STUDENTS PROTEST OVER ADMIN. CHARGE

A PROTEST meeting over the collection of the $250 administration charge from students receiving AUSTUDY allowances has resulted in a call on the University to give an explanation and act 'more humanely and more responsibly in future'.

Students who attended the meeting in the Union Courtyard on 18 March afterwards moved in a procession to the Administration to register their protest.

The meeting unanimously voted to express to the Vice-Chancellor, Professor K. Morgan, the students' alarm and concern at the University having chosen to ignore guidelines for the collection of the $250 administration charge from AUSTUDY recipients.

Mr Chris Craig, President of the Students' Representative Council, told the meeting that the Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission had advised universities and colleges to collect the charge after students received their AUSTUDY payments, which included an additional $250 to cover the charge. However, this University had collected the $250 from the students before they had received their payments.

Mr Craig said that the University's action had compounded difficulties being faced by students this year because of the inability of the Commonwealth Education Department to process AUSTUDY applications.

The meeting also resolved to:
- Call upon the Federal Government to free up sufficient resources to ensure that AUSTUDY delays are rectified and ensure that no student is forced to discontinue his or her studies due to the resultant financial hardship.
- Reaffirm the Students' Association's opposition to the reintroduction of tertiary tuition fees and
- Request the Administration to allocate extra staff to expedite the processing of applications made under the University's Loan Scheme.

Mr Craig said that some other universities and colleges, including Newcastle CAE, had deferred the collection of the administration charge until students received their AUSTUDY allowances.

He said the delays that students were having in receiving their AUSTUDY payments were compounding their problems. He referred to the Sydney Morning Herald (14 March) in which Mr Peter Robson, National Secretary of the Australian Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, said that his members processed the applications for the Commonwealth Department of Education and the problem of late payment was caused by a flawed computer system, purchased second hand from the Department of Defence.

The Minister for Education, Senator Susan Ryan, told the Senate...
on 26 February that there were delays in AUSTUDY payments. It was usually because the original information given by students had not been accurate or complete and the Department of Education had had to go back to the students to get additional information. If a student was in extreme circumstances he or she could explain this to an officer of the Department of Education and have the application accelerated.

Mr Craig said students who had not received their AUSTUDY payments could take only one action — agree to going further into debt so they could meet their expenses.

He said women who were not eligible for AUSTUDY payments formed another student group that was currently in trouble. Some of them had husbands who were against them being at university and had refused to pay their fees. 'I am pleased that the University has given an assurance that these students will be sympathetically considered if they apply for loans.'

...
STUDENT ENTERS NATIONAL QUEST

MS LINDA Barcan, an Arts III student at this University, has entered the Miss Australia Quest.

Ms Barcan, who is majoring in English and French and is a former President of the English Society, has been sponsored by a leading local restaurant, Carrington House, where she works as a part-time waitress.

The Miss Australia Quest was started in 1954, the aim being 'to find an Australian woman who can represent Australia overseas and who can promote the cause of spastic children and adults in Australia'.

Candidates are assessed on a wide range of abilities and to be eligible for judging must raise funds for the Spastic Centre.

Linda’s ambition is to study singing in France. She recently won a place as mezzo soprano in the newly formed Hunter Opera Company. She will be a participant in workshops to be held by the company shortly, and intends to audition for the company’s first production, Mozart’s The Magic Flute.

Ms Barcan has been a member of the Young People’s Theatre Company for many years, recently having a part in a musical revue, A Stroll Down Broadway.

She plays the piano and is learning the guitar.

One of the fund-raising activities organised to give Linda support will be a dinner on Friday, 19 June at Carrington House, described by Elise Pascoe in the Sydney Morning Herald as ‘the best restaurant in Newcastle’. It is mentioned in Leo Schofield’s Good Food Guide. The dinner is open to all interested members of the public, who are asked to contact Linda at 43 5462 or Carrington House at 61 3564.

WATER SUPPLY DIVERSION FOR ROAD WORK

THE UNIVERSITY has been advised that work will start in the immediate future on the diversion of the Hunter District Water Board’s major water mains within the University site.

The work is part of the relocation of various public utility services which is necessary before work on the construction of Highway 23 can commence. The services to be diverted or altered include HDWB water mains, Electricity Commission and Shortland County Council overhead power lines and Gas Company mains.

The initial work will necessitate the laying of a new large diameter water main diagonally across the south west corner of the University site. It will then pass under the future highway in a deep culvert similar to that under construction on the opposite side of Rankin Drive.

During the anticipated three month construction period the temporary access pathway between the University and the shops in Moore Street, Birmingham Gardens, will be fenced off and users will have to walk to the University along the grassed verge of Rankin Drive. In order to minimise inconvenience to users of this route to the University, the Department of Main Roads has agreed to re-open the pathway once the current work is completed until such time as the main road work commences.

In the longer term the University will be served by much improved pedestrian and cycle access from the west via a ramped underpass and pathway onto the University site.

D.D. Morris,
University Planner.
Learning can be worth the struggle

The Margaret Jurd Learning Centre has been operating for only four months. The basic purpose of the centre is to provide a learning programme, as well as support services, to young people from the Hunter Region who are 'at risk'.

Recently, a young woman from the centre commenced the Open Foundation Course, this University's matriculation programme for mature-age people, and this has been seen as a significant development by the volunteers who work at the centre.

"Our young residents participate in a programme which is designed to show them that there is life after dropping out of education," the Director of the Margaret Jurd Learning Centre, Ms Glennys Borkett, said.

