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Preliminary meeting held for selection of new V-C

The selection committee appointed to select the new Vice-Chancellor has held a preliminary meeting at which further members were co-opted and decisions were taken on selection procedures.

The Committee is chaired by Dr B la Trobe, the Vice-Chairperson of the University Council. Its members are, in alphabetical order: Dr J Cobbing, representing the Forum for the Democratic Transformation of Rhodes (FDTR); Prof J G Grogan, representing the University Senate; Prof H R Hepburn representing the University Senate; Mr M Jonas, representing the Regional Education and Training Forum (RETF); Judge R J W Jones, representing the University Convocation; Ms K Jurgensen, representing the Students' Representative Council (SRC); Mr G Klerck, representing the FDTR; Mr M Kuhlman, representing the FDTR; Ms L Naidoo, representing the FDTR; Mr M J Nkwinti representing the Local Government Negotiating Forum (LGNF); Mr E Ntentile, representing the National Health and Allied Workers' Union (NEHAWU); Mr T Phantsi, representing the National Education Crisis Committee (NECC); Mr M S Pityana, representing the Department of Education; Mr B Rayner, representing the Board of Governors of the University; Dr D A Sewry, representing the Rhodes University Staff Association (RUSA); Ms J Stuart-Watson, representing the Board of the East London Division of the University; Prof P D Terry, representing the University Senate; Prof M van Wyk Smith, representing the University Senate and Mr N E Woollgar, representing the Council of the University.

The committee considered submissions on the selection process received from other interested parties, and agreed on the following process:

- * Members of the University and the public are invited to submit written, confidential reports on the short-listed candidates to the selection committee for its consideration;
- * Short-listed candidates will be required to give a public lecture;
- * Interested persons or organisations wishing to make oral representations will be interviewed by the committee;
- * Candidates will be interviewed in private and all committee members will be able to ask questions.

The selection committee will then deliberate in private and make its recommendation for the consideration of the University Senate and Council and will proceed with the short-listing of candidates as soon as possible.

Mr Bruce Smith, Director of Personnel, said that the selection committee is confident that an acceptable, transparent, selection process will be formulated. "The FDTR has been invited to submit nominations for the post as soon as possible so that the necessary administrative functions can proceed", said Mr Smith.

Student art shows 'a distinct change of subject and of mood'



There is very little continuation of the themes which were so dominant in last year's show, says Dr Robin Palmer, of this year's student art exhibition, currently on view at the School of Art in Somerset Street. The painting above, by Ben Coutouvidis, is entitled *Tree at Salem* and is executed in oils on paper.

See page 6 for a full review of the exhibition



Letters to The Editor

Rhodes invites correspondence on matters of concern to the University community. It is hoped that the contents of such letters, which should, ideally, not exceed 200 words in length, will indicate the wide spectrum of views held and will promote further discussion.

A pseudonym is acceptable, but the writer must supply his or her full name and residential address to the editor, who will respect confidentiality.

The letter below was published in our last edition; but not in full. Gremlins lurking somewhere in the electronic editing had their evil ways . . . We apologise to Prof Higgins and republish the letter below

What about Jonty?

The Editor

Since the majority of academics and politicians appear to favour compromise solutions to problems and disputes, I wish to offer the following compromise suggestion vis-a-vis the mooted name change of Rhodes University.

Simply because the University was named after that enigmatic imperialist-philanthropist, Cecil John Rhodes, does not mean that the University has to be stuck with that connection forever. In order to avoid legal hassles as well logistical problems, why not retain the name and change the personal connection?

Why not drop the Cecil John connection and substitute a fresh, arresting and imaginative link – the incomparable Jonty Rhodes? As a general rule I disapprove of any nomenclature connection between an academic institution and a living person. However, I feel the present situation justifies an exception.

Sport – certainly at the national level – has the potential to become a unifying factor in the new South Africa. Not only is Jonty Rhodes by all accounts a true sportsman in the best sense of the word but he is also a first-class non-racialist. In addition, this inspiring and idealistic young sportsman is university-educated.

Jonty Rhodes is more famous as a cricketer than as a hockey player. This is relevant to the University naming issue because cricket in South Africa has been the most *verlig* of all our sports, leading the way in respect of multi-racialism, development programmes, funds, facilities and opportunities for disadvantaged youth. We could not do better in rechristening our Rhodes connection; we could do much worse in the renaming of our great little university.

Emeritus Professor E Higgins

No valid reason for change

The Editor,

It is with feelings amounting virtually to dismay that I read of a proposal to change the University's name, for another yet to be decided upon.

I can see no really valid reason for any change. The present name is short and distinctive and for ninety years has, it would seem, been deemed satisfactory. What are the objections to retaining it?

C J Rhodes was certainly a controversial political figure, to some extent, but the Trust which bears his name donated what was at that time a quite handsome sum to the newly-founded University College. Quite a number of universities have been named after prominent citizens who contributed to their foundation and I have never encountered any objections to the practice.

Does the proposal envisage that we should find another personality worthy of giving his name to a university?

It has been suggested that Rhodes might henceforth be called 'The University of the Eastern Cape' or 'The University of Grahamstown'. 'Old Grahamstonian' would be a distinctly inelegant follow-on to 'Old Rhodian' and what could we possibly make of 'Old Eastern Capian'? *What's in a name?* is a saying valid only up to a point and when the name has a long history, and is voiced with affection and happy memories, then there is something in it worth preserving, and any new name will not 'smell' as sweet.

It would be interesting to know what the many thousands of Old Rhodians think and feel on this theme. I am convinced that the great majority of them would favour no change.

*Dan M Morton
Cape Town*

This letter has been edited

Ponder which more meaningful?

The Editor,

After reading the latest editions of *Rhodo* and *Rhodos*, I was tempted to enter the debate regarding the proposed name change to the Varsity and newspaper, with a tirade against people who seem to spend more time worrying about petty issues, rather than getting off their backsides and doing something.

Suffice it to say that some of our esteemed academics should perhaps ponder which would be more meaningful to an underprivileged child: hearing that the University had changed its name so as to be more politically correct, or being told that a Rhodes academic, instead of standing on his soapbox, was actually giving up his spare time to try and educate people whose parents could not afford to send him or her to school?

*Conan Olivier
Grahamstown*

Campus conifers dying

Anasty Italian immigrant is making its presence known on our campus, and around Grahamstown, and is leaving its very visible mark for all to see.

