THE CURTAIN RISES ON NEW ENTERTAINMENT ERA

Theatre South is a new concept in professional theatre in Wollongong and a new initiative in research for Wollongong University English Department lecturer Mr. Des Davis.

Wollongong's first professional theatre company, Theatre South has been formed by Mr. Davis and his wife Faye Montgomery with university support.

Theatre South will start a new era in entertainment for Wollongong when it makes its debut on Thursday, July 3 with its production of The Con Man.

Theatre South is an exciting advance for Wollongong theatre and not only for converted theatregoers but the other audiences it will seek to reach.

Highly acclaimed actor John Clayton, one of the best known faces and most in demand actors in Australian television and theatre, will lead the cast of six professional actors in The Con Man.

The other professionals are Miss Montgomery, who has worked with Canada's leading companies on stage, films and television; John Warnock, a former Wollongong stage identity now heavily involved with radio, television and stage in Sydney; Gordon Streek, one of the Illawarra's best known acting identities, who has a strong background in English theatre and television; Geoff Morell, a founder of Bread and Circus Theatre Company and hailed by critics as a tremendously promising performer; and Lorrie Cruickshank, a leading actress with Sydney's "new theatre" circuit.

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The Con Man and Story-Go-Round are only the start for Theatre South this year. Two more productions are planned for later this year.

The Con Man and Story-Go-Round will "set the tone of what we are trying to do - present plays which are relevant and immediate to the region," Mr. Davis said.

Theatre South was seeking to present a particular kind of presentation and The Con Man was perfect, he said.

"What we are searching for is a version of a great classic which retains the integrity and essential qualities of the original but which is in setting, language and performance style appropriate to an audience in this region of this country at this time," Mr. Davis said.

"It is not the only way to perform the classics but it is a way which underscores the universality of a great work, and at the same time, makes it more accessible to a contemporary audience.

It would be absurd to argue that theatre is essential for every individual, but it would be equally absurd to argue that the theatre is not an important part of the life of a community.

This art has been with us since the first ritual of primitive man and there are no more important figures in the heritage of their respective countries than Shakespeare; Brecht, Chekhov, Moliere, O'Casey and O'Neill. Though its modern manifestations are often either tawdry on the one hand or unduly elitist on the other, nonetheless, civilisation would be unimaginable without some form of theatre.

In Australia, the contemporary consciousness has been expressed not only through our great artists, poets and novelists but most recently through first-rate playwrights like David Williamson, Jack Hibberd and John Romeril.

Every community needs theatre as part of its cultural life just as it needs schools, universities, libraries, art galleries, music, sports facilities and recreational centres.

WHY WOLLONGONG?

Wollongong is the centre of a region - the South Coast and Illawarra - which has a population of more than a quarter of a million. It is a vigorous, multi-ethnic community, largely working class. A population of this size is more than sufficient, other things being equal, to support a thriving professional theatre.

In recent years, the arts in the region have shown signs of positive development: a prestigious art gallery in Wollongong; a Community Arts Officer, a Wollongong Festival as well as other festivals, music developments at Gleniffer Brae, the Illawarra Council for the Performing Arts, ethnic arts events etc. In keeping with the Australian tradition, these developments enjoyed their share of controversy.

In drama and theatre, initiatives have been taken at Wollongong University and in other educational bodies, a considerable number of amateur groups operate with greater or lesser success, at least two dinner theatres flourish, substantial audiences were attracted last year to a touring Nimrod production of The Club at Darlo Leagues Club and to a local pro-am production of The Removalists, again by David Williamson, at the Town Hall Annexe, and an ambitious little professional community theatre company Bread and Circus has begun operation. Obviously, there is a groundswell of interest in theatre - and yet, the results in terms of performance, quality and public support are sporadic and scattered.

WHY PROFESSIONAL?

Theatre at its best is popular. If it has something to offer in terms of relevance, aesthetic experience and an expression of its community, then it deserves to be shared by a significant proportion of that community. That significant proportion must be reached by making the theatre accessible both in place and cost, by creating programmes of relevance and appeal, and by the theatre becoming a regular and highly visible part of the community life. The theatre must offer something to all segments of the population, including the young.

Such a theatre is only made possible by a permanent professional company - a company which has the flexibility, the skills, the resources and most importantly the time to achieve these complex objectives. To give one important example, only a professional company can consistently answer the demands of education for school performances - for theatre, while it must always be entertaining, is fortunately also able to make significant contributions to the education of young people.

FRINGE BENEFITS

A professional company will provide direct employment for a number of actors, directors, designers, technicians and administrators as well as flow-on benefits to the economy. The company may become a major enterprise hiring a considerable staff, but even in its early modest stages will make a small contribution to the local economy through spending, earning and hiring.

Local writers and artists as well as aspiring actors and technicians graduating from local tertiary training institutions will all find opportunity in the existence of a regional professional company.

A full-time professional company provides a valuable resource for local bodies - educational, cultural and social. It is also a resource rather than competition for other theatre groups. Experience elsewhere has shown conclusively that amateur theatre flourishes as professional theatre is established in a region.

The high quality work of a professional company can be a source of pride and prestige to a community and an attraction for visitors. Such a company on tour can also carry that pride and prestige elsewhere. DES DAVIS.
The cast also features some of Illawarra’s leading amateur actors including young actor Anthony Warlow, who is well known for his work with the Conservatorium Music Theatre Company, Sheelah Boleyn, who was acclaimed for her role in The Removalists, and university drama student Di Kiernan, who starred in the university’s production of Truganini.

Theatre South also will have top professionals behind the scenes - designer Bill Pritchard comes to The Con Man direct from the Australian Opera Company and stage manager Barry O’Sullivan previously worked for the Elizabethan Theatre Trust.

The Con Man will have a 14-performance season at Wollongong Technical College Theatre. The play is an Australian adaptation of Molière’s Tartuffe, written by English Department drama lecturer Mr. Maurie Scott.

The Con Man is set on a turn of the century Jamberoo farm and comically chronicles the rise and fall of silver-tongued, sanctimonious con man Tartuffe.

Mr. Davis is directing the production.

Mr. Davis is an actor, director, teacher and writer. His book Theatre for Young People, to be published this year, is the result of eight years’ research and work in Canada where he founded one of Canada’s best known regional theatres specialising in theatre for young people. He also worked as a freelance actor and director for other companies during his 10 years in the country, and was Associate Professor of Drama at Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario.

Mr. Davis and Miss Montgomery established Theatre South this year after planning the project when he spent sabbatical leave in Wollongong more than two years ago.

Theatre South’s production of The Con Man will see research in action.

Mr. Davis has a university research grant for Studies of the Process and Development of Theatre Production by Theatre South, so the project will be “page to stage” research.

In keeping with Mr. Davis’ policy of using Theatre South as a resource for study, 10 students are involved with various facets of production - from roles in the play to working behind the scenes.

“1 think it’s vital that students have practical involvement with such a project and with Theatre South they can observe and work with professionals,” Mr. Davis said. “The company will prove a most valuable study instrument and resource tool as well as enriching the community.”
Stories to keep the kids smiling

A farmer who spends all his time with a goat, two amiable Irish giants, a princess who never smiles...

These are a few of the fairy tale characters from Story-Go-Round, Theatre South's first production for school children.

Story-Go-Round is the fourth children's play written by Theatre South associate director and administrator Miss Faye Montgomery. She will lead the cast of experienced professional actors in the play who have been cast for their potential appeal to young audiences.

Miss Montgomery's husband Wollongong University English Department drama lecturer Mr. Des Davis, who founded and directed one of Canada's most successful theatres for young people, will direct the play.

Story-Go-Round is a story-theatre version of five folk tales drawn from different cultures - Irish, Russian, Italian, Mexican and French.

"The tales have a common thread in themes of cleverness in contrast to wisdom," according to Miss Montgomery.

