Forging links with local government

MONASH University has agreed to establish and manage an innovative training and development program for Dandenong Council staff.

The program, organised by the Office of Continuing Education (OCE), aims to provide up to five days of training a year for each of the Council's 110 executive, administrative and clerical staff.

The OCE, in conjunction with Council staff, will identify the training and development needs of particular employee groups and plan appropriate workshops. These would be conducted by Monash academics at the Dandenong Council offices.

The deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor John Hay officially launched the program at last week's workshop. This first workshop, designed for managers, senior administrators and councillors was held over two days.

Some of the Dandenong Council staff who will be taking part in the new training and development program.

"We provide a good quality training and development opportunity then there is a likelihood our people would stay longer and be better equipped to take up promotion opportunities."

Dr Kevin O'Tonnor, senior lecturer in geography, Westpac, Dr Gerry Quinn conducted a five-day field course in marine biology.

"It's such an important area and we don't have enough people working in the field."

THE nature of marine research in Victoria is set to change with the construction of a new laboratory complex on Port Phillip Bay.

Built beside one of the region's richest aquatic environments, the Queenscliff Marine Station will provide tertiary students and researchers with the kind of facilities that are usually the preserve of their counterparts in the United States.

The new station was established with a grant of $500,000 from Monash, the University of Melbourne, RMIT and the Victorian Institute of Marine Sciences (VIMS). It is expected to be fully operational by the middle of the year.

For the past seven years, the VIMS laboratory at Queenscliff has given primary and secondary students a first-hand look at aquatic life and environments.

In 1986, VIMS director Dr Laurie Hammond, the former dean of science at Monash and the university's representative on the station's management committee, Professor Bill Munz, and the dean of science at the University of Melbourne, Professor Tony Heal, began investigating the possibility of establishing a joint marine station that would cater specifically for the needs of tertiary students and researchers.

Three years and several planning permission problems later, work began on the site next to the VIMS laboratories and the State Government's Marine Studies Centre.

Dr Hammond said: "The station has been designed to provide facilities that do not exist anywhere in south-eastern Australia, such as offices for visiting researchers, laboratory space, high quality aquaria and access to the field."

"Fortunately, Queenscliff has a great range of marine habitats, from rocky shores to sea grass meadows, sheltered bays and open coastline. There's a whole diversity of habitats in one."

Professor Munz believes the station's proximity to Port Phillip Bay and the scientific expertise next door will make it one of the most important outlets of its kind in Australia.

"We have a concentration of some very expert people in one place, which is important from a research point of view, particularly as the bay needs some care and attention at the moment." Professor Munz said.

Although it is still incomplete, two Monash researchers have already taught classes on the site of the new station.

Last month, lecturer in zoology, Dr Gerry Quinn conducted a five-day course at Queenscliff for 51 students in aquatic ecology. In keeping with the new laboratory's spirit of co-operation, it was taught in conjunction with academics from the University of Melbourne and Adelaide University.

Reader in Botany, Dr Margaret Clayton, also has taken a class at the new laboratory. Like Dr Quinn, she hopes that her week-long course in marine biology will become an annual event.

Dr Clayton said: "Previously we worked out of caravans and tents which had very little effective bench space. Now we can run proper courses with lectures, audio-visuals and facilities for guest speakers."

"It's so much better for the students. They usually began work at nine o'clock in the morning, and didn't finish until nine at night, so involved were they in their work."

"Above all, it certainly improves the impact of teaching to have a laboratory down by the sea."
Honesty – best policy

LAST month's gathering of university information services staff at the University of Tasmania for their fifth national conference was a good illustration of one impact of the rapid and far-reaching changes in tertiary education in Australia. Universities are beginning to take their public face very seriously.

About 50 delegates attended from 25 universities and a couple of colleges. Two years ago, there were only 19 universities.

And those attending came from increasingly diverse backgrounds. They included journalists, public relations personnel, alumni officers, administrators, marketers and fund-raisers.

The matters that were discussed ranged from the practical, such as the use of electronic media and services and external art houses to the theoretical, such as how universities should approach public relations and what role PR should play in decision-making.

There were sessions on marketing, fund-raising, foreign students and liaison with industry.

The following is a report on the address given by keynote speaker Professor John Wicklein of Ohio State University’s School of Journalism. In it he argued that honesty is always the best public relations policy:

TELLING the truth was not only the best policy in public relations, it was the only practical policy. Professor John Wicklein told the conference.

"Once a public relations person lies to a reporter, that person, and the institution he or she represents are finished," he said.

For the past five years Professor Wicklein has served as Kiplinger Professor at the Ohio State University School of Journalism. This follows a distinguished career in print and electronic journalism and academia.

He recently won a national freedom of information award for an article on government and corporate efforts to influence journalistic content, and is presently on a Fulbright Scholarship at Charles Sturt University researching freedom of information in Australia.

Professor Wicklein argued that as representatives of a "community of scholars in search of truth", university public relations practitioners should be in the business of open and honest communication within their institution and between that institution and its publics.

In fact, he said, it was part of the public relations role to serve as the conscience of the institution, demonstrating to administrators that telling the truth can help them achieve their objectives and increase the institution's credibility.

"It is standard practice to withhold information from the public while decisions are being made. I would invite the public to join in, elicit public opinion. Such open discussion leads to sounder decisions," he said.

Wicklein said an important responsibility of public relations personnel was to give feedback to top administrators. "The public relations adviser should be included in the management team as policies are discussed, because he or she has knowledge of what's going on around the university."

He said even investigative reporting had a place in the role of information officer, because it allowed him or her to spot potential problems and remedy or plan for them.

"In this way public relations people can act as problem solvers. A story only becomes a scandal when you don't get out in front of it..."
Montech begins to profit the university

THREE years after its establishment, at a time when many companies are under financial stress, Montech Pty Ltd has made its first donation to Monash.
The $10,000 donation from the company's profits will be used to assist on-going research at the university.

From a gross income of about $3 million since February 1987, the university's commercial company has placed contracts worth nearly $2 million within Monash.

Montech's board of directors has calculated that just under half this income would not have flowed into the university without the company's assistance. It also estimates that the company has increased the value of its contracts by about 50 percent.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mal Logan, told Council that the donation showed Montech had operated successfully as a business. "In addition, Montech has provided advice and contact with industry which has opened up opportunities for the university," he said.

