12noon and 2pm and until 3.30pm has been allocated for the demonstration sessions in Basden Theatre.

Friday 19 July between 10am and 12noon and 2pm and until 3.30pm has been allocated for the demonstration sessions in ATV255 in the Visual Arts Building.

It is hoped that all users and any prospective users will attend and we can therefore assist staff in the correct and efficient operation of the new equipment as well as take the chance to meet with C&TS staff to allow you to discuss any problems or specific needs.

We look forward to meeting any interested staff at these sessions on these days and hope we can be of assistance to you in preparing your audiovisual materials in the future.

These venues will be heavily catered and it will be very difficult to arrange a demonstration during term time so please make the effort to come along while the opportunity exists.

If you need any further information on these sessions do not hesitate to contact Doug Kaiser on 5941 or Robert Bull on 6695.

New loans items: We now have for the first time available a collection of video/data projector a high quality video/data projection panel and a laptop computer. These video/data projection units will be displayed on the same day of the lecture theatre demonstrations. These items need to be booked advance by going to the loans section on 6498. The important is that the loans service is free but the bad news is that these items are restricted to teaching staff only and we cannot offer a delivery service.

Doug Kaiser,
Manager, Classroom & Theatre Services
Phone 5941

Australian Federation of University Women

Dinner followed by Annual General Meeting 24 July at 6.30pm for 7pm in the Lambert Lounge, University Union. Cost $18.50. Please telephone 293226.

Help with the costs of education for the children of Vietnam veterans

The Vietname Veterans Trust Education Assistance Scheme (VVTES) provides help with the costs of post-secondary education for selected children. Each year the scheme offers a limited number of new grants. These give $3,500 per annum for those selected and are paid for the duration of their approved courses provided conditions are met.

To be eligible to be considered for a VVTES grant a person must be:

• the child of a Vietnam veteran, and under the age of 25 when applying.
• enrolled or planning to enrol in, a full time post-secondary course up to first qualification level. Courses may be at University, TAFE Business College of a recognised private institution in Australia.
• Within the VVTES means test. This is eligibility on financial grounds for Austudy.

The role of Convocation is to strengthen the links between the University, its graduates and the community. The Convocation Management Committee meets approximately six times a year, after office hours.

For further information about nominating for these positions, or any membership enquiries, please contact the Manager, Convocation Office, on extension 6459.

Call for nominations to the Management Committee of Convocation

Nominations are now called for positions on the Management Committee of Convocation. Nine general member positions and one position of Deputy Warden will be elected at the Annual General Meeting of Convocation to be held at 5.30pm on Wednesday 24 July, 1996 at University House, Corner Kent and Auckland Streets, Newcastle. Nominations will be accepted up to the time of the meeting.

Persons wishing to nominate and those wishing to be nominated must be members of Convocation.

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For further information about nominating for these positions, or any membership enquiries, please contact the Manager, Convocation Office, on extension 6459.

New Grievance Advisers

Following the adoption of new Grievance Procedures for Staff, a number of staff members have been appointed by the Vice-Chancellor as Grievance Advisers. These are:

Sharon Beswell, Lecturer, Mathematics 6628
Paul Scott, Lecturer, Communication and Media Arts 3926
David Murray, Technical Officer, Electrical and Computer Engineering 5438
Wendy Hawthorne, Lecturer, Curriculum and Teaching Studies, 6447
Fred Maher, Co-ordinator, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Strategy, Human Resource Management, Branch, 8651
Simon Simon, Lecturer, Computer Science 6076
Central Coast
Cathy Siem, Counsellor, Central Coast Campus, 4033
Robert Mackie, Lecturer, Central Coast Campus, 4/41
Bob Frazer, Assistant Registrar, Student Administration Services, Central Coast Campus, 4031

Whether your grievance is large or small (it may involve discrimination, harassment, working conditions or whatever), feel free to contact a Grievance Adviser. They will hear your problem and, where possible, there are other criteria for selection.

