

Chronicle

University of Canterbury • Christchurch • New Zealand

Volume 36 • No. 1 • Thursday, January 25, 2001

-  Dead-ringers at *The Press*
-  Physicist recalls 31 years at Canterbury
-  Graduation news, speeches and photographs
-  Canty attendance at Australian disabilities conference

NZTET decision deferred

The University Council has deferred approval of some of the legal documentation for the New Zealand Tertiary Education Trust 2 scheme for funding the University's capital development.

In October, Council accepted the NZTET proposal to invest in the University's capital development programme, subject to the approval of legal documentation and establishment of procedures for the management of the funds.

Council met in a special meeting last Friday to approve the documentation prepared but Judge Stepher Erber moved that a final decision be deferred while the bank involved sought a binding ruling from the Inland Revenue Department on the tax status of the scheme.

Media spotlight on University

The apology from the University of Canterbury to the Jewish community for distress caused by a "flawed" 1993 MA thesis was the subject of intense media interest just before Christmas last year.

On Wednesday December 20, Vice-Chancellor Professor Daryl Le Grew released the independent report of the working party, chaired by retired High Court judge Sir Ian Barker, which had investigated Dr Joel Hayward's history thesis, *The Fate of Jews in German Hands*.

About 20 print, radio and television journalists attended a two-hour "media lock-up" from midday that day to enable them to read the 89-page report and its appendices. A media conference followed at 2pm.

Professor Le Grew said the University took full responsibility both for accepting a flawed thesis and for the consequences. The University "unreservedly apologised" to the Jewish community for the upset caused.

"We are currently talking constructively to members of the Jewish community and the Jewish Council about what we can do. We would like to establish a reference group between ourselves and the Jewish Council with a framework for some joint work we could do, such as sponsoring an academic Jewish exchange programme between Canterbury and Israel.

"I want to make it perfectly clear, and I say this with absolute confidence – the University of Canterbury does not support Holocaust revisionism and the University does not harbour anti-Semitic feeling. This is backed up by the working party report.

"The report, adopted by (the University) Council on Monday afternoon (December 18), is an open and thorough academic review. It has found, and the Council has accepted, that the thesis did not deserve the highest accolade of first-class honours. Rather, it should have been revised and resubmitted. The report also

▷ p. 2



Photo by Duncan Straw-Brown, External Relations

Flags from the home countries of 460 graduands are draped around the Town Hall auditorium at the December graduation ceremony. Speeches and photographs feature in this *Chronicle*.

Dame Ann one of this year's five hon. docs.

A special birthday ceremony is being held to honour Dame Ann Ballin, the recipient of one of five honorary doctorates to be awarded this year by the University.

Dame Ann, a national advocate for people with disabilities and a counsellor at the University's Student Health Centre from 1974 to 1986, will be presented with an honorary LittD on her birthday, Tuesday February 20, at 4.30pm in the Arts Centre's Great Hall. The oration will be given by the Human Resources Director, Associate Professor Bruce Jamieson, formerly of the Department of Psychology.

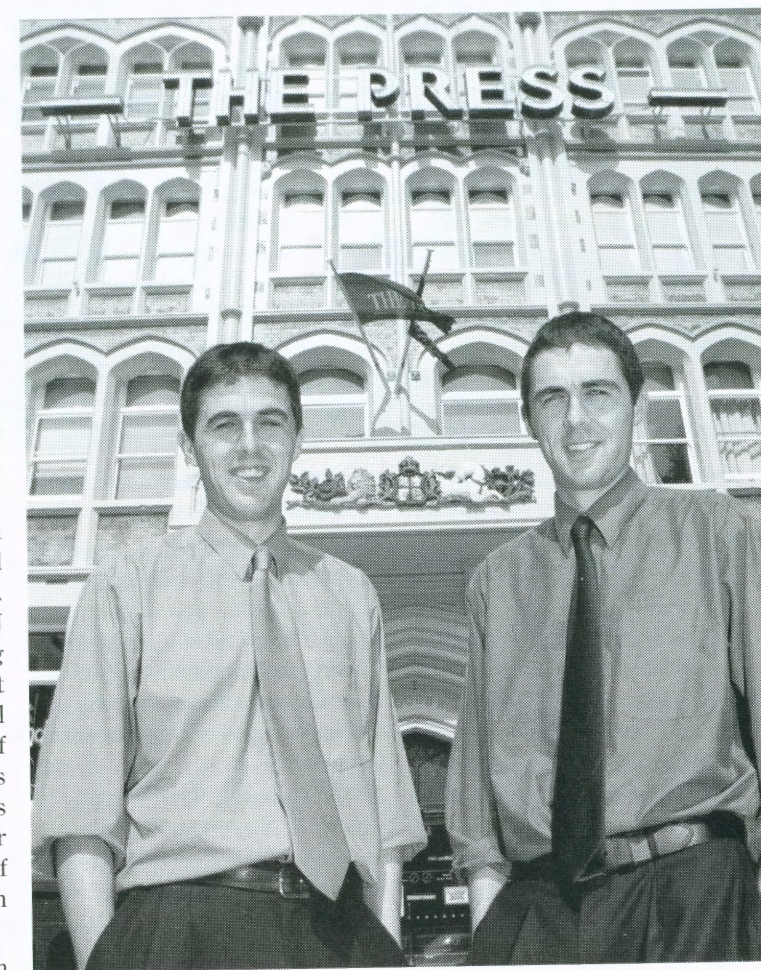
The other recipients of this year's honorary doctorates are: civil engineer and former Canterbury deputy vice-chancellor Emeritus Professor Bob Park (honorary DEng); the Christchurch School of

Medicine's foundation professor, Emeritus Professor Don Beaven (honorary DSc); internationally acclaimed chemist Professor Robin Clark (honorary DSc); and actor and former artistic director of the Court Theatre, Elric Hooper (honorary LittD).

Professors Beaven, Clark and Park will receive their degrees at the graduation ceremony on Thursday April 12, while Mr Hooper's will be bestowed at graduation on Wednesday December 12.

▷ p. 2



As alike as two peas in *The Press*

Sean (left) and Glen Scanlon enjoy working together but "tease each other mercilessly".

were having fun too. I thought it was something I could do easily enough," Sean said.

Glen said working so closely with his brother did not bother him, despite sitting only metres away.

Chief reporter Di Keenan said there was great confusion over identity when Sean joined *The Press* on work experience last year.

"I didn't have a clue which one walked in to start the morning shift. They are identical right down to their dark suits and blue shirts. The give-away was when they opened their mouths – Glen, being the old hand, was cheekier and Sean more reserved.

"That's worked until now. But Sean is catching up in the cheekiness stakes and I see others struggling with their identities too."

As well as being competent journalists they were bubbly, fun characters to have around, she said.

"They are used to having their IDs confused and make a joke of it. I enjoy watching their exchanges – they tease each other mercilessly."

Dead-ringer DipJ doppelgängers Glen and Sean Scanlon have caused more than a few double-takes on the editorial floor of *The Press* in recent months.

Born in Westport on Christmas Day 1975, the twins are working as reporters for the Christchurch newspaper. Glen, who completed his graduate journalism diploma in 1998, started at *The Press* in March last year after 15 months at *The Dominion* in Wellington. Sean is newer on the beat and began at the paper in November last year, shortly after finishing his DipJ.

Glen and Sean both have BAs with first-class honours in history and graduated together in April 1998. At that time Glen was a DipJ student and Sean was embarking on an MA in political science. It took a little longer for Sean to fall under the seductive spell of journalism although it was probably inevitable, given his family's predilection for it (their mum, Lee Scanlon, is chief reporter for *The News* in Westport).

