

# Historic files show the public face of Australian business

The 147-year-old Melbourne stock-broking house, J. B. Weres and Sons, has presented the Donald Cochrane Economics and Politics Library with more than 9000 files containing material collected between about 1917 and 1970 on stock exchange listed companies.

The collection represents the public face of Australian business during that time — annual reports, statements of accounts, dividend reports, prospectuses, documents relating to share releases, newspaper clippings.

The files originally were used as a source of history and performance of limited companies. They were used for investment comment and to research a company's need for funds to back up underwriting decisions.

"Given the material I've seen, this is an important acquisition for Monash," said senior lecturer in Economic History, Dr Keith Trace. "It is a very useful set of records worth taking some time to work over."

He said the material would be very useful for teaching Economic History and to provide case histories for courses in the Master of Business Administration degree.

The collection will be an important source for research into Australian business in general, the rise of big business, understanding the patterns of takeovers and mergers and how the structure of particular industries took shape.

The files can also provide a window on accounting standards and share prices, and allow the testing of financial theories.

A senior partner of Weres, Mr Bruce Teele, said the company had decided to let the files go because it did not have room for them in its library.

"The records now have historical value, but limited business value. But they would never have been thrown out. We wanted them to be kept for us in perpetuity, but also made available for serious research.

"I think the relationship with Monash will be ongoing, but we do not have another set of files as historically valuable. I can think of no other sets in Australia with coverage back as far as this one. From the early '60s many other firms started to collect such bits and pieces.

"The period covered by the collection spawned several mining booms and heaps of companies went broke."

And that, according to Dr Trace, is one of the great strengths of the collection. It contains material on companies which failed, material that is hard to find anywhere else.

The Donald Cochrane librarian, Mr Henry Thorburn, said he thought Monash had been selected to house the files because it had the room to do so — about 135 metres of shelving in all — without breaking up the collection. In addition, the library could guarantee Weres access to any file within a day.

At present, the material is contained in thousands of manila folders and filed by company and year. Many of the documents are in a relatively fragile state.

The library is in the midst of determining whether it is worth putting the most commonly sought information into a computer database, so that staff and students can have access to it without continually disturbing the files.

Mr Thorburn said that the Weres files would add to the Cochrane Library's significant collection of business records. "Our aim is to service the research needs of staff and students.

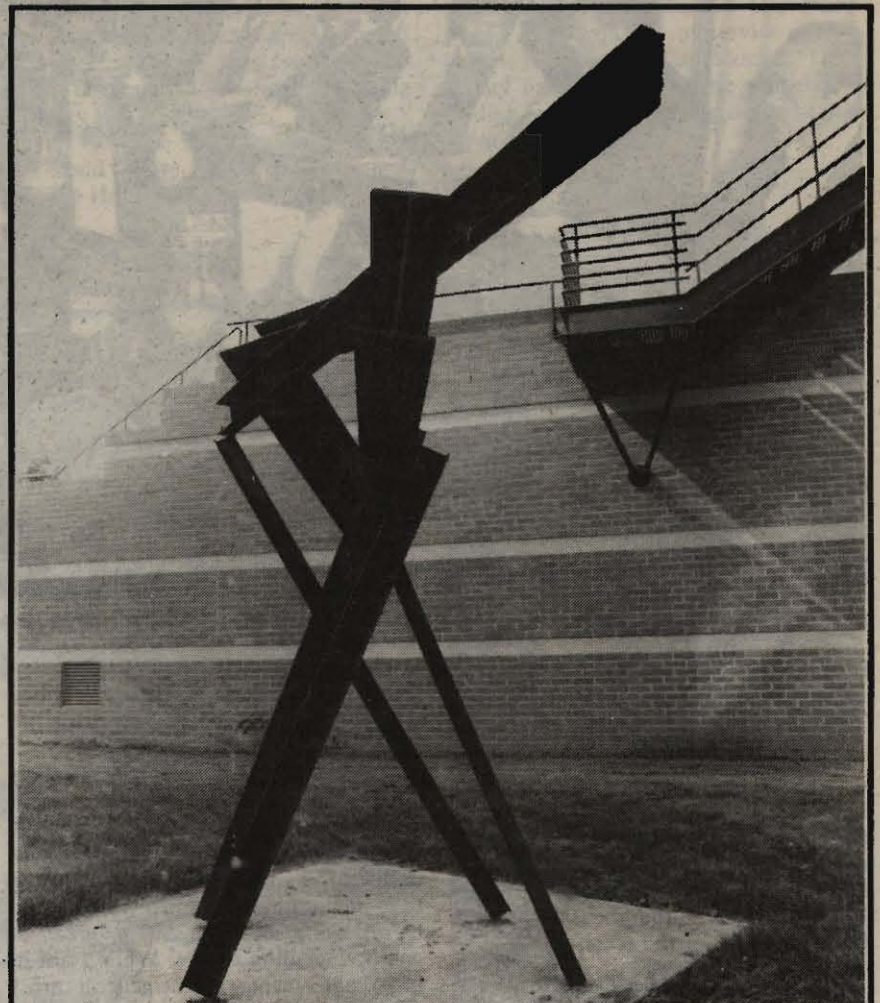
"We have bound records of the Stock Exchange information service going back to 1966, and an important collection of company reports. Also, our holdings in economic statistical material are really very significant; we have very substantial holdings of Australian Bureau of Statistics records."

Photo: page 2

# MONASH REPORTER

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## All right, what would YOU call it?

• The angular outdoor sculpture now complementing the north wall of the Monash University Gallery building — and intended to "function as the first symbol in relation to it" — is a 1977 work by Clive Murray-White. It is the gift of Dr David Rosenthal and is the second Murray-White work on campus, the other being the "Aluminium Hemispheres" in the Science lawns. And the name of the new acquisition? "There ought to be a law against it". Of course.

# The Dawkins blueprint for education '88

Unveiling the government's "higher education plans for 1988", the Minister for Employment, Education and Training, Mr John Dawkins set out the guidelines that the Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission is expected to follow in recommending the allocation of the total budget of \$2559.4 million.

Here, *Monash Reporter* summarises the major features of those guidelines . . .

### • Increased participation

The government has decided that an extra 5800 places should be made available to young school leavers. The government will provide \$38.4 million to fund 3500 to 4000 of these places; it expects the CTEC to advise on means by which the balance of places might be funded.

The new places, however, will be funded at the same real recurrent level as applied in 1986 and 1987 — an average of \$6250 per student place. Within this level, CTEC is required to direct new places into courses that will provide the "skill base essential to underpin future economic growth — namely, science, technology, engineering, computer science, economics/accountancy/commerce (including in the tourism and hospitality area) and industrial and product design".

The government has directed that 650 of the additional intakes should be directed to computer science, electronics engineering and other information industries disciplines. Of these, 200 are to be directed to the industry-supported information technology courses to be developed at Monash, the University of

NSW, and the NSW and Swinburne Institutes of Technology (see *SOUND* 27-87).

### • Non-government funds

From 1988 institutions will have new options open to them to apply for "limited" relaxation of the fees prohibition for the funding of certain post-graduate courses. They would be able to seek approval to charge fees for formal award courses designed for professional upgrading or extension purposes or directed primarily at those already well established in employment. Students proceeding direct from undergraduate courses will not be affected. Institutions will need to ensure that there is no displacement of students from non fee-paying courses.

### • Administration charge

Following advice from the monitoring

committee set up to investigate the impact of the \$250 Administration Charge, the government has decided to broaden the categories of needy students exempted from the charge. The new exemptions include part-time students receiving sickness and special benefits, those receiving the new Family Allowance Supplement, and other special categories.

The government estimates that up to 8700 additional students will now be exempt from the charge, bringing to 139,000, or 35 per cent, the number of students to be exempt from, or reimbursed for, the charge in 1988.

However . . . the charge itself will be increased, in line with the effects of inflation, to \$263 for 1988.

Continued page 2

# Tech-transfer on international scale

Nine of Indonesia's most senior educational administrators visited Monash last month in the course of an Australia-wide tour investigating the

supply of scientific equipment for use in Indonesian universities.

Their visit follows the sealing earlier this year of a \$42 million contract for

the delivery of scientific instruments and other apparatus to refurbish 12 "Eastern Islands" universities in Indonesia.

The deal, involving 63 Australian instrument manufacturers, was negotiated with the Indonesian Department of Education by a Sydney-based company, Vocational and Technical Training Corporation (VTTC).

The visiting delegation was led by Professor Ikin Mansyoer, Director-General of Tertiary Education in Indonesia and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Bogor.

The other members were: Mrs Sri Supraptini Mansyoer, Dr Edi Guhardja, Mrs Suprihatin Guhardja, Dr Parangtopo, Dr Na Peng Bo O Carm, Dr Muhamad Anwar Nur, Mrs Sofiati Anwar and Mr Junius Suhadi. All are members of the Indonesian Ministry of Education (Directorate of Higher Education).

At Monash, the visitors were entertained at lunch by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mal Logan, and Dr Clive Coogan, Executive Scientist of CSIRO and chairman of VTTC.

Dr Coogan said the visitors were impressed by the range and sophistication of scientific equipment available in Australia and further lucrative contracts were likely to follow. Already deals worth several hundred million dollars were in the pipeline.

• The Indonesian delegation was entertained to lunch in the Monash University Club by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Logan, and representatives of CSIRO and the Vocational and Technical Training Corporation. Photo: Richard Crompton.



From page 1

## • Superannuation

Recognising the difficulties faced by institutions in financing the accrued liability of emerging costs of superannuation schemes, the government has moved to relax its restrictions on the level of Commonwealth contributions. It insists, however, that the states should bear some part of the costs.

