**Second time around**

The University's economy car, Newcastle, is again an entrant in the Shell Mileage Marathon. Built last year by the Faculty of Engineering as a research project, Newcastle has a light aluminium body, a Honda engine and a diminutive driver.

The car will go to Williamstown R.A.A.F. Base on May 31 for practice runs and then to Warwick Farm Race Track, Sydney, on June 7 for the big event, the Marathon.

Mechanical problems affected the car's performance in last year's marathon. However, the car's average petrol consumption, 882 miles per gallon, gave the car's builders confidence to try modifications to improve the performance.

In the words of the team manager, Mr. R.A. Willems, Senior Lecturer in Mechanical Engineering: "Last year we were pressed to get the vehicle's body finished and we had little time in which to make a highly efficient engine."

"The engine we are using is a 54.5 cc modified Honda", Mr. Willems said. "The modifications consist of an offset cylinder barrel, aluminium sump, a modified piston, a modified valve lift and timing, a non-leaking carburettor and a less severe centrifugal clutch".

Mr. Willems said: "Newcastle's configuration is with two exposed front wheels and a completely enclosed body housing the driver, the engine and the single rear wheel.

"The body is made from light gauge aluminium tubing in a space frame fashion and is covered with aircraft fabric. Where visibility is required clear plastic is substituted for the fabric. The driver is supported by a hammock end a headrest. The controls consist of handle-bar steering, ignition switch, start button and lever type rear brake, ergonomically positioned".

He said that a special feature of the vehicle was its Ackerman steering and its ability to lean through corners or when cross winds were prevalent. "This leaning enables all tyre forces to act in the plane of the wheels so that 'singles' can be used without fear of their dislodging during cornering."

"It is also expected to bring the co-efficient of rolling resistance down from that for tricycles to that for bicycles."

The Shell Mileage Marathon is sub-divided into sections for Private, Universities and Colleges and Commercial entrants. This University is one of seven competitors in the Universities section chasing $1,000 in prize money. Mr. Willems thinks about 2,000 mpg may be possible from Newcastle if everything goes well.

The economy car's team is made up of Mr. Willems, Chow Leung (Driver No.1), Karen Symington (Driver No.2), Adel Girgis and Chris Straw. Leung weighs 40 kgs and Karen weighs 45 kgs.

The photograph of Newcastle gives an indication of the vehicle's arrangement. A rear wheel subframe carries the engine mounting so work on the engine and transmission can be done outside the vehicle. Instrumentation is minimal and consists of an electromagnetic speedometer with adjustable high and low speed warning lights.

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**Council considers proposed Amalgamation**

At a special meeting of the Council of the University of Newcastle held on May 25 to consider the proposed amalgamation of the University and the Newcastle College of Advanced Education, it was resolved:

- That Council express regret that the proposals of the Committee of Review of Commonwealth Functions (the Lynch Committee) were announced without proper consultations with the University of Newcastle, the Newcastle College of Advanced Education, relevant State authorities and the community;

- That Council express the view that the changes, if any, in the relationship between the autonomous tertiary institutions in the Region should be introduced, if at all, only after proper discussion and should be phased in with minimum dislocation to students, staff and the community; and

- That a committee of Council be established to consider the whole question of the consequences for the University of the Commonwealth's announce-
Letters to Editor

Dear Sir,

In the Review of University Finances (New, May 14, 1981, green pages) you report that Council has noted with agreement the proposition (10.3) that "members of the academic staff are expected to engage in research and the pursuit of scholarship with no less sense of obligation than they fulfil their teaching commitments". It would have been nice if Council had also declared that members of the academic staff are expected to fulfil their teaching commitments with no less sense of obligation than that with which they engage in research and the pursuit of scholarship. Or wasn't this necessary?

J.M. LEE,
Department of Philosophy.

Lecture on China

The Standing Committee on Asian Studies is offering a public lecture by Dr. Howard Dick, Senior Lecturer, School of Modern Asian Studies, Griffith University on China's Economic Modernisation.

The lecture will be given in R02 (Geography) on June 12 at 12.30 pm.

