

Key Centre will be storehouse for all things Australian

Although its name may have changed, the Main Library's bag room will continue to act as an academic storehouse.

But instead of providing temporary accommodation for students' books, the bag room's new tenant, the National Centre for Research and Development in Australian Studies, will become a permanent nationwide repository of information on our way of life.

According to its director, Professor Peter Spearritt (below) the centre will produce databases on Australian heritage, cultural activities, and teaching in Australian studies, as well as biographies and analyses of the state of the nation.

"The aim of the centre is to improve teaching and research resources in Australian studies," Professor Spearritt said.

One of 15 Key Centres in Teaching and Research established in universities and colleges in 1988, the centre will be supported for up to six years by the Federal Government, subject to a satisfactory review after three years.

The co-ordinator of the successful Monash submission, Professor John Hay, then Dean of Arts, said at the time it would play an important role in future developments in both secondary and tertiary education, where Australian studies was an important area of development.

"When Mr Dawkins praised Monash for getting the key centre, he noted the very large number of universities that had nominated Australian studies as their first priority," Professor Hay said.

"In fact it was the most sought-after designated key centre in the entire exercise."

Apart from its teaching programs, one of the centre's main roles will be to fill the gaps in Australia's cultural information.

Said Professor Spearritt: "At the moment there is no single volume reference book on Australian museums and art galleries.

Database

"One of our projects will be the Cultural Activities Database which will contain comprehensive data on museums and galleries, from visitor profiles to the nature of the collections themselves.

"A spin-off will be a major reference book which might have a paperback edition for the tourist market."

The Heritage Tourism Database will also provide pertinent information, this time for tourists.

"There is no centralised guide in Australia to heritage items, whether buildings, sites or museums," Professor Spearritt said.

"Our major clientele would be the tourism industry itself.

"We have been approached by a number of commercial publishers interested in a glove-box edition which would list important buildings, museums, art galleries and national parks.

"At present the tourist would need four books, which would require a rather large glove box."

Professor Spearritt, a former associate professor of politics at Macquarie University, is well-qualified to oversee such projects.

Until recently he was an adviser on historical and heritage aspects of museum collections and displays in New South Wales, most notably that of Sydney's new Powerhouse Museum.

He is the general editor of five reference volumes of the 11-volume

history of Australia titled *Australians: A Historical Library*. His other publications include *Sydney Since the Twenties* and *The Sydney Harbour Bridge: A Life*.

Biography

In 1991 Cambridge University Press will publish one of the centre's major undertakings, the *Dictionary of Australian Biography*, a one-volume work with an emphasis on 20th century Australians such as Andrew Peacock, Helen Garner, Glenn Wheatley and Professor David Kemp.

One of the main reasons behind the publication is that teachers, school

libraries and individual researchers can no longer afford to buy multi-volume biographical dictionaries, Professor Spearritt said.

The centre is also preparing *Monitoring Sydney*, a city performance by Monash geographers Dr Kevin O'Connor and Dr Chris Maher, and *The State of Australia*, a nationwide summary of the socio-economic dimension of Australia in the late 1980s.

As part of its teaching program the centre will co-ordinate the recently established Graduate Diploma of Australian Tourism and the MA in Australian Studies.

A public launch for the National Centre for Research and Development in Australian Studies will be held in July.



MONASH

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● Tony Trembath's *Passages and Wells: Some Aspects of an Old Friend*, one of the works on display in Europe and Back: Australian Artists' Installations at the Monash University Gallery until 10 June. The exhibition also includes works by John Lethbridge and Robert Owen. Gallery hours are 10am to 5pm, Tuesdays to Fridays, and 1pm to 5pm Saturdays. Photo — Richard Crompton.



• Among the winners at a recent prize-giving ceremony in Materials Engineering were (from left, top row) Scott Story (BTR Nylex Prize, top third-year student), Cameron Dellar (BTR Nylex Prize, top second-year vacation employment report), (bottom row), Philip Crosbie (National Consolidated Prize for best third-year vacation employment report), Samantha Read (IMMA Prize for Excellence in any year) and Marcus Schmidt (Tubemakers Australia Prize, top fourth-year student, Comalco Prize for best student in all four years of the course, and Ceramtech Prize for Surface Engineering).



• Ms Kathy Fisher (left) receives the Philips prize for proficiency in electronics from company representative, Ms Anne Barber. Ms Fisher also became the first woman to win the Graham Beard Prize for the most outstanding fourth year student in the Department of Electrical and Computer Systems Engineering, and won the Institution of Engineers Prize as top student in the Faculty of Engineering for 1988.

ENGINEERING AWARDS



Left: John Young (centre), winner of the J.W. Dodds Memorial Medal for the top student in Mechanical Engineering, talks with (from left) the Dean of Engineering, Professor Peter Darvall; the chairman of Mechanical Engineering, Professor Bill Melbourne; his mother, Mrs Joan Young; and a representative of the sponsoring company, Clyde-Riley, Dodds Pty Ltd, Mr Ray Austin.

• **Below:** The BHP Prize for the top second-year student in Materials Engineering was won by Bruce Crawford (right). He is pictured receiving his award from Dr A. Gittins of BHP Melbourne Research Laboratories. Looking on is Professor R.W. Cahn of Cambridge University.

• **Below left:** Michael Hesse (right) is congratulated by Associate Professor Ed Cherry of Electronic and Computer Systems Engineering for winning the Australian Institute of Radio and Electronic Engineers award for 1988. Mr Hesse also won the Jack Wilson Prize for a project in a topic to do with electric power.

Photos — Julie Fraser, John Millar



• **Left:** Lim Hock Gin (right) receives the Digital Equipment award for the best project in digital electronics or computer engineering from company representative Mr John Baker. Mr Lim also won the Reuben Medding prize for control engineering, and an award from the English Institute of Electronic Engineers.



'Spirit of goodwill' in Chisholm agreement

The signing of the Heads of Agreement between Monash and Chisholm was an historic occasion, said the President of Chisholm Council, Mr Paul Ramler.

Mr Ramler (pictured, right, with the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Logan) was speaking at the formal signing of the agreement which will lead to the establishment of one of the biggest and most diverse universities in Australia.

"Today marks the 40th anniversary of the awarding of the first diplomas from the Caulfield Institute of Technology, as we were known," he said.

Mr Ramler said the drive and energy of both groups had led to the quick preparation of the agreement.

Importantly, he added, it was an association that had not been dreamt up by governments.

Professor Logan said the agreement had come about in a spirit of goodwill and deep commitment.

