GRADUATION PLANS

Convocation will endeavour again this year to make Graduation Day a very special day for new graduates and members of their families.

The graduates' association has extended the $1-per-graduand subsidy scheme for morning teas organised by Faculties.

Moreover, Convocation has again commissioned the Toronto Rass Band to give recitals at the conclusion of the two graduation ceremonies on April 24. However, the band's location will be changed from the Court Yard of the Union to the precincts of the Great Hall to add colour to the ceremonies and allow visitors to enjoy the University's attractive outdoor setting.

Degrees will be conferred upon graduands in the Faculties of Architecture, Engineering, Economics & Commerce, Medicine and Science during the ceremony which will commence at 10 am.

The second ceremony, when degrees will be conferred in the Faculties of Arts, Education and Mathematics, will commence at 2.30 pm.

Council agreed at its meeting in February that this year's Graduation Ceremonies should be held on one day, rather than on two days, as had been the practice for some years. Council noted the efforts made by Convocation last year to add interest to Graduation Day.

The Warden of Convocation (Mr. Philip Miller) says that Standing Committee of Convocation will continue to consider ways of revitalising Graduation Day.

"For some time now we have been concerned that Graduation Day is losing its significance in the life of the University and, more particularly, is in danger of becoming a non-event in the life of our graduates".

Last year he wrote to the Deans of the Faculties offering a subsidy of $1-per-graduand to help defray the costs of functions held by Faculties on Graduation Day.

"Some Faculties were able to use this subsidy and, as a result, helped to add to the festivities. Some Faculties were able to use this subsidy and, as a result, helped to add to the general atmosphere of Graduation being a special University occasion".

Mr. Miller says that Standing Committee had decided to extend the scheme. In a letter to the Deans, he pointed out that because of the timing of graduation ceremonies it was not always practicable for Faculties to organise functions on Graduation Day. Some Faculties and Departmental Societies held their functions just before Graduation Day.

"For these reasons", Mr. Miller says, "the scheme is being extended to include any function organised in conjunction with a Faculty of Department and held to mark Graduation Day".

Get your free show bags. In a departure from the usual, the Students' Representative Council distributed publications designed to help new students to discover life at University in SRC bags. Pictured handing out the publications are Sharon Ryan and Students' Association President, Margaret Kavanagh. Photo: Col Hewell.
Dear Sir,

It is difficult to discern Ms. Kavanagh's attitude to the Positive Initiatives Committee from the comment in her letter (University News, Vol. 8, No. 3). First it is not clear whether she realises that the Vice-Chancellor's prize of $100 comes from his own pocket and is in no way related to University finances.

Secondly, she states the Positive Initiatives Committee was "set up to examine ways to save money in this University". The terms of reference of the Committee are "to seek out and consider positive ideas which might be applied to aid the University". Certainly saving money on any of the University's activities would aid the University and the Committee has considered, and passed on to the appropriate officer, suggestions to this end. However, the main purpose of the Committee is to consider positive initiatives which will benefit the University in the long term, whether they save money in the short term or not. Better publicity, better co-ordination of the University's activities with those of other bodies will all, the Committee believes, be of benefit to the University.

I have been pleased by the support which the Committee has received: by way of numerous suggestions from members of staff and by the willing cooperation of Convocation and The Friends of the University. I am disappointed that Ms. Kavanagh does not appear to have recognised the opportunity to develop such initiatives either by taking a positive attitude to the Committee in her letter or by stimulating the student body to put forward suggestions for the Committee's consideration.

C.D. Ellyett, Chairman, POSITIVE INITIATIVES COMMITTEE.

Dear Sir,

Comments made to me about my letter to the Editor in the last News, presses me to clarify a point.

When I addressed my grievances to the University, I assumed people would know I was referring to the University administration. As far as the emergency accommodation situation went I am well aware of the measures taken by the staff in the Amenities Section to do the best for students in an impossible situation.

My criticisms were not intended for those individuals in Amenities who went out of their way to do things like take students to their homes, invite them for meals, drive them around and so on. My discontent was directed towards the administration at their mismanagement or outright neglect of duties. For allowing over 800 student not to be enrolled by the start of the academic year and for not doing enough about student accommodation.