They are encouraged to become independent and able to cope with today's society. Several have progressed to a point where they are taking courses outside the centre, including high school, TAFE, Open Foundation or WEA courses.

The centre is a development within the Newcastle Youth Service and it endeavours to help young people (aged between eighteen and twenty-five) who are 'at risk' by implementing the aims of the parent body.

Ms Borkett said that by providing the residents with accommodation, access to a learning programme and a stable environment, it was hoped they could experience the rewards of creative relationships and enhance their understanding of themselves and society.

She said the learning programme, which included participation in community projects, was intended to help the young people to maintain their morale during extended unemployment.

"After taking up residence at the centre, every individual is assisted to prepare a personal programme which provides him or her with a personal goal and specific activities designed to help him or her attain the goal."

Ms Borkett said the centre depended to a large extent on the help of community agencies such as CYSS, Outreach, the WEA and the Department of Community Programmes at the University. As well, qualified people worked voluntarily participating in the learning programme and teaching practical skills, hobbies, music and other activities.

A great deal of work has been done on completing the refurbishment of the old Carrington Club Hotel in Bourke Street, Carrington and its gardens.

The eight residents, or house guests, who formed the current intake were involved in learning activities in a variety of ways, some daytime, some evening, depending upon their particular courses. "The centre provides one human relations session and one living skills session each day, the latter being concerned with such matters as budgeting, cooking, housekeeping and gardening."

Ms Borkett said the atmosphere of the centre was friendly and relaxed, and at least one supervisor was present at all times. So far, eight people had been accepted as supervisors/caregivers. The centre was giving high priority to the training of volunteers for these positions.

The residents are charged a nominal rent, and they buy their own food. They cook meals together in small groups. Cooking and eating utensils are provided by the centre, as are towels and bedding. Chores are rostered and carried out by the residents.

Ms Borkett said: 'In designing a learning programme it is necessary to recognise that our house guests pay rent, provide their own food, clean up after themselves and generally take care of the 'house'. They are expected to be involved in a number of activities including applying for jobs, learning work skills, communicating and taking on hobbies.

'A lot of these young people are ex-refuge children who have experienced insecurity and unhappy home environments. However they now have a second chance to achieve personal growth and develop new skills by taking advantage of available public educational facilities.'
EXPERIENCE NO HELP WITH SAFETY CHECKS

is a popular assumption that experience is a great help when engineers make safety checks of designs for structures.

But, Professor Rob Melchers of the Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying and one of his postgraduate students, Mr Mark Stewart, have found that the actual situation is in conflict with this assumption.

Our investigation into the ability of practising professional engineers to select whether designs for simple beams were safe or not have shown that experience does not help, Professor Melchers said.

As part of their research, Professor Melchers and Mr Stewart posted out questionnaires which included a set of designs and a request for an overview to assess whether each design would, if built, be safe or not. The results showed that experience appeared to be unimportant in making the decision about safety.

Professor Melchers and Mr Stewart, who commenced their research at Monash University two years ago, will incorporate the results of this and other surveys into a mathematical model for structural engineering design which attempts to balance the cost of human error against the cost of control measures.

Mr Stewart, who expects to complete his PhD studies this year, transferred his candidature to Newcastle University to continue his collaboration with Professor Melchers.

"V-C's open-door management"

Members of the PSA Management Committee and the Association's Industrial Officer met with the Vice-Chancellor on 10 March. It was their first meeting to discuss specific industrial issues which had arisen.

The Chairperson of the Sub-Division, Mr Lionel Farrell, was asked for his comments after the meeting. He said that in diplomatic jargon there had been a frank exchange of views on a range of issues. In more down to earth terms there had been a most useful meeting, at which the Association had been well received and was able to discuss with the Vice-Chancellor its views on a number of important matters.

With a new Vice-Chancellor, Mr Farrell said, there were obviously going to be some significant changes in the University, both in substance and style. An example was the review of the administrative structure which was under way. Members across the University had been invited to submit their observations and suggestions. After considering all these submissions, the Vice-Chancellor intended to discuss with the Association the details of his proposals before anything was implemented.

What promises well for the future is the Vice-Chancellor's open-door style of management and his assurances that his changes would be accompanied by close consultation with the Association whenever members of the general staff were affected in any way.

The meeting was followed by the Sub-Division's quarterly meeting with the Director, and members, of the Staff Office, at which the complaints of individual members of the Sub-Division were brought to the University's attention and discussed.
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION
PROGRESS REPORT

THE UNIVERSITY is required to report on the progress it has made with implementing the Commonwealth Government’s Affirmative Action policy by early next year.

This was disclosed in an address given by Dr Gretchen Poiner, Higher Education Consultant for the Affirmative Action Agency, in the Union on 18 March.

She was guest speaker at a forum arranged by the Association of Women Employees of the University (AWEUN) and the EEO Unit.

Dr Poiner said the Affirmative Action (Equal Employment Opportunity for Women) Act 1986 required universities and other ‘relevant employers’ to promote EEO for women and implement a programme to eliminate discrimination against women in employment.

‘1 October, 1986 is the date from which higher education institutions are expected to comply with the legislation and three months after a year’s compliance the institutions must report to the Affirmative Action Agency’, she said.

The University had two alternatives — it could prepare its report in a ‘global, holistic way’, listing virtually all employment practices, or do the job by focussing on important matters and examining them thoroughly.

