

RHODES NEWSLETTER

Old Rhodian Union



June 1982

Death of Dr Thomas Alty



Rhodes University regrets to announce the death in Birmingham on 2nd May this year of Dr Thomas Alty, 83, first principal and vice-chancellor of the University. On 27 May a memorial service was held in the Rhodes University Chapel for Dr Alty at which tribute was paid to a man to whom Rhodes University owes so much of its present success.

On a loose leaf page accompanying this issue of the Old Rhodian Newsletter, we carry that tribute.

RHODES MUSEUM FINDS A HOME

The proposed museum of Rhodian memorabilia is to be housed in the Sisters' Chapel, next to Salisbury House on St Peter's campus, bought by Rhodes from the old Grahamstown Training College.

The Sisters' Chapel, with its long association with education, is a natural choice of site for a museum devoted to the history of higher education in the Eastern Cape.

A joint Convocation/Old Rhodian Union committee has been formed under the chairmanship of Judge J D Cloete to supervise the creation and maintenance of the museum. They will liaise with the University for funding and architectural planning. They will work closely with Mr Michael Berning (BA Hons 1964) of the Cory Library, who has offered his assistance in building up displays of Rhodiana.

The Hon Mr Justice Cloete, President of the Old Rhodian Union, was at Convocation in May this year with Sir George Cory's walking stick — the sort of souvenir we are looking for to stock the Rhodes Museum.



But a museum needs exhibits! Anyone with anything at all symbolic of their days at Rhodes is asked to either send them to Mr Berning at the Cory Library, Rhodes University, Grahamstown, 6140, or to take them along to the next Old Rhodian reunion in your area, or even just to contact us, telephone (0461) 7309, and we will arrange postage.

We're looking for such things as unofficial MSS eg diaries, photographs, letters, reminiscences of staff and students, runs of university periodicals eg Rhodeo, Rhodian, society and departmental journals, publications by staff or students, recordings of the Rhodes Choir or of important Rhodes ceremonies and even official University records such as the minutes of Council and Senate.

So it's over to you Old Rhodians to hunt out your old souvenirs to help create a living memorial to your alma mater.



Miss Julie Humphries, a 19 year old pharmacy student from Harare, Zimbabwe, was elected Rag Queen this year. Mr Mike Vincent, 1982 Rag Chairman, is appealing to all pre-1952 OR's for information and pictures about any Rag activities before that date. These may be sent to the Rag Office, or c/o Public Relations, Rhodes University, Grahamstown, 6140, to add to the University's stock of memorabilia.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

re: Student activity and the so-called "trendy left"

After carrying a letter reprinted from the *Sunday Times* in your December 1981 issue, I would appreciate it if you printed this reply.

Given the political situation in this country, I think that the letter was open to an interpretation which would be to the detriment of progressive student activity by groups such as SRCs.

The SRC is not a platform for an idealistic and "bohemian rabble" as the article states. Rather the SRC is a platform for students who have a genuine concern for both this university and this country. As such the SRC sees it as important to take stands and to present in an educative manner issues of injustice and oppression in our contemporary society.

We do not try to fool ourselves as to the effect we will have in improving our society but attempt to broaden people's education in the hope that this will assist in the fight for a just and democratic society in South Africa. That we see our goals in terms of the future of this country in the long term indicates a long term commitment on the part of those who are brandished as the "trendy left".

I would appreciate it if in future student activity were seen in a constructive light. We are not on an "intellectual vacation" but have a deep sense of justice which we wish to share in the hope of creating some sort of order out of our conflict-ridden society.

Yours faithfully

MIKE KENYON
PRESIDENT, SRC

RU unique computer training

Rhodes University is opening a unique microcomputer training laboratory for providing up-to-date cost effective practical training to first year computer science students.

The microcomputer laboratory consists of 15 work stations, with four printers. It is intended to service the needs of 120 first year computer science students.

The microcomputers will be used to teach the students to programme and to run small computers. They will be taught to programme in the computer languages, COBOL and PASCAL.

Rhodes is the first university to adopt this approach. A detailed analysis of computing facilities used by first year students has revealed that such facilities can be rendered far more cost effective through a microcomputer approach.

This topic is scheduled for discussion at the annual Computer Science Lecturers' Association meeting in July at which Professor Pat Terry is to read a paper describing Rhodes's approach to providing microcomputer training facilities.

Chair of English-Second-Language to assist academically disadvantaged

Dr Paul Walters has been appointed Professor to the recently established chair of English-Second-Language at Rhodes University.

Previously a senior lecturer in the English Department at Rhodes, Professor Walters said the appointment would provide the means to work in a field "which has concerned me for many years."

"South African universities have become increasingly concerned with the apparent lack of adequate preparation for university level work among a surprisingly large number of first year students" he said.

"In particular, students emerging from school systems where teaching conditions are poor, often seem to lack some of the essential skills needed to cope successfully with university courses."

Perhaps the major reason for this failure is an inadequate grasp of the language of instruction, and at Rhodes University the establishment of the Molteno Chair recognises the need for applied research into the teaching of English to those millions of South Africans to whom it is not their mother tongue.

The establishment of the English-Second-Language Department is a progression of previous research done in this field by the Rhodes Institute for the Study of English in Africa. Professor Walters describes the main aim of the new department as "applied research and development in several areas of English education."

"My most immediate task" he said, "will be to design, co-ordinate and participate in an Academic Support Programme, in conjunction with Professor L Lanham, honorary director of the Institute for the Study of English in Africa. Working in small groups, and where possible on a one-to-one basis, the Academic Support staff will try to help students develop the learning and language skills necessary to cope successfully with their university courses."

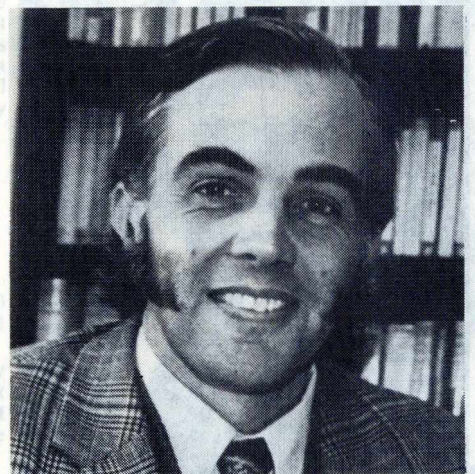
The University has approved the appointment of two junior lecturers to work under the new professor of English-Second-Language to provide tutorial and other services for such students. One lecturer will be responsible for students studying the arts, the other for students studying the sciences. Those students who are academically "at risk" have been identified through the analysis of tests

written by all new first-year students during their first few days at Rhodes in mid-February. The tests, based on discussions between Linguistics Professor Len Lanham and the National Institute of Personnel Research, are designed to diagnose the individual's problem area — for example, language comprehension, ability to communicate, mathematical competence etc.

Students identified as academically "at risk" will be individually counselled as to how this can be overcome. Some may be advised to take an extra year over their degree, as well as to take part in the academic support programme. Others may continue with a full quota of courses, but with academic support, or students may take a full quota of courses with academic support for reassessment after the June examinations.

The name "Molteno" is already closely associated with English education. The same trust funded the highly successful "Molteno Project" designed to teach literacy in southern African schools.

Professor Walters, married with two children, regards himself as "privileged to have studied English at Rhodes under Professor Guy Butler", and is looking forward to "using my educational advantages for the good of those who have been denied similar privileges."



Dr Paul Walters, newly appointed professor to the Molteno Chair of English-Second-Language.



The Rhodes Jazz Ensemble, Dr N Nowotny, standing second from right, is Grahamstown.

Ham and all that Jazz

Rhodes University has introduced a course in the appreciation of jazz and popular music as an alternative to the existing course in the history and appreciation of classical music. Dr Norbert Nowotny, senior lecturer in music and an accomplished jazz pianist, described the course as a totally serious study of the music of the 20th Century, from its origins in African and Western Music through blues, dixieland, swing, bop, progressive jazz and the mainstream jazz of the 50's and 60's.

THE CALENDAR PROJECT

— by Fiona Croeser (née Wilson (1968))

In October last year I began the daunting task of planning a new university calendar to replace the time-honoured blue book. We (the Calendar Committee and I) soon saw that this would mean writing a brand-new Student Handbook to replace the existing General Prospectus, an 88-page slice off the present Calendar sent out to prospective students. The General Prospectus rested uneasily somewhere between its two intended functions — students didn't get all the general information they needed from it and recipients of the full Calendar were given some rather unexpected information about lost laundry bags and other mundane matters. The new Student Handbook will combine everything-you-ever-wanted-to-know-about-Rhodes with summaries of faculty regulations and syllabuses less mystifying to the uninitiated than the august legal terminology of the present Calendar. The content of the Calendar is being rewritten and rearranged, with departments and their syllabuses divorced from faculty regulations, which will form a separate section. Outwardly both Calendar and Student Handbook will gladden the eye with full-colour photographs of aspects of the university. Inside they will have lively pen-and-ink illustrations by local artist Willi.



Perfect co-ordination and snappy presentation led Rhodes University Drum Majorettes into second place in the National Drummies competition which took place in Durban recently. **Trainer: Mark Wilkins.** University of Durban Drummies took first place for the sixth successive year.

