Welcome to the 20th anniversary edition of Uniken.

This new design has been developed through the University Image Project and is the direct result of a Uniken survey of readers undertaken in 1994. The new look is a far cry from the first publication to bear the Uniken masthead which appeared 20 years ago on 3 March 1975.

A modest eight-paged, A4-sized fortnightly publication, the first edition carried reports of student enrolments, Orientation Week activities, some short research stories, a diary of events and staff news.

Although it was reported that the first issue of ‘Uniken’ replaces and extends the Information Sheet, an old friend for many at the University, it also replaced the University News, an informative tabloid, edited by Mr Adrian Ashton, that had been published from 1962 until the end of 1974.

The first publication issued by the University was Journal. It appeared three times a year between July 1956 and August 1969 before being overtaken by University News and its successor, Uniken.

With an initial run of 3,600, Uniken was published by the newly-formed Public Affairs Unit headed by Dr Peter Pockley and distributed to staff at the Kensington campus, teaching hospitals, Duntroon and Broken Hill where staff taught at the technical college.

The title Uniken derives from UNI representing University and KEN representing Kensington and knowledge.

When the newsletter Focus was first published in August 1977, Uniken became "the vehicle for stories intended for both students and staff, as well as extra-university organisations (including the media)."

Most of the administrative information previously published in Uniken was transferred to the in-house newsletter and Uniken was increased to tabloid size.

While the difference in emphasis remains, the days when two and four pages of Focus were produced have well and truly gone. It is now more common to have 24 and 28 page issues, while Uniken has increased to a regular 12 pages with occasional 16 and 20 page issues.

Uniken has become an established source of well-researched material for the media, while also serving as a chronicle of campus events, teaching developments and as a vehicle for academics to tell the world of the importance of their areas of research.

The Uniken editorial team try to cover the breadth and depth of activities occurring across the university community.

And there have been plenty of stories to tell over the years especially as the University has expanded to take in the College of Fine Arts and the St George Campus at Oatley.
Uniken's pacesetting way...

I would like to take this opportunity to say a few words to all our current and new readers of Uniken.

Uniken reaches audiences on and off our campuses and attempts to portray the diversity of activities in which UNSW is involved.

If you think your faculty, school, department, administrative unit or whatever has a story to tell then we would like to hear from you. We are located in Room G18 (ground floor) of the Chancellery Building or give us a call on 385 2866.

As you can see from this special 20th anniversary edition of Uniken we're not adverse to listening to the views of our readers.

Through the University Image Project, an Uniken survey was recommended by the Working Party on Publications, which had reviewed the current University publications and newspapers (focusing on all issues affecting readership, distribution and editorial content).

The Uniken questionnaire was designed to seek readers' views regarding the extent to which Uniken is in accord with current expectations and needs. While the overall impression of Uniken was positive, the results of the survey indicated various areas which could benefit from review.

Content changes are soon to follow. As we announced in Focus of 10 February, that newsletter will cease to be produced as a separate publication from Friday 21 April. Focus will be published on coloured paper inside Uniken which will remain a fortnightly newspaper. This will begin from Friday 28 April.

Focus will now carry photos and continue to carry the more routine academic and administrative service announcements. It will also carry certain material that used to be contained in Uniken. Focus will continue to be distributed only internally to our different campuses and teaching hospitals. A new 'newspaper' Uniken will be sent by our external readers. Eventually certain material now run in Focus will be carried on the network when we are confident our readers can gain access.

We hope that you share our enthusiasm for the new look. Uniken has always been a pacesetter in the field of university news publications—we're confident our latest revamp continues that trend.

Good reading.

Bernie Guldie,  
Editor

What does Uniken mean?

A great debate has raged in the halls at UNSW, since the opening of discussion regarding the appropriateness of the title Uniken. While overall responses to our survey on this subject were positive, meaningful relevance, history and familiarity with the meaning to the title Uniken.

PLEASE READ ON! This is not the only meaning to the title Uniken!

KEN not only represents 'Kensington', but means 'range of sight and vision', universal knowledge, mental perception'.

When Uniken began production, the worth of the University's mission was clearly in the minds of those creating the title. We do hope this will clear up any confusion regarding our title, and those staff at campuses other than Kensington—please don't feel unrepresented. Kensington's our main campus but we're all one big institution and Uniken is here for everybody!!

Uniken witnesses 20 years of change

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Gold treatment for arthritis investigated
Debating champions to spread the word

It could be said that world debating champions Jeremy Phillips and James Russell have adopted the cliché ‘put your money where your mouth is’ and run with it.

Having returned victorious from Princeton University, New Jersey, Jeremy and James took the opportunity during elevenses on 3 February with Vice-Chancellor John Niland to launch a Trust Fund to promote intellectual excellence among young Australians, especially disadvantaged Higher School Certificate students.

The two UNSW law students are no strangers to spreading the debating gospel. Having been introduced to the sport at Sydney Grammar School and honed their talents at UNSW, they produced The Debating Book, published by UNSW Press in 1994.

‘They’ve also coached Grammar and NSW school debating teams and last year conducted numerous seminars, including one at Dubbo, attended by school students from the far west of NSW. “We enjoyed the day and the students got a lot from it,” Jeremy said. Many school students are nervous when they start but several years of debating brings them out of their shells.’

‘Having won the World Debating Championship held at Princeton University, New Jersey, between 2-9 January, James and Jeremy’s efforts have been well documented in the Australian media.

‘But for the record 244 teams from 32 countries competed at the championships. Although team members have to be enrolled at a university, many enrol in one-year courses just to qualify it is a true indication of the best in the world because there is no other international debating championship.’

‘James and Jeremy defeated the much-heralded Oxford University team 6-5 in the final when they debated the topic “That this house believes the right to life cannot be abridged” which ended up in a discussion on the death penalty.

‘They are quick to point out that apart from sending two adjudicators, UNSW’s other contribution to the international debating arena was the publication of The Debating Book as well as working with schools to spread the debating gospel. Having been involved in numerous seminars, including one at Dubbo, attended by school students from the far west of NSW.’

‘“We enjoyed the day and the students got a lot from it,” Jeremy said. Many school students are nervous when they start but several years of debating brings them out of their shells.’

‘James and Jeremy defeated the much-heralded Oxford University team 6-5 in the final.

‘“Until then we were in the top four but when we beat Harvard all the Americans wanted us to win. There were 1,100 in the audience and Oxford came in with a big reputation with Rufus Black leading the way. He is a former Rhodes Scholar from the University of Melbourne who is now studying for his PhD in theology and has a long-standing reputation as a debater.”

‘The judging panel for the final included Paul Volcker, former chairman of the US Federal Reserve, Kenneth Starr, the Whitewater prosecutor in the Clinton case, Robert McNeil, of the McNeil/Lehrer News Hour on SBS, Randy Shepherd, Chief Justice of Indiana, and Dr Don Russell, Australian Ambassador to the US, who invited the winners to dinner at his official residence following their victory. In a sporting analogy good debaters are more than verbal jousters; there is structure to their arguments, as there is in a well-rehearsed backline move, or a tactical build-up to a slam dunk.

‘And, as in sport, debaters can be coached, though natural talent is an advantage, and there is room for those who have it to see further and show individual flair. It also helps when the two members of the team are friends feeding off the same wavelength. Take the debate against Oxford for example.

‘Jeremy and James were given the topic of the debate an hour before they were to contest the final. There was no panic. After a short meeting in a closed room they adjourned to have a cup of tea, relaxed, worked out a good joke relative to the topic, discussed the approach they would take to the topic that it was a veiled disguise to the death penalty and went from there.

‘It was the third time James and Jeremy have contested the World Championships, having reached the semi-finals at Dublin in 1992. They plan to quit while they’re ahead but will remain involved at UNSW and undertake some exhibition debates, especially the annual Foundation Day debate.

‘UNSW debaters were sponsored by the law firms Phillips Fox and Wentworth Associates, the Bar Association of NSW, Westfield Corporation, the UNSW Union and the Universities Credit Union.

‘The Vice-Chancellor, Professor John Niland and the Dean of the Faculty of Law, Professor Michael Chesterman, were also very supportive of our trip,” Jeremy said. “They helped us to raise sponsorship by writing letters of support and providing encouragement.”

‘Jeremy has already decided on his immediate future and has taken up a position as a management consultant with McKinsey and Co, while James is taking up a position with Phillips Fox where he hopes to specialise in product liability law. And as for diners, they wouldn’t use them in a debate, come hell or high water.’

