New courses in Japanese

Monash will be the venue next January-February for the first Summer School in Japanese Studies.

The school, presented by the Japanese Studies Centre Inc., and supported by the Japan Foundation, will offer tuition in a range of subjects designed to strike a balance between the economic, the social and the cultural.

And, while the courses will be conducted at the highest professional level, they will be accessible to all - beginners and advanced practitioners alike.

Six major Australian institutions are involved in designing and teaching the courses: the Australian National University, La Trobe University, Monash University, the University of Queensland, the University of Sydney and Swinburne Institute of Technology.

Professor Jiri Neustupny, chairman of the Monash department of Japanese and President of the Japanese Studies Centre, says that the language courses, in particular, are different from others offered in Australia in that follow-up courses will be available.

"For instance, those who complete a beginners' course will be able to join an intermediate course in March or April to continue their studies," he says.

The Summer School will be of particular benefit to people professionally engaged in Australian-Japanese relations, or who are preparing themselves to work in this area.

However, the program is open to all interested members of the public and no prior knowledge of Japan or the Japanese language will be required.

Subjects to be offered are:
- Japanese Communication for Businessmen.
- Japanese (or Advanced Speakers).
- Beginners' Japanese.
- Intermediate Japanese.
- Reading Japanese Newspapers.
- Doing Business with Japan.
- Japanese Society — Myth and Reality.
- Reading and writing for beginners.
- Reading and translating Japanese literature.

Closing date for applications is December 16, 1985.

Further information about course fees, outlines of courses and application forms can be obtained from the Director, Japanese Studies Centre, Monash (ext. 2270).

Botanists were in stitches

It may not have been much good for looking at plant-cell wall structures, but the new equipment delivered to the Botany department could have embroidered a marvellous Fitzroy insignia on acacia leaves or bull kelp.

It could even have produced a Collingwood or St Kilda emblem, if it came to that.

For the department's $116,000 delivery turned out to be a VFL embroidery machine instead of a scanning electron microscope.

Fortunately the problem was quickly rectified when carter L. Arthur Pty. Ltd. managed to locate the correct item, from Hitachi in Japan, and deliver it to Monash within the hour.

The Citizen embroidery machine was also promptly delivered to its rightful owners, Clubknil of St Kilda who were blissfully unaware of the mistake and could set about producing football insignia ad nauseam.

Continued P.3
Dr Philip Dight, Ph.D. Monash, has been awarded the Manuel Rocha Medal for 1985 by the International Society of Rock Mechanics.

The medal, honoring a distinguished Portuguese rock mechanics engineer, is presented annually for the best thesis on rock mechanics written in the preceding two years.

It was instituted in 1982, and is open to world competition.

Dr Dight was flown by the society to Zacatecas, an old mining centre in Mexico, for the medal presentation ceremony early in September, just two weeks before the earthquake disaster in Mexico City.

Monash colleagues and leading figures from the world of rock mechanics gave him a celebratory lunch at the University Club last month.

Dr Dight, 35, gained the degrees of Bachelor of Engineering and Master of Engineering Science at Melbourne University, but came to Monash for his doctoral studies.

His project, supervised by Associate Professor Ian Donald and Professor Lance Endersbee, the Dean of Engineering, was titled Improvements to the stability of rock walls in open pit mines.

His research was funded by Savage River Mines, in north-west Tasmania, and was concerned with passive reinforcement of unstable slopes in jointed rock.

Such rock is often reinforced by prestressed cables, but Dr Dight was able to show how the pre-stressing may be dispensed with in many circumstances, and the natural tendency of a joint to dilate as it shears can be used to mobilise the potential stabilising influence of the cable or bar gripped into a hole across the joint.

After graduating from Monash, Dr Dight worked for BHP as leader of its mining systems group, and visited projects in all parts of Australia.

He has since joined the Melbourne consulting firm of Barrett, Fuller and Partners, who are soil mechanics specialists.

He lives at Albert Park with his wife and young son.

Lapping up Bali’s sun – but this is no holiday

Heading for Bali for the long vacation is third year Mechanical Engineering student Astrid Matison.

But it’s not the self-indulgent life of the tourist that Astrid will be leading for the next two months ... she’ll be hard at work on the design and construction of solar collector systems that will provide pure water from brackish or salt water in rural tropical areas.

Astrid’s trip has been made possible by a grant from the Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Trust for Young Australians.

The grant, worth about $5000, will cover the costs of travel, accommodation and some materials of construction.

The work will be done in conjunction with Udayana University, Denpasar.

Award to Marilyn Lake

University Council member, Marilyn Lake, who gained her Ph.D at Monash last December, is joint winner of the Harbison-Higinbotham Research Scholarship for her thesis titled The Limits of Hope, Soldier Settlement in Victoria.

The $1000 award is made by the University of Melbourne for "the best thesis in the English language, based upon original work ... and completed within the last two years" in any of the areas of history, economics, politics, administration, government and sociology.

Dr Lake, whose husband, Sam, is a senior lecturer in Zoology, did her doctoral work in the department of History under the supervision of Professor Graeme Davison.

Her thesis is currently being edited for publication by Oxford University Press, for release in 1986.

Co-winner of the award was Brother Paul McGavin, whose thesis on Wages Policy of the Whitlam Years was completed at the University of Adelaide.

Thesis wins top rock award

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Nominees for Munthe honor

Two Monash researchers were among the 15 nominees for this year’s Axel Munthe Foundation Awards — one of the few international prizes for reproductive biology.

The chairman of the department of Anatomy, Professor David de Kreter and the director of the Centre for Early Human Development, Dr Alan Trounson, each received a gold plaque from Italian film star Claudia Cardinale at a ceremony during a three-day meeting held in conjunction with the awards.

Neither was among the final six award recipients.

A keynote speaker at the meeting was Monash Professor of Reproductive Biology, Dr Roger Short, who won one of the initial awards in 1982.

The awards honor a Swedish doctor, who lived and worked on Capri earlier this century.

Monash is the only institution to have had three of its staff nominated for the award.

“It’s a recognition of our pre-eminence in reproductive medicine and science,” Dr Trounson said.

“Another pointer to this is the two in vitro fertilisation programs established in Italy — in Naples and Bologna — with the help of Monash scientists.”

NOVEMBER 13, 1985
Chinese welcome advice on pollution

In a bid to solve some of its pollution problems, the Chinese government is welcoming visits from overseas experts, especially those in the environmental field.

Dr Tim Ealey, director of the Monash Graduate School of Environmental Science, recently spent three weeks as a guest of the Government of the People's Republic of China, lecturing at Nankai University and visiting cultural sites around Tianjin and Beijing.

His visit was arranged at the instigation of Monash environmental science graduate, Ms Yung Han, who is now employed by the Tianjin Environmental Institute.

He was invited to assist in the department of Environmental Science at Nankai, and to give a course of lectures to staff and students.

"Few of them understood English," he says.

"My guide and interpreter, Mrs Du Shi-Hua, had to translate each lecture sentence by sentence which sometimes took two hours."

Nankai University has about 8000 students and 20 departments, with its main strengths being in the fields of Economics, Chemistry, Biology, Physics and Mathematics.

Located in Tianjin, a sister city of Melbourne, it is regarded as one of the five leading universities in China, and is one of the key ones chosen by the government for upgrading.

In his speech at a banquet to welcome Dr Ealey, Nankai's vice-president, Professor Wang Dasui, said he hoped the visit would initiate closer links between Nankai and Monash, a sentiment endorsed by the head of the Environmental Science department, Professor Dai Shu-Gui.

The department had great potential as an interdisciplinary centre, Dr Ealey said.

"I was impressed by the modern equipment, including some recent purchases valued at about $1 million, bought with World Bank money."

The Nankai visit was a forerunner of a stepped-up campaign by the United Nations Environment Program to invite overseas experts, especially those in the environmental field.

New school of management

A new Graduate School of Management is to be established within the Faculty of Economics and Politics.

The school will offer the Master of Administration course and later, non-award management courses offered by the faculty.

Professor Allan Fels, from the Administrative Studies department, will be the school's first director.

Professor Gus Sinclair, the Dean of Economics and Politics, said the establishment of the school would give the Master of Administration program greater coherence and visibility.

"It's not generally recognised outside Monash that we have one of the largest management programs in Australia.

"Our student numbers are almost the largest in Australia and I think the program is one of the best," he said.

"It's important to put the Monash course on the map so we continue to have a supply of good students, staff, and even overseas guests, coming through it."

Professor Sinclair said the Master of Administration course differed from other graduate degrees offered within the faculty in that the typical student had already been in management before coming to Monash.

"The link with the actual practice of management is necessarily closer than with other degrees.

By establishing the graduate school the course would be more clearly defined for those inside and outside the university.

Information needed on jobs

Companies interested in recruiting graduates need to provide information for students earlier in their courses.

This was the strong message to come from a seminar with graduate recruiters and careers advisers, organised by Economics and Commerce students.

Thirty-three employer groups attended the seminar at Normandy House.

The Officer-in-Charge of the Careers and Appointments Service, Mr Lionel Parrott, said students with job prospects in mind were often reluctant to comment on any shortcomings of the graduate recruiters.

"But the seminar emphasised that all those involved — that is students, ourselves, employers and academics — should work more closely.

"There was a strong message that potential employers need to provide a lot more information to students in the first and second years of their courses."

"Early involvement gave students the encouragement to apply and also allowed them to identify new employment options."

Mr Parrott said students at the seminar also commented on confusion caused by some employers not making it clear whether they were holding interview or information sessions.

One student said he had learned of the campus interview programs when fellow students arrived for lectures in suits.
Senior health officers in ethics study

The Centre for Human Bioethics will hold an intensive week-long course next month to discuss questions of ethics and ethical theory.

"We want to engage these people in rigorous argument," says Dr Helga Kuhse, the Centre's research officer. "We want to make them think through some of the issues, and to provide them with tools in the form of ethical theories which might help in the future."