Montech's managing director, Dr Paul Hudson, said: "The university took a hard nosed business approach in forming Montech to give only a basic minimum of support, which meant the company had has to survive on its own wits. It was meant to be entrepreneurial.

The philosophy was a very good one. After all if Montech could not operate in the real commercial world, there would be little point in having it.

"Most businesses fail in the first three years. Montech has made a small profit. In our second three years we want to expand. We aim to double our turnover, and expect to continue to make donations to the university."

He said the task of operating as a university company was particularly difficult. "There are problems matching universities with the commercial world. Academics are concerned primarily with teaching and research. Undertaking activity with business has to be a third priority."

Added to which, he said, the economy had turned down during the past three years, and the Victorian Government had done a complete about-face in its attitude towards supporting technology in response to the losses of the VEDC.

He gave two examples of Montech's success, a research contract between the Pharmacology department and the pharmaceutical company Upjohn Pty Ltd to improve the effectiveness of one of its products and another between the Centre for Advanced Materials Technology and Pacific Dynlop Pty Ltd to examine the materials engineering of the new Polaris battery.

"Both were six-figure contract jobs. Both companies are extremely pleased with the outcome. Both worked to timetable and provided a top performance at a commercial price," Dr Hudson said.

Besides straight financial benefits, Dr Hudson said Montech provided a means for the transfer of technology and expertise between the university and industry, and it was a tangible demonstration to government of the university's desire to become more relevant to business.

The benefits and services Montech could provide academics included commercial accounting, technology management, project management, commercial infrastructure, market databases, and advice on licensing agreements.

"We need to market ourselves better to business on behalf of Monash, and to the Monash community across all campuses. This year, we have budgeted $20,000 for that purpose."

"The greater range of projects has come from the Faculty of Engineering, Medicine and Economics and Fazend had also been successful in generating business."

Mary-Anne Aitken with her first child, Thomas, at the Monash creche.

Researcher reaps fruits of her labor

A MONASH PhD student has recently won a grant to continue her work in the field of perinatology: the study of the period immediately before and after birth.

Mary-Anne Aitken was awarded the 1990 Glyn White Research Fellowship by The Royal Australian College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists Research Foundation. The two-year scholarship of up to $50,000 annually is to promote research in perinatal medicine.

"I am extremely pleased with the support that the College has shown in my work," said Dr Aitken.

Mrs Aitken is a qualified nurse and midwife with a First Class Bachelor of Science degree in general science. She is currently working as a research scientist at the University of Queensland's Mount Pleasant Hospital.

Her work involves the study of premature labour: using the techniques of molecular biology, she is investigating the genetic aspects that may be linked to spontaneous labour.

An American education

THE Management and Policy Studies Centre (MAPS), which is the training and consulting arm of the University of Canberra, is offering a study tour to North America for professional educators.

The tour is being organised in conjunction with Dr Michael Gaffney, lecturer in Educational Administration in the Faculty of Education.

It will be held from 29 June to 15 July 1990 and focus on contemporary issues in the study and practice of educational leadership, school-based management, educational innovation and school improvement.

The tour will visit Vancouver and Edmonton in Canada, and Los Angeles, San Francisco and Honolulu in the US. It will include:

- visits to selected state and local government education offices to observe policy processes;
- meetings with school and system-level executives to discuss the institutionalisation of school-based management and system-level performance indicators;
- seminars at educational research institutions internationally recognised for their work in the fields of educational leadership and school improvement;
- discussions with leaders in the study and practice of school-based management and the implementation of educational change.

The tour has been arranged so that the expenses incurred should qualify for treatment as a tax deduction.

For further information, contact the study tour director, Patricia Mc Namara at the MAPS Centre, F.O. Box 1; Belconnen, ACT 2616 or (062) 52 2598.
Merger mayhem

IN the fading autumn light, two university gardeners sat at the lake’s edge talking. They spoke of the deaths of their families, before summoning up the courage to turn a serious eye to their future at Monash.

The gardener from Flower Beds pulled a dog-eared copy of Merger News from his coat pocket and read the front page headline aloud. His friend from Lawns and Sprinklers had closed his eyes. He knew what was coming.

"Bed, Lawns to cultivate new links." They had thought it a joke at first. But that was last week, before management called a meeting of ground staff to confirm the report.

As Flower Beds and Lawns were no longer considered binary, they were told, the two sections were to be unified in a new department that would combine cutting and mowing with spadework and increased amounts of fertilizer. Within minutes, the department had been nicknamed Bednas.

The merger was to take place on 2 April (the official changeover date had been the first of the month until someone in Eucalyptus quipped that this was an "April Fools’ Day Sunday").

Anticipating a barrage of questions and clenched fists, departmental photocopiers produced a snowstorm of memos, updates, bulletins and announcements.

But staff remained strangely silent, all except for two men who now sat gazing across the water in the fading autumn light, one of whom pointed out that his little outdoor kingdom had been trampled by a rumbling from the tower of Menzies Building.

"The question is, will it improve the way I mow the lawn? Will it make my flowers look any better?"

The gardener from Lawns shrugged.

"All I know is, shared garden tools and sheds. And loan books and arguments."

"And missing garden tools and sheds. And even more loan books and arguments."

Both men nodded sagely.

Their rumination was interrupted by a rumbling from the lawn nears the Halls of Residence. One of the men pointed dismissively at its source. "That’s your bednas for you, you know.

They watched as a bucking rotary mower tore through the grass before jumping a rockery into a bed of young plants. A tractor trailing a length of sprinkler system pursued it over the garden before cornering the slower vehicle against a wall. In no time the drivers were trading blows.

Just then a phalanx of spade-toting apprentices from Flower Beds rolled the corner of Richardson Hall chased by a squadron of sit-down mowers.

The gardener from Lawns looked at his friend and sighed ruefully, "Seems you and I are the only two from opposing sides still talking, mate."

"We don’t expect people we train to tackle major incidents, only minor problems where they have the particular knowledge and expertise to be able to control it," he said. "In the case of a major chemical spill, outside expert assistance, for example the Melbourne Metropolitan Fire Brigade, will be called in to deal with the situation."

The Occupational Health and Safety Branch in conjunction with a leading company in the field, Fire Fighting Equipment, are running courses at two levels in the use of breathing apparatus.

"Although most incidents have occurred in daylight, part of the training is conducted in a semi-dark environment; both in a training room where visibility is limited and in the basement tunnels of the university," he said.

