



MONASH REPORTER

A MAGAZINE FOR THE UNIVERSITY

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Curbing the wrath of a tropical storm

About 40 per cent of Australia's export earnings come from a huge but little-studied part of the country, the tropics, which is subject to dry spells, severe storms and long periods of heavy rain.

The most important tropical industries — mining, off-shore oil and gas, fishing, agriculture and tourism — are highly weather-dependent.

While the threat of cyclones is ever-present, sudden storms or extreme wet seasons can also cause significant economic and social disruption.

So the Bureau of Meteorology Research Centre has organised the Australian Monsoon Experiment, the most extensive study of Australian tropical weather ever mounted.

And staff and postgraduate students from the Applied Section of the Monash Mathematics department are playing a very significant role in it.

The study will be conducted in two phases, the first running for 15 days in October-November at the end of the dry season and the second for 30 days in the wet season months of January and February next year.

It will involve a permanent upgrading of the meteorological observation network in northern Australia and will bring together data collected by that network and at specially established weather stations on land with information collected by satellite, the Australian Institute of Marine Research oceanographic vessel, and sophisticated research aircraft from the CSIRO, the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and Flinders University.

The experiment has been designed to find out as much as possible about the phenomenon, known as the North Australian Cloud Line, and its effect, and also about the relationship between tropical storms and the wet season atmospheric circulation. It is hoped to use this information to construct more accurate computer models to support forecasters.

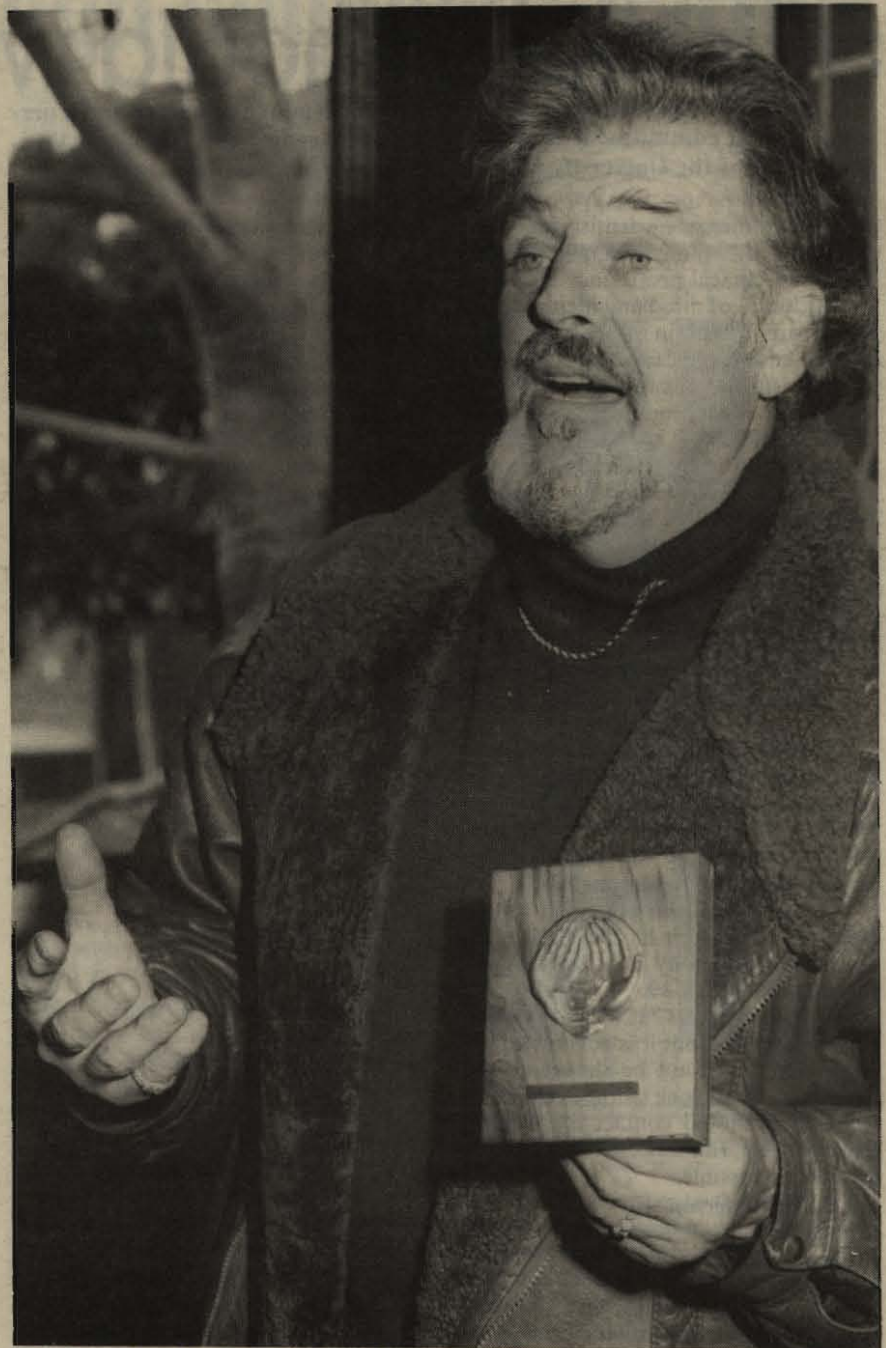
And that is where Monash comes in. For the better part of a decade, researchers in the Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory, working under the leadership of Dr Roger Smith in collaboration with Dr Reg Clarke at Melbourne University, have been studying the Morning Glory, a spectacular cloud formation which forms in the early morning in the southeast corner of the

Gulf of Carpentaria from late September to December.

The Monash research group have put up the idea that it is caused when easterly on-shore winds blowing off the Pacific Ocean at the base of Cape York Peninsula develop a front which in the early morning collides almost head-on with a corresponding front developed by the westerly on-shore breezes as they move inland from the Gulf.

What would then occur is similar to two waves meeting at the seaside travelling in opposite directions. Where they meet, water is pushed up and settles back either side of the join. Cold air would be lifted up in a like manner to form the Morning Glory disturbance, the team argues.

● Continued P.6



● A male hand and a female hand symbolising the equal contributions of the sexes to Monash University's growth and development — that's how sculptor, Matcham Skipper, of Montsalvat, saw the image of the University's first 25 years. He describes the medallion he has designed for presentation to staff who have reached the 25-year mark (see page 2) as an "upward moving, growing form". He says: "It's in planes, soft textures, not a geometrical, digital thing." Cast in bronze and mounted as shown, it will be "soft, subtle and inoffensive" among antiques or in modern houses. Mr Skipper also designed the University Mace. Photo — Julie Fraser.



● A LITTLE BIT OF THE REAL AUSTRALIA? While visitors from India and China demonstrated their national music and dance on campus last month (see back page), the Gondwanaland band from Sydney was giving an all-Australian performance — with an electronic didgeridoo. The band gave a lunchtime concert in the Forum during first week of term. Photo — Richard Crompton.

Scientists should work from 'moral' base

A university-trained scientist should have a deep love of nature and a personal, moral commitment to establishing and heeding the truth, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of NSW, Professor Michael Birt, told Monash graduates.

"The training of a scientist can — and should — offer more than might be called mere technical proficiency.

"Attitudes of mind and mental habits which are useful in other spheres of human knowledge can also be acquired.

"A scientific education should enable us to know when propositions can be accepted because they are based on sound, tested and sufficient evidence; a recognition that established new facts may alter quite dramatically a general perception of what is correct and the flexibility of

mind to embrace that change; and a regular, but not exclusive, reliance on logical argument to reach conclusions," he said in his occasional address at the recent Science graduation in Robert Blackwood Hall.

"Just as scholars in the humanities draw material from the creations of artists, academic scientists draw on the work of great creative scientists in their exposition of their disciplines.

Science and the humanities were complementary areas which together in-

formed us about our world and what it meant to live in it as human beings.

"But in science the ultimate point of reference (that is, the world as a world of objects) is different to that in the humanities (that is, the perceptions of exceptionally gifted individuals responding to the human experience of living in the world)."

An adequate education would ensure we were introduced to both these areas at an early stage, he said.

fessor Birt said.

"Sadly, this means that scientists as a group find it difficult to contribute effectively to such debates, even when they are about scientific issues.

"Our training makes us hesitant to affirm that propositions are absolutely certain, or that a simple and direct description, without qualifications, can be given of many issues.

"I can only urge those of you who do possess the personal talents for coping

Duke to award 25 year medals

University records show that some 40 staff members (including a few recent retirees) have completed 25 years' service with the University and will be eligible to receive the special Matcham Skipper-designed Jubilee medals.

The medals will be presented by the Duke of Edinburgh at the Jubilee inauguration ceremony in Robert Blackwood Hall on May 19.

The following is a list of known 25-year veterans, but it is acknowledged that some might not be shown on the records, and anyone with a claim to recognition should contact the Deputy Registrar, Mr Jim Leicester (ext. 2013) as soon as possible.

Mr David Anderson
(Chemistry)

Professor Leslie Bodi
(German)

Professor David Bradley
(English)

Professor Ron Brown
(Chemistry)

Mr Jim Butchart
(Registrar)

Dr Denis Coates
(Physics)

Professor John Crisp
(Mechanical Engineering)

Dr David Cuthbert
(History)

Mrs Joan Dawson
(Registrar's)

Miss Edith Downes
(Econometrics)

Dr Tim Ealey
(Environmental Science)

Dr Frank Eastwood
(Chemistry)

Mr Doug Ellis
(Sports & Recreation)

Mr Lesley Fleming
(History)

Mr Jim Guthrie
(Zoology)

Mr Len Harris
(Buildings Branch)

Dr Michael Heffernan
(Chemistry)

Mr Fraser Hercus
(Zoology)

Dr Ian Hiscock
(Zoology)

Mr Ray Horan
(Physics)

Emeritus Professor Ken Hunt
(Mechanical Engineering)

Mrs Helene Kandel
(French)

Dr Ernst Keller
(German)

Professor John Legge
(Arts)

Miss Beth Leggo
(Sports & Recreation)

Dr Jack McDonell
(Continuing Education)

Mr Bill Matcham
(Chemistry)

Professor Noel Murray
(Civil Engineering)

Mrs Rosemary Nathanielsz
(Library)

Dr Ernest Nunn
(Chemistry)

Mr Ken Nuske
(Physics)

Professor Bill Rachinger
(Physics)

Mr Ken Rule
(Maintenance)

Professor Graeme Schofield
(Medicine)

Dr Jack Smith
(Physics)

Mr Adrian van den Bergen
(Chemistry)

Dr Ian Ward
(Economics)

Mr Norm Watt
(Finance)

Professor Kevin Westfold
(Vice-Chancellor's)

Mr Bruce Young
(Materials Engineering)

Duty to develop social values

"I suggest that graduate scientists have a particular responsibility to develop and make use of intellectual and moral values in our modern world.

