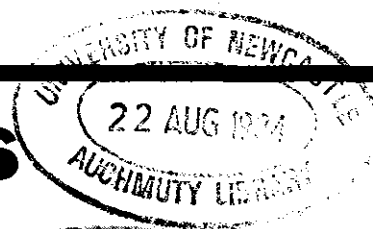




# UNIVERSITY NEWS

Newsletter for the  
University of  
Newcastle

## “Honey-dew” days



Very few can say that they have been members of staff for all of the period of the University's existence and all of the life of its predecessor, Newcastle University College.

Thirty four years on the staff without a break, including 17 of them as an Associate Professor of Chemistry, is the background Ray Walker will leave behind him when he retires on August 31.

From a Demonstrator with the University of Sydney in 1944 Ray Walker went to high school teaching, technical college lecturing and university lecturing and research. His long service to the University has also included an interest in rugby. In fact he was the President of the Rugby Club when it won the Newcastle Premiership for the first time. The team was coached by his brother Tony Walker. He has also been involved in the Staff Association and Social Club affairs.

An expert on the biochemistry of copper, Professor Walker has carried out extensive research since 1974 into the application of copper compounds to the skin as anti-inflammatory agents. His findings in relation to the wearing of copper bracelets were at first criticised by some doctors, who considered their therapeutic value to be a

myth. He has kept a diary and says he will complete work on a book, **The Copper Bracelet Story**, after he retires.

Ray's family is well-known in Newcastle. His great Grandfather, Captain George Walker, sailed from Aberdeen to Newcastle in 1837. Ray's father, Cecil, was a Primary School Headmaster, his brothers, Noel and Keith, are medical specialists and his brother, Tony, is a dentist. His only living sister is Claire Lambert, of The Hill. Ray's other sister, Cecile, now deceased, was known for many years as "the member for Hunter" because she was Secretary of Rowley James, MHR.

Professor Walker and his wife, Kathleen, have six daughters - Patricia, Debbie and Monica are graduates of this University, Christine and Helen are doubly certificated nurses and the youngest, Kay, is a Science II student at Sydney University. Two sons-in-law are also graduates of this University. He also has eight grandchildren.

In 1932 Ray Walker first attended classes at Marist Brothers High School, Hamilton, where he was a student for the next 10 years. He says he was lucky to get enough marks in the 1941 Leaving Certificate to be offered a place at Sydney Teachers' College. Two or



Professor Walker

three weeks after attending his first lecture, he won a scholarship to study Science at the University of Sydney.

He came back to his hometown in 1949 as Science teacher at Newcastle Technical High School (then within the precincts of Newcastle Technical College). He accepted an appointment as a Lecturer at Newcastle Technical College in 1950.

When Ray transferred to the Newcastle University College of the New South Wales University of Technology in 1951, amongst the other Tech. College staff who transferred were Arthur Ritchie, Stan Baker, Kerr Johnston and George Haggarty.

## Inside: NIDA's annual visit

Geoff Curthoys came to the College from Broken Hill in 1953.

He has happy recollections of the early years that he and his colleagues spent at Tighes Hill. His first Chemistry lecture was given to Engineering students in 1952. "I followed Colin Cooke as President of the Social Club, which organised the Graduation Balls held in the City Hall. At the end of every term we had a party - everybody together, from Arts, Science and Engineering. It was a small institution and we all had very affable relationships".

His acquaintanceship with the University's first Vice-Chancellor, Professor Auchmuty, began with a party put on by the Warden of the University College, Dr. Ralph Basden, in 1954. "Ralph asked Geoff and me to help him with the food and refreshments. I dispensed the sherry and at one stage near the end of the party I patted this gentleman on the shoulder and said, you're my best customer. It turned out to be James Johnston Auchmuty."

His interest in copper was originally forced upon him as a result of a staff member giving a week's notice of his resignation from the College. As a result, Ray had to pick up the Chemistry V lectures, the most advanced Inorganic Chemistry lectures given. Although he had an Honours degree in Organic Chemistry, he had to learn about Inorganic Chemistry and became what is called a Co-ordination Chemist.

In 1952 he obtained a M.Sc. degree from his alma mater, the University of Sydney. On the completion of a thesis based essentially on copper, he was awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy by the University of New South Wales in 1963, after receiving much help from Kathleen with the typing despite having five children under seven.

The University College and the independent University of Newcastle developed very well in the 50s and 60s, Professor

Walker says, on account of the excellent practical courses and the increased demand for cadets for the industries and teachers for the schools. He claims that Cyril Renwick and Jim Allen were two who made outstanding contributions to the young institution.

Even with his further studies and his research, Ray maintained his link with Marist Brothers school (he was Chairman of the Old Boys' Union) and took a prominent part in Union affairs (he was President, and subsequently Secretary, of the Staff Association). Moreover, he served on the Maitland Diocesan Education Board for 10 years.

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To honour Ray Walker a farewell dinner will be held in the Staff House on Friday, August 31, at 7 for 7.30 pm. All those who have known Ray and wish to attend - colleagues, friends, students, graduates and others, plus their partners - may contact Professor Michael Carter, of the Department of Sociology, at Extension 307.

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Professor Walker has published more than 70 research papers and the Department of Chemistry has had these bound as a presentation to him at the Department's farewell in the Staff House on August 30.

His quest for more knowledge in his field of research has taken him in the last 20 years to several countries, including the United States, the United Kingdom, Europe and Scandinavia.

In 1957 and 1958 he was Chairman of The Newcastle Section of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute. He has been a member of the International Association of Bioinorganic Scientists and an Abstractor for Chemical Abstracts of American Chemical Society. Closer to home Ray has been active in the Newcastle and District

Association of Science Teachers and the Chemistry Education Committee of New South Wales.

He has reached a point at which he is making decisions about his retirement. As well as writing the story of the copper bracelet, he will play bowls, fish and maybe do some painting.

He is aware that the Americans refer to retirement as the start of "honey-dew" days, i.e. "honey do this" and "honey do that". He is also aware that if a man is blessed with a home - and a wife - then he will have plenty to do.

Ray Walker has been appreciated by his students for his teaching. In 1946 when he attended the Sydney Teachers College for his Diploma in Education he was one of two out of about 100 to receive the top grade for practical teaching. Included in a number of cards which he has kept is the "thank you" card sent by an Honours class from the University of Singapore, to which he lectured for two weeks in 1978. "Those keen young people hung on my every word", he says. "When I finished my lectures they 'grabbed' my notes and my slides - they were so enthusiastic".