‘I favour the latter approach, because the changes will be meaningful and less likely to be reversed, the important factor being that any changes must be integrated with normal university functions’, Dr Poiner said.

Implementation of an affirmative action programme would start with the announcement of the University’s commitment to EEO for women and include the appointment of an AA Co-ordinator.

Consultation and dialogue with unions, employees, particularly female employees and women’s groups would be necessary and the University’s employment practices would have to be reviewed.

She said the Affirmative Action Agency saw its role as not only the monitoring of progress on the programmes but also the provision of guidance and answering questions.

‘A lot of women who work for universities are at the bottom of the power structure’, she said, ‘and see themselves as having a lot to lose by becoming active in this area.

However, they have strength in numbers and will only succeed as a group with a united voice.

AWEUN should have representation on the affirmative action advisory committee. The association should contemplate putting forward a submission saying it is ready and waiting ‘in the wings’ and provides an excellent vehicle for consultation about legislation’, Dr Poiner said.
FOUR VALLEY STUDENTS SHARE $10,000 AWARD

The following Hunter Valley students have shared the inaugural $10,000 Edgeworth David Memorial Scholarship:

Des Quilty, of Lochinvar, who attended Maitland Boys' High School last year and has enrolled at the University of New England.

Phillip Dark, of Bolwarra Heights, who attended St. Peter's High School last year and has enrolled at this University.

Paul Searston, of Neath who attended Cessnock High School last year and has enrolled at this University.

Julie Shaw, of Cessnock, who attended Cessnock High School last year and has enrolled at this University.

Each will receive a $2,500 scholarship to assist with their tertiary studies in earth sciences or mining related subjects.

The scholarships are made available by Coal & Allied Industries Limited, the Hunter Valley's largest coal mining and exporting company.

The scholarship scheme was inaugurated late last year to coincide with the centenary of the discovery of the famous Greta Seam by Edgeworth David. The discovery laid the basis of today's coal mining industry.

Presenting the scholarships, Mr. Matt Blackham, Deputy Chief General Manager of Coal & Allied Industries Limited, said the company had a long association with mining communities in the Cessnock, Kurri Kurri and Maitland areas.

Mr. Blackham said the company established the scholarship scheme as an on-going memorial to Edgeworth David's achievement, and as a way 'to put something back' into the communities with which it had been associated.

University Choir begins 10th year

THE NEWCASTLE University Choir and Orchestra, under the baton of Peter Brock, will perform St. Matthew Passion by J.S. Bach at 7 pm on Good Friday, 17 April, in the Great Hall. The presentation will mark the beginning of the organisation's tenth anniversary year.

The Choir will be augmented on this occasion by the Waratah Girls' Choir. The tenor role of the Evangelist will again be sung by Paul Bevan. Jennifer Barnes, soprano, who sang the part of Michal in Saul last year, will be joined by another member of the Hunter Consort, the bass-baritone Christopher Allan.

The Waratah Girls' Choir was formed in 1982 under the direction of Mrs Wynette Horne. As well as achieving successes in the ABC-Joint Coal Board Choral Festivals, the choir was the outright winner of the Australian National Capital Eisteddfod in 1985.

The University Choir's major sponsor is McDonald's Family Restaurants. The Associate Sponsors are Ernst and Whinney and Tubemakers of Australia Ltd. Assistance is also given by Newcastle Parkroyal and Australian Airlines.

Tickets will be on sale at the door of the Great Hall, and at Latham's Garden City, Arthur Warner's Bookshop, McDonald Bros. (Booksellers) Maitland, University Union Westpac Agency and the Civic Theatre Booking Office. Prices are $12 and $8 concession.

• Winners of the inaugural Coal and Allied Edgeworth David Memorial Scholarships receive their cheques. From left: Mr. Paul Searston, Ms Julie Shaw, Mr Des Quilty, Mr Matt Blackham, Deputy Chief General Manager of Coal and Allied Industries Ltd. and Mr Bruce Dark, who accepted the scholarship on behalf of his son Phillip.
Ms Vicki Lloyd has been elected President of the Association of Women Employees of the University of Newcastle (AWEUN).

Ms Lloyd said AWEUN saw as one of its priorities the task of ensuring that the University adhered to its responsibilities concerning equal employment opportunities and affirmative action policies and programmes. Ms Lloyd said AWEUN welcomed men to its forums and film screenings, and was pleased to see more males showing an interest in AWEUN activities.

The election of officers for 1987 resulted: 
President, Vicki Lloyd; 
Vice-President, Sheila Gray; 
Secretary, Evelyn Turnbull; 
Treasurer, Ines Allegritti; 
Committee, Robyn Cotton, Joy Hoestl, Joan Talbot, Elvira Sprogis, Margaret Henry and Di Oughton.

Request for academics to participate

THE UNIVERSITY's radio station, 2NUR-FM, is currently conducting a recruiting drive to gain the services of academic staff members for its 1987 programmes.

The Station's Manager, Mr Anton Donker, said 2NUR now had a balanced base of regular programmes and he wanted to get staff with knowledge and expertise in particular areas to act as expert commentators.

'Ms Lloyd said, 'Not only will the staff help inform people of issues, but they will illuminate the range of expertise available at the University and help to improve community perceptions of the University', he said.

He has written to all full-time academic staff saying that the past three years have, as a result of the review of the station held in 1984, been a time of change for the station. He listed programme developments, including the new breakfast programme which is aimed at a wide family audience. The programme includes network radio news bulletins on the hour and interviews on a wide range of local and national issues.