Applications open on 1 September and close on 31 October. Forms and more information will be available from the Trust's Regional Offices.

Deadline

Deadline for entries 21 July, 1996.

For copy of information form please email Rose at the Public Affairs Unit prnt@nc.newcastle.edu.au with contact details.

Hunting Regional Fellowships of Australian Writers

1996 Denis Butler Memorial Competition

Short Story max length 3,000 words. Children's Story max length 1,500 words. Non-Fiction max length 2,000 words. Traditional Poetry max length 50 lines. Free Form Poetry max length 50 lines.

Each prize: $100

Closing date for entries 21 July, 1996.

If you are contributing information to the Inner Ear please send it to Rose Roahan in the Public Affairs Unit.

Deadline

Deadline for the next issue of the Inner Ear is Tuesday 9 July at 10am.

NB

If you are contributing information to the Inner Ear please send it to Rose Roahan in the Public Affairs Unit.

E-mail: prnt@cc.newcastle.edu.au

Page 3,403 on line.

Word 6 or WordPerfect 5.1 only.

Endnotes 6463
THE MUSIC LOVERS CLUB - Fund Raiser

Mick davison and Friends

An evening of Aboriginal Music, Song, Dance and History in the foyer of the Auditorium, Conservatorium of Music, Auckland Street Newcastle.

Tuesday 23 July at 7.30pm. Mick Davison will trace the history of Aboriginal music and culture with stories all night.

All for $10 adults and $5 for school students.

Bookings are essential. 49 7421 by day or 49 3646 after hours.

All proceeds will be donated to the Thomas Nash Foundation for the Conservation of Student and the Aboriginal Support Group at Wollotuka.

Do you need publicity?

Do you have an event or function you would like publicised to the media? If so please contact Carolyn Warner by fax (4724), email cm@conv@nswu or phone her on 6856 by the Friday before the event.

Carolyn will then be happy to include it in the media diary which is sent out each Monday to local media.

Deadline

Deadline for the next issue of the Inner Ear is Tuesday 7 July at 10am.

Upcoming Convocation Chapter and Local Events

Convocation invites you to attend any (or all) of the following events.

• Come along for a fun cocktail party (dine not finger food - door prize) then join in the Convocation Annual General Meeting with a wine tasting to follow.

Date: 5.30pm Wednesday 24 July 1996
Venue: University House, cnr King and Auckland Streets, Newcastle (take a look at the new refurbishments)

• Vitality Trip to Chittering Estate Wines (Perth)

Date: Sunday 28 July 1996

Join the Newcastle Alumni in the Far Western Alumni Association in celebrating Autonomy Day, over a sunset dinner with a view.

• Singapore Graduation and Chapter Formation

Date: Saturday 24 August, 1996

A Graduation Ceremony will be held at the Shanghai Hotel in Singapore with dinner and celebrations to follow. Many former graduates attend and it is hoped that this will provide an opportunity to discuss the formation of a Chapter of Convocation in the region. Our friends overseas would be very pleased and honoured if you were able to attend and share in celebrating their achievements.

For further information on any of these events, please contact Alison Kindler, Convocation Officer by telephone extension 6459 or email conv@newcastle.nswu.edu.au.

LIBNOTES

Student Access to the World Wide Web

The Library is now offering members of the University (staff and students) access to the World Wide Web (WWW) as it is becoming an essential tool for discovering electronic resources. Confuser software, Netscape, a WWW browser, has been loaded on workstations in new computer laboratory in the Auditory Library, reference area, the Central Coast reference computer and a dedicated workstation in the Harry Lee Library. Due to the pressure on scarce workstations, the focus of Library based WWWe activity will be to broadly education and course related information resources. Bookings can be made for thirty minutes at a time.

The Library's recent survey indicated that many students have yet to be introduced to the World Wide Web. The Library's training program includes introductory and advanced classes for staff and students in information resource access on the World Wide Web. Brochures containing registration forms are available at the reference desks in each Library and should be returned to Ms. Sarah Fox in the Auditory Library and Ian Hynden at this CCCIRC. Faculty librarians will increasingly be using World Wide Web training in the context of specific courses and the Information Literacy Program.

