

# CAMPUS NEWS

VOL. 3 NO. 3

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 1977

## Wollongong has enough funds for improvement and growth

While most universities in Australia are in fairly acute financial difficulty, the University of Wollongong still has enough funds to allow for both improvement and growth.

On March 17, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor L. M. Birt, addressed the University on enrolments for 1977 and on the University's financial situation. This article summarises the more significant features of the financial situation.

The Government's grants to the University of Wollongong are continuing to increase, both in total and in value per student. In constant money terms (June 1976 base) the recurrent grants given, approved, or recommended are:

1976	\$6.565m (\$3586 per student load)
1977	\$7.385m (\$3647)
1978	\$7.925m (\$3738)
1979	\$8.850m (\$4041)

Over the four years then, the University expects an increase of \$2.285 million, or almost 35 percent in its grant.

Much of this will go to meet the costs of teaching additional students, but a significant amount will go in "betterment". The dollars per student represent a genuine improvement of 12.8 percent in the level of funding.

### See Tables, Page 2

Professor Birt said that the University of Wollongong owed a special debt to the Universities Commission.

In a time when the whole University system was freezing up and improvements were almost impossible, the Commission had recognised Wollongong's special needs and had recommended that Wollongong's funding level move closer to that of the average Australian University pattern.

In its latest report, the Commission noted that it "regards an increase in the level of funding of the University of Wollongong and the restoration of the equipment grants to the standard of the 1973-75 triennium as matters of the highest priority." (Report for 1977-79 Triennium, para. 1.13).

Undertakings made by the Commission in a very different financial context two or three years ago were being honoured.

The University would therefore - before the expected end to growth in 1980 - have some capacity to expand. It would have increased student numbers and a more generous level of funding.

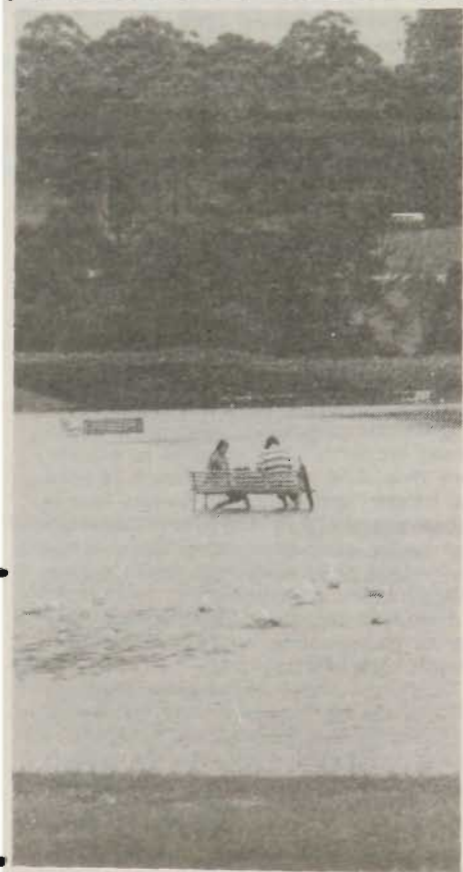
In addition, the University's financial policies have put it into a sound position. The accumulated budgetary deficit was reduced considerably last year; allocations to departments have been increased significantly; and full-time academic staff posts have increased from 148 in 1976 to 162 in 1977.

The most significant achievement however has been in the budgeted "staff vac-

ancy" rate. Three years ago, in 1974, the University's budget assumed that 10 percent of all posts would be vacant throughout the year. This year the University has produced a budget that provides in practical terms a nil vacancy rate.

Continued on Page 2.

### Water dalliance



THESE students found an unusual place to "get away from it all" after the recent heavy rain. The Rugby Oval was just one area on campus to flood during the deluge.

In February, the University's weather station recorded 323mm of rain - more than three times the average rainfall for the month.



PROFESSOR L. M. Birt.

# WOLLONGONG HAS ENOUGH FUNDS

Continued from Page 1.

Wherever a vacancy occurs in 1977, the department will automatically get 40 per cent of the standard salary savings from the vacancy, which, for academic posts, will provide effectively for full part-time teaching replacements.

This gives the academic departments the firmest possible guarantee of the level of staffing they will have to support their departmental programmes. They have, therefore, both extra staffing strength and also the assurance of it.

## ACADEMIC STAFF

Where will all the extra funds go in 1978 and later years?

The main activity of a University is, of course, the work of academic staff and - not surprisingly - the main University expenditure is the payment of academic salaries.

Table 1, headed "Academic Staffing Levels" shows, alongside details for 1976 and 1977, the Resources Committee's view as to the staffing levels that each department might reach by 1980, the year in which growth is expected to stop. The Committee produced these figures in July 1976.

The only significant variation in these projections is that the University now believes that it could unfreeze (or re-allocate) two posts held vacant in 1976 and still add a further thirty-five posts by 1980. In brief, the University hopes that thirty-seven new academic posts might be added to the 146 posts available to be filled in 1976.

It will be noted that fourteen of the twenty departments have already (1977) reached a point within the staffing levels envisaged in the table for 1980.

It follows that the present academic staff establishment of 162 should be increased by 1980 to 183; and that the part-time allocations (at present the equivalent of up to thirty full-time staff) could be increased to the equivalent of forty full-time staff.

Since the University now has a budgetary pattern which allows for extra funds for meeting in full the teaching loads attached to positions falling vacant, the staff: student ratio would then be reduced to about 1:10.

## OTHER STAFF

Table 2 sets out the staffing pattern for the past two years and a forecast of what the University might achieve by 1980.

It will be noted that, apart from the increased academic staff referred to already, there should be significant growth in academic support staff (up from seventy-four in the base year 1976 to 104). These will probably mostly go into technical posts in the departments or in workshops directly supporting academic activities.

Academic services would increase from fifty-six to seventy-six: twenty posts, probably all in the Library.

Consistent with the general budgetary thrust of the last two or three years, central administration would not grow, except for a notional three extra posts. The University's capacity to respond to academic demands, e.g. for servicing committees, will therefore be limited.

There would be growth of nine in the buildings and grounds staff between 1976

## TABLES

TABLE 1  
POSSIBLE ACADEMIC STAFFING LEVELS (FULLTIME) TO 1980

	1976	1977	1980		1976	1977	1980
ACCOUNTANCY	8	10	10-11	MATHEMATICS	17	18	17-19
ECONOMICS	11	11	11	BIOLOGY	4	5	7
EDUCATION	6	6	6-7	CHEMISTRY	11	11	11
GEOGRAPHY	7	8	8	GEOLOGY	7	7	7
PSYCHOLOGY	8	8	8	PHYSICS	8	8	9-10
SOCIOLOGY	4	5	7-8	CIVIL ENGINEERING	8	8	9
ENGLISH	8	8	8	ELECTRICAL ENG.	7	8	8-9
EUROPEAN LANGUAGES	3	5	5-6	MECHANICAL ENG.	7	8	9-10
HISTORY	7	9	9-10	METALLURGY	9	9	9
H.P.S.	4	5	5				
PHILOSOPHY	3	4	6-8				
GENERAL STUDIES	1	1	...				
				TOTALS	148	162	169-181

TABLE 2  
THE UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG  
STAFF 1975 - 1980

	1975	1976	1977	1980
ACADEMIC FULLTIME	150	148	162	183
ACADEMIC PART-TIME (EAS)		18	30	40
ACADEMIC SUPPORT	71	74	82	104
ACADEMIC SERVICES (LIBRARY, COMPUTER ETC.)	52	56	64	76
STUDENT SERVICES (UNION, COUNSELLING)	4	4	5	5
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION	66	74	74	77
BUILDING AND GROUNDS	74	67	72	76
TOTAL	417	441	489	553

TABLE 3  
EQUIPMENT ALLOCATIONS 1976 AND 1977

	1976	1977
ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS	\$346,000	(\$300,000)
ACADEMIC SERVICES	\$103,000	(\$ 43,000)
LIBRARY \$35,000 ( 6,000)		
COMPUTER \$52,000 (X) (20,000)		
AUDIO VISUAL \$5,000 ( 2,000)		
PRINTERY \$11,000 (15,000)		
GENERAL UNIVERSITY SERVICES (ADMINISTRATION AND BUILDING AND GROUNDS)	\$ 29,000	(\$ 47,000)
(INCLUDES \$12,000 (\$15,000) FOR REPLACEMENT OF VEHICLES, TYPEWRITERS ETC.)		
RESERVE	\$ 10,000	(\$ 10,000)
earmarked grant for library books	\$183,000	(\$170,000)
TOTAL	\$671,000	(\$570,000)

(X) COMPUTER EQUIPMENT ALLOCATION HAS BEEN INCREASED BY SALES TO OUTSIDE USERS.

NOTE: SUPPLEMENTATION IS EXPECTED TO COVER DEVALUATION AND OTHER COST RISES.

and 1980, exclusively in building maintenance staff (in 1976 alone the University's total building floor area increased by 62 per cent).

## OTHER COSTS

The other main areas where significant increases in expenditure are expected over the period 1976-80 are:

- Library books, - up \$200,000 (effectively to replace the "earmarked" grant which will cut out in 1979);
- housekeeping for academic departments - up \$160,000;
- "incremental creep" - the cost of increments, promotions, etc. - \$360,000.

