

# UNIVERSITY NEWS

Newsletter for the University of Newcastle

## Newcomers Welcomed

African students who have enrolled at the University will receive a welcome at a gathering on March 9 (Moshoeshoe's Day).

Moshoeshoe's Day is the National Day of the Kingdom of Lesotho. It commemorates Moshoeshoe, Moshesh, or the Grand Masha, founder of the Basotho nation, who led a small group in 1824 to the safety of the impregnable Thaba Bosiu fortress and successfully defended it against cannibals, the British and Voortrekker farmers. He founded a nation which today numbers 1,200,000 people.

Rev. John Crane, a Dip.Arts student, who is organising the welcome to African students, will be in the SRC Office on March 4 at 2 pm to give those wanting to attend the welcome advice on how to find the venue.

In 1868 Lesotho was annexed by the British after appeals to Sir Philip Wodehouse, the High Commissioner residing in Cape Town. After completing this great work, Moshoeshoe died in 1870.

Independence was restored to Lesotho in 1966.



Pictured above (from left to right) are Koichiro, Kaori, Masa, Dr. Ono and Miki.

They have just arrived at the University from our sister university, Kumamoto University, on Japanese Government scholarships to study for one year. The exchange scheme with Kumamoto, commenced in 1981, has so far welcomed 15 students from Kumamoto and sent four of our students to Japan.

The welcome to African students will be held at 3 March Street, Kotara, beginning at 12.30 pm. Profits will go to Convoc-

ation's Appeal for student housing (Convocation House) and St. John's College, Morpeth.

## INSIDE: Graduate returns with his Play

# Telephone Call Logging System

On March 1 a ZELMEGER TNA25 Telephone Call Logging System will be connected to the University's electro-mechanical PABX.

The system has been installed in accordance with the Guidelines for Telephone Usage Monitoring Systems/Telephone Information and Management Systems produced by the New South Wales Privacy Committee.

For some years the University has been searching for a telephone call logging system which would automatically record digits dialled (except

the last two) and the time, duration and the cost of all calls made from all PABX extensions. The system installed records the above information, but does not record any conversations associated with calls.

The data produced by this system will be used primarily to enable the University to charge Departments in the future for all local, STD and ISD calls made from extensions within each Department. All data produced will be destroyed within three months of it being recorded.

# \$74,434 for Research

Dr. John Heath, Senior Lecturer in Anatomy, has been granted a total of \$74,434 for a research project and equipment.

Dr. Heath has been granted \$51,299 by the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Australia for a project in connection with Myelination: immunocytochemical approaches to a novel experimental model.

He has also received \$23,135 from the Ramaciotti Foundations for equipment to facilitate a group of projects entitled Morphological Studies Neuroscience.

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## ADDITIONAL RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION

The Vice-Chancellor has authorised the calling of tenders for the construction of additional residential accommodation near Edwards Hall, which will provide 50 new student residential places.

The additional accommodation will be provided in the form of blocks of self-catering units similar to TUNRA House, which was completed in 1982.

Three new blocks are proposed, housing a total of ten two-storey units. Each unit will contain five student study-bedrooms, a shared living-dining room, kitchen and ablution facilities.

About half the cost of the units will be met from a Federal Government grant of

\$510,000, leaving the University to raise the remainder.

A donation of \$25,000 was recently handed to the Vice-Chancellor from The Friends of

The University for this purpose. The Friends have fore-shadowed a possible further donation from the forthcoming Book Fair to be held from July 27 to August 3 this year.

Newcastle Convocation Foundation has also renewed its Student Accommodation Building Appeal with a view to contributing towards the cost of one of the new residential blocks.

The units were designed by the University Property Division in association with Rodd & Hay Associates, of Newcastle, as was TUNRA House.

Construction of the two three unit blocks on either side of TUNRA House will complete the concept shown in the 1981 sketch of the complex. (shown below)

The four-unit block, to be located on the western side of the entrance driveway to Edwards Hall, will contain one unit with facilities for disabled students to supplement the existing facilities already provided in the Hall for such students.

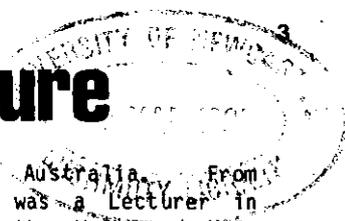
It is expected that construction will commence during April and that the units will be available for student use at the commencement of the 1986 academic year.