The point is it should not be the responsibility of individuals to pick up the slack of the administration in this University. All the excuses in the world can be given for not getting a job done, but it's just not good enough when students have to bear the brunt and the University loses numbers.

Margaret Kavanagh, SRC President.

NEAL DICKINSON SCHOLARSHIP

Dr. Neal Dickinson, a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Economics and Honorary Treasurer of the Sports Union, unexpectedly died in June last year. The whole of the University community, in particular the staff and colleagues from the Sports Union, and his friends from all sections of the Newcastle community, were shocked and saddened at his loss. For a number of us it was only at his funeral service that we learned of the breadth of Neal's interests and influence in the community.

Neal provided time-consuming conscientious service to the Sports Union. As well, he gave thoughtful, considerate counsel to the Executive of the Sports Union. In all situations his aim was to assist and to provide service to students. Neal's friends and colleagues on the Sports Union Executive agree that he influenced all of us, principally by his own example and by his fine moral character. Neal's concern was with the quality of life and he provided a fine example for others to follow.

In memory of Neal Dickinson, the service he provided to the Sports Union and the fine example that he set, the Sports Union has decided to award annually two Outward Bound Scholarships to enable two members of the Sports Union to attend an Outward Bound standard course. These courses are open to young people between 17 and 25 years and involve 26 days of activities, designed to develop character, confidence, capacities and personal awareness and awareness of others.

In view of Neal's own values, and the aims of the Australian Outward Bound School and its courses, the Executive of the Sports Union considered it appropriate that two scholarships for the Outward Bound courses would be a most appropriate way of honouring Neal's contributions.

As well as being sponsored on an Outward Bound standard course, scholarship winners will receive a certificate testifying that they had been awarded a Neal J. Dickinson Memorial Outward Bound Scholarship from the Sports Union.

Barry Boatcbar, President, SPORTS UNION.

Demonstrations

Our visiting fellow in Japanese Culture, Mrs. Yoko Nishimura, from Ube, Japan, will be giving demonstrations of flower arranging and tea ceremony on the following dates:

Monday, April 5: Film and Flower Arrangement (two sessions — 4 to 5 pm and 5 to 6 pm).

Monday, April 19: Film and Tea Ceremony (two sessions — 4 to 5 pm and 5 to 6 pm).

VENUE: ROOM 414 (McMullin Building).

Those wishing to attend should notify the Secretary, Japanese Section — Telephone: 685 414.

Publication dates

No. 5 April 15
No. 6 April 29
No. 7 May 13
No. 8 May 27
No. 9 June 10
No. 10 June 24
No. 11 July 8
No. 12 July 22
No. 13 August 5
No. 14 August 19
No. 15 September 2
No. 16 September 16
No. 17 September 30
THE NEWTON-JOHN AWARD

Jess Dyce is pleased that this University makes good provision for mature age students. "This mature age student", she said when accepting the 1981 Newton-John Award on March 26, "has been on the rolls for about 15 years".

It had been her "great good fortune" to live "two hills away" from the English Department and the Auchmuty Library. (As a mature age student she gained an M.A. degree, and after retirement she completed a Ph.D. degree.) Jess Dyce was presented with the Newton-John Award at a dinner in the Union attended by 87 people, comprising the Chancellor, Sir Bede Callaghan, Lady Callaghan, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Don George, Mrs. Lorna George, Professor Brin Newton-John, many devoted relatives and friends and members of Convocation.

The Warden of Convocation, Mr. Philip Miller, presented the Newton-John Award, a sculpture by Lyndal Brown, to Jess and said the judging panel's choice had been unanimous. The decision had been prompted by Jess's substantial contribution to teaching in New South Wales. In all, she had spent 42 years working as a teacher, including 17 years in Teachers' Colleges.

Jess referred to Lyndal Brown's beautiful sculpture and said it was significant that it had been created by a woman. Feminists might rejoice; there was an upward trend in the emergence of women in public life, especially in the city of Newcastle. For example, she said, two of the seven winners of Newton-John Awards were women and, if the artists who executed the awards were included, women had taken five places out of 14.