LOVEBIRDS OF THE EASTERN CAPE

The call of the wild — of a different tune — recently led a distinguished professor from overseas to the Eastern Cape. Professor Wolfgang Wickler, director of the Max Planck Institute for Behavioural Physiology in West Germany visited the area recently to pursue his study of duet singing among monogamous birds.

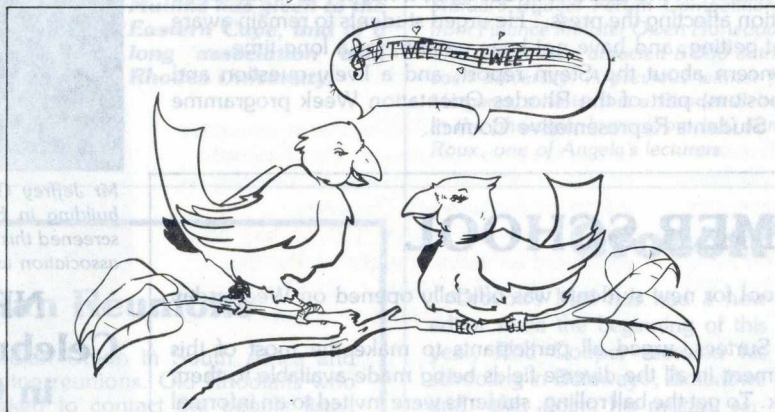
This may sound a rather obscure research topic but many nature lovers will recognise the phenomenon where some birds complement each other's songs, often to the point where it is almost impossible to distinguish whether there are one or more birds actually singing.

Some birds even sing in exact unison, making distinction between them impossible. Duet singers in the Eastern Cape include weavers and shrikes. The most interesting

factor however is that Professor Wickler sees a linkage between duet singing and monogamy in the bird world.

Professor Wickler found there are different dialects of bird song in different areas, and only birds with the same dialect actually mate. It seems that singing the same kind of language helps keep the pair together for life.

Illustration by Rhodes Fine Art student Mike Soutar



Many observers of human behaviour are excited about Professor Wickler's findings and hope to find some link to human behaviour. Maybe a happy marriage means more than just talking to each other, you should also tweet in the same dialect!

The Max Plank Institutes, of which there are 50 with the same name but devoted to different fields of study, were founded by Kaiser Wilhelm in 1912.

Professor Wickler's institute maintains field stations throughout the world, ranging from Tanzania to the Galapagos Islands.

The Institute has been associated with many famous names, for example Professor Wickler's predecessor as director, was the noted ethologist and author, Konrad Lorenz.

Increase in Transvaal Enrolment Figures

An increase of approximately 6 per cent in the overall student body at Rhodes this year, highlights the activities of the Johannesburg Liaison Office and the Dean of Students. Student enrolment in the Transvaal alone now stands at over 20 per cent of the total intake. The Johannesburg Liaison office is staffed by (left) OR Mrs Felicity van der Linde, Schools Liaison Officer; (right) Ms Carmel Yates (Secretary) and OR Ms Cathy Damerell, who was holidaying in the Himalayas at the time the picture was taken. Mr N Papenfus (centre), Director of Public Relations and Development for Rhodes, uses the office as a home from home on his numerous fund-raising trips to the Reef.

The office is situated in The Mall, Rosebank, and apart from serving as an information centre for prospective students, the girls would be only too happy to see any Old Rhodians who happen to be passing by. Their telephone number is (011) 788-5543.





From left: Mr Pat Rodgers, Professor Gavin Stewart (head of the Dept of Journalism at Rhodes), Mr Alistair Sparks and Mr Shaun Johnson.

Mr Rodgers, whose resignation from the SABC as presenter of "Midweek" was equally controversial, said the Steyn report simply "belonged in the dustbin". He said the report was based on premises which confused tribalism with patriotism, and that if it were adopted, the English press should "put down their pens, pick up their jackets, and get out of the business, rather than continue under the circumstances, thus lending credibility to a government which deserves none".

Speaking from the point of view of the South African Students Press Union, former president Mr Shaun Johnson called on students to reject the Steyn proposals. He said that although the commercial and student press often took different views on political issues, "the student press sees the Steyn Commission in the same ominous light; it has to, as it has for so long suffered under security legislation affecting the press." He urged students to remain aware of just how much news we are not getting, and have not been getting, for a long time.

The large audience showed concern about the Steyn report, and a lively question and answer session followed the symposium, part of the Rhodes Orientation Week programme organized for new students by the Students Representative Council.

Newsman at Rhodes University

Two leaders in their fields of the South African media came out sharply against the recommendations of the Steyn Commission at a symposium on the freedom of the press held at Rhodes in February. Mr Alistair Sparks, former editor of the Rand Daily Mail, and Mr Pat Rodgers, ex SABC-TV interviewer, branded the report as 'disastrous' for what little press freedom remained in South Africa.

Addressing a packed Great Hall, Mr Sparks said the report must be seen in the context of a long-term process of clampdown by the government. He said the implementation of the proposals would lead to "a grey conformity settling over the industry", and that a journalist's register was "one of the most sinister means of controlling the news".

Mr Sparks, also a former Sunday Express editor, left the Rand Daily Mail recently amidst a cloud of controversy, and is now South African correspondent for the Washington Post. After his dismissal by South African Associated Newspapers, colleagues across the country published full page advertisements protesting the action.

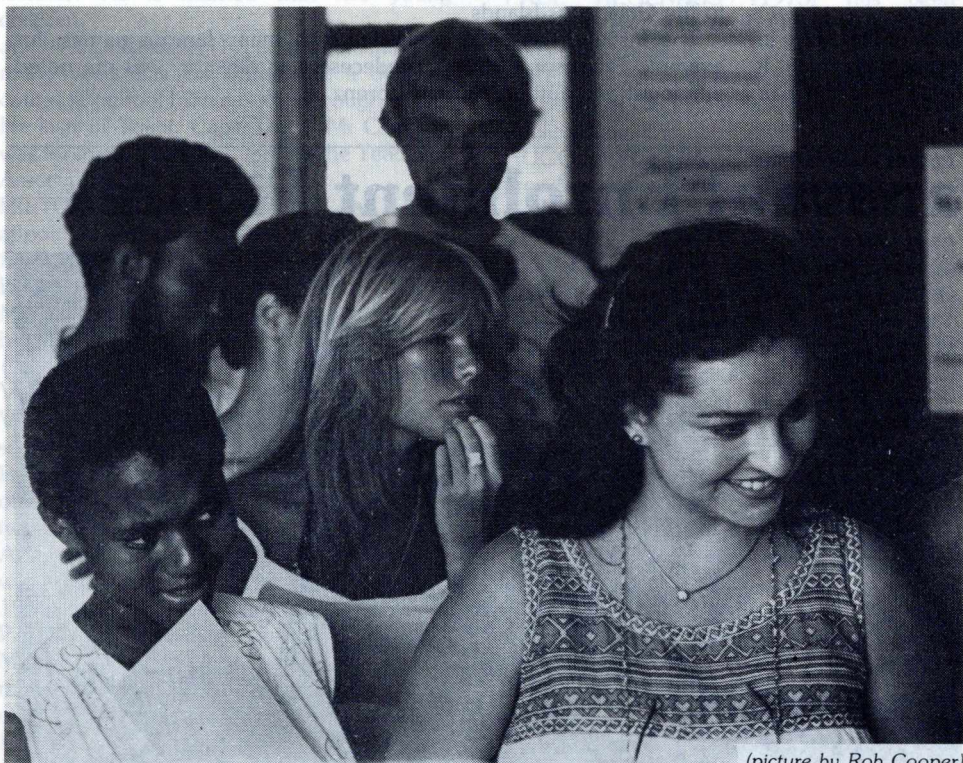


Mr Jeffrey Grocott, stands outside the Grocotts building in High Street. In a TV documentary screened this month he described his family's long association with Grocott's Mail.

SUMMER SCHOOL

Rhodes's week-long Summer School for new students was officially opened on Wednesday 3 February in Jan Smuts Hall.

The School convener, Mr Peter Surtees, urged all participants to make the most of this opportunity to explore and experiment in all the diverse fields being made available to them throughout this pre-university week. To get the ball rolling, students were invited to an informal finger supper where they could get to know each other in a relaxed and happy atmosphere.



(picture by Rob Cooper)

NPU Centenary Celebrations to be held in Grahamstown this year

Mr Peter McLean, President of the National Press Union, said "During this centenary year we want to create in the mind of the public a new realization of the important role an independent and vigorous Press plays and should play in a free society."

Mr McLean said: "Two dates stand out in the turbulent history of the South African Press. The first is April 30, 1829, when the right to produce a newspaper subject only to the ordinary laws of the land was enshrined in an ordinance since described as the Magna Carta of the South African Press. And then a meeting attended by 26 newspaper owners and editors, led to the formation of the Newspaper Press Union on November 27, 1882, in Grahamstown."

One hundred years on, the NPU returns to Grahamstown for its centenary congress in October.

Grocott's Mail, the longest-running newspaper in South Africa, has given the Old Rhodian Union permission to include a Grocott's facsimile in this issue of the Newsletter. We are sure that the familiar style will bring back many happy memories to all Old Rhodians.