"It will create an institution that will improve the delivery of educational services to people, young and old," he said.

"This will be one of the most important amalgamations in Australia, and we

have the responsibility to get it right." The Director of Chisholm, Dr Geoff Vaughan, warned that although hard

work lay ahead for the Merger Implementation Committee, both Monash and Chisholm could create an

institution that would be a pace-setter for the future of higher education in Australia.



Heard the one about the Buddhist priests?

What do Thai villagers and Buddhist priests have in common with Bangkok taxi drivers and massage parlor girls?

All have played a part in one of the world's most successful and pragmatic family planning programs spearheaded



by Dr Mechai Viravaidya, left, who recently was awarded an honorary Doctor of Medicine by the university.

At a seminar jointly sponsored by the Centre for Reproductive Biology and the Centre for Southeast Asian Studies, Dr Viravaidya, an economist, explained how the family planning program had been essential for Thailand's development, and also how its organisation is now serving as a base for that development.

He said that Thailand was one of the last nations in Asia to introduce family planning.

By the late '60s, however, it had been realised that overpopulation led to such problems as poverty, underdevelopment, and pollution.

In the 16 years since the establishment of his non-profit, non-government family planning program the results have been spectacular.

Population growth has dropped from 3.2 per cent to 1.4 per cent a year, 19 out of 20 couples now say that they do not want more than two children and about 70 per cent of couples use contraception.

Tailored

This has been achieved by tapping the resources of some unlikely groups, from the women who sell sweets and condoms at their roadside stalls to the taxi drivers who will play instructional tapes to a captive audience in Bangkok traffic jams.

Effective family planning depended on information and accessibility, he said.

"We wanted contraception to be as accessible as vegetables.

"This led early on to the phrase, 'Cabbages and condoms' (now the name of the program's well-known restaurant in Bangkok)."

But by relying only on doctors and nurses for family planning information, the group soon realised it could only barely cover the cities and towns.

With the addition of midwives, this could be extended to perhaps 10 per cent of the villages.

In fact, the mainstay of Dr Viravaidya's program became village women who were trained in and practised family planning themselves.

It was they who became the source of information and contraceptives for their neighbors and friends.

But the program also enlisted the help of many others along the way.

For instance, there was the problem of the American gift of many tonnes of condoms — they were too big.

"The question was how to tailor the condom to Thai size.

"We went to the massage parlors and interviewed the 10 brightest girls we could find and chose five of them.

"We gave them forms to fill in, and paper to tear off, and made them research assistants of the School of Public Health.

"They measured more than 500 of their customers so that we could come up with a Thai national size.

"You can't be shy about these things if you are going to succeed.

"In the beginning, for example, the media were rather hostile and rude about the whole program. The result is that now the standard Thai word for a condom is 'mechai' — you can look it up in a dictionary — but I don't mind."

Another group who helped were the Buddhist priests.

Champions

"We thought they might oppose us, but we studied the Buddhist scriptures and found a passage which said, 'Many births make you poor'."

The group made the Buddhist authorities aware of this.

And in Thailand today, far from opposing contraception, priests will bless condoms and sprinkle packs of contraceptive pills with holy water.

Dr Viravaidya emphasised how important it was not to coerce people into contraception. He said laughter was the

best way of preventing that from happening.

He gave the example of Thailand's condom-blowing competitions, the object of which is to blow a condom up to the largest size possible without it bursting.

"There is even a national championship with a cup."

The organisation, experience and trust built up by the family planning program now is serving other purposes.

A program has been developed to provide the capital to purchase what is necessary for profitable activities such as raising pigs, ducks and geese, even frogs.

Part of the deal includes community work such as planting and maintaining forest, building village dams and manufacturing and constructing latrines.

But already Dr Viravaidya has his eyes on the next stage. He said governments could provide necessary infrastructure and administration.

Commercial

Non-profit, non-government organisations could begin to mobilise people but were limited by the size and volume of resources they could command.

"We are now beginning to ask the commercial sector to look after certain villages, it may be one village or ten villages depending on the size of their operation.

"We don't want cash, but their skills in organisation, finance, production and marketing.

"It is not a welfare approach; the days of asking for money are fast running out ... it's becoming too inefficient.

"For real development people must own profit-making enterprises."

Dr Viravaidya's development programs have been so successful in Thailand that the ideas behind them are beginning to be exported.

A training centre in Bangkok has attracted people from more than 40 countries.

Uniquely qualified to help

Their Careers — A Guide for Parents
by Warren Mann

Published by the Graduate Careers Council of Australia*
RRP \$9.95

Warren Mann (pictured below) is well known to many at Monash.

He joined the university in its early days, to set up the careers service, and developed it into one of the most effective in the country, looking not only at helping Monash students but also at influencing and negotiating with employers, educational authorities, schools and all the other bodies whose activities affect graduate employment.

With great persistence and hard work, and some help and support from a few of the many others concerned with graduate destinations, he set up and



published Australia's first Graduate Careers Director, in 1966.

The following year he was a key figure in setting up the Graduate Careers Council of Australia to spread employment information to students throughout Australia.

Equally importantly for Monash, he was active in establishing the Monash University Club.

Since his retirement from Monash in January 1979, he has continued his involvement in careers, particularly as a schools careers consultant.

His careers experience at secondary and tertiary level, plus a science degree and work in the armed forces and in the manufacturing and personnel sides of industry, give Mr Mann unique qualifications in offering careers guidance, and this he has done in the book *Their Careers — A Guide for Parents*, published by the Graduate Careers Council of Australia.

Australia has, for a developed country, an unusually high proportion of higher education students who are the first in their families to enter higher education.

Their parents do not understand the system, do not know what to expect and do not know where to find out.

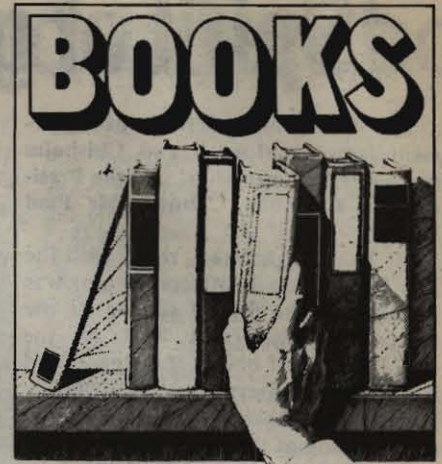
Even those parents who have experience of the education system find many changes, and have to think carefully about how best to advise and support their children, and how not to mislead or disadvantage them.

Warren Mann's book addresses these situations.

It has details, examples and guidance on how to find out more about the system and how to move smoothly from school to further study or work.