GREAT SCORE

Newcastle University Choir's next presentation will be a performance of J.S. Bach's Passion, by Musique à la Mothe, regarded as one of the greatest works in the choral repertoire.

Newcastle City Hall will be the venue on Good Friday, April 9, beginning at 7 p.m. sharp.

For the performance, a full orchestra (or, more correctly, two orchestras, as the work is written for double orchestra and double choir), organ, harpsichord and continuo will join with the Choir's 80 members and the NBN Children's Choir. Peter Brock, Musical Director of the Newcastle University Choir, will be the Conductor.

A special feature of the concert will be the provision of words and music of the chorales, so the audience can join in this celebration of Easter.

Soloists for the great musical event are: Ronald Dowd (Evangelist), Neil Easton (Christ), Jenette McCusker (soprano), Suzanne McLeod (contralto), Allan Mullins (tenor) and Byron Littlewood (bass).

Tickets are available from the Civic Theatre and are on sale at the door. They cost $7, adults, and $4, concession.
Dr. Don Wright, Senior Lecturer in History, is the newly-elected Secretary of the University of Newcastle Staff Association. Dr. Wright has succeeded Mr. Pran Dockrill, who is continuing as President after his re-election. Mrs. Sandra Grimes, Mr. Brian Hayes and Assoc. Professor Dr. Dockrill have been elected to the Executive, making it a full eight-person executive. The other officers elected were:

Vice-President: Mr. Chopra
Treasurer: Mr. W. Warren
Committee: Mr. Geoff Cowper-Hill, Sandra Grimes, Mr. Brian O'Shea, Dr. K. Lyne-Smith, Professor Reyn Keats and Dr. David Finlay.

Dr. Dockrill, in his report for the past year, indicated the following main issues and matters affecting the Association:

- **AMALGAMATION**

If amalgamation occurs there will be great and long-term changes to the University and the CAF. It seems wise to make plans to cope with some at least of these changes before the amalgamation takes place, though one of the difficulties with such a scheme is that such plans make it harder to escape amalgamation should the opportunity arise.

The Executive received a visit from two FAUSA Officers in February who recommended to the Executive that it should meet soon with the Executive of the Lecturers’ Association to discuss common problems and to see if agreement could be reached on certain issues with the aim of putting a joint position to members. This meeting took place on March 13 and the Executive will meet again soon to discuss the matter further. If agreement is reached between the Executives, it is planned that the applicants for promotion to their members at the earliest possible moment.

- **STUDY LEAVE CONDITIONS**

During the past year there have been some issues of concern to staff before the Council. After Amalgamation, the review of study leave conditions has been the most important. Council had approved changes to the Outside Studies Programmes Conditions. Amongst the changes was a change to the membership of the Outside Studies Programmes Appeal Committee. Whereas in the past the Vice-Chancellor, the Deputy Chairman of Senate and the President of the Staff Association constituted the Appeal Committee, the membership is now constituted by those appointed from time to time by Council for this purpose.

- **PROMOTION CRITERIA**

In a judgement upon an unsuccessful appeal against failure to gain promotion to Senior Lecturer, a Council-appointed Committee reported that it saw nothing wrong with the view that there could be unstated criteria be means of which an applicant for promotion could be judged. The Executive is deeply opposed to this view and its opposition was brought to the attention of Council. Council, however, received the point with little sympathy. In the view of the Executive there is a need to press this matter again, probably in relation to the forthcoming UASA Award.

- **CRITICISM OF STAFF**

A year ago Assoc. Professor Curthoys had raised the problem of unsubstantiated criticism of staff at Council. If such criticism is automatically rejected by the Senior Administrative personnel would not provide a continuing problem. However, there is evidence that unsubstantiated claims about staff members are kept in University records. To date there has been no report to Council on this matter and the Association must continue to urge the Council to act as a matter of urgency.

- **THE ACADEMIC PLAN**

The request by Senate that the Allocations Committee draw up an academic plan for the University has been reported to Council. In view of the importance of the plan Dr. Dockrill has written on behalf of the Association to the Vice-Chancellor expressing the Association’s views in terms of its current policies. In this letter it was stressed that the Association would be deeply opposed to any academic plan which involved or threatened the retenchment of academic staff. It is absolutely necessary for the University to have an extremely cautious policy about filling vacancies. It is also incumbent upon the Association that it give serious attention to the ways in which some of the financially induced difficulties confronting the University might be met.

