

RHODES NEWSLETTER

Old Rhodian Union



December 1982

“CHAPPIE” — THE END OF AN ERA

A tribute to Professor H J Chapman from Professor Keith Hunt

The death in Grahamstown on Friday 30 July of Professor H J Chapman (“Chappie” to generations of students of Rhodes University) comes close to marking the end of an epoch at the University. As student, member of the University Council, and as Dean of Students he served Rhodes University with unflagging loyalty from his arrival on the campus from Selborne College, East London in 1929.

Hugh Chapman’s engaging personality and persuasive oratory attracted the attention of his fellow students who elected him to the Students’ Representative Council from 1931 to 1933. In the latter years he became chairman of that body and chairman of the House Committee of the men’s dining hall (Founder’s Hall). It was as a member of these bodies that Chappie first espoused his concern for first-year students: he abhorred the time wasted and the miseries endured by the bullying of first-year men students which passed under the guise of initiation ceremonies. There was so much to do and Chappie felt that every student should be able to fill every minute “with sixty seconds worth of distance run”. He revelled in student life: played the piano in the Rhodes orchestra which on occasion accompanied student productions of Gilbert and Sullivan, helped dig the hole for the Rhodes swimming bath, and in his final degree examinations was placed Class 1 in both English and History. He subsequently read for an Honours degree in History and the Higher Diploma in Education.

His salad days over, Chappie set out to make his career. He taught at Queens College, Queenstown, for two years before returning to Rhodes as a temporary lecturer in History and began his researches into Lord Charles Somerset’s governorship of the Cape of Good Hope. Research and writing are not easily accomplished by the conscientious teacher and administrator, hence Chappie’s magnum opus never saw the light of day.

Chappie’s temporary post at Rhodes was followed by a permanent appointment at the South African Native College (Fort Hare) first as a lecturer and subsequently as Professor of History. As a member of staff of Fort Hare he served as a member of Council of the University of South Africa. His service at Fort Hare, however, was interrupted by five years service in the army.

He began his military career with the First City Regiment, but soon became an officer instructor at the South African Military College at Voortrekkerhoogte. Later he saw service in North Africa and Italy. His service culminated with his appointment to the General Staff of the Eighth Army as an air staff officer. His meritorious service was recognised by the award of an MBE.

When Chappie returned to Fort Hare after the war, he decided to extend his interest in the law, took an LL B degree in 1950 and was admitted to the bar as an advocate of the Eastern Cape Division of the Supreme Court. During his post-war years at Fort Hare, Chappie found time to act as Vice-Principal and Principal of that university college and to serve as a member of Council of Rhodes University College as one of the representatives of past students from 1946 to 1949.

Not content with this achievement, Chappie also found time to serve the wider community in which he lived: in 1946/48 he was a town councillor in Alice and from 1951/53 he was Old Bill of the Amatola Shell-hole.

Meanwhile, at Rhodes University unsavoury initiation practices had begun again and in 1954 the Liddell Committee reported on the desirability of reorganizing the residential structure for men students. Chappie was invited to tackle the job and was appointed Dean of Men Students and full-time warden of Jan Smuts Hall. Many others sought his counsel and his humane consideration of their difficulties. This was among the many reasons why, in 1961, he became the Dean of Students — the first appointment of this office made at any University in South Africa.

Simply holding a job has not been Chappie’s idea of service to Rhodes. Despite the pressure of work, he found time to lecture in Constitutional Law, serve the University as Public Orator, act as Vice-Principal from time to time, and in difficult days (1963) he acted as Dean of the Port Elizabeth Division of Rhodes University. He has always been a wise statesman and the University Senate elected him as one of their representatives on the Rhodes Council from 1969 to 1975. He retired from the University in 1976, and in 1979, during the 75th anniversary in celebrations his grateful *Alma Mater* conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws *honoris causa*.

In latter years he took time to indulge his interest in law. He served on a working committee concerned with the preparation for the independence of the Republic of Transkei, and during his retirement he



Professor Hugh Chapman
1911 — 1982

frequently sat on the bench of the Supreme Court in Grahamstown as an assessor.

In 1939 Chappie married Jean Geddes, the daughter of Major and Mrs Geddes of Lovedale, Alice. In all that Chappie did from his marriage onwards he was cheerfully supported by his wife. Their flat in their days in Jan Smuts House was a haven for many and they seemed not only to endure but enjoy the invasion of their privacy. Gallons of tea and sympathy made smoother the path of many a student through the portals of Rhodes University.

In 1957, when the Rhodes University Light Opera Society was founded, Chappie became its honorary president and Jean the competent and hard-working wardrobe mistress. For weeks on end their flat was the centre of activity while students made costumes and others came to discuss the crises which are part and parcel of amateur productions.

Chappie’s and Jean’s wide interest in everything from the classics through Shakespeare, Conan Doyle, Kipling and Gilbert and Sullivan to the state of world chaos always made them entertaining conversationalists and, along with their good humour and human understanding, unique host and hostess in their own home.

Rhodes will miss Chappie’s wisdom and wit and his happy chuckle. He loved his University which he served “with heart and nerve and sinew” and in turn was beloved by all who knew him. It was characteristic of him to request a hymn to be sung at his memorial service to the words of A E Housman:

*O Thou that from thy mansion
Through time and place to roam
Dost send abroad thy children
And then dost call them home.*

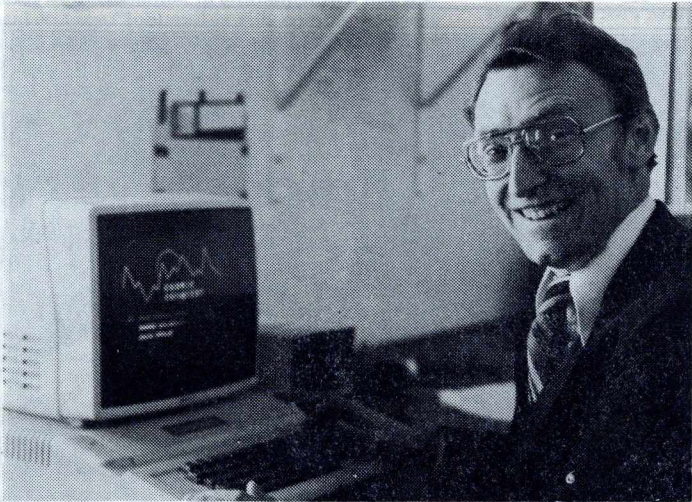
*That men and tribes and nations
And all thy hand hath made
May shelter them from darkness
In thine eternal shade
We now to peace and darkness
And earth and thee restore
Thy creature that thou madest
And will cast forth no more.*



The games professors play!

A computer science professor who was lecturing at Rhodes has won a world-wide competition for the design of a new electronic game.

Professor Alan Sartori-Angus, now at Natal University, said the game — Cosmic Conquest — was the result of nearly two years' refinement of his original concept of a game he designed for his students. The competition was run by the well-known American computer magazine "Byte" and Professor Sartori-Angus won a prize of 500 dollars for submitting the winning entry. There were hundreds of other entries from all over the world.



Professor Sartori-Angus said that his game differed from the usual run of video electronic games in that it involved planning and strategy. "Video games only depend on one's reflexes, speed of hand and eye" he said. "With Cosmic Conquest one has to play against the computer in conquering planets, which can help you to conquer other planets by being taxed to provide legions and space-ships. Planets can also revolt if over-taxed, and there is always the computer who is also conquering planets who must be considered before each decision. However, time does not stand still and if one deliberates too long the computer, which is constantly on the move, will have you surrounded before you can blink a light-emitting diode".

Professor Sartori-Angus holds the copyright to the game and is confident that video game manufacturers will take an interest in the new game.

Cosmic Conquest was designed to be fought on an Apple computer, so there are none of the flashing lights and realistic sound effects of video games. However these could easily be simulated if the game is adapted for video use. Maybe this is where the Rhodes Empire Strikes Back!

TOP OLD RHODIAN WOMAN RETIRES

Miss Yvonne Cloete, former Director of the State Language Services of the Department of National Education, retired earlier this year after 44 years in the Public Service. At the time of her retirement the post she held made her the most senior woman in the Service.

A product of Lady Grey High School, Miss Cloete obtained a B A degree in English and Afrikaans-Nederlands at Rhodes in 1938. In 1939 she was appointed to a post in what was then the Film Division of the Union Education Department, and in September 1941 she was appointed as a translator in the Government Translation Bureau, which was later to become the Language Services Bureau and is now the State Language Services. In June 1972 she was appointed Director of the State Language Services — the first woman to hold this position, which is the highest of its kind in South Africa.

In the course of her career Miss Cloete made an important contribution towards the development of the State Language Services into a translation office noted for the excellence of its work in the Public Service. As a woman, she also played an important part in 1958 in the campaign for the reinstatement of the principle of equal pay for equal work for women officials in the Public Service.

In the State Language Services, which is responsible for the translation and editing of all Government publications, scores of important documents, many of them highly confidential, passed through her hands. Prominent among these documents were the reports of commissions of inquiry which can be regarded as milestones in the history of South Africa. There were, for example, the Odendaal Commission's report on South West Africa affairs, the Potgieter Commission's report on state security, and the Cillie Commission's report on the Soweto riots. Among the more recent reports that Miss Cloete handled with distinction were the Rabie Commission's report on security legislation and the President's Council reports that were published in May this year.



