THREE HAPPY OCCASIONS

Degrees were conferred upon 490 people by the Chancellor Sir Bede Callaghan, at three 1984 graduations in the Great Hall on May 4 and 5. Judged by the high volume of the applause, they were pleasurable sessions, particularly for the new graduates.

At ceremonies in the evening on Friday and in the morning and afternoon on Saturday, there were full houses - seats in the hall being taken by new graduates, their friends and relatives and seats on the stage by members of the Council and academics.

Thirty Ph.D. degrees and a D.Med. were awarded. Moreover, 29 people graduated with Honours Class I.

The first Doctor of Medicine degree was conferred in the Faculty of Medicine upon Dr. Anthony Quail, for a thesis on The Modification of CNS Cardio-pulmonary Control by Steroid and Opiate Anaesthetic Agents.

Among those to be admitted to Ph.D. degrees is a member of the Council, Jessie Dyce, of New Lambton. Her thesis is An Assessment of the Poems of Christopher Brennan in Poems (1913) and the Burden of Tyre.

The conferring of degrees in the Faculties of Arts and Engineering was a family affair for the Clarkes. The twin daughters of Dr. Frank Clarke, Senior Lecturer in Civil Engineering and Surveying, graduated on the same day. Anne Clarke was admitted to a B.A. degree in History with Honours Class I and Ruth Clarke received a B.E. degree in Electrical Engineering, also with Honours Class I.

The last event on the programme for graduation 1984 was the Dinner Dance conducted by Convocation in the Union on the Saturday night. Traditionally a happy occasion, the dance was an opportunity for the new graduates to re-establish University links. The official attendance was 202 people.

The Chairman of the Hunter Development Board, Mr. Alex Young, spoke to graduates at the Economics and Commerce and Mathematics graduation on the need to know where we are in relation to the Australian economy. "It becomes very easy to get lost. We can all quote numerous cases of reading one thing today and the exact opposite tomorrow."

It seemed to Mr. Young that the stage was being set by the Federal Government for a real attempt at understanding where we are and at setting national purpose with the creation of a programme to be implemented.

The Australian Minister for Education and Youth Affairs, Senator Susan Ryan, with the Vice-Chancellor Professor O. George, Emeritus Professor Charles Blackburn, who received an honorary degree of Doctor of Medicine, and the Chancellor, Sir Bede Callaghan, after the Architecture, Education, Engineering and Medicine conferring of degrees on May 5.

INSIDE: EEO Appointment
"Over the past 20 years, starting with the Vernon Report of 1965, we have numerous examples of research and recommendations and then - national lethargy," he said.

"However, all is not lost. We are to have another attempt and I have high hopes that my long-term upset might just be set aside by the recently-created Cabinet Committee on Restructuring Industry, particularly in view of the ground work which has been applied during the past 12 months."

Mr. Young emphasised that he was greatly heartened by this move to get our foundations right before attempting to deal with particular manufacturing problems, or providing a programme for Industry. The foundations he referred to were better industrial relations, better communication, cooperation through the summit accord and other Government initiatives.

In addition, there was a clear determination and commitment to provide national industrial policies, such as the national steel industry policy and a "put it on the line" attitude in statements on the inter-relationship and inter-dependence between Government, enterprise, unions and the community.

Turning to the Hunter Region, Mr. Young said that whilst investment in mines, power stations, aluminium plants, etc. had been high it was now tapering off. "We all know that during the past year, or so, many people in our community have experienced economic difficulties."

"However, because of our resource base and our people, we have every reason to be optimistic. This optimism will not, in itself, achieve unless we are prepared, as a regional community, to work at it. You know the three Ps - purpose, programming and persistence."

The Hunter Development Board's Chairman said he could not accept that our resources in themselves will produce the balanced development we want, unless regional purpose and organisation becomes effective.

"Nowhere is this more clearly displayed than in the achievements of a very small group of people in the Taxation Office matter in this City. That small group of people, working together, was able to get promises from the present Government, when in opposition, that on election a Taxation Office would be established in Newcastle to employ about 700 or 800 people."