"One of the exercises in the tunnels involves locating ‘leaking drums of chemicals’ in the dark and then bringing the drums outside."

While these exercises are under way there is always a qualified safety officer present who knows the area and ensures no one is put at risk.

Breathing Apparatus Refresher Training courses are also held throughout the year to enable trained staff to renew their basic skills every six months.

The 90-minute refresher courses are primarily devoted to practical exercises but also review the donning, wearing and use of breathing apparatus equipment and breathing apparatus test procedures.

Since the courses started operating in September 1988, about 100 people have been trained in the use of breathing apparatus on campus.

Most of the people came from the faculties of Engineering and Science, Central Services and maintenance in particular areas where there are laboratories and workshops.

The Occupational Health and Safety Branch has arranged two initial breathing apparatus courses and 12 refresher courses. For more details contact Mr Denis Mudge on ext 5006.

Learning to live with noxious chemicals

THE Occupational Health and Safety Branch are organising training for staff in the use of breathing apparatus so they can handle minor incidents that occur on campus.

According to the safety advisor, Alan Wilson, about three minor incidents, usually involving chemical spills, happen every year at Monash.

"We have a number of breathing apparatus sets throughout the university in case there is a chemical spill, a gas leak or if someone is overcome by fumes in a laboratory," he said.

"People who have been trained in the use of breathing apparatus sets can then go into these areas and take whatever corrective action is necessary or possible."

Mr Wilson said people are usually selected for training in the use of breathing apparatus sets on the basis of their special knowledge and expertise within their own areas.

This ensures that the people sent in to clean up a particular problem are familiar with the substance they are dealing with and can take the necessary precautions. "We don’t expect people we train to tackle major incidents, only minor problems where they have the particular knowledge and expertise to be able to control it," he said.

"In the case of a major chemical spill, outside expert assistance, for example the Melbourne Metropolitan Fire Brigade, will be called in to deal with the situation."

The Occupational Health and Safety Branch in conjunction with a leading company in the field, Fire Fighting Equipment, are running courses at two levels in the use of breathing apparatus.

This includes practical use of breathing apparatus, care and maintenance of the equipment, and emergency search and rescue techniques.

Mr Wilson said the three-hour course was designed to train people to cope with the "worst case scenarios."

"Although most incidents have occurred in daylight, part of the training is conducted in a semi-dark environment; both in a training room where visibility is limited and in the basement tunnels of the university," he said.

"One of the exercises in the tunnels involves locating ‘leaking drums of chemicals’ in the dark and then bringing the drums outside."

"While these exercises are under way there is always a qualified safety officer present who knows the area and ensures no one is put at risk."

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Goodbye, hello to George

THE Senior Assistant Registrar for the Science Faculty, Mr George Joyce, received a true "Caledonian" send-off when he resigned from his post at Monash University earlier this month.

Mr Joyce has been appointed Assistant Registrar at the Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education, which will merge with Monash from 1 July.

At a special farewell gathering Mr Jim Leicester (Assistant Registrar) said, "I don’t know why we’re here, actually, because we’re not saying farewell. George is, in fact, not leaving Monash, he’s going to Monash."

Mr Joyce has been at Monash for 20 years (and one day, he pointed out, saving the last day for work in March 1970 as an examinations officer."

He later worked in the Faculty of Arts before transferring to Student Records (Office of Student Administration) where he spent the longest time from 1976 to 1989. He took up the position of Senior Assistant Registrar for the Science Faculty in May last year.

In student records, he was instrumental in getting the place computerised and introducing the student database known as MOSS.

Mr Joyce said his new position would involve a much broader range of responsibilities. These included personnel, student administration, academic secretarial, Equal Employment Opportunity, Student Services, Freedom of Information, the computing centre and community services.

"I am looking forward to living in Gippsland because it will be such a different lifestyle. No more city for me," he said.
THE scientist who has uncovered a substance which controls the timing of division in cells thinks universities should concentrate on basic research.

Professor Paul Nurse (above), the Ivor Hugh Professor of Microbiology at Oxford University, whose work may lead to better cancer therapy and more useful crop plants, says industry is the proper place for the development of any application of his research.

"I think governments should support basic research. Industry will soon take over what can be developed into products."

"It's a great mistake for governments to direct research, to try to predict the future. That way, only the mediocre and obvious are supported."

"In contrast, governments should be encouraging truly innovative research to come up with new solutions. Besides which, basic research is very good training for those involved in development."

Professor Nurse is touring Australia delivering the 1990 Florear Lecture in Melbourne, Canberra, Sydney and Brisbane.

The Melbourne lecture was organised by the Dean of Medicine, Professor Bob Porter and Dr Phillip Nagley, reader in Biochemistry. It was given in the Alexander Theatre to an audience of 300 people.

This is the first time the lecture has been hosted by Monash.

Professor Nurse said he became interested in the regulation of the cell division cycle because the rate at which cells divide underlies all growth and development in plants and animals. Cancer involves uncontrolled cell division.

For the bulk of the work, Professor Nurse's research team decided to use yeast cells, as they were easy to grow and manipulate. "They have all the characteristics of mammalian cells, but are much simpler, and have fewer genes," he said.

First, the group identified which part of the genetic material had to be present to allow cell division to take place. Using mutations which disable single ones, the researchers were able to identify individual genes necessary for cell division.

"But that tells us little about control," Professor Nurse said. "For that we needed to look at genes which determine the timing of cell division."

He used the analogy of a clock.

Many parts of the mechanism could go wrong and stop the operation, he said, but there were only a few control components which could malfunction to affect the timing, that is, make the clock go fast or slow.

To crack the problem of timing, the team found a group of four mutant genes which led to early cell division, that is, division before the cell had grown to its normal size. These genes contained the plans for a group of four enzymes (protein catalysts) which were linked so that three of them each regulated the other one.

This critical fourth enzyme, known as CDC-2, happens to activate other proteins. And its own activity rises to a peak at cell division.

The research group then found a gene for a human protein similar to CDC-2. This gene the researchers were able to clone and introduce into yeast cells with defective CDC-2 genes. The resultant cell functioned normally.

This interchange of human and yeast genes shows that the cell division control system has been conserved over the hundreds of millions of years between the evolution of yeast and humans. "The process is controlled in the same way in yeast as in humans and everything in between," Nurse said.

It also makes yeast a useful model for the operation of human cells.

"So now we can do the human genetics in yeast, which allows us a quick and rapid experimental approach."