An architect's perspective of the self-contained residential buildings from Rankin Drive, Waratah:

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# G\*O\*L\*D - Inaugural Lecture



Professor Plimer's previous position was Senior Lecturer in Economic Geology at the University of New England. He brings to the University considerable industrial experience with exploration and mining companies. He has travelled extensively throughout the world and has studied diverse types of metallic and non-metallic deposits in more than 30 countries. His published work includes more than 60 papers principally in the fields of economic geology and ore deposit geology.

in Eastern Australia. From 1974-79 he was a Lecturer in Geology at the W.S. and L.B. Robinson University College of the University of New South Wales at Broken Hill. He then took a mining industry position with the North Broken Hill Ltd. (1979-82), becoming Chief Geologist. During this period he was an Honorary Associate of the University of Melbourne, giving lectures to senior undergraduate and postgraduate students at the three Melbourne universities. He moved to the University of New England in 1982.

Professor Ian Plimer's Inaugural Lecture will be given in the Drama Theatre on Wednesday, March 13, at 5.30 pm.

Professor Plimer, who is 38 years of age, was born in Sydney and obtained his first degree (B.Sc. Hons.) from the University of New South Wales in 1968. From 1968-73 he was a Tutor and Senior Tutor in Earth Sciences at Macquarie University, from which institution he gained his Ph.D. in 1973 for his thesis on the pipe deposits of tungsten-molybdenum-bismuth

One of Professor Plimer's special research interests is gold. He will speak on this particular metallic deposit.

Professor Plimer took up his appointment to the Chair of Geology at the start of this year.

All are welcome to attend Professor Plimer's lecture and to meet him at a gathering organised by Convocation in the Staff House afterwards.

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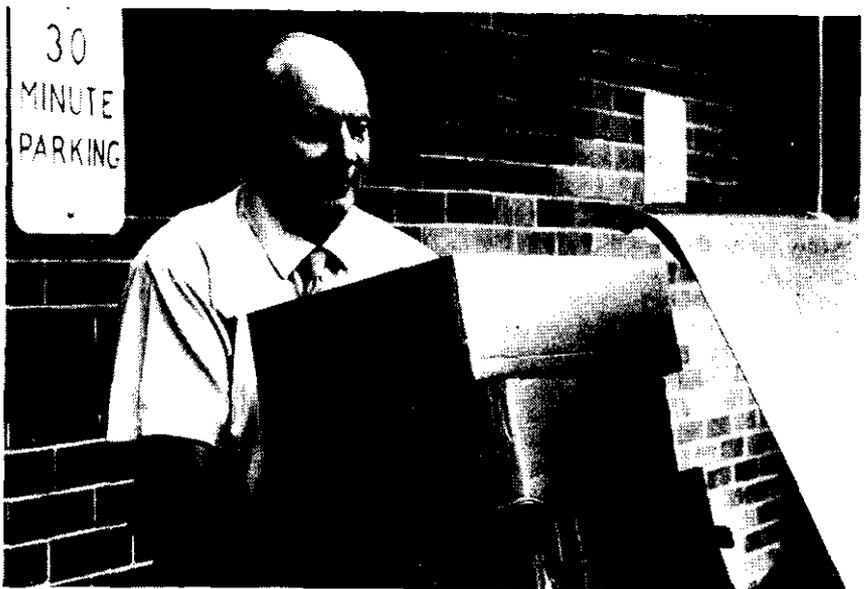
## CHANGES TO PARKING AREAS

Staff and students will be able to "drop in" at buildings on the campus more easily with the new "time-limited" parking areas.

The parking areas have been provided at the McMullin, Behavioural Sciences, Geology and Physics Buildings, in the Engineering Carpark and on the Ring Road north of the Union.

According to Mr. Maurie Edmonds, Manager, Buildings and Grounds, the new "time limited" parking areas will help staff who have to take parcels and other items to departments and students who have to deliver essays to departments or books to the Library.

The review of traffic and parking arrangements last year had decided to provide the new parking areas.



Mr. Edmonds is pictured making a delivery by using the 30-minute parking area near the Printery.

The Attendant Patrol staff are responsible for the surveillance of parking on campus and

they will be regularly patrolling the areas where problems have occurred in the past i.e. reserved and staff parking areas, parking on roads and the new "time-limited" parking areas.

