

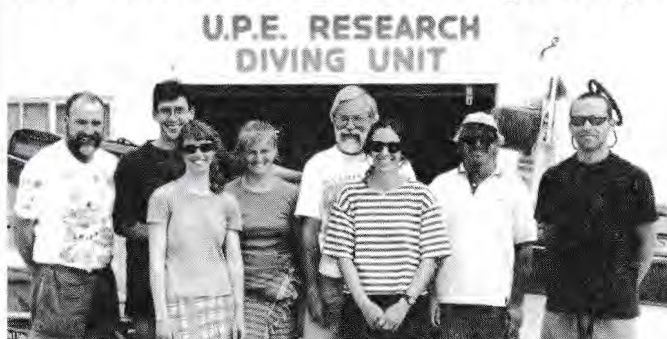


RHODOS

STAFF NEWSLETTER

13 November 1998 VOL 10 No19

Anti-Cancer Drugs from Algoa Bay?



From left to right. Professor Mike Davies-Coleman, Chris Gray, Kerry McPhail (all Rhodes), Shirley Kuilers (UPE), Dr Pat Collin, Lori Collin, Don DeMaria (all CRRF) and John Starmer (University of Guam).

A month-long collaborative research expedition to collect a kilogram or less of each of over 200 Algoa Bay marine invertebrate organisms, including sponges, sea squirts, soft corals and algae, for anti-cancer research has just been successfully concluded. The expedition, organised by Professor Mike Davies-Coleman of the Rhodes Chemistry Department and funded by the US National Cancer Institute (NCI), involved scientists from Rhodes University, UPE, the Coral Reef Research Foundation (Palau, Micronesia) and the University of Guam. "This expedition was the initial phase of a collaborative anti-cancer project between Rhodes University and the NCI initiated by our Vice Chancellor, Dr Woods, during his visit to the United States in June last year," Professor Davies-Coleman said.

Despite some adverse weather conditions, including gale force winds, the six

scuba divers involved in the expedition all together managed nearly 150 dives in a three week period to collect marine organisms from the sub-tidal reefs, mostly off Humewood and Pollock beaches. Professor Davies-Coleman attributes the success of the scuba diving side of the operation to the logistic support of UPE's Department of Zoology and the involvement of the UPE Research Diving Unit, managed by Mr Anton Cloete, who not only made all of the Unit's facilities available to the team but was also actively involved in the collecting.

"The marine life on the rocky reefs one to two kilometres off the main PE swimming beaches is very diverse, colourful and unique and we were all very excited at the variety of the marine organisms and seaweeds collected," Professor Davies-Coleman commented. Although the underlying theme of the collaborative project is

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Two Rhodes Researchers amongst the Top Three Violent Crimes Specialists in SA

Mark Welman and Mary Humphreys are a pair of quiet, soft-spoken researchers, not the types you would initially think would be involved with rapists, serial killers and mass murderers. Indeed, as academics you would think the only type of violence they had ever seen, was on TV, or at the movies. But let's look a little closer for a second - think of movies like *Silence of the Lambs*, *Kiss the Girls*, or even *Citizen X*, set in Russia. Or on TV, consider programmes like *Profiler* or *Millenium*, and then the picture gets slightly darker, a little more dangerous, and there you'll find Welman and Humphreys.

Dr Mark Welman and researcher Mary Humphreys make up the Investigative Psychology Unit on the Grahamstown campus. Part of the Psychology Department at Rhodes, the IPU also has significant links with the SAPS - meaning that they have access to restricted data from the CID on ongoing cases with which they assist the authorities. They are currently involved in training detectives in investigative techniques, which, again, is an odd thing for a pair of casually-dressed practicing academics to be doing. You would think that detectives already know how to investi-

gate. But when you realise that the entire SAPS Investigative Psychology division exists in the person of Mickey Pistorius assisted by Elmarie Myburgh and that Welman and Humphreys have already successfully predicted the residential location of a serial killer based on investigative techniques, everything fits into place.