Judging by the response of our listeners, and by audience research, our efforts have been very successful', Mr Donker said. 'Research carried out in October and November of last year by the Hunter Valley Research Foundation indicated that 2NUR has around 70,000 regular listeners in the region'.

He referred to a few regular programmes which involve University faculties and departments, including Open Mind on Health, The Word this Week and The NUR Theatre. Regular book readings are also produced.

'2NUR-FM also produces occasional programmes and series in co-operation with Community Programmes. The station is involved in an innovative project in educational talkback with the University of New England and other public stations in Sydney and Armidale. 2NUR contributes regular interviews and information about University activities and people to the ABC for use on ABC Radio National and other programmes'.

Mr Donker said the station can handle formal involvement at a faculty or department level, or any degree of informal input by individuals.

Perhaps you'd like to just have a dabble to try your radio skills (i.e. I can do better than ... or I'd wonder how I'd sound on radio). Why not come and talk to the friendly professional staff at the station and bounce your ideas around'.

CHEAP TICKETS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE!

UNDER 25?

MUSICA VIVA 1987

YOUTHPASS

Cheaper fare charged for young people in PHILHARMONIC Opera

HEAT IS OVER

PERFORMANCE	SCHEDULE

28th November 4.30 pm - City Hall, Tamworth

29th November 4.30 pm - Tamworth High School

30th November 4.30 pm - Tamworth High School

1st December 4.30 pm - Tamworth High School

4th December 3.30 pm - Tamworth High School

1 gratefully acknowledge support from the following organisations: City of Tamworth, Tamworth (NSW) City Council, City of Narrabri, Narrabri (NSW) City Council, State Libraries of New South Wales and Victoria, and the Australian Government through the Australia Council. All performance dates and times are subject to change without notice. Further details from: Paul Boulter, Director, MUSICA VIVA 1987, 100 Coxs River Road, Homebush West, NSW 2140, Phone (02) 744 0688. Tickets are available from the MUSICA VIVA 1987 office and selected outlets throughout New South Wales.
Macquarie team working in Egypt

The white limestone door above has been discovered by a team from Macquarie University at Saqqara, the cemetery at Memphis, the capital of Egypt during the Old Kingdom. Beautifully inscribed, it was a false door through which the spirit of the owner of the tomb passed.

The team from Macquarie University has been engaged in archaeological excavations in Egypt since 1980. Members belong to the Rundle Foundation for Egyptian Archaeology, the organisation which will present the weekend in Ancient Egypt at this University on 15 and 16 August.

It was not until 1980 that Egyptology was taught as a separate discipline both at undergraduate and postgraduate levels at an Australian university. A site which lies 450 kms south of Cairo, called Akhmim and which had been totally neglected by scholars, was granted to the university for investigation.

Now, after seven years, it has proven beyond doubt to have been the most important administrative centre in Upper Egypt during the Old and Middle Kingdoms, i.e. the third millennium B.C. As a result of the work done by Macquarie University, led by Professor Naguib Kanawati and Dr Boyo Ockinga, assisted by a number of research assistants and students from the university, the site has been thoroughly surveyed and most of the tombs excavated and recorded. In all 884 tombs have been discovered. This is the most extensive cemetery ever to be discovered in Egypt outside the capital of the Old Kingdom, Memphis.

Such a discovery and the publication of the material (The Rock Tombs of El-Hawawish: the cemetery of Akhmim, Vols. I to VI, by Naguib Kanawati) has added, and still adds, to knowledge of various aspects of Egyptian life; the administrative system, family relationships, agricultural life, various industries, sports and entertainment, etc.

The Egyptian Department of Antiquities, in 1983, invited Professor Kanawati to excavate in the most exclusive site of Saqqara. Traditionally, the site had been reserved for British, French and German universities.

Three short seasons of excavations were conducted during 1983-84 and a book Excavations at Saqqara: North-West of Teti's Pyramid, was published at the end of 1984.

Teti was founder of Dynasty VI and was one of the best known kings of the Old Kingdom. A number of tombs belonging to his officials were discovered and, from these, new light has been shed on his reign.

From the data uncovered by Professor Kanawati, it now appears that King Teti was probably assassinated by his bodyguards, in whose tombs evidence of their implication and punishment was discovered.

The Macquarie team, again led by Professor Kanawati, will continue its excavations at Saqqara at the end of this year with the hope of finding more information on the missing details of this most important and exciting reign.

Mrs Esther Kilkelly, with Dr Bernard Curran in the photo, is a member of the Rundle Foundation for Egyptian Archaeology. A retired Ancient History teacher from Maitland, Mrs Kilkelly helped to have Egyptian and Middle East studies included in the subjects available to HSC students from the Hunter Region. Previously the programme was only available in Sydney.

Mrs Kilkelly said country membership of the Rundle Foundation of Egyptian Archaeology is available for an annual subscription of $12 (adults), $10 (pensioners) and $5 (students). Members receive a regular, informative newsletter and are eligible to participate in guided tours to Egypt. Mrs Kilkelly's number is 33 2528.
QUESTACON FOUNDER'S PUBLIC LECTURE

DR MICHAEL GORE, Director of the National Science and Technology Centre, which is under construction on the shore of Lake Burley Griffin in Canberra, will deliver a public lecture at the University on 15 April.

