



## Festival fever

With festival fever mounting in Grahamstown, Rhodes staff involved in catering for the influx of visitors to the town are quietly and efficiently getting on with the job of transforming the residences from "hostel" to "hotel" in one swift, crisp change of bed linen.

A tremendous amount of hard work is put in to making sure that visitors who are accommodated in the Rhodes residences during the Festival enjoy their stay on campus. This year, according to Jane Dalton, general manager of housekeeping and catering services, some 1 000 people, both children and adults, are expected to spend at least one night in one of the 16 residences made available for visitors.

Existing residence staff are given the opportunity to make extra money by working on a shift basis during the vacation, and if there are not enough regular staff members to cope with the extra workload, carefully selected casual labour is employed.

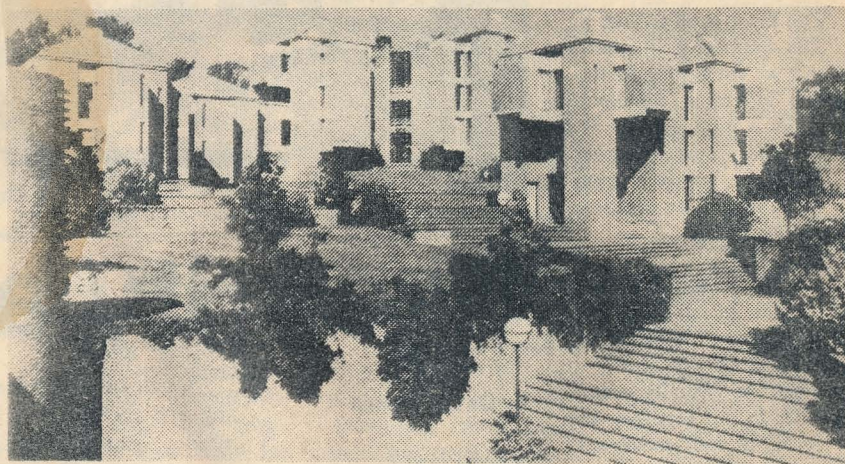
And there's plenty of work to be done. Keeping so many visitors well-fed and comfortable is no mean feat. Accommodation is provided on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis. Most of the guests don't have time for a sit-down meal at lunchtime and prefer to grab a snack en route from one festival attraction to the next.

Other facilities offered include early morning and late night tea and coffee on a self-service basis, hot and cold water in the basins in every room, and a daily bus service to and from the Monument for the duration of the Festival.

While there are no en suite bathrooms, separate ablution facilities are provided. There are no television sets in the rooms but visitors are welcome to make use of the common rooms to watch their favourite programmes - if they have the time in between shows.

Mike Oelschig, Dean of Wardens, told RHODOS that hosting Festival visitors required a great deal of tact and diplomacy by all concerned. Most visitors are a pleasure to deal with, but others tend to forget that Rhodes is not a five-star hotel and that the staff are not trained hoteliers. Wardening staff, who are on hand to help visitors with any queries they might have, do a splendid Public Relations job in coping with demands from the influx of strangers.

Mr Oelschig said that since Rhodes opened its residence system to members of the public in 1981, many visitors have returned year-after-year to the same residence, and firm friendships have developed between wardening staff of a particular residence and their guests.



*Cullen Bowles forms part of festival accommodation*

## Purchase your new car at fleet discount

RUSA in conjunction with UPE and CUTA, will shortly be able to offer significant savings to members.

### Car scheme

AT this stage RUSA is planning to introduce a motorcar scheme which allows the purchase of a new car through your local dealer at fleet discounts which vary between 7% and 15%, depending on the make.

You can choose to pay cash or choose either the 100% or the 50/50% finance scheme.

In the 100% scheme you lease the car for four years and take transfer after this time, the car having been registered in the name of Rhodes University; in the 50% scheme you only rent the car and pay off 50% of its value, having to pay the difference between the resale value and 50%; under certain circumstances you may even get some money back. Finance is being

### RUSA NEWS

made available at below Prime Overdraft Rates, at this stage of 1/4% below prime.

Certain members of staff in managerial positions will be able to receive tax benefits as specified by the income tax act.

UPE also have a cheaper group insurance scheme, which we hope to offer to staff.

We are also hoping to take part in other benefits being worked on by CUTA. These are Petrol Cards with Tax benefits and Group discounts on household goods and groceries. These benefits will only be available to RUSA members.

**Georg Gruber and Don Hendry represented Rhodes at the 10th Annual General Meeting of CUTA at the University of Pretoria in May. Their full report will appear in the next issue of Rhodos. See story above for details of the "car scheme" which they brought back with them.**

## Aids negotiations

by Rhodos Reporter

It is understood that negotiations between the University and the student body are in progress to bring about a fuller awareness and understanding of the AIDS problem.

The need to take realistic precautions is recognized by both negotiating parties and the form these precautions should take is currently under consideration.