MISS YVONNE CLOETE

Miss Yvonne Cloete is the sister of Judge J D Cloete, immediate past president of the Old Rhodian Union.



Old Rhodian Union Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Old Rhodian Union was held at the Rhodes University Club on Sunday, September 12th, 1982, after a wreath-laying ceremony held at the War Memorial. Unfortunately only 17 members attended but it is hoped that in future years many more will attend.

In his report the outgoing president, Mr Justice Cloete, referred especially to the recent deaths of Dr T Alty and Professor H Chapman. He emphasised their contribution to Rhodes University and made a particular point of "Chappie's" contribution to the Old Rhodian Union. He also referred, amongst other matters, to the progress being made in connection with the provision of a University Museum. The publication of "The Rhodian" would once again take place. This was possible through a generous grant of the University. Convocation supported this venture. After matters arising out of the report the meeting elected the following office bearers:

Hon President: Dr J M Hyslop; *Hon Vice Presidents:* Profs W A Maxwell, E D Mountain, J L V Rennie and S G Shuttleworth, Drs R F Currey

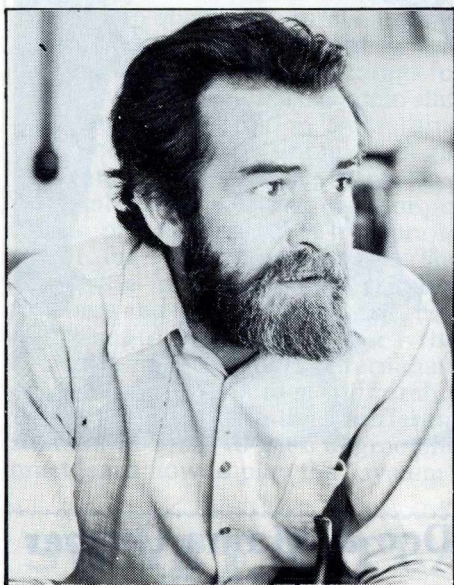
and L Dubb and Miss M G Richardson; *President:* Prof J A Gledhill; *Vice-President* Prof D E A Rivett; *Hon Secretary:* Dr G M Gruber; *Hon Treasurer:* Prof K S Prinsloo; *Committee members:* Dr A Jacot-Guillarmod, Messrs J M Berning, D C Collett and G Todd.

After the official business was concluded, snacks and drinks were served. The present Honorary Secretary feels that communication between the Union and Old Rhodians can be improved. At this stage, apart from the news printed in the Rhodes Newsletter, there is no information on Old Rhodian meetings. There are some meetings held every year in larger centres and all that is usually published in the Newsletter is a contact address.

The various branches are being approached to let the Secretary have the dates of meetings in good time for publication in the June Newsletter, deadline mid April. It is hoped that many more Old Rhodians will be induced to attend these gatherings. Reports will be collected and an edited version published to give a more complete picture of the current activities of Old Rhodians.

It is also hoped to start active branches in some smaller centres. Anyone wishing to assist is asked to write to the Secretary.

Honorary Graduates 1983 — Fugard Mervis Hersov



Mr Athol Fugard, noted dramatist, Mr Basil Hersov, chairman and managing director of Anglovaal Limited and Mr Joel Mervis, ex-editor of the Sunday Times are to have honorary degrees conferred on them at the graduation ceremony in April 1983. Both Mr Fugard and Mr Mervis will have a Doctor of Literature (D. Litt) honoris causa conferred upon them while Mr Hersov will have the degree of Doctor of Laws (LL.D) honoris causa conferred upon him.

Athol Fugard

Born in Middelburg in the Cape in 1932, Mr Fugard has maintained close ties with the Eastern Cape which has been the setting for many of his plays. His connections with Rhodes University are also strong. His play, "Boesman en Lena", premièred at the Rhodes Theatre in 1969, received such acclaim that he regards it as the moment he "arrived" as a dramatist.

The Fugard family moved to Port Elizabeth in 1935 and Athol matriculated from the Port Elizabeth Technical College in 1950.

After a two year sojourn at the University of Cape Town he became a sailor for two years and then a journalist. After working for the National Theatre as a stage hand, in publicity and as stage manager, his first plays were written and staged in 1958/59.

Since then he has gone on to become the best known South African dramatist in the English-speaking world, with all of his main plays having been performed in London and several in New York. Mr Fugard still lives in Sardinia Bay, Port Elizabeth.

Basil Hersov

Mr Basil Hersov was born in Johannesburg in 1926, the eldest son of the late A S (Bob) Hersov, a founder and former chairman of Anglovaal. Educated at Michaelhouse and Cambridge, where he graduated with an MA in 1949, Mr Hersov has played an active role in the commercial and civic life of both Johannesburg and South Africa.

His is on the boards of many companies both within and outside the Anglovaal Group and is chairman of many of these.

He is chairman of Ridge Preparatory School, a governor of Michaelhouse, past president of the South African Foundation, a fellow of the SA Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and a Trustee of the SA Nature Foundation. Mr Hersov is also an active member of the Board of Governors of the Rhodes Foundation and has played a major role in building up the funds of that Foundation. He recently received the prestigious Award for Meritorious Service — South Africa's highest civil decoration.



Joel Mervis

Mr Joel Mervis is probably South Africa's best known journalist, though he originally trained for a career in law. Born in Kroonstad in the Orange Free State in 1908, he was educated at Grey College, Bloemfontein, University of Cape Town (BA) and the University of the Witwatersrand (LL.B).

After a four-year stint at the Johannesburg Bar he entered journalism in 1936 and has stayed in that field ever since.

He worked variously for the Sunday Express, Daily Express and the Rand Daily

Mail.

In 1956 he was appointed editor of the Sunday Express and in 1959 he left there to become editor of the Sunday Times, a post he held until he retired in 1975. Perhaps best known for his "Passing Show" column which he wrote for the Sunday Times for 27 years, Mr Mervis has been awarded the Pringle Award for outstanding services to journalism and the defence of the freedom of the press.

He is at present the South African representative of the International Press Institute.



the ARTS and SCIENCE festival 1982

The award was made for research conducted for his PhD thesis which was entitled "A morphological, somatotypological and physiological study of tennis players with special reference to the effects of training". The thesis was supervised by Professor P V Tobias and submitted to the University of the Witwatersrand in 1980. The thesis also formed part of an official sports research project of the South African Sports Federation who, in conjunction with the Department of Sport and Recreation, provided the all-important financial support for the project.



A bursary fund in memory of Doc and Mama Gruber has been started. There have been some contributions by their past students, and an additional sum has been pledged by their children Ingeborg and Georg.

The bursary will be managed by the Old Rhodian Union and applications must reach the Hon Secretary before the end of January 1983. One bursary will be made available per annum.

Preference will be given to dependents of past and present members of the Rhodes Chamber Choir, founded by Doc Gruber in 1953. The bursary will have the same value as the usual Old Rhodian bursaries (about R350).

Anyone still wishing to contribute to the fund should send their contribution to the Hon Secretary, Old Rhodian Union, Rhodes University, Grahamstown, 6140.

“THE UNKNOWN RHODIAN”

Donate a Bursary

The Old Rhodian Union would like to be able to increase the number of bursaries it offers every year. At present three bursaries are awarded annually, each valued at R350.

Anyone wishing to donate an additional bursary, or a sum of money towards a bursary, should contact the Hon Secretary, Old Rhodian Union.

Student Figures 1982

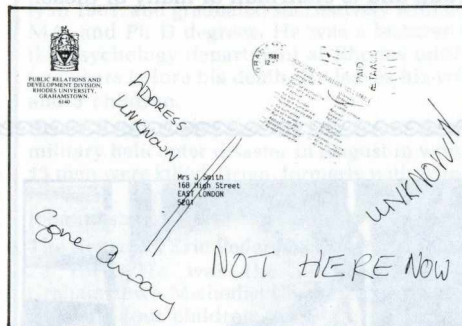
Official enrolment figures, as of the first Tuesday in June, show that Rhodes enrolment has topped 3 000 for the first time. The total number of students registered is 3 201, as opposed to 2 984 last year, an increase of 7 per cent. Undergraduate enrolment has increased by 6 per cent, and postgraduate enrolment by 10 per cent. These increases are substantially higher than predicted.



Schonland Memorial Lecture on Ecology

The East Cape Branch of the Royal Society has introduced a new lecture series, entitled the Schonland Memorial Lectures. Dr A Jacot Guillarmod, Honorary Secretary of the Society, explains that the lectures commemorate both Selmar Schonland and his son, Basil, who represent both the biological and physical sciences — twin interests of the Royal Society. Both men were also of vital importance in the history of Rhodes. Selmar Schonland was one of the prime movers behind the establishment of the University College and Basil Schonland was Chancellor of Rhodes University for many years.

First in the series of Schonland Memorial lectures took place at Rhodes University at the end of August. The lecture was given by Dr Brian Moss, Reader in Environmental Sciences at the University of East Anglia, Norwich, who was visiting the University's Department of Zoology and Entomology. Dr Moss was brought to South Africa under the auspices of the Barclays National Bank Chair of Limnology to give a specialized course in algae systematics and ecology at Rhodes. Dr Moss's talk, which was illustrated with slides, was entitled: "Man-made lakes — casualties of English social history, patients of twentieth century ecology".