Almost 30 people, including hospital administrators, directors of intensive care units and directors of nursing have been invited to attend the course, to be held at Warburton from December 2-6.

The centre's director, Professor Peter Singer, says the course will be the first of its kind in Australia and it may be followed next year by another course and a series of public seminars.

The Centre for Human Bioethics is the only University based organisation of its type in Australia, dealing with ethical issues arising from medicine and the biological sciences.

It has contacts with similar organisations overseas, including the Hastings Centre and the Kennedy Institute of the United States, but is one of only a handful throughout the world.

Moves being made to extend contacts and assist with the exchange of information include the publication of a new international journal called Bioethics, by Blackwells at Oxford, which will be edited at Monash.

"We think it will help keep us in touch with what's going on, and it will make the Monash Centre a lot better known," says Professor Singer.

The centre is often in the public eye through statements by individual staff members or through the publication of books on controversial issues like the new reproductive technology and the problems of handicapped infants.

"We don't mind being provocative — someone has to be provocative in these areas," says Professor Singer.

"It's no good the community being apathetic and not thinking about issues until they are right upon us.

"Then everyone starts getting terribly alarmed and saying the scientists are sneaking up on us, and all the rest of it.

"I think the whole debate about IVF shows that, in fact, the scientists were ready to discuss the issues long before the community was and there was a great need for people to be provocative so the community would think about the problem."

Dr Kuhse says ethics is something to be engaged in by everybody.

"We are not making guidelines — we are raising difficult issues and bringing them up for discussion.

"Doctors are making decisions on them every day of their hospital lives so these issues need to be raised and discussed as broadly as possible, " she says.

The centre developed at Monash because of the interest of three people — Associate Professor Bill Walters (chairman of obstetrics and gynaecology at the Queen Victoria Monash Centre) who is involved with the IVF team, Professor John Swan, the former dean of science, and Professor Singer from the department of Philosophy.

"Bill Walters gave a talk about future technology and the ethical complications long before there were any IVF babies," says Professor Singer.

"I was there and contacted him afterwards to suggest we do something about it. He talked independently with John Swan and the three of us got together, working for a couple of years to get the thing going, and eventually got University support."

The centre is involved in several projects, including a study on the nursing profession.

Another card to carry

Monash staff and students will have yet another electronic card to worry about next year — the new library photocopying card.

The University Librarian, Mr Brian Southwell, said the card system would mean an increase of about one cent a copy, rather than an increase of five cents if coins had been retained.

The card system is expected to replace coins in most of the 32 photocopiers operated by the libraries.

The University Librarian, Mr Brian Southwell, said the card system would mean an increase of about one cent a copy, rather than an increase of five cents if coins had been retained.

The cardboard throw-away card — for $2 or $5 worth of copying — will be available from machines in the libraries.

They have been leased from Bermel Business Systems for an initial three years.

Mr Southwell said similar systems had been successfully introduced at the University of Melbourne and at West Australian and Queensland universities.

"The experience around Australia has been that the cards have gone in with no problems at all.

"The main problem I see is people losing their cards or putting them through the washing'.

The library also planned to sell the cards to departments.

"Departmental photocopying is only a minor part of photocopier use but it has created administrative work out of all proportion to the money involved," Mr Southwell said.

MONASH REPORTER

Super protest by staff

"We want to investigate questions relating to the role of the nurse," says Dr Kuhse, who is working on the project with another staff member, Dr Margaret Brumby.

"There are basically three conceptions: that the nurse is an extended arm of the doctor; that the nurse is a patient advocate who ought to function as a link between the doctor and the patient, and that the nurse is an autonomous moral agent who has to act as she thinks fit under certain circumstances.

"The question we are concerned with is how these theoretical conceptions of the role tally with the reality, and whether there are conflicts between them.

"We are doing the project for the Vicotorian Nursing Federation, and will present a report and probably a book on these current conceptions and perhaps a little bit on how we see the role of the nurse ought to be changed."

The centre is continuing its project on the birth of handicapped infants, which led to the recently published book, Should the Baby Live? (by Helga Kuhse and Peter Singer, OUP, 1985) with a study on ethical issues raised by the birth of premature infants who have special problems.

Dr Kuhse said members of the general and professional community could keep abreast of ethical issues by becoming associates of the centre, for a minimum annual donation of $25.

Inquiries should be directed to The Secretary, Centre for Human Bioethics, Monash University, Clayton, 3168. Telephone 541 0811, ext. 3266.
Timely move to save Indonesian films

The recent sudden death of Indonesian film director, Sjumandjaya, has added significance to a Monash project for the preservation of Indonesian films.

The project, organised through the Department of Visual Arts, also involves members of the Centre for Southeast Asian Studies and the Department of Indonesian and Malay.

It has been joined by the Monash Library, the National Library of Australia and the National Film and Sound Archive.

Monash pioneered the scheme in 1981, when it had an internegative made (together with two prints) of Sjumandjaya's film, Si Mamad, made in 1973. This year a second film was acquired and copied.

Si Mamad was the first Indonesian film subtitled into English to be made permanently available in Australia.

The survival of Si Mamad was in jeopardy because the original negative had been destroyed in Tokyo in 1978, when the laboratory holding it went bankrupt.

In Indonesia there was only one surviving copy of the film, a 16mm print with English subtitles, owned by the film archive Sinematek Indonesia. (Si Mamad is an allegory about corruption in Indonesia. It portrays a middle-aged man trying to steal from the stationery from the archive where he works, to provide money for his wife's seventh birthday. He discovers that the head of the archive is also the owner of the stationery store where he unloads his stolen goods.)

The project was first suggested by the Director of the Sinematek Mibachc Birand to a postgraduate student in the Centre for Southeast Asian Studies, who at that time was studying the Indonesian cinema in Jakarta.

David Hanan, lecturer in Visual Arts at Monash, arranged for the film to be printed in Melbourne.

Sjumandjaya, who was 51 when he died last July, was considered one of his country's finest directors. He was considered one of his country's finest directors.

One print of Si Mamad is held by the Monash Library, another is distributed throughout Australia by the National Library. It is also used by the Department of Foreign Affairs to familiarise new diplomats with Indonesia.

Earlier this year, David Hanan persuaded Sjumandjaya to allow another of his films, Atheis (Atheis) to be brought to Australia for preservation.

Atheis, made in 1974, is based on a well-known Indonesian novel which has been taught in courses on Indonesian literature at Australian universities.

Like Si Mamad there was only one surviving print, and the original negative had been destroyed.

The film Atheis is in cinemascopic and color and is 2½ hours long. It is regarded as one of the director's finest films.

It portrays conflicts experienced by a young Muslim man as he encounters what, to him, are new and foreign ideas (mainly about politics, sex and religion) entering into Java in the 1930s.

The film has a spectacular climax when, during the Japanese occupation in 1945, a crowd led by an Islamic preacher refuses to bow in the direction of Tokyo and bows instead in the direction of Mecca.

The only known print in good condition, owned by Sinematek Indonesia, was in regular use at the Jakarta Institute for the Arts, where young Indonesians study film making and film history.

"It was a matter of urgency that an internegative be made," Mr Hanan says.

"Neither the institute nor the Sinematek had the funds necessary to preserve the film, which could have been damaged at any time."

Once again, the same three groups in Australia combined to save the film.

A 16mm internegative was made by Colorfilm in Sydney at a cost of $7000 and three prints have been derived from this.

One print will be held by the Monash Library and another will be distributed by the National Library Film Study Collection.

The third will be presented to Sinematek Indonesia, together with the Australian Film Institute's prints of the film, Si Mamad, for distribution in Australia.

The late Sjumandjaya, Indonesian film director, pictured receiving a Citra award for best director of the year at the 1984 Indonesian Film Festival in Yogyakarta.

Together with Krishna Sen, he has been advising SBS Television on the acquisition of films from Jakarta.

Some films have already been bought, and attempts are being made to acquire others.

The same team was responsible for bringing to the Melbourne Film Festival earlier this year the first Indonesian film ever to be shown at an Australian film festival, and for arranging the visit of the leading Indonesian actress, Christine Hakim.

"Below. A scene from Atheis (1974)."

Annette's vision is clear

Annette Blonski, executive director of the Australian Film Institute, is definitely not a pessimist.

But the Monash graduate and former Visual Arts lecturer is also not the "pie-in-the-sky" optimist that was suggested, when she enthusiastically took over the running of the beleaguered AFI ten months ago.

Ms Blonski says the institute was "on the point of financial — if not moral and cultural — collapse".

It had severe financial and managerial problems, had lost one of its three cinemas (the Longford in Melbourne) and 16 of its 47 staff.

"Small start" and "cautious optimism" are phrases that feature in Ms Blonski's conversations about the institute, but as she expands on the development of plans the optimism seems justified.

She lists the development of a national film education program and of cooperation with other groups interested in films as the AFI's priorities.

This program is "starting in a very small way" with talks with the Visual Arts department at Monash.

She is also working on a season of Indonesian films, placed in their historical and cultural context, with the Visual Arts lecturer, Mr David Hanan.

Ms Blonski's own days as an unpaid Archimedes — first with the Monash Film-Makers' Society and then as one of the first people to gain a MONASH REPORTER

Experimental Film Fund grant in the early 1970s — gave her added respect for what film-makers are trying to achieve.

If there is anything she is almost pessimistic about it is the creative future of the Australian film industry.

She says the industry has had "partial success", if success can be defined by the diversity and range of films being made.

But there is now "a very wide chasm" between Treasury, arts and the industry, as to how it should develop.

Views on the news

Media practices will come under scrutiny in Melbourne next month, when students meet to compare notes on a project organised by Monash's Artist in Residence, the Academy Award-winning British film director, Peter Watkins.

While groups from the department of Visual Arts have been analysing news broadcasts and developing a critique of the global media, a group from the Footscray Institute of Technology is visiting factories to get people talking about reactions to soap operas and the news.

