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# UNIVERSITY NEWS

Newsletter for  
The University of Newcastle

## TEAS changes

The Commonwealth Department of Education has given details of the changes made to the way students may qualify for TEAS allowances.

The changes take effect from January 1, 1982, *but do not affect students who have already qualified for TEAS under existing conditions.*

Students will no longer qualify for the away-from-home rate of living allowance on the basis of being aged 21 years and simply choosing to live away from their parents' home. The higher rate will be payable only to a student who must live away from home because

- the home is situated too far from the educational institution for the student to travel back and forwards each day, or
- the home conditions are detrimental to study, or
- it is necessary to meet compulsory residence requirements of his or her course.

Participation in a de facto relationship will no longer qualify a TEAS applicant for the independent rate of living allowance. To be classified as independent for TEAS purposes a student must

- have reached 25 years of age by or during the calendar year of study, or
- be orphaned, or

- be or have been a Ward of the State, or
- be or have been married, or
- have been employed full-time in the workforce for periods totalling two years of the previous five.

At present, a student who applies for the independent rate of allowance on the basis of having been employed full-time in the workforce may also have periods where he or she was in receipt of unemployment benefits counted towards the two years. Next year this provision will be extended to include all periods during which the student was registered as unemployed, irrespective of whether or not unemployment benefits were received, provided that the student was unemployed and available for full-time work in Australia.

## Copper bracelets and Arthritis

Back in 1974 Associate Professor Ray Walker, of the Department of Chemistry, began an investigation into whether, as history had suggested, the wearing of copper bracelets relieves the pain caused by arthritis. This month, Professor Walker will attend a symposium at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, United States of America, to report on the results of his work so far.

To be held from August 10 until 13, the symposium will speak to the question: "What is the role of copper in arthritis?" Gathered together will be about 80 researchers from the United States, Italy, The Netherlands, France, England, the Federal Republic of Germany, Sweden and Poland who are authorities on metal metabolism and arthritic diseases.

Professor Walker was invited by the Co-ordinator, Professor John R.J. Sorrensen, of the Department of Biopharmaceutical Sciences of the University of Arkansas.

Professor Walker remembered that, in a copy of *Medical News* of 1974, he had seen the following headline:

"What About the Bracelet Myth? Is There Anything to the Folk Myth that Copper Bracelets have Great Therapeutic Value?" This had prompted him to start his research project.

After he and Dr. Daphne Keats, Senior Lecturer in Psychology, carried out a systematic clinical trial using more than 300 arthritis sufferers, which showed that for a significant number of people the wearing of a copper bracelet appeared to have some therapeutic value, Professor Walker was also able to show that copper from the bracelet penetrated the skin.

The application of copper topically was investigated and found to be a superior alternative to orally ingested drugs. Professor Walker, Dr. S.J. Beveridge and Dr. M.W. Whitehouse produced full details of the anti-inflammatory activity of certain formulations of copper.

More recently, the project showed that copper complexes possess greater anti-inflammatory activity than their gold analogues and Professor Ivan Bonta, Professor of Pharmacology at Erasmus University, Rotterdam, wrote that it was not inconceivable that "a



Photo: Col Newell

Professor Walker bridge built on copper pillars will connect folk myth to modern medicine".

Professor Walker reported on the clinical trial and the subsequent studies in an extensive list of publications.

Last July, he delivered the major address at a symposium organised by the CSIRO in Sydney. The symposium dealt with the importance of copper in Biology and Medicine.

His visit to the University of Arkansas will be supported by an IRAC grant and funds from the Department of Chemistry.



# Letters to Editor

Dear Sir,

## Amalgamation with the C.A.E.

The question whether or not there is to be a merger between this University and the Newcastle College of Advanced Education is undoubtedly the most important question which the University has had to decide since it was established as an autonomous University in 1965.

In his statement to the House of Representatives on the Review of Commonwealth Functions on April 30, 1981, the Prime Minister announced that the Commonwealth would finance Advanced Education in Newcastle after the end of 1981 only if an amalgamation took place between the University and the College of Advanced Education. In subsequent statements the Commonwealth Minister of Education has clarified what the Prime Minister meant by "amalgamation": there must be a single governing body for both institutions and a real saving of resources.

There are, in connexion with this edict of the Commonwealth Government, several important factors which should not be overlooked:

1. While the Commonwealth Government has the power to withdraw funding from either the University or the C.A.E. or both, it has no constitutional power to impose a merger on these two institutions, both of which are established under State legislation;
2. While the Commonwealth Government has said that it will discontinue Advanced Education funding if there is no merger, it has neither said nor implied that it will discontinue University funding if there is no merger;
3. Any merger which effectively complies with the Commonwealth's condition of a single governing body will almost certainly require an amendment of the University of Newcastle Act;
4. The power to amend the University of Newcastle Act belongs to the Parliament of New South Wales;
5. So far as I am aware, there is no precedent in New South Wales for the substantial amendment of a University's establishing legislation, except with the consent of that university. There is a fundamental part of the accepted sense of

autonomy of a University.

6. While the College of Advanced Education, like the University, is not a department of the State Government, it is, nevertheless, not autonomous in the way mentioned in (5). The College has been established by the State Minister of Education under "umbrella" legislation, and its Council can be dissolved at the discretion of the Minister. The Minister has no such power over the Council of the University.

If a merger were to take place, it could take a number of forms, and various suggestions continue to be made about what a "merged" institution would look like. The various "models" range from almost complete absorption of C.A.E. teaching staff into University departments to an almost complete separation of functions of the "University" and "C.A.E." segments within the new institution. Whatever model were adopted, tenure would be an important issue, since all former C.A.E. employees teaching in the new institution would presumably have rights of either permanent or limited tenure within it.