## EDITORIAL

### A "soapbox" for your opinions!

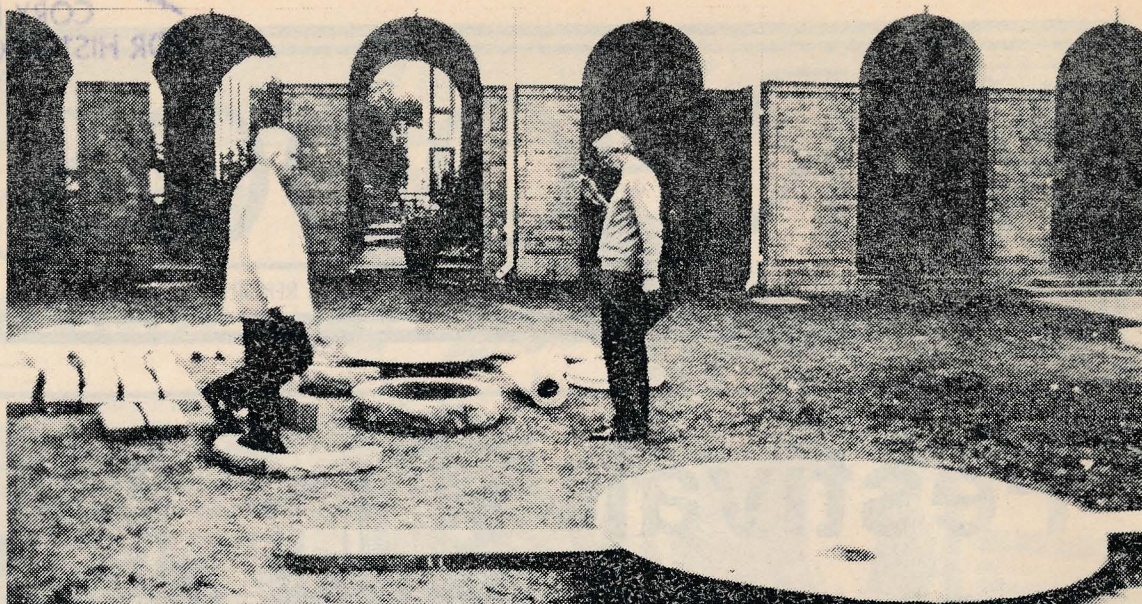
The letter in this issue by Zoe Supporter illustrates that we are willing to publish letters in RHODOS under a pseudonym. We are also prepared to guarantee the author's anonymity, should we decide to use the letter.

We welcome contributions of all kinds for publication. Without the support of the staff, it would be virtually impossible to put together any form of staff newspaper on a regular basis.

To date, your support has been tremendous, and we value your contributions. Please bear in mind, however, that like all publications, we have to abide by media restrictions in terms of the emergency regulations.

Please also remember that stories and letters from members of staff are accepted by us for publication in good faith. One of the aims of RHODOS is to provide a "soapbox" for the staff - an outlet for their opinions. While we are happy to print material under pseudonyms, we would far rather the writers were prepared to identify themselves. We feel that this would go a long way to finding lasting solutions to their grievances.

Space is always a problem we face when putting the newspaper together, and we sometimes have to leave things out. That doesn't mean we are not going to use it - it simply means we didn't have enough space to do so, and will hold it for a subsequent edition. If we consider that a letter or story is not suitable for publication, we'll let you know!



*Components of the Chapman memorial fountain*

# Security affects us all

by David Craven

## Security!

This overworked derivative from Latin may be seen by some readers on campus as a dirty word.

However one looks at it, Security impinges on the lives of all of us, whether in the home, the office, the work place, the legal and financial worlds.....

Campus Security, or as it is now known, Campus Protection, is a necessity of life to protect, within its limited means, the property of Rhodes and those who have their being on campus.

From time to time members of the Unit, by means of circulars, personal advice and in the columns of the forerunner to this newsletter, have endeavoured to instill security awareness amongst the inhabitants - perhaps with some success if read with the following. Until recently, statistics of campus crime appear not to have been recorded but some of the more recent comparisons of the more common offences on campus may be of interest taken from 1987 and 1988 figures.

Cases of housebreaking and theft (which includes non-residential premises e.g. offices and storerooms) reduced from 44 (1987) to 27 (1988).

Theft (where there was no evidence of breaking) reduced in the non-residential classification from 84 to 61 during the same periods. Residential thefts i.e. from houses on campus and from residences fell from 65 to 28.

Thefts of cycles were curtailed in 1988 to 4 compared with 9 in 1987 - the result of good work by guards apprehending several culprits caught in the act.

Thefts from motor cars dropped by 25%, from 20 to 15 and again the guards apprehended one small gang of three juveniles actually breaking into a car in broad daylight on a busy campus thoroughfare.

Whilst much of the crime is attributable to persons having no right to be on campus, a fair percentage can be laid at the door of persons employed by the university.

The CPU constantly keeps an eye open for trespassers who wander in - or who are invited by naive students - and steal, given the opportunity. Persons

found without authority are warned off the campus and should they return after being warned they are handed over to the Police for prosecution.

Thefts from departments are costly and there is little doubt that items such as videos, TV sets, music centres and computers which have been relatively well secured were removed by persons having access and the time to cut out chains, remove screws or bolts and spirit them away. Indications in most of these cases point only in one direction - inwards - an inside job as the popular crime writers have it.

Perhaps if we could persuade all members of

staff to report anything suspicious to the CPU - at the time of seeing it, not days later - we might reduce the incidence of unlawful removal of Rhodes' or an individual's property.

Many businesses in commerce and industry write into their employment contracts, a paragraph regarding the right of search of parcels and vehicles leaving their premises, and manage to reduce their losses considerably. After all, even though ours is an open campus, access to and from which is easy, only one type of person need fear the consequences of a search - the thief!

Food for thought.....?

## Sociology visitor

The Department of Sociology and Industrial Sociology welcomed Dr Adriaan van der Merwe to Rhodes over 23 to 24 May.

A new Industrial Relations Honours course has been introduced by the Department and Dr van der Merwe, who obtained his doctorate from the University of Stellenbosch and is currently working for the Anglo

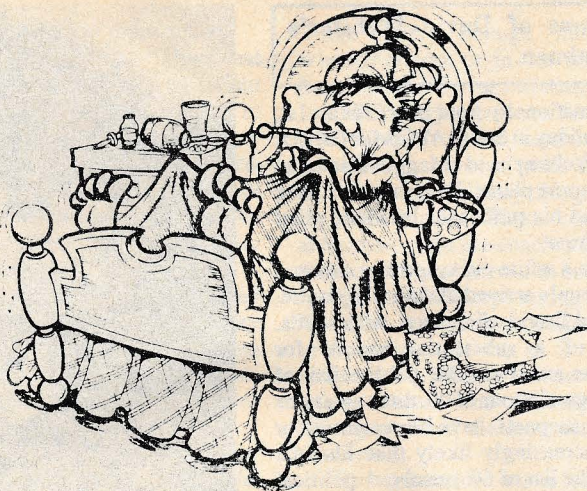
American Industrial Relations Department, was a guest lecturer, to Industrial Sociology III students and to the Industrial Sociology Honours students.