Dr. Howard Dick, Chairman of the Standing Committee, explained that since the downfall of the 'Gang of Four' the damage done to the Chinese economy during the Great Leap Forward and then the Cultural Revolution had been revealed.

Chou En-lai had initiated an ambitious modernisation programme to overcome China's economic backwardness by the year 2,000 and this programme had been carried on by Teng Hsiao-ping. Over recent months, however, there had been signs - most dramatically the cancellation of adaptive contracts with Japanese companies - that the modernisation programme was faltering and might be being re-assessed.

Watch us perform

The Engineering Fraternity has hired a small coach to take members to Warwick Farm Racing Circuit to see the University's economy car Newcastle perform. The fare is only $2 and the bus only holds 25. The coach will depart from the Faculty of Engineering car park on June 7 at 7 am, returning at approximately 8 pm. Reservations can be made with the Secretary of the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

Higher Degree Report

Dr. Rajendra Kumar recently completed his doctoral degree in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, with a thesis on Adaptive Identification and Control Systems. In the following item he explains his explorations.

The motivation for the research in this area is to be able to design systems in some optimal sense or to get the best out of existing systems. One might then ask the question why adaptive? The answer lies in the sheer complexity of modern day systems and the need to intelligently control them. Of course, one can model these systems by studying the underlying principles of physics, physiology, etc., then the model does not require adaptation. But to derive such a model may take many years and even then may not be complete, or may be excessively complex for the design of control strategies.

In adaptive control we use a simple model to formulate the real system without requiring its detailed physical analysis, and then update the model as the system evolves by learning its behaviour over time. And in most cases it is this kind of knowledge about the system we require for the purposes of getting the best out of it. Thus the purpose of adaptation is more pragmatic in its content than just being a scientific enquiry. The familiar examples of this concept lie in the areas of biofeedback, auto-navigation, satellite positioning, adaptive communication and so on.

The thesis has developed simple adaptation algorithms which are very effective and shown by mathematical analysis and/or by computer simulations.

Next Inaugural Lecture

Professor MacDonald, who took up his appointment to the Chair of Physics last November, was attached to the Australian National University in Canberra for 15 years before coming to this University.

He spent most of his early life in the Maitland area and completed a B.Sc. degree course at Newcastle University College in 1961.

Professor MacDonald has brought to this University equipment which he collected and assembled over a number of years to form one of the best experimental laboratories for the study of ion-surface interaction in the world.

The University Inaugural Lecture Series is presented by Convocation as mainly University and Convocation occasions at which new Professors introduce themselves to colleagues, students and graduates and report on developments in their disciplines.
Schools Visit Day

This year close to 1,500 Year 12 school students participated in the Annual Schools Visit Day at the University on May 28.

The programme enabled the students, who come from Newcastle, the Hunter Valley and the North Coast, to learn first hand about opportunities for study on the campus and meet academic staff, administrative officers and student leaders.

The visitors chose topics which interested them from a list of 10 sessions beginning at 9.10 am and ending at 3.30 pm. They spent most of their time in the Departments of the University in which they were especially interested.

Lectures, films and demonstrations were organised and laboratories opened for inspection.

An information centre operated in the lower foyer of the Union Building. The students visited the centre from various points across the campus to obtain directions and advice. From 8.30 until 9.30 am a subsidiary information centre functioned near the Great Hall.

Faculty Secretaries made themselves available to the school students to answer questions about courses.

The Careers and Student Employment Office opened all day to answer questions on career paths and prospects of employment after graduation.

The Language Laboratory and the Amenities Office opened for inspection and the Auchenfilth Library presented tours and a special lecture.

The Department of Architecture opened from 2 pm onwards so that the building and equipment could be inspected. The Department of Education's Curriculum Resources and Research Centre on the top floor of the Behavioural Sciences Building opened between 9.30 am and 3 pm.

While the Year 12 students had lunch in the Union they were met by Officials of the Students' Representative Council and the Union.

In the period May 24 to 26 the University was host to a national conference of senior administrative staff from Australian universities. More than 40 delegates and guests came to the campus. The conference mainly involved Australian university senior administrators, but Lincoln College, New Zealand, the Papua New Guinea Institute of Technology and the Asian Institute of Technology were also represented. The conference opened on Sunday night, May 24, in Edwards Hall. Thereafter, there were working sessions on two days in the Purdue Room in the Great Hall. The conference is organised annually by the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee.