The cost of the last of these "incremental creep", is considerable. It should be remembered, for example, that a lecturer appointed on the base of the range and progressing to the senior lecturer range would, in due course, improve his salary by almost 60 per cent or \$8260 p.a., and that a promotion from the top of the senior lecturer range to associate professor costs \$3832 p.a. or an increase of 17.4 per cent.

## EQUIPMENT

Table 3 shows the equipment allocations for 1976 and 1977. The special elements in this - a general increase and an earmarked grant for the Library - should go a long way towards making up the deficiencies the Universities Commission recognised at Wollongong.

In 1974, the University installed a computer; by 1979, the University should have been able to ensure that each of the departments that are heavy users of equipment have had a chance to buy at least one major item.

After that, however, the University will have the problem of updating or replacing the computer, and a heavy reduction in the equipment grants, from the 1977 figure of \$671,000 to a level probably more like \$300,000 p.a.

## CONCLUSION

Overall, there can be some growth up to 1980, but this should not be over-estimated.

The expected grants would allow the seven new departments - established or marked for major expansion in the more optimistic days of 1973 - to be properly established. They would also allow - where their student loads justified it - significant improvement for the older departments.

All these anticipations, Professor Birt pointed out, are based on current information on funding. With the new funding arrangements for universities, they could be subject to revision annually in the light of changes in the magnitude and pattern of student enrolment.

One final caution. By 1980, unless the University deploys its funds very carefully indeed, it will bind itself into a very inflexible situation: the sort of situation that was referred to at the start of this article and which is troubling most Australian universities.

The University has three years in which to prepare itself for a situation in which there may be no growth and for activity in very different circumstances!

# 200 Degrees to be conferred during May 6 Graduation Day

The University of Wollongong Deputy Chancellor, Dr. D. E. Parry, will confer two hundred degrees, including one of Doctor of Philosophy and one of Master of Science, at the University's second Graduation Day on May 6 in the Union Hall.

Historian, Mr. Edgar Beale, a long-serving member of the University Council, will receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters at the first of two graduation ceremonies.

Mr. Beale will give the occasional address at the 10.30 a.m. ceremony for Arts and Commerce graduates. Professor F. R. Jevons, Vice-Chancellor of Deakin University, Victoria, will speak at the 2.30 p.m. ceremony for Engineering, Metallurgy, and Science Graduates.

Fifty graduands, who chose to take University of New South Wales degrees, will

receive their testamurs at that university's graduation ceremony at Kensington.

The Richmond Herald of Arms, Mr. J. P. Brooke-Little, will formally present the University with its Grant of Arms at the morning ceremony and will again be among the official party at the afternoon ceremony.

Mr. Brooke-Little will be the first Herald of Arms to come to Australia specifically to present Grants of Arms.

During the morning ceremony, when 120 graduands will receive their degrees, Mr. Kenneth Davies will be admitted to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in history. Mr. John Casey will be admitted to the degree of M.Sc. at the afternoon ceremony, which will cater for eighty graduands.

Thirty graduands will be admitted to honours degrees: 11 (B.A. [Hons.]), 4 (B. Com. [Hons.]), 5 (B. Eng. [Hons.]), 2 (B. Met. [Hons.]), and 8 (B.Sc. [Hons.]). One hundred and sixty-eight graduands will be admitted to pass degrees: 63 (B.A.), 41 (B. Com.), 9 (B. Eng.), 15 (B. Met.) and 40 (B. Sc.).

University Chancellor, Mr. Justice Hope, and Vice-Chancellor, Professor L. M. Birt, will be unable to attend the ceremonies.

After the official ceremonies, the new graduates will join a procession from the hall. Members of the procession will include the Deputy Chancellor, Dr. Parry, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Prof. A. Keane, the Registrar, Mr. R. F. Stewart, Mr. Beale, Professor Jevons, University Council members and faculty chairmen, and members of academic staff.

Dr. Parry will wear the Chancellor's gown of black damask lined with blue and trimmed with gold with a trencher cap of black with a gold tassel.

Professor Keane will wear the Vice-Chancellor's new gown, which will be the same as the Chancellor's except for a silver trim.

Graduands will wear the University's gowns of blue with an open sleeve and hoods in the Oxford style of blue, lined with silk of the appropriate colour. The hoods of honours graduands are distinguished by a white border on the outside edge.

The colours for the degrees are steel blue for Metallurgy, green for Commerce, gold for Arts, white or silver for Science, and vermillion for Engineering.

After each ceremony, tea will be served on the lawn outside the Union Hall.

## An honorary doctorate

Historian-author Mr. Edgar Beale will be awarded an honorary Doctor of Letters at the Graduation Ceremony on May 6.

Mr. Beale's association with the University dates back to its inception in the early 1950's.

In 1962, he served on the Wollongong University College Advisory Committee, which was set up to advise the University of New South Wales Council on the college's operations and development.

He served on that committee for seven years before he was appointed to the University College Council, created to supervise the college's general operation.

When the University gained its independence on January 1, 1975, Mr. Beale was elected deputy chairman of the first University Council, and he is a member of the present University Council.

He is chairman of the Council's Ceremonials Committee and the Buildings and Grounds Committee and a member of the Legislation Committee.

Mr. Beale is one of the leading authorities on Illawarra's history, and has been a member of the Illawarra Historical Society Council for more than thirty years.

He has written the life of the Australian explorer, Edmund Kennedy, and wrote the text for Rigby's *Illawarra Sketchbook* which was released last year. The book has already sold out and is being reprinted.

In the last twenty years, he has published many papers and articles in historical journals, including the *Australian Encyclopaedia* and the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*.

Mr. Beale is an active member of community groups. He is a member and past president of Legacy; the A.B.C. Concert Subscribers' Committee president; president of the Wollongong Symphony Orchestra management committee; and honorary secretary of The Illawarra Grammar School council.

## University arms may only be used with permission

The University Council, when notified at its October meeting last year that the proposed University arms had been granted, resolved that they may be used only with due authorisation.

The Registrar, Mr. R. F. Stewart, has notified departmental chairmen and the heads of other University sections and units of this in a memo.

He said that the Council delegated authority to the Vice-Chancellor, in consultation with the Ceremonials Committee chairman, to approve requests for use of the arms, such approvals to be reported subsequently.

A number of universities had been authorised to reproduce the arms for different displays and the University Union had been granted approval to sell items such as T-shirts and tankards bearing the arms.

Mr. Stewart said: "The Richmond Herald has provided a certificate painting of the arms which may be viewed in my office."

A permanent display will be arranged after the Herald presents the grant of arms at the May Graduation Ceremony.

The Vice-Chancellor believes that there should be a uniform policy on the use of the University's arms by the organisational units and the staff of the University, and that now is an appropriate time to adopt a planned and a uniform approach to University graphics generally.

"Areas in which it is proposed to imple-



ment such a policy of consistent graphic design include letterheads, envelopes, Information Office publications, brochures, sign-posting, building and office name plates, notice boards and vehicles.

"The University Architect, Mr. John Manton, has been asked to act as the University's adviser on graphics policy."

"In the first instance, all proposed uses of the University's name and arms should be referred to the Ceremonials Committee secretary, Mr. T. Moore, who will arrange for consultation with Mr. Manton and any necessary approvals."

Please contact Mr. Moore if you have any queries concerning this matter."



# Geologist takes a "working flight" over Antarctica

Dr. Richard Facer, a lecturer in the University of Wollongong's Department of Geology, took a 'working flight' over Antarctica and the magnetic South Pole on March 16.

He reached Lat. 74° 50'S, Long. 168° 30'E (approx.), which was about 300 kilometres south of the geomagnetic pole but still 1600 kilometres north of the geographic pole.

Dr. Facer, who was able to make the trip because of a donation to the University, said: "The southern geomagnetic pole is well north of the southern geographic pole.

"During the past, the geomagnetic pole has apparently moved about, and there is considerable evidence to suggest that continents have also moved; for example, Australia appears to have moved 'north' from Antarctica."

Dr. Facer was among a number of scientists who held discussions about the geomagnetic field, both past and present, during the flight.

Mr. Dick Smith, a Sydney electronics engineer, organised the flight on a chartered Qantas Boeing 747. It was the second such flight he had organised.

An Australian Broadcasting Commission crew filmed the trip as part of a planned "Perspective" documentary on Antarctica. The University of New South Wales Graduate School of Management surveyed the passengers.

Dr. Facer said that his main reason for going was to photograph landforms.

These included volcanoes (which unfortunately were clouded in) and features sculptured by many glaciers.

The glaciers showed remarkably well, Dr. Facer said, because the plane was flown with a ground clearance of as little as 500 metres in terrain with relative relief of 2500 metres.

He said: "The Antarctic ice sheet (as much as several kilometres thick in some places) slowly spreads out from its centre, and portions of it reach out over the sea as sheets of ice . . . such as the Ross Ice Shelf.

"In other areas, it 'squeezes through' and around mountains near the edge of the Antarctic continent.

"These mountains poke up through the ice and snow as nunataks (which form a rugged ring around much of the continent's edge), and in summer often expose vast areas of bare rock.

"From both the glaciers and the ice sheets, large icebergs calve and then float away.

"In some cases, these are some kilometres in length and expose fifty metres of ice above the water line.