## • Australian Research Council

The government has decided to establish an Australian Research Council (ARC) serviced by the Department of Employment, Education and Training. At the same time, it has directed that the general recurrent grants to universities for research be reduced by \$5 million and that this amount would be applied to the establishment of new Special Research Centres and Key Centres of Teaching and Research and also to

institutions in the advanced education sector for technological and applied science research in agreed areas of speciality.

## • On "Staffing and industrial relations issues", the guidelines say . . .

In pursuing the government's objectives in the higher education sector and in developing its policy position for the next triennium, the Commonwealth will be reviewing academic staffing arrangements, including tenure. While I am in broad agreement with the general thrust of the staffing package recommended in the CTEC Review of Efficiency and Effectiveness in Higher Education, I note that issues relating to the salaries and conditions of service of academic staff are now matters under the jurisdiction of the Conciliation and Arbitration Commission.

In these circumstances, the management of institutions have a key role in the wages determination pro-

cesses. In particular, the Second Tier mechanism gives management and staff primary responsibility to secure lasting and beneficial productivity improvements.

As the funding authority the Commonwealth also has a major role in the determination of these issues including in the context of the three per cent superannuation productivity claim and the four per cent Second Tier processes. Accordingly, the government will be seeking early discussions with staff associations and employers at a national level about the scope for amendments to salary structures and conditions of service which would bring about greater efficiency and responsiveness within

higher education.

The Commonwealth notes that there are a number of moves for the introduction of awards outside the federal jurisdiction for staff in colleges of advanced education.

We will oppose proposals for State awards. They do not reflect the national character of higher education and have the potential to inhibit the mobility of staff and resources across institutions.

On similar grounds, the Government expects all higher education institutions which have not already done so to adopt the Superannuation Scheme for Australian Universities, in co-operation with State Governments.

SUMMARY OF RESOURCES: 1987 and 1988  
(\$million — Estimated Dec. 1986 Prices)

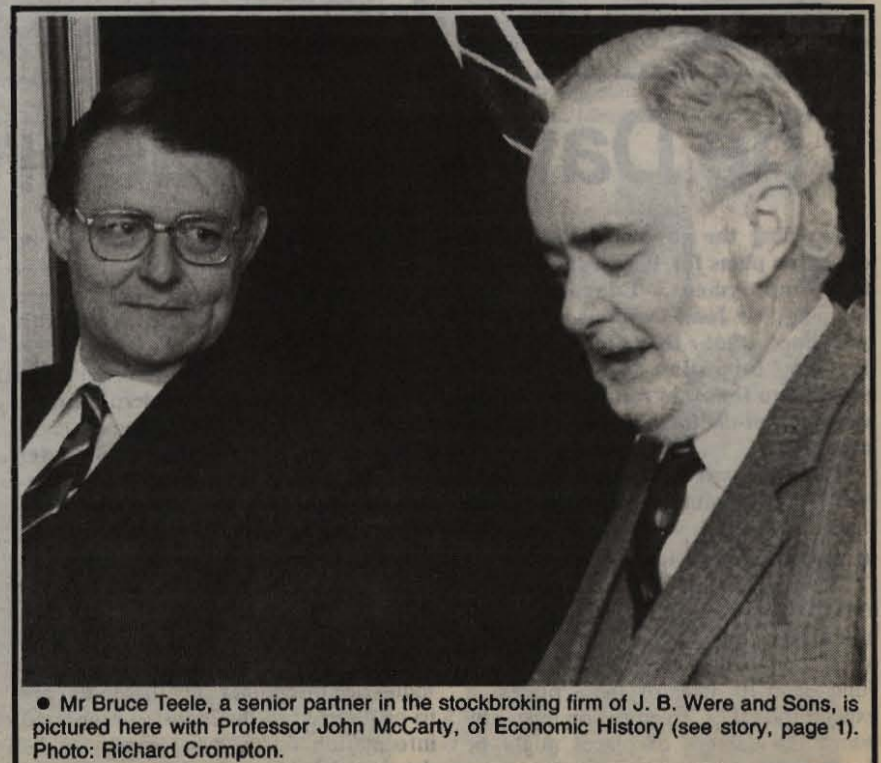
Category of Grant	1987	1988	Change 1987 to 1988	
	\$m	\$m	\$m	%
<b>Higher Education</b> (a)				
Recurrent Grants plus estimated revenue from administration charge (c)	2204.4	2236.3 (b)	+ 31.9	1.4
	95.3	98.1	+ 2.8	3.0
<b>Total Recurrent Funds</b>	2299.7	2334.4	+ 34.7	1.5
<b>Equipment</b>	123.6	126.6	+ 3.0	2.4
<b>Capital</b>	86.3	97.5	+ 11.3	13.0
<b>Total Higher Education</b>	2509.5	2558.5	+ 49.0	2.0
Evaluations, discipline assessments and reviews	0.9	0.9	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	2510.4	2559.4	+ 49.0	2.0

(a) Includes Universities, CAEs and Institutes of Tertiary Education.

(b) Includes \$5.0 million of universities general recurrent grants for research purposes to be allocated on the advice of the Australian Research Council in co-operation with CTEC.

(c) Estimated gross collections from the charge (\$97.1 million in 1987 and \$105.4 million in 1988) converted to estimated December 1986 prices.

Variations between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.



• Mr Bruce Teele, a senior partner in the stockbroking firm of J. B. Were and Sons, is pictured here with Professor John McCarty, of Economic History (see story, page 1). Photo: Richard Crompton.

# OFFICIAL OPENING

## The \$132m dream gets rolling

A lecture theatre full of people, floral decorations from the Oakleigh Council, the Premier of Victoria, some political speeches, lots of thanks and congratulations, the unveiling of a plaque and a cup of tea with cakes and sandwiches — that is all it took to get a \$132 million dream rolling.

The first new teaching hospital built in Victoria since 1963 — the 436-bed Clayton campus of the Monash Medical Centre — was opened officially by the Premier, Mr Cain, on Friday, 18 September.

Mr Cain said the start of operations

of “the best and most up-to-date hospital in Australia” had given him the greatest pleasure of any opening since becoming Premier, with the possible exception of switching on the MCG lights.

He praised all those associated with the project, in particular because it was finished on time and within its budget.

“The decision to relocate the Queen Victoria Medical Centre to Clayton was not taken lightly. Relocation of a major public hospital had not been attempted by any Victorian Government before.

“It presented all sorts of human, financial, logistical, professional and political problems, but we now have a slightly more equitable geographic distribution of health care.

“And the people of the Southeastern suburbs are among those who notice the difference. Since opening the centre on 19 July, there has been a great demand for services among local residents — nearly 60 per cent of those attending Casualty live locally.”

The Victorian Minister for Health, Mr David White, pledged that Prince Henry’s Hospital would be relocated to

the Monash Medical Centre by 1992, together with construction to include 100 new beds at the Moorabbin Hospital. “This next stage is integral to the vitality of the new hospital,” he said.

He said the linkage of the Monash Medical Centre to Monash University would ensure quality of service of the highest standing. “The Monash University Faculty of Medicine will play a leading role in the planning of the health services of the region.”



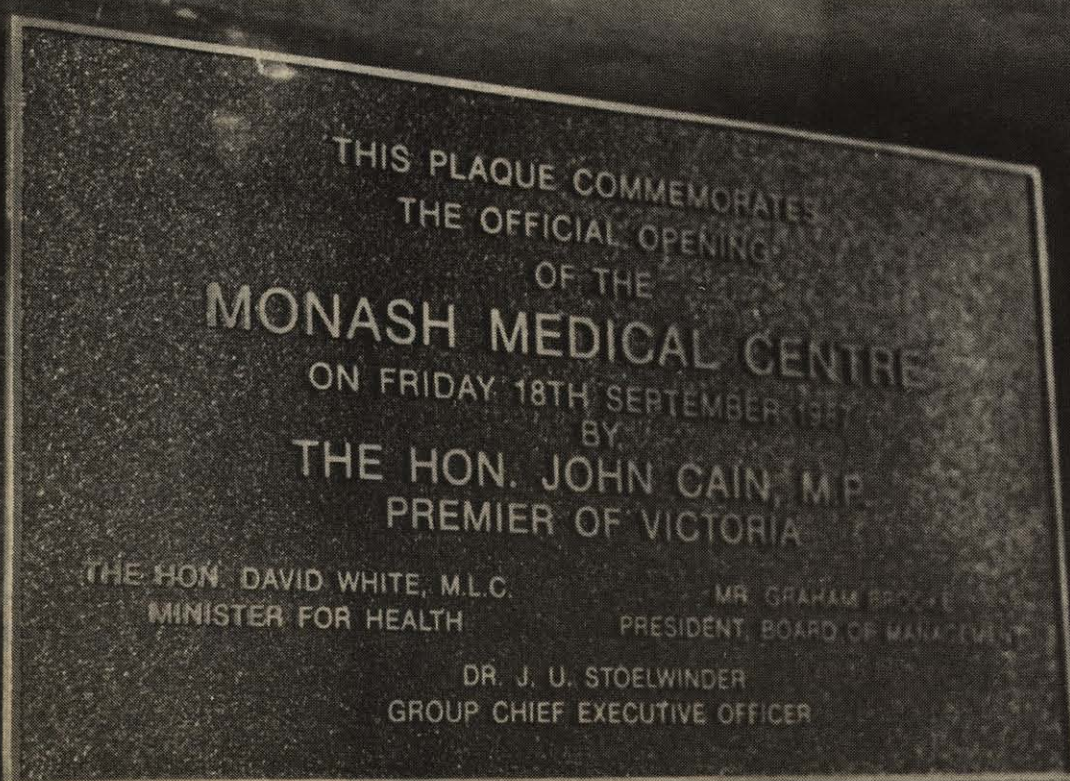
● Above: The scene at the official opening last month of the long-awaited Monash Medical Centre. Below: The plaque unveiled by the Premier, John Cain.