"They demonstrate that man has concerns in common whatever his particular culture but they also express the joy and excitement of individual cultural expression."

Each story is presented in a style to reflect its origins.

Mime, music, masks, colourful props and costumes, lively action and the transformation of the cast highlight plays.

Story-Go-Round follows Theatre South's aim to provide both education and entertainment. The play is suitable for kindergarten through to primary school age children.

The play will open at Wollongong Technical College Theatre on Wednesday, July 9.

The Wollongong season will finish on Friday, July 18 and the production then will be presented at other venues on the South Coast and Southern Highlands before winding up with nine performances in Sydney.

Venues will be: Macquarie Fields Community Centre (Monday July 21 and Tuesday, July 22 at 10.30am and 1.30pm), Nowra School of Arts (Wednesday, July 23 at 10.30am and 1.30pm), Frensham School Club Hall, Mittagong (Thursday, July 24 at 10.30am and 1.30pm), Shellharbour Town Hall (Friday, July 25 at 10.30am and 1.30pm) and the Seymour Theatre Centre's York Theatre, Sydney (Monday, July 28 at 1.15pm and from Tuesday, 29 to Friday, August 1 at 10.15am and 1.15pm).

Theatre South is distributing a teachers' supplement which gives details of the production and suggests preliminary and follow-up work as an aid to teachers.

Designer is Bill Pritchard, who came from the Australian Opera Company to work with Theatre South, and stage manager Barry O'Sullivan who came from the Elizabethan Theatre Trust.
WORKSHOP CATERS FOR A WORLD OF MUSIC

Forty international music students and authorities will attend a Cooperative Workshop on the Acoustics of Stringed Instruments at Wollongong University early next month.

They will come from as far as Belgium, America, England, Yugoslavia and Japan in addition to most Australian states and New Zealand for the four-day workshop in the university Physics Department.

A special feature of the workshop will be a recital on Australian-made violins by Professor John Harding who is a professor at the NSW Conservatorium of Music, Leader of the Australian Chamber Orchestra, a member of the Mittagong Trio and a noted soloist.

The workshop will start on Saturday, July 5, and finish on Tuesday, July 8.

Apart from the first day, when people will register and attend an introductory lecture, all sessions will start with technical papers between 9 a.m. and 10.30 a.m. There will be at least two technical paper sessions each day.

On the opening day, people will attend a concert in Wollongong Town Hall by the Sydney Youth Chamber Orchestra conducted by Mr. John Painter.

Mr. Painter is Deputy Director of Sydney Conservatorium and one of Australia's leading cellists.

A musician's hour and a luthier's hour will be two features of Sunday's session. Monday will be the most intensive day with three technical paper periods.

On the final day, there will be a gathering in Wollongong Town Hall for organ music, wind music, string music and a demonstration on the Ron Sharp organ by Professor Howard Pollard. This will be followed by afternoon tea and a reception by Wollongong Lord Mayor Alderman Frank Arkell.

Besides technical papers, workshop participants should have ample opportunities to exchange ideas on other items of interest to musicians and luthiers, according to workshop convenor Mr. A. I. Segal, of Wollongong University's Physics Department.

Mr. Segal urges participants to bring along their instruments, especially violins or violas for Professor Harding's recital.

The proceedings of the workshop will be published in a book to be provided to all people who register. Additional copies will be available at a cost of $10 for people who cannot attend. The book also will contain the names and addresses of all people who register for the workshop.

The workshop is under the auspices of the Wollongong University Physics Department and the Catgut Acoustical Society.

Workshop speakers and their subjects will be:

B. E. Conygham and R. P. Harris, Computer Music Project, Computer Science Department, University of Melbourne - Problems in Computer Synthesis of String Timbre.

G. W. Caldersmith - (a) Alternative Configurations for Fiddles and (b) Physics at the Workbench of the Luthier.


Professor N. H. Fletcher, Department of Physics, the University of New England - Attack Transients and the Resonant Modes of Stringed Instrument Sodies.

S. Thwaites, Department of Physics, The University of New England - Acoustic Analysis of a Clavichord.

Carleen M. Hutchins, Catgut Acoustical Society - (a) Plate Tuning and (b) Higher Air Modes in the Violin.

R. P. Thompson, CSIRO Division of Tribopysics, Adelaide Laboratory, South Australia - Coloured Terpene Resin Violin Varnish: A New Approach.

Professor Howard Pollard, School of Applied Physics, The University of NSW - The Physical Specification of Musical Timbre.

A. I. Segal, Department of Physics, The University of Wollongong - The Influence of Certain Parameters on the Tone of Bowed-String Instruments.


Mrs. Suzanne Hogg, Santa Sabina College, Strathfield - Studies of Perfect Pitch.

Dr. Tovan Tovicic and Dr. Olivia Todicic, Yugoslavia - Study of the Acoustic Properties of the Guitar.

Professor F. Buckens, Catholic University of Louvain - The Sound Damping in a Musical Stringed Instrument.

Professor Isao Nakamura, College of Engineering, Shizuoka University, Japan - Simulation of String Vibrations on the Piano.

Robert Johnston, C/- I. A. Noyce and Co. Luthiers, Ballarat - Topic to be arranged.

Professor Thomas D. Rossing, Physics Department, Northern Illinois University, America - The Guitar As Seen by a Physics Teacher.

State Library appoints ex-university archivist

Former Wollongong University archivist Baiba Irving is the new Mitchell Librarian at the N.S.W. State Library.

Baiba's appointment to the prestige post recognises her abilities as an historian, archivist and administrator.

As a post-graduate student she researched the social credit movement in Australia. Her publications include an article on Tilly Devine in the Australian Dictionary of Biography. She also has been involved with the editing of Refractory Girl and Archives and Manuscripts.

As the first archivist at Wollongong University from 1974 to 1976, she was responsible for much of the early development of the University Archives. After working with the State Archives, Baiba joined the University of N.S.W. as a lecturer in Archives Administration.

The Mitchell Library was opened in 1910 to house more than 61,000 books, manuscripts and other items bequeathed to the State by Mr. David Scott Mitchell.

The Library has added to the bequest and now boasts a superb collection of Australiana.
UNIVERSITY SURVEYS
MACARTHUR PEOPLE

Wollongong University now is surveying Macarthur people to assess demand for a projected study centre for the region.

The university is conducting the survey in conjunction with the Macarthur Development Board and the region's three local councils.

Wollongong University Vice-Chancellor Professor L. Michael Birt said the aim of the survey was to find out whether there was an immediate demand for university courses within the Macarthur Growth Centre.

"Depending on the results, the university will be able to decide if it can provide a local study centre in 1981," Professor Birt said.

"The range of courses offered will depend on the specific interests of the people which will be revealed by the survey.

"Depending on the survey responses, it may be possible also to offer studies for single subjects or degree courses either at first degree or higher degree level."

Professor Birt said the concept for the study centre was part of an overall aim of widening access to university education through development of a multi-campus institution of higher education.

"If this study centre proposal is successfully implemented it will also forge closer links between the Macarthur Growth Centre and the University," he said.

"In the long term it is projected that Macarthur will get its own university, but for some time we have had informal discussions with the Macarthur Development Board and the local government authorities about ways in which we might assist immediately."

AVCC queries new States Grants legislation

The Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee has raised two matters relating to States Grants (Tertiary Education Assistance) legislation with Federal Minister for Education Mr. Wal Fife. They are:

a) The amendments which were made to the States Grants Legislation for 1980 which contain a new section relating to university courses involving new teaching developments. The Minister was informed that these provisions impose a significant additional limit on the freedom of university governing bodies to determine the most appropriate teaching developments to be implemented. The minister was reminded that governing bodies have the responsibility to determine how universities can best use their academic and financial resources and that there is no evidence of the need to give legislative backing to the imposition of a widely embracing provision for the approval of new teaching developments.

b) The proposed amendments to the States Grants Legislation giving the Minister the discretion to reduce grants to those institutions which pay salaries to academic staff higher than those recommended by the Academic Salaries Tribunal. It has been pointed out to the Minister both in writing and in discussion that some universities have contracts with staff members, many of which were written before the establishment of the Tribunal. Universities are obliged to follow these contracts, some of which require them to pay higher salaries than those recommended by the Tribunal. In these cases the universities have an obligation, legal in character, to pay higher salaries, and yet the Government apparently intends to impose a penalty on them because of this. The AVCC believes that it is bad principle for the Government to proceed in this way.