World debating champions James Hooke (front) and Jeremy Phillips (rear) with one of their supporters, Vice-Chancellor Professor John Niland.
Library hitches a ride on new super-highway

In her new position as Director of Information Services and Deputy Principal, Ms Christine Page-Hanify sees here role as combining the functions of the former Computing Services Department and the UNSW Libraries in a manner that takes maximum advantage of their mutual interests and expertise.

"The creation by the University of my new position offers opportunities and challenges that are presented by the increasingly rapid changes we are seeing in information technology."

"As more information comes to be transmitted electronically, libraries are finding themselves at the front line; they are having to change their modes of delivery," Ms Page-Hanify said from her office on the fifth floor of the Library building.

"Many in the information industry see libraries as the first, and perhaps most important, station on the so-called information super-highway, so we have to be very aware of our position, to be ready to move quickly and effectively as new opportunities emerge," she said.

Ms Page-Hanify joined UNSW in January from her previous position as General Manager of the Parliament's Information Systems Office at Parliament House, Canberra (see Uniken 18 Nov 1994).

"As information technology continues its rapid evolution, we have to gauge how we can best adapt this progress to suit society's needs. This is not always easy because some aspects of technology are changing faster than some people can adapt. Even when some people do adapt quickly, this requires changes in work procedures or customer expectations, or the advantages of being technologically up-to-date people can be lost," she said.

"With budget constraints, we also have to judge carefully our entry into new technology. It is well known that early buyers of new technology pay a premium. We have to balance that premium against the advantages gained from quicker access to the technology ... if you delay one acquisition you may be thrown out of phase for acquiring later generations."

"I see part of a manager's role as being able to understand the environment and the opportunities as they arise, and to link them to the corporate goals of the organisation." For the Library, this means knowing what services, new or enhanced, can be offered to students, academics and the administration -- how we can be more responsive, give better advice and offer more cost-effective solutions on our campuses," Ms Page-Hanify said.
Campus work takes shape

Further to notices in Uniken and Focus, the Facilities Department now reports that the major disruption to the Botany Street Carpark is nearly over. Users of the carpark should note:
- all levels of the existing carpark are now open;
- the new widened entry at the eastern end has been completed;
- the western stair has reopened.

The builders' compound on the apron will remain. The new section will be open mid-year. All public spaces in the re-arranged Botany Street Carpark due to be re-opened from 20 February.

The new stationery and newsagency store and Eate's bussells are expected to begin trading again from this Monday. The University Credit Union and the Union's Resources Activities and Development (RAD) Department store will be opening on the site of the former delicatessen store. The main foodcourt (where Eate's used to be) will not be ready until about Easter.

A lift linking users with the ground level of the Courtyard and on to the Basser Steps will be operating mainly to assist those people with disabilities.

$50,000 for weather modelling

A special grant to Professor Lance Leslie, Professor of Applied Mathematics, will enhance his ability to model various weather events at the necessary pace - up to three gigaflops (three billion mathematical operations per second).

The grant, from the Vice-Chancellor, augments funding Professor Leslie will receive from the Max Planck Research award he has recently shared with Professor Klaus Friedrich, Professor of Meteorology at the University of Hamburg (see Uniken, 2 December 1994).

Professor Leslie and five postgraduate students working with him will be able to continue their modelling of weather events ranging from ocean circulation during the Sydney-Hobart race (see this Uniken, page 4) to patterns of Australia's weather extending over centuries.

Professor Leslie has also prepared a model to assist One Australia in the America's Cup races being sailed off San Diego over the next few months. In the challenger series, One Australia is lying second which we need with the supercomputers so we can use the supercomputers' time, for which there is strong international competition, most efficiently," Professor Leslie said.

"I am most grateful to the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Niland, and to the Dean of Science, Professor Harry Hyland, for the support they have given this work, and for making this grant possible," he said.

Graduate elected to University Council

The election of one graduate to the University Council (Casual Vacancy) has been finalised.

The ballot for the election closed at 5pm on Friday 27 January 1995. I now declare the following elected for the remainder of the term of office ending 30 June 1998: Gea Mary Diller-Anderson.

Crystal Condous
Registrar and Deputy Principal

1995 Uniken publication dates

Uniken will be published on the following dates during 1995: [In brackets after each of the publication dates are the copy deadlines for diary and classified ads.]

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As reported in Focus of 10 February, that newsletter will become a coloured insert inside Uniken from 28 April. Focus will appear for the last time in its current format on 21 April.

* Earlier publication date due to Easter

Please note: A full schedule of dates (including dates covered by diary and classifieds) will be available from 30 April. Diary forms are not yet available but entries may be submitted in writing. Pull seminar lists per session are accepted, however, any changes must be advised in writing to our office, to prevent inaccurate publishing.

Alumni meet for achievers

The UNSW Alumni Association each year honours a select group of outstanding graduates and graduates not only for their academic achievements but also for their contribution to the community, and marks the occasion with an annual Awards Dinner.

This year, this important event will be held on Saturday 11 March in the Squarehouse, UNSW Alumnae and former Award winner, Ms Pat O'Shane, will be the guest speaker.

Winners from the Schools of Building, Engineering, Medicine, Social Science and Policy, Architecture, Town Planning, Mines, Social Work, Theatre and Film Studies and Fibre, Science and Technology are being recognised.

Seating at the dinner is limited to 300, so early bookings are essential. Invitations are available from Meegan Comforth, Office of Alumni Relations by phoning 314 5066 or fax: 314 4583. The cost is $50 for Contributing Members and $60 for Ordinary Members.

The Alumni Association's Annual General Meeting will also be held this year on 11 March. Scheduled for 6pm in the Roundhouse, the meeting is open to all alumni and their guests. Enquiries regarding the Annual General Meeting should be directed to the Office of Alumni Relations by phoning 314 5066.

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The messenger they can’t kill

The old response to an unpopular message was to kill the messenger. The modern method of dealing with an irate like Professor Noam Chomsky, Professor of Linguistics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is to pin bad words on him - anarchist, dissident, radical, maverick, polemicist. Marginalize him in the jargon, in the hope that people will not listen to him.

But they do listen to him, and what they do not listen to him.

Whom to believe? In an effort to find out, UNSW brought Professor Chomsky to Australia to deliver the 1995 Wallace Wurth Memorial Lecture, on 19 January.

After being introduced by the Chancellor, Sir Anthony Mason, as having made contributions to knowledge as important as those of Darwin, Freud and Einstein, Professor Chomsky launched into his topic: Democracy and Markets in the New World Order.

Borrowing from The New York Times, he observed that the Western victory in the Cold War had removed the global threat to market democracy and had opened the way for the expansion of a set of economic principles built on democracy and free markets: "The free market is the wave of the future, the future of which America is both the gatekeeper and the model ... and that we are lucky that the world has such an angelic power as the gatekeeper."

Indeed, had not Henry Kissinger warned "that the altruism of US policy goes too far for our own national interest?"

Professor Chomsky then examined these benign self-images in the light of the way in which the United States had, in his view, destroyed democracy via a succession of Latin American states, "with the benefit of opening up the region to private investment."

Noting the correlation between states that torture and those that receive US military aid, he moved on to examine US adherence to free-market principles.

With his usual wide range of evidence, he concluded that it was difficult to find an example where the facts so clearly contradicted the dominant theory that free markets were the engine of economic growth, throwing in a boast from the Reagan administration that no other post-war administration had offered big business so much protection.

"The US has always been extreme in rejecting the (free market) doctrine to which it is committed as a matter of definition," Professor Chomsky said. In fact, he said, the US had always been the mother-country of protectionism.

Free markets, he suggested ironically, should be based on others as a means of ruining them but should be avoided by any group seeking dominance. Australia, he said, was unique in seeking Third World status by campaigning for it.

Although the lecture was slanted to an American audience it centred on issues that an Australian audience should be concerned about - for Australia's sake as well as the Third World's.

It is by no means necessary for a concerned person to agree with all that Professor Chomsky said. However, the gravity of his charges can be assessed by noting how consistently his so-called critics prefer to tackle him on trivialities.

Professor Chomsky's central theme, that imperialism has only one purpose and that hypocrisy and deception are its tools, is not new. If President Bush's New World Order turns out to be more than a catch-cry, nations such as Australia will have little say in their role.

In thanking Professor Chomsky for his thought-provoking Wallace Wurth lecture, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor John Nilland, said: "In modern times, many of us worry about the resource base of higher education ... and the dangers to freedom of thought and expression if close government involvement or private sector support become conditional on the right outcomes."

"I hasten to add that at UNSW we enjoy excellent relations with our stakeholders but it is useful, as Professor Chomsky has done, to assert regularly the importance of independence."

"Professor Chomsky has reminded us that a university should be a theatre for discussion and debate, a laboratory for the discovery of the new, a catalyst for more complete explanations of the world, a classroom for the tuition and education of the eager by the wise ... and an opportunity for the joyous expression of our delight in learning that we were wrong."