● The Premier of Victoria, John Cain.



● Above: The president of the Centre's board of management, Graham Brooke, and (below) the Minister for Health, David White.



# Historian's US posting

Professor Graeme Davison of History will join a list of such distinguished Australians as Gough Whitlam, Manning Clark and Patrick McCaughey when he becomes Harvard University's Visiting Professor of Australian Studies next year.

Professor Davison, an urban historian, will give lectures to mark Australia's Bicentennial, as well as public seminars and Harvard courses on Australian and American urban history.

"Australia is still the flavor of the month in the States, and this might well be an advantage for me," Professor Davison says.

"It is perhaps a suitable time to re-

mind American students that Australia is not the frontier country portrayed in Crocodile Dundee, but a very highly urbanised society."

He argues that Australia was the first truly suburban nation, although this is contrary to the belief of the noted American historian, Kenneth Jackson, who says the United States holds that position.

Professor Davison says that highly urbanised and industrialised societies look for folk heroes and that the fearless 'crocodile-wrestling' Mick Dundee has many characteristics in common with the American hero, Davy Crockett.

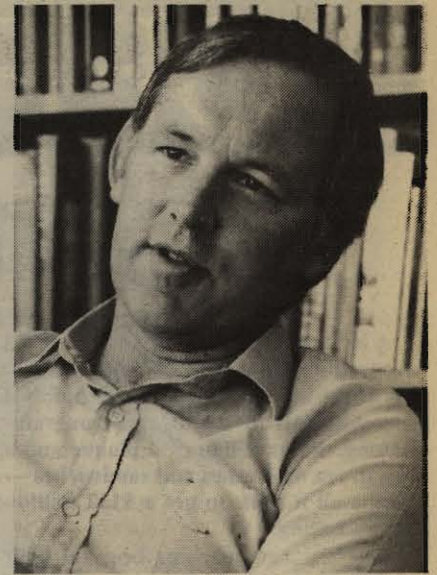
"I think the fact that Australia and

America have similar heroes shows just how similar the two countries are."

Professor Davison, who recently co-edited the 1888 volume of the history series, *Australians*, and wrote the chapter on capital cities (*Monash Reporter* 6-'87), will take up his new post next September.

He said some of the historians who had inspired and influenced his own research worked at Harvard.

"The two best-known are Bernard Bailyn, who studied how political values were transferred from the Old to the New World, and Stephan Thernstrom, the power behind much of American urban history," he said.



● Professor Graeme Davison.

## Condoms and lollipops ...



● SWAB members Felicity Pask and Michelle Gow greet visitors to the AIDS information seminar.



The Student Welfare Office and Action Board, interested in promoting safe sex, last month gave away free condoms — and Smarties!

The giveaways were a gimmick to attract staff and students to attend an AIDS Information Day.

People attending a seminar session on the impact and future of the AIDS virus were encouraged to take a condom or two . . . and a handful of Smarties.

Ms Sally Willox, the Student Welfare Officer, said the idea was extremely successful, although some students gleefully accepted the gifts but skipped the seminar.

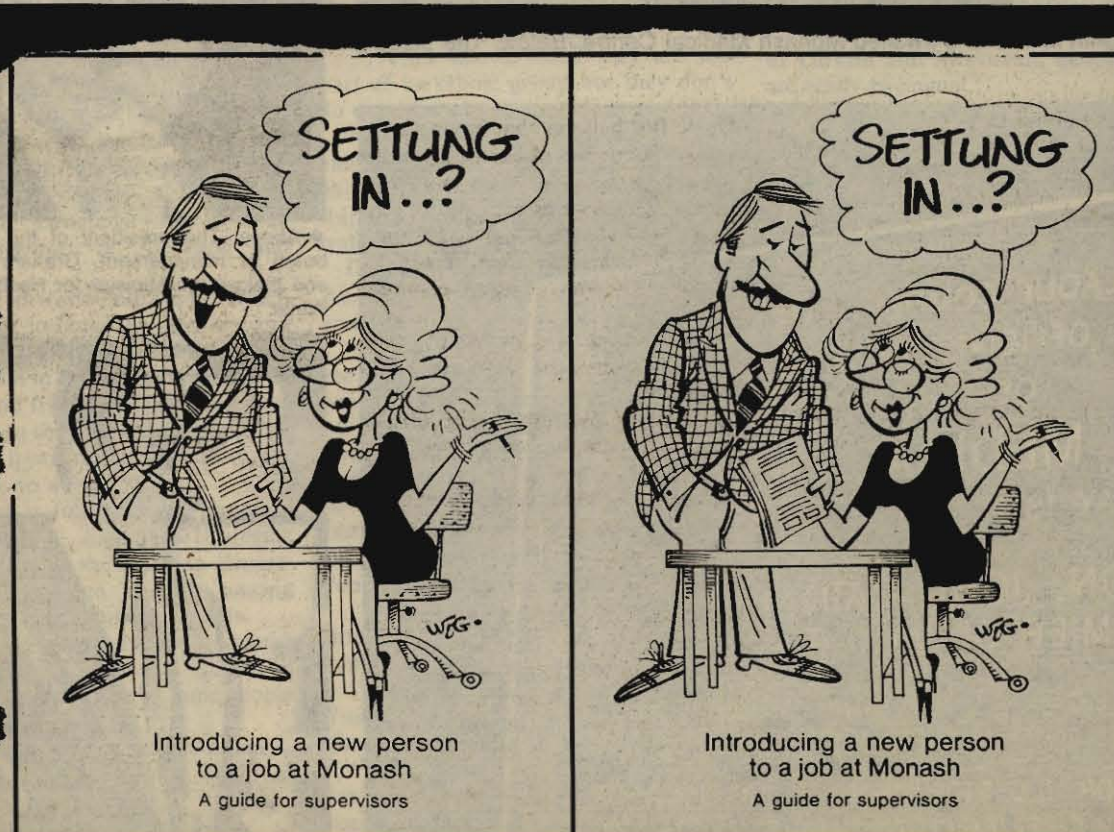
Counsellor Ms Beth Hatch and Microbiologist Dr Ian Denham, both

from the Victorian Health Department's Communicable Diseases Centre, spoke on the emotional versus medical effects of having contact with an AIDS sufferer.

Ms Willox also arranged for three videos to be screened during the day: a Quantum documentary; *Does Dracula have AIDS?*, a Geoffrey Robinson *Hypotheticals* program; and a film produced by Monash medical students.

"*Does Dracula have AIDS?* will be shown again soon, this time during lunchtime," she said.

Ms Willox also hopes to run a further AIDS Information Day during next year's Orientation Week.



● SPOT THE DIFFERENCE. The university's Staff Development Branch recently produced a useful leaflet advising supervisors on ways of making newcomers feel at home — but not before cartoonist WEG's cover illustration was published. The leaflet's title is 'Introducing a new person to a job at Monash A guide for supervisors'.

## "Outside the guidelines"

The committee's attention was drawn to the publication in *The Reporter* (sic) of 5 August 1987 of two versions of a cartoon for a staff development brochure. The original version of the cartoon by Weg had been changed by staff development officers in accordance with advice received from a number of sources.

"The committee agreed that publication of the versions side-by-side with the claim beneath that the cartoon had been 'sanitised' to protect the sensibilities of female staff" was not in accordance with the spirit of the guidelines. The committee requested the co-ordinator to draw the matter to the attention of Information Office staff."

—Minutes of Equal Opportunity Advisory Committee meeting, 6 August 1987

## Healthy living

Tutor: Izzie Shaw.  
Tuesday mornings.  
Pam Ellis has been acting as tutor to this class while Izzie has been away ill.  
—*USA Newsletter*, Universities of the Third Age Network, September, 1987

# Computers will accelerate protein research

The large US computer corporation, Perkin-Elmer, has donated equipment commercially worth about \$250,000 to Professor Milton Hearn's team in bio-chemistry to assist research into purifying biochemicals.

The research group has developed sophisticated new techniques to automate the separation of proteins. Using microcomputers to control the process, the time taken to develop a scheme for purification can be reduced from years to days in some cases.

Professor Hearn said: "Genetic engineering makes the production of large amounts of valuable proteins easy, but not necessarily harvesting and purifying them. In fact, the cost of purification is about 70 per cent of the production cost. Only about 15 per cent is spent on the actual genetic engineering.

"The impact of our work on the production of therapeutic and industrial proteins is potentially enormous, as we have developed the best procedures for the recovery of biological material."

He said he had known senior scientists working at Perkin-Elmer for several years, and that they had approached him with the offer of equipment after an international conference at which he had presented some of the work.

"We have published on the concepts behind our work and it has created a lot of interest internationally. They recognised the power of what we are doing. There are no strings attached."