Such is the reputation of Anglo's IRD under the leadership of Mr Bobby Godsell that it is hoped that the relationship between it and Rhodes will grow from strength to strength.



# Aspirin can be dangerous

Our thanks to Dr Eric Smith, from Pharmacy, for this reminder that the old adage, "take two aspirin, and get plenty of rest" is not the panacea for all minor ills. In fact, doing this can actually do you more harm than good. So, think twice before you dole out this medication in future.



A large percentage of the population falls into the abnormal category and these individuals should restrict their usage of aspirin-containing products. This drug should not be taken by people who have gastric ulcers: aspirin prevents the secretion of substances that protect the stomach lining from acidity, thereby worsening the ulcerative condition (this condition being exacerbated by the coadministration of alcohol). Aspirin-like drugs lengthen the time it takes for blood to clot and, hence, should be avoided by haemophiliacs or people having other bleeding disorders where any enhancement of the bleeding tendency is undesirable. In contrast, this side effect may have some usefulness in preventing the formation of blood clots in systemic circulation, that may lodge in the heart muscle causing a heart attack. The administration of one aspirin tablet a day has been used in an attempt to prevent heart infarction in susceptible individuals, however, the success of this mode of therapy has not been unequivocally proven. The drug is metabolized mainly in the liver and excreted in the urine; aspirin should, therefore, be used with caution (and doses reduced) in people having liver or kidney impairments. This condition obviously applies to the elderly in whom hepatic and renal efficiency is re-

duced because of age. It has also been found that people suffering from asthma, nasal polyps or other allergic conditions may exhibit hypersensitivity to aspirin-like drugs. Recently a suspicion has developed regarding an association between the administration of aspirin to children and adolescents suffering from influenza-like signs and symptoms, and the relatively rare development of Reye's syndrome. The latter is a serious group of conditions which affect the central nervous system and vary in severity from lethargy, through disorientation to coma. The syndrome usually follows a viral infection, and, in a large number of cases, manifestation of the syndrome follows administration of aspirin to the young patients to treat the aches and fever of the infection. Although the incidence of this condition is fairly small, it does warrant consideration by the parent.

Aspirin will also interact with and may affect the action of any other drugs that are administered at the same time. The activity of coadministered antidiabetic, anticoagulants, antiepileptic, blood pressure lowering or some antibiotic drugs may be modified by the presence of aspirin in the blood. Gastric irritation (abdominal pain, nausea and vomiting) is a common side effect of aspirin ingestion. These symp-

toms are usually alleviated by taking the drug with food.

Wherever possible, all drugs (including the drugs alcohol and nicotine) should be avoided during pregnancy, especially during the first trimester when foetal development is most prolific. Modest, therapeutic doses of aspirin are considered relatively safe in pregnancy, however the drug should not be taken in the last trimester because of its reduced blood-clotting effects that may increase the chance of haemorrhage at birth.

What are the alternatives to aspirin? Paracetamol is equally effective for alleviation of moderate pain and fever, without many of the adverse effects exhibited by the former. Paracetamol is recommended in the young for treating the symptoms of malaise associated with colds and flu, however, the anti-inflammatory activity of paracetamol is significantly less than that of aspirin. Therefore, in cases of juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, for example, the superior anti-inflammatory benefits of aspirin outweigh its possible risks.

In many cases the trade-name of the preparation may not give any indication that it contains aspirin; often this drug is found in mixtures of other drugs exhibiting similar activity. The following preparations contain aspirin in different strengths: Grand-Pa, Aspasol, Combral, Aspro, Disprin, Suparin, Codis and Ethicod. The following are common paracetamol-containing preparations: Calpol, Dolorol, Panado, Tylenol, Betacod, Infapain and Spectrapain.

Aspirin and paracetamol are almost universally considered to be harmless household remedies. All drugs are potentially harmful (and potentially lethal) - if in doubt, ask your pharmacist!

## A loss to town and gown

A familiar face will be missing from the Department of Political Studies at the end of June.

Chris Heymans is leaving Rhodes to take up an appointment with the Urban Foundation in Johannesburg and his presence will be sorely missed, not only by the university community, but by the community of Grahamstown as a whole.

During his three-year stay in Grahamstown, Chris made a remarkable impact. Academically, he co-edited a book on local government in South Africa, Government by the People, and published and presented various papers and articles.

He will be remembered by the Grahamstown community for his untiring efforts in the role of convenor of the Grahamstown Initiative. Through this initiative, people from widely divergent sectors in Grahamstown joined forces to address vital issues affecting the city and its people.

## Visiting Fellow

Dr Amandio Dide, a Fellow at the Institute for Social and Economic Research, came to Rhodes during February 1989.

Dr Dide was awarded his doctorate by the Conservatory of Music in Rome and has several publications to his credit. During his stay at Rhodes he will translate his work 'La Musica Dei Chopi' into Portuguese. From there he hopes to have it translated into English.

Dr Dide has conducted extensive research into the music of African tribes in Mozambique and has found much material about these tribes in South Africa which was not available in Mozambique. He returns to his home in Maputo towards the end of June.

