

# New book challenges bias in legal training

Monash has achieved another 'first' with the publication of a teaching manual that breaks new ground in Australian legal education.

*The Process of Law in Australia: Intercultural Perspectives*, written by Research Fellow in Law, Greta Bird, takes as its starting point the uniqueness of the Australian legal system.

It introduces new perspectives on traditional topics: the reception of English law, cultural heritage, migrants and workers' compensation, access and equality, migrants and education, summary justice, and much more.

Its purpose is to change the bias of legal education, and to encourage changes in the legal process itself.

The book has been welcomed by the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, who says its carefully argued analysis is a challenge to readers.

In a foreword he writes: "It is as necessary for the law to understand the community as it is for the community to understand the law."

## Welcome clarity

"(Greta Bird) has set out, with welcome clarity, the complex factors which constitute but also complicate the inter-relationships between the legal system and various Aboriginal and migrant communities.

"Although primarily designed to assist law students, this text merits a wider audience, both among legal practitioners and the general community.

"Its clear and direct style, together with its wealth of social, historical and case detail, makes it accessible to the lay reader."

The book was written while Ms Bird was employed as a research fellow for

the *Law: Aboriginal and Ethnic Communities* project at Monash.

The three-year project, initiated by the Faculty of Law and overseen by a committee drawn from a number of Aboriginal and ethnic organisations, saw the incorporation of multicultural material into some first-year law courses.

## Stable society

It soon became apparent to Ms Bird and others that traditional law textbooks were ignoring whole groups of Australians.

"The legal system must be developed to reflect the complexity of a multicultural society," she said.

"If we are going to have a stable society we have got to have all groups contributing.

"Most lawyers and law students come from comfortable English-speaking backgrounds and have had little contact with Aborigines, Greeks, Vietnamese and other groups.

"They have not realised that these people face special linguistic and cultural problems with our legal system."

Students often mistakenly believed that the "received" system of British justice was the same now as when it was introduced in 1788, she said.

"The system has already evolved — it was fairly brutal then. Many of the people sent out to administer justice were those who would not have been appointed in England.



• It followed her to Monash one day . . . Open Day to be precise. Andrea Lindsay's lamb was one of about 25,000 visitors who came to the university and the Monash Medical Centre on Sunday 7 August. Despite — or perhaps because of — the appalling weather, it was the biggest Open Day crowd anyone could remember, and those helping took things in their stride with remarkable spirit and efficiency. Open Day director, Professor Roy Jackson of Chemistry, said: "From talking to people at the various demonstrations, I got the impression that most wouldn't have wanted any more visitors. And there is no doubt that the counselling areas were overloaded." Photo — Tony Miller.

# MONASH REPORTER

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"Just as we have adapted the British system to Australian conditions, so we must adapt the present system to incorporate all groups in the community."

The book begins with a section on the first Australian legal system — Aboriginal customary law.

"When the Europeans arrived, they overlooked the existing system and took Aboriginal land, declaring it was legally uninhabited. This was not construed as theft under European law.

## Banned from oath

"Aborigines were denied civil rights because, although 'equal before the law', they were non-Christians and could not take the oath, so they had no rights in court."

However, Aborigines have already achieved justice in some areas, and Ms Bird says that throughout the book she has tried to focus on where they have been successful in using the courts and the legal system, "because there is too much emphasis on Aborigines as victims".

She examines the concept of cultural heritage and the law's contribution to the vexed question of 'Who owns the past?'

"Legislation passed in 1972 gave archaeologists control of Aboriginal artefacts, but the Victorian Government — with the assistance of the Common-

wealth — pushed through different legislation last year which gave control back to the Aborigines.

"This is an example of changing the law because something happens in the community; it shows that people can, without violence, achieve real change."

The book also looks at the treatment of migrant workers in legal actions for compensation for work injuries, and focuses on female outworkers in the clothing industry.

"Proportionately there are more migrants doing dirty heavy work, so there are more claims," says Ms Bird.

"But migrants and Aborigines get smaller pay-outs than Anglo-Celts for the same symptoms."

She believes that the influence of non-English-speaking migrants has brought a huge and welcome shift away from the adversary system of law.

"Under the old system we were primed like fighting cocks, but under the influence of Asian and Mediterranean cultures we are moving towards conciliation and mediation.

"Conciliation has been written into WorkCare, neighborhood mediation centres have been set up and there is a conciliation centre for marital problems.

"These things are a direct result of our multicultural society."

• Continued page 2

## Author to head centre

Greta Bird, Monash graduate and author of *The Process of Law in Australia: Intercultural Perspectives*, has been appointed director of the new National Centre for Cross-cultural Studies in Law.

The centre, to be based at Monash, is part of the Multicultural and Cross Cultural Supplementation Program initiated by the Office of Multicultural Affairs. It is being administered by the Department of Employment, Education and Training.

It will be run in co-operation with the University of Melbourne, which has a well-established Asian Law Centre.

The Federal Government recently announced that funding of \$253,000 over three years would be provided for the project.

Ms Bird was awarded an LL.B (Hons) in 1968 by Melbourne University, and received her LL.M from Monash in 1980. She gained an M.Phil at the University of Cambridge in 1984 and completed an Aboriginal Studies Unit at Monash in 1986.

She was recently commissioned to write a major policy paper for the Office of Multicultural Affairs, and she is the author of *The 'Civilising Mission': Race and the Construction of Crime* (No 4 in a series on Contemporary Legal Issues published by the Monash Faculty of Law).



• Greta Bird

# Candor surprises lunchtime crowd

The title of Senator John Button's speech may have sounded like the catchcry of an optimistic explorer, but his opening remarks suggested someone had lost the map and compass.

"Regarding the title of my talk, *Technology; Where we are, where we are going and how we are going to get there*, the short answer is, I don't know," confessed the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce.

His candor surprised the lunchtime

crowd of Faculty of Engineering staff and students jammed into the Alexander Theatre.

But admission gave way to explanation as the senator put the technology debate into an economic context.

"There was a time when manufac-

turers didn't have to worry about doing things well in this country," he said.

"They knew that if they ran into difficulties they could go to the government and get a tailor-made tariff that would prevent competition in the Australian market."

But high protection resulted in the absence of competitiveness in manufacturing and a lack of interest in good marketing, quality, design and innovation.

Technology also experienced similar problems, said Senator Button.

"We had bodies like the CSIRO which enjoyed international recognition, we had an excellent record of research publications and a world standing in a number of fields, such as radio astronomy, immunology and medical research.

"But all the research and development was concentrated in the government sector."

When Labor came to office in 1983, little interest was being shown in technological advancement and product development and the country was rife with 'museum piece' production facilities, Senator Button said.

Researchers worked in isolation, seemingly unaware of the activities of their counterparts in other laboratories.

While that may be changing, we have a long way to go before we can emulate the Swedish example of closely-linked universities and industries which give that country its competitive edge.

"Australia needs to implement the technologies that are likely to be important to our economy, not just the high-technology sunrise industries," said Senator Button.

He cited experiments in genetic engineering being carried out by the CSIRO on Flinders Island's blow-fly population. By changing the blow-flies'

sexual habits, scientists were confident that the pest would be wiped out in two years' time.

Such research would translate into millions of dollars worth of benefit for the Australian agricultural industry, Senator Button said.

"I think it's important that in trying to change this country, it's a good idea to have a point in the future to focus on.

"We have to look ahead to what we might be doing 10 years from now, what we might be doing best, and what we might be most competitive at in world terms."

— John Clark



• Senator Button . . . momentarily lost.

Photo — Richard Crompton.

## Spoletto visitor

The distinguished Irish novelist Jennifer Johnston, who has been invited to Melbourne for the Spoletto Festival, will visit Monash on Wednesday, September 14.

She will give a reading from her work at 1.10pm at a venue to be announced. Everyone is invited to attend.

Ms Johnston's novel *The Old Jest* won the Whitbread Prize for Fiction and *Shadows on Our Skin* was short-listed for the Booker Prize. Another novel, *The Railway Station Man*, is on the current curriculum list for VCE English.

Her visit to Monash has been arranged with the co-operation of the Literary Arts Board of the Australia Council and the Spoletto Festival organisers.

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Another section of the book deals with the role of the judge in developing common law doctrines, particularly in Aboriginal land rights and standing to sue.

There are case studies examining the difficulties experienced by non-English-speaking migrant communities in coping with Australian values as expressed in statute law.

The system does not allow for cultural differences, as these examples show:

• A 'fishing licence' is an alien concept in Vietnam, where fish is an essential part of the diet. Yet two Vietnamese men caught fishing in Victoria without a licence were charged and had their fish, tackle and basket confiscated. They were summonsed to appear in court but went into hiding because, in their experience, official summonses meant disaster and death. In their absence the court imposed fines which the men were unable to pay. Without legal representation the men would not have been able to obtain a rehearing of the charge and a lifting of the fines.

• A Turkish couple who spoke little English were worried that they could be charged under the truancy laws because their daughters, aged 13 and 14, had been missing school. The couple, newly-arrived in Melbourne, was completely baffled by a system which required compulsory schooling of teenage children. Schooling was not compulsory beyond primary level in Turkey.

★ ★ ★

The *Process of Law in Australia: Intercultural Perspectives*, is published by Butterworths (RRP \$39). It will be launched in Melbourne this week by Mr Justice Gobbo of the Supreme Court.

## Timely look at immigration

The Victorian Minister for the Arts, Mr Ian Cathie, recently opened an exhibition at Monash which traces the history of migration to Australia.

*Ships and Shoeboxes*, on view at the Main Library until 16 September, provides a timely look at the patterns of immigration which have helped create the Australian mosaic over the past 200 years.

Curated by Ms Srebrenka Kunek of the Centre for Migrant and Intercultural Studies, the exhibition comprises a selection of primary and secondary source research material from the university's Ethnic Collection.



• Ms Srebrenka Kunek, left, and Dr Eleni Stamiris, director of the Mediterranean Women's Studies Institute, Athens, who is visiting Melbourne for a series of Australian-Greek women's workshops. Photo — John Clark.

Its title refers to the means by which many migrant families and their possessions arrived on these shores — the family aboard a ship with their personal documents packed in shoeboxes.

According to Ms Kunek, who is conducting research for her Ph.D. thesis on *The image of the Greek female migrant in the visual and literary text of the post-World War II period in Australia*, we have yet to understand the meaning of the term "multiculturalism".

"We hear various attitudes being expressed — 'One Australia' and 'Australia as part of the world' are two current examples," said Ms Kunek.

"Given the various attitudes, one needs to understand the basic meaning of the term as a policy.

"As such it is a recognition of our ethnic diversity within the context of one nation, a diversity which is not about divisiveness but a recognition of our cultural and ethnic pluralism.

"It is only through such recognition that it is possible to speak about Australia as a nation. To do less is to encourage ethnic and racial division and the supremacy of one ethnic group over another."