Full Text Articles Online

We have a new database - The Expanded Academic Index - which indexes articles in approximately 1500 journal titles and provides full text of more than $30 of them. The database is being used to cover the following subject areas such as arts, education, history, literature, engineering, popular science, psychology, economics and cultural studies and many others.

You can perform a search on a topic of your choice to see what is available for you. After you have done a subject search, the display of references will show you immediately whether the full text is available. Departments forwards to cut/journal titles may be searched and be available online. For example, some journals recently cancelled by departments such as Industrial Engineering, International Journal of Operational Research and the International Journal of Sociology are available in full text. Or you can simply read Psychology Today online from home or the office.

Printing/Reprographic Services

Following a competitive tender process the University has entered into a formal arrangement with Lloyd Scott Business Equipment to provide printing/reprographic services to the University for a period of five years from 1 July 1996.

The University's Central Printery, located in the McMullin Building, will cease operation on 28 June 1996. University users will be able to obtain reprographic and related services from Lloyd Scott Printery without the need for competitive quotations or tenders for jobs, at agreed service prices. A brochure detailing services available, cost of each service and how to access the new facilities will be widely distributed by the contractor within the next couple of weeks.

The contractor will undertake all work off the campus, in premises located in Kotara. For at least the initial stage of these new arrangements the contractor will have a presence on campus located in the McMullin Building level 2 room G016.

The level and nature of the service to be provided under the terms of the arrangement are based very much in terms of price, quality and accessibility. The main features of these arrangements are as follows:

• off-site location
• access via PC/MAC from the user's office by electronic transfer (software and training to be provided to all users) or collection of work by Lloyd Scott staff (disks or hard copy) from staff offices
• delivery of completed jobs by Lloyd Scott staff to the office of the user or within a standard turnaround time of 6 hours (subject to the job) under normal circumstances
• pick up and delivery of completed work off the campus. in premises located in Kotara. For these services please telephone Gillian, extension 6459 or email gillian@conv@nswu.edu.au.

The good news is that in exchange for these 3 closed Sundays we hope to provide extended hours later in 2nd Semester. Please news letter later.

Continuing Professional Education Unit:

Magic in the Ancient World

Code: 235
Date: Wednesday 17 July
Time: 6pm-8pm
Venue: The Green Room, University Great Hall

Scenic Geographical Wonders of the World

Date: Tuesday 27 July
Time: 10am-12.30pm
Venue: G04 Geology Building

For further details of these or other courses see the CWIS or contact the Continuing Professional Education Unit on 5358.

For Sale

• 7 yr old brick house at Merewether (close to TAM) 3 bedrooms all with built-ins, ensuie to main, large lounge/fielding room, large dining room, brand new air conditioner and wood burning heater, double carports, low maintenance garden with pond, lots of trees and plenty of water tank and large workshop, average all round, low maintenance $195000. Contact Anne Burkett on extension 6444 or at 33 4247.
• Gits bicycle $25, bicycle $15, blackboard $30, telephone call-out, extension 6190 or at 32 7676.
• Lawnmower, 12 week only $10 please telephone Anne Burkett on extension 6444.
• New DVD player, 27" television size 12 print $55, 2 earring long sleeve blouses size I (12) $75 each, 2 small jars with lids, please telephone Mike 3549 or have message 3549 - I will be pleased to collect from your department office.

The following information is available on the CWIS:

• University Legislation
• Music Appreciation Group Program
• Music Lovers Club Program
• Tenders
• Continuing Professional Education Unit Program
• Terms of reference CALT External Review

If you aren't familiar with the procedure this is what you do.

Open the computer program Netscape and you aren't familiar with the procedure this is what you do.

Open the computer program Netscape and you aren't familiar with the procedure this is what you do.