He took heart from these examples of a pattern of preparation:

The manner in which BHP rationalisation was carried through, the sensible attitudes of the unions and the community in recognising that something had to be done.

The completion at long last of the Dockyard Industrial Agreement.

The manner in which industry is now displaying considerably more interest in defence offset work in lining up to the procedures and programmes to be followed.

The desire of various authorities and resource centres to collaborate with the University and other regional organisations in setting up a Hunter Technology Development Centre.

Emeritus Professor A.G.L. Shaw, the distinguished Australian historian, gave the occasional address at the Arts and Science graduation ceremony.

As well as examining your history students, my visits have not only enabled regular talks to members of the History Department but for a long time visiting Newcastle also gave me the opportunity to spend stimulating and enjoyable evenings in the company of my old friend James Auchmuty, your first and very distinguished Vice-Chancellor. As you probably know he was also a distinguished historian."

Professor Shaw stressed his view that, despite enormous material progress, the study of history bore out his perhaps not very original theme that because the character and mental attainments of men and women changed little, we confronted problems similar to those faced in the past with much the same inadequate mental and psychological equipment we possessed in the past.

"Historians are concerned not only with kings and politicians, but also with ordinary people, their hopes and their achievements - and their mistakes and failures. These unfortunately seem to be all too numerous, but can we learn from them - from history?"

Professor Shaw offered the new graduates three precepts: "Always verify your references." Since so much of what is reported about both our own country and about foreign
nations is either untrue, or only partially true, we should avoid hasty judgments, based on inadequate evidence and unverified reports, which history shows to have been so often the cause of mistakes, misunderstandings and disasters.

"History shows that wishful thinking has had a most disastrous influence. Wars planned to be won in a few weeks which last for years, battles which lead to casualties involving millions instead of quick victory, political crusades for objectives which careful study shows cannot be achieved, or terrorist campaigns whose victory appears to their organisers to be as certain as to the outside observer their failure seems inevitable. Sometimes the speed-for-success will be achieved, but one should beware of undue - perhaps only a symptom of our stupidity! Optimism. Recognising it, can we try to keep it in check?"

"M. de Talleyrand said, 'Sur­tout, pas trop de zele' - 'above all, not too much zeal.'

"Here, I go against the views of many who argue that enthusiasm - zeal - is a virtue, without which little that is worth while can be achieved. Certainly enthusiasm helps - in a good cause - but what are good causes? A United Ireland, British Ulster? Israeli security? A home for Palestin­ians? In the past, the triumph of Popery or Protestantism - Rome or Geneva? - and one could go on recounting 'causes' whose zealous advocates have produced misery, death and disaster," Professor Shaw said.

Senator Susan Ryan, Australian Minister for Education and Youth Affairs, delivered the occasional address in the afternoon. Her early theme was the excellence of the University as a higher education institution and the Faculty of Medicine's good example of innovation at the University.

Speaking to the Architecture, Education, Engineering and Medicine graduates, the Minister said that the University and Newcastle CAE had made progress on the development of cooperative planning and she congratulated them on their voluntary - not enforced - cooperation so far.

Senator Ryan's main theme was university research and the request she had made to the GTEC for advice on the future funding of research.

"With the economic recovery currently in progress. There is every indication that we can look forward to better times - that is, more jobs, a stronger economy, more social equity. This improvements, if they are to last, need to be underpinned by innovative research of the highest calibre. Australian universities have a great contribution to make.

The list of research schemes and programmes is impressive, but the Government is concerned that funding for research, as all funding, be directed to those areas most in need of support, where funds can be most effectively spent. We are concerned that funds be efficiently utilised and co-ordinated.

"Unfortunately, little coordination of research effort seems to exist in Australia at present. What is more surprising, is that there is little public criticism of this fact. There are also surprisingly few signs that university staff consider that anything is amiss, or that change would be useful and desirable.

"Universities do not really account for the ways in which they spend their research funds - to date, they have not been expected to.