"It is not easy to do so, for the attitudes adopted in public discussion often seem to be inimical to careful analysis of events and issues.

"There is a marked over-emphasis on personal confrontation, on visual



• Michael Birt

presentation of 'evidence', and on the formulation of simple unambiguous propositions — few people take the trouble to weigh the significance of exemptions, or caveats, or uncertainties, in what passes for public debate," Pro-

with the artificiality of what passes for public discussion to make use of them wherever you can, in the interests of making better use of science and scientific method in our society, and of arriving at more intelligent and effective ways of exploring the problems that face us."

It was particularly important for science graduates to work at developing a straightforward, clear English style, avoiding technical jargon wherever possible.

"If we remain aware of the need to express ideas clearly and simply, we can always help ourselves," Professor Birt said.

"That self-help will certainly demand that we read and emulate those scientists who are masters of exposition, and, of course, the writers and scholars in the great traditions of the humanities and English literature."

Since 1963, the University of NSW had been running a program of General Studies, which had been revised extensively over the past three years.

"The University is now committed to requiring all its undergraduate students, whatever their faculty of specialisation, to undertake a course of liberal studies, embracing an appreciation of our general intellectual tradition and the development of skills of rational thought, critical analysis and expression," he said.

The ethics of testing for AIDS

What policies should be adopted towards testing for AIDS, and what does a positive result mean for the patient?

These questions and many others will be tackled next week at a one-day conference on *AIDS: Social Policy, Ethics and the Law*, organised by the Centre for Human Bioethics.

Speakers include Professor Margaret Somerville from McGill University, Montreal; Dr Ronald Lucas, chief of medicine, Fairfield Infectious Diseases Hospital; Mr Adam Carr, vice-president of the Victorian AIDS Council; Dr David Broadford, chief venerologist of the Health Department and director of Melbourne Communicable Diseases Centre; Dr David Cooper, staff immunologist, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Dr Julian Gold, director, Albion Street Centre, Sydney, and Professor Peter Singer, director of the Centre for Human Bioethics.

Conference participants will be welcomed by the Dean of Medicine, Professor Graeme Schofield, who will chair the introductory session.

The second session, on legal and ethical issues, will be chaired by Dr Jocelyne Scutt, deputy chairperson of the Victorian Law Reform Commission, and the third session on social and political issues will be chaired by Ms Fay

Marles, Commissioner for Equal Opportunity.

The conference will be held at Clunies Ross House, from 9.25 am until 5 pm on Monday, April 7. Inquiries should be directed to the Centre for Human Bioethics on ext. 4083 or 3373.

★ ★ ★

Professor Peter Singer and Dr Helga Kuhse will discuss the controversial subject matter of their recently-published

Kent goes to Harvard



• Bill Kent

book, *Should the baby live?* during a free public lecture on Wednesday, April 16.

The lecture is the second in the 1986 Bioethics Lunchtime Lecture Series.

The first, on March 26, was given by Professor Margaret Somerville of McGill University, Montreal, on the topic, *Rights to and against medical treatment: increasing conflict of personal, professional and societal interests.*

Reader in History, Dr Bill Kent, has been nominated Visiting Professor at the Harvard University Centre for Italian Renaissance Studies.

The centre, Villa I Tatti, is a Harvard University institution based in Florence.

The appointment, from July 1 this year, involve research and the editing of a journal, *I Tatti Studies.*

Dr Kent, an archival historian, has demonstrated that the extended family, rather than the nuclear family formed the basis of Florentine life.

The 10 annually elected Fellows and the Visiting Professor at Villa I Tatti participate in a series of lectures conducted by the centre.

Computer breaks through language barrier

The Faculty of Arts has developed one of the world's most flexible multi-lingual word processing packages for microcomputers.

The user will be able to switch between English and 12 different Slavic languages at the flick of a key, and the system can be adapted for use in Classics, Philosophy, Linguistics, Mathematics and other language departments.

It combines commercially-available programs with specially written software.

The System was developed for the department of Slavic Languages by third year student, Tim Pilbrow — who designed the characters — and programmer, Pan Thongvilu of the Computer Centre — who wrote the programs to convert the designs into microcomputer and printer characters.

Professor Jiri Marvan, chairman of Slavic Languages, said it had been

almost impossible to publish some languages in Australia, but the new system was expected to simplify, speed up and reduce the cost of this process.

"We should now be able to produce our own camera-ready copies of papers and articles," he said.

After the faculty decided to install microcomputer-based word processing, it was faced with the task of coping with departments which used special characters in their work, said Dr Aubrey Townsend, senior lecturer in Philosophy and co-ordinator of the installation program.

Word processing software for Russian had been developed and was available, for example, on the University of Melbourne mainframe and on Apple microcomputers at the Australian National University.

But a worldwide search turned up no microcomputer-based system which could cope with all the other Slavic languages and produce an acceptable quality of print.

It was originally thought that as the IBM-PCs used by the Arts Faculty were limited to a set of 256 characters it might not be possible to develop such a system.

There was also the problem of the ease with which the operator could switch between languages.

Mr Thongvilu's software throws a grid onto the screen on the micro-computer, and allows the user to design characters by filling in appropriate grid squares (see pictures).

Mr Pilbrow not only had to design all the different characters used in Slavic languages, but he had to come up with a set of a maximum 128 characters which could cover any eventuality.

Some of the accent marks over capital letters had to be displayed separately to keep to this limit but they will be combined in the computer print-out.

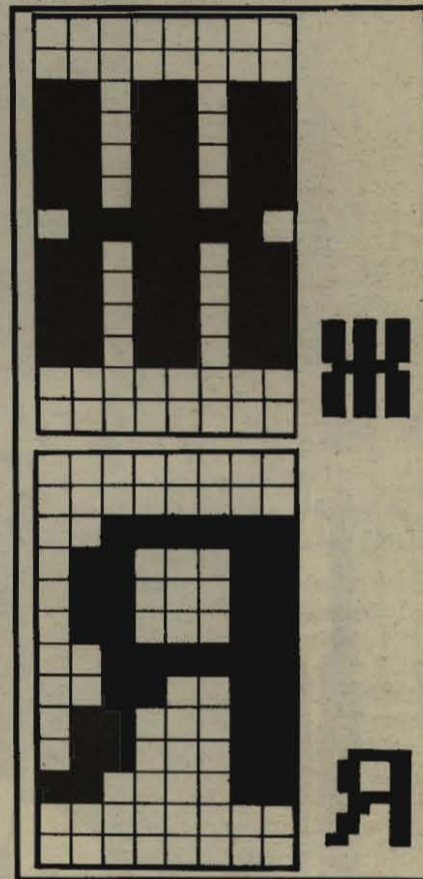
Mr Pilbrow used existing Australian software to re-program the IBM keyboard to different sets of characters selected from the 128.

Any of the sets is then processed in the normal way.

Not all of the sets represent different languages. Mr Pilbrow has created two Russian sets — one programs the keyboard so that it resembles a Russian



• Tim Pilbrow designs Slavic characters for the computer. Photos — Richard Crompton.



• The Russian consonant, zh, top, and the Russian vowel, ya.

typewriter, the other so that the Cyrillic characters are found under their closest English counterpart.

In all, there are 17 different character sets representing Cyrillic script languages including Ukrainian, Russian, Macedonian and Belorussian, Latin script languages including Polish, Czech, Lachian and Slovak, and the distinctive script of Old Church Slavonic.

Baby sleep monitor wins overseas prize

A design by a final year Electrical Engineering student for monitoring the sleeping patterns of babies has won an international prize.

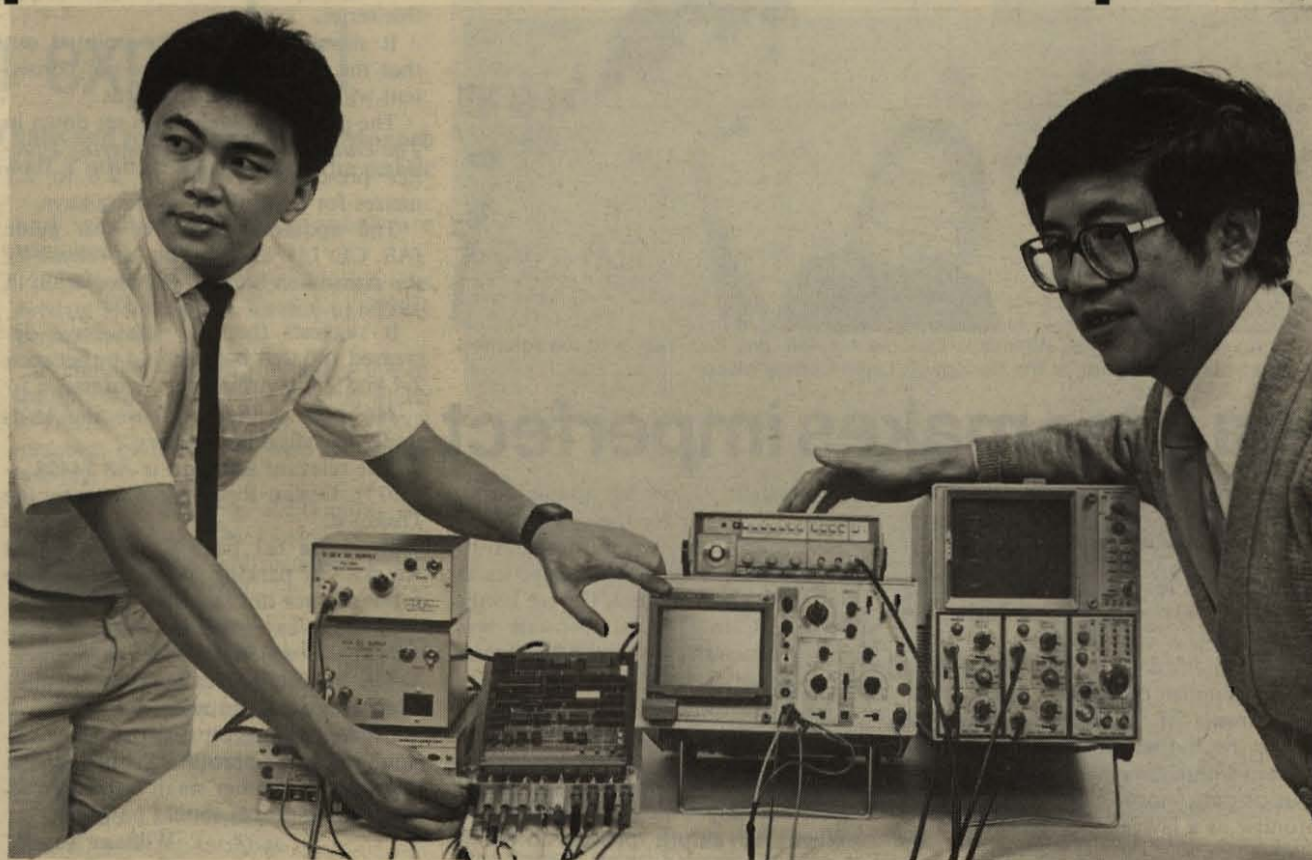
The largest professional organisation of electrical engineers, IEEE, which is based in the United States, gave its top award in 1985 to Albert Fu, who was competing against students from China, India, New Zealand, South Korea, Hong Kong and Southeast Asia.

