

UNITAS

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA



UNIVERSITY
OF TASMANIA

CODES writes itself into the record book



Photo: Ross Large, Wally Herrmann, Bruce Gemmell and Mike Solomon displaying the new map of the Mount Lyell area published in the Special Issue of *Economic Geology*.
Photo by Fred Koolhof.

The Centre for Ore Deposit Research (CODES SRC) has achieved a significant coup by producing another Special Issue for the premier international journal, *Economic Geology*.

The Director of CODES, Prof Ross Large, said CODES and the School of Earth Sciences have every right to be proud for having produced three Special Issues of *Economic Geology* in the past three decades.

"It demonstrates our strength and the depth of our research projects as no other Australian or overseas university department or research group has previously edited three Special Issues of *Economic Geology*", Prof Large said.

The new Special Issue of *Economic Geology* (v. 96, no. 5), co-edited by CODES Program 3 Leader, Assoc Prof Bruce Gemmell, and Research Fellow, Walter Herrmann, is devoted to "alteration associated with volcanic-hosted massive sulfide deposits and its exploration significance".

Most of the content of this Special Issue is based on a

three-year collaborative research project between the CODES and the Australian Mineral Industry Research Association (AMIRA).

Fourteen of the 18 papers are based on CODES staff and student research on the volcanic-hosted massive sulfide (VHMS) deposits and districts in Australia.

Research for the current Special Issue of *Economic Geology* was supported by: AMIRA, Aberfoyle Resources Limited, Copper Mines of Tasmania, Denehurst Limited, Mineral Resources Tasmania, Normandy Exploration, Pasmaenco Exploration, Queensland Metals Corporation Ltd, RGC Exploration, Rio Tinto Exploration and the Australian Geological Survey Organisation.

Prof Large said each Special Issue of *Economic Geology* produced by the University of Tasmania has had different authors and a diverse range of subject matter.

"Our first Special Issue of *Economic Geology*, published in 1981, covered the geology and mineral deposits in Tasmania. That issue was edited by Dr Mike Solomon, with help from John Walshe and Chris Eastoe of the Geology Department."

In 1992, Prof Large edited the Special Issue of *Economic Geology* which was devoted to Australian Volcanic-hosted Massive Sulfide (VHMS) Deposits and their Volcanic Environment.

Volume 222, 15 April 2001

Tribute to Professor Bill Jackson 3

Academic staff development: upcoming events

Information session: Preparing the teaching component of promotion applications

Professor Sue Johnston, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Teaching and Learning) will provide practical information about preparing applications for promotion (or other appointments) where teaching performance is one of the criteria. The information session will explain what selection and promotion committees look for and how applicants might ensure they make the best case for their teaching.

Staff applying for promotion in the future, applying for teaching awards, tenure or other academic positions, or who wish to build up their teaching portfolio, should attend.

Wednesday 17 April, 12.30pm to 2.00pm

(Launceston) Michael Courtney Room (Sir Raymond Ferrall Centre), Launceston

Thursday 18 April, 12.30pm to 2.00pm (Hobart)

Arts Room 206 (Psychology area of Arts Building), Hobart

(Take your lunch)

The teaching portfolio and teaching profile

A workshop session that will look at the Teaching Portfolio – a compilation of evidence about your teaching – what material it is appropriate for you to collect, and how and when you go about it. Using the portfolio as a resource, the workshop will then look at the production of a Teaching Profile, which is a distillation of the material into an appropriate document for personnel decision-making (e.g. promotion).

It is becoming the norm in Australian universities for all academic staff to compile a teaching portfolio for themselves, as a powerful tool to monitor and improve their teaching (the additional benefit is that such a portfolio can then be used to produce a teaching profile for promotion, or a teaching excellence award). The workshop is recommended to all academic staff interested in monitoring and improving their teaching. It is also recommended to staff intending to apply for promotion or those who intend to make an application that involves producing evidence about their teaching.

Friday 19 April, half day (Launceston) Trust Bank Room (Sir Raymond Ferrall Centre), Launceston

Friday 26 April, half day (Hobart) Room 204 (Commerce Building), Hobart

For bookings and more information, contact Rosie Britton extn 3504 or email Rosemary.Britton@utas.edu.au

Study abroad in Thailand

And count it towards your undergraduate degree!

During the semester break June 24 – July 10, the School of Visual and Performing Arts has an exciting international Thai Art and Culture Study Tour elective. (Participants will leave after exams and arrive back in Tasmania in plenty of time for the beginning of semester two).

The elective is designed and taught by staff from the School of Visual and Performing Arts in collaboration with academic staff from Silpakorn University in Bangkok and Chiang Mai University in Chiang Mai, Thailand. The 12.5% elective will count as a quarter of the study commitment for second semester 2002.