"Research and development is a crucial factor in the international competitiveness of industry," Senator Ryan said. "It is crucial to the future well-being of our nation. But Government spending alone cannot achieve the standards we need for viable competition.

"A recent study by the Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development, on Science and Technology, found that most countries had increased their expenditure on research and development as a proportion of gross domestic product during the 1970s. However, Australia's spending during that period had fallen.

"In most developed countries, industry outspends Government on research two dollars to one. In Australia this pattern is reversed."

Senator Ryan expressed her belief that university research should be more closely aligned, more responsive, to national priorities. This was how the system worked in Britain and was also the way research was funded in the United States.

"There is a critical need to translate our research findings into innovations - and in a form where they can actually be used by industry. It is innovations which help to offset financial downturns and allow our economy to move out of the periodic crises that confront it. This is where links between universities and industry are particularly important.

"The areas of research also need to be extended. There will always be major interest in research into new technology, agricultural processes, resource exploitation and energy development, and medicine and medical technology.

"But there are also many social issues that deserve equal attention. For example, we should conduct more research into changes in the organisation of work. We need to know more about private sector organisations and how they actually work. It would also be useful to know why some of our public sector corporations have been so successful, while others just grow into unmanageable bureaucracies. The list, of course, is endless, but these are just some of the research areas that are particularly relevant to the nation's future development."
'Critical year for Uni.'

The Vice-Chancellor delivered a brief account of "matters of importance to the University" at the three graduations and said that this year was a critical one in the life of the University.

"Several key reports are due out and their recommendations (and the decisions of the Government in the light of these recommendations) are going to determine the future shape of the University."

Professor George was hopeful that the first report of the CTEC for the 1985-87 Triennium would confirm that the University was seen as a growth centre and the August budget would reveal whether the Government could fund continued growth amongst all the conflicting demands on the national purse.

A part of these policy decisions, he said, was the view to be taken on the education of overseas students in our universities.

"The Goldring report is eagerly awaited, as overseas students form an important part of our enrolments - around one student in every 10 gives his or her home address as outside Australia. These students have enriched the life of the University and the friendships made and increased understanding (in both directions) of respective cultures and aspirations can only contribute positively to our future role in South East Asia.

"It is a tribute to the attitudes of our Newcastle community and in the University that we have been free of the racial prejudices that have surfaced recently in some other institutions," the Vice-Chancellor said.

"One of the very happy aspects of our University has been the educational opportunities which we have been able to provide, often for students with educationally-deprived backgrounds - opportunities sadly lacking in the large city universities with their high cut-off marks for entry."

Professor George said he could see the University becoming a national leader in the provision of educational opportunities and, with sustained growth, extend its areas of professional training to include Law and Social Work, for example - areas which presently required students to leave the Hunter Valley, a possibility denied to families unless they had considerable financial resources.

"As an act of faith about its future, it has refilled many chairs which have been frozen, in some cases for quite a few years. But we are now out on a long limb and cut-backs will be forced on us unless we receive the recognition and financial support we have sought."

"Given appropriate support, particularly with help for student housing, Newcastle could become an educational centre for Australia and aid, incidentally, the economic recovery of the Hunter Valley," the Vice-Chancellor added.

Radio Theatre

2NUR-FM and the University's Drama Department have combined their talents and resources to produce a series of radio plays.

Drama Lecturer, Mr. Rob Page, produced the plays in 2NUR-FM's studios with assistance from station staff, drama students and local actors.

Last week the series commenced with the play Susannah's Dreaming, which Dorothy Hewett wrote in 1979.

The 15 plays in the series can be heard on 2NUR-FM on Thursdays at 9.30 pm.

Coming up on May 17 and May 24 are Sydney's Bridge and If You're Glad I'll be Frank respectively, by Tom Stoppard.

From Canada to Lecture

Professor J.M. Rist, of the University of Toronto, Canada, will deliver the Roos-Ashworth Memorial Lecture in the Purdue Room in the Great Hall on May 18 at 8 pm.