Grocott's Mail.

Advertising medium for the South African Government, the Municipal Corporation, the Divisional Councils of Albany and of Dias, the Bathurst Municipality, various School Boards and the South African Railways.

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GRAHAMSTOWN [PROVINCE OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE] SOUTH AFRICA

JUNE 1982

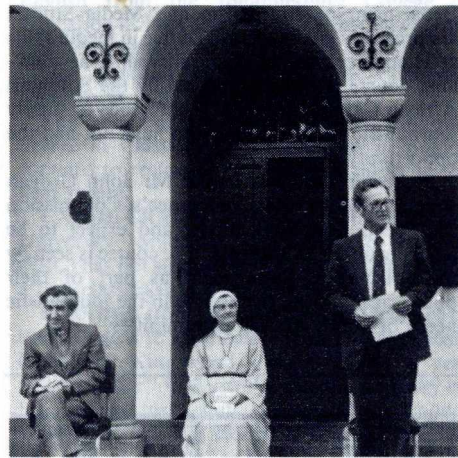
Unveiling of Plaque

At a ceremony held outside the Rhodes University Chapel on the evening of February 9, Mother Mary Eleanor, previously Mother Superior of the Community of the Resurrection of Our Lord, unveiled a plaque proclaiming the Chapel a National Monument.

The Chapel was for many years an integral part of the Grahamstown Training College, an institution founded in 1894 and run by the Community until its closure in the 1970's. The Training College was bought by Rhodes University, and the Faculties of Education, Divinity and Law, and the Department of Music moved in. The Chapel of St Mary and All the Angels became the official University Chapel.

Among the guests was the ex-Vice-Chancellor of Rhodes University, Dr J M Hyslop, during whose term of office the purchase of the Training College was negotiated.

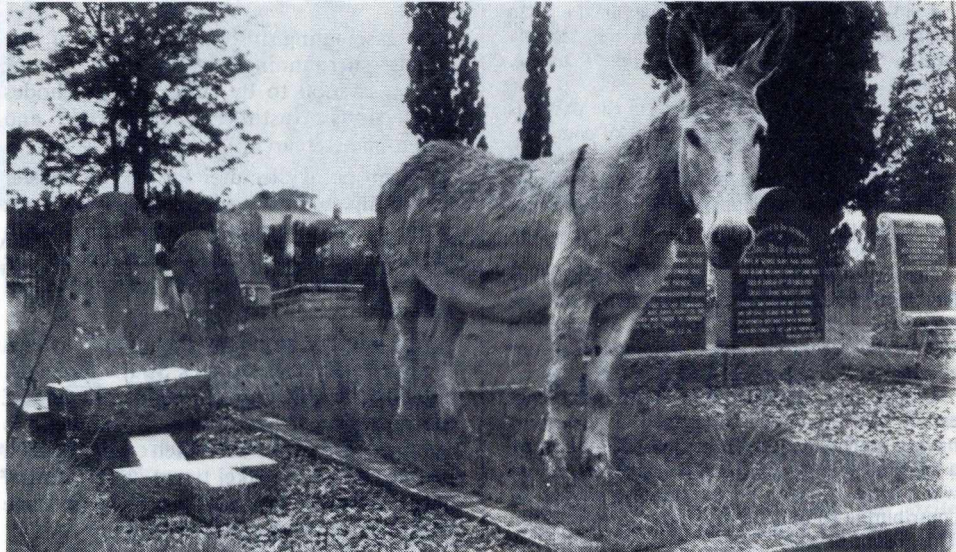
In informal and fascinating speeches, Professor J N Suggit, Dr D S Henderson, Mother Mary Eleanor and Professor H J Chapman shed interesting light on both the history of the Grahamstown Training College and on its many links with Rhodes University. A prayer by Professor J N Suggit ended the ceremony.



UNIVERSITY
BUSINESS
IS OUR BUSINESS

Birch's

OFFICIAL SUPPLIERS TO THE
GRAHAMSTOWN SCHOOLS,
COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITY.



Vandals violate Old Cemetery

Grahamstown's Old Cemetery in Albany Road has suffered grievous damage due to wanton vandalism. The Methodist section of the cemetery has been particularly badly hit with about one quarter of its graves desecrated.

One irate local resident told Grocott's that he had seen donkeys grazing in the cemetery, and that he suspected from the detritus he had found in between the graves that drinking parties were held there at night. The Town Clerk told Grocott's that the municipality was responsible for the maintenance of the cemetery. "We've had the problem of vandalism for a long time" he said, "but there is little we can do to stop it other than to hope that the schools, by education, can persuade the youth of today that vandalism is unnecessary". He said that donkeys would be impounded if found in the cemetery, and he promised to ask the Municipal Gardens Superintendent to investigate and submit a full report on the extent of the damage.

New Runway

Accessibility and visibility are two of several benefits which will accrue from Grahamstown's new all-weather runway due for completion in June.

Now that the 1 200-metre tarred runway will be able to handle 60-seater jets as well as the hefty Hercules, which doubles as a troop carrier when not transporting freight, civic leaders are unanimous that the advantages will be many.

Mr Tony Johnson, chairman of the Grahams-town Chamber of Commerce, said that from the businessman's point of view the time factor could be all-important.

"It is infinitely more attractive to a businessman to know he can get to Grahamstown from Port Elizabeth or East London in 20 minutes or half an hour rather than spending one-and-a-half to two hours on the road.

There is also the psychological aspect. We are far better off serviced by air. Only good can come of it."

He predicted a marked upsurge in air traffic for events like festivals and conventions.

"With an airbus like a Hercules on the run, we could even airlift school pupils."

Mrs Pamela Paton, director of publicity, said it would soon be cheaper to fly than to drive.

She said the all-weather runway would add a great measure of reliability to the air service.

Mr Stan Jenkins, director of the 1820 Foundation, said there were immediate advantages to the Foundation and to Rhodes University. People attending council meetings, committees and similar sessions from Johannesburg, Cape Town or Durban would be saved the tiring road trek from the airports at either Port Elizabeth or East London.

The Foundation and Rhodes University are jointly funding landing lights and a radio beacon at the cost of R10 000 each.

Border Air Charter has had temporarily to suspend its service to Grahamstown while the runway is being upgraded. Mr Peter Church of East London said this week: "We are now awaiting the all-clear from the Department of Transport and expect to resume in June."

He has already set the fare between Grahamstown and East London or Port Elizabeth at R26,52 single. The return fare is exactly double. Mr Church said the timetable was being revised.

He said: "We realise that previously the timing was not 100 per cent convenient. We are looking into this and also plan to use larger aircraft on the run."

Grocott's MAILBAG

THE EDITOR
PO BOX 179
GRAHAMSTOWN

Festively Fugard

Sir

I note that this year's festival at the 1820 National Monument has as its theme, 'Boldly Beethoven'. This follows last year's theme, 'Mostly Mozart'.

I believe that the Arts Festival in the past has devoted a disproportionate amount of energy to European culture. The English speaking community has made a contribution to a vibrant Southern African culture, and it is this culture that I feel the Arts Festival should devote more time to celebrating.

Instead of trying to be a carbon copy of some Northern Hemisphere festivals, why do the organizers not accept the challenge of playing a role in the generation and dissemination of our culture?

Unless this happens to a more significant extent, the Monument is destined to be seen as having perpetuated the Imperialist Tradition on a cultural level, as well as having missed out on what must perhaps be its greatest chance of contributing to our South African cultural life. This would be sad.

Finally, a suggestion for next year's theme. Instead of 'Happily Haydn', 'Melodiously Mendelssohn or 'Ecstatically European', why not a festival called 'A Bit of Bosman and Breytenbach, Some Smith and Sithole, Pieces of Plomer, Courageously Campbell, Kramer and Clouts, Just Juluka and Jacobson, Much Mtshali, A Little Bit of Ladysmith, Black Mambazo, a Load of Lucy and Lessing, A Great Deal of Gordimer and Gwala, and Festively Fugard...' Or better still, why not 'Simply South African', or 'Absolutely Azanian'?

Yours
Chris Butler
Cape Town

CORY GOLDEN WEDDING



Dr Charles and Mrs Dorothy Cory celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on Saturday, February 6.

They were married by the Reverend Dean Blundell in Port Alfred in 1932. Both attended schools in Grahamstown, Graeme College and DSG respectively. Their daughter now lives in



Exciting Anthropology

book soon

A fascinating insight into one of the rituals surrounding the migrant labour system is soon to be launched by Rhodes University's Institute of Social and Economic Research.

Anthropology lecturer Patrick McAllister has completed "Umsindleko: A Gcaleka ritual of incorporation", which deals with the beer drinking ritual which marks the return of migrant workers to their rural homes.

The migrant labour system greatly affects the lives of countless black South Africans, and Mr McAllister's work looks at one of the responses it has drawn. Umsindleko is one of the ways in which the Gcaleka people of the Transkei try to cope with the hardships they face as men have to leave their homes to earn a cash wage.

This annual shift to the urban areas is seen as "going to war", and the return of a migrant is thus greeted with joy and thanksgiving.

The beer drink itself is found in many parts of the Ciskei and Transkei, and research for this study was conducted in the Willowvale district. Mr McAllister received his MA degree with distinction in social anthropology from Rhodes in 1979 for work on the migrancy rituals, and he is currently working towards a Ph D in the same field.