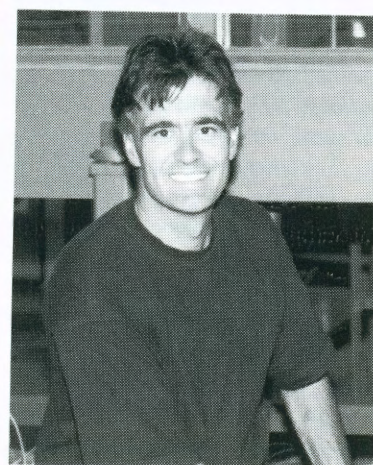
"I didn't want to do journalism originally. But mum was doing it and Glen was doing it and they

December start for civil engineer

Dr Roger Nokes, a Canterbury graduate in physics and civil engineering and former chess professional, took up his senior lectureship in the Department of Civil Engineering on December 11 last year.

Dr Nokes came to Canterbury from the former Nelson Polytechnic, where he was academic leader and senior lecturer in information technology in the then School of Science and Computer Technology. His research interests include mixing in stratified flows, mixing in open channel flows, double diffusive convection, the application of technology to data acquisition in experimental fluid dynamics, object-oriented analysis and design methodologies, and object-oriented human-computer interfaces.

In 1981, Dr Nokes graduated with a BSc with first-class honours in physics and in 1986 he completed his PhD in civil engineering. His dissertation was entitled *Problems in Turbulent Dispersion*. Dr Nokes then worked as an engineering research consultant for the Ministry of Works in Christchurch and held a postdoctoral fellowship in geophysical fluid dynamics in the Research School of Earth Sciences at the Australian National University, Canberra.



From 1988 to 1994 he was a lecturer in engineering in the Department of Engineering Science at the University of Auckland and the following year moved south on appointment to Nelson Polytechnic.

A member of the Royal Society of New Zealand and of the IEEE's Computer Society, Dr Nokes has acted as a referee for the *Journal of*

Fluid Mechanics and the *Journal of Hydraulic Engineering*. He has won a number of undergraduate teaching awards and in 1989 was joint recipient of the International Association of Hydraulic Research's Harold I Schoemaker Award.

In 1981 and 1982 Dr Nokes was a chess professional in the United Kingdom and Europe. A year later he was awarded the title of International Chess Federation Master.

Hon. docs. awarded

◁ p. 1 - continued

Dame Ann completed a Canterbury MA in psychology in 1964, despite many years in hospital and the huge difficulties then for a person in a wheelchair trying to get to lectures at the University's old town site. After graduating, she worked as a clinical psychologist and then spent 12 years as a student counsellor at the University.

In 1987, Dame Ann was appointed a member of the Royal Commission on Social Policy. After that she worked for three years in Wellington as chair of the Victims' Task Force.

In 1981, she was awarded a CBE for services to the disabled and in 1990 she was the recipient of a New Zealand Medal. Two years later she was created a Dame Commander of the British Empire for services to the community.



Chronicle

Next Issue: February 15, 2001

Deadline: February 9, 2001

Editor: Paul Gorman
Ext 6260 or 364 2260

Deputy Editor:
Rachael Drummond
Ext 6910 or 364 2910

Artwork: Marcus Thomas

E-mail: chronicle@regy.canterbury.ac.nz

Fax: Ext 6679 or 364 2679

Address: External Relations Department,
University of Canterbury,
Private Bag 4800, Christchurch.

The Chronicle is typeset and printed by the University Printery.

Media spotlight glares on University - continued

◁ p. 1

concludes that, while it demonstrated faulty research and lack of judgement, the thesis was not dishonest. This means that neither the thesis nor the degree can be amended, removed, downgraded or altered. This is what the law says.

"We will make sure this working party report is bound with the Hayward thesis so that the two documents will always be read in tandem. We are also doing our best to send the report to all those websites displaying the Hayward thesis and are asking them to include the report with it. Our own website – www.canterbury.ac.nz/hayward – will continue to display both Joel Hayward's addendum to the thesis and the working party report."

The cost of the working party report and associated legal advice was close to \$200,000, Professor Le Grew said. The costs had been very hard to bear with this year's across the board budget cuts of 3.6%.

"However, this was not something we could ignore. We have to maintain the reputation that the University has painstakingly built up during more than a century. Academic standards and reputations are at the heart of the University's work. The expenditure has enriched our systems, our standards and our academic process.

"We could not stand by and let our University suffer from constant criticism and controversy. We had to take action. Commissioning an independent report was agreed by the Council as the best solution."

The embargoing of the thesis in the Central Library, which lasted for seven years, raised many eyebrows. The Vice-Chancellor said the embargo was "unusual" and should never have been allowed to go on for so long.

"This again demonstrates that the University's processes were far from adequate then. Among the reasons given were that some people were fearful of harassment if it were to be published.

"An embargo can be requested, and is perfectly acceptable, for a very short period of time if, for example,



The Vice-Chancellor talks to the media.

the thesis or part of it is to be published elsewhere, or if something commercial is involved in the research and publication by the University would affect this. Either way the upper limit is now two years and an embargo will only happen with prior approval."

The working party's recommendations and the University's apology and acceptance of responsibility did not impinge on academic freedom. But with academic freedom came academic responsibility, he said.

"To argue for academic freedom on the basis of this thesis is not sustainable. The working party points out that the freedom to express unpopular or controversial views is crucial but must be based on sound research. Unfortunately, this thesis is flawed, its methodology is dubious and its conclusions do not stand up to the weight of evidence.

"Academic freedom gives our students – and students at any university – the right to study whatever topic they choose. But their study must follow the right processes and checks and balances, and we must have supervisors with appropriate expertise and skill in the area of study selected."



Head of Forestry

Professor Roger Sands has been re-appointed Head of the School of Forestry until November 30, 2003.

Chance meeting with former V-C led physicist to Canty

Retiring Physics senior Lecturer Dr Bill Moreau says the friends he has made during his 31 years at the University of Canterbury have been the most rewarding aspect of his career in New Zealand.

Dr Moreau was born in the United States and gained BSE and MSE degrees in engineering from Princeton. He then worked for 10 years at the United Aircraft Research Laboratories, now known as United Technology. During this time he worked on what might be described as the periphery of the American space programme.

"We were doing studies of Mars missions with electric propulsion, which seems to be currently of interest. It was way ahead of its time."

He was not completely satisfied with his job and started taking graduate physics courses, at first part-time and then full-time, at the nearby University of Connecticut, finally getting a PhD in theoretical physics in 1969.

His move to New Zealand came after a chance meeting with Canterbury's former vice-chancellor Professor Neville Phillips in the late 1960s.

"I really didn't set out to leave the US as many young men were doing at the time because it was the height of the Vietnam War. I remember in the course of selling our house going into the real-estate agent's office and when he asked me why I was selling I told him I was leaving the country. There was a workman painting the office who turned to me and said: 'Really, do you mean you have to?'"