He says he regrets the fact that the attitude of some Australian university students has changed. "Nearly all yesterday's students were cadets from industries, or trainee teachers, who were motivated and had a clear purpose in life.

"I think that about 20 per cent of today's students should not be at university. I get the impression in the laboratory that some students are quite inexperienced in practical work. We have lowered the quality of our student intake and 'fallen for' progressive assessment. This system results in students learning less and less about more and more. We must protect our standards for the sake of our graduates whose degrees are respected internationally". (Chemistry staff. students 1965 - see Page 15)

# Friends plan new ventures

New ventures planned by The Friends of The University for the coming year include Lunch With a Writer Luncheons and Discovery Lectures on work being done in Departments at the University.

According to The Friends of The University's Vice-Chairman, Mr. Keith Barbour, the majority of funds raised by the group had been designated for new student housing. Funds had also been used to add to the Auchmuty Library's holdings.

Mr. Barbour told the annual general meeting of The Friends on August 7 that the Ceramic Exhibition organised by Mrs. Wilma Kellerman, Mrs. Centa Hendry and members of their committee and held in the Great Hall attracted considerable public interest and raised some \$1,400.

Work was proceeding on preparations for the next Book Fair to be held in July, 1985.

"It was a setback during the year when the needs of the Medical School and the overwhelming pressure on University resources meant that working and storage space for the Book Fair could no longer be made available and we had to seek alternatives.

After much inquiry", he said, we were offered storage space by the BHP and working space has been made available in a temporarily unused classroom in Merewether Heights Primary School. However, we live precariously, as both facilities could be required again by their owners at any stage.

"We desperately need some permanent space for our operations and we bring this need to the attention of the University and our membership.

"The Friends consider the Book Fair to be both their major source of funds (approximately \$23,000 resulting from the

## OBITUARY



The late Sir Alister McMullin

Last week the University learned with regret of the death of its Foundation Chancellor, Sir Alister McMullin, K.C.M.G., Hon.D. Litt.

Sir Alister was appointed to the Council of the University by the Governor and elected first Chancellor by the Council in 1966. He was continuously re-elected until ill-health forced him to resign in 1977.

As Chancellor of the University of Newcastle Sir Alister showed a great personal interest in the

work and development of the University. Admitted to an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters in 1966, he officiated at the openings of new buildings and conferring of degree ceremonies, including those for the conferring of honorary degrees. He was of great assistance to the Vice-Chancellor and members of the senior administrative staff. Over 10 years as Chancellor he never missed an annual conferring of degrees ceremony and conferred more than 4,500 degrees on new graduates. He presided over meetings of the University Council until 1976 when poor health first prevented him from attending. His firm, but invariably courteous chairmanship will long be remembered by those who had the privilege of being on Council with him and particularly by student members whom he encouraged with a sympathetic understanding to play a full and important role.

The Vice-Chancellor read the Lesson at a Memorial Service for Sir Alister held at the Uniting Church, Rouchel, last Thursday.

first Fair) and a major point of University-community contact," Mr. Barbour said.

The group's most urgent task for the coming year was to increase active membership and to develop ways and means of involving members in the life of the organisation.

The election of officers resulted:

Chairman, Mr. Ken Gordon; Vice-Chairman, Mr. Barbour; Secretary, Mrs. Lorna George; Assistant Secretary and Publicity Officer, Mrs. Wilma Kellerman; Treasurer, Professor Laurie Short; Auditor, Mr. Justin Davies; other Executive Committee member, Mr. John McNaughton.

## New Chairman

Warren Kimble, Lecturer in Economics at Macquarie University, has been elected Chairman of the Board of the University Co-operative Bookshop Limited. He succeeds Dr. Ian Somerville, who has commenced study leave.

The incoming Chairman has confidently forecast an encouraging and financially responsible result for the Co-op for the current financial year, reversing the losses of the previous two years. In view of its strong financial result, the Co-op is presently considering increasing the discount level.

# DISCRIMINATION against STAFF

The Staff Association has decided to express its concern at some aspects of the composition of the Council which discriminate against staff.

At its meeting on July 31, the association resolved to seek support for the repeal of a section of the University's Act which prohibits full-time members of staff from being eligible to represent Convocation or the students on the Council and being elected by the other members of Council.

In a recommendation to the meeting, the Executive argued that the Act discriminated specifically against full-time staff as compared with other members of the University.

"For instance, there is nothing in the Act which prohibits a student who is also a staff member from representing staff. Moreover, students and part-time staff members are eligible to represent Convocation or to be elected by the other members of Council. What is involved here is not the likelihood of a person in a particular category being elected but that person's eligibility to stand.

"The Staff Association has, in relationship to the Headship and Deanship issues, moved towards a position where anyone who may vote in an election is also entitled to be a candidate. Repeal of the Act would extend this principle to Council," the Executive said.

The meeting instructed the Executive to write to the Standing Committee of Convocation requesting it, at an appropriate time, to move Council to seek the repeal of the Act and to seek support for the repeal from the academic and general staff members of the Council.

The President of the Staff Association (Dr. Don Wright) submitted that given the fact that the University was presently acting to halt discrimination in other areas it was time that this example of discrimination was also removed.

The Staff Association decided to request the Council to amend the University Regulations concerning the Deans and other Faculty Officers so as to extend the candidature for

Deans to include all permanent members of academic staff eligible for appointment as Head of Departments within the Faculty.

Dr. Wright pointed out that the Executive had recommended the amendment of the regulations because of its "democratization project" and advice it received about other universities having opened up candidature for Deans more widely than this University had.

Dr. Wright commented on the Association's stand that a representative of the association should be present at all Promotions meetings as an observer.

He said it had been agreed with the Vice-Chancellor that, should any member of staff who applied for promotion feel, at any stage of the process, that there was a danger that he/she was not being treated fairly, that person should approach the President of the Association who was free to take the matter up with the Vice-Chancellor in full confidence.

## 1984 Union Dinner

The Annual Union Dinner will be held on Friday, September 21. The Hon. Justice Michael Kirby, CMG., Chairman of the Law Reform Commission, will be the guest speaker.

Justice Kirby has had a long association with universities. In addition to being a Fellow of the Senate of Sydney University, he was, between 1977 and 1983, a Member of the Council of the University of Newcastle. From 1978 to 1984 he was Deputy Chancellor of the University and last February was elected Chancellor of Macquarie University.