According to our latest computer records there are 4 960 Old Rhodians whose present addresses we do not have. Please help us track down these missing Old Rhodians by checking with all those you know whether or not they received this Newsletter. We include a postcard which we hope will be filled in by everybody who reads this.



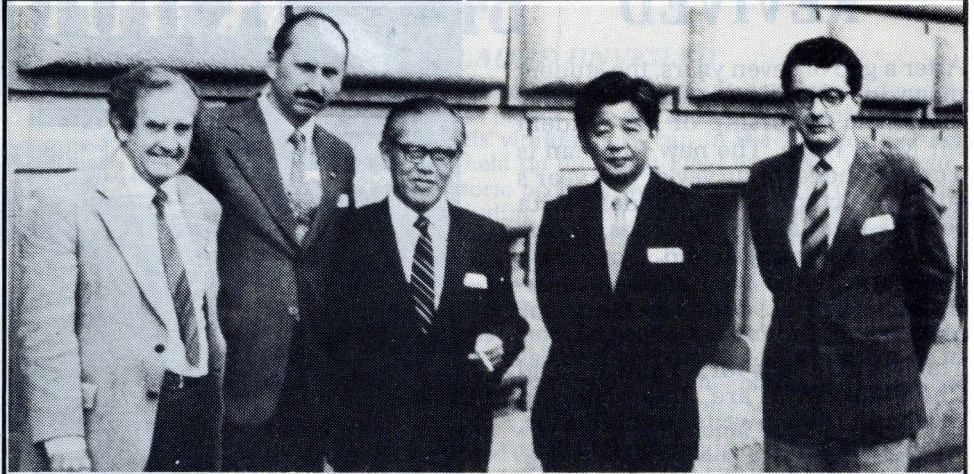
TRAVELS OF A PHYSICS PROFESSOR

Professor Jack Gledhill, head of the department of Physics and Electronics, returned recently to Grahamstown after two trips to the frozen north — one to Scandinavia and Russia and the other to Alaska.

Professor Gledhill's field of research is the physics and chemistry of the upper atmosphere, and in Scandinavia he looked at the very powerful radar used for this purpose. The R20m equipment in Tromsø, Norway, sends a beam as high as 1 500 km, which is scattered in the upper atmosphere and picked up by receiving stations in Norway, Sweden and Finland. The equipment is owned jointly by EISCAT, which stands for European Incoherent Scatter Facility. Not to be confused, says Professor Gledhill, with the incoherent scatter caused by the cocktail parties he attended.

At Tromsø, north of the Arctic circle, Professor Gledhill saw the midnight sun for the first time and was advised to put cardboard in the windows if he wanted a good night's sleep. He went on to Leningrad in the USSR, where he stayed in a hotel on the banks of the Nevka River. His window overlooked the cruiser Aurora, moored in the river as a floating museum. It was from this ship that the shot was fired which started the 1917 revolution. He became friendly with Alex Zietzev, a Russian physicist, and one night they walked home through the gardens of the Summer Palace loudly singing "When the saints come marching in" to the astonishment of local comrade citizens. Professor Gledhill said that the three days of informal discussions which took place before the conference were very fruitful. A satellite may be launched within a few years to photograph the upper atmosphere above Antarctica.

After a brief return home, Professor Gledhill



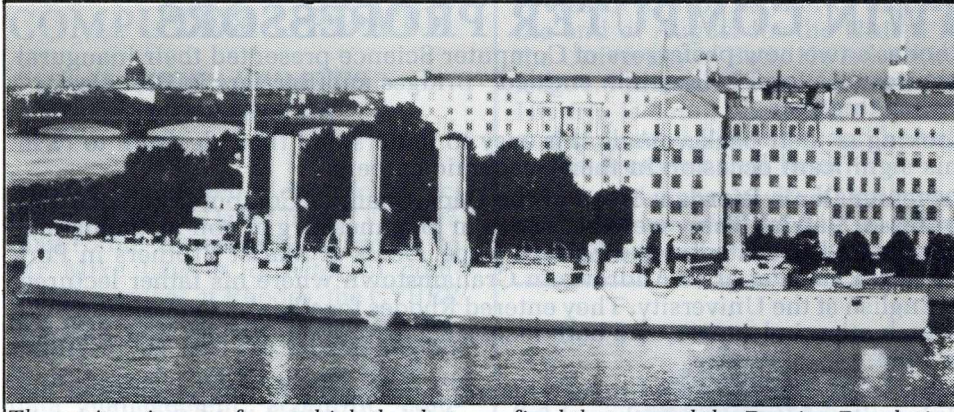
Outside the Palace of Scientists in Leningrad (from left to right): Prof Jack Gledhill, Dr Alex Zaitzev from Moscow, Prof Takeshi Naqata and Dr Takeo Hirasawa, both from Japan, and Dr Alberto Fopiano from Chile. The scientists were gathered to discuss research into the Antarctic upper atmosphere. Prof Gledhill and Dr Zaitzev are also co-chairman of an International Commission on the Antarctic.

flew off again, this time to a conference in Fairbanks, Alaska. The flight from Amsterdam to Anchorage took him close to the North Pole but he was unable to open the window blinds to take pictures because all the passengers were watching a movie. Nevertheless he was able to get some marvellous views of Greenland iceflows and of the glacier-covered mountain, McKinley.

Eighty-five papers were read at the conference, including two by members of the Rhodes physics department, one on new techniques on looking at the atmosphere and one on observations made on the upper atmosphere from the

SANAE Antarctic base. A scientist from Colorado supplied Professor Gledhill with some satellite data taken at the same time and place as SANA observations from the ground — a rare opportunity to cross-check atmospheric data.

For Professor Gledhill one of the highlights of this trip was witnessing a spectacular combination of atmospheric effects late one night. "Simultaneously there was a meteor shower, some noctilucent clouds and an aurora in the sky", he said. "Our host apologised for the fact that the earthquake he had arranged didn't take place".



The cruiser Aurora, from which the shot was fired that started the Russian Revolution in 1917. It is now a naval training station moored opposite the hotel where Professor Gledhill stayed in Leningrad.

VISITING LECTURER

A recent visitor to Rhodes University was Professor Joerg Pfeleiderer, Head of the Department of Astronomy at the University of Innsbruck, Austria. Professor Pfeleiderer's visit was the result of an invitation initiated by Dr Georg M Gruber of the Department of Physics & Electronics, who had been visiting professor at the Institute of Astronomy at Innsbruck during the European academic year 1981/82.

During his visit Prof Pfeleiderer held a number of public lectures and assisted with departmental research. He also made astronomical observations at the South African Observatory at Sutherland and brief visits to the Universities of Potchefstroom, Cape Town and Natal, where he delivered lectures. Prof Pfeleiderer was accompanied by his younger daughter Ursula and Dr Mircea Gruber, a zoologist. Their visit lasted just on three months, the total summer recess of Austrian universities.

Prof Pfeleiderer's daughter Ruth has been a student at Rhodes University since the beginning of this year. She is a BA student, majoring in German and Geography.

Apart from Prof Pfeleiderer and his party, there is another visitor to the campus from the University of Innsbruck. Dr Erhard Mravlag, a graduate of the Department of Physics at Innsbruck University, has come on a research contract for Professor J.A. Gledhill. Dr Mravlag is currently busy writing and adapting computer programs which analyse records of ionospheric behaviour, made both at the Rhodes Physics department and at the Antarctic research station.

ATTENTION UK OLD RHODIANS

New Records Secretary for the Old Rhodian Union in the United Kingdom is:

Mr Murray Graham (1947)
27 Dormers Wells House
Southall
LONDON UB1 3HX

He will collate all information about address changes, careers and families of all Old Rhodians in the United Kingdom. Please contact him if you fall into that category.

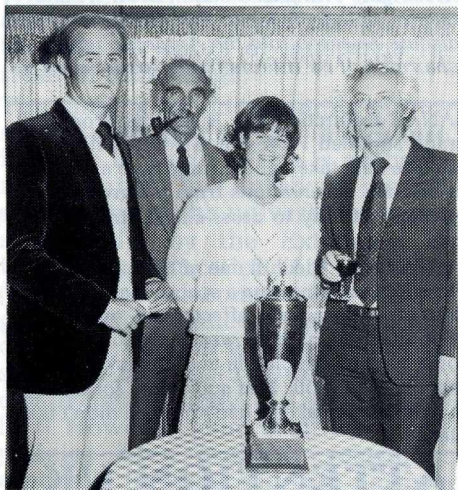
CUTA Chairman at RULA AGM

Guest speaker at the Rhodes University Lecturers Association AGM in October was Mr C V Waite, Chairman of the Committee of University Teachers Associations. Mr Waite spoke of the difficulties this organisation has faced in its three year existence. Because membership does not include homeland universities, certain universities in South Africa have not joined in. Nevertheless it has managed to chalk up some solid achievements. Among others, the housing subsidy has been extended to single people and subsidies for women have been equalised.