The author discusses secondary schooling and careers planning, and the choices open to the school leaver.

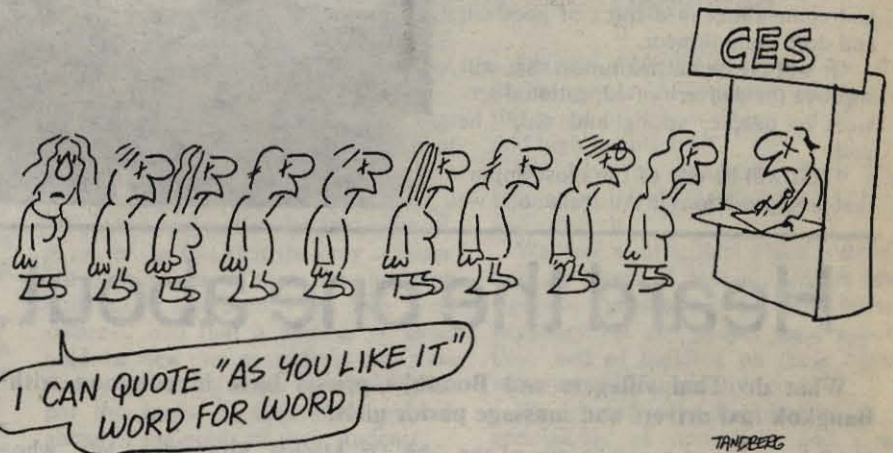
The text is clearly and logically set out with a detailed index, so that it can be easily dipped into for specific information or read continuously to give an



overall view of the education system and what it leads to — and it has some trenchant cartoons by Tandberg.

Mary Brown
GCCA

*PO Box 28, Parkville, 3052 (347 4644)



TANDBERG



TANDBERG

— From *Their Careers — A Guide for Parents*

Fish fossils tell story

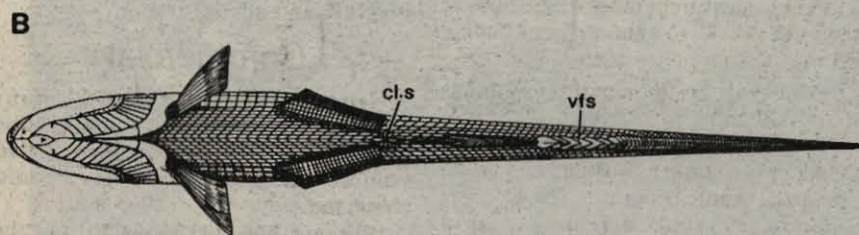
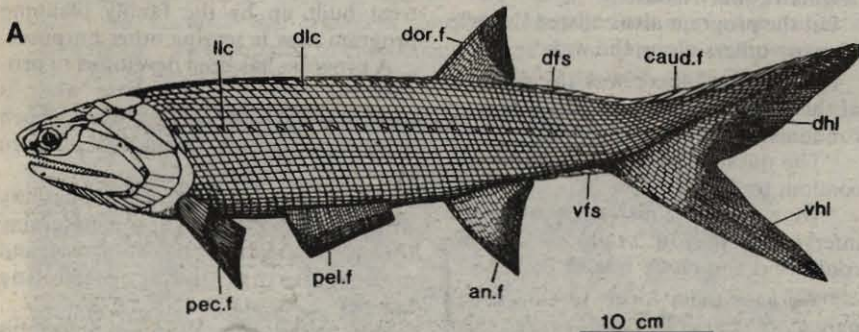


Fig. 26. *Howqualepis rostridens* gen. et sp. nov. Restoration of fish in lateral (A) and ventral (B) views.

— from *Devonian and Carboniferous fish studies*, edited by P.A. Jell and published by the Association of Australasian Palaeontologists, Sydney 1988 (with the assistance of the Monash University Publications Committee).

The authors include John Lang, former postgraduate student in the Department of Earth Sciences at Monash, and now a staff member of the Geology Department, University of Tasmania.

Local inquiries about obtaining copies of the book should be directed to Professor Jim Warren, Chairman of the Monash Department of Zoology, on ext. 4630.

Problem growth

The item 'A mushrooming problem' which appeared in *Sound 13-89* omitted mention of a third species, viz. *Agaricus academicus*, var. *supinus*, which appears in large numbers on the campus, seems to flourish under the mushroom treatment and stains yellow under any sort of pressure from above.

George Silberbauer
Anthropology and Sociology

Small group must carry the burden

Monash students are hoping that staff and administration will join their renewed efforts to establish recycling of paper, cans and bottles on campus.

The Monash Recycling group has painted collection bins that are color-coded, blue for bottles, red for cans and green for clean paper, so that these former trash items are salvaged pre-sorted.

These bins are sited at various locations, including the Union.

At present a small group of students must bear the responsibility for collecting, emptying and re-siting these bins, which makes the scheme still fallible, especially towards exam time.

It is to be hoped that this system of segregated salvage bins will soon be taken for granted as a normal part of university maintenance, reducing the chronic headache of rubbish disposal and providing a source of perks from shares in the sale of salvage.

Within departments and libraries, paper recycling can be encouraged by providing labelled collection boxes at strategic sites such as photocopiers.



Paper used on one side can be re-used on the other side for drafts etc, and a recycling stamp can be purchased for a distinctive publicity label on the out-dated side.

Other Monash issues about waste prevention also to be taken up include car-sharing, improving public transport, and how it may be made possible to improve social responsibility enough to have returnable crockery that returns rather than throw-away plastics in Union cabs.

The students are asking staff for departmental and individual support to develop and improve waste-prevention practices at Monash, and to export these practices to the wider community.

Valerie Yule,
Education

Barry Jones to speak at MAGS dinner

On June 6, Mr Barry Jones, the Minister for Science, Customs and Small Business, will speak at the dinner following the Annual General Meeting of the Monash Association of Graduate Students (MAGS).

This visit will provide a unique opportunity for Monash postgraduates to hear at first hand the minister whose persistence has finally won out in the fight of the future for science in Australia.

The government initiatives announced in the May Science Statement are an acknowledgement of the fundamental importance of science and technology to the intellectual and economic wellbeing of this country and are a great victory for Mr Jones.

Australian science will be boosted by \$390 million during the next five years under a \$1000 million science package announced by the Prime Minister on May 8.

This injection of funds will go a long way towards reversing the mood of disillusionment within the science community, where poor salaries and lack of career prospects have driven brilliant young Australian scientists overseas or out of science altogether, and where school leavers have increasingly chosen not to enrol in science courses.