In 1983 Justice Kirby was named Rostrum Speaker of the Year. He has spoken widely and published many articles and speeches about the need to keep the law up to date and in touch with the issues of the present time of change.

The menu for the Union Dinner features Garlic Prawns with Rice, Filet Mignon and Plum Pudding with Brandy Sauce, and a selection of fine wines. Music will be provided by Blue Emus.

Bookings (\$15 students, \$20 others) can be made at the Bank Agency. Book early - don't be disappointed.



Judge Kirby

# Staying Cool at The Hot Rod Show

The University was invited by Mr. Bob Heggie, of the Rickshaws Club, to display its two Shell Mileage Marathon vehicles at their 21st annual Hot Rod and Kustom Car Show at the Farmers and Graziers Wool Store in Wickham on August 11 and 12. The show attracted some 15,000 visitors.

Because many of these visitors have a keen interest in things mechanical, this is a good thing for the promotion of Engineering courses.

We displayed our 1980 "leaner" and 2308, the latest vehicle. Our thanks go to Bob and the Rickshaws for their invitation and the flawless running of their show. My personal thanks go to the willing helpers of the 1984 Mileage Marathon team, who made light work of organising and running our display.

The display gave visitors the opportunity to inspect the "leaner", which, in spite of the fact that many people said that it could never be done, has the ability to negotiate corners like a bicycle, a feature which makes it unique.

It also showed 2308, which we believe to be the lightest vehicle ever to enter the Mileage Marathon at 24 kg ready to race. (Our belief is based on some industrial espionage, which was conducted by lifting some competing vehicles at Amaroo Park). So even if we did not set a record, the visitors were treated to two world firsts.

With its low weight, a light driver and good aerodynamics, less than 40 watts is required to drive 2308 at 25 km/h on the flat. This is less than the electrical power output of many a Hi-Fi system!

The 10 cc displacement engine of the vehicle is operated in an on-off fashion. It is on for about a third of the time, when competing, and even then



Engineering student Mark Harris explains features of the marathon vehicles at the Hot Rod Show to members of the public.

it only runs at about one-third of its maximum speed. When it runs it does run at full throttle, but it is really some 10 times too big!

If a person wants to go from A to B, is it not ridiculous that he or she (or it, I suppose, these days) should have to take a tonne or more of junk, known as a motor car, as well?

To develop energy efficient vehicles, light weight, good aerodynamics and full throttle engine operation, with appropriate gearing, are the essential features.

It was interesting to see Pontiac's 1984 Fiero coupe at the show. In spite of the extensive employment of plastic in its construction and the corporate might of Pontiac and the Nylax Corporation, the thing still weighs well over a tonne. This may be very well if your business is selling plastics but it has little to do with vehicle economy.

Volvo are also in the news with a 700 kg vehicle of advanced specifications.

Notable are the low drag coefficient, the multi-fuel capability and the use of a continuously variable transmission, and much better start than Pontiac's.

One of the difficulties we experience with entries for the Mileage Marathon is that the race is held quite early in the academic year. By the time the race is over the students have a clear idea of what should have been done. We are hoping to have better continuity of effort for our attempt in 1985. Some students have already expressed interest in furthering the project. A High Distinction in their final year project for all of them if they break the Australian record!

While it matters what you know, in Engineering what matters far more is what you can do with what you know, that is what the game is all about.

We have the lightest vehicle and the keenest driver - the only one warned for dangerous driving in this year's event. This year we came sixth. If we get on with the job we can be first in 85.

Hank Williams

# Union President Speaks Out

The President of the University Union Board, Mr. Dale Dobie, has issued a statement in connection with the plan for the proposed changeover of the Bar and Coffee Lounge, which was reported in the last issue of the NEWS.

The Board, Mr. Dobie said, comprised 10 duly elected student representatives, as well as two appointed representatives of the SRC, the remaining five positions on the Board comprising two Council representatives, the Secretary-Manager, a Sports Union representative, and a staff representative, the Board having a total of 17 members.

"Our job is to do all the unglamorous work of managing the Union, including reading reports and recommendations presented to the Board for action. We must represent students' interests, not just today, but also in the future.

"Being duly elected, the job becomes that much harder after having weighed all the alternative proposals to find a self-appointed, ill-informed 'Revolution Committee' attempting to usurp the function of the Board.

"Very few students have approached either myself or other members of the Board to find out the details of what the proposals actually were", Mr. Dobie said, "or to enquire as to the reasons why the Board felt that the changes would be

for the good of the majority of students.

"I realise that time is important, but I urge all students to take time out to read important notices put on the Union Notice Board in the main Foyer. The notice board is used exclusively for advising members on Union matters.

"I should like to respond to some of the issues raised in the NEWS article.

"Why not change the Southern Cross/Bar over?"

"The Southern Cross Lounge is used extensively for various functions throughout the year such as the Revue, University Dinners, etc." Mr. Dobie said. "Further, the Southern Cross trades each day as a Bistro, which is proving very popular (we hope to open in the evening next year).

"All goods must be moved upstairs, including band equipment, and when linked with the fact that seating capacity is limited to 150 people, this area is not suitable. The needs of activities necessitate the use of a larger space, i.e. Common Room as is presently the case.

"Why were alternative schemes not investigated?"

"The answer to this is simply that the Board had engaged, for the last three years, a professional firm of Architects, Rice

and Daubney, to advise the Board on the development of the Union, and we are implementing their recommendations in the best interests of the students and staff for the practical use of the building.

"At present", Mr. Dobie said, "Activities have proven to be a vibrant part of the Union, with well over \$35,000 a year spent on Activities. It is imperative that an integrated venue be set aside for Activities, so that they can continue at their present level and it is hoped to expand them in the future. Currently any activity of importance is presented in various alternate locations within the Union. It has proved impossible for the present bar to function as a venue for activities.

"The retort that things have always been like this isn't good enough. Now is the time to take a step forward. Let's continue to change things for the betterment of the Union.

"The Board have requested our Architects to re-appraise the alternatives and present plans, sketches and a report for display to students," he said. "In addition, sketches showing future development proposals for the Union will be placed on display.

"In conclusion, I ask this question of the students. Is the Union a place of progress, looking to the future, or one that is slowly sinking into a lethargic abyss?"

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## Bush Ball

The Colonial Dance Group, an offshoot of Newcastle Folk Club, is making preparations for its first Bush Ball. The ball will be held in the City Hall on September 7 as part of this year's Mattara.