After a motion was submitted seeking support for an Honorary to the President of the Association equivalent to that paid to the Secretary of the Association, the motion was discussed and lost. A motion that the Executive does what is necessary to expedite the merger of the Association and Newcastle Division of UASA of NSW and that a motion approving the merger forthwith be submitted to the next meeting of the Association was lost. Instead, it was resolved to instruct the Executive to make a report and recommend action. Consideration of the following motions was deferred until the next general meeting:
Elections

The terms of office of most members of the Board of Management of the Union have almost expired and elections have been arranged.

Nominations for election to the Board closed on Tuesday, March 30.

The elections will get under way on Thursday, April 14 and terminate on Tuesday, April 20. Students will be able to cast votes in the Union in the time 10 am to 6.15 pm. The annual general meeting of the Union will be held in the Courtyard on April 22 at 1 pm.

Aussie wilds

This year's In the Footsteps of the Explorer study tour organised by the Department of Community Programmes will leave Newcastle on August 28 and return on September 12.

The tour will again be led by Dr. John Turner, Senior Lecturer in Community Programmes. Mr. Don McNeill, bushman and botanist, and Aboriginal studies specialist, Mr. Boris Sokoloff will assist him.

The trip into the wilds of Central Australia affords people a rare opportunity to see the outback for themselves and to understand the problems the explorers faced.

The tour will be conducted in a fully equipped modern safari coach with tents and all other necessary camping equipment supplied. All meals will be provided by the organisers and cooked by an experienced camp cook but everyone is expected to help with camp chores.

The cost is $475 per person.

OXFORD Visitor

Mr. Roger Hussey, Director of Research into Employee Communications at the Industrial Relations Annexe, St. Edmund Hall, Oxford, has joined the University as the second Jayses/Qantas Visiting Lecturer.

Mr. Hussey is based in the Department of Commerce for the two months to May 25.

On March 15, he was interviewed by ABC Radio and afterwards spoke at a meeting of Newcastle Rotary Club.

On March 17, Mr. Hussey led a seminar on employee communications in the Department of Commerce. Members of staff learnt about a communication exercise conducted by GEC Power Engineering Limited, a United Kingdom company.

His primary activity on the campus is to present lectures to students enrolled in the MBA degree course.

Mr. Hussey comments that the course obviously had a high reputation — 29 students were enrolled, compared with an enrolment of perhaps 12 for the same course in the United Kingdom.

"At first I will give lectures on Management Accounting, concentrating on behavioural aspects", he said. "Later, I will change to Employee Communications, including the disclosure of information about management to employees and trade unions."

Mr. Hussey was born in Somerset and worked as an accountant in industry before doing his M.Sc. at the University of Bath. He has been attached to the Industrial Relations Annexe at Oxford for the past eight years.

Before taking up his Jayses/Qantas Visiting Lectureship he did an Employee Communications consultancy project for the mammoth International Publishing Corporation in the United Kingdom.

He and Mr. Russell Craig, Lecturer in Commerce, have co-authored a new book, Keeping Employee Informed, to be brought out by Butterworths in April.

As a visitor to the University of Newcastle he says he is interested in:

- meeting staff members and students, reinforcing University and local business community links, and
- in his spare time, seeing some of the scenery of the Hunter Valley, including the Pokolbin Vineyards.
SPORT

Cameron Ross, a Newcastle University cricketer, has scored a place in the Combined Australian team to tour England.

The team leaves later in May for a 10 or 11-match tour, which will include games at Fenner's, Cambridge and the Parks, Oxford.

Although this University did not do as well as in previous years, it will be indirectly involved in the cricket through Mr. Harry Bradford, the Amenities Officer.

Mr. Bradford will accompany the Australian Universities team as Liaison Officer.

The team is:

Charles L. Robinson (Captain), Ken Macleay and Neil J. McLean (Western Australia), Roger N. Travas (Vice-Captain), Andrew B. Courtice and John N. Maguire (Queensland); Stephen (G. Campbell, James S. Dixon and James G. Robson (New South Wales); Cameron Ross of the University of Newcastle; John D. Gratton-Smith, Michael O'Sullivan and Craig Tomko (Sydney); Murray N. Redcliffe of the Australian National University; David A. Robertson of Adelaide.