"It is these 'ice blocks' that are being studied as possible fresh water supplies for thirsty cities.

"However, because as much as eighty percent of the ice is under water, they would ground on the continental shelf before reaching the coastline."

Dr. Facer said that he photographed as many of these features as possible to provide colour transparencies to illustrate aspects of various geology courses at the University.

"The trip was beneficial to the University in enabling direct, reasonably comfortable observations from the air of a number of important landforms," he said.

"Such landforms were developed on other continents during the great ice ages."



DR. Richard Facer.



**THE broken line traces the approximate flight path of the Qantas Boeing 747 over the Antarctic mainland on March 16. At times the ground clearance was as little as 500 metres.**

# Staff now have Library guide

The University Library has produced its first guide for University staff.

Three hundred folders, containing colour-coded loose leaves on various aspects of the Library, have been produced for academic staff and administrative units.

The folder contains sections on acquisitions, archives, cataloguing, library government, library hours, library staff and organisation, and reader services.

Reader services cover circulation, inter-library loans, non-book and special materials, photocopying services, reader assistance and education, and the reserve collection.

Illustrated with cartoons, this easy-to-read guide was designed and edited by Ms. Felicity McGregor, of the Acquisitions Department. Mrs. Marie Murray did the typing and setting out.

Although the guide is intended for academic staff, it will also assist general staff.

University Librarian, Mr. Jeff Hazell, said that the guide was necessary because the Library was becoming more complex.

He said: "It is in loose-leaf form to assist in updating and is colour coded to enable quick selection of information concerning particular sections of the Library.

"It is expected that most problems experienced by University staff in using the Library will be satisfactorily explained.

"Notwithstanding, staff are invited to direct any questions to appropriate Library staff."

Mr. Hazell said that staff should retain the guides for easy reference.

Inquiries about obtaining copies should be directed to Mr. Hazell.

# C.U. "advances"

In Orientation Week, the Christian Union launched a stream of presentations and is continuing to be unceasing in its thrust on campus.

With its "Jesus Tent", films, concerts, Tertangala articles, broadsheets, religious questionnaires, and now its Radical Christian Worship nights, the Christian Union is "advancing on all sides".

Radical Christian Worship is open to all interested students and staff, and is held every Thursday night at 7.15 p.m. in the Northern Lounge.

The attendance has been "stunning". Up to thirty people a night have participated.

The night includes worshipful singing accompanied by guitar and a rousing participation of clapping, fun and laughter.

There are also more solemn moments of vigorous teaching, and guest speakers are occasionally invited to give teaching.

This night is a must for those students and staff undecided about their religious beliefs.

The Christian Union will hold a barbecue on April 23, a Saturday night. And a Jesus Weekend Camp will be held on June 3 to 5. So don't miss out on the action.

Glyn Phillips,  
For the Christian Union.

## University provides daily statistics on weather



**RECORDING** readings at the University's climatological station is Mrs. Olga Bouma, laboratory assistant in the Department of Civil Engineering.

**The University of Wollongong now provides daily weather statistics to the Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology.**

The bureau distributes the data from the University's climatological station to many people and organisations throughout N.S.W.

Professor C. A. M. Gray, chairman of the Department of Civil Engineering, established the weather station near the entrance of the University in 1971.

Although, originally, the weather statistics were for the use of Civil Engineering students, the Meteorology Bureau provided and maintained much of the equipment in exchange for a monthly field report of weather conditions.

In February this year, the Bureau asked the University for daily weather details, as it was no longer receiving them from the Port Kembla Signal Station, which had provided the data for more than thirty years.

Mrs. Olga Bouma, laboratory assistant in

the Department of Civil Engineering, twice daily records the rainfall, temperature, relative humidity, barometric pressure, wind speed and directions, and makes cloud observations. A Wollongong High School student takes the readings at weekends.

Mrs. Bouma also receives many calls from people interested in Wollongong's weather, including building contractors, insurancemen, county council officials, and the news media.

A Meteorology Bureau spokesman said that the weather details from the University were sent to Melbourne where they were fed into a computer, used to predict weather patterns.

He said that the University's climatological station was well maintained and that the standard of recordings was "first class".

## Vice-Chancellor to visit China

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor L. M. Birt, will visit China with a group of Australian academics and students from April 20 to May 7 this year.

Professor Birt told the University Council's February meeting that the visit would provide an opportunity to examine the entire spectrum of educational activities - from pre-school through school, university and technical training to in-service activities and continuing education, and the social context in which this total educational programme was being carried out.

"I understand that it is the first such visit permitted by the Chinese authorities for some time (a period of about eighteen months)," he said.

Professor Birt said that the visit would be an extremely valuable opportunity to learn something at first hand about the educational practices and aspirations of a country undergoing a profound and important social development.

The Council approved the appointment of Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor A. Keane, as Acting Vice-Chancellor during Professor Birt's absence.

## STUDY LEAVE PROCEDURES

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor L. M. Birt, informed the Academic Senate's February meeting of study leave report procedures.

He said that academic staff would be asked to send their reports to the Staff Office which would then forward them to the University Council's Staff Committee.

"This is the committee which formally approves study leave," he said.

Professor Birt said that the staff committee wished to have an opportunity to comment on study leave reports, in relation to the original study leave proposals which the committee approved.

After receiving the report, the committee would forward the report to the University Council where it would be tabled, together with such comment as had been made by the committee.

Copies would also be forwarded to the Academic Senate and to the Library.

"This will help to make the reports more widely known," Professor Birt said.

## New-style identity cards for students

**Every student at the University will receive a new-style identity card this year.**

The new cards will replace the costly plastic embossed cards previously used.

Assistant Registrar, Mr. K. E. Turnbull, said the new identity cards would be of light cardboard, enclosed in a plastic envelope, and would be printed by computer.

He said that the use of this type of card and the method of printing would mean a financial saving for the University as well as eliminating a very slow and laborious manual job.

The cards would be produced annually, replacing the need to have cards validated after enrolment each year.

Mr. Turnbull said that students who had not received their new identity card should apply at the Student Enquiries counter in the Administration Building.

He said: "The cards enable students to use full Union facilities as well as to receive discounts at certain stores and travel concessions."

"The old cards will not immediately become obsolete; they will be used by the library as library cards."



# Pentagon enrolment centre a huge success

Students and staff are hailing the enrolment centre in the Pentagon this year as a tremendous success.

Assistant Registrar, Mr. Kevin Turnbull, said the centralised centre far surpassed enrolment locations in other years.

He said that, previously, students had had to go to several different buildings to complete enrolment.

This year the Pentagon, the University's five-sided lecture theatre complex, housed everything related to students' enrolment, including academic advisers, university counsellors, and T.E.A.S. representatives from the Department of Education.



MR. K. E. Turnbull.

"This year a student could walk in the Pentagon's front door unenrolled and walk out of the building enrolled," Mr. Turnbull said. "I am very pleased with the outcome, and the feedback I have had has all been good."

Mr. Turnbull said that a first-year student enrolling at the Pentagon generally took about one-and-a-half hours, while students reenrolling probably took less than half an hour.

"The enrolment forms for students reenrolling were pre-prepared by computer for the first time and this saved a lot of time," he said. "Another big advantage of the Pentagon was that it saved students wandering around the campus in the heavy rain trying to find people."

He said that this year the University would carefully look at enrolment and reenrolment procedures. "We may be asking for suggestions to improve the system," he said.

Mr. Turnbull said it was not practical to send out enrolment forms to students before enrolment day as more than 8000 offers were made this year. Many students interviewed in the Pentagon on enrolment day said they were happy with enrolment arrangements.

First-year student, Neil Thomas, of Goulburn, who enrolled in engineering, said he had read the University Calendar before

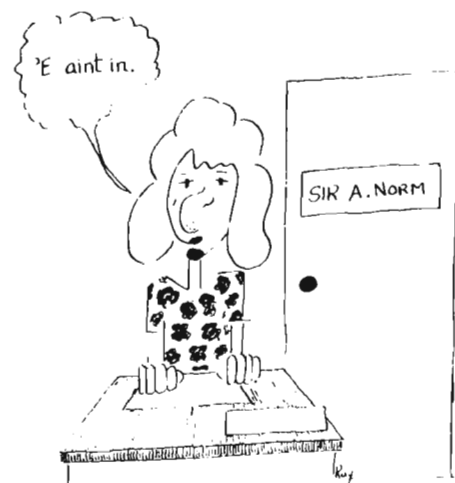
he arrived at the Pentagon and did not find enrolling difficult.

Another first-year student, Ann Oliveri, of Sydney, said that, although she had not bought a Calendar before she came to the centre, there were plenty of people to ask if she had any problems.

University counsellor, Ms. Monica Manton, said that she thought the enrolment centre was an "incredible success". "There was such a tremendous improvement in contrast to other years," she said.

"There is probably still room for improvements, but I am sure the great effort by the administrative staff and the academics this year made it a lot easier for students to enrol."

Ms. Manton said that the Pentagon, although designed as a lecture theatre, served superbly as an enrolment centre.



## Co-author of book on British Rail economics visits here

An English economist, who has co-authored a book on the economics of British Rail, is visiting the University's Department of Economics for three months.

He is Mr. John Dodgson, 29, a lecturer in the Department of Economics and Commerce at the University of Liverpool.