Dr Gore, a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Physics and Theoretical Physics at the Australian National University, is the founder of The Questacon in Canberra, Australia's prototype 'hands on' science centre. The Questacon has provided the designers of the Supernova Science and Technology Centre with many ideas.

The Questacon was successful in helping thousands of school children and adults to a greater understanding of science and this success, and the popularity of science centres in Japan and other overseas countries, established the need for the National Centre for Science and Technology.

The Minister for Science, Mr Barry Jones, recently announced that the NCST would be a project for the Bicentenary and would feature an extensive mobile exhibition which would travel throughout Australia in 1988 and beyond.

Mr Jones said the Australian Bicentennial Authority would provide $4 million towards establishing the centre and private sponsors, including Japan, were expected to provide the required balance of $10 million.

Dr Gore, who was Canberran of the Year in 1983, is a most experienced science educator who has encouraged thousands of people to learn and appreciate more about science.

Dr Gore has said the task of demystifying science and technology was an increasingly important one in society as high technology grew beyond many people's understanding.

His public lecture will take place in the Drama Theatre at the University at 7 pm and the topic will be Bouyancy, Pressure and Archimedes Principle. His approach will suit all ages from primary school children through to adults and will be accompanied by many demonstrations.

THE CRISP MEDAL

An award to commemorate the life and work of the late Professor L.F. (Fin) Crisp has been established by the Australasian Political Studies Association and the Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

The award is of a silver medallion and a cheque for $500. It will be made to a political scientist who, within ten years of graduating as PhD or of taking up a tenured post at a university or college, is judged to have published the best work within the three-year period leading up to the year of the award.

Professor Crisp, one of the founders of the discipline of political science in Australia, was appointed to the Foundation Chair of Political Science at the Australian National University in 1949 and continued his association with the University after his retirement in 1977 as a visiting fellow. He died in 1984.

Further information is available from Maureen Barnett, University Information, Australian National University, (062) 49 2229.

GALA NIGHT WITH HORSES

To be held on Saturday, 11 April, 7.30 pm at the New South Wales Equestrian Centre, Windermere Road, Lochinvar. Equestrian variety performance followed by chicken and champagne supper.

Proceeds to aid Riding for the Disabled Association (Newcastle Region).

Enquiries: 94 5347 or Extension 572.
Obituary

JEANETTE REAY-YOUNG

MRS REAY-YOUNG, who died in Sydney on 26 February, was better known here by her maiden name, Jeanette Deldré Cook. Her father, the late Frank Cook, of Maitland, was a well-known Speech Therapist and trained in a whole generation of Morpeth Ordinands to read the Lessons clearly and preach persuasively. An old boy of North Sydney High, he had been a keen oarsman at Mosman in the thirties and gave us great help in the foundation of the Boat Club in 1962-65.

Jeanette entered the University College at Tighes Hill from Newcastle Girls' High in 1959. When I visited Newcastle for the first time in November of that year, before beginning duty as John Duigh's successor, Gavin Betts introduced her to me as the most promising Greek student. She was one of the three ablest students I have taught in a career of thirty-five years, and my first Newcastle pupil to gain a First in Classics. On the advice of my external examiner, Professor John Bishop of Armidale, she was also awarded the University Medal. After graduating in March 1963 she proceeded to London for a highly successful MA study of Plautus' Stichus under the late Professor Onions at Bedford College, where her external examiner was Eric Rundley, now Regius Professor at Cambridge. Returning to Australia she accepted a Lectureship in Classics in the University of Queensland under the late Professor C. Gordon Cooper, a fine Latinist but exacting taskmaster, whose unyielding rigorism over grammatical detail did not inspire her. However, her own impact on Queensland Latin and Greek classes, was, as Denys Pryor assured me, legendary.

Dissatisfied with many aspects of academic life, she showed her usual sound insight in marrying a Cambridge man. Dr Peter Reay-Young had taken up work relating to public health in New Guinea, and thither he took his bride for what proved a fascinating experience of an undeveloped society which greatly influenced Jeannette's later understanding of antiquity.

In a few years Peter returned to Australia to a post in the University of New South Wales Medical Faculty, and once their daughter was old enough, Jeannette was anxious to resume teaching. Taking steps to secure a Diploma of Education, she joined the New South Wales Department, and was finally appointed at Sydney High School, a post enabling her to teach Greek as well as Latin, and to make a remarkable contribution to the corporate life of that famous Boys' School. Her loss will be keenly felt there, as well as by her family and friends.

Jeannette had the unique distinction of being the only Classical Medallist of the University of New South Wales. Though Sir Philip Baxter encouraged Classics in Newcastle, he though it irrelevant to the role of his main Sydney Campus at Kensington, and with our autonomy in 1965 no further University of New South Wales degrees were conferred on Newcastle Classicists.

A lively and active personality in her undergraduate days, Jeannette is warmly remembered by many of her contemporary members of our Convocation, who will grieve greatly for her loss.

To Peter and her daughter we extend the University's deepest sympathy — βραχ ψηγμα δωδάκρυτου (Aeschylus, Ag. 442)

R.G.T.

Obituary

VILIAM FICKER

MEMBERS of the University will be saddened to hear of the death of Dr Viliam Ficker, a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Mathematics. Vil died on 14 March of cardiac failure at the age of fifty-five years.

Vil was born and educated in Czechoslovakia, where he then lectured for several years at the Comenins University in Bratislava. In 1968 he was a Senior Lecturer at the University of Khartoum, Sudan, and after the political upheaval in Czechoslovakia he found himself without a homeland. He came to Newcastle in 1968 as a Lecturer in Mathematics, and was promoted to Senior Lecturer one year later.

