



Exhibitions meet with positive response

Travelling exhibitions mounted by the National English Literary Museum (NELM) are going a long way towards heightening public awareness of South African English literature.

Three recent exhibitions, on subjects as diverse as Olive Schreiner - author of *Story of an African Farm*, Black poets, and children's literature, have met with an overwhelmingly positive response and more exhibitions are being planned.

The Olive Schreiner exhibition, which was originally mounted for the National Arts Festival by Mr Jeremy Fogg, recently returned from Johannesburg where it was mounted at Roodepan School. Titled *A Certain Knowledge of Land*, the exhibition focussed on Schreiner's reaction to places in South Africa and the influence that they had on her writing.

"The exhibition was an enormous success. Lectures and slides were presented to standard nine pupils of JMB schools who will be studying *Story of an African Farm* for matric next year. The slides, taken by NELM artist Basil Mills showing different routes up Bufelskop to Schreiner's sarcophagus, where Schreiner, her husband Cron Cronwright, her baby and pet dog are buried, went down particularly well. An estimated 1 400 people, including the public, came to see the exhibition and we expect to take it back to Johannesburg for the schools that missed it," said Mr Fogg.

Another exhibition titled *Black Poetry: A Living Art*, was recently on show at the Market Theatre in Johannesburg. It was co-ordinated by NELM Education Officer, Charles Wessels, and comprised selected photographs and poems of some of South Africa's most prominent Black poets, including Can Themba, Dennis Brutus, Sipho Sepamla, Wally Serote, Baleka Kgotsile and Sankie Nkondo.

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A man dashes across Rhodes' main quadrangle for cover during a surprise hail storm which hit Grahamstown earlier this month. The hail caused slight damage on nearby farms, although the city came through unscathed.

Chopi musicians delight European audiences

by Gillian Redmond

Andrew Tracey, Director of the Rhodes International Library of African Music (ILAM), recently realised a lifelong ambition when he took a group of 27 Chopi musicians and dancers on a concert tour to five European countries.

During the five weeks that the group of Mozambican miners from the Wildebeesfontein mine in Bophuthatswana were in Europe, they performed 23 times in Portugal, Germany, Belgium, Holland, and France.

Tracey's dream of introducing the Chopi people and their magnificent xylophone orchestras and dances further afield than the world of southern Mozambique and the Transvaal mines became possible with an invitation to participate in the Paris Autumn Festival.

Further invitations were received from the Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon, the Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin and the Gele Zaal, Gent, Belgium.

While in Europe, Mr Tracey was interviewed in three languages by press, TV and radio, and three of the performances were recorded for

broadcast and eventual CD production. Interest was also expressed in another tour to the USA in 1994.

Mr Tracey, who has been associated with the Chopis since the forties when his father, Hugh Tracey, published records of their music, said that the aim of the tour was to spread knowledge about "one of the most splendid of African traditions" and to draw attention to the terrible conditions in present day Mozambique.

"Although everywhere it was said that Africa is no longer in the public eye these days, the reception was largely excellent," said Mr Tracey.

"This was especially the case in Holland, Belgium and Germany, where interest in world cultures is very apparent. Portugal was the first stop of the tour, where members of the group could speak the language, and we came across many Mozambicans, both black and white. In France, where we spent the last two weeks of the tour in Paris (we played in a theatre right on the chic Champs Elysees), the reception was polite, until the end of the show, by which time the Chopis had invariably thawed through their reserve!"

Mr Tracey said the tour highlighted differences between first and third world cultures. This was particularly evident in the difficulties they had in warming up before shows.

"Before each concert the group congregates together to warm their drums over a small fire and develop a spirit for the show. However, in Europe it is against the law to make fires and many of the venues had no place where the musicians could gather together. They usually had to make do with small heaters and lights which don't quite have the same effect."

Most of the costs of the tour were sponsored by the Paris Autumn Festival and the Gulbenkian Foundation as well as the employers of the group, Impala Platinum Ltd. The main costs were covered by performance fees earned.

"Our only major problem was with the crates, which delivered the instruments to Lisbon several times damaged. We were just able to get our first show in time after spending two days restoring the instruments," said Mr Tracey.



RUSA News

by Robin Palmer

As this is the last RUSA News of the year the Chairperson and Executive Committee of RUSA would like to take the opportunity to wish all members a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. We must also advise you of the latest developments in RUSA.