Picture shows the Assistant Secretary of the AVCC (Mr. I.R. Barrie), the Chairman of the conference (Mr. R.J. Byham), Flinders University of South Australia, the Secretary of the AVCC (Mr. F.S. Hambly) and the organis of the conference (Mr. P.D. Alexander, University of Newcastle).

Off to Darwin

The work has been undertaken in conjunction with Dr. I.H. Burnley of the University of New South Wales, Department of Geography. While in Darwin he will also give a seminar for the North Australia Research Unit. He acknowledges their generosity in paying his airfare from Sydney.

He told University News that the conference would also be of value to the Architecture Research and Development Unit of this University, because there will be discussions of aspects of the ecology of mining towns in remote areas. The Architecture Research and Development Unit, directed by Gordon Appleby, Ted Harkness and Don Parkes, had been working for some time on passible design schemes which would reduce the high energy demands for thermal comfort in dwellings in the Pilbara region mining towns of Western Australia. The Unit is also considering new concepts in mining town designs.

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Post for graduate

Mr. Andrew Putnis, a graduate of Newcastle University College, has been appointed a Lecturer in Earth Sciences at the University of Cambridge.

Putnis spent his early life in Argentina. He was a student of Marist Brothers High School and was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree and a Diploma in Education by Newcastle University College in 1968.

Don Parkes (Department of Geography) will present a paper at the first Regional Workshop of the Sir Robert Menzies Foundation in Darwin from June 4 to 6.

His paper, Living in the Southern Centre of the North, is based on field work undertaken in Central Australia for the United Nations University in Tokyo with support from the University of Newcastle's Internal Research Assessment Committee and the North Australian Research Unit in the Australian National University.
Top award to Ph.D student

Coral Bayley-Jones

A suggested improved approach to urban recreation research has won for a University of Newcastle Ph.D. student the top award of the Travel Research Association of the United States.

Coral Bayley-Jones, a Commonwealth Postgraduate Scholar in the Department of Geography, will attend this year’s conference of the Travel Research Association in Las Vegas in July.

She has received an invitation to the conference, round trip transportation expenses, lodging expenses, registration costs and $300 cash for winning the TTRA’s Travel Research Contest.

Coral received first place in the contest for her research paper in connection with urban areas as tourist sources. The TTRA had invited students to write on any research topic within the field of travel and tourism except topics being pursued for doctorate dissertations.

Coral has written widely on the relationship between tourism and urban planning. In 1977 she was awarded a Master of Philosophy degree in Recreation by Murdoch University in Western Australia after having written a thesis dealing with Holidaymaking Behaviour in Relation to Tourist Resorts, Geraldton and Albany.

For the contest, Coral employed data she had collected herself on the holidaymaking patterns of urban residents in Western Australia in an attempt to improve approaches to urban recreation research.

She notes that Professor C.K. Campbell, of British Columbia, Canada, had postulated which the city as source area of the recreationist should be the focus of studies in urban recreation rather than the tourist resort and that the spatial interaction of the city with the recreational area should be emphasised. Campbell devised a model to represent his approach to outdoor recreation research and tentatively suggested that recreation movements were related to the recreational experiences desired.

Coral examines the holidaymaking patterns of residents of two major urban resorts in Western Australia and relates these to the holidaymaking patterns of residents of minor urban areas, the small country towns and the State’s capital. In attempting to devise an improved theoretical framework for urban recreation research, Coral also explores the widely accepted proposition of relationship between recreation areas and recreationists by posing the challenging problem, ‘If the urban area is also a widely accepted tourist destination area, what sort of effect does this have on the relationship of the urban holidaymaking resident with the recreation area within which that resident chooses to holiday, that is, if the source area is an urban resort with both resort, (recreational) and urban facilities, what effect does this have on the holidaymaking pattern and style of urban residents?’