His design, a microprocessor-based digital filter, is used to separate electrical signals from sleeping babies into four major frequency components — alpha, beta, delta and theta.

It requires only a quarter of the hardware used with analogue filters, and is also more versatile because its characteristics can be changed by simply changing the program stored in the memory chip.

Mr Fu designed and built the new equipment under the supervision of Dr Khee Pang, Reader in Electrical Engineering, who is also jointly supervising his current research in data flow computer architecture, with Mr Barry Treloar of the Computer Centre.

MONASH REPORTER



• Albert Fu, left, and Dr Khee Pang, demonstrate the prize-winning microprocessor-based digital filter now used in Australian hospitals.

Homegrown truths

In your issue of March 5 there appears an account of an address made by Hugh Stretton at Monash University in which he is quoted as saying that "FAUSA's policy of preferring Australians to others for academic appointments is likely to dull our quality, and is anyway as reprehensible as any other racist discrimination."

Later he refers to "one of the foreigners FAUSA now wants to prevent our hiring, or working with, or learning from."

It is particularly distressing to FAUSA that an Australian academic of the eminence of Hugh Stretton either has been misquoted, or has failed to research his material thoroughly.

FAUSA certainly has no desire to keep foreigners out of Australian universities.

But it is concerned that too often undue weight is placed, in the making of university appointments, on "overseas" qualifications and/or experience, and that Australian qualifications and/or experience are unjustifiably downgraded.

As in so many other areas, the homegrown product is spurned in favour of the import.

The FAUSA policy merely seeks to redress this balance by prescribing that Australians should be preferred in academic appointments where all other factors — including merit — are equal.

This vital qualification was omitted from Hugh Stretton's description of our policy position.

Les Wallis,
General Secretary,
FAUSA.



Let's go Latin

I trust that immediate steps will be taken to implement the eminently sensible proposal of Hans Lausch (*Monash Reporter* 1-86) that henceforward all teaching in this most venerable of universities be conducted in Latin.

A council resolution to make Latin the sole vehicle of instruction would instantly eliminate all problems of communication in this much-vaunted multicultural society.

Of course, the department of Classical Studies might perhaps require a few additional appointments to cope with the expected increased enrolments in Latin, but a dozen new professors — and a corresponding topping-up of the non-professorial ranks — could see us through.

Surely, however, the University motto, *Ancora imparo*, is a corruption — possibly effected in the transition from mapuscule to minuscule script in the early years of our existence — of *Ancora impari*, "with unequal anchor", stressing the point that, even at the time of our foundation in the eighth century, the Faculty of Arts was inadequately funded as compared with its fellow faculties.

Alan Henry
Classical Studies

P.S. Late enrolments in Latin 103.06 can still be effected. (For a small fee we can also arrange to have graduate credentials suitably updated in the new official language.)

Carnal chorus

Captivating choral pleasure is destined to strike Monash next month when *Carmina Burana* is performed in concert at Robert Blackwood Hall.

This popular work, composed by Carl Orff in 1936 as a setting for 12th century profane student songs, will be sung by the Monash University Choral Society (MonUCS) on Friday, May 2, starting at 8 p.m.

Based on three themes — the *Caprice of Fortune*, *Drinking With Friends*, and the *Pleasures of Carnal Love* — the work's popularity is demonstrated by the conspicuously large audiences it attracts.

Judging by the near-capacity crowd at the last MonUCS presentation of *Carmina Burana* in 1978, the work will be an impressive start to the choir's year.

MonUCS, one of the oldest-established societies at Monash, has gained recognition in the musical world through its regular quality presentations of famous and little-known works.

Past conductors include John McCaughey, Douglas Lawrence and Bevan Levison, and the present conductor is Andre de Quadros, music master at Presbyterian Ladies College (and former head of music at Billanook College, Mooroolbark).

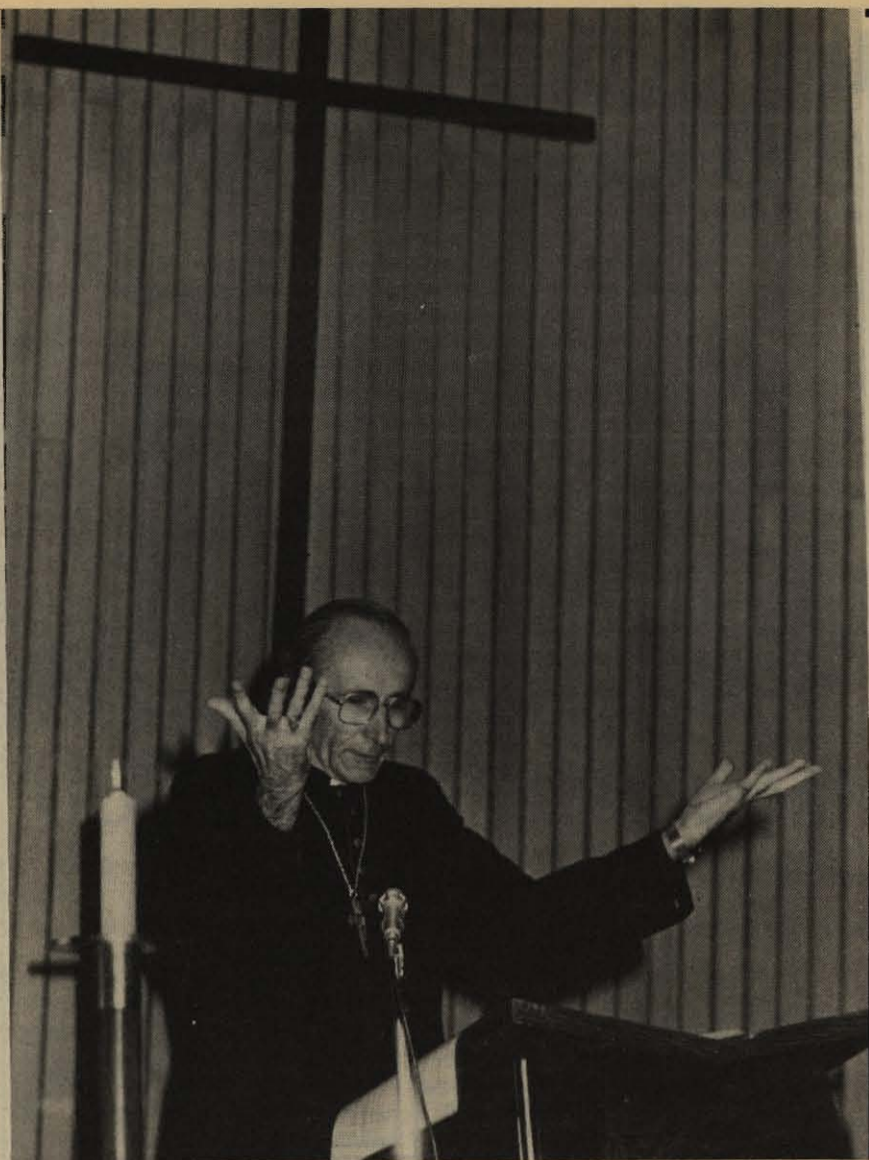
The choir also participates in the annual Intervarsity Choral Festival under the direction of renowned conductors such as Peter Seymour, Richard Divall and Georg Tintner.

This presentation of *Carmina Burana* will also feature the Victorian Chamber Youth Orchestra, the National Boys Choir and the National Girls Choir.

Stanley Loke
MonUCS

Bookings (\$8, \$4 concession) can be made at Robert Blackwood Hall or by phoning 523 7257.

APRIL 4, 1986



● The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne, Dr Frank Little, speaking at the Religious Centre. Photo — Richard Crompton.

Prayer's a good thought

"No one in the technological age questions the value of thinking," says the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne, Dr Frank Little.

"Prayer is thinking, and an eminent form of it.

"Prayer thinking may not be of any apparent value for immediate utilitarian gain, yet it can provide the serenity, the inspiration, and the dedication which

are always necessary for utilitarian success.

"Prayer is not a substitute for hard thinking and hard work; without prayerful thinking, all our thinking can become mere calculation."

Dr Little was guest speaker at a special 25th anniversary University Service last month in the Large Chapel of the Religious Centre.



● Fifth year law students, Athanasia Lagogiannis, left, and Sue Tait, with the Attorney-General, Mr Jim Kennan, at the Springvale Legal Service offices.

Practice makes imperfect

Final year law students are among the privileged few encouraged to benefit from their mistakes.

Each term those enrolled in the Professional Practice Course at Springvale Legal Service compete for the Slade Trophy (named after Philip Reginald Slade, founder of the service and previous owner of the saucepan now used as the trophy) which is awarded to the student whose *faux pas* during his or her tour of duty "most clearly indicates his promise as a lawyer".

"Students anxiously await the announcement of the winner at Slade

Trophy Night," says Ms Louise Kyle, community lawyer for the service.

They also hear taped messages of encouragement from such dignitaries as Don Chipp, Ron Barassi, Gareth Evans and John Cain. The last pep-talk was given by a member for the 3RRR *Punter to Punter* panel, Dr Turf.

The latest winner, Julie Ligeti, rang the police late one night when she became frightened of continuous knocking on the walls of the Springvale Legal Service building.

When the culprit proved to be a mischievous possum, Julie went to the front of the field for the Slade Trophy.



Collection cleansed of scrawls and splatters

For the past 25 years, the Monash Art Collection has led a precarious existence.

It has been given a lot of exposure, with works hung in buildings like the Main Library and Robert Blackwood Hall for the benefit of passing traffic.

But this practice has taken its toll, and there has been substantial damage — accidental or otherwise.

"We get graffiti, bird droppings, grime and accidental damage, caused by trolleys and other furniture crashing into paintings," says the curator, Jenepher Duncan.

"Some have such delicate surfaces that even minor damage can be devastating."