Rejoicing in the name of *Cinara cupressi*, it is an aphid which is killing conifers, particularly the cypress trees in the various quadrangles and in front of the administration block.

Mark Hazell, Manager: Grounds and Gardens, says that the aphid is not yet well understood and that, to date, control measures have not proved very efficient.

"The aphid extracts sap from the trees", he says, "and then injects a substance called 'honey dew'. This is toxic and the symptoms, browning of leaves, follow".

Control measures adopted by Rhodes are seeing affected trees injected with a systemic insecticide. "It is still early", says Hazell, "but the problem is fairly widespread and, elsewhere in the country, there has not, to my knowledge, been a case where trees have been saved."

He thinks that it is possible that the aphid arrived in South Africa through the importation of plant material by unscrupulous collectors. Alternatively some individual may have done so unwittingly while bringing in a gift. Either way such activity is illegal as there are strict controls about importing plants to our country and quarantining is required.

Hazell believes that the first occurrence of the pest in South Africa was reported a mere eighteen months ago, probably from the Transvaal. Since then the effects have been noted in Natal and, more recently, the Eastern Cape. Hazell says that the outlook, until such time as an effective control agent is identified, is worrying. "The aphid has been found on cedar trees as well as cypresses and junipers", he points out, "in the Transvaal. It may be that it is going to spread to pines and other conifers; if it does the implications for our national forestry industry are horrendous."

A recent newspaper report from East London records that 841 trees in that city are dying as a result of the aphid. Some three dozen are affected on our campus but one can see the effect on other trees while driving and walking around Grahamstown. Mark Hazell says that, by the time the symptoms are visible, it may be too late to save a tree.

An interesting fact concerning the aphid is that it has not yet adapted to conditions in the Southern Hemisphere but remains dormant during the European winter months.

It is extremely efficient at killing the trees and has spread widely and fast since it was first noticed in South Africa. Hazell says that biological control methods are being evaluated, but that this will take time. Until some success rewards those efforts we will have to continue with the injections, he says. "It appears, however, that there is little cause for optimism."

Vice-Chancellor elected Fellow of Royal Society

The Council of the Royal Society of South Africa, one of the oldest and most prestigious scientific societies in South Africa, has announced that Dr Derek Henderson has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of South Africa.

Dr Henderson was nominated for Fellowship of the Royal Society of South Africa on the basis of his pioneering achievements in academic computing in South Africa; his contributions to science on important national committees; his major contributions to education (general and scientific), locally and nationally, as a long-serving and respected Vice-Chancellor, and for the breadth and vision of his influence.

The Citation accompanying the nomination for election records that Dr Henderson graduated with a BSc, with distinction in Mathematics, Applied Mathematics and Physics, from Rhodes University, in 1948. He later studied at Oxford and Cambridge before gaining a PhD from Harvard. Supported by several prestigious fellowships, this was followed by a spell with the IBM Corporation working on the prototype of the IBM 360 family of computers.

Dr Henderson returned to South Africa in 1962 and established the first University Computer Centre in South Africa at the University of the Witwatersrand. Under his directorship, the Centre grew to a staff of 35 with the most powerful equipment in the country, financed largely from outside contracts. The first multi-terminal system in

SA was developed and much of the software was written personally by Dr Henderson, including the fastest debugging FORTRAN compiler available at the time.

In 1969, Dr Henderson was appointed Head of Applied Mathematics in succession to Prof A E H Bleksley. The department expanded rapidly to encompass Computer Science, Data Processing and Mathematical Statistics. The academic posts rose from six to 44, teaching over 3 000 students in six major faculties. Teaching of all mathematical sciences was modularised into a highly flexible and efficient system.

At this early stage of Computer Science, the emphasis was on the acquisition and functioning of hardware and the development and improvement of software. Derek Henderson's main contributions were in the development of software and of pioneering curricula in undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Computer Science. He also supervised over 20 Masters and Doctoral students.

Dr Henderson has an undisputed claim to be the father of academic computing in SA.

His flair for administration was recognized by his appointment as Dean of Science at Wits in 1974.

In 1975 Dr Henderson was appointed to his present position as Vice-Chancellor of Rhodes University. In 1994, after almost 20 years of his firm, dignified guidance, the University has made great strides. Student numbers have doubled, undergraduate pass rates have risen,

scientific research output, on a pro rata basis, vies with the best. Student and staff morale is high, buildings and equipment have been acquired and maintained to a remarkable standard of excellence in difficult times, and a flourishing branch of the University has been established in East London. In spite of these developments, the University has remained a model of sound financial management.

Dr Henderson has also played important parts in steering the J L B Smith Institute of Ichthyology to its current status as a Declared Cultural Institution, and the Leather Industries Research Institute (now LIRI Technologies) through its crises with the CSIR. As Vice-Chairman of the 1820 Foundation (now the Grahamstown Foundation Council for many years, he shares in credit due for the phenomenal success of the National Festival of the Arts.

Beyond the confines of his own University and city, Dr Henderson has made significant contributions as Chairman of the Committee of University Principals and of its Computer, Staff Affairs and Finance Committees. He played a significant role in the development of the subsidy formula for university funding. He has served on the Council of the CSIR, the State President's Scientific Advisory Council, and the Board of the SABC. In all of these bodies, his incisive grasp of the issues on hand has led to constructive debate and the absence of "rubber stamping".



"The muse is upon me, Samantha – I'm loading the sonnet programme"

Dr McKellar returns from Zimbabwe conference

Dr David McKellar, of the Faculty of Education, returned recently from a trip to Zimbabwe, where he was guest speaker at the conference of the Heads of Independent Schools in Zimbabwe.

Dr McKellar presented two papers at the conference. The first dealt with identifying problems when initiating change or innovation in schools. The second dealt with aspects of teaching reading in the post-mechanical stages.

Dr McKellar also discussed the issue of access to universities in South Africa with the heads of secondary schools. The Zimbabwean Minister of Health was due to address the conference, but was not able to do so and Dr McKellar was asked to give a further talk. He held an impromptu lecture and question-and-answer session during which delegates considered the questions of responding to children's work and the place of examination in schools.

Dr McKellar will attend meetings in Bulawayo in January, 1995, in response to an invitation issued to him at the conference.

On Occasion

A guest column written by invitation.