The team is scheduled to leave London to fly back to Australia on June 29.

Don's party

The first of the Drama Department's major productions in 1982 will be Don's Party by David Williamson, to be directed by John Krummel. It will open in the Drama Theatre on Wednesday, April 21, and will play Wednesday to Saturday in that week and the following week, closing on May 1.

John Krummel is a graduate of NIDA. He first achieved national prominence in 1968 as the host Michael in Harry M. Miller's original Australian production of The Boys in the Band. In the intervening years he has appeared with all the major state subsidised theatre companies in a wide variety of leading roles. At Nimrod he was President Wilson in Paris which was specially written for him by Ron Blair, and for the Greenroom Society of the University of New South Wales he was Alceste in The Misanthrope.

John was formerly Resident Director of the Queensland Theatre Company where his productions included The Cherry Orchard, Rabeas Corpus, 'Breaker' Morant, Deathtrap, The Man Who Came to Dinner and Gypsy.

He recently directed the highly successful revival of Richard Beynon's Australian classic, The Shifting Heart for Sydney's Marian Street Theatre. He is currently Repertoire Consultant to the Queensland Theatre Company.

Don's Party was David Williamson's second play and his first venture into straight comedy. The action takes place in the home of a falling Melbourne school teacher on the night of the 1969 elections.

Who said that University is dull? The students who play in the revue, Three Letter Word For Duck, seem stimulated by their work. Featured at rehearsals for the show are: Caroline Attwood, Bernard Purcell, Carl Brown, Mikel Robins and Alana Thompson.

Photo: Arthur Johnston.

Drama Production

From April 1 the University of Newcastle's Drama Department will present an evening of comedy in the form of a double bill.

The first show will be called Three Letter Word for Duck, a revue written, directed and performed by students. The cast includes Caroline Attwood, Carl Brown, Bernard Purcell, Mikel Robins, John Skilton and Alana Thompson.

The second show will be a two-man tour-de-force, by Chris Kelly and Steve Nantsou, entitled An Evening with Strathaird Martin. The show will include several styles of comedy as well as music, magic and acrobatics.

The show will be presented in the Drama Studio from April 1 to 3 with luncheon performances of Three Letter Word for Duck before transferring into the Wood Street Theatre from April 7 to 10.

UNIVERSITY BILLIARDS AND SNOOKER CLUB won the 'C' grade competition grand final. Hall of the Conquerors!
POSITION WANTED
— CAR SITTER

Responsible academic seeks opportunity to care for car of any staff member proceeding on leave May-June onwards. Loving attention and respect guaranteed. Willing to make sensible financial arrangement. Please telephone Extension 471 or leave a message at Extension 262.

A considerable number of re-enrolling and new students have already registered with the Careers & Student Employment Office for part-time and casual employment during the 1982 academic year. The students concerned, and the Careers & Student Employment Office, would be pleased if anybody knowing of possible employment sources or having a job to be done, would notify the Careers and Student Employment Office accordingly. Extension 466 is the telephone number.

CLERICAL WORK! LABOURING! LABORATORY ASSISTANT! SURVEY CANVASSING! RESEARCH ASSISTANT! COACHING! CASHIERING!

FOR SALE

BICYCLE — Malvern Star, 10 speed — $120.

/75 TOYOTA COROLLA — two-door, 12 months registration — $2,500. Please telephone Extension 240 if interested in the above mentioned advertisements.

IMINGTON TYPEWRITER — 15" carriage, perfect condition — $75. Please telephone 45 9272.

KEROSSINE HEATER — Chevron brand — perfect condition, three years old, $18. Please telephone Extension 392 or 25 051 after hours.

HOUSE — MEREWETHER HEIGHTS
Professor would like to sell 27 square metre home with ocean views. Interested persons should telephone 63 3240.

FOR RENT

FOUR BEDROOM HOME, LORN
(Maitland area). This family home is available from June to October inclusive. For further details please telephone 33 6571.