Professor J.M. Rist has spent many years in the Chair of Classics at Toronto. He returned to Britain to take up the Chair of Classics at Aberdeen, but, in 1983, decided to return to the University of Toronto.

He is an internationally renowned expert on Hellenism and late Greek philosophy.

His interest in visiting Australia has been partly prompted by Professor G. Tanner's work on the Stoics and Aristotle.

Professor Rist has decided to speak at this University on Epictetus. The lecture will be published by the Classics Department.

AFUW Meeting

The Hunter Valley Branch of the Australian Federation of University Women of New South Wales will hold its next meeting in the Staff House on May 23 at 6.30 pm.

Dr. P. Lightfoot will speak on Growing Australian Plants.

Bookings can be made by telephoning Mrs. K. Stewart at 23 557.
EEO CO-ORDINATOR APPOINTED

Dr. Hayes was previously part-time Data Manager in the Discipline of Surgical Sciences in the Faculty of Medicine. She had also been employed as a part-time Tutor by the Faculty, the Department of Sociology and Newcastle CAE.

She graduated B.A. (Hons.) in Psychology from the University of Leicester, U.K., in 1971. She obtained her Ph.D. in 1978 from CNAA.

In 1974 she left Plymouth Polytechnic, where she had been a research assistant, to come to Australia and take up a position with the New South Wales Health Commission.

Dr. Hayes was a Tutor in the Department of Psychology at this University from 1976 until January, 1979 and, from then until last December, a Senior Tutor in the Discipline of Behavioural Science in the Faculty of Medicine.

Dr. Hayes, who is 36 years of age, brings to the position of Equal Employment Opportunity Co-Ordinator considerable experience in teaching, the design of educational materials, the development of courses on interpersonal relationships and communication skills and the development of scientific method. One of her specific interests is to bring students into contact with individuals and agencies within the community and this has involved her in liaising with people from all types of backgrounds.

Her research interests have included a study of difficulties in the mother-infant relationship, an evaluation of an arthritis education programme being carried out at Rankin Park Hospital and examining ways to develop an education programme to improve the early detection rate of malignant melanoma in Newcastle. She is currently enrolled as a M.A. student in Sociology.

Dr. Hayes will take up her appointment on May 14. She will have an office on the Ground Floor of the McMullin Building and also an office at Newcastle CAE.

Animal House Manager

The Vice-Principal, Professor K.R. Dutton, has announced the appointment of Robyn Gentle to the position of Manager of the Central Animal House. Work on the construction of the House, located near the Auchmuty Sports Centre, has been recently completed.

Ms Gentle a veterinary surgeon comes from Murwillumbah and is an ex-student of Orara High School, Coffs Harbour. She is 24 years of age, and a graduate of the University of Sydney (Bachelor of Veterinary Science, 1982 with Honours Class I and the University Medal).

She is presently attached to the University of Queensland as a Clinical Tutor in the Faculty of Veterinary Science.

During her time at the University of Sydney she held several visiting appointments as an assistant in veterinary practices and veterinary hospitals. She has had experience in handling a wide range of small animal species, including domestic and laboratory animals, native fauna and birds, and has dealt with the general public whilst conducting the University of Queensland’s animal clinic and hospital.

Ms Gentle is expected to take up her appointment at this University early in June.

Credit Union

For the benefit of Credit Union members, the main office on the University campus has extended its hours of opening.

Staff are now at the office (in the Temporary Buildings) between 9 am. and 3.30 pm on weekdays.

Recent developments in the Universities Credit Union include the appointment of Cheridan Chand as the Credit Union’s new representative at Newcastle CAE and the introduction of a 13 per cent per annum interest rate on new $1,000 to $100,000 investments made during May (and possibly June).
Ms Julie Livingstone, who works in the Auchmuty Library, and Mr. David Balding. Each graduated with Bachelor of Mathematics degrees. David receiving Honours Class I and the University Medal.

Deborah Jones and Steven Clark were among graduates who received Bachelor of Arts degrees. They majored in Drama and Steven tried to upstage the Head of the Department, Professor Michael Evans. Deborah graduated with Honours Class II, I and is Theatre Critic for NBN 3. Steven has begun a career as a professional actor.