So far as I am aware (again, after earnest enquiry) the University does not know what the conditions of tenure of the C.A.E. staff are. In my opinion the University cannot, in justice to its present staff, make any overtures about a merger to the Commonwealth Government, the Tertiary Education Commission, the State Government, the Higher Education Board, the C.A.E., or anyone else, unless it has, on the question of tenure, first got the record absolutely straight.

The C.A.E., like the University, continues to feel the effect of the general decline in teacher education enrolments. For instance, the C.A.E.'s preservice teacher education intake for 1980 (366) was only 44 per cent of its intake for 1977 (828). If this sort of decline continues through 1981-83, the C.A.E.'s effective student enrolment could drop by as many as 500 students, leaving (on a 12:1 staffing ratio) 40 staff redundant. I am not sure whether this prognosis is too gloomy or too optimistic, but it seems to have at least moderate plausibility.

The question I would now ask is this: if staff redundancies of this order were to occur in the College (or Institute, or whatever) of Advanced Education in the next few years, would an amalgamated

University be in any better position to cope with them than a C.A.E. of the present type? I very much doubt it, unless the State Government were to guarantee the amalgamated University redeployment of redundant C.A.E. staff within the State Public Service (including the Departments of Education and Technical and Further Education). Short of such a guarantee, the University's own chronic staffing problems would only be aggravated.

It is assumed by some that a merger will, at any rate in the short term, bring in badly needed bright new students. But even this judgement seems unwarrantedly optimistic. It may be that many C.A.E. students have chosen the C.A.E. just because they prefer an advanced education pattern of study to a university pattern. (There is a simple way of checking on this: ask the C.A.E. students.) Unless we can be sure that the merged institution will give such students what the C.A.E. now gives them, we may well find even these modest expectations disappointed. If this happens, we then acquire an even greater redundancy problem.

Finally, if the merger takes place, it will be the fourth case in Australia of university absorption of C.A.E.'s, the other three being Deakin, Tasmania and (almost, anyway) Wollongong. These are all smaller universities than we are. So is James Cook, now also under threat of merger. We hardly face quite the constraints imposed by smallness which these other universities have faced. For a time of dearth, our enrolments are good, and we teach in a wider range of disciplines than any of these or than New England, our larger neighbour. We have much to lose by precipitate action.

J.M. LEE,  
Department of Philosophy.

Dear Sir,

Squash, one of the most popular and fastest growing sports in Australian universities today, has been well-catered for on this campus in the past years, but the future could be fraught with problems.

A new squash court (No.7) was recently handed over to the Sports Union by the University for normal usage, but was rejected as unsuitable for play by the Newcastle and District Squash Racquets Association, as the court failed to conform with local and/or



## Frank Boden retires

*Mr. Frank Boden, who relinquished his position at the University (Technical Officer, Department of Metallurgy) on July 29. A farewell dinner in his honour, attended by about 20 former colleagues, was held at the Waratah Rugby Union Club. Frank joined the University's staff in 1966. He was a member of the PSA's Management Committee and maintained an interest in union affairs until a few years ago. Frank's retirement will mainly be devoted to raising Simmental cattle on his property at Berry Park, near Morpeth. He also intends to do a lot of fishing.*



Frank Boden

international standards. Deficiencies were pointed out in ten areas, the most serious being in the court's length and breadth. These factors alone mean that, at the present time, the court is disqualified for competition play.

It causes this Club much concern that such a situation could arise and it is to be hoped that, in future undertakings of this kind, liaison with the appropriate external authorities should receive prime consideration.

DAVID MORRISON, Hon. Secretary, Squash Club & Sporting Facilities Committee Member.

## New concern regarding refugees

Concern has been again expressed by the countries which are collaborating in trying to find an answer to the Indo-China refugee problem, Dr. Guy Goodwin-Gill said at the University on July 24.

In the words of the Legal Adviser and Protection Officer in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees: "Concern has been expressed by the countries of first refuge, who see themselves having to bear a residual problem. Concern has also been expressed by resettlement countries. The fear has been expressed that the very existence of resettlement quotas operates as a 'pull factor', causing an exodus where otherwise there would be none".

Dr. Goodwin-Gill, who gave a public lecture for the Standing Committee on Asian Studies, referred to suggestions in various quarters that those now leaving Vietnam, in particular, were not genuine refugees from persecution or political repression. It has been claimed that many of those now leaving are single males, often dodging the draft. Others are said to be leaving for purely economic reasons, while the ethnic Chinese - previously suspect and forced out in 1979 - are a decreasing proportion of the exodus".

In June, Dr. Goodwin-Gill said, it was announced by the Americans that the problem would be investigated by a US commission of inquiry, which would report to President Reagan and Congress. It had been suggested that the institution of more careful screening procedures might help to control the movement.

"However", he noted, "the fact that an asylum-seeker may have paid for his or her passage out does not itself pre-empt status as a refugee.

People have been paying to escape oppression for centuries and others have profited thereby for as long.

"Again, the fact that an asylum-seeker has 'economic motives' will likewise not of itself prejudice a claim to be a refugee. Such motives are often revealed in practice to mean that the individual has been denied the right in his or her own land to earn a living in peace, or in the occupation, skill or profession in which he or she is qualified".

Dr. Goodwin-Gill pointed out that important as the traditional, legal definition of refugees was, it did not constitute the final word on who was worthy of humanitarian assistance by the international community. "Should stricter screening procedures be introduced, the problem will remain of what to do with those rejected, who may still be denied the effective protection of their country of origin and refused the right to return".

As part of a lecture which outlined the refugee problem and what the UNHCR is attempting to do about it with concerned countries and voluntary agencies, he used figures to describe the massive movement of people from Indo-China:

"Since 1975 more than 1,250,000 people are known to have left Kampuchea, Laos and Vietnam - 260,000 Vietnamese to China, 130,000 Vietnamese to the USA in 1975, 150,000

Kampuchean into Vietnam (now mostly repatriated), 830,000 Kampuchean, Laotians and Vietnamese have sought asylum in the countries of South East Asia.