Mr Cathie also launched a compilation of titles of research material available in the Main Library's Ethnic Collection.

"Guide to the Ethnic Collection", by Mrs Vivien Nash, is available from the Centre for Migrant and Intercultural Studies at \$10 a copy.

# Engineering praised for being on target

The Faculty of Engineering at Monash has been praised for its aims and objectives in the Williams Committee's *Review of the Discipline of Engineering*.

Under the chairmanship of the former Vice-Chancellor of Sydney University, Professor Sir Bruce Williams, the committee investigated all 25 schools of engineering in Australia, and its three-volume report was released in July.

In its review of Monash, the committee said the "faculty's aims and objectives are to some extent visionary, but their credibility is supported by achievements to date".

The committee attributed the faculty's success to a strong industrial support for research, which was reflected in an international level of teaching.

However, the review contained a note of caution. It said that "further developments may impose additional constraints on resource allocation, (requiring the) need for more effective measures of performance to assist in assessment and decision-making at both the faculty and departmental level".

On the positive side, the review noted that:

- The Mechanical Engineering department probably had the clearest statement and understanding of aims and objectives for mechanical engineering in any Australian engineering school, and "strives conscientiously toward these aims with commendable success".

- All departments placed a high importance on academic ability and achievement of students.

- The departments of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Engineering maintained very strong and productive external relations with other departments, industries and professions.

## Double degree

- The contribution of external resources to facilities, equipment and staff of the faculty has had a significant influence on the achievement of academic standards in graduates and postgraduates.

- The double degree is an attractive option, particularly the BE/BEc program, which is a welcome initiative for the development of engineers in management roles.

- The overall performance of academic staff is relatively high and staff publication rates in most fields and consultancy rates in mechanical and materials engineering are well above the national university average. (Publication rates of books, monographs, refereed journals and conference papers by academic staff in the faculty are among the highest of all Australian engineering schools. In fact, the faculty produces almost twice the national average in each category. Consultancy rates are similarly impressive: the Monash faculty has the highest consultancy rate of all the engineering schools surveyed.)

The review also pointed to some deficiencies within the faculty. It found that:

- Considerable efforts have been made to attract female students to engineering, but while the proportion in Chemical Engineering is relatively high (greater than 30 per cent), the overall proportion of female students in the faculty is only about 8 per cent.

- Chemical engineering requires computer equipment in areas of process control and research.

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- Library resource materials are barely adequate for mechanical engineering.

The Dean of Engineering, Professor Peter Darvall, said the review provided an objective tribute to the magnificent efforts of the entire faculty staff at Monash.

"On performance indicators for publicity, research, consulting and continuing education, Monash departments regularly appear in the top five of the 80 or so engineering departments in the country, and often are in the top one or two," Professor Darvall said.

"But we can still do a lot more to make our courses more interesting and less oppressive, and to obtain student assessment of courses.

"Students are our prime customers and we'll make efforts to treat them as such," he said.

"We have 'semesterised' all our courses from next year. This will allow greater flexibility, and give students the opportunity to remember that engineering is an exciting career, even though the course is a heavy one.

"The habit of strategic planning on a long-range basis is spreading through the departments in the faculty, so we expect to do even better than before."

Performance at this level was not without strain, Professor Darvall said.

"The academic and technical staff have excelled in all areas of teaching, research, consulting and continuing education, and there should be mechanisms for rewarding them for performance beyond reasonable expectations.

"Promotional prospects are not great compared to what is available outside the university."

Professor Darvall said that criticisms contained in the review would provide useful information for the improvement of all the faculty's activities.

He said the review had made him even more aware of the extent of his colleagues' achievements.

—John Clark

## Nuclear arms research 'a crime'

Professor Christie Weeramantry has taken on some extra responsibilities this year.

He spent 12 months leave of absence from the Monash Faculty of Law examining the responsibilities of scientists who produce nuclear weapons. In addition, he deliberated over a country's obligations to a former trust territory.

His work on nuclear weapons received critical acclaim in November 1987 when his book, *Nuclear Weapons and Scientific Responsibility*, was launched at the United Nations building in New York.

Instead of basing the case against the manufacture of nuclear weapons on moral considerations, Professor Weeramantry's pioneering treatise introduces the possibility of international law in relation to the obligations of scientists.

His book argues that the deliberate participation by scientists in the nuclear weapons enterprise constitutes, under international law, a crime against humanity.

"My basic theme is that the Nuremberg principles are binding," Professor Weeramantry said.

"They state very simply that if there is the possibility of a crime against humanity involved in your work, your first loyalty is to humanity.

"And that overrides your responsibility to the state and state law."

Although these matters have already been argued in the general context of international law, they have not been dealt with in relation to the responsibilities of the scientists who make nuclear arms, he said.

"I expect that my book will trigger off a lot of discussion, mainly because the scientific establishment is so sharply divided.

"There are those who say: 'Don't interfere with what scientists are doing, they know what they're about'.

"The other point of view is that making nuclear weapons is an activity which has a tremendous social impact, and consequently the law and society should have a lot to say about it."

At a conference in Stockholm in April, Professor Weeramantry was elected co-vice-president of a new group called the International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms.

One of the association's most important tasks will be to seek an advisory opinion on the legality of nuclear weapons from the International Court of Justice.

"If this object is accomplished, then we will have gone very far in throwing the burden on states that want to make nuclear weapons.

"But the difficulty is that the International Court must be approached by a state before a vote can be taken in the General Assembly of the UN.

"Although we believe a majority of states will vote for an advisory opinion, it will be hard finding a state that's prepared to stick its neck out.

"No matter how much a country might be committed ideologically against nuclear arms, it will always feel

that there might be repercussions from the 'nuclear club'."

However, Professor Weeramantry believes that within two years the gauntlet will be taken up by an African or Pacific nation.

"We've got to start somewhere, especially because nuclear weapons beyond all doubt have the capacity to destroy all life."

## Nauru report

From the spectre of nuclear war to phosphate in the Pacific . . . the Nauru Commission led by Professor Weeramantry will submit its report to the Nauruan Government later this year.

Established in January 1987, the commission has investigated the feasibility of rehabilitating extensive areas of Nauru devastated by phosphate mining during the island's colonial period as well as the later period of trusteeship.

The inquiry also considered the question of responsibility for the massive task of greening the small coral island of 5000 people.

The report will extend to more than 1500 pages and involves the disciplines of international law, economics and a number of sciences, including geophysics, hydrology and engineering.

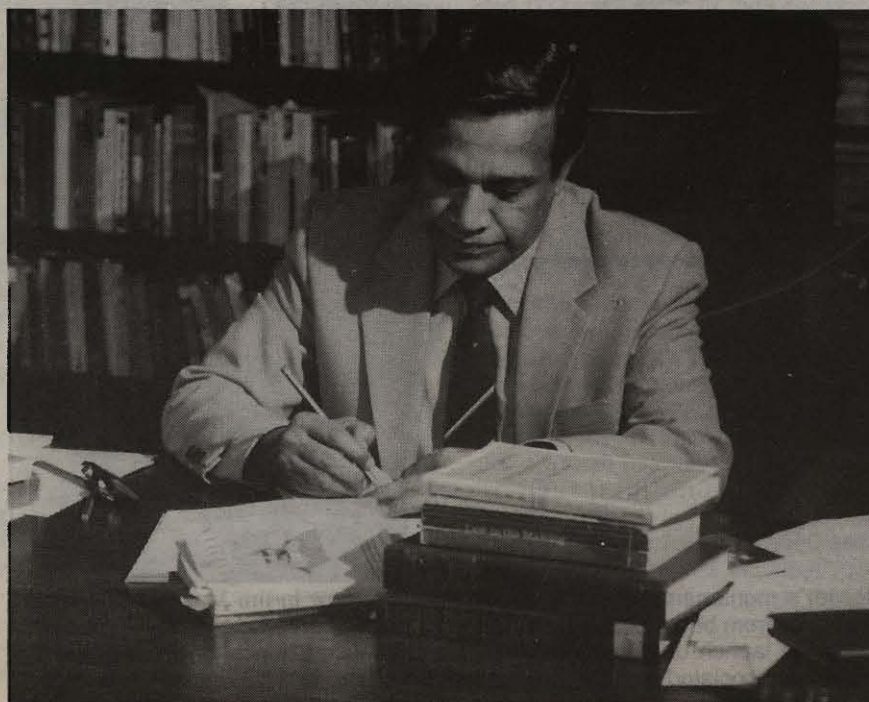
Professor Weeramantry said: "What we have put together is a very full history of Nauru, from the time it made its first contact with the west."

## Wall Street visitor

Richard McDermott, Adjunct Professor of Corporate Finance Law at New York University Law School and partner in the New York legal firm of Walter, Conston, Alexander and Green, is visiting the Department of Accounting and Finance at Monash this week.

He is taking part in graduate and undergraduate Law Faculty classes, downtown seminars (including one sponsored by the Centre for Research in Accounting and Finance, titled *Update on Securities Industry Law*), and in the annual Companies and Securities workshop, organised by the Centre for Commercial Law and Applied Legal Research, in which he will be a main speaker.

Further information can be obtained from Mr Paul Latimer, senior lecturer in law, department of Accounting and Finance, ext. 2379.



# Lone voice pierces a deafening silence

If Australian universities have a poor public image, there is no one to blame but ourselves.

Given the almost deafening silence from within the university on the White Paper, it is worth asking why this is the case.

In the academy, the training of a critical intelligence is fundamental to each and every discipline. This is our 'product'.

It is reasonable to expect that the White Paper's complex, far-reaching, and structural proposals for changes to the tertiary system also should be based on evidence that presently things are going in the wrong direction. This is not the case.

Changes have been determined from the political centre for vaguely utilitarian motives. These will effect radical changes in the direction, quantity, and viability of university research.

The relationship between the academy and the society it serves is an unequal one: we do not control the latter, but we are supposed to be its central critical resource.

The horizons of the university are neither national nor international: they are both.

In spite of its repeated motherhood clauses about the central importance of the Humanities, the White Paper proposes a scientific model both for future research and for future funding.

I can only assume that half of the university is happy with that. The other half, by nature quicker to suspect the motives of political arithmeticians, is still trying to find out where we have allegedly gone wrong.

But certain implications are all too clear.

Research funds will be redistributed. But where will funds for some sectors currently funded come from if the ARC starves these by funding others at an enhanced level? With a scientific model,

more funding will flow to those areas already capable of generating non-governmental monies.

Worse than this, the chairman of the Humanities and Social Science committee of the ARC remarked recently at Monash that it is already pointless to submit applications for research grants for less than \$5000, since it costs more than \$1000 just to handle the paperwork. No wonder that there is not a single representative of the humanities on the ARC committee.

Research in the humanities is relatively cheap and a highly individualised activity: the proposed system discounts it almost completely.