Vil's area of research was measure theory and theory of sets. While at Newcastle he supervised several postgraduate students studying towards M.Math and PhD degrees. Vil came to Australia with a considerable experience in teaching of probability and statistics, and played an important role in the introduction of mathematical statistics courses at Newcastle.

He will be remembered by both students and staff for his unobtrusive, warmhearted and jovial manner that he used in communication with other people. He also displayed a great deal of patience in dealing with slow learning students to whom he devoted considerable time outside the classroom.

Although Vil suffered from various ailments since 1978 he never neglected his duties towards the University and the students, displaying always a remarkably unselfish attitude.

We all express our deepest sympathy to his wife, Emilia, his daughters, Iveta and Henrietta, his granddaughter, Stephanie, and to all members of Vil's and Emilia's families.

P.K.S.
OFF TO HONG KONG

Professor Biggs

PROFESSOR JOHN BIGGS, Dean of Education, leaves the University in September to take up a Chair in Education at the University of Hong Kong.

Born in Hobart, Professor Biggs studied at the University of Tasmania and later at the University of London. After taking out his PhD in 1962, he became Lecturer in Psychology at the University of New England. From 1966-69 he was attached to the Higher Education Research Unit at Monash University. He spent the next four years at the University of Alberta in Canada, where he was Associate Professor, then Professor of Educational Psychology. He resigned from there to take up his Chair at this University in 1973.

Since 1958 Professor Biggs has written extensively, resulting in the publication of eighty-two entries, including ten books. He has been a member of several educational bodies, including the Board of Teacher Education of New South Wales Higher Education Board, and the Councils of the Australian Council for Educational Research, the Foundation of Child and Youth Studies, and Newcastle College of Advanced Education. He has acted as consultant to the School of Teacher Education at Riverina CAE, and the Curriculum Development Centre in the Australian Capital Territory, while his work on student learning has provided the framework for staff development workshops in several Australian CAEs and universities.

Professor Biggs was Foundation Dean of the Faculty of Education, and variously Dean and/or Head of the Department since then. He worked for the creation of the Faculty before 1975 Education was a Department in the Faculty of Arts, the Curriculum Resource and Research Centre, and the Faculty's higher degree structure, which includes the Master of Special Education degree, involving the Special Education Centre at NCAE.

Professor Biggs strongly opposed the move to transfer the University's Postgraduate Diploma in Education to the CAE in 1960. He said this was purely a political manoeuvre, taken without consultation or thought for the academic and professional consequences. 'The move brought Council and Senate on a collision course'. It also means that when — not if, but when — the University and the College do merge in some form or another, the University will enter that union so much weaker than it might otherwise have been. Whichever way you look at it, the decision was bad news for the University.' Enrolments in the Diploma in Education this year look like being 40-50 per cent up on last year, he said, 'a record rate of increase and excellent evidence as to where student preferences lie'. Professor Biggs said that when Senate discussed the transfer of the Diploma in Education to the CAE last year some members warned that University enrolments in several undergraduate courses could well be reduced.

He said that he had been fortunate to be part of the Department of Education during the 70s. 'We were very productive and the atmosphere was one of optimism and growth', he said. 'We enjoyed more research grants per capita than any other university education departments in Australia. Now this'. Apart from retirements, there had been four resignations from the Department: two senior lecturers, an associate professor, and a professor. 'This tells its own story about our state of morale. Unless these senior academics are replaced with more than fixed term lecturers, not only will a productive Department have been wantonly crippled, with something like ten or a dozen research higher degree students left in the lurch, but the College will be calling the tune in a key area in future liaisons with the University'. Professor Biggs emphasised, however, that he was extraordinarily fortunate that the Hong Kong post became vacant at this time. 'The research opportunities there are very attractive. The Hong Kong School Authority is looking closely at ways of abolishing external assessments while maintaining academic standards. This is ideal for extending both the work Kevin Collis and I are doing with the SOLO taxonomy on school-based curriculum development and assessment, and my recently published stuff on student approaches to learning. And then, of course, the University itself is very proud and supportive of its role in teacher education: That will be a real plus'.

Enjoyable Commencement of Golf Year

The University Golf Club held its first event for the year on 15 March at Merewether Golf Club.

The fine weather, and the absence of the preliminary WB/MD shuffle, helped to ensure that the day would be enjoyable for all players.

Brett Ninness returned the best score of the day, an excellent 39 points.

Anyone interested in joining the Golf Club can telephone Paul Rippon (21379) or Rhet Cleal (71 2560), or leave his or her name at the Sport and Recreation Office. We cater for all standards — from hackers to pros — so contact us today.

Coming events include the Staff -v- Students match and the 1987 Intervarsity competition which is being held in Newcastle during May.
Student Elections

THE ANNUAL elections for the student membership on various University bodies are under way with the issue of notices calling for nominations. The bodies are:

- Senate
- All Faculty Boards
- Standing Committee on Asian Studies.
- Library Committee.

All students, except the very newest, will know that the bodies mentioned make decisions or recommendations on academic matters which are of direct concern to students. As these elections are the only chance students will have to secure representation on those bodies during the current academic year, the opportunity is not one to be missed.