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staff to report any suspicious to the CPD the time of seeing it. days later - we might duce the incidence unlawful removal Rhodes' or individual's property. Many businesses commerce and ind write into their emp ment contracts, a p graph regarding the of search of parcels vehicles leaving t premises, and manage reduce their losses com erably. After all, e though ours is an o campus, access to from which is easy, o one type of person m ear the consequences o search - the thief!

Food for thought...

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## Wise up to winter watering

by Mark Hazell

By the time this edition of RHODOS comes out, we will be well into winter and the days are short and cold. It is a time when we need to be particularly careful when watering plants.

### FROM THE POTTING BENCH

Due to the low temperatures, evaporation rates are low and any moisture left on a plant does not evaporate quickly. It is therefore recommended that you don't water your plants after 3.00pm as in most cases, the water will remain on and around the plant. The presence of this water is conducive to fungal and bacterial growth which can very quickly lead to the death of the plant. The younger the plant, the more susceptible it will be.

The present water restriction regulations make it impossible to water earlier, but hopefully the watering times will be changed in time for us to save our precious plants.

#### Maintenance

It's not too soon to begin preparing for summer. One of the first things to do is to send your lawnmower in for a service now, or make sure it's in good working order yourself, so that it's ready to cope with the new season's grass.

There'll be more tips for avoiding frustrations at the start of summer in future editions. If you'd like to know more now, telephone Mark on extension 241 - he'll be happy to answer your queries.

## A fitting tribute to

### Personal observations of David Webster's funeral by Robin Palmer.

On a day the Left internationally hold dear, May 1st, celebrated as a public holiday in South Africa for the first time this year, David Webster and Maggie Friedman went to a nursery to buy some plants. David did not have the opportunity to unload his purchases let alone plant them and watch them grow.

One of three men in a white car emptied a shotgun into his chest as the couple arrived at their Troyeville, Johannesburg home and David died soon afterwards. Weeks later in spite of a substantial reward for information leading to an arrest and the publication of identikits based on the descriptions of the three assassins by an eyewitness, no suspects have been arrested or charged, and it seems increasingly likely that David's killing will be added to the list of 60 unsolved political assassinations since 1978.

David was a political activist who grew to prominence in the period of unrest and emergency which followed the introduction of the Tricameral Parliament in 1984. He opposed detention without trial, and was a major prop of the Detainees' Parents' Support Committee. He recently testified on detentions before the United Nations. But his contribution was not only negative. A crucial member of the Five Freedoms Forum, he campaigned tirelessly to carry the message of nonracial, extraparliamentary opposition to apartheid to whites. Active as he was in politics, he was a professional social anthropologist who took his calling extremely seriously. He was Senior Lecturer in the Department of Social Anthropology at Wits, a charismatic teacher and a productive researcher, whether concerned with the Chopi of Mozambique, communities in the Kosi Bay area, or Soweto's informal sector. He even had time for hobbies: he had played soccer for Wits and was a long-time Orlando Pirates supporter; and he loved indigenous African and 'crossover' music.

The anthropologists at Rhodes were stunned by David's violent death. The English-speaking anthropologists of South Africa are a close-knit community, and they would have been rocked by the death of any of their colleagues, but David had special links with Rhodes, because he trained here, and never missed a chance to give guest lectures or attend conferences at Rhodes. When we pointed out these facts to our administration, suggesting that a Rhodes representative at David's funeral on Saturday 6th May would not be out of place, the Vice-Chancellor responded positively. It was decided to send a member of the Anthropology Department, and the Department decided to send me. I was gratified to have been chosen. I had never been to a political funeral before. Besides, I had known David for fifteen years, and wanted to pay my respects, too.

The funeral was to be held in St Mary's (Anglican) Cathedral in downtown Johannesburg starting 10.30 in the morning, so I had to set off the day before. My hotel was only a couple of blocks away from the Cathedral; I planned a 9.30 departure, figuring that would give me plenty of time to get there and secure a pew with a view. I was mistaken. By the time I arrived in the little plaza in front of St Mary's the whole area was already a sea of mourners.

They filled the sizeable square opposite the entrance to the Cathedral, and overflowed along the pavements and into the road. Everything that was climbable they climbed to get a better view. A core of blacks toy-toyed and sang freedom songs while the massive fringe attempted to join in, greeting friends, waving banners,



Johnny Clegg at David Webster's funeral

buying and selling commemorative T-shirts and crawling on their necks to stare balefully at the Special Branch officers and videoing the proceedings from the office windows above. Occasionally the hub-bub was drowned out by the passage overhead of a low-flying police spy plane.

Upon my arrival I was immediately hailed by Dixon and other Rhodes SRC members who were attending the funeral. There were about 25 of them emerged that a NUSAS conference had been timed to coincide with the funeral. We wondered how we would ever make it across the seething square and into Cathedral.

Then the chanting black-and-white clad players, supporters of Orlando Pirates arrived in a single sim and toy-toying phalanx, and the crowd parted to allow them. I followed their black banner with its skull-and-crossbones, slipstreaming them onto the porch and the cavernous cathedral.

Inside, all the places seemed to be already taken even though the vast interior with its semi-enclosed balcony looked as if it could accommodate about 1000 people. Compared with the majority of the mourners in their bungi-rigs or Webster Memorial T-shirts I was over-dressed in my two-piece dark grey suit and tie, resembling more the diplomats in their reserved pews. My formal dress had embarrassed me earlier now, realising that the only seats were in the reserved section, I sought to profit from my appearance by taking my seat among the diplomats as if I had every right to be there. Later, I discovered that the woman in the Evita-style black dress in the row in front of me was not the Guyanese Consul but rather Rhoda Kaduna, an anthropology lecturer at the University of the Western Cape. Dissimulation and the study of Man seem to go together.