"As of June 30, 1981, more than 190,000 refugees remain in countries of first asylum, while nearly 650,000 have been resettled from countries of first asylum".

The UNHCR's functions were defined as "providing international protection" and "seeking permanent solutions to the problem of refugees". At the same time, its "work shall be of an entirely non-political character".

"Difficulties and contradictions are inherent in the nature of the Office and in the performance of its duties," he said. "The UNHCR is entirely dependent upon the voluntary contributions of Governments whether of cash or opportunities for resettlement. The Office can only assist refugees in a particular country if it is invited to do so by the Government".

Substantial numbers have also returned to Laos and Kampuchea.

Dr. Goodwin-Gill observed that with minimal possibilities for repatriation and local integration, resettlement of refugees in third countries had been in demand.

"Considerable efforts have indeed been made by the international community. Not surprisingly, the traditional countries of immigration, together with France, have taken the greatest numbers".

As of June 30, 1981 Australia had taken 51,641, Canada 74,683, France 70,278 and the United States of America 385,077 (plus 130,000 resettled in 1975).



# Guide to fuel crisis

Professor Clifford Hooker, Professor of Philosophy, is joint author of a book, which breaks decisively with the previous approach to formulating an energy policy.

*Energy and the Quality of Life: Understanding Energy Policy*, from the University of Toronto Press, is a guide to the fossil fuel crisis facing Canada and looks at energy policy comprehensively from a collective, social point of view.

Professor Hooker and the other co-authors of *Energy and the Quality of Life: Understanding Energy Policy* - R. MacDonald, of York University, R. Van Hulst, of Bishop's University, and Peter Victor, of York University - spend considerable time emphasising the fundamentalness of energy policy within social and economic policy and in tracing the manifold ramifications of energy policy for other dimensions of the qualities of our lives (e.g. for medical risk, transportation building design and urban structure, foreign policy dependence etc.).

"The idea of an energy policy as such is a relatively recent affair, prodded into political consciousness via the OPEC-initiated price rises in 1973 and following years", says Professor Hooker. "Before then, discussions of energy matters had been desultory and had tended to focus upon particular energy fuels, e.g. oil as one of so many marketable commodities. Even today most energy discussion concentrates on the problem of increasing existing or conventional energy supplies and on marketing features of the individual energy commodities (e.g. the price of oil)".

Professor Hooker sees the book as an excellent example of fruitful interdisciplinary co-operation. He has taught philosophy and environmental engineering; MacDonald teaches environmental studies; Van Hulst teaches biology and Victor, formerly an economist with the Ministry of Energy in Ontario, teaches the economics of energy policy.

The book contains one of the first comprehensive energy policy bibliographies (461 items) in print. Readers may pursue their own research and point of view in energy policy independently of the one stated in the book.

Although the early part of the book uses Canada, and the Province of Ontario in

particular, as their examples, the book is explicitly written so as to be applicable to each country's own energy situation. In particular, the geographical, resource, historical, economic, legal and cultural similarities between Australia and Canada make consideration of energy policy using a Canadian example peculiarly germane to the Australian situation.

Professor Hooker says the main thesis of the book is that it is the larger economic, social and political consequences of energy policies which are far more important in the long run than the narrowly technical and price considerations which are usually taken to dominate energy policy making.

"A sub-thesis is that most western industrial countries (Canada in particular) are committed to 'business-as-usual' energy policies which emphasise continued (and increasing) reliance on fossil fuels (oil, gas, coal) and on electricity (either nuclear or coal generated) and that this energy policy has associated with it rising environmental/social costs, increasing economic risks and rigidities and increasing political vulnerabilities and erosion of individual liberties.

"For this reason, we advocate a containment of these conventional energy strategies and a substantial turning instead to a combination of energy conservation with so-called renewable energy technologies (solar, wind, biomass etc.).

"We argue that these latter technologies can be developed in a manner which is much more compatible than are conventional energy technologies with individual liberty, economic resilience and independence, low environmental impact and future flexibility of energy policy choices, in addition to their being more employment intensive, more easily decentralisable and more thoroughly adaptable to varying regional requirements.

We argue that this is a practicable as well as a desirable economic and social course to pursue and we try to sketch some of the future institutional developments which would be needed to pursue it effectively".

In this way, Professor Hooker states, they hope to have made a contribution, not only to the specifics of the energy debate (in which many are engaged) but, more importantly, to the form which the debate takes and the terms on which the debate continues in the future.

## NIDA SEASON



Paul Williams (Sebastian) and Helen Jones (Viola) in NIDA's production of Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, which has an unorthodox setting, India in 1912, during the British Raj. The play opens in the Drama Theatre of the University on August 25 and runs until August 29. It is Directed by John Clark and Designed by Richard Jeztorny.



## Philosophy Club camp

The Annual Camp of the Newcastle University Philosophy Club will be held this year from August 7 to 9 (Friday evening to Sunday afternoon) at Morpeth Conference Centre - a few kilometres from East Maitland.

As is customary, the invitation to attend is extended to all interested persons, local or visiting.

The cost of full-time accommodation and meals is \$30 for members and \$32 for non-members. Meals can also be obtained individually.

Registrations are accepted by members of the Executive (including Sharon Ryan, President) and Philosophy Department Office.

The programme for the Camp:

**August 7 - 8 pm**, Intention and Attention, Peter Jenkins, followed by a social gathering.

**August 8 - 9.30 am**, Political Economy of the Ancient Greeks, Neil Morpeth; **11 am**, On thesis Eleven, Bob Mackie; **2.30 pm**, Relations between Philosophy and Psychology, Roger Peters; **4 pm**, On Characterising Oneself as Conservative, Bill Sparkes; **8 pm**, The Megaric Philosophers, Godfrey Tanner, followed by a social gathering.