It is planned to introduce several dances that have not been done in Newcastle for many years. Instructions will be

given so that all will be able to join in.

Everyone is welcome to attend the First Bush Ball. Tickets, at \$7.50, are available at the Westpac Bank in the Union, the Civic Theatre Office, and through the Colonial Dance Group, which meets on Thursday nights from 7.30 pm at St. Thomas' Church Hall, next to the Carrington Post Office.

Dress for the ball will be traditional-formal from approximately the 1850s - loose, bright Crimean shirts and baggy pants for the gents and ball gowns of suitable "colonial" style for the ladies.

Entertainment will be provided by Bantam Bush Band, well known at the University and around Newcastle, and Lazy Harry's, from Gosford.

# OFF OVERSEAS

# Letters

Dear Editor,

There are several areas in the University grounds where temporary parking places might be helpful: the delivery area near the Library and the back of the Computer Centre come to my mind. When I park at the latter for (usually) about five minutes to pick up some computer output, I'm aware that I am neither a visitor, nor a "service" person and thus am strictly liable to a parking fine. This hasn't happened to me - yet. Could a few strategically placed 10-minute (or whatever) slots be set up?

On the subject of re-arranging the Union: whenever I make the mistake of not bringing my own lunch, I do not find trouble getting a seat in the Union, but getting the time to sit down, after standing in the queue(s)! If, after getting my rolls at the sandwich counter, I decide I also want a drink to go with them, I then have to stand in another queue. When I have everything together, it's time to get back to work. I realise all this is due to space (and staff?) limitations but I do see room for improvement there.

**Dieter Britz.**  
Mechanical Engineering.

Dear Sir,

Congratulations to Professor Barcan on expressing so well in his letter what must be the view of very many University members.

**Paul Butler.**  
Computing Centre.



The Vice-Principal, Professor M.P. Carter, will be overseas during September and the first half of October.

He is to attend a two-week seminar on The Future of Higher Education to be held at the London Business School in

September under the auspices of the British Council. He will then make a brief visit to Paris, where his recent book on contemporary French poetry is to be launched by Mrs. Margaret Whitlam at a function attended by French poets and critics. A short stay in Geneva will be devoted to research for a forthcoming edition of the Australian diary of the nineteenth-century Swiss colonist Etienne Bordier. Professor Dutton will then return to England where he will undertake a number of visits to universities to look at recent developments in areas such as staff selection and equal employment opportunity, promotions procedures, student services and accommodation.

During Professor Dutton's absence, Professor M.P. Carter will be Acting Vice-Principal and Acting Deputy Chancellor.

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## Carol Dance to Visit

New South Wales University Press publishes books for staff, research centres and departments of tertiary institutions. The Press' list includes tertiary texts, up market general books and scholarly works. The main publishing areas include engineering, technical fields, humanities, commerce and contemporary issues. The Press does not publish fiction, poetry, literary criticism, medical books, festschrifts, monographs, bibliographies, theses or journals.

The editor of the Press, Carol Dance, will be at the University of Newcastle on August 23 and 24 in Rooms T27 and T29 in the Temporary Buildings. Any staff member wishing to discuss publishing ideas or wanting further information about the Press, is welcome to see Mrs. Dance on either of these two days. Anyone wishing to arrange an appointment before Mrs. Dance arrives at the University may contact her at (02) 662 3547 to ensure a meeting.

New South Wales University Press distributes throughout Australia and has co-publishing arrangements overseas.

The Press operates much the same as a commercial publisher. That is, it pays royalties, edits, designs, warehouses, markets and distributes a normal part of the service.

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## STEEL AND NEWCASTLE

What are the long-term prospects of the Australian Steel Industry, and what are its chances of survival in an increasingly protectionist trading climate?

In the event of cutbacks, what in Newcastle will last?

Dr. John Stanton, a Senior Lecturer in Economics, will be interviewed by Mr. Phil O'Hara, a postgraduate student in Economics, on Monday, August 27 at 1.15 pm in the series **Economics and the Community** on radio 2NUR-FM (approximately 104 on your FM dial).

# LIBRARY'S MILESTONE APPLAUDED



The University Librarian accepts the symbolic 500,000th book, *A History of New Holland*, from the Vice-Chairman of The Friends of The University. Photo: Ken Scott.

The achievement of an academic library's first half-million volumes is an event which is properly to be applauded, the Director-General of the National Library of Australia, Mr. Harrison Bryan stated on August 10.

Mr. Bryan spoke at the presentation of the 500,000th book to the Auchmuty Library. To mark the acquisition of the Library's half millionth book, The Friends of The University made two rare and valuable donations to the Library's Rare Book Collection.

After the Vice-Chancellor, Professor D. George, had welcomed the guests, Mr. Bryan spoke about his own first exposure to libraries of size - in 1957 when he went to England on study leave. "The libraries that really impressed me were not the two giants - the Bodleian of Oxford or Cambridge University Library. Instead, I was vastly taken with the scale of operation of the 'Big Four' provincial university libraries - Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds and Liverpool.

"What these libraries had in common was the confidence that they engendered in their patrons that they provided not only effective support for undergraduate teaching but also the ability to sustain at least beginning research, at least in the areas in which the University concerned saw its strengths. Significantly, all were just on or about half a million volumes in size."

Mr. Bryan asserted that there was ample evidence of the quality of Newcastle's book-stock." The figures of use of the library, including those of borrowing for extra-library use establish that. Another indicator is that Newcastle lends more material per year to other libraries than do New England, Macquarie, Flinders or Tasmania, all of which exceed it in size. Finally, I understand that Newcastle has just recently become a net lender in this field, that is to say, your need to supplement your own resources from elsewhere is more than matched by others' needs of you."

He had always held strongly to the view that in library-starved and distance-dominated Australia, university libraries should shoulder cheerfully an obligation to serve users beyond their parent universities.

The Auchmuty Library had been an excellent exponent of this philosophy and it was greatly to the credit of both the Library and the University that the Library has emerged as a well recognised and increasingly important regional resource.

Referring to The Friends' donations, he stated that to be reminded regularly that the institution one served continued to attract the voluntary support of leading members of the community was to have one's enthusiasm for that institution continually refreshed.

"May I conclude by congratulating the University on having a Library of quality, The Friends of The University on bringing that quality to public notice and the Librarian and his staff on achieving it."