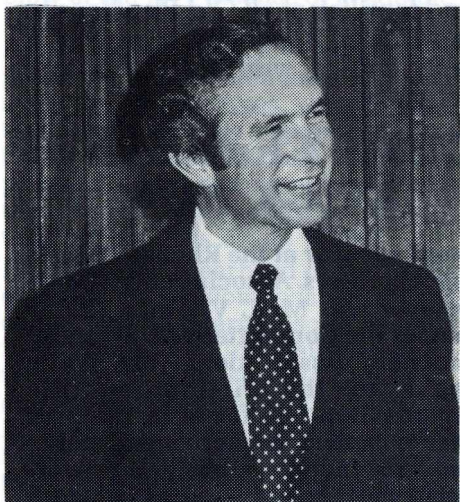
"RHODIAN" REVIVED

After a gap of seven years, the student magazine 'Rhodian' has been revived under the editorship of law student Mr Mark Horn. The new Rhodian is a comprehensive survey of this year's student activities at Rhodes, with reports from all the societies, sports clubs, residences and academic departments, as well as feature articles and a wide variety of photographs.

The Rhodian sells for R1 and any Old Rhodians who are interested in receiving it may write to the Editor, Rhodian, Rhodes University, P.O. Box 94, Grahamstown, 6140.



The new-look **Rhodian** runs a literary competition for students. First winner of the Guy Butler Cup was second year arts student Miss Justine Nofal. At the prizegiving ceremony were (from left to right): Mr Mark Horn, Mr Don McClennan, one of the judges, Miss Nofal and Professor Malvern van Wyk Smith, head of the Department of English.



Dr Robert Grant Irving, a renowned American scholar of Colonial architecture delivered the Cecil John Rhodes commemoration lecture on Sir Herbert Baker this year. The lecture, which was presented with beautiful colour illustrations, will be published in the July 1983 edition of **Rhodes Review**.

Rhodian '82



Cover picture by Old Rhodian Miss Penny Siopis, now lecturing in art at the Durban Technikon.

TWIN COMPUTER PROFESSORS

Rhodes's two new professors of Computer Science presented their inaugural lectures as a joint colloquium entitled "Bridges and Barriers in Complexity" earlier this year.

Looking at their backgrounds it is easy to understand their decision to twin this significant occasion in their academic careers.

Professor **Denis Riordan**, Head of the Department of Computer Science and Professor **Patrick Terry** were both born in Johannesburg of non-mathematical parents and educated in the Eastern Cape, Denis at Marist Brothers in Port Elizabeth and Pat at St Andrews in Grahamstown where his father lectured in English at the University. They entered Rhodes together in 1963, sitting next to each other in lectures, and both received a distinction in their B Sc degrees in 1965.

Denis went down the road to take his honours degree in Mathematics at the University of Port Elizabeth and followed this up with his M Sc cum laude in which his interest and study of Computer Science started with a course in numerical analysis and Fortran, one of the computer languages.

With a CSIR postgraduate bursary he proceeded to Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada where he was awarded a Ph D cum laude for a thesis on general topology.

After a seven-year absence from Rhodes, Denis Riordan returned to the University in 1972 with a Canadian wife and a post as lecturer in Mathematics. The other newly appointed lecturer was Patrick Terry who had just returned after a four-year absence with a Ph D from Cambridge and an English wife.

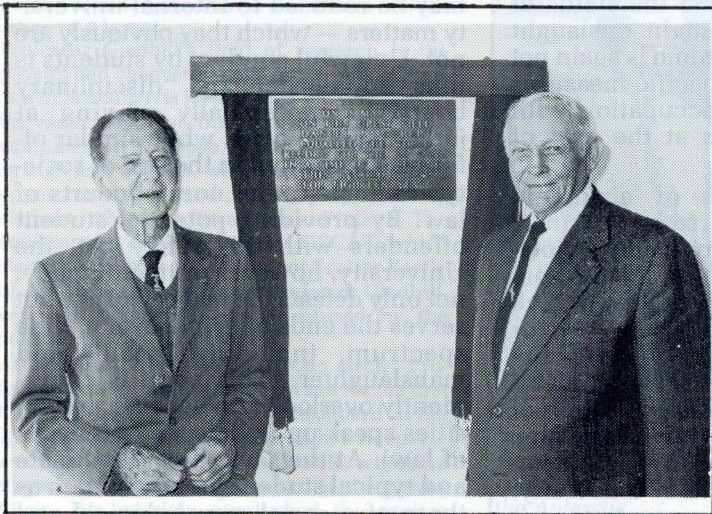
Pat's interest in computers began in 1966 when he was studying for his first class honours degree in Physics and the department received Rhodes's first computer, an event which started a trend for physicists to enter the computer field. He maintained this interest while he completed his M Sc in Physics with distinction, and while he carried out research for his thesis on ionospheric radio propagation at Cambridge, where he held an Elsie Ballot scholarship.

Denis is currently chairman of the Computer Science Lecturers' Association, which includes Zimbabwe and Lesotho, and vice-chairman of the Port Elizabeth chapter of the Computer Society of South Africa, an organization that represents the data processing industry.

Our Computer Science professors, whose department was finally renamed last year, used their inaugural lecture to discuss the level of development of their subject at universities and its effects on industry.

Plaque commemorates World Athletics Record

ATHLETICS PLAQUE UNVEILED



At the plaque-unveiling ceremony were Mr Danie Joubert (right) and Professor Edgar Mountain (left). The wording reads: "On 16 May 1931 on this Great Field, Daniel J. Joubert equalled the world record for the 100 yards in a time of 9.4 seconds. This record stood for eighteen years."

At a ceremony held outside the Rhodes Union building on 22 October a memorial plaque was unveiled by Mr Danie Joubert, commemorating his world-record run in the 100 yards at an athletics meeting held on the Great Field over fifty years ago. Present at the historic occasion were a number of old friends from that time, including the Hon Mr Justice Cloete, Adv George Randell, Mr Pete Suzman, founder of SA Universities' Dalrymple athletics meetings and Professor Edgar Mountain, who ran in the British Olympic athletics team in the 1920's. Speeches by Dr D S Henderson, the Vice-Chancellor, Danie Joubert, Pete Suzman and Edgar Mountain, brought to light many fascinating details about an occasion which although it took place in 1931, still lives on in the memories of those who witnessed it. An ex-Rhodian who was very sorry not to be present at the ceremony was Mr Jock Omond, now Chairman of the Institute for Gifted Children. Mr Omond was responsible for the track on the occasion of this particular meeting in May 1931. Feeling the track to be rather bumpy, Jock organized a municipal bulldozer to roll it flat. Unfortunately the bulldozer sank axle-deep somewhere around the 50-yard mark. A tractor had then to be found to haul it out, by which time the organizers had about four hours to repair the track. That a world record was equalled on the track that day speaks well for the track-laying abilities of Jock and his fellow-students.

Danie Joubert, a student at Stellenbosch University, went on to represent his country in the Olympic Games in Los Angeles the following year. The time of 9.4 seconds for 100 yards stood for eighteen years.



COMPUTER UPDATE

RHODES UPDATES IT COMPUTER

Rhodes has signed a contract to acquire a Control Data CYBER 170/825 mainframe computer. According to Mr Mike Lawrie, director of computing services at Rhodes, the CYBER 825 was selected because of its computing ability. The 825 is designed for multi-purpose applications such as data management, scientific computing, data processing and data communications. "We will be using the CYBER primarily for research, teaching and administrative purposes", said Mr Lawrie. "The two prime research applications are in our physics department, where radio astronomical data from the Hartebeeshoek tracking centre near Pretoria will be analysed, and in our geography department, where the computer will be used for hydrological research.

"On the administrative side, we plan to use the computer to maintain student records, and will also run a Q-Pac payroll and MMS general ledger on the equipment". The fact that Control Data's PLATO computer-based education system is available as a feature on the CYBER 825 is "very much the 'cherry on the top' as far as we are concerned".

PROF LETCHER AT BATH

Professor Trevor Letcher of the Department of Chemistry left South Africa at the end of August for the United Kingdom where he is visiting professor at the University of Bath. He is working with a former post-doctoral research colleague, Professor Tony Ashworth, on the theory of gas liquid chromatography. His trip is being undertaken under the auspices of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, and he will also be seeing British scientists working in the diesel-ethanol field.

Professor Letcher's wife Valerie who is in the Rhodes English Department, will study for her Masters degree while in the United Kingdom.

Professor Letcher will take up the reins at Rhodes once more in the new year.



Public Relations & Development Director for Johannesburg Office

The Director of Public Relations and Development, Mr Neil Papenfus, is to be transferred to Johannesburg. Mr Papenfus will continue to direct the activities of the division in Grahamstown and in Johannesburg, but his new base will enable him to develop even closer contacts with the University's many contacts on the Reef. Mr and Mrs Papenfus are expected to move to Johannesburg in the first quarter of next year, where Neil will settle in to his offices on the 1st floor, The Mews, Rosebank.

ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND ACADEMIC NONSENSE

Prof. M. Truu, — Department of Economics

"Where a man has been given much, much will be expected of him". Luke 12,48.

The classical, sometimes also called the 19th century, view of freedom essentially sees it as a condition in which the coercion of some individuals by others is kept to a minimum. Unless tempered by a sense of responsibility, the notion of freedom easily becomes perverted and degenerates into the law of the jungle. Academic freedom, in particular, is ultimately aimed at the pursuit of knowledge by reducing our ignorance. When sight is lost of this function, academic freedom yields to academic nonsense and universities become purveyors of ignorance instead of knowledge.