Mr. Trevor Askie, a member of the University Council, with Mr. Peter Archer, who graduated Bachelor of Commerce. Trevor and Peter are members of staff within the Bursar's Division.

The Dean of the Faculty of Education, Professor Ron Laura, was particularly pleased to be able to present Doctor Greg Doran for admission to a degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Professor Laura supervised Dr. Doran's work. Mrs. Cathy Doran received a Bachelor of Science degree in the ceremony earlier that day.
Ms. Pamela Lunnon graduated with a Master of Engineering Science degree. Ms. Lunnon is employed by the Department of Environment and Planning in Newcastle.

Professor Lindsay Summers, Head of the Department of Chemistry, congratulated Mr. John Bartlett, who received a Bachelor of Science degree with Honours Class I and the University Medal in Chemistry.

Dr. Noeline Williamson, with her family (from left, Shirley Dodds, sister; Brad, son; Ken, husband; Kyle, Mum; Sue, daughter) after receiving a Ph.D. degree for her work in the Department of Education. Dr. Williamson said that she had accepted an academic post at the University of Wollongong.

Mr. Percy Haslam receiving congratulations from the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Professor Godfrey Tanner, after Mr. Haslam had been admitted to the honorary degree of Master of Arts. Professor Tanner delivered a citation which dealt with Mr. Haslam's work in the field of Aboriginal culture.
ANZAAS CONGRESS

During the ANZAAS Congress at the ANU in Canberra, a team from public radio stations across Australia will be recording symposia and congress proceedings for a daily broadcast of highlights.

Ms Vicki Lloyd, Assistant Manager of 2NUR-FM, and Phil Bates, Senior Producer, will take the station's new mobile recording unit to the Congress and assist with collecting and preparing material for the radio programme.

Other public stations broadcasting the report will be 5UV (Adelaide), 3RR-FM (Melbourne), 2SER-FM (Sydney), 2XX (Canberra), 6UVS-FM and 6NR (Perth), 2ARM-FM (Armidale) and 8TOP-FM (Darwin).

2NUR-FM's ANZAAS Congress Report can be heard from May 14 to May 18 for an hour commencing at 5.30 pm.

Parents & Spouses have their Orientation Day

April 27, an ideal autumn day, was spent by a group of parents or spouses of new students learning a great deal about life at the University. The aim of having the visitors come was to provide the students with greater support for their efforts. The parents or spouses were given essential information in the Great Hall and (as pictured) Mr. P. Loftus, Director of the Counselling Service, gave a frank account in the Drama Theatre of how students can be helped to survive.

PSA News

The pre-selection ballot to choose the University Sub-Division's two candidates in the election for non-academic members of the Council has been concluded. The following candidates were successful:

- Trevor Askie
- David Kay

Kay Jackson, Secretary.

Catherine Hill Bay

Jan Walker, Laboratory Assistant in Geology, has produced a public exhibition of photographs of Catherine Hill Bay.

Jan has been working in the photographic field for many years and is a final year Associate Arts Diploma student at Newcastle CAE. She has been photographing "The Bay" for two years.

The exhibition was held at the historic Wallarah Hotel at Catherine Hill Bay from May 6 to 13.
Professor Saxon White, of the Faculty of Medicine, was one of several hundred scientists from all countries of the world who attended the 19th International Congress of Neurovegetative Research at the Free University of West Berlin in Germany.

The purposes of the meeting were for clinicians, clinical scientists and basic scientists interested in different systems of the body, e.g. the heart and circulation, the lungs, the gastrointestinal tract and the urinary bladder, to exchange ideas on recent research involving the control of such systems by the autonomic nervous system.

The title of the Congress incorporated the term "neurovegetative" because it referred to the original name given to the autonomic nervous system by the older German physiologists. The autonomic nervous system, as we know it today, is that system which is not under our conscious control, as, for example, the motor system controls human movement on command by causing muscles to contract.