# COUNCIL AFFAIRS

Council congratulated Dr. Peter Hendry after the Chancellor, Sir Bede Callaghan, referred to the fact that Dr. Hendry had been made an Officer in the General Division of the Order of Australia.

The Chancellor extended a welcome to Mr. Matthew Yates, who has replaced Mr. Daniel Lucas as a student member of the Council. Matthew is also President-Elect of the Students' Association.

Mr. Terry Ryan, Lecturer in Classics, was appointed to replace Dr. P. Hempenstall, Lecturer in History, as the Council's representative on the Students' Representative Council.

The Vice-Chancellor informed Council that the first instalment of \$80,000 from a bequest to the University by the late Miss Cora May Crampton had been received. Miss Crampton bequeathed her entire estate to the University "to be applied for whatever purposes were desired by Professor Robert Clancy or his successors and assigns".

The Vice-Chancellor told Council that the agreement between the University and the Arabian Gulf University for co-operation in the field of medical education was being finalised. The President of the Arabian Gulf University had invited the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Professor John Hamilton, and the Vice-Chancellor to go to Bahrain for the official signing of the contract. The visit would probably take place early in March.

Council decided to establish a committee to draw-up guidelines to assist the Finance and Personnel Committee to consider applications by staff for leave without pay.

Council agreed that the Department of Main Roads should be approached in an endeavour to have signs placed on roads to assist visitors to find their way to the University.

In discussion, it was submitted that guest speakers, members of selection committees, and other visitors, often arrived late at the University because the signs at major intersections were inadequate.

During Graduation Ceremonies in the Great Hall on May 3 and 4 Sir Gustav Nossal, Sir Roderick Carnegie, Sir James Balderstone and Mrs. Joy Cummings will be honoured by the University when Honorary Degrees are conferred upon them.

Sir Gustav Nossal is Director of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research. Sir Roderick Carnegie is Chairman and Managing Director of CRA Limited. Sir James Balderstone is Chairman of Directors of the BHP Company Ltd. Mrs. Joy Cummings is a former Lord Mayor of Newcastle and a former member of the Council of the University.

The analysis of the results of the equal employment opportunity survey of University staff was completed last December and the review of personnel practices is almost complete.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Co-ordinator informed the Council that the EEO Unit was currently engaged in the writing of the first draft of the University's Management Plan. The draft, which would contain research results, conclusions drawn, and strategies proposed, would be circulated around the University in March.

Copies would be sent to every department to appropriate members of the University's administration and staff organisations. Discussion and comment would be invited, the EEO Co-ordinator said, the deadline for the receipt of submissions

being the start of April.

The second draft of the plan would be presented to the Council for comment at its April meeting. Further circulation around the institution would then take place in May, giving the opportunity for final amendments to be made.

The EEO Co-ordinator said that the EEO Unit was confident that it could adhere to the timetable. "In the absence of any major setbacks we will have the plan submitted to Sydney by the end of June."

Professor I.R. Plimer was appointed Head of the Department of Geology for three years from February 15.

Professor A. Cantoni was appointed Head of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering for three years from March 1.

Professor A.J. Williams was appointed Head of the Department of Management for three years from February 25.

Professor D. Mowatt's appointment as Head of the Department of Modern Languages was extended from February 18 until June 21.

Dr. D.I. Wright was appointed Head of the Department of History for three years from February 15.

Dr. I.G. Wallschutzky was appointed Head of the Department of Commerce for one year from February 25.

Dr. F.L. Clarke was appointed Head of the Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying for one year from February 18.

As a consequence of The Newcastle Herald increasing its support, the Prizes in English I, II and III will be increased from \$20 to \$40 and the Prize in English IV from \$50 to \$80.

# Graduate Returns with his Play

Ned Manning, for the last eight years a stage and television actor, has returned to the city in which he went to University.

The Hunter Valley Theatre Company's decision to present Ned's play, *Us and Them*, was the consideration in making him come back to Newcastle.

"After spending my early life in Coonabarabran, in 1969 I moved to Newcastle, where I spent the next four years as an Arts and Dip.Ed. student," he explained.

"I really enjoyed my life as an undergraduate, finding time to play five-eighth in the First Grade Rugby side, turn out for the Cricket Club and go to University Revues."