"I would say that both the University and New Zealand in general have changed almost inconceivably during the past 31 years. Some aspects are better - the availability of a wide range consumer items and a higher standard of living - but the gap between rich and poor is increasing. I suppose it's inevitable. New Zealand cannot exist in isolation. I think the

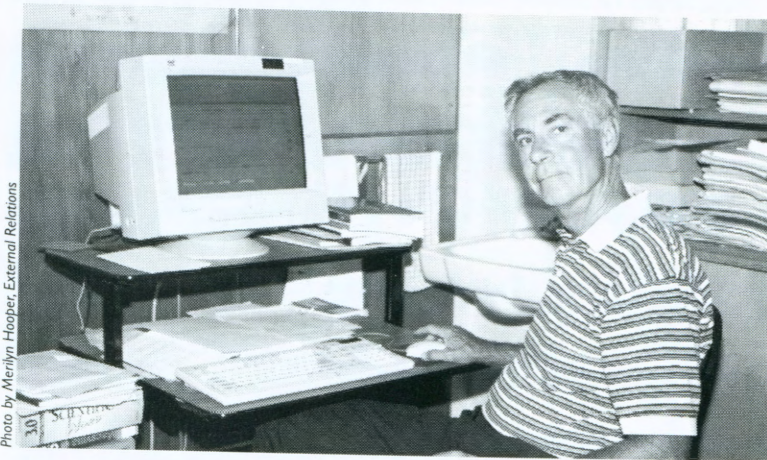


Photo by Marilyn Hooper, External Relations

demise of communism was a good thing, but capitalism needs to be tempered."

Dr Moreau has published 20 papers in reputable journals over the years. He says he is most proud of the papers that feature personal discoveries he has been able to incorporate into his teaching. These include the paper *Charge Distribution in Conducting Circuits*, which he says helps students to have a better understanding of the subject.

"In the traditional teaching of conducting circuits the concept of electric potential is introduced, but it is never related back to the electric potential of electrostatics. The two are entirely equivalent. I believe teaching it this way takes out a great deal of misunderstanding by students. In particular, it helps them to understand the difference between electric potential and electromotive force in a circuit.

"The paper *Wave Front Relativity* removes some of the mystery from special relativity and goes back to Einstein's original 1905 paper, where in fact he has a conceptual error in his presentation."

The paper *The Rate of Deflection of Light in an Accelerated Frame and a Gravitational Field* shows that one-third of the deflection rate of starlight at the limb of the sun is due to acceleration with respect to local inertial frames (Einstein's equivalence principle) and two-thirds is due to space-time curvature. The paper also explains why Einstein only obtained half the correct value for the deflection of starlight by the sun in his 1911

calculation using the equivalence principle.

He is particularly proud of his work on the paper *Inhomogeneous Coupling in Hamiltonian Lattice Gauge Theory*, which he and Dr Churcher pioneered. Dr Churcher is now a senior lecturer in the Computer Science Department at Canterbury.

Dr Moreau says that two of his papers - *Dynamically Generated Inertia* and *Solutions of Conformal Gravity with Dynamical Mass Generation in the Solar System*, which he is presently working on with PhD student Josh Wood - are possibly on the road to a theory of gravity that may replace the theory of general relativity. Conformal gravity, originally proposed by Hermann Weyl in the 1920s, was recently re-examined by Phillip Mannheim of the University of Connecticut incorporating the idea of dynamical mass generation borrowed from particle physics. Prof. Mannheim was an Erskine Fellow here in 1996.

Dr Moreau has lectured courses from stage one through to fourth year honours. As the stage one supervisor in the 1970s he instituted a programme of small group tutorials which has survived to this day. He has supervised eight PhD students and three MSc students. In the late 1980s he organised a "Winter School" in particle physics for sixth and seventh formers. Last year, as supervisor of PHYS 200 studies, he organised a seminar series entitled *Alternative Career Paths for Physicists and Astronomers*, which was appreciated by the students.

"I think that the Physics and Astronomy Department has a very difficult task, because we have students of such a wide spectrum of backgrounds and abilities. Some of our students have failed to get into the Engineering School and take physics without a proper motivation towards the subject. On the other hand, we have some of outstanding ability. It's very difficult to teach a course that caters to this wide range of ability and attitude. I have tried to meet the challenge as best I can by an extensive use of the Internet for providing students with word-processed lecture notes and tutorial and homework problems with help and solution files.

"The greatest reward in my career at Canterbury has come through the students I have known and have become friends with. I am still in contact with many of them." Some students whose friendships he has valued are Peter Minchin, Andrew Matthews, Joel Cayford, David Unger, Paul Bickerstaff, Chris van Halewyn, Geoff Nichols, Keith Murdoch, Amanda Peet, Richard Easter, Catherine Low, James Analytis and Shannon Page.

Dr Moreau says his wife's recent retirement spurred him to take retirement a year earlier than planned.

"I thought it's a waste if only one of a couple is retired and you don't get to do all the things you want to do."

He plans to spend time in his house at Castle Hill and visit his daughters in Spain and the US.

"I never had the slightest idea that I would have a career in New Zealand. I think this is a wonderful country, a great place to live and raise children.

"I think the people who are happiest and most successful are the ones who are willing to take a chance and take advantage of opportunities that come up. They don't put unnecessary constraints on what they are willing to do."

Dr Moreau will retire on February 11 and is looking forward to the many possibilities retirement will open up.

"All my life I've never been completely free to do what I want when I want to do it. Now I will be."



Canterbury students attend disabilities conference

The University of Canterbury had the biggest contingent of New Zealand students at Pathways, Australia's conference on tertiary students with disabilities.

The University sent a delegation of six students and two staff to the conference in Canberra last December. Delegates from 10 other New Zealand educational institutions also attended, including the Christchurch College of Education and the Christchurch Polytechnic Institute of Technology.

Each student from Canterbury prepared a report on different aspects of the conference and/or further research on education and disabilities in Australia. One student focused on the physical accessibility of four different Australian universities while another looked into programmes for deaf students. All the reports will be posted on the Disability Support Services website. The bi-annual conference drew staff and students from all over Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom and South Africa.

The conference, run by the Tertiary Educational Disability Council of Australia Limited (TEDCA), provided a forum for people involved in disability services to discuss access and

participation of students with disabilities in post-secondary education.

The secretary of Canterbury's disability support service, Marie McLeod, said the conference was extremely worthwhile. "Everyone I met was extremely friendly. The fact that we all had common roles and common goals within our universities meant we got on very well. It was very relaxed."

Ms McLeod said meeting the students was one of the highlights. "They didn't have any apprehensions about giving their opinions at the conference," she said.

Rhonda Ebeling, the disability liaison officer for TAFE (polytechnic) sector Canberra and chairperson of the Pathways 5 organising committee said: "Pathways' goal is to try and get practitioners in the field and students together to look at issues, talk about best practice, share knowledge, improve education opportunities and reduce the barriers."

The conference theme was "reviewing the past and adapting it to the future". It aimed to look back at the achievements of students with disabilities and forward to the increasing use of technology.

One of the ways it acknowledged the achievements of students with disabilities was the inclusion of keynote speakers such as Mark Bagshaw and George Taleporos.

Mr Bagshaw has degrees in marketing and psychology and postgraduate degrees in international marketing. He is the international marketing manager for IBM Australia and has paraplegia.

George Taleporos, who is 25, has a BA with first-class honours (in psychology, sociology and business), a graduate Diploma in Educational Psychology and is currently undertaking doctoral research in the area of sexuality, body image and physical disability. Mr Taleporos has had a severe physical disability since birth.

Ms McLeod said that the guest speakers were extremely inspiring and very informative.

Participants discussed how technology, such as speech recognition software and the Internet, was improving opportunities for students with disabilities.

During the conference, delegates attended a banquet at Australia's new parliament building and Australian students set up a national body for students with disabilities.

Maya Dannan

Chronicle mailing list update

The Chronicle's external mailing list has undergone a summer revamp to ensure copies are going to the people who really want to read it.

Readers beyond the campus, in New Zealand and overseas, will receive reply paid envelopes in which to return some brief personal and address details. Those who send forms back by February 28 will be in a draw to win a copy of *Christchurch Changing - An Illustrated History* by Dr Geoffrey Rice (History), courtesy of Canterbury University Press.