The research team hopes to do more work on the details of the control mechanisms.

In order to divide, a cell must be in the right condition. The genetic material must already have divided and the cell itself must be of an appropriate size.

So somehow the cell must have a means of determining whether its chromosomes have replicated and when it is the right time or volume for division.

The research group is investigating how it does this.

Professor Nurse said that cancer occurs when the processes of both growth and division are out of control.

Cells which divide without growing can only have a limited impact on an organism; and cells which grow without dividing are liable to burst.

"The control of cell growth is very complicated. There are maybe 50 to 100 ways it could go wrong, so there are many, many ways cancer can be initiated. But what we have found is that cell replication is controlled in one particular way, so that at point all development is funnelled through a single pathway."

"This means our work might be of use to devise some way of blocking cell division, providing temporary respite when applied to malignant (cancer) cells. This could give doctors time to sort out the real problem causing the cancer."

Unis fail to tap millions

AUSTRALIAN universities could be losing millions of dollars by letting their most lucrative supporters slip through their fingers, according to a national survey on charitable donations.

In a national poll of more than 1000 Australians in all states, research group O'Keefe, Panas and Partners, found that only one in six people donate to an education or research group.

The total donations in the sector was $93 million a year, putting education well behind religious organisations ($232 million), social welfare ($187 million), health and hospitals ($130 million) and international aid ($121 million).

Managing director of O'Keefe, Panas and Partners, Brian O'Keefe said universities in particular had the potential during the 1990s to become "fundraising giants." But, he said, too many at the moment were crippling their future fundraising potential by losing contact with major donors.

"Ex-students are the obvious ultimate supporters for an institution," O'Keefe said.

"Our study found that 44 per cent of donors to education gave because of 'personal involvement'," he said.

Mr O'Keefe said long established universities could pare the way for large gifts by encouraging endowments from ex-student benefactors.

The study also found that university donations to educational institutions was $52 million. However, with more target interesting ex-students and endowment programs, it is expected this figure will rise considerably over the next 10 years.

In overall results, the study found that Australians give $869 million to charities every year. In the generosity stakes this places Australians well short of the Americans but ahead of the Europeans.
Democrats pledge abolition of fees

THE Australian Democrats are more committed to providing better access to higher education than either of the two major political parties, the Australian Democrats candidate for Bruce, Mr Geoff Herbert, claims.

The Australian Democrats believe a more open education system leads to greater equality and opportunity and economic independence, he said.

"Education is human development and should provide skills, all-round capacity, initiative, social responsibility and a commitment to democracy. Access to this process must be available at all ages and at any time in life.

Under the Australian Democrats' education policy, there will be no tertiary tax or fees and AUSTUDY would be increased to 120 per cent of the poverty line.

Mr Herbert said the Australian Democrats were the only party to vote against the reintroduction of quinary involving the institutions fees, a measure which he said disadvantaged women, part-time, migrant, mature-age and low-income tertiary students.

"Higher education should funded out of the fair and equitable taxation of people," he said.

"Higher education should be given a higher priority." Mr Herbert said the Democrats were opposed to senseless or financially contrived amalgamations of education institutions. He said his Party believed reforms, amalgamations or expansion proposals should be initiated only after an open inquiry involving the institutions concerned.

"These amalgamations are rubbing some of the smaller colleges of a sense of running their own affairs and developing their own campuses," he said.

Mr Herbert said, as a member of the public he found it difficult to know exactly what communities the amalgamated institutions would be serving.

Included in the Democrats' higher education policy is the introduction of legislative guarantees of academic freedom and Australia-wide tenure status.

"A new development at universities is that lecturers and tutors are being employed to meet increasing demand and then put off because of financial constraints," he said.

"This is against the idea of the university as a body which is free from interference and of academics working without four of their tenure being cut short by those who pull the purse strings.

Mr Herbert said the Democrats would give priority to a major capital works program aimed at providing adequate buildings and facilities for university staff and students.

The Democrats' policy, however, does not give details about how these projects would be funded. According to Mr Herbert, high interest rates is the major problem facing many people in Australia today. He said the Democrats would reduce the interest burden on people who could not afford it.

Call to boost reading, writing and arithmetic

THE Call To Australia candidate for Bruce, Mr Peter Olney, says he wants to see some real value restored to our education system.

Mr Olney believes education standards have dropped over the past 15 years and thinks there should be more emphasis placed on developing basic reading, writing and arithmetic skills.

"In the context of higher education we need to encourage a scholarship system so those less fortunate, but who have the capacity, can win through," he said.

Mr Olney said he believed university students should pay something towards the cost of their education.

"I see tertiary education as a part of our society that needs some payment for the enormous amount of work that goes into it." Mr Olney said he had mixed feelings towards the Federal Government's plan to merge colleges and universities into a Unified National System.

"If the Government is looking to amalgamate tertiary institutions to bring about a more efficient economy then I see that move as being essential. But if all these amalgamations achieve is the shuffle of paper and jobs then the whole exercise is a waste of time," he said.

Mr Olney has been actively involved in the CTA Party since 1983 and said he was concerned to see the country running smoothly, carefully and sensibly in a God-fearing and Christian manner.

"My main motivation for running is that the two parties know there is a growing concern out there for family and Christian values that are good, right and wholesome," he said.

"We want people to have high moral standards but that doesn't mean everyone has to be a Christian.

Mr Olney said he was particularly concerned about the destruction of the family and under the present Labor Government.

"I look at the number of family breakdowns that occur these days and see a large part of the responsibility, rests with the Family Law Act," he said.

"On the one hand it emphasises that marriage is a commitment for life and on the other hand it makes it so easy for that commitment to be broken.

"The Family Law Act has made it so easy for divorce to occur and has created a lack of understanding about how to solve problems with your partner.

"As a policeman I have an opportunity to address those facts because that is where the laws start from. If you have had bad laws the country will run poorly, but if you have good laws there is a chance for the country to run effectively.

Mr Olney said he was also opposed to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

"The Government is being placed in a position of judgement over the family and is being given the power to decide whether the punishment a child deserves is appropriate," he said.

"I believe it is my right as a parent to administer the appropriate punishment to my child. There are so many holes in this document as to who is the authority in these situations and yet the ALP want to bring it in without altering it at all."

Mr Olney said he was also concerned with the way the Federal Government was handling the economy and Australia's balance of payments problem.