The new razor gang proposes major surgery not only on the humanities, but on all those research activities which fall below a certain cost and outside certain centrally-determined (and as yet astonishingly vague and unco-ordinated) areas of 'national priority'. Where is the argument of quality to be made in this context?

A policy for reform usually stands on a demonstrable case of inefficiency or error: we have seen the first, but we have never seen the latter simply because it has not been attempted.

The Green Paper became a White Paper by the simple use of a photocopier. Although its proposals on articulation, amalgamation, and on enhancing the quality of teaching may be broadly welcomed for future scrutiny, it does not address the question of whether our society currently utilises Australian graduates in the most efficient way.

There is evidence that it does not, but in any case the ARC's proposals suggest that such a question was never considered in the first place.

The quality of their social policy is to

be judged by their monetarist proposals: fund the universities at a lower rate; increase participation; make the tertiary sector squabble internally for 10 per cent off the top, and hey presto, we have a leaner and more competitive system.

But competitive for what socially useful purpose? Has it ever been the case that important research is undertaken simply and only because funds for doing it are available?



● Professor Probyn returned to Australia recently after a term as Visiting Professor of English at the University of Virginia, USA.

The Canberra bureaucracy may not have intended to divide and rule the tertiary sector from the outset, but such undoubtedly has been the White Paper's first consequence. We are now hearing the indignant squeals from some quarters that the universities' research activity has been featherbedded for too long, and that much 'relevant' work has been done in the colleges without benefit of Government funds.

The latter point is even more true of the universities, and yet we have more in common with the colleges than an inequality of funding would suggest.

Others have pointed out that the ARC's models for structural changes in the Australian context are either

inappropriate (USA) or discredited (UK). And yet the lesson from overseas has not been learnt.

An American public university comparable with Monash would have access to funds we can only dream about (graduate fees, state funding, endowed chairs, alumni funds, investment officers, government contracts, access to princely research foundations).

Some devote a whole department to raising external funds and to the maintenance of a sophisticated federal lobby. We have hardly begun this process, and Monash must pursue some of these with the utmost vigor in order to sustain and to gain a measure of autonomous control over its broad range of intellectual activities.

The history of the British University Grants Committee is a clear warning against narrow dependency on government.

Originally established as a buffer between centralised political and economic control on the one hand and university autonomy on the other, it degenerated, as we all know, to become the willing tool of a destabilising, divisive, and ideological arm of central government patronage. The consequences are well known. Must we always repeat history, having failed to learn from it?

In the end, the White Paper exhibits a fundamental misunderstanding of the very nature of research. The individual is the primary resource in each and every discipline.

The worst thing about the White Paper is that the individual who foolishly works cheaply and whose inquisitiveness drives him or her into basic research is now knocked down and discounted.

No scientist, and least of all a researcher in the Humanities, can be happy with that. Which team are you going to join?

— Clive Probyn  
English Department

## Dale Spender at Deakin

Australia's first feminist-in-residence will be hosted by Deakin University during 1989.

Internationally acclaimed academic and author, Dr Dale Spender, will be feminist-in-residence during the inaugural Deakin Women's Studies Summer Institute program, to be held from 15 to 28 January.

The program is the first of its kind to be launched in Australia and will run every year.

It will consist of six two-week fee-paying short courses involving intensive contact and discussion with leading scholars, writers, performers and activists.

Guest lecturers for the courses include Royal Australian Nursing Federation Victorian branch secretary, Ms Irene Bolger, and Commissioner for Equal Opportunity in Victoria, Ms Fay Marles.

Enrolments for the first program close at the end of September, and student numbers are limited to 20 per course. Registration fee is approximately \$266, with a \$66 accommodation fee.

For further information, contact Dr Robyn Rowland, Director, Deakin Women's Studies Institute, on (052) 47 1334 (BH), or (03) 497 3869 (AH).



● Paintings from Monash artist Celia Rosser's monumental *Banksia* series were on show in the Monash University Gallery last month. The works included examples from both Volume I, published in 1981, and Volume II, due to make its appearance soon. Here the artist is seen at the launch of the exhibition with former Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ray Martin, who played a major role in negotiations associated with the production of Volume I.

# University principles are under 'grave threat'

Excerpts from the following statement, prepared by 23 senior academics, appeared in some metropolitan newspapers. Here, by request, *Monash Reporter* reproduces the document in full, together with the names of all signatories . . .

## In Defence of the University:

As senior university academics we wish to protest against the Commonwealth Government's present policy on higher education.

In our view it represents a grave threat to the fundamental principles of university education which have been recognised since universities began.

So far the public debate over Mr Dawkins' higher education policy has been mainly concerned with the proposed tuition tax and with the need for increased access to higher education.

Relatively little attention has been paid to the philistine view of education implicit in the Dawkins policy, or to the danger to the independence of our universities posed by increasing government control.

The view of university education that emerges from the Green paper is a crassly utilitarian and commercial one in which higher education is seen as mainly serving 'national interests' (to be determined by the government), contributing directly to economic goals and being responsive to the market place.

In this view higher education is regarded as a commodity that can be produced and made to order and sold.

Almost nothing has been said in Mr Dawkins' Green Paper, or in his other

statements, about the essential values of university education, about the fundamental need for universities to engage in pure or basic research, about the need for university scholarship to focus on long-term teaching and research goals (and not just on the short-term interests of government and industry), nor about the socially critical attitudes that true university education should foster.

The intention to enlarge access to higher education is a laudable one (even though the government does not itself propose to fund this increase).

However, it is of little educational value to enable more students to go to our universities if they are to receive a narrow and impoverished education largely governed by commercial cost-benefit criteria.

We believe also that the independence of Australian universities is seriously jeopardised by current government policy which gives the minister a great degree of control over higher education.

Government representatives often invoke the principle that the one who pays the piper has the right to call the tune.

However, while it is true that the government has the right to set a general framework within which universities operate, it is contrary to the principles

underlying our university system for the government to dictate (either directly, or indirectly through funding pressures), what universities teach and how they teach.

Even if the independence or autonomy of our universities is conditioned and circumscribed — and in practice considerably eroded by both commonwealth and state bureaucracies — the residue of independence that remains is still precious and it is necessary to maintain it.

One of the essential differences between democratic and totalitarian societies is the existence of independent

institutions such as universities which are not subservient to the government.

It has taken much painful effort over many hundreds of years to create the international university system, but it is all too easy to undo that work and to make our universities into degree shops selling and marketing knowledge, subject to the short-term interests of the government and industry, and without any effective independence of their own.

This has already happened in some overseas universities and it is because we consider this to be a real possibility in Australian universities that we make this protest.

## SIGNATORIES:

Diane Bell, Professor of Australian Studies, Deakin University.

Henry Burger, Professor of Medicine, Monash University.

G. Carsaniga, Professor of Italian, La Trobe University.

Max Charlesworth, Professor of Philosophy, Deakin University.

Alfred Clark, Professor of Sociology, La Trobe University.

G.W. Clarke, Professor and Deputy Director, Humanities Research Centre, A.N.U.

Tony Condy, Reader in Philosophy, University of Melbourne.

Brian Crittenden, Professor of Education, La Trobe University.

Brian Ellis, Professor of Philosophy, La Trobe University.

Leonard Goddard, Professor of Philosophy, University of Melbourne.

Eugene Kamenka, Professor of History of Ideas, A.N.U.

S.T. Knight, Professor of English, University of Melbourne.

Colin MacKerras, Professor of Chinese Studies, Griffith University.

Derick R.C. Marsh, Professor of English, La Trobe University.

John Mulvaney, Emeritus Professor of Prehistory, A.N.U.

G. Nerlich, Professor of Philosophy, University of Adelaide.

Michael Roe, Professor of History, University of Tasmania.

K.K. Ruthven, Professor of English, University of Melbourne.

John Salmond, Professor of History, La Trobe University.

Peter Singer, Professor and Director Centre for Human Bioethics, Monash University.

Hugh Stretton, Reader in History, University of Adelaide.

I.W.B. Thornton, Professor of Zoology, La Trobe University.

Chris Wallace-Crabbe, Professor of English, University of Melbourne.

## Cyclists demand more say

A submission is being prepared, calling on University Council to extend the Parking Committee's Terms of Reference to expressly include the needs of people parking bicycles on campus.

As with motor vehicle users, cyclists have opinions, suggestions and complaints to express about their parking requirements. However, unlike motor vehicle users, cyclists cannot have their parking concerns considered by the Parking Committee.

Since the Parking Committee Terms of Reference were formed in 1978, bicycle commuting in Victoria has more than doubled, and through organisations such as the Bicycle Institute of Victoria, the needs of cyclists are now far more recognised at most levels of government.

*Bicycle Parking*, a document published by the State Bicycle Committee, makes it clear that the provision of appropriate infrastructure for bicycle parking is an essential part of any attempt to encourage cycling.

Some sympathetic administrators are tackling this matter through the Buildings Department, but without recognition of bicycle parking concerns by the Parking Committee, the legitimacy of cycling as a form of transport to Monash is, in effect, denied.

At a time when the *Parking Master Plan* (Draft), now available for comment,\* describes the motor vehicle parking situation on campus as 'approaching crisis point', and with one-third of Monash commuters coming from only 5km away or less, the Parking Committee, with its responsibility for parking/transport planning, must have bicycle parking matters included within its Terms of Reference.

Monash students and staff can show support for this recommendation by signing a petition at the M.A.S. office.

Andrew Black  
Arts III

\*Copies of the *Parking Master Plan* (Draft) are available at M.A.S.

## Crossed wires

An unfortunate crossing of wires at the presentation ceremony for Brian Southwell's retirement led me to refer to the 'Lindsay Clark' collection of children's literature.

No one at the time seems to have noticed, but I have since realised my error: I was referring to what I should have called the very generous donations over a number of years by Mr Lindsay Shaw. (See the most recent Annual Report.)

(Arthur) Lindesay Clark has, of course, been Professor of Paediatrics since 1965. I offer my profuse apologies to both gentlemen.

Ron Keightley  
Spanish

## Friendly chat

Greetings to all postgraduates. Would you like to meet other postgraduates for a drink and a friendly chat on a regular basis and meet people from outside your own area of study?

By its very nature postgraduate study is an individual process which can lead to solitary habits in those who are undertaking it. Getting together with other postgraduates whom you would probably not meet in the normal course



of your research is a great way to overcome this isolating tendency.

MAGS is therefore reinstating its Friday afternoon Postgraduate Get-together at the University Staff Club.

You are invited to join the MAGS staff and committee for a drink and a chat any time between 4.30pm and 6pm on Friday afternoons. (Non-members can be signed in.) We look forward to seeing you there sometime soon.

Telephone the MAGS Office, extensions 3196 or 3198 if you require further information.

Patra Antonis  
Executive Officer

## Medici motto

While I like Harry Stainsby's idea of the new motto 'Expertus sum', (*Monash Reporter*, August), I am afraid it would be excluded by our 'New Corporate Image'.