Research study looking for children

Participants are being sought for a nationwide research study of the effect of psychological distress in children who have experienced a road accident.

Clinical psychology PhD student Lee Dymand is looking for children aged between eight and 16 who have experienced a car accident within the past two years.

Mr Dymand said little research existed into how road accidents affected children and there was a general lack of awareness of the associated trauma.

"A road accident is the most common form of trauma and if left it can flow on to other parts of a child's life. Children may exhibit behavioural problems, headaches and stomach-aches, and impaired performance at school."

Mr Dymand said psychological distress could impair a child's ability to perform and their general enjoyment of life.

Mr Dymand's research, partially funded by the Child Accident Prevention Foundation of New Zealand, is aiming to increase awareness among parents, teachers and health professionals of the likelihood and symptoms of psychological trauma.

For further information about participating in Lee Dymand's study phone 0800 668 833 or (03) 364 2987 ext 7193, or e-mail lrd17@student.canterbury.ac.nz.

Captions please...



Photo by Duncan Shaw-Brown, External Relations

Council changes

Two new members, Professor Jim Coxon (Chemistry) and Mr Alan Robb (Accountancy, Finance and Information Systems) joined Council at its meeting last week, replacing academic staff members Associate Professor Koenraad Kuiper (Linguistics) and Associate Professor Alex Sutherland (Civil Engineering).

The meeting was also the last for Emeritus Professor Bob Park and the Honourable David Caygill, both Council co-optees; Mrs Gillian Heald and Ms Jane Huria, ministerial appointees; and Mr Francis Quainoo, a student representative.

Two new ministerial appointees, Dr Sue Bagshaw and Mr John Simpson, were in attendance at the meeting and take up their appointments on February 1.

That was the week that was

Back in late November, a normal visit to Alan Hayward's office started with the usual courtesies, with Alan, completely unaffected by a heavily strapped leg, as always more courteous than most people I have ever met.

I was introduced to Gordon Ogilvie who was there to collect instructions and robes for his honorary Doctorate of Letters in the December Graduation Ceremony. That over, I walked downstairs with him to collect a suitcase for his robes and bonnet.

Suitcases. Not many will be aware of it, but the University has a considerable collection of small suitcases which would bring back memories of school-holiday packing for even the oldest of Professors Emeritus. These are normally used for carrying exam papers and related materials to the various exam rooms. The original fibre-board ones, deeply evocative of journeys on steam trains, have been joined over the years by successively more modern samples of cheap luggage styles as the number of exams has increased.

Even as a historian, Gordon was not prepared to carry his robes in one of the originals so he chose a nice green number, modern enough to have a zip. I saw him off the premises on Alan's behalf and returned to the sixth floor.

Courtesies were over and you know something is in the wind when Alan starts with: "Now Bill....." (What's coming?). He continues with: "..... Graduation....." (pause), and the implications are clear. He can't stand, so he literally needs a 'stand-in'.

Who better than me? (I can think of 30 names without getting into the second half of the alphabet.) However, I can't deny that I'm the natural deputy given that graduations are in my department and run by Michael Sykes and his amazingly expert team.

It's all pretty simple really: Collect the robes (Pro-Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, Registrar) from their

storage hangers, the trenchers from their drawers and the mace from the locked box. Deliver them to the start of the procession, robe-up and march off.

Oh, by the way, there is the ceremony itself and the matter of handing the certificates to the Chancellor as the graduands step across the stage.

The right certificates. In order. Four hundred and fifty of them. In order.

In the event there were only one or two sticky moments. Two PhDs stuck together, so I handed out one of the blanks to the next person and caught up with the right order immediately. At another stage something went wrong with the order, but the usher sensed it and mouthed "Gareth" to me from across the stage (thankfully Gareth is about the most unmistakable name you can mouth - try it).

In peaceful moments during the ceremony, while others were carrying out their functions. I mused on my own chequered relationship with graduations. Graduations are familiar territory for me. Over my years in polytechnics I have presided over 50 or so, mostly small but occasionally with up to 100 or so students. Usually I have had the privilege of making the speech and handing over the certificates, and some other poor fellow has had to hand them to me. In the right order.

Small ceremonies are a feature of polytechs. Often the courses are measured in weeks rather than years, but "graduation" is no less of a landmark for the students. They too are marking a step-up in the progress of their lives and they experience the same joy and relief, closure and moving on. Their families exhibit the same pride as the families of Canterbury graduates and probably the same relief as well.

Because those ceremonies were small they were also intimate, and there was often room for interaction. Student speeches were a feature to be anticipated with a mixture of fear and hope. At one memorable little ceremony to mark the end of a 12 week pre-

employment course for the restaurant trade, all the official action was over and thoughts were turning to the food, when a very nondescript young man stood up and addressed the tutor and the whole audience with: "I just want to say that you have turned my life around during this course." Then he sat down and said no more.

That gave me a new insight into the value of ceremonies. The personal value.

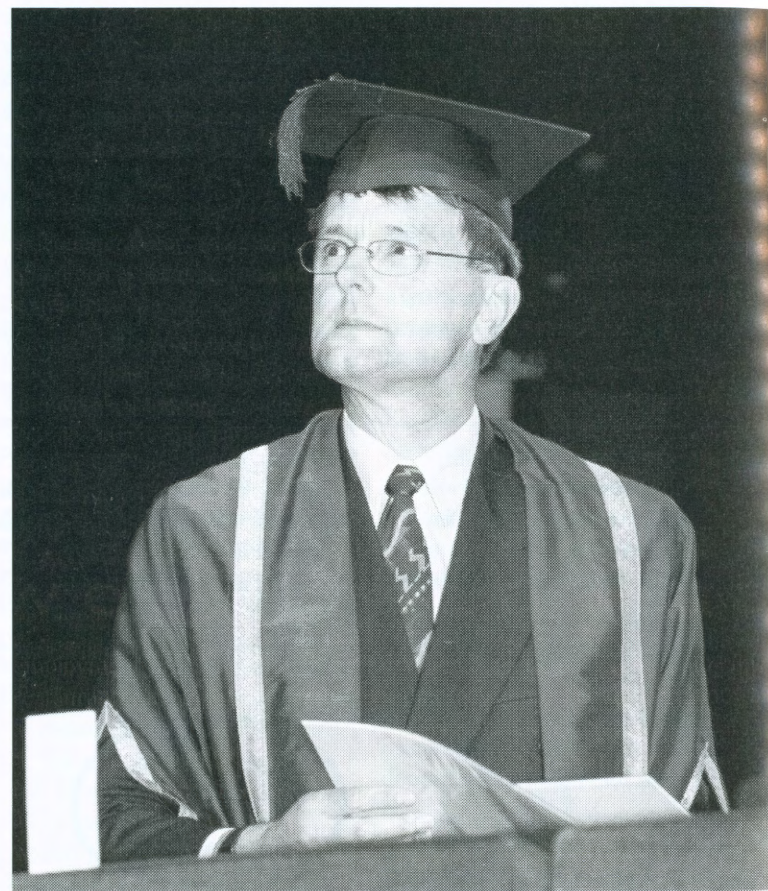
In the cynical '60s when I graduated, we scoffed at the ceremony, wanted to break the links with the past, saw

When I talk to today's students I find that they appreciate the ceremony at a very deep level. Not as an initiation into a mysterious society of graduates, but as a celebration of their own and their friends' progress - a life marker.

Ever more of them are making sure that they attend. The numbers go up every year and there is a lovely celebratory air. Cynics are thin on the ground. The students really do enjoy the day.

And so did I.