Further, the AVCC has drawn the Minister's attention to the fact that some universities already top up the salaries of some staff members from privately endowed income, and that if the Government proceeds with its legislation, the universities will apparently be penalised for this practice.

In both oral and written replies, the Minister has acknowledged that universities may have obligations, through contracts or industrial awards, which require them to pay salary rates in excess of those recommended by the Academic Salaries Tribunal and that universities should not be placed in an impossible position. He has explained that it is intended that the legislation should allow the Minister discretion to determine, according to the circumstances, whether to impose a penalty and to determine the size of the penalty up to the limit equal to the excess payment. Also, the Minister has indicated that the legislation should apply to salaries 'topped-up' from private sources but, again, the Minister will have discretion to consider the circumstances.

The legislation will apply from 1 January, 1981 but in his letter to the AVCC the Minister has said that "I do not believe that it would be necessary or desirable to make any exemptions....to do so would seriously weaken the provision."
There are a couple of snappy characters hanging around the university's animal house - and, no, they're not overworked academics.

The toothy two are 68cm crocodiles which are holding the research floor for BSc (Honours) student Mr. Craig Williams.

And although they are only two years old, their infancy has not blunted respect for those daunting rows of teeth.

The crocodiles, originally from Arnhem Land in the Northern Territory, are leading Mr. Williams' research into the thyroid gland functions of reptiles compared with the thyroid of warm-blooded animals.

They have been lent to the university by Dr. Gordon Grigg, from Sydney University's School of Zoology, who is helping with the project.

And if Mr. Williams (left) and Biology Department lecturer Dr. Tony Hulbert seem to have a handful now, their research team will have even more bite soon when four more crocodiles take up residence in the animal house.

Crocodiles are one group of three reptiles studied for the project. The other animal members of the research team are eight shingle-backed lizards from western New South Wales and three tortoises from Braidwood on the Shoalhaven River.

The crocodiles will be returning to Sydney when the project is completed but the tortoises are likely to stay on campus in the university pond.

Mr. Williams should finish his experimental work in September and then start writing his thesis.

Dr. Hulbert, who is supervising the research, said the project's aim was to be able to make some general statement on evolution.

"Two hundred and fifty million years ago reptiles and mammals shared a common ancestor, so the project may shed a little light on how they evolved so differently," he said.

In warm-blooded animals (mammals and birds), the thyroid hormone is responsible for a large amount of the animals' heat production. But little is known about the thyroid function in cold-blooded animals.

Mr. Williams' project will centre on trying to find out whether the thyroid gland is active and whether there are thyroid hormones in the blood of reptiles.

The research will involve various tests such as taking blood samples to measure thyroid hormones, radioactive iodine injections and measuring heat production.

Fellow Biology Department student Mr. Paul Else also is busily researching with reptiles.

He is doing a PhD on The Evolution of Warm-Bloodedness and, in addition to studying the crocodiles, lizards and tortoises, also is studying rats, rabbits and other laboratory animals.

The department's research into warm-bloodedness will move into the international arena next month when Dr. Hulbert gives an introductory lecture to a thermal physiology symposium in Hungary. His topic will be From Cold-Bloodedness to Warm-Bloodedness.

Dr. Hulbert also will attend a symposium in Czechoslovakia.
AVCC concerned at State moves

The Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee has considered proposed amendments to the Victorian Post-Secondary Education Commission Act 1978, which would give the VPSEC power to approve all courses of study in Victorian Universities.

In expressing its concern at this legislation, the AVCC recalled its position on planning and co-ordination of tertiary education, which was in a statement issued on April 18, 1978. That statement said:-

"The AVCC is disturbed however by the increasing trend to establish State level co-ordinating authorities whose powers include specific control over the universities in their State. Developments on these lines have already occurred in some States and are contemplated in most others. These developments were preceded by inquiries which, without exception, took full note of the special position of universities in Australia. In practice, the legislation that flowed from these inquiries and the developing procedures of these State bodies has more and more set out to make the universities subordinate to the State co-ordinating body.

"The universities of Australia have been treated, since the Murray Report in 1957 as a single national system, with provisions for national planning and national financing. Universities have had direct access to the national planning body and advisory body and have willingly accepted directions and controls on their patterns of development from the Australian Universities Commission and its successors. It would be a retrograde step if the direct relations between the universities and the Commonwealth funding bodies were to be impaired.

"Universities are national and international institutions. It would be dangerous if their academic planning were to be controlled at an inappropriate level. Universities must ensure that other tertiary institutions are informed of university plans at the same time as the university informs the Universities Council and there must be a capacity for discussion and reciprocal advice. Control by the State of its colleges of advanced education stems in part from the historical relationship between many of these institutions when they were State controlled teachers colleges designed to meet the needs of State Education Departments. Such factors are not present with respect to the universities as institutions though it is important to make provision for State co-ordination of some of the activities of universities, e.g., teacher training.

"The AVCC believes that it is unacceptable to the nation to set up a new level administrative authority which can profess to pronounce on the content and standards of university courses. The present system is already cumbersome and another level of discussion and decision would make the system unworkable. The AVCC takes the view that it would be a grave step to interfere with the necessary academic independence of the universities, which is intrinsically bound up with the capacity to give intellectual leadership to the professions and the general search for knowledge."

The AVCC also noted that the Williams Committee of Inquiry had made two important recommendations on this subject. These were:-

"...that co-ordination of the university sector continue to be predominantly a Commonwealth responsibility and that universities continue to make submissions directly to the Tertiary Education Commission." [R16.9]

"...that although the co-ordination of universities should continue to be predominantly Commonwealth responsibility, the State Board or Commission should receive copies of submissions to the Tertiary Education Commission from universities in the State; that the timing of submissions be such that the State authority have adequate time to discuss with the university or universities concerned, and with the Tertiary Education Commission, proposals that have a bearing on problems of co-ordination and over-provision and duplication of courses. Where universities provide or propose to provide diploma or associate diploma courses the predominant co-ordinating responsibility would rest with the State authority." [R16.10]

The AVCC was concerned that the Victorian amendments were the only current proposal by a State to establish State co-ordination of university courses. Other States had followed the principles adopted by the AVCC and recommended by the Williams Committee.

The AVCC has requested its Chairman, Professor D. W. George, to make urgent representations to the Victorian Minister for Education, to convey to him its concern at the proposal to establish State co-ordination of university activities on top of the existing Commonwealth co-ordination.
Laura Molino definitely doesn’t fit the romantic image of the poet as tortured soul, revelling in misery and scribbling out Wertherian prose in a wretched garret.

Laura, 20, of Berkeley, a second year arts student, has a bubbly humour and wit which owes more to the Marx Brothers and Monty Python than Rimbaud or Verlaine... and she often scribbles her verse on board busses.

But her poem Manrat, which won this year’s $500 Mcgregor Literary Competition, is testimony to a brilliant talent in the finest traditions of the poet’s craft.

The Mcgregor award follows considerable local success for Laura who won the poetry section of the 1978 Illawarra Prize Competition.

When asked her reaction to the money and art questions and whether she considered Manrat was worth $500, Laura replied in typical tongue-in-cheek fashion: “I really don’t read much of other people’s poetry.”

She considers poetry her hobby, “something to do in my spare time - the way some people kick footballs or watch TV.”