Other groups at the Council of Adult Education are looking at the representation of Aborigines in the Australian media, and the use of the "Gallipoli myth" in film and television.

Their findings will be brought together at a weekend meeting in the Fitzroy Town Hall on December 7 and 8, and Peter Watkins hopes some ideas might be developed for media "alternatives".

Peter Watkins is probably best known for his anti-nuclear film, The War Game.

A three-hour film he made on the life of Norwegian painter, Edward Munch, was screened and discussed at Monash and he held a series of seminars on Global Media Systems.

(The Town Hall meeting is free and open to the public. It begins at 1 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. on Sunday. Inquiries to David Hanan on ext. 2161.)

NOVEMBER 13, 1985
Universities must be elitist . . . Butchart

Universities should spend more time trying to make clear to the Government and to the community the nature of the distinction between their roles and those of the colleges, says the retiring Registrar, Mr Jim Butchart.

"It's a pity that when the colleges were converted to CAEs they started sping the universities.

"The Government's policy is misplaced in encouraging the admission to universities of groups defined as underprivileged at the expense of those better qualified to enter the universities," he says.

"What the community needs for survival is for it to identify the most intellectually able students and to give them the best education which can be devised."

"While this might be seen as elitism, I don't think that the universities should be asked to make good the deficiencies in primary and secondary education.

"This is a matter for the Government to tackle at the appropriate level."

Mr Butchart sees a difficult time ahead for universities because they have not got the visibility or determination of the colleges and are not so good at lobbying. They run the risk of being overwhelmed by the interests of the colleges, he says.

Valedictory lecture

Professor of Mechanism, Ken Hunt, will give his valedictory public lecture in Engineering Lecture Theatre E 5, at 4 p.m. on December 4.

But although the word valedictory is true enough, as this will be his last public lecture before retirement at the year's end, he promises the lecture will not be mournful.

His subject will be From Automaton to Robot, and he will be making it as lively and entertainingly instructive as he can.

While he will be dealing with some of the history of robotics, including some particularly striking details of developments as early as the 18th century, and will describe modern technology, he will be speaking in terms that the layperson can appreciate.

He will be out to despatch what he sees as a lot of nonsense spread about robots, even outside of science fiction. His ideas will range as far afield as music, especially that of wind instruments which, as a clarinettist, he well understands.

Professor Hunt has been at Monash since 1960, and was only the fifth staff member hired by the then Vice-Chancellor, Dr (now Sir) Louis Matheson. He was Foundation Professor of Engineering and Dean of Engineering until 1975.

On his retirement Professor Hunt will probably work largely in the United States, where he has spent some time as Distinguished Visiting Professor at Ohio State University, and as Visiting Research Consultant at the University of Florida.

Professor Hunt's academic career, extending to South Africa and India as well as the UK and the USA, has brought him the A.G.M. Michell, Ker not and Peter Nicol Russel medals, among other recognition.

He has published two books and more than 40 papers on mechanisms, and hopes to write another book in retirement.

Mr Butchart came to Monash as Assistant Registrar in November 1960, just before the University opened, and was appointed Registrar in October 1965.

He has a BA from Melbourne University and a B.Ec, from the University of Sydney, where he was Assistant Registrar before taking the Monash appointment.

He does not see any great academic changes in store for the University for many years.

"The pattern is set for the foreseeable future — there will be no major developments at faculty level, although there might be new Departments formed resulting from technological change in faculties such as Science and Engineering."

"The development of Computer Science is a good example."

He has no "plans" for retirement, except (with his wife) to visit daughter, Barbara, in West Berlin, where she is involved in teaching German to members of the British Army.

When the Australian Youth Orchestra under John Hopkins performed Malcolm Williamson's The Stone Wall at Robert Blackwood Hall in 1974, Professor Hunt, left, was the Englishman, and the former Vice-Chancellor, Dr (now Sir) Louis Matheson, was the Scotsman.

Dr Ian Hiscock, senior lecturer in Zoology, was the Viking in the middle.

Barbara graduated BA from Monash in 1970, and gained her M.Ed in 1976. Mr Butchart's daughter-in-law, Krystyna (see Polak) also graduated BA from Monash in 1977, while his son, John, the Area Manager of Mt Hotham National Park, has a B.Sc in Forestry from the University of Melbourne.

His wife, Isabel (BA Sydney) has played an active role in the Monash Women's Society during the family's long involvement with the University.

Bricking up the friendship

When the Australian Youth Orchestra under John Hopkins performed Malcolm Williamson's The Stone Wall at Robert Blackwood Hall in 1974, Professor Hunt, left, was the Englishman, and the former Vice-Chancellor, Dr (now Sir) Louis Matheson, was the Scotsman.

Dr Ian Hiscock, senior lecturer in Zoology, was the Viking in the middle.

The Stone Wall is a "participation opera", with the characters each supported by a third of the audience.

The story is that the English and the Scots build a wall to represent their hatred of one another.

The Vikings invade, and the English and the Scots pelt them with the wall bricks to repel the common enemy.

Harmony is restored and the opera ends with a beautiful hymn of peace.

Barbara graduated BA from Monash in 1970, and gained her M.Ed in 1976. Mr Butchart's daughter-in-law, Krystyna (see Polak) also graduated BA from Monash in 1977, while his son, John, the Area Manager of Mt Hotham National Park, has a B.Sc in Forestry from the University of Melbourne.

His wife, Isabel (BA Sydney) has played an active role in the Monash Women's Society during the family's long involvement with the University.

Early days 'a challenge'

Monash grew faster than any other university had ever been asked to grow, says the retiring Comptroller, Mr Len Candy.

"I doubt whether a university will need to develop at that pace again."

"It went to 12,000 students in 10 years — at the same time as the new University of Sussex went to 3000, and Simon Fraser University in British Colombia felt it had made a great achievement in taking on 4500 students."

Mr Candy joined the staff as an assistant in April, 1961, became Finance Manager in 1971, and Comptroller in 1980, following the retirement of the first Comptroller, Mr Frank Johnson.

"It was a wonderful, satisfying experience being part of the Monash team," he says.

"There was a degree of co-operation between people at all levels; it was interesting to observe how people can work together for a common objective."

Mr Candy says the University's motto Ancora Imparo, is very fitting.

"All I've been doing for the past 24 years has been learning, especially about people.

"My five-year involvement with the Union Board was a most enlightening and broadening experience, and I've had a great deal of satisfaction through contacts with business leaders who have served on the University Finance Committee."

He was in industry and commerce before he came to Monash, and intends to dabble in some business concerns during his retirement while retaining the freedom to travel and to take time off for golf and reading.

A widower with a grown family, he will probably divide his time between Melbourne and Flinders, where he has had a home for 20 years.

Mr Candy's late wife, Val, was well known in the University community, and was an active member of the Monash Women's Society.
THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Some cause for optimism

MONASH has now completed its first 25 years of teaching—and achievement. It can, I believe, look back on the past quarter-century with pride, and forward to the next with confidence.

To appreciate that Monash has lost none of the dynamism that marked its early years, one has only to look back over some of the events and developments of the past year as recorded in this special graduates' issue of Monash Reporter. Perhaps that dynamism manifests itself in ways rather different from, say, the 1960s, but there's little doubt that our strength and vitality remain undiminished.

In this spot last year, I wrote, with feeling, about the problems posed by declining government support for education in the 1985-87 triennium. That problem is with us still, and there will be increasing pressure on our human and material resources to maintain our high standards.

But there is at least some cause for optimism in the apparent turn-around on research funding. Earlier this year, stung by Mr Barry Jones's taunt about the field of in vitro fertilisation more widely available. As a result, IVF Australia Ltd was formed and is about to license its first clinic in the United States. The clinic—at United Hospital, Port Chester, New York—will begin treating patients in February, 1986, and it expects to provide 1000 or more treatments a year, making it the largest IVF service in the USA.

We have demonstrated our ability to "sell" ourselves commercially in other ways too: we have interested China in the Monash computer network MONET; metatonin looks set to provide an answer to the jet-age commuter's persistent "jet-lag" problem; the recently established Centre for Molecular Biology and Medicine has achieved notable acceptances of many of its initiatives—and a device invented in Electrical Engineering has had a most gratifying spurt-off in providing funds for the purchase of otherwise inaccessible material for the Hales Library.

But undoubtedly the success story of the year has been Monash's hosting of the highly successful 1985 ANZAAS Festival of Science. This, more than any other enterprise in recent years, focused attention on the University and its unique ability to find new approaches to old problems. I believe the University owes a deep debt of gratitude to John Swain, John Thompson and their small band of enthusiasts for arranging an event that captured the public imagination—and brought the scientific community into a closer relationship with the public—to an extent rarely seen before.

Finally, may I extend a warm welcome to all those new alumni associations that have come into existence this year. News of them all appear in this special supplement and I wish them—and the many 1985 graduates who will be receiving this paper—every success in their future endeavours.

Ray Martin, 
Vice-Chancellor

PROFESSORIAL SCOREBOARD

The year saw many changes, too, at the professorial level...

IN:

Dr James Watson Godling, Senior Research Fellow at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, to a Chair in Pathology, in February.

Dr Raymond Austin Jarvis, Reader in Computer Science at the Australian National University, to the second Chair of Electrical Engineering, in August.

Dr Joel Simmons Kahn, Reader in Anthropology at University College, London, to take up the Chair of Anthropology, next February.

Professor William Ronald Aylett Munz, Professor of Biology and head of the department of Biological Science at the University of Stirling, Scotland, took up post as Dean of the Faculty of Science, in February.

Dr Brian Nelson, senior lecturer in French at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, to take up the Chair of French next September.

Dr Michael Pryles, Acting Professor in Faculty of Law, Monash, to the Henry Booyndens Higin's Chair of Law, in July.

Dr Bernard van der Weyden, director of haematology at the Alfred Hospital, to an Honorary Chair of Haematology, in January.

Dr Martin Williams, School of Earth Sciences, Macquarie University, to the Chair of Geography, in January.