Bill Matthew
Director, Academic Services



ourselves as creating a new order by challenging every idea that had gone before, starting with university traditions.

I still got a rush of that old cynicism when I robed-up. I am actively embarrassed by the formality and the use of old songs and ancient symbols like the mace. Intellectually I understand the importance of marking major events in people's lives, but my insides still reacted in the old ways until I was soothed by the dignity of Dame Phyllis' bearing and the look on each students face.

Six new professors

The University has six new professors, following the academic promotions round late last year.

They are: **Professor John Blunt** (Chemistry), **Professor Brian Butterfield** (Plant and Microbial Sciences), **Professor Andrew Carstairs-McCarthy** (Linguistics), **Professor Jack Copeland** (Philosophy and Religious Studies), **Professor Robert Jackson** (Zoology) and **Professor John Walker** (Forestry).

Professor Campbell receives 2000 Research Medal

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Bob Kirk gave the oration for Professor Lyle Campbell.

"In 1998 the University inaugurated the Research Medal. It recognises and celebrates the particular contributions in research of one of its distinguished scholars by awarding a solid silver medal which bears the University coat of arms, the name of the recipient and the words: 'for Excellence in Research'.

"The Research Medal is awarded to Professor Lyle Richard Campbell of the Department of Linguistics - one of the foremost historical linguists in the world and Head of the Department of Linguistics - in recognition of his outstanding contributions over many years to the study of languages.

"If you have ever wondered where the languages of other people come from, how they have evolved over time and came to have their present character and make-up, indeed if you have ever had thoughts like these about our own language, you will have some inkling of what has motivated Professor Campbell in his research.

"Perhaps, naturally enough, most of the traditional work in the historical development of languages is based on well-researched histories of the European languages. Professor Campbell has specialised not so much on these as on two other and quite distinct language groups. One is the Finno-Ugric family, where his expertise and the high calibre of his research have led to his election to the Finnish Academy.

"The second area in which Professor Campbell has made substantial and leading contributions is the native languages of Central America. In this field he is, in the view of his peers, without question the foremost world authority.

"His knowledge of languages extends well beyond these two areas of special interest. He knows many of the languages of Europe and is knowledgeable about many of the other languages of the Americas.



Photo by Duncan Snow-Brown, External Relations

"Another of his many research interests concerns the processes whereby languages die and he has carried out studies of this type in Central America among the last speakers of some languages. Sad though such work must be, it is also sometimes not without irony and humour. I am told that after one field-trip among the last speakers of a dialect of something called the Pipil language, Professor Campbell reported great difficulty in determining whether that language used dental consonants made with the tongue touching the top teeth or alveolar consonants where the tongue touches the ridge immediately behind the top teeth. Madam, it seemed that the last few speakers of the Pipil language had no teeth left!

"Professor Campbell's expertise with languages of the Americas - the dental status of the speakers notwithstanding - led to publication with co-author Alice Harris of the first full-scale survey of all the hundreds of languages of the Americas. The book is a major feat of scholarship and is entitled

American Indian Languages: The Historical Linguistics of Native America. Published by Oxford in 1997, this work received the prestigious Leonard Bloomfield Book Award. That award is made every two years by the Linguistic Society of North America. It is an important indication of the eminence of Professor Campbell that he had previously received this award for another book, the first time it has ever been awarded twice to the same person.

"Lyle Campbell completed his PhD in linguistics at UCLA, Los Angeles, in 1971 and held faculty posts at the University of Missouri, the State University of New York at Albany and Louisiana State University, where he was professor of linguistics, anthropology and Spanish. It was from there that he came to Canterbury University in 1994. He has held many fellowships and visiting positions in leading universities in other countries, particularly positions relating to his research work in Central and South America. Professor Campbell has held a

number of Fulbright Fellowships and a von Humboldt Fellowship, and he has also given numerous invited conference papers and keynote addresses.

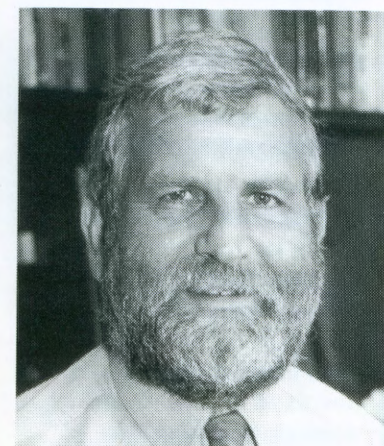
"Professor Campbell is a prolific scholar. He is the author of 21 books and over 120 refereed journal articles published in international peer-reviewed periodicals. He has served with distinction on the editorial boards of 10 journals and monograph series.

"He has been the recipient of numerous grants for research. Since coming to New Zealand he has held two Marsden Fund grants, US National Science Foundation Grants and a Wenner Gren Foundation Grant.

"Professionally, Lyle Campbell has been honoured by being elected to a three-year term on the committee of the Linguistic Society of North America. He was awarded a Fellowship of the Royal Society of New Zealand as soon as he had completed the residency requirement for the fellowship.

"At the University of Canterbury, Professor Campbell was one of a small group of staff instrumental in introducing anthropology as a new subject. He was also elected by the academic staff to serve on the Research Committee. Since I have the honour to Chair that committee I am able to attest first hand to the valuable work he has done there in helping to formulate research policy for the University. Among other work he has also filled an important role in peer assessment of research projects proposed by staff and the all-important business of allocating funds to them. Professor Campbell has also served as Head of Department of Linguistics and is, I understand, about to step down from that role while he takes a period of well-earned leave, during which he will no doubt pursue his research interests with his customary vigour and enthusiasm. "Madam, I have the honour to present Lyle Richard Campbell to receive the University Research Medal."

“Gentleman-scholar” rewarded with LittD



Professor Miles Fairburn (above), Head of the History Department, introduced Gordon Ogilvie to the graduation audience.

“Chancellor, new graduates, and ladies and gentlemen, I have the honour of introducing you to Gordon Ogilvie.

“Let me start with the bare facts. A fifth-generation New Zealander, Gordon Ogilvie was born in 1934 and grew up in the Horotane Valley in the Port Hills. He graduated with a BA from Canterbury in 1955 and took an MA in English at Victoria University in 1956. After qualifying as a teacher, doing his OE and marrying Elizabeth, he then worked as a secondary school teacher in Christchurch for 33 years from 1960 to his retirement in 1993, spending most of this period as head of English at his old school, St Andrews College.

“Over a 30-year period, as well as raising a family of three daughters, he has published 14 books, mainly on local history and biography, all dealing one way or another with the Canterbury region. He has given countless talks to genealogical societies, historical groups and other organisations. Two of his books (*The Port Hills of Christchurch* and *Banks Peninsula: Cradle of Canterbury*) won the J M Sherrard award for regional history, one (*The Riddle of Richard Pearse*) was a finalist in the Watties’ Book of the Year awards and another (*Denis Glover: His Life*) was shortlisted for the Montana Book Awards.

“Gordon has an extraordinary range of interests: according to his CV they include journalism,

making chutney, growing ferns, lolling about, gazing out the window and playing music (in which respect I must say that the only flaw in this otherwise impeccable CV is his admission that in the 1960s he produced several long-playing records where he played the organ accompanied by the bagpipes).

“Gordon is a rather unusual recipient of an honorary degree in that he has earned this award not through holding formal offices or through his primary occupation, but through the things he has done in his spare time. In the 18th century sense of the term, Gordon is a gentleman-scholar.

“Gordon has pursued his historical writing for the sake of it. He has not been a professional historian nor held a university position. Thus he has never enjoyed access to sabbatical leaves, research grants, fellowships at research institutes and all the other things that academic historians rely upon to stimulate and sustain their research and publications. Moreover, he has not sought or been the recipient of state patronage with the exception of a travel grant from the Queen Elizabeth Arts Council.