The curators will be able to breathe a little easier later this year, when the collection moves into a permanent home in the new multi-disciplinary building.

The Art Advisory Committee has been supervising a restoration and conservation program in the knowledge that works will have a good chance of

remaining in pristine condition in their new quarters.

Already the Burnell collection of prints and etchings has been fully restored, and a \$3000 grant from the Vice-Chancellor's fund has given impetus to work on the general collection.

Two well-known paintings, Lesley Dumbrell's *Fan Tan* and David Aspden's *Meditation*, have been cleaned of the bird droppings they acquired while hanging in Robert Blackwood Hall and the University Offices respectively.

Edwin Tanner's *Moral Philosophers* is now back on the wall as part of the present exhibition in the University Visual Arts Department gallery (7th floor, Menzies building) after several years in storage following a bad fall.

The restoration program has been aided by the arrival of the first crop of Aus-

tralian-trained conservators, newly graduated from the Canberra School of Arts.

They include Kate Eccles-Smith, who

worked on the Burnell collection, and Robyn Sloggert, whose projects have included *Fan Tan* and *Meditation*.

"It was very difficult to find skilled people before, but these graduates are up-to-date with the latest techniques," says Ms Duncan.

Some artists, like Barbara Grossman, are willing to repair their own works.

"It's better if we can get the artist involved, but it's an expensive and distressing process.

"Understandably, some get very upset about the damage, though only one refused to help," Ms Duncan says.

The current exhibition, *Monash Collection Reviewed — Paintings*, shows many restored works, and some very recent acquisitions.

This mixture provides a good contrast and allows earlier works to be seen in a different context, she says.

The present acquisition program includes more works under glass, like Maggie May's series of three etchings, *Tidal Zone Suite*, which can be more safely exhibited around the University in response to staff requests for "something to brighten the walls".



Public use of campus more than expected

Lecture rooms, theatres, residential halls and recreation areas at Monash University accommodated more than half a million members of the public last year.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mal Logan, said he was impressed with public use of the lecture theatres.

Non-university use of departmental space almost equalled the time used for formal teaching.

He said public use of university facilities exceeded expectation.

Results from a Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission survey revealed that non-formal use of universities' facilities were generally above the expected level.

At Monash, the residential halls, Arts and Crafts Centre, and the Centre for Continuing Education provided for more than 12,000 members of the public last year.

The Robert Blackwood Hall and the Alexander Theatre had the greatest public use, both with annual audiences nearing 90,000.

Robert Blackwood Hall's Assistant Manager, Ms Joan Sayers, says the hall is heavily booked for public performances and conferences except when University examinations and graduation ceremonies are conducted.

and graduation ceremonies are conducted.

Last year the Alexander Theatre was used on 310 occasions for non-university performances.

Preference is given to student use of the Sports and Recreation Centre, which is funded by Union fees, but 37,000 members of the public used the centre last year.

Deputy Warden of the Union, Mr Doug Ellis, said the closing of local recreation centres had increased public use of university areas.

The centre is almost fully booked because both students and the public have gained greater awareness of fitness.

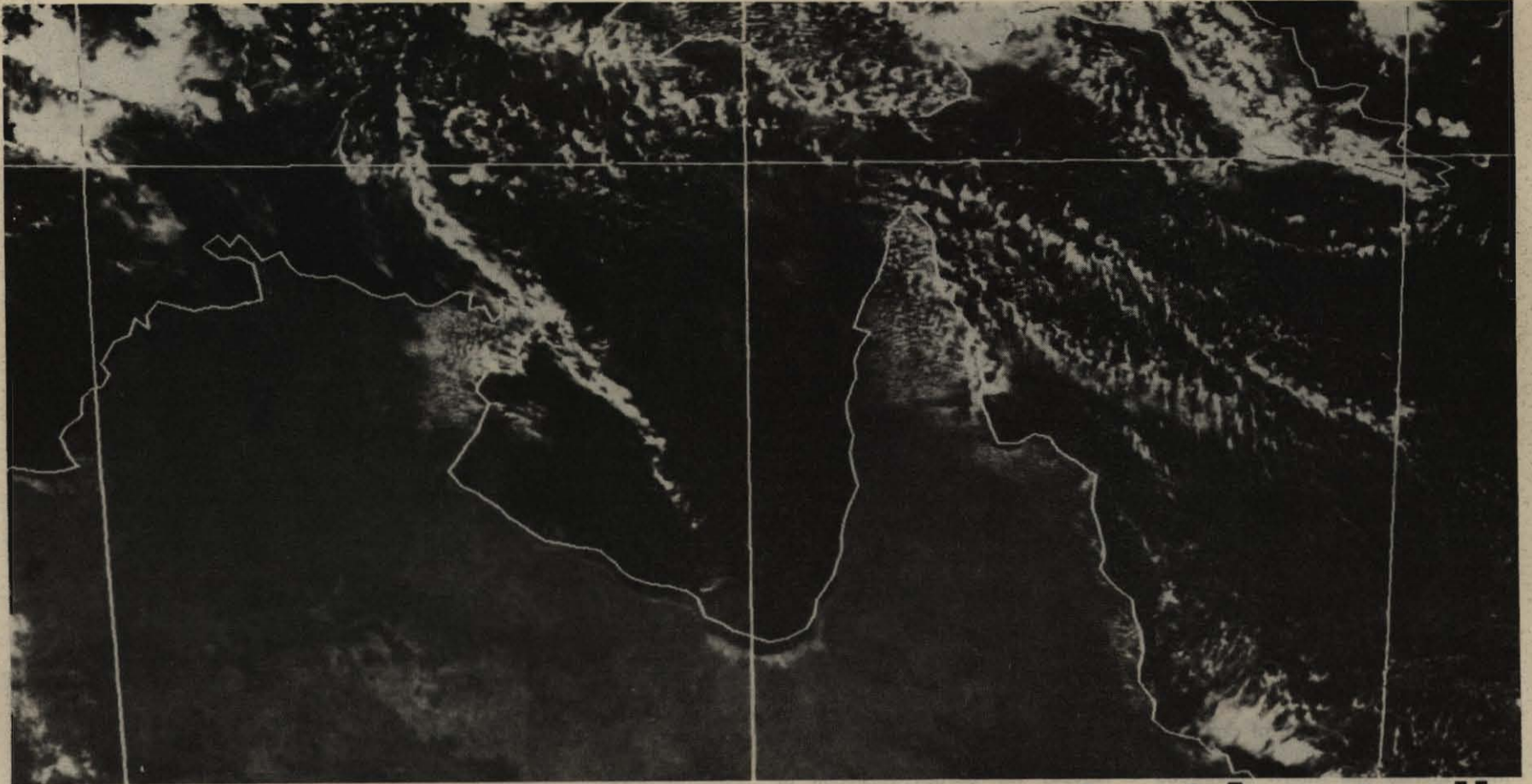
The Union, although it does not allow non-student use of space during term time, had 27,000 outside people using facilities last year.

The public now has to book to use the Union's catering facilities.

Catering manager, Mr Joe Curtis, said catering services would once have been able to automatically accept bookings.



● Top left: Lesley Dumbrell's *Fan Tan*, 1984, minus the bird droppings. Top right: Conservator, Robyn Sloggert, working on Percy Leason's *The Artist's Studio*, which was cleaned and repaired for the current exhibition. Centre: Robyn dabs paint onto Mike Brown's untitled work, circa 1965. Above: Edwin Tanner's *Moral Philosophers*, 1963-64. The 'door' on the left was badly damaged when the painting fell from the wall of the Vice-Chancellor's office. Photos — Tony Miller, Adrian Featherston.



Weathering the storms of tropical Australia

• From P.1

But there is another cloud phenomenon of far greater economic impact which forms along the western side of the tip of Cape York Peninsula in the northeast of the gulf. This is a late afternoon convective cloud formation, the North Australian Cloud Line, which then moves westwards across the Gulf and sometimes across the Top End to the Timor Sea.

The Bureau of Meteorology is very interested in it, as the associated weather often closes Top End airports such as Gove, and in the wet season can lead to severe thunderstorms and squall lines in the region.

The Monash group thinks it is generated in exactly the same way — on-shore breezes from the Pacific sweeping across the much smaller strip of land at the tip of the cape and meeting the warm gulf air in the late afternoon.

Postgraduate student, Julie Noonan, is about to complete a Ph.D. thesis on a mathematical model of the entire process.

The mathematical equations

involved were so complex that she had to go to Germany to do the main calculations on one of the world's fastest and most powerful computers — a Cray computer at the German Aerospace Research Organisation in Munich. The monsoon experiment has been designed to produce data to test and refine her model.

But there are many other links between Monash and the monsoon experiment.

Dr Smith, for instance, will be helping to direct the experiment from the Darwin Operations Centre.

During phase one, a group of eight Monash researchers will be based at Weipa releasing balloons at strategic times and tracking them with theodolites, and Monash will be organising the services of an instrumented light aircraft to make measurements over the peninsula and out to sea.

In phase two, four Monash students will be operating an upper atmosphere weather station at Burketown, taking six-hourly radio Sonde soundings and

making routine weather observations. Meanwhile at Weipa, four others will be repeating the dry season measurements, made during phase one, for the wet season.

Throughout, Dr Nigel Tapper from the department of Geography will be monitoring radiation on the peninsula.

The experiment is only the latest activity in the long-standing relationship between Monash and the Bureau of Meteorology Research Centre.

Dr Smith said: "There are very strong links with the people at the research centre. Many of our former graduate students now work there, and its head is an ex-lecturer in our department."

That relationship was formally acknowledged at the beginning of last year when the Bureau and Monash concluded an agreement of affiliation,

which means that the Bureau is now regarded as part of the Monash campus as far as research work goes.

And the ties were strengthened further this year with the announcement of two Bureau scholarships to be awarded annually to enable members of Bureau staff to study for the newly introduced Master of Science degree in Dynamical Meteorology.

The degree is offered by the Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory, and provides a strong theoretical background backed by experience of its practical application.

Perhaps it is not surprising, therefore, that this year's two winners, Wasyl Drosdowsky and Geoff Garden, will both be heavily involved in the Australian Monsoon Experiment.

— Tim Thwaites

• Above: A satellite image of tropical Australia showing a North Australian Cloudline moving westwards across the Gulf of Carpentaria. The cloudline formed on the western side of Cape York Peninsula. Below: A Morning Glory wave cloud photographed near Burketown in north-west Queensland at about 7 am on October 12, 1980. The cloudline is orientated approximately east-west and is moving from the south at about 50km per hour.



Praise be! The comet HAS come

Late in 1984, with Halley's 1910 visitation still vivid in his memory, Gilbert Vasey (former editor of *Monash Review*) penned the following verse in anticipation of his eagerly-awaited second encounter with the cosmic visitor . . .