I had a reasonable view to begin with, but the group in UDF T-shirts came and stood in front of the Diplomatic Section, and we were naturally diplomatic to shoo them away. This problem, combined with the abysmal acoustics of the cathedral, affected particularly the female speakers, and made it hard for



# tireless campaigner

to follow the proceedings over the next three hours:

The service was conducted by Paul Verryn and Father Samangalisio Mkhathswa, both with sufficient experience of large ecclesiastical buildings to communicate effectively. The same could not be said of Helen Joseph, who was entirely inaudible. In addition to the problem of the acoustics, she and the other speakers had to compete with the thousands outside the Cathedral whose freedom songs seemed to get louder and louder as the service wore on.

When Helen Joseph sat down the two ministers read messages of support which came from every country in what used to be called the free world, as well as from South African exiles in the Frontline States and even political prisoners in Pretoria Central. Then Father Mkhathswa eulogised David in the following terms.

*David was a good and loving man almost to the point of being too trusting, and that made him vulnerable. He must have had a premonition that his life's programme had to be completed in a short time, so he was a tireless worker. His assassins only managed to kill his body - not his spirit, which lives on. It is up to us to continue where he left off.*

After that, a succession of speakers, nicely balanced between David's academic life and his political life - Glenn Moss, Mohammed Valli, Phil Bonner and Johnny Clegg - paid tribute to David. From the accumulation of personal remembrances (among the political rhetoric) a picture was forming of David as not only a man of conscience and a Renaissance man of many enthusiasms, but also a man of great compassion, gentleness and humility.

Of all the tributes, the most effective was that of Johnny Clegg, David's student for several years before he went on to lead Juluka and Savuka. Somehow, he had found David's research assistant from Kosi Bay, who had known David ever since he began fieldwork there in 1975. Speaking in Zulu, the man described what David had meant to the people of Kosi Bay, while Clegg simultaneously translated.

*David was a hero. All the people of Kosi Bay mourn his passing.*

*David was the first white person to show us such kindness. He did not like to see us unhappy. He tried in every way to remove those things which upset us. One day I asked David: 'This fund of kindness and compassion - where did you get it from?' He laughed and then he answered me: 'My friend, what I do is part of my work and part of the effort of those I work with to make this country one nation. What I have in me, you have in yourselves. We are all capable of kindness and compassion. That, anyway, is the belief of the organisation I belong to.'*

More messages, music and hymns followed, and then David's bier was carried out of the cathedral, a very stricken David Hammond-Tooke, Professor of Social Anthropology at Wits and formerly Professor at Rhodes, bearing a corner. When Rhoda turned around to follow the coffin, I recognised her for the first time, and she saw me. The two 'diplomats', smiling at their coincidental adoption of the same ruse, eventually issued from the Cathedral to join the procession.

The newspapers, with their customary predilection for hyperbole, have claimed that 10 000 people accompanied David on the 10 kilometre journey from the Cathedral to Westpark Cemetery. I personally doubt there were as many as claimed, but since I at no stage could see the head or the tail of the procession from my position near the centre, I could not judge the numbers accurately. But what do the precise figures matter?

There were enough mourners in the procession, whether on foot or in the score of coaches provided to have ensured the cancellation of every piece of weekend leave for every cop in the Transvaal (or, at least, that is what I read from the facial expressions and gauged from the sheer numbers of policemen lining the route).

The extraordinary thing about the procession was its peacefulness. There certainly was excitement and animation. As the coaches filled up at the beginning they could be observed to bounce up and down on their springs from the toyi-toying of the young blacks inside. But there was no provocation from either the mourners or the police. It was as if the quintessential non-violence of David Webster was having resonances among those who accompanied him and those who silently watched the mourners on that sunny Saturday afternoon.

The graveside was a long way from the cemetery gates. The mourners filled the main path, and overflowed into the parkland on either side. When they came to the plot, with its canopy, flanked by banks of speakers and TV vans, the mourners made a vast circle, many people deep. With the committal, the first evidence of raw emotion, was experienced, as Glenda, David's ex-wife, and Maggie, his lover, along with relatives and close friends came to pay their last respects.

Following the committal there were further speeches, from Beyers Naude, Max Coleman and a COSATU representative. But already the crowd was thinning. The procession had taken more than two hours from Cathedral to Cemetery, and it was well after four. I was preoccupied with the logistics of calling a taxi from a cemetery, supposing none of the coaches were going my way. I had a flight to catch. The spell was breaking; the day of mass mourning was all but over.

By way of an epilogue I would like to thank the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Henderson, for sending me to David's funeral as his representative. Rhodes has not received its full subsidy again this year, and sending even one person, overnight, to Johannesburg from Grahamstown is a surprisingly costly business. I hope that he and the readers of RHODOS will consider that the trip was worthwhile. I certainly did.



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## IKHWELO KWABANESI- PHIWO SOKUBHALA

IRhodos imema bonke abanesiphiwo sokubhala okanye ukubonga ukuba bathumele amanqaku imibongo yabo ngazo zonke iinyanga. Umntu unokubhalanangantoni na emchukumisa emxhelweni. Yiyo leyo ke miDaka. Zityandeni igila. Oko ukubhalileyo makungadluli kwimigca engama-30 kuba kaloku silawulwa sisithuba esinaso ephepheni.

## Oxford here they come

Two Rhodes staff members will present papers at a symposium at Oxford University early in July 1989.

Dr Steve Compton told Rhodos that a paper he published a year ago concerning multi-species systems seemed to generate more than usual interest and was probably the reason for his having received an invitation to attend. The subject of Dr Compton's paper is "Effects of ant/homopteran systems on fig/figwasp interactions".

Dr Compton will be away for two weeks. He will visit his parents in Coventry and also Silwood Park at Ascot where the Commonwealth Institute of Entomology has a station.

