SUPERNova

The University's first Science Fair generated further interest in the plan to establish the Supernova science and technology centre in the old city incinerator in Parry Street.

Presented in the Great Hall from August 23 to 27, the fair attracted a larger number of visitors, including members of the general public and students from local schools.

On display were models, experiments and designs which transmit information about how science and technology work.

The visitors also inspected science displays which had been entered in a competition by students from local schools.

To promote Supernova, mementoes, such as stickers and T-shirts, have been produced and those were sold at the fair.

On July 26, Newcastle City Council decided to allow the old incinerator to be used for Supernova and agreed to lease the site and the building to a Supernova management authority for five years at a rental of £1 per year.

As well as this decision, developments during recent weeks include:

- The return of Dr. Tim Roberts, Director of Supernova, to Newcastle, bringing with him material relating to science and technology centres in Japan. Whilst attending two international conferences in connection with the fair, he has been able to share his knowledge with the local community.

Michael Linich explains a Harmonograph to students from Kotara South Primary School. Photo: John Purser.
with the immunology of reproduction, Dr. Roberts was able to obtain the details concerning science and technology centres and museums in Nigata, Osaka, Nagoya, Hiroshima and Tokyo. He also took many colour slides.

Dr. Roberts told the University NEWS that Osaka possessed two science centres, including an electric science museum of seven storeys which had recently been re-modelled.

He noted the significance of one of the world's leading "high tech" countries having several centres where the very latest scientific and technological information is communicated to the public, school children and tourists.

- A number of Supernova supporters have banded together and formed the Friends of Supernova. They are presently drawing up the group's governing constitution.
- Mr. Michael Linich, one of the organisers of the Science Fair and the Friends of Supernova, said that it was very important at this stage for supporters of Supernova and members of the public to come forward with their ideas and expectations about what the centre would provide.

Friends of Supernova holds meetings every month -- on the first Tuesday in Room L008 in the Department of Biological Sciences.

- Supernova has been given the use of the Solar Research Building, adjacent to the Auchmuty Sports Centre. Models and displays will be stored, and workshops will be held, in the building.
- On August 29, Dr. Roberts was granted an interview by the Premier of New South Wales, Mr. Neville Wran, MLA, so he could present a proposal for a grant to be made by the State Government for Supernova.

It could then be handed to the Head of Department for verification and then forwarded to Salaries;

- The said time sheet should be once every fortnight in time to receive payment on the next general pay day. This would for the part-time employee to be paid at regular fortnightly intervals if they are teaching a regular programme;

- It should be the duty of the Departmental Head to inform part-time employees of their proper employment status (Lecturer, Tutor or Demonstrator) prior to their being engaged to take up duties; and

Each pay advice slip shows include details of the pay period, the rate of pay, the hours worked at particular rates of pay, etc., thus eliminating time consumed by the staff in Salaries Division and the part-time employee in trying to track down apparent anomalies.

It has been drawn to my attention that the Staff Association is now taking steps to redress the wrong done to so many part-time staff over the past few years.

Letters

For some time now, some of my colleagues and I have been moving within the Staff Association to have the conditions of payment of part-time teaching staff in this University improved. I am sure that most part-time staff have experienced one or more of the following difficulties with respect to payment of salaries at the University:

- Salary arrangements which are based upon a sessional rate or periods greater than a fortnight. This is a most inequitable situation. Like full-time employees (perhaps, in some cases, moreso) we have daily and weekly financial commitments which have to be met immediately. Many part-time members of staff are postgraduates, relying upon the extra income from teaching duties simply to balance their meagre budgets;

- A number of cases have come to my attention where part-time employees are not aware of their status as either Lecturer, Tutor or Demonstrator. This makes verification of whether or not they are being paid at the respective "award" rate virtually impossible;

- This situation is exacerbated by the lack of information appearing upon the pay advice slip of part-time employees. There is no indication of how many hours the employee is being paid for, which days, etc.;

- Moreover, part-time salaries, when they are paid, are, too often, incorrect. This results in endless phone calls to Salaries Division on the part of the unfortunate employee -- a waste of time and energy which could be otherwise better spent; needless to say, the "hassles" presented to the staff in Salaries.