They are leading researchers and practitioners in the growing field of investigative psychology, and they specialise in profiling, i.e. building up behavioral data about a particular criminal, who is engaged in ongoing violent crime, and using those investigative techniques to track down and apprehend the individual. They collaborate with the SAPS who handle the arrest. Their studies have thrown light on some interesting statistics for violent crimes in South Africa, crimes like rape and murder, and their work is receiving much international attention. In September they, and Mickey Pistorius, attended the 5th International Investigative Psychology Conference in Liverpool, along with other researchers and practitioners in the field. These included over 200 delegates from thirteen different countries, with representatives

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Inaugural Lecture

Rhodes University's Law Department held its latest inaugural lecture on October 7th. It was delivered by Professor Richman Mqeke, on the topic of customary law and the protection afforded it by the constitution. This is a subject which he is well-versed in, having taught contract and customary law at Rhodes since 1997, and previously as the head of the private and customary law department at the University of the Transkei. He later became head of the law faculty at the University of Transkei, before moving to Grahamstown.

Professor Mqeke had a number of important issues to deal with, regarding customary law and the constitution. It is subject to the fundamental rights preserved in the constitution, and must comply with those requirements. In some cases this may mean a certain amount of adapting if necessary. But at the same time, Professor Mqeke was quick to point out that, "the constitution offers a measure of protection for African customary law, alongside western common law."

"According to the constitution, indigenous law, like common law," he says, "should be recognised and applied by the



Mrs Mqeke, Professor Mqeke, their son, Anele, and Professor Alistair Kerr who shares Professor Mqeke's interest in customary law and who supervised his LLM thesis.

courts." This is a critical part of the constitution, that the role, status and very institution of traditional leaders is set out in the constitution.

Despite this entrenchment, Professor Mqeke cautioned law-makers "to take into account the views of those affected by" changes or modifications in customary law, stressing the need to be accountable to the people.

Don't Miss *The Water Juggler*

An enthralling theatrical web is woven around Africa's most precious element in Andrew Buckland's latest work *The Water Juggler*. In the middle of the deadly Tubig desert lies the Desert Island Oasis which is home to the Sacred Well. The regular visits to the Well by the intriguing and hugely pregnant Fl'eau Deluge give credence to the legend of the creature known as the Well-Being.

The Water Juggler en-

thrilled audiences at the Klein Karoo Kunstefees, the National Festival of the Arts, Edinburgh Festival and the Hilton Festival. Grahamstonians are in for a treat as Andrew Buckland is staging *The Water Juggler* for three nights. Come along to the Rhodes Theatre and enjoy this cloud-burst of refreshingly original theatre; enjoy the combination of physical and visual comedy, sharp social and political satire and explosive action thea-



Visit to EL Campus



Two groups of Grahamstown campus administration employees recently visited the East London campus to meet the folk that they deal with there on a daily basis. The feedback from all parties was very positive.

tre. There is something for everybody in *The Water Juggler* - "... in one stroke, Andrew Buckland takes you into his wonderland of theatre which gives plenty of food for thought, time to mindwalk and simply a whale of a time as he dresses up and down without changing costume as he tackles ecological issues and man's propensity for violence in a way that pleases and thrills on all levels." (Pretoria News)

The Water Juggler is at the Rhodes University Thea-

tre on Friday 13 November at 19:30; Saturday 14 November at 19:30 and Sunday 15 November at 18:00. Ticket prices are R15.00 for public and R10.00 for students and scholars. Tickets are available from the Drama Department Secretary, Barbara Price, on telephone number 6038538 or on e-mail: sdbp@warthog.ru.ac.za. Tickets will also be sold at the front-of-house desk prior to the performance.

Music Birthday

The Department of Music and Musicology recently celebrated their 75th birthday and combined these celebrations with the official opening of their newly-revamped Recording Studio and Computer Lab.



Staff and students were treated to champagne and birthday cake in the shape of a mixing desk while Professor Ian Macdonald conducted the official opening formalities. The party-goers were also treated to a computerised birthday fanfare specially composed by Michael Blake for the occasion.

Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Pioneer Visits Rhodes



Professor Parolis (School of Pharmacy), Professor Jeneer and Professor Kaye (Department of Chemistry).