Professor Nilland said.

Earlier in the day, again at UNSW, Professor Chomsky spoke on Language and thought: reflections on venerable themes. What, one may ask, is the connection between linguistics and imperialism?

The two lectures were in the right chronological order and Professor Chomsky answered this question by showing that different aspects of human behaviour can not sensibly be isolated. More particularly, he showed that the analytic techniques which he has brought to bear on linguistics can be powerful tools for exposing fallacies and deception.

In addition, linguistics is very much the study of the way that "information" is generated in one person, transmitted to a second, and is absorbed by the second in such a way that the two believe they are sharing the same piece of knowledge.

He described the weakness of many of the links in this chain of events and pointed to other areas where he said the nature of the links was a complete mystery.

In a historical review of linguistics, Professor Chomsky likened the present cognitive revolution to the 17th Century mechanical revolution. In both cases, the new devices encouraged a spurt of material progress but they also stimulated the thinkers of each period into a bout of intellectual activity that carried scientific inquiry to the next plane.

Professor Chomsky is a prolific writer. World Orders, Old and New, which covers the terrain of his Wallace Wurth Memorial Lecture, was published by Pluto Press in 1994.

Research Highlights there for all to see

A n important guide to the wide body of research undertaken by Faculties and Schools at UNSW has just been released. UNSW Research Highlights features profiles of research in progress and details the considerable research achievements resulting from the investment of public and private sector funds in our programs.

UNSW has secured more competitive grants from the Australian Research Council than any other Australian institution for the past six years.

It is a partner in 11 Co-operative Research Centres and the major node of four. It hosts to three Commonwealth Special Research Centres and to Australia's first UNESCO Science Centre. Several of its research innovations have been developed to a commercial level.

UNSW consistently attracts significant levels of funding (Commonwealth, State, and industry) for its major research centres and institutes; has a ranking in the top few Australian universities in terms of per capita publications output; and conducts significant government-funded research with leading overseas universities.

Fourteen percent of the international research students in Australia are enrolled at UNSW.

UNSW Research Highlights was produced through the University Image Project.

The highlights included in this publication were selected by an Editorial Committee (comprised of academic and general staff) on the basis of public relevance, from submissions and major UNSW stories in 1993/94.

For copies or further information please contact the Research Office, tel: (02) 385 3692.
Early enrolment passes the test

Graham Croker

While Higher School Certificate students with high TER scores have been jockeying for enrolment in university courses, 19-year-old Patrick Morris-Suzuki has just begun his PhD.

Patrick was the first student accepted at UNSW under the Early Enrolment Scheme and began his Bachelor of Science (Pure Mathematics) degree as a 15-year-old in 1991.

He completed the degree in 1994 with first class honours and a mark of 95 per cent and will be receiving the University Medal in pure mathematics at the May graduation.

Patrick has already begun a PhD at UNSW and hopes to be able to study at a prestigious overseas university, either later this year or in 1996, though he had applied to Oxford, Cambridge and Princeton.

There has been plenty of discussion in recent weeks about identifying and providing proper tuition for gifted children.

While Patrick says he wasn't "pushed" by his parents, he could read at an early age and his aptitude for arithmetic was discovered during his early years in primary school.

There has been plenty of discussion about early entry to university, a topic which Patrick is not only qualified to speak on, but one to which he has given a great deal of thought.

Being the first student in the scheme at UNSW, he knew that much depended on his success.

"I was aware that the success of the scheme was riding on my shoulders," said Patrick, who was tall for his age as a 15-year-old. "My parents didn't let me forget.

"I have no regrets with what I've done. When I first came here there were some who thought I'd be better off socially, with my own age levels. In my case that wasn't correct. I got along very well with fellow students. A friend of two years acquaintance and another I'd known for 18 months who didn't know my age were both surprised when they found out.

"The Teachers' Federation was critical of the early placement scheme when it was introduced in 1990 and an article criticising the scheme was published in their journal.

"It's a successful idea and should be expanded. Those who argue against it usually do so on the grounds that it favours children from a middle class background, and that we should be building our resources towards helping the poor.

"But although the program has cost a lot of time and effort from the University, it has also saved the State Government the cost of keeping me in the school system for an extra three years.

"Otherwise, the program may well have saved money, perhaps to be spent on the disadvantaged."

While Patrick believes there are other youngsters capable of early enrolment — if correctly identified and prepared — he says they are more likely to come from state schools.

"There is a difference in the attitude of schools," he said. "Private schools don't want to hand over their top young students to universities because there is prestige in getting them into the top one per cent of the Higher School Certificate.

"The scheme is open to anybody, though it is interesting that it is usually the hard sciences — physics and mathematics — that attract early enrolment as opposed to professional degrees in medicine and law. I'm very grateful to the University for offering me this enrolment.

In justifying the faith of those who promoted the scheme, Patrick said his academic levels were reasonably constant.

An only child, Patrick was born in Bradford-on-Avon, England, and came to Australia in 1981 just before turning six.

His father, Hiroshi Suzuki, a freelance writer, and his mother, Dr Tessa Morris-Suzuki, formerly of the Department of Economic History at the University of New England and now a research fellow in School of Pacific and Asian Studies at the Australian National University, met when she was in Japan teaching English.

Although both parents have backgrounds in the humanities, Patrick said he was naturally oriented towards mathematics and his journey to an honours degree at 19 was assisted by several teachers in that discipline.

At Newling Primary School in Armidale he was taught by Mr Neil Free who introduced "vertical classes" designed to accelerate pupils at an early age. "He was a great teacher," said Patrick.

He also came into contact with Mr Stan Bailey, formerly of the College of Advanced Education (now part of UNE) who specialized in talented children, Mrs Margaret Mackie who taught extra-curricula classes at the UNE-Newling campus, the school headmaster Mr Graham Minnis, a supporter of the early enrolment scheme, and the school librarian, Mrs Patton.

Despite their encouragement, Patrick modestly said it was still a fluke that he found himself tutoring the UNSW concert band, the University Pipers, became involved in residents' society at International House for one year and became academic advisor at New College in 1984 when he found himself tutoring former classmates. Not surprisingly, he was also on the executive of the Mathematics Society in 1994.

Patrick's early interest in philosophy continued at UNSW when he enrolled in courses with the Centre for Liberal and General Studies.

"I enjoyed my courses with the Centre," he said. "It is a shame it is being phased out.

Patrick said he was fortunate to have been involved with Associate Professor David Hunt, Director of First Year Students, and Professor Colin Sutherland, Head of the School of Mathematics. "They've both been very helpful," he said.

He is already working on a proposed PhD topic in operator algebras — a branch of mathematics relating to physics.

"People tend to think of mathematics as being very difficult and very irrelevant. It is neither," Patrick lamented.
Maths Man sails in uncharted waters

Want to win the Sydney to Hobart race? It's easy. Combine a computational model using past readings of sea surface temperature and temperature at a depth of 250 metres, with a statistical model and real-time data, to give a forecast of the state of the currents in the race.

Well, you have to be able to sail too, but when *Raptor* crossed the finishing line first in the 50th running of the great race last year, UNSW mathematicians were cheering. The winning yacht was one of two boats using an ocean model developed at the University.

Mark Gibbs, a keen yachtsman and research student at UNSW's School of Applied Mathematics, is intrigued by the combination of his work and sport.

"I'd always had a personal interest in yachting and work in the School on currents of the East Australian coast just seemed to be tailored to the Sydney to Hobart," he said.

Mark sailed on *Anzus* which also used the UNSW model.

"The Sydney to Hobart is known as an "open" race - one that almost any yacht can win," he said.

"That is partly because the meteorology and ocean behaviour close to the coast is very unpredictable. Deep ocean racing is much easier because it is simpler to predict what the water is doing. But close to shore, on the continental shelf, a single decision which may lose you 10 minutes can lose you the race."

The work of UNSW mathematicians has focused on the behaviour of the East Australian Current (EAC) which starts in Queensland waters and persists to Cape Howe. It is the major current affecting ocean movement off Eastern Australia yet very little is known about it.

"We know what happens in deeper water. One feature of the current is large eddies which may have a life span of up to six months. What we don't know is what happens to these in the shallower water on the Continental Shelf. These factors become very important in the Sydney to Hobart, as the key decision is "how far off shore do you go?""

"The traditional idea is that sitting on the edge of the shelf may give you an extra knot or two of current," Mark said.

"But if sailors know that speed can be gained closer in to shore, then they won't need to go out the 40 miles - putting them ahead of the competition."

The model used to forecast the state of currents in the race was originally designed to examine the interaction of the EAC and ocean sewage outfalls off Sydney.