Mr P A McAllister

Journalism Department runs Hammanskraal Seminar

Two senior members of the Rhodes Department of Journalism and Media Studies are presently giving a crash course in media skills at Hammanskraal in the Transvaal. The week-long course is being organized by the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference to supply journalistic skills to those who have not had the opportunity to study before.

Professor Les Switzer and Mr John Grogan were invited by the Conference's Commission for Social Communications, and expect to be teaching about 25 students. The course is seen by the Journalism Department as part of their policy of involving themselves in the journalistic needs of South African communities.

Grocott's WEATHER



FORECAST: Fine and warm with the possibility of snow. Wind direction uncertain but likely to be moderate to gale force. Expected maximum temperature 25°C, expected minimum -3°C, barometer rising and falling fast.

LAST WEEK: Max temperature 27°C on Wednesday at 10 p.m. Minimum 1°C on Saturday at 2 p.m. Rain 97mm.

COMMENT: Local weather expert Mr Hector Alexander says that, after studying Mr Conrad's early records, it is clear that the pattern of unseasonable weather experienced since 1820 cannot be expected to change overnight.



PEPE MORTON
BA



CAROL CRAGG
B Sc (Hons)



SHAUN JOHNSON
BA (Hons)



KAREN JERG
BA (Speech and Drama)



DAVID COSTER
B Sc

CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

Many of the 755 people who graduated this weekend have, after years of hard work and dedication, achieved high academic distinction. Grocott's offers a small sample:-

PEPE MORTON — The yen to obtain a degree has been strong enough to cause Pepe Morton to interrupt her teaching career and this weekend three years of hard toil were rewarded when she graduated with her Bachelor of Arts Degree with distinctions in History and Classical Civilizations.

Pepe, married with two children, obtained a Teacher's Certificate in Physical Education and English from the Johannesburg College of Education in 1964 and taught for six years before registering at Rhodes in 1979.

Her husband is head of the Chemistry department at St Andrew's College.

This year Pepe is studying for her Honours degree in Classical Civilization but is looking forward to restarting her teaching career in the near future.

CAROL CRAGG — Two years on the Rhodes University Students Representative Council (SRC) has not stopped Carol Cragg from gaining a first class pass in Computer Science.

Carol hails from Grahamstown and was one of the first girls to matriculate from the previously boys only Kingswood College. After a year "down under" in Australia she opted to stay on her home turf and registered at Rhodes University. She was elected to the SRC in 1980 and 1981, and served as Societies Councillor and Treasurer.

At present a junior lecturer in the Computer Science department at Rhodes, Carol's future plans are to study further overseas.

SHAUN JOHNSON — A career in the Media Industry with special reference to the third world is the aim of Shaun Johnson who graduated from Rhodes University with a first class honours degree in journalism and politics this year.

Later this year he will take up a Rhodes scholarship to Oxford to study for a Master of Philosophy degree in politics. He hopes to go on to do a Doctorate in America before returning to South Africa.

SUE WELLS-WEST — To return to Zimbabwe to teach English Linguistics is the ultimate aim of Sue Wells-West who received a first class honours degree in English Language at the Rhodes University graduation ceremony.

Before doing that however Sue will study at Cambridge University for a Master of Philosophy.

Sue was born in Zimbabwe and completed her schooling at Chaplin High School in Gwelo, finishing as head girl in her final year.

For relaxation Sue paints and is a keen sportswoman and an ardent member of the Women's Group at Rhodes.

DAVID COSTER — A life long interest in science helped David Coster to graduate from Rhodes University with distinctions in Computer Science and Physics with Electronics.

David comes from the Grahamstown area and attended Kingswood College. In his final three years at school he was in the top twenty students in the annual South African Schools Science Olympiad, winning in standard nine and coming second in his matric year.

David is studying for his honours degree in Computer Science and Electronics.

He has a bursary from the Atomic Energy Board, and after completing his military training will probably follow an academic career.

Royal Teacher

One of Prince Charles' former teachers, Mr Mike Handley from Australia visited Grahamstown recently.

Mr Handley went to Australia in 1958 and was headmaster of Timbertop School when Prince Charles attended it.

Last year Mr Handley and his wife attended the Royal Wedding at the invitation of their past pupil.

Mr Handley left St Andrew's at the end of 1942 when he was head prefect of Espin House. After returning from the War he went to Rhodes where he obtained a BA and UED.

Mr Handley is at present administrator of the Timbertop School, which is part of the Geelong Church of England Grammar School complex, founded at the same time as St Andrew's.

BIBLE THOUGHT

Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of thy name; and deliver us, and purge away our sins, for thy name's sake.
Psalm 79:9

God is ready and waiting to save us, all we need do is ask.

Glittering Graduation

More than a thousand happy and excited relatives and friends packed the huge main auditorium at the 1820 Monument to watch as Rhodes University conferred degrees on 755 students in the glittering finale to the 1981 academic year.

The event began on Friday night at 8 when graduands from the Faculty of Arts received their degrees and diplomas from Rhodes Chancellor Dr I Mackenzie, and an honorary D Litt degree was conferred on Professor H W Pahl of Fort Hare University.

On Saturday morning Science graduands lined up to receive their degrees, and at 3 pm everyone attended the Garden Party, held at the Monument due to bad weather, entertained by Andrew Tracey's Steel Band and Dr Honey's Windband.

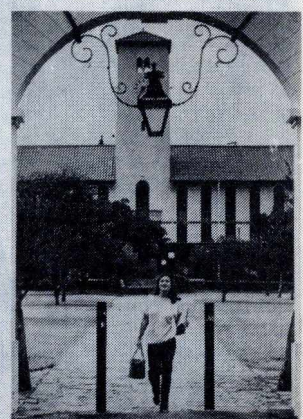
To round off the event, the new graduates danced the night away at the gala Graduation Ball in the Great Hall.

Rhodes University

— investing in the individual

By now you know the quality of life you want. Achieving it means investing in yourself through a solid career qualification. Rhodes University in Grahamstown offers qualifications for many exciting and rewarding careers. A pre-university summer school introduces you to study methods in a university environment and our graduate placement programme will enable you to make the best choice in your field.

You are an individual... Rhodes is a university with a real interest in every student. Classes are kept small, giving close informal contact between lecturers and students. The residential system means freedom from domestic worries, the privacy of single rooms right on campus and good friends nearby when you need them. A wide range of well-equipped sports facilities and 28 active sports clubs enable almost all Rhodians to play sport regularly. And we're only 45 minutes from the sea. There are over 40 active societies, bringing together friends with



interests ranging from TM to exploration geology. And always, there's time, space and opportunity to be an individual. For detailed information on the career subjects that interest you, and more about life at Rhodes, write to:

The Registrar, Rhodes University
6140 Grahamstown.
Telephone (0461) 2623 or
telexphone the Liaison Office in
Johannesburg (011) 788 3343

East London
GRAHAMSTOWN
Port Elizabeth

Start of Rhodes Term brings much in the way of Sport

With the Rhodes University second term underway, the various campus sporting venues have come alive and will once again offer Grahamstown sportlovers a variety of sports to watch, and in many cases, take part in.

The area in the vicinity of the Alec Mullins Hall will be a hive of activity with no fewer than twelve teams engaged in three sports, two of these rarely seen in these parts. The two Rhodes baseball teams will entertain visiting sides on the King Field, playing A C Delco and East London.

One of the fastest-growing sports in the country, volleyball, will be played in the Alec Mullins Hall with three UPE teams meeting local sides.

Another fairly new sport will make its appearance in the Alec Mullins Hall with an all-day Women's Indoor Hockey Tournament.

The Prospect Track will reverberate to the pounding of running-shoe clad feet when Hoërskool PJ Olivier stages a one-hour athletics meeting, and the Biathlon Competition between a Grahamstown team and a Port Elizabeth team will be held.

The University's Rag weekend saw two major sporting events, with the first cricket teams of Rhodes and UPE meeting on the Prospect Ground on Friday and Saturday, March 12/13, and the Eastern Province Baseball Tournament on the King Field on Rag Day, Saturday, March 13.

EP HOCKEY DOUBLE

Former Rhodes University and Eastern Province hockey player, John Donald, now Assistant Sports Officer at the University, has been chosen as a member of the Eastern Province Indoor Hockey team which met Border in inter-provincial friendlies in Port Elizabeth.

Donald, who plays for Old Grey in the Kentucky Indoor Hockey League, represented Western Province at the sport before moving to Grahamstown last year.



RU goalie Chris Sandford stands guard during a recent match against Westview.