Car Scheme

Please note that the Car Scheme will be taking a break from December 9 to January 20, so no applications during this period, please! To make the Car Scheme even more efficient in 1993, Mrs Kathy Lilley of Grounds and Gardens has been appointed part-time administrator of the Scheme. Having worked for Wesbank, she is experienced in vehicle finance, and she is also fluent in Xhosa. Phone her at extension 240/241 for an appointment if you need advice in making your application. Forms are obtainable from Kathy as well as John McNeill (BIS) and George Wells (Computer Science), who are also available for advice.

Home Improvement Scheme

It has come to our notice (via Neil Smuts who administers the Scheme) that some applicants mistakenly believe that the ceiling on each loan is R2 000. In fact, this is simply the maximum. The rule is that you may borrow not more than two months salary or R2 000,

whichever is the lesser amount. Some prospective applicants are under the impression that they can buy entire houses under the Scheme. It has to be stressed that the Scheme is not funded for anything more than minor improvements to existing homes.

Membership

The rash of new applications for the Car Scheme and the new Home Improvement Scheme has led to an increase in RUSA membership. But, new members, please note that you have to belong to RUSA for at least the duration of your financial obligation to either scheme.

Work in progress

There is a host of other RUSA and UDUSA activities which could be reported on if they had reached any sort of finality or if there was space in this packed last *Rhodos* of 1992. We have not reported back on the last Liaison Meeting, discussed the tricky subjects of rationalization, sexual harassment or a Recognition Agreement between RUSA and the University. Nor have we reported on recent developments at the national level, in UDUSA. But these, together with a major teach-in on the subject of Affirmative Action, will all be covered in this column in the first few issues of *Rhodos* in 1993.

ORU '150' Club - don't miss the first draw!

Membership of the Old Rhodian '150' Club stands at nearly 130. The first draw will be at the Vice-Chancellor's annual end of year party for staff, both past and present, to be held at the Hugh Chapman Memorial Dining Hall (Kimberley Hall) on Friday, December 4, 1992.

The first person to have signed up for membership, Mrs Robyn Rowlands, wife of Accounting Professor, Jeff Rowlands, will draw the first R500 prized out of the hat. To make it a "bumper/humper" occasion two bottles of the finest whiskey will also be won by members present at the draw.

The next draw will be a "double draw" for the months of January and February combined, to be held in

the senior common room at 6.00pm on Friday, February 12.

These are the local members' numbers for the first draw:

Mrs M C Allen (10); Professor E E Baart (100); Miss E F Barker (42); Ms M Beard (81); Mr M G E Beauvais (121); Professor A B Bosch (97); Professor M E Brown (3); Mr R H J Buckland (69); Mrs P K Callaghan (9); The Rev. Nancy Charton (57); Professor V A de Klerk (19); Mr A J Ebdon (37); Ms M S Ehlers (41); Professor D J Eve (104); Dr E E A Gledhill (98); Mr M C V Ginn (101); Mr B A Glover (24); Mr J M Goodwin (72); Mr P J D Goodwin (68); Mr R Haggard (6); Mr G P Hayman (17); Dr D S Henderson (12); Mrs T M Henderson (13); Professor

H C Hummel (22); Mr P A Kilpatrick (46); Professor R Kirby (20); Mr C A Lanham (4); Mr P N Longhurst (85); Professor R A Lubke (7); Mrs A W MacDonald (109); Mr L G E Marechal (80); Mr V R Meager (87); Professor J R Midgley (5); Mrs R Mullins (15); Mr J N Papenfus (18); Mrs J Perkins (8); Mrs S E Radloff (14); Professor J E Rowlands (1); Mrs P M Silva (105); Dr M A H Smout (16); Professor G E Staude (99); Professor P G Surtees (2); Professor D P Terry (77); Professor Roux van der Merwe (38); Mrs M van Hille (23) and Mrs W D West (11).

- Chris Hummel, ORU President

RSCM Summer School

The Royal School of Church Music (RSCM), an international association which promotes excellence in church music, will be coming to the City of Saints just after Christmas this year.

Every year the RSCM holds a Summer School in South Africa, with venues rotating between Cape Town, Pietermaritzburg, Johannesburg and Grahamstown. One of the United Kingdom's leading choirmasters is brought out as guest Director of the course. This year the venue is Grahamstown and David Hill from Winchester Cathedral is the Director.