"We are now finding other uses for it," Mark said. The organisers of the Shelley Taylor Smith marathon swim from Sydney to Wollongong came to UNSW to find out if currents would be favourable on the day they had chosen for the swim.

"This sort of model is also useful for ship routing. If ship companies can take advantage of currents they can save time and fuel."

A lot of time, training effort and money is put into winning the Sydney to Hobart. And of course, "yachties" are interested in making the most of their investment.

"A 46-foot boat may cost half a million dollars to build, and may only be good for one year of racing. Boats are shipped to Australia from the UK, the US and around the world," Mark said.

On a trip which may take four days the yacht crew does not take any spare clothes, cameras, even toothbrushes, because of weight considerations. We even use a plastic sextant, instead of a metal one.

"We have had good wind data before, but now we can combine this with knowing what the currents are doing. So far we can only explain so much, but it is a 100 per cent improvement over knowing nothing."

The *Raptor* crew was so impressed with the edge the UNSW information gave them that the skipper has invited Mark to sail with them in 1995.

"UNSW researchers are continuing to work on the model, so as the yachties are honing their boats, we'll be honing our information," he said.

"We're looking forward to a great race this year!"

-Kylie Knox

Old salt and maths whiz Mark Gibbs already plotting for this year's Sydney to Hobart

NIDA fast-tracks young performers

Remember the old song that went "What the world needs is a great big melting pot?" Thirty six Aboriginal school children who took a week-long crash course at NIDA performed the chorus to "Melting Pot" at the Survival Concert on Australia Day.

The children, aged 9-16 years, learnt theatre production, design and performance. They came from Newcastle, Lismore, Wreck Bay and Sydney suburbs to attend the workshop classes which covered many aspects of theatre from costume and stage design, to acting, storytelling, dance, movement and song.

Organised by the Aboriginal Education Program at UNSW in association with NIDA's Open Program, the summer course culminated in a performance by the children on 27 January in the NIDA theatre. The children were instructed by NIDA teachers, guest lecturers, performers and an Aboriginal NIDA student.

Visiting Fellow honoured by France

The President of the French Republic has, by decree, appointed Dr Gerhart Lowenthal, of UNSW's School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, to the rank of Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite.

In the citation, Dr Lowenthal was praised for his efforts throughout his long career to improve communication between Australian scientists and their European counterparts, particularly in France, in civil applications of nuclear science such as medicine and power.

Dr Lowenthal, a Visiting Fellow in Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, has also collaborated actively with the national laboratories and standards bodies in France, Germany, the USA and Japan.

He was further recognised for his work as an organiser of many conferences and seminars aiming to promote French science and technology in Australia.
Measuring a cold, cold sky

Two more UNSW astrophysicists, Dr Michael Ashley and Professor John Storey, recently returned from the Amundson-Scott base at the South Pole, where they are continuing experiments aimed at confirming that the high Antarctic plateau would offer the best astronomical viewing conditions on earth — and far cheaper than satellite viewing, Dr Ashley, with help from Professor Storey, sent extensive diary entries back via the Internet to UNSW. To give an idea of what astronomers get up to, Unitek presents the following extracts.

Others in the cast are:

IRPS: the Infra-Red Photometer Spectrometer, the UNSW-designed central character, which is measuring the astronomical viewing quality of the polar sky.

CARA: the US Center for Astrophysics Research in Antarctica.

JACARA: CARA’s young brother, the Joint Australian Centre for Astrophysics Research in Antarctica.

Jean (Vemin): a collaborator from the Université de Nice.

Jamie Lloyd: IRPS.

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26 Jan 95
The LC-130 lands very smoothly on its skis on the prepared skisway. Upon disembarking, the cold hits like a sledgehammer. My nostrils immediately freeze. It is -37C, and the winch hut puts the physiological temperature at -51C. The altitude of the Pole is 9,500 ft, but centrifugal and temperature effects reduce the pressure to the equivalent of between 10,900 and 12,500 ft, depending on the weather.

The horizon is dead flat, the ground is blindingly white, the sky is deep blue and cloudless, there is a gentle wind of about eight knots. Nothing, not even the weekend in Christchurch, could have prepared us for the sense of complete isolation from the rest of the world. There are no inhabited places for over 1,000km in any direction.

We learn that a Norwegian woman skied into the Pole a few weeks ago. She traveled about 1,200km by herself, carrying 80kg in supplies, and made it to the Pole in 55 days with no aerials of food.

27 Jan 95
You have to drink so much to combat the low humidity that you have to get up two or three times during the night to go to the bathroom. This is in another building 100m away, which leads to an interesting dilemma: should you spend half-an-hour getting into your Antarctic clobber for the trip, or should you risk making a dash, with the possibility of arriving too cold to do anything?

28 Jan 95
John spent part of the previous evening, waiting for sleep to come, composing the JACARA song. We propose to sing this to the tune of "Walking Matilda" at the CARA meeting on Monday.

Today is our first day of real work on the IRPS.

The community spirit down here is great. Everyone gets on really well, people are always willing to help, and humour is never far from the surface.

30 Jan 95
Tonight’s dessert was a nice cake decorated with Oreos. Oreos are a simple American institution. Non-Americans are mystified by their popularity since they are one of the more unappealingly edible items, in TinnTams, Malters, Gaitys, or in fact any Australian biscuit. Jamie Lloyd is convinced that several tins of Oreos were delivered to the South Pole in the 1970s, and we are still getting them through. The winterovers had a raging discussion the other night about whether there are 45 or 46 Oreos in a packet (apparently both numbers have been measured).

We learn that the weather here at the Pole has been the coldest ever recorded (on these days of the year). Today is a bit warmer (-30C) due to fairly thick clouds. John is putting the finishing touches to the lyrics of the JACARA song and finishes them with 15 minutes to spare. The only quiet place we can find to practice is outside in the snow, so we shiver through the three verses.

At the CARA meeting at 7:30pm, Tony Studying the CARA song, and then we sing the JACARA song. The CARA folk were very polite about our efforts.

After the meeting we head back to the Penetrator Building and work some more on IRPS. John is very pleased with his efforts and comments that we “performed six impossible tasks before breakfast,” and “completely rebuilt the IRPS through the entrance window”.

31 Jan 95
The remainder of the day was spent working hard on IRPS. We tracked down the source of the stepper motor controller problem; it’s simply noise on the mains — we measure bursts of 5 volt 500 ns pulses on the 5 volt computer power supply. Hopefully this can be fixed with a few strategically placed ceramic capacitors and a line filter. We leak-tested the dewar and found a problem with the sapphire entrance window, so we pulled it apart, cleaned it thoroughly, and reinstalled it. The dewar now appears to be OK and we will leave it on the pump for at least two days. We worked some more on the IRPS software and John made up some cables to connect the ion pump controller and the liquid nitrogen solenoid controller to the computer. We should now be able to measure the vacuum pressure in IRPS from the computer.

We are now sweltering under a heatwave (-29C) due to the presence of thin cloud. It is noticeably more comfortable walking around outside.

2 Feb 95
John tried an experiment today. He took two packets of biscuits out to the Blue Building, with each packet containing healthy recognisable natural ingredients, the other contained Oreos. By lunchtime all but two of the 45/46 Oreos were gone and the other packet had not been touched. Today is -39C with bright blue sunny skies. John got up at 5am and again at 8am to take the remaining two shots of our video sequence of sun shadows. Since we started trying to get these 3-hourly shots, the shadows have noticeably lengthened as the sun slowly sets.

3 Feb 95
As of this morning there are no aircraft on the continent capable of landing at the South Pole (the last one succumbed to a mechanical problem during the night). Luckily we have four years’ supply of food at the South Pole station, although I suspect that after three years there would be a certain lack of variety.

Jean’s balloon launch is very successful. He is getting temperature, pressure, humidity, and a measurement of micro-thermal temperature fluctuations up to 20km or so. Jean’s initial impression of the data is that the atmosphere is remarkably free of turbulence, and even the inversion layer at 200m appears to be relatively non-turbulent. By the end of the winter we should have data from 25 of these balloon launches and Jean should be able to make some very interesting quantitative comparisons between the South Pole and sites such as Mauna Kea and Chile.

Hubble Talk
Australian-born Colin Norman, Professor of Physics and Astronomy at Johns Hopkins University, will give a free public lecture on the new cosmology that has been revealed by the Hubble Space Telescope. With the launch of the HST, cosmology has shifted from conjecture toward hard scientific evidence.

The lecture will be held at 8pm on Thursday 23 February in the Clancy Auditorium, UNSW (enter by Gate 9 off High Street, Randwick).
UNIVEN Student Guide to the University 1995

Coping on campus

Univen has assembled a list of useful tips to help new students make it through the first brushing weeks on campus.