The book, *The Rail Problem*, was published by Martin Robertson, London, in 1975.

Mr. Dodgson said that the idea for the book arose in 1972 when a secret report, stating that the British Government was planning large-scale rail closures, was leaked.

He and his co-author, Dr. Richard Pryke, felt that this was an undesirable move. "We also found that British Rail had run in massive deficits", Mr. Dodgson said.

"And so we decided to do something which had not been done before... to take an overall and independent look at railways in Britain.

"We obtained financial support and spoke to a lot of people in British Rail as well as users.

"We concluded that the deficits had been allowed to run high and that British Rail had been lax in reducing man-power.

"In part of the book, we outlined ways in which railway man-power could be reduced.

"We also looked at investment and argued there was a lot of unnecessary investment planned.

"We also concluded that there was quite a lot of scope for closing passenger services in rural areas, and we also argued that the fares should be put up to provide funds to cover deficits and desirable investment."

Mr. Dodgson said that the book had a "fairly reasonable impact."

He said that he had been a member of the Transport Policy Study Group, which the Labour Party had set up, to examine transport policy.

He had been responsible for drafting the chapter on railway policy which appeared



MR. John Dodgson.

in the group's final report published in 1975.

Mr. Dodgson said: "The Labour Party was in power when the report came out and it has been fairly insistent that British Rail control its deficit.

"British Rail has now had to cut down man-power and it has increased fares."

He is also interested in economic theory and particularly the problems of government policy planning and the economics of nationalised industries in the United Kingdom.

During his time here, he hopes to do research into Australian railway economics.

He will give staff seminars and his teaching will include lectures on consumer theory and transport economics to second and third-year and to post-graduate students.

## A.I.&S. grant chemist \$5000

Dr. J. Ellis, senior lecturer in the University of Wollongong's Department of Chemistry, has been granted \$5000 by Australian Iron and Steel Pty. Ltd. to develop an automatic monitor and feed-forward controller to test gas scrubber effluent.

The research is being done in collaboration with Dr. G. W. Trott (Electrical Engineering) and Dr. R. T. Wheway (Mechanical Engineering) and is part of a wider research programme on the treatment of industrial wastewater for conservation of resources and pollution control.

Mr. Peter Pavlik, who is enrolled for a part-time M.Sc. by research, has begun experimental work on the sensing system, which will later be coupled with a micro-processor to automate the functions of calibration and control.

## Shift of resources to technical and further education: Carrick

The Commonwealth Minister for Education, Senator Carrick, said last month that a shift of resources into technical and further education was likely when the new post-secondary education commission was established this year.

Technical and further education would be an equal partner with the universities and colleges of advanced education.



The new arrangements would give State and Commonwealth TAFE authorities the fullest opportunity to put their case to the Federal Government on the allocation of funds, he said.

Cabinet had authorised him to announce it was the Government's firm intention to pay special heed to technical and further education, particularly in the allocation of resources and in the development of co-operative arrangements with the States.

There was no risk that, at a time when Australia needed a greatly increased number of skilled craftsmen, the needs of technical and further education would be ignored.

The new post-secondary commission structure, with separate councils for technical and further education, universities, and colleges of advanced education, would ensure that the needs of each post-secondary sector were adequately considered.

Senator Carrick said that, although some people had suggested already, before the new commission had even been established, that technical and further education claims for Commonwealth funds would be submerged by the new arrangements, there was no real risk that this would happen.

He said the Government was seeking greater efficiency in the use of Commonwealth funds by ensuring that there was better co-ordination of all post-school education spending.

Each council of the new commission would be expert in its own sphere and recommend programmes. An additional protection for each council would be that each would be able to ensure that its own views and recommendations to the Commission would be made public.

## Council approves help for campus child care

The University Council has approved financial help this year for child care on campus.

At its February meeting, the Council decided that in the absence of any community facilities or the access to funds for this purpose, the University this year would provide a matching grant of \$3 a child a day, with a maximum of fifteen children a day, for thirty-six weeks, and a minimum contribution of \$5400 to the Union.

The Council noted that the Vice-Chancellor, Professor L. M. Birt, had advised the Union of this Finance Committee recommendation so that arrangements for 1977 could proceed without delay.

The Council also noted that a report on community child-care facilities in the City of Wollongong would be prepared for the next Finance Committee meeting.

A submission to the Council's Finance Committee from the Child Care Committee of the Parents' Club stated that the committee's high priorities were to cover the wages of a full-time person employed on a temporary basis and the establishment of a fund to provide child-care in the future.

It said the overall aim of the Parents' Club was that child-care would become self-supporting.

Child Care Committee Secretary, Mrs. Helen Wiltshire, said the Parents' Club was grateful to the University for the grant.

She said the money was adequate for the

club's needs this year and would guarantee part of the supervisor's wages.





# COMMUNITY IN CRISIS: THE STUDY OF A

By Dr. Stuart Piggin,  
Department of History.

"Death is important to us. Because it is the most censored and tabooed of topics, our curiosity about it is intensified. Thus it is inevitable that we will want to know how people die, how it feels to be in a disaster, what were the last words of . . . an old man on that Blue Mountains train. For we're trying to learn, so that we'll be a little better prepared."

So wrote Phillip Adams, reflecting on the ghoulies at the site of the Granville rail disaster.

Curiosity about disasters extends beyond ghoulies - or else we are all ghoulies. It is disasters which sell newspapers, according to the editor of the *Mercury*, and there is evidence that many people attended Wollongong's cinemas mainly to see a ten-minute colour film of the Granville disaster.

Call it "the pornography of death" if you like, but it is not undesirable to study something relevant. Too often, as Manning Clark tells us, historians are busy answering questions no-one is asking.

But the study of disasters promises more than the satisfaction of our curiosity. As Phillip Adams' words suggest, disasters bring out the philosopher latent in all of us.

The Mount Kembla mine explosion of 1902, which claimed ninety-six lives, recalled the Editor of the *South Coast Times* to a more ancient philosophy: "In the midst of life we are in death".

Disasters are worthy of study precisely because they concentrate our priorities and emphasise our fundamental values.

Multicultural studies of disasters demonstrate how differently people from different cultural backgrounds react to disasters. And, although disasters may be defined as disruptions of functioning systems, they rarely destroy those traditional beliefs and values in the context of which people strive to cope with devastation and loss.

Apparently, Voltaire was in the minority when he reacted to the Lisbon earthquake by losing his faith. Deeply-rooted values are more often reinforced than weakened by disasters. On the other hand, there is an ingrained belief that disasters do change things, that victims do not die in vain, that the world will be a safer place for their suffering.

St. Augustine expressed this belief when he wrote: "This awful catastrophe is not the end but the beginning. History does not end so. It is the way its chapters open."

So disasters focus attention on both the endurance of traditional values and the nature of historical change.

## A NEW APPROACH: MULTIDISCIPLINARY 'HISTORY'

The Mount Kembla mine disaster, the largest peacetime land disaster in Australia's history, raises questions too numerous and technical for the historian to answer. The study of a mine disaster must be multidisciplinary. The seventy-fifth anniversary of the disaster in July this year is a suitable occasion for such a multidisciplinary study and a team of academics is working on seven different aspects of the disaster.

(1) I am reconstructing the events of the disaster and studying the growth of a legend about it in Mt. Kembla village.

By drawing on the findings of sociologists and psychologists who have researched disasters, the Mt. Kembla disaster has been studied in three phases: the pre-disaster community and industry, the emergency phase which continued until the rescue operation was complete, and the post-disaster reconstruction and rehabilitation phase.

Because such a large percentage of the population was wiped out in the disaster and because the physical reminders of the disaster - cemeteries, church, monument - are so prominent, it appears that this disaster has made a more enduring impression on the village than the Granville disaster is likely to make on Blue Mountains communities.

Glenn Mitchell, postgraduate student in the Department of History, and I read a joint paper on this aspect of the disaster at a recent Regional History conference in Wagga. It will be published in the *New multidisciplinary Journal of Australian Studies*.

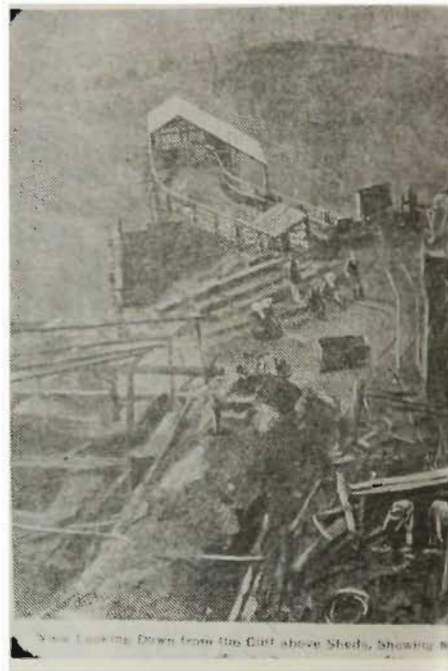
(2) As with many other disasters, the reconstruction phase after the Mt. Kembla explosion gave rise to innumerable conflicts. Ruby Makula, whose services as a research assistant on this project have been financed by a University research grant, is particularly interested in the official response to the disaster: the Royal Commission into the disaster stirred much controversy; resentment, still expressed by relatives of survivors, was created by the humane society in its awards of medals for bravery; and the distribution of charitable funds provoked numerous complaints.