The motto in English would clearly be 'I am still earning', of which the Italian translation is 'Ancora guadagno'.

This can doubtless be attributed to the Medici, who invented banking, so this motto has the virtue of preserving Corporate Image, original motto language, and Florentine source.

Gordon Troup  
Physics

## Strange twist

I wonder how many members of staff are aware of the real name of the "Artful Dodger" in *Oliver Twist*?

The answer will certainly provide much mirth!

Neville Turner  
Law

## Medical graduates given a brush-up

Queensland's Port Douglas provided the setting for the Faculty of Medicine's first refresher course for members of the medical profession.

The purpose of the July meeting was twofold: to offer an opportunity for the review of a range of medical topics of contemporary significance; and to enable particular themes to be developed in an informal setting.

In addition to a clinical program of general interest, there were alternative courses which included bioethics, computers in medicine, back pain and spinal manipulation, and practice management.

All sessions were very well-attended and from all accounts the course was a resounding success. Forty advance bookings have already been received for next year's course.



## When you need somebody to talk to

Teaching staff in the departments of Japanese and German at Monash have confronted one of the many problems that continue to frustrate language students: the need for a regular conversation partner.

As many students have discovered, finding a suitable partner for conversation and comprehension practice can prove a difficult task.

But both departments have devised a series of innovative teaching programs that help to bring students and native-born speakers together.

At an Information Exchange Forum last month, department representatives compared notes on their use of community resources in language teaching.

One such program is "conversation partners", an immersion course in German run by sessional tutor, Ms Jane Bennett.

During the course, a student meets with a member of the German community every three weeks and converses on a range of topics specific to German life and culture.

To help locate partners, the department provides students with a comprehensive guide to places where German may be heard in Melbourne, such as churches, social clubs and homes for the aged.

"It is the students' first opportunity to use German outside the contrived classroom situation," said Ms Bennett.

"We find that conversation practice with partners gives them the chance to

think of how things can be discussed and what sort of questions might be asked."

The German Department's annual German Week provides another unique opportunity for students to develop their proficiency in the language.

Since 1981, one week of lectures and tutorials in first-year German has been replaced with talks on German, Swiss and Austrian issues by representatives of the German media, German clubs, churches and companies.

Dr Akito Ozaki of the Japanese Department agreed that frequent conversation practice was the only way to learn a language.

Like the German Department's "conversation partners", students in Japanese are encouraged to meet regularly with members of Melbourne's

● Professor Jiri Neustupny, chairman of the department of Japanese, opening the forum. The other speakers are pictured at left.

2000-strong Japanese community and talk for half an hour on a range of issues.

Dr Ozaki said that such immersion programs shift the emphasis from teaching to learning, and from language form to communication.

Senior lecturer in Japanese, Ms Helen Marriott, told the forum that the introduction of native Japanese speakers to her Japanese business practices classes had made students more aware of the rules of language and etiquette.

No longer was she the teacher — she felt that now she was more a facilitator of communication between students and the visiting speakers.

## Private funding is having positive results

In the latest issue of *Univation*, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Logan, argued that corporate funding of university research was having a positive effect on the system, despite the pessimists. But he also warned that routine, contract research should never become the *raison d'être* of the university.

A decade or so ago some Australian academics began warning of the danger which private funding of research posed to academic freedom and the open communication of results.

Industry and commerce might be prepared to put up the cash, they argued, but would scarcely tolerate "their" breakthroughs being announced airily at conferences or published in scientific journals before the licensing deals were tied up.

What in fact has happened? Certainly, much more private money has come into the universities. There are two reasons for this. Many of the better researchers who require large grants have developed innovative ways of interacting with business and industry, somewhat along the lines of their American counterparts. Further, there is a growing commitment by business and industry to foster and support university research, especially research of an applied nature.

Of necessity in some cases there are certain restrictions on rights to publish when the research is closely oriented to company needs. But in my experience

such restrictions are relatively rare, and even where they do apply researchers find ways of coming to terms with them.

It is true that some academics, while recognising that external corporate funding is essential for the survival and growth of Australian research, lament the passing of a purer age. Then there are others who relish the new opportunities. Many academics are in fact very entrepreneurial people who are as stimulated by dialogue with business leaders as by discussions with their peers.

### Tradition

In universities with large professional schools — law, medicine, engineering for example — there is a long tradition of applied research, and the boundary between pure and applied research cannot always be easily drawn.

Far from being a negative factor the commercial imperative is encouraging universities to do what they have often failed to do in the past — to transfer their discoveries from the conference hall to the market-place.

Put simply, the traditional approach

to research, untainted by any commercial links, is no longer valid as the sole guide to university inquiry. That is not to say that the injection of private research funds into universities is problem-free, nor to suggest that there is no need for open-ended funding of projects without the pressure to come up with a marketable product. Fundamental research is essential for the nation's future.

One of the problems, and one which can only be handled at the institutional level, is the danger that universities will become caught up in routine research simply because there is money in it. That is to say, the research agenda will be determined by the availability of money in certain fields.

The temptation to sign a lucrative contract for work which is more suited to a commercial testing unit than an experimental laboratory is a real one. But once again, universities need to exploit the possibilities rather than reject them on the grounds that they do not match their traditional values.

Routine research must never become the *raison d'être* of the university. But there is nothing to lose and plenty to gain in its becoming a profitable adjunct to activities, one which can actually generate funding for more basic

research. Here it is the responsibility of the institution to monitor the direction of privately sponsored research.

Rather more difficult is how to ensure that the increase in private funding, and the consequent reduction in peer review, does not result in a lowering of standards of academic integrity and quality. At the ANZAAS Congress this year, speakers on the topic of scientists' fraud warned that the demands to produce quick, marketable results carried a danger of academics fudging the figures.

But then industry must recognise that in the long term its credibility can only suffer if the research which it sponsors is seen in any way to be second rate.

## Oxford exchange

A house and car exchange is sought by a couple from Oxford who will be visiting their daughter in Melbourne for four to eight weeks early in 1989.

No 11 Tackley Place, Oxford, is situated in a quiet residential street, close to shops and buses, less than two kilometres north of the city centre and near to all university departments.

Further information can be obtained from the owners' daughter, Mrs Heather Payne, on 529 2159, or from Alan Sharp Paul on 25 3258.

# PEOPLE PEOPLE PEOPLE

## Archbishop's warning

Archbishop Stylianos, Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church in Australia, will give the eighth John Henry Newman Lecture on 30 September at Mannix College.

He will speak on *The Dangers of Idealism in Theology and Spirituality*.

The lecture will begin at 8.15pm in the Main Hall, first floor, Administrative Building, Wellington Road. It is free and visitors are welcome. Supper will be served afterwards in the Senior Common Room.

Archbishop Stylianos was born on the Greek island of Crete.

He has been serving the Greek Orthodox community in Australia and Papua New Guinea from his cathedral in Sydney since mid-1975.

*The John Henry Newman Lecture was inaugurated at Mannix in 1981 as a contribution to the intellectual and cultural life of the university and the community.*

## Theatre expert

Patrice Pavis, professor of drama at the Université de Paris VIII and a world expert on theatre, will visit Monash this month under the sponsorship of the Vera Moore Fund, the Centre for General and Comparative Literature, the Department of Romance Languages and the Department of English.

He will give two seminars with the Centre for General and Comparative Literature: *Towards a Theory of Intercultural Translation* (7 September, 3.15-5.15, Room 310) and *Dancing with Faust: The Work of Eugenio Barba* (21 September, 3.15-5.15, Room 310) and a public lecture, *Interculturalism in Contemporary mise en scene: Peter Brooks' and Ariane Mnouchkine's Images of India* (13 September, 1pm, Rotunda 3).

## Linnane post

The director of the Centre for Molecular Biology and Medicine, Professor Anthony Linnane, has been appointed treasurer of the world's largest organisation of biochemists, the International Union of Biochemists.

Professor Linnane was elected to the position at the union's recent triennial congress in Prague, and he will serve as treasurer for the next six years.

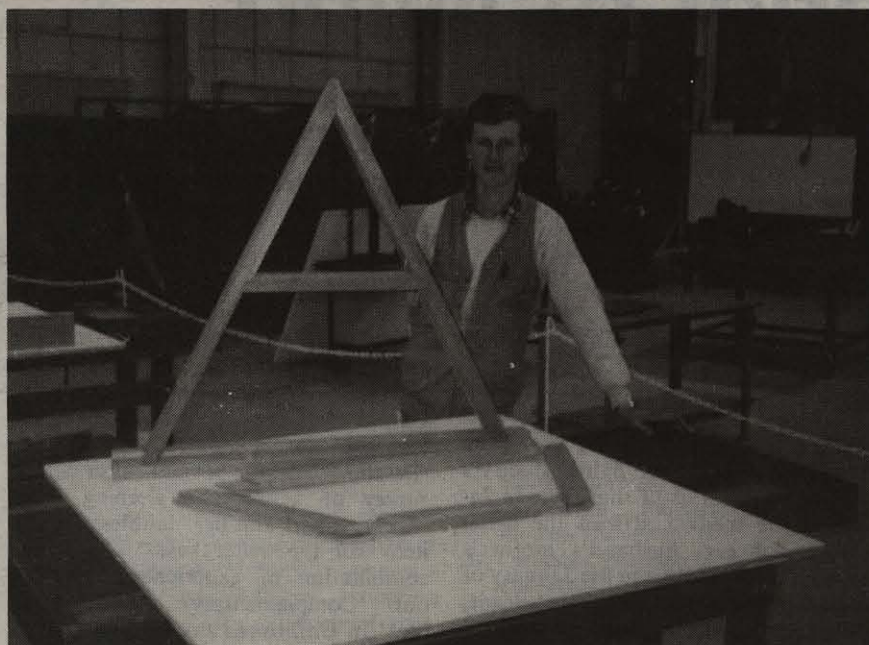
Founded in 1949, the IUB sponsors a triennial congress and a series of annual symposia on biochemistry, as well as conducting education programs in a number of Third World countries.

The union's membership consists of representatives of the scientific academies of some 55 countries.

## Sports win

Valerie Styles, a former member of the administrative staff in Science at Monash, has won the Eunice Gill Sports Administrator Award for her role in women's cricket.

Ms Styles, who now works at Swinburne, was the Victorian nomination for the national award.



## Glen takes out gold

Glen Craig, second year carpentry apprentice in Maintenance, has won the Gold Medal in the Melbourne Regional section of the 1988 Work Skill Australia Competition. He is pictured above with his winning entry — a window frame.

Glen will go on to compete in the Victorian State section of the competition

and, if successful, in the National and International sections.

He was named Best First Year Apprentice 1987 in carpentry at the Holmesglen TAFE College, following the footsteps of another Monash carpentry apprentice, Brad Simcoe, who won the title the previous year.