The guest speaker, Mr. Harrison Bryan.



Performing the official presentation, the Vice-Chairman of The Friends, Mr. Keith Barbour, said that his group was formed to foster an awareness of the University and its place in the community and conduct activities, including fund raising, which shall promote the interests of the University.

"On this occasion, The Friends have chosen to enrich the Auchmuty Library's collections by donating two outstanding items. One of these, the 500,000th book, is **The History of New Holland** printed for John Stockdale in 1787.

"Also donated by The Friends is a magnificent limited edition of Hans Holbein's **Drawings from the Royal Library, Windsor Castle**", Mr. Barbour said.

The University Librarian, Mr. Ted Flowers, in his response, commented that it could hardly be surprising that the considerable sums expended on Library collections here over the years had produced a Library now of major significance in this country - indeed, the finest research Library between Sydney and Brisbane.

Thanking those responsible, Mr. Flowers acknowledged the academic staff of this Univer-



The Vice-Chancellor welcomes the guests.

sity, who, he said, on their own behalf in their research and teaching activities and on the students' behalf, had always been heavily involved in collection building here, and those in the Central Administration area of the University, especially the Bursar, Secretary, Planner, and the Director of the Computing Centre.

"Very much at the helm, of course, in all of this activity, is the Vice-Chancellor. The Library has been partic-

ularly fortunate in its Vice-Chancellors, both having a due appreciation of the importance of the Library in an academic community."

He acknowledged the contribution made by the staff of the Library with great pride. "Our Vice-Chancellors have never given me the quantity of staff I have asked for, but the quality has been there. The Library and its collections and its services testify to that."

He thanked, too, the hundreds of organisations and individuals who had over the years enriched the Library by gift. The gesture of The Friends was therefore, in a noble tradition.

In conclusion, Mr. Flowers contended that the future impinged more upon the Library than upon any other section of the University. "Much of what we acquire and conserve is for academic staff and students yet to come, through the centuries ahead. So it will be, for centuries yet, if mankind itself survives, that these two books, so well chosen by The Friends, will last and be a source of enlightenment to the staff and students of this University, and some faint echoes may persist of this happy occasion in celebration of this humble achievement."

## Grant for Shortland Wetlands

The newly-formed Hunter Wetlands Trust is delighted at the decision by the Australian Bird Environment Fund to provide it with a grant of \$2,000 to help in the campaign to establish the Shortland Wetlands Education Research and Recreation Centre.

The project was chosen as one of the first to benefit from the Fund, set up in 1984 by the Bird Observers' Club of Victoria. The Fund aims to provide financial aid for projects which among other things protect and ensure permanence of and promote construction and extension of habitat for native birds.

At the annual meeting of the Newcastle Flora and Fauna Protection Society on July 23 the Hunter Wetlands Group was reconstituted to form the Hunter Wetlands Trust, with its major task in the short term to seek the establishment and effective functioning of the proposed Shortland Wetlands Centre.

The Trust is being constituted along lines similar to the United Kingdom Wildfowl Trust to enable it to receive and administer funds directed towards wetlands conservation, research, and management and to promote awareness and education

on the value of wetlands for wildlife, fishing industries, passive recreation, tourism and education. The development of wetland visitor facilities in areas with potential for tourism and education is an important plank in the platform of the Trust.



# Salad days Student's Scholarship

All members of the University Staff House recently received a questionnaire relating to possible changes, improvements and directions for future development. Thirty per cent (93 members) took the opportunity to convey their ideas to the Committee. Approximately half favoured some improvement and extension of current services provided, whilst a third expressed high levels of satisfaction with food and 70 per cent voiced their satisfaction with liquor services.

The main concern of members related to the hours of availability of food - particularly in the evening. **Members are reminded that evening meals are provided as long as the caterer is notified before 2 pm on the day that the meal(s) is required.** Should there be a sufficient increase in the demand, the Committee will reconsider the situation.

In response to suggestions from the survey, the Committee has decided to instal a coffee machine and self-service salad bar and to re-arrange the dining area to provide a more informal, hospitable setting with smaller tables. Also to develop, in line with members' requests, are a coffee/reading area and an outdoor barbecue.

**Melbourne Invitation** - members who may be visiting Melbourne are advised that the La Trobe University Staff Club extends a warm welcome and advises that its dining and bar facilities are at the disposal of visitors from our Staff House.



Ph.D. degree postgraduate student, Ms Ruth Allen, has been awarded a Wenkart Foundation Scholarship for her study of Immunological Mechanisms Associated with Mating.

Ms Allen will receive \$10,000 a year for two years for the purchase of equipment, technical assistance and travel expenses.

It is unusual for a scholarship to be awarded to a student rather than to his or her supervisor. The Wenkart Foundation, of Chatswood in Sydney, has adopted this new approach to foster the work of young scientists in Australia. Ms Allen's investigation hopefully will clarify our understanding of the reactions of the immune system to mating with respect to the mechanisms

involved in preventing an active immune response in normal females. Such research may lead to the treatment of immunological infertility and to the development of immunological methods of fertility regulation.

She has been working on the research project aided by Dr. Tim Roberts, Senior Lecturer in Biological Sciences. Her performance as an undergraduate in Biological Sciences was outstanding and in 1982 she was awarded Honours Class I and a University Medal. She expects to complete her Ph.D. studies late next year and subsequently carry out postdoctoral research overseas.

Our photograph by Ken Scott shows Ruth and her supervisor, Dr. Roberts.

## TO PORT MORESBY

Assoc. Professor Max Maddock (Education) has accepted an invitation from the Dean of Science at the University of Papua New Guinea, organiser of the 1984 Waigani Seminar, to

present one of the Keynote Addresses at the seminar at the University in Port Moresby in September. The seminar is a biennial forum in which overseas and local expert address topics of importance to Papua New Guinea.

He is no stranger to the country, high school inspector, science curriculum officer, and superintendent of curriculum and research in the Education Department of Papua New Guinea between 1963 and 1973.

# SPORTING ROUND-UP

For the past seven weeks a group of 10 squash players have been participating in a V.I. (Very Informal) Squash competition. The competition is conducted as a round-robin event and after seven rounds the standings of the top five are as follows:

Ian Wallschutzky, 30 points, Harry Carroll, 29 points, Mick Harvey, 29 points, Richard Dear, 15 points and Gary Jones, 15 points.

The idea of the competition is to improve the squash of the participants, whilst keeping the matches as friendly as possible. No referees, markers etc. are used and indeed appear to be not needed.