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Open the computer program Netscape and you aren't familiar with the procedure this is what you do.
Beyond the cloister

by Alison Grahame

Picture a 17th century convent somewhere in France. The nuns are English and are in exile trying to keep their Catholic identity alive during the Reformation. They are part of a contemplative order, cut off from family and friends and restricted to a life of prayer.

How do you envisage these nuns? Quiet, homely, devout, relatively weak and powerless? If so, then you'd be quite surprised at the truth. Dr Claire Walker, lecturer in history at the Central Coast Campus, spent a great deal of time researching these nuns for her PhD thesis, and in her paper, "Beyond the Cloister: Pammage in 17th Century English Convents," delivered at the Gender Studies Conference held at the University of Newcastle this month, she illustrated just how powerful these women were.

Following the Conference, Dr Walker spoke to the Ear about the life of these exiled nuns and how they handled not only religious but also political power as well.

"Absolutely, these nuns were supposed to cut themselves off from their families, the reality was that all of these cloisters in France and elsewhere maintained close contact with kin and friends back in England. Their reasons were not purely personal. They were strategic. The convents were dependent financially on English Catholics and they attracted new recruits almost entirely from England. So it was essential that these women retain some worldly interests. And they did so very successfully.

"Considering themselves to be religious exiles, the nuns were active in reinstating Catholicism in England and keen in their support for individuals and groups who were backing the Stuart royal family." Dr Walker explained. "They did this by patronage. They used patronage not just as a way of looking after their own families and the financial well being of their convents but they manipulated it to achieve their political aims as well."

Dr Walker said that in England in the 17th century, patronage was the most common method of exercising political authority at a time when the public and the private were not clearly separated. "Patron-client relationships were commonly generated through social interactions and so in the homes of both the aristocracy and the gentry, the role of successfully maintaining patronage fell to the woman of the house."

In Catholic households, in particular, being able to secure the protection of patrons was vital and Catholic gentlewomen played a prominent role in securing their families' protection from prosecution and financial ruin. It was the daughters of such powerful women, Dr Walker said, who travelled to the Continent to establish and join monasteries.

And what these monasteries needed most were wealthy and powerful friends, both at home and abroad, who would help them attract new recruits and to make ever-shrinking ends meet.

"They did this by finding patrons among the families of their nun's, from the English and Catholic officials in the regions where they settled, amongst the local nobility and government officials, and even from royalty," Dr Walker said.

Dr Walker cited the case of Letitia Tredway, Abbess of the Augustinians in Paris, who established St Gregory's College for English priests studying at the Sorbonne. "The convent provided some land and she worked tirelessly to secure the necessary political and financial support. She was very successful and showed that not only could women use their influence and wealth in their own convents but that could intercede on behalf of others, even priests.

Nuns like Letitia Tredway became powerful brokers and patrons in their own right."

As to politics, the nuns were so successful in converting people both to Catholicism and to the cause of Charles II, that the Protestant authorities in England were quite alarmed. And justifiably so. The Abbess Mary Knatchbull and her Ghent Benedictines were staunch allies of Charles II and she not only arranged for the dispatch of his letters, but negotiated loans on his behalf with merchants and financiers. The Augustinians of Bruges frequently entertained Charles during his exile and in 1656 they gave the prince 1000 florins to further his cause.

"When it came, the Restoration was the cause of much celebration. At Ghent there were festivities for the newly restored king. The Abbess wrote to congratulate Charles, and received a reply acknowledging his gratitude to the nuns and promising the immediate gift of 400 English pounds."

Dr Walker said that through the establishment and maintenance of patronage networks, the English nuns were able to participate in the concerns of both their families at home and in their nation's political affairs. "As the daughters of influential and powerful mothers, the nuns had an upbringing which provided them with vital role models."

Frail, weak and powerless? Forget it!

Do we love them or love to hate them?

It was last year during the new famous ABC interview with the Princess of Wales or Lady Di as she is popularly known, that Dr Lemmings was struck with brilliance.