Her actual approach to writing is less scientific. She writes not to any production line regimen but only when inspiration strikes - “it could be on the bus or anywhere really,” she said.

The inspiration for Manrat came while she was studying in the university Library.

Her creative spark often is fired by people she encounters and starts observing with her poet’s perception.

She admits that the literary-inspired inspections sometimes arouse her subject’s awareness and are returned with a dirty look. But this has not daunted her liking to write about strangers and people in general.

After the inspiration has been spent, Laura puts the work away for a week before casting her critical eye over the product. Sometimes she slightly rewrites the first draft but if it needs too much work it frequently is discarded.

“You can’t help being critical of a poem - they lose their charm very quickly,” she said.

Laura has a new idea about writer’s block - “I suppose whenever I’m not writing it’s writer’s block” - and her cheerful reply implies that her creativity comes easily.

The comparative unpopularity of poetry doesn’t worry her either. She jokes about the success of a poetry reading at the university (“the three people there seemed to enjoy it”) but had a bigger test and passed with flying colours at a Poets Union Conference and Ball.

Her interest in presenting poems is branching out with involvement in theatre work. She is studying Theatre Arts and Elizabethan Jacobean Drama among her subjects and recently has started writing plays. She also is working on a poems and performance project with her sister Katia, 15.

Laura’s aims (“apart from being famous”) are to publish a book of poetry and travel around Europe.

Laura Molino

Manrat

Manrat shot his hearing aid,
But it never made any difference -
he still hears those voices,
and still sees those visions
(That would blind him
if he wasn’t already).

Manrat, like a mole in the sunlight,
fumbles his way
ever deeper into darkness.
Yet his life isn’t all underground -
sometimes he’s theatrical
and dances for rain
or for women
and when he wins neither -
he drags out his hearing aid
and shoots it.

But it never makes any difference
he still hears those voices
(strangely like his own)
howling from a hell
of Art consumed by anger.

And still sees those visions,
as he hangs his dirty linen
where once he hung his mother,
in memory of her last
and only words to him:
“Man without Art, is rat”
she had said.
And he had never forgotten
and still grinds his teeth remembering,
how in her death
she had cried
till her eyes became colourless thinking of
Manrat, a full-time drunk part-time
dreamer would-be artist, who
will tell you, intoxicated
with hope:
“I can paint your dreams”
And you will mumble yes yes
afraid he might become annoyed
and then turn away
disgusted, that he should share your dreams.

Manrat, an angry angry man
who crippled Art
in his clenched fist,
because he could not hold it.

MARIA LAURA MOLINO

Campus News.9
Psychology and the modern world meet everywhere. In the words of one Wollongong University Psychology Department staff member, psychology is "lurching out of its armchair." The result of this great leap out of the laboratory and clinic and into the community is a clarifying of the nebulous nature of psychology as more and more people not only come into contact with psychology but seek contact with it.

Community psychology, soft and hard psychology, Gestalt therapy, psychophysiology... these are a few words in the vocabulary of the new psychology. But as psychology embraces and helps larger sections of the community, it is also taking a measured look at itself as well. The growth in interest in psychology parallels a fragmenting and introspection psychology itself is undergoing.

To the layman, psychology seems to be waiting for the new Freud or Jung; to the psychologist, the new messiahs are already here among the fusion of ideas, attitudes and influences jostling for authority.

Wollongong University's Department of Psychology may well be a microcosm of the new psychology. Diversity and development are the tenets of the university's third largest and fast growing department.

'The new Freuds are already here'

Plans for a Masters Degree in applied psychology and new courses in psychophysiology and consciousness next year are signs of the department's keen approach, now under the leadership of Associate Professor Linda Viney who came to Wollongong this year from Macquarie University.

Diversity is reflected in the senior department staff. Their extremely varied interests provide students with a stimulating range of views and overall, a most balanced instruction.

To Associate Professor Linda Viney psychology is very important.

"Whenever I have to write down my occupation, I just put down 'psychologist' - I don't think about the job I may have at the time," she said. Her interest in the subject started when she began studying at the University of Tasmania at 16. "Psychology became part of the identity I was developing then and has been since," she said.

After graduating from the University of Tasmania with a BA (Hons) in Psychology, she obtained her MA from the Australian National University. But she found she had gone as far as she could within her chosen field in Australia at the time - "I wanted to keep my research work alive and yet work as an applied psychologist as well." So she left Australia to go to the University of Cincinnati, which had a reputation as a leading research and applied psychology centre. She was awarded a PhD in Clinical Psychology and taught at Cincinnati, before returning to Australia.

Her research interests - clinical psychology, community psychology, health psychology and personality - have drawn her into an expanding program of community work and projects.

As a Fellow of the Australian Psychological Society, she has served on many Society committees, including studies of health care, ethics, accreditation of courses and the affairs of the Division of Clinical Psychology. Reports she prepared for the society on the role of psychologists in health care and social welfare for government funding groups have influenced deployment of psychologists in government service in Australia and overseas.

Professor Viney stepped into a more public arena on Wednesday, April 9 when she added book author to her achievements.

Her book Transitions, about how women experience certain change points in their lives, was launched in Melbourne by Cassell (Aust). Although Transitions took her only a matter of months to complete, it is the culmination of 10 years' research work with both women and men.

The changes she has written about in Transitions intersect with her community work at many levels - the change from primary school to high school, from high school to work or university, finding a life partner, starting or expanding a family, relocating in a new community, children in crisis... these are all women's experiences which reflect her practical concern for "every day" people and problems.

Communicating with the public, as she has sought to do with Transitions, she sees as an important role for psychologists in helping people cope.

"All of us have to face change at some point," she said, explaining the book's subject and why she considered the ability to cope with change so vital. "We still find ourselves changing even as adults. For some of us it can be uncomfortable and distressing."

Despite her publishing venture, her research work is more intense than ever. She is studying, jointly with Dr. Mary Westbrook, of the Cumberland College of Health Sciences, how people react emotionally to the stress of chronic illness, as is involved in moving between hospital and community. The project is funded by the Australian Research Grants Committee.

Under a four-year Commonwealth Health Department grant, she is evaluating the impact of crisis intervention counselling on people who have been admitted to hospital. The program, based at Bulli Hospital, aims to help produce better long term health in people by working with them in times of accident or illness - induced crisis. The research team, which started work in January, includes the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Professor of Psychology, Professor Alex Clarke; Psychology Department Honorary Lecturer Dr. Terry Bunn, Mr. John Anderson from the university's Accountancy Department and Mrs. Yvonne Benjamin as the project's full-time Research Associate. Mr. Anderson is concerned with the cost effectiveness of the project.

Professor Viney would like to take up her therapy practice again when her many projects allow her the time. She hopes that the Department will be able to start an Applied Psychology Unit which would be open to the public.

Her other plans for the department under her four-year chairmanship include preparation for the Masters Degree in Applied Psychology which they intend to offer next year. She also hopes to consolidate a number of approaches to health psychology and to attract research students to work in this and other areas.

For psychology in general, she sees the currently opposing trends of generalisation and specialisation as likely to continue.
She also sees psychology's popularity among students continuing, because the subject combines an intellectual challenge with the opportunity to work towards vocational goals.

And what of psychologists themselves? "We are just human," she ventured with a smile when asked whether they were different. "But I suppose we do have a special awareness - an awareness of just how difficult it is for human beings to build up a body of knowledge about human beings, for people to learn about people."

Dr. Neil Adams has no doubts about the role of psychology - he believes it should be used.

"There is so much that psychology can do in the community in terms of helping people to resolve, or even better, to avoid problems - emotional, adjustment or inter-personal problems - in all sorts of situations, particularly in the family," he said.

Dr. Adams, as the father of seven children, has a keen and practical interest in psychology and the family, especially child rearing.