The question of the institutionalising of schools was one of the most frequently discussed questions in the Education lectures. He remembers being interested in some of the ideas presented by Mr. Aub Everett and Mr. Bill Warren on this subject, and when he subsequently wrote *Us and Them* he expressed the ideas.

After completing his degree, Ned was appointed to Gunnedah High School as a teacher. He worked at schools in Tenterfield and Canberra, where he then became an actor, working with the Canberra Repertory Company. *Us and Them* was written as an hour-long stage presentation in 1977 and premiered by Ned's friends from the Repertory Company.

More recently Ned Manning's activities have included stage acting (with the Fortune Theatre, the Sydney Theatre Company, the Griffin Theatre Company and others) and working in television (*1915*, *Bodyline*, *The Sullivans* and *A Country Practice*).



Ned Manning, the playwright, came back to the University which awarded him a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Diploma in Education with Brent McGregor, Director of the Hunter Valley Theatre Company.

He is very pleased by the success in Sydney of *Us and Them*, which attracted "sold-out" houses at The Stables Theatre, the Phillip Street Theatre and the Q Theatre.

"I have changed the play into a play with two acts," Ned said. "It is essentially a comedy and it looks at the loss of individuality and character in a large school, where teachers and students are forced to play conflicting roles."

He believes he was influenced by David Williamson's play, *The Department*, which is set in a university.

When *Us and Them* is presented by the HVTC at The Playhouse the nine roles will be played by seven actors, including Antonella Franchini, Dimitri Raftos, Kate Gray, David Berthold, Adam MacAulay, Garry Fry and Leigh Rice.

Allen Becher, who directed Ned Manning's creation for the Griffin Theatre Company, will return to Newcastle to act as Director of *Us and Them*. He had an appointment here as Director of *Hamlet* and *Flexitime*, also presented by the HVTC.

The season of *Us and Them* will begin on March 13 and run for four weeks (Tuesdays to Saturdays, 8 pm and Sunday, 5 pm).

# TIME TO RECOGNISE SOCIAL RESEARCH

Social research is an utter necessity if we are to avoid disaster in conducting the affairs of our modern, urban civilisation, Professor Bruce Biddle, of the University of Missouri, argued at the University of February 19.

Professor Biddle, a world authority on adolescent behaviour, presented a paper for the Institute of Behavioural Science and spoke at a meeting of the Australian Psychological Society.

Presently attached to the ANU, Canberra, as a Visiting Fellow, Professor Biddle reviewed the degree to which recent governments, such as the Reagan Administration, have sought to curtail or redirect social and behavioural research.

"The reasons for this systematic attack on social research have not been made explicit by Reaganauts, but it would appear from indirect evidence that social research is associated with several things that are an anathema to key Administration figures.

"For one thing, social scientists in America are likely to be of the Liberal, or Timidly Radical, Persuasion, thus are likely to espouse social causes that are not shared by Reaganauts or to be politically active in left-oriented groups.

"For another, Reaganauts sometimes appear to share with a former pontif of the Roman Catholic Church the view that by conducting and publishing research on sinful topics one encourages otherwise innocent persons to engage in sin.

"But above all, Reaganauts seem to disapprove of social research because they, like a large number of Americans, believe that social research generates facts that facilitate policy decisions by government, and since they would like to reduce the scope of that government, they seek to reduce, also, all forms of endeavour that facil-



Professor Bruce Biddle with the Chairperson of the Institute of Behavioural Sciences, Professor John Keats.

itate or encourage it"

Professor Biddle argued that social research does not, indeed cannot, lead to the production of definitive facts, that whatever knowledge it develops is not immediately useful for policy making in any simple sense, and that policy makers will, inevitably, pay attention to many things when making decisions in addition to social-research knowledge.

"Does this not also imply that social research is useless?"

"On the contrary, although flawed, the knowledge that is developed through social research is an utter necessity and we cannot operate a modern society without it. My argument is based on two propositions.

"First, I assert that it is impossible to solve the problems of an urban civilisation without social planning", he said. "Second, effective social planning requires the knowledge that is provided by empirically-based social theory."

Few people would deny that our society was rife with serious problems and that many of these problems had a social component. Crime, malnutrition, poor schools, racism and sexism, hostility towards outsiders - these problems were obviously social in origin.