The RSCM Summer School is attended by highly trained organists and semi-professional singers, as well as ordinary members of church and cathedral choirs and individual members of the RSCM who live in places where there is no church choir. The school is open to everyone regardless of level of experience, age, race, sex or background.

David Hill will mould the individuals and groups attending the school into a choir by teaching them the special skills that make 120 disparate voices into a single instrument, sensitive and responsive to his hands.

The Summer School will take place from December 27 to January 4 at the Diocesan School for Girls (DSG). From Monday 28 to Saturday 2, the choir will be singing at daily evening services in the Cathedral, starting at 5pm. On Sunday, January 3, they will be singing Mozart's *Missa Brevis* in D at a Eucharist at 9.30am, and their final service will be the same evening at 7pm. Members of the public are warmly invited to attend any of these services.



Andrew Tracey, the director of Rhodes' International Library of African Music (ILAM) recently took this group of 27 Chopi musicians and dancers on a concert tour to five European countries. They are seen on stage after a show at the Théâtre du Rond-Point, Paris, on October 7.

NELM plans more exhibitions

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Mr Wessels said that the exhibition attracted a lot of attention and the Congress of South African Writers (COSAW) has asked to have it on loan to mount at COSAW activities throughout the country.

An exhibition on children's literature called *Myth and Magic: A Literary Tour of the Eastern Cape* was recently in Cape Town for the Second National Children's Literature Symposium which coincided with the *Weekly Mail* Book Week. After a fortnight at the Grahamstown Public Library, it has now been mounted in Cradock.

"Through the exhibition, which includes stuffed animals as well as illustrations by Basil Mills, we tried to show how African myths and legends are manifested in literature for children written by authors from or on the Eastern Cape," explained exhibition co-ordinator Peter Midgley.

"The exhibition focussed on four authors - Marguerite Poland, Carolyn Parker, Gcina Mhlope and Beryl Bowie - who use African mythology in their writings," said Mr Midgley.

A new NELM exhibition on Sir Percy Fitzpatrick, author of *Jock of the Bushveld*, is in preparation and will be mounted in Skukuza as well as at Addo and the Percy Fitzpatrick Library at Hermitage.

Mr Malcolm Hacksley, Director of NELM, said that the aim of the exhibitions was to heighten awareness of South African English literature and make it available and accessible to anyone who wants to read.

"In a country that is struggling to find a new and shared identity, the English language and its literature are able to serve a unifying function - not only politically as a communication tool, but also, and perhaps more importantly, culturally as writers share their insights and perceptions, joys and pain, with anyone who will read," said Mr Hacksley.

Letters

✉ The Editor

In your most recent edition, Professor Stones takes issue with his colleagues in linguistics and education for suggesting a contrived model to foster family bilingualism. It is important to remember that bilingualism is a problematic term, because there are degrees of bilingualism on a continuum, and only the fortunate few will, I suggest, manage to marry a partner who is as perfectly bilingual as they are, which seems to have been the case in the somewhat exceptional family described by Professor Stones; in many, if not most "mixed-language" marriages, each parent is an expert only in his or her own language, but *not necessarily* even fluent in the language of the other: love apparently does not respect linguistic barriers!

Unquestionably, an **imbalance** between spouses in mutual linguistic ability is the rule, rather than the exception, in linguistically mixed marriages and the environment will also play a role: a Sotho woman who marries a Xhosa man (or vice versa) and lives in Rini is likely to find herself tending towards increased use of Xhosa, thereby solving for her children all the identity conflict Professor Stones refers to in his letter; but what of *her* identity, and the cultural heritage that comes with Sotho? She surely wants her children to learn about those. It is in circumstances such as these that the one-person one-language method of promoting successful bilingualism has a proven record of success, contrived though it may well be.

While I am amazed at the linguistic versatility of the family described by Professor Stones, who switch languages in mid-sentence and apparently mid-word (if "Afrik-

lish" is anything to go by), I would suggest that such a method will not work unless both parents are already fluent bilingual speakers; and of course, because English and Afrikaans are both Germanic languages, with common linguistic roots, their similarity to each other facilitates constant code-switching, but try doing it with English and Xhosa, or Gujarati and Afrikaans.