"Labor has shown a lack of control in accruing the worst overseas debt we have ever had as a nation and I find that unforgivable," he said.

Monash University is situated in the Federal electorate of Bruce. Here the four candidates contesting the seat in the forthcoming election discuss recent changes to the higher education system.
ELECTION 90  ELECTION 90  ELECTION 90

Liberal guarantee loans to open education to all

A LARGER, better and more effective higher education system was needed for Australia's economic advancement, cultural enrichment and social development, according to the Liberal candidate for Bruce, Mr Julian Beale.

Mr Beale said the Government's policies had created turmoil in the education system with consequent benefits not only to the students, which is the primary benefit, but to the institutions as well, he said.

Mr Beale dismissed reports that the Liberal Party's plan to introduce loan fees and a student loan scheme were doomed to failure.

Under a coalition government education policy, students would be required to pay an annual fee of $1,200, half of which would be due at the start of each semester. Scholarships would be offered to at least one in four students and interest would be eligible to apply for financial assistance through a loans scheme.

Mr Beale said the coalition had plotted $2 billion in loans so that no student was denied an education because of financial hardship.

"Our spokesman on education has made it clear that he has had discussions with the budget and they are, as they were in 1982, very well geared toward this loans scheme," he said.

"But we have undertaken in our policy to facilitate those commercial loan arrangements, if necessary by government guarantee." Mr Beale said the American experience, where almost $2 billion was owed by students who had failed to repay their loans, was not relevant to Australia. "We do not see that partially funded American experience as a significant drawback to doing what we want to do to ensure the financially disadvantaged have access to higher education."

Liberal

Mr Beale said the Liberal Party had undertaken to fund the same number of student places as projected in the Government's 1988 budget.

"We would also permit institutions to offer additional places on any basis they see fit," he said. "And we are also going to encourage institutions and corporations, statutory authorities, businesses and individual donors to provide funds for scholarships and additional places."

Mr Beale strongly criticised the Australian Research Council (ARC) for not under the Labor Government to administer research funding programs to tertiary institutions. Hence the ARC was "politically motivated" and had been designed for Labor Party purposes.

"Our objections to the ARC arise because we do not believe that Government and bodies that are politically motivated can properly determine where funds for research should go," he said.

"We want to establish a system that will reduce bureaucratic interference and ensure that excellence in research is supported to the full extent of the community's ability to pay."

On the issue of amalgamations, Mr Beale said: "If institutions on a voluntary basis want to enter into arrangements that will assist their students and them, then we are not opposed to it.

"What we are opposed to is the Dawkins coercive plan where he is forcing institutions to merge, bribing them to do so and withholding funds if they don't. It is a massive exercise in the creation of a corporate state in education and we are utterly opposed to it."

Mr Beale said he welcomed the fact the Monash was located in the electorate and planned to visit the university to address students. "They (the students) and their parents are my constituents and the things that concern them are the same sorts of things that concern people all over Australia," he said.

"The major thing which is concerning people is the high level of interest rates... and that is hurting families and young people and students all over."

And how does Mr Beale expect he and the Liberal Party will fare in the forthcoming election?

"The margin is Bruce is now about 4.5 per cent and I expect we will win it with eight per cent or more. And I expect the coalition will win government comfortably," he said.

Unis should support industry, Labor says

LABOR believes education should be relevant to contemporary society and the economy as well as the needs and aspirations of individuals, Bruce, Mr Philip Cottier, said according to the ALP candidate for Bruce.

Mr Cottier said he believed in fostering closer links between higher education and industry but wanted to see independent research, particularly in the humanities, preserved.

"Our spokesman on education has made it clear that he has had discussions with the budget and they are, as they were in 1982, very well geared toward this loans scheme," he said.

"But we have undertaken in our policy to facilitate those commercial loan arrangements, if necessary by government guarantee." Mr Beale said the American experience, where almost $2 billion was owed by students who had failed to repay their loans, was not relevant to Australia.

"We do not see that partially funded American experience as a significant drawback to doing what we want to do to ensure the financially disadvantaged have access to higher education."

"Our policy has been to increase Austudy when we have had the opportunity because we want to encourage people to go on to higher education," he said.

Under the Federal Labor Government the transformation of the higher education system over the past 18 months is undeniable.

According to Mr Cottier it is still too early to predict the outcome of the amalgamations.

"If the effect of the amalgamations is to create further choice for students in terms of subjects offered and accessibility to courses, and if it increases the quality of teaching then it will undoubtedly be good for students," he said.

"We are at the beginning of a new journey in education in this country and on some things we will just have to wait and see how it works out."

After several weeks of door knocking in the electorate, Mr Cottier said there were a number of issues which people expressed some concern. These included the retention of Medicare, Industrial Relations, public transport, the environment and interest rates, although in Bruce there was more concern over the effect of high interest rates on business than housing, he said.

On his chances of winning Bruce, Mr Cottier said: "Bruce has historically not been a Labor seat, but there has been a redistribution recently and I think that always allows some flexibility in the result next time."

And what about the Government's chances of retaining office? "I think Hawke will get back. It will be close, but I think people will on balance decide that in a lot of areas the Hawke Government has strong records of achievement," he said.
“Working Life” is about work and its meaning in the Australian context. She explains in a clear and understandable way the importance that the labor process has on the nature of work in Australian society. Work, its associated activities, and relations are a reflection of the broader political economy. This is an underpinning theme in the book.

There has been much debate in recent times on the need to work harder due to the demands of being in a world economy and on the need to stop accepting unemployment as a necessary condition to maintaining high living standards in society (albeit for the more privileged).

Belinda Probert makes clear the socio-political processes underlying work organisation, and unmasks some popular mythes and expectations about why work should be the way it is. “Work has become synonymous with employment.” Yet she traces the activities of groups in a number of different ways to show that work can encompass an enormous range of activities that have lost status and importance, especially for women. Everyone who engages in work, from managers to housewives, has their statuses conferred and are themselves shaped by the work that they do. She highlights the modern society and our social organisation have their roots clearly in the origins of the factory forms of production.

She identifies the most salient features of the factory production system which have contributed to work as a fragmented and alienating experience for many people. A major feature of the text is the range of topics covered, all of which are highly relevant to an understanding of the Australian work experience. These include the historical developments of work practices, the role of technology and technological change, and the organisation of work and the social and political processes underlying it. She has a more privileged membership and are expert at maintaining large areas of self-regulation. Medical doctors are cited as being extremely good at this. While professionals can sanction large areas for high income they are contrated with more ordinary role relations, where management use their “per-lgative” to enforce many types of control over workers. Social protest and conflict is the basis of our current work relations.