He believes people should be more conscious of their own behaviour and more aware of their resources as parents. If people were, they could be better parents and could raise psychologically healthier children.

He has seen many cases where children have suffered because their parents have failed to be more aware of their own behaviour and resources.

But, if asked to blame anyone, he attributes fault on society rather than individuals.

"In our sort of society, we have lost or discarded the traditional standards of child rearing - whether they were right or wrong. Now the standards are not so clearly defined in our mass society as they were in community society," he said.

"In a community society, people knew the rules and the standards were more clear-cut."

Indeed, Dr. Adams sees distinct and inherent problems in our "free society." He doesn't believe a personal freedom has replaced the strict codes of community society but rather a stress of ambiguity, arising from the conflict between many models and sets of values. "Many people don't realise that "freedom" has to be paid for with higher levels of personal and interpersonal responsibility," he said.

He sees this conflict and the "freedom" pressures of mass society reflected in parental inadequacy.

"Very few people know how to bring up children - when to encourage them to be independent etc... People now must make up their own minds without any clear-cut standards. Many parents are just in a limbo," he said.

Dr. Adams is known as the department's "old timer" because of his long association with the university. In the mid 1960s he virtually was the Psychology Department and for many years the unofficial University College Counsellor.

His psychology philosophy and long standing in the community have involved him in an immense variety of community work. He has published or presented several papers on information systems, community health, social-environmental psychology and communication in organisations.

He is an alderman on Kiama Council, a vice-chairman of the Wollongong Drug Committee, foundation secretary and past president of the South Coast Conservation Society, chairman of the drug withdrawal centre, Wollongong Crisis Centre and a member of the Illawarra Regional Planning Committee. He also was most active in helping promote the Year of the Child.

Dr. Adams finds his association with the planning committee most gratifying. The development plan produced by the planning committee is intended as a blueprint for land use for the Illawarra, and Dr. Adams is most enthused that the committee has a psychological orientation in addition to the economic orientation of most planning of this type.

Although it is a land-use plan rather than a social plan, he believes it can positively influence social choices and the quality of life of people in the Illawarra. He sees the plan as having a positive approach rather than the negative approach typified by restrictions and prohibitions.

His other community work has included organisational psychology at John Lysaght's and a number of other organisations in Wollongong and Sydney, and he is now working in consultation with management at Wollongong Hospital, aiming to improve patterns of interaction within and between various departments.

Dr. Adams sees community psychology as essential. "Psychologists are better trained than anyone else to evaluate the effectiveness of various services in the community," he said. He cited mental health, drug counselling and rehabilitation programs as examples of community programs where psychologists can provide essential aid.

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As an adjunct to this attitude, he relishes the helping role of the psychologist. “Helping people is most satisfying, especially helping healthy people make better use of their resources,” he said. “Most people don’t make full use of their resources. The right use of appropriate psychology can enable all of us to make better use of what we have got.”

He sees a growing future for psychology, especially in organisational planning.

The Adams family lives at Kiama on a hectare of land where they grow vegetables and fruit and raise animals.

Leonardo da Vinci has a special attraction for Psychology Department senior lecturer Dr. J. L. Morris. He has a keen interest in achievement motivation and sees Leonardo as a superb example of highly achievement motivated personality. Whenever he is in Los Angeles he never misses a chance to spend some days at the unique collection of Leonardo’s writings at the University of California. He is looking forward to a visit to Munich where the world’s greatest display of models of Leonardo’s inventions is located.

Achievement motivation has proved a fascinating study for Dr. Morris. In his studies of the development and typical behaviour of highly achievement oriented persons, he has travelled widely. His visits and studies include both highly industrialised countries such as Japan and the United States and developing countries such as Indonesia. He sees the development of a strong achievement drive in young people as a critical ingredient in national survival.

Literature and folk-lore with a strong achievement content, and the general regard of a people for unique and excellent work, coupled with child rearing practices which place strong emphasis on the independence training of children, are essential ingredients in the development of the achievement motive. There are classic examples of the rise and fall of nations associated with objectively measured achievement themes in literature such as ancient Greece.

The counselling service in schools may be one agency which can assist children and parents to perceive the importance of achievement motivation. Counsellors may also design programs to develop the motive if the community believed it important enough to do so. However, Dr. Morris is pessimistic about the likelihood of a national and systematic approach to what he views as an astonishing lack of regard for the ethical and practical benefits of a strongly achievement oriented society. There are over-determining political value constraints which withhold recognition of ability and refuse to apply differential rewards for achievement and creativity. The teaching profession by and large is a prime example in that most State systems of education demand minimal qualifications of teachers. Teachers who do honours and advanced degrees are not regarded or rewarded over and above those with minimal qualifications. Where rewards do exist they are of a trifling and nominal nature.

People with high achievement drive should choose their careers with care so that they have a chance to demonstrate their ability and receive appropriate reward and encouragement. This is one important function of school counselling.

Dr. Morris joined the Department in 1969 after an appointment as Assistant Professor at the University of California at Berkeley where he taught in the graduate division of Counselling Psychology. He was the first Research Officer in the Curriculum and Research Branch of the Victorian Education Department. He also served as a teacher and as a psychologist in secondary schools. After service in the Permanent Air Force he served in the Air Navigation Branch of the Federal Department of Civil Aviation. Later he served in the Regular Army as part of the United Nations force in Korea and in the British Army of Occupation in Japan.

He has published papers on motivation, personnel selection and placement and apparatus design. His current research interests are probability and incentive judgments, motivation and personnel selection and placement. His main research project is to query some of the assumptions in mathematical models of achievement related motivation.

Dr. Morris cites Professor John Atkinson of Michigan as a major influence in research and literature on achievement drive. He is also a strong devotee of Freud. He predicts a crucial period for psychology as psychologists react to the impact of Eastern philosophies and metaphysics. He welcomes this challenge to the accepted Western psychology. “It is introducing new systems of thinking and allowing for new assessments of theories which might otherwise be rejected simply because they do not fit with Western “Aristotlean” thinking,” he explained.

But Dr. Morris is wary of impending changes in the role of the psychologist. He believes many psychologists are taking on more than they’re trained to. He questions psychologists’ involvement as activists in social change and believes psychologists have a service role in analysing trends rather that a role in changing society. He believes the future of professional or applied psychologists will depend on community perception of their integrity and impartiality.

Dr. Don Diespecker cheerfully admits to being trendy. He declares himself a staunch exponent of soft psychology and confesses that he once was an experimental psychologist and follower of hard psychology before becoming disillusioned with that approach.

“I’m a severe critic of modern psychology. I believe it should be less obsessed with operational procedures,” he said, explaining his approach to psychology and how he came to have wide and varied interests ranging not only over psychology but many other fields.

He says his enthusiasm for his interests is matched only by his determination to be highly qualified in all he undertakes to teach.

One of his current key interests is humanistic psychology. He is most enthusiastic about its part in the department because he sees it as the only subject which compels students to look at themselves. A feature of the course is an oral examination where the student-teacher role is reversed and the onus for initiative placed on the student. Indeed, he believes in encouraging students as much as possible to take initiatives.

Dr. Diespecker believes humanistic psychology is a powerful and vital movement although it still is considered “far out” in Australia.

He sees humanistic psychology in the vanguard of the new psychology which is challenging behaviourism and adherence to old physics principles. He is a stern advocate of the new, soft psychology approaches and believes academic psychology must step into line with these trends.

“Most academic psychology is nonsense,” he said. “We are encouraging students as trainees to be second rate replicas of hard scientists. There is too much emphasis on empirical and scientific approaches. I want to encourage a psychology of persons - dealing with psychosocial interactions and the environment they're operating out of.”

Dr. Diespecker believes psychology primarily is the study of consciousness and that behaviour is the product of experiences. For these reasons, he rejects forms of study which segregate individual components.