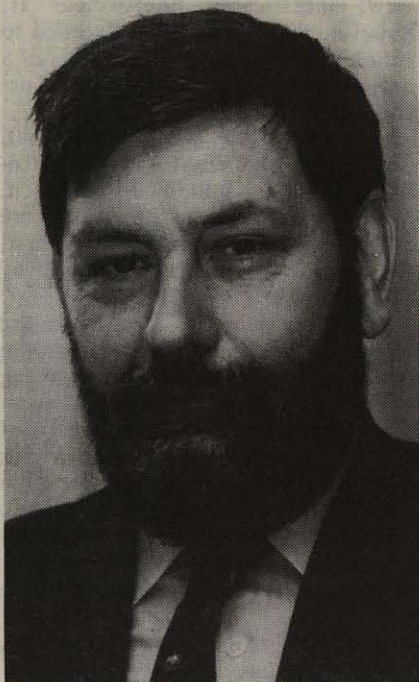
Tax free

The Science Statement has particular significance for postgraduates.

The government has provided \$56.9 million of new funds for postgraduate awards.

Next year it will:

- Allocate \$31 million through the ARC to higher education institutions to provide for 1450 continuing research scholarships and 900 new research scholarships at a rate between \$12,734 and \$16,433 (tax free).
- Provide \$500,000 to higher education institutions to give 30 industry research scholarships at a rate of \$16,433.



- Allocate an additional \$500,000 to increase thesis and relocation allowances.
- Accept the recommendation of the Review of Higher Education Research Policy, that research award holders should be considered as a component of the research workforce. As such their awards should be administered by the higher education institutions themselves rather than under the Student Assistance Act.
- Allocate \$197 million more for research in universities and colleges, increasing opportunities for postgraduates seeking the training necessary to enter the scientific professions.

These recommendations were made unanimously by a panel of the three most senior advisers to the Minister for Employment, Education and Training: the chairman of the National Board of Employment, Education and Training, Professor Robert Smith; the chairman

of the Australian Research Council, Professor Don Aitken; and the chairman of the Higher Education Council, Dr Gregor Ramsey, who was a speaker at the association's conference *The Value of Postgraduate Study — Its Purpose and Objectives* held in October 1988.

Commending the university and its postgraduate association for their foresight in holding the conference, Dr Ramsey invited the association to send him the recommendations arising out of it.

In this way, and through its formal submissions to the reviews, the Monash Postgraduate Association has contributed to the formulation of the government's Higher Education policy.

Mr Barry Jones has been appointed Deputy Chairman of the Prime Minister's new Science Council.

The council gives Mr Jones greater power in the coordination of science policy and raises the status of science within the government portfolios.

The association is very pleased to be able to obtain his services as the special guest speaker at its Annual General Meeting and Dinner at this significant period in Australia's development.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Logan, will again be guest speaker at the

dinner, as in the two previous years.

The dinner will be an important function for all postgraduates, providing the opportunity to hear and question two men instrumental in the major changes affecting postgraduate education and training in Victoria and Australia.

For information about the Annual General Meeting and Dinner, and for bookings, telephone the office of the Monash Association of Graduate Students (MAGS) on ext. 3196, 3197 and 3198.

Patra Antonis
Executive Officer,
MAGS

Paris on show in Main Library

The next exhibition in the Main Library will feature books on *Paris, City of Revolution*.

The books, all published before 1900, have been drawn from the Rare Books Room at Monash and private collections.

The exhibition will be on view on the first floor of the library from 9 June to 31 July.



● The largest observatory in Australia held its annual research symposium at Monash last month. Hosted by the Physics Department, the 26th Scientific Symposium of the Anglo-Australian Observatory provided British and Australian scientists with an opportunity to present the results of their latest work at the observatory, located at Siding Spring in central New South Wales. It was the first time the symposium had been held in Melbourne. Monash was chosen as host institution this year because of the university's links with the observatory, particularly through research conducted by Dr Keith Thompson and Dr Denis Coates, both of Physics.

Goethe Prize winner



● Rebecca Northeast is the winner of the 1988 Goethe Prize for the best first-year student in German. She is pictured above receiving her award from the German Vice-Consul, Mr Hans Mullers, during a ceremony held in the department this month.

Variation of TESS deductions

Members of the Tertiary Employee Superannuation Scheme (TESS) who wish to vary their death and disablement cover or their regular voluntary contribution must do so before 31 May.

Existing deductions will continue to apply for a further 12 months until 30 June 1990 unless a variation is requested. (The minimum regular contributions to TESS are \$20 per fortnight, or \$40 per month. Contributions must be in multiples of \$5.)

Members are advised to contact the Superannuation Office on ext

2053/3041 if they wish to vary their deductions. Late applications will not be accepted.

Monash Reporter

The next issue will be published on Wednesday 21 June, 1989.

Copy deadline is Friday 9 June, and early copy is much appreciated.

Contributions (letters, photos) and suggestions should be addressed to the editor, Information Office, Gallery Building, or ring ext. 2067.

Law 'is first choice' for able and talented

In the second part of his article, *Monash Law School: Towards the 1990s* the Dean of Law, Professor Bob Williams, looks at the place of the law faculty in the new tertiary era. He believes that although law does not constitute one of the areas given priority by the Federal Government, the Monash Law Faculty stands in a comparatively favorable position.

The Monash Law Faculty possesses several competitive advantages.

First, law is an aspect of business studies.

Many law graduates now go into business careers, and the area of legal practice currently experiencing greatest growth is that of commercial and business law.

Secondly, we are the discipline for which there is greatest student demand. In 1988, the cut-off score for Law at Monash was 349, higher even than for Medicine. This year it climbed to 356.

Law is now the discipline to which the most able and talented young people aspire, both because they wish to enter the profession and because they value the education we provide as a sound basis for careers in business, government or the public service.

Student demand does not constitute an element of the Dawkins strategy, but it is not a factor which governments can ignore.

Thirdly, in the eyes of the community law is a discipline which enjoys great prestige. The University of Melbourne and Monash University are regarded by the general public as the two quality tertiary institutions in this state.

The fact that this belief is held is, in my view, to a considerable extent a consequence of the fact that they are the institutions which have the two professional faculties of Law and Medicine.

The current structure of government within Monash is also, I believe, such as to give this faculty an excellent opportunity to advance the argument for prioritising Law as an area of excellence for careful development.

Unlike some universities, at Monash deans are not elected by faculties, but are appointed by the University Council and are, ex officio, senior officers in the central administrative hierarchy.