Along with millions of others I was watching this extraordinary performance, a young woman who, let's be honest, is from an aristocratic family whose history dates back several centuries, and here she was appealing for popular support. I thought there has to be a market for a course on monarchy.

Dr Lemmings lectures in the History Department and his main research interest is 18th century law and society, but he is confident that such a course would be popular, particularly with older students and would help maximise the Department's already healthy EFTSU's. "One has to realistic and think of ways to respond to that cliché the 'ever increasing pressures of the marketplace'," he said.

Dr Lemmings told the Ear that his plans for the course (tentatively titled "From Comute to Commodity") began to take greater shape in his mind when he was contacted recently by ABC radio to offer some comments (from an historian's point of view) on Queen Elizabeth becoming the second longest reigning female monarch in British history.

"I was bemused by the fact that despite the push for a republic, there is still so much continuing popular interest in Australia in the minor details of the British royal family," he said. "The question is, does this mean that ordinary people, the people who buy New Idea and the Women's Weekly to find out what Lady Di is up to, are comfortable with the monarchy and not interested in Australia becoming a republic? Does it mean that the push for a republic is only coming from the 'chattering classes' and has little popular support? Or is it possible that at a popular level Australians are quite able and happy to follow the minutiae of the royal saga as they would a television soap without it compromising their national identity; and that their interest tells us very little about their political views?"

Whatever the answers, as an Englishman and a republican himself (despite having once owned a corgi!), Dr Lemmings thinks the British royal family is an anachronism and should be disestablished. "Such a move is far more feasible than for Australia. When Paul Keating was pushing his arguments for an Australian republic he gave the impression that as a nation Australia couldn't go forward economically and socially until we had a clearly defined identity; and that this could not be achieved until the final trappings of British rule had been eradicated. "This is a very 19th century view of the world. It derives from the great European revolutions where 'the people' were liberated either from an oppressive ruling class or some foreign power. But in the late 20th century with all our advanced telecommunications, air travel, and the global economy, such a view, I think, is entirely irrelevant. To argue for an independent and national myth is to be stuck in a time warp," he said.

Dr Lemmings anticipates that his course will be offered for the first time in 1998.
Love minus zero

by Tite Isabel

I n the beginning there was the Big Bang...and the 60's collided with the music of Bob Dylan.

Fortune happenstance or just plain karma?

Peter Brown, who was recently awarded an MA by the University for his thesis titled Love Minus Zero: Existentialism and Religious Faith in Bob Dylan's Lyrics, smiles wryly at the suggestion of a '60s world' without Dylan.

"Whichever way you say it, there's luck and good management. But it's certainly arguable that without Dylan the peace movement would have been without its most significant aesthete and without some of its more significant political figures."

"He just radicalised a whole generation and gave a voice to popular protest; and I think made his own contributions to preventing nuclear war or World War III."

"His writing on the Civil Rights movement was also very powerful - from black political activist Medgar Evers who was assassinated to black boxer Rubin Carter, who was allegedly framed for murder, and particularly including the black folk musical activist George Jackson. It is true that Jackson in his book, 'Soledad Brother' put his own case better than Dylan ever could, but Dylan reached a wider audience than Jackson did."

"Dylan was not the only 'musical journalist' working at the time however - Phil Ochs for example, in such songs as 'Mississippi' and 'Oxford Town' merged political engagement with the ballad form and came up with work of enduring quality."

"The problem is that this is not to say that Dylan was the sole radicalising influence on his generation. Even the pre-existing musical influences would consume volumes, but they include Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger, the Weavers and Harry Belafonte."

"Peter says the choice of subject, given that he wanted to invest his energies in something he regarded as personally meaningful and enjoyable, was a natural."

"From a very young age - in 1962 I was seven - I've been very aware of the music you could look like 'Blowing in the Wind', and I've been very attuned to it and really relating to it, and just going from there."