- The said time sheet should be once every fortnight in time to receive payment on the next general pay day. This would for the part-time employee to be paid at regular fortnightly intervals if they are teaching a regular programme;

- It should be the duty of the Departmental Head to inform part-time employees of their proper employment status (Lecturer, Tutor or Demonstrator) prior to their being engaged to take up duties; and

Each pay advice slip shows include details of the pay period, the rate of pay, the hours worked at particular rates of pay, etc., thus eliminating time consumed by the staff in Salaries Division and the part-time employee in trying to track down apparent anomalies.

It has been drawn to my attention that the Staff Association is now taking steps to redress the wrong done to so many part-time staff over the past few years.
I therefore draw the attention of my part-time staff colleagues to the forthcoming Staff Association "Seminar on Untenured Staff" if they wish to air their grievances on this and related issues concerning untenured staff. The seminar will be held on Monday, September 12 at 1 pm at a venue to be publicised in the University NEWS (perhaps this issue of the NEWS?) I strongly recommend that all part-time academic staff attend and support your Staff Association if wage justice is to be done at the University of Newcastle.


(Editors Note: The Seminar will be held in Room V02 in the Mathematics Block.)

Computing

...ralla should forget about trying to establish an industry based upon the development of software for foreign computers. According to Dr. Bill Caell, President of Eracom Pty. Ltd., this does not present a viable future for a new, job generating industry.

"Such a scenario makes no long term business, economic or political sense, given the activities of other countries," said Caell.

"There is simply no way we are going to change a steel worker into a computer programmer overnight and forget about looking in that direction for our future. Australia has to look at a viable, well-rounded participation in the manufacture and assembly of computers and parts rather than a concentration on some esoteric market 'niche' that may be here today and gone tomorrow!"

Dr. Caell told delegates to the Australian Computer Engineering Symposium at the University on August 26 that the computer industry did not just need Ph.D.'s, but rather it needed numerous test technicians, assemblers, technical writers, salespeople, and so on.

For a large part of the vacation the campus was a busy place, with visitors attending conferences, seminars and courses.

The International Conference on Bulk Materials Storage, Handling and Transportation brought to the University about 250 engineers from mining, manufacturing and industrial companies, academics and consultants. Those pictured above were included in the three day deliberations:

Professor F.J.C. Rademacher, James Johnstone Visiting Fellow at this University; Professor Alan Roberts, Chairman of the Organising Committee for the conference; Professor Y. Tsuji, of Osaka University, Japan; Dr. R.J. Whibber, of Trans Tech Publications, from Clausthal-Zellerfeld, West Germany; Professor R.D. Marcus, Head of the School of Mechanical Engineering and Director of the Materials Handling Research Group at the University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa and Dr. H.B. (Peter) Arnold, Reader in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Wollongong.

The picture below is from a session of the Australian Computer Engineering Symposium, which attracted more than 50 practising engineers and researchers from universities and colleges. Pictured are (from left) Dr. K.K. Saluja, University of Newcastle; Professor J. Anderson, Melbourne University; Professor W. Caeill, ERACOM Pty. Ltd.; Dr. R.A. Jarvis, Australian National University; Dr. G. Trott, Wollongong University; Dr. P.J. Moylan, University of Newcastle; and Dr. G. Hellestrand, University of New South Wales.
TAKES UP CHAIR AT MONASH

With Professor Beverley Raphael's appointment as Foundation Professor of Psychiatry in 1978, Dr. Singh replaced her years as a lecturer at the Repatriation General Hospital, Concord, until he was appointed to join Professor Raphael's staff at this University in November, 1978.

His experience with the Medical School includes the provision of postgraduate training in the Hunter Region to candidates for the Fellowship of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists. It was clear to Professor Raphael and Dr. Singh on their arrival in Newcastle that psychiatric education services were run down and that adequate clinical standards of psychiatry were not being practised. The Region's hospitals were mostly staffed by inexperienced trainees who spent their obligatory first year in local hospitals before returning to Sydney to work in order to attend training courses available only in that city.

Since then the Discipline of Psychiatry has established a complete postgraduate training course based in the Hunter Hospital, Morisset Hospital, the Shortland Clinic, the Mater and Gosford Hospitals. "In 1983, there are 30 trainees distributed across four years of training and all are being fully trained in this Region", Dr. Singh said.