It is in a kitchen at a party, fairly late in the evening. A is telling B about how he was given an iron by his wife for his birthday. C is talking serious home maintenance at the new man in town – second time around student returned as lecturer – who is staring across the room at a woman in dayglo pink and orange – whoever told her pink and orange could be worn together, even in this dim light. D is contemplating the microwave oven.

Dayglo woman:

An iron. . . what kind of present is that? I think domestic appliances should be given out for free at Family Planning. I knew a couple: he gave his wife a fridge for her birthday! A fridge! I mean, what a cold image. . . and in the divorce she got the car, he got the child and the lover got the household of furniture, including the fridge. I mean, the relationship didn't stand a chance with ice in its heart. . .

C:

And I really think that just doing the floors with that poison is adequate. You can fumigate for thousands but the poison painted on works just as well. Just have to be careful of the fumes. You paint it on after sanding, before sealing. . . really, these old houses require such maintenance!

Dayglo:

Don't you mean love?

Returnee:

I mean I have been back three months now and I really love the teaching part. . . but Grahamstown. . . no! After J'burg, this place. . . uh uh.

Dayglo:

It's a parallel universe, honey. And you have Cosmic Drag Syndrome – common to returnees. Some get over it.

Returnee:

Yes and any minute now you will be telling

me that I will fall for a tattooed woman.

D:

(addressing the microwave) To be considered for Vice-Chancellor neither you nor any family members must have met (a) a librarian (b) a vegetarian (c) a tattooed woman (d) Anneline Kriel – with or without her clothes on. . .

C:

. . . and that non-drip enamel – Velvagro, it is called – might cost more but it really has a beautiful finish and covers up flaws beautifully. Wonderful to use.

Dayglo:

Do you have a problem with tattooed women?

B:

I read about this tribe where ritual scarification is an important part of a certain rite of passage. If you can survive the pain of tattooing you can survive adulthood.

Returnee:

Adulthood, huh! . . . how can you be adult in this town? I mean you can't even pop down to the deli for takeaway humus. How can a single man entertain here?

Dayglo:

Single men are entertaining enough in their own right here. We don't need them to buy accoutrements over the counter. Tell me: do you have a problem with tattooed women?

B:

I read this amazing article by a Darwinian evolutionist attacking feminism – basically he is talking about how a woman's genetically based impulses of attraction have been shaped over millions of years to prevent her squandering precious reproductive episodes. This makes her more discriminating about partners and programmed for monogamy and submission. Men, however. . .

C:

. . . and the roofs ALWAYS leak. Ah! don't speak to me about roof problems. It is all the different levels, you know, on these Victorian roofs. But Plascon makes this great sealer. It really works.

D:

(still intoning to the microwave) You must have forgotten what it felt like to be a student. You must have forgotten what it felt like to be a professor. You must have forgotten life itself. . .

Returnee:

Some days I feel such a failure for being back in this town.

A:

An iron was really sensible. I mean it was something we needed. Times are tough.

Returnee:

I am surprised she even managed to buy you an iron in Grahamstown.

Dayglo:

Why buy anything? She could have woken you at 5 am and given you Grahamstown's translucent early morning light and clear enamel blue sky. There's no pollution you see – we have a quality of light. . .

Returnee:

Five in the morning! You call that a birthday present? The hour shouldn't exist! Pass me another beer.

Dayglo:

Do you have a problem with tattooed women?

(This could go on for a long time – curtailed due to space constraints)

Only in the kitchen, at a party in Grahamstown can you find so many such highly qualified people not answering one simple question but in the process telling you so much about how precious life is in a small town on the southern tip of Africa in 1994.

Note: This is fictional and written as a joke out of a great and painful love for our community. Anyone who sees themselves in the piece should take their problems to a tattooed woman.

Penn A Line

Who'd be on a committee?

Stolen from *Varsity Voice*, published by the University of Durban-Westville.

Oh, give me your pity, I'm on a committee
which means that from morning till night
we attend, and amend, and contend, and defend
without a conclusion in sight.
confer and concur,
we defer and demure, and reiterate all of our thoughts,
we revise the agenda with frequent addenda,
and consider a load of reports.

We compose and propose, we suppose and oppose
and the points of procedure are fur!
But though various notions are brought up as motions,
there's terribly little gets done!
We resolve and absolve but we never dissolve,
since it's out of the question for us!
What a shattering pity to end our committee,
where else could we make such a fuss!

Adult Education certificates presented

Certificates to mark the completion of courses in basic English and Basic Typing were presented to members of staff at Rhodes, recently.

The courses were run by the Community Interaction Programme (CIP) at the University. The CIP also ran courses in basic literacy in Xhosa as part of its adult education programme.

Those who received certificates were:

Basic English

Mr Don April
 Ms Esther Banga
 Mr Pumzile Boo
 Mr Matthews Buwa
 Mr Siphon Cagwe
 Ms Xiao-Xiao Chen
 Ms Mavis Duruwe
 Ms Elizabeth Gacula
 Ms Queenete Gongqa
 Mr Warase Gongqa
 Mr David Hashe
 Mr Richman Hashe
 Ms Caroline Kepe
 Mr Sindaphi Kepe
 Ms Vuyiswa Kosi
 Mr Elliot Kota
 Ms Eunice Kulana
 Ms Nomhle Mantshongo
 Ms Cynthia Manyati
 Ms Gladys Memani
 Ms Phindiwe Mzizi
 Mr Samuel Mzangwa
 Ms Zanyiwe Mzongwana
 Ms Nomvuyo Nelson
 Mr Ntsikelelo Ngowaphi
 Mr Thobile Ngqoyiya
 Mr Enoch Nontyi
 Mr Fezile Papu
 Ms Nonthini Qinela
 Mr Jeffre Qubuda
 Mr Zwelakhe Ralo
 Mr Mbonisi Sandi
 Ms Auria Soyeye
 Ms Lizeka Titi

Basic Typing

Ms Nocawa Faku
 Mr Joseph Jadi
 Mr January Majo
 Ms Nomhle Mantshongo
 Ms Sylvia Mganca
 Ms Nomsebenzi Mnayamana
 Ms Zanyiwe Mzongwana
 Ms Nomathemba Yaphi
 Mr Nkosana Khuselo
 Ms Phindiwe Mzizi



Mr Toto Peter, one of the tutors in the Xhosa literacy course, speaks at a ceremony during which the certificates in basic English and basic Typing were presented to staff members who had completed the courses.