(3) Chris Fisher, who is working in England on *The Warwick History of Mining*, is writing for us on the economics of the coal industry, working conditions, and miners' unions. His is a comparative study since he is linking industrial relations in the Southern Coalfields of New South Wales to the development of political economy and strategy in the British unions.

(4) Dr. Winifred Mitchell, who is teaching in the Department of History while Professor Hagen writes the history of the A.C.T.U., is making a study of the women of Mt. Kembla in particular and the lot of miners' wives and families in general. Dr. Mitchell wrote her doctoral thesis on the life and work of Australian wharf labourers. She contributed a chapter entitled "Wives of the Radical Working Class" to *Women at Work* published in 1975 and an article "Home duties at the Hungry Mile" is shortly to be published in *Labour History*.

(5) Injecting a sociological perspective into the study are Mrs. Faye Roberts and Robin Horne, a University of Wollongong

Continued on Page 10.



1. GENERAL VIEW of wrecked clearing debris to get at injured out-



3. THE EXPLOSION was heard South Coast converged on the site the coffin of Major Henry MacCabe in the rescue operation.



# COAL MINE DISASTER



men at work clearing away debris to find the bodies of the miners.  
buildings at mouth of mine showing men  
workers.



2. THE EXPLOSION brought down thousands of tons of rock in the Main Haulage Tunnel preventing escape by that route. Here miners and boys survey the mouth of the mine completely blocked by rock-falls.



nine miles away and people from all over the  
Here is a section of the crowd surrounding  
ex-manager of Mt. Keira Mine who died



4. VICTIMS were taken to the blacksmith's shop which was used as a morgue. Outside the grieving wives consoled each other.



# Community in crisis

Continued from Page 8.

sociologist. They intend making a study of the pattern of relationships and community values at Mt. Kembla. They will examine contemporary attitudes to mining and perceptions of the disaster of Mt. Kembla residents. Mrs. Roberts, who studied social anthropology at Oxford, has already done anthropological field work with two Australian communities.

(6) **Mr. R. G. Wilson**, coal geologist with A. I. & S. has written a chapter on the geology and landscape of Mt. Kembla. He has described the coal seam and its bearing on the economics of the industry and its implications for working conditions, and has discussed those problems of gas and ventilation which contributed to the disaster.

(7) **Professor Murray Wilson** is contributing a chapter on human settlement patterns in coal mining areas. His doctoral thesis is entitled "The Coalfields of Eastern Australia: an examination of the rise, contemporary character, and a real impact of bituminous coal mining".

## A NEW PURPOSE-FELT HISTORY

Apart from this multidisciplinary book—themes for which are being hammered out in seminars attended by the contributors and which will take another year to complete—we hope to have ready, for the 75th Anniversary of the disaster in July, material which local media and Sydney newspapers can use.

We also hope to produce a multi-media kit, for study in schools, consisting of maps, diagrams, photographs, essays, and videotape.

This will emphasise that history should be celebrated, and not only celebrated, it should be *felt* history.

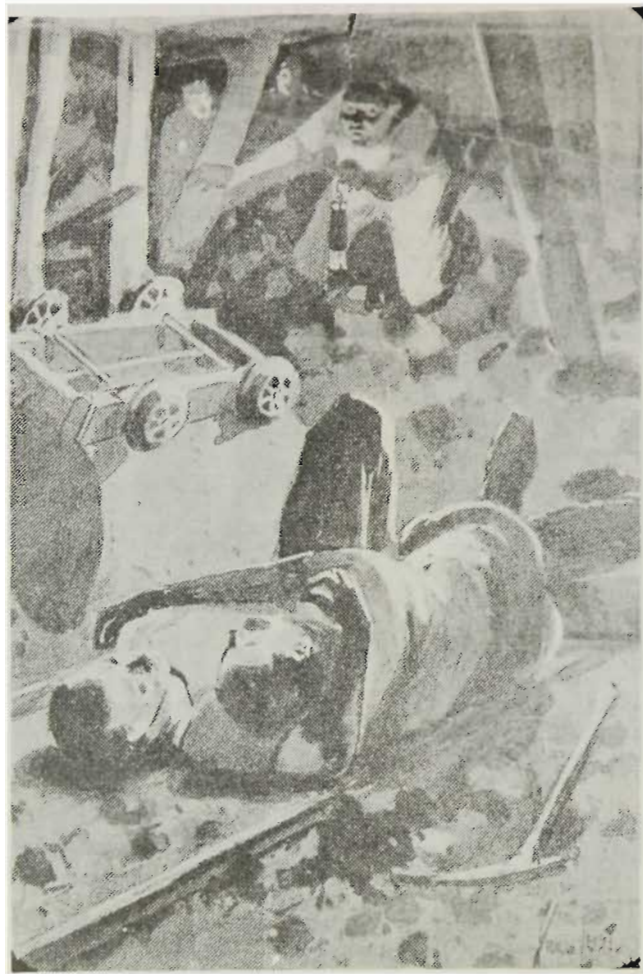
## A NEW METHOD — ORAL HISTORY

The project has already demonstrated the value of oral history as a method for filling gaps and adding "flesh and blood, love and hate, prejudice and passionate belief" to that "scantily covered skeleton of the past" which we would assemble from documentary sources.

We are interviewing all those known to us who have any knowledge of the disaster.

Largely from this source, we are constituting the main categories of this study, and for this reason we may be confident that these categories "correspond to the grain of human experience."

Because of the importance that oral history is assuming in our study, we are fortunate in having the assistance and inspiration of Glenn Mitchell, who is experienced in the practice and widely-read in the theory, of oral history.



5. IN THIS contemporary drawing, Major MacCabe and deputy, William McMurray, are depicted locked in each other's arms. Both were overcome by the poisonous gas which filled the mine after the explosion.



6. FUNERALS for the ninety six victims created traffic-jams in Wollongong. Here is the military funeral of Major MacCabe at the corner of Church and Market Streets. The Court House is in the background.

## 1976 Statistical data book

The second issue of the University's annual statistical data has been published and distributed.

Covering 1976, the data relates to students, staff, library, finance, and buildings.



# Some questions for beginning students

This article from CAREERS WEEKLY, published by the Monash University Careers and Appointments Office, is reprinted by permission of the author, Mr. Warren Mann, the Careers and Appointments Officer.

The article was published on March 4.

In this coming week, another new batch of students will begin their university experience with the exciting activities of orientation week.

For most, this will be the final phase of their formal education and will represent an achievement which is satisfying not only to themselves but also to their parents and teachers. The formidable hurdle of HSC has been negotiated and they have been accepted by a university.

Though in many cases the courses they are about to begin are not those for which they expressed the highest preferences, at least they are "in", still keeping their footing on the educational escalator. It is a sad fact that many of them, perhaps between a quarter and a third, will not succeed in completing their degrees.

The reasons why students who, though apparently bright enough to be accepted to university courses, nevertheless subsequently fail or otherwise drop out of their courses are many.

Poor preparation or too much support at school; the sudden access to the essentially adult and relatively permissive world of a large university; a dawning realisation that the goals which thus far have supplied the motivation for continued application to studies are largely illusory; the new-found opportunities for expansion of interests which are unduly prodigal of time; the growing urge for independence which demands more time than can be afforded to be devoted to earning money to pay for it: these are some of the more common explanations which can be discerned by staff members who sit on "unsatisfactory progress committees".

In the hope that some may avoid these unhappy consequences, we shall raise some questions which should, in most cases, have been faced much earlier. Nevertheless, the student about to begin a university course still has some options, and an honest and realistic response to such questions as these can lead to a realization that some action now or in the next year or so can avoid serious educational mistakes.

The questions themselves may seem obvious, perhaps almost trivial, but we are appalled at the amount of disappointment, frustration, under-performance, and outright failure which arises from the neglect of them.

Ask yourself:

- Have I established for myself a vision of the future within which there are defined objectives for my study?
- Have I sought independent information of a kind which will confirm that the course I am about to take can be linked realistically to these objectives?
- Have I taken full account of the changes in technology and of social and economic

conditions which are probable or possible and which could affect the kind of future I envisage for myself?

- Do I understand fully what kind of work I can expect or reasonably hope for as a result of my proposed course?
- Have I considered the possibility of:
  1. Some other university course?
  2. A course at some other kind of institution?
  3. Seeking a job now and possibly studying part-time?
  4. Seeking deferment for a year so that I can consider these questions and have time outside the educational "rat-race" to understand myself better in relation to them?
- Am I able to accept the possibility that I may find it desirable or even be compelled by circumstances to work in some field for which my proposed studies are not an obvious or necessary preparation?
- Have I allowed for the possibility that my interests may change as I become more familiar with the details and implications of my studies, and as I grow in maturity and social awareness?

In providing worthwhile answers to these questions, there are some even more fundamental considerations which are often evaded, either consciously or otherwise, because honest responses could damage one's self-respect.

Nevertheless, a few moments of such honesty could help avoid years of disappointment. The matters can be raised in the familiar form of "multiple-choice" questions:

1. Why am I coming to university?
  - a. My parents expect it of me.
  - b. It avoids my worrying about getting a job.
  - c. I did well enough at HSC.