Coral Bayley-Jones’ study argues that holiday patterns relate not only to the recreational experience desired but are affected by the amount of urbanisation of the tourist source area. For example, the metropolitan holidaymaker tends to go on long touring holidays, the resident of the urban tourist resorts is more likely to go to one tourist destination, or two and the resident of a small country town usually goes direct to one destination. The identification of these movement types is an important contribution in urban recreation research.

Coral criticises Campbell’s model for outdoor recreation research therefore because it incorporates only one type of time, the length of time available for recreation. Coral’s research contribution adds a second dimension to the model’s spatial one–a temporal dimension, that is, a progression or development is suggested.

Coral is ecstatic about having achieved success in the contest conducted by the Travel Research Association. One reason for her joy is the knowledge that she will meet in Las Vegas the foremost researchers in the field of tourism from international ranks.

Newcastle graduate

A graduate of the University of the University of Newcastle has been awarded as Principal of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Affairs, Canberra.

He is Mr. Eric P. Willmot, 45, who graduated as a Bachelor of Science in 1974. Mr. Willmot also holds a Diploma in Education in Newcastle College of Advanced Education and a Master of Education in Canberra College of Advanced Education.

The Council of the Institute of Aboriginal Affairs made the appointment following the resignation late last year of Dr. P.J. Ucko, who had been Principal for eight years.

A leader in research and evaluation of education provisions made for Aborigines, Mr. Willmot has been a consultant and adviser to numerous education institutions, government departments and governments on Aboriginal teaching and courses for Aborigines. He directed the National Aboriginal Education Committee’s Inquiry into Teacher Education in Australia. Since 1978, he had been Lecturer in the School of Education at the Canberra College of Advanced Education.

Mr. Willmot has been associated with the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies since 1974 and was elected to the Institute Council in 1976. He said that during the next few years, the Institute faced the very delicate task of achieving for Aboriginal society the kind of scholastic custodianship which Fourth World people in other countries had achieved through universities.

Council appointment

The Minister for Education, The Hon. P. Landa, has appointed Mr. A.F. Beard, Hunter Regional Director of Education, to the Council of the University.

Mr. Beard fills the casual vacancy created by the resignation from Council of Mr. C.M. Willoughby, who recently retired as Regional Director of Education.
Maths Olympiad
The International Mathematical Olympiad, a famous contest for high school students, has a link with this University.

Jim Farmer, of Waratah High School, who will be a member of Australia's team for the 1981 mathematical Olympiad, is a son of Mr. David Farmer, Senior Administrative Officer in the Secretary's Division.

Australia will compete in the contest for the first time by entering a team of eight students of high schools - two from Queensland, one from Victoria and five from New South Wales.

The team was named after 155 high school students participated in the second Australian Mathematical Olympiad last April.

Australia will join teams from other countries in Washington, D.C., for the International Mathematical Olympiad on July 13 and 14.

Short story competition
2NUR-FM, the University's FM radio station, is holding a short story competition.

The themes for this year's competition will be "change" or "contrast".

Entries, in English and suitable for broadcast, may be made in two categories:

- up to five minutes duration, and
- between twelve and fifteen minutes duration.

The winner in each category will receive a book voucher to the value of $100, in the case of the 5 minute story, and to the value of $50, in the case of the 5 minute story.

These have been generously donated by Arthur Warner's Bookshop. Also, winners will receive free membership of the Nimrod Publications Society (founded to publish Hunter Valley poets and fiction writers) and a copy of the Society's publications.

For further information, contact the secretary, David Morrison, through the Amenities Office, or telephone 49 7595 after 6.30 pm.

Fare you well, Fred
Mr. Fred Sherriff, Senior Attendant at the Squash Courts, will take leave of the campus on May 20. On that day he will retire after more than eight years' service with the University.

Mr. David Pembroke and Mr. Colin Friend have been appointed to assume Mr. Sherriff's duties on a shared basis.
LITERACY, REVOLUTION AND PAULO FREIRE - Robert Mackie

In recent years there has been a considerable furor generated concerning literacy. Mostly this takes the form of assertions that the level of general literacy among schoolchildren and students in higher education has declined alarmingly. Underlying it is a narrow, constrained and functional conception of literacy as the technique of reading and writing, which can be simply imparted, simply absorbed and simply utilised. It is purely a matter of mechanical skills.