Mr Joseph Jadi (left) receives his certificate in basic typing from Mrs Brenda Mallinson, while Ms Nonthuthuzelo Faku looks on.



Ms Elizabeth Gacula (left) receives her certificate in basic English from the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Derek Henderson.

'Positive 'vibes' might have influenced student artists.'

Rhodes' student fine art exhibition 1994 – another appreciation

by Robin Palmer

About this time last year I was so gobsmacked by the annual student art exhibition that I broke 14 years of silence on the subject and submitted a review to *Rhodos*. No art historian but a philistine anthropologist, I felt the need to justify my position:

What has provoked me to write about this year's show is its striking departure from its predecessors; and what this change might signify not so much from the aesthetic perspective as from that of the sociology of art.

After reviewing a cross section of the work on show I stated:

It is my contention that fear and confusion at the national-political level combined with (even eclipsed by) the fear and confusion inherent in the social lives of art and photography students. . . has produced the disturbing images on show at the Rhodes art School this year. . .

The individual students mentioned in this review are engaged in encoding visual representations of the hazards of sex and gender in a violent society. . . The artists have eschewed the direct, self-indulgent sensuality of impasto oil paint and personal iconography to provide a direct message driven home with the most ancient and universal symbols (skeletons, knives). Working individually they have produced a collective representation, a neo-Hierononymous Boschian warning for a secular, postindustrial society: Take care! Conflict, confusion disease and death are very close to us! And who can say that the students are over-reacting?

Well, that was last year. It seems like more than a year ago, somehow, when we were in the thick of the Trade Centre negotiations and F W de Klerk was still State President; when APLA was active and whites who could afford to were emigrating in droves.

Contrast with the past

The surprisingly peaceful election and the national and international relief that the 'rainbow people' did not go the same way as the Rwandans and Bosnians have produced such a contrast with the past that it seems to have prolonged the year.

One wonders to what extent all these positive 'vibes' might have influenced the art students. For there is very little continuation of the themes which were so dominant in last year's show.

To be sure, Giselle Baillie still explores themes of disease and death in her new woodcuts. In *The Filthy Womb of Blood* a pre-Raphael gilt-haloed figure with a sash bearing the legend *hasta la muerte* is embraced

by a skeleton, but in a companion piece on the other side of the hall, the skeleton wears a jester's cap, as if to announce that she is no longer taking these 'black death' images as seriously as she did last year. But other stalwarts of the graphic section are not laughing: Mark van Dalsen has a pair of strange cautionary lithographs – one of them depicting a burning at the stake – in an early Victorian style; Zenia Greyling depicts an Egyptian or Aztec ritual clawing-to-death and an encounter between an anatomized man and a naked woman in bat-ridden, gothic surroundings.

Lightness comes in several idioms

But elsewhere there is a distinct change of subject and of mood: the new lightness (the sense of relief?) comes in several idioms.

There is the surrealism and humour of Gabby Mentz's large oils of angels right in the doorway. Hylton Mann's coelacanths plodding round a group of yuppies (one of them complete with cellular phone) who in turn surround a sphere, and his contrasted race horse/merry-go-round horse diptych have a



Diptych

similarly playful tone; but his spiked wasps homing in on a vertiginous figure are more redolent of last year's preoccupations. Another transitional image is Tamzin Lovell's photograph of a bound figure spiked with porcupine quills, but the 'victim's' ironical facial expression suggests that we shouldn't take the image too seriously.

Porcupine quills are part of nature, South African nature, as are coelacanths, and this year such natural-national images intrude everywhere. Cathy Layzell's big oil of a nude is accompanied by. . . proteas; the self-portrait/still life next to it by Shelley Thomas features strelitzias; and in the graphics section, again, Sam Lotter depicts granadilla flowers, a coelacanth with starfish while Mabin Nagar and Debbie Gothan also employ floral motifs.

Floral symbolism has never been the same since the 'Summer of Love' in 1970, and I detected a distinct revival of flower-powered sensuality in the exhibition which was certainly not present last year or any other year. Judy Arnold's skin-painted subject in the photograph is wearing a '60s revival shirt to complete the association. Nikki Going's and Chris Young's photographs also evoke the mood of those times, as do the graphics of Asha Daya (a flower halo!) and Lesley Kitney. Alexandra Murphy's 'Birth of Venus' resembles a record-cover of the period. And Tarryn Poole's large oil of the naked lovers evoke the period of John and Yoko (*Peace*,



Hylton Mann

man – love is all you need!).

A preoccupation of the 'hippy' era which persists is the interest in ecology, which emphasizes not so much an interest in nature for its own sake as our relationship with it. This seems to be coming out in the photographs by Lovell and Arnold, and in the striking large oil in the entrance, depicting the



"... Shelley Thomas's huge oil triptych with its wonderfully painterly flanking nudes ..."

climate environmental nightmare –
unregulated urbanization combined with
industrial pollution.

Elsewhere, the theme of sensuality takes
different forms. It is definitely devotional in
Shelley Thomas's huge oil triptych with its
wonderfully painterly flanking nudes;
manifestly Monet-like in the way Thomas
Newhurst treats her equally painterly versions
of the female form. Indeed, I have never seen
brushwork like it in an exhibition of student
art, let alone in this school where the human
figure was formerly frequently to be seen
rendered in an expressionist style, in non-
natural tones, copiously and angrily applied
with a palette-knife. Even the second year
Jrnr, Craig Wylie, reveals his potential for
sensual oil painting in his huge full-length
self-portrait.

Engaged in visual conversation

In the room to the left of the main exhibition
hall, Hermann Niebuhr and Ben Coutouvidis
are engaged in a visual conversation or contest.
The impression is enhanced by the fact that
their many small oils are arranged alternately
(singly or in groups) around the room. Niebuhr
deals with subjects such as totems, storms and
trees in a way which is entirely different from
the graphic artists' symbolist expressions of
violence and death, but is equally portentous.
Coutouvidis, in complete contrast, produces
visual *pastorales* of clouds, sunsets, sheep,
trees (with or without explicit reference to
totem). In terms of the two themes outlined
above, Niebuhr appears to be ringing out the
old, while Coutouvidis rings in the new.
The new themes are not confined to painting
and graphics: they carry over into the sculpture
as well. In the same side room there is another
dialogue involving Coutouvidis, but this time
the medium is sculpture and the other exhibitor
Jan Nell. This time, however, there is
complete consensus: the sculptures are all life

– especially wild-life enhancing enhancing; as
fine a bestiary in a variety of media (some
seldom found outside exhibitions of
ethnographic art, such as antlers and whale
bone). The ecological theme is particularly
marked among these two neo-eskimo carvers.
But neither of them are immune to gentle
humour, as in Nell's *Bird with Snake* or
Coutouvidis's *Seal* ingeniously realised from the
jawbone of an ass, or some such.