The experience of two disadvantaged groups in the workforce are presented: women and migrant workers. There are many popular ideas and justifications for inequities. These are discussed but the conclusion is that these particular groups have been exploited as cheap forms of labor.

Legislative changes are shown to account for some of the ways in which women’s work has been fashioned. The wage fixing system in Australia established men as the breadwinners. It was not until the early 1970s, soon after wage equality, that great numbers of women entered the workforce, yet the majority of women are still employed in the lower echelons. Migrant workers also suffer discrimination. Southern Europeans have skills and a great desire to work but have filled the more unpleasant factory jobs vacated by Australian and British born workers. There is evidence in the book that a large pool of the unemployed come from the ranks of migrant workers.

Apart from special issues such as inequality and disadvantage her book tackles issues which are not on the agenda of the more traditional texts on work. One such issue is the female occupation of housework. It is unpaid and therefore “not real work.” There are several justifications for the fact that housework is a female rather than male role and for its low status, and these are discussed. Despite a growing belief that men who now perform more of that role, real socio-gender changes need to take place in order to transform the occupation of housework.

The final sections of the book cover issues relevant to the development of work organisations in the late 1990s, including the influence of technological development on the changing nature of work, and Australia as a member of the international economy. She draws attention to the use of technology by management in a means of exercising control over employees. Technology can reduce skill levels dramatically and can even bring about the destruction of unionised groups.

McCormick’s, a manufacturer of reaping machinery in Chicago of the 1860s, is an example of management being prepared to reduce profitability in order to increase their control over labor. Management used technological innovation which was less efficient and cost effective but this skill led to bringing about the destruction of the National Union of Iron Moulders. This book gives a highly relevant portrayal of the role of foreign investment in Australia. This is helpful for understanding its influence on the development of manufacturing industry over the past 20 years and on creating a lack of competitiveness for Australian industry on the international market. She finishes by outlining positive and negative predictions for the future of work in Australia and suggests that various appropriate political and social actions need to be used in order to help solve current problems and to meet the demands of a changing future.

The style that she uses in presenting this book is to draw on a pool of different and contrasting views on aspects of work and then offer insights after considering a number of points of view.

The conclusions always draw the reader back to a consideration of socio-political processes. She has deliberately moved away from an academic style in this publication and presents some very complex ideas with clarity, offering great readability and interest. "Working Life" has appeal not only for the reader seeking a greater understanding of the connections between social process and the activity of work but to the introductory student and lay reader who will benefit richly from the clear insights into the nature of work in the modern Australian context.

Mr Chris Petersen
Sociology Department
La Trobe University

The whole is greater than the sum of its parts

MANY staff, students and visitors at Monash have tried to determine the time and date from the sundial, situated on the north wall of the union building. While the careful reader can work out the answers, people say that the elaborate configuration of curves and loops was designed.

A small booklet produced by the Department of Mathematics sets out the calculations for the sundial while at the same time telling the reader something of its creator.

The design and construction of the sundial was the work of the late Carl Felix Moppen, a senior lecturer in the Department of Mathematics at Monash from 1967 until his death from leukaemia in 1984.

Moppen's work proved the sundial should not just be a stone wonder to be grasped at but a device that should be understood and understood in mathematical terms, the book says. "To this end, he produced a manuscript of some 70 pages, a manuscript he tried strenuously and unsuccessfully to put into publication. At the time of his death a highly condensed account had appeared in the Monash journal of school mathematics. Function (5 (5), 1981: 2-9) and that was all."

In tribute to his memory, the Mathematics Department reprinted his work, "Manuscript of some 70 pages of calculations for the sundial of Carl Felix Moppen." Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of The Monash Sundial by Carl Moppen, should contact the Department of Mathematics on ext 4465.
A capital affair

ALUMNI groups keep a university in touch with the community and provide ideas and experiences which can have a major effect on the university. The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mal Logan, told the first Monash alumni reception to be held in Canberra.

About 70 graduates attended the reception hosted by the Vice-Chancellor in November at Bruce Hall, Australian National University. Monash University was endeavouring to build bridges, and one bridge was keeping in touch with former students, Professor Logan said.

Professor Logan said he believed the present was a time for opportunity in higher education and Monash was enjoying this by combining with Chisholm Institute of Technology, Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education and with the sponsorship of the Canberra College of Advanced Education as the University of Canberra.

"Such a period of opportunity will not occur again for 20 years," he said.

Sydney celebration

The first function of the group is a wine and cheese night on Friday 30 March at 7.30pm. It will be held at the Arts and Crafts Centre at Monash University and the cost is $8 a person.

Mr O'Hagan will be guest speaker and will address the topic of "Crisis Intervention".

For further information please phone Bleakley at (07) 294 0049 (H) or 797 5777 (W).

A social network

The Monash Social Work Network had a very busy start to the year.

The opportunity to host functions with the English social work writer and practitioner, Kieran O'Hagan, has mobilised the network into feverish activity.

Mr O'Hagan is known internationally for his writings and work in both crisis intervention and child abuse. He is currently principal social worker (child abuse) with Leeds City Council and continues to carry his own case load.

His recent book "Working with Child Sexual Abuse" stands out amongst a stream of recent publications on this topic. He presents controversial and challenging viewpoints and extends beyond the theory to practical assistance to practitioners.

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Mr O'Hagan will be guest speaker and will address the topic of "Crisis Intervention".

For further information please phone Carmel Laragy on 232 3395 (H).

A get together of Monash graduates will be held on Friday 27 April. Further details: Department of External Relations & Alumni Affairs, (03) 565 2044 or Dr Christopher Joy (07) 369 6499 (H).

The Chancellor will host a buffet supper for Monash graduates on Saturday 28 April at the North Queensland Club, Townsville.

Professor Ross Day, Chairman of External Relations & Alumni Affairs, (03) 565 2044 or Mr Doug Turnbull (07) 21 3721.

Dr Poh Teek Yeo, Dr Bryan Walpole, Dr John Udel and Dr Dadd CrnUl. Dr CrnUl Kraduared in 1976.

The Annu..1 General Meeting and Dinner of the Association of Monash Medical Graduates will be held on Friday 15 May at Tudor Court.