“What is also remarkable about Gordon’s achievement is that he is both a born historian and a self-taught one. He is one of those rare people who has mastered the historian’s craft without the benefits of a formal training of the research degree. He has a prodigious capacity for meticulous and thorough research, for tracking down all relevant sources, assessing their reliability and authenticity, and representing their contents without error or distortion.

“All Gordon’s books demonstrate these qualities, none more so perhaps than his big book published in 1990, *Banks Peninsula: Cradle of Canterbury*, a definitive history now in its third edition.

“Another remarkable characteristic is his flair for detective work, a capacity for solving interesting problems in relation to some aspect of the past. A fine example of this is his *Riddle of Richard Pearse*, a biography published in 1973, which

investigated the local legend that Pearse invented and flew an aeroplane before the Wright brothers did.

“Perhaps the most important defining characteristics of the historian’s craft are the capacities of objectivity, empathy and imagination. These capacities are also present in Gordon’s monumental work *Denis Glover: His Life*, published in 1999 after 10 years work. Although literary biography is possibly the best developed genre of non-fiction in New Zealand, with many biographies having been produced by many celebrated authors, Gordon’s *Denis Glover* is in a class of its own. It has taken literary biography in New Zealand to new heights.

“Famous poet and leading force in this country’s literary renaissance from the 1930s, Glover is a fiendishly difficult subject for a biographer. Gordon has, however, captured all aspects of Glover’s life history and powerful and complex personality in a portrait that is candid as well as sensitive and scrupulously fair. At the same time he has created (both) a fine literary history showing how some of Glover’s poetry relates to the key events in his life and a superb intellectual history of New Zealand of the time.

“Madam Chancellor, Gordon Ogilvie is a modest and unassuming man, a gentleman-scholar. Gordon has not sought fame, glory or honour; but at long last he has agreed to receive public acknowledgement for his contributions to historical knowledge.

“Madam, I have the honour to present Gordon Bryant Ogilvie for the conferment of the degree of Doctor of Letters *honoris causa*.”

Heads of Theatre and Film Studies

Peter Falkenberg will be Acting Head of the Department of Theatre and Film Studies from January 1 to December 31 while Dr Sharon Mazer is on leave.

Dr Mazer has been re-appointed Head of Theatre and Film Studies until November 30, 2003.

DipJ graduate scoops awards

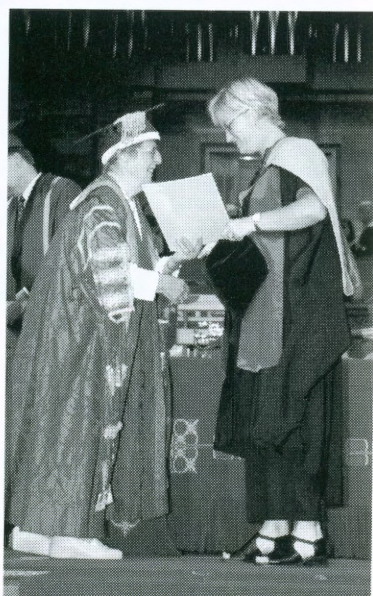
A Canterbury University journalism graduate has won the premier award in the Ossies, the competition for journalism students in Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific.

Sean Scanlon, a Graduate Diploma in Journalism student in 2000 (see story on p.3), won both the postgraduate feature writing award and the overall award for the best entry across all categories for an article published in *The Press* on Dr Joel Hayward and his controversial MA thesis questioning the Holocaust.

Judge Sharon Hill, editorial training manager for News Ltd, Sydney, described the feature as “an impressive piece of journalism” which “dissects the tale with a surgeon’s precision, piling detail upon detail in a controlled narrative sequence.”

This is the third year in succession a Canterbury journalism student has won the feature writing award and the second year in three the premier award. Students from 22 tertiary journalism courses entered the 2000 competition.

Midwifery PhD



Dr Elizabeth Tully receives her PhD in sociology from the Chancellor, Dame Phyllis Guthardt. Dr Tully’s doctorate was entitled *Doing Professionalism “Differently” - Negotiating Midwifery Autonomy in Aotearoa/New Zealand*.

Balance careers and life carefully – Dr Ogilvie

Dr Gordon Ogilvie gave the graduation speech at the December 13 ceremony, printed in full below.

“Dame Phyllis, Professor Le Grew, Professor Fairburn, distinguished guests and graduates, ladies and gentlemen. I am deeply grateful for the honour bestowed upon me today and for the generous citation we have just listened to.

“However, I must say that Professor Fairburn has faintly disappointed me. When I heard there was to be a citation, I looked up my two-volume *Shorter Oxford* to discover that a ‘citation’ was, amongst other things, a ‘recital’. So I have come here in the false belief that Miles would perform for us some Schubert or Beethoven.

“It so happens that two literary figures who have always intrigued me – lexicographer Samuel Johnson and poet Denis Glover – also had honorary doctorates bestowed upon them. Glover’s was at the 1975 graduation ceremony at Victoria University in Wellington. Delighted by the degree, he claimed it did little to pay his grocery bills but, by God, ‘Doctor Glover’ could certainly get a taxi pretty damned fast!

“It might also interest some of you who have gained degrees here today, notwithstanding occasional run-ins with university authorities or staff, that Denis Glover – despite a spectacular row with this University over the publication of the student magazine *Oriflamme* – finished up sitting right on stage at a function like this one. He signalled the event with the following verse:

Some time in nineteen thirty-three
The College Council sat on me:
But now – the nearest rhyme is
groundsel –
I’m sitting on the College
Council!

“Two centuries earlier, in 1765, Sam Johnson was awarded a Doctor of Laws by Trinity College in Dublin. Johnson showed no interest at all in visiting Ireland to receive the degree. James Boswell tried to persuade him that Dublin and the Giant’s Causeway were at



Photo by Duncan Shaw-Brown, External Relations

least worth seeing. ‘Worth seeing, sir, yes,’ responded Johnson, ‘but not worth going to see.’

“In many ways Johnson was a most unadmirable man: irritable, domineering, with gross table manners, a huge prejudice against everything un-English, and the nasty habit of always winning arguments. ‘There is no arguing with Johnson,’ complained poor Oliver Goldsmith, ‘for, if his pistol misses fire, he knocks you down with the butt-end of it!’ But Johnson’s writing and conversation was jam-packed with wisdom. Especially anything he had to say about life or literature.

“Two Johnson aphorisms I wish to pass on to you. The first one: ‘By far the greatest source of pleasure is variety.’ Johnson was no narrowly-focused specialist. He had a huge knowledge, an almost Elizabethan curiosity about everything. He could discourse with equal authority on gunpowder, breadmaking, architecture or classical mythology. That made him such fascinating and daunting company.

“And a second Johnsonian thought, ‘Whatever is written without effort is in general read without pleasure.’ Johnson understood the need to work with concentrated zeal at whatever gifts you have. Nobody could have described Johnson as a half-hearted man or lukewarm

participator. The result shows in his huge output, not just literacy, and in his undiminished reputation. So I feel we should all try to add versatility and gusto to our CVs. “You graduates have worked hard and deserve your success. And I have no doubt most of you, with brand new degrees, will shortly embark on outstanding careers and be a credit to the families, towns and the impressive range of countries you have come from.

“But please don’t let your careers be everything to you. It is all too easy to let hard-driving ambition come between you and those you cherish most. I cannot pretend I have always handled this well myself, but some sort of balance is necessary between your career and life itself. I believe you’ll discover that an affectionate family and supportive friends will mean much more to you in the finish.