Bridge from people to nature

In the main hall there are gentle terra cottas
of the human form by Helen Clarke – two of
her bronze studies of Icarus make the
bridge from people
to nature, which is
amply represented
in Belinda
Walwyn's metal
crab, fish and frog,
Leanne Christie's
pangolin and
monkeys, Lisa
Johnston's bronze
bird and penguin
and Laura Rivera's
'ecological'
portrait emerging
from a piece of
driftwood; humour
arises in Johnston's
locust entirely constructed of cut-up coke cans.
Agonistic the sculpture exhibition is not!

Janet Wilson seems to sum up the entire
1994 exhibition in the title of her linocut
triptych: *I am for an art that imitates the
human (and the natural, I should add), that is
comic if necessary... or violent... or
whatever is necessary* – something of last
year's sense of dread remains, but it has
largely been dispelled in favour of more
life-affirming themes.

Could it be that our rescue from the brink of
political disaster by Nelson Mandela has
something to do with it? Especially when clad
in his colourful shirts, Madiba combines the
gentle wisdom of the '60s guru with a more
earthbound sensuality (which definitely
appears to appeal to Whitney). His demeanour
is infectious, and peace has been breaking out
in all but the most intractable quarters of this
society and the neighbouring states.

Positive response from students

The Garden of Earthly Delights has not yet
replaced the Vision of Hell in the new South



"... gentle terra cottas of the human form ..."

by Helen Clark

Africa, and it probably never will, but the
paradigmatic shift in the political and cultural
environment seems to have provoked a very
positive, Dionysian response from the fine art
students this year.

The time-honoured role of the artist as 'cultural
lightning rod', anticipator of cultural trends and,
possibly, over-reactor, is manifest yet again this
year. The show's still on, why not go and feast
your eyes on the latest productions of the finest
art school in the country?

Damage on one hand – Construction on the other!

Serious damage is being caused to a variety of shrubs and bushes around the campus, says Manager of Grounds and Gardens Mark Hazell, by a newly popular student prank called bush-jumping.

"Whether the practice is related to alcohol or drug abuse, or sheer exuberance, I really do not know", he says. "The results, however, are destructive and expensive to restore.

The 'sport' appears to require participants to run at speed towards a bush, turning at the last moment to fall backwards on to it.

Many shrubs have been badly damaged and several have been destroyed. Hazell thinks that it is only a matter of time before someone is impaled by a stake or a pruned branch; this has happened elsewhere.

The activity is not peculiar to Rhodes or even South Africa. Mark has heard of people indulging in bush-jumping at other universities, in the Republic and abroad.

He says that the practice must be stopped, but that it is proving extremely difficult to apprehend participants. The Campus Protection Unit are on the look out for incidences, but the campus is large. "We have to stop it", says Hazell. "At approximately R 25,00 for a new shrub and given the many hours of work in replanting or attending to damages, we cannot afford to tolerate its continuance. What is sad is that, even when a bush is not destroyed, it takes many months for it to regenerate into something aesthetically pleasing again."

Quite the opposite extreme, insofar as the results of student interest in the flora of the campus is concerned, has come out of a project designed to rehabilitate the Kowie Ditch (Cotch Creek, if you prefer!) where it passes Atherstone and Jan Smuts Houses.

A Botany student, Mr Craig Peter, and several of his colleagues approached the Grounds and Gardens Division some time ago wanting to embark on this project.

Grounds and Gardens were delighted, says the Manager, Mark Hazell, as it represented a boost to a project commenced some six years ago. "We asked the students to present their detailed proposals to us and to keep us continually informed of their progress. This they have done most efficiently."

Mr Peter and his fellow students have removed many alien plants from the water course but some can only be eradicated by chemical treatment and Grounds and Gardens are supplying what is necessary and keeping a watch on usage and application. Aliens are being replaced with indigenous species which are being supplied by Mr Hazell's Division.

To date some 20 trees have been planted on the banks below Atherstone House and on those opposite Adamson. Many exotic plants and saplings have been pulled out, especially around the Hamilton Reservoir.

Mr Peter intends to launch a new student society next year, to be called ECOS – for Environmentally Concerned Students. There may be a recruiting stall at next term's Societies Evening for new students. He also intends to contact the Water Research Institute to ask them to test the water with a view, in the longer term, to improving its quality.

In a letter to Mr Peter, the Registrar, Dr Keith Hunt, complimented the students on their efforts and noted with pleasure their active interest in the beautification of the campus.

Changes to main Library hours of opening

It has been decided to make some changes in the hours for which the Main Library will be open in term from 1995.

The process began some time ago and involved investigations by the Library Staff, a Library user survey during the third term of this year, consultation of the SRC President and discussions in the Library Committee. The Library Committee, at its October 1994 meeting, recommended changes suggested to it by the Acting University Librarian to Senate which approved them later that month. The effect of the changes will be to close the Library on Friday evenings, which is the least used session of the week but to eliminate the "lunch" and "supper" closures on Saturdays. Library Committee has also requested the University Librarian to examine the possibility of eliminating the "supper" closure on weekdays but that will be the subject of further investigation before any further changes are proposed.

Library hours of opening in term for 1995 will be:

Monday to Thursday 08h30 - 18h00 and 19h30 - 22h30

Friday 08h30 - 18h00

Saturday 09h00 - 21h00

Readers of *Rhodos* are reminded that the Library is working to its *Vacation hours* from now until the middle of February. It opens daily on week days at 08h45 and closes at 17h00. It is also closed between 12h45 and 14h00. On Saturdays it is open from 09h00 until 12h30. It is closed on Sundays.

Music students excel



Three students in the Department of Music and Musicology have recently excelled in performers' examinations. Mr Itamar Cohen (standing) and Ms Carol Schutz (left) completed the Advanced Performance Certificate for Cello; and Ms Nicole Martin has completed the London Royal Schools of Music Performer's certificate for Flute.