Louis Arde'

RU SPRINGBOK

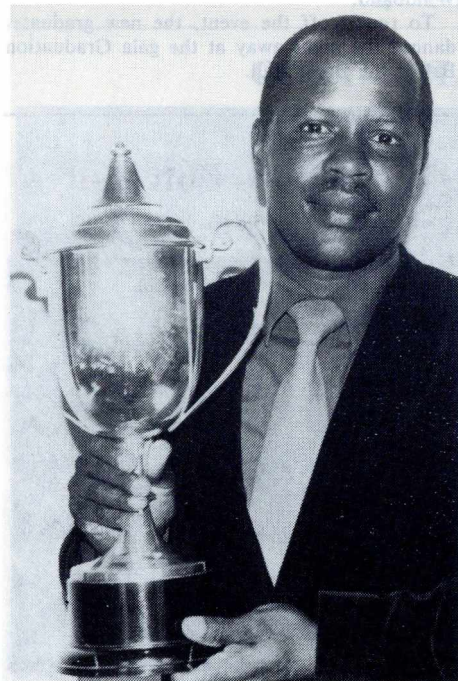
Louis Arde', who gained his BA (Physical Education) degree last year and is now studying for the Higher Education Diploma, once again captained the Springbok Soccer team against the Bophuthatswana XI at Orkney. The match was played at the new stadium of the Vaal Reef mining group.



Graeme College pupil Michael Hubbard (13) son of Rhodes staff members Carole and John Hubbard turned in an outstanding performance at the College's annual swimming gala this season, at which he broke four records.

QUOTE of the week

Dr John Lightfoot, then Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University, shortly prior to the publication of Charles Darwin's "The Origin of the Species" in 1859, stated unequivocally: "Heaven and earth were created altogether at the same instant on October 24, 4004 BC, at 9 o'clock in the morning".



Top local golfer, Mr Gladman Lukwe is this year's winner of the City of Saints Golf Club's "Champion of Champions" Trophy. Mr Lukwe is the Sports Attendant at the University's Sports Office.



Sports Diary

BUILDING SOCIETY BOUVERENIGING

Rugby:	Sat 22.5.82	Albany I vs Old Boys (City Lords) - 3.45pm Rhodes I vs Police (Great) 3.45pm Rhodes II vs Swifts (Great) 2.30pm St Andrew's I, II, U15, U14 vs Muir (Lower Field) from 1.30pm Graeme I, II, U15, U14 vs P.J. Olivier (Somerset Field) from 1.30pm
Soccer:	Sun 23.5.82	Drostdy vs Potters (Prospect) 11.00am Staff vs Protea (Prospect) 2.00pm Wanderers vs Smuts (Fiddlers) 2.00pm Markhams vs Pistols (Fiddlers) - 3.30pm
Golf:	Sat 22.5.82 Sun 23.5.82	BB Stableford Club Championship Finals
Cross Country:	Sat 22.5.82	Prof Mountain Meeting (Prospect Track) from 2pm
Men's Hockey:	Sun 23.5.82	Old Graemian A vs Phys Ed (Bucklands) 11.00am Old Graemian B vs Rhodes III (Bucklands) 10.00am Smuts vs RU Staff (Prospect) 11.00am Prince Alfred vs Occasional A (Lucas) - 11.00am Kingswood vs Livingstone (Kingswood) - 11.00am
Girls'	Sat 22.5.82	P.J. Olivier I, II vs Piet Retief (P.J.O. Field) 9.15am, 10am

YOUR SUCCESS BUILDERS

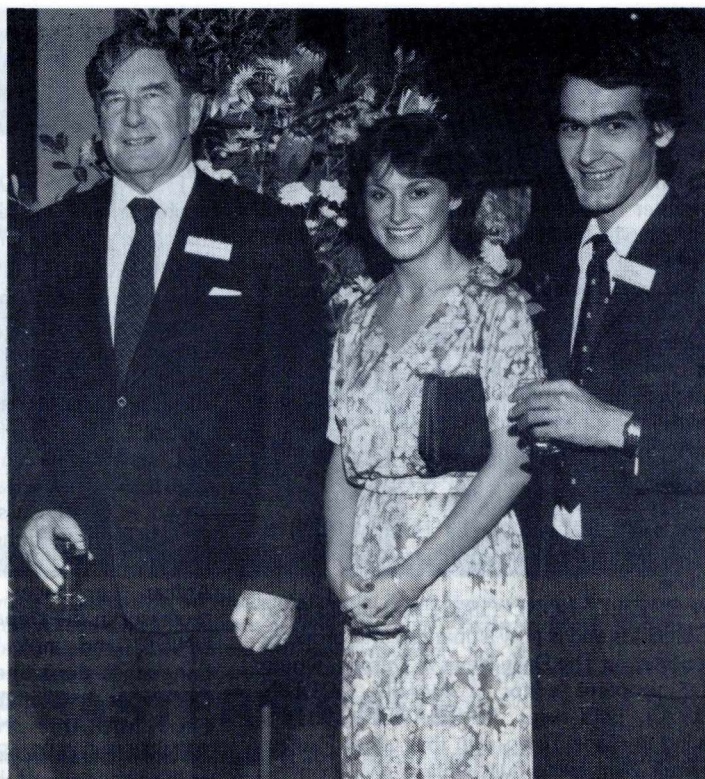
OR is new Phys Ed Head

Professor John Charteris has been appointed head of the Physical Education Department on the retirement of the present head, Professor E E Locke. Professor Charteris went to Graeme College and graduated from Rhodes with a BA degree in 1965. In 1967 he was appointed Assistant Professor at the School of Physical Education at the University of Guelph in Canada. He became an Associate Professor in 1979.

Another new appointment in the Department of Physical Education is that of Mr Stanley Morgan to the post of senior lecturer. Mr Morgan did his BA (Hons) (Physical Education) (1976) at Rhodes University, and was until his new appointment, head of the Department of Physical Education at the Graaff-Reinet Teachers' Training College.



Mr Acting Justice Mullins has been elected to represent convocation on the Rhodes University Council. The appointment can be seen as a continuation of the years of fine service which Judge Mullins has given to the Eastern Cape, and of a long association with Rhodes University.



Angela Henderson was the Rhodes University winner of the Nedbank and Old Mutual's Budget Forum Competition this year. She received her certificate from Finance Minister Owen Horwood during a recent function in Cape Town. The competition attracted 8 000 entries this year, with a winner chosen from each university. A previous winner from Rhodes was Angela's older sister, Margaret, who is now a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford.

In the photograph are (from left) Minister Horwood, Angela, and Mr André Roux, one of Angela's lecturers.

Old Rhodian Reunions

Branches of the Old Rhodian Union in South Africa and South West Africa are planning reunions. Old Rhodians who would like to attend are asked to contact the people listed below:

BLOEMFONTEIN
Mr W I O Paterson
77-831
September 10

CAPE TOWN
Mrs J Lewis
65-7426
September 10

DURBAN
Mr A J L Dickson
60-321
September 10

EAST LONDON
Mr J L Stead
28-315
September 17

KIMBERLEY
Mr J B Hawthorne
31-486
September 24

PORT ELIZABETH
Mr M Levey
33-1002
September 10

PRETORIA
Mr R E M Archibald
78-5305
August 14

JOHANNESBURG
Ms C Damerell
788-5543
August 13

PIETERMARITZBURG
Mr R E Coss
2-1852
September 9

WINDHOEK
Mr U J Kannegiesser
25-335

Branches in Zimbabwe held their reunions in June. Their contacts are:—

BULAWAYO
Mr I G Edmeades
75-011
June 19

HARARE
Dr B W Blair
88-2386
June 18

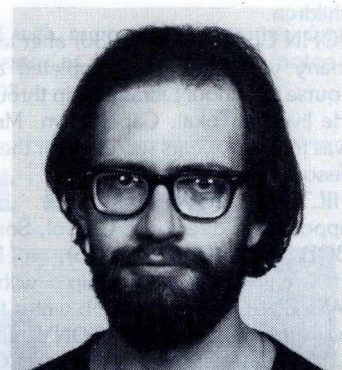
MUTARE
Mrs J H E Rodgers
P O Box 88
June 17

Grocott's Editor

Grocott's Mail has had a new editor since the beginning of this year. Rob Cooper received his schooling in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe and, after doing his military service during the war, he came down to Rhodes in 1976 to do a Bachelor of Journalism and an Honours degree in History. He is currently working on his Masters thesis, researching an aspect of the Labour History of the Eastern Cape. He has also worked as a journalist on newspapers in the Argus group, and has done a stint as a sub-editor on the Rand Daily Mail in Johannesburg.

Interested in photography and films, he hopes to mount an exhibition of his pictures later this year. Last year he took over the chairmanship of the Monument

Film Society and has built it into a thriving cultural event with a small but solid core of support in town and on campus. He is a widower with a young daughter, Katharine, aged three.



Mr Rob Cooper

The Rhodes Newsletter is published annually 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
6140 GRAHAMSTOWN
Editor: Aletta Eliott

OLD RHODIAN NEWS

CHRIS ANDERSEN (1958) was sworn in as Minister of State in Zimbabwe by the Prime Minister, MR ROBERT MUGABE (Fort Hare) (1951) in May this year. Present at the swearing in ceremony was President Canaan Banana.

ADRIAN ARNOTT (1967) has been appointed General Manager (Finance and General Administration) for Anglo American Insurance Holdings.

HANS BERKER (1951) has been appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court in SWA/Namibia.

PAULINE FAIRALL (née Bond) (1937) is now working as a botanist at Kirstenbosch, Cape.

W R "BILL" BOND (1931) has retired from Goldfields and is now a financial and property reporter on The Daily News in Durban, where the property editor is DAVID GODDIN (1970). Bill's sister, MARGARET (1931) is living in Cape Town with their sister Pauline Fairall. Margaret is busy writing a book on the family history. Older brother JOHN (1929) was the author of "They were South Africans". He died in 1957.