The most notorious example of outside interference in academic freedom in South Africa is probably represented by enforced racial segregation at the universities, more specifically, by the Extension of University Education Act of 1959. (This cynical misnomer is not without general significance; it is often the case that actions which purport to serve the cause of the University turn out to have exactly the opposite effect). However, general attitudes and policies have probably restricted academic freedom and thus harmed academic excellence even more than specific measures. Thus, when the Van Wyk de Vries Report (1974) rejected the "medieval" and "highly idealised" concept of the University as "an autonomous community of teachers and students bound together in the service of truth" in favour of the tautology of "a body corporate functioning in the field of tertiary education and research", it struck a heavy blow at the very essence of academic freedom. (Evidently the authors of the Report did not think it worthwhile to preserve values which have survived since the Middle Ages, nor consider the pursuit of ideals a meaningful activity. The same attitude is widely prevalent in the contemporary Christian church, but happily not among the connoisseurs of old wine!)

However, the spearhead of the attack on academic freedom today no longer comes from external sources, but from within the University itself, in the form of both specific measures and general practices and policies. At Rhodes, an MA thesis may not exceed 500 000 words, staff are not allowed to take out more than 12 library books, and newly appointed lecturers are compelled to attend classes on teaching methods given by people outside their field of specialisation. The existence of potential loopholes in this self-erected wall of coercion merely serves to stress the caricature

of academic freedom by elevating an abnormal condition to the status of the norm. But the main onslaught against academic freedom is again not so much vested in specific measures as in a general preoccupation with non-academic issues at the cost of academic pursuits.

The various forms of academic nonsense are of course legion; their common feature is invariably a violation of the principle of specialisation, in the sense that universities pursue functions they are not supposed or even equipped to perform, with the loss of academic excellence as its inevitable counterpart. Proliferation of bureaucracy, the tyranny of the bloc vote (usually mistaken for democracy), politicising the university, adulterating course contents to suit the tastes of indifferent students and popular sentiment are today all part of an almost universal academic malaise.

Rhodes University, in particular, is unfortunate to have a basic dysfunction enshrined in its constitution, which makes student discipline a responsibility of the University Senate, alongside its (normal) func-

TRUU OR NOT TRUU?

Professor Michael Truu is a man who delights in controversy. What do you think of his views?

tion as the custodian of academic standards. Even if such disciplinary issues were limited to genuinely internal university matters, like cheating in the exams or passing the port the wrong way at High Table, they could be routinely and more effectively discharged by administrative than academic personnel. But, given the flaw in the Rhodes University Act, academics must, for example, frequently attend to the details of the residence rules of student misdemeanour, which is actually none of their business. Both these issues are at best peripheral to a university environment anyway. Large sections of the general population live in hotels, apartment buildings and other communal dwellings, without the situation lapsing into chaos or demanding the attention of the country's top brainpower. The existence, revision and implementation of an elaborate system of residential rules, over and above what governs society at large, not only wastes the time of academics but retards the development of students, who consequently learn to stand on their feet and behave responsibly later in life rather than sooner. This problem is compounded by the parody of justice contained in the "Student Disciplinary Code", where

offences against the laws of the land may be reduced to internal university matters — which they obviously are not. Unlawful conduct by students is thus adjudicated by "disciplinary boards", ineffectually playing at judges and lawyers, while similar offences committed in the rest of society are liable to the normal courts of law. By providing potential student offenders with this safety net, the University, however unintentionally, not only defeats the ends of justice but serves the ends of crime over a wide spectrum, including assault and manslaughter. (This point is conveniently overlooked whenever universities speak up in defence of the rule of law). At the same time, legitimate and typical student problems such as those of a social, psychological and sexual nature are sadly neglected.

If the victims of such outlandish behaviour were limited to a comparatively small number of dedicated academics, administrators and students unable or unwilling to live within the norms of society, then the work of the University need not suffer unduly. But unfortunately the matter does not rest there. Having once usurped functions they are not qualified to perform, universities seem to develop paternalistic power blocs which like to lay down the law to others and enforce conformity in an institution whose efficiency essentially depends on individuality, tolerance and specialisation. Some of these rules and regulations may have the appearance of fairly harmless nonsense founded on flawed logic; if students who pass their courses are graded according to their performance, the same should be done with those who fail their exams. (One can recall a number of student jokes on this theme which were current about twenty years ago; what used to be undergraduate humour has today been raised to official University policy!) It is, however, a more serious matter when faculty boards, which tend to become more amorphous as they grow in size start telling individual departments how they should run their business. One of the attractions of a small university, like Rhodes, has traditionally been its relatively flexible curricula, but today a Department which draws students from more than one Faculty may well find itself in the position of a man who is told to walk North and South at the same time. The burgeoning power of bureaucracy, more often than not exercised by academics themselves than by the much criticised administrative staff, not only impinges on individuals and departments, but undermines academic freedom in a number of other ways too. As the

status, and even survival, of a discipline comes to depend on statistical criteria pertaining to student/staff ratios or the number of weekly "contact" hours, rather than the academic merit of the subject, courses become geared to quantity rather than quality, the number of lectures increased to a point where students no longer find out things for themselves, and so on. Academic staff assisting at registration (something they should not be doing to begin with) may, due to their anxiety to keep up numbers, misdirect students or put undue pressure on them to them to enroll for particular courses. The desperate scramble for student numbers and the proliferation of rules and regulations, against the background of mindless paternalism or downright autocracy, admirably suits the purpose of the indifferent student: in order to get a degree one must learn how to play the "system"

rather than to work regularly.

However, there are some signs that the tide may be turning. Given South Africa's manpower problems and a sense of greater economic realism, it is evident that the taxpayer's money is wickedly wasted on thousands of young people now at university, whose time would be more profitably spend elsewhere. More cynically (but still realistically put, the decline in the white birth rate in South Africa will no longer enable predominantly white universities to make ends meet on an official subsidy formula that is firmly linked to actual student numbers. (It is of course nothing new that politicians sometimes do the right thing for the wrong reason). Should the government indeed financially release the universities from the bondage of large student numbers, an important precondition for the restoration of academic freedom will have been established one more. Unfortunately,

this by itself will not guarantee the return of academic excellence. As long as the universities themselves continue to chase the wind of academic nonsense, it is unlikely that they will rediscover, let alone tolerate, academic freedom. There is a special irony in this. Neither politicians (who have actually been more flexible than academics lately) nor students can be reasonably expected to know the real difference between academic freedom and academic nonsense. It is, however more serious when academics too suffer from this disability; then, there is literally no one left to advance the cause of knowledge in the University. This is why academics are liable to responsible action and critical scrutiny rather more than their partners in the coalition which constitutes the University. Much is expected of those to whom much has been given.

(With acknowledgement to Rhodian)

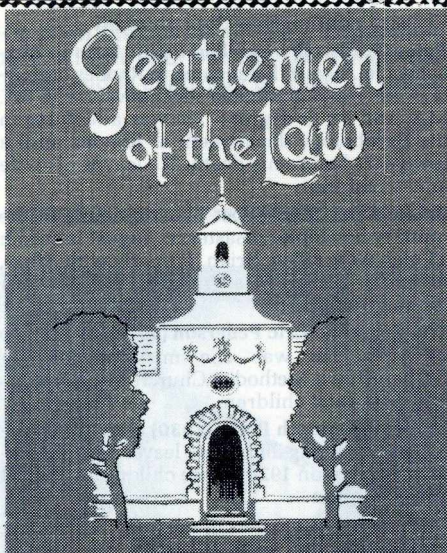
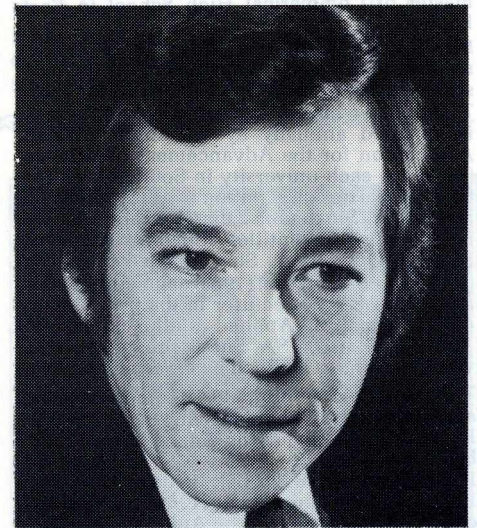
SWART REPLACES SARGEANT AS DRAMA HEAD

A new professor and head of the Department of Speech and Drama, has been appointed. He is to succeed Roy Sargeant, who is now Head of Drama on SABC TV's English Service.

He is Mr Francois Swart, 45, at present Artistic Director of PACT. Mr Swart graduated with a BA degree from the University of Natal in 1957, and received his Honours degree in 1958. He was awarded a scholarship to study drama at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art. Since his return to South Africa in 1961, Francois Swart

has become a vital part of both English and Afrikaans drama in this country.

Commenting on his appointment, Mr Swart said: "After twenty one years in practical theatre I'm looking forward tremendously to the chance to impart the knowledge and experience I've been privileged to gain over the years. I'm also very excited by the challenge of the academic life, and hope in the process to be able to reassess my own ideas and values as regards the theatre and life itself".



This delightful book, written by George Randell and illustrated by his artist wife Dorothy, is published in a limited, numbered edition.