A recent visitor to the Chemistry Department was Professor Jean Jeneer, recently retired from the Free University of Brussels. Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy is the most important analytical technique used in organic chemistry. Professor Jeneer was a pioneer in the field of two dimensional NMR and first introduced the concept of 2D-NMR in 1971. Numerous 2D-NMR methods are now available and are used by chemists all over the world to routinely work out the molecular structures of complex organic molecules. Professor Jeneer is also internationally renowned for refining the concept of different spin energy reservoirs and together with P Broekaert developed the first modern pulse sequence to measure spin-lat-

tice relaxation in the dipolar frame. Although retired he is actively involved in researching problems associated with the radiation damping effect. Radiation damping is a problem often associated with obtaining high resolution NMR spectra of proteins in biological fluids. Finding a solution to this problem will have important ramifications for both biochemistry and medical research and while at Rhodes, Professor Jeneer presented a lecture on the practical and theoretical aspects of the radiation damping effect. Professor Jeneer was accompanied by his wife and Dr Peter Dvortsak, an NMR applications expert from BRUKER, a German company which is one of the two major suppliers of NMR equipment in the world.

Rotary Exchange Lecturer Returns



Lucy Smith, Lecturer in Primary Education at the East London campus, recently returned from a year in the United Kingdom as a Rotary Ambassadorial student. This was a once-off scholarship funded by the British Rotary District 1070 for scholars working in the field of education in South Africa and who are contributing to educational development and change in the country.

Ms Smith completed her MA in Applied Linguistics and TESOL (Teaching English Speakers of Other Languages) at the University of Leicester. Her MA included coursework and a dissertation. "There were 11 of us in a class with incredible international flavour - there were students from Taiwan, China,

Greece, Italy and Spain," said Ms Smith. "The tutors also had extensive international teaching experience."

For Ms Smith, one of the highlights of her year's stay was being part of the international global village. "In addition to my multicultural class, I lived in an international post-graduate student residence, and, having grown up in isolated apartheid South Africa, I really appreciated getting to know different nationalities with whom I had never had contact before."

Ms Smith's research focussed on the importance of incorporating children's home language/s in the classroom, while they are acquiring English as a second or 'additional' language at the primary school level, and she looked at ways of applying this to the South African situation.

While in the UK, Ms Smith also had to fulfill various Rotary obligations. "I was very well looked after by Rotary and I found that the Rotarians there were always

very interested in hearing about my work and life in South Africa." Ms Smith successfully motivated for the Leicester Rotary Club to set up a matching grant for the provision of equipment for a children's home and bridging school in Gampo near East London. "Next year I will be working with Rhodes students in that school and doing research there. I would like to pursue my doctoral studies at some stage, but for

now I need to get more practical experience and focus on the classroom."

Ms Smith managed to make a few short trips to the continent, including the Czech Republic, France, as well as a visit to Ireland. With regard to England, she states: "I certainly won't miss the grey weather and the London Underground, but I do miss Premier League Football, decent newspapers and Indian curries!"

Forty Two School Journalists Graduate

More than 40 teenagers from Grahamstown recently received graduation certificates at the completion of a schools newspaper course run by the Rhodes University Journalism and Media Studies Department.

The 42 students who took part in the course successfully produced an eight-page newspaper, "Grab", complete with advertisements, photographs and stories. They also put it onto the internet as well as sold it in their communities.

The Grab course has been running for four years now and sees Rhodes journalism students learning how to teach media skills through practical workshops for Grahamstown teenagers interested in journalism.

Co-ordinator Professor Guy Berger told the Grab graduates that the newspaper they had produced had a wider significance. "You've experienced the excitement of journalism, and at the same time people in the Grahamstown community have their issues and ideas raised, and Internet users around the globe can read about these," he said.

The programme had previously seen "Grabbers" go on to study journalism at Rhodes under the Department's Steve Biko Bursary Scheme. "As part of transformation, we especially encourage black youth to train as future journalists," he said.

Books donated by London-based charity, Community Heart, which is run by Dennis Goldberg, the anti-apartheid activist who was imprisoned with Nelson Mandela, were given

to the schools involved and three students who had excelled.

The Grab site on the web can be viewed at <http://grab.ru.ac.za>.

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the discovery of new anti-cancer chemical agents from marine organisms, the programme also has an equally important taxonomic component. "Despite poor visibility at depths of 10-20m, Dr Pat Colin and his team from the CRRF were able to take excellent underwater photographs of most of the collected organisms to aid the local and international taxonomic experts who will identify the Algoa Bay invertebrates and seaweeds over the next twelve months," Professor Davies-Coleman said. "Surprisingly, no comprehensive data base of Algoa Bay marine invertebrate life exists, and from our several years of research on Eastern Cape marine invertebrate fauna I wouldn't be surprised if some of these Algoa Bay species are new to science!" he added.