Professor White was invited to chair a symposium, give a paper and chair a workshop in the field of central nervous system autonomic control of temperature regulation. His work has most recently concentrated on chemical substances in the brain called monoamines (e.g. noradrenaline and serotonin) which are responsible for the transmission of signals controlling heat loss through breathing and the circulation in skin.

Mr. Frank Traugott, who has recently completed his Ph.D. in Professor White's laboratory, has recently found that monoamines can play different roles in either activating or inhibiting specific control systems regulating heat loss from the body and the work has clarified a great deal of controversy in the international literature. The work also leads to a new understanding of how the taking of drugs for different conditions may interfere with temperature regulation in people who work under conditions of thermal stress, e.g. in industry and in unusual environments, e.g. at altitude, in the Antarctic, and in the tropics.

The meeting was novel in the sense that few international congresses attempt to draw scientists from such diverse backgrounds. In keeping with the cultural traditions of the German people, the meeting was opened at 8.30 am on the first day by a quartet playing the Mozart C major Quartet.

All agreed that scientifically the meeting was an outstanding success. New information concerning the control of the circulation and bladder function in people with spinal lesions was presented; some fascinating new pictures using immunocytochemistry identified receptors at the microscopic level. Even more interesting was the recent work by German neurophysiologists and neurosurgeons who track, using implanted micro-electrodes in human beings, the pattern of brain discharge preceding unusual behaviours, e.g. compulsive drinking. The data helps to determine whether or not there is an epileptic basis for such behaviours and leads to definitive surgery for making brain lesions in man to halt the behaviour.

Delegates at the meeting were entertained at a cocktail party in the new refurbished Reichstag, and ended the meeting with A Night in Old Berlin, which socially was the match of the scientific excellence of the meeting.

Bridge Success

For a few members of the University, the 1984 Newcastle Bridge Pairs' Congress was a very successful affair.

Professor Wal Wallis, Assoc. Professor in Mathematics, and Mr. Roy Hard, a former Tutor in Mathematics, won the final, followed closely by George Putsay, a Civil Engineering and Surveying student, and Mr. Roy Hard. Consolation A was won by Rosemary Willis, an Arts student, and Neil Cowen, a postgraduate student.

In a separate bridge competition the Newcastle Club's annual pairs staff members, Mr. Michael Covill and Dr. Peter Peterson, shared the runners-up title.

Reverend Dies

It is with regret that the death of the Reverend Alan Watts, Uniting Church Chaplain, at the University, is reported. The Rev. Watts, who had been Chaplain for the last two years, died suddenly at home (he was in charge of the Uniting Church in the Wallsend District) on April 24.
PSA ISSUES

New salaries for word processor operators, new procedures for re-classification of staff and the decision against appointing a full-time Equal Employment Opportunity Co-ordinator are some of the chief issues the University's Sub-division of the PSA is dealing with, according to its Chairperson, Mr. Lionel Farrell.

Mr. Farrell, Assistant Secretary - Legal, said at a special general meeting of the Sub-division on April 18 that following the bringing down of a new salary and classification award for word processor operators the University had submitted questionnaires to all Heads of Departments to identify the members affected.

"As a result of representation made by your Executive following expressions of concern it had received, the Personnel Department has been interviewing both Heads and members of staff concerned," he said.

It was resolved that the Chairperson and the Secretary ask the Vice-Chancellor to take action so the new award rates for word processor operators are paid promptly and also to arrange for facilities and conditions for the operators to be improved in some departments.

In discussion it was submitted that Newcastle CAE was already paying allowances to staff for using visual display units. The meeting was also told that some Heads of Departments had bought special chairs, put VDUs on trolleys and installed filters on screens to minimise eye strain and other problems, while some Heads had so far failed to improve facilities and conditions for operators.

The Chairperson said that the Industrial Officer for the PSA had been asked to comment on the proposed new re-classification procedures submitted by the University. Mr. Farrell had reported to the Sub-division in December that the long delays in the hearing of appeals and the large number of successful appeals indicated that the present system was not working effectively.