Library Week to run again

The Library will be running its annual Library Orientation Week next year during the orientation period for new students, from Wednesday 15 Feb to Thursday 23 Feb.

Students will be introduced to the Library Service by a short lecture from the University Librarian and conducted tours of the Main Library and its various divisions and services. There will also be special exhibitions and the annual sale of redundant book and periodical stock as part of the Library Week events. Library tours will also be available to new students who arrive too late for Library Week itself. The Library welcomes visits by parents and other interested parties at this time when it is "on show."

Mike Berning

Five Honorary Degrees to be awarded next year

Rhodes University will award five honorary degrees at its graduation ceremonies in Grahamstown and East London in April and May next year.

In Grahamstown on April 21 and 22, the Rev Dr Simon Gqubule will receive the degree of Doctor of Divinity (DD) *honoris causa*; Prof Emeritus Alastair Kerr will receive the degree of Doctor of Laws (LLD) *honoris causa*; Mr Omar H S Ebrahim will receive the degree of Doctor of Social Science (DSocSc) *honoris causa*; Mr Alexander McGregor will receive the degree of Doctor of Laws (LLD) *honoris causa*. Mr Allan Gray will receive the degree of Doctor of Laws (LLD) *honoris causa* in East London during the graduation ceremony there on May 13.

Mr Omar Ebrahim, JP

Mr Ebrahim is a director of numerous companies and trustee of several trusts which sponsor and contribute towards the upliftment of the community. Many projects which have been instituted directly as a result of Mr Ebrahim's involvement include the HS Ebrahim Training Centre for the Mentally Handicapped in Port Elizabeth, the HS Ebrahim Training Centre for those with impaired eyesight and the HS Ebrahim Hall at the Transvaal College of Education in Laudium. The donation of books to educational institutions, sponsorship of religious publications, the donation of a fully-equipped science classroom to the Horizon School for the Blind, as well as the annual awards of medals at the Universities of the Witwatersrand and Cape Town represent other areas of Mr Ebrahim's involvement. Mr Ebrahim is a trustee of the ML Sultan Technikon Foundation, a member of the HF Verwoerd Hospital Board and the first Treasurer of the South African MEMON Foundation.

Dr Theocritus Simon Ndziweni Gqubule

Dr Gqubule completed a Senior Certificate and a teaching qualification at the Healdtown Missionary Institution in 1949. His first teaching post was in Grahamstown, from whence he was sent as a candidate for the ministry in 1951.

After graduating through Fort Hare with a BA degree from Rhodes, he was ordained as a Methodist minister in 1957. He subsequently completed the requirements for a London BD. He has been President of the Methodist Church of Southern Africa, Vice-President of the South African Council of Churches and Vice-President of the SA Institute of Race Relations.

Dr Gqubule also holds a Master of Theology degree from Edinburgh University and a PhD degree awarded by Rhodes.

Since 1993 he has been Methodist Bishop of the Queenstown District.

Mr Allan Gray

Mr Gray was born in East London, where he attended Selborne College. He completed a Bachelor of Commerce degree at Rhodes with distinctions in Economics and Mercantile Law and qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 1960. He has a Master of Business Administration degree with distinction from Harvard University. He founded the Allan Gray Investment Counsel in 1974, and conducts international investment research.

Mr Gray is a member of the Rhodes University Board of Governors.

Prof Emeritus Alastair Kerr

Prof Kerr was born in Scotland and brought up at Fort Hare, where his father was the Principal of the South African Native College (later the University of Fort Hare).

Prof Kerr matriculated from Grey High School, Port Elizabeth in 1938 before reading for a BA degree at Rhodes. During World War II he served in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve (SA) in the Indian Ocean and Mediterranean and ashore in Simonstown, Walvis Bay, Ceylon and India.

After the war, Prof Kerr read for the LLB degree at the University of the Witwatersrand. From 1949 to 1954 he worked in the then Department of Native Affairs, where he was native commissioner and magistrate. In 1953 he was admitted as an advocate and published *The Native Common Law of Immovable Property*.

In 1955 he was appointed as a lecturer in law at Rhodes University and became warden of Graham House, a position he held for 15 years. He was promoted to senior lecturer in 1958 and was awarded the LLM degree by the University of Natal in 1960. In 1972 Prof Kerr was awarded the PhD by the University of Natal for his thesis *The Law of Agency*.

In 1993 Prof Kerr was appointed Senior Counsel by the State President in recognition of his outstanding contribution to legal research, an extremely rare honour for an academic.

Mr Alexander McGregor

Mr McGregor was born in Cape Town, where he attended the Diocesan College in Rondebosch, later continuing his studies at Magdalen College, Oxford.

A past chairman of the Molteno Brothers Trust, Mr McGregor has made an important contribution to educational development and to Rhodes University in particular.

Rhodes man presents lecture in Hong Kong

A visit to Hong Kong by a Rhodes Academic has resulted in our University obtaining specimens of several species of limpets which will be examined at Rhodes during 1995.

Prof A N Hodgson, of the Department of Zoology and Entomology, spent the first part of his stay at the new Hong Kong University of Science, established only two years ago.

As the guest of Prof F-S Chia, he had the opportunity of collecting specimens for his project which is examining the phylogenetic relationship of limpets using sperm morphology.

While in Hong Kong, Prof Hodgson was invited to present a lecture to their Biological Sciences Department during which he gave an overview of work done at Rhodes on the biology of limpets. He was also able to discuss various aspects of marine biological research with Prof Chia, staff and students.

Joint project proposed

Later, while visiting the Hong Kong University, he was the guest of Prof Brian Morton, who is head of the Department of Zoology and Director of Swire Marine Labs. He collected further specimens for ongoing projects and, together with Prof Morton, collected tissues for a proposed joint project. This will entail the study of the detailed structure of the mantle eyes of bivalves.

Leaving Hong Kong, Prof Hodgson attended the 7th International Spermatology Symposium in Cairns, Australia where he was one of four South Africans. He presented a platform paper which was well received by the delegates who represented the majority of the world's leading researchers in the field of clinical and veterinary spermatology as well as pure and applied animal spermatology. He handed a requested contribution, a review chapter, to the editors of a forthcoming book entitled *Advances in Spermatozoal Taxonomy and Phylogeny*.

Prof Hodgson has been invited to serve on the committee which is to arrange the 2004 conference of the body; this will be held in South Africa.