At 15, I got a copy of 'Highway 61 Revisited'. I read it and then I'd like to write something about it. Every word has to be checked and true. He appealed to my adolescent angst. As I've grown older the truth of the book 'Blowing in the Tracks' has been very consuming."

"Peter says he has long been
**A n i n t e n s e c o m m i t m e n t t o A R T**

by Charles Grahame

Edwin Easydorchik is the guiding light behind the University's new Fine Art course at the Central Coast Campus, and he's bursting with ideas for it. Chanting from him is a little like one imagines talking to John Lennon might have been, same Northern accent, same Han Solo glasses, same gentle wit, same striking aquiline features. His conversation is marked by an urgent enthusiasm, driven by what is clearly his intense commitment to art.

An Englishman born in Northumbria, his training was initially in Luton and later at London's Central School of Art and Design in the late 60s. "There was a buzz of creativity in the air then," he recalls with pleasure. "The LSE was just down the road and students had put up barricades against the staff. It was a time of great movements for young people world-wide, student riots in Paris, the civil rights movement in America. There was a throwing off of old values and a surge of freedom."

Edwin owes his surname to a Polish grandfather. He taught at various institutions in the UK including three years as Lecturer in Painting at our namesake, the University of Newcastle (upon Tyne). He was invited to Adelaide School of Art in 1987 as artist in residence and officially emigrated to Australia two years later. In 1991 he was appointed Senior Lecturer in Painting and Drawing at the University of Western Sydney, and now has thrown himself unstintingly into his new assignment, Fine Art at the Central Coast. His office is in The Hermitage, the building that was formerly the Director's unit, the real action happens in the studio, the roomy space that housed the original library on the Central Coast Campus, now a blaze of easels.

"There are so many possibilities here. For one thing I'd like to start up vacation courses. I'd prefer a winter school to a summer school simply because in summertime it's too hot. Fine Art as a university course used to be thought a little unworldly, but now we've focussed it very clearly on a vocational end, preparing students for jobs in galleries, museums and suchlike. I believe everyone has a creative streak and in Fine Art we hope to bring it out and develop it."

Coinciding with his move to the Central Coast Campus, Edwin has voluntarily turned his personal life around. "I was smoking far too much and I've given up now. I've changed my diet completely and set myself new goals. I don't own a TV, I think it's an evil thing. It anaesthetises experience. I'm a radio person. Sound utilises the aural tradition. You don't have to sit in front of a screen to find out about the world."

Currently he commutes to the Central Coast from Sydney but he's looking for a local property. A small farm in the hinterland would be ideal with a huge packing shed suitable for a studio, plenty of fresh air and pleasing country vistas for his cat Oliver ("he's always asking for more").

It took me about six years to complete. I enrolled in 1990. I handed it in in 94. It was rejected. Then I resubmitted it in 95 and it was accepted. Those years were a fairly intense period. I was raising children at the time and working casually as a teacher, so I had the opportunity to work on the thesis a couple of days a week and most nights from about 10 to midnight. But at the time I was living by the water with a very supportive partner and it was a very peaceful setting which helps a lot in the process of writing something like this. During the last year of the work the situation was entirely different - in the same place but completely alone and working flat out. I was determined to complete the thesis, which was itself sustaining in a difficult time.

Did the unorthodox nature of the subject present problems in gaining academic acceptance of the work?

"It was definitely reductive, but that was the beauty of it. If I had attempted something less daring I think I could have walked it in, but with an absolute sense of non-achievement, I could have written something on satire for example, and everyone would have been happy, but to me it just would have been more verbiage."

"When I first handed it in the examiners had insisted on more historical context and they were critical about the fact that it was very reductive. They were very supportive though and suggested that if it were revised according to their standards a stronger work of scholarship would result. When it was re-examined they described it as displaying intellectual rigour... I found the historical material very fulfilling too - the reading, I mean, everything from political analyst Herman Kahn to soldier-turned-peace activist David Hackworth."

And what did Peter conclude from his study?