Of particular interest was the large number of ascidians (sea squirts) collected. Although ascidians look very similar to sponges and also

filter seawater for food, they are much further up the evolutionary tree than sponges. Usually sponges are three times more common than ascidians in the invertebrate filter feeding communities living on sub-tidal reefs. "Our collection yielded equal numbers of sponges and ascidians which is unusual in the global context and of interest to chemists given the intriguing defensive chemicals produced by ascidians to stop themselves from being eaten," Professor Davies-Coleman said. International research has shown that some of these toxic feeding deterrent chemicals may also have good pharmaceutical properties including anti-cancer activity. "It may come as a surprise to many that a humble and inedible marine invertebrate might produce an anti-cancer drug for use in humans but several such compounds from marine organisms collected around the world are presently in clinical trials in the United States," Professor Davies-

Coleman said.

UPE zoology student Shirley Kuiters, who is completing her PhD on the taxonomy of Algoa Bay ascidians, was an important member of the research team and valuable information was collected for her PhD project. Rhodes chemistry PhD students, and research divers, Chris Gray and Kerry McPhail, also found their marine natural product research projects benefiting directly and indirectly from the research expedition. In addition small quantities of all the organisms collected will also be tested at UPE for heavy metal concentrations to give some idea of the levels of pollutants in Algoa Bay. "It is exciting and rewarding when scientists from different scientific disciplines and tertiary institutions work together to maximise a research opportunity like the one we have just had," Professor Davies-Coleman commented.

The marine material is presently being extracted

and tested at the National Cancer Institute in the US. "The extracts of the Algoa Bay marine organisms will be screened for their effectiveness in killing sixty different kinds of cancer cells and we are expecting the initial results before Christmas," Professor Davies-Coleman said. Should any of the extracts prove to be active in the initial screening programme the active chemicals will be isolated and identified by Professor Davies-Coleman and his research group at Rhodes in conjunction with chemists at the NCI. "I am very fortunate to be going to the NCI in December for six months as a visiting scientist to work primarily on the Algoa Bay material and while the chances of finding an anti-cancer drug from a natural source are pretty slim the uniqueness of our South African marine fauna and flora increases those chances considerably," Professor Davies-Coleman concluded.

Visitors to Economics

The Department of Economics and Economic History has hosted a number of visitors recently as part of the visiting lecturer programme.



Professor Hugo Nel, Head of the Department of Economics, with Professor Trevor Bell.

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from the FBI, Scotland Yard, and the Russian government. South Africa formed the third largest group attending the conference, after the UK and the US, which is quite impressive, as this was the first year that South Africans were invited to present papers. As a result of the conference, and in recognition of the quality and value of their work, there have been a number of requests for international collaboration. Not the least of these, comes from the former Soviet Union, where drastic sociopolitical changes, similar to those here, have resulted in a soaring crime rate and a burst of violent crime. Interestingly, crime profiles of South Africa are remarkably similar - very high levels of crime, major crime syndicates (such as the Russian Organizatsiya), and a police force hampered by a lack of resources. Crime can be seen as an expression of social uncertainty, within the far-reaching social and political turmoil. Dr Welman even suggests that Northern Ireland may soon follow the same pattern, given its political state of flux. A tri-national project on violent crime between Russia, Ireland and South Africa has already been suggested.

Humphries and Welman

have already set up links with the Russian Public Prosecutors Office in the Kaluga region, while the Norwegians have requested assistance in an ongoing case, and the FBI have expressed a desire to collaborate on key areas of mutual interest with the Rhodes IPU. The Unit already has formal links with Liverpool University's DRAGNET programme - a profiling database - and is exploring usage of the ViCLAS (Violent Crimes Linkage Analysis System) and ViCAP (Violent Criminal Apprehension Program) systems created by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (Mounties).