As regards his new position at Monash University, one of his roles will be to develop, organise and co-ordinate postgraduate teaching in Royal Park and Alfred Hospitals. My appointment at Newcastle has given me the unique opportunity to participate in a revolutionary educational endeavour from its inception, I am interested in incorporating some of the aspects of the Medical School's undergraduate programmes into the training of postgraduates. My time in the Newcastle course has virtually allowed me to gain experiences in five years that I doubt I could have acquired in a traditional medical school in 10 years. I found that it was particularly helpful to be able to contribute to clinical and research activities in other disciplines of the Medical School. As a result I feel I have developed skills in the initiation and maintenance of teaching, clinical and research programmes which the incumbent of the Chair at Monash will be expected to have.

Dr. Singh, aged 37, said that by centering the Chair at a Psychiatric Hospital, psychiatry was brought back into contact with those from whom, in a way, some critics felt he had "retreated" -- a most disadvantaged group, the most socially ill patients.

Dr. Singh is the second Faculty of Medicine staff member to be appointed to a Chair at another university. Dr. P.W. Kuchel left the Division of Medical Biochemistry in 1980 to become a Professor at the University of Sydney.

They just kept on coming!

The annual Year 12 History Study Day, run as a joint enterprise by the History Department and the Newcastle History Teachers' Association was again a very successful occasion.

The organisers, Dr. Don Wright and Mr. Cliff Cranfield, said that 350 students had indicated their intention to attend, but 426 had actually come to the campus on August 22.

Many of the eight lectures in the series were held in very crowded theatres and all were well-received. Summaries of all lectures are to be published in booklet form and will be distributed to the students.
The Finance and Personnel Committee made a recommendation that Council approve a policy of working towards the adoption of an appointment to age 60 provision, with a review procedure between the ages of 60 and 65, for members of the academic staff (similar to those in force in certain other New South Wales universities) subject to a prior examination by the Vice-Chancellor of the implications of taking such action.

After discussing the matter Council decided to defer a decision because of the current discussion taking place between the Federation of Australian University Staff Associations and the Australian Vice-Chancellor's Committee in connection with early retirement of academic staff at universities.

When the Council considered a report from the Advisory Committee on Equal Opportunity it was informed that an attempt to designate an officer of the University as Equal Employment Opportunity Co-ordinator had proved unsuccessful. The Advisory Committee recommended that the Council:

- Reconsider its earlier decision not to advertise the post externally, and
- Failing that, enter into discussions with Newcastle CAE on the possibility of making a joint appointment for a three-year term.

The Association of Women Employees of the University of Newcastle wrote asking the Council to reconsider its decision of last April to accept the notion of a full-time Equal Opportunity Co-ordinator. In principle but not to make such an appointment at the present time given the University's budgetary position. The Association said it fully supported the appointment of a full-time co-ordinator.

Mrs. M. Bowman, President of the CAE Council, reported that the College Council had agreed to the appointment of an Equal Opportunity Co-ordinator in principle, but delayed making an appointment in case a joint University/CAE appointment was regarded by the Council to be feasible.

During the discussion it was emphasised that the Equal Opportunity Co-ordinator would be concerned with discrimination on the grounds of race, religion, physical handicap etc., and not only with discrimination on the basis of sex.

Council decided that it favoured the appointment of an Equal Opportunity Co-ordinator and authorised the Vice-Chancellor to explore with the Principal of the CAE, Dr. E. Richardson, possibilities of a joint or separate appointment with particular reference to the job specification and the period of appointment. The Vice-Chancellor was asked to report back to the next meeting.

The Vice-Chancellor will consider a suggestion that the University's testamur be redesigned to achieve a more impressive appearance. Council asked that this action be taken as the result of a report from the Standing Committee of Convocation, which said that the present testamur could be improved to enhance the image of the University.

Council decided to guarantee $20,000 in 1983/84 to the Newcastle Convocation Foundation for the continued employment of an Executive Officer of Convocation.