The comet is coming (as written in 1591)

(January 1590)

You remember last year the light in the sky —
A point at the head, the tail riding high.
How the village pond froze and the ducks all died.
The cider went acid and the milk went bad.
The game disappeared, the lambs didn't thrive,
But thanks be to God, we survived, we survived.

(The Prophet at All Scients)

I went to the prophet at the shrine of All Scients:
"Will these come again to decure our poor minds?"
"Far worse, far worse," as his prayer he delayed,
"The comets are coming, I'm afraid, I'm afraid."

(1066)

"You remember King Harold at Hastings was slayed,
"Twas not by an arrow as the story books said,
"But a shaft of black light from the comet's long tail.
"For such a sad story words fail, words fail!"

(1607)

"That comet I see, as it passes near heaven,
"Will come back this way in 1607.
"You cannot escape it, its aim is too sure;
"Chant aves and paters your life to secure."

(1682)

Our prophet saw further — adding doom to his mood —
"It will come yet again, though none here will spy
"The name in its tail, spelt Halley (now Hawley).
"So fear you the Lord, sing holy, sing holy."

(1985-86)

With his infinite lens our prophet foretold
Halley's comet would cycle yet three or more fold;
And would come very close within the next year:
If heaven be pleased, we will see it from here.

G.H.V.

(Monash Reporter is delighted to report that heaven was, indeed, pleased. Gilbert and Florence Vasey have had frequent sightings of the comet from their backyard at Doncaster.)



● Members of the public show their consternation at the conspicuous presence of Halley's Comet in this segment of the Bayeux Tapestry depicting events from 1066.

AVCC to expand industry links

The Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee and the Business Council of Australia have endorsed recommendations of a Joint Working Party to strengthen and expand existing links between universities and industry.

They have also recommended that the government launch a national publicity campaign to improve community awareness about the importance of research and technology to the standards of living, youth unemployment, export competitiveness and national development.

Greater co-operation between universities and industry was necessary for the prosperity of the country, said the chairman, Mr John Hooke, when he presented the working party's recommendations.

"Australia needs to create more wealth in order to lift employment and living standards, and to do this it needs to foster the conditions that will allow industry to perform.

"It must have an appropriate business and investment environment.

"In the area of the application of new technology and manpower planning, a much greater involvement between business and the university sector will assist in the attainment of these goals."

The 11-member working party, set up in October, was headed by Mr Hooke, chairman and chief executive of Amalgamated Wireless (Australia) Ltd., and Professor Ray Martin, Vice-Chancellor of Monash University (deputy chairman).



● Professor Martin.

Its proposals included:

- the appointment by each university, if it has not already done so, of a business liaison officer, who will be the focal point to which industry might refer if it requires any research support or advice;

- the encouragement of greater university and corporation staff appointments to appropriate company boards and university committees;

- the support of the appointment of industry nominees to university councils or senates;

- the greater use by industry of the retention of academic consultants, who might be used from time to time for specific contract research and generally involved in the research effort of the companies concerned;

- the encouragement of more joint appointments of senior research staff;

- the exploration of the establishment of joint collaborative projects funds or partnerships whereby a company and a university can make available resources to provide for the collaborative funding of various research projects of specific interest to both the company and the university;

- the holding in 1986 of a BCA/AVCC Forum on University-Business Co-operation to enable senior company and university executives, politicians and senior public servants to exchange information and ideas;

- the establishment of a mechanism whereby representatives of the AVCC and the Business Council can continue to meet to discuss areas of policy formulation to ensure that collaboration and interaction be continued and strengthened.

The AVCC and the Business Council have also recommended that the government continue to support and expand National Research Fellowships and the Teaching Companies Scheme, and that it complement these with new research awards in science and engineering.

This would encourage Ph.D. students to undertake industrially orientated research projects.

Ideas sought for cardiac implant

The body convulses under the impact of the 1500-volt shock delivered through the two large paddles laid onto it . . . and paramedics on another American television show have dramatically revived a heart attack victim.

But such scenes could become less common if the Sydney-based medical engineering firm, Nucleus Limited, has its way.

Company representatives, Peter Osman, has been visiting Monash as part of a quest to produce an automatic version of a defibrillator which can be implanted in the body.

(Fibrillation occurs when the heart runs out of control. It is a potentially lethal fluttering condition of the heart muscle resulting from damage caused by previous heart attacks.)

Mr Osman's visit is a sign of the times: An engineer seconded from the CSIRO, he is working as a liaison officer between Nucleus — which makes a high proportion of the world's pacemakers and the Australian bionic ear — and the research community.

He came to Monash to host a seminar promoting an exchange of ideas on one of the manufacturing problems of the implantable defibrillator — how to reduce the size of the capacitor which stores the charge for the shock.

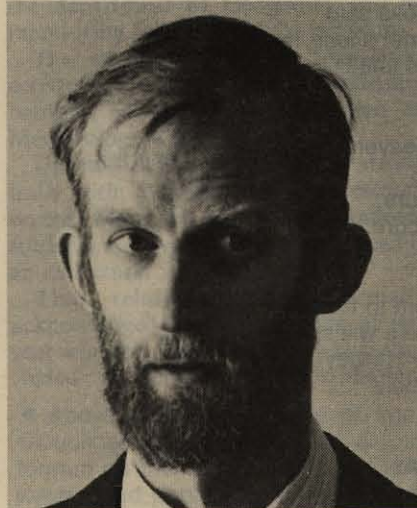
His first job was to assure academic and CSIRO participants that the seminar was not an attempt to pirate patentable ideas.

Rather, it was a means of opening discussion about where the company should look for answers — and partners — in the enterprise.

The potential market for the implant-

able defibrillator is large; about half the people who survive their first heart attack are likely to suffer fibrillation within a year.

● Peter Osman (right)



Universities to share \$1.6m

A research grants scheme expected to be worth more than \$1.6 million this year is being extended to include most Australian universities.

The universities of Adelaide, Flinders, La Trobe, Griffith, New England, Murdoch and Deakin are being invited to join the CSIRO/Universities Collaborative Research Grants Scheme, which already operates at Australian National University, James Cook, Macquarie, Melbourne, Monash, NSW, Queensland, Western Australia, Wollongong, Sydney, Tasmania and Newcastle.

The decision to extend the scheme was announced jointly by Dr Keith Boardman, chairman of CSIRO, and Professor Martin, following a seminar on CSIRO/University interaction last month.

"Informal collaboration between scientists working in both institutions long established and has always been encouraged," their joint statement said.

"These informal arrangements have

been enhanced by the introduction of the scheme, which is aimed at bringing together complementary skills and research groups so that a greater concentration of effort can be made in areas of mutual interest.

"In this respect, the scheme has been effective in bringing together researchers from CSIRO and universities who had not previously worked together.

"It is now proposed to broaden the scheme by inviting the other seven universities to participate."

Dr Boardman said an expansion of interaction between CSIRO and universities had been recommended strongly by the Australian Science and Technology Council in its recent review of the organisation.

Last year the scheme was worth \$1.23 million which was contributed equally by CSIRO and the universities.

If CSIRO's invitation is accepted, the combined contribution to the scheme is expected to be increased by \$480,000 this year.

ABC to stage debate

Following the success of Monash's in-vitro fertilisation program and the development of the Centre for Human Bioethics, the University will probably host an ABC television debate on *Ethics and the New Biology*.

The debate, one of a series of eight being organised by the ABC, would be conducted on campus sometime in May or June.

This first series, to be held at different universities, will be related entirely to Australian issues.

Topics suggested by other universities include: *Civil liberties — a bill of rights or the Australia card*; *De-regulation of the labour market*; *Aboriginal rights — where should we go from here?*; *State rights and the environment*; and *The rural crisis — is there one?*

The ABC University Debates project developed from recommendations from the University Information Officers' conference in May, 1984, to the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee.

The series is designed to show how universities provide information on important Australian issues and contribute to policy formulation.

Suggestions are being considered for a second series in 1987 on international and foreign affairs.

Senior staff suffer from 'disincentive'

Dr George Rozvany, Reader in Civil Engineering, will leave at the end of this month to take up a foundation chair as a C4 Professor, or Ordinarius, at the University of Essen, West Germany. Hungarian-born Dr Rozvany, who joined the staff of Monash University 23 years ago, specialises in the field of structural optimisation. He will be head of the Fachgebiet (Institute) for Structural Design/Timber Engineering/Automated Construction at Essen. With the late William Prager, a leading American scientist at Brown University, he developed optimal layout theory which has found a variety of applications ranging from long-span ribbed shell and cable-net roofs to the microstructure of composites with a view to creating artificial "super" materials. Here he writes about the reasons behind his decision to accept an overseas appointment.

¶ If I may generalise from my personal experience, there are many good reasons for an academic to remain in Australia indefinitely.

Both my wife and myself are very fond of our adopted country, the great Australian way of life and the delightful people of this continent.

Moreover, I personally find all non-organisational aspects of the university environment at Monash extremely pleasant, ranging from friendly and helpful colleagues (and fine chairmen) in my department to a lovely campus with excellent recreational facilities.

It is obvious, therefore, that the reasons for one giving up such a relaxed and enjoyable existence stem from professional advantages offered by overseas universities.

I must add that due to the "don't rock the boat" selection policy of some tertiary institutions in this country, a fair proportion of our academics are not in danger of being persuaded to take up an attractive overseas appointment.

But there are hierarchical disincentives for senior staff in our tertiary system.

Apart from the position of departmental chairmen, there is very little difference in the working conditions of most other ranks of staff.

An associate professor (or even a reader) gets a standard size (i.e. rather minute) room, to which most junior lecturers (and some tutors) are also entitled.

He has no personal staff, must comply in all respects with decisions of the chairman or departmental committees, has no independent budget and must perform numerous routine tasks which could be done by staff of lesser qualification.

While this system has obvious advantages for junior lecturing staff, it proves a big disincentive in striving for academic achievement.

Most of the professors of German universities have the ranking C2, C3 or C4.

These grades have their historical origins.

A C4 professor, for example, used to be called "ordentlicher oeffentlicher Universitaetsprofessor", now briefly "Ordinarius".

It is important to realise that the number of C4 Professors in a German "Fachbereich" (which is somewhere between our faculty and department) is much greater than the number of full professors in a traditional Australian university and hence a large proportion of our readers (and some associate professors) would also have a C4 position over there.



• George Rozvany

A German C4 professor is in charge of a "(Fachgebiet" (institute), is responsible only to the Minister of Science and Research, is given the legally guaranteed full freedom to decide what he teaches and researches, has a number of spacious rooms as well as substantial furniture, equipment and recurrent funds at his disposal and employs a large personal staff.