Miss Vanessa Rashbrook will present a paper "Bracken and ants: is there a mutualism?" jointly with Dr Compton and Professor J H Lawton.

## REPAIRS

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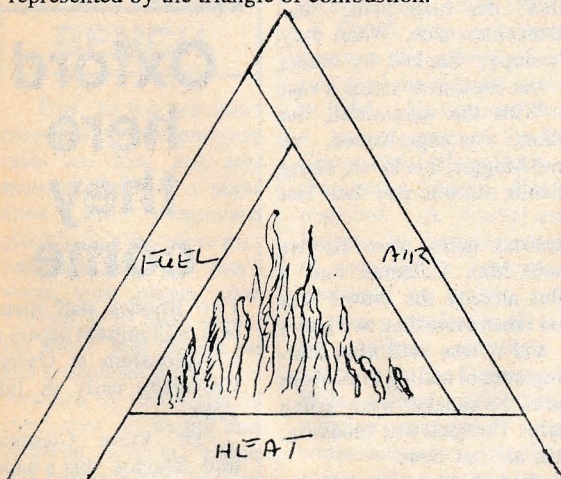


# The basics of fire fighting

## SAFETY

by Rick Heard

Three elements must be present to cause and sustain a fire. They are OXYGEN, HEAT AND COMBUSTIBLE SUBSTANCE (fuel). The required elements can be represented by the triangle of combustion.



If any one of the three is removed the triangle will collapse i.e. combustion will cease.

*Of the four categories of fires, three concern us most.*

**Class A.** The combustible materials involved are usually of organic origin -wood, grass, paper, certain textiles etc. Heat is extinguished by quenching or cooling with water. Other types of extinguishers may be used.

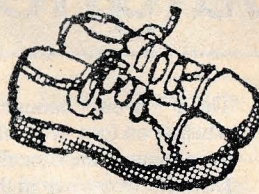
**Class B.** Combustibles such as petrol, diesel, grease and oil are extinguished by smothering or by removing air. Burning petrol floats on water and may spread. Use carbon dioxide, dry powder or BFC extinguishers for this type of fire. Water may be used once the flames are out to prevent re-ignition.

**Class C.** This class is essentially a class A or a class B fire but involves ENERGISED electrical equipment. Never use hoses, water or liquid foam extinguishers on this class of fire. Water conducts electricity and could electrocute the appliance operator. Only after the electrical power source is removed may the fire be treated as an A or B class fire.

**Class D.** Metal fires. Magnesium, aluminium, titanium etc. These usually have industrial causes and do not concern us in our general situation.

Simple is 'nt it? How about a little exercise? Locate the nearest extinguisher to your place of work and, because of the high failure rate, the next nearest. Read the instructions on how to operate them. This knowledge may one day save your building or even a life.

# Inyawo Zomntwana Wakh



NgabakwaMedico

Ukuzinonophela iinyawo zethu kubalulekile kuba iinyawo zethu zisixhasa ubomi bethu bonke ekuhambeni, ekubalekeni nasekumeni.

Kwasebusaneni umntwana ufuna ukuba iinyawo zakhe zikhululeke abe nokwenza intshukumo. Umntwana onganxibi zihlangu uba neeatshi, le ndawo ithe fongqo ngaphantsi elunyaweni, neenzwane ezomeleleyo. Iikawusi nezihlangu ezimanzi zinokubangela ukugula ngaphezu kweenyawo ezomileyo ezingekho zihlangwini.

Kubadanisi abaselula ititshala elumkileyo ayisoze imvumele umntwana enze imidaniso ethile enjengokuhamba ngeenzwane zide iinyawo zakhe zibe zikulungele oko.

Ukuziqhelanisa nokuthamba kungenza lukhulu ekuphuculeni imeko yobucaba beenyawo obungephi.

Xa ucheba iinzapho ezinyaweni zichebe ngokuthe ngqo ukusuka kweli cala use kweliya ukuthintela ukuba zingakhuli zibuyele ezinzwaneni.

**UKULINGANISA IZIHLANGU ZABANTWANA**

Base abantwana kwivenkile eyiyo apho kukho umlinganisi-zihlangu, hayi nje umntu othengisayo. Zilinganise izihlangu phambi kokuba uzithenge. Ubude oban-

eleyo bubalule Izihlangu ezitshane neka zibe nomying 18mm wesit sokugeqeza iinz ukususela ekuphe kolona zwane lude ekupheleni kwesihla Iinyawo zabant zikhula ziqqib ngeenyanga ezil elinambini zize zithi chatha xa bak inyaka emithandathu bakwelishumi elines

Izihlangu ezink kakhulu zingazona iinyawo. Xa umnt akhalazela iiny ezibuhlungu kusen kanti kufuneka utsh isayizi yezihlangu Izihlangu zefe kumntwana oselula umonakalo omk Umzekelo izihl ezichophileyo zona uxokomezelelo lom izihlangu ezitsolo bili zenza kut iinyama ezibuh kunene kumalungu hontsi ziibhanyanisi, zenza neekonsi neenzwane zimile ka Ukuba kunok zeka, izihlangu m ziwe ngethwa ziqukunjelwe ka ngaphandle na phakathi, zibe no IwakwaSABS.



## Who your safety representatives are

**Terry Butterworth** Zoology and Entomology, Tick Research Unit, Electron Microscope Unit.  
**John Hepple** Physics and Electronics, Arctic Research building and equipment.  
**Elizabeth Manley** HMS  
**Allan MacKenzie** Maths sciences, Computer center, Drostdy Lodge.  
**Anton Pretorius** Ichthyology, Fish Farm, Fish hatchery.  
**Leon Purdon** Pharmacy.  
**Robin Stobbs** J L B Smith Institute.  
**Aubrey Sonneman** Chemistry and solvent store.