PARENTS’ and SPOUSES’ DAY

At a ceremony in the Department of Modern Languages on March 83, Margaret Chenery received the Goethe Prize for outstanding performances in German. The prize was presented by Dr. G. Pagenstert, Counsel-General for the Federal Republic of Germany. Mr. Robert Raupach, President of the Germania Club is also pictured.

A group of parents, spouses or friends of new students spent a day at the UN on March 26 seeing the University at work. As the Vice-Principal and Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ken Dutton, explained when he welcomed the group: “The demands of a university course can be heavy and students need the understanding and support of those who are close to them. We invited you to share in their lives for a day and hope that as a result you will increase your involvement in their studies at this stressful time in their lives”.

Referring to the benefits given by a small university like the UN, Professor Dutton said members of staff were not faceless persons but people whom students could know personally. He suggested that new students be encouraged to approach members of staff for information.

The Vice-Principal also discussed the international standing of this University’s degrees. “Our degrees are recognised nationally and internation-
### DIARY OF EVENTS

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 1 to APRIL 4

- **8.15 pm**  
  R.E.V.E., Three Letters.  
  Venue: Drama Studio.  
  Admission: FREE.

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 2

- **9 am to 5 pm**  
  The Place of the Driver in Road Safety, a one-day seminar (co-sponsored by the NRMA).  
  Venue: Room 526 (McMullin Building).

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 4

- **8 pm**  
  Newcastle Film Society presents: LA LUNA by Bertolucci (1979).  
  Venue: Room G58(a)

#### MONDAY, APRIL 5

- **10 am**  
  Lecture/Seminar presented by the Department of Modern Languages.  
  Topic: Kafka's Parabeln "Vor dem Geretza" und "Eine Kaisersliche Botschaft" ein Vergleich.  
  Venue: Room G41 (McMullin Building).

#### MONDAY, TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY APRIL 5, 6 & 7

- **1.06 to 1.30 pm**  
  LUNCHTIME MASSES, next to the Chaplains Office, basement of the Union.

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

- **10 am**  
  Department of Mathematics Combinatorial Seminar.  
  Topic: Iso-Morphic Factorisations of Regular Graphs.  
  Venue: Room G12 (McMullin Building).

- **5 pm**  
  LUNCHTIME MASSES, next to the Chaplains Office, basement of the Union.

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 8

- **1.06 to 1.30 pm**  
  Newcastle University Catholic Association Meeting – Discussion.

- **5 pm**  
  Faculty of Medicine Seminar.  
  Topic: The Sympathetic Nervous System: A New Window on the Control of Myelination.  
  Speaker: Dr. J. Heath.  
  Venue: Lecture Theatre, Middleton Building.

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 9 (EASTER FRIDAY)

- **7 pm**  
  University Choir and Orchestra, with the NHR Children's Choir, will present Bach's St. Matthew Passion.  
  Venue: Newcastle City Hall.  
  Conductor: Peter Brock.

#### MONDAY, TUESDAY & FRIDAY APRIL 12, 13, 14 & 15

- **1.06 to 1.30 pm**  
  LUNCHTIME MASSES, next to the Chaplains Office, basement of the Union.

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14

- **2.10 pm**  
  Department of Sociology Seminar.  
  Topic: Political Development in Papua-New Guinea.  
  Venue: Room G12 (McMullin Building).

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 15

- **11.30 am**  
  Newcastle University Women's Group Lunchon.  
  Guest Speaker: Helen Brown from Free-Wheels.  
  Venue: Purde Room (Great Hall).

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**Notes:**  
Our visiting Fellow in Japanese Culture, Mrs. Yoko Nishimura, from Uwe, Japan, will be giving 15 calligraphy classes this year. Those wishing to attend should contact the Secretary, Japanese Section (Telephone: 685 414).

Period: April 7 to April 28 and May 26 to August 4

Day & Time: Wednesday, 4 to 6 pm

Venue: G41 (McMullin Building)

Fee:  
Tuition - $15  
Instruments - $5 (two brushes, ink & paper)

Materials Needed: Newspaper sheets

Enquiries: Ms Orin MIBA, Room G48, Japanese Section, Department of Modern Languages.

Telephone: 685 357

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