- d. It will ensure that I get a better job than those of my friends who are not coming.
  - e. It will raise my social standing.
  - f. Because it is the next thing to do after HSC.
  - g. My girl/boy friend is also coming.
  - h. It is the line of least resistance.
  - i. I have never considered the possibility of doing otherwise.
  - j. It allows me to know more about a subject or subjects I liked at school.
  - k. It will help me achieve objectives which are important to me. (see question 2).
2. In thinking about my future, my aspirations are for (it may help to number them in order of importance):
    - a. social status.
    - b. a high income.
    - c. financial security.
    - d. personal power.
    - e. public recognition.
    - f. competitive superiority over my fellows;
    - g. a cause to which I can give loyalty.
    - h. personal responsibility.
    - i. the respect of my fellows.
    - j. freedom to do things my way.
    - k. doing good for other people.
    - l. living up to the expectations of others.
    - m. opportunity for a variety of leisure activities.
    - n. an easy conscience.
    - o. a sense of achievement.
    - p. a job well done in every detail.

If, after having thought about these matters, you find yourself wanting to make some change in your present plans, or uncertain as to what should be done, you should see your faculty advisers, a student counsellor, or a careers counsellor so that whatever changes are necessary and possible can be made. But it must be done immediately.

## S.R.C. and counsellors put on special Orientation Day

The S.R.C. and the University counsellors arranged a special Orientation Day for new students at the University on February 25.

During the morning session, the Chancellor, Mr. Justice Hope, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor L. M. Birt, Professor R. King, chairman, Department of Education, and Mr. J. Johnston, manager, Careers Reference Centre, Wollongong, addressed more than seventy students.

The topics dealt with key issues for new students: from the structure and role of universities, to study methods and employment prospects.

During the afternoon small discussion groups formed around student leaders, University students, who had previously undertaken a special one-day leaders' training session with the University counsellors, led the groups.

Within the groups everyone had more space for discussion, questions, and getting to know other students. Ideas were shared on expectations, goal objectives, and how these might be realised.

From student feedback, it appeared that these groups were a valuable exercise: they succeeded in introducing students to the University, each other, and staff and students to whom they could relate immediately.

Overall, the counsellors and student leaders felt that the day had achieved its objective of welcoming new students and making them feel more comfortable in their new environment.

University Counsellor, Ms. Monica Mantion, said that all those concerned with the day's organisation would like to extend the Orientation Programme over more than one day in the future.

"We would also like to involve more academic staff in future programmes," she said, "and invite all those students who benefited from today to volunteer to take part as student leaders in the orientation programme in 1978."

# NEW STAFF

## A long way to set up Italian



**DR. Vincent Cincotta.**

Dr. Vincent Cincotta travelled more than 16,000 kilometres to take up the challenge of establishing a new Italian course at the University of Wollongong.

This new lecturer in the Department of European Languages left America after almost twenty years teaching Italian at universities, colleges, and high schools in New Jersey.

He is the first Italian lecturer at the University, as the course in Italian was introduced this year.

But blazing a trail is not a new experience for Dr. Cincotta: he established Italian study programmes throughout New Jersey.

At a New Jersey high school, he expanded a two-year Italian programme with less than eighty students to a six-year sequence with more than 300 students enrolled. His course of study and syllabi served as models for the Institution of Italian Language programmes throughout his State.

Dr. Cincotta, 42, was invited to speak at dozens of symposia and workshops in America for teachers of Italian.

His primary interests are the teaching of the Italian language, civilization and culture on all levels; the training of others to teach foreign languages; and the development of methodological techniques and materials for teaching Italian.

Dr. Cincotta and his wife, Madelaine, are currently working on a series of textbooks for beginning, intermediate, and advanced students of Italian in Australia and America.

Dr. Cincotta said he was looking forward to meeting members of the Italian commun-

ity in Wollongong. He is also hoping to establish a chapter of the Teachers of Italian Association.

Dr. Cincotta was born in America shortly after his parents migrated from Italy. He gained his B.S. from Fordham University between 1955 and 1960, his M.A. in Italian Literature in 1967 at the Columbia University, and his Doctorate in Modern Languages in 1972 at the Graduate Language Schools at Middlebury.

He studied at the University of Florence, Italy, under a Fulbright Scholarship Research Grant in 1971-72.

Dr. Cincotta and his wife, who is working as a research student in the University's Department of Philosophy, have two pre-school children.

His hobbies are gardening, Spanish music, and Italian-American theatre. He said he does not intend returning to America permanently and will take out Australian citizenship.

He assumed duties on February 18.

## Librarian will help students



**MISS Margaret Whetton.**

A new librarian in the University Library, Miss Margaret Whetton, aims to help students use the Library to its full advantage.

As Reader Education Librarian, Miss Whetton will initiate a programme which will include library tours and tutorials, catering for every level of student, from first-year to higher degree.

"I will be contacting academics on

campus to discuss ways of helping the students gain as much as possible from the Library," she said.

She also is designing various leaflets and guides outlining how to use the Library. Projects, such as displays, will be used to promote the Library.

Miss Whetton comes to Wollongong after three-years at the two-million book Fisher Library, at the University of Sydney, and two years at the Mitchell Library, Sydney.

She gained her Diploma of Librarianship at the University of New South Wales after graduating in English Literature, B.A. (Hons.), at the University of Sydney.

Her hobbies include squash, table tennis and swimming. She hopes to join the University's squash and table tennis clubs. Miss Whetton assumed duties on February 28.

## The benefits of engineering



**DR. Wee King Soh.**

A new lecturer in the University's Department of Mechanical Engineering, Dr. Wee King Soh, says engineering training produces not only engineers but also people with practical minds who are useful to society.

He said: "Despite the present low demand for engineering graduates, there are increasing opportunities for engineers in computing, mining, and agricultural engineering.

"Young people who intend to take up careers in engineering will find that the Faculty does provide many elective subjects for them to gain basic knowledge in the field of their choice."

Born in Singapore, Dr. Soh, 32, came to Australia fifteen years ago. He became a naturalised Australian in 1975, is married, and has an eleven-month-old daughter.

He was awarded a C.S.I.R.O. studentship from 1969 to 1973 and a University of New



South Wales Research Studentship from 1973 to 1974. Before coming to Wollongong, he was a project scientist at the University of New South Wales.

He gained his B.Sc. in 1967 and his B.E., with University Medal, in 1969, both from the University of Sydney, and his M.Eng.Sc. in 1971 and his Ph.D. in 1974, both from the University of New South Wales.

His Ph.D. thesis topic was "Development of Vortex Sheets in Unsteady Flows and Applications". This work was presented in the tenth symposium on Naval Hydrodynamics in the United States.

His teaching experience includes lectures on engineering analysis, complex variables, and applications to hydrodynamics. Dr. Soh's teaching areas at the University will be in thermodynamics and fluid mechanics.

He assumed duties at the University on February 1.

## New idea on study leave



MR. Alan Coote

A new lecturer in the University's Department of Accountancy, Mr. Allan Coote, would like to see the concept of sabbatical leave changed.

He believes lecturers should go out into the community and do practical work in their field as well as teach and study at other universities.

Mr. Coote, 49, also would like people in industry, commerce and government to be more frequent guest lecturers at universities than they are.

He said his practical, commercial experience was a great advantage, as it was impossible to learn from a text book the affect people had on accounting systems (and vice versa).

Mr. Coote gained his Bachelor of Commerce degree at the University of Queensland in 1950 and became an Associate in Accountancy in 1956. Last year he obtained his Master of Commerce at the University of N.S.W.

He has been a part-time lecturer in accountancy and information systems at the University since 1966 as well as working at Metal Manufactures Ltd. at Port Kembla. He started at M.M. in 1958 as an assistant sales controller and worked his way up to computer manager.

Mr. Coote is a member of the Australian Institute of Management, Australian Computer Society, and American Accounting Association.

His publications include "Business and the New Maths", "Apportioning and Rounding", and "Computer Sorting with a High-Level Commercial Language".

The main change in accountancy he has encountered since he started at the University is the emphasis of the first-year syllabus.

"When I started, first-year students were taught little more than the practical book-keeping approach, but this is now combined with a reasonable amount of supporting theory," he said.

"The emphasis then was much more on 'how' than on 'why'. Nowadays the 'how' is stressed rather less and the 'why' considerably more."

Mr. Coote would like to see formal logic and problem-solving a compulsory subject in high school. "I would also like speed reading to be taught in schools, as many tertiary students suffer from their inability to read fast."

His daughter, Mrs. Barbara Rickard, enrolled at the University this year as a part-time Bachelor of Commerce student.

Mr. Coote's hobbies include bowls and reading. He assumed duties on February 1.

## Students need solid training



MR. William McGaw.

A new lecturer in the University's Department of English, Mr. William McGaw, believes secondary students who intend going to university should be given a broader and more solid training to fit them for study at tertiary level.

He said that, for instance, many students came to university to study English with little experience of important English liter-

ature, their schooling having been dominated by things which are "relevant".

"There is a need to accept that some secondary school students will attend university," he said, "and secondary schools ought to be doing more to prepare such students, even if it means a less egalitarian approach in the lower forms."