He said: “I am opposed to the notions of analysing, dismantling and disassembly. I encourage the view we are whole persons - that we must reclaim, reintegrate ourselves.”

He sees the new psychology and its link with Eastern Philosophies as a potent force, concentrating on the difference between mind and brain and focusing on consciousness, humanistic and transpersonal notions. Because psychology is linked with physics, he sees the new physics and its accompanying “world view” in psychology as a vital counter to the damage, disorder and chaos perpetuated in the names of science and technology.
"We must become aware of the damage being done in tandem with progress and increase our consciousness of environmental and ecological issues. We are all part of the whole world and we must stop treating it as an expendable resource," he said.

Dr. Diespecker is one of those people who must never have a spare moment, judging from his multitude of interests. His current research interests are Psi phenomena, consciousness and learning in intensive groups. His publications include studies in suicidal behaviour, biseroverv learning, vibrotactile learning, design of apparatus, university teaching and driving skills.

His other interests include writing, reading, cooking, travelling, music, films, theatre, painting, magic and the occult, science fiction and Eastern psychologies, philosophies and religions. His psychology interests are always close at hand and Gestalt therapy, transpersonal psychologies, Neuro Linguistic Programming, meditation, leading, co-leading and taking part in intensive groups and workshops also occupy much of his spare time. His occasional weekend workshops at Gerroa, co-organised with Carolyn Perry have proved immense successes and attract a wide variety of people from many places.

Recently he has been working on yet another project - writing for a new journal named The New Consciousness which, he says, is pushing the human potentials movement. A subject is presented with stimuli and surface responses such as skin resistance, heartbeat or blood pressure are measured. Biofeedback is a comparatively recent addition to the psychophysiological world and Dr. Ginsberg quickly warms to the task of explaining various experimental techniques and applications.

"I don't want to sound like a mad scientist," he joked as he ran through a variety of stimuli ranging from placing the subject's foot in a bucket of ice water to setting them insoluble mental arithmetic problems.

A subject he has been studying intensely is coronary-prone behaviour patterns, which he found to be a little too close to home. He explained that a prime symptom of coronary-prone behaviour is an aggressive, competitive and hard-driving personality usually found in leading young executives. The symptoms are often accompanied by the additional dangers of smoking, poor diet and lack of exercise.

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"Psychophysiology is a valuable tool’

He has been involved with tutoring at Newcastle University and Macquarie University since 1970 and spent 1978 as a counsellor with the Sydney registry of the Family Court of Australia.

Tutor Anne Porter has tutored in Applied Psychology, Behaviour Modification, Personality, Development, Learning and in first-year laboratory and statistics courses.

She is married, with a three-year-old daughter, and from this stems her interest in the concerns of married women with children and feminist studies in general.

Her other academic interests include methodology and statistical analysis, aging, death and dying.

She has a variety of recreational interests including her family, knitting, sewing, travelling and playing sports. She is a member of the University’s women’s hockey team and a member of the Kids Uni child care committee.

Tutor Hilary Maitland is most interested in punishment and in studying the different approaches used by psychologists dealing with psychological problems.

As a Christian, she is especially interested in the relations between Biblical principles and psychology, particularly in counselling.

She has a BA (Honours) degree from the University of New South Wales and majored in psychology. She now is working on her MA.

Tutor Jill Hiddlestone was in the first intake of Special Admissions Program students and now is enrolled in a PhD, so she is most aware of problems facing students returning to study after prolonged break.

Her interests are: people and students, bronchial asthma, biofeedback, behaviour modification, individual differences, the history of psychology, statistics and the philosophies of the ancient Greeks.

Tutor Lee Fantinel has taught in several programs and subjects including Psychology 1A and 1B, Personality, Development and The Psychology of Learning.

His major interests concern issues in personality and development.

Away from the tutorial rooms, he listens to worthwhile contemporary music - Jackson Browne, Janis Ian and Bob Dylan are three of his favourite artists - watches skilful sports as cricket or soccer and devotes a lot of time to reading.

Lecturer Mr. John De Wet joined the department after a distinguished academic career in South Africa.

His varied teaching duties have covered Research Methodology and Statistics Motivation and Emotion, Developmental Psychology and principally Abnormal and Clinical Psychology.

He was lecturer and Clinical Supervisor at the University of Cape Town Child Guidance Clinic and worked on child and family assessments and therapy.

His specific interests in the clinical field are anorexia nervosa and the adjustment problems of young adults.

He is doing his PhD on Anorexia Nervosa.
Wollongong rates highly with researchers

Ray Over and David Moore of La Trobe University have published an article in the "Australian Psychologist" (Volume 14, No. 3, November, 1979) about citation statistics that provides an interesting comparison between the performance of the University of Wollongong Psychology Department and other Australian universities.

The data are drawn from the Social Science Citation Index (SSC) 1975-77.

Wollongong has a citation rate of 4.9, ahead of such larger universities as Macquarie, ANU, Sydney, Melbourne and Newcastle.

Of the 271 Australian psychologists, 161 (mostly lecturers and senior lecturers) attracted fewer than two citations a year. In contrast, 20 people (mostly professors) accounted for almost 60% of the total citations received in the sample.

TABLE 1 MEAN CITATION RATES 1975-77 FOR AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENTS.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>1975</th>
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<td>James Cook</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flinders</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Western Australia</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monash</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Adelaide</td>
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<td>La Trobe</td>
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<td>Queensland</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N.S.W.</td>
<td>5.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wollongong</td>
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<td>Macquarie</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANU</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sydney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newcastle</td>
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<tr>
<td>New England</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tasmania</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>1.4</td>
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TABLE 2 INDIVIDUALS WITH HIGHEST MEAN CITATION RATES IN THE SSCI, 1975-77.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Name</th>
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<th>1977</th>
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<tr>
<td>Feather N.T. (Flinders, P)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yates A.J. (W.A., P)</td>
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<td>Scott W.A. (J. Cook, P)</td>
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<td>Welford A.T. (Adelaide, P)</td>
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<td>Sheehan P.W. (Queensland, P)</td>
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<td>Day R.H. (Monash, P)</td>
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<td>Lovibond S.H. (NSW, P)</td>
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<td>Over R.F. (La Trobe, P)</td>
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<td>Goodnow J.J. (Macquarie, P,F.)</td>
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<td>Richardson A. (W., A., R)</td>
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<td>Ross J. (W.A., P)</td>
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<td>Birmbramer J.S. (W.A., AP)</td>
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<td>Sutcliffe J.P. (Sydney, P)</td>
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<td>Lezlo J.I. (W.A., SL, F)</td>
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<td>Clarke A.M. (Wollongong, P)</td>
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<td>McBride G. (Queensland, P)</td>
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<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nunn N.L. (Adelaide, P)</td>
<td>15</td>
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Abbreviations: L (lecturer) SL (senior lecturer) R (reader) AP (associate professor) P (professor) F (female).
Dr. Stuart Piggin, of Wollongong University's History Department, is the researcher behind a documentary, tentatively titled Dust To Dust, about the Illawarra's best known mine disasters - last year's Appin mine disaster and the 1902 Mr. Kembla disaster.

His study of mine disasters took a dramatic turn last July when he heard news of the late night Appin explosion in K-panel which killed 14 men.

Dr. Piggin was closely involved right from the start after Mines Rescue authorities allowed him and postgraduate student Mr. Glen Mitchell to attend the scene. Dr. Piggin followed through to the end and attended three funerals for disaster victims.

Dr. Piggin's interest in mine disasters had drawn him into three years of research before the Appin tragedy gave him first-hand involvement.

His interest began in 1976 when he was invited as a parish lay preacher to give the memorial oration at the 74th anniversary service of the Mt. Kembla disaster.

"I found it absolutely gripping. It became an obsession, giving me the chance to study a history project which had considerable relevance to the local community," he said.