BANKS, CREDIT UNION: Branches of the Commonwealth and State Banks and the Bank of和技术在

COURSE AND STUDY PROBLEMS: Counselling and Careers Service, Second Floor, East Wing, Quadrangle Building, phone 385 3419.

UNIPREP: Counselling and Careers Service, in conjunction with the University's Learning Enrichment Centre, UNIPREP in the week before Ses-

2.00 pm

UNIVEN Student Guide to the University 1995

UNIVEN STUDENT GUIDE TO THE UNIVERSITY 1995

The tour timetable is:

Tours, Library Supplement, copy 385 5419.

Finding somewhere to live

After gaining entry to university and registering, students often face the most daunting task facing new students - finding somewhere to live.

Although Univen has seven residential colleges and one on-campus apartment, many students still have to fend for their own accommodation, preferably close to the University.

Don't despair, help is at hand. This difficult task will made not by a variety of services offered by the Student Services Department and the Centre for Student Affairs in the centre of the Kensington campus.

Student Services staff can help you find outside accommodation, including houses to let, shared flats and houses and rooms with canteen facilities.

In many cases the student will have to pay by the time of occupation.

The University of new South Wales, or "Univen", offers a wide variety of competitive development courses for students and the general community. Restricted tours are open only for students and non-students that commence on 13 March. Booking of "the two-wheeled concerns" has become a contentious issue at the University. Unfortunately, theft does occur at UNSW and students are reminded to keep a close eye on their possessions all the time.

If you are a victim of theft or and are not above using behaviour which is anything but "liberale" channelled bicycles to claim "possession"... Bicycle are best channel within a view of a particular or other conspicuous people.

Make sure your bike is safe

Keeping the body healthy is just as important as keeping the mind active and while personal property might be the main aim of new students, the University Gymnasiums and the Sports Centre will keep their energies in shape.

School of Creative Development Courses.

Enrolment is easy. Simply toll 031 3142 or call the Experts on the first floor of the Main Tower.

Biomedical Library are also held. Everyone

HEALTHY BODY, HEALTHY MIND

The central idea is to provide an easy introduction to the ins and outs of the photographic and public speaking, the skills in the art of black and white printing, in the joy of slides and stereo.

There is a certificate at the end of the second floor, East Wing, Quadrangle Building, by phone 385 5419.

Library Tours, Session I

Library tours are held during Orientation Week and in subsequent weeks at the behest of the University Union's Resources, Activities and Development (RAD) Officers. They offer a wide variety of competitive development courses for students and the general community. Restricted tours are open only for students and non-students who wish to become involved in competitive sport.

Library Tours, Session II

Library tours are held during Orientation Week and in subsequent weeks at the behest of the University Union's Resources, Activities and Development (RAD) Officers. They offer a wide variety of competitive development courses for students and the general community. Restricted tours are open only for students and non-students who wish to become involved in competitive sport.

The Autumn session will be the 63rd session of Creative Development Courses.

A certificate will be awarded to those who complete a course.

Enrolment is easy. Simply toll 031 3142 or call the Experts on the first floor of the Main Tower.

Public Speaking is the current course on offer. It will be conducted by the Sydney Tutors, well-known for their friendly and supportive teaching method.

Students can choose from day, evening and week courses ranging from $30 to $87 with discounts for Univen members.

Enrolment is easy. Simply toll 031 3142 or call the Experts on the first floor of the Main Tower.

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If you are a victim of theft or
Diary
18 February - 5 March

Monday 20
Term 1 begins - AGSM MBA program - Year 1...4-19 March, 1995) Proposals for major stories should reach the News Service office three weeks before publication.

Tuesday 21
Orientation Week for new students. 21 - 24 February. 'Yellow Shirts' (volunteer senior students) help and guide new students on campus to participate in the many activities organised by the Union.

Thursday 2 March
University Union Market Day. Outside University Union Market Day. Outside Roundhouse. 9am-4pm. Enq 931 3174.
Workplace English Program, free English classes for staff, 2 March - 8 April. Semi-Workplace English Program, free English classes for staff, 2 March - 8 April. Seminar presentation: 11am-1pm. Rm 34B, Western campus; Writing: 2-4pm. Rm 702, Western campus. Enq ext 5480.

Friday 3
Great Books Group Introductory Meeting. All welcome. Rm G3, Elect Eng Bldg. 1pm. Enq Gordon Donaldson, ext 4034 or 661 3097.

Saturday 4
Living in a Fire Prone Environment. School of Biological Science Seminar, in conjunction with The Linnean Society of NSW & ANZAAS. Various speakers. Biomedical Lecture Theatre D. 9am-4.15pm. Enq Dr Martin, ext 2071.

Classifieds
Uniken advertising is free to staff and students of UNSW. Advertisements must be brief, in writing and bear the legible signature of the advertiser. Students should quote their UNSW Student Number. A telephone extension number should be included for checking.

To advertise, send the text to the News Service (Room G18, The Chancellery) or fax 662 1630, by the deadline.

It is not possible for the University to check the truth of statements in advertisements. Motor vehicles for sale must include registration number.

Readers are reminded that advertisements for commercial/income producing activities are not accepted.

An advertisement may be placed once only.

For Sale
AMIGA 500, 1 MB ram, colour monitor, ext floppy, Workbench 2.0, modem, Epson 9-pin printer + many books & software. $220 ono. Phone Dave, ext 4591 or 349 4404 (AH).

Bicycle, men's Cyclops Sprint 10 Racer, black, rarely used, exc cond, $120 ono. Phone Inga, ext 2866 or 663 1303.

Bicycle, men's 10 spd, Apollo, + helmet, exc cond, $200. Phone Marina, ext 3846.

Bicycles, 2 nos, 3 spd, 22" wheels, suit girl 11-14, as new, $120. 2 avoaria, 1.75x11x22, $20 & 0.66x19x91, $10. 1g trampline, exc cond, $50. Phone ext 2326 or 44 5543.

Computer Laptop, Apple Macintosh Powerbook 160 with grey scale active matrix screen, 12 mths old, $2,600. Phone Sean, ext 5392.

Cot, white, recommended by CHOICE, + mattress, exc cond, $200; portable cot, exc cond, top brand, green, hot pink, purple, mauve, $60; white Forterscot playpen, new, changes shape, orig price $200, sell $150; change table/bath, 2 shelves, on wheels, $60; Avent steam steriliser, 4 bottles + teats, as new, $30; quality clothes for girl 3-4yrs, good, exc cond, $25; new high chair, pale varnished wood, colonial style, $75; high chair, navy blue seat, white legs + top, $30; white plastic baby bath, $5; bookcase, 26x60x30cm, solid maple, suit lge rft lks, gd cond, $150. Phone 390 6521 or 608 6283 (AH).

Girl's bike, as new, alloy wheels, 16 spd, $240; Surf ski, Raider (by Kevlar), $250; Sharp Carousel microwave, $170 ono. Phone Csag, ext 5749.

Plastic drums, 20 lgs, ($200-$450), make ideal compost bins, $28 ea. Phone Anne, ext 2069.

MGB Mark II 1969. LHH 325. New red duko, spoko wheels, sopenhairs & carpets. Receipt kept, motor reconditioned, owned 14 yrs, reluctant sale, $12,000 ono. Phone 818 1150.

PhD gown & hood, $150 ono; Masters' gown + hood, $125 ono, exc cond, will fit 1.8m tall person, mortorbard, 58cm, $25. For sale to engineering grad. Phone (042) 29 8842.

Sofa, genuine leather 3-seater, black, 15 mths old, very new cond, $500 ono. Phone Alan Wan, ext 3676 or 583 1924 (AH).

Sofa, $100; 2 timber frame arm chairs, $50. Phone Monica, 361 2023.

Student/office desk, black & grey, 3 drawers, $250. Phone ext 2069.

1920s apartment, 2 mins to harbour parks. $1,999 pw. Phone Trina, ext 3754 or 501 0590 (AH).

Randwick, environment conscious vegetarians seeks like-minded, non-smoking flatmate to share recently renovated, mod 2 bedroom unit. Close to shops, beach, UNSW, POW Hosp, buses. $129 pw + 4 wk bond, share phone & elect. Avail now. Phone Trina, ext 3754 or 501 0590 (AH).

Spacious 4 bedroom home with Middle Harbour views for short lease, April - Aug '95. Suit visiting academics. Phone Judy Bourke, 965 7000.