At Monash the Committee of Deans plays a crucial role as the corporate body primarily responsible for advising the Vice-Chancellor on academic matters.

The Committee of Deans is also the crucial link between the administration and the faculties.

Although the smallest faculty, Law enjoys equal representation on the Committee of Deans.

Teaching first

Ours is a fairly cohesive faculty. Thus, in discussion on the Committee of Deans I, not infrequently, find myself in the happy position of being able to say, "not only is this my opinion, but it is the opinion of the other professors of Law".

Further, as a faculty we have largely avoided the internecine conflicts which have from time to time afflicted other institutions.

Ours has traditionally been a faculty where arguments for consensus and compromise have generally held sway.

The advantages of working in an environment where this is the case, despite occasional differences which cannot and should not be minimised, are very great and readily appreciated by persons who have worked in institutions where the situation is otherwise.

Teaching and research are, in my

view, inextricably intertwined. If, however, primacy is to be accorded to either, then it is the teaching aspect of a university's function which must be accorded first place.

In *Strategy for the Future* (1988), prepared by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Logan, and adopted by Council, Monash University's objectives are deliberately listed in the order of, first, "Excellence in Teaching" followed by "Excellence in Research".

In the current debate over the future of universities, one not uncommon response has been along the following lines: "Those who criticise us don't understand the traditional role of universities as primarily research institutions, they don't appreciate we are quite different from colleges. If we explain our position more carefully, if we do more research and show we are doing more research, then our critics will be answered".

Such a line of defence is, in my view, seriously mistaken.

If I am correct in my judgement that there exists an animosity on the part of many government decision-makers towards universities, then I suspect a part of the explanation for that animosity lies in the fact that the only substantial contact many of them have had with universities has been when they were students, and that a number of them hold the view that as students they were poorly served by some academics who put the needs of their own research ahead of the needs of their students.

Law Schools in general have not, in my view, been major offenders in failing to accord primacy to their teaching function. Monash Law Faculty, in particular, ranks well in this respect, as was demonstrated in the Report of the CTEC Committee.

The overwhelming majority of staff at Monash have always been committed to high quality and innovative teaching.

I do not think we need, as a faculty, to strike out in major new directions so far as teaching is concerned.

What we need to do is continue the calm process of continual modification and critical reassessment.

Richard Fox's *Issues Paper on Teaching*, and the various initiatives which are being taken as a consequence of that paper, provide the example for the sort of constant regenerative process in which I believe we should be engaged.

The *Strategy for the Future* reaffirms "Monash's commitment to scholarship and its intention to become the leading research university in Victoria".

High quality research is, of course, a crucial element of the group enterprise our faculty is engaged in.

Our research output over the years is something we can be proud of, but it is not an area in which we can afford to be complacent.

There is clearly a need for the development of strategies in relation to research, and for continual monitoring of the volume and quality of our research.

In this context, preparation, adoption, and implementation of documents such as Arie Freiberg's *Performance Indicators and Faculty Profiles* (1988) and the Research Committee's *Research Strategy* (1988), plays an important role.

Clearly, significant changes in attitude to research and the research obligation of members of staff will result from the present debate over the future of universities.

It will not, I believe, continue to be the case that all departments within the

university, and all members of staff within departments, will continue to enjoy roughly equal time and opportunity for research.

If individuals and departments are not significantly involved in research, then there is no justification for determining their funding and their teaching and administrative obligations as though they were so engaged.

Funding for research, and release from other duties to enable time for research, must be determined competitively on the basis of proven capacity to produce.

We are one of the two largest Law Schools in this country (the other being the Law School of the University of Sydney), and have long been regarded as the most innovative and creative.

Dedicated

Despite difficulties caused by the declining value of academic salaries, at this point of time we have a dedicated and high quality staff.

We have an excellent record and reputation in relating to both teaching and research.

We have a curriculum which is strong both in terms of ensuring proper and rigorous grounding in the basics necessary for any proper legal education, and of building on these basics with new and imaginative courses.

We are part of a discipline which is prestigious, of immediate and clear relevance to social needs, and for which there is overwhelming student demand.

We have the largest post-graduate program in Law in Australia.

In 1988, 250 post-graduate law students were enrolled at Monash, the great majority being for the LL.M by coursework and minor thesis or for one of the five Diploma courses (i.e. Diploma in Commercial Law; Diploma in Family Law; Diploma in International and Comparative Law; Diploma in Taxation; Diploma in Legal Studies). In 1989 a new specialist LL.M in Taxation Law is being added to our general LL.M by coursework and minor thesis.

Closer links

Twenty-three subjects are on offer to LL.M and Diploma students in 1989.

Our Clinical Program, which started in 1975, was the first to be set up in Australia.

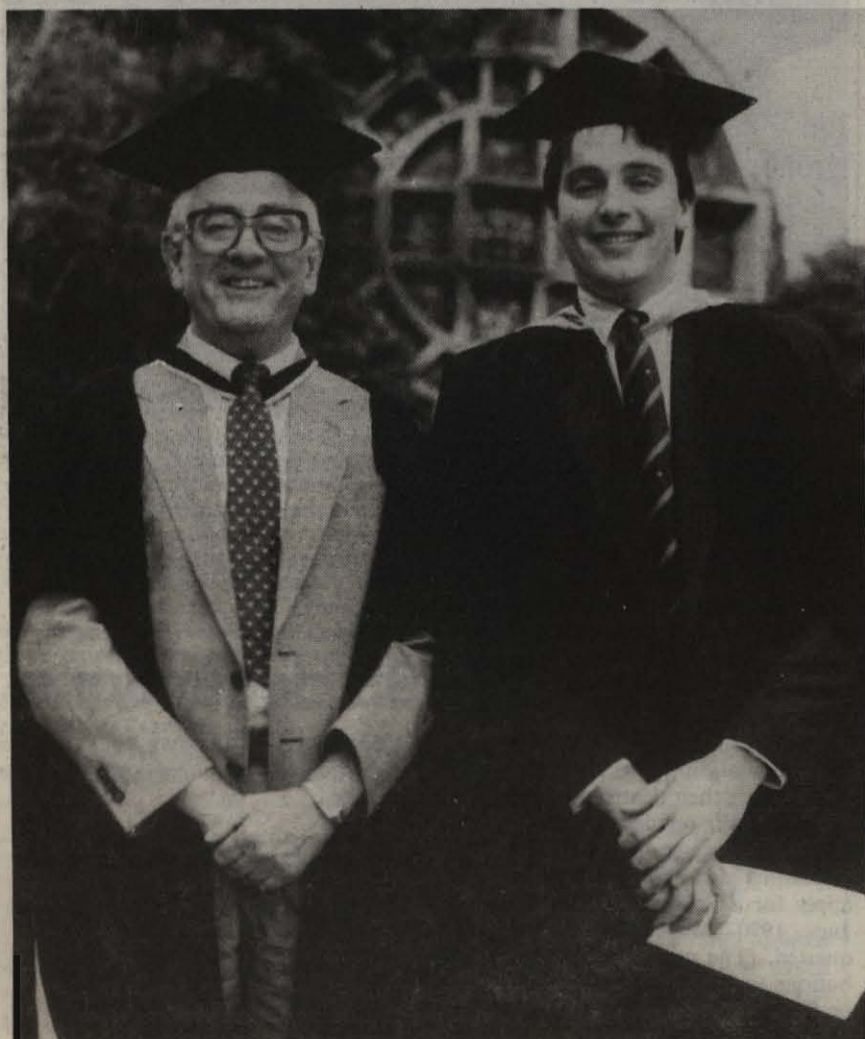
Since then only one other Australian Law Faculty, that of the University of New South Wales, has successfully established a Clinical Program. The program was warmly praised in the Report of the CTEC Committee and is greatly valued by students and solicitors.