Travel will cost approximately \$2650 ex Launceston or Hobart, and will cover all domestic and international airfares, all accommodation, many meals, and all field trips in Thailand, as well as the train fare from Bangkok to Chiangmai and air fare from Chiang Mai to Bangkok to meet the international flight back to Australia.

For more details look on the School's web site at acadarts.utas.edu.au or telephone Carol Searson, Administration Officer – 6324 4400 for an information package, or email direct to David.Hamilton@utas.edu.au



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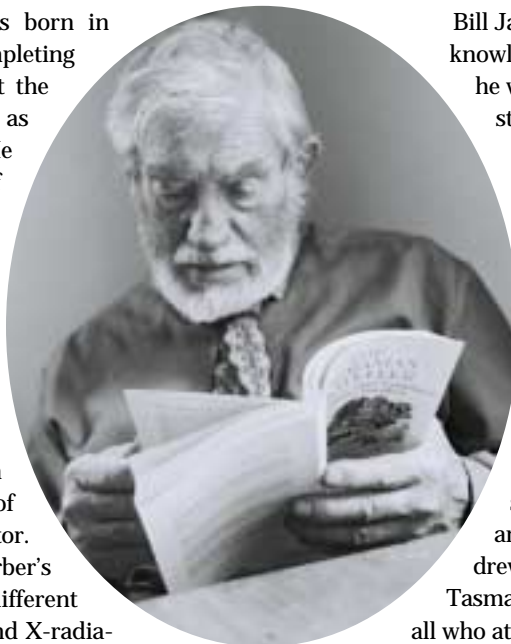
Emeritus Professor William Dalziel Jackson

1921–2002

Emeritus Professor Bill Jackson was born in Hobart, Tasmania, in 1921. After completing a certificate as an instrument maker at the Launceston Technical College, he served as an artificer in the AIF during WWII. He began his studies at the University of Tasmania in 1946, along with many other ex-servicemen. His interests were broad but he eventually found his niche in the Botany Department where the foundation Professor of Botany, H.N. Barber FRS, had captured his attention on the population genetics, cytogenetics and ecology of Tasmanian native plants. In 1952, he completed a BSc degree with Honours in Botany and joined the staff of the Botany Department as a demonstrator. In 1961, he completed a PhD under Barber's supervision made up of two rather different studies – cline formation in eucalypts and X-radiation damage to chromosomes. The merits of his work had already been recognised by the award of the prestigious David Syme Medal for 1960. This medal is awarded across all fields of science and the list of medallists contains some illustrious names. In 1966, Bill was appointed Professor of Botany and served in that position until his retirement in 1986. As an emeritus professor, he maintained a very active role in the department and could be found on campus most days until the last few months of his life. His outstanding contribution had spanned five decades with his final publication completed in his 81st year.

Bill had a deep and abiding interest in his department and the University, and a strong desire to build a department respected internationally and at home for its scholarship and research achievements. In this he was successful. The outstanding controlled-environment facilities in Botany (now the School of Plant Science) owe their foundations, indeed existence, to the pioneering design skills and wholehearted support of Bill Jackson throughout his time as a staff member. These facilities have enabled Tasmanian researchers to work at the forefront of international research on the control of plant development for over four decades.

Eucalypts formed a principal focus of Professor Jackson's research for many years. Although retired when the Cooperative Research Centre for Temperate Hardwood Forestry came into being in 1991, his teaching on eucalypts to former students had sown the seeds that eventually bore fruit in the creation of this CRC and its current successor, the CRC for Sustainable Production Forestry. These two CRCs have brought many jobs on campus and many tangible benefits to Tasmania.



Bill Jackson had a love of the bush and a wide knowledge of Tasmanian plants. As a scientist, he will best be remembered for his understanding of the factors influencing the make-up of Tasmanian plant communities, particularly the role of fire in regard to forest species. He had excellent powers of observation and reasoning, and a natural feel for putting a story together. A shy man, he avoided the spotlight. However, in his classes and in one-to-one conversations he conveyed many of these insights to generations of students who sat at his feet or followed his footsteps in the bush. His legendary style and approach to the Field Botany course drew many attendees from beyond Tasmania and left an indelible impression on all who attended.

Bill's enthusiasm for science didn't extend to shuffling bits of paper to keep bureaucrats happy. He could be argumentative and stubborn, but was fiercely loyal and one suspects his Scots ancestors gave the Sassenachs considerable grief. He was a fount of knowledge and generally accessible to those who sought his help, advice and comment. His regular attendance in the tearoom for his beloved round of crib ensured his treasure trove of knowledge remained accessible to members for as long as possible.