● Former Prime Minister, Gough Whitlam, speaking to a new generation of fans at the university during a nationwide tour in which he pushed the government's 'Yes' case for last Saturday's referendums. Photo — Richard Crompton.

## Biochemistry scholarship

A biochemistry research scholarship funded by the Federated Clerks Union of Australia has been awarded to Ms Julie Kerry, a Ph.D candidate in the Centre for Molecular Biology and Medicine.

The centre's Scientific Administrator, Dr Alex Buchanan, said that Ms Kerry's study of the action of interferon in mice will provide insights into the mode of action of interferon in the treatment of viral diseases and cancers in humans.



● Julie Kerry

## Italian sojourn

Associate Professor Elaine Barry from the English Department has been selected as a Residential Scholar at the Bellagio Study and Conference Centre, Italy, during the latter part of her Outside Studies Program next year.

Scholars are selected by international competition which includes all disciplines.

The Bellagio Centre, owned and operated by the Rockefeller Foundation, is an old Italian villa, the Villa Serbelloni, on the shores of Lake Como.

It provides a unique environment in which to write up research while participating in the intellectual life of the residential program.

Professor Barry will spend five weeks at Bellagio, during May and June of 1989. While there she will be working on a book on nineteenth-century American Literature.

## Middle East study tour

Australian Academics for Peace in the Middle East is inviting inquiries about its ninth annual study tour to Egypt and Israel in January 1989.

The tour is being organised in co-operation with the Foreign Ministry of each country, and costs include return air travel, accommodation and most meals.

Participants will be given high-level briefings on the political, military and social aspects of the Middle East situation.

Inquiries should be directed to Dr Colin Rubenstein, Department of Politics, on ext. 2413 or 2402. Applications close on October 21, 1988.

# Laboring at joy amidst 'the grief of living'

## IN REVIEW

### LABOUR WARD

by Jennifer Strauss  
Pariah Press, Melbourne RRP \$10

In *Labour Ward* the themes of love, death, continuity, resistance to repressive structures are subtly intertwined.

Joy, the title poem tells us, is present, but must be labored at amidst the grief of living: 'It's there, but you need a visa./ No-one will issue it;/ You must bear it yourself.

Living in the midst of death is a current that runs throughout the volume. Visiting her dying mother in *A Weekend in the Country* the speaker notes that 'Twenty years/ Festivals and Funerals' have drawn her down this road. However, 'The balance is tipping' and this time she notices the omnipresence of death:

The green and gentle hills  
Of the western district  
Where larger blotches of white  
Are lambs. Not my affair  
To count how many will never get up.

Instead of the transcendent consolation of the Biblical shepherd, there is only 'a farmer in streaming waterproof':

The huddling cows  
Turn their backs on the wind  
And on the one that's down.

★ ★ ★

Wind-lashed, my car  
Is bucking and shuddering more  
Than the shetland who tucks in his nose  
And doesn't bother  
To shake the drops from his winter shag,  
Knowing there's more to come.

At the end of the journey, 'My mother lies/ As flat as last year's leaf' and 'Nothing can shield me/ From the wind of her dying' which 'whistles down my veins.' However, even in the midst of the bleak scene there is life and a sense of continuity; the next day dawns calmer; the lambs who have survived are 'Flirting their splintlike legs' and the 'gravid' belly of 'a doe-eyed jersey' is 'Gross with life . . .' The speaker heads back for 'the hyped-up city — craving/ The patience of animals.'

In *The Pain of Others* the speaker registers shock that the living go on living while others are dying:

Last night I could not,  
Could barely sleep  
For thinking of that girl's pain.

But now for a little  
Winter sun, and because  
My love's my lover still,

I'd be content, but she  
Casts shadows, nags  
Like an unanswered phone.

How long will it be  
Till I've quite adjusted  
Or taken her name from the teledex?

The speaker in *Report from the Mid-Century Mark* hurries from the hospital and from 'The friend of twenty years/ Whose staring bones appal my solid flesh' to 'This new, this unexpected lover'. However, thoughts of death linger:

When my lover says 'Do you  
Think of me? Do you think of me?'  
My fingers smell of sweet flesh  
But my tongue's ash dry.

However, the poems affirm the continuity of life, that the dying live in the blood and veins of the living. Poetry's task is to remind us of that fact. In *Inheritors* the speaker affirms the living presence of her 'husband's mother's mother', who 'At Riga in the January of nineteen-forty-two . . . Fell, fled, leapt, flew to death from an upstairs window.'

. . . across pacific seas  
And down the bland forgetful years,  
Some stubborn signal of her self-dispersed self  
Quickens their restless cells  
Or shapes the solid structures of their bones  
Growing towards manhood and a heritage  
. . .

Similarly in *Pine-cones and my Grandmother*, the speaker recalls her own 'sharp-tongued grandmother' who 'Taught to a timid child/ Something of fortitude', 'Not to flinch/ At barbs on the wire fence' and that pine-cones are best for the fire: 'Because they burn at the heart/ And burn long,/ Even smothered with ash.' Years later 'In a house whose familiar patterns/ Resemble hers', the speaker wonders 'What fuel she burned/ To warm her years of widowhood/ In that vast, crumbling house.'

Grandmother, grandmother,  
It's true I bear forever  
Your sloping Victorian shoulders,  
But the heart in the ribcage  
Under the shoulders  
Is a different model.  
It cannot burn under ash.  
It has made up its mind  
To get through the fence.

Cages of other kinds permeate the poems, symbols of entrapment which suggest the way that power structures infiltrate our lives. As Horatio's wife says: ' . . . when the great have problems, we all know,/ It is the ordinary lives that pay.' 'Abused children repeat the behaviour;' is a recurring motif in *'Collage: The Personal is Political'*: ' . . . your expert/ torturer leaves no marks/ only an image burnt deep/ in the mind of the tortured.'

*The Anabaptist Cages, Munster* — where the bodies of the executed anabaptists were hung in iron cages from the steeple of St. Lambert's — is a grim reminder of the violence done in the name of religion. A girl recalls her lover's gentle hands and her anger:

They crunched his bones in the teeth of their traps,  
They flayed him living with red-hot tongs.  
I vowed the day they set his corpse  
To dangle on their 'House of Love'  
I'd never think of God again.

Four centuries later the tourist looking at the cages on the steeple, 'Quiet as a birdcage after the bird has flown', notes: 'Terrible things are done, now as yesterday . . . Leaving Europe, I pack away a Manichean postcard:/ The world as God's cage for heretics.

*The Snapshot Album of the Innocent Tourist* is a testament to those who have suffered:

This is a space for all the disappeared  
Who fade in other people's albums:  
This is a space for courage  
And for love,  
For things that don't show up  
In negatives.

And there are poems of love, from the ambivalence of *Search and Destroy* — 'Bodily contact/ eyeball to eyeball/ frontal assault:/ was it the language of love or of war?' — to the gentle irony of *Aubade* where the woman after a wry survey of her lover's sleeping body 'Plays truant' and her 'faithless fingers itch/ for typewriter keys/ To try the combination of experience, sounding out/ 'Complementary? — incompatible?' In *Unfinished Business* two lovers who once 'yearned for each other' now meet by chance and 'cannot quite recall/ just what it was —/ youth's timid ignorance,/ its lack of time or place —/ thwarted their passion.'

In *Love Notes* the bruise on a finger is the history of a love:

Blind with love's beginnings  
I slammed a fingertip  
in your car door;  
months later I trim away  
the last of the vivid bruise;  
my nail looks very pure,  
blank as a sheet of paper  
on which I see you write  
'You know that all things pass . . .'

And yet 'I think of you riding/ passion's waves/ with your cool fingers and eloquent skin'/ Thinking of you/ the light of your name/ dazzles thought . . . In *What Women Want*, the speaker longs for a time of closeness that is beyond words and wanting:

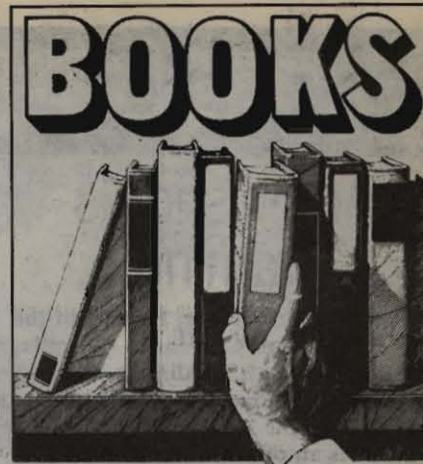
Here is something  
that women want  
specifically, truly:  
to lie with a lover  
a whole afternoon  
so close that the skin  
knows boundaries only  
by knowing contact  
and the mind surrenders  
managerial fuss,  
until to murmur  
'what are you thinking?'  
breaking light  
is only a game, words  
and unimpressive  
as the quietest of waves  
on tide-washed sand.

★ ★ ★

Perhaps separation's essential,  
like sleep, or like sex,  
but women want  
sometimes still to lie  
a whole afternoon  
awake, without wanting.

There are subtle interconnections throughout the volume; the personal experiences of love and death are inextricably linked to institutionalised power structures. Poems like *Bluebeard Re-Scripted Version III* and *Wife to Horatio* continue Strauss's exploration of the traditionally silent figures of myth and history.

In *Bluebeard Re-Scripted Version III*, the silent Sister Anne records her resistance to the part she has been given: 'I'm refusing my cues, am not convinced/ My role's peripheral . . . I'll walk, I'll sleep/ When I wake up, history will start.' Similarly, Horatio's wife speaks:



. . . Not that I'd criticize  
My husband's friend; I'm told that friendship's noble,  
Ophelia was my friend — we laughed a lot,  
I know that Hamlet had great difficulties,  
And when the great have problems, we all know,  
It is the ordinary lives that pay.  
Ophelia was my friend — but she was dead,  
And the live child in my belly jumped  
When the king frowned.

However, this Ophelia will be prepared for the vicissitudes that befall her: 'We needed action. There'll be no drowning here./ I've seen to it that she knows how to swim.

*Labour Ward* is a richly rewarding book; clear-eyed and affirmative in the face of transience and loss, the poems affirm the continuities that link people together, they resist the oppressive structures that menace ordinary lives, they honor those who have given their lives to this resistance and those who are struggling to find their power; they celebrate the frail, fickle beauty of sensual love, bravely undertaken in these troubled times. Life, the book tells us, is a labor of love.

Joan Kirkby  
Macquarie University

## BOOKS RECEIVED

*Of the Hut I Built*  
by Graham Connah  
Cambridge University Press, Melbourne.  
RRP \$35

Archaeological inquiries have presented new and direct pictures of the public and private lives of Australians. This book discusses such matters as the first European towns, the archaeology of convicts, early agricultural, mining and industrial activities, shipwrecks and settlements which failed.

Graham Connah is one of the pioneers of historical archaeology in Australia, and founding editor of the *Australian Journal of Historical Archaeology*. He is Professor of Archaeology and Palaeoanthropology at the University of New England.