Many practitioners now require prospective articulated clerks to have enrolled in the Clinical Program. The program, both in terms of the nature of the educational experience it provides for students and in terms of the social needs of its clients, is the most immediate and obvious aspect of our faculty's work which we can point to in meeting allegations of "insufficient social involvement".

It is part of the overall Monash Strategy Plan to develop closer links with our alumni.

Sadly in this country the tradition of graduates retaining life-long affiliation with, and affection for, the institutions from which they graduate, is comparatively lacking.

• Continued page 7



• Senior lecturer in law, Mr Pat Kilbride, pictured with his son, Matthew, who graduated in law at a recent ceremony at Robert Blackwood Hall.

Awards and Exchanges

The Australian Academy of Science is offering a number of awards and fellowships to local and overseas scientists. All inquiries, unless otherwise stated, should be addressed to The International Exchanges Officer, Australian Academy of Science, GPO Box 783, Canberra, ACT 2601.

Australia-Japan exchange program

The Academy of Science invites applications from scientists resident in Australia who wish to participate in an exchange program with the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science between 1 July 1990 and 30 June 1991. Proposals in any field of natural science will be considered.

Senior scientists may apply for short-term (3-6 weeks) visits to collaborate with Japanese scientists.

Long-term (6-12 months) visits to carry out collaborative research projects are also funded.

Applications close on 1 October.

Australia-Japan Foundation Program,

The Academy of Science and the Australia-Japan Foundation support visits to Japan by scientists who are pure or applied researchers in the physical sciences, biological sciences or engineering. Proposals are invited from scientists who are permanent residents of Australia and who wish to visit Japan between 1 July 1990 and 30 June 1991.

Preference will be given to visits which are short-term, highly focused and relevant to the national interest.

Applications close on 1 October.

Royal Society exchange program

The Academy of Science and the Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering conduct an exchange program with the Royal Society for Australian scientists and technologists interested in undertaking a collaborative research project with a host scientist in the UK.

Applications close on 1 July.

China exchange scheme

The Academy of Science also supports exchanges of scientists with the People's Republic of China through an exchange program with Academia Sinica.

Scientists resident in Australia are invited to apply to participate in the program during the 1990-91 financial year.

Proposals must focus on visits to Academia Sinica institutes. A list of institutes is available from the Academy. Proposals may be for short-term (3-6 weeks) lecture tours or fact-finding visits or longer-term visits to carry out collaborative research projects or field studies.

Applications close on 1 December.

Selby Fellowship

The Selby Scientific Foundation is inviting nominations for Fellowships from distinguished overseas scientists to enable them to visit Australia for public lecture/seminar tours. All nominations are confidential and should be addressed to the Executive Secretary, Australian Academy of Science.

Applications close on 30 June.

R.J.W. Le Fevre Memorial Prize 1989

The Academy of Science has inaugurated the R.J.W. Le Fevre Memorial Prize in memory of the late R.J.W. Le Fevre to recognise the achievements of young researchers in chemistry.

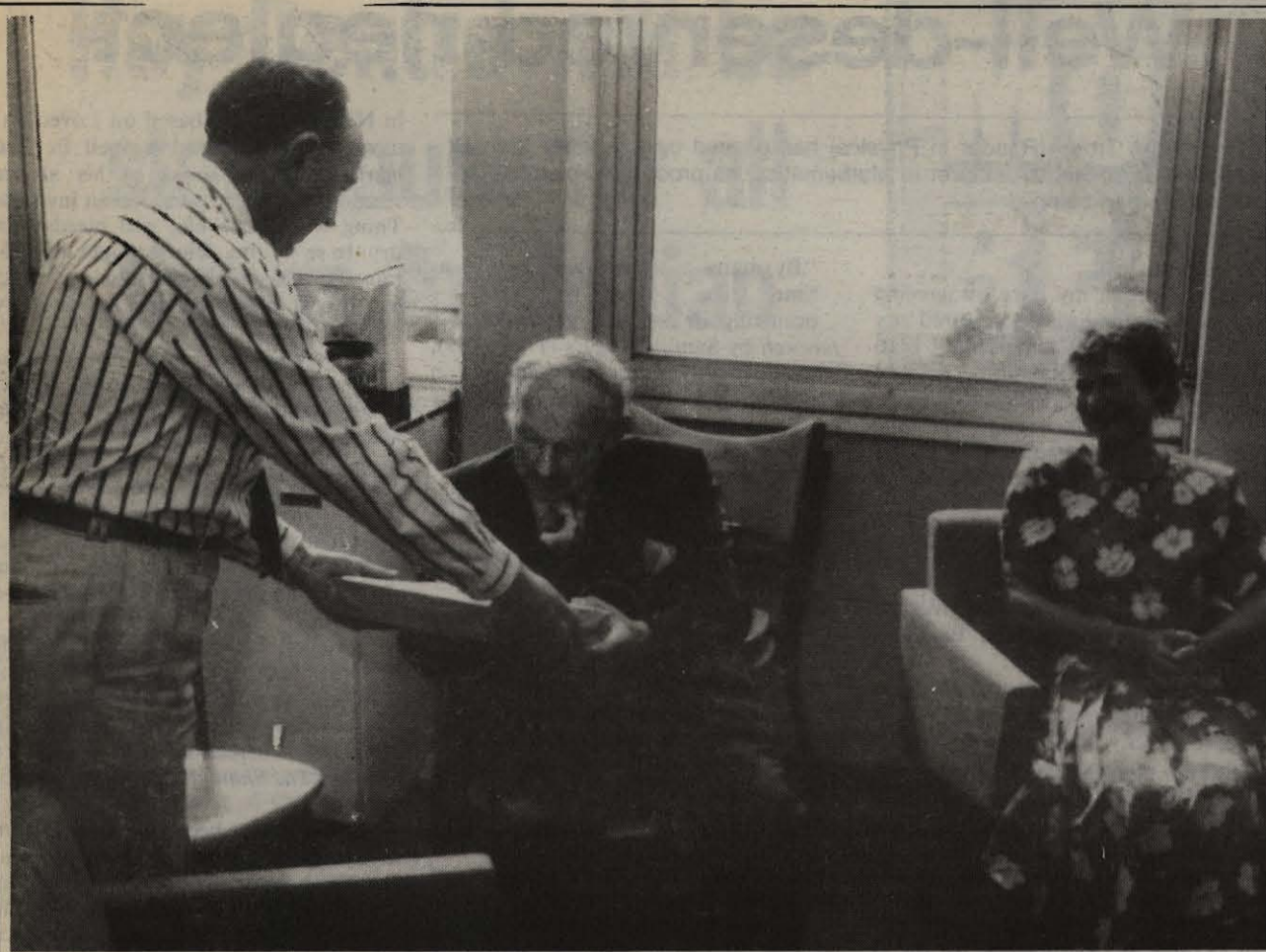
The prize shall be awarded to a scientist not over the age of 36 years for distinguished basic research in chemistry, particularly physical chemistry. Nominations are confidential and should be addressed to the Executive Secretary, Australian Academy of Science.