OUT:

Professor David Allan, Sir Owen Dixon Professor of Law, and former dean of law, to the Chair of Business Law in the department of Accounting and Business Law, University of Melbourne.

Associate Professor Harry Boltho, of the Department of Japanese, to a chair in Japanese History at Harvard University.

Dr Tharun Dillon, senior lecturer in Electrical Engineering, to the Foundation Chair in Computer Science at La Trobe University, Dr Dillon gained his Bachelor of Engineering at Monash in 1967 and his Ph.D in 1974.

Professor David Giles, chairman of the Department of Econometrics and Operations Research, to a chair in the Department of Economics and Operations Research at the University of Canterbury, where he gained his undergraduate, masters and doctoral degrees.

Professor Ken Hunt, former Dean of Engineering, retiring.

Professor Peter Musgrave, ex-dean of Education, retiring.

Professor Bob Officer, of Accounting and Finance to a Chair in the School of Management, University of Melbourne.
Unearthing a giant's secrets

A combined Monash-Odense study of the Giant Gippsland Earthworm has revealed some secrets of the extraordinary creature's physiology and biochemistry.

The two-metre animal, which has the thickness of a human thumb, is not only the world's largest earthworm but the largest terrestrial animal lacking specialised organs for transporting oxygen from the external environment through the blood system.

Monash zoologists Dr John Baldwin and Mr Fraser Hercus, in collaboration with Professor Roy Weber of the Biology Institute, University of Odense, Denmark, have found the creature has a closed blood vascular system containing high concentrations of the oxygen-binding respiratory pigment, erythrocruorin.

Dr Baldwin says the most striking features of this pigment are its extremely high affinity for oxygen (about 50 times greater than that of human haemoglobin) and the facilitation of oxygen binding by high carbon dioxide levels, which is the reverse of the situation in vertebrates.

Other studies underway include measurements of the rate of oxygen consumption by worms placed in artificial burrows, and an examination of enzymes involved in metabolic pathways used to provide energy in worms at rest and during activity.

When it comes to counting, we've got the numbers

Statistically speaking, Melbourne is rather well off. More than half the statisticians in Australia are trained in the Melbourne area, and about a quarter of Australia's statistics research effort is concentrated there.

And that dominance looks set to continue, given a recent Federal Government decision to support the establishment of a Joint Centre for Statistical Sciences to be based at Monash, LaTrobe and Melbourne universities and the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology.

It will be one of seven key centres of teaching and research which will share about $3 million in the next three years.

Outcry over research on animals

An unannounced visit by RSPCA inspectors in June threw Monash into the middle of a public controversy over animal experimentation.

Accusations were made about the maltreatment of possums and other animals, and a number of outside academics and researchers leapt to the University's defence.

Melbourne University's Professor Graeme Clark, who developed the bionic ear, said research into the hearing of possums at Monash had been very valuable, and Dr Margaret Rose from the University of NSW praised the general state of the facilities and standards of care in the Physiology department's animal house.

The RSPCA's behaviour over the incident was censured by the University Council, which lodged an official complaint against the media over the "false claims and distortion of facts that had occurred on television and in the press".

Working is a health hazard

An Occupational Health Service has been established at the University with the major aim of tackling Repetition Strain Injury, although it is concerned with all health problems associated with working conditions.

The service, which operates from the University Offices, is directed by Associate Professor Tony Ryan, acting head of the Monash department of Social and Preventive Medicine.

Consultant ergonomist, Mr David Caple, and the University's specialist in organisation and methods, Mr Bob Lothian, are also involved, and there are occupational therapy and physiotherapy staff to assist in the treatment of work-related conditions.
Melatonin likely cure for jet lag

If Professor Roger Short's conclusions are right, millions of international air travellers each year may soon arrive at their destinations without the problem of jet lag.

Basing his conclusions on his own research and that of others, Professor Short is convinced that melatonin is the chemical that sets the body's internal clock, and that it can be used harmlessly to reset it.

His interest led to the listing of a new company, Circadian Pharmaceuticals Limited, on the Melbourne Stock Exchange, with its purpose being the investigation of the ways melatonin can be used to alleviate jet lag.

Professor Short himself was the guinea pig for tests during four flights around the world in the one year.

Wearing equipment to record deep body temperature and activity he was able to provide sufficient data for the University to file completed world-wide patents and enter into the agreement to float Circadian Pharmaceuticals.

The company's first job has been to secure the approval of local drug regulatory authorities for more extensive clinical trials.

The money the University makes on the deal is being distributed according to a standard formula, with most of it going through the Vice-Chancellor's fund to finance research in all faculties.

Action on equality

The University Council has approved the establishment of a working party to consider the report of the Equal Opportunity Research Fellow, Dr Gabrielle Baldwin, and to advise the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Martin, of appropriate action in regard to the implementation of its recommendations.

The report, published in May, makes 16 recommendations relating to equal opportunity in the University, the principal ones being:

- That the University establish an Equal Opportunity Committee as a Standing Committee of Council, with a membership which is broadly representative of the university community.

- That an Equal Opportunity Officer be appointed at a senior level, with direct access to the Vice-Chancellor, under the general direction of the committee.

Other recommendations deal with such matters as sexual harassment, sexist terminology, selection procedures, child care, composition of committees, career paths, working conditions and education.

Biochemists build gene

A team of Monash biochemists has become the first group in Australia to build a complete working gene.

Its method of tackling the task—using a specially written computer program to help design and construct the gene in the most efficient way — has put the Centre for Molecular Biology and Medicine in the forefront of the handful of laboratories in the world which are capable of such work.

Since making the gene, the group has tested it in the laboratory and confirmed that it works as expected.

"We have mimicked the whole of the genetic process in vitro," says team leader, Dr Phillip Nagley, a Reader in Biochemistry.

"The next step will be to try it out on a living cell."

Team members include postgraduate student David Gearing, from England, organic chemist, Dr Gabrielle McMullen, and biochemists Dr Rod Devenish and Dr Martin Tymms.

IVF goes international

The Monash in vitro fertilisation program generated a new wave of publicity in April, with the announcement that a new company would be formed to market the technology overseas.

IVF Australia Limited is initially establishing clinics in the United States to offer services identical to those provided through the Monash Infertility Medical Centre in Melbourne.

It is an Australian-owned company, financed primarily by Australians to ensure that most of the financial benefits flow back to this country and to Monash.

Its formation does not interfere with the rights of members of the Monash IVF team to publish research results, give lectures, present papers, participate in academic exchanges and otherwise communicate freely with their colleagues.

The team made another medical breakthrough this year with the birth of an in vitro "twin" 16 months after her sister's birth.

The two children came from the same group of embryos, conceived at the same time from eggs of the same ovulation cycle.
Continuing contacts should have mutual benefit

A welcome effect of the approach of Monash's 25th anniversary next year is the stimulus given to the concept of alumni associations.

Existing associations are out to expand membership through the fresh interest that the anniversary events will bring.

At the same time, at least three departments are working hard to create alumni associations, painstakingly seeking out graduates in Australia and overseas to invite their co-operation.

The idea of alumni associations as fund-raisers and providers of social entertainment has largely been superseded. While their social importance remains, they are seen increasingly as the groups through which the university and its graduates can develop and maintain a fruitful and potentially priceless reciprocal relationship.

University departments, through their facilities, academic resources and contacts, are increasingly able to assist graduates and their professional groups.

Graduates, in their turn, feel back into the university their influence, experience and advice and help to provide work for undergraduates and graduates.

The associations are an incomparable way for graduates to keep in touch with each other, for personal and professional reasons.

North American experience has shown another value of alumni groups.

The flourishing ones generate public interest in university education, and in university problems like finance.

According to Mr Bert Pinnington, director of Alumni Affairs at Toronto University, Canada, who was a principal speaker at a two-day workshop on alumni at Monash in August, alumni groups can have a significant influence on governments.

"In our Province we have improved the public concern about universities dramatically, to a point where the government is strongly questioned if cuts in support are proposed," he said.

Ms Nancy McCabe, a leading US expert on alumni organisations and fund raising, emphasised that maintaining public interest in university problems requires continuous and long-term investment of time and money by the universities, the faculties, the students, and the graduates, to create a supportive climate.

Alumni associations at Monash clearly have a major role in this creation of awareness and support. Here is a round-up of their activities and present hopes.

Chapter may be formed in Asia

The success of the Mechanical Engineering Alumni Association in its three years of existence shows how patient efforts to seek out graduates and get their co-operation can pay off.

Membership has increased from under 400 members to over 60 per cent of those contacted in Australia and overseas.

The more recent the graduates, the easier they are to find, whereas those of the 1960s are relatively hard to enlist, the response of those contacted last year amounted to 80 per cent.

There is the possibility of forming a chapter of alumni in Malaysia or Singapore.

With foundations established, the association is now going ahead with the devising of a formal constitution.

One committee meeting has been held, and according to senior tutor, Roger La Brooy, the staff liaison officer, some "pretty definite ideas" have already developed.

The aims of the association are both social and professional.

It held its first formal dinner in June, at the Regent, with Mr Bruce Irwin, general manager of Enterprise Australia, as guest speaker.

His subject was quality control in Australia.

Professionally, the association already provides valuable interaction between the university and graduates, of benefit to both.

Members can get access at Monash to those with a broader spectrum of technological knowledge than might otherwise be available.

They may also be able to call on the department's highly specialised facilities on a professional basis as occasion arises.

The department is particularly keen to inform alumni of the opportunity to further their professional careers by undertaking Masters degrees by coursework or research.

Members may be able to provide vacation employment for present students, and ultimately, at times, permanent jobs.

In general, the existence of the association can lead to Monash's work being far better known in the engineering world.

Some alumni have taken up particularly interesting careers.

One is Jane Alcorn, the association president, an honours graduate of 1971, and a contract engineer with the Department of Housing Construction in Melbourne.

She previously worked at Comalco's Weipa bauxite mine in Queensland, and gained experience in New Zealand and at Ok Tedi in Papua New Guinea.