For example, my initial staff consists of 11 persons (including a multi-lingual secretary, a draftsman, two assistants, two research assistants and five students assistants), but a considerable expansion of the institute is already scheduled (including a second personal secretary).

All routine tasks (preparation of lecture material, tutorial and prac classes, most administrative work, applications for research grants and the bulk of the professor's research and consulting work) is carried out by his staff.

The result is that the C4 Professor is free to concentrate on basic ideas at the highest level and on personal communication with top researchers in various parts of the world.

Judging purely by numbers, most of our lecturing staff would hold at least lower (C2 or C3) professorships at German universities with a lot of privileges and independence.

I must stress, therefore, that the German system is relatively more egalitarian because departmental privileges are not concentrated to the same extent in one person (the chairman).

Professors also enjoy a favorable financial status, my gross salary over there being almost twice my salary here (at the current exchange rate), and, due to a wide range of taxation incentives, my net salary is relatively much higher.

In addition, there is virtually no limit on outside earnings.

Clearly, the German university system has produced a highly successful breed of technologist.

West Germany, a country with almost no natural resources, has an enormous surplus (positive trade balance) each year.

The Deutschmark is the most stable currency and the inflation rate the lowest in the world (currently around 0.2 per cent).

All this is achieved by sheer brain-power and technological know-how, resulting in a booming secondary industry.

If we consider that our foreign debt has tripled in three years, the country is living on borrowed money, the Australian dollar has lost almost half its value against stable currencies (like the DM) during the last two years and the inflation is soaring, it becomes pretty obvious that something has gone fatally wrong.

Creating incentives for intellectual achievement at all levels including science-technology departments at universities could be a small step in the right direction if it is not too late.

The alternative is, barring an unlikely resources boom, an unprecedented crash of the economy and a hopelessly outdated secondary industry, bringing our living standard down to that of a banana-republic in South America.

Guidelines have not gone far enough: MAGS

The introduction of guidelines for the supervision of Ph.D. candidates has been welcomed by the Monash Association of Graduate Students, but it is feared that the guidelines have not gone far enough.

There are concerns that the guidelines will not have effect where there is the greatest need, says Peter Janssen, MAGS representative on the University's Ph.D. and Research Committee.

While they are prefaced with the statement that 'there are common issues and responsibilities which apply to all faculties, departments, supervisors and candidates regardless of their discipline or area of research', the preface concludes that these 'fundamentals' may be modified by faculties and departments in order to 'meet the specific needs of their research traditions'.

"The modest aspirations and cautious — even ambivalent — spirit of the guidelines are intended to reduce possible resentment among some members of the University, but they may also ensure that the guidelines will simply be ignored."

It was up to postgraduates to use the guidelines as a basis for questioning shabby supervision or poor treatment by departments, Mr Janssen said.

"If this is done with tact and good sense then those disposed to ignore the guidelines, but not to voice direct disagreement, could be forced to review some of their supervisory practices."

The guidelines spell out in detail, for the first time, the responsibilities of departments (in normal circumstances, the departmental chairmen), of supervisors and of candidates.

Copies have been sent to all departments.

ments and all Ph.D. candidates, and further copies can be obtained from Mr Bruce Shields, Assistant Registrar (ext. 3012).

Full steam ahead for Jubilee

Here is a round-up of events so far. they wish to join the academic procession.

Monday, 19 May: To open the week's activities there will be a ceremonial conducted in Robert Blackwood Hall. The formal proceedings will include:

- A specially designed medal awarded to each staff member who has served 25 years with the University. The medal, designed by Matcham Skipper, will be presented by His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh.
- Honorary degrees will be conferred on: His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh — Doctor of Science, Rt. Rev. P.J. Hollingworth — Doctor of Laws, Emeritus Professor Sir Edward Hughes — Doctor of Laws, Mr H.M. McKenzie — Doctor of Laws, Sir James McNeill — Doctor of Laws.
- A Jubilee Oration by His Royal Highness.

Letters of invitation will be distributed throughout the University to find out who wishes to attend the ceremony.

Staff members will also be asked if

they wish to join the academic procession.

Tuesday, 20 May: His Excellency the Governor, Dr Davis McCaughey, will host a reception at Government House.

Wednesday, 21 May: A free Jubilee Concert by the Elizabethan Theatre Trust Orchestra will be held in Robert Blackwood Hall at 8 pm.

Thursday, 22 May: Sir Louis Matheson, the University's founding Vice-Chancellor, will present the Jubilee Oscar Mendelsohn Lecture. Further details will be published at a later date.

Friday, 23 May: There will be a ceremonial planting of the trees to commemorate the Silver Jubilee.

Sunday, 25 May: The Jubilee Open Day: The day the University opens its doors to the public.

In addition, there will be a Photographic Exhibition held in the Visual Arts Gallery of the Menzies Building during Jubilee Week.

Student Theatre still needs people for *Marvellous Melbourne*, a

"riotous, raucous" Jubilee production.

Aspiring performers, technicians and behind-the-scenes people are invited to find out more at a barbecue on Sunday, April 6 (1 pm, Sports and Recreation centre), or by ringing the Student Theatre office on ext. 3018.

Departments and clubs are invited to enter teams for the Sports and Recreation centre's "25athon". Teams of eight must include at least three females. Inquiries to Kerrin Fennessy on ext. 2096.

The Monash University Parents' Group has organised a Jubilee Dinner on Friday, May 9, at Chaucers Reception Centre.

The group is also organising an Art Exhibition and Sale to be held in Robert Blackwood Hall on July 18, 19 and 20.

If any faculty, department or other section of the University is to hold functions during 1986 which are connected with the Jubilee Year, details can be included in the printed program, by contacting Miss Anita Muller, C/o the Registrar's Office.

Philosophy needs change of direction

News travels slowly in philosophy, but the modern crisis of Western thought has reached even Australia.

Next month, for example, Monash University will be the venue for a conference whose theme is *The Questioning of metaphysics*.

The same theme is the subject of a new book by a Monash author. Harry Redner (senior lecturer, Politics) addresses the problem of philosophy in his recently published *The Ends of Philosophy*.

He sets out to answer the question: what are the aims of philosophy, given the decline and fall of traditional metaphysics?

Some writers have concluded that philosophy is itself obsolete. Harry Redner disagrees: he claims that the destruction of metaphysics, if carried out in a genuinely radical way, leads to the emergence of new tasks for philosophy.

Secession

The separation between philosophy and science is the central theme of the book. The author finds a sociological reason for the crisis of philosophy in this widening gap — one which is formalised in the modern university as we know it. He traces the relation through several historical stages, beginning with the rise of natural science in the Renaissance.

During this period, science still looked to philosophy to provide its foundation. The later human sciences, however, undermined metaphysics by revealing its origins in the human realm.

In the 20th century, the process has been completed by the final 'secession' of a science which is able to systematise itself without the assistance of philosophy. As Martin Heidegger put it towards the end of his life, philosophy has been replaced — by cybernetics.

This outcome is not an encouraging one. As rationality gives way to rationalisation, critical and self-reflective thought is excluded. On the one hand, philosophy becomes a marginal activity, concerned with problems of interest only to oneself. On the other, the misuse of modern technology threatens to make debate over the future of human thought pointless by jeopardising the future of the human race.

Can philosophy regain its importance — and if so, how? Harry Redner sees this as, oddly enough, a destructive task. A number of modern thinkers have attacked the metaphysical tradition: Marx, Kierkegaard and Nietzsche in the last century; Wittgenstein, Heidegger

Checklist of French settlers

The English department has published a catalogue of original French accounts of European settlement in Australia from the First Fleet to Federation.

The *Analytical checklist of first-hand accounts in French of Colonial Australia*, by Dr Colin Thornton-Smith, chairman of the French department at Melbourne University, lists French publications, English translations, library holdings, and a summary of contents.

It is a revised and enlarged edition of an earlier publication, and is available from Dr Dennis Davison, English department, Monash University, at \$3 per copy.

MONASH REPORTER

IN REVIEW

The Ends of Philosophy
by Harry Redner

Croom Helm, London, 1986

(Subsidised by the Monash University Publications Committee)

and, most recently, Derrida in the present one.

Dr Redner seems to regard Nietzsche and Wittgenstein as the most successful of these demolishers. He suggests that Heidegger's radicalism is compromised by his desire to return to some original source of Western thought — in effect, a desire to repeat this beginning rather than get beyond it. To some extent, the same charge is made against Derrida.

Nietzsche and Wittgenstein, on the other hand, are treated as crucial figures. Both attempted to destroy metaphysics from within, rather than in the external fashion of scepticism or positivism. Both perceived that the function of language as constituting the hidden basis of metaphysics was crucial.

In the course of a detailed analysis of each thinker, Dr Redner argues that their 'reductions' of metaphysical language were never fully completed. The assumption that 'life' is more basic than language allowed something to remain unquestioned in each case.

What an adequate destruction of metaphysical thought would consist in is suggested in the final sections of the book. Philosophy, it is argued, proceeds by modelling itself on other forms of thought. In the past, philosophers have adopted various literary models for their thinking. Recently linguistic or sociological models have proved fruitful — as shown respectively by Wittgenstein and

Habermas. But the model proposed in *The Ends of Philosophy* is that of psychoanalysis.

Philosophy and psychoanalysis have had a rather wary relationship. At one time, the influence of Wittgenstein led some others to take philosophical therapy (as it was then called) in the direction of psychoanalysis.

Morris Lazerowitz argued that the treatment of time in idealism could be seen as an aberration of language — but also claimed that the metaphysical denial of time arose out of an unconscious identification of time with death. J.O. Wisdom raised eyebrows by tracing Berkeley's immaterialism back to his toilet training.

Psychoanalysis

Harry Redner's use of psychoanalysis is not as simple as this. He suggests instead a project of 'language-analysis' whose aim is parallel to that of psychoanalysis: namely, to uncover the hidden levels of language.

The basic thesis of language-analysis is — standing an often-quoted remark of the psychoanalyst Jacques Lacan on its head — that "language is structured like an unconscious". Symbolic systems, it is argued, are subject to suppressions of meaning in much the same way as the contents of the individual psyche. But the repressed always returns

in some form or other. One is as a sublimation which claims a higher origin — and what we know as metaphysics is precisely such a sublimation of language.

An important claim of the author is that the task of analysis is not simply to uncover something that was there all along. (This is just the point of his criticism of Nietzsche and Wittgenstein.) Rather the unconscious — of language and of the psyche — is constituted in the process of its being 'dis-covered'. So the critical destruction of illusion is truly indispensable if a genuine content for thought is to exist at all.