Any player of men's B, C grade standard who wish to join a future competition is invited to contact Richard Dear at Extension 210.



The golden sun, blue skies and manicured green oval formed the back-drop for the assembled competitors. Thus, the stage was set for another "Los Angeles Spectacular!"

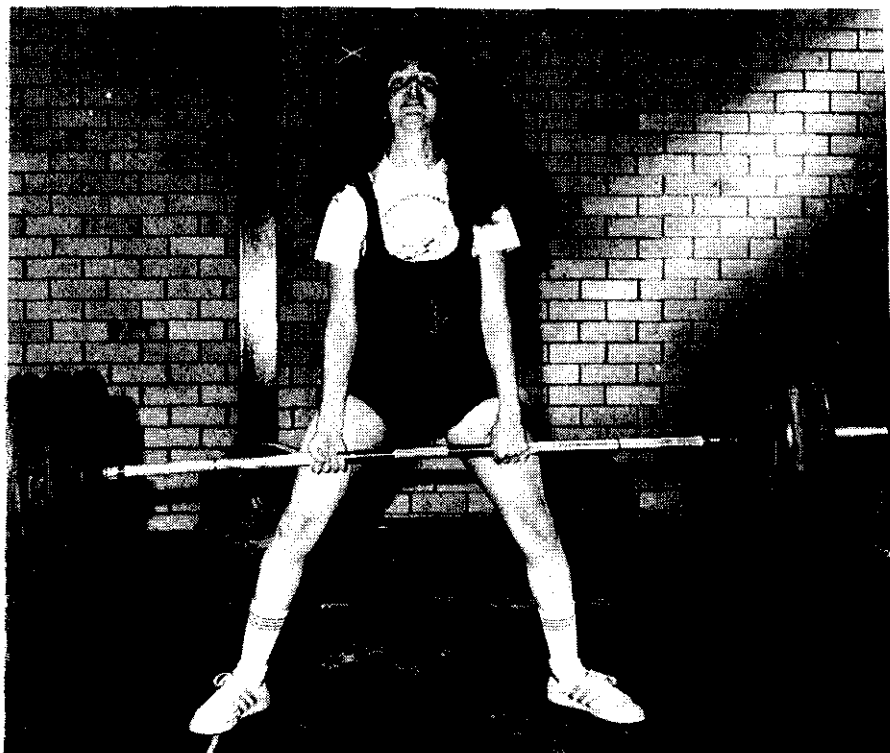
Mrs. Lorna George sent off the 1984 Campus Scamper in resounding fashion to circumnavigate the beautifully-beflagged No.2 Sports Oval, prior to entering the Wattle-blossomed and Eucalyptus-lined campus trails. Some 100 runners and walkers participated.

Sixteen minutes 50 seconds later the winner of the Short-Course sped home and, at the 20 minutes and 7 seconds mark, the Long-Course leader completed his run.

Mr. Bernie O'Doherty, Campus Bank Manager, presented the Commonwealth Bank Trophy to the University winning team and Mrs. George presented the other prizes.

Many thanks to officials and competitors for supporting the annual event. Remember, now is the time to prepare for next year.

**Winners, Long Course:** 1st Female, Kim Jenkins; 1st Male,



Two members of University Powerlifting Club broke records during the New South Wales Powerlifting Minor Championships held recently at Castle Hill in Sydney.

Fiona Dawes, a Science student, won the award of the best woman lifter of the overall Championships. Her three records in sections of the under x-23 division, 48 kg limit, gave her an overall lift of 205 kg.

John Shea, Lecturer in Psychology, competing in the over-40 division, 75 kg limit, achieved a new record in the dead lift.

Terry Farrell; 1st Female Team, Ellen Carayanides, Jillian Farrell and Kim Jenkins; 1st Male Team, Albert Nymeyer, Craig Hansford and Tony Guttman.

**Winners, Short Course:** 1st Female, Julie Kiem; 1st Male, Neil Bamford; 1st Female Team, Leanne Coleman, Debbie Jeans and Sally Griffiths; 1st Male Team, Neil Bamford, John Homer and Warren Homer.

Dawes and Shea were two of seven members of the Newcastle University Powerlifting Club who competed successfully in the State titles.

Their teammates are Club President, Peter Flanagan, (110 kg men's winner); Afaf Shea (women's 52 kg winner); Stuart McKenzie (56 kg men's winner); Raoul Court (60 kg winner) and Lance Nilsson (67.5 kg men's runner-up).

The Powerlifting Club's next objective is to win an Australian Powerlifting Championship. That could be attained at the Australian University titles to be held in Brisbane on August 31.

Should sufficient interest be indicated, a Yoga class of instruction will be commenced in the Green Room of the Great Hall. The classes would be held on Mondays from Noon until 1 pm throughout Third Term.

Intending participants should contact Jock Armstrong at Extension 469, for further particulars. If Mondays are unsuitable, preferences should be stated.

# REVIEW

by: J.B. Tomson

The Department of Drama's production of *Florrie* is a most successful exhibition of the skills of the Writer-in-Residence, David Allen, who wrote it specially for performance in Newcastle and directed it. It narrates the life of a fictive early twentieth-century Florrie Burke, enticed by the lure of greater rewards to leave her native Australia and further her career as an actress of melodrama and singer in London; she is represented as a rival to the real cockney music-hall artiste Marie Lloyd, but both women join forces when under threat from the Purity League; her life unfolds, including a chance encounter at night on the London streets with a sinister Dr. Crippin, through a period of placard waving in a theatrical strike, to eventual fame and a degree of respectability, though she is always true to her origins ('The boy I love is up in the gallery' is what she sings at the end'). All of this is presented in a style, as the text itself proclaims it, of 'eccentric humour' where you 'laugh later', though comic highlights are the scene where Christina Gerakiteys' Marie Lloyd demonstrates her virtuosity in innuendo by making even Alfred, Lord Tennyson's 'Come into the garden, Maud' sound suggestive, and the scene where Catherine Westbury's Florrie is to be presented in Moscow to the dictator Joseph Stalin and counters his officious secretary's confiscation of her cigarette by the immediate whisking out of a vampish replacement in an ultra-long holder: dictator and secretary end the scene in a merry caper about the stage.