But there is far more to it than this. What is especially ignored is that literacy is a process that continues throughout life. To be literate is to arrive at some predetermined destination. It is to utilise reading, writing and speaking skills so that our understanding of the world, and ability to act in it, are progressively enlarged. Further, literacy is not acquired neutrally but in specific historical, social and cultural contexts. Far from being an end which merely mirrors the world, as many current literacy iconoclasts imply, it is the means by which we comprehend, unravel and transform it. Few of the participants in this somewhat overheated literacy debate go beyond the how of literacy, and explore the more fundamental questions of what, where and why we read, write and speak the way we do.

The contemporary Brazilian educator Paulo Freire is one of the few who neither ignores the means nor confuses the ends of literacy. Based on two decades of work with literates on three continents, Freire has developed a viable and effective method for teaching literacy. He is convinced that literacy can serve either to liberate human beings or to domesticate them. His choice is the former.

Paulo Freire's essential contribution lies in his recognition of the way language forms our perceptions of the world, and our intentions towards it. In doing so he has highlighted the connection between language, politics and consciousness. If the task of literacy is human liberation then inevitably Freire is led to an examination of the ways social and political structures impede this goal. So his discussion of literacy and education have one of its principal concerns the promotion of revolutionary social change. Human liberation from oppressive, unjust and false forms the central focus of his work ensuring its relevance not only for third world countries, but for all societies where oppression exists. And in the present climate of cutbacks and closures in higher education the pertinence and significance of his work becomes clearly manifest.

A clarification and critique of his work can be found in Robert Mackie (ed.), Literacy and Revolution: The Pedagogy of Paulo Freire, (Pluto Press), London, 1980, on sale at $10.50 in the bookshop.

STAFF
Appointments

Miss J.M. Ellis, Clerk, Accounts Department.

Mrs. M.R. Nolan, Library Assistant, Auchmuty Library.

Mrs. C.A. Rufo, Stenographer, Faculty of Medicine.

Professor R.W. Sanson-Fisher, Faculty of Medicine.

Mrs. J.R. Wood, Stenographer, Faculty of Medicine.

Legal Studies Club

You might happen to be a Legal Studies I student with study problems and need someone to talk to. Get in touch with the University's Legal Studies Club.

Following its revival on campus early this year, the Legal Studies Club renewed its efforts to assist new students to cope with the Legal Studies course.

The club held during First Term a series of Monday morning study/discussions for first year students. It aimed to provide a venue where students could share their experiences, to know more about the matters being discussed in lectures and tutorials, and who want to discuss study methods. Attendees rose from six students to 25 by the end of the term. Graduates and experienced students were utilised as "sounding boards" at the study/discussions.

The meetings will be continued in Second Term on Monday mornings in Room G113A. All Legal Studies students are welcome to attend.

To begin with, and indeed to carry on, the Legal Studies Club has formed two sub-clubs, the Law and the Legal Studies Club.

Another important function of the Legal Studies Club is the programme of group gatherings and outings.

It is planned to screen films dealing with law-related themes, such as Paper Chase, All the President's Men and Compulsion, and to hold a moot, to which the Court Judge will be invited.

In addition, so as to learn more about the "prisoner for a day" scheme, Maitland Gaol will be visited. Fact-finding visits will be made to the Supreme Court and the District Court. The Legal Studies Club will be constituted differently from most campus student clubs in that there is no executive to manage affairs on behalf of the 45 members.

The proposed constitution provides for the election of a co-ordinating committee comprising representatives of the First Year day, First Year night, Second Year day, Second Year night and the Industrial Law classes, but activities envisaged are predominantly educational, rather than social, no fees will be levied.

The objectives of the club are to promote contact between students and members of staff and between students, as well as to promote interest in all matters of a legal nature.

The club's spokesman for the purpose of this article was Mr. Larry Hafey, B.Com., a part-time tutor in Legal Studies and a law student.

Students who are interested in joining the Legal Studies Club should telephone Mr. Hafey at 58 5605 or contact the Department of Legal Studies secretaries.
Dr. Robert Bitmead completed his doctoral degree in the Department of Electrical Engineering, with a thesis on what are known as adaptive systems.