The Universities Council will visit the Council on September 5 and 6 to obtain information in connection with the University's submission for the next triennium.
Council was informed that the proposed route for County Road 14 across the University site between Edwards Hall and the Newcastle CAE had at last been relinquished by the Newcastle City Council and the Department of Main Roads in favour of a much less disruptive proposal involving a small encroachment onto University land at the extreme south-eastern corner of the site. The University Council expressed its pleasure at the satisfactory outcome of the lengthy negotiations on this matter.

At the same time it appears that construction of proposed State Highway 23 along the western boundary of the main University campus is likely to commence in 1984. Council has been informed that the Vice-Chancellor has written to the Department of Main Roads seeking early consultation with the University on this important matter which has been the subject of earlier expressions of concern by the University. This concern has been increased by recent suggestions that National Highway and coal traffic might be channelled onto Highway 23 via Thomas Street and Newcastle Road. The Council resolved to again express its serious concern regarding the potentially adverse effects on this University of current road proposals for State Highway 23 and the National Highway west of Lake Macquarie and request that the responsible authorities take all necessary steps to minimise these effects in consultation with the University.

Council decided to let a recommendation from the Senate that a Degree of Master of Special Education be approved rise on the table pending a report from the recently established Joint Committee of Senate and the Academic Board of the Newcastle CAE. Council was told that the need for the course in the Hunter Region was urgent but agreed that a more informed debate could take place at its next meeting after the report from the Joint Committee. In formulating the proposal the Faculty of Education had benefited from the participation of members of the staff of the CAE.

The University Council also approved a recommendation from its Buildings and Grounds Committee that the University support the construction of the first stage of a public cycleway across the University site extending from the western boundary to the Newcastle College of Advanced Education car park. The extension of the cycleway to the east of the CAE car park and in front of Edwards Hall was the subject of a meeting between the University, the College and representatives of the Cyclway Movement. A number of alternative routes were discussed and it was agreed that various problems associated with this section of the route will need to be resolved before a final recommendation could be made to the University and College Councils.

OBITUARY

The death occurred on August 18 of Mrs. Micheline Price, who for many years occupied the position of native-speaker Tutor in the French Section.

Mrs. Price’s association with the University went back to Titchell’s Hill days. Her husband Jacques, who retired from the University a few years ago, was for many years a Lecturer in the Department of Psychology.

As the only French person continuously employed in the Department of Modern Languages, Mrs. Price provided a dimension of intimate reality to the teaching of French. Her role in the University was closely related to her 21 years of work as Secretary of the Alliance Française de Newcastle, for which (as reported in an earlier News) she was recently awarded the Alliance Medal.

A colleague writes:

"Micheline's quiet charm and warm understanding helped many individuals and families at moments of difficulty and crisis. Homesick French mariners or French wives lonely in an alien city as well as many Australians will remember her with gratitude. During the many months when her illness took a merciless hold on her, she would not allow it to interfere with her life and she observed with calm satisfaction the increasing number of French people brought to Newcastle by the Tomago smelter and she did her best to make them welcome.

In her quiet vivacity, her smiling common sense, her interest in painting and pottery, her skill in matters of cuisine and, above all, her warm respect and understanding of others, she represented many of the finest qualities in French civilisation. She will be mourned not just by her husband and family but by many friends and colleagues and by a multitude of former French students who appreciated her friendly and gentle manner and knew that she would never be anything but quietly amused by the way they sometimes expressed themselves in her native language which she taught with so much kindness and dedication."
The University of Newcastle Indian Subcontinent Students’ Association (UNISSA) celebrated the 36th Anniversary of India having gained Independence with a colourful cultural evening in the Drama Theatre on August 14. A lively and cheerful audience of 300 applauded the 30 performers during the three-hour programme.

The colourful dresses worn by the girls were a feast to the eyes. Well chosen songs from all over the subcontinent provided something for those who had an ear for the music. Professional dance performance in Bharatnatyam style by N. Prakashan captured everyone’s heart as well as mind.

After the programme, the audience was invited onto the stage to taste Indian food, prepared by the members of UNISSA. The food was devoured in equal enthusiasm.

Everyone left with a sense of satisfaction after enjoying the three-hour programme put together by the hard-working members. The local Indian community also helped us substantially. We thank them and others who helped directly or indirectly to make this programme a success.