The late Professor Hugh Chapman described the book in the following words:

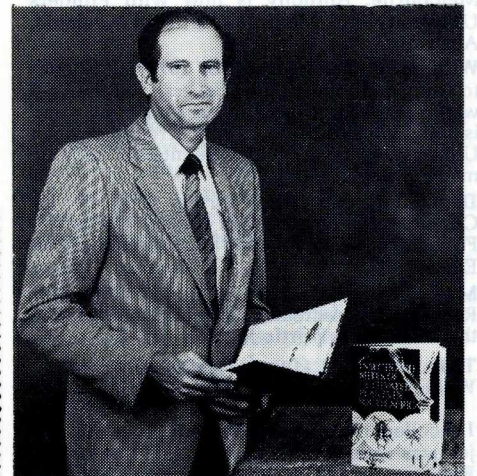
"One wonders why such interesting biographical material has not been published before but one is grateful that it was left for Advocate Randell to do. I do not think it could have been better done, so sympathetically, discriminatingly and so interestingly, and by one with such an easy style of writing and such a carefree felicity of phrase. I am confident that it will be welcomed and enjoyed by a large body of readers, both legal and lay, and by those who are interested in local and regional history".

Rhodians in Print: Randell, Moran

Professor Cliff Moran of the Department of Zoology and Entomology at Rhodes University has recently published a book co-authored by the late Dr D P Annecke of the Plant Protection Research Unit called "*Insects and Mites of Cultivated Plants in South Africa*".

It describes the various pests which are the bane of all gardeners' lives. Chapters are divided according to plant types, for example citrus fruit, deciduous fruit, vegetables, lawns and garden plants etc. The book deals

with the insects and mites that attack the plants, as well as their natural enemies and predators. Both authors have travelled widely on five continents in connection with their research on the biological control of insect pests and weeds.



Old Rhodian News

Herbert "Stag" Aarons (1950 B Com), erstwhile 1st team rugby player, is now Professor of Economics at London University.

Dr Barry Craig Andrews (1964) is the head of the Physical Education Department at the University of the Western Province.

R Bailey (1942) has moved from Stellenbosch to England where his children are at school. He hopes to return in about four years time.

Penny Branford (1979) is now Mrs Moore, and has moved from Cape Town where she worked at Maskew Miller's to Bredasdorp, where her husband is a priest.

Keith Bryer (1967) has been appointed advertising manager of BP based at their head office in Cape Town.

Spike (1949) and Jean (née Leighton 1950) Bulley have moved from their home of thirty years in Nairobi, Kenya and are now living at 7 Warrior Street, Hillcrest, Natal. They would very much like to renew contact with Old Rhodians from their time.

Margaret Clift (née Cameron 1953) is working in the Department of Zoology at the University of Transkei.

Bernard Simpson (1964) was appointed Headmaster of Commerical High School in East London.

Mrs Joy Singleton (née Chapman 1973) was recently awarded a bronze medal for the best science masters dissertation at UNISA for 1981. This medal which is sponsored by Sentrachem is awarded annually by the South African Association for the Advancement of Science ($S_2 A_3$) to each university in South Africa for the best masters dissertation in a scientific subject. Mrs Singleton's dissertation was in mathematics and entitled "Spectral Theory of Pairs of Operators". She obtained her B Sc (1972) and B Sc (Hons) (1973) degree at Rhodes and is presently a lecturer in the Department of Mathematics, Applied Mathematics and Astronomy at UNISA. She is shown opposite with three other Old Rhodians. (See photograph)

The Careers Exhibition at Welkom uncovered a number of Old Rhodians living in the Orange Free State. The following signed our visitors' book:

Peter Allin (1976 B Soc Sc); Denise Baws (1976 BA); Wouter Geldenhuys (1969) now an architect working in Welkom; **Anthony Heson (B Proc)** doing his articles in Welkom; **Joe Barry; Jimmy Knox; Lindsay Walker (1969); Judy Parfitt (1978)** (heard via her mother) working in King William's Town on the local newspaper and engaged to Peter Hoskin.

Peter and Norma (née de Vries) Daniel (both 1973) are living in Standerton where Peter runs his own pharmacy, and Norma does locum work for the opposition.

Ben Dekker (1969) is appearing in a television series on Thursday nights called 'Die Vlakte Duskant Hebron'.

Stewart Dorrington (1949), who lives in King William's Town, met Anthony Ilsley (1963) in the diningroom of the Southern Cross Hotel in Melbourne. Anthony is now with Flinders University and Medical Centre in Adelaide, Australia.

William Duncombe-Rae (BSc 1979) left Rhodes to study medicine at the University of the Witwatersrand. He is now in his fourth year and is doing Physics Honours concurrently through Unisa. When he graduates, he intends studying medical physics at UOFS.

Dr Louis Dubb (1923) former Chairman of Council and a governor of Rhodes University Foundation has been made an Alderman of Port Elizabeth.

Mariss Everitt (1979) has joined UCT Public Relations in a secretarial capacity to assist with the advertising portfolio.

Ted Floweday (1936) remembering Major Walker and Binks, tells the following tale:

I recollect one evening about 5 pm as the Major was returning from his office (for he was Registrar as well as Warden), I heard his voice

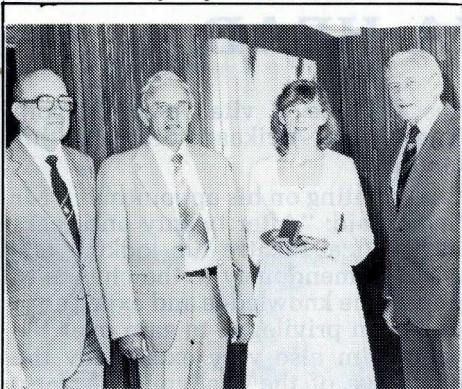
below my window in Botha House calling out in unusually dulcet tones, "Come on, old boy, bring it to Father". I looked out to see the Major holding out his hands to Binks who had the Major's walking stick clamped firmly between his jaws. Binks was enjoying the game and refused to surrender the stick. Suddenly the Major's voice changed to the kind of tone he used when addressing an erring student and he barked out, "Drop it, you fool!"

Aileen Fowler (née Macrae 1970) is the chief pharmacist at the Cessnock District Hospital in New South Wales, Australia.

Kevin Galloway (B Pharm 1974) is married to an Australian fellow pharmacist, Angela, and lives in Lismore, NSW, Australia.

Greville Hast (BA LLB 1974) has to wait for the 19th hole to assert himself with his wife, champion golfer **Rae (née Greene BA (Phys Ed) 1976)**. Rae has become the hottest property in South African golf since the days of Sally Little; this year she has won the SA, Western Province and Natal strokeplay and matchplay championships.

Karen Schneider (née Hindson, Chemistry Honours 1975) is now living in Frankfurt, West Germany. After leaving Rhodes, Karen worked for UCOR for 2 ½ years followed by 3 years in the Chemistry Department of the University of Pretoria with another Old Rhodian, Dr Michael van der Linde (1966). During her time in Pretoria, Karen studied German through UNISA and this has enabled her to register for advanced studies in Chemistry at the University of Frankfurt.



Apart from Mrs Singleton everyone appearing in this photograph was at Rhodes at the same time.

From left to right: Mr D.G. Kingwell (past president of $S_2 A_3$ (1981-1982); Prof. W.J.A. Steyn (dean of Science at UNISA); Mrs J.E. Singleton; Prof. T. van Wyk (principle of UNISA).

A doyen of Black education **Dr C E Hundleby (Ph D 1965)** will complete 60 years of continuous service in this field next August. Dr Hundleby began his teaching career in 1925 and is at present on the staff of the Lennox Sebe College of Education in King William's Town. He has also taught at St Matthews College and at Fort Hare. He turns 80 next year and is beginning to think about such things as retirement, and playing bowls...

Peter Illman (1975) is now marketing manager for Estée Lauder Aramis. He has recently returned from a business trip to London and New York, to meet his overseas counterparts. **Mr C A O Key (1929)** and his wife have left their retirement home at Umhlanga Rocks to settle in South Australia where both their daughters are living in Adelaide. Mr Key served on the Board of Governors of the Rhodes University Foundation for a number of years.

Max Kowen (BA LLB 1969) lived in both Cape Town and England before moving to Johannesburg in 1979, where he launched a personnel organisation which specialises in the placement of legal secretaries, articulated clerks, attorneys, librarians etc. Max was also responsible for initiating the Association of Legal Advisors in South Africa.

Obituaries

Dr Francis Lesley (Frank) Amm died in October. Dr Amm received his M Sc in Geology in 1932, and for many years was Director of the Geological Survey of Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe). He was living in Harare at the time of his death. He leaves his wife Nora and three sons. The Amm family were well-known in the Albany area, where Frank Amm grew up on the family farm near Salem.

A J Bosman (1943) died in January. His daughter Old Rhodian Mrs Margaret McFadyen (1972) is lecturing at Durban-Westville.

William Brooks (1922) who died aged 80 will be mourned by generations of Pretoria Boys High School boys. He joined the school in 1923, remaining there until his retirement as Vice-Principal. In recognition of his contribution to rugby training the main field at the school has been named Brooks Field.

Joan Pope Clear (1935) died in October this year. Joan studied Housing Management after leaving Rhodes and became Housing Manager of the Cape Town Corporation. She was also active in many societies aimed at bettering the lot of the less fortunate. She retired in 1975, but continued her interest in societies such as the Cape Peninsula Organisation for the Welfare of the aged.