To Let / To Share
Clovelly/Coogee, bright, clean flat, ocean views. Top floor, mod 2-storey bldg, 2 lge bedrooms, built-in wardrobes. Laundry, lockup storage area, lge balcony & undercover parking. Close to shops, transport & beach, 15 min walk to UNSW or POW Hosp. Avail end Jan, $210 pw. Phone Rick or Tassia, 310 0775.

Kingsford, person(s) to share 3 bedrm unit. Close to shops, transport & beach. Security bldg, parking space, share laundry, wash machine & dryer. Ample cupboard space, built-in wardrobe. Close to transp & UNSW. Avail mid Feb (neg), $196 pw + 4 wks bond. Phone Frances Colville, ext 4477 or 665 0266 (AH).

Kingsford, person(s) to share 3 bedroom house with one other. Must be non-smoker who likes to share vegetarian cooking, cleaning, household expenses. Total rent $355 pw. Phone Robert, ext 2630 afternoon or 344 0204 (H).

Randwick, lge unfurnished 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom. Federation house, quiet street near UNSW & POW Hosp. Polished floorboards, off-street parking. $390 pw. Phone 385 3040 or 314 0095 (AH).

Hats off to ADFA
The traditional end to the Passing Out parade for officer cadets at University College, Australian Defence Force Academy, is marked with headwear being tossed in the air. The 1994 graduates continued the tradition. Photo courtesy Audio Visual Centre, University College, ADFA.

Deadline for next issue of Uniken
9am Thursday 22 February
(Daily dates covered: 4 - 19 March, 1995) Proposals for major stories should reach the News Service office three weeks before publication.
Above: David Jackson, who graduated with Second Class Honours in his BSc (Medicine), MB BS degrees, was congratulated at the Faculty of Medicine graduation ceremony on 1 February by his parents Mrs Joan Jackson and Professor Graham Jackson, School of Microbiology and Immunology.

Above: Dr Saw-Kin Loo, School of Anatomy, received the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Teaching Excellence at the Faculty of Medicine graduation on 1 February - her most outstanding achievement being a major project for computer-assisted learning in histology called the "Fabric of Life".

Right: Ranjan Perera (second from right), who gained his MB BS with Second Class Honours at the Faculty of Medicine graduation, is engaged to Lakmalie Fernando (right), a 5th year UNSW medical student and daughter of Dr Sujatha Fernando from UNSW's School of Pathology and Dr Ranjan Fernando from the Department of Surgery at Liverpool Hospital. Their son, Suran graduated in medicine in 1994.

Above: Proud father Mr Win Filewood, of the School of Biological Science, with his daughter Leowin, who graduated with BSc MB BS degrees at the 1 February ceremony.
Economy not going bananas

We are not a banana republic after all! The release of the latest round of Current Account figures on 1 February caused a predictable - and by now routine - flurry of excitement. But Dr Peter Kriesler from the School of Economics believes the Current Account scare story is not accurate.

"Quite simply, the Current Account is dominated by two elements. The first is the value of all goods and services from overseas less the goods and services we sell overseas. We call this the Balance of Trade and that is what everyone focuses on," Dr Kriesler said.

Dr Kriesler said that in the past 10 years the Balance of Trade had not deviated overall substantially from zero, yet "we are constantly told that Australians buy too much from overseas, but in real terms, this isn't the case".

The country is buying into the country roughly the same amount of goods and services as it exports. So why then, are the Current Account figures such a cause for concern? "The second element of the Current Account, and by far the biggest item, is income flows. After the financial deregulation of Australia dollar in the '80s, we borrowed a hell of a lot of money from overseas. When we pay it back. Nearly all our Current Account deficit is paying off our loans, or at least the interest on them. In previous Current Account figures 60 - 80 percent of the deficit was due to this."

Since about half our foreign debt is in the currency of overseas countries, principally US dollars, we have little control over the debt.

"If the value of the Australian dollar goes down, or if overseas interest rates go up, we owe more money." Dr Kriesler said that it was political worrying over the Balance of Trade figures that prompted "the recession we had to have".

He also believes most Australians understand little about the economy, allowing politicians to manipulate their ignorance. Media coverage fails to clarify it for them, he adds.

To make such information accessible, Dr Kriesler has edited a new book in which experts explain recent economic developments in ways understandable to non-economists.

The Australian Economy - The Essential Guide is dedicated to his wife, who asked "Why don't economists speak English".

It is published by Allen & Unwin at a recommended retail price of $17.95.

In this book he sets the record straight.

Past seen through Irish eyes

Vivid images of the Irish in black and white photographs, posters, cartoons and ephemera have been compiled in a new book by Professor Patrick O'Farrell.

Through Irish Eyes, Australian and New Zealand Images of the Irish 1788-1948, is described by Professor O'Farrell as a "meditation, a marking of the death of a culture, now gone but for which all its defects and deficiencies had real meaning, coherence, dignity and depth".

Professor O'Farrell holds a personal chair in History at UNSW where he has taught since 1959. He has also held visiting professorships at University College and Trinity College, Dublin.

He is best known internationally for his two books on the historical relationship between England and Ireland - Ireland's English Question: Anglo-Irish Relations, 1574-1976 and England and Ireland Since 1800.

A happy housewife on West Coast, NZ.

A 'corrosive' freethinker

In his recently published memoirs, the well-known writer and former palladian minister Peter Coleman described David Stove as "a freethinker of corrosive integrity and one of Australia's finest essayists". It is a view shared by many of Stove's peers around the world.

A teacher of philosophy at UNSW during the 1950s and at the University of Sydney until his death in June 1994, Stove won international acclaim not only for his four books of philosophy, but also for a series of brilliant, conservative polemical essays in some of the world's most prestigious journals, including The National Interest, Commentary, Encounter, The American Scholar and Philosophy. In Australia, he was also well-known to readers of Quadrant.

The best of those polemical writings and two major new essays: "The Intellectual Capacity of Women"; and "Racial and Other Antagonisms", have now been brought together in a new book, Cricket versus Republicanism and other essays, edited by James Franklin and R.J. Stove.

In his introduction to the book, Dr Franklin, of UNSW's School of Mathematics, says the list of things Stove attacked was a long one, including Arts faculties, big books, consumerism, Darwinism, the Enlightenment, feminism, Peid, the idea of progress, leftist views of all kinds, Marx, metaphysics, modern architecture and art, philosophical idealism, religion, semiotics, Stravinsky, Sweden and anything beginning with "soc ...".

In 1984, after Stove publicly criticised what he regarded as the corruption of the universities by radical feminism, he was informed by the authorities at the University of Sydney that they had received complaints from "disciplinary proceedings" against him being considered.

In federal parliament, the then Minister for Education, Senator Susan Ryan, publicly joined in the attack on Stove. This experience led Stove to write his major and condemn the decision of the university: "A Farewell to Arte: Marxism, Semiotics and Feminism".

The essay, which is included in Cricket versus Republicanism, is, according to Coleman, "one of the most important articles yet written on the subject and a key to the troubled condition of Australia today".

Dr Franklin said the essays have been chosen both for their accessibility to the general reader and their sheer literary verve: "functions for which Stove is acclaimed, even among many of those who disagree with his views."

As the American philosopher Stephen Stich, of Rutgers University, wrote: "Stove's essays are elegant, insightful, beautifully crafted and enormously interesting. They are also outrageous, opaquely, occasionally unfair and almost always side-splittingly funny. He says things that need to be said, and that others lack the courage - or foolhardiness - to say. And he says them with brilliance."


Society under the microscope

The revised edition of Dimensions of Australian Society, which examines key aspects of social and political behaviour in Australia, has utilised the most robust data from the Census and from representative national sample surveys.

The authors, Brian Graetz, of La Trobe University, and Ian McAllister, of the Department of Politics at University College, Australian National University, have included three new chapters on Aborigini,

Brian Graetz has published in the fields of education, social stratification, health, political ideology and public opinion, while Professor McAllister has published widely on Australian politics, British politics, electoral behaviour and party systems, and in patterns of drug use.

The second edition of Dimensions of Australian Society is divided into three sections, the first of which focuses on demographic processes of family formation and attachment, gender relations, race and ethnic cleavages and religious commitment.

In the second section, socio-economic processes of educational attainment, class formation and social stratification, together with class sentiments, health and deviance are examined.

The third section deals with political issues, political leaders, partisanship and voting behaviour.

Each chapter presents a review of major issues drawn from Australian and international experience, and provides original analysis of research evidence derived from census and survey data. Graetz and McAllister combine sound theoretical insights with a systematic approach to research. The book also serves as a unique practical guide to research and data analysis in the social sciences by employing a variety of popular statistical techniques.