After diving on the Great Barrier Reef, an "incredible experience", he went on to visit the Zoology Department of the University of Queensland. Further samples were collected, during field trips to the coast, and he was able to indulge in some transmission electron microscopy with Dr John Healy.

His stay in Brisbane provided Prof Hodgson with little time for work, so much will have to be done in the separate universities during 1995, he says.

Photojournalism Courses for 1995.

From 1995, Rhodes' Department of Journalism and Media Studies will offer a three year programme in Photojournalism.

Students will be taught the whole range of styles, philosophy and techniques of photography.

The accent is on photojournalism and mass reproduction through the media.

This represents a significant expansion for the department and, as a result, to allow for Photojournalism teaching to occur smoothly, a second darkroom and finishing rooms are being built.

Three years of study

Students will now be able to study Photojournalism for three years commencing in the second year of their degree course, with Photojournalism I. During this course students will be exposed to a high pressure introductory course in photojournalism and the pictures that make the paper.

The intensity increases during the third and fourth years of the degree. Each course (Photojournalism II and III) makes extensive use of theoretical and practical modules. Photojournalism II requires the third-year students to take one module from a list of 14, which includes documentary and feature work, as well as several theoretical modules including digital photography and the latest developments. They are also required to market each module successfully to the media.

In their final year, taking Photojournalism III, the students have to take two of the above modules as well as specified compulsory sections.

Three industrial funders have indicated their interest in providing bursaries for Photojournalism students.

Next Rhodos?

The next edition of Rhodos is to publish on February 28th next year.

Copy for inclusion must be received by the editor before 21 February 1995.

NEWSCLIPS

Rhodes student is prize-winner

Miss S Brenchley, a BA III student at Rhodes, has won the Heather Drummond Memorial Prize poetry competition for her poem *Gallery of Horrors*. Her prize is R 500. and her entry was one of 24 submitted.

ILAM hosts foreign visitors

The International Library of African Music (ILAM) has recently played host to visitors from Botswana, Germany and Switzerland.

Colonel Mohammed Hassan, Director of the Botswana Defence Force Band, and his assistant, Lieutenant Bajakeli Mosweu, spent four days at the ILAM gathering new ideas from the Library's materials. "They intend to incorporate material from the rest of the African continent into their repertoire, as well as introducing the use of traditional instruments", said Mr Andrew Tracey, Director of the ILAM.

They were followed by Dr Habib Hassan Touma, of the International Institute for Traditional Music in Berlin; Dr Laurent Aubert, Director of Ateliers d'Ethnomusicologie in Geneva; and Mr Thomas Kayser, of the Musik der Welt Institute in Basel. They needed Mr Tracey's assistance in finding southern African groups to participate in their Festival of Traditional

Music, 1995. The festival will run for about four weeks in Germany, France, Switzerland, Holland, Belgium and perhaps Norway.

Observer on Council

In the recent election Dr D A Sewry was elected by the Non-Professorial staff as Observer on the Rhodes University Council for the period 1 January 1995 to 31 December 1995.

Milner Memorial Essay Prize winner

Mr Graham Glover, of Grahamstown, a BA III student, has won the Milner Memorial Essay Prize for 1994.

Mr Glover's essay, on the topic *Analyse the decline of Britain as a world power from the time of World War Two* has won the R 1 000 prize.

Distinguished Teaching Award made

Professor P T Kaye, of the Department of Chemistry, has been named by a Joint Committee as recipient of the Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award for 1994. He will be invited to deliver a popular lecture.

from computing services

Username Deregistrations

In contrast to previous years, Computing Services will not be doing a mass username deregistration exercise this year. In the past, users were required to renew their registration applications in order for their usernames not to be deleted from our systems.

However, the number of registrations involved, and the accompanying administrative problems, have led us to adopt a process based on a username inactivity period.

What this means is that only those usernames which have been inactive for a period of 6 months or longer will be deregistered. An effort will be made during this process to identify staff who may be away for extended periods. However, even this precaution is becoming increasingly unnecessary, as staff on sabbatical, for example, often access our systems from a distance, thus keeping their usernames active.

There is therefore no need for staff to renew username registrations.



Excitement in Drama Dept – in spite of 'loss'

odes' Drama Department has 'lost' one of its teaching assistants, Mr P J gha, to a position in the School of atic Art at the University of the atersand.

Sabbagha has been offered a lectureship he will be responsible for specialist ng in movement and dance.

ere are very few posts being offered in a Education at the moment", said Prof Gordon, Head of the Department of a. "Although we are sorry to see bbagha leave, I am excited at this offer as ns that graduates from our department en as ideal educators in drama tments", he continued. Mr Sabbagha a BA (Honours) degree from Rhodes.

Sabbagha has proved himself as both an igent and sensitive teacher. He has also ear-marked as one of South Africa's 'new ographers' by critics", Professor Gordon

departure comes at a time when the a department has cause for celebration, ver.

Inauguration

stly, its First Physical Theatre Company een invited to perform in Mozambique at a inauguration of that country's new State dent, in December or January.

f Gordon says that this a great honour for th African company and that the ation is a direct result of work performed e last National Arts Festival, which was ed by the Director of Mozambique's nial Song and Dance Company. He said at me, to Prof Gordon, that it was the most ng work happening in Africa. Prof on is currently negotiating the visit to ito.

Further recognition

second success has come in the form of er prize awarded to Ms Reza de Wet. She een awarded the Dalro Prize for the Best ight for 1994. This follows her Hertzog won earlier this year.

ddition to the above, Andrew Buckland ecently toured England with success and esenting his work *Feedback* in anesburg.

f Gordon feels that the fact that its ers are considered leaders in their fields to the Department's credibility.

Medal of achievement awarded

Dr Alistair Strachan, Manager, Research and Development of the South African Druggists Group, has awarded a medal of achievement to Miss Melanie Evans, a student at Rhodes.

The medal was awarded for the best presentation at the 1994 South African Chemical Institute, Eastern Province Section, Annual Postgraduate Symposium. The symposium was attended by representatives of the universities of Port Elizabeth and Fort Hare as well as Rhodes.

Miss Evans' presentation was titled

Applications of camphor – derived chiral auxiliaries in asymmetric synthesis.

She is registered for a PhD degree with Prof Perry Kaye of the Department of Chemistry at Rhodes.