Her husband, Brenton, also a 1977 graduate, is project manager of a Melbourne engineering firm.

Roger La Brooy, a M.Eng.Sc. graduate of 1974, is now reading a Ph.D., specialising in robotics.

The two most celebrated names among graduates, however, are probably those of John Bertrand, captain of Australia II in the capture of the America's Cup, and David Williamson, the playwright.
Lawyers are late starters

The Monash University Law Alumni association began in 1981, and today has 350 members, or about 20 per cent of the total number of graduates since the Law School began in 1964.

Its experience is that graduates show relatively little interest in an alumni association when they first leave Monash.

Their careers are only just beginning, and for most there is not all that much money to share (although the special new graduate subscription until April next year is only $5).

It is later, when some success has come, that minds and hearts turn more to the old days, and subscriptions cheques are pretty well all the $10 rate are more frequent.

Special occasions, such as this year's dinner in the Great Hall of the National Gallery, to mark the school's 21st anniversary, with the Governor General, Sir Ninian Stephen, as the guest speaker, stimulate membership.

Graduation was a capacity 520, and the Master of Ceremonies was Campbell McComas.

A traditional dinner and a Christmas party are regular events.

The association makes a Monash University Law Alumni Award each year for the most magnificent contribution to the Law School by an undergraduate.

Normally in the black, it has been able to help the school library, and last year provided $2285 for books for the "reserve" section.

Membership is that graduates show its members, the business community and the society.

Its president, John Nolan, director of Finance and Administration at the State Electricity Commission, says the association comprises mainly graduates and students of the Master of Administration Course conducted in the Faculty of Economics and Politics.

Monthly functions are held at the Australian Institute of Management offices in St Kilda, with prominent speakers who have recently included the State Treasurer, Rob Jolly, the State Secretary of the AMFSU, John Halfpenny, and the managing director of Dunlop Olympic Ltd., Mr John Gough.

An innovation this year was a well-attended combined meeting with the Melbourne University Business School Association, Mr Nolan said.

MAGA membership has reached 126 and the association has affiliations with five corporations, which send senior executives to its functions.

The 1986 program will be released soon, and Mr Nolan would like to hear from any administration graduates or current students interested in joining the association. He can be contacted on 615 3903.

"MAGA is strongly supported by Professor (Allan) Fels and Professor (Peter) FitzRoy of the department of Administrative Studies," he said.

"Your association is here to stay," he writes in the newsletter, and describes it as "the most effective, best integrated and best organised" in Australia.

One stimulus to membership Dr Bowman remarks, has been the holding of Ten Year Reunions — with the 1975 Ten Year Reunion kindles some last urge, because all years that have had their reunion have high membership," he says.

Those who have not paid the $25 a year membership subscription, or who would like to join the association, are asked to contact Valda Twaddle, at the Faculty of Medicine, telephone (03) 541 2492.

The association is planning to get as many graduates as possible together at the Monash Silver Jubilee celebrations, in co-operation with the Faculty of Medicine.

"The faculty is examining ways in which it will contribute to the schedule of events," Professor Schofield says.

"Central to its planning will be opportunities for graduates to visit the Medical School and its departments."

Potter appeals for ideas

In its plans for creating an alumni association, the Chemical Engineering department is trying to reach more than 400 graduates to arouse their interest and invite suggestions, and to establish a Graduate Register.

"There are many ways in which the department can be of service to an alumnus,” says the chairman, Professor Owen Potter.

"Through its contacts in business and industry, through its research facilities, through its specialised graduate courses, and through its academic staff, many of whom travel widely to advise and consult with industry.

"At the same time, many possibilities exist for reciprocal help — professional, personal and financial.

"Alumni of the department could provide publicity, potential students, suggestions for special research, openings for vacation experience for undergraduate students, placements for graduates, publications or presentations on existing and proposed course structures, among other possibilities.

"The purpose is to acquaint the profession, and the community at large, could all benefit from such input.”

Professor Potter lists among recent departmental developments of interest to all graduates; “graduate course work programs, continuing education seminars and workshops; new areas of research, and a combined Bachelor of Engineering, Bachelor of Science program.”

Everyone interested in the creation of the alumni association should write to Professor Potter as soon as possible.

Building new bridges

The Civil Engineering Department is trying to contact nearly 1000 graduates of the alumni association it is in the process of forming.

Like other groups it is emphasising to prospective members that an association will have both social and professional benefits, and be important for the individual, the profession, the department, the university and the community.

In a general letter to graduates, the department's chairman, Professor Eric Lawson, points to the value of the department's facilities, academic expertise, specialised post-graduate courses and contacts with business and industry.

The emphasis is on “reciprocal help”, with alumni able to commission research, suggest fieldwork opportunities, propose staff as consultants, provide temporary and full-time job opportunities for graduates, and advise on proposed course structures.

He feels that, quite apart from the question of professional benefit, alumni will take pleasure in learning about other graduates, and about significant developments in the department itself.

Graduates course work programs, continuing education seminars and workshops, new areas of research, and the combined Bachelor of Engineering, Bachelor of Economics program are among developments of the past few years.

Professor Laurensen will be delighted to hear from all graduates interested in alumni association membership, no matter where in the world their careers have taken them.

Every November 13, 1985

We produced the first issue of The Monash Graduate, a complimentary publication specifically oriented towards the interests of MGA members. (Of course, it is also intended to serve as a propaganda medium for the committee.)

We decided to commit ourselves to a regular publishing schedule, but to go to press when there was sufficient material or a specific need to communicate.

Our other "first" was a graduates' dinner, held at the Monash University Club.

Despite the cost being heavily subsidised by the association, attendance was poor.

On the brighter side, those who did attend (32, including guests), were unanimous in recommending that the dinner become an annual event.

We are also pleased we were able to bring a long-term MGA project to fruition this year.

In 1981, the MGA committee, with assistance from the Australia Council, commissioned the composition of a Processional to be played on the Louis Matheson Pipe Organ during graduation ceremonies.

The project suffered numerous setbacks for a variety of reasons, not the least being the initial unsuitability of the composition for the organ.

Finally all the difficulties were overcome, and Orgelwerk, by Richard David Hames, was presented to the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Martin, at the inaugural dinner.

Two delegates attended the Australian University Graduates Conference annual meeting in Adelaide in May.

The main theme of this conference was fund raising by universities and their graduates, in support of university aims.

The president attended a follow-up weekend workshop on the same theme during August.

MGA offered to sponsor attendance at this workshop by faculty-oriented graduate associations.

We were pleased that both the Medical and Mechanical Engineering graduates associations were able to attend.

At the annual general meeting, the association recorded its thanks to those graduates who gave up much of their spare time to help out at the highly successful ANZAS Festival of Science in August.

We are involved in planning for a Graduate Dinner to be held during May, 1986, as part of the 25th Anniversary celebrations.

MGA members will receive further details soon.

-David Harris, President, MGA

Heat wheel could aid solar cooling

A heat exchanger developed by a Monash-led team, which could save Australian industry millions of dollars in energy costs, has also shown promise as a component of a solar air-conditioning system.

The rotary regenerative heat exchanger, whose design was refined by a research team headed by Mr Charles Ambrose of Mechanical Engineering, is a large wheel straddling parallel ducts of incoming and exhaust air.

As the wheel rotates it gathers heat from the exhaust duct and transfers it to the incoming air.

Replacements have now been found for Heather McCormack, Sue Stephen- son and Diana Taylor and the service is back to full strength in the relief of stalwarts, Graham Briscoe, Robin Coventry, and Linda Clifton.

The service, which opened more than 20 years ago, provides individual and group counselling on all issues affecting the lives of staff or students.

It is located upstairs in the Union building, telephone ext. 3156.

-Counselling staff in crisis

Industrial liaison

The University Counselling Service had a crisis of its own this year, when three of its six professional staff left for various reasons.

-Jubilee dinner

Monash University will be celebrating its Silver Jubilee in 1986.

Apart from various activities throughout the year, a week has been set aside for the University to celebrate the occasion — May 19-25.

Representatives of the various graduates associations have been giving some consideration as to how graduates can be involved in the festivities.

One suggestion was to hold a special Graduates Dinner on either Friday, May 23, or Saturday, May 24, but this could only be successful if there was strong support by graduates.

Another suggestion was to hold a Graduates Day during the week of celebrations.

It would be unfortunate if graduates were not in some way involved in this, the first major landmark in the University's history.

Replacement staff would be appreciated but time is short if the planning of any activity is to be included in the program of events.

-MONASH REPORTER
The Monash Orientation Scheme for Aboriginals presented 10 students to the board of examiners this year, from an original group of 12.

Director, Mr Isaac Brown, said this was a better-than-anticipated success rate, and compared favorably with 1984 results, when a handful of students saw the year through.

This year's group were taught an Aboriginal creole as part of their English grammar course to help with language assimilation which had been a problem in 1984.

They were closer in age to normal intake students, with an average age of around 21, while the youngest student in last year's group was 28, Mr Brown said.

"They have mixed more, joining sporting clubs and other activities, and four of them lived in the halls," he said.

The scheme, the only one of its kind in Australia, takes in adult Aboriginals and provides them with a year of specific preparation for university entry at a standard at least equal to HSC.

Those who complete requirements are guaranteed admission into the faculties of Arts and Law.

Based on their experiences last year, the MOSA selectors had had a clearer idea of the attitudes and qualities likely to bring success to incoming students, Mr Brown said.

Of those in last year's group who went on to normal enrolments in Arts and Arts-Law, three had completed their first year and were expected to continue.

They had been provided with individual tutors where necessary through a special grant from the CTEC "for Aboriginal students entering into university other than by normal means", but would be expected to become more self-reliant in their second year.

Mr Brown said assimilation of language had proved one of the greatest difficulties for students at both levels.

"We have been teaching the Roper River creole to incoming students this year, but have to decide whether it might be better to teach an Aboriginal language alongside English instead."