Dr Welman's work has recently concentrated on offender profiling in rape cases, identifying four types of rapists, based on types of crimes. These are:

- 1) Recreational rapists - an FBI term for gang rapists;
- 2) Sole single rapists - those who only commit the crime once;
- 3) Sole serial rapists; and
- 4) Felony rapists - in which rape is committed as a secondary motive, an opportunistic rape while committing another crime, like robbery. One of the interesting statistics regarding felony rape, is that the majority tend to be cross-racial. This is as a result

Professor Trevor Bell, of the ISER, University of Durban-Westville presented lectures on *International Trade, Competitiveness and Industrialisation in a Minerals-rich Economy: The Case of South Africa*. Professor Bell is a former head of the Department of Economics at Rhodes. During his lecture he expressed the opinion that export-oriented growth is not the best way to grow the economy in a world where economies are again starting to "close up". His belief is

of the economic inequalities created by the former apartheid society, and not as some believe, a racial issue. Most rapes, according to the statistics, are non-racial.

Dr Welman has concentrated on serial rapists, who "stand out as a group in terms of behavioral characteristics." Profiling studies have thus far concentrated on personality, and have failed. Instead, says Dr Welman, groups need to be differentiated on the basis of objective criteria - thus moving the focus of profiling from theoretical assumptions to a more scientific basis. This objectification is a vital factor in creating a system that doesn't rely on the rare and potentially flawed esoteric skills or extra-sensory talents of people like *Millennium's* Frank Black, or *Kiss the Girls'* Dr Alex Cross.

The Rhodes University Investigative Psychology Unit is currently working on their Rapist Classification Programme, doing work on human rights abuses, exploring types of "motive-less" murders. The Unit will be expanding in 1999/2000 with the addition of a number of PhD and Masters students. They are currently assisting in geographical profiling on a case, the details of which are still under embargo.

that policies of import substituting industrialisation would better ensure economic growth than export-oriented industrialisation. Professor Bell also described how, to achieve economic rates as required by the government's GEAR strategy, manufacturing output had to grow by at least 13 percent - a lot higher than has ever been achieved by South Africa.



Dr Claudia Manning

Dr Claudia Manning, Senior Specialist of the Development Bank of South Africa, presented lectures on *The South African Government's New Investment Initiatives*. Professor Merle Holden, Head of the Department of Economics, Natal University presented a lecture on *Effective protection: Theoretical and political issues*. The topic dealt with tariff protection in trade policy.



Professor Merle Holden



1998 Sport Council Awards



Howard Barratt of the Rowing Club receives the trophy for Performance of the Year from Professor Chris Whiteley.

On Friday 16 October 1998 the Rhodes University Sports awards Dinner was held on the stage of the auditorium at the 1820 Settlers Monument. The annual event which marks the culmination of the entire sporting year was attended by 250 invited guests.

It was decided this year not to have a guest speaker but to rather expand the video footage which highlights the finalists in each category. The finalists for Sportswoman and Sportsman of the Year were: Women: Juanita Chouhan (Chess), Kate Dancer (Hockey), Nicola Davies (Rowing), Julie Dennison (Basketball), Dallah Edwards (Hockey), Eunice Musvasva (Basketball, Hockey & Soccer), Carla Neuhooff (Waterpolo), Unathi Nkayi (Hockey), Joey Simpson (Rowing), Louise Thurlwell (Volleyball), Robyn Tyler (Waterpolo); Men: Paul Backes (Rowing), Graham Carlson (Rugby), Barry Cox (Badminton), Michael Datt (Kung Fu), Nathan Davenport (Volleyball), Arne Hansen (Tennis), David Holness (Table Tennis),

Greg King (Cricket), Andy Maclachlan (Rowing), Kamlesh Narshai (Athletics), Michael Peters (Basketball), Warren Potts (Hockey). The 1998 Sportswoman of the Year is Joey Simpson (Rowing) while the Sportsman of the Year trophy was shared between Paul Backes (Rowing), Andy Maclachlan (Rowing) and Warren Potts (Hockey).

The 1998 Club of the Year Award went to the Aerobics Club which has made an enormous contribution to charity while servicing its approximately 700 members. Runners-up in this category were the Rowing and Mens Hockey Clubs.

The 1998 Most Improved Club trophy was shared between the Squash and Weights Clubs, both of which have shown great improvement over the last 12 months. The Squash Club, which was awarded the 1997 Eastern Province Squash Federation 'Club of the Year' Award, continues to grow in strength and depth, while the Weights Club is providing a service to its 1800 affiliates comparable to many commercial concerns throughout the country.