Applications close on 30 April.

Boden Research Conferences, 1991

The Academy of Science conducts a series of small specialist research conferences in the biological sciences to enable active research workers in rapidly advancing fields to discuss current advances and problems.

Two conferences of about two days' duration are organised each year with an attendance of between 20 and 30 people.



● Monash University's oldest student celebrated his 80th birthday among friends in the German Department earlier this month. Fritz Josefi began studying at Monash in 1980 after the death of his wife and recently completed an MA in 18th Century German literature. He is pictured receiving a gift from the chairman of the German Department, Acting Professor Philip Thomson.

● From page 6

We are fortunate in having a successful and growing alumni, which both the faculty and the university is actively seeking to encourage. In 1988 our existing membership more than doubled to around 360.

In the White Paper it is made clear that the government expects institutions to actively seek to develop supplementary sources of funding.

It is stated that the government will give greater support to those institutions which are successful in attracting outside funding.

We are, I think, in a favoured position to pursue initiatives designed to raise outside funds for teaching and research purposes. Certainly the opportunities are there.

The Australian Business Council in its response to the Green Paper for example, recognised the need for business and industry to contribute to universities.

The legal profession, I believe, similarly recognises its responsibility for the future of legal education in this State.

Although the purpose of the present paper is to present a reasonably broad overview, it is nonetheless worthwhile pointing to a number of specific initiatives which have been taken or are under consideration at Monash.

● Expansion of Law Intake

Clearly there is great student demand for increased access to legal education. This demand was recognised by the State Government in its reference to the Law Reform Commission of Victoria on legal education and entry to the legal profession. The official position of the Law Institute is that there is a need for more law graduates, and this view is widely shared by individual members of the profession.

In 1988 the Department of Employment, Education and Training offered Monash the opportunity to increase its student intake by 150 for this year, and left it to the university to deter-

mine, in consultation, how those places should be allocated. The university accepted the Law Faculty's offer to take 50 of these students, increasing its first year intake from 300 in 1988 to 350 in 1989. This is growth of a significant kind. Whether the university will continue to support this increased intake in Law beyond 1989 will depend on a variety of factors, not the least of which is the Law Faculty's capacity to attract financial support from the profession.

● Sunway Twinning Arrangement

Monash University has long been held in particularly high regard by Asian students, and supports the Federal Government's policy of actively marketing Australian tertiary education overseas on a full-fee paying basis. In recognition of the difficulties many Asian students experience in living away from home in their first year of tertiary studies, Monash has entered into a "twinning" arrangement with Sunway College in Kuala Lumpur. Sunway is a private college established by the Sungei Way Group. Under the arrangements, students enrol in their first year as Monash students but then spend their first year studying at Sunway. Each subject is taught co-operatively by Sunway teachers and Monash staff who visit periodically. If successful in their first year, students then come to Monash and complete the remainder of their degree. This year, the twinning arrangement has been extended to Law, Sunway students becoming able to enrol for the Monash combined B.Ec./LL.B degree.

● Staff Development

While the Monash Law School has continued to be able to attract excellent junior staff in virtually all fields, it has become increasingly difficult to attract and retain middle ranking and senior staff in the areas of commercial and business law. It is clearly not possible to attract top staff in these fields at senior lecturer level, and what is needed are positions at the professional level. It is my wish to

establish, with outside funding, two specialist chairs in the area of commercial law. This would be quite a crucial development for the Law School, and for the university which has not, to date, agreed to the establishment of a specialist chair in any field of law.

● Monash Law Foundation

Monash has for some time had a successful University Foundation. I would hope to be able to establish a similar foundation specifically for the Law Faculty. The foundation would be used both to co-ordinate commercial community, and to gather together contributions which could then be targeted to areas which from time to time are determined to be of greatest need to the faculty.

It would be foolish to suggest that the period now facing universities and law schools is not one of extreme difficulty.

Nonetheless, opportunities exist along with the difficulties.

If we are sufficiently astute to see and to grasp the opportunities, and if we are able to combine a commitment to basic university values with a pragmatic appreciation of and response to the changing nature of the environment in which we find ourselves, then I believe that Monash University and its Law School will emerge from the present era strengthened.

IMPORTANT DATES

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

- 2 Semester 1 ends
- Semester 1, Medicine 1 & 2 ends
- 5 Graduation Ceremony (Arts) 2.30pm, Robert Blackwood Hall
- 7 Semester 1 examinations begin
- 12 Queen's Birthday Holiday
- 16 Semester 1, Medicine 3 ends
- Applications to Faculty of Engineering for discontinuance of all studies with a request to resume studies in 1990 will normally not be considered after this date
- 23 Term 2 DipEd ends
- 28 Semester 1 examinations end

Well-deserved neglect

Dr Gordon Troup (Reader in Physics) has passed on this letter from Dr Michael Deakin (senior lecturer in Mathematics) as proof that scientists are cultured human beings.