"But many other problems," Professor Biddle said "we normally think of as having their origins in the physical or biological realms turn out, also, to have social aspects. Social habits are implicated in our excessive use of energy, our high rates of cancer and heart disease, in the ways we re-invest in industry or fail to, in the ways we encourage or discourage the relocation and retraining of workers. Many of these problems will worsen unless we take collective steps to solve them.

"It is quite impossible to operate a complex, crowded, urban society without generating social problems. Successful societies create ongoing mechanisms through which these problems can be identified and

solved. Unsuccessful societies have poorer mechanisms and eventually either disappear or become intolerable threats to their neighbours.

"Clearly, one of the requirements for effective problem solving is that we have a realistic understanding of the problem and its likely causes and effects.

"Suppose Americans were to

decide that it was finally time to improve American schools, to reduce their staggering rate of murder, or to improve infant mortality in their country. Suppose Australians resolved to solve the unemployment problem. Actions planned to achieve these goals would be more efficacious were they based on research-generated theories about the social forces involved in school effectiveness, homicide, infant

mortality and employment.

"Unfortunately, good social theories do not spring, full-grown, from the head of Zeus," Professor Biddle commented. "Instead, they are generated, tested, challenged, confirmed, and refined by the efforts of good social research. This means that the conduct of good social research is vitally important in contemporary societies."

# ABORIGINAL STUDENTS HERE

The first Aboriginal medical students to enter the University's Bachelor of Medicine course have begun their studies.

The Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Professor John Hamilton, said four Aboriginal students (two women and two men) had been admitted into the first year of the medical programme this year in addition to the normal complement. Three of the Aboriginal students came from Queensland and the other came from Western Australia.

He said that there was ample evidence that, in Australia, Aboriginals are more sick, and die earlier, than other Australians.

"Consequently, it has been argued that there should be more Aboriginals in the health professions on the assumption that this will go some way to correcting this imbalance.

"A survey of Aboriginal students at Australian universities in 1980 indicated there were only three studying medicine, and that there was a disturbingly high attrition rate from university courses in general."

In response to these concerns, and with the encouragement of the Commonwealth Government, the Faculty of Medicine at Newcastle had initiated a number of innovations to ensure that Aboriginal students, suitably qualified, could gain admission to the school and complete the course, Professor Hamilton said.

"It is hoped that students will return to their own communities after graduation: but our plan is wider than this, and is that all students have an informed and sensitive response to the special health needs of Aboriginals.

"The Faculty and the University has agreed that four extra places will be created for

Aboriginals over an eight-year experimental period, beginning in 1985.

"To assist students during their course, the Commonwealth Department of Education and Youth Affairs has funded a post for an extra Faculty member as an Aboriginal Liaison Officer. The Officer will ensure academic and psychosocial support and will, with advice from Aboriginal Health Services and communities, make more robust the present curriculum components related to Aboriginal health.

"While special support may (or may not) be necessary, neither we nor the students nor the Aboriginal communities will tolerate any compromise in academic standards."

Professor Hamilton commented that it was hoped that the experience gained by the admission of Aboriginal students at Newcastle will provide valuable information for other Australian Medical Schools.

## Edwards Hall position

The Board of Trustees of Edwards Hall invites applications from suitably qualified women or men for the residential staff position for 1985 of part-time Subwarden.

Applicants should hold a primary degree and should be proceeding to a higher degree or should be a member of the academic staff of the University.

However, the Board reserves the right to appoint any other person it considers fit, make appointments by invitation, or make less appointments than there are vacancies.

Residential Staff provide academic and other assistance to members of the Hall in addition to performing a number of administrative tasks.

The duties, terms and conditions of appointment, remuneration and residential fees of Subwardens may be obtained from the Warden to whom applications should be forwarded. Applications should include a curriculum vitae and, in particular, details of previous experience of residential colleges.

Applications will close on Monday, March 11.

# GRANT TO GEOLOGY



A grant of \$3,600 has been provided to the Department of Geology by Union Oil Development Corporation.

The grant is for Mr. Bernd Lottermoser, a Dip.Sc. student, to work on a diatreme in the Northern Flinders Ranges, South Australia on the edge of the Simpson Desert.

The diatreme has resulted from a multiple extremely high pressure carbon dioxide explosions about 370 million years ago. The explosions have brought up fragments from the upper mantle (80 km depth) and lower crust and thus provide a rare glimpse at the top 100 km of the Earth.