The book ends on a note of optimism. Philosophy could engage other forms of thought in the light of new aims — and even regain its contact with the sciences. Where could it make a contribution? Genetics is mentioned as an example. Scientists with long memories might find this an ominous choice. But these indications are deliberately left as hints. At one point we are referred to a forthcoming sequel entitled *The Ends of Science*: perhaps more answers will be given there.

The Ends of Philosophy is a challenging book. It continues many of the themes of the author's previous book, *In the Beginning Was the Deed*. However, it can be read without much difficulty as a self-contained work. It presents what one might think of as a 'European' approach to philosophy — not in particular features of style or method of argument, but simply in the fact that it takes philosophy seriously. For this author, philosophy is a vocation, not a pastime. The problem is: how is it to be realised in terms of its own ends? Whatever the answer, this seems the right question.

Robin Small

Putemaot tang blong yu

Put out your tongue . . . hold your breath . . . bend down . . . turn around.

These are typical instructions from a doctor, but what if instead you were told to putemaot tang blong yu, yu staem win blong yu, bendaon, or tanem raon?

The Medical Dictionary in Bislama, English and French might provide the answer.

Senior lecturer in Anatomy, Dr Donald Bowden, has written the dictionary to assist medical staff in Vanuatu (formerly the New Hebrides).

"Before Independence in 1980, English and French were spoken, but then Bislama gained National Standard Language status.

"Now the indigenous people speak Bislama, but there are still others who administer and speak in either English or French," says Dr Bowden.

The dictionary, recently published with the assistance of the Monash University Publications Committee, will be of particular value to village nurses in Vanuatu.

"The medical staff need to be able to understand complaints about injuries and illnesses before talking to the indigenous people.

"This is why the dictionary gives English equivalents," says Dr Bowden.

Dr Bowden says a second aim of the dictionary was to induce the indigenous people to think about the development of their language.

"It will certainly have an appeal out-

side the medical profession.

The dictionary includes a section comparing Tok Pisin (Papua New Guinean pidgin), Bislama and Solomon Island pidgin.

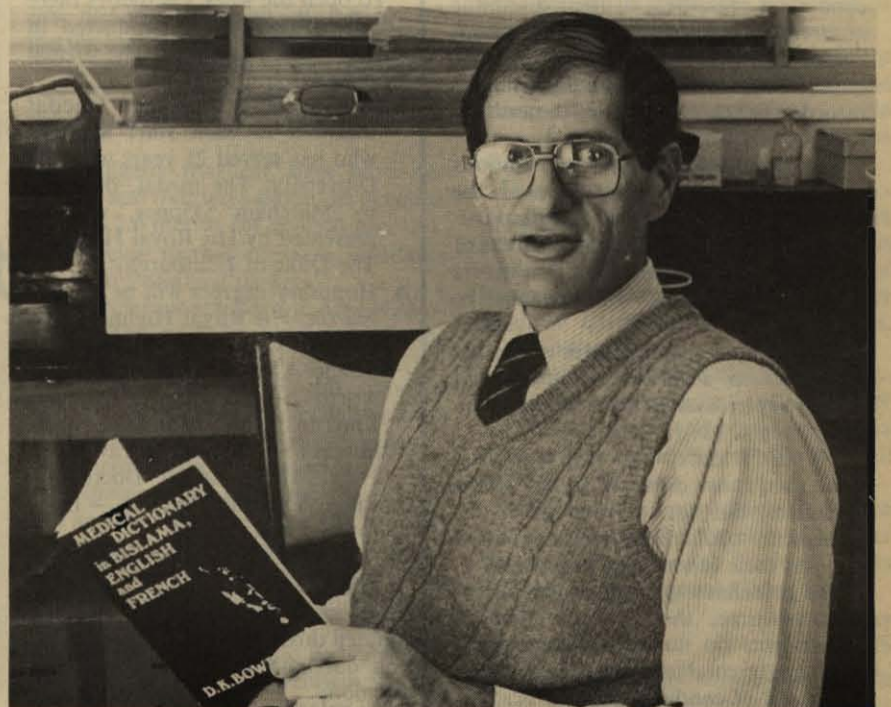
"There has been talk of standardising the pidgin languages used throughout the Melanesian area.

"If this occurs, the dictionary will

provide a basis for standardising medical language in the area."

Dr Bowden began to compile the dictionary four years ago, after working as a physician and medical administrator in Vanuatu since 1972.

The dictionary, on sale at the University Bookshop for \$10, uses local Vanuatu spelling.



• Dr Bowden . . . standardising the pidgin languages.

Germans contribute to Victoria's 150th

The essays in this commemorative volume are intended to serve as a contribution to the Sesquicentenary of Victoria.

The aim is to show aspects of the impact German-speaking immigrants — and German culture — had on the development of our State.

The Melbourne Consulate-General of the Federal Republic of Germany, Dr Karl-Heinz Scholtyssek, initiated the volume, and the Monash University department of German was asked to undertake the editorial work in view of its long-standing research interest in this area.

Associate Professor Walter Veit undertook a very substantial amount of administrative and organisational work in the period prior to publication.

It must be noted that for the purpose of the volume, "German" always denotes "German speakers", that is, immigrants not only from Germany, but from all German-speaking parts of Europe.

The essays are based on the scholarly work of contributors in a variety of disciplines; the unifying factor being the assumption that all inter-cultural and

inter-ethnic communication is necessarily a two-way process.

Such communication simultaneously contains elements of preservation and change, and it implies an ever-shifting balance between the maintenance of different socio-cultural identities and a dynamic process which alters both the immigrant and his host country.

The history of the inter-relations between the Anglo-Celtic mainstream culture and German-speaking settlers in Victoria provide important examples for the paradigm.

The volume begins with Michael Clyne's essay on the development of the German language in Victoria, and also contains an investigation of one specific case of language maintenance and change, by Anne Pauwels.

An article on Ferdinand von Mueller by Joseph Powell presents the fate of a brilliant scientist, while Conrad Hamann shows the successful merging of elements of European and Australian architecture in the work of the Swiss-German refugee, Frederick Romberg.

The mid-nineteenth century socialist Hermann Puttmann and the eminent Austrian essayist Paul Hirsch-Hatvani are not identified by Victorians as the significant literary figures they were in their countries of origin, nor are they known in German-speaking Europe for having continued their work as migrants to Victoria. They are therefore presented in this volume with translations of two of their essays on Australia.

A study of the German aspects in Henry Handel Richardson's oeuvre, by Maureen Mann, aims to draw attention to the momentous impact of the culture, literature, philosophy and music of German-speaking Europe in the late 19th century on the development of a new and specifically Australian literature.

Irmline Veit-Brause's essay on the Victorian Centenary Exhibition of 1888 points to the significant nature of German-Australian industrial and trade relations in the last century.

The articles are presented as self-contained essays, and are written in a style which is intended to make them as accessible as possible to the broader reading public.

Summaries in German are also included to add to the usefulness of the book for non-English readers.

To encourage further study and research, the volume closes with an extensive bibliography of publications relating to both German-speaking settlers in Victoria and the reception and understanding of this State in the German-speaking world.

Leslie Bodi.



• The German Connection contains dedications by the Consul-General of the Federal Republic of Germany, Dr Karl-Heinz Scholtyssek, and the Premier of Victoria, Mr Cain. Representatives from the German Consulate and from the Monash department of German gave a copy to the Minister of the Arts, Mr Race Mathews, at Parliament House last month. They are pictured above, from left, Professor Leslie Bodi, Dr Scholtyssek, Dr Gerd Braumiller, Mr Mathews, Associate Professor Walter Veit, and Dr Stephen Jeffries.

Don Juan in Australia

Wine and words will flow at the launch of Emeritus Professor Hector Monro's comic poem, *Don Juan in Australia*, on Thursday, April 17, says organiser Philip Martin.

The launch, in the conference room of the Main Library, is part of the free Monash Lunchtime Readings series presented by the English department with support from the Vera Moore Fund, the Dean of Arts, and the Literature Board of the Australia Council.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Other planned items in the series include a *Back to Monash* reading by former student poets Laurie Duggan, John A. Scott and Alan Wearne, to be held on Monday, April 28 in Room SGO, Menzies Building.

This particular reading will be held from 4.15 to 6.15 pm, not at lunchtime.

Next month, well-known Australian poet, Mark O'Connor, will read from his works.

The reading, on Thursday, May 8, will again be held in the SGO room on the ground floor of the Menzies Building.

Inquiries about the program should be directed to Mr Martin on ext. 2141.

China: Past and present

A conference on *Science and Technology in China: Present and Past*, will be held at the University of Sydney from May 16 to 21.

It is the fourth International Conference on the History of Chinese Science, and the first to be held in Australia.

Topics will include the archaeology and history of technology, the development of technology and science policy and the training of scientists in contemporary China.

A one-day symposium, *The Archaeology of Science*, will be held to commemorate one of the conference founders, Professor Xia Nai.

For further information contact the Secretary-General, Mr Henry Chan, Department of History, University of Newcastle, (049) 68 5275 or (049) 68 5262.

\$340,000 for graphics lab

The department of Mechanical Engineering will install a graphics workstation laboratory which will be the biggest in Melbourne.

It is based on a similar set-up at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The system, costing \$340,000, is being bought with an engineering equipment grant supplemented by departmental funds, says lecturer, Mr Ray Maxwell.

It consists of 15 black and white DN3000 computers and two color DN570s, which will be linked by a high speed local area network.

The system will be used in manufacturing design, design development, the teaching of graphics and data management, and for courses given to local industry.

Safety at work

Papers are invited for the 23rd Industrial Safety Convention, to be held in Wollongong on October 22 and 23.

They could cover subjects including occupational health, compensation and rehabilitation, training, legal implications, and particular health problems.

Submissions must be received by mid-April and need to include an abstract up to 200 words.

For further information contact Dr Neil Adams, Program Co-ordinator, 23rd NSW Industrial Safety Convention, P.O. Box 1992, Wollongong, 2500.

Industry seminar looks to the future

Senior Lecturer in Economic History, Dr Keith Trace, will speak on *The Rise and Fall of Manufacturing* at a seminar on the future of Australian industry, on April 19 and 20.

Dr Trace will provide the background to Australian manufacturing, from the late 1900s and pre-World War to the sixties when manufacturers became disillusioned with the industry.

"Australia was highly dependent on primary industry, then, in the thirties

Britain developed alternate trade policies and Australia turned to internal development.

"With the increased migration of the post-war years, the need for industry developed further," says Dr Trace.

Lack of industry and high cost pro-

duction crippled Australia's recovery attempt.

Dr Trace says Australia's long term industry development lies with strengthening new export potential.