He said the scheme was considering recommending that students enrolling for degrees take only three subjects in a year, rather than four, so they had time to enjoy their study.

Barbara Nona, who enrolled in Arts this year and was "very enthusiastic", had overcome her language difficulties and continued with four subjects, despite the organiser's earlier misgivings.

She was the recipient of the Australian Federation of University Women — Victoria award in recognition of her determination and effort to pursue university education.

"As a successful graduate of the Monash Orientation Scheme for Aboriginals, and having gained university acceptance, we applaud the example you set for Aboriginal women" says the Certificate of Award, signed by Marian Aveling, for the AFUW's Southern Suburbs Group.

Teaching staff at MOSA include Barbara Nona, who enrolled in Arts this year and was "very enthusiastic", and part-time tutor, Angela Ridsdale, who works with the undergraduates.

Centre is answer to government demands

A Centre for Commercial Law and Applied Research has been established in the David Derham School of Law.

"It's an answer to government demands that universities become more concerned with their responsibility to the community at large, and it recognises our relationship with government, business and the legal fraternity," says the Dean of Law, Professor Bob Baxt.

The centre will be involved in bringing important legal experts to Australia, organising workshops and seminars and sponsoring research.

"In a way, it simply formalises and extends what the faculty is already doing," he says.

It will develop joint programs and share visitors with the Faculty of Law at the University of Western Australia, and already has links with various United Nations bodies and with the Swiss Institute for Company Law.

The Victorian government and 20 businesses including Rothmans, Monier Limited and Telecom have paid $2000 each to become sponsors of the centre.

With the exception of a couple of American universities and London, there are no other equivalent commercial law centres in the English-speaking world.
The year's best buy - one dollar the lot

Healthy outlook for funeral directors

Linda Brown is a graduate with a difference - she runs the Australian funeral industry.

Ms Brown, who gained her BA (Honours) at Monash in 1980 and joined the Chamber of Manufactures, was assigned to look after the Australian Funeral Directors' Association.

She became full-time executive director of both the Victorian division and the national association.

Her job involves liaison with Government departments and the public, daily office administration, preparation of publications and arrangement of functions for members, including the AFDA annual convention.

She is also editor of both the national industry magazine, The Australian Funeral Director and the AFDA News, the Victorian branch quarterly newsletter.

Ms Brown believes the people in the funeral industry are among the most genuine, caring people she has met, and they have a healthy outlook on life.

"Anyone can go out and set up in general business," she says.

"But it takes special qualities to be a good funeral director."

Survey will aid handicapped

Graduate Sue Shaw has been conducting a survey this year on ways of improving opportunities for handicapped students.

On-campus storage places for motorised wheelchairs are a very high priority, she says.

These big chairs cannot be folded up perfume."

DVC started career as technician

Professor Ian Chubb, a distinguished researcher in the neuroscientific field, has been appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Wollongong.

He started as a researcher while still a technician and part-time student at Monash, and although he does not have a first degree, he was accepted directly into the Masters program at Oxford on the basis of his previous research.

He gained an M.Sc. and D.Phil. from Oxford and after some years as a research Fellow at St John's College, became a lecturer, and subsequently head of department, in Human Physiology at Flinders University.

Address list

The final issue of Monash Reporter for the year has an additional mailing list of close to 20,000 of the University's graduates, and it's very difficult to keep the addresses up-to-date.

If your copy has been forwarded from an old address or you know you will be changing your address - or name - before the next graduates' issue in November, 1986, would you please return this form complete with all details.

If you give insufficient information we may not be able to identify you.
Monash made a clean sweep in the 1985 Ingenuity Games held in the City Square on October 1, as part of Professional Engineers' Week.  

Second year students from Mechanical Engineering took the prizes in all categories, and walked off with $1500 in prize money given by BHP. Having said that, department spokesmen hasten to add modestly that the outcome was not surprising.

All but one of the entries were from Monash, with the single exception coming from Melbourne University. Melbourne organised the event, and invited the institutes of technology as well as Monash to take part. Perhaps because entry for the Monash students was made part of their course, while others left it as voluntary, or perhaps because Monash students have a more pronounced interest in dollars, perhaps because Monash students have a more pronounced interest in dollars, it is 40 steps.

The task was to design and build a device to climb the steps, either in contact with them, or by travel through the air. Each device had to be self-powered, capable of fitting in a cubic box 0.5m³ in volume, and of no danger to the concrete.

In cases where a payload was necessary under the rules, this had to be by faculty approval. A complete clean-up by Monash students of all the money prizes and a commendation to one of the unsuccessful did-not-quite-make-it-to-the-top models as 'the most sophisticated design.'

"But that's not to forget the sole team from Melbourne Uni who should have received a special prize for the most persistent. They would still have been there at midnight if the water had not been turned back on".

"wine and cheese" launch party on the Friday evening. It appears that, when the catering staff arrived soon after 4.30 p.m. to set up the tables, they were followed into the Hall by a number of people — members of staff and others.

"Not practicable (and, in the circumstances, not desirable) to demand of all visitors that they should provide evidence of identity. The organisers stress that there was never any intention to give favoured treatment to book dealers. Indeed, it was their hope that members of the University would have an unrivalled opportunity to have "first pick".

**LETTERS**

**Book unFair**

I sincerely hope that the Monash Book Fair to raise funds for the proposed Monash Art Gallery was a financial success.

However I must express my surprise and disappointment at the timing of the opening of the fair.

Whilst extensively advertised (the "A Bibliophile's Bonanza" leaflet, Sound (October 9), The Age (October 11), sign at University entrance, etc. for Saturday, Sunday October 12, 13 it became obvious (e.g. Monash Reporter (October 9) and launch invitation) that there would be selling at a wine and cheese launch of the fair at 5pm on Friday.

However on arriving at Robert Blackwood Hall at approximately 4.40pm I was utterly amazed to see at least five bookshop owners busily picking off the cream of the books while waiting private buyers were being denied entrance.

Why was a widely advertised University event opened the day prior to the advertised opening?

Why prior to this premature opening were commercial buyers able to gain a distinct advantage over private buyers who were predominantly University staff?

Were donors of books aware that their "better" books would be scooped up for sale at much higher prices off campus?

Terry Berreen
Mechanical Engineering

The Book Fair organisers reply:

Yes, happily, the Fair was a financial success — the total raised for the planned Art Gallery was a little over $2000.

The Fair Book unFair

**Misbegotten?**

Dr Silberbauer reports himself bemused by the table which appeared on p.4 of Careers Weekly (September 13).

The table was reproduced from the HEARU 1984 Survey, and reported the newly enrolling students' replies to the question "What was your country of birth and that of your parents?"

Dr Silberbauer provides an unusual interpretation of the data when he says "In the table . . . it is stated that 21 students born in New Zealand had 26 fathers and 26 mothers."

It is, after all, possible that some people who were born in New Zealand, and subsequently born or brought children who grew up to be our students, had left New Zealand before those children came into the world.

Almost all the 2260 students surveyed were, like us, under the impression that the question was asking them three things: Where were you born? Where was your father born? Where was your mother born?

The table records that 21 students said they were born in New Zealand, 26 students said their fathers were born in New Zealand, and 26 students said their mothers were born in New Zealand.

Dr Silberbauer then makes several more jokes which rest upon his mistake of thinking that only those who were born in a country can have parents born in that country, an assumption which leaves the unit "Migration" (offered as part of AN321.12 by his own department) with very little to study, and casts new light on another of his department's courses, "Data Appreciation" in SY211.08.

Given Dr Silberbauer's interpretation, it is a pity that he was unable to suggest some amusing connection with the research of Professor Carl Wood, work which gives hope for wonderful improvements in the number of parents an individual may claim.

Dr Silberbauer's suggestion that 81 students from the U.K. having between them 170 fathers may be the statistical equivalent of "Pommy bastard" indicates that his understanding of illegitimacy is no more adequate than his ability to read tables.

A bastard is surely somebody with a shortage, rather than a superfluity, of acknowledged fathers.

We hope soon to use Dr Silberbauer's innovative methods to interpret our other data.

For example, 76 students, but only 21 fathers and 19 mothers, have been resident in Australia for less than a year. It must have been a very active year!

Jim Mackenzie
Lea West
Higher Education Advisory
and Research Unit

MONASH REPORTER 15 NOVEMBER 13, 1985
Local history is getting put back in its place

Reclaiming the Past
Local History Resource Centres' Reports and Guidelines by Jan Penney
RRP $5

In Victoria's 150th year, Monash has been actively involved in a project to help Victorians reclaim their past.

Three diverse communities, at Richmond, Oakleigh and Ouyen, can now boast substantial collections of local history material thanks to the project, organised by the Department of History.

It was funded by the Commonwealth Employment Program, under the auspices of the 150th History and Heritage Committee, and for eight months, two research assistants worked at each centre, supervised from Monash by local historian, Jan Penney.

They collected maps, documents, photographs, books, letters, diaries, oral history tapes, ephemera, records of clubs, business and sporting organisations and other material relevant to the research and study of history within the community. Ms Penney says.

The material was catalogued, indexed and stored to make it easy for the public as well as for serious researchers.

It is now kept by the historical societies at Richmond and Oakleigh, and at the Ouyen History Centre.

Ms Penney's book, Reclaiming the Past, is the story of the successes and failures of the pilot project.

It would be useful for anyone contemplating similar projects, or for when to use the resources available in meetings of the collection care and maintenance of historical material.

Ms Penney was appointed to the Monash staff as a research assistant for this project, and provided with secretarial help, materials and office space in the History Department.

She was advised by the Finance Branch about the complicated financial aspects.

Funds from the sale of Reclaiming the Past will go towards the continuation of the Ouyen History Centre, and copies can be obtained from the University Bookshop.

Monash involved in poetry prize

Senior lecturer in English, Mrs Jennifer Strauss, was a member of the judging panel which recently declared New Zealand poet, Lauris Edmond, winner of the Australia-Pacific section of the inaugural British Airways Commonwealth Poetry Prize.