**August 9 - 10 am**, Did Leibniz Try to Reduce Relations to Predicates? Tony Delyall. **11.30 am**, Thoughts on Death and Human Life, Bill Warren.

## STAFF -

## Appointments

Miss Vicki Ross, Laboratory Assistant, Faculty of Medicine.

## retirements

Mrs. N. Kirby, Stenographer, Biological Sciences.

Mr. R.B. Taylor, Senior Lecturer, Department of Commerce.

## Cinematography in Research

A lecture, demonstration and discussion on Techniques and Application of Cinematography in Research and teaching will be given by Dr. Hans-Karl Galle in the Medical Lecture Theatre on September 1 at 7 pm.

Dr. Galle, who is visiting Australia under the auspices of the Goethe Institute, is Director of the Institute for Scientific Film, Gottengen, Editor of Encyclopaedia Cinematographica and one of the world's leading authorities on the uses of film in scientific research and teaching.

In his lecture/demonstration he will use selected extracts from a wide range of science-subjects to illustrate

ways in which film can be used both for initial observation and discovery in research situations and for explanation and demonstration in teaching situations.

The lecture/demonstration is open to all interested people and should be of particular value to research workers in the natural sciences, engineering and medicine, to teachers in these fields and, from a resource viewpoint, to librarians and education administrators.

The appearance of Dr. Galle is being offered by the Goethe Institute and the Department of Community Programmes.

## Coping with Stress

Ever checked out your personal stress count? Twenty-five managers and executives from local industry and commerce have done so as an exercise in self-analysis carried out as part of a one-day Coping with Stress workshop on July 31 led by Bruce Furner and Peter Bamford, of the University Counselling Service. This was the third in a series of six workshops organised by the Department of Community Programmes.

They spent the rest of the day in a highly experiential programme incorporating a smorgasbord of strategies designed to enable them to cope more effectively with the stresses and strains they encounter at their level in the workforce. Peter and Bruce led the participants through some rather unusual experiences - ranging from fantasising a 'safe-place' to auto-hypnosis. Once over the initial trepidation, they were soon keenly involved and, at the end of the day, highly appreciative

of the wide-range of stress-reduction techniques they had been exposed to.

If you hear any reports in the near future of aberrant behaviour by executives of B.H.P. or ALCAN or any one of a number of local firms and organisations - "Excuse me, I have to meditate for the next ten minutes", or, "If the Managing Director calls, tell him I'll ring him back in 20 minutes after my auto-hypnosis session" - you'll know they were at the workshop!

You might liken an organisation (even a university) to a building with varying loads of imposing differential stresses and strains on components of it. Buildings, of course, have expansion-joints, which allow for stress to be efficiently absorbed. Organisations have people. Makes you wonder. And do organisations have contraction joints? Makes you wonder even more!

University Counselling Service.

## Non-Academic Dinner 1981

"A NIGHT WITH THE STARS"

Friday, August 28, The Southern Cross Lounge, The Union, 7 pm until midnight.

CHARGE: \$11 per person (pre-dinner drinks, buffet dinner plus dessert).

A full bar service is available.

DRESS: Optional.

Please notify John Armstrong (Ext. 328), Martin Ooms (Ext. 777) or Gary Jones (Ext. 775) if you wish to attend by August 20. It would be appreciated if you could also send your remittance by that date to anyone of the abovementioned.



# Building Australia's Railways

The men who worked on the railways in Australia from the 1850's on were robust fellows selected mainly in England, but also derived from Scotland and Ireland. The shortage of labour when the railway age began, owing to the exodus of workers to the goldfields, meant that railway navvies had to be induced to migrate by the promise of high wages. By the 1880's, however, Australian-born workers outnumbered English labourers on railway projects in New South Wales. Mr. Denis Rowe, the University's Archivist, who is enrolled as a Master's degree student in Economic History, delved into the origins, working conditions and personal habits of railway navvies to write a paper for *Labour History*. The following is a summary of his article, which appeared last November in No.39.



Bridgebuilders at work on the new railway near Lismore in northern New South Wales, early in the 1890's.

The navy worked in all weathers, in dust and mud, excavating cuttings and building earth embankments for hundreds of miles.

The theme of sweat, toil and resentment is founded in the song *The Tweed and Lismore*, written by a navy. Ned Mc Elligott. The song wails plaintively:

I am a navy that worked everywhere,

East, West, North and South,  
I vow and declare,

Such terrible misfortune I never had before,

As I had on that railway,  
The Tweed and Lismore.

Resentment of gangers and employers, and fear of death and injury embittered the navvies. Death haunted heavy cuttings and tunnels. At least 15 fatalities occurred on railway works in New England in the 54 months between January 1880 and June 1884. Seven of these deaths occurred in the heavy cuttings at Ben Lomond, near Armidale.

Many railway women were moral and virtuous. Ada Lawrence, a little girl living in the construction camp at

Ben Lomond in the early eighties, remembered in later years how her mother and father (a construction inspector) always held devotions on Sunday night in their tent, her father reading the Bible and her mother playing a flutina. Alda Lawrence's mother clearly differed from the railway women who produced illegitimate children and occasionally found themselves answering assault charges.

Not unexpectedly, it seems that the women's idealised moral, civilising influence in the camps was outweighed by the navvies' great thirst for ale and spirits, and by the well organised liquor trade. The building of the Great Northern line itself provided the artery along which the liquor flowed from Newcastle to the pubs and shanties thrown up near the railhead. Navvies on the Great Northern line could earn up to £9 each month in the 1880's, a substantial wage (about twice that of a farm labourer) that allowed the men, particularly single men, a surplus for drink. Many of the men seem to have had plenty of spare cash and little else to spend it on except liquor.

The navvies' hotels and grog shops were hastily erected by publicans who frequently followed the construction works. There seems to have been an immense number of navvies' bush pubs.