Application of the group's research will form a central part of the proposed

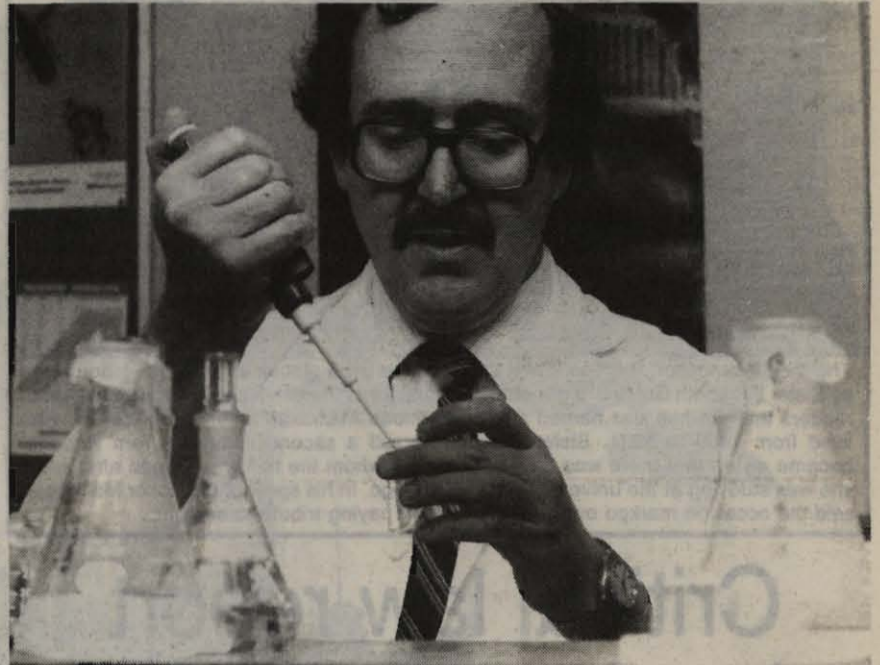
Biochemical Process Development Centre being developed in conjunction with the Victorian Government through the university's research and consulting company, Montech Pty Ltd. Hearn thinks it could form the basis of an industry potentially worth thousands of millions of dollars.

Traditionally, proteins have been separated in terms of their size, shape and average electric charge, but the purification of closely-related proteins demands knowledge of the distribution of that electric charge and also how attracted to water the protein is.

The necessary information can be obtained from a series of carefully planned, but essentially routine experiments. And that is where the micro-computer comes in.

The various steps can be plotted and controlled by computer, which can then join the formerly independent experiments into an automatic process, and can use the emerging trends to simulate behaviour of the protein under different conditions.

Using these simulations, the optimum conditions and steps to purify the protein can be worked out, and the separation performed, once again controlled by computer.



● Professor Milton Hearn

But there is one further problem. Proteins are very delicate molecules which depend on their shape to function properly. That shape, and hence a protein's activity, can be destroyed very easily — even in the purification process.

But the research team has come up with a way of automatically monitoring protein shape during the data-gathering

experiments, hence the optimum conditions for protein separation can also take protein activity into account. The Perkin-Elmer equipment will aid that protein activity monitoring process.

"Using the new equipment we can now rapidly expand the areas of application of our techniques, and validate aspects of our approach with practical examples," Professor Hearn said.

## Australia a test bed for multiculturalism

Australia is a testing ground for multiculturalism, says Dutch academic Dr Kees de Bot, visiting fellow at the Monash Centre for Migrant and Intercultural Studies.

"It is ahead of Western Europe in establishing a multicultural society because minorities have been here a lot longer."

Dr de Bot, senior lecturer at the Institute of Applied Linguistics, University of Nijmegen, is involved in a study funded by the Dutch Academy of Science into *Language Attrition in Dutch immigrants in Australia and France*.

"I am not interested only in the Dutch language, but in language attrition and loss in all ethnic minorities," he says.

"The Dutch in Australia have tried to integrate, and if we find that they have been unable to shake off their origins we can assume it will be much harder for other groups to do so."

Dr de Bot is following up research, done in 1971 by Associate Professor Michael Clyne of the German department, into language attrition among some 200 post-war Dutch migrants.

With his wife, Ineke Naber, a linguist at the Catholic Educational Centre in Den Bosch, he is testing the same people again.

The results have not yet been analysed, but they do not bode well for language retention, he says.

The tests require participants to describe in Dutch a number of pictures including a scene of canals in Amsterdam and one of a typical Australian drover.

"We also talk about their linguistic backgrounds, their age, education, and whether they speak Dutch at home, to each other and to their children.

"We ask whether they would like their children to retain the language.

"The usual answer is 'Yes . . . but . . .'. They like to think they are still part of an ethnic group but they don't do anything about it.

"There are already problems for the elderly because none of their grandchildren can speak Dutch; there is no third generation Dutch spoken in Australia.

Dr de Bot said it seemed possible in Australia to remain part of an ethnic group without keeping the language.

"People have thought language was the most important part of culture, the way in which you express ethnicity in its purest form, but it is becoming clear now that this is not so."

An important aspect of the research is to determine whether it is true of immigrants in general that the older they get the more they tend to give up their second language and return to the first.

"This is an issue we are having to take into account in Holland, where there were few immigrants before the 1970s.

"Now there are two large groups — Turks and Moroccans — who came as cheap labor in an economic boom.

"They came as migrant workers, their families followed, and they had many reasons to stay.

"This means that, for the first time, there may be a minority group in Holland which remains a minority as has happened in Australia.

"We will be moving into a society where languages will become important.

"If older immigrants are going to forget their Dutch, we will have to provide caretakers in homes and hospitals who can talk their languages.

"We are going to need nurses fluent in Turkish and Moroccan, people who are really bi-lingual."

Dr de Bot believes that having a first language taught to minority groups in schools does not lead to complete acquisition of that language.

"But there are many other reasons to teach a first language, especially for minorities low in the socio-economic order.

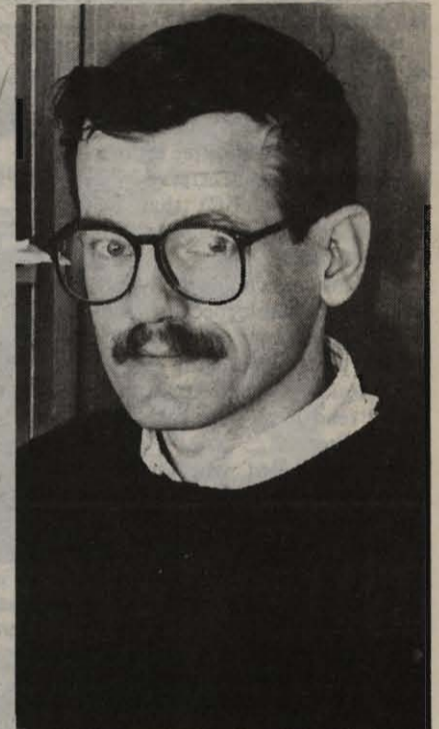
"It should be taught for the well-being and interest of first generation immigrants."

Dr de Bot is also researching attrition rates of foreign languages taught in schools.

"We want to know if all the time and money spent on these courses is worthwhile," he says.

★ ★ ★

Dr De Bot is a member of the organising committee for the *International Conference on Maintenance and Loss of Ethnic Minority Languages*, to be held at the Leeuwenhorst Congress Centre, Norrdwijkerhout, from 30 August to 2 September, 1988. Among the conference's keynote speakers will be Michael Clyne, Joshua Fishman, Christina Bratt-Paulston and John Edwards. Inquiries about the conference should be directed to Dr de Bot on ext. 2118 or to Associate Professor Clyne on 2245.



● Dr Kees de Bot

Dr de Bot will be a guest speaker at a one-day seminar on the Dutch community in Australia on 17 October.

He will speak on *Language attrition among Dutch elderly migrants*.

The seminar, *The Dutch language and the Dutch community in Australia: Victims of assimilation policies*, is being organised by the Centre for Migrant and Intercultural Studies.

Other key speakers will include Dr Tom Ammerlaan from Melbourne University who will talk on *First language attrition among the Dutch in Australia*, and Dr Henk Overberg from Victoria College on *Living arrangements of Dutch elderly in Australia*.

Further information is available from Dr Anna Pauwels, German Department, ext. 2237.

# Wills register will save time and money

Each year in Australia more than \$1 million is spent on advertising to make sure that the last will filed by a person is found and acted upon.

This expense is probably small compared with the cost of the time that solicitors and courts spend in determining active wills and resolving will-related disputes.

The Wills Records Office Pty Ltd, a new subsidiary of Monash University's commercial arm, Montech Pty Ltd, hopes to put a stop to much of the confusion and expense by establishing a computerised register of wills — the first of its kind in the world.

The register was the brainchild of Melbourne solicitor, Mr Henry Burstyner, who said it would save solicitors and clients a great deal of time and money.

A director of the new company, Professor Les Goldschlager of the Department of Computer Science, said the system had swung into action already, using software developed at Monash. "We hope that registration becomes part of the normal practice of making a will, and that it eventually acquires standing before the law."

For a fee of \$25 solicitors can lodge with the Wills Records Office the date on which a person made or amended his or her last will, and the name of the solicitor who prepared it. That person then will be issued with a plastic registration card giving the information in the computer file.

Because the register can be updated at any time, the registration card will show when a person's most recent will was

made and where it is lodged.

When a client dies, solicitors can apply to the company for a report which will show, in chronological order, all his or her registered wills and codicils and where they are lodged.

In fact, a list of all the solicitor's registrations can be sent out regularly, so that he or she can gain an indication of which clients might wish to update their wills.

To maintain confidentiality, the only information registered on the computer will be the name, date of birth and address of the client, the date on which the will was made and the name of the solicitor who prepared it.

Mr Burstyner gave an example where access to such a system would have saved a great deal of trouble.

A client allowed a higher bidder to buy his farm after he had already sold it, and then committed suicide. He had told his solicitors that he had no will, but wished to divide his estate between his brother and sister.

It turned out, however, that he had made a will years before in favor of some people who had befriended him. The resulting legal predicament is ongoing and extremely complicated.

The registry was developed in consultation with the Law Institute of Victoria.

Mr Burstyner said it was not the first time Australia had pioneered such legal innovations. Land registries — recognised worldwide as the best way of simplifying conveyancing and making it more systematic — were invented by a lawyer in Western Australia.

## The answer lies in the fingertips — or the eyes

A well-designed Australia Card system could eliminate unauthorised use of sensitive personal information, says Professor Joseph Eaton from the University of Pittsburgh.

He said such a system would need to include some form of a machine-readable biometric card.

Sensitive data could remain stored in hospital, tax office and welfare office files using such a system, he said at the Australasian Universities Law Schools Conference last month.