Ms Edmond, writer-in-residence at Deakin University, wins $1800 for her Selected Poems, published by Oxford University Press.

The panel also nominated Julian Croft and his Breakfast in Shanghai for a $3600 world prize for the best first-time published poet.

Judging for the award has been taking place in five centres around the world, including Flinders University where the regional winners were decided.

Prize winners will be announced in London on November 28, from entries received from poets, representing Africa, Asia, the United Kingdom, Europe, Canada and the Caribbean as well as this region.

Mrs Strauss was one of a five-member panel, led by Dr Syd Harrex, director of the Centre for Research in the New Literatures in English at Flinders University.

Dr Harrex said the prize would give international poetry in English a status comparable with the famous Booker Prize.

(Mrs Strauss was also convenor for the poetry judges' panel for the recent Victorian Premier's Literary Awards. Kevin Hart and Rosemary Dobson were joint winners.)

NOVEMBER 13, 1985

BOOKS

Giving Lawrence what he deserves

Study of Thomas Hardy and Other Essays by D.H. Lawrence
ed. Bruce Steele
Cambridge University Press RRP $74 hardcover, $37 paperback

With the publication of the Study of Thomas Hardy and Other Essays, Cambridge University Press continues its restoration of the original texts of D.H. Lawrence.

The arguments for and against such a restoration have now been fully aired. Keith Sagar once argued that to return Stephen Gardner's text to its original state might do D.H. Lawrence a disservice. He reminded us that Lawrence thanked Gardner for the nice trim he gave the novel and for being an excellent barber.

The scholar's aim today is to recover the text exactly as the author wrote it, warts and all. These of course may be warts for one generation but not for another, the vice. He reminded us that Lawrence's alternative title, Le Gai Savoirre, is equivalent to a form of castration, as are Davenant's improvements to Macbeth or Garrick's surgery on the Witch's Tale.

After surveying the evidence I find myself belonging to the school which would like to read D.H. Lawrence's texts as they were written, which means that in principle I believe in the Cambridge enterprise, provided the author being given this sort of treatment is worthy of such attention.

The Cambridge University Press has once again given a book by D.H. Lawrence the status of a classic, eternal and enduring, a status which may see Lawrence stirring in his grave but which he nevertheless deserves.

This book is a classic of its kind because it survives its blemishes and because it is not a classic of fiction or of poetry but of criticism which is valuable because it happens to be creative.

It provides an entry into Lawrence's thought and is invaluable for the understanding of his own work as a whole. The title in fact is slightly misleading. While the book gives us some helpful insights into Lawrence, the perceptive, about Jude the Obscure it tells us more about Lawrence's thought than about his book. Genuine criticism may be forgiven for this as his thought is original and of the first importance.

He had an alternative title for the book "Le Gai Savoirre" or "The Gay Science", which he might well have preferred for his final version, a version that unfortunately has not survived.

Professor Steele gives us a brief, though helpful, sketch of the gay science in his introduction.

Lawrence, it is clear, had a philosophy of being which in many ways anticipated the great Existentialist such as Marcel and Heidegger. It was D. H. Lawrence who invented Ergo Sum (I think therefore I am) to Sum Ergo Cogito (I am therefore I think). Thought for Lawrence was a function of the whole being.

There is a witty placing of our postmodern Decartes' Cogito habit of divorcing mind from body in the essay on Why the novel matters, which is a good sample of the quality of intelligence, creative in its own right, in the book.

Is there really any huge difference between my hand and my brain? - or

MONASH REPORTER
Mathematics breaks new ground

IN REVIEW

Introduction to Linear and Convex Programming
by Neil Cameron
Australian Mathematical Society Lecture Series 1
Cambridge University Press
RRP $53 hardcover, $18.50 paperback

Neil Cameron at the party in the bookshop to launch his new work.

Third year students in applied and pure mathematics received a special delivery of Neil Cameron's new book, Introduction to Linear and Convex Programming, for use during third term.

Pre-publication copies were flown out from England a month before the official worldwide publication date, for a term.

Much required background and technique is detailed in the book, rather than assuming it is already known. In particular, this applies to the parts of linear algebra required for linear and convex programming; linear algebra courses are not always adequate here.

The treatment is finite dimensional — although many results will extend, with minimal change, to infinite dimensions.

While computing aspects are not discussed, mathematical aspects of the simplex and another algorithm are considered carefully.

Separation of convex sets, and Fenchel transforms, are clearly formulated and illustrated.

The last chapter includes Lagrangian duality, and Kuhn-Tucker conditions for convex problems.

This book includes two valuable new things.

The careful treatment of the simplex method includes a simple approach to preventing cycling.

This would not be hard to add to a L P computer program.

Also, the discussion in chapter four of quadratic programming includes a detailed analysis, not to be found elsewhere, of Beale's algorithm, which is probably the best available for quadratic programming.

I hope that many students (and teachers of mathematics) will buy, and study, this book.

They will learn a lot from it.

Dr Bruce Craven, Reader in Mathematics, University of Melbourne.

Monash Reporter is indebted to the editors of The Australian Mathematical Society Gazette for allowing us to publish this review before it appears in their December issue.

Members of the society receive a 20 per cent discount if they purchase the book directly from Cambridge University Press.

Ambushed in the dark

IN REVIEW

A Field Companion to Australian Fungi
by Bruce Fuhrer
The Five Mile Press. RRP $16.95

"I suddenly found myself ambushed by soft greenish luminescence which grew brighter as my eyes adjusted to the dark."

"After a while I could read the print of newspaper on which the fungi were resting."

Thus began Mr Fuhrer's fascination with fungi, and his many years' work in studying and photographing these neglected forms of plant life have been brought together in A Field Companion to Australian Fungi.

His range of subjects is surprisingly vast, with many beautiful colors and forms.

Each species is presented in its natural environment to show differences in habitat and substrate, and they are arranged to emphasise relationships.

"The aim of this book is to share my interest and to introduce the fascinating world of fungi," Mr Fuhrer says.

A senior technical officer in the Botany department, and an active member of Victorian naturalist and conservation movements, his work has been featured in a number of other publications.

They include Flowers and Plants of Victoria, Tree Diseases in Victoria, Seaweeds of Australia and A Field Guide to the Common Genera of Gilled Fungi in Australia.

Four of his fungi photographs provided the basis for a series of Australian stamps depicting fungi, which were neglected forms of plant life have been brought together in A Field Companion to Australian Fungi.

Australia's largest terrestrial fungus, is found in quantities in the Jock Marshall Reserve. It can grow up to one metre in diameter.

MONASH REPORTER
**Open-mouthed like a trout**

**You or Me**

Staring at no distance, mute, open-mouthed like a trout with a dandelion skimming across the meniscus on the other side of air, behind those eyes that hold a mind’s aimless inertia, you chase, in pretracted tracks, a silent pity’s run.

My empathy is from our symmetry; while unwinding, unbound, along we grasp our reflection in a moment of beauty before vanity.

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**BRIEFS**

Studio Players will present the "famous Victorian melodrama", Lady Audley’s Secret, and some original items on Friday, December 6, at 7.30 p.m. in Room 809 of the Mensies Building.

Organisers, Dennis Davison, stresses that there will be no charge for booking, and no door sales. Seats must be booked personally at the English department’s general office or by sending cash or a cheque.

"Room 809 is smaller than the Studio, which is unfortunately not available, and some patrons at our last play had to stand because people came without booking," he says.

Admission is $2 per person, and sherry will be served from 7 p.m.

Invitations are being issued for the 1986 HERDSA Conference, to be held at Australian National University from May 9-13, on the topic: The learner in higher education: a forgotten species?

The conference will address questions about curricula design, the influence of assessment, the effect of students’ personal characteristics on learning performance, the enduring effects of higher education, different styles of learning and the impact of information technology.

It is open to all participants in the tertiary field and inquiries should be addressed to The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Martin, at the opening of U3AM in the Rotunda in March.

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**You or Me**

The poem, left, by a second year student, Joanna Sender, won the Monash University Prize for Poetry, 1985, valued at $75.

It was chosen from among 37 entries, submitted by 22 contestants, and an honorable mention was given to Ian Dowssett’s poem, Ode to the Family Cat being Torn Apart by Savage Dogs.

The chairman of the department of English, Professor David Bradley, who headed the judging panel, says of the winning entry:

"The judges were attracted by the poem’s exploration of the relational perceptions in a moment of emotional intimacy and by the lively metaphoric language. The poem is undoubtedly trying to say too much in so short a space and the metaphors need to be better subordinated to the service of the psychological movements and insights they half-reveal. But the intention of conveying, in the one breath, contrary impressions of self-surrender and self-possession is well carried through."

The title is well-chosen. It is not "You and Me". La Rochefoucauld said "L’amour est un escabeau d’une decrèt" but he did not suggest, as this poem does, the corollary that it is also, at certain moments, “une accide d’un decret". Miss Sender has taken, a conventional metaphor of the union of lovers (the Elizabethans called it “making babies in each other’s ears”) and twisted it into unemotional modernity by finding beauty in the untidiness of the lovers’ abandon and an opposing “vanity” in their resumption of their formal selves. She has packed the line by the suggestion that in every appenancy or pleasure there is an opposition or indifference. If there is awkwardness in the compression or so many conflicting impressions, there is also some real skill in the handling of the verse rhythm to suggest the tension of simultaneous, contrary or alternative perceptions.

It may have occurred to the reader, as it did to the judges, that Miss Sender is a mathematician. Indeed, she is. And a very promising wordsmith, to be warmly congratulated.

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**Right of way**

Continuing confusion about right-of-way at the Normandy Road-Ring-Road East-Howleys Road intersection has prompted the parking/patrol officer, Mr Merrill Mitchell, to ask for the following guidelines to be printed:

This intersection poses considerable danger because vehicles leaving the University face only a give-way sign, whilst vehicles leaving Howleys Road face a stop sign. The difficulty is caused when vehicles leaving Ring Road East turn right into Howleys Road.