Bill early recognised the need to reward and encourage retention of the best students and he juggled a small quantity of departmental funds toward that end. In recent years, he was instrumental in the University receiving a bequest from the estate of the late Jane R. Gillies endowing Honours scholarships and prizes in Genetics and Botany. In 2000, he personally endowed a generous scholarship to encourage talented students to undertake an Honours course in Plant Science. His generosity to his alma mater did not stop there. A long-term collector of antiques, he donated to the Classics Museum a valuable antiquity from Egypt.

Bill Jackson was a man in unique mould with many idiosyncrasies, some truly endearing. There is no doubt that after 56 years of almost daily attendance on campus he will be sadly missed. He leaves many special memories among those that knew him, and an academic heritage that will endure for a very long time.

Ian Murfet

Media moguls in the making

“The proof is in the pudding” is proving a true adage for Journalism and Media Studies students at the University of Tasmania.

An impressive number of graduates and current students who have undertaken the Professional Placement Unit as part of their Journalism and Media Studies major have been picked up by the media industry in Tasmania as a direct result of their placement experience.

Coordinator of the Professional Placement Unit, Nicola Goc, said a dozen students had already gained employment as media professionals in the last six months.

“We had our first graduates in 2001 and already the industry is recognising their worth. As a direct result of their placement experience, a number of students have been placed with the media in Tasmania including WIN Television, ABC News, *The Mercury*, *The Advocate*, HO FM and *The Examiner*. Three other students have found work in public relations”, Ms Goc said.

“The media industry in Tasmania has been very supportive of the Placement Unit”, she said. “Sean Ford, from *The Advocate*, recently told me that the students we are turning out are ‘outstanding’ which is gratifying.”

Under the Professional Placement Unit students are placed with media for 10 days and gain experience as working journalists or public relations professionals.

“The students are utilising the skills they have learnt from the Journalism and Media Studies units they have studied and are gaining meaningful experience working in the industry.”

Ms Goc said it gives the students a head start and is an excellent way for the industry

to see what a student has to offer. “The Placement Unit offers students the opportunity to highlight their skills to the industry in the year before they graduate.”

The graduates now working in the media in Tasmania include Alistair Nicholson, Katherine Martin (WIN TV) Nicola Mitchell (ABC News) Damien McIntyre (*The Mercury*), Jane Bestwick (HOFM) Debra Cole, Shae Johnson, Sam Taylor, Jemma Bavage (*The Advocate*), Kate McQuestin (The Liberal Party of Tasmania), Barbara Buckingham (QUIT Tasmania). Lucy Spurgeon has started a cadetship with *The Examiner* while continuing her studies part time. Several other students who are in the third year of their studies have picked up part-time employment in the media and public relations industry.



University of Tasmania graduates, Shae Johnson and Debra Cole, (top) and Sam Taylor and Jemma Bavage (below) who majored in Journalism and Media Studies have gained employment as cadet journalists at *The Advocate* newspaper.

National Youth Week ‘travels’ to uni

National Youth Week in Tasmania got underway with a performance of *Bus Scene* by Lilydale High students. The piece explored youth prejudice on buses – bullying, ageist remarks, and rude, unkind, critical and judgemental behaviour.

The students played to an audience of second-year BED students in the Sir Raymond Ferrall lecture theatre. The launch was initiated by Dr Margaret Robertson, and was supported by the Launceston City Council.



Research news

In this, the first of the 'Research News' columns for 2002, I would like to welcome everyone back after the summer break. I hope that you managed to have a good break, though I suspect it seems increasingly distant as the 2002 academic year gathers pace! Many researchers have been hard at work writing ARC, NH&MRC and other grant proposals. Before reflecting on some of the announced, and possible future, changes at the national level I think it would be useful to reflect on last year.

I believe that 2001 was a good year for research. Our external research income rose from \$22.7M in 2000 to \$27.6M in 2001. In addition there was another \$4M from CRC sources giving a combined research income from Australian Competitive Grants, Other Public Sector funding, Industry and Other Funding, and CRCs of approximately \$32M. This represents a very significant achievement by researchers. To give you some idea of the magnitude of the increases over recent years, the combined research income from all sources for 1997 was \$17.5M.

This increase in external income was paralleled by an increase in the number of research higher degree completions (close to 130). At this stage we are still collecting data on publications.

These are indicators of significant vitality, initiative and creative thought. Despite the strains in the higher education system, our research effort continues to strengthen. It makes significant contributions to knowledge and to the world of ideas, as well as to the solution to contemporary problems in society, health, the environment and business. The University's research also makes a contribution to employment in Tasmania. Much of the external research funding is spent on jobs. As a rough rule of thumb, 75-80% of the funding is most likely spent on jobs. Therefore, as our research effort grows, so too does employment.