Pota, Secretary, UNISSA.

Margaret Thornton, Lecturer in Law at Macquarie University, will be visiting the University on September 8. Members are invited to attend an informal lunch-time lecture by Ms Thornton at 12.30 pm in the Private Room of the Staff House.

The Department of Physics welcomed 220 Year 12 school students on Saturday, August 20. The students are attached to 12 Hunter Region high schools, including Taree and Cessnock High Schools.

In the morning staff from the Physics Department presented lectures on topics suggested by Year 12 science teachers. The lecture programme:

- Core Physics, Lecturer, Dr. A. McGovern;
- Elective I, nuclear physics, Lecturer, Dr. C. Keny;
- Elective II, wave properties of light, Lecturer, Professor R. MacDonald.

In the afternoon, about 100 of the students worked in the Physics laboratories under the guidance of members of staff and attended demonstrations.

Our photo by the Newcastle Herald shows Dr. McGovern with some of the Year 12 visitors to the campus.
2NU is 'TOPS'

2NU-RFM is glad when residents of the Hunter Region express their appreciation of the station's programmes, but when the station receives an award from its peers there is reason for celebration.

Last month, 2NU-RFM won a Golden Reel Award for its entry in a competition run by the Public Broadcasting Association of Australia.

The award was made at the Association's 11th National Conference at the University of Sydney. It was won for an episode of Notable Trials, a series of broadcasts presented by Professor Lionel Fredman, Assoc. Professor of History, last year.

About 50 public broadcasting stations across Australia submitted entries in the PBAA's competition. 2NU-RFM's entry was one of three that earned high commendations.

Officers elected by the Association for 1983-84 include the Manager of 2NU-RFM, Mr. Anton Donker, who is both a Committee man and Treasurer.

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-isms

The Philosophy Club will continue its series of papers on -isms in Third Term. The papers are of an introductory and explanatory nature, aimed at undergraduate students but anyone interested in the topics is welcome.

The meetings are held in the Achnacloy Room in the Union building on Thursdays at 1 pm.

The following programme has been arranged for Third Term:

**September 8**
Mr. Glen Albrecht on "Marxism".

**September 15**
Dr. Ralph Robinson on "Realism".

**September 22**
Professor Alec Ritchie on "Imperialism".

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Reunions in Singapore

When Professor Alan Roberts, Mr. Geoff Butler and Mr. Jim Hayes, of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, visited Singapore recently they were guests at reunions for University of Newcastle graduates who came from Singapore.

One reunion was for the six people who were the Faculty of Engineering's first Industrial Engineering graduates in 1972. They are: Oila, W.L.A.; Manl, D.R.; Tay, B.H.P.; Lim, C.H.; Madame Ho, G.T.; Wong, K.C. and Poon, B.P.B., who are pictured above with Wong, K.C., a 1973 Mechanical Engineering graduate.

The basis of attendance at the other reunion was those who had taken out their degrees at the University of Newcastle in the 70s. They are pictured below.

Professor Roberts and Messrs Butler and Hayes were in Singapore as delegates to an International conference on Manufacturing Engineering. They said that as guests of the graduates they had been given overwhelming hospitality. Four of their hosts are University Medallists, including Madame Ho.

They said that the graduates now occupied senior positions in a wide spectrum of industrial and governmental organisation.

The graduates had asked that they be remembered to their many friends at the University of Newcastle.
Takes up New Appointment

University of Newcastle graduate Jenny Ricketts has taken up her appointment as the Health Department's Psychologist Specialising In Mental Health.

Jenny came to Newcastle from Wingham and, whilst working as a secretary in various departments of the University, including the University Counselling Service, studied for her Bachelor of Arts degree. Last year she graduated with Honours Class I in Psychology.

Jenny resigned as a Psychologist at the Hunter Hospital to take up the newly-created job with the Health Department.

Her duties will comprise developing and facilitating mental health programmes which, to enhance mental health, as well as stopping people from becoming unwell. The programmes may include things like encouraging people to reach their full potential, to cope with stress and to improve their relationships.