★ ★ ★

*Laser Grading in the Goulburn-Murray Irrigation District: An Innovation Diffusion Study*  
by Craig Ewers  
Monash Publications in Geography (No 35)  
\$5

Laser grading is an innovation that has become widely adopted by farmers in the Goulburn-Murray Irrigation District since it was introduced to Australia in 1977. The patterns and processes through which this irrigation management technique has spread are the subject of this study. A model of individual decision-making formulated for the study is applicable to other innovation types and situations.

(Available from the secretary, Department of Geography, Monash University,



# Monash joins research group in Athens

Monash has joined the Australian Archaeological Institute in Athens, a move which will provide many benefits, says Professor Alan Henry of Classical Studies.

The institute was set up in 1981 by Professor Alexander Cambitoglou, of the University of Sydney, to promote Greek studies in Australia and to make a base in Greece for Australian postgraduate students and staff.

It now owns a building in Athens — bought with money raised by the Sydney Friends of the AAIA — which accommodates an office, a small hostel and a library.

Professor Henry said the institute did not deal only with ancient Greece.

"It supports research in many areas including classical art, history and literature as well as Byzantine and modern Greek studies.

"It also has a permit for an annual excavation, which is presently being undertaken at Torone, in northern Greece, by researchers from member universities."

Money for the excavation is provided by the institute itself, the Australian Research Grants Scheme, the Association for Classical Archaeology, the University of Sydney and private benefactors.

The research team spends two months — July and August — at the site each year, and later publishes reports on its progress.

Professor Henry said the institute was getting support from a number of Australian universities and that the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Logan, had been very keen for Monash to become involved.

"There will be an added benefit for students, with half of the \$1500 annual fee paid by Monash being put towards a scholarship fund which we can draw on," he said.

"We will be setting up a 'friends' group in Melbourne to raise further funds with the hope of eventually being able to send a student to Greece each year.

"In addition, postgraduate students can apply for the annual AAIA Fellowship, which is currently worth \$7000."

The British, German, French and American Schools of archaeology have been in Athens for a century or more.

"Australia has had a fairly strong connection with the British school, which has been host to Commonwealth scholars, but until recently Australian researchers had no home of their own," Professor Henry said.

Member universities are visited an-

nually by the AAIA director, Professor Cambitoglou, who gives lectures on the excavations. He will be at Monash on Tuesday 11 October, when he will speak on recent finds at Torone.

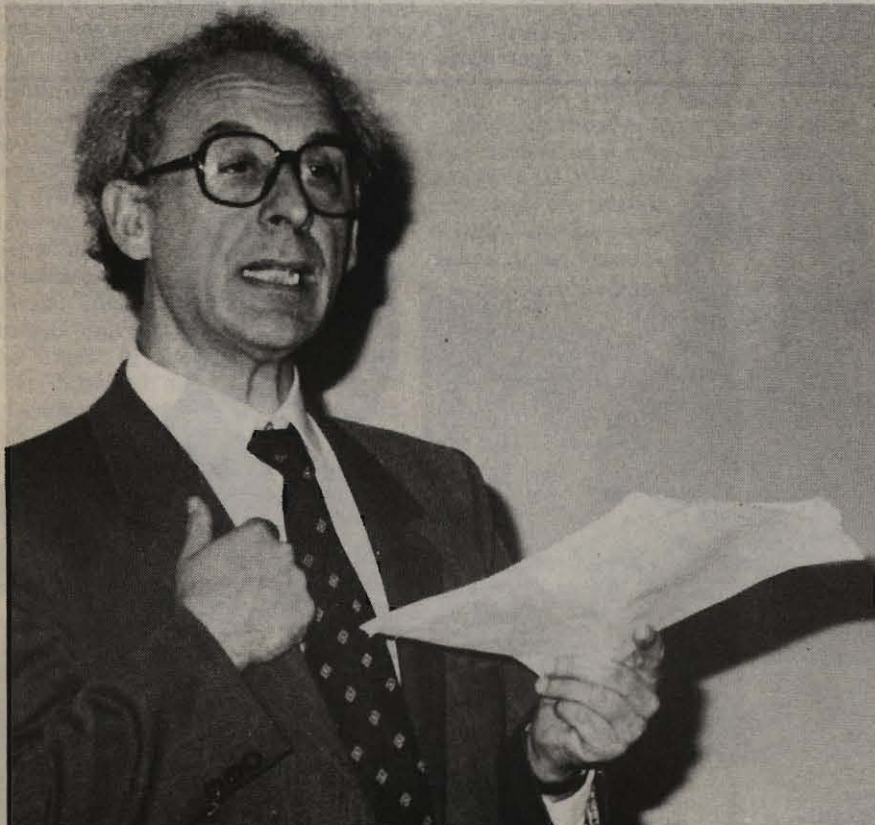
The institute also appoints each year a distinguished overseas scholar as Visiting Professor, who makes a tour of institutional members giving lectures on various topics.

A meeting will be held at Monash later this year to form a "starter group" for Monash Friends of AAIA.



● The sort of juxtaposition of old and new that is becoming more accessible to Australian students. These pictures from Athens show, above, Hadrian's Arch on the main street, and, left, a Byzantine church next to a modern cathedral.

## US guests give views on life



● Professor Ferenc Feher, above, and his wife, Professor Agnes Heller, both of the New School for Social Research in New York, presented seminars and lectures on society and culture during their recent month-long visit to Monash. They were hosted by a number of different Monash groups including the European Studies Centre, the Institute for Public Sector Management, the Centre for General and Comparative Literature, *Thesis Eleven* and the department of Anthropology and Sociology. Photo — Tony Miller.

## 'Erotic' rumors quite unfounded

The creator of what has been described as "the single most important and cheapest commission of art in Australia" last month opened an exhibition of the University Gallery's recent acquisitions.

Sculptor Les Kossatz was only 23 years old when architect John Mockridge commissioned him to make a series of stained glass windows for the Large Chapel in the Religious Centre.

The architect must have had enormous faith in the young artist's talents — no plans or sketches had been submitted prior to the commission, and at no stage did anyone bother to view the work in progress.

As it turned out, the 20 windows brought Mr Kossatz fame without fortune.

"The work gave me not so much a financial break as some notoriety," he said.

But rumours of erotic references among the shards of colored glass were completely unfounded, said Mr Kossatz, of the work he describes as being a perfect example of late '60s pop-art.

He explained that in keeping with the chapel's ecumenical theme, each window was an expression of unity reinforcing the circular nature of the building.

Speaking of his recent appointment to the Gallery Committee at Monash, Mr

Kossatz said he was gratified to see that the university was still committed to fostering young and talented artists.

He hoped that continued support would also be provided by local businesses in the form of donations and commissions.

He said he was confident that "the sheer nature of the university would attract commercial support".



● Sculptor Les Kossatz beside the gallery's most recent acquisition, Aleksander Danko's *The Melancholy*.

## The Rongman word guide

The *Longman Dictionary of Applied Linguistics*, co-authored by John Platt (Acting Chairman of Linguistics), J. Richards and H. Weber, has been translated into Japanese.

In its Japanese version, the title reads *Rongman Ooyo Gengogaku Yoogo Jiten* (Longman Applied Linguistics Terminology Dictionary) and the names of the authors are rendered J. Richaazu (Richards), J. Puratto (Platt) and H. Uebaa (Weber).

The original English version of the dictionary was runner-up for a Duke of Edinburgh prize awarded by the English Speaking Union.



• More than 350 musicologists from 35 countries attended the Monash-sponsored Symposium of the International Musicological Society which was opened last week by the Governor-General, Sir Ninian Stephen. Among the speakers at the opening ceremony held in the National Gallery's Great Hall were, from left, Sir Rupert Hamer, member of the Council of the Victorian College of the Arts, Sir Ninian Stephen, Dr Margaret Kartomi, reader in Music at Monash and symposium director, and the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Logan.

# Learn about technology

An Information Technology Week will be held at Monash from 12-14 September (second week of third term), with three lunchtime seminars (1-2pm, Rotunda 3), and a mini-exhibition.

The event is being jointly organised by the Society for Undergraduate Computer Scientists, the Information System Society, the Personal Computer Club and Monash Young Engineers. Sessions are free and all members of the university are welcome.

The seminar program will begin on Monash 12 September with a talk by Mr Peter Grimes of Cray Research Australia on *Supercomputer — The Cray X-*

*MP*. The next day, Mr John Burke from the Commission for the Future will speak on *Technology and Lifestyles beyond the year 2010*, and on Wednesday 14 September Mr David Wilde from the Australian Computer Society will speak on *The Evolution of Information Technology*.

The exhibition of personal computers will be held on Wednesday 14 September in the Upstairs Foyer, Union Building.

## Smithsonian lectures

Brochures for the Smithsonian Bicentennial Lectures, to be held in Melbourne from 12-17 September, can be obtained from Phyllis Valassis, Ministry of Arts, on 649 8784.

The lectures are being presented by Smithsonian National Associates and Seminar Program as an endorsed Bicentennial activity sponsored by a large number of Australian organisations.

The program includes James Cook's views of South Pacific cultures; the shared heritage of Australia and

America; an introduction to remarkable sea animals; American landscape art; telescopes for tomorrow; the fate of rainforests, and Black American music.

Tickets can be purchased through BASS. A single lecture ticket is \$6, and a series ticket \$24 (concessions are available for co-sponsors, students, unemployed and pensioners).

## Parking Permits

1989 Parking Permits will be on sale from 7.30am Monday, March 6, 1989 in the Western Foyer of Robert Blackwood Hall.

The cost is \$25.

Mail applications will be taken from Monday, January 23, 1989 but no cash will be accepted in the mail; personal cheques or bank cheques only.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

The Canadian High Commission is calling for applications for the Canada-Australia Bicentennial Institutional Research Award, which will provide \$A25,000 to an Australian institution each year for the next five years for an original research project.

The project must be about Canada, especially contemporary Canada, or on matters of particular relevance to the Canada-Australia relationship.

A researcher or a team of researchers from any Australian university, private research organisation or independent public sector research organisation is eligible to apply. In all cases, applicants must have strong institutional support for the research proposal.

The original and four copies of the application must be submitted, before 30 November, by the institution at the level of vice-chancellor, academic vice-chancellor, dean or director.

Further details can be obtained by writing to the Canadian High Commission, Commonwealth Avenue, Canberra ACT 2600, or by calling at the Information Office, first floor, Gallery Building.

The Canadian High Commission is also inviting applications for the fifth annual Canadian Studies Faculty Enrichment Awards Program.

The awards are intended to enable Australian or New Zealand academics to devise and teach a new course in Canadian Studies or to introduce Canadian content (50 per cent) into existing courses. The award will provide for return airfare to Canada and a contribution towards living and travel expenses in Canada.