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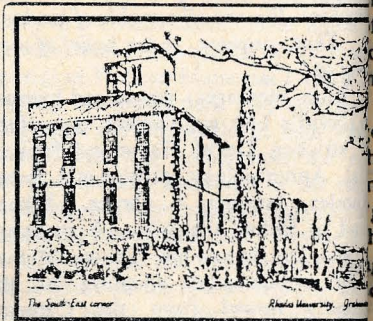
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THE EDITOR,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to write to you and air my views.

This letter is written on the assumption that Rhodes (meaning the Administration Department, Personnel Department and the "powers that be" at Rhodes University) is looking for ways and means to save money and improve productivity.

It is also assumed that Rhodes is open to, and will accept, new ideas.

This letter is written from the point of view of a normal, everyday garden variety employee" at Rhodes and reflects the way some people to whom I have spoken feel.

The intention is not to "get at" certain people, but rather to make Rhodes aware of the feelings and perceptions of some employees here. I must emphasise the fact that this complete letter must be seen in this light. Some readers might feel that some of the statements are "wrong", or degrading, but this letter is simply meant to record the way some people "see" Rhodes.

It is also hoped that people at Rhodes will react favourably to this letter, or at least react.

I would also like to give my support to "Zoe Demos", and here are a few suggestions and gripes:-

# A safe and easy way for staff to object to the conduct of any other staff member, including heads of department, supervisors, directors etc. must be made available.

These days, staff are generally scared to air their views because they might "ruffle feathers" or "go against the grain", and thus be discriminated against or prosecuted in some way.

RHODOS must explain how a staff member should go about writing letters to the editor and must guarantee that a staff member's identity will be kept secret under ALL CIRCUMSTANCES if they write a letter under a nom de plume.

## Contented staff are more productive

Rhodes must be committed to react to these objections, or give reasons why they cannot or will not, react. This must be done in the interest of productivity and a happy staff.

# Staff who are not "moving" and are blocking the career path of employees at a lower level must be "moved" out of the way, or demoted, or encouraged to progress further.

# Discrimination on the grounds of colour, creed, or sex, must be totally eliminated in PRACTICE. I am not talking about what Rhodes has said in the past. People who practice discrimination must be stopped, or removed - NOW. Anybody at Rhodes who is "in touch" will know who these people are. Women who feel discriminated against on the grounds of sex must say so.

# The available manpower at Rhodes must be trained "in-house" and the practice of importing expensive manpower must be stopped as far as possible. I am sure that there are a lot of people here who are willing and able to set up and run courses for their fellow employees.

I am not asking for "hand-outs". I am asking that employees be given the chance to better themselves.

# It must be made easier for employees to study further. Courses must be made completely free, so that employees can study, even if they do not have money. They can then be asked to commit themselves to work at Rhodes for a certain length of time. There are lots of courses that can be set up, like NTC1, NTC2 etc., bookkeeping, accounting, welding, carpentry, typing, word processing, as well as Std 6 to Std 10 subjects. If some of these courses do exist, please let us all know, via RHODOS.

# The practice that employees must "work in time" that they used for study during normal working hours must be abolished, or made more flexible. At the moment, some employees use their lunch hour to work in time, or work after 5pm. Consequently, they never get time to rest.

# Employees must be motivated to study further, as is the case in the teaching profession, where you automatically go on to a certain salary scale if you pass certain subjects or exams. At Rhodes there is nothing like this, which is PATHETIC, to say the least.

This is the reason people leave after qualifying and why "expertise" has to be imported, at great expense. These imports are then given a better "package deal" than better qualified staff at Rhodes, just to entice them to work here. Rhodes must realize that we are a part of Africa, and always will be. We must use our own people to run Rhodes - not people from outside. If we do not have these people, we must train them, and then MAKE SURE THEY STAY at Rhodes.

# Employees must be motivated by other means as well. They must be treated with respect and dignity. It must be realized that there is a difference between an employee "wanting to do" and "forced to do" a particular job. Many departments work as individual people. They should operate as happy teams - not unhappy individuals. Happy staff are productive staff. This sounds elementary, but does Rhodes realize this? If so, what are they doing to keep their staff happy? I don't mean what are they thinking about doing!

# On campus there are a few departmental heads, directors etc. who are power hungry. These

people act like "little Hitlers" and I don't think anyone would contest this statement. What is bad about the situation is that although the "powers that be" are aware of it, they are reluctant to react, or do something about it.

These people create situations which are not conducive to productivity and, as a result, Rhodes as a whole suffers. Employees who find themselves in situations like this are extremely unhappy, and consequently are unproductive. We are not talking about one or two people being unproductive, but of whole departments or divisions, as a result of their head of department's attitude.

It seems to be the practice at Rhodes to appoint departmental heads simply because they are qualified in a certain field. SOME of these heads know nothing about handling personnel. Worse still, some of them are not interested in people, and their personnel become a millstone around their necks. It can be seen from this that a department with such a head will never function as a team. Why, then, are these people appointed, as they have such a devastating effect on their departments, and Rhodes. Of course, not all departmental heads are like this. On the contrary, most of them are lovely, people-loving persons, doing a splendid job at Rhodes.

Are there courses at Rhodes to train heads of department to handle staff? If not, why not? Does Rhodes see these heads of department as being counter-productive and thus a problem, or are these people beyond reproach?

Try and explain this one: Your boss stops you from accepting gifts (a tie, or a clock, or a bottle of wine, for instance) from

companies involved at Rhodes. Then the same boss accepts an invitation to an expensive lunch, with the same company, and drinks a bottle of expensive wine himself anyway - at that company's expense.

I implore ALL employees at Rhodes who feel the way I do to write to RHODOS and let Rhodes know how we feel. Please do it now, even if it is only a line or two - and put the letter into the internal mailing system. Rhodes might sit up and take notice of your gripes.