"All that is needed is a machine to create the digital equivalent of each person's unique fingerprint lines, retina capillaries or signature.

"This computer-readable number could then be compared to the numbers invisibly entered into the magnetic strip of the person's biometric Australia Card," he said.

However, the card format suggested by the Federal Government would not adequately protect privacy, Professor Eaton said.

"The legislative proposal for the card is technologically outmoded and needs to be updated to include one or several of the suggested biometric indicators," he said.

A properly administered card could offer citizens the technical means to reduce fraud, misrepresentation, terrorist movements and stealing.

It would "serve as a document breeder, to verify a person's identity before receiving more specialised purpose documents, such as a driver's licence, passport or credit card".

"Sleazy divorce lawyers, private detectives and sensation-mongering journalists would also have a more difficult time obtaining potentially incriminating personal data without lawful entitlement to it.

"It would provide maximum protection against having our identity compromised, misused or stolen.

"These anti-social elements — not the democratically elected government in Canberra — deserve the designation of 'Enemy number one' of privacy rights," Professor Eaton said.

He pointed out that under the present system of filing, individuals have no means of knowing who has access to their files or for what purpose.

His proposed system allows for access into any file to be recorded with the reader's personal digitised number, leaving a permanent register of the identity of that reader.

And unlike the Victorian driver's licence, the card would not contain any visual information or photographs.

This would reduce the possibility of a reader being unduly prejudiced towards the cardholder.



The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mal Logan, unveiled a plaque donated to Roberts Hall by Sister Elizabeth Burchill, a generous benefactor of the university. The plaque informs readers that the hall was named after the famous Australian artist, Tom Roberts, who lived from 1856 to 1931. Sister Burchill, herself a second cousin of Tom Roberts, became aware that there was no recognition of whom the hall was named after while she was studying at the university some years ago. In his speech, Professor Mal Logan said the occasion marked one great Australian paying tribute to another.

## Critical law report has its own critics

The review which recently recommended sweeping changes to Australian university law schools contained a significant number of errors, says Professor Colin Phegan, Dean of Law at the University of Sydney.

Professor Phegan, talking last month at a symposium at Monash, said many of the facts in the Pearce Committee report may have been accurate in 1984, but were not true for 1987.

"It was a fundamental shortcoming of the report that there was no attempt to verify the information close to the time of publication," he said.

The Pearce Committee reported to the Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission (CTEC) that nearly all schools were failing to provide adequate legal education.

Many of the committee's judgements were questionable because the conclusions were drawn in an anecdotal and arbitrary way, Professor Phegan said.

He quoted an example where the report reads: "A large Sydney law firm told us that . . ."

He questioned whether the review committee would have saved itself some embarrassment had it consisted of employers of law graduates and retired lawyers and academics, rather than staff from schools under review.

"I'm not saying that the members of the committee were insensitive to the fact that they were a biased sample.

"I'm merely questioning whether the committee should have consisted of these representatives," he said.

Another speaker at the symposium, Professor Jim O'Donovan from the University of Western Australia, said

the report had angered him because it "seemed to show a naivety about academic life, academic resourcing and academic politics".

He said that the committee had confessed that much of the information they had presented were impressions rather than solid evidence.

"After making this statement, one wonders why the Pearce Committee made such drastic recommendations, including the closure of an entire law school."

Another major failing of the review was that it had not considered whether selection procedures for the law students were appropriate.

"We are choosing an elite when we accept law students, and it's simply irresponsible to say they choose themselves in the light of their results," he said.

Professor Marcia Neave, Dean of Law at the University of Adelaide, said that the report must be considered an outstanding success if it raised any questions and made academics agonise over the future of legal education, regardless of its faults.

"Unlike some of my colleagues, I'm not out for blood, I am out for creative self-criticism.

"However, I can't dismiss that the report's most unsatisfying aspect was an absence of a discussion on the philosophy of legal education.

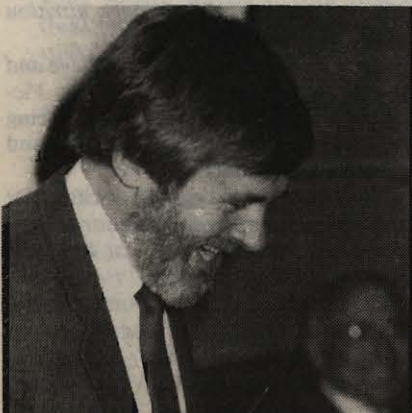
"The most striking thing about legal education is the little it has changed in the 21 years since I graduated."

She said there is a curious belief that teachers know how to engage in what she calls a complex human relationship — between pupil and teacher.

"Teaching has been based on a sink or swim model where new lecturers were left to struggle to shore, while experienced teachers were allowed to dog-paddle around using the same techniques they have always used.

"To continue my aquatic metaphor, only a very few eager beavers attended appropriate courses run by universities and other institutions," Professor Neave said.

The symposium, which was part of the Australasian Universities Law Schools Associations Conference, was chaired by Professor John Farrer from the University of Canterbury.



• Professor John Farrer, chairman

# Safety kit "doesn't change attitudes"

Monash education researchers have found that a Road Traffic Authority (RTA) kit designed to promote road user awareness at Year 10 level increases student knowledge of what constitutes safe driving and road use.

The same package has no effect on student attitudes, however.

The team which assessed the kit — the Evaluation Studies Group — stated in a report commissioned by the RTA that the package has "no significant effect upon students' road safety attitudes", but a "significant effect on student knowledge".

Leader of the Evaluation Studies Group, Dr Paul Gardner, said "The kit is not an attempt at a defensive driving course, but rather a manual on how to use the roads more safely as a pedestrian or a cyclist or while travelling in a car."

"Its purpose is to demonstrate how mechanical and biological factors contribute to responsible road use, and it does just that," he said.

The kit, *Science and the Road*, uses statistics, science experiments and explicit photographs to drive home the need for responsible driving.

One *Age* newspaper article reproduced in the kit describes how, in an accident, "a child without restraint is thrown around like a rag doll in a metal box".

The teenage and early 20s age groups have statistically the worst road carnage records.

*Science and the Road* is one of a wide range of units which seek to integrate road safety awareness into schools.

It is taught as part of the Science curriculum and is presented in two books.

One book, *The Vehicle*, examines how questions of physics, such as inertia, speed and friction, alter the vehicle's performance; while *The Driver*, the second book, discusses how age, drugs (including alcohol and medication), eyesight and hearing affect the time it takes people to react in dangerous situations.

The Evaluation group also found that while males scored higher on *The Vehicle* unit, females displayed a markedly more responsible attitude to safe driving.

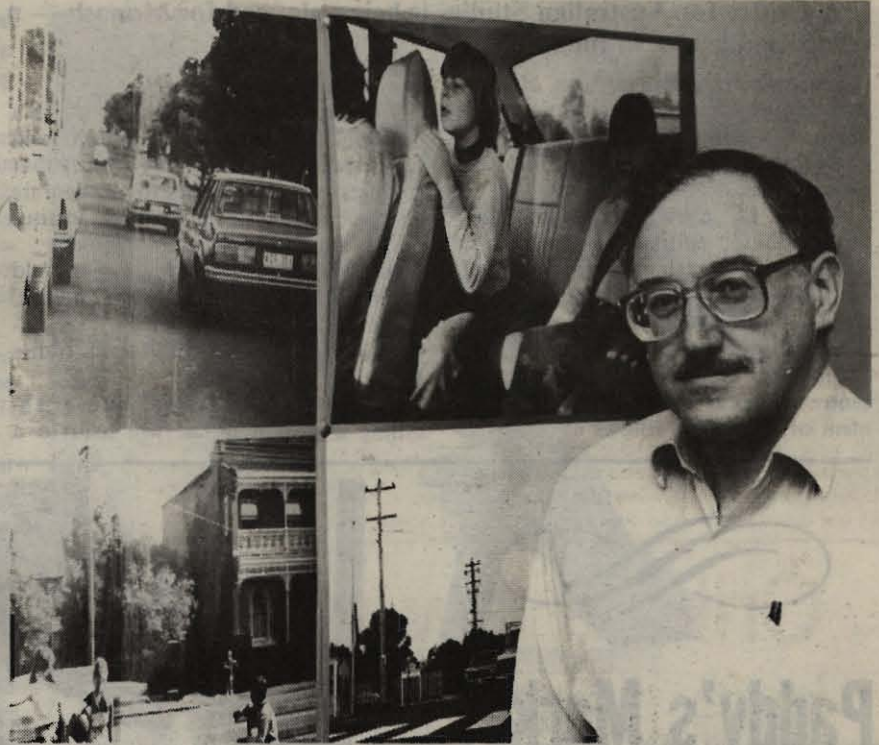
These findings contradict those of an earlier study conducted for the RTA, in which no significant gains in knowledge among users of *Science and the Road* was found.

"In this earlier assessment, the group concluded that many of the packages sat unused on school room shelves.

"At that point we recommended that teacher consultants be introduced to emphasise the kits' implementation," Dr Gardner said.

This step is seen as the major reason for the increase in student knowledge found in this latest study.

An RTA spokesman said the authority was very impressed with the



● Paul Gardner: "No significant effect on road safety attitudes." Picture: Tony Miller.

report and satisfied with the findings.

"It showed that the unit does exactly what it was designed to do — to improve student knowledge of how best to avoid danger on the roads," he said.

Dr Gardner formed the Evaluation Studies Group in 1981, having modelled it on a similar system at Stanford University.

"I was a Fulbright Scholar at Stanford in '79 and '80, where academics with a variety of expertise in education formed a group to research quasi-government problems."

The Monash group is committed to a team approach where resources are combined for local, interstate and national agency projects.

## Thai news team will spread Monash story

Monash will feature prominently in the student press of Bangkok — and on television — in coming weeks.