The play is by no means 'difficult', being essentially one of intelligent nostalgia, with triple screens and black-and-white and part-tinted photographs for period flavour; but one or two non-naturalistic devices appear in it. A



Craig Shaw (Grippen, Errol Flynn and Stalin) and Catherine Westbury (Florrie Burke) in the Drama Department's production, *Florrie*.

rapport is struck up between the leading actress and the stage pianist, Paul Ryan (who at short notice composed most of the play's stylish music): on occasion she saunters over to him and caresses him, the link being emphasised by a solitary rose left on top of the glossy black piano, echoing roses in hair and bosom - or strictly, lower than bosom - of the actress. Non-naturalistic too is the blackened face made up to resemble a cut-away mask of Carl Masens: in the text, he is a husband and manager and something of a cynic, but as made up he is a nigger minstrel, and produces at intervals a voodoo-like doll. These effects are well controlled; even Carl Masens' more staccato

movements are in place. Likewise non-naturalistic but dramatically justified is the tete-a-tete over tea between a campaigner for the Purity League and Florrie and Marie, and one or two excerpts from melodrama that contain spoken projections of the actors' internal antagonisms to one another.

The setting is visually attractive, with pink-and-grey steps as a foil to reds and blacks elsewhere; and acting rarely falters - Catherine Westbury in particular shows remarkable versatility in a role that requires everything from poise and confidence in youth to comfortable yet irascible reminiscing from a wheel-chair in old age.

## FOCUS ON INDIA

India Day in the Great Hall on September 6 will serve as an introduction to different aspects of Indian literature and literature about India.

The Language and Literature Board decided to offer India Day following the success of the Dante Day (1980), the Cervantes Day (1981), and the Dostoevsky Day (1983).

In the evening an Indian film will be screened; an Indian dinner will be prepared; and there will be a display of Indian music and dancing. The Language and Literature Board has expressed its gratitude for the assistance given by the Newcastle Tamil Sangam with the cultural evening.

# NIDA Director returns home

Nick Enright is the Director of the plays making up NIDA's next season in Newcastle, which begins on August 21.

The plays are **Pericles** and **The Comedy of Errors**, written by Shakespeare at opposite ends of his life.

Nick Enright was born in Maitland and has worked as actor, stage manager, theatre and television writer, translator and teacher of acting.

He trained at the New York University School of the Arts and worked for a period for the South Australian Theatre Company.

Terry Crawford, one of the final year NIDA students who will come to Newcastle, is also a local and was for a time with the Hunter Valley Theatre Company.

The plays: **Pericles** - August 21, 22 and 24 at 8 pm and August 25 at 5.30 pm - is a romantic and colourful adventure of a family's journey through tribulation and separation to joy and reunion. Highly popular in Shakespeare's lifetime, its deliberate, almost childlike simplicity of story and character mark a new period in Shakespeare's writing, the time of the late romances of which it is the harbinger.

**The Comedy of Errors** - August 23 at 8 pm and August 25 at 8.15 pm - one of Shakespeare's earliest plays, is his only farce, its errors created by the simultaneous presence in one town (the Ephesus of the end of **Pericles**) of two pairs of identical twins. It has all the elements of farce (as well as some of the elements of tragedy) but Shakespeare invests the fun with real humanity as, at its conclusion, a family is unexpectedly reunited.

The plays will be presented in the Drama Theatre. Bookings can be made at the Union Shop and the Civic Theatre.



A scene from NIDA's **Pericles**. At the top: Fiona Stewart (Antioch's daughter), Timothy Conigrave (Cleon) and Rob Sampson (Lysimachus) and below Steve Shaw (Pericles).

## HELP for BI-CENTENARY

At a recent meeting of the Lake Macquarie Bi-Centennial Celebrations Committee, nominations from members of the University for appointment to sub-committees were invited by the Chairman, Alderman Keith Edwards.

The role of the following sub-committees: Publicity, Science/Technology, Sport and Recreation, Cultural-Ethnic, Historical Activities, Envir-

onmental and Conservation, Religious, Education, Youth, Community Service and Commerce and Industry will be to establish and co-ordinate activities, events and projects in Lake Macquarie Municipality for the Bi-Centennial celebrations in 1988.

Any nominations can be sent to the Acting Town Clerk, P.O. Box 21, Boolaroo, before August 28.

## From: The EEO Unit

A small number of staff will be receiving a pilot EEO questionnaire within the next couple of weeks. Staff who are very interested in participating in the final EEO questionnaire and who might hear about others completing EEO questionnaires can be reassured that their enthusiasm has not been forgotten. The sample required for the pilot is a small cross-section of only 20 staff, compared to the final survey, of all University staff. The final survey is expected to be distributed during September.

\*

Departments/Divisions/Sections of the University are being approached to appoint EEO Liaison Officers. The role of the EEO Liaison Officer will be to aid communication between the EEO Unit and the staff within Departments/Divisions/Sections and to assist their fellow staff when EEO matters are raised. As soon as the EEO Liaison Officers are appointed they will be invited to a social gathering and will

be given an EEO Basic Information Kit and can request further information from the EEO if required. It is hoped that staff will become more informed about how the Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan will involve and possibly effect them.

\*

The EEO Unit staff are currently interviewing all Heads of Departments about EEO issues and answering any queries. Appointments are being made with Heads of Departments individually and the interviews will continue throughout August and September. This is a vital part of our work as Heads of Department are involved in personnel matters such as the short-listing of applicants for interviews for Departmental positions, being a member of the interviewing committee and decisions relating to appointment and re-classification.

\*

Positive Initiatives Already Occurring: The EEO Unit is vitally concerned with staff training and development. Professor Barry Boettcher, of the Department of Biological

Sciences, when talking to EEO staff, mentioned the successes of two women non-academic staff members who gained higher qualifications while employed in the Department. Vicky Deakin and Heidy Saxarra were employed as Technical Assistants and both completed their B.Sc. programmes. Vicky Deakin then went to Europe and worked in a research Institute before returning to Biological Sciences as a Technical Officer in charge of class preparations. Vicky is now undertaking a postgraduate Diploma in Nutrition and Dietetics at Flinders University in South Australia.

\*

### At least we are making progress

... You will be aware that as late as the 1880s it was being argued that women should be excluded from entry to university (and eventually being lecturers) on the ground of their physiological incapacity to study. The scientific knowledge of the day argued that the flow of blood to the brain and away from the uterus meant that women who gained university degrees would become infertile and might possibly waste away altogether.

## JUST A MONTH TO GO

With just one month to go to the University of Newcastle's Open Day (Saturday and Sunday, September 15 and 16), intense preparations are being carried out on campus.