Against these odds, the women in the construction camps had an uphill battle if they aspired to become God's police and agents of virtue and civilisation. On the Newcastle to Sydney line in the 1880's a battle between a band of drunken navvies and two policemen at Cooranbong ended in two casualties; one navy being shot through the throat, another had a bullet in his groin, while a third escaped with a hole drilled through the rim of his hat.

Not all navvies were hard drinking and reckless; some were steady, thrifty and temperate.

There was a strong bond of fellow-feeling and mateship amongst the inhabitants of the railway camps. The contractor Samuel Peto described the fellow-feeling and mateship of the early navvies in Britain thus:

There is a feeling amongst all these men exceedingly creditable to them; any man who comes there, and is at all in want, his brother navvies will ... divide their dinner with him.

The Australian bushworker also developed strong feelings of mateship to overcome problems of isolation, loneliness and scarcity of women.

It seems that the railway navvies in northern New South Wales were mainly conservative working men who aspired to conservative, Victorian values of property and religion, at least until the 1880's. 'Ordinary labourers' on the Hunter River Railway in 1855 could make from 12s to 15s a day, several times more than the daily rate for navvies in England at that time. A contractor on the Great Northern line in 1880 held out to prospective labourers the inducement of 'any quantity of land open for selection'. Some navvies acquired land,



became independent, and moved up the social ladder.

During the early construction period on the Great Northern Railway some railway contractors were beneficent and paternalistic towards their men, bringing to them the comforts of religion, sick funds, and elementary schools for their children.

In the eighties there was a turning away from paternalism and goodwill as employers threatened to lower wages. In 1882 and 1883 railway contractors and other employers demanded that the government revive assisted immigration. In the Legislative Assembly in 1883 Messrs Fletcher, Garrard and Heydon saw in the railway contractors' demand for additional labour an attempt to lower navvies' wages. The navvies on the Great Northern Railway met the threat of reduced wages by forming a Central Committee to govern strike action on the line near Tenterfield in 1884.



*James Fuller, an early railway builder in Australia, arrived in Newcastle from England in 1854. He worked as a plate-layer on the line to Scone until 1870, when he settled on the land in the Upper Hunter. Fuller survived to the age of 100 years. Two of his sons, born in railway construction camps in the Hunter Valley in the 1860's, became pioneers of the Northern Territory.*

A strike for higher pay on the Newcastle-Sydney line at Cockle Creek, Lake Macquarie, in October 1883, was a prelude to the great strike of 1884. This strike, against a reduction of wages, on the railway south of Tenterfield in February and March 1884 was a well organised affair, and might have succeeded had the law not intervened.

The Great Northern line reached Queensland in 1888. During the eighties, armies of navvies had carved the southern (Newcastle-Sydney) extension through the rocky wilderness of the Hawkesbury River. In 1889 an immense steel and stone railway bridge across the Hawkesbury finally linked Sydney to the North. The Hawkesbury bridge - the third largest of its kind in the world - was the last link in the Great Northern Railway. More importantly, it was the last link in the 1,780 mile chain of colonial railways joining Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia.

## CONVOCATION MEMBERSHIP

Since the *News* reported that a general meeting of Convocation will be held to discuss the proposal to amalgamate the University and the Newcastle College of Advanced Education Standing Committee of Convocation was asked to define those who are members of Convocation. The Secretary to the University has indicated that Convocation is composed of the following:

- higher degree students, not otherwise members of Convocation, who have accepted an invitation to join Convocation during their period of enrolment;
- retired members of staff who had been members of Convocation for at least five years before retirement; and
- persons who have been invited by Council to join Convocation.

The general meeting on the amalgamation proposal will be held in the Supper Room of the City Hall on August 18 at 7.45 pm. Motions can be submitted to the Secretary of Convocation, C/- The University of Newcastle, N.S.W. 2308, up to 48 hours prior to the meeting.

- past and present members of Council;
- graduates of the University;
- full-time members of the academic staff of the University;
- permanent members of the administrative, library and technical staff of the University, who are graduates of a university;
- graduates of other universities who have applied and been accepted for membership and paid the prescribed fee;
- Diplomates of the University who are graduates of another university;
- Emeritus Professors of the University;

## Visit by Asian expert

Dr. Evelyn Colbert, a retired high-ranking officer of the United States State Department will visit the University for the Australian Institute of International Affairs on August 25. Dr. Colbert joined the State Department in 1946 and specialised in Asian Affairs, subsequently becoming deputy assistant secretary in the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs. Her publications include more recently *Southeast Asia in International Politics* (1977).

The A.I.I.A.'s meeting will be held in the Staff House, preceded by a buffet dinner at 6 for 6.30 pm.

Those wishing to attend should contact Dr. L. Fredman, of the Department of History, Secretary of the Newcastle Branch of the A.I.I.A. The cost of the function, including dinner, is \$7.



# Coming Events

Department of Community Programmes

## MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 6 pm - 8 pm

Start of two courses, **An Introduction to Word Processing**. Each requires attendance for two nights per week. One class will be on Monday and Wednesday evenings, the other on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. There will be a total of six sessions per class.

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 9.30 - 5pm

**The Changing Face of Adoption**, a one-day seminar to provide up-to-date information on adoption and a forum for airing views. R02.

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 1 pm - 5 pm

**Adaptive Re-Use: The Recycling of Old Buildings**, a one-day seminar to help reduce the incidence of anomalous land use activity, and to quicken the provision of residential accommodation in the quickly growing Region. Newcastle Convention Centre. Organised in association with Newcastle City Council.

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 9 am - 5 pm

One-day seminar on **Information Resources**, organised in association with the Hunter Regional Community Information Service. Room R04.

9 am - 5 pm

One-day symposium, **Trading With Japan**, providing practical advice for Hunter Valley businessmen whose work will require them to deal extensively with Japan. Room R02.