I would therefore caution most parents against using such an approach. Not all children are prodigies, and most would find such linguistic confusion a serious disadvantage during those crucially important years of language acquisition. While such children may well emerge feeling very sure of who they are (Englikaans or Xhoshish people of course), existing research strongly indicates that such linguistic mayhem, democratic though it may be, will initially delay language acquisition, as the child has to separate the two highly complex systems s/he is trying to master; literature on family bilingualism advocates some sort of system: it may be linked to place, time, topic or speaker, but a system helps the child, so why mix languages indiscriminately and make it more difficult?

Professor Vivian de Klerk
Department of Linguistics and
English Language

✉ The Editor

I didn't read the reports to which he was responding, but I do want to say how much I enjoyed, and agree with, the comments made by Prof Stones on the development of bilinguality in children (*Rhodos*, November 12). It seems to me that

his arguments show both professional acumen and solid, feet-on-the-ground common sense.

On a lighter note, I am reminded of one half of a telephone conversation I overheard in my office in 1971. The speaker was my good friend and colleague Natie Finkelstein. After a prolonged torrent of suiwer and impressively articulated Afrikaans, Natie delivered himself unhesitatingly of the following: "...nee, ek dink dit sal bleddie educational wees ...".

I have had several opportunities since then to enjoy Dr Finkelstein's total fluency in both languages. I have even heard him, in courtesy to a mixed audience, swop from one taal to the other in mid sentence, while preserving, as far as I could detect, a beautiful grammatical integrity.

It also seems to me, in no more than a vaguely intuitive way, that so close a functional juxtaposition of two languages might require a smaller commitment of cerebral circuitry than would the management of the same languages if kept more fully independent. Perhaps this depends on the type and degree of intrinsic similarity between the languages concerned. (And, indeed, on the sophistication of the individual hard drive - a qualifier that will excite watchful egalitarians.)

Happily, the suggestion appears entirely untestable, but to the extent that it may have some basis in reality it presumably is consistent with the broad trend of Prof Stones's argument.

Sirion Robertson
School of Pharmaceutical
Sciences.

Nearly R1 million from two organisations

Students at Rhodes University have received substantial assistance from two major funding organisations this year.

The Kagiso Trust Bursary Programme, funded by the Commission of the European Communities (CEC), has made available an amount of R368 805 to Rhodes students this year.

The programme assists very needy students from disadvantaged backgrounds to benefit from higher education within South Africa.

The main objective of the programme is to contribute to strengthening the human resources capacity of South Africa so that the country can more effectively meet the challenges of social and economic development.

omic development.

Bursary assistance to Rhodes University students from the Kellogg Foundation which began in 1987, this year amounted to R525 974,59, including R69 180 for the Academic Skills Programme.

The Foundation, established in 1930 by W K Kellogg, the man who pioneered the ready-to-eat cereal, is numbered among the largest philanthropic organisations in the world.

As a private grant-making foundation, it provides seed money to organisations and institutions that have identified and analysed problems and have designed constructive action programs aimed at practical solutions.

Rhodes Staff Golf

Golfers on the staff at Rhodes have recently been involved in two competitions - the staff golf championships and the inter-division teams of four competition.

The staff golf championships were held on Saturday, November 7, in three divisions. The winner of the Doug Rivett Trophy for the overall champion, and winner of the A Division was Harry Birrell on 78 (gross). The runner-up, and winner of the B Division was Malcolm Sainsbury on 80 (gross).

The scores in divisions were:

A Division (Handicaps to 9)

1. Harry Birrell 71 (78 - 7)
2. Hugh Eales 74 (82 - 8)

B Division (Handicaps 10 to 18)

1. Malcolm Sainsbury 67 (80 - 13)
2. Peter Andrew 71 (84 - 13) on a count-out

C Division

1. Bill Fowler 70 (90 - 20)
2. Neil Papenfus 74 (94 - 20)

On Sunday, November 15, staff golfers teamed up for the inter-division competition for the Henderson Cup, and the Golf Club's Occupational Teams of Four competition.

Four teams participated - Academic, Administration, Associates and Miscellaneous! Although none of the Rhodes teams were in the top three of the Golf Club's competition, the top position in the Henderson Cup competition was closely contested with Miscellaneous (104 points) edging out Administration (103 points) by one point.

The overall winners were another miscellaneous team known as the Ringers with a score of 109 points.

The Rhodes Miscellaneous team included Phil Collett, Robin Cross, Terence Perkins and Bruce Smith.