The photo shows (left to right): Mr. L. Lottermoser, Professor I.R. Plimer and Dr. D. Blight of Union Oil. It was taken in the North Flinders Ranges field area at Nooldoonooldoona in February during a field investigation.

## Audio-Visual Services

The Curriculum Resources and Research Centre will continue in 1985 to provide basic a-v services to the Shortland campus:

- Maintenance of projectors in several main lecture theatres. All CRRC equipment is labelled. Please telephone Extension 457 if anything goes wrong with these items.
- Video, telecine and audio making, editing and copying. Please telephone Extension 457 and/or deliver materials to the CRRC on the top floor of the Behavioural Sciences Building.
- Black and white photography, colour slide copying. Again, please telephone Extension 457 or deliver to the CRRC. It must be emphasised that this service, in partic-

ular, is very limited as it operates with 0.2 of one technician! At certain times of the year (e.g. now) no new jobs can be accepted because of the build-up of work. Get in early to avoid disappointment.

Your understanding that the CRRC has to operate with staffing equivalent to less than two technicians' time will help avoid unrealistic expectations of our services, but we will make every attempt within our resources to provide services.

### Presentation Dinner

Archdeacon Robert Beal has been chosen as winner of the 1984 Newton-John Award. Archdeacon Beal was Dean of Newcastle between 1972 and 1983. The Award was given for the leading role he played in the completion of work on Christ Church Cathedral.

The official presentation of the Newton-John Award will be made at a dinner in the Southern Cross Lounge in the Union at the University on Friday, March 29 at 7.30 pm.

For tickets to the dinner please write to the Secretary of Convocation, or telephone 685 328. The cost is \$18.50 per person.

# New Faces on Campus



J. Tana Barfield has joined the full-time staff in the Department of Drama as a Tutor.

Ms. Barfield has experience in drama productions both on and off campus. She was a part-time Tutor for the last three years, controlling the Drama I course, and has assisted the Wherehouse, Womanvoice and Theatre Syndicate companies with drama productions.

She took a BA degree with honours at this University and has commenced an MA degree on Twentieth Century Australian Drama under the supervision of Assoc. Professor M. Ewans.



Before coming to the University as Lecturer in Computer Science, Mr. Bryan Beresford-Smith was studying for a Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics at the Institute of Advanced Studies at the ANU, Canberra.

He graduated from ANU with B.Sc. (Hons.), subsequently being engaged by the Bureau of Statistics as an Assistant Research Officer. He was appointed Technological Adviser in the Commonwealth Parliamentary Library last year. For three months he was reporting to Members of Parliament on aspects of new technology, including computing.

At the University he will be responsible for teaching programming and algorithms in the Diploma in Computer Science course.

Mr. Beresford-Smith is married to Vicki and the couple have a young daughter.

## ATTENTION - Science Students

The first Chemistry Seminar for 1985 is Science Students Approaching Graduation: Planning for Employment or Further Studies.

It will be delivered by Mr. Hugh Floyer, the University's Careers and Appointments Officer between 1 pm and 2 pm on March 15 in Lecture Theatre GG05 in the Chemistry Building.

The seminar will be of particular interest to all Third Year Science-Mathematics-Engineering students.

## VICE-CHANCELLOR'S FIRST TERM MEETING WITH STAFF

*Will be held in the  
Drama Theatre*

*on Tuesday, March 19, at 1.05pm*

# Support for Accommodation FELLOWSHIP



Mr. Keith Barbour, representing The Friends of The University, presents the cheque to the Vice-Chancellor.

At a function at the University on February 15, The Friends of The University presented a cheque for \$25,000 to the Vice-Chancellor.

This is the first contribution of The Friends towards the provision of student residential accommodation in the University and represents the results of fund-raising efforts over the last two years.

The major part of the gift was raised by the Book Fair held in 1983. This year the organisation is working towards its second Book Fair, to be held in

July, when it is hoped to raise at least another \$25,000 for the student accommodation project.

The University has received a grant of \$500,000 from the Commonwealth Government for student housing, but this is dependent on the University finding an additional \$500,000 from other sources in 1985.

The Friends welcome the interest and support of local citizens and at this time especially gifts of books, magazines, postcards and records for the Book Fair.

The National Library of Australia is presently inviting applications for National Library Fellowships for 1986.