On the question of Equal Employment Opportunity, he said the Council had decided against appointing a full-time EO Co-ordinator plus back-up staff for the University. Instead, it had moved to make a joint appointment with Newcastle CAE.

"The delay with the appointment forces us to question the University's commitment to equal employment opportunity," he said. "The University is long in principle but short in practice."

The Sub-division passed a resolution expressing its disquiet at the failure of the University to appoint its own EO Co-ordinator.

Elections

Some members of the University Council are now coming to the end of their two-year terms of office, which expire on June 30. The categories concerned are:

- Members elected by the academic staff (two Professors and two members of academic staff other than Professors).
- Members elected by the non-academic staff (two).

The procedures are already under way to elect successors in office and notices have been sent to all members of staff eligible to participate in the election inviting nominations by noon on Thursday, May 24.

Remember, this is an opportunity which comes your way only once every two years. So if you don't want to miss out, get your nomination in.

Open Days

All members of the Newcastle and Hunter Valley communities will be invited to come to the University on Open Days this year.

The special event will be held over two days, Saturday and Sunday, September 15 and 16. The change from one to two days has been made to help visitors cope with the great variety of displays and events that the University proposes to present.

A Committee of Management, chaired by Professor Max Maddock, Assoc. Professor in Education, has held its first meeting and begun considering a number of matters in connection with the Open Days including the budget, the programme, publicity, possible themes, suggestions from the Positive Initiatives Committee of Council and Convocation and possible entertainment.

Professor Maddock has requested Heads of Departments to submit a statement of broad outlines of what their Departments intend to offer for the interest of visitors by the end of the second week of Second Term. They have been asked to provide further details by July 31.

Open Days 1984 will be designed to give Newcastle and Hunter Valley residents an opportunity to gain a first-hand understanding of the University and to see as much as possible of how its teaching, research and other activities contribute to the wider community.
Poseur or genius? Precocious brat or great poet in the making? Dorothy Hewett’s play The Chapel Perilous (the Drama Department’s latest production, staged in the Arts Drama Theatre) at least gives the audience the choice in judging Sally Banner as she travels from rebellious schoolgirl to middle-aged quasi-celebrity. In the event, we see more of Sally’s sexual adventures than of any other sort of career. She spends a good deal of the play horizontal or nearly so, particularly crumpled double bed. "Six lovers, one attempted suicide, one marriage", as she herself sums it up.

It all makes quite a long evening. The dedication and energy of the cast can’t save the play from its own self-indulgence and too-casual structure. The design doesn’t help: cluttered and untidy, it was hard to know if a holdall left downstage was an oversight or deliberately abandoned there. The lighting did little to bring coherence to the set. The complexity of the design occasionally overwhelmed the operator and at one stage a spot flashed on and off distractingly. A cross light was allowed to show the wrong side of all the props.

Dimity Raftos gave a valiant performance as Sally. The planes of her uptilted face, framed by long wavy hair, made a striking image of the heroine as latter-day Joan of Arc, and she spoke her voluminous and often pretentious lines with impressive conviction. Sadly, the play gave her few opportunities to vary an unrelentingly charged performance. Striking in support in the early scenes were Tracey Pettiford as her headmistress — intimidatingly articulate, trumpeting her lines with relish and flourish — and Carl Masens as the cadaverous and unctious school Canon. Of Sally’s relationship in later life, the one with Paul Makeham’s Michael was the best sustained; their passionate, then bitterly failed affair very nearly convinced.

There are a good few ensemble scenes in the play. In some (like the Red Flag tableau) the vitality of the cast gave the play a mighty lift, in others (like the spruiker scene just after the interval) the same vitality produced an effect more like choking chaos. There was good comedy in the incredibly involved interview procedures involving Sally’s mother (Lea Faulkner), obviously a relation of Dame Edna’s, and choleric Anzac father (Adam Macaulay). They had to be kept to their prepared scripts by the main force of a clutch of broadcasting assistants.