The 1998 Administrator of the Year Award was shared between Sean Kleynhans (Chairman of the Mens Hockey Club and member of the Sports Council Executive Committee), Nico Schonken (Chairman of the Rugby Club and member of the Tri-Varsity Committee) and Lynne Wallace (Chairperson of the Aerobics Club, Secretary of the Sports Council Executive Committee and Chairperson of the Tri-Varsity Committee).

The Performance of the Year Trophy, which is a new award named after Professor Chris Whiteley for his 12 years of service to the Rhodes Sports Council, was awarded to the Rowing Club for the performances of the four crews at boat races this year.

Congratulations must go to all those involved in the evening, including the Sports Administration Staff, Sports Council students and Bernadette Kesting who was responsible for preparing the video footage.

Visits to the Grahamstown Campus

Rhodes recently hosted three very different groups to a day on campus.

A visit by 30 members of the Grahamstown Military Base (6 South African Infantry) was a reciprocal one. Last year some Rhodes students and staff were treated to a day at the Base where they got to shoot all kinds of weaponry.

The 6SAI visit began at the Department of Human Kinetics and Ergonomics where Professor Pat Scott kept them enthralled with the very practical research that is being conducted there. Then they were hosted by Mike Ginn and Johan Barnard of LIRI. One of LIRI's first major contracts was to make the leather for the Defense Force's army boots! Dr Kevin Kelly then

facilitated a very interactive discussion on HIV and AIDS which proved to be an eye-opener as the group was very frank about sexual practices in the army. The group then visited the JLB Smith Institute and the DIFS Fish Farm, with the day closing over a few drinks at the Old Mutual Sports Pavilion.

The Carlisle Bridge Farmers Association spent a morning on campus, also visiting LIRI and the JLB Smith Institute and Fish Farm. Included in their visit was a visit to the Department of Zoology and Entomology where Dr Martin Villet gave them an overview of the various course structures and fielded some bug-related questions. The feedback from this group was that they didn't realise

that Rhodes was so friendly and that they could approach us for so many things!

The local Estate Agents were invited onto campus to be exposed to our residence system and for Dr Woods to outline the University's needs as far as student accommodation was concerned. They were shown around Canter-

bury and Cullen Bowles before being treated to a cocktail party.

If you know of any interest groups that may wish to visit the campus, please contact Linda Haschick on ext 8457 or by email L.Haschick@ru.ac.za. A custom-made programme will be put together for each group.



Members of 6SAI listen to the finer details of leather tanning...

...while the Carlisle Bridge Farmers are fascinated by bugs.

Obituary Tish Burger



Without exception, the two qualities which Tish's friends identified as the ones by which they would most remember her were firstly, her wonderful sense of humour, and secondly, her tremendous bravery in the face of adversity.

Although Tish's death on 27 November was seen as a mercy to all who knew and loved her, right until the end, racked though she was with pain and fighting increasingly for moments of lucidity, she never quite lost her irrepressible ability to see the lighter side of life and to engage in the word-play at which she was so good. And throughout, she never lost her dignity or courage or gave way to self-pity.

Tish was born in the mining town of Brakpan, 9 October 1941, the daughter of a clerk on the mines and a primary school teacher. She spent most of her early childhood years in mining towns. The experiences she gained here provided her with the ore with which to regale her friends with amusing tales of the kinds of mischief only children can get up to with steel cable, disused cocopans, and other such enticing debris of the mining enterprise.

Tish matriculated from the Paul Kruger High School in Steynsburg in 1959, and proceeded to Graaff-Reinet

Teachers' College where she studied to become a primary school teacher. In the course of her sojourn in Graaff-Reinet she met and married a local farmer, Rodney Burger. They had two children, André and Liesél.

In 1980 Tish and the children took up residence in Grahamstown. She joined the Rhodes staff in the (then) Department of Physical Education under Professor Eugene Locke. While a member of staff she completed the BA (Phys Ed) degree. Her work in the Department brought her increasingly into contact with students who were themselves destined for the teaching profession. When the Department evolved towards Human Movement as opposed to physical education as such, it was a natural opportunity for Tish to transfer into the University's Education Department - a move she made in 1985. In 1987 she obtained the BEd degree and three years later an MEd.