The exposure follows a recent visit by Siriporn (Tonya) Srethapramote, editor of the 150,000 circulation *Student Weekly*, and Laddawan Wongsriwong, a top television news personality, said to be Thailand's answer to Jo Pearson.

Miss Srethapramote and Mrs Wongsriwong toured the eastern states last month to gain material about Australian educational institutions and tourist attractions of special appeal to young people.

At Monash, they interviewed the Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ian Polmear, talked with Thai postgraduate students, and visited the offices of Lot's Wife.

Mrs Wongsriwong filmed a number of Thai science students in the physics labs, as well as views of the campus and close-ups of flowering native trees and shrubs.

The visitors were accompanied on their tour of the campus by Miss Porn Senawong, president of the Monash Thai Students' Association.

Miss Senawong first came to Australia in 1977 as a member of the first group of lecturers seconded to Monash under the newly-introduced Thai Lecturers' Scheme.

She is back now completing a Ph.D. in Linguistics.



● Above: From left, Porn Senawong, Laddawan Wongsriwong and Siriporn Srethapramote take in the sights of Monash. Below: Swapping notes with Lot's Wife editor, Jenny Munz. Pictures: Richard Crompton.



## "Quality education" says local headmaster

Staff and students at Monash University may be interested to know that Monash Primary School offers a quality education at a location convenient to the university.

The school caters for all children including high and low achievers and its experienced staff includes specialists in library, physical education, music and special needs.

Monash Primary has access to expertise and facilities at the university and at

nearby Rusden College, and it takes part in a co-operative program of instrumental music tuition through the neighboring Monash High School.

The school occupies a series of spacious split-level classroom units, and it offers an after-school care program from 3.30 to 6pm each week-night.

Interested people should contact the principal, Mr Max Waugh, on 560 5841, to arrange for an interview and tour of inspection.

# New centre may become a national resource

**A Centre for Australian Studies is being planned for Monash — a recognised leader in the field.**

Professor John Hay, Dean of Arts, says despite Monash's reputation, there has been a serious lack of information, co-ordination and planning of Australian studies.

A wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate courses with varying amounts of Australian content has been on offer for some years, and the centre would aim to promote such courses and develop a research program.

Professor Hay says he also hopes the centre will act as a focus for the development of Australian studies at other ter-

tiary institutions.

"The opportunity exists to establish a National Centre for Research and Development in Australian studies that could extend its activities to incorporate all studies in Australian tertiary institutions," he said.

In this way, the university could develop links with outside bodies, corporations and individuals with an interest in the development of such studies at tertiary institutions.

A further proposal is looking at establishing a program that will lead to a

Masters degree in Australian Studies.

The program would cater for both pass and honors students, with the latter having only to complete the second of two parts to qualify for the Masters degree.

A new course, *Society, Culture and the Study of Australia*, would be mandatory for all students.

The course, to be taught by historian Dr John Rickard, would be designed as a methodological subject administered by the Centre for Australian Studies rather than by participating departments.

It would be contemporary in focus,

placing emphasis on the development of universities and institutions in post-war Australia.

The sub-committee also recommended four other courses to be established: *Australian Autobiography*, *The Australian Ethnic Experience*, *The Shaping of the Australian Environment* and *Work in Australian Society*, designed for specific inclusion in the MA program.

Existing honors subjects with an "Australian" designation would be offered in the first part of the program, but would not be available to students who had completed an honors degree.

## Paddy's Market raises money for amenities

Volunteers from the Monash University Parents Group display handicrafts which were on sale at last month's Paddy's Market in the Union Building. The group, which is set to change its name to Friends of Monash University Incorporated, raised \$470 from the sale of books, cakes, crafts, plants and a lucky prize. The money will go to help the library and other university departments buy equipment to benefit students.



## Admin staff see how the other half works

**A criticism commonly levelled at university administrations is that they are isolated from the research activities of their institutions.**

Many people would not think of asking administration staff about generating square waves, drying coal on a fluid bed or testing skyscrapers against collapsing under wind loading.

But for 45 Monash staff who attended a recent Staff Development program tour of Engineering, such questions would not pose any great problem.

The 1½ hour tour took in all five engineering departments — civil, mechanical, materials, chemical and electrical — and staff were shown the major research activities of each.

Professor Lance Endersbee, Dean of Engineering, gave an introductory talk outlining the role of engineering in society, and Monash selection requirements.

He said about 8 per cent of the students who entered the faculty this year were female, but Monash was anxious to increase this proportion.

"It has been suggested that one way to do this would be to change the entry requirements.

"At the moment students must have HSC physics, chemistry, English and two maths subjects.

"We might attract more females if only one maths subject and either chemistry or physics were required," Professor Endersbee said.

Engineers earn their living in an international environment, competing with world authorities.

"This means that what is taught must be of international standard, and for this reason engineers are reluctant to see entry requirements change," he said.

In a letter to Professor Endersbee, Personnel Branch staff said the tour was

"most useful as a demystification exercise".

Assistant registrar, Mr Bruce Shields, said another tour is planned for Microbiology on Wednesday 21 October.

Laboratory manager in Microbiology, Mr Ian Ray, will show staff such things

as how wine is fermented, the dangers of accumulating phosphate in sewage and research into the resistance of "golden staph".

Information on the forthcoming tour is available from the Staff Development Branch, ext. 4054.

## In memory of Justice Murphy

**The Monash University Law Students' Society will present a free public lecture on Friday 9 October in memory of the late Justice Lionel Murphy.**

Speakers will be Dr Jocelyne Scutt, a former Associate of Mr Justice Murphy, and Justice Michael Kirby, former head of the Australian Law Reform Commission.

Dr Scutt, who is now at the Melbourne Bar, will give her talk on *Dedica-*

*tion and Introduction*. Mr Justice Kirby, now President of the Appeal Court of the NSW Supreme Court, will speak on *An Appeal Court for Victoria*.

The lecture will be held in The Basement, Law Institute of Victoria, 470 Bourke Street, Melbourne, starting at 7.30pm.

Seating will be limited and it is advisable to book through the society on 565 3398.



# Postwar revolution expanded women's options

Women are no longer confined to caring for the home and children since a post-World War Two revolution in workplace attitudes, says Dr Margaret James, the university's Equal Opportunity Co-ordinator.

Women can now make informal choices concerning career options and childbearing.

Talking at a *Careers Day for Women*, organised by the Monash Association of Graduate Students (MAGS), she said that life-long domesticity probably no longer existed.

Women cannot afford to be complacent about their future because they are unlikely to remain at home after childbearing, Dr James said.

Mrs Jenny Strauss, senior lecturer in English, said any career decision should be made on the basis that it provided the maximum benefit for all family members.

She said successful management of time and energy was critical in career development.

Labor-saving devices and household help should be used as much as possible.

Dr Ann Shorten, lecturer in Education, said that, in the past, women lived by the adage "speech is silver, but silence is golden".

A female lecturer who spoke clearly and used eye contact and the appropriate body language would convey the message that she was in charge.

Dr Shorten advised the women in attendance that there remain moments when it is appropriate to follow the "silence is golden" philosophy.

Other speakers at the careers day included Ms Jenny Baldwin, Careers and Appointment Service counsellor; Dr Pauline Nestor, senior tutor in English,

and Ms Michelle Grossman, a postgraduate student in English.

More than 90 female honors, postgraduate and academic staff members attended the morning talks and afternoon workshops.

"The large number who attended showed that the need for more help with

academic career planning is strongly felt," Dr James said.

MAGS received inquiries from as far away as Griffith University in Brisbane.

The program was designed to demonstrate MAGS' support for the university's Affirmative Action policy, said Ms Patra Antonis, organiser for MAGS.

"A careers day for women was an innovation by Monash which provided a good example of what affirmative action can mean in practice," said Dr James.

She emphasised that affirmative action does not equate positive discrimination.



• Equal Opportunity Co-ordinator, Dr Margaret James, answers questions at the MAGS Careers Day.



## Monash's econometrics reputation soars

Monash has trounced such renowned universities as Oxford and Berkeley in a worldwide ranking of theoretical econometrics.

The journal *Econometrics Theory* published an article giving the top 200 university rankings for econometrics research based on the number and length of articles in major journals.

Monash rates sixth in the world when it is taken into account that only four Monash researchers — Professor Max King, Dr Grant Hillier, Dr Keith McLaren and former Professor David Giles — contributed to the journals.

When a further ranking was based on

the number of published articles alone, and ignored how many researchers contributed, Monash's rating slipped to a less healthy, but still very impressive, 18th.

Professor King said he was delighted to see Monash gaining such recognition, "particularly at a time when the Hudson Report to the Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission is calling for greater research efficiency".

"Although Monash is already well respected internationally, especially in theoretical econometrics, I think this will make economists more aware of our existence," he said.

Monash did not rate as highly on a ranking of all econometrics research.

Professor King said the survey did not give a true indication of the level of applied research being done in Australia.

"The rankings were worked out using English and American journal articles.

"It's difficult to have applied econometrics works, which are country specific, published in overseas journals," he said.

Professor King first saw the article, which is the first of its kind in econometrics, when he attended the recent Australasian meeting of the Econometrics Society in New Zealand.

### Irene's helpful ways rewarded

Mrs Irene Burton (left), a Monash post office employee, has many staff and students to thank for her new television. She won the money to buy the TV in a competition where the public were asked to nominate the most helpful post office worker. She received dozens of nominations from people on campus and has already won the South East Melbourne district award for excellence. Mrs Burton, pictured here with that award, now goes on to battle 12 other Victorian district winners for the state title.



• "Inside Out" try their luck at Expert Double Figures.

## 'Godspell' proved a godsend for MUMCO

The Monash University Musical Theatre Company (MUMCO) has been awarded the 1986 Garnet H. Carroll Prize for last year's production of *Godspell*.