Dear Gordon,

You may recall my once disagreeing with you over the line "A rose-red city half as old as time", attributing it to H.P. Lovecraft and claiming it formed part of a particularly fine quatrain.

Alas, all this was wrong. The true story, which I can recount now that I have my library back, is otherwise; but recently and by chance I came upon material that offers food for speculation as to a deeper connection between the line and the quatrain.

The *Oxford Book of Quotes* gives the source of the line as Dean Burgon's (1845) poem *Petra*:

"Match me such marvel save in Eastern clime,

A rose-red city 'half as old as time!'"

Burgon is remembered apparently only for these lines. He lived from 1813-1888 and if these, his most memorable lines, are also seen as his best, his neglect is well-deserved. Moreover it appears that he may in fact have needed to rely on plagiarism to rise even to these modest heights; for the O B of Q draws attention to their similarity with the line

"By many a temple half as old as time"

occurring in an 1828 poem *Italy: a farewell* by Samuel Rogers (1763-1855), who is evidently placed rather higher (on the evidence of O B of Q) in the literary pantheon than Burgon — though I had not previously heard of him either.

The Lovecraft quatrain goes:

"A time-black tower against dim banks of cloud;

Around its base the pathless, pressing wood.

Shadow and silence, moss and mould, enshroud

Grey, age-felled slabs that once as cromlechs stood".

This, I'm sure you will agree, is much finer stuff, and if there were any justice in the world would have earned for Lovecraft a place in the O B of Q which knows him not.

I found the quatrain in the chapter headings of the book *Citadels of Mystery*, an account of famous ruins (Stonehenge, Ankhor, Machu Picchu, etc.) — the one here in question being Tikal (in Guatemala). *Citadels of Mystery* was written by L. Sprague de Camp and his wife Catherine C. de Camp and is a nice piece of popular writing in the journalistic style.

Terror

L S de C is in fact, as I now learn, a very prolific writer. His best-known works are *The Floating Continent* and *A Planet called Krishna*, which I take to be examples of *sci-fi*. His chapter heading gives no attribution for the quatrain, other than to identify its author. It is the only indication I have that Lovecraft wrote verse.

Lovecraft was a New England writer active c. 50 years ago and best known for his tales of terror which, though ridiculous in many of their aspects, still command a certain power. The best-known of these is *The Haunter of the Dark*, which I read some years ago and borrowed just last week on cassette (in abridged form) from the Prahran local library. It would seem to be one of those books that don't really bear re-reading, but it comes equipped with some interesting notes by L. Sprague de Camp.

I summarise these. Lovecraft had a pen-pal, Robert Bloch, who in 1935 wrote a story called *The Shambler from the Stars*. Its plot has a "mystic recluse

in New England" (based on Lovecraft) unwisely recite aloud a spell he had learned in the course of his arcane researches, only to summon an invisible Thing who seizes him and bleeds him dry. In so writing, Bloch sought and obtained Lovecraft's permission, thus leaving himself open to literary retribution.

This came swiftly with *The Haunter of the Dark* in which one Robert Blake, a writer from Milwaukee (Bloch's hometown), desecrated a ruined church and purloined from it "the infamous *Necromicon*" and thus subjected himself to whatever punishments the book and the tape relate (but which I couldn't be bothered learning in detail — I listened only to part of Side 1 and gave up).

However, Lovecraft clearly had the better of his encounter with Bloch, for *The Haunter of the Dark* is remembered (by some) today (particularly in America), whereas I would venture to say that *The Shambler from the Stars* is forgotten.

Now if you've been paying attention, as I'm sure you have, you'll recognise that I've been desperately resorting to an age-old trick: the one of covering an error by the provision of a wealth of detail on related, but nonetheless peripheral, matters.

None of this demonstrates any connection between the line and the quatrain — any whatsoever. So the conscientious mathematician must acknowledge defeat and say "I was wrong".

Unless one thing.

For suppose, just as the novel is based on a now forgotten original, might not the quatrain be also? For those of us who read and once enjoyed (though now I disremember the details of its ending) *The Haunter of the Dark* had no knowledge, and never would have but for the scholarship of L. Sprague de Camp, of *The Shambler from the Stars*.

Now, lacking details from the helpful L S de C, might we not (in speculative vein of course) *hypothesise* that just as Lovecraft set out to give Bloch his come-uppance he also, at a different time and for different motives, resolved to out-Burgon Burgon or to Roger Rogers.

This view has the great merit for me of turning what to the less sophisticated might appear to be a simple lapse of memory into a serendipitous intuition. I thus favor the hypothesis, which, once formed, can of course be backed up in great detail from the texts, as I am sure you may do as well as I.

Michael



• The spirit of the wisteria, and its implications for spring and love, was invoked in this Japanese dance recital presented by the Japanese Music Archive. Mrs Yurito Saito, a practitioner of the Fujima school of dance, performed two kabuki style dances for a lunchtime audience in the Music Auditorium.



• John Lethbridge's *Drop in the Ocean*, on show at the Monash University Gallery. See page one for details of the exhibition and opening hours.

Enrol for school holiday programs

Enrolments for School Holiday Programs run on campus from Monday 26 June to Friday 7 July for children (aged 5-13) of staff and students, will take place on Monday 5 June at 1pm in the Student Welfare Office, first floor, Union Building.

Payment in full is required on enrolment.

Inquiries to Bernadette Muir, Student Welfare Office, ext 3186 or 3126.

Robert Blackwood Hall

The following activities are scheduled for Robert Blackwood Hall in June:

Friday 2: 7.45pm

Kodaly Music Institute of Australia Vic. Branch present eleven children's choirs in a non competitive festival.

Admission: Adults \$5, Student conc.

Tuesday 6: 8pm

Avila College presents "The Performance of the Creative Arts", featuring Music, Drama and Art.

Admission: Adults \$6, Concession \$3, Family \$15. For further information and tickets please contact 807 6677.

Friday 30: 8pm

Vienna Boys Choir. Admission: Adults \$29.90, Concession \$16.90. Bookings for 20 or more \$24.90.

\$2. \$10 Family (2 adults/2 children).

Saturday 3: 8pm

Melbourne Welsh Male Voice Choir present their Annual "Night of Song", singing traditional Welsh Choral Music. Conducted by Bill Mead, and featuring guest artist Kenith Collins — well known Australian Operatic Tenor.

Admission: Adults \$16, Concession \$12. Tickets available at Robert Blackwood Hall Box Office, 544 5448. For further information please contact 801 1292.