All academics at Australian or New Zealand tertiary institutions holding a PhD or its equivalent are eligible to apply for the award provided that they undertake, with the agreement of their employing institution, to offer the Canadian course developed with the assistance of such an award, a minimum of three times during the subsequent six years.

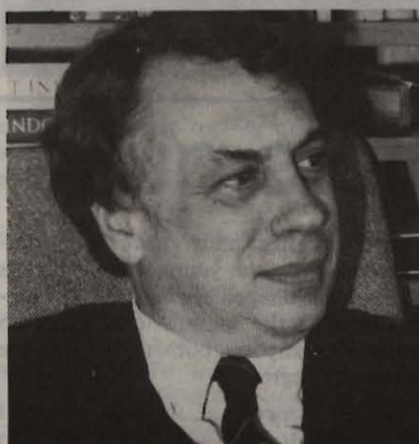
Academics who applied for a Faculty Enrichment Award in the past but were unsuccessful are encouraged to review and perhaps revise their application and resubmit it this year.

Application forms and further details can be obtained from the Canadian High Commission, Commonwealth Avenue, Canberra ACT 2600, where all applications must be received by 31 January, 1989. The Information Office, first floor, Gallery Building, also has detailed information.

Mail applications should, in the case of those with no departmental address, include a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

The permits will be posted on March 6.

There have been 4400 permits allocated for sale, and when they are finished there will be no further issue.



• Dr Coes Fasseur, pictured, who holds the chair of History at the State University of Leiden, recently gave a lecture at Monash on Dutch colonial policy in the 1860s and the decline of the cultivation system. Dr Fasseur, a guest of the Centre for Southeast Asian Studies, is a specialist on 19th century Dutch colonial history in Indonesia.

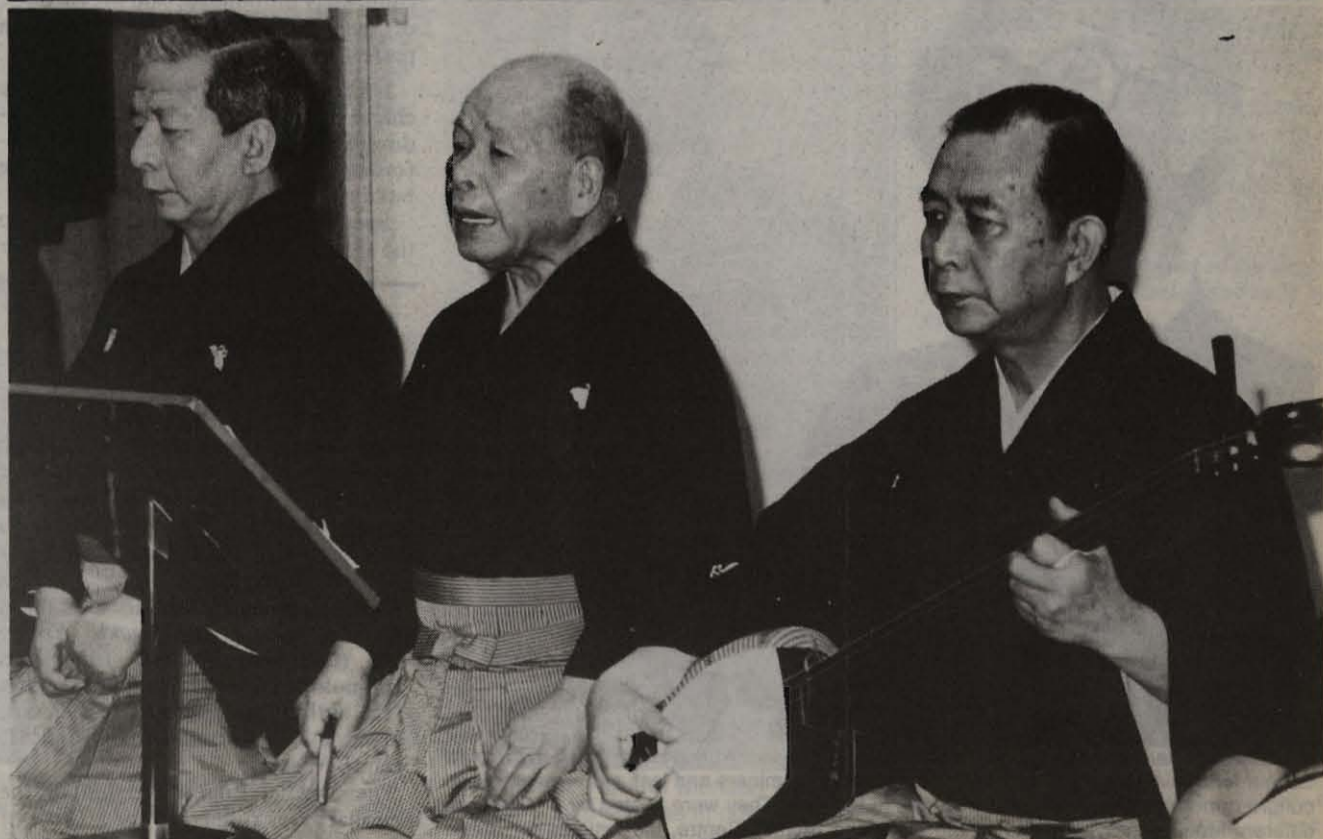
## IMPORTANT DATES

The Registrar advises the following important dates for students in September:

- 5 Third Term begins
- Second semester for LL.M. by coursework resumes
- Last day for discontinuance of a subject or unit taught and assessed over the whole of the teaching year for it to be classified as discontinued (excluding Medicine III, V and VI).
- Last date for discontinuance of all studies by diplomas, bachelors' degrees, masters' degrees by coursework, and by not-for-degree and masters' preliminary candidates, to qualify for 25% refund of 1988 Students' Amenities Fee (not applicable to candidates taking Summer Term subjects.)
- Third Term begins for Medicine I and II
- Term begins for 4.4 Medicine IV
- 16 Third Term ends Dip. Ed.
- 19 Third Term begins for Medicine III
- 23 Last date for lodgement of applications

for the Caltex Woman Graduate Scholarship

- 26 Last day for discontinuance of a subject or unit taught and assessed in the second half year for it to be classified as discontinued (excluding Dip.Ed.Physch., B.Ed.St., B.Sp.Ed., and M.Ed.St.)\*
- 30 Closing date for applications for Commonwealth Postgraduate Course Awards and Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan Awards.
- 30 Applications close at 5.00pm for entry to Bachelor of Social Work course in 1989.
- \*If a subject or unit is not discontinued by 5, 26 September or 3 October as the case may be, and the examination is not attempted or assignment work is not completed, it will be classified as **FAILED**. In exceptional circumstances the Dean may approve the classification of a subject or unit as discontinued between the appropriate date above and the end of the appropriate teaching period.



• One of Japan's 'Living National Treasures', 90-year-old Mr Kiyomoto Shizudayu (centre), leading a kabuki concert in the Music Auditorium during the Kiyomoto musicians' recent tour of Australia. Photo — Scott Fitzpatrick.

## Salad Sandwich

Though we each picked our choice from trays with different labels when we sat down to talk both seemed to have bits of almost everything and however carefully you unveiled one corner, the rest gripped firm in cling plastic four fingers and two thumbs, it tumbled out strands and slippery gobbets the bread skidding away before your teeth. But with so much to be said, neither even wondered whose was the introverted shred of carrot we left lying on the table.

Aileen Kelly

— from *Poetry Monash* No 24. (Published three times a year by the English Department. Yearly subscription \$5 post free.)

## AULLA calls for speakers

The 25th congress of the Australasian Universities Language and Literature Association will be held at Macquarie University from 5-10 February 1989.

The congress will feature a special program entitled *Discourse, Text, Medium* which will be devoted to new interdisciplinary developments in the study of language, literature, film, tele-

vision and theatre.

The last date for registration and submission of abstracts is 30 September. Registration forms can be obtained from the Congress Secretary, Mr Gerry Cohen, School of Modern Languages, Macquarie University, NSW, 2109, tel. (02) 805 7026.

## Hurry to join Great Race

Entries close on Friday (September 9) for *The Great Race — Monash Style*.

Departments, clubs, faculties and groups of individuals associated with Monash are invited to enter a team (five males and five females) for the 10-event fancy dress relay.

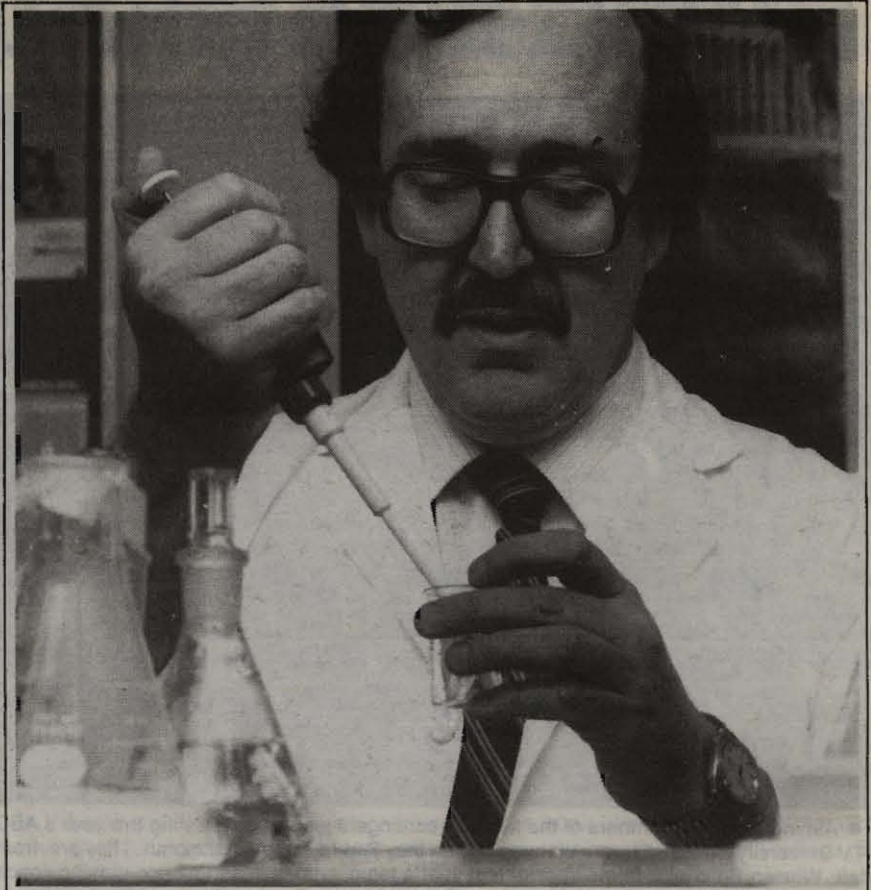
It will be held around the lake, with heats in the third week of term (September 19-23) and the final on Wednesday 28 September, to be followed by a barbecue for participants.