MIKE BLADEN (1977) and his wife PRI (née ANDREWS) (1975) are now living in Port Elizabeth where Mike works for Burroughs. Mike was previously in the Permanent Force and Pri taught at firstly Heidelberg Transvaal and then Bloemfontein. Mike resigned from the army early this year. They have one daughter of 18 months.

LYN BRYER (née COETZEE 1967) is living in Cape Town with her two children and works for Maskew Miller as an editor.

CHARLES COGILL (1970) has completed his Ph D and is at present on sabbatical as a Fellow at Cornell University, USA. He returns this month to South Africa where he is a Wits lecturer. He is married with two young children.

JOHN CLARKSON (1930) after teaching for many years has just completed a diploma course in School Librarianship through Unisa. He lives in Tokai, Cape Town. Mr Clarkson was for many years secretary for the Teachers' Association.

HILTON COWAN (1957) has been appointed a director of Castrol, South Africa. BOB STUMBLES (1956), a lawyer in Harare, is in partnership with JOHN MEYBURGH (1961). Bob writes to say that he bumped into Dr TONY CAMERON (1955) who is now Chairman of Carrington Viyella Garments in Manchester.

V G W DEACON (1967) taught at various schools such as Selborne, Cathcart High and Pinelands High. He is now Deputy Principal of Selborne College. He is married and has two children.

A surprise visitor to Grahamstown recently was PADDY EWER (née MACLELLAND 1966). Paddy married (another!) PADDY, PADDY EWER and the couple live in Zomba, Malawi. Paddy (boy) is Professor of Mathematics and Dean of Science at the University of Malawi and Paddy (girl) is teaching at a local school. They have two children, a girl and a boy, neither named Paddy.

S D EDWARDS (1972) has been appointed Professor and Head of the Department of Psychology at the University of Zululand.

CHRIS EVERETT (1963) has retired from his post as a lecturer in science at the Hillside Teachers' College in Bulawayo. He will become production co-ordinator at a firm where his wife is the sales manager. They have three young daughters. Chris's brother, RUSSELL (1964) left his post as acting head of Chaplin School in Gwelo; he and his wife and three children are going to the United Kingdom where Russell will be teaching at the Royal Grammar School in Wiltshire.

DR A P HENDRIKSE, former lecturer in African Languages at Rhodes is now a professor in the Department of Linguistics at UNISA and not head of the African Languages department, as reported in the December newsletter.

DR MARAIS NOLAN JANSE-VAN RENSBURG (1976 BSc) qualified as a doctor at the University of the Free State at the end of 1981. He and his wife, who also qualified as a doctor at the same time, are doing their housemanship at the Kimberley Hospital.

DAVID FORSON (HDE 1977) is teaching English at the Hoërskool Etosha at Tsumeb in SWA/Namibia.

JOSEPH GATES (1977) is now an insurance broker living in Greymount, Port Elizabeth.

ROBIN GAYLARD (1968) is lecturing in English at Stellenbosch University.

JONATHAN HOBDAV (1976) has been appointed an assistant editor of The Star.

BEDFORD HURNDALL (1937) is with Management Systems Control in Johannesburg.

ALAN McCULLOCH (1981) has settled in Canberra, Australia and is working as a photogeologist. He left Zambia last year.

PAUL REGENASS (1975) has been appointed as the Festivals Officer at the 1820 Settlers Monument.

MIKE SELLEY (1961) has been appointed to the board of Goodyear Tyres with the folio of Public Affairs.

HUGO SNYCKERS (1962) has been elected president of the Northern Transvaal Chamber of Commerce.

STEWART THOMPSON (1958) has been appointed Deputy Headmaster of Kingswood College in Grahamstown. Mr Thompson has been with Kingswood since leaving RU, and has been in charge of the school's colourful brass band for 25 years.

Treverton College in Mooi River has a distinctly Rhodes air about it: ALLAN STAPLES (1970) is headmaster and TONY HAMBLY (1963) is second master. Also at Treverton are MERVYN PARK (1962) and WILLIE MARAIS (1957).

LEN VICTOR (1968) is the new Vice-Principal of Kingswood College in Grahamstown. Two years ago, he was named top science teacher in South Africa. BERNIE WHEELER (1976) and wife Kerry (née WENSLEY 1976) produced a daughter named Tamlyn last October. Both Bernie and Kerry teach Phys Ed at Brettonwood High School in Durban.

DAN WHITE (1964) has been appointed Marketing Director for Colgate Palmolive (SA).

MILES WAKEFORD (1964) has been appointed Human Resources Manager for Sandvik.

WH (Billy) OLD (1947) is now MD of African Distillers in Harare.

A letter from GORDON KEAY (1946) solves a thirty six year old crime of great magnitude! GORDON, "MICK" McGEE (1947) and "POP" (M L D) JACKSON (1946) (deceased) were the culprits who walled up the front door of Beit House one night in 1946.

Tutored by the masters



Mr HOWARD NOCK (1973) who is teaching prospective music teachers at the Port Elizabeth Teachers' College to play the guitar, demonstrates how to play chords.

Howard Nock was born in Grahamstown and obtained his Master's degree in music at Rhodes University.

He has been in Port Elizabeth for five years. "Classical music is alive and well here," he said.

His instrument is difficult to play but he was fortunate in his tutors.

"First I had the chance to study under Ingrid Nowotny at Rhodes. Afterwards I went to Spain where I played under the guidance of José Tomas."

In England he was influenced by the great masters of the classical guitar, Julian Bream and John Williams.

"But I think I've got my own style, my own combination of various influences," he said.

Now a lecturer at the Teachers' Training College, he teaches future music teachers how to use the guitar in the classroom to accompany children singing. He also teaches them how to read guitar music.

Acknowledgment to Evening Post

The following OR's signed our visitors' book at a Careers Exhibition held in PE in May:

JUDIE VAN WYK (née SWANEPOEL (1972) married Dawie van Wyk, a geologist. They have two daughters and live in Witbank.

IAN (SPARROW) HOLMES (1972) is living in Port Elizabeth.

JACQUI TURNER (1982) has a post with Volkswagen in Uitenhage in Staff Training.

A J TODD (1981) is a teacher psychologist at Muir College, Uitenhage.

BOB ELLIS OWEN (1963) is now living in Port Elizabeth.

BRIAN SAVAGE (1973) lives in Walmer, Port Elizabeth.

ROBIN BIGGS (1982) teaches at the Chinese High School in Port Elizabeth.

PATRICK MOORE (1970) is teaching at Rose Hill Preparatory School in Kent, U.K. His parents are still teaching at Mutare High. ROGER OMOND (1966) is subbing on the Guardian in Manchester.

The REV PETER STOREY (1962) has been elected President of the Council of Churches in SA.

WILFRED MEYER (1965) is living in Ontario, Canada, with his wife and three young sons. Wilfred is working as a special projects geologist for a nickel mining company.

Dr JOHN STRACHAN (1961) is now a medical doctor (UCT). After a number of years at Tygerberg Hospital, he joined the UCT Pharmacology department.

N A F (BOB) WILLIAMS (1936), a member of the Rhodes Board of Governors, has an entire family of OR's. His wife was MISS J M L MULLIGAN (1938) and all three children came to Rhodes. MICHAEL (1966) and PRUDENCE (1967) now run Michael's Trading Company with offices in London and Los Angeles. Other son CHRISTOPHER graduated in 1971.

DAVID WIGHTMAN (1966) has left Zambia with his wife and three children and is now working for a firm of Mining Consultants in Brisbane, Australia.

Recent OR visitors to the Geology dept were DR J A "HAMISH" MCGREGOR (1959) and his wife who are now living in Canada, and GEOFFREY GRAINGER (1939) who has just retired from his post as Railway Engineer.

D G KINGWILL (1939) has been appointed Director of Information and Research of the Eastern Province Association of Engineers.

ALICE KRIGE (1974) won the "Best Newcomer Award" given by the Society of West End Theatres in London for her performance in Shaw's "Arms and the Man."

GEORGE MACLAY (1966) who co-authored with fellow OR HUMPHREY KNIPE (1966) the book "The Dominant Male", is at present working for the Readers Digest. He is married with two children.

PAULA NONNI (née GELDENHUYS 1970), after a year lecturing at UPE, has returned to Florence with her husband and son.

ROB McLEAN (1979) has been appointed Senior Sports Administrator at UCT.

OR BRIAN JOHN MANICOM is alive and well and living in Johannesburg contrary to the report we received of his death. Someone named BJ Manicom was indeed killed while doing his military service to whose family we extend our sympathy, but he was not "our" Brian. Thank you to OR MRS J A BEALE of Pietermaritzburg for sorting that one out.

Former Rhodes Economics lecturer MR C TORR has been appointed a lecturer in Economics at Pietermaritzburg University. He is currently registered for a PhD in Economics at Rhodes and is preparing a thesis on "Information in Economic Analysis".

Last year's crop of Journalism graduates have found some interesting posts since completing their degrees.

JULIE MEW is a reporter in the Regional News Office of SABC in Port Elizabeth.