In this revision, the use and interpretation of these techniques is carefully illustrated in a way that makes them more accessible for new students.
Chopstick pavlova grabs Newcomers

Pavlova eaten with chopsticks? It could only happen at a meeting of the Newcomers Group which meets every Tuesday from 10.30am to noon in the Games Room of International House.

The Newcomers Group was formed almost 15 years ago by a group of women after returning from overseas study leave. They had been newcomers in different universities and thought something similar could be done at UNSW. Now under the auspices of the U Committee, the group is open to all newcomers but attracts mostly women who accompany their husbands who are at UNSW for a postgraduate degree or on study leave. New staff members are equally welcome.

The group meets every Tuesday from the beginning of March until the first Tuesday of December, including semester breaks and school holidays. Tea and coffee are provided free of charge. Children are welcome and there are lots of toys for them to play with.

Being such a large university with a large proportion of overseas students and staff, the Newcomers Group decided to make anyone who comes to the University feel welcome, help them make friends and contribute to making their stay in Sydney a happy one.

As many of the women who come to the meetings are from overseas it is a great opportunity for them to practise speaking English.

During 1994 women from Indonesia, Iran, China, Japan, Korea, Russia, Papua New Guinea, Pakistan, India and Germany brought different cultures, religion, languages and ideas into the group.

After talking about food one day, they decided to hold a morning tea with food from their native countries. This was then the pavlova and chopsticks came together.

‘Unforgettable teacher and friend’ honoured

The Western Campus Individual Learning Centre has been dedicated to the memory of Irene Pelekanos, who died suddenly on 25 October last year.

The ceremony, held on 27 January, honoured Ms Pelekanos who was an English language teacher with the English for Academic Purposes (EAP) Department of the Institute of Languages. She has been described as "an exceptional teacher, unforgettable colleague and friend". A "Wheel of Fire" tree was planted in her honour.

Many spoke of her enthusiasm, commitment and her natural gift for teaching.

The Centre is available for overseas students who are preparing for tertiary studies and are enrolled in EAP courses at the Institute of Languages.

Research into Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases at the Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute has been assisted by a grant from the Rebecca L. Cooper Medical Research Foundation, with one of the items of photographic equipment photos courtesy Medical Illustration Unit, Faculty of Medicine and Teaching Hospitals.

Russian archives reveal CPA history

When the Communist Party of Australia (CPA) adopted a "Hands off China" policy following the Japanese invasion of China in the 1930s, just how much of this policy was recommended by Moscow?

Dr Frank Cain, of the Department of History at University College, ADFA, is researching the question of how much the CPA's policy was driven by local factors, given that the Australian government showed little concern about the Japanese war in China, and how much it was driven by the Comintern's recommendations transmitted from Moscow.

Dr Cain's research is focused on the establishment of a united front by the Comintern against the invasion of China by fascist Japan.

"The Soviet Union was one of the few countries assisting the Chinese government against the deadly assaults of the Japanese military machine as it set out to dominate the Western Pacific," Dr Cain said.

"The CPA adopted a 'Hands off China' policy in an effort to arouse Australian concern about the menace posed by Japan to Indonesia, much of Asia and Australia as well."

In order to study documents of the inter-war Comintern organisation which had been established to supervise the various Communist Parties established throughout the world, Dr Cain recently visited the Russian Centre for Studying Modern Political Documents in Moscow. His study is expected to help to identify the underlying cause for different symptoms and in the development of specific drug therapies.

Grant brings brain tissue photography in-house

Pictured from left are Dr Glenda Halliday, Head of Neuropathological Research, and Professor Ian McClorey, Director of Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute, with Mr Al Rosenstrauss, Director, Rebecca L. Cooper Medical Research Foundation, with one of the items of photographic equipment photos courtesy Medical Illustration Unit, Faculty of Medicine and Teaching Hospitals.
Community history is centre of attention

History was the flavour of the moment at UNSW on 9 December when the NSW Minister for the Arts, Mr Peter Collins, presented the 1994 History Fellowship and officially opened the UNSW Centre for Community History.

The Fellowship was awarded to Mr Michael Flynn, a former history student at UNSW, who plans to travel to England to continue his studies.

Just as important was the official recognition of the Community History Program by Program with its elevation as the new Centre for Community History headed by Ms Louella McCarthy and Associate Professor Ann McGrath.

The Centre's primary goal – like that of the CHP and its forerunner, the Local History Co-ordination Project – is the provision of historical skills for the wider community.

Ms McCarthy said that in the eight years of the Program's existence there has been an explosion of interest in historical questions, and in the demand for the skills to find fulfilling answers to those questions.

"Around Australia, the response to these demands by various collecting institutions, including libraries, archives and museums, has been good," she said. "But there are still only limited resources available for community historians to acquire the skills necessary to succeed in producing readable and informative histories."

Ms McCarthy said the Centre is constantly inundated with requests for advice, assistance and information reflecting the widespread desire to better understand and communicate Australia's history in a skilled and increasingly professional manner.

"One of the Centre's first innovations will be establishing the Community History Annual Lecture," she said. "Professor Patrick O'Farrell has agreed to deliver the inaugural lecture."

Other proposed innovations being considered are a publishing initiative, and fellowships for community historians who would undertake research and writing projects under the auspices of the Centre.

The Centre is also producing a new-look Locality. One of the major changes to the magazine is the introduction of "focus topics," under the guidance of invited guest editors chosen on the basis of their expertise. Future issues of Locality will canvas topics such as publishing, historians and the new mandatory syllabuses, travel and tourism, and public history and heritage.

The Centre also recently branched into selected consultancy work for bodies such as the City of Sydney Open Museum and the State of the Environment Reference Group.

The NSW Minister for the Arts, Mr Peter Collins (left) presents the 1994 History Fellowship to Mr Michael Flynn.

Looking for part-time or casual staff?

Advertise through the Casual and Part-Time Employment Service and give a UNSW student a job!

Every day we help employers from around Sydney fill a wide range of positions. Whether you simply want a position advertised, or you need help with the selection process, we can help you.

For more information, call Alan Kirkland at the Casual and Part-Time Employment Service on 385 5429.

Discount tickets for Miss Saigon

The UNSW Staff Social Club has an exciting range of outings and day trips in the coming weeks and months.

Included are discount tickets to Miss Saigon, as well as cheap tickets to operas, concerts and plays. Members can also purchase reduced price tickets to Hoyts cinemas and Seaworld.

Day trips scheduled for later in the year will go to the Jenolan Caves, the Tulip Festival in Bowral, Laura Gardens Festival, a dolphin watching cruise and walks.

The Social Club is also organising weekend stays in Dubbo (July), Canberra (during the Floriade Festival in October) and Mudgee (in September during the Wine Festival).

The Children's Christmas Party was once again a great success with more than 400 children attending. Thanks go to the UNSW Regimental Band and the Universities Credit Union for providing entertainment and supporting the Social Club. The Social Club is also extremely grateful for the work of volunteers who helped make the day an enjoyable one for the children.

All staff members, academic and general, are invited to join the Club. Contributions are only one dollar a week.

Contact Nadia Withers (ext 3652) or Alan Goodwin (ext 2751) for an application to join.

Global resources

All the materials from the Kippax Street Ideas Centre have been purchased by the Centre for South Pacific Studies at UNSW.

The public now have access to the materials in a room which adjoins the School of Social Work Resource Room, located close to the bus stops on Anzac Parade.

The Resource Room is open between 9am and 4pm Monday through to Thursday every week when the University is in session (March to November).

Come along to the School of Social Work on Thursday 23 February between 4-5pm to celebrate the official opening of the Global Education Resource Room. RSVPs are needed by Wednesday 22 February on exts 4745 or 5217.

Voice mail news

Voice Mail is now available on the Kensington Campus. The Communications Unit distributed a Voice Mail brochure in January.

The brochure explains some of the features of the voice mail system, and provides prospective users with an application form.

The brochures were delivered in bulk, in the same manner as Uniten and Focus, so if you have not received your copy, please call ext 116 and one will be posted to you immediately.

And, while officially opening the new Centre, Mr Collins said the Ministry for the Arts has been investigating funding of history and history projects in NSW, and a working party has already been formed as a result of a meeting of representatives from the history community to discuss various options for changing the status and funding arrangements for history.

MRI or MRI?

Many staff are using the same abbreviation for the Medical Research Institute and the Magnetic Resonance Imaging Unit (MRI) at the Prince of Wales Hospital.

The result of this is that mail is being continually misdirected to both units.

To avoid further confusion, all staff should use the following full titles when addressing letters to the appropriate area: "Medical Research Institute" or "Magnetic Resonance Imaging Service – Radiology Department".

New support arrangements

The focus of the Academic Computing Support Unit will, from 27 February, be on faculties and schools.