“I’m especially fortunate in this respect and would like in particular, for their loving support, to thank a splendid wife and three equally splendid daughters. The latter have flown in from Istanbul, Melbourne and Wellington these last few days, in order to see their father wearing his comical hat.

“And, please, never neglect your hobbies. In fact your hobbies might do more for your reputation than your job. We all know accountants who make better fly fishermen, lawyers who are better comedians,

doctors who are better at homebrew, dentists who play better golf. As the used car market tells us, ‘Expect the best, nothing less!’ But also, as far as hobbies go, expect the unexpected and rejoice in it. I spent my career as an English teacher but here I am getting a history degree.

“Finally, I want to blame Professor Fairburn’s Uncle Rex for encouraging the ‘Great New Zealand Brain Drain’. And it started much earlier than you think. As early as the 1940s, A.R.D. Fairburn wrote a poem called *I’m Older than you, Please Listen!* in which he said:

If you’re enterprising and able,
Smuggle your talents away,
Hawk them in livelier markets
Where people are willing to pay.

“Though it *will* be tempting to hawk your talents elsewhere, it is also very satisfying to serve your own community. I’ve been around a little bit, but still prefer to work in and for my own patch. I owe Canterbury and this University a very great deal. For it was in the English and History departments of Canterbury University that I first acquired the enthusiasms that were to transform my life.

“In particular, I’m grateful to former reader in history Jim Gardner who showed my generation of students, for the first time, that there was treasure to be dug for in our own soil and that history was not merely about the Tudor economy, the Congress of Vienna, the Unification of Italy and Otto von Bismarck.

“So I return, gratefully, to the University where I first took flight. My thanks again to the University Council and teaching staff for honouring me today; my congratulations to all graduates, their friends and families. I wish every one of you a well-deserved Christmas break and the very best for the future; and (with apologies to Glover) I would like to conclude as follows:

Some time in nineteen fifty-one
I started writing, just for fun;
And now – the nearest rhyme
is Spock –
I stand before you all, A Doc!”

•Vice-Chancellor responds, p.10.

Cont. Ed. offers Oxford summer school

Ever dreamt of studying in the hallowed halls of Oxford University? Now is your chance.

The Centre for Continuing Education is offering a unique opportunity to appreciate the genuine Oxford experience.

The deal allows people to stay at Christ Church, Oxford, and attend summer school classes at Oxford University.

The summer school classes have largely historical and literary themes including such varied topics as "Lewis Carroll at Oxford", "The English Pub through the Centuries" and "Handel in England".

Each course is a week long and is presented by experts in their fields. The summer school runs for six weeks from July 1.

"You stay in student accommodation and dine in the student halls, with portraits of former students and staff gazing down at you," says Continuing Education's Educational Travel Manager Tony Crocker.

"It's open to anyone. There's no academic qualification requirement. There are no exams. "Some people are a little unsure about educational travel. We have to break down the image that we deal only with academics and students. All it requires is that they are interested in learning, rather than doing the standard tourist thing. It's a great opportunity for people who happen to have time in the United Kingdom for a week or more."

The experience costs £770, which includes tuition, a week's accommodation and three meals a day. Travel to the UK is not included in the package.

"Christ Church in Oxford was where many people who had the vision for the province of Canterbury studied. So with the 150th anniversary of Canterbury just having happened, it's really a nice timely sort of a thing. Christ Church runs the summer school."

The Centre for Continuing Education is exclusively promoting the deal in New Zealand.

Rachel Graham

Phil's farewell

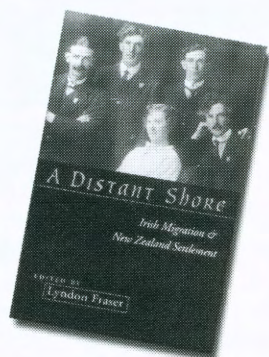
Inspector of Reserves Phil Martin is retiring at the end of the month. Phil's friends are gathering at the Staff Club on Wednesday January 31 at 5pm to wish him well on his retirement.

Acting Head of Feminist Studies

Dr Jane Chetwynd has been appointed Acting Head of the Department of Feminist Studies from January 1 to December 31.

Influence of Irish immigrants to New Zealand explored in book

Although difficult to define, the concepts of "culture" – and of "cultural heritage" or "identity" – are something that raise strong emotions and opinions. *A Distant Shore*, edited by Canterbury sociology lecturer Dr Lyndon Fraser, is a series of essays on that most sentimentalised of "cultures", the Irish. Sub-titled *Irish Migration & New Zealand Settlement*, the book covers a fascinating, yet neglected, aspect of the history of this country's European colonisation.



Mick Whittle

Irish independence represented a threat to the stability of Empire and showed that Irish Catholics were fundamentally unsuitable as citizens of New Zealand".

Other chapters deal with Irish women's migration to New Zealand, the Irish in the goldfields, and settlement in specific areas – for early West Coast Irish, for example, it was often more natural and convenient to shop in Melbourne than to attempt to cross to the east coast.

A comprehensive overview of the Irish influence on New Zealand history, *A Distant Shore* is published by the University of Otago Press.

V-C responds

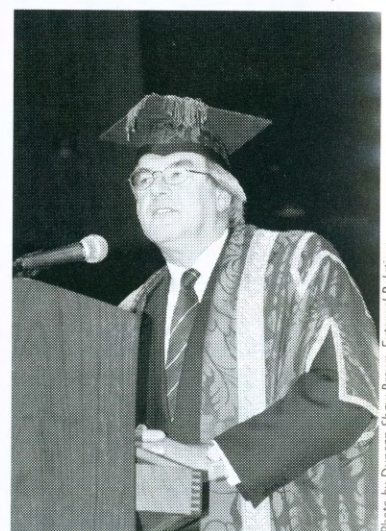


Photo by Duncan Shaw-Brown, External Relations

From the first essay, which "challenges local historians and social scientists to abandon restrictive bicultural approaches to the past", the nine comprehensive chapters provide new interpretations of the important role the Irish played "in shaping the economy and society of a new nation."

Yet, just as the concept of culture is incredibly complex, so too is the question of what it means to be "Irish". *A Distant Shore* explores this complexity from many angles; for example, the beliefs and values underlying early Irish Protestant communities – "industry, perseverance, frugality, a 'deep-seated love for Queen and country', and loyalty to Britain" – helped these immigrants lead the way in constructing "a pan-British identity which replaced Old World affinities and represented a first crucial step in the process of becoming 'New Zealanders'."

Irish Catholic migrants, on the other hand, often found such "integration" more difficult, especially because of events back in Ireland. "For some, the struggle for

Thanking "Doc" Ogilvie for his apt words, the Vice-Chancellor said the flags adorning the Town Hall's auditorium were evidence of the University's mission to turn out excellent graduates for New Zealand and for the world.

Professor Le Grew said he preferred not to think of it as "brain drain" but as New Zealand "seeding the intellectual fervour of the world." International students and Kiwi students mingled at Canterbury, built friendships and business networks, and then worked globally for the "great objectives of social betterment, economic well-being and cultural enhancement."