JILLIAN MEARS and HEATHER DOUGLAS are also SABC reporters, based in Johannesburg.

WAYNE ASHER is a reporter on the Weekend Post in Port Elizabeth.

TERRY GIBSON is with the E P Herald in Port Elizabeth and CATHY SCHNELL is a reporter on the Cape Times.

STEVEN LINDE is doing Sociology Hons at the University of Natal, Durban as a full-time student.

GILLIAN MCCAINSH (1982) is working in Port Elizabeth for the Evening Post.

MARGY McALLISTER is handling publicity pamphlets for SANTA in Johannesburg.

LIZ BLAKEWAY is married to JEREMY THOMAS. He is a feature writer for Fair Lady in Cape Town and Liz is soon to produce a baby.

MARK EVANS is a newsroom reporter on the Pretoria News.

MICHELLE DISSEL has joined an advertising agency in Johannesburg.

TEMBEKA MKOBO is also in advertising.

BERT VAN OORTMEERSON is in Holland.

KERRY SPENCE is subbing for a firm specializing in industrial magazines.

A number of the 1981 class have stayed on at Rhodes doing Hons degrees, including ROB PURDY, SHIRLEY TRAUTMAN, ICARUS BOHLER, KEN VERNON, ROB FROST, NORMAN SMIT and WILLIAM RANDALL.

Obituaries

The Old Rhodian Union would like to extend its sympathy to MRS J E BARRATT-HAMILTON (née VEITCH 1963) and her husband on the tragic death of one of their beautiful twin daughters in a car accident near Grahamstown recently.

MRS M CAWOOD (née Burton) (1938).

ANTON COLLINS (1960) died recently in Grahamstown where he was a lecturer at Rhodes in social work. He leaves a wife and three children.

DR W H ('Don') CRAIB (D Sc honoris causa (1978)), former professor of Medicine at Wits. A pioneer in the field of electrocardiography, he received international recognition and many awards for his work.

PROFESSOR CLIFFORD P DENT (1921), former principal of Fort Hare.

ALFRED EWAN, who lectured in art at Rhodes from 1953 to 1964 died in Grahamstown at the end of last year.

BERNARD HUMPHREY FARRER (1927) died in April. He was Associate Professor of Classics at the University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg for many years.

MRS CRYSTAL HOLLAND (née Stone) (1936) died in Steynsburg recently. Mrs Holland was a member of the distinguished Stone family who settled in the Eastern Cape before the arrival of the 1820 settlers.

"JACKO" HUGGITT (1928). Jacko taught at St John's for many years and was best known for his excellent productions of Gilbert and Sullivan.

MRS DOLLY IRVING, who was the widow of Professor J Irving, Professor of Sociology from 1948 to 1969.

W E KIDGER (1930), principal of Penzance School in Durban since 1970 died in March.

THE HON MR JUSTICE NEWHAM ('Wally'). A member of the Zimbabwe High Court, he died in January this year. He was married to OR Thea Dawson (1937).

DEREK ROYDEN PIKE (1949), assistant director of the Geological Survey. His widow, Mrs E A Pike (née WEBB 1952) is also an Old Rhodian.

MARIETTE REDELINGHUYS (1982) died in a car accident in Johannesburg early in June. Mariette had been working as a financial journalist on the staff of Die Transvaler for four months.

HARLAND TAYLOR (1950), a former lecturer in the Economic History department at Rhodes.

MR JOHNSON TYELBOOI, who had worked in the Rhodes Mailroom for over ten years, died in a car accident with one of his four-year old twin daughters. The funerals were held on 15 May. Rhodes staff and students alike will miss his helpful and cheerful presence.

MRS SAM WHITELEY (née BALMFORTH) who lectured in English at Rhodes from 1934 to 1938.



Mrs Johnson Tyelbooi (centre) was photographed with her twin daughters and two of the Sisters at the Makanaskop clinic, three years ago. Mrs Tyelbooi lost her husband and one of the twins in a car accident in May.



Student Affairs

Student numbers for 1981 stood at 2 986, an increase of three per cent over 1980. The general swing towards more professional qualifications continued, with approximately 60 per cent of our student body registering for such degrees.

Another interesting trend which we are experiencing is an increase in student numbers from the Transvaal, with a levelling off of those from our own natural "hinterland", the Eastern Cape.

Our students have continued to show a spirit of individual enterprise, something of which we are very proud. Rhodes's own radio station, Rhodes Music Radio, got under way early in the year. Although at present it reaches only the Student Union building, it is hoped to extend it to residences next year. Four new student publications were started this year: *SR Scene*, a Students' Representative Council publication; *Rehearsal*, put out by the Rhodes University Theatre; *Focus*, a newspaper for students holding viewpoints not expressed by other campus newspapers, and *Rhodes Sport*, edited by a group of students with the backing of the Sports Union. These are in addition to the student newspapers *Rhodeo* and *Oppidan*. Moves are afoot too to revive *Rhodian*, the annual student magazine which has been defunct for several years. Another example of student initiative was a very official-looking letter circulated to all departments declaring the day of the Royal Wedding a university holiday!

Sports Union

During the course of the year the Sports Union catered for 30 affiliated sports clubs providing for both the competitive and recreational needs of Rhodes students.

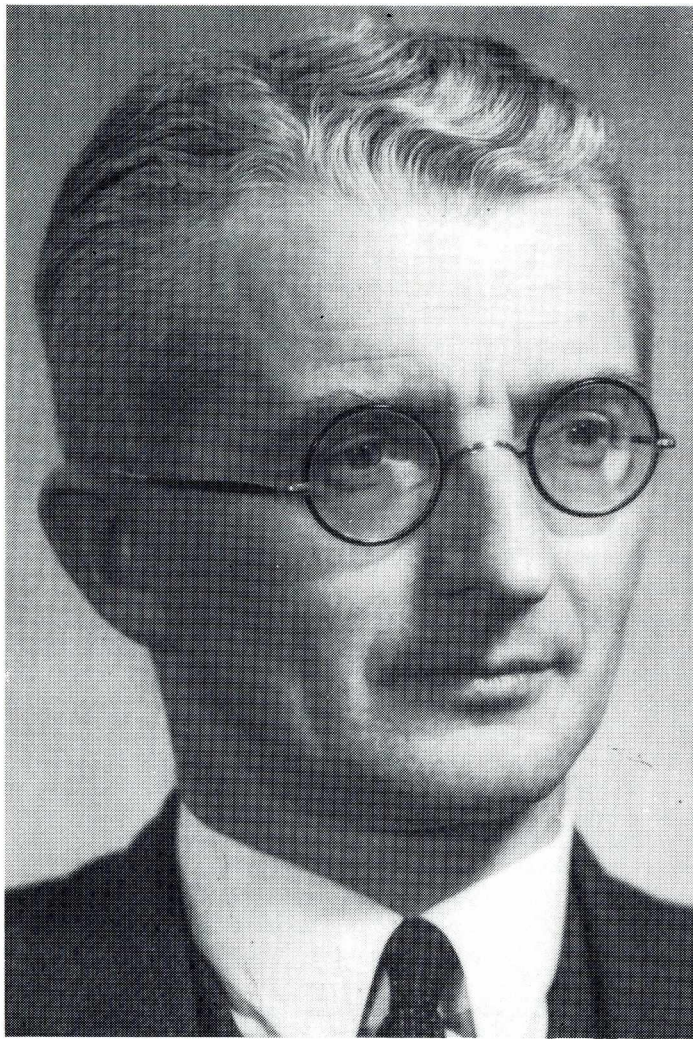
Sixteen Rhodians were chosen for South African University teams and 23 played for their province. A Rhodes student captained the South African Soccer XI, another was selected for the Junior Springbok small-bore rifle team, and one student played for the Rest of South Africa Hockey XI.

Owing to our relative geographical isolation, and the residential system, interhouse and interhall competitions continued to play a vital role in the overall campus sports programme. A statistical evaluation carried out during the year showed that 88,7 per cent of all Rhodes students participate in some form of regular physical sport, whether on a competitive or social basis. During the July vacation the University hosted two South African Universities Winter Tournaments — Basketball and Squash. Both proved to be great successes, thanks to the respective club committees who collaborated with the Sports Union in the organization of the tournaments.

The annual Intervarsity versus the University of Port Elizabeth took place this year in Port Elizabeth. Despite adverse weather conditions, both universities fully enjoyed the two-day event, and although Rhodes was the vanquished rather than the victor, our students gave of their best and were certainly not disgraced.

Extract from 1981 Annual Report

Illustration by Mike Soutar



A tribute to Dr Thomas Alt delivered by the Honourable Mr Justice Cloete, President of the Old Rhodian Union and former Chairman of the Rhodes University Council, at a Memorial Service held in the Rhodes University Chapel of St Mary and All the Angels on 27 May 1982.

Thomas Alt was born on the 30th September 1899 in Rufford, Lancashire. He was educated at Ormskirk School and then served in the Army until the end of the First World War. He went up to the University of Liverpool where after a distinguished career he graduated Doctor of Science. At Liverpool he was the Oliver Lodge Prizeman and Fellow in Physics. At Cambridge he worked in the Cavendish Laboratory under Sir Joseph Thomson and Sir Ernest Rutherford where he gained the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. After a brief period lecturing in Physics at Durham University he was appointed Professor of Physics at the University of Saskatchewan, Canada, where he became in due course Senior Professor and Research Professor of Physics.