Zoe Supporter.

Please read the Editorial comment in this issue - ED

## A little light relief

History Howlers from : 'The Idler's Column, Natal Mercury, 4 April 1988

During the War, the Red Coats and Paul Revere was throwing balls over stone walls. The dogs were barking and the peacocks crowing. Finally, the colonists won the war and no longer had to pay for taxis.

Delegates from the original 13 states formed the contented Congress. Thomas Jefferson, a Virgin, and Benjamin Franklin were two singers of the Declaration of Independence.

Franklin had gone to Boston carrying all his clothes in his pocket and a loaf of bread under each arm. He invented electricity by rubbing cats backwards and declared : 'A horse divided against itself cannot stand'. Franklin died in 1790 and is still dead.

George Washington married Martha Curtis and in due time became the Father of Our Country.



# Star shottist wins event

by Doug Coghlan

Congratulations to Ian Dore, who won the EP Air Rifle Championships recently, beating visitors from the Orange Free State, Transvaal, Northern Transvaal and Natal. Dore scored 723 points to beat Peter Korkie (OFS) by one shot with Willie Proudfoot (N Tvl) third on 719.

The staff squash teams are not having a great season so far. The first team has only won one of their six matches, although some of the scores were very close. The B team is faring better and holding its own in the 5th league.

Chris Whiteley is still running well, and was the first veteran home in the recent Nite Race in Port Elizabeth in a time of 71:47 for the 21,1km race. He finished in 17th place overall in a large field.

Many staff members are involved in road running and are quietly preparing themselves for events later in the year. None of them braved the Comrades this year - perhaps they had heard about one Friith van der Merwe!

Staff golfers covered themselves with glory by beating UPE at home and bringing the impressive winners' trophy to Rhodes for the first time, and gaining their first victory over the UPE team in four years.

The players came down to earth with a bump at Bedford, where fast, prickly greens took their toll. The only Rhodes pair to make the prizes were Pete Boschhoff and David Mtshebe.

Next term staff golf-

ers will play in the annual encounter with the students, followed by the Rivett Trophy (staff championships), the Henderson Trophy (inter-section match) and the clash with the Johannesburg Old Rhodians.

There is no staff soccer side this year, and some of the stalwarts have switched codes to help staff hockey enjoy a successful season. Recent games yielded a 3-3 draw against Oribis and a 5-0 win over Wyvern, putting the staff side at the top of the local league.

Alex Weaver and Richard Buckland are still anchoring the team, while prominent goal scorers have been Rick Bernard, Martin Hill, Colin Hobson and George Euvrard.

## Heading for Fiji

Seafaring ex-staffers, Rob and Maire Fisher, of the yacht *Nepnit*, send greetings to all their friends at Rhodes, via Maire's father, Frank Doolan, from Building Maintenance.

As you read this issue of RHODOS, Rob and Maire are heading for Fiji, en route to Darwin. After a short stay in Australia, they hope to arrive back in Cape Town in time for Christmas.

They set sail some two-and-a-half years ago on a round-the-world voyage which has produced its fair share of exciting adventures. Frank and his wife heard about some of Rob and Maire's experiences when they travelled overseas last year and met up with them in the United States.



*Geografasts relaxing after it's all over*

## Geografast feat

by Roddy Fox

It's 8.15 am on Saturday 13th May and a 460 legged multi-hued organism shivers at the end of Mountain Drive. Many of its components fragment and cower in the bushes only to reappear moments before the starter's gun goes off. And then with the gunshot the tension evaporates, the organism stretches, turns the first corner and becomes a snake. Very quickly the snake attenuates; the front segments hurtle off down the PE road to Howison's Poort whilst the rear segments coalesce into indigestible 20 - 30 legged creatures that are destined to remain elastically connected for the rest of the run.

80 of the legs belonged to the 40 people who took up the Geografast Department's challenge that no department could beat them over the 21,1 km Settler City Toyota Half Marathon which Drosty Harriers organized. The response was good, six departments competed (Geografast, Zoology, Economics, Accounts, Ichthyology, Pharmacy), and a number of factors encouraged this. The run was basically downhill: it could be termed 'novice-friendly'. Then again, it was a cheap run. R5 or R8 being the entry fee to permit you to experience the glories of

the East Cape countryside and the hospitality of Salem Cricket Club. The rules of the challenge were also drawn up to favour the more geriatric runner. The winning team (the best four runners from each department's entry) having the lowest aggregate of placings i.e. it was your position in the under and over 40 male or female categories which counted.

Interestingly enough, these rules ensured that the dynamic ladies of the Geografast team swept all aside. I won't bore the reader with details of all the names and placings but the author's wife, Kate Fox, deserves pride of place with a scorching second place in the lady's veterans' category (mind you, there were only two lady veteran finishers!) As the table shows, Geografast won the competition easily from Accounts and Zoology and we had to reluctantly accept the

prize of a case of

Protests of came from the floor prize-giving ceremony. This proved quite necessary as even a handicap system of fast would still have - just. Next year it be nice if there was real competition will be a trophy wrestled from our cl

The handicap for 1990's challenge aggregate runners not placings. From runner's time will deducted his age, a 10 minutes will deducted for lady. When you pause to about it, this means 18 year old student run 19 minutes to beat a 36 year old and 29 minutes to beat a female lecturer suggest that you training now as the only 50 weeks to go next year's event.

## ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE RHODES UNIVERSITY CLUB

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We also provide bar lunches and light meals at reasonable prices. With prior notice, we can cater lunches and dinners in the Dining Room or the Old function room, weddings, cocktail parties and social functions.

The membership is only R30 per annum payable on order monthly.

Should you want to join, contact the Club Manager Ext. 587.