It is mistakenly supposed that these vehicles have right-of-way over vehicles leaving Howleys Road to travel into Ring Road East.

No doubt the error is caused by the fact that vehicles in Howleys Road have to stop before proceeding.

The obligation of vehicles turning right is to give way to oncoming vehicles if there is a danger of collision.

If, for instance, a vehicle leaving Howleys Road was facing oncoming traffic and an accident occurred with a vehicle turning right out of Ring Road East, the driver of the other vehicle would still commit an offence if he failed to give way to an oncoming vehicle.

The Normandy Road-Ring-Road East-Howleys Road intersection will be finalised when a series of buildings, including the Audley’s Secret, a famous Victorian melodrama, are completed and the road layout is finally decided.

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**Enjoying life with half-clipped wings**

One new Monash group has abundantly proved the adage that learning does not stop with the end of formal education.

The University of the Third Age at Monash, known as the monash group for active retired people — began in April with 200 members.

The idea was conceived by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Martin.

By the end of the year, 415 people had enrolled and about 30 courses had been held.

**CHANCELLOR, Professor Martin.**

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**It could be you**

The time has come I heard him say To think of many things.
Of growing old and slow decay, of life with half clipped wings, How shall I cope, what will I do, with only dreary days in view?
Short of funds and not a friend, Enough to drive you round the bend.

Hey, listen chum, give heed I pray, I grabbed him by the arm, You’ve got it wrong, you’ve lost the way. Such thoughts can only harm.

Why can you live and learn each day if you will join the U3A.

What about it? do you dare? Come on, you’re interests, why not share?

We met again the other night And glad to see he’s changed.

A face all smiles and step now light
And clothing neat arranged.

I did it chum, joined U3A, I’m feeling younger every day.

He shook my hand, said as he went, U3A spells age well spent.

(apologies to Lewis Carroll)

**ANGELA HURST**

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**The learner in higher education: a forgotten species?**

High on the agenda will be discussion of how to stop U3A from institutionalisation.

The director of the Centre for Continuing Education, Dr Jack McDonell, said the primary aim of stimulating people to be intellectually active and curious had been ambitiously realised.

“It’s quite a break with the university tradition which says that you have to be a very qualified expert to teach anything.”

The centre had had inquiries from universities in Adelaide and Western Australia about the success of U3AM. U3AM can be contacted at Normanby House, 541 2048.

Membership next year will cost $15, irrespective of the number of courses attended.
Wee Herbie will not be left lamenting

Wee Herbie, son of Roy, will still be at Monash next year though his original squash club members (and friends) will have gone. But he won’t be too lonely — Herbie II is on the way to assist in the important task of trussing University cheques.

Roy Evans, who is retiring after 24 years in Engineering Services (“working for everyone from maintenance to the chief wood-turning machine in the University workshops.”), was asked, in 1976, to design and manufacture a cheque confounding machine in the University workshops. Wee Herbie was the result, and since then every University cheque has received his imprint.

Mr Evans, who was one of the original squash club members (and claims to be famous for his “consistent golf practice on the football field near engineering — 350,000 hits and still not a champion!”) would be mobbed by old friends, now scattered around campus, to know he can be contacted during retirement at the Woodlands Golf Club.

Other likely places he might be found are the Black Rock Bowls Club, or at home, knocking out egg cups on a lathe.

Applications are also invited from scientists wishing to participate in an exchange program with the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. Applications will be considered from biological and physical scientists for short-term visits and for post-doctoral fellowships. Senior scientists may apply for short-term visits which will not normally exceed four weeks.

The Registrar advises the following important dates for students in November and December:

November
14: Publication of results, Medicine VI
21: "Women Eastern Theatre. All seminars at 11.30 a.m. Room 515, Menzies Building. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2197.

December
2: Publication of results, Science IV
6: Graduation Ceremony — all faculties
7: Half-year results for Medicine V
12: Publication of results, Economics & Politics I-II, Eco/Law I-V, Eco/Eng & Engineering
13: Publication of results, Arts I-V and Arts/Law I-V
18: Last day to take up a new subject taught in the summer term
19: Publication of results, Arts/Law IV
27: Graduation Ceremony — all faculties
30: Christmas concert

The Registrar advises the following important dates for students in November and December:

November
14: Publication of results, Medicine VI
16: Third term ends for Medicine IV
18: Examinations commence for Medicine IV
25: Summer term commences — Faculty of Medicine

December
2: Publication of results, Science IV
4: Graduation Ceremony — all faculties
5: Publication of results, Economics and Politics I
6: Publication of results, Education Applications close for L.M. by course work and diplomas in the Faculty of Arts

IMPORTANT DATES

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The Arts and Crafts Centre is now taking enrolments for the Summer School, with courses in crafts, dance and drama, first aid, languages, music, photography, study skills and many other subjects. Inquiries to ext. 3096 or 3160.

Wee Herbie, a bloke with a big responsibility, left: His creator, Roy Evans.

Janet Clarke Hall

The oldest women’s university college in Australia will celebrate its centenary in 1986. Janet Clarke Hall at the University of Melbourne was founded by Dr Alex­ ander Leeper as the Trinity College Hostel.

All past students are urged to contact the college to ensure they are on the mailing list for the newsletter.

Holiday homes

Single room accommodation for students and academics is available over the summer at Warrane College, a men’s college at the University of NSW.

For more details, free reverse charge inquiries can be made to (02) 662 6199, or by writing to The Deputy Bursar, Warrane College, PO Box 123, Kensington, NSW, 2033.

MONASH REPORTER

This is the last Monash Reporter for 1985. The next will be published in March, 1986. Contributions (letters, articles, photos) and suggestions should be addressed to the editor, Lisa Kelly (ext. 2003), c/- The Information Office, ground floor, University Offices.

MONASH REPORTER

November 13, 1985

- Above: Wee Herbie, a bloke with a big responsibility. Left: His creator, Roy Evans.

Norriss on 848 7241 AH. RBH: Admission: auditorium — adults $8.50, concession $5.50; Balcony — adults $8.50, concession $5.


19: **CHORAL CONCERT** — The University Choir presents "Choral Classics". Admission: adults $6, concession $3, family (2 adults/2 children) $15. P. in­ quiries: Nola Sim 616 9320.

20: **STUDENT CONCERT** — The students present a programme of classical and popular music. Admission: $3.25, FV: $2.25.


22: **CONCERT** — Sugarland presents "Sugarland a la Russe." Admission: $8.50, student $5.


GREAT STAIRWAYS OF THE WORLD

• This month's stairway no doubt has a purpose, even if it is not immediately obvious to the viewer. Its exact location tends to be a secret, but enthusiasts can track it down in the eastern end of the Education building. Photos — Tony Miller.

Water clocks dampen hot air enthusiasts

The organisers of a recent international hydraulics conference turned to Monash engineer, Dr Deane Blackman, to provide them with the appropriate technology for policing speakers into line — water clocks.

The clocks, which timed the speakers over intervals from three to 40 minutes, at the 21st Congress of the International Association of Hydraulic Research, proved a polite and effective means of policing the line between interest and boredom.

Dr Blackman, senior lecturer in Mechanical Engineering and an expert in the field of fluid dynamics, said his interest in ancient technology — and particularly, things Roman — was well known.

(Water clocks were used to time the speeches of barristers in the Roman courts.)

The five clocks he designed consisted of a black cone-shape with a solid bottom and open top.

The cone was attached to a central brass rod, the top of which carried a decorative horse and to the bottom of which weights could be screwed.

In use, the cone was floated on water in a perspex cylinder. Water entered a small hole in its base at a rate determined by the size of the weight.

When a speaker's time had elapsed, water reached the top of the cone and the whole contraption sank down the cylinder, giving a whole new meaning to the term "going down the tube".

"The response was very favorable. They worked quite well. "Over 40 minutes they were accurate to within about 30 seconds and over three minutes to within about 10 seconds," Dr Blackman said.

Gone (down) but not forgotten

The gallant vessel, Sir John Monash, lies in five metres of water in the shadow of the Monash bridge.

Having acquitted itself nobly in battle, the magnificent craft was shamelessly pirated and sunk by angry rivals. Its captain, Rob Trebilco, and the crew went down with honor, saluting all the way.

Fortunately such infamy had splendid outcome, for it was only fitting that Monash University's entry in the grand Concrete Canoe Race should find its resting place in a hallowed spot by the Anderson Street bridge, built across the Yarra by Monash and Anderson, consulting engineers, in 1899. (The human victims re-surfaced).

The vessel, with its 7mm shell strengthened by a new silicone fume admixture (which reduces the number of voids in the concrete), was constructed as part of a fourth year program in concrete technology by Civil Engineering students.

The second Monash University entry (the previous one was four years ago) in the annual race, it fought successfully through the heats before losing out to two boats in the final.

Both were mostly fibre glass, for the competition rules allow for construction using concrete and any additives, in unspecified quantities.

Supervisor, Dr Peter Darvall, Reader in Civil Engineering, says towards the end the riverside crowd was chanting for Sir John, but "it was beaten by unfortunate wind and current!"

However, he claimed moral victory, for having "the only genuine concrete boat on the river"; the closest rival, the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology entry, having snapped in half while being unloaded from its trailer.

"We had boating parties from the colleges hassling us all the way; Chisholm organised the race and Chisholm won," he says.

"It had so many boats (four of the seven in the race) that they sent one as a rammer — but it couldn't catch us in the heats.

"We're highly encouraged by the results and the next stage will be to go into higher technology for the canoe shape."

(Sydney University used origami principles to construct a six metre canoe for the First International Concrete Canoe Race in Stockholm earlier this year.)

Dr Darvall said teams of students would attempt the salvage of the Sir John Monash, which would be mounted for display on the east side of the department's laboratories, next to the fragments from the Westgate Bridge.

MONASH REPORTER

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