Professor Bernard Farrer (1929) has died nearly 50 years after he first joined the teaching staff of the University of Natal. Bernard Farrer was born in Grahamstown in 1906. He attended Grey College where he received an Alfred Beit Scholarship to Rhodes in 1924. On graduating with a BA degree he won a Queen Victoria scholarship to Oriel College Oxford. After completing Honour's examinations in Classics, he returned to Rhodes to study for an education diploma. He taught for two years until his appointment in 1935 as a lecturer in Classics at the University of Natal in Pietermaritzburg. In 1964 he was appointed an associate professor. Always ably supported by his wife Verina, Bernard Farrer was a devoted husband, a wise father to their four sons, and a man who helped lay the solid foundation on which the study of Classics continues to flourish today.

Peter Gradwell was killed on his farm in Zimbabwe in August. Peter came to Rhodes originally in 1962, and graduated successively with BA, MA, and Ph D degrees. He was a lecturer in the Psychology department at Rhodes until a few years before his death. He leaves his wife and 3 children.

Brian Krull (1967) lost his son Grant in the military helicopter disaster in August in which 15 men were killed. Brian, formerly with Afrox, is now running a garden nursery in Johannesburg.

The Reverend Eric Pederson (1949) died on the 24 July. He was the minister of the Grahamstown Methodist Church. He leaves his wife and four children.

Dr Basil Kenneth Petty (1930) died in July aged 76 after a long illness. He leaves his wife Barbara (née Nixon 1928), three children and eight grandchildren.

Dr Petty was an expert in the field of pest control. He spent 15 years at Cedara Agricultural College where he researched the wattle bagworm, and having discovered an insecticide which would kill the pest, he was in 1937, the first to use aircraft to spray the plantations. Dr Petty was Chief of the Plant Protection Research Unit in Pretoria.

Miss Winifred Mary Powell (1932) died at the end of last year. She was for fourteen years the headmistress of Eveline High School in Bulawayo.



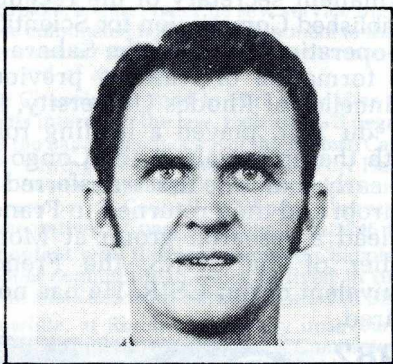
Dr John Douglas Roberts, Chairman of Murray and Roberts Holdings Ltd, died in September. He received an honorary doctorate of laws from Rhodes in 1978.

Mr W A "Bunny" Stevens (1942) a former headmaster of Selborne Primary, died in East London earlier this year.

Bunny Stevens was a man of wide-ranging interests and held many official posts in East London. He was amongst others a founder member of the East London Schools Music Drama Association, and an active member of the East London Drama Society. In 1977 he was elected chairman of the Border branch of the Institute of Race Relations, a post he held for two years. Mr Stevens was 67 years old at the time of his death.

The sculptor **Coert Steynberg (1927)** died in July. He was best known for his monumental works such as the Blood River Monument, the Huguonot Memorial at Franschoek and the General de Wet Monument in Bloemfontein. Coert Steynberg had a love of indigenous wood and stone which he often combined with man-made materials such as metal. He was a recipient of the Medal of Honour of the South African Academy for Arts and Science.

Former State President **Mr C R Swart**, who died this year, was an honorary graduate of the University. He received his honorary degree at a graduation ceremony held in 1962.



The Rev Noel William Ulyate (1956) died in July this year age 47. Noel was one of those rare people who knew what he wanted to do from an early age, and he was accepted as a candidate for the ministry while studying at Rhodes. He was ordained in the Methodist Church in 1953. On 10 January 1959, he married Pamela Mulder, and throughout their ministry they worked together as a team. In 1975 Noel was seconded to 16 SADF where he was stationed at Saldanha Bay. Both he and his wife received the Military Academy Award Commendation Certificate in 1980. In September 1981, Noel fell ill while accompanying the President on a tour of Northern SWA, and died ten months later. He leaves his wife and three sons.

Mary Kleinschmidt (née Barker 1941) is at present Publicity and Extensions Officer for the Cape Provincial Library Service in Cape Town.

Frank Kirk-Cohen (1949) has been appointed a judge of the Transvaal Provincial Division of the Supreme Court.

Richard Levisseur (1964) was in the Royal Air Force until 1969, and now lives in Jedda, Saudi Arabia where he works for international Civil Aviation. He is married with a barrister son and an accountant daughter.

Miss E M Ludeke (1980) is living in Bulawayo where she recently passed the examination of the Institute of Municipal Treasurers and Accountants. She is the first woman to achieve this distinction in Southern Africa.

Cedric Linder (B Sc Hons 1978, HDE 1979) was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship in 1980. He studied at Rutgers University (also R U), the State University of New Jersey. At Rutgers he completed a Masters degree in Science education. He is now living in Claremont, Cape Town.

A Rhodes saga which we are putting under "L" for the sake of convenience only:

Peter Landau (B Pharm 1967) married **Ettie Fisher (HPTD 1964)**. Ettie's brother **Norman (B Pharm Hons 1965)** married **Diane Goldberg (B Pharm 1963)**. Norman Fisher is in partnership with **David Goldkorn (B Pharm 1964)**. An unnamed (by our correspondent) relative of Ettie Landau is married to **Natie Shapiro (B Pharm 1964)**.

Mrs R E K Murray (née Turner 1929), writing from France, is asking for news of **Alfred Schaffer (1932)**, an old friend of whom she has had no news for many years. Our files give his last known address as:

**C 204 Devonshire Hill
Grotto Road
RONDEBOSCH
7700 Cape**

Hope you manage to make contact, Mrs Murray. Mrs Murray's address in France is:

**Villa Bambi
Ave Des Ferrayonnes
Villeneuve-Loubet
FRANCE 06270**

Alexander John Milne (1949) recently appointed Judge President of Natal, was in the middle of controversy even before taking office. Recently he and three other judges set aside a State President's proclamation giving the Department of Co-operation and Development control over the disputed Ingwavuma territory. It was the first matter to come before him after Justice Minister Kobie Coetzee had confirmed his appointment as Judge President of the Natal division of the Supreme Court as from October this year.

At 52 he is probably one of the youngest judges ever to be appointed Judge President. He was Deputy Judge President for 10 months prior to this appointment. His father was also a Judge President of Natal.

Judge Milne was educated at Hilton College, Rhodes University and completed his BA Hons in Jurisprudence at Oxford.

He says he has no specialist legal leanings and maintains that judges in the Natal division generally turn their hands to a wide variety of work, both civil and criminal. It is a situation he would like to encourage. His main function as Judge President, as he sees it, is to ensure that the work of the court is efficiently and expeditiously done, but, "not at the expense of a fair hearing and just decision", he adds.

Whether he will follow in the footsteps of his father and other distinguished predecessors and leave his mark indelibly on the bench is an open question. Judge Milne refuses to speculate. "History will be my judge", he says.

(Acknowledgement to the Financial Mail).

Di McNish (née Rigby 1965) left Zimbabwe in May with her new husband Neil who is in the SADF. They are living "in the back of beyond" somewhere between Springs and Nigel, at a place called Dunnotar. Di, whose four children are at school in Nigel, is hoping to get back to teaching in the new year.

Jeff and Wendy (née Taylor) Newton (1976) have been living in Perth, Australia, since

September 1980. They have a son, Simon, born in June this year and would love to see any Old Rhodians who are in the area. Their address is:

**25 Pinetree Gully Road
Welleton
Perth WA 6155
Australia**

Lizette Nortje (1978 B Com) married André Paris and is now a housewife and mother to 2 year old Janine. She works part-time as an estate agent. The couple live in Johannesburg.

Diarmid O' Sullivan (1958), lectured in the chemistry department after obtaining his Masters degree. He left to go into the private sector where he is now a senior manager for AECI. His son David is at present a student at Rhodes.

Michael Pemberton (1979 Geology Hons) emigrated to Australia, where he works in the Kimberly mountains in North West Australia, looking for diamonds. His three brothers, John, Brian and David are all Old Rhodians.

Ray Posselt (1966) is the managing director of Welgedacht Exploration.

Murray Steyn (1978) is married to **Tessa Londt (1979)** and lives in Johannesburg. Murray will be remembered by many Old Rhodians for his outstanding acting in Speech and Drama productions. He is the producer of the Sunday evening TV programme 'Sunbeams and Cucumbers'.

Jan Schaafsma (1974) is married to Rita (née Barnard) and lives in Cape Town where he works for the publishers Human & Rossouw. They have a three year old daughter.

Nigel Sinclair-Thompson (1979) married **Deanne Isted (Fine Art 1981)**. They are living in the Transvaal at a place called Lime Acres, where Nigel is plant superintendent of Northern Lime Ltd, a subsidiary of Pretoria Portland Cement. Nigel writes "The Lime Acres plant, incidentally, is the second largest lime plant in the world. The job is very interesting and I certainly enjoy working with my staff". Nigel will be registering for his MBA soon.

Prince William, baby son of the Prince and Princess of Wales, has a famous South African godfather. He is **Sir Laurens van der Post**, who received an Honorary degree from Rhodes in 1978.