A get together of Monash graduates will be held in Brisbane on the evening of Friday 27 April. Further details: Department of External Relations & Alumni Affairs, (03) 565 2044 or Mr Doug Turnbull (07) 21 3721.

The annual Chinese Banquet will be held on Saturday 28 April at 7pm at the Beijing Palace Restaurant, Tooronga Road, Hawthorn.

Professor Rosi Day, Chairman of the Department of Psychology, will be the guest speaker.

All members of the university community, staff, students, alumni and friends are cordially invited to attend.

Tickets are $30 a head, and BYO drinks. To book a place, contact the Department of External Relations & Alumni Affairs on 565 2044 or the secretary of the Friends of Monash Inc., Mr Bruce Adams, on 877 2579.

ABOUT 50 Monash Alumni met in January for a buffet supper at The Royal Bangkok Sports Club. Pictured here in discussion (from right to left) are the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mal Logan, tHe Excellenry Mr Richard Butler, Australian Ambassador to Thailand and Monash honorary graduate, Dr Meekh Vivashan.

ABOUT 50 Monash Alumni met in January for a buffet supper at The Royal Bangkok Sports Club. Pictured here in discussion (from right to left) are the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mal Logan, tHe Excellenry Mr Richard Butler, Australian Ambassador to Thailand and Monash honorary graduate, Dr Meekh Vivashan.

Hospitality in Hobart

The Chancellor of Monash University, Sir George Lush, believes the university is poised for big changes with the merger with Chisholm Institute. "Changes will have to be made to affect all of the country's universities. The merger with Chisholm will see substantial change. They will become part of Monash and will cease to exist as Chisholm Institute," Sir George said.

"Changes will have to be made to meet the challenges ahead."

It is expected that Monash's student population would swell from about 15,000 to between 23,000 and 25,000 students from 1 July 1990.

Two additional campuses from the University will become part of Monash and will cease to exist as Chisholm Institute.

Further details: Janeete Elderton 898 3385 (ab) or Elaine Young, Faculty of Medicine 565 4305 (Hh).

BANQUET

THE annual Chinese Banquet organised by the Friends of Monash University Inc. will be held on Saturday 28 April at 7pm at the Beijing Palace Restaurant, Tooronga Road, Hawthorn.

Professor Rosi Day, Chairman of the Department of Psychology, will be the guest speaker.

All members of the university community, staff, students, alumni and friends are cordially invited to attend.

Tickets are $30 a head, and BYO drinks. To book a place, contact the Department of External Relations & Alumni Affairs on 565 2044 or the secretary of the Friends of Monash Inc., Mr Bruce Adams, on 877 2579.
Entertainment and The Arts

A night at the opera

MONASH University Season 90 at the Alexander Theatre is off and running.

In early March, Lorraine Bayly graced the stage of the Alex in the comedy "Lipstick Dreams". It was nearly 20 years ago that she first performed at Monash in "We Brought It to New Haven" and now three Logies later she was given an enthusiastic welcome back.

"Lipstick Dreams" gave audiences an entertaining mix of hilarious moments, thought-provoking characters and the unforgettable music of the '60s.

This week the season continues with the Victoria State Opera's production of Rossini's "The Barber Of Seville"; an exciting event for Monash.

Under the baton of Richard Dovall, the cast includes John Wood as Figaro, Michael Terry as Count Almaviva, Ias Counsil as Dr Bartolo and Kathleen Southall-Cussey as Rosina.

The innovative staging of this production is a result of young director Barrie Kosky. Barrie received acclaim for his direction of Tipper's operas "The Knot Garden" as part of last year's Spoleto Festival. He will also be directing Rohan Archer in "Cafe Fledermaus" to be presented later in the Monash season.

Vacuum cleaners, ladders and lots of chairs are some of the unusual images that should make this full-scale production a feast for the eyes as well as the ears.

"The Barber of Seville" is already close to selling out but tickets are still available for other shows in the season. Following the opera in June, "Numenose" the funny funny musical comes to Monash, starring June Broshill.

Andrew Dunn

Videos send Visual Arts courses long distance

The traditional belief that you cannot learn art by distance education is being challenged by the School of Visual Arts at the Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education.

The Head of the School of Visual Arts, Norman Creighton recently announced that a new video package course in fine art drawing would be offered on a trial basis this year.

The course, Mark & Image, has been operating at the Emily Carr College of Art and Design in Canada for a number of years. It contains 10 hour-long videos, a comprehensive manual and all the materials needed for the student to undertake the course.

Students are assigned a tutor who receives the art work from the students by post, and sends it back with comments and suggestions for improvement.

The School has a growing list of units being offered by distance education including four units in art history and theory, also available for on-campus students.

Students studying art history and theory by distance education mode include mature students who want to develop a better understanding of the arts, students who want to begin a deeper study into art, or those who want to complement other external curricula between the staff and students, as Figaro, Michael Terry as Count Almaviva, Ias Counsil as Dr Bartolo and Kathleen Southall-Cussey as Rosina.

The School of Visual Arts has four main studios and has developed a great deal of expertise over the past 20 years since it first opened in 1972. This is different from BA students at Monash in Melbourne where students train to develop a better understanding of the arts, students who want to begin a deeper study into art, or those who want to complement other external courses on campus.

"There are periods of contact between the staff and students, with the staff and students often working six hours at a time in the studio." Mr Creighton said.

"The course doesn't offer any crafts or design subjects but concentrates on the traditional fine art areas of painting, printmaking, sculpture and ceramics," he said.

"At Gippsland, the studio orientated course enables students to train to be practising artists or art teachers. This is different from BA students at Monash in Melbourne where students train to be curators and critics."

The School of Visual Arts has four main studios and has developed a great deal of expertise over the past 20 years since it first opened in 1972, using the studio method teaching.

"There are periods of contact between the staff and students, with the staff and students often working six hours at a time in the studio." Mr Creighton said.