MUMCO's 1986 president, Cameron McLeod, and vice-president, Sally Gilbertson, accepted the \$500 award from the Dean of Arts, Professor John Hay, on behalf of MUMCO.

Ms Gilbertson, the assistant co-ordinator for Student Theatre, and Mr McLeod, now performing with the Sydney Opera Company in *Spellbound*, said MUMCO would use the money to

help finance future productions.

The Garnet H. Carroll Prize has been traditionally awarded to a theatre company associated with Monash for some aspect of a musical production other than an opera.

As from this year, outstanding performances and individual contributions to such productions will also be considered for the prize.



• Professor Hay presents the Carroll Prize to Sally Gilbertson and Cameron McLeod.

## Dining-dancing Zorba-style

About 180 people dined and danced Greek-style in the Banquet Room last month at a Greek Tavern night organised by MAGS (Monash Association of Graduate Students).

MAGS co-ordinator, Ms Patra Antonis, said the night was a huge success. The authentic Greek food was prepared by Union Catering and the music provided by a traditional Greek band, Omega.

Ms Antonis said social functions like the Greek night were vital in helping to break down the sense of isolation felt by

many postgraduates. Those attending included academic, union and administrative staff who had frequent dealings with the students.

Most people joined in the dancing and then enjoyed performances by experts from Margarita's School of Greek Folk-dance while they caught their breath between bouts.

Inquiries about MAGS should be directed to Ms Antonis on 3196. The MAGS office is located on the first floor, eastern end, of the Union Building.

## 'M' is for Minties ... and for mayhem

Nobody anticipated the impact a few Minties being thrown to a hungry audience would have on the ratings of a new comedy theatre contest.

Nobody, that is, except the organisers of Theatresports — a Playbox Theatre Company contest.

While Minties were being devoured, popularity was soaring.

And now Monash has its own version, Minties and all — acted out every Tuesday lunchtime by groups of four people.

The contest revolves around games with such intriguing titles as *Expert double figures* (for mathematicians?), *Shared story*, *In the style of . . .* and *Ina, witha, whilea*.

Closer examination reveals that *Expert double figures*, for example, is an ad lib interview with the voices of two team members, but the arm movements of the other two.

To make the task just that touch more frustrating for the contestants — and hilarious for the audience — the compere chooses a most lurid topic for the interview.

Kate Herbert, a Theatresports com-

pere from the Playbox Theatre Company, runs workshops for prospective performers (yes, you), and the curious, an hour before each contest.

She competes professionally at the Playbox in a team called "The four by fours".

Teams with bizarre names appear to be assured success.

If you are interested, form a team and give it such a name (but not *The Reverends*, *The inside outs* or *Sally's on our side*, because they are already taken).

An appropriate name might even give you a victory over the most reverent of the reverends, a fellow dressed in a priest's cassock holding aloft a large wooden cross.

Staff and students not wishing to compete can still participate — as judges.

Inquiries should be directed to Sally "On Our Side" Gilbertson, assistant co-ordinator of Student Theatre, ext. 3108.

## An 'intriguing blend' of photography and painting

"Perspective 1975-1987" is the title of an intriguing blend of photography and painting that makes up the exhibition currently occupying the Monash University Gallery.

The work of Melbourne-born and widely-travelled artist Micky Allan, the exhibition will remain open until 17 October.

Writer Helen Garner, opening the exhibition on 10 September, spoke of Micky Allan's "adventurousness, her readiness to take risks, her sense of the ridiculous and of the mysterious — and of her strong, elegant and spiritual approach to the world . . ."

Of her own work, Micky Allan says she prefers to use paint rather than color photography to enhance the basic (mostly black and white) photographs . . . sometimes using paintings to support the photograph, at other times supporting the painting with a photograph.

She prefers the paint, she says, because of the "spiritedness and fluidity of paint" and the independence of colors.

One particular set of works — *The Family Room* — she says, comprises portraits that "hover between the formal and the informal . . . between anxiety and delight".

"On the one hand," she says, "they reveal traces of the tiredness, role-



• Micky Allan (above) spoke about her work at a public lecture in the Gallery Theatre on 23 September. Photograph: Richard Crompton.

playing and frustration that anyone living in this society is likely to experience, but which we rarely choose as our public face. More than counter to this, however, is their warmth, buoyancy and verve, and to me the sense that just as their experience and form might shift at any minute, so might our sense of the possible . . ."

## Tops in water research

A postgraduate student in zoology has won the 1987 Water Research Achievement Award from the Australian Water Research Advisory Council for the best PhD in water research in Australia.

Dr Leon Barmuta's thesis was entitled "Community structure of the macro-invertebrate benthos in an Australian upland stream". He was supervised by

senior lecturer in zoology, Dr Sam Lake.

The award, which goes to both the student and the department, was presented at the dinner in Canberra of the First National Water Research Seminar by the Minister for Resources, Mr Peter Morris.

Dr Barmuta is now a research fellow in the School of Environmental and Life Sciences at Murdoch University, Western Australia.

# No question: It was the Blues' year!



## IMPORTANT DATES

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

- 9 Applications close for 1988 LL.M. by coursework and Diplomas in the Faculty of Law commencing in Summer Term.
- 17 **Third Term ends**  
Third Term ends for Medicine I and II
- 21 Examinations commence for Medicine VI

- 23 Annual examinations begin
- 24 Second half-year ends for LL.M. by coursework
- 30 Fourth Term ends for Dip.Ed.  
Second half-year ends for B.Ed.St., B.Sp.Ed., Dip.Ed. Psych. and M.Ed.St.  
Closing date for applications for Monash Graduate Scholarships and Commonwealth Postgraduate Research Awards.

## Education alumni plan to kick off in November

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mal Logan, and the director of the Commission for the Future, Ms Rhonda Galbally, will be guest speakers at the launching on Thursday 5 November of the Monash Education Alumni.

The evening will begin at 7.30pm in the Banquet Room, Union Building.

The alumni was established last month and an interim committee formed to organise activities including the publication of a regular newsletter.

There will also be workshops, lectures and social functions to help members keep up with developments in the faculty and in education generally.

Membership is open to all staff and past students of the faculty. The fee for founding members (those who join

before 5 November) is \$10 a year; for ordinary members it will be \$15 a year.

Membership forms are available from Ms Joan Szalman, executive officer for the alumni, Room 217, Education Building, ext. 2858.

## Friends' party

The Friends of Monash University Incorporated have organised a party booking for the premiere of *Evita*, a Cheltenham Light Opera Company performance, at the Alexander Theatre on Friday 23 October.

Staff and students buying their tickets through the Friends are also invited to pre-show refreshments with the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ian Polmear, in the University Gallery Building at 7.15 pm.

Tickets, available from Mrs June Follett, ext. 4122, are the usual price of \$13.50 for adults and \$8.50 for students and pensioners.

The Monash Blues entered the "C" Grade amateur football grand final against Kew last month as the undisputed underdogs.

But, like their VFL counterparts, they ran out winners — in spite of a 95-point defeat against the same team only two weeks earlier.

The club president, Associate Professor Keith Frearson from Economics, said the Blues' run-at-all-costs attitude turned the opposition's 22-point half-time lead into a 28-point Monash victory.

They scored eight goals in the final

quarter to climb into next season's "B" Grade competition: a far cry from the "E" Grade flag won in their first year of play 25 years ago.

The club had not won a premiership since that 1962 victory.

Staff and students wanting further information on the football club can contact Associate Professor Frearson, ext. 2311.

## Aboriginal database in NT

It would once have been difficult to track down the names of researchers investigating, say, Aboriginal initiation ceremonies or Australian crocodile populations.

But the task has been made a great deal easier thanks to a new data base containing information on research into Aboriginal topics and North Australia.

The University College of the Northern Territory, which developed the data base, will produce printed listings of research and researchers in these areas.

A complete microfiche edition could be updated regularly.

Scholars investigating any aspect of Australia north of the Tropic of Capricorn, all of the Northern Territory or Aboriginal studies are invited to send for a questionnaire to outline their research.

The questionnaire is available from Alan Butler, College Librarian, University College of the Northern Territory, GPO Box 1341, Darwin 5794.

## Help with transport wanted

Wanted — Essendon area. Person to accompany 24 year old man (who is partially mobile but otherwise independent) to outings such as films, football, cricket, music, bush walks and the zoo.

Please call Robert on 318 6366 or Ingrid on 354 8244. (Submitted by Robyn Berrill, co-ordinator of Volunteers Northern District Centre.)

# Touche! – NSW foils all in competition

Although gentlemen of the aristocracy no longer battle with swords on misty moors, enthusiasm for the noble art of fencing has not diminished.

Students from eight Australian universities met at Monash over the last vacation to determine academia's most skilful swordsmen.

Competitors in the four-day inter-iversity event fought it out in sabre, epee and foil.

Fencers from either Sydney or New South Wales universities won all but one of the seven events.

The Melbourne University women's

team were the only ones to break the New South Welshmen's winning streak with their victory in the team foil event.

It is not only the skills of the feudal masters which have been passed on to 20th century enthusiasts; their discriminatory ideas have also survived.

Women are not allowed to enter sabre competitions and only recently won the battle to compete in epee events.