Administrative units and other areas including hospitals and students will be asked to pay a fee for technical support.

The fee will be set at $60 an hour with a minimum of one hour.

Areas affected by this change and which have not yet entered into a service agreement with ACSU should contact the Manager, ACSU, as soon as possible.

The agreement will facilitate proper service providers.

It is important to stress that there will be no additional charge for services to faculties and schools.

Technical support can be obtained from the ACSU help desk on 385 1303 between 8.30am and 5.30pm Monday to Friday.

Enquiries regarding service agreements can be discussed with the Manager, ACSU, (Mr Paul Cooper) on 385 2953.
Two eds better than one

M CB University Press has just announced its inaugural Leading Editor Award for excellence in editorship of an MCB journal.

The award went to James Guthrie – Senior Lecturer in the School of Accounting, and Professor Lee Parker – School of Social Sciences, Flinders University. Both men are joint editors of the MCB publication, Accounting, Auditing and Accountability Journal (AAAJ).

They have edited AAAJ for the past eight years. This journal has been dedicated to the advancement of critical accounting knowledge. It has published numerous high quality manuscripts concerning the interaction between accounting/audit and the social, economic and political environments.

Today more than 100 journals are published by MCB University Press which has its headquarters in Bradford, UK.

Pub joins AIDS fight

The Green Park Hotel in Victoria Street, Darlinghurst, has raised enough money through its second AFFAIR (Annual Fundraiser For AIDS Involved Research) to buy a specialised piece of equipment for HIV research.

Manager Diane Cardine handed over the cheque for $7,700 to Professor David Cooper, Director of the HIV-Medicine Unit at St Vincent's Hospital. He said that the money would purchase a Gene Pulsar Apparatus (GPA), which is used in laboratory work to introduce small segments of the genetic material from HIV into cells. The GPA does this by punching a small hole in the cell through which the genetic material will transfer.

“This is a tremendous effort by the management of the Green Park Hotel,” said Professor Cooper. “The money raised above the GPA purchase price has gone to the People Living With AIDS Luncheon Club.

The PLWA Luncheon Club is a non-profit organisation staffed by volunteers who provide a free luncheon, support, friendship, encouragement and a sense of belonging to people living with AIDS, their families and friends.

Farewell for Creston head

A farewell lunch in honour of retiring principal Dr Marie-Therese Gibson was held at Creston College on 26 November. Dr Gibson, who was principal of the college from 1978 to 1980, and again from 1986 to 1994, has assumed the position of Principal of Tangera School for Girls in Cherrybrook, NSW.

The luncheon was attended by ex-residents of Creston from as early as 1977, as well as recent and current occupants of the college.

In her farewell speech, Dr Gibson expressed gratitude to all those she had met during her time at Creston College.

“When one is involved in education, one realises that educators are constantly being educated themselves.

“For this reason, I can say that I have learnt more from the students than I feel they have learnt from me,” Dr Gibson said.

Program to benefit Asia link

The School of Town Planning is developing an ambitious plan to embrace its continuing professional education program. The plan will benefit urban and regional planners in the South-East Asian region as well as local professionals.

During the past four months, three groups totalling 97 professionals (47 from Indonesia and 50 from NSW) have participated in the School’s training programs. Professor Alexander Cathbert, Head of the School of Town planning, has established a directorate for continuing education to formalise the activity and provide continuous high-standard training programs.

This program not only increases efficiency and contributes to professional development but also allows the School to support further expansion and improvement.

The most recent group of 20 regional planners from Indonesia successfully completed a 10-week intensive course in “Regional Development Planning Techniques and Management” and were awarded a certificate of completion at a farewell dinner held in their honour.

Maths whizz kids square off

A urgust de Morgan, a mathematician who lived and died last century, observed on his nth birthday: “For this reason, I can say that I have learnt more from the students than I feel they have learnt from me.”

Involved in the organisation of the program were: Barry Skead (Fairvale High), John Craig (Canterbury Girls High), Dr Arthur Anderson (School of Teacher Education, UNSW), Jennifer Henderson (Penhurst Girls High) and Ray Bush (Leumeah Technology High). The program is still as popular as ever after 14 years of operation on the St George Campus.
New gymnasium gives SARC spark

The UNSW Sport and Recreation Centre was officially renamed the University Gymnasium on 13 February in a bid to boost its image and facilities to users on and off campus.

UNSW Vice-Chancellor Professor John Niland, officially launched the new name and a new logo, designed by Mr Kingsley Reade of UNSW's Image Committee.

Professor Niland said the facilities at the University Gymnasium were as good as any offered by an Australian university.

Forge new links

He said the Gymnasium was one facility that provided the chance for the University to forge new links with the community.

"The facilities here should be of benefit to the University and the general community," he said.

University Gymnasium Director, Mr Arthur Mezups, said UNSW's sports recreation and leisure facilities are among the most comprehensive available anywhere. He said the Gymnasium had a staff of 100 and an annual turnover of $5 million.

"The hardest part of my job is to find as many ways as possible of letting people know what we have," he said.

"People just weren't sure of what the old name Sport and Recreation Centre included, so we have developed the new name.

The University Gymnasium offers a multi-purpose gymnasium with three volleyball courts, two basketball courts, six badminton courts, two indoor soccer fields and an aerobics area. It also offers a 50-metre indoor swimming pool, eight squash courts, a weights area, a fitness circuit area, a gymnastics area, a martial arts area, a dance studio, fencing room and a boxing ring.

Outdoors there are two separate tennis complexes, soccer, rugby and touch football fields, a water-based synthetic hockey pitch, a baseball diamond on the Village Green for cricket. There are also several modern clubhouses and function facilities.

Taking advantage of what's on offer

"We want more people to take advantage of what we have to offer, especially those who are looking for more than a gym. We are encouraging more people to take up regular exercise and recreation and see it as an important part of living which can help you perform better in your everyday life and at work.

"Through the new name and an Outreach Program of special promotions, the message should become clearer to the University and the community."

The launch of the new name was also attended by the Mayor of Randwick, Ald Chris Bastic, and Mr Simon Poidevin, representing the Ben Lexem Sports Scholarship Trust.

Two titles for Squash Club

The UNSW Squash Club ended the Spring 1994 Eastern Districts Pennant competition with wins in the Men's B4 and D4 grades.

Susan Jones, Nick Mita, Thomas Felbermair, John Skinner and Nick Cotton finished the competition with win-loss ratios of 100 per cent.

The Squash Club welcomes all new players and reminds all staff and students that they are eligible to join the club, either as pennant competition or as social players.

A new internal club competition, the Autumn Social Round Robin, has been finished the competition with win-loss ratios of 100 per cent.

World titles to UNSW boardsailors

UNSW boardsailors Lars Kleppich and Warren Williams won one world title apiece from the World Windsurfing Championships, recently held over 10 days in Fiji.

Lars, a bronze medallist from the Barcelona Olympics, took out the lightweight course racing championship and finished second in the slalom, while Warren won the marathon and finished second in the light heavyweight course racing event.

The UNSW Boarlsailing Club supplied seven members of the 19-person Australian team.

Other UNSW boardsailors to make the trek to Fiji included Australian Universities champion Scott Buckingham, who was placed sixth in the heavyweight division, and post Australian Universities champion Sue Calvert, who finished second in the women's freestyle and third in the overall women's pentathlon, Derek Chan, sixth in the light heavyweight division, Karen Murden, eighth in the women's freestyle, and Brad Hastings, eleventh in the men's heavyweight division.

UNSW team member; Scott Buckingham, said the championships were sailed in consistent 10-15 knot winds with monsoon rains affecting several days of competition.

"The championships have no financial reward and are held in the true spirit of amateur competition. Student members of the UNSW contingent were supported by the Sports Association which covered $80 per cent of the cost of their airfares."

Student members of the team gained valuable experience for the World Championships when they competed at the Australian Universities Board sailing Championships at Inverloch, Victoria, in December.

UNSW took out the overall men's event from the University of Sydney, with Scott Buckingham winning the medium heavy weight division with a perfect score of zero.

Scott also finished a narrow second in the freestyle, an event he won in 1992 and 1993, and collected more team points with a third in the overall pentathlon.

Others to perform well were Derek Chan and Mark Brantingham who finished second in their respective weight divisions in course racing.

The UNSW team was the envy of other teams, having secured a Tokieys Blue sponsorship for the Club.

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The way we were

When Uniken was first published in 1975 these demountable huts and car park dotted the landscape where the Quadrangle Building now stands.

The hands of time have certainly changed since Uniken hit the stands two decades ago. The photograph on the left shows the view across the Library lawn in the 1970s and today through the eye of the giant steel ring clock designed by an Industrial Design student, Iwan Suwono.