**Film as History**

Research carried out by a postgraduate student of the University underlined the value of popular film as a source of information for historians.

Through a combination of research into film and literature, Stephen Thornton, who was admitted to a Master of Arts degree at the Graduation Ceremony, provided insights into post-Second World War American history.

The research started with Mr. Thornton viewing dozens of films, most several times. He managed to see some of them on television, but to see some more he had to arrange special screenings. "Beyond one or two exceptional cases, the hiring of films, given that my research had no financial support from the University or outside bodies was not possible", he says.

"Notes were compiled on all the films viewed and viewing the films went on for several years. Reviewing literature on the field necessitated reading the major publications in both film and history. Mr. Thornton's study showed that historians had given very little attention to using film as a source of information. "My aim," he said, "was to demonstrate that films do provide a source for historians, and that..."
Scholarships

In order to encourage high calibre graduates to carry out full-time research in the radio and telecommunication sciences leading to the award of a Ph.D. at an Australian university, the Radio Research Board will be offering two postgraduate fellowships for the 1982 academic year.

The Fellowships will each be worth $10,000 per annum (plus certain expenses) and will be expected to run for three years subject to the successful progress of the Fellows.

Applicants will be required to be under 25 years of age, have Australian citizenship or be a permanent resident in Australia, and have, or expect to gain, a first class honours degree in an appropriate discipline.

Persons interested in applying for the Fellowship should obtain application forms and a statement of the conditions from the Secretary, Radio Research Board, P.O. Box 225, Dickson, A.C.T. 2602.

Applications close on August 26 and in the normal course of events candidates may expect to be advised on the outcome of their applications by the end of November, 1981.

The Australian Tobacco Research Foundation has provided general information about funds that are available for research in the general area of The Relationship in Australia between Tobacco Smoking and Health and Disease in its Widest Context.

Applications for grants need to follow a format and provide information as specified by the Foundation and must be endorsed by the University.

The Research Scholarships are valued according to NH & MRC rates (presently $10,145 to $11,598).

The closing date for applications is June 30, 1981. For further information please contact the Student Administration Office.

Advertisements

FOR RENT

WALLSEND AREA - Large two bedroom weatherboard and brick home with family room, fully furnished, garage, carport, toolshed and fernery on closed-off street. Five minutes by car or 30 minutes walk from the University. Near hospital and major shopping area. Available between July 1, 1981 and February 14, 1982. Please telephone Extension 692 or 654.

FOR SALE

MORRIS 1500 - in good mechanical condition, long registration and many extras. MUST SELL as owner is going overseas. $700 or nearest offer. Please telephone Mani on Extension 634 during working hours or call in at 16 Durham Road, Lambton on weekends.

Computers in Surveying

Basic information on computer technology as applicable to surveying will be offered to local surveyors by the Department of Civil Engineering at the University on May 29.

The programme for the day will be a group discussion led by Dr. Frank Clarke, Mr. Michael Ellick, Dr. John Fryer and Dr. Harvey Mitchell and University staff members.

These topics will be covered:

- Computer hardware and peripherals - how do they work, and their differences and fields of applications; programming concepts - high level languages, concepts, applications programs - word processing, accounting, computer design, etc.
- A group discussion on existing software, presentation of user groups, costs and initial effort.

The workshop will be held in Lecture Theatre EF02 from 9.30 am to 5 pm.

CASSSETTE/RADIO hardly used, $100 or nearest offer. Please telephone Extension 302.


TENDER

Three (3) SCULLY 280-B-2 CONSOLE AUDIO TAPE RECORDERS.

TWO TRACK STEREO 33/4 and 7½ ips.

1 x NAB EQUALIZATION (approximately two years old).

All the abovementioned items are in good condition.

For further details please contact Anton Donker, Station Manager, 2NUR-FM, University of Newcastle, 2308 or telephone (049) 686 713.

Tenders will be accepted up until 11.30 am on June 19 and must be forwarded in a sealed envelope marked "Tender for Tape Recorders" to the Purchasing Section, University of Newcastle, 2308. The University reserves the right to reject all tenders.