The Northern New South Wales Branch of the Philosophy of Education Society of Australasia has arranged for Neil Morpeth to present a paper on From Hippocrates to Galen: An Educational Process - Perspectives on Their Ethics, History and Philosophy. Mr. Morpeth, a scholar and teacher in Classics, critically re-examines the basic moral foundation of Western medicine: The Oath of Hippocrates. The paper traces the developments in medical theory since the time of the Greeks and the subsequent impacts of different sets of values on the interpretation of the fundamental ideas.

The paper will be presented in the Auchmuty Room, in the Union on Thursday, September 15 at 7.30 pm. Wine and Cheese will be provided.

For further information please contact Robert Mackle or Bill Warren at Extension 271.

A spectacular aerial colour photograph showing the University (set on its tree-covered site) and the city which it serves is available in the form of a poster.

It has been jointly published by The Friends of the University and Convocation, measures 80cms by 45cms and is a useful memento of the University or gift.

Copies cost $2.50 each and can be obtained from the Publicity Office (Room 060 in the McMullin Building).
**Public Address**

To mark the centenary of the death of Karl Marx, Professor Eugena Kamenka, an authority of world stature on Marx and Marxism will give a public lecture entitled Karl Marx and the World Today at the University.

The Departments of Philosophy, History and Community Programmes are collaborating to bring Professor Kamenka to the University.

Professor Kamenka, Head of the History of Ideas Unit at the Australian National University, has held visiting fellowships at Columbia University, N.Y., and Trinity College, Oxford, and spent a year as a visiting researcher at Moscow State University. He has a number of major Marx publications to his name.

In his Marx Centenary Lecture he will discuss the relevance of Marx’s thought and the Marxist movement to our present, very delicate, world situation.

The lecture, to be given in the Drama Theatre on Thursday, September 22, at 8 pm is open to all interested persons.

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**Union Dinner**

The Annual Union Dinner will be held on Friday, September 16. This year the guest speaker will be "Dr. Wight", well-known media personality and world-renowned author.

Apart from the scintillating dialogue on day-time television, "Dr. Wight" has written several books, some of which have been translated into seven languages and sold throughout the world.

As well as promoting the public's awareness of the range and diversity of medical services, Dr. Wight is the founder and leading force for the Medi-Aid Centre for the Aged. The foundation has funded a $1.6 million home at Epping for 35 people and a $2.5 million complex is due for completion at the end of 1983. Currently, the foundation is planning a $13.6 million centre at Eastwood.

The Dinner menu this year features rack of lamb and silver medal Wyndham Estate wines will be available. Music will be provided by pianist Chris Allen and the dance band, Argylla.

Tickets and booklets can be made at the Bank Agency. Don't be disappointed. Book early for what promises to be yet another fantastic evening.

John Broughton,
Secretary/Manager, The Union.

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**Choral Festival Win**

The Newcastle University Choir was placed first in the Open Section of the recent Hunter Choral Festival. The festival is conducted each year under the sponsorship of the ABC and the Joint Coal Board.

The Choir, under their conductor, Peter Brock, sang three pieces from their unaccompanied repertoire: When David Heard That Abaslom Was Slain, by Thomas Weelkes; the Kyrie, from the Mass in G minor by Ralph Vaughan Williams; and The True Samaritan, by Nigel Butterly. The Choir was commended for its "professional standard of presentation" and its "excellent diction".

The Choir will perform the three works, at the Sydney Opera House on Sunday, September 18, and the concert will be broadcast live throughout Australia on ABC Radio 2 at mid-day.

Other choirs taking part will be the West Cassock Senior Primary School Choir (winner of the Primary Section) and the St Joseph's College Lochinvar Choir (winner of the High School Section).

The University Choir's next concert will be its first performance of Handel's Messiah on December 3 in The Great Hall at 7.30 pm. Rehearsals are held on Monday nights in the Great Hall from 7 to 9 pm. Staff, students, and members of the community generally are welcome to become members of the University Choir.

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**SPORT**

One of the biggest runs held in Newcastle each year is the Rotary 10km Run from the International Sports Centre to Merewether Beach.

Leading runners from the University in this year’s event were Albert Nymeyer (4th), Dave Firman (12th) and Craig Hensford (16th), who, combined with Bruce Sanders (3rd), took out the team prize for the event. Albert, David and Craig have had a very successful running season to date, and hope to continue their success when they contest the Intervarsity Cross Country Championships to be held at Macquarie University on September 1 and 2.