ARTS DRAMA THEATRE, NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY  
JULY 20th to AUGUST 1st - AUGUST 24th to 26th at 8.15pm

# Women graduate scholarships

Applications for one of the most generous study support schemes in Australia - the Caltex Woman Graduate of the Year Scholarship - will close on September 30.

Each Caltex Woman Graduate of the Year Scholarship is worth \$16,000 over two years and one is awarded in every state, except the Northern Territory, every year.

The award is made up of a travel allowance of up to \$1,000 to meet the full cost of travel to and from the country where the approved studies will take place, a living allowance of \$4,500 per annum and an allowance of up to \$3,000 per annum to meet approved tuition costs.

Applications are tenable at a university or tertiary institution in Europe, including the United Kingdom and Ireland, the United States of America and Canada, or an

approved university or tertiary institution in any other country. In appropriate circumstances, the scholarship may be tenable at an Australian tertiary institution.

To be eligible candidates must be Australian female citizens who are completing, or have completed in 1981, a degree in a university or other tertiary institution or who are completing, or have completed in 1981, a diploma in a university or other tertiary institution after having previously completed a degree in a university or other tertiary institution.

Students who are interested in the scholarship should contact the Secretary of the Selection Committee for New South Wales, Mrs. Margaret Sager, The Caltex Woman Graduate of the Year Scholarship, The University of Sydney, N.S.W. 2006.

# University 'Firsts'

In the period, August 23 to 27, the University will be host to delegates to both the Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference and the Australasian Association for History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Science Conference.

In addition to the conferences being the first the associations have held at this University, the conferences will be the first the associations have held jointly.

More than 80 papers are to be read at the two conferences, together with nine symposia, on subjects ranging from

problems in the history of philosophy to the social control of technology and science.

Several distinguished international visitors will participate in the conference, including Dr. Hugh Mellor, Cambridge; Professor David Lewis and Dr. Steffanie Lewis, Princeton; and Professor Brian Skyrms, University of California, Irvine, as well as a strong contingent from New Zealand.

A provisional timetable for the conferences is available from the Department of Philosophy for all those who are interested in the programme, together with registration forms.

# Famous Physicist visits campus



*Professor Keith Runcorn, Professor of Physics at the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, who delivered a seminar and public lecture for the Department of Physics on July 31, with the Head of the Department of Physics, Professor R. MacDonald. Professor Runcorn is an authority on theories of continental drift and has been recently engaged in studies of the magnetism of lunar samples obtained in recent Apollo missions.*



## Film Festival returns

## STAFF BOOK RELEASE

Dr. Terry Caelli, Senior Lecturer in Psychology, is the author of a book, *Visual Perception: Theory and Practice*, just released by Pergamon.

Dr. Caelli's text, covering the technologies and mathematical techniques currently employed by vision researchers, aims to provide the reader with a comprehensive introduction to the subject of vision and its application to the principles of visual perception.

Part I, an exposition of existing technologies being used in vision research, introduces the topics of Optics, Fourier methods, Network theory and Geometry.

Part II, deals with the applications of such structures to recent developments in visual perception, especially those areas of contrast, texture, contour, motion, colour, perception, binocular vision and stereopsis which involve the technologies of Part I.

To conclude, Dr. Caelli demonstrates how geometric properties of various visual phenomena can be interfaced with current visual information processing models and so integrates two apparently different approaches to perception.



Still from the *Boat is Full* (Switzerland) which will be screened with *Beads of One Rosary* which opens the Travelling Film Festival at the Civic on September 11.

Films from Poland, Canada, France, Germany, Switzerland, Spain and Australia, which were screened at the last Sydney Film Festival, will be shown at the Civic Theatre on September 11, 12 and 13. The Travelling Festival will be in town again, presenting highlights from the Sydney Film Festival.

The films were among those voted the most popular of the 130 films shown at the festival early last month by the subscribers.

*For the Term of His Natural Life*, made in Australia in 1927 and recently restored by the National Film Archive of the National Library, will probably be shown at a special afternoon screening. Regarded as the last great flowering of Australia's silent cinema, the film cost an unprecedented £60,000 and was directed by American Norman Dawn.

The other top films to be screened at The Civic: *The Beads of One Rosary*, from Poland (Director: Kazimierz Kutz). Kazimierz Kutz comes from the coal-mining part of Poland known as Silesia, and all his films have been set in the region he knows so well.

*The Fiancée*, from the Democratic Republic of Germany (Directors: Gunter Reisch, Gunther Rucker). An exceptional film about a brave woman

who endured isolation and loneliness for many years, her spirit kept alive by the knowledge that her lover genuinely cared for her and was waiting for her release.

*The Lifeboat is Full*, from Switzerland (Director: Markus Imhoof). It begins where many war films end: with refugees arriving thankfully at the Swiss border. But, there was no red carpet awaiting many of them. The film is set in 1942, and a mixed group - mostly Jews, but also including a German soldier who has deserted - succeed in arriving in the German part of Switzerland.

*Mama Turns 100*, Spain (Director: Carlos Saura). Saura has said that after *Raise Ravens*, *Elsa My Love* and, especially, *Blindfolded*, he was exhausted, choked, constrained. So he made the decision to film a comedy.

*Mon Oncle D'amerique*, from France. (Director: Alain Resnais). Alain Resnais' first film since *Provence* is a dazzlingly witty, lucid and entertaining film on the unlikely subject of human aggression.

*Blue Collar*, from the United States of America (Director: Paul Schrader). A remarkably assured first feature from screenwriter Paul Schrader (*Obsession*, *Taxi Driver*) about three friends who work on a motor car assembly line in Detroit.