Dr. Piggin immediately planned a project and wrote to Vice-Chancellor Professor L. Michael Birt setting out his ideas. Professor Birt and the university council supported the project and since 1977 the university has funded Dr. Piggin's research to about $1500 a year.

Dr. Piggin was determined his research would be different from most mining studies which have concentrated on industrial conflict between miners and managers.

His approach led him to visit a disaster research centre in Columbus, Ohio, which was established in the 1950s to study US disasters, such as tornadoes and earthquakes, and establish a disaster study framework.

There were no authoritative or exhaustive studies of the Mt. Kembla disaster so his work had its less exotic but no less interesting time burrowing among old newspapers files from The Mercury, The South Coast Times, The Sydney Morning Herald and The Daily Telegraph. The availability of visual material - news photographs were coming of age - lent a new dimension which had been missing from previous newspaper coversages of disasters.

Dr. Piggin and Mr. Mitchell also interviewed relatives of Mt. Kembla victims and relatives of the lucky miners who escaped from the mine after the blast. The only living survivor of the disaster, Eric Hunt, of Stockton, Newcastle, gave an invaluable interview for the documentary.

This oral history, originally preserved on videotape, will be a vital component of the documentary which will compare the two disasters.

Many people Dr. Piggin spoke to were only children at the time of Mt. Kembla. But many remembered personal, private details - such as the look on their father's face when he came home from visiting the ruined mine - as if it happened yesterday.

Dr. Piggin describes the basic approach to the film as showing how people reacted to the disasters. The documentary team hopes to recreate several scenes for possible inclusion. Dr. Piggin believes they would add considerably to the documentary's impact if they turn out as planned.

The 50-minute documentary, which has received a $13,000 grant from the Australian Film Commission Creative Development Branch, should be finished by November.

The five areas of comparison the documentary will concentrate on are:

- Pre-disaster community - warnings, dreams, presentiments etc.
- Impact - the explosion.
- Emergency - escape, rescues & converging on the disaster scene.
- Reconstruction - funerals, inquiries, mine re-opening, charity work.
- Long-term impact - improvements in law, growth of legends.

Another feature of the documentary will be archive film of a mine explosion which the ABC used to excellent effect in a film about the Mt. Mulligan disaster.

Dr. Piggin is adamant the document will not be "dry" and esoteric but will appeal to the broad range of people - from school children to academics and mine engineers - to whom he has already lectured on the Mt. Kembla disaster.

"Our aim is to communicate - we want it to be popular history," he said.

Dr. Piggin also is planning a book and is contracted to produce a study kit on the project.

His success so far with the project is reflected in the six conference papers he has presented on the Mt. Kembla disaster to the Australian Historical Association on Local History, Research School of Social Sciences at ANU, postgraduate history seminar, Australasian Institute of Mining and Engineering, Illawarra Historical Society, Conference on Religion and Culture (broadcast talk) Australian History Teachers' Association and many talks to schools.

He and Glenn Mitchell had a paper titled The Mt. Kembla Mine Explosion 1902: Towards the Study of the Impact of a Disaster on a Community published in the Journal of Australian Studies. A second paper by fellow Wollongong University academics Mr. Faye Roberts (History) and Mr. Robin Horne (Sociology) who have helped on the project also has been published in the Journal. Their paper was titled In Search of a Legend: An Australian Mining Village's View of its Past.

Dr. Piggin praised their work and other work by Glenn Mitchell and graduate Henry Lee who is doing his PhD on Illawarra mining.

The other documentary team members are WIN-4 journalist Gillian Guthrie, who won a Thorn Award commendation for her Appin report, cameraman Graham Dyson, who has won two Penguin Awards for documentaries, and film editor Ian Wright.
A Coleridge lover's delight

A new book, just catalogued for use in the university library, will delight Coleridge lovers and make inspiring reading for those interested in literary research of any kind.

IN PURSUIT OF COLERIDGE
By Kathleen Coburn, (Bodley Head, London. 1977.)
The flavour of Canada is strong throughout, even during the many periods the author resided in London to carry out research in the British Museum. Her summers were spent in the cottage she built on a tiny island in the Great Lakes, where she worked transcribing the notebooks within sight and sound of her Red Indian neighbours, blending the old world and the new in a way Coleridge would have approved. For Coleridge is always present and if not the name then the spirit of S.T.C. or Old Sam, as his relatives called him, is in every page of the book.

Miss Coburn is not without a sense of humour. Describing how errors can creep, seemingly of their own volition, into the final proofs of a work, she writes:

"With a stab of fright one sees in the final page-proof, 'Christabel' for 'Christabel', which has been corrected up to then, or still more horrific, in a list of works projected by Coleridge, by the printer's transposition of a letter, 'An Essay on Bowles' has become 'An Essay on Bowles' an all too possible subject for Coleridge in hypochondriacal mood."

The author describes her visits to various countries during the course of her work. Coleridge's interest in the German poets and philosophers prompted her to visit pre-war Germany to study the language at the time when the first influences of the Nazi party were being felt. Later she tells how the war affected her hosts. Some 20 years later an excursion to Sicily, Malta and Italy, searching for the atmosphere of these places as if the memories are his own.

There are many more episodes of interest included in this slim volume of less than 200 pages, plus a couple of bonuses - an epilogue containing a report of the re-interrment of Coleridge in Highgate Parish Church in 1961 and a family tree of the Coleridge clan from 1678 to the present day. - AUDREY HEYCOX.

Einstein expert explains science advances

A scientific "advance" could be judged only by reference to some set of objectives for scientific theory, Professor Holton told the History and Philosophy of Science seminar.

By examining the fundamental objectives (or Themes) held by Einstein, Professor Holton mapped out some elements of the scientific "world picture" of scientists who aim to unify physical theory. He examined how these may explain some key features of the process through which scientific theory changes.

In addition to his interests in the origins of scientific thought, Professor Holton is closely involved with a new College of Science, Technology and Society at MIT.

As Visiting Professor at the College, he has been involved with building up a group of students, staff and post-graduate scholars to work on many problems thrown up by this stimulating new field.

The College already is attracting many MIT engineering and science students who are adding to their versatility by including College courses in their study programs.

The development of this college matches creation of an additional body of research and courses in science, technology and society in Wollongong University's History and Philosophy of Science Department. Bearing that in mind, it was not surprising Professor Holton's time was well used during his visit to the university on Tuesday, May 20.
The Federation of Australian University Staff Associations (FAUSA) has attacked the Tertiary Education Commission’s Working Paper on the Supply and Demand for New Teacher Graduates in the 1980s.

“There has been ineptness in the making of the assessment in the TEC Working Paper...at worst, it is not impossible to rule out the possibility of deliberate deception,” according to Dr. Merv Turner of La Trobe University, who prepared FAUSA’s response to the Working Paper.

The TEC Working Paper, issued last October, predicts a marked downturn in demand for teacher graduates in the 1980s – from 17,500 last year to only 11,200 in 1989.

Dr. Turner questions both the validity of the TEC predictions and the planning strategy derived from them.

He strongly criticises the TEC’s use of population projections.

“In this area, the projections used by the TEC do not assume the continuation of well established trends but, in fact, assume a reversal - a decision based at least as much in hope as logic,” Dr. Turner says.

FAUSA believes the TEC Working Paper already has been used to justify cuts in finance for teacher education, to reduce the number of students in training and to prepare for staff redundancies.

Dr. Turner says that beyond 1990, a logical extension of the TEC assumptions, at least in the secondary sector,” would make the continued application of the strategy a disaster as a basis for staffing schools. Unless, of course, very large numbers of teachers were recruited from overseas.”

FAUSA Education Committee Chairman Dr. Bob Bessant says FAUSA has revealed a serious situation.

“One of the nation’s most prestigious educational bodies has issued a document which has basis errors in its calculations, apparently designed to support a particular political stance on cost-cutting,” he says.

“At best, the TEC Working Paper is a clumsy attempt at manpower planning.”