Joining them will be Dick Parbery, who has more recently devoted himself to gruelling triathlons, and Melcomb Roberts, who is the sprinter of the team. It has been many years since the Athletics Club has fielded a team in the Intervarsity Cross Country. If their recent form is any guide, they should do very well.

Also competing in the Rotary Run was Paul Buckley (17th), Tony Guttmann, Mike Hannaford and Dave Finlay.

Paul Buckley will be carrying the University colours in the Big M Marathon to be held in Melbourne in October. He has been training intensively for this event, and should perform very well.
The subscriber telephone network is ideal for the transmission of information because it is both nationally and internationally spread. However, for the most part, it is at present unable to communicate anything other than speech signals because it lacks a digital transmission capability.

Telecom Australia and suppliers of telephone services in other countries are interested in finding a way of conveying information other than speech on the subscriber telephone network, or loop. Extensions of the existing capability is sought so that communication innovations such as telephone banking, computer enquiry services, computer message services and news services are possible.

Although an examination of the problem has resulted in some advances being made, e.g. the PCM (pulse code modulation) system, difficult questions remain to be answered before digital transmission at high speeds can be achieved, especially on the links between subscribers and exchanges. In short, a high capacity "channel" is required to allow the integrated transmission of signals in a digital form.

Professor Tony Canton, Assoc. Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, has begun a research project, supported by a grant of $21,000 from Telecom Australia, in connection with the development of an adaptive digital hybrid to allow high speed data transmission on the subscriber lines. The duration of the research project is two years.

"Already we have a digital transmission network for connecting telephone exchanges", Professor Canton says. "Furthermore, digital computers control all modern exchanges."

"Now we need a way in which to convert the subscriber network to digital signalling. The technique must be cheap, because of the enormous number of telephone subscribers".

Professor Canton and his fellow researchers have been involved in theoretical work in this field going back as far as 1973. As the first stage of the current project, a model of a typical subscriber network has been developed on the computer in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Professor Canton says that at a subsequent point it will be necessary to design an electronic system capable of handling digital signalling at the subscriber's end.

The development of integrated circuits for the project will be investigated by Dr. Kews Sahuja, Senior Lecturer in the Department, a specialist on the design of computer chips.
Advertisements for sale

Four bedroom brick and hard-plank home with colorbond roof situated at Mount Hutton. Features include: two-and-a-half bathrooms, architecturally renovated and situated on two-and-a-half acres, with inground pool, landscaped (native) grounds, and fenced for horses. Asking price: $165,000. All interested persons are requested to telephone 48 9611 (evenings or weekends).

1975 XB FALCON STATION WAGON (Automatic). Features include: Mag Wheels, Roof Rack and is registered until August, 1984. $1,900 or nearest offer (price reduced on instructions by owner who is overseas). Interested persons are requested to telephone Extension 213 during office hours or 59 4682 after hours.

EX-US SNOW SLED (one person), $7, plus hammock $5. Interested persons are requested to telephone Extension 215 or 59 4285.

give away

Does anybody own a cartridge-type tape recorder? If you do, then you are welcome to about 10 blank cartridges. If interested please contact D. Britz at Extensions 423 or 796.

watercolour

Vacancies exist for Beginners, Youth and Advanced level classes. Classes commence on September 3 (Advanced Level on September 7 and 8). Cost per term: $50. With the exception of Youth Classes, $30. Interested persons are requested to telephone Jon Vanson at 59 2327.

HDWB presentation

Architecture students, with Lecturer Dr. John Rockey (back, at left), at the presentation of awards for the Hunter District Water Board's water tower project by the President, Dr. John Paterson. Photo: HDWB Public Relations.

ESSO donation

Mr. Peter Henderson (left) and Mr. Richard Hall (centre) of ESSO Australia Ltd. visited the University and presented a cheque for $4,000 from ESSO to the Faculty of Engineering to develop the Faculty's computing facilities. To mark the donation, a small brass plaque was placed in the Faculty Computer Room and, it was unveiled during Mr. Henderson's and Mr. Hall's visit.