The Administration team was Pete Andrew, Dr Derek Henderson, Neil Papenfus and Les Reynolds.

Are you paying the right SITE?

There has been much speculation in the media regarding possible overpayment of SITE by employees at various institutions and companies.

This should not be the case at Rhodes, because last year the Finance Division asked all service staff to complete IRP2 forms, so that SITE could be correctly calculated. The Division hopes to repeat this exercise soon.

"Any members of staff whose circumstances have changed, or who are unsure of their tax status, should ask Mrs Gornall, of the Finance Division, for IRP2 forms, complete them and return them to her," said Mr Tony Long, Registrar (Finance).

Blue's back - thank you

Adrienne Whisson of the Social Work Department would like to thank all Rhodes staff who looked out for her lost collie puppy, Blue, who is now back home.

Blue had got lost on campus on August 31 and was found the same evening by Dr Shippin and his family. By the next evening Blue was back home with Mrs Whisson.

Although Mrs Whisson put an ad in *Grocott's Mail* saying that Blue had been found and thanking everyone for looking, some staff on campus were apparently not aware of this.

"I formally want to thank all Rhodes staff who were on the lookout for me. It was greatly appreciated. Blue now, by the way, is called Bess!" said Mrs Whisson.

Appointments

Applications are invited for this post from June 1, 1993:

Director, Public Relations and Development Division

The successful candidate, who will have overall responsibility for projecting the University's image in the broadest possible sense, should be an experienced public relations practitioner with fundraising expertise and the ability to liaise with donors and officials at the highest level.

Application forms and further information may be obtained from Mr P D Phillips, Personnel Division, ext 116.

Closing date: November 30, 1992.

Applications are invited for this temporary six-month appointment:

Teaching Assistant in the Department of Botany in 1993.

For further information contact the Head of Department (phone ext 592).

Closing date: November 30, 1992.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates, irrespective of race, gender or creed, for the following post from January 1, 1993:

Part-time Clerical Assistant In The University Library

Candidates should be competent typists with general office experience.

Application forms, salary particulars and further information may be obtained from Miss D A Inge, Personnel Division, ext 115/117.

Closing date: November 25, 1992.

Final Issue

This is the final issue of *Rhodos* for 1992. The copy deadline for the first issue next year is January 25. It will appear on February 1, and will list copy and deadline dates for 1993.

Many thanks to our contributors and readers for your support this year. May you and your families enjoy a peaceful Christmas and a happy New Year.

The Rhodos team

SMALLS

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Block ads: R2,00 per col cm, double for back and front pages. Classifieds: R0,10 per word. Advertising is run on a strictly cash basis. Please take your copy to the Public Relations Division.

FOR SALE

LIONS CHRISTMAS CAKES

1kg cakes filled with fruit are now available at R15 from: Denis Hughes (ext 334), Ros Dowse (ext 399) or Luc Marechal (ext 240/241).

LOST

A HAND-HELD portable radio. Please contact M Hazell on ext 240/241 if you have any information.

WANTED

WANTED FOR HIRE - Laptop computer for period from 23 December to 10 January. Contact Kevin Kelly, ext 507 or 311415 (h).

WANTED KNOWN

CHARMING BED 'N BREAKFAST accommodation in Port Elizabeth. Reasonable rates. Telephone (041) 338115.

DOMESTIC - My maid needs an extra 1 - 2 days a week. Reliable, honest, thorough. Contact Graham Hayman, X336 or 23900 (h).

PROFESSIONAL TYPING of mini theses, papers etc. Telephone 29660/23073 (evenings).

RHODOS STAFF

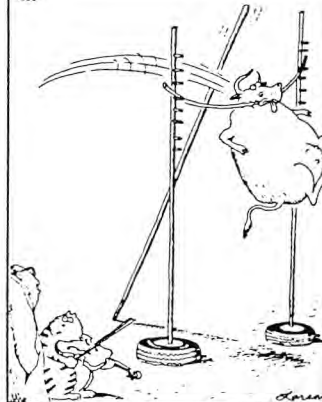
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Rhodos is produced twice a month by the Public Relations Division, Rhodes University, Grahamstown.

The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor, *Rhodos* Staff, or the University.

Contributions from any member of the Rhodes community would be welcomed.

1980



"We've still got a couple of years to go before we're ready for the moon."