South African Druggists was also represented at the symposium by their Innovative Research Manager, Dr Lawrence Penkler. Their participation in this event is evidence of their increasing association with universities and their commitment to the support of innovative applied research.

Prof van Heerden returns from lecture tour

Prof Etienne van Heerden of the Department of Afrikaans & Nederlands has returned from a lecture and reading tour of the Netherlands which culminated in an invitation to the Royal Palace in Amsterdam.

He delivered a public lecture at the University of Utrecht on fiction and historiography, an area which he has explored in his own fiction. Another South Africa, Prof Lewis Nkosi, of the University of Wyoming, USA, delivered a lecture on modernism in African literature.

Prof van Heerden visited the University of Leiden, where his work is part of the curriculum, to speak on black and 'coloured' Afrikaans writers and their challenge to the canon of the Afrikaans literary establishment.

He read from some of his fiction at the Dutch Short Story Festival, which draws huge crowds to Utrecht's City Hall each year. The Festival is mounted by the Stichting Literaire Activiteiten and was attended by writers from the Netherlands, Belgium, the Dutch Antilles and Suriname, with Professors Nkosi and van Heerden as the South African representatives.

The Festival was followed by a tour of libraries, beginning with the City Libraries of Amsterdam, Leiden and Utrecht, where Prof

Van Heerden was interviewed before audiences on developments in South African culture.

On the last day of his visit, Prof Van Heerden was one of a limited group of participants at a symposium hosted by Queen Beatrix and Prince Claus at the Royal Palace on the Dam Square in Amsterdam. The introduction to the symposium was an address by Prof Andre Brink, the former head of the Department of Afrikaans & Nederlands at Rhodes. This was followed by discussion on recent cultural and political developments in South Africa. The symposium concluded with dinner at the Palace.

Both Professors Brink and van Heerden are nominated members of the Dutch Maatschappij der Nederlandse Letteren, based in Leiden, and have new novels scheduled for publication in the Netherlands in the near future. The book *De Stoetmeester* will be the fourth of Prof van Heerden's books to be published in the Netherlands and Belgium.

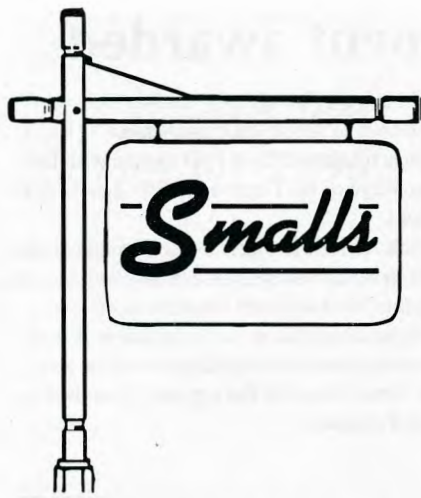
Mathematics Enrichment presented at Rhodes

Some 60 pupils from 11 schools in Grahamstown, Port Elizabeth, East London and Bathurst, and five teachers, attended a recent 'Mathematics Enrichment Day' presented by the Department of Mathematics, Pure and Applied, at Rhodes.

Prof John Webb, of UCT's Mathematics Department, began the day's activities by talking to the delegates. He is in charge of the Mathematics Talent Search which has been established to identify and develop bright school pupils and to choose a national team for the International Mathematics Olympiad.

Other academics involved, all from Rhodes, were Prof Nic Heideman, Dr Mike Burton and Mr Bruce Brown. The children, all from Standard 6 to Standard 8, participated in a mathematical quiz which, according to Prof Heideman, unearthed some "unexpected local talent".

"The pupils' reaction was overwhelmingly positive", he added, "and many wanted to know when another enrichment day would be presented. I hope to organise further programmes next year."



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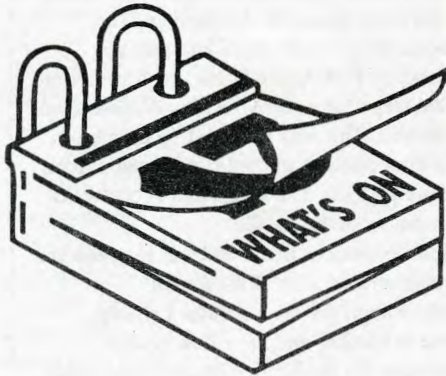
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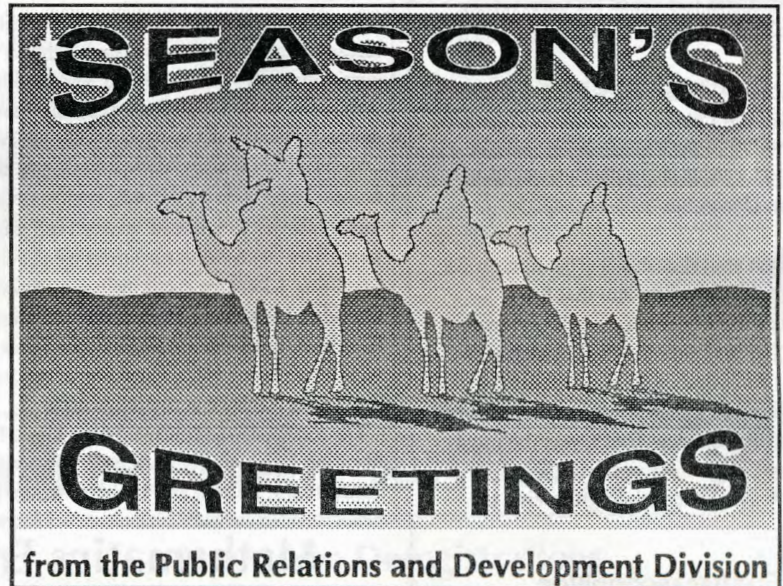
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Tuesday, 29 November

Research Talk: *Biological Sciences*
Mechanisms of Sexual Minor Lecture
Transmission of Human Theatre, 09h45
Immunodeficiency Virus,
by Dr David Phillips: Senior Scientist,
Population research Council, New York.
Presented by the Department of Zoology and
Entomology and the Electron Microscope
Unit.



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They are preferred on diskette in any of several common word processing formats, including ASCII, Word Perfect, WordStar, Xywrite and Multimate.

Text may also be e-mailed to adjw@warthog.ru.ac.za. Photographs and line art are also welcome, either as stand-alone items or illustrative of articles.

RHODOS DEADLINES

Copy Date	Publication Date
21 February	28 February