University departments, organisations and clubs are hard at work preparing educational and entertaining displays, while the Organising Committee, headed by Professor Max Maddock, Assoc. Professor of Education, is co-ordinating activities and making sure that arrangements are ready to handle the expected large crowds.

More than 10,000 people attended the last Open Day in 1979 and organisers hope many more will come this year.

Professor Maddock says that the purpose of UNI-LOOK '84 is to demonstrate to the public that

the University, through its wide range of teaching, research, community service and cultural activities, is a first class University institution, which serves the interests and needs of the Hunter Region and the nation as a whole.

He says that the University is hoping that a wide range of community members will come to campus, especially those who have never been on a University campus before, in addition to graduates, members of the families of students, and school students with aspirations for a University career.

This year a change has been made from one to two days because past experience has shown that visitors find it difficult to cope with the great variety of displays, events and entertainment the University has on offer.

The New South Wales Minister for Education, Mr. Rod Cavalier, will officially open Open Day.

To welcome visitors and help them find their way around, students and staff will work as guides and an information office and public address system are being organised.

A major event which demonstrates community co-operation will be the holding of Carnivale in conjunction with UNI-LOOK '84. To highlight the diverse cultural quality of the Hunter Region, the Ethnic Communities Council of Newcastle and the Hunter Region will present a local arts and crafts exhibition, food stall and Folkloric dancing displays in the Great Hall. The International and Multicultural Nature of Universities is the theme which has been adopted for the Carnivale.

# Weekly Column "Happy Recollections"



Mr. R. Donaldson, Lecturer in Architecture, has begun writing a weekly column for the Newcastle Herald entitled You and Your Home. It deals in home building, maintenance and repairs.

Mr. Donaldson also gives advice on ABC radio station 2NC on the Libby Sanders' morning programme. The programme involves the presentation of a topic related to home building, or ownership, and included a live phone-in and talk-back segment.

More than 100 programmes have been presented, each one producing a four or five page follow-up document, which is distributed by the ABC in Newcastle free of charge.

## CREDIT UNION

Three new members of staff have recently joined the Universities Credit Union's offices at the University and Newcastle CAE.

Mr. David Heggart, the Office Manager, is already well-known to many people on University and College campuses, having worked for many years at both institutions.

Mrs. Debbie Wood, the Cashier-Clerk, comes to the Credit Union with many years exper-



Staff and students of the Department of Chemistry at the University at Tighes Hill in 1965. They are (left to right): back row - Alan Clark, Eric Magnusson, John Casey, Bob Driver, Dennis Rippon, Peter Scaife, Rogert Gillard, Ken Thompson, John Mathieson, Paul Elkington, Winston Craig. Second row - Paul Lloyd, George Moore, John Kemp, Rick Tietze, Len Dyall, Kevin Bell and Ted Jacobs. Front row - Ken Allen, Ralph Basden, Geoff Curthoys, Jim Allen, Heinz Duewell, Ray Walker and Frank Ward.



New staff member of the Credit Union, David Heggart and Debbie Wood, serving a member, Robyn Sutcliffe.

ience in the Building Society. Mrs. Wood has been with the Credit Union since May.

Mrs. Karen McIlvenie, part-time Cashier/Clerk, is in charge of the Credit Union's office at the college. Mrs. McIlvenie's background is banking and she provides a credit union service

on Tuesdays and Thursdays every week.

Mr. Heggart said that the new staff looked forward to meeting current and new members. They were planning several promotional aspects to highlight benefits which saving, investing and borrowing with the Credit Union could offer.

# Advertisements

## For Sale

Three bedroom brick veneer and tile home (handy to University, 5-10 minutes by car). Features include: Double garage and workshop, garden shed, fernery, completely enclosed yard, near new hot water service, new copper piping throughout, new fences, built-ins. This home is elevated and has beautiful views. Asking price: \$67,500 or near offer. All interested persons are requested to telephone P. Carfoot at Extension 581 or 51 6186.

1982 Datsun Bluebird Venturer Station Wagon. Features include: 40,000 km, October registration, air-conditioning, FM Stereo Radio/Cassette, Trip Computer, Cloth seats, Radial tyres and is Metallic Blue. This car is a real bargain at only \$8,500. All interested persons are requested to telephone 33 6316.

## Wanted to Share

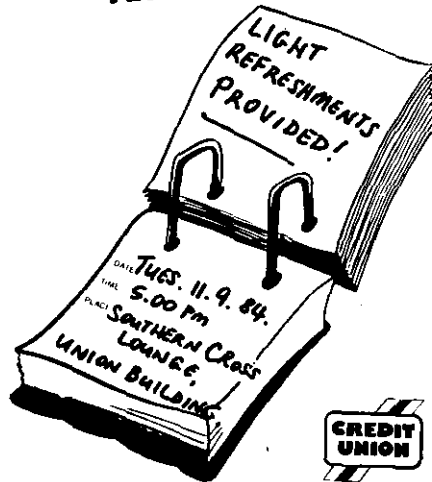
Travelling (driving/expenses) from the Nelson Bay/Bobs Farm area to the University. Working hours: 8.30 am until 4.30 pm. If you are able to assist please telephone Jill Norburn (Central Records) at Extension 640.

## Wanted to Rent

Three to four bedroom house in the Newcastle, Lake or Bay areas from December 24 until the end of January, 1985 for visiting family. If you are able to assist please telephone 52 6278.

Two or three bedroom furnished house is required for a visiting academic, his wife and two children, for 12 months commencing mid-September, 1984. If you are able to assist please telephone Dr. Patrick at Extension 575 or Dr. Ofler at Extension 579.

## Attend your Credit Union Annual Meeting



## Singles' Rose Ball

at  
NEWCASTLE TOWN HALL  
on  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 8pm - 2 am

Dress will be formal and entertainment will be provided by two top-class bands plus a pianist.

Tickets cost \$25 each (this includes a smorgesboard supper).

All proceeds to the NBN Channel 3 telethon.

All enquiries should be directed to Elizabeth Gear at Extension 617.

## WEIGHT REDUCTION COURSE

The University Health Service weight reduction course will be held over 10 consecutive weeks, commencing Tuesday, September 4, from 1 pm until 2 pm, in the University Health Service, Level 2, University Union Building.

For further information please telephone the Health Service at 68 5763.

UNI-LOOK '84



# OPEN DAY

## 15-16 September