In 1983 the Council of the National Library instituted a scheme of National Library Fellowships for established scholars and librarians to work for periods of between three and six months on the materials in the Library's collections with a view to the publication of original research based on them or a description or listing of them, or of a study of the methods and techniques used in acquiring, listing, cataloguing, arranging or using them. The first three fellowships were awarded for 1984, and three more were awarded for 1985.

The Council intends to award three fellowships to be taken up during 1986. Fellows will be expected to work at the National Library during their Fellowship. The Fellowship will cover the Fellow's travel costs to Canberra and include a grant-in-aid towards living expenses in Canberra. Fellowships will not normally be awarded to candidates who are working towards a high degree.

Prospective applicants should write to the Director-General, National Library of Australia, Canberra, ACT, 2600, for application forms and further particulars before submitting applications, which close on April 30, 1985.

## RACI PRIZES

At the next meeting of the Newcastle Section of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute two RACI Prizes will be presented.

Ms Catherine M. Harris, of New Lambton Heights is the 1985 recipient of the RACI Prize in Chemistry II.

Ms Catherine Diver, of Pelican Flats, is the 1985 recipient of the RACI Prize in Chemistry III.

The meeting will be held in Lecture Theatre G08 in the Physics Department on March 19 at 6 pm.

Dr. Doreen Clark, Managing Director of Analchem Consultants, Sydney, will address the meeting. Her topic is **Adventures of a Public Analyst.**

Newcastle Section of the RACI will hold a dinner in the Staff House after the meeting.



# Research project for school

Professor Ross Telfer, Assoc. Professor of Education, was commissioned by Gorokan High School's PEP Committee last November to run an evaluation study of the school to be used as a data base for the school's PEP submission.

The Participation and Equity Programme (PEP) is a joint Commonwealth and State programme which operates in secondary schools with these main aims:

- To encourage all young people to participate in a full six years of secondary education, or its equivalent, and

- To ensure that, as far as practicable, the education provided in schools offers all young people equal opportunities to develop their individual talents and abilities and, thereby, ensure more equitable outcomes of education.

State secondary schools involved in PEP have been provided with funds so as to:

- Increase participation in schooling (participation has implications of retention in schooling and for

the quality of this schooling experience),

- Ensure equity of outcomes from schooling (equity implies fairness and may involve compensatory provisions), and
- Promote broadly based changes (improvements) in schools which will affect all secondary students.

Professor Telfer was commissioned to identify areas of Gorokan School's curriculum, organisation, operation and services which were a cause of student, staff and/or parent dissatisfaction. He was also asked to identify areas of the school's functioning that could be modified, in particular those which would improve participation and equity.

With the aid of a graduate research assistant, he spent four weeks at the school working with the full co-operation of the staff. He prepared questionnaires which were administered to staff, students and parents. He gained responses from 46 per cent of parents and 68 per cent

of staff and 100 per cent of the student body. He arrived at recommendations for school change from items mentioned by a minimum of 2/3 of all respondents.

Professor Telfer made 56 recommendations. As a former teacher, he restricted himself, in the main, to recommendations that the school itself could carry out from its own resources. These changes, however, are short-term.

He believes that the real participation and equity will only improve over a long period of time and must be based on changing community values and attitudes.

PEP itself is an extrinsic motivator, he says. Pupils need intrinsic motivation to continue in education. Schools need to discover the talents and skills of individual students and develop them.

Professor Telfer says he hopes that the specific recommendations he has made will provide the practical means of implementing the principle of increased student participation for Gorokan High School.

## Wetlands Trust's progress

At the Hunter Wetlands Trust's first annual general meeting on February 20, the Executive - Mr. Brian Gilligan (President), Professor Max Maddock and Mr. Kevin McDonald (Vice-Presidents), Mr. Glenn Albrecht (Secretary), and Mr. John Tate (Treasurer) - and the 16 councillors who had held office since the launching in September were re-elected and four new councillors were elected.

The President's report highlighted remarkable progress, with a growth in membership from 70 in September to 688 at present, including 23 businesses and organisations as corporate members. The Executive,

the President said, is working closely with officers of the Newcastle City Council, which is organising a design study, to be completed in June, by a consultant firm to identify the best means of setting up the Shortland Wetlands Centre. Confidence was expressed that the Centre would be operating, in at least a preliminary form, by the end of 1985.