Before coming to Wollongong, Mr. McGaw, 34, was a temporary lecturer for two years at Macquarie University, and, for three years before that, a part-time tutor also at Macquarie University while studying under a Commonwealth Postgraduate Research award. Previously, he taught for nine years in secondary schools in Sydney and Queensland.

Mr. McGaw has completed his Ph.D. thesis, entitled, "Wit Forg'd; The Proper Subordination of the Conceit in Metaphysical Poetry"; and this will be presented for submission soon.

Mr. McGaw's publications include articles and notes on the poetry of Donne, Marvell, Cowley and Habington.

His teaching area at the University of Wollongong will be seventeenth and eighteenth-century literature.

"My aim at the University is to help students enjoy great literary works and benefit from them," he said.

Mr. McGaw's hobbies include painting and golf. He has exhibited his art in Sydney.

His wife is currently Head of the English Department at a leading independent girls' school in Sydney. He has a sixteen month old daughter.

Mr. McGaw assumed duties on February 1.

## Retirement short-lived



DR. Winifred Mitchell.

After three weeks in retirement last year, Dr. Winifred Mitchell decided it was time to return to work.

Continued next page.

# Ross Hohnen honoured as first Canberran of year

University of Wollongong Council member, Mr. Ross Hohnen, has won the first Canberran of the Year award.

The award was announced on March 11 by the manager of The Federal Capital Press of Australia Pty. Ltd., Mr. John Fairfax.

Mr. Hohnen was selected from many nominations by a panel from the Canberra Week Committee and The Canberra Times, which jointly sponsored the award.

A long-time resident of Canberra and a former registrar and secretary of the Australian National University, he has been a member of the University Council since August 8, 1975, when he was elected by other Council members.

Mr. Hohnen joined the A.N.U. in September, 1948, as assistant to the registrar, became registrar in July, 1949, and was appointed the first secretary to the University in March, 1968.

He ceased active duty with the A.N.U. on March 31, 1975.

In an edition of A.N.U. News, published in May, 1975, he was described as "more-than-life-size".

"His involvement in almost every phase of the University . . . his immense contribution to its establishment, development and maturity . . . has long since earned him the name 'Mr. A.N.U.'," the article said.

Born in Arncliffe, N.S.W., in October, 1917, Mr. Hohnen was educated in Sydney and graduated from the University of Sydney.

He was the first registrar, from 1946 to 1948, at the New England University College, Armidale, before going to the A.N.U.

He played a leading role in developing the Scout movement in the Canberra-Monaro area and in 1972 became the International Commissioner of the Scout Association of Australia.

Last year he was elected chairman of the Asia-Pacific Region of the World Scout- ing Association.



MR. Ross Hohnen.

Mr. Hohnen has been and is involved in many other community activities.

He is chairman of the Canberra Theatre Trust and chairman of the Community Arts Committee of the Australia Council.

He serves on the Council of the Canberra School of Music and is national director and honorary secretary of the National Heart Foundation.

He is also a member of the University of Wollongong Council's Finance Committee.

## Study leave

The main advantage for me of my study leave at Oxford was the complete lack of all Wollongong commitments.

Because of this, I was able to work continuously for long periods and so produce quite a few results.

I also hoped to discuss my work with the Professor of Logic at Oxford, but I found him to be working for three departments (Mathematics, Philosophy and Computer Science), and he also spent several months a year at conferences or preparing papers for these.

Even though he was friendly and co-operative, his dozen or more Ph.D. students and people like me could not get to talk to him at any length very often. Fortunately, a former fellow Ph.D. student, with research interests very similar to mine, was at Oxford on leave from the U.S. in the second half of the year.

A major advantage of Oxford (other than its architecture . . . with which it was always a pleasure to be surrounded) is its library facilities.

The departmental library, to which all staff, graduate students, and visitors had keys, had a far better collection, particularly of journals, than our Library; and the main Science Library, which was open to undergraduates as well (but for lending to virtually no-one!), had an even better collection.

Similarly, sporting facilities at each College were comparable to what we have in the whole University - and they were free as well.

The only amenity at Oxford that is clearly inferior to ours is typing. It is strange to see even world-class mathematicians typing their own papers!

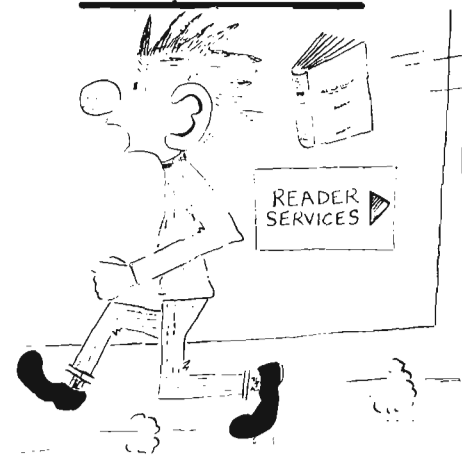
Among visits to other universities was one to Leeds where Dev. Singh (formerly of Mech. Eng., Wollongong) now works.

His department has photos of the staff with names attached for the benefit of new students.

Leeds also has an interesting system of tutorial groups. Such a group is attached to a staff member for the duration of a student's course and is not meant to deal with strictly academic methods.

Perhaps Campus News could ask Dev. to write on the system as I can hardly do justice to it.

Dr. Martin Bunder,  
Department of Mathematics.



## RETIREMENT SHORT-LIVED

Continued from previous page.

This year she has been appointed a lecturer in the University's Department of History.

But Dr. Mitchell is certainly not a new identity on campus. She started part-time tutoring at the University College twelve years ago.

"Over the twelve years, the students have not changed very much, but the teaching methods, such as audio-visual, are quite different," she said.

Dr. Mitchell, a grandmother who admits to being over 60 years old, gained her B.A. in 1959 and M.A. in 1965, both at the University of New England, and her Ph.D. in 1972 at the University of New South Wales.

Before her "retirement", she was a senior tutor at the University of New South Wales from 1966 to 1976, a tutor at Wollongong University College in 1965, and a high school teacher from 1954 to 1964.

Her publications include "Parties and

Politics in Australia", "Miners' Leader", "Wives of the Working Class", and "The Coming of Federation".

She has currently in preparation, "The Widows", to be included in Dr. S. Piggin's publication on the Mount Kembla disaster, and a history of the South Coast Labor Council.

"I hope to complete the Labor Council history for its 50th anniversary with the help of students interested in local history," she said.

Dr. Mitchell's studies have often been concerned with women, especially wives of workers. "I'm also interested in mature women at university who are keen to expand their own intellectual horizons."

She said one major change in the role of women in the last few years was the way women thought of themselves.

Dr. Mitchell's teaching area at the University is in Australian social history, both in pass and honours students.

She assumed duties on January 1.



# Staff changes

## APPOINTMENTS

Dr. P. SIMMONDS		
Lecturer	Physics	6/1/77
Dr. A. D. MARTIN		
Research Officer	Physics	4/1/77
Dr. H. BERAN		
Lecturer	Philosophy	3/1/77
Mr. G. E. TIBBITS		
Lecturer	Accountancy	10/1/77
Mr. M. W. DUGGEN		
Apprentice Fitter/Mechanic		
	Estate Division	10/1/77
Mr. R. G. KINNEL		
Lab. Craftsman	Metallurgy	17/1/77
Mr. K. SHEPHERD		
Elect. Fitter/Mech.	Estate Division	17/1/77
Mrs. G. CHURCHILL		
Typist Office Ass't	Chemistry	10/1/77
Mr. T. HOLE		
Garden Labourer	Estate Division	19/1/77
Ms. K. SALLEH		
Lecturer	Sociology	17/1/77
Mr. J. ROACH		
Garden Labourer	Estate Division	19/1/77
Mr. M. BREEN		
Counsellor	Counselling Ctr.	24/1/77
Mr. W. D. McGAW		
Lecturer	English	1/2/77
Mrs. J. ODMARK		
Typist Office Ass't	Library	1/2/77
Miss E. BRAND		
Office Assistant	Library	1/2/77
Mr. P. ANTHONY		
Technical Officer	Physics	1/2/77
Mr. A. G. McLEAN		
Lecturer	Mech. Engin'g	1/2/77
Dr. W. K. SOH		
Lecturer	Mech. Engin'g	1/2/77
Mr. A. COOTE		
Snr. Lecturer	Accountancy	1/2/77
Mr. A. MORILLAS		
App. Fitter/Turner	Mechanical Eng.	2/2/77
Mrs. Y. HOUBEN		
Stenographer	Computer C'tr	24/1/77

Mrs. H. BUNYAN		
Secretary	Geology	3/2/77
Mr. J. N. SHIPP		
Assist. Archives Off.	Library	3/2/77
Miss M. J. JARAMILLO		
Secretary	Civil Eng.	4/2/77
Mrs. T.D.A. DOUNG		
Lab. Assistant	Biology	21/2/77
Dr. V. J. CINCOTTA		
Lecturer	European Lang.	21/2/77

## RESIGNATIONS

Mr. K. W. LONGLAND		
Programmer	A.D.P. Unit	24/11/76
Mr. M.A.V. DISSKY		
Lab. Assistant	Metallurgy	30/11/76
Miss K. IRVINE		
Research Assist.	Education	31/12/76
Mrs. P. R. TAAFE		
Secretary	Geology	7/1/77
Dr. B. J. OPIE		
Lecturer	English	27/1/77
Mr. R. ELLIS		
Tech. Officer	Geology	20/1/77
Mrs. J. K. GILROY		
Machine Operator	A.D.P. Unit	21/1/77
Mr. G.A. LAMBERT		
Tutor	Accountancy	31/1/77
Mrs. M. TRELOAR		
Secretary	Civil Eng.	1/2/77
Mrs. F. M. DAVEY		
Tech. Officer	Chemistry	1/2/77
Mr. M. A. PRONK		
Admin. Assistant	Registrar's Div.	25/1/77
Mr. L. MARGERISON		
Lab. Assistant	Mech. Eng.	18/2/77
Miss J. BUSCH		
Typist/Off. Assist.	Registrar's Div.	11/2/77
Mr. J. L. KELLY		
Analyst Programmer	A.D.P. Unit	28/2/77
Miss D. K. HOST		
Tutor	English	28/2/77

## RETIREMENT

Dr. J. N. STEPHENS		
Senior Lecturer	Physics	31/1/77

## AUDIO-VISUAL TIPS & IDEAS

The University has just bought a Sony video cassette recorder.