## Jenny sails away with top Victorian award

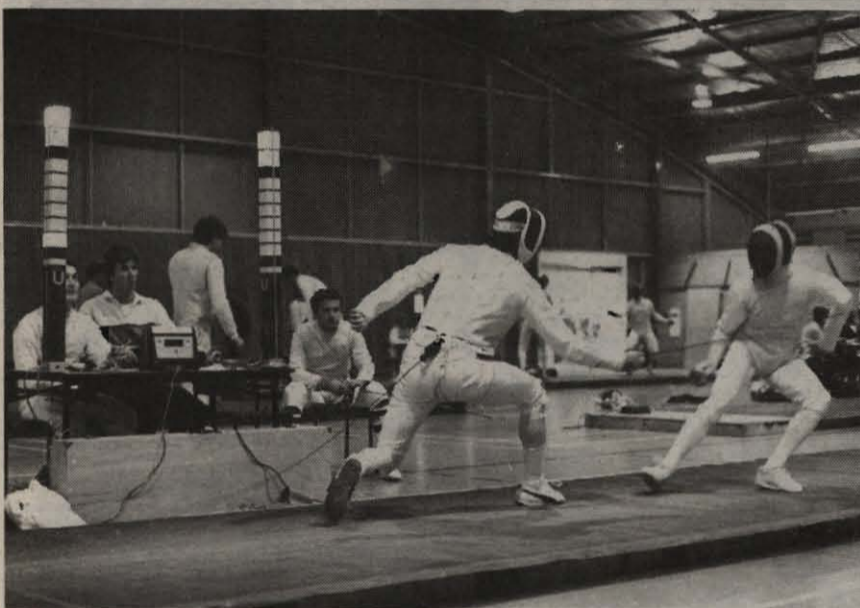
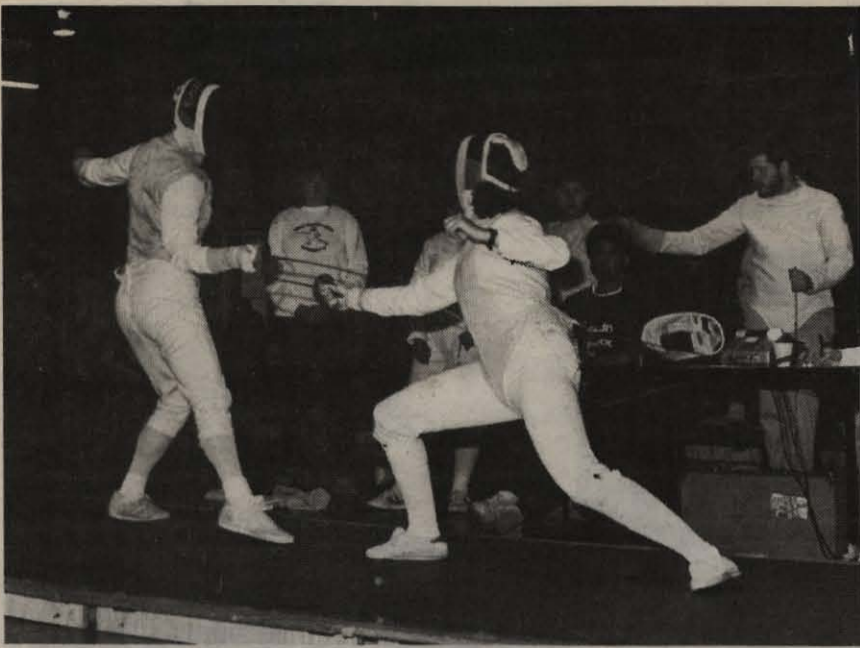
A Monash graduate has been named the 1987 Kitty McEwan Sports-woman of the Year — the most prestigious Vicsport award for women.

Miss Jenny Lidgett, who graduated in Economics early this year, was named the winner at the annual awards at Dallas Brooks Hall last month.

Jenny, a sailor with six Australian Women's Championships in the 470 yachting class; was nominated for the

award by the Victorian Yachting Council.

Since August, she and crew mate Abby Bucek have been overseas competing in a series of international events, including the World Women's Championships in Greece and the Pre-Olympic Regatta in Pusan, Korea.



### Monash Reporter

The next issue will be the annual "Graduates' Special" and will be published on Wednesday, 11 November.

Copy deadline is 30 October, but earlier copy would be appreciated.

Contributions (letters, photos) and suggestions should be addressed to the editor, Lisa Kelly, Information Office, University Offices (ext. 2085).

## Arts takes up women's studies challenge

Mrs Jean McCaughey, wife of the Victorian Governor and herself a noted social scientist, will officially open Monash's new Women's Studies Centre on Thursday 15 October in the Monash University Gallery at 5 pm.

As part of the launch, a lecture on *The challenge of feminist scholarship*,

by Dr Carole Pateman from the University of Sydney, will be held in R7 at 6 pm.

The centre, under the direction of Dr Jan van Bommel, will draw on the expertise of women from various Arts disciplines.

It will aim to develop a full range of

undergraduate courses leading to a major in women's studies and will eventually incorporate a coursework Masters in the field.

A minor has already been developed and the first undergraduate course, *Representation of women and gender*, will begin next year.

## OCTOBER DIARY

The events listed below are open to the public:

### ALEXANDER THEATRE

23: **MUSICAL** — "Evita", pres. by CLOC Productions, until 7 Nov. 8pm nightly. Inquiries: 288 8438.

### ROBERT BLACKWOOD HALL

10: **EVENING CONCERT** — ABC Perspectives Concert No.6. Melb. Symphony Orch. cond. by Hiroyuki Iwaki. Soloists: Jeffrey Crellin (oboe d'amore), Norio Sato (guitar), Kinshi Tsurata (biwa) and Katsuya Yokoyama (shakuhachi). Works by Takemitsu. 8pm. Tickets at BASS outlets or 10 Queen St, Melb.

11: **16th ANNUAL SUNDAY AFTERNOON CONCERT SERIES** — "Music of Melba and her times". Soprano: Virginia Bruozis, Joanne Horsburgh and Eril Basset. Mezzo: Lynette Crocker and Jane Baxter. Tenor: Craig MacDonald. Baritone: Lucas de Jong. Accompanist: Len Vorster — piano. Works by Bishop, Verdi, Donizetti, Sullivan, Tosti and Delibes. 2.30pm. Admission free.

**EVENING CONCERT** — Monash Uni Choral Society with Presbyterian Ladies College String Orchestra cond. by Andre

de Quadros. Requiem (Faure), Let Thy Hand be Strengthened (Handel), Trauermusik (Hindemith), The Viola in my Life (Feldman). Adults \$8, conc. \$5. 8pm. Inquiries: PLC 288 5811.

14: **AFTERNOON CHORAL COMPETITION** — Waverley Music Eisteddfod Schools Choral Competitions pres. Primary, Secondary and Madrigal groups. Adults \$2, conc. \$1. 4.30pm. Tickets available at the door.

17: **EVENING CONCERT** — Melb. Welsh Male Voice Choir "Annual Night of Song" pres. a combination of trad. Welsh, Opera and modern popular songs featuring David Smith (tenor), Melinda Ash (soprano), Brett Jones (piano). Adults \$10, conc. \$8. 8pm. Ticket inquiries: 870 0318, 221 1292.

18: **AFTERNOON CONCERT** — Melb. Youth Music Council pres. the Melb. Youth Orchestra with guest artist Stephen McIntyre (piano). Adults \$7, conc. \$4. 2.30pm. Ticket inquiries: 614 2369.

**LECTURES, SEMINARS, EXHIBITIONS**  
7: **ARTS AND CRAFTS CENTRE** — Registration for Spring Program.

Courses include textiles, painting, ceramics, music and many more. Free brochure available. Inquiries ext. 3180.

7: **CENTRE FOR GENERAL AND COMPARATIVE LITERATURE SEMINAR** — "Georg Lukas and the Disintegration of Dramatic Form: The Tragedy of Modernity", by Kate Hartley. Room 310, Menzies Bldg. 3.15pm. Admission free. Inquiries ext. 2159.

8: **ZOOLOGY SEMINAR** — "Embryonic Disapause in Small Marsupials", by Simon Ward. Room 232, Biology Bldg. 1pm. Admission free. Inquiries ext. 4648.

**CENTRE OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES SEMINAR** — "Politics, culture and technology in the First Javanese War of Succession, 1704-08", by Professor Merle Ricklefs. Room 515, Menzies Bldg., 11.15am. Admission free. Inquiries ext. 4993.

13: **CENTRE FOR MIGRANT AND INTERCULTURAL STUDIES SEMINAR** — "Retracing our steps: Greek female migration to Australia, Post WWII", by Sebrenka Kunek. R6. 1pm. Admission free. Inquiries ext. 2958, 2872.

15: **ZOOLOGY SEMINAR** — "Zooplankton of Meromictic Systems in Antarctica", by Dr Ian Bayly. Room 232 Biology Bldg. 1pm. Admission free. Inquiries ext. 4648.

**CENTRE FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES SEMINAR** — "Class, Culture and Communal Conflict in Kediri, East Java", by Dr Ken Young. Room 515, Menzies Bldg. 11.15am. Admission free. Inquiries ext. 4993.

17: **CENTRE FOR MIGRANT AND INTERCULTURAL STUDIES WORKSHOP** — "The Dutch Language and Community in Australia: Victims of Assimilationist Policies?" \$5 (one day). Inquiries ext. 2237.

29: **CENTRE FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES SEMINAR** — "A Content Analysis of Recent Publications on China From the Socialist Republic of Vietnam" by Dr Esta Ungar. Room 515, Menzies Bldg. 11.15am. Admission free. Inquiries ext. 4993.

31: **CENTRE FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES SEMINAR** — "Why Gender Matters in Southeast Asian Politics". Banquet Room, Union Bldg. 10.30am. Registration and inquiries ext. 4993.

**CENTRE FOR MIGRANT AND INTERCULTURAL STUDIES WORKSHOP** — "Racial Discrimination Act", with Prof. C. Weeramantry. \$20 (one day). Inquiries ext. 3244 or 211 8865.

### MONASH UNIVERSITY GALLERY

7: **EXHIBITION** — Micky Allen — Perspective 1975-1987. Tues-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 1-5pm until Oct 17. Inquiries ext 4217.