“At worst, it is a cynical manipulation of the figures to justify the requirements of a political brief.”

FAUSA believes its criticism should be distributed at least as widely as the TEC Working Paper to encourage extensive public debate on the issue.

It has sent copies of its criticism to all State and Federal Education Ministers, other groups concerned with tertiary education heads of all universities and colleges in Australia, university and college staff organisations and all teacher organisations.

FAUSA represents 8300 staff in Australian Universities.

Holiday is over for US students

The “holiday” is over in more ways than one for 15 American exchange students at Wollongong University.

The students - and the rest of campus - are now caught up in examinations.

And for 13 of the students, the examination period (which started on Monday, June 16 and will finish on Sunday, June 29) is their last formal link with the campus.

They will return to America after the examinations to finish their year’s studies at their home State Colleges in New Jersey.

But two of the students hope to extend their visit and take their second session in Wollongong.

The 15 students - 13 males and two females - were among 22 exchange students enrolled in Australian universities for the first session. They took various subjects including geology, commerce, engineering, environment, economics and biology.

The university’s international connection will enter a new era in September when eight Wollongong students join the exchange program and attend New Jersey State Colleges.
SUMMARY OF CRITIQUE BY DR. MERV TURNER,
READER IN THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION, LA TROBE
UNIVERSITY, OF THE TEC WORKING PAPER.

There are a number of errors of omission and commission
in the calculations and tabulations of the concluding
critical stages of the TEC assessment, all of which depress
for immediate future years the magnitude of the published
intake or total enrolment numbers in pre-service teacher
education below what they should have been on the TEC

"It can be noted that of the errors referred to above where
different values enter tables compared with stated values in the text,
the consequence was in each case the publication of smaller intake
or enrolment numbers than should have been the case."

"In summary, the best that can be said in relation to the above is
that there has been ineptness in the making of the assessment in the
TEC Working Paper in its concluding and crucial stages, perhaps
being rushed to a premature conclusion in a particular pressing
government or administrative context. At the worst, it is not possi­
ble to rule out the possibility of deliberate deception." (Pp 14-15)

The secondary teacher supply numbers have been set too low for
the late 1980s in terms of the TEC's own strategy and assumptions.

"If primary teacher supply was set relatively high in the period of
low demand in the middle 1980s so that primary teacher education
institutions could respond adequately in the time of increasing
demand in the later 1980s, then the secondary teacher supply line
should have been set higher than it has been in the last half of the
1980s. Assuming approximate proportionality (staggered in time)
between demand on the one hand and intake and enrolments in
teacher education courses on the other, pre-service primary teacher
education would need to be expanded by approximately 50% over a
five-year period while pre-service secondary teacher education
would need to be expanded by 115% over at most the same length
of time to cater for the predicted school enrolment growth just
discussed. If pre-service secondary teacher education courses are
curtailed to the extent forecast in the TEC Working Paper, the
capacity of the institutions involved to expand at this rate would
remain extremely doubtful." (Pp 24-25).

There is very much more uncertainty associated with the predic­
tions of future demand for new teachers than suggested by the
TEC Working Paper. This uncertainty is introduced first because of
the inherent imperfect predictability of educational parameters such
as school participation rates, pupil/teacher ratios and teacher
wastage rates.

"... relatively small movements of parameters
beyond the control of the TEC and which are not
likely to occur can have considerable effects on
new teacher demand. How confident would the
TEC be, for example, in the instance of the prim­
ary sector that by 1984 the pupil/teacher ratio
would not stand at 19.4 rather than 19.7 they
suggest and that teacher wastage would not be
6.7% rather than 5.7% they suggest? The new
primary teacher demand consequential on the
differences would be 2,000 above the original
prediction of 4,500." (P 47)

A more fundamental cause for concern is the nature of the
predictions in the TEC paper given current high levels of uncertainty
regarding demographic trends - especially the future course of
fertility.

... there is another very important source of uncertainty in the predictions of demand made in
the TEC Working Paper, which it and most of its
critics have failed to detect or acknowledge. This is
the uncertainty associated with the projections of
the Australian population which are used as the foundation of all the TEC's calculations.

If one were living in a time of demographic serenity, there would be less concern for the fact that
the TEC has taken these projections completely for granted - or at least failed to make any comment
upon them. However, the demographic situation is not serene and the area of the greatest
uncertainty surrounds that of greatest significance to projections of school enrolments - namely that
of future birth trends. In this area the projections used by the TEC do not assume the continuation
of well-established trends but, in fact, assume a reversal - a decision based at least as much in hope
as logic. (P 47)

Even if future demand closely approximated the TEC predictions its proposed strategy for supply would prove invalid. One particular argument of importance is that the proposed TEC strategy,
far from building up a reserve of teachers which could be used flexibly to adjust between times of over-supply and under-supply, is more likely to deplete reserves of employable teachers and create an
aggravated and more permanent under-supply situation.

... the supply strategy of the TEC Working Paper
in its own terms will prove invalid before the end
of the 1980's - the period to which it is supposed
to apply. Consideration of demand beyond 1990 -
at least for the secondary sector and in logical
extension of the TEC Working Paper's own assump­tions would make the continued application of
the strategy a disaster as a basis for staffing schools.
Unless, of course, very large numbers of teachers
were recruited from overseas. The practicability,
let alone political viability, of this must remain
highly doubtful. (P 40)

The potential numbers and potential need for and desirability of
post-experience courses and the basis on which they should be
provided has been considerably under-estimated and unjustifiably
devalued by the TEC.

It is argued that this basis (of establishing teacher
demand for post-experience courses) is quantiti­
atively fallacious in considering the quantitative
potential for post-experience courses given the
TEC's own projections of teacher work force,
wastage rates, supply and demand...

On this basis for at least twelve years it could be argued that the upper limit to the potential for
post-experience courses is approximately 25,000
per annum (300,000 - 12) rather than the 10,000
suggested by the TEC Working Paper. (Pp 66-67)
Wollongong and Sydney newspapers and magazines now are available from the Union Shop.

Staff and students also are reminded of the Higher Education Supplement in The Australian every Wednesday.

ADVERTISEMENT

WANTED: Girl to share 2-bedroom flat in Central Wollongong (Smiths Hill). Rent would be $30/week. For more information, please telephone 29.7998.

MISCELLANEOUS

Further details of the following items are available from the Development and Planning Office, Room G04, The Hut (ext. 955).


SYDNEY PHILOMUSICA will present a series of concerts at the Sydney Opera House at 3 p.m. on Sunday, August 10, September 21, and December 7. Subscription tickets available.

INTERNATIONAL STRING QUARTET COMPETITION: To be held at Portsmouth, U.K., March 26 to April 1, 1982.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE.

The Development and Planning Office (Room G04, The Hut, ext. 955) receives the monthly list of University Vacancies - Overseas and in Australia, compiled by the Australian Vice-Chancellor’s Committee. Details of staff vacancies are also received regularly from individual universities.

SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, GRANTS.

Details of the following items are available from the Student Enquiry Office, Ground Floor, Administration Building. Closing dates are in brackets.

EAST WEST CENTER, HONOLULU: Professional Associate (Research) Awards with the Culture Learning Institute. Total of 8 awards, 8 to 12 months duration. (July 1, 1980).

COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP PLAN: Medical Awards available in United Kingdom (July 31 or December 31, 1980).


UTAH DEVELOPMENT COMPANY: Scholarships to students undertaking a full time course of study with Geology as a major subject. Applications should be made as soon as possible.

Items for “Take Note” should be forwarded to Beatrice Henderson in the Development and Planning Office, Room G04, The Hut, (Ext. 955).

FOREIGN FILM FESTIVAL

July 26, 1980, at 7.30p.m. Union Hall. University of Wollongong Film Group presents L’Innocente and Profumo di Donna.

CAMPUS NEWS

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