The schedule for the Switchback Gallery at the Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education features:

23 March-11 April William Young Paintings
12 April-2 May Jan Feder Collection
24 May-2 May GIAE Drawing
23 May-7 June Dan Wollmering Sculptor
8 June-21 June Recent Work Exhibition to be announced
22 June-12 July Edward Ginger Sculpture & prints
13 July-26 July Dan Wollmering Curator
27 July-16 August Painting Studio Exhibition
17 August-30 August Ceramics Studio Exhibition
31 August-13 September Holley Poits Curator
14 September-27 September Printmaking Studio Exhibition
19 October-1 November Dan Wollmering Curator
2 November-29 November Sculpture Studio Exhibition
12 April-2 May Euan Heng Curator
30 November-13 December Masters & Postgraduate Examination
14 December-Feb. 1991 Exhibition to be announced

Summer Show

GALLERY CALENDAR 1990

Arts and Crafts Centre autumn program

DRAWING on the right side of the brain... not a handbook for neurosurgeons, but the title of one of the new season's courses being offered by the Monash Arts and Crafts Centre.

The courses offered cover just about everything from astrology (a six-week course that looks at zodiac signs, houses, and planets and their relationship to the human body) to fiction writing.

Other courses include sculpting, painting, collage, printmaking, photography and much more.

And that strangely titled course? Apparently it is a special method for teaching those with absolutely no artistic background how to draw.

Courses range from one day to five weeks. For further information, contact the centre on ext 3180.
A QUILT made by Arts and Crafts Centre quilt carries a strong message about the design and work of a woman's labor is never really given," she said. Susan has been making quilts since 1983 and has completed more than 24 quilts. She guards herself a full-time quilter but has to work to supplement her income.

"Female crafts are too much and Derek Pearse, who is widely known for his lightening of ecclesiastical windows. The centre is also running classes in ecclesiastical windows.

according to Susan, the quilt carries a strong message about the destructive nature of manimwoman and the possibilities of harmony on earth through peace and conservation.

"If we look at the quilt as a whole you can see that man and woman are only a small part of the whole creation. We haven't been on earth for as long as the animal kingdom but we have done the most damage. In the quilt the man and woman are not at the top," she said.

"We also wanted to get across that unless we have peace (symbolised in the quilt by a dove) and conservation (symbolised by a tree), there can be no true happiness and no bright future." At the top of the quilt a bright future is represented by light pieces but there are no symbols because who knows what the future will bring.

On a less metaphysical level, the quilt also represents the successful combination of two art forms—designing and quilting. Susan said she learnt a great deal from Derek about design and in turn learnt a lot from her about using textiles.

"It has been a terrific learning experience and hopefully it will encourage other artists to do combined products," she said.

The centre is also running classes in the areas of ceramics, painting and drawing, music, craft, textiles, creative writing, personal well-being, culinary arts, home and garden, photography and study skills.

According to the centre's director, Irene Roff, all classes are filling up quickly and people should book early to avoid disappointment.

For further information, phone the Arts and Crafts Centre on 565 3180.
Sport and Recreation

Work it out at the gym

TO stay healthy, fit and well, people need to exercise. Our bodies are made for activity and without regular exercise they just don't work as efficiently as they should.

Exercise can help you in many ways such as reducing stress, lowering blood pressure, improving sleeping patterns, controlling weight, and reducing anxiety, tension and depression.

Unfortunately as we enter university and adulthood, our physical well-being and recreation habits tend to fall away. Our lifestyle changes, cars take our feet off the footpath, television takes us away from a physical hobby, university study provides our brain with exercise but not our body and labour-saving devices dominate our life.

While you are here at Monash University keeping the mind exercised, why not keep the body exercised as well and start feeling some of the benefits of exercise?

The Fitness Gymnasium is an ideal place to begin this exercise program. Whether it be general fitness, body toning, muscular strength, weight control or body building you are seeking, then the Fitness Gymnasium can help.

The room has a wide selection of free weights and pin-loaded machines which are easily used by everyone. The Fitness Gymnasium is fully supervised by qualified instructors who can help you to achieve your exercise goals. Give advice on nutrition, diet and other forms of exercise programs.

To join the gymnasium you first must book in for a fitness assessment. The fitness assessment is compulsory for everyone who joins and is conducted in a private room in the fitness gym. It consists of full medical history, blood pressure, lung capacity, skinfold measurements (body fat), anatomical measurements, hamstring and lower back flexibility and stomach endurance.

If you are over 35 years of age then a medical certificate from your local doctor is needed prior to the fitness assessment. Forms for this medical can be picked up from the fitness gym.

A personalised program can also be structured for you on the basis of your fitness assessment, specific needs and goals. The program is designed by our staff and you are taken through the program so that all exercises are familiar to you. To book in for a fitness assessment and a gym program, you must come in person to the fitness gymnasium (located in the Sports and Recreation courtyard, next to the barbecue) and pay $5 each for the assessment and program.

A three-month membership costs $515, six months' membership is $225, and 12 months' membership is $50.

The gymnasium is open Monday to Friday from 7 am to 9 pm, Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm, and Sunday from 10 am to 5 pm.

Leigh Branagan
Recreation Officer

The week that was ....

THE new swimming co-ordinator at the Monash Swimming Complex, Sandra Bingham, has spent most of her life in deep water.

Sandra has been heavily involved in all areas of the swimming profession both in a teaching capacity and as a keen competitor.

She has instructed everyone from pre-schoolers ( tadpoles) to adults and people with special needs. In addition she has co-ordinated many holiday and school programs.

Sandra holds her distinction with the Royal Life Saving Society of Victoria and still swims competitively as a veteran with the Masters (Ringwood) Rats. She trains about seven kilometres a week and enjoys distance swims in the bay.

"I think it is good to keep my hand in all aspects of swimming, so I am regularly involved in the competition side as well as teaching," she said.

"I love the sport itself and find the knowledge I have gained through being a competitive swimmer helps me get results."

As co-ordinator of the swimming complex, Sandra is responsible for organising swimming classes that serve the needs of the university and the local community. She also takes many of the classes herself.

According to Sandra, programs for 1990 include daily swimming classes for schools in the area. Students use the pool from 9 am to 3 pm Monday to Friday and are taught by Monash swimming instructors.

Adult classes are held from Monday to 1 pm and on Monday and Wednesday nights from 7 to 8 pm. The classes range from beginners to advanced stroke correction and endurance swimming.

From 4 pm to 6 pm there is an after school program for children aged from five-year-olds through to intermediate squad members.

Other programs include water familiarisation for two to five-year-olds, Tuesdays and Fridays from 9 to 11 am. On Saturday mornings there are half-hour classes from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm for all age groups and all levels. A five-week Bronze Medallion course is also run for two hours on a Saturday.

For further information about the swimming programs — phone Sandra Bingham at the Sports & Recreation Centre on ext 6753.