Newcastle City Council has given the go-ahead for the erection of signs at Lorna Street proclaiming the Council Wetland Reserve. The Trust is designing interpretive signs and the National Parks and Wildlife Service is assisting.



## ORIENTATION BALL FRIDAY, 1ST. MARCH.

- \* BIG RED TRACTOR
- \* YES COMMISSIONER
- \* THE PROMISE
- \* SEA MONSTERS
- \* DR. GRANT & MR. VERNE
- \* BUSHMANS AXE

MEMBERS  
\$7.00

NON-MEMBERS  
\$9.00

NON-STOP  
ENTERTAINMENT!  
TICKETS ON SALE  
AT WESPAK  
BANK AGENCY.

# Advertisements

## For Sale

Three year-old home in the New Lambton Heights area. Features include: modern split-level brick veneer and tile with exposed beams, separate lounge and dining rooms, modern kitchen, three bedrooms with built-ins, double garage, paved barbecue area, bushy outlook, maintenance free, safe and secure yard for children and room for a pool. Asking price: \$93,000. All interested persons are requested to telephone 26 6136 (business hours) or 52 8535 (home).

Patterned Carpet Square 8' x 6' in excellent condition. Asking price: \$60 or near offer. All interested persons are requested to telephone 26 3839.

## For Sale by Tender

1983 HV Holden Commodore Station Sedan, 4.2 V8, Manual transmission, bucket seats, air conditioned, power steering, Registration No. UNI-211.

The vehicle will be available for inspection at the University's Department of Biological Sciences, Rankin

Drive, Shortland, between 9 am and 4 pm on Wednesday, February 27, 1985.

Tenders should be forwarded to the Purchasing Officer, University of Newcastle, NSW, 2308 in a sealed envelope marked "Tender for Vehicle". The closing date for tenders is 11.30 am, March 6, 1985.

For further information please telephone the Purchasing Officer at 685 372.

The University reserves the right to reject all tenders.

## Accommodation Wanted

Young woman, 25, teacher from the country, is seeking accommodation.

If you are going overseas for three, six or 12 months and wary of leaving your home unattended or in the hands of a rental agency, I am available to care for your home in exchange for accommodation. I would be willing to mow lawns, keep the house safe and tidy and care for any pets.

I am from a very respectable and well-known family in Armidale.

Father: Senior Lecturer, Armidale, CAE. Mother: Librarian, St. Mary's Primary School, Armidale.

The reason I seek this form of accommodation is that I am very wary of house-sharing with strangers.

If you are able to assist please telephone Miss C. Halloway at 55 9962.

Accommodation is required by visiting German scientist and his wife for 12 months from early March. Any suggestions would be welcomed - particularly involving a vehicle as well. If you are able to assist please telephone Tim Roberts at Extension 511 or 42 6317.

## Accommodation Available

Are you female, non smoker, work at the University and fed up with driving to work every day? - then come and share a house at Birmingham Gardens, only 10 minutes walk to the University. Rental: \$45 per week plus share of electricity. If anyone is interested would they please contact Win Murdoch at Extension 679.

# Diary of Events

## Tuesday, March 5, 12.50pm

Lunchtime Concert in the Courtyard featuring: Conservatorium Jazz Band.

## 7 - 10.30 pm

Entertainment in the Bar.

## Wednesday, March 6, Noon

German Feature Film: Der Aufenthalt, in Room A132 (McMullin Building). Admission free.

## 1.15 pm

Game: Master Trivial Mind in the Union Courtyard.

## 8 - 10 pm

Entertainment in the Bar.

## Thursday, March 7, Noon

Movie: "Local Hero" in the Common Room.

## 6 - 9 pm

Chinese New Year celebrations.

## 9 pm - 1 am

Disco in the Southern Cross Lounge.

## Tuesday, March 12, 1 pm

Lunchtime Theatre in the Courtyard featuring: "Zorica".

## 7 - 10.30 pm

Entertainment in the Bar featuring Resident Band and Comedy.

## Wednesday, March 13, 1.15 pm

Game: Master Trivial Mind in the Union Courtyard.

## 8 - 10 pm

Entertainment in the Bar.

## Thursday, March 14, Noon

Movie: "Dr. Strangelove" in the Common Room.

## 9 pm - 1 am

Disco in the Southern Cross Lounge.