From the 1999 Registry occupation

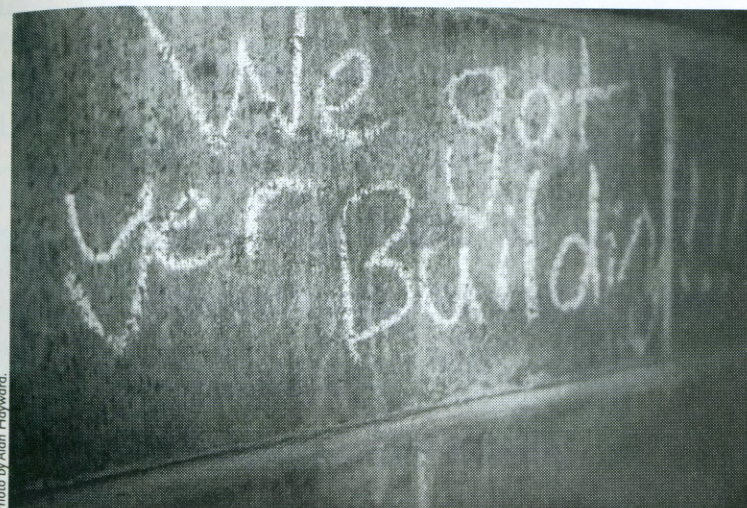


Photo by Alan Hayward

A piece of history discovered lurking at the back of the Council Room by the Registrar, Alan Hayward.

New Head of PAMS

Dr Ashley Sparrow has been appointed Head of the Department of Plant and Microbial Sciences for three years from January 1 until December 31, 2003.

He replaces Associate Professor Tony Cole.

Fixed-term Head of Asian Languages

Professor Ken Strongman (Psychology) has been appointed Head of the Department of Asian Languages on fixed-term secondment from January 8 to August 17.

Combined effort produces regional history

Senior lecturer in history Dr Philippa Mein Smith has spent the past four years working on a "big picture book" of Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific.

The book, *A History of Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific*, is part of the Blackwell History of the World series. It was written in conjunction with Professor Donald Denoon from the Australian National University (ANU) in Canberra, with assistance from the ANU's Marivic Wyndham. The book was launched in the United Kingdom and the United States in November.

Dr Mein Smith said the histories of Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific had usually been looked at individually in the past. When she and Professor Denoon started the book they were not sure if the region would come together as one coherent entity. However, as they progressed they found that it did and that the individual stories were not separate, but strands of a single history.

"It's a really dynamic region. Internal and external influences are

both really important. We need to look at history to understand those influences."

Rather than write the book with separate sections for each nation they have interwoven the histories through time with a thematic structure. She said certain issues re-occurred throughout the region, such as land issues, colonisation and indigenous resurgence.

The book focuses predominantly on the past 200 years and continues to the end of 1999.

The book was an example of the research-teaching link, with lectures on Australia and New Zealand feeding into the book and work on the book changing her lecture material, she said. Writing began in 1996. Dr Mein Smith and Professor Denoon wrote separately and e-mailed their work to each other for perusal. Although this method worked quite well, they decided they needed to get together to make sure they were writing the same book.

They successfully applied to the Rockefeller Foundation for a

New book looks at Antarctic ecosystems and research

Three Canterbury University academics are behind a new book on Antarctic ecosystems. Former Zoology Department head Associate Professor Bill Davison, Zoology Adjunct Professor Clive Howard-Williams and Paul Broady from the Plant and Microbial Sciences Department are the editors of *Antarctica Ecosystems – models for wider ecological understanding*.

The book was instigated at the sixth SCAR (Scientific Committee on Antarctica Research) meeting when it was suggested that the seventh symposium be held in Christchurch.

The papers presented at the symposium formed the basis for the book. "The book is a good representation of the type of biological work that is currently being carried out by the various national programmes that form the basis for SCAR," he said.

The book has contributors from universities throughout the world. Subjects that are explored include long-term change in the Antarctic and human impact on Antarctica.

The opening chapter looks at the issue of justification of study in Antarctica, as the high cost of the research means scientists often feel the need to justify study by highlighting either the uniqueness or the similarity to other areas. Both of these stances have problems, since if Antarctica is entirely unique then the research will have no relevance for other areas, and if it is similar to other areas then research does not need to be carried out in such a remote location.

In contrast, it is suggested in *Antarctic Ecosystems* that Antarctica is at one end of a biological spectrum and should be studied to provide information which can be used to inform biological questions of global significance.

Professor Davison said the recent ratification of the Protocol on Environmental Protection (Madrid Protocol) will have a major effect on how scientific research is carried out in Antarctica and will affect all work carried out there.

Rachel Graham

DISCOUNT PHOTOS COLOUR FILM PROCESSING

Digital computer or camera files (PowerPoint, Photoshop etc.) to slide/negative or print.

E-mail your files to us and we will deliver next day by no charge courier!

Fast, low cost slide processing service also available.

Rohan Rudd, Discount Photos Ltd.

phone 0508 379 419

E-mail: icard@caverock.net.nz

Free samples and price/service schedule will be sent immediately upon request.

CROWN

WORLDWIDE MOVERS

"THE ONE COMPANY"

NEW ZEALAND & WORLDWIDE

Crown offers a comprehensive door to door moving service throughout New Zealand and Worldwide

- Professional Pack & Wrap • Customs Documentation
- All Risks Insurance • Containerised Storage

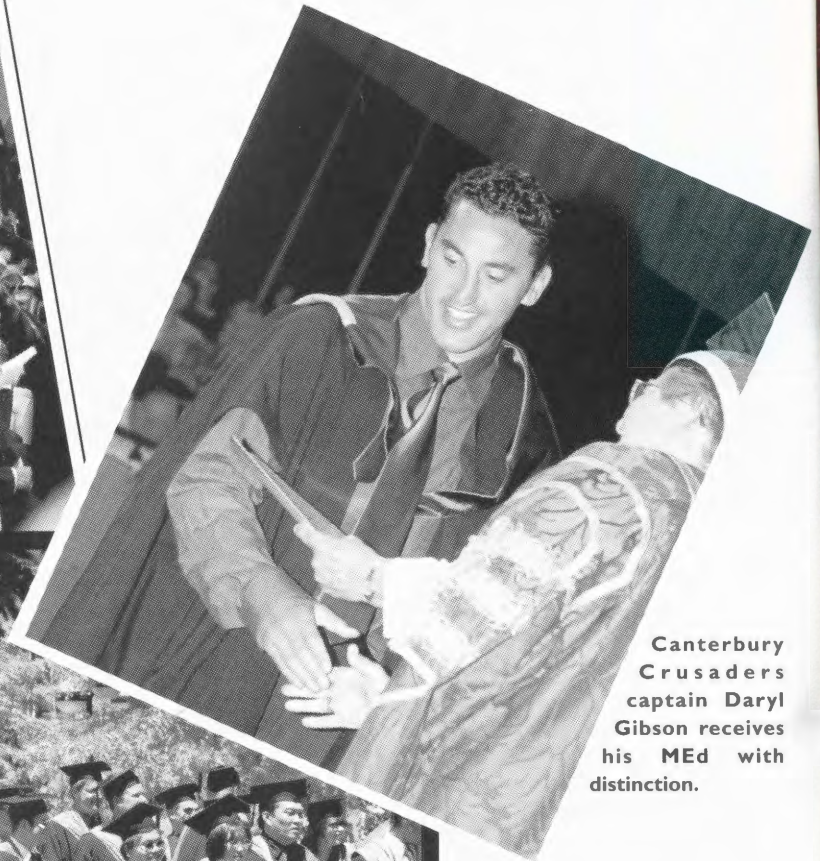
Obligation free quotes to all areas

TELEPHONE 348 0609 CHRISTCHURCH

BRANCHES THROUGHOUT NEW ZEALAND

Graduation moments - December 13, 2000

Photos by Duncan Shaw-Brown, External Relations



Canterbury Crusaders captain Daryl Gibson receives his MEd with distinction.



The Students' Association's Qiao Yi Lion Dance Club participated in a graduation procession for the first time.