## French teachers at Newcastle

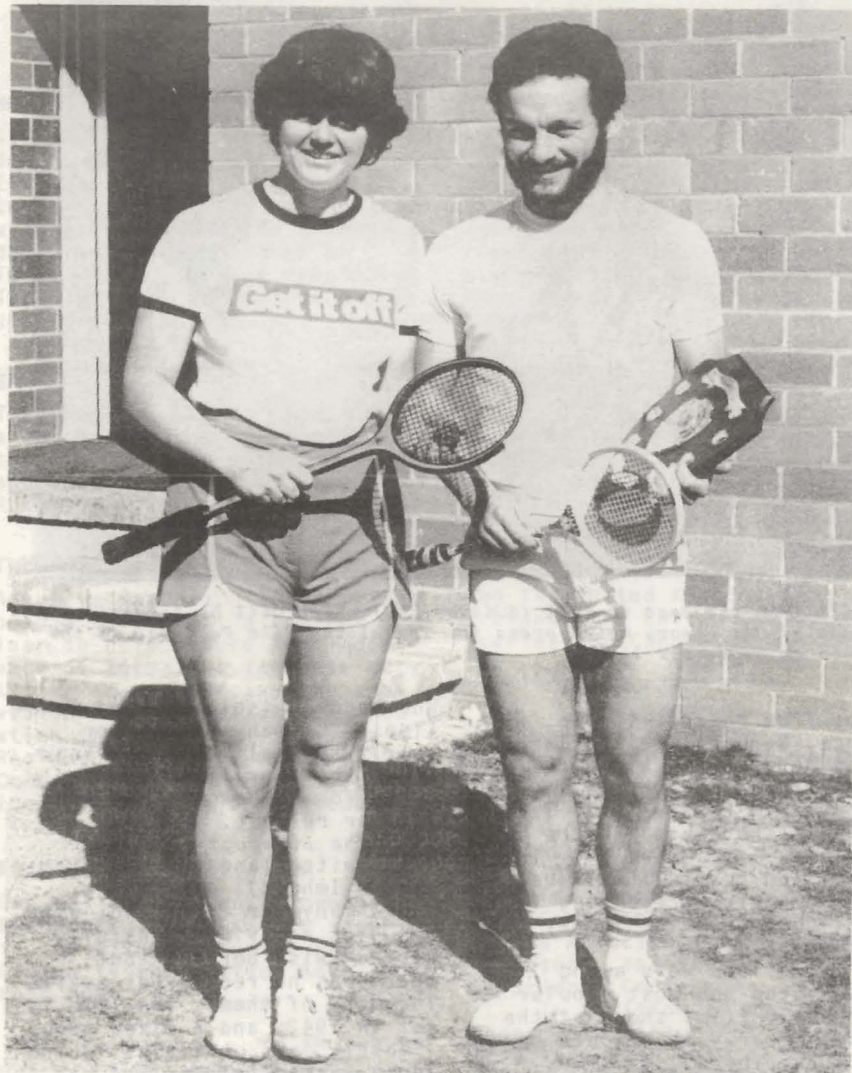
The French Section of the Department of Modern Languages is host to the 1981 gathering of French teaching staff from New South Wales universities on July 10.

Every New South Wales university and the Australian National University was represented and the 24 people exchanged news and ideas on a wide range of matters, including coursework Master of Arts and the probable effects on French Departments of the new copyright laws, the threat to ERDC funded projects and the possible introduction of fees.

Despite the current gloomy times an optimistic atmosphere prevailed, based on the success of the new centre for French studies in Noumea, rising or steady enrolments in French and the feeling that every Department had the same problems, but that all were surviving healthily, and that new research interests and courses were constantly evolving.



# SPORT



Kay Stone and Trevor Harvey photographed at the conclusion of the 1981 University Squash Championships on July 19. They hold their prizes, squash racquets, and the John Pegg Shield. Officials of the Squash Club, who worked hard to present the week-long championships, were very satisfied with the roll-up of entrants.

The results:

EVENTS	WINNERS	RUNNERS-UP
Men's Open	Trevor Harvey	Michael Sinclair
Men's B	Ian Wallschutsky	Trevor Barlow
Men's CD	Bob Antonia	Ian Broadfoot
Men's EF	Mark Carpenter	Steve Beveridge
Men's GH	David Tuser	Kevin Maher
Men's Novice	Brian Heuston	Kevin Maher
Women's Open	Kay Stone	Glenda Williams
Women's BC	Susan Dudley	Janet Fisher
Women's DE	Susan Dudley	Caroline Cranfield
Women's FGH	J. Minnett	Sue Flynn
Women's Novice	Robyn Hayman	Jan Walker

The winner of the "TAA Take 7" Gold Coast holiday For Two is Colin Robards.

## ATHLETICS

The Wallsend 9 km handicap on July 17 saw the welcome return of Stan Barwick to local competition. He ran well to record second fastest time, behind Bevan French. On handicap, two of our other runners, P. Buckley and B. Kimberley came first and second.

On the following day, in perfect conditions, the annual Coastline Fun Run was held. Starting on the harbour foreshore, the 8.5 km course wound passed Newcastle Beach, up King Edward Park, and finished at Merewether Surf Life Saving Club.

First and second were two of Newcastle's best runners, B. Morgan and D. Forbes.

A large number of our own runners participated in this very popular event. A. Nymeyer was our best placed runner, finishing in 13th position, but only seconds in front of Stan Barwick, who, still feeling the effects of a hard run the previous day, was below his best.

In order of finishing position then followed P. Buckley, T. Guttman, D. McDonald, J. Biggs, J. Reeve, J. Lambert, D. Finlay and F. Lambert.

On July 25, the one-hour track run was held at the artificial track in Newcastle. Two of our runners competed successfully. Terry Wall won the event covering approximately 17 km in the one hour time limit, and B. Kimberley was third with a distance of 15 km.

Sunday, July 26, saw the running of the popular Pub to Pub Fun Run at Nelson Bay. Rumour had it that free beer was being provided at the finish. University was represented by Stan Barwick, and four of our leading academics D. McDonald, J. Biggs, T. Guttman and D. Finlay. Although the rumour was subsequently found to be false, the run was still enjoyed by all.