This year sees a change in the election procedures for the Senate. There are four vacancies to be filled. If there are not sufficient nominations for these positions when the period for nomination has expired, those who have nominated will be declared elected and a further short period of time will be allowed for nominations to the remaining positions. In this way it is hoped that all the vacancies will be filled.

Full details of the elections, including the number of vacancies and eligibility, are contained in the notices which have been distributed to all faculties and departments throughout the University.

The closing date for the receipt of nominations will be Noon on Friday, 3 April.

The beginning of April will see the start of the election for the two student members of the University Council for the period 8 June, 1987 to 7 June, 1988.

The election will mark a change from previous years. As a consequence of the recent amendments to the University Act, this year members of staff who are studying for a degree or diploma of the University will no longer be eligible to participate in the election.

Notices calling for nominations will be sent out on 1 April and nominations are to be received by the University Secretary (Mr P.D. Alexander) in his capacity as Returning Officer by 23 April.

Uni Club’s good start

University's Basketball Club is off to a good start for 1987. The number of people attending the training sessions on Monday nights has increased in the last four weeks, so the club has entered three men's teams and two women's teams in the competition.

The summer competition just completed found both the Uni 1 women's team and Uni 2 men's team in the grand finals. The women's team boasted minor premiers. However, it sadly lost the grand final by five points. Members of this team are no longer playing basketball together. Hence the women's teams entered in this year's competition are made up of mostly new players.

The men's grand final game was very exciting. They made life very difficult for themselves, as they had a one point win. They played a very impressive offensive game, showing some very stylistic shooting. We feel they fully deserved to win and expect more impressive performances from the team in the competition just commenced.

As well as playing basketball, we plan many social activities for 1987. For those people who would like a social game every now and then, we meet every first Saturday of the month in the Auchmuty Sports Centre, from 10 am to Noon, with a barbecue afterwards.

We also plan to enter teams in various carnivals throughout the year. Inter-Varsity for basketball is in Adelaide in August, for which we are already preparing. We will continue to report on the results of our games and events in 1987.

ST. MATTHEW PASSION
J.S. BACH

Newcastle University Choir
and Orchestra
with The Waratah Girls Choir
Conducted by Peter Brock

GREAT HALL, UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE
GOOD FRIDAY, 17TH APRIL, 1987 at 7.00 p.m.

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ST. MATTHEW PASSION - J.S. BACH

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and Orchestra
with The Waratah Girls Choir
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The publishers of a new monthly newsletter want researchers at this University to tell them what they're up to.

Ms Jane Richardson, Editor of *Innovation Inventory*, said she hopes to be able to devote a fair amount of the newsletter to university-based research. (Ms Richardson is also Editor of the Innovations page in *The Australian*.)

*Innovation Inventory* aims at showing industry and business what Australian innovators are offering and promoting a cross-flow of information between industry, researchers and private inventors.

The newsletter costs $95 per year (eleven issues). Subscriptions should be sent to Innovation Publishing, 39 Dumbarton Street, North Sydney, New South Wales, 2060.

**Next symposium to be special**

The next Newcastle Symposium on Advances in the Study of the Sydney Basin from 10 to 12 April will be an event of historical import. It will be the 21st organised by the Department of Geology.

The symposium's 'coming of age' will be marked by a visit by a distinguished French coal researcher, Dr Boris Alpern.

Following an excursion to study the Waratah sandstone and adjacent strata on 10 April, the symposium will be held in Lecture Theatre B11 the next day. Professor Keith Morgan will open the symposium and Professor Ian Plimer will welcome those who attend.

Dr Alpern is a leading practitioner of both fundamental and applied coal research who recently retired from the Groupe des Combustibles Fossiles in the University of Orleans, Orleans, France.

He holds the position of President of the International Committee for Coal Petrology (ICCP), the organisation which works closely with various National Standards Associations to standardise analysis methods, nomenclature and classification of coal and coke.

As ICCP's representative on the Coal Committee of the Economic Commission of Europe, he is closely involved with the current revision of commercial coal classification, a process which has long-term implications for the future of the Australian Coal Industry.

Dr Alpern will centre his lecture on the problems surrounding the use of Vitrinite as a major component of coal classification systems.

The executive of the University's Graduates' Society will stage a Sheep Roast in the Staff House on 10 April at 6.30 pm.

**Federation of University Women**

The Australian Federation of University Women (Hunter Valley Branch) holds its regular monthly meeting in the Staff House at 6.30 pm for 7 pm on the fourth Wednesday of each month.

Following the dinner, invited guest speakers address members on topics of current interest and importance.

The speaker for the next meeting (22 April) will be Professor Eric Coleman, Professor of Geography at the University.

All women graduates are welcome to attend and are invited to telephone 46 9041 or 46 8551 for information regarding meetings and membership.
Advertisements

For Sale

Situated in the historic Quorrobolong Valley on twenty-five acres of first-class undulating Hereford grazing land, a colonial brick split level three bedroom home, plus study and double carport. Thirty-five minutes drive to the University and fifteen minutes from Cessnock and only ten minutes from the Freeway to Sydney. Other features include three dams, top class Hereford breeding cattle plus calves and many other extras. To those contemplating a rural adventure it would be well worth inspection. Asking price, $180,000. Telephone 38 0284.

The following items are for sale from Extension 291: McCulloch 320 chainsaw in excellent condition (little use) and comes with self-sharpening unit (get your own sharpening done for Winter), $200. Seagull 3 hp outboard motor (used to go well), $50. Quintrex 3.5m aluminium boat (heavy duty) with oars and is on a registered trailer, $800 or near offer.