"I think there is that conflict between existentialism and religious faith in Dylan's work. He tends to sample ideologies, that he tends to take some on board very deeply like his Judaism and his existentialism... I think Dylan has the capacity, characteristic of first-rate minds, of holding two opposing ideas together at the same time. He has the ability to absorb certain ideas and use them creatively. He may not read assiduously into them, but I think he ponders them very deeply. Dylan has a tremendous creative drive."

Peter says that at one stage he attempted to communicate with Dylan but aware of the artist's reclusive ways he hit on the idea of attempting to reach him through the medium of one of Dylan's famous compatriots, the legendary 'Beat' poet Allen Ginsberg. Peter was lucky enough to receive a reply from Ginsberg - itself a collector's item - but unfortunately one of his daughters 'wreaked havoc' by removing its stamp for her own collection.

"It was a good attempt but Ginsberg said he had enough questions of his own to ask Dylan without passing mine on. Still they say that Dylan reads everything published about him, so if my thesis is published he might get to read it then."

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**Karate kids**

*by Helene O'Neill*

If you thought practising karate was about smashing a pile of bricks with a single chop, talk to the University's own karate kids, Angela Dunagan and Peter Carson and you soon realize that involvement in martial arts is all about a disciplined lifestyle. Peter and Angela have a lot in common which helps them empathise with the struggles they each endure trying to combine study, training, representative commitments and the pursuit of a successful career.

A 200-mile round trip from the north coast of NSW to study at the University of Newcastle and both are in their final year of study - Peter doing a combined civil engineering and surveying degree and Angela a PhD in Health and Physical Education. Both acknowledge the strength of karate in this area.

Peter's career reached a high point last April when he was selected in Australia's team for the World titles in Japan. His outstanding performance in the kumite helped Australia claim the title of world champions. In an attempt to put university karate on the map, Peter was instrumental in forming the campus karate club where he is the chief instructor.

As the current Australian Koshiki Open Women's champion, Angela is now in training to defend her title. Competing in the cruiser-weight division (61-68kg), she will face tough opposition at the World titles in Newastle on September 22 as a lead up to the Nationals in November.

The titles and representative honours mean hours of training. Peter completes 4 weight training sessions a week as well as sparring and bag workouts. Weights are also on Alison's training schedule which she combines with 4 weekly road running sessions. This may not sound too exhaustive except you have to throw in the part-time jobs which help offset competition expenses and the sleepless nights spent studying or completing assignments.

Long term goals in sport include a switch to Tae-Kwon-Do for Peter if it means Olympic selection while Angela has her sights set on the World titles in June 97. Their thirst to acquire more information about the philosophy of karate is evident but has been put on hold while these outstanding martial arts exponentes continue with the physical side of karate.

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**Dedicated, committed and enthusiastic**

When you think of first grade players in any sport, you generally think long hours of team training, weight sessions in the gym and the stress of game days. But if you combine all that hard slog plus the final stages of PhD study plus the position of vice-president of the Sports Union what you get is the dedication, commitment and enthusiasm of the University's men's hockey star, Andrew Abbo.

Andrew joined the hockey club in 1986 and last month set a record in the School's sports afternoon. Such a move should provide the club with home grown talent in years to come.

The University hockey club is the biggest in the district and currently enjoys a favourable relationship with the district association particularly in the supply of referees - a result of the training courses the club encourages its members to complete. The club has also joined forces with Lambton High School and conducts weekly training sessions and games during the school's sports afternoon. Such a move should provide the club with home grown talent in years to come.

Future directions for the Sports Union excite Andrew particularly in the form of the proposed multi purpose health and fitness centre. He believes that the interests of the students are always paramount but foresees greater community involvement in the new development to offset the enormous cost of the project. Andrew is aware of the need to make the sporting and fitness interests of the University community an integral part of life in the Hunter.

Although still juggling with his future, whether Andrew chooses to pursue an academic life or a career in private industry, the University of Newcastle Hockey club will still enjoy the on and off field services of an exceptional club member.