The seminar is being organised by the Council of Adult Education, and will be held at 256 Flinders Street, Melbourne, telephone 652 0611.



Edited by Leslie Bodi and Stephen Jeffries Department of German Monash University 1985

New alumni body

Graduates of the department of Electrical Engineering are invited to join the recently-launched Society of Monash Electrical Engineering Alumni.

The department will be celebrating its own silver jubilee next year, and is planning a number of activities to involve the alumni.

Graduates (B.E., M.Eng.Sc. and Ph.D.) who have not received a letter from Kishor Dabke inviting them to join the society should send their names, addresses and telephone numbers to the chairman, department of Electrical Engineering.

The 'Alex' goes Wilde



Monash staff and students are involved in the Babirra Players' production of Gilbert and Sullivan's *Patience*, to be presented at the Alexander Theatre from April 11-19.

In this light-hearted operetta, Gilbert's satirical wit was directed at the pretensions of Oscar Wilde and the so-called aesthetic movement of the 19th century.

Wilde apparently took the send-up in good part, and did an American tour to promote the operetta. He was scheduled to appear in each city just as *Patience* was about to open.

The Babirra Players' production is directed by Rodney Hunter, with the leading roles played by Graeme Gregory, Neil Campbell and Phyllis Smith.

Bookings and inquiries can be directed to the ticket secretary on 232 5196 or 232 2844.

Monash Reporter

The next issue will be published in the second week of May, 1986.

Copy deadline is Friday, April 25, and early copy is much appreciated.

Contributions (letters, articles, photos) and suggestions should be addressed to the editor, Lisa Kelly, Information Office, University Offices, or ring ext. 2003.

are: 12 noon to 5 pm on April 12-13, and 9 am to 5 pm on April 14-15.

Admission is free. Inquiries should be directed to Stephen Ng, on 543 3948.

Bible bash

Rare biblical artefacts will be on display at Robert Blackwood Hall this month during the *Bible Expo '86* hosted by Christian groups at Monash.

They include replicas of archaeological significance to the Old and New Testament, rare copies of old translations of the Bible, a 5 cm by 5 cm microfiche containing the whole Bible, and examples of modern translations.

Opening hours for the *Bible Expo '86*



● Gifted Indian musician, Ustad Amjad Ali Khan, second from right, plays the sarod, a stringed instrument like the sitar. He is accompanied by, from left, Deb Chakravarti (tabla), Ashit Ghatak (tala) and Sharafat Khan (sitar). Ustad Ali Khan gave three performances at Monash last month. Below: Chinese musicians, Shen Pan-Geng, left (er-hu) and Zhao-Yang-Qin (yangqin), gave a concert in the Music department auditorium during their visit to the campus for the 1986 Annual Concert of Chinese Music at Robert Blackwood Hall. Both groups were part of a music and dance program hosted by the Music department. Photos — Tony Miller and Richard Crompton.



APRIL DIARY

The events listed below are open to the public: "RBH" throughout stands for Robert Blackwood Hall. There is a BASS ticketing outlet on campus at the Alexander Theatre.

- 2: **ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE FORUMS** — "A critical look at the historic conservation movement", by Alison Blake, National Trust of Australia. **APRIL 9:** "Caring for the Land", by Brian Roberts, Darling Downs Institute. **APRIL 16:** "Greening of the Left", by Trevor Blake, The Graduate School of Environmental Science. **APRIL 23:** "Towards a Conservator Economic Strategy", by Don Sieman, Energy Action Group. **APRIL 30:** "Computer Modelling for Environmental Education", by Brian Sharply, The Gould League of Victoria. **Environmental Science Seminar Room.** All forums at 5.15 p.m. Free. Inquiries: ext. 3839.
- 3: **SPACE DISCUSSION** — "Satellite Communications", by Harold Hepburn. Sponsored by Space Association of Australia. Admission free. 7.30 p.m. Inquiries: 699 2985 or 772 5804.
- 3: **ABORIGINAL STUDIES LECTURES** — "Post-Contact History", Wayne Atkinson. **APRIL 10:** "Kinship", Don Williams. **APRIL 17:** "Kinship", Don Williams. **APRIL 24:** "Urban Aborigines", Eve Fesl. Admission free. 1 p.m. - 2 p.m., **Lecture Theatre R6.** Inquiries: ext. 3348.
- 5: **SATURDAY CLUB** — Red Series Extra. "The Great Puppet Cabaret" (5-8 yr olds). 11.30 a.m. Subscriptions available. Inquiries: 543 2255. Alex. Theatre.
- 5: **PERSPECTIVES CONCERT No 1** — The Melbourne Symphony Orchestra conducted by Hiroyuki Iwaki. Soloist: An-

- thony Fogg (piano). Program: Sinfonia da Requiem, Op. 20, Mozart; Piano Concerto, Peter Sculthorpe; Symphony No. 8, Shostakovich. Admission: Adults A Res. \$16.20, B Res. \$13, C Res. \$9.80. Concession (pensioners and unemployed) A Res. \$13, B Res. \$9.80, C Res. \$8. Youth (under 21 or full-time student under 25) A Res. \$8, B Res. \$6.50, C Res. \$5. 8 p.m. RBH.
- 6: **AFTERNOON CONCERT** — The Melbourne Youth Music Council pres. the Melbourne Youth Symphonic Band, the John Antill Youth Band, the Percy Grainger Youth Orchestra and the Melbourne Youth Choir. 2 p.m. RBH.
- 7: **LUNCHTIME CONCERT** — Jeff Pressing — Piano & Electronic Keyboards. Robert Parades — Clarinet. Presenting jazz and electronic compositions. 1.15 p.m. Admission free. RBH.
- 7: **BIOETHICS CONFERENCE** — "AIDS: Social Policy, Ethics and the Law", sponsored by Monash University Centre for Human Bioethics. Clunies Ross House, Parkville. Inquiries: ext. 3266.
- 10: **MORNING COFFEE** — Monash University Parents Group welcome to new parents and welcome back to "old". 10 a.m. RBH.
- 11: **CONCERT** — Waverley Music '86. Sixth annual Waverley Secondary Schools Music Festival, featuring concert and big bands, orchestras, ensembles and choirs. Admission free. Entry cards available from Waverley Council Offices or participating schools. 7.30 p.m. RBH.
- 11-13, 17-19: **MUSICAL** — "Patience", pres. by The Babirra Players. Admission: adults \$9.50, children \$4, stud/pens. \$5.50, 8 p.m. (13th Matinee 2 p.m.). Bookings 232 5196 or 232 2844. Alex. Theatre.

- 12: **SATURDAY CLUB** — Red Series A. "Peter & The Wolf", (5-8 yr olds). 2.30 p.m. Inquiries: 543 2255.
- 12-15: **BIBLE EXPLORER '86** — Exhibition of artefacts and replicas of archaeological significance to Old and New Testament times. Open in Robert Blackwood Hall 12 noon - 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Admission free. Inquiries: 543 3948.
- 14: **MIGRANT STUDIES SEMINARS** — "Xenisms — What makes a person continue to be perceived as a foreigner?", by Konrad Ehlich, Professor of German, University of Dortmund. **APRIL 28:** "Social Mobility Project", outlined by Dr Tony Pensabene, Director of Research AIMA, and Anne Sitz and Maria Kabala. Admission free. 7.30 p.m. R6. Inquiries: ext. 2245.
- 14: **LUNCHTIME CONCERT** — Ensemble I Spiros Rantos (violin), Marco Van Pagee (viola), Diane Froomes (cello), Brachi Tilles (piano), pres. a program of works by Mozart and Schumann. 1.15 p.m. Admission free. RBH.
- 16: **BIOETHICS LECTURE** — "Should the Baby Live?", by Dr Helga Kuhse and Prof. Peter Singer. **Lecture Theatre R6.** 1.05 p.m. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3266.
- 17: **SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES** — "Aspects of the Philippines Economy", by Dr Hal Hill (ASEAN — Australian Project, A.N.U.). **APRIL 24:** "Suharto's twenty-one years in perspective — but which perspective?", by Mr Ken Thomas (Economics, LaTrobe). 11.15 a.m. **Room 515, Menzies Building.** Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2197.
- 17: **MONASH READINGS** — Launching of Hector Monro's comic poem 'Don Juan in Australia'. 1.10 p.m. Conference room, Main Library. **APRIL 28:** "Back to Monash", Laurie Duggan, John A. Scott, Alan Wearne. 4.15 p.m. - 6.15 p.m. Room SGO, Menzies Building. Inquiries: ext. 2141.
- 17: **PEACE STUDIES SEMINARS** — "The

- Role of Multi-Faith Organisations in Peace-Making", by Dr John Taylor.
- APRIL 21:** "Peace and Disarmament: A Perspective From An Eastern Bloc Christian", by Bishop Koroly Toth. Both seminars in Narthex, Religious Centre, 1 p.m. Inquiries: ext. 3161.
- 18 & 19: **WILDERNESS '86 CONGRESS AND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL** — Organised and run by Action Outdoor Sports and Adventure Travel Magazine: Pres. adventure films, lectures and slide shows. For further information and tickets contact 791 2811. RBH.
- 19: **SATURDAY CLUB** — Red Series B 2.30 p.m., Red Series C 11.30 a.m. "Peter & The Wolf", (5-8 yr olds). Inquiries: 543 2255. Alex. Theatre.
- 20-24: **STUDENTS FOR CHRIST** — Pres. "Hans Coornstra Crusade". Admission free. 6.30 p.m. (April 21-24 7.30 p.m.).
- 21: **LUNCHTIME CONCERT** — "Baroque Bon Bons", Douglas Lawrence Organ Recital. 1.15 p.m. Admission free. RBH.
- 22: **BASKET LUNCHEON** — Monash University Parents Group. Talk/Demonstration by Maureen Lowenstein, consultant from "Your Colours". Ticket Sec: Mrs J. Williams, 728 1061. RBH.
- 25, 26, 30: **MUSICAL** — "Cabaret", pres. by Cheltenham Light Opera Company. Admission: adults \$10, children \$6, stud/pens. \$8. Bookings 288 8438. Alex. Theatre.
- 26: **EVENING CONCERT** — Festival of Brass, featuring the Melbourne Staff Band and the Hawthorn City Band. Admission: adults \$5, concession \$3. Tickets available at the door. RBH.
- 28: **LUNCHTIME CONCERT** — "Adzohu", traditional music from the Ewe, Ga and Ashanti people of West Africa. 1.15 p.m. Admission free. RBH.
- 29: **ABC YOUNG PERFORMERS COMPETITION** — Vocal Section. The most outstanding competitors in the Vocal Section who were selected nationally. Admission free. 7.30 p.m. RBH.