The guest director, Ken Boucher, got a high and even standard of performances from his cast, but their combined efforts couldn’t make a good play out of The Chapel Perilous. "Poor Sally, she never made it", as a mocking chorus in the play has the grace to remind us.

FAREWELL

Service on the staffs of two universities is the background Mrs. Margaret Sivyer left behind when she resigned on April 30.

From beginning her career as a secretary with the University of New England, Margaret was appointed secretary to the Vice-Chancellor of that University.

She had a break from the UNE, during which she worked for the Australian Vice-Chancellors’ Committee and then, in the UK, for the Royal Commission on Medical Education.

Coming back to Australia she settled in Newcastle, where her mother was Principal of the old Wickham Girls’ High School and her father was an artist.

Margaret then took up a position as secretary in the Department of Civil Engineering, the Head of which at the time was Professor Frank Henderson.

She thinks herself fortunate to have worked for the University and to have been able to do much that she has enjoyed doing.

Looking back to when she joined Civil Engineering and Surveying, she noted that there was probably closer and friendlier links between students and members of staff. The weakening of these relationships, following the growth of the University during the 1970s, was just a fact of life.

Margaret was able to study part-time in the Department of English and was admitted to a B.A. degree with Honours in 1978.

Yet another achievement is the work she has completed on a Law Degree with Macquarie University.

The former secretary in Civil Engineering and Surveying is now employed as Director of the Maitland City Art Gallery, in Brough House, Maitland.

This new career came after she gained experience at her late father’s gallery, the Gallery Hanley in Newcastle, and a voluntary worker with the Maitland Art Gallery Committee.
SPORT

Three running events were held on the weekend of May 5 and 6.

On the Saturday the important Branch Road Relay Championships were held and saw a spirited tussle between Myers Park, University and Maitland Athletics Clubs. The University team won this event last year, but could not repeat the effort this year and went down to an excellent Myers Park team, with Maitland third. The University team consisted of Terry Farrell, Albert Nymeyer, Craig Hansford and John Martin. Terry, one of Newcastle's top runners, and John, a top Newcastle junior squash player, are recent valuable additions to the University's Athletics Club.

On the Sunday an aquathon was held at Fingle Bay in appalling conditions. Twenty brave souls entered the event, including Terry Wall, Craig Hansford, Tony Guttmann and Dave Finlay from the University. Terry won the event, Craig was third, Tony 8th and Dave 12th. The swim was particularly difficult due to heavy seas and a strong rip. Terry must be congratulated for this fine performance in his return to competition after a long injury-caused layoff.

At the same time, a few miles away in Medowie a fun run was held. The only University entrant in the field of 200 starters was Albert Nymeyer. David Lightfoot from New South Wales University won the event in a time of 27 minutes 1 second, with Albert 56 seconds behind in third place.

Intervarsity Athletics will be held in Brisbane on May 13 to 18. Newcastle University is to be represented by Paul Fitzgerald (decathlon), Andrew Kolrush (decathlon), Sean Kelly (100, 200 and 400 metres), Terry Farrell (5,000 and 10,000 metres) and Albert Nymeyer (5,000 and 10,000 metres). This is the first time in many years this University has competed at IV Athletics. The performance of the team will be watched with interest.

The University of Newcastle Rugby Club was well represented in the Country v- City matches. Damien Brown and N* Wright were the only players selected for this prestigious event from the Newcastle District.

Fully furnished three bedroom home in Adamstown Heights. (with swimming pool) This home is available from June 16, 1984 until February 1, 1985 as owner will be on study leave. All interested persons are requested to telephone Extension 729 or 43 2901 after hours.

Four bedroom home close to town and beaches. This home will be available from November, 1984 until June, 1985. Rental: $130 per week. All interested persons are requested to telephone Extensions 416 or 495 or 28 1414.

Wanted

Person to share large furnished three bedroom house. Available from May 20. Rental: $45 per week plus extras. All interested persons are requested to telephone 52 6481 or Extension 763.

Wanted to Buy

Second-hand classical guitar, full size. If you are able to assist please telephone 46 8906.