The entry fee is \$5 per team and prizes will be awarded for best costumes, overall winners and runners-up.

For entry forms and further details, contact Carolyn Battersby, Recreation Officer, on ext. 4107 or 4111.



● Father Peter Howard, left, a Monash honors graduate in history, is one of three winners of bicentennial postgraduate scholarships awarded by the Commission of the European Community. He is pictured with the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Logan, and the director of the Monash Centre for European Studies, Professor Brian Nelson, at a reception held by the European Commission at the Athenaeum Club.



There is a lot more to biotechnology than producing plants that glow in the dark, or soft-centred chocolates, Professor Milton Hearn told a recent meeting of Friends of Monash University.

Professor Hearn, of the department of Biochemistry, said that the fusion of biochemistry, chemical engineering, genetics and microbiology could one day produce a drug to reverse the process which leads to cardiac arrest and stroke. The problem, however, was one of cost, and a lot more money would have to be provided before a cure could be found for diseases such as diabetes.

★ ★ ★  
● The next meeting of Friends of Monash will be held in the Banquet Room at 8pm on Wednesday 28 September when Ms Eve Fesl, director of the Aboriginal Research Centre, will give a talk on *Speaking with a Koori voice in the heart of white man's land*.

# SEPTEMBER DIARY

### ALEXANDER THEATRE

7: **SCHOOL ATTRACTION** — "Just-so-Stories" presented by Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia. Until 9 Sept. Student \$3.80. 10am, 1.30pm. Bookings and inquiries: ext. 3993.

23: **SCHOOL HOLIDAY ATTRACTION** — "Sleeping Beauty" presented by Young Dancers' Theatre. Until 1 Oct. 10.30am, 2pm weekdays. Sat 24, 2pm, 7.30pm. Sat 1 Oct, 10.30am, 2pm. Adults \$11.90, child \$9.90. Credit card bookings and inquiries: ext. 3992.

### ROBERT BLACKWOOD HALL

8: **LUNCHTIME CONCERT** — Monash University Orchestra conducted by David Adams presents works by Schubert, Beethoven and Saint-Saens. 1.15pm. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3091.

10: **EVENING CONCERT** — Victorian Boys' Choir Celebrity Concert. Featuring Australian folk songs, sacred songs, art songs and ballads from different countries. 7.30pm. Adults \$10, conc. \$5. Inquiries and tickets: 233 1624.

11: **AFTERNOON CONCERT** — Melbourne Youth Music Council presents The Melbourne Youth Symphonic Band, Percy Grainger Youth

Orchestra and the Melbourne Swing Choir. 2pm. Adults \$7, conc. \$4. Tickets and inquiries: 690 8624.

15: **LUNCHTIME CONCERT** — Monash University Jazz Club and The Julian Driscoll Quartet with Simon Pilbrow present a selection of original and standard jazz repertoire. 1.15pm. Admission free.

22: **LUNCHTIME CONCERT** — Presenting members of the Monash University Music Department. 1.15pm. Admission free.

25: **AFTERNOON CONCERT** — 17th Annual Sunday Afternoon Concert Series presents the Young Performers. 2.30pm. Admission free.

### LECTURES, SEMINARS, EXHIBITIONS

7: **ARTS AND CRAFTS CENTRE** — Springtime classes begin soon. Courses inc. keyboard skills, porcelain doll making, painting and many more. Inquiries: ext. 3180.

8: **SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES SEMINAR** — "Current developments in the Kampuchean Crisis" by Ben Kiernan. 11.15am. Rm 515 Menzies Bldg. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 4993.

8: **RELIGIOUS CENTRE RECITAL** — "Ensemble Zauberflote". A flute

orchestra directed by Thomas Pinschhof. 1.10pm. Large Chapel. 1.10pm. Inquiries: ext. 3160.

**ABORIGINAL STUDIES LECTURE** — "Koories and the Media" by Andrew Markus. 1pm. R6. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3244.

12: **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WEEK** — Seminar "Supercomputer — The Cray X-MP" by Mr Peter Grimes. 1pm. R3. Admission free. Inquiries: 543 4368.

13: **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WEEK** — Seminar "Technology and Lifestyles beyond the year 2010" by Mr John Burke. 1pm. R3. Admission free. Inquiries: 543 4368.

14: **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WEEK** — Seminar "Evolution of Information Technology" by Mr David Wilde. 1pm. R3. Admission free. Inquiries: 543 4368.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WEEK** — Personal Computer Exhibition. Upstairs Foyer, Union. Admission free. Inquiries: 543 4368.

15: **SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES SEMINAR** — "Old age security in Indonesia and its implications" by Jeremy Evans. 11.15am. Rm 515 Menzies Bldg. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 4993.

**RELIGIOUS CENTRE RECITAL** — Spiros Rantos (violin) and Brachi Tilles (harpsichord and piano). Works by Corelli, Geminiani, Mozart. 1.10pm. Large Chapel. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3160.

**ABORIGINAL STUDIES LECTURE** — "Koorie Art — Tradi-

tional" by Gaye Sculthorpe. 1pm. R6. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3244.

22: **ABORIGINAL STUDIES LECTURE** — "Koorie Languages" by Eve Fesl. 1pm. R6. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3244.

**RELIGIOUS CENTRE RECITAL** — "Pipoca". Traditional and contemporary Brazilian music. 1.10pm. Large Chapel. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3160.

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES SEMINAR** — "Introduction to Madagascar" by Bob Newman. 11.15am. Rm 515 Menzies Bldg. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 4993.

28: **ABORIGINAL STUDIES LECTURE** — "Anthropology and Anthropologists" by Dr G.B. Silberbauer. 1pm. R6. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3244.

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES SEMINAR** — "The New Modernists in Indonesian Islam" by Greg Barton. 11.15am. Rm. 515 Menzies Bldg. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 4993.

**RELIGIOUS CENTRE RECITAL** — David Sanger, organ recital. 1.10pm. Large Chapel. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3160.

**MONASH UNIVERSITY GALLERY**  
14: **EXHIBITION** — "Body and Soul". Paintings by Kmit, French, Lynn, Friend, Kaiser, Daws, Dunlop, O'Brien, Marmol, Leach-Jones and Williams. Admission free. Gallery Bldg. Tues-Fri 10-5, Sat 1-5. Inquiries: ext. 4217.

# Whiz kids take up the Challenge



● Aiming high . . . members of the Monash contingent who are contesting this year's ABC TV University Challenge were pictured before they flew to Hobart last month. They are, from left: Warren Batchelor (a member of last year's team, who is acting as non-playing coach and manager this year), David Klempfner (Ecops), Marcus Brumer (Arts) and Emma Watson (Arts). Missing from the photo-call was David King (Science). The team surmounted their first hurdle in mid-August when they survived a national round of auditions to join nine other universities in filming of the quiz series between 28 August and 3 September at the University of Tasmania. Other universities represented this year are New South Wales, Sydney, Adelaide, Flinders, Murdoch, Queensland, Melbourne, Macquarie and James Cook. The series is expected to go to air next month.



## Monash crew takes on the best in the world

The Monash Men's Rowing Club is representing Australia in the inaugural World Boat Race — a spectacular update of the three-mile classic — at Brisbane this month.

The club, which won selection at the annual Universities Rowing Championships, is competing against crews from Cambridge, Oxford, Keio, Waseda and Princeton as well as combined university crews from Canada, China and New Zealand.

It is the first time that so many international universities have competed over the traditional boat race distance, and the event is attracting worldwide attention. It is being televised by the British Broadcasting Corporation.

The crews are required to race over the 4.5km distance every day for seven days, from September 4-11.

MONASH REPORTER

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Pictured after winning selection are: top left, Tom Sanchez, Eugene Kininmonth, Simon Quirk, Warwick Hooper; middle, Jason Platts, Simon Langenbacher, David Winter, Andy Cohen; front, Chris Dane (coach and Monash graduate), Graham Barnes. Another Monash rower, Simon Spriggs, has replaced Tom Sanchez for the race.

### Monash Reporter

The next issue will be published in the first week of October, 1988.

Copy deadline is Wednesday, 21 September, and early copy is much appreciated.

Contributions (letters, photos) and suggestions should be addressed to the editor, Lisa Kelly, Information Office, Gallery Building, or ring ext. 2085.

## Learn to be a good host

Adjusting to university life can be a very difficult process, and for more than a decade the Host Scheme has played a major role in easing the transition.

But the scheme needs volunteers, and this year's co-ordinators, Jenny Bean and Tim Gattuso, have issued the following appeal:

In order for the scheme to be successful we need your help as a host. Very little of your time is required and the satisfaction, friendliness and fun is well worthwhile. As a host you will be required to attend a brief information session in October. And in February you will be assigned a small group of new students and asked to organise a

barbecue, coffee night or any other function you wish.

On Host Scheme day (21 February) you will be asked to take your group on a tour of uni and answer any general questions about uni life.

There are many extra activities, voluntary work and functions you are invited to attend. It's a lot of fun and a great way to meet people.

The time you give to the scheme can be the little you have spare or much more. It's a great opportunity for all students to put something back into uni life in return for what they have received.

We can be contacted on ext. 4136.

## STD highlights

The Monash department of Microbiology provided two of the highlights of the recent combined Australian and New Zealand Conference on Sexually Transmitted Diseases.

Staff in the department, acknowledged as a leader in the study of venerology in Australia, produced an historical exhibition and the first edition of an international medical journal to coincide with the conference.

*100 Years of Venerology in Australia*, curated by Mrs Di Tibbits and on view at the Brownless Medical Library at Melbourne University until 21 October, is a history of the public's perception and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases in Australia over the last century.

The exhibition is divided into five sections: promotion of public awareness (including old posters and pamphlets); the hidden side of war; treatment; legislation; and laboratory diagnosis.

The first edition of *Venerology*, co-edited by senior lecturers in the department of Microbiology, Dr Ian Denham and Dr David Plummer, was launched at the conference by the Federal Minister for Health and Community Services, Dr Neal Blewett.

As the official publication of the National Venerology Council of Australia, the journal will examine the gamut of medical problems related to sexuality — clinical, microbiological, historical, behavioral, epidemiological and educational.

## A lot of rock... and a bit of Seoul

Monash has been officially declared the Collector of Victorian Rocks for the 1988 Olympics.

Thanks to the department of Earth Sciences at Monash and other collectors around the country, Australian athletes bound for Seoul will be burdened with more than their nation's hopes — they will also be carrying samples of selected rocks.

The rocks, like those provided to the athletes of other countries, will be used to build a national monument during the

opening ceremony, and they will be incorporated in a permanent multi-national monument at the end of the Games.

Victoria's contribution to the athletes' luggage will include a sample of gold-bearing quartz vein in slate from the central goldfields and traditional blue-stone from the Western District.

The rocks were displayed at the university last week before being air-freighted to Sydney by Australian Airlines.