Tish's prime responsibility in the Education Department revolved around the preparation of future teachers of physical education. She had an intense interest in her subject area and firm determination to instil in her students a similar passion and regard for the value of physical education within the school curriculum. She had high expectations of her students and was quite a tough taskmaster. Her reward in this was the recognition given to her students' efforts by schools, and the respect and genuine affection she received from these same students.

A comment from one of her colleagues perhaps best encapsulates Tish in her professional realm: "Tish took

her responsibilities seriously but wore them lightly. Despite the fact that she hadn't had an easy life, she was a very positive person - always making plans for the future, especially with regard to her teaching".

On the family front, Tish was a tower of strength to her children through the difficulties of growing up; and, latterly, to her mother, Mrs Lisa Loxton, with whom she has shared her home these past several years. The loss of her son in a motor accident in April this year was made the more poignant not only by Tish's rapidly failing health, but also by the fact that she and André, having weathered the tempests of adolescence and young adulthood, had become immeasurably closer in recent years. André was increasingly coming to the fore as a source of physical and emotional strength to Tish as her disease progressed. As with so much else in Tish's life, however, she accepted André's death with courage, despite huge internal costs to herself.

Before closing this small tribute a few other aspects of

Tish need brief mention. It may not have been widely known that - in addition to being a good and caring mother, daughter, sister, friend, mentor and colleague - she was also an accomplished artist, producing skilled pencil sketches and water colours, as well as a most pleasing 'stained-glass' window at the end of her home passage; she could fix a lawn mower and tune her car with the best of mechanics; she installed her own built-in cupboards in her home; and she endeared herself to many younger Grahamstonians over a number of years through her introduction of a very popular and successful "Kiddies' Gym" programme which catered mainly for pre-schoolers, many of whom are now in their late teens.

In all these spheres Tish will be sadly missed, but many happy memories and an enduring admiration for a person of strength, humour and integrity will remain in the hearts and minds of those who knew her.

Sally-Ann Robertson

STUDENT ORIENTATION HANDBOOK: 1999

This is a repeat and final request for alterations and additions to next year's Orientation Handbook.

Material should reach us, please, by 30 November at the latest. Our own deadline is such that we cannot guarantee to include anything received after that date.

Many thanks

Sirion Robertson:

Ext 8494; email pasr@giraffe;

Sally-Ann Robertson:

Ext 8388; email edsr@croc;

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ACCOMMODATION WANTED

The German Dept is looking for accommodation for their next year's teaching assistant and her friend. Preferably furnished, with security, in walking distance to campus. From Jan or Feb 1999 onwards. Phone: U. Weber or W. Krueger, ext. 8328/9, email: GEWU@warthog or GEWK@giraffe.

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3 b/r home preferably within walking distance of DSG from Jan/Feb. Tel Terry 6226651 after 20:30.

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Letter to the Editor

In your edition of 11 September '98 you published an interesting account of the work of Rotary Student Coe Leta Finke and all that she accomplished during her year at Rhodes. An 'action packed year' indeed. You stated that her piece of sculpture which now stands outside the new Sculpture Department was 'the first work of a student artist to be permanently exhibited on the Rhodes campus.'

But you may be interested to know that in 1931 a fountain sculpture was designed and executed by a student for the atrium of the School of Art. The atrium was then an open area with a rectangular fish pond, with water lilies, covering most of the ground space. This pond was, some thirty years later, covered in to make room for the Exhibition area it is today. The fountain took the form of a Xhosa woman with a pot on her head, from which the water fell. In front of her was a free standing goat. The student was Dorothy Farrow (now Randell), the first student to be awarded the Degree of Bachelor of Fine Arts at Rhodes (1932).

Another of her works at that time was a bird-bath for the garden of the then Head of the School of Art, Professor Austin Winter Moore.

This was of an almost life-size kneeling figure of a girl and a group of ducks around a formal central bowl.

Dorothy Fallow went on to study at the Chelsea School of Art, where Henry Moore was the Head of the Sculpture School. She came home to South Africa to marry George Randell, whom she had met in her first year, when he was a law student and Chairman of the SRC.

She is now in her 90th year and lives 'on campus' in what was the stable of the Piet Retief house on the corner of Prince Alfred and Somerset Streets. Two of her later sculptures are also on campus: the bronze head of Professor Guy Butler in the side foyer of the Rhodes Theatre, and one of Professor 'Doc' Gruber, conducting, in the Music Department.

Beth Dickerson



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