The advantage of this machine is that it can copy programmes in colour.

At present, the University's only colour monitors are in Pentagon theatre 3; but, later in the year, another monitor should be available for use in other rooms.

As a colour camera costs about \$4000, the A-V Unit would like to know of the likely demand for this item of equipment so that a special request can be made to the Resources Committee for 1978.

The Unit subscribes to the A.B.C. Radio Guide and to the TV Times. Departments are notified promptly of programmes likely to be relevant.

Video cassettes cost \$13.32 for 30 minutes and \$19.62 for 60 minutes and are available from the University store.

The Library has appointed Mr. Keith Gaymer as Librarian (non-book and special materials).

His responsibilities include looking after the library's collection of audio-visual equipment and materials, which is housed on the top floor of the Library.

He will be pleased to answer any enquiries about the collection. His temporary extension is 287.

We have some problems with the latest range of cassettes from Government Stores.

Would members of staff who experience difficulties with cassettes (such as excessive background noise, breakage, or stretching) please contact Graeme Dunn (ext. 237).

## LETTERS

The Editor,  
Campus News.

Dear Sir,

It struck me today that, with "rationalization" being very much the "in" thing, the University should make the fact work in its favour, if this is possible. After all, it either works for you or against you... like inflation!

The point we need to develop is that, whilst the demand for university places has reached a ceiling and may even decline slightly in the next ten years, the distribution of university places is still uneven, with most university places in New South Wales being taken up by the Sydney universities.

It should be possible to rationalize provision of areas and facilities for study and research in Sydney so as to prevent unnecessary duplication, whilst at the same time releasing funds to expand provision at the University of Wollongong.

Such a redistribution of places would make a great deal of sense, since the Sydney universities have become too large and we are too small. Furthermore, a redirection of funds to Wollongong would recognise the

considerable number of Sydney-siders who enrol at Wollongong and would also attract those from our own area who will otherwise enrol in the universities of the metropolis.

From our Foreign Correspondent.

Tony Barker,  
Information Office.

Dear Tony,

On the eve of my departure, a local ham radio chap has sent me a coded message intercepted last night and decoded today by Computer Services Inc.

"Under direction of AVCC (Australian Victory for CAOS Committee?) CAOS agents have penetrated control W.U. (Warilla United?) as part of a plan to destroy thought processes of Free World by biochemical staff formula shown to create interincine strife in docile guinea pig family. Formula analysed UNCLE laboratories Dapto reported based on well-tried CAOS principle EFTS (Each for Them Self?) CODE (Chairman of Department of English?) UNCLE 007."

I reckon everyone should be alerted.

Raymond Southall.

## A leasing service is now available

A leasing service is now operating as part of the Counselling Centre's accommodation facilities.

The service will function in the same manner as it was maintained during 1976.

It should be remembered that, while we will endeavour to assist with housing as promptly as we can, the service depends entirely upon the availability of flats/houses on the market.

At present, the situation is not encouraging and there may be a long wait.

Groups of students, interested in renting a flat/house, can leave their names with the Counselling Centre secretary, Marion Allen.

Marion Allen,  
Counselling Centre.

## Union A.G.M. on April 14

The University Union's annual general meeting will be held in the Common Room at 12.45 p.m. on April 14.

Copies of the 1976 annual report can be obtained from the Union Office.

# Rugby Club is out to win 3rd grade competition

The University's Rugby Club will concentrate on winning the Illawarra District Rugby Union's third grade competition this year.

Last year the club tried to field the same team in both first and reserve grades in the district competition.

In the first game this season, Uni. played Vikings top, first-grade team. Despite the 22-0 loss, Uni. played creditably and kept a lot of play in the Viking's half.

On March 20, University hosted a representative match between a combined Illawarra XV and the visiting A.C.T. team. The visitors won 9-nil.

Club officials say the Uni. team "is looking good". The forwards are being coached by John Wren, who won a place in the Australian national intervarsity Rugby team in Melbourne last year.

The Uni. backs are being coached by Phil McInerney (alias Doris).

Alf. Werner's return to the paddock is greatly anticipated. Alf, who was hospitalised for a cartilage operation, is now almost fully recovered and raring to go. His return will add strength to the Uni. pack.

On a lighter note, the cultural exchange between the Rugby Union and the Australian Rules Clubs has proved quite successful.

The club needs co-operation and support. It invites anyone interested in being either a player or a supporter to come to the games.

James Sanders.

## Uni. 4 tops division

University 4 has won division three of the Illawarra Table Tennis Association's summer competition. Congratulations to Mohammed Iqbal and his team.

University 1, captained by N.Q.Thoi, unluckily lost its final match 6-5. A win would have given the team first place in division one.

University 2, finished fifth in division one and University 3 third in division two.

The University Club wants players for the winter table tennis competition.

Sign up with one of the following: Dr. M. W. Bunder (Mathematics), Professor J. B. Ryan (Accountancy), N. Q. Thoi (Mechanical Engineering), or M. Iqbal (International House).

New players are invited to attend practice on Tuesday, April 12, from 7.30 p.m. to 11 p.m. in the Union Hall or coaching (free) at International House between 7.30 p.m. and 8.30 p.m. on April 6 or 13.

Another practice night will be held on April 26 in the Union Hall before the competition begins and coaching will continue throughout first session at the above time.

M. W. Bunder,  
president, Table Tennis Club.



## Memorial appeal for Prof. James McAuley

The University of Tasmania is sponsoring a memorial appeal fund to honour Professor James McAuley's contribution to education and the world of letters.

Professor McAuley, who died in October last year, was appointed to the University of Tasmania's first Readership in Poetry in 1960.

In the following year, he succeeded to the Chair of English, which he occupied until his death.

He published poems and other literary works regularly. A volume of his collected works was published in 1971 and further works followed in a steady stream.

In 1956, he was the founding editor of the literary journal, *Quadrant*, and remained co-editor until his death.

For his many services, both generally and in particular to the literary arts, he was made a member of the Order of Australia in 1975.

The purpose of this memorial fund is to endow an annual series of public lectures to be entitled, "The James McAuley Memorial Lectures", and to be delivered by distinguished speakers in various areas of the humanities.

Further information can be obtained from the University of Wollongong Information Office or by writing to the James McAuley Memorial Appeal, University of Tasmania, Box 252C, G.P.O., Hobart 7001.

## T.E.A.S. regulations change

The director of the N.S.W. Office of the Department of Education, Mr. G. Green, has formally advised the Registrar of two changes to Tertiary Education Assistance Scheme regulations.

Mr. Green said: "One of the changes is to Regulation 44, which specified the amount of work a student must be undertaking to be eligible for assistance.

"To be regarded as a full-time student, it is now necessary, in general, for a student to be enrolled in at least 75 percent of a specified amount of work for each part of his course, be it year, semester or term.

"Previously, a student's load for the whole year was considered when deciding whether or not he was enrolled in at least 75 percent of a full-time load. Now each semester or term will be considered individually.

"A concession has been introduced that will allow TEAS assistance to be granted to a student undertaking as little as 66 2/3 percent of the specified amount of work where circumstances beyond his control—for example time-table clashes, or lack of prerequisites—do not allow him to undertake a greater load.

"In the Bachelor of Arts course at your University, for example, we regard 24 points as one semester's work. A student will need to be enrolled in at least 18 points for each semester to qualify for TEAS assistance (¾ of 24 = 18). If there are circumstances beyond the student's control, which make it impossible for him to undertake 18

points, 16 will suffice (2/3 of 24 = 16).

"There has been no change to the basis used to assess a student's progress in his course. Each student's application will be assessed when his previous year's examination results are known.

"There is another change which may affect some of the awards administered by the University. A student who holds an award for educational or vocational training from another Commonwealth Government source is not eligible for TEAS assistance.

"Scholarships from private donors, from a university's resources, or from State governments will not fall into this category, nor will prizes which are not intended to finance the student's next year of study."

## CAMPUS NEWS

Published regularly throughout the academic year by the Information Office for The University of Wollongong, Northfields Avenue, Wollongong, N.S.W. 2500. Distributed to students and staff, and to local, regional, state and national individuals and organisations.

Tony Barker . . . . . Editor