Two colour television sets — Sony 18" UHF/VHF (five years old), $200 and HMV 22" VHF only (nine years old), $175. Telephone Machelle at Extension 522 or 87 1169 (evenings).


The following items are offered for sale at 52 4625: Yamaha classical guitar in hard case, $250 or near offer. Apollo 4 BMX bike in excellent condition, $190 or near offer. Child's ski helmet, $15 or near offer. Zebra finches, common and coloured, $1 each.

Canon T70 camera plus 50mil. lens. Brand new and has never been used, $500 or near offer. Telephone Extension 558 or 49 8283 after hours.

Olivetti Lettera 32 portable manual typewriter with case, $50. Telephone Evelyn at Extension 763 or 52 3060 after hours.


Fiberglas Kayak together with paddles, life jacket and large cockpit (suit tall person), $190 or near offer. Telephone David at 43 1960.

Unusual large family home in Valentine. Features include: antique staircase, six bedrooms, two kitchens, family room, separate lounge and dining rooms, formal entertaining rooms and large inground pool (35'). Asking price, $118,000 or near offer (or will exchange for smaller home). Telephone 46 8551.

Early model Porsche 911S manual, recently done up and looks magnificent, $28,000 or near offer. Telephone 58 5613.


Garage Sale

For real bargains in cheap furniture and household goods, books etc. come along to 166 St. James Road, New Lambton on 4 April (all day).

Position Wanted — Baby sitting

Mrs Thew of 51 5699 would like to do baby sitting in her home or yours at very reasonable rates.

Accommodation Wanted

Wanted room for hardworking HSC female in return for child minding after school, evenings and weekends (Christian, teetotaler and experienced with children). Inner city area preferred. Telephone Extension 471 or 26 5129.

RECOGNITION FOR DR FENELON

DR Barney Fenelon (above) joined Newcastle University College as a Lecturer in Psychology in early 1959 and retired from the University as an Associate Professor in 1985. In recognition of his service to the University’s Staff Association as Secretary for a long period, the Association has made him a Life Member.
Diary of Events

Monday, March 30, 1 pm
Department of History Seminar entitled Theatre History: The Case of the Victoria, LG22 (McMullin Building). Speaker: Lionel Fredman.

Tuesday, March 31, 12.50 pm
Lunchtime concert in the Courtyard featuring Rat Trick. Admission: free.

1 pm
Staff Bible Study in G25, McMullin Building.

8-11 pm
Entertainment in the Bar featuring Rat Trick. Admission: free.

Wednesday, April 1, 8 pm
Entertainment in the Bar featuring the Al Vincer Quartet. Admission: free.

1 pm
Students for Christ (praise and worship) in V10, Mathematics Building.

Thursday, April 2, Noon
Movie: Karate Kid II in the Common Room. Donation: 50 cents.

8-11 pm
Entertainment in the Bar (Students at Home). Admission: free.

Friday, April 3, 2 pm
Film Buffs Club — Petulia in the Common Room. Admission: free.

Tuesday, April 7, 12.50 pm
Lunchtime concert in the Courtyard featuring The Scholars. Admission: free.

1 pm
Foreign Affairs Information Session in Lecture Theatre V07. Speaker: Mr. Geoff Bentley (for persons contemplating a career in the Australian Diplomatic Service).

1 pm
Staff Bible Study in G25, McMullin Building.

8-11 pm
Entertainment in the Bar featuring Small Toys. Admission: free.

Wednesday, April 8, Noon

1 pm
Students for Christ (praise and worship) in G25, McMullin Building.

8 pm
Entertainment in the Bar (Jazz with Mark Johns). Admission: free.

Thursday, April 9, Noon
Movie: Plenty in the Common Room. Donation: 50 cents.

8-11 pm
Entertainment in the Bar (Students at Home). Admission: free.

Friday, April 10, 1 pm
AWEUN will be screening the film Sexual Identity (a lighthearted look at traditional roles in the family, and one woman’s dream of change) and Raising Sons and Daughters (interviews with parents trying to bring up children with non-traditional sex roles) in the Counselling Theatrette, LG59.

2 pm
Film Buffs Club — Klute. Admission: free.

Tuesday, April 14, 1 pm
Union AGM in the Courtyard.

1 pm
Staff Bible Study in G25, McMullin Building.

8-11 pm
Entertainment in the Bar featuring Conway Bros. Hiccups Orchestra.

Wednesday, April 15, 1 pm
The Way of the Cross, an inter-faith gathering on campus in Holy Week prior to Easter. Commencing at the bridge near the Library and proceeding via the Science, Administration, Social Sciences and Union Buildings to the Fountain.

1 pm
Students for Christ (praise and worship) V10, Mathematics Building.

1 pm
Lunchtime concert in the Courtyard featuring Degage Ensemble. Admission: free.

5.30 pm
Convocation Inaugural Lecture by Professor Eric Colhoun, Professor of Geography, will speak on the topic: The Ice Age and Man in the Drama Theatre.

8-11 pm
Entertainment in the Bar featuring Cas and Lola (cabaret). Admission: free.

Thursday, April 16, Noon
Movie: Hanna and Her Sisters. Donation: 50 cents.

INAUGURAL LECTURE

by

PROFESSOR ERIC COLHOUN
(Professor of Geography)

Topic: The Ice Age and Man

Wednesday, April 15, 5.30 pm
in the Drama Theatre