Ten years later, he returned to Britain as Research Physicist for Imperial Chemical Industries, where he did pioneer work in the field of Geophysics. In 1935 he was elected to the Cargill Chair of Applied Physics at the University of Glasgow, which became the Cargill Chair of Natural Philosophy in 1945, with Dr Alt as its first occupant. This period encompassed the war years when he and his colleagues worked with the Allied Powers in solving some of the myriad scientific problems facing them. Dr Alt was a member of the team that found the answer to the Nazi magnetic mine which substantially reduced the tonnage of shipping lost by the Allies.

In 1948, after more than twenty-five years in the fields of academic teaching and research, he left the position he then held as Deputy-Principal of Glasgow University to become the Master of the Rhodes University College.

Before his arrival he had known about troubles within the University which had continued for five years and had eventually escalated into litigation. These troubles had caused divisions between members of the College and the spirit of Rhodes had suffered greatly. Dr Alt decided to stay, to cope with the situation and, hopefully, to redress it — but only on condition that he was allowed a free hand to make any decisions called for in an emergency, and that those decisions would automatically be confirmed by the Council. The Council agreed and Dr Alt embarked on the

task with his remarkable and uncanny ability for making the right decisions.

He himself launched and directed the first fund raising campaign, assisted by friends of the College. This was a spectacular success and enabled the College to attain independence under the Universities Act in 1951. On 10 March of that year Rhodes University was inaugurated, and Dr Alt became the first Principal and Vice-Chancellor.

It was a proud day for Thomas Alt. It is no exaggeration to say that but for his leadership, courage and drive in probably the most critical time of its history the fate of Rhodes may well have been disastrously different. May Rhodes University never forget him for that.

The new University having been founded, the exciting challenge of establishing a sound and honourable academic institution lay ahead. It was during the post-foundation years — the years when standards had to be set for scholarship, in teaching, learning and research — that Dr Alt's wise guidance founded in his own academic excellence was particularly valuable. In those formative years he refused to compromise on academic standards and values. The result was that within a decade after his arrival at Rhodes this new university acquired a high reputation for sound scholarship. The academic records over these years testify amply to this fact.

Under his guidance and direction Rhodes became a university of quality with an international reputation. During this time the qualities of Dr Alt's academic probity, his ability as an administrator and his qualities of leadership singled him out for election as Chairman for two terms of office of the Association of Universities of the British Commonwealth in the years 1959 and 1960. At that time Rhodes was probably the smallest university in South Africa and probably in the whole British Commonwealth. The signal honour which fell upon Dr Alt's shoulders when this body met at Rhodes in 1959 under his Chairmanship demonstrates the high esteem in which he was held by his academic peers.

It was at about this time that a distinguished British Judge, Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, after a visit to Grahamstown wrote to a correspondent that he would always remember Grahamstown "for its jewel of a university".

Dr Alty was justifiably proud of the role he played in securing the affiliation of the University College of Fort Hare to Rhodes University, which had been proposed by the Brookes Commission as far back as 1947. It was Dr Alty, acting upon a mandate from the Senate and Council, who persuaded the Parliamentary Select Committee which dealt with the appropriate legislation that this affiliation would be in the best interests of both institutions. The situation worked well with Dr Alty as Chairman of Fort Hare Council controlling the arrangement with tact, understanding and firmness.

The Government-announced disaffiliation in 1957 came as a great shock to Dr Alty, as it was announced without any prior consultation with those concerned.

When the legislation was passed Dr Alty invited the members of the University to follow him in silent procession from the main building down High Street and back in solemn protest. This was a strong indication of the wrong he felt had been done, for he was not given to histrionics or to demonstrations.

After a careful assessment, at the invitation of the City Council of Port Elizabeth, of the viability of opening a branch of the University in Port Elizabeth, a branch was opened in 1961. However, within a couple of years it was announced that a new Government-sponsored university was to be established in Port Elizabeth, and the fledgling Rhodes branch decided to close down.

It was about this time that Dr Alty arrived in my chambers one morning and told me about the overtures which had been made to him by the University of Birmingham to direct its contemplated expansion programme. Carefully and objectively he analyzed the arguments for and against taking up the offer. I could detect a slight indication that he would do so. But he left the position unresolved until, after a slight pause he said to me with a twinkle in his eye:

"At breakfast yesterday Stella said to me that it would be nice to experience a British summer again."

I then knew what his decision was. He communicated it to the Council in June 1962. In March 1963 he took his leave of the University after a series of farewell functions. One which touched him and Mrs Alty most was arranged by the black staff of the University in the Great Hall where amidst great emotion presentations were made to them. Towards the end of March 1963 they drove past the main building for the last time. The whole University, academic and administrative staff, students and all other staff turned out to bid them farewell. It was an emotional occasion, for it was impossible to imagine Rhodes University without Thomas Alty. He returned in 1964 to receive the Honorary Doctorate which a grateful University bestowed upon him.

What were the qualities of mind and of character, the special gifts and talents which he employed with such spectacular success? Perhaps his most essential quality was wisdom — wisdom which according to *Goethe*, is only found in the truth. His strength lay in large measure in his rigid acceptance of only the truth in every situation. He said on many occasions that the University should be engaged in the search for the truth, the whole and nothing but the truth. This was his basic philosophy.

I quote from a graduation address which he delivered in 1962:

"We must be satisfied that what we teach is the exact truth as we know it; that in all research, personal wishes and prejudices are suppressed and that only what appears to our objective judgment to be true is retained".

He emphasized that it was the duty of the University to keep the pursuit of truth firmly before the eye of the student, to introduce him to all the facts and all the views bearing on his particular problems. Then he continued:

"It is equally the duty of the University to do this work in a completely objective manner, to ensure that what is being imparted is knowledge and not indoctrination. For this reason it is obviously impossible for a university, as an institution, to have any party political affiliations."

He also had the quality of humility which comes, sometimes, with brilliant intellect and academic distinction. He was always utterly sincere, and therefore intolerant of false pretence, pomposity and humbug. He was basically a shy man, which often made him appear aloof and he assumed sometimes a mask of severity. But underneath he was compassionate, understanding and had a ready sense of humour which always floated to the top at the right time.

He delighted in telling stories against himself — as was the case of the frogs in the fish pond in the old Vice-Chancellor's Lodge that kept him and Mrs Alty awake with their croaking. Early one morning he and Mrs Alty, armed with bucket, torch and scoop, gathered the frogs into the bucket and drove to the Cradock dam where they were given a new home. For three nights the Altys had undisturbed sleep. On the fourth night they went to bed late and no sooner had the light been switched off than they heard a toad croaking from the pond. He and Mrs Alty both burst out laughing. He then added: "This proves that you can't win them all."

Another story concerned four men students whom he summarily fined £5 each for placing a flower-bedecked potty on top of the University tower. The Registrar was instructed to have it removed immediately but no contractor could be found to tender for the work.

It was then that the four students awaited his arrival at his office one morning and sheepishly told Dr Alty that they wished to tender for the job. Their tender price was £20. He immediately rose to the occasion and accepted their tender. A clear illustration of the principle of *culpa compensatio*!

Add to these qualities I have mentioned, the great powers of a disciplined mind, his ability to think fairly and objectively and to think ahead. He had a highly developed instinct for sensing what was false and unsound and the ability to be decisive and to cast aside the irrelevant in the solution of a problem.

These and other talents go to make up the Alty wisdom which he employed in guiding the destiny of Rhodes for nearly fifteen years. Never once did he deviate from the path which led to the best interests of Rhodes.

He has been honoured by others — the University of Durham conferred the degree of Doctor of Civil Law *honoris causa*, and the Universities of Glasgow and Toronto the degrees of Doctor of Laws *honoris causa* upon him. He is the only Vice-Chancellor of a South African university who has been Chairman of the Association of Universities of the British Commonwealth (as it used to be called) and that for two successive terms. While this was a personal distinction the prestige of the University was vicariously enhanced.

He was appointed a member of the du Toit Commission, a Commission of Enquiry into the Co-ordination of Medical Research. He was a member of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research and of the National Council for Social Research. He was a member of the Nuffield Institute of South Africa. In the last year of his Principalship he was invited by the Prime Minister to be a member of his scientific advisory council. He was also a Fellow of the Institute of Physics, Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and a past President of the Royal Philosophical Society.

Any tribute to Dr Alty would be incomplete without mention of his wife, Dr Stella Alty, who predeceased him in 1979. They were married in 1925 and she was his complete complement and loyal companion throughout their married lives. They were devoted to each other.

She was a woman of academic achievement in her own right and employed her talents also in the fulfilment of her duties as the hostess of the University with charm and courtesy.

She was active in the wider community in many spheres, notably in the National Council of Women of which she was one of the two national vice-presidents when the organization's headquarters were in Grahamstown, and whose Grahamstown Branch was influential and gained distinction in the wider national sphere at that time.

I last saw Dr Alty in October 1979, when my wife and I spent the most part of a day with him. He was eager for news of Rhodes University and he sparkled when he spoke of Rhodes. When he said goodbye to us his last remark was:

"Give my love to Rhodes."