Daryl Weatherdon (1973), described by friend **Bertie Wicks (1973)** as 'playboy Weatherdon' has finally married. Both Daryl and wife Janis are teaching at Durban High. Bertie, organizer of Old Rhodian reunions in Durban, sends news of other Old Rhodians gleaned from the local papers:

Tim Neill-Dore (1972) is engaged to Laetitia Gilpin from Zimbabwe. **Norman Newcombe (B Com 1972)** has been appointed district sales manager for General Tire and Rubber Company in Natal. **Keith Grey (1969)** personnel manager of the Beare Group, is behind the scheme whereby Beare employees give voluntarily to buy trained guide dogs for blind workers. Three dogs have been given so far, Jenny Beare, Sally Beare and Tracey Beare.

Kim Weatherston (1973 BA) is working in the Careers Office at UCT.

David Wightman (1966) and his wife **(1963) (née M.J. McCartney)** have left Zambia for Brisbane, in Queensland, Australia. David is with a firm of mining consultants. The Wightmans have three daughters, one at university, the other two still at school.

Old Rhodians are well-represented on the staff at Rhodes. Some examples are:

Peter Glover (1973) is lecturing in Education. He taught at Rondebosch Boys High School after leaving Rhodes University. In 1977 he went to Magdalene College, Cambridge on a Jan Smuts Trust Scholarship. In the following four years, Peter studied for his B Ed and M Litt degrees.

In 1978, in Cambridge, he married Chloe Sidle and they now have two children.

After a year's teaching at Rondebosch Boys High, Peter returned to Rhodes in July this year as a lecturer in Curriculum Theory.

Ian Macdonald and his wife **Gus (née Stokhuyzen)** both graduated in 1960. They were married in 1963, and spent a number of years

in the USA, returning at the end of 1966. They have two children, aged 15 and 12. Ian is a senior lecturer in Philosophy and at present acting head of the department.

Graham Hayman (1969) arrived at Rhodes' Journalism Department from the SABC-TV in 1979, and is now the longest serving member of the department, others being variously on leave, in jail, remarried, replaced or relocated. Being none of these he has instead badgered the university for more and newer TV equipment, with which students in his practical TV course make videos of very varying quality. He lectures in Broadcasting, and is heading for an MA on SABC technical history. He has had time to do a little production of his own; one on the problems of the disabled in Grahamstown (for the local Rotary Club) and is still completing one on the beerdrink ritual (tribal, not own) in the Transkei.

He was divorced from **Carol Lombard** (1972), and they have a son Joshua.

After spending three and a half years as a Senior Lecturer at the University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg, **Gavin Staude** (1973) returned to Rhodes in January 1979 as Professor of Business Administration. On the retirement of Professor H H Smith he was appointed Head of the Department of Business Administration in 1982.

In 1981 he was awarded a PhD degree by Rhodes after previously attaining an MBA at the Cranfield School of Management, England, in 1974, and an M Com at Rhodes in 1973. Gavin and his wife **Isobel** (née **Rennie** 1969) have three sons, aged 7, 5, and 2.

Mrs Carol Tarr (née **Crouch** 1935) is an assistant librarian at Rhodes Library. After her student spell and a few years in Johannesburg she came back to Grahamstown and worked in the Chemistry Department and the Leather Research Institute. She married Raymond Quail Tarr of Kingswood College, had four children and helped him run school hostels for about 20 years. Was part-time secretary to the Rhodes Theatre when he died. In 1975 on completion of a short contract over the opening festivities of the 1820 Settlers National Monument, Carol returned to full-time employment at Rhodes to educate son **Robert** (B Sc Hons 1978). Building on some rather dusty pre-war credits she eventually obtained a Lower Librarianship Diploma at the 1980 graduation. She now lays formal claim to the record for the slowest achiever over what is normally a two-year course — something like four decades!

Dr Chris Hummel (1956), senior lecturer in history, was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford after completing his BA Honours degree at Rhodes. After three years at Pembroke College (BA Oxon 1959) Chris spent two years at Wilheburg University in West Germany on a British Council Scholarship. In 1961 he returned to his home town of Salisbury where he spent a year studying for a PG certificate of Education. After that mammoth educational stint, he embarked on a career as a history teacher. He returned to Rhodes as a lecturer in 1972, and received his Ph D in 1975. Dr Hummel married Susan Clair Neville in 1962 and they have four children, two of each.

Professor Keith Prinsloo (1972), completed his CTA through Witwatersrand University in 1974. He qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 1975 and in January 1976 became a senior lecturer in Accounting at Rhodes. He was ap-

pointed to the CU Peat Memorial Chair of Accounting in 1980. Keith is married to **Dawn** (née **Lloyd** (BA 1972)). Dawn received her Higher Diploma in Library Science in 1978, and has worked at the Johannesburg and Grahamstown Public Libraries. They have a baby daughter aged two.

Others who received their first degrees from Rhodes University:

Afrikaans en Nederlands — *Godfrey Meintjes* (1969); *Mrs Rike Vaughan* (née *Antonissen*) (1966)

Business Administration — *Professor Gavin Staude* (1973); *John Viljoen* (1975)

Computer Science — *Professor Denis Riordan* (1966); *Professor Pat Terry* (1966)

Divinity — *Mrs Margaret Donaldson* (née *Perrow*) (1968)

Economics — *Brian Dollery* (1973); *Dr Arthur Webb* (1972)

Education — *Ken Durham* (1956); *Dr Alan Penny* (1963); *Gillian Bolt* (née *McFarlane*) (1962)

English — *Ron Hall* (1959); *Dr John Gouws* (1969)

Fine Art — *Professor Robert Brooks* (1965); *Professor Joss Nell* (1959); *Miss Erde Verwey* (1967); *Noel Hodnett* (1971); *Margie Britz* (1971); *Estelle Marais* (1965)

Geography — *Alex Weaver* (1978)

Geology — *Professor Hugh Eales* (1950); *Professor R E Roger Jacob* (1960); *Dr I M Reynolds* (1972)

German — *Dr Werner Krueger* (1966)

Journalism & Media Studies — *John Grogan* (1972)

Law — *Ivan Schäfer* (1967); *Sarah Christie* (née *Holland*) (1966)

Librarianship — *Karen de Jager* (née *Steyn*) (1966); *Melanie Webb* (née *Gatton*) (1975)

Translation — *Malcolm Hacksley* (1965)

Music — *Albert Honey*; (1970); *Tim Radloff* (1967); *Mrs Betty Shuttleworth* (née *Burns*) (1938)

HAVE YOU SENT US YOUR ADDRESS??

Pharmacy — *Professor Lampie Parolis* (1968); *Professor Issie Kanfer* (1967); *Professor John Haig* (1967); *Len Paton* (1962); *Nadasen Naidoo* (1970)

Philosophy — *Ian Bunting* (1963)

Physical Education — *Professor Jack Charteris* (1965); *Pat Scott* (1979)

Physics — *Professor Eddie Baart* (1955); *Professor Gehard de Jager* (1959); *Allon Poole* (1964); *Dr L M G Poole* (1958); *Dr Georg Gruber* (1962); *Graham Oberem* (1974); *Ray Haggard* (1969); *Ian Dore* (1978)

Plant Sciences — *Roy Lubke* (1963)

Psychology — *Chris Stones* (1974)

Entomology — *Professor Cliff Moran* (1960); *Dr Patrick Hulley* (1959); *Dr Grenville Walter* (1978)

NOTICE OF MEETING CONVOCATION

The Annual General Meeting of Convocation will be held on Saturday April 16, 1983 at 5.15 pm, in the Major Lecture Theatre, Department of Education.

In terms of the Rhodes University Statute, notice of any motion or matter for discussion at the above meeting must be received by February 15. This must be sent in writing to:

The Secretary of Convocation
The Registrar
Rhodes University
P O Box 94
GRAHAMSTOWN
6140

The Rhodes Newsletter is published biannually in June and December by the Public Relations and Development Division of Rhodes University. Information and news of, or of interest to, Old Rhodians can be submitted to:

The Public Relations Officer,
Rhodes University,
P O Box 94,
GRAHAMSTOWN,
6140.

1935



Return of Old Rhodian

One of the first students to study for a doctorate at Rhodes University College, Professor Ed Verdier, returned as a guest lecturer recently — 50 years after he first registered. He gave a lecture to chemistry students on electrochemical reactions which occur at interfaces between different materials.

Professor Verdier registered for his Ph D in 1935 at the same time as Mr, now Professor, S G Shuttleworth, the former Director of the Leather Industries Research Institute who retired in 1974. After finishing his M Sc he went to Prague in 1938 to continue his electrochemical studies under the Nobel Professor Heyrovsky, but with the Nazi invasion of Czechoslovakia later in the year he transferred to Paris and completed his Ph D at the Sorbonne.

After returning to Rhodes to lecture in chemistry from 1946 to 1957, he was appointed Professor of Inorganic and Analytical Chemistry at the Pietermaritzburg branch of Natal University. Soon afterwards he went to Bukavu in the Belgian Congo as permanent secretary of the recently established Commission for Scientific Co-operation South of the Sahara in the formation of which a previous chancellor of Rhodes University, Dr P J du Toit, played a leading role. With the upheavals in the Congo in the early sixties he first transferred to Nairobi and then returned to France to lead a research group at Montpellier of the CNRS, the French equivalent of our CSIR. He has now retired.

1982