# 1981 C A M P U S S C A M P E R

The 1981 Campus Scamper, for the Commonwealth Bank Trophy was run on July 22 and attracted a good field of students and staff, together with a team representation from the Australian Army at Singleton, and the Department of Corrective Services at Maitland.

Not to be outdone, the Commonwealth Bank also entered a team, which performed creditably.

The results:

**LONG COURSE** - first woman, Kim Jenkins;  
first man, Albert Nymeyer

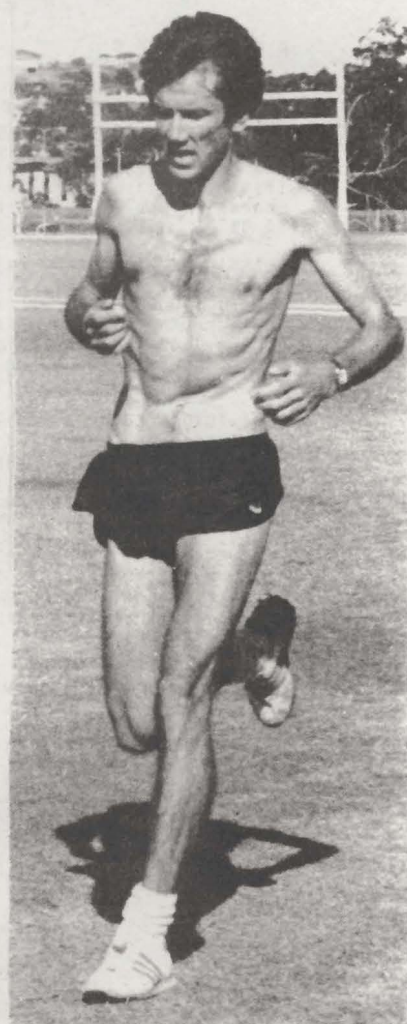
Campus Scamper Trophy - Engineering I  
(Bruce McKellar,  
Dick Parbery and  
Frank Giacom)

**SHORT COURSE** - first woman, Liz Miles;  
first man, Brian Crocker

first Women's Team - Accounts  
(Elsie Hedgeman,  
Rosemary Smith and  
Leslie Woodcock).

first Men's Team - Mathematics  
(Rodney Vaughan,  
Bob Gibberd and  
Col Hoskins).

Prizes were presented by Mrs. Lorna George and Mr. Ray Hill, Regional Director, Commonwealth Bank.



Albert Nymeyer, first to return of the long course runners.

Photos by Arthur Johnston

Mrs. Lorna George, wife of the Vice-Chancellor, was the starter for the get fit event. Professor Godfrey Tanner was Master of Ceremonies.



The Acting Vice-Principal, Professor Ken Dutton, moved quickly enough to take third place in the short course run.



This is the field at the start of the Campus Scamper on July 22. The long course field had a 6.4 kilometre jog in front of them and the short course field ran 4.6 kilometres.



# Advertisements

## FOR SALE

**SUZUKI 4WD HARD-TOP**, new tyres, new paint, cheap to run and a lot of fun. Registered until December. Rear seat and radio. \$2,295 or twist my arm. (Better still make me an offer that I cannot refuse.) Please telephone 52 5133.

**CLASSIC MK 7 JAGUAR - 1951 - 99% restored.** Mechanically A1, paintwork Bronze (NO RUST!!), all timber finishes fully restored. (Needs interior hood lining - now available) plus spares. **URGENT SALE - \$5,500 or nearest offer.** Please telephone 57 5257.

**1971 TOYOTA COROLLA (two-door)**, new complete motor installed April this year. Good condition throughout, registered until November. \$1,000 or near offer. Please telephone Extension 565 during business hours, or 54 9935 after hours.

**1973 VW STATION WAGON - 1600cc engine.** Registered until January. Mechanically A1, \$2,800. Please telephone Extension 230 or 46 7064.

**1978 MAZDA 808 STATION WAGON - 1600 cc engine, manual transmission, radio, white with brown interior. Only \$3,600.** Please telephone Extension 657 or 63 1408 after 7 pm.

**LAND ROVER - Series 1**, very good condition, \$1,560 or nearest offer. Please call and inspect at 17 Buwa Street, Charlestown or telephone 43 7299.

**1975 TOYOTA CELICA - Silver, manual transmission, air-conditioned, mechanically A1, mag wheels. Best Offer.** Please telephone 63 4501.

## WANTED - PIANO

The Child Care Centre has need of a piano - must be in good condition. Please direct particulars to the Director 67 3475.

## HOUSE FOR RENT

**MEREWETHER BEACH - available from early September, 1981 until the end of June, 1982.** Four-five bedrooms, two bathrooms, double garage etc. Suit fastidious tenants. Please telephone Extension 657.

## WANTED - STAFF BADMINTON PARTNER

One morning per week (Wednesday?) for consistent practice. Please telephone Professor Hooker on Extension 411.



*The New York Times wrote as follows concerning the High Level Ranters: "Despite their strong individual performances, the basic charm of the Ranters lay in the lilting joy and happy, foot-tapping rhythms of their ensemble playing". The British folk group will present a concert in the Union on August 5 at 8 pm. The original Ranters began playing together in Newcastle-upon-Tyne in the early 1960's and specialised in traditional rants, reels, jigs and hornpipes. The group's sound is produced by a combination of pipes, fiddle, accordion, concertina, jews harp, tin whistle and bones.*

## ATTENTION - graduates from Hong Kong

The Department of Labour, Hong Kong, has written to the University and advised that it has set up special procedures to help Hong Kong students returning home seeking employment after graduation.

Would all Hong Kong students completing studies at the end of 1981 please call at the Careers and Student Employment Office - Room T25.

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