Many researchers have already been working hard this year to maintain the effort. Those writing ARC proposals have encountered a more than usually trying set of circumstances. Part way through the exercise the rules changed with the announcement of the four National Priority Areas and the corresponding change in the ARC guidelines. This was disconcerting for researchers and it reflected tensions within federal agencies on the number and nature of priority areas.

It is important to be clear that there have been ongoing discussions at senior levels with organisations like ARC and the Prime Ministers Science Advisory Group on priority areas for research. It is clear that there were some who wanted to introduce a larger number of priority areas, or to have a smaller amount of ARC funds committed to such areas, and those who wanted a small number of areas with significant funding. In the end it appears that there was a directive that there will be four areas (Nano technology, Genome-Phenome, Complex Systems and Photonics) and that 33% of the funding will be directed to these areas.

From crude calculations it looks like all the new funding promised in 'Backing Australia's Ability' will be directed to the four National Priority Areas mentioned above. This is likely to mean that success rates in the non-priority areas will remain at 20%.

What is important for us to understand is that priority setting in research is now part of the national agenda. There is a significant concern that Australia cannot invest equally in all areas of research so priority areas for funding will have to be identified. Under its new CEO, Geoff Garrett, CSIRO is undergoing a process of establishing some major, challenging goals referred to as B-HAGs (Big Hairy Audacious Goals). This will involve greater links to universities. Indeed the 'Team Australia' concept of CSIRO linking more closely with major research universities (including the University of Tasmania) has been developing for over a year. There have already been meetings with the Executive of CSIRO and the Pro/Deputy Vice-Chancellors (Research) of about 12 universities to discuss cooperation.

I anticipate priority areas for research to be an ongoing topic for discussion at the federal level. My hunch is that the federal government will be looking for some more clearly defined areas for the future. This is the start, not the end, of the process.

This raises the obvious question for the University of Tasmania as to how our research direction links to the national priority areas. I think that two comments are appropriate. The first is to emphasise that the process of priority setting is an emerging one and I expect to see significant changes, especially in definitions of priority areas over time. Secondly, I think we need to consider carefully the wisdom of making rapid and unconsidered shifts in our internal research priority areas. I am not suggesting for one moment that we ignore the national agenda, rather that we set our agenda to suit our total circumstances. We are successful in research and we should set our goal to remain successful.

The announcement of the National Priority Areas followed after internal decisions that we should look again at the four Theme Areas. These were introduced in 1996 and have helped shape research activity at the University. The Theme Areas have been well accepted by DEST and have clearly given our research a particular and unique identity in Australia. In the Research, Research Training Management Report we submit annually to DEST, the four Theme Areas are identified as areas of significant strength. As we look forward, however, it is appropriate for us to look again at the Themes and the descriptions. In doing so we might want to consider links between our Theme Areas and any national priority areas.

In the coming days there will be opportunities for input into defining Theme Areas for the next phase of our research effort.

Meanwhile, good luck with your research. I hope it goes well.



Professor Andrew Glenn

Just rewards

Over 100 staff attended the Marine Research Laboratories at Taroona for the Science and Engineering Research Evening recently.

The Dean, Professor Jim Reid, presented Faculty Research Excellence Grants to Dr Stewart Frusher (Crustacean Research Group in TAFI) and to Professor Peter McCulloch (Radio Astronomy Research Group in Physics).

Professor Reid also awarded Teaching Merit Certificates to staff judged by peers and students as excellent teachers.

Professor Allan Canty's election as Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science and Dr Vishi Karri's 'Australian Award for University Teaching in Physical Sciences and Related Studies' were also recognised.



Director of Tamarian Aquaculture and Fisheries (TAFI), Professor Colin Buxton, left, looks on as Professor Jim Reid presents a Faculty Research Excellence Grant to Dr Stewart Frusher, centre.

Left to right – Dr Mark Hovenden (Plant Science), Dr Simon Wotherspoon (Maths & Physics), Dr Danielle Johnston (Aquaculture), Dr Stewart Frusher (TAFI), Prof Allan Canty (Chemistry), Dr Julian Dermoudy (Computing), Dr Bruce Gemmell (Earth Sciences), Prof Peter McCulloch (Physics) and Dr Vishi Karri (Engineering).



Improve your skills online

The Flexible Education Unit has developed a wide range of self-paced 'IT Training Online' materials covering standard computer software and tasks.

The materials are available to all University staff and students via the web. There are 75 training titles which the University licensed at the beginning of the year from the e-learning company Element K, through their Australian representative, Appcon.

The training titles consist of multiple topics and users can choose to work through each of those in sequence, or access a particular topic of interest.

The materials are a valuable resource and can be used very effectively within an academic unit. Andrew Fluck from the Faculty of Education talked about their use within his education unit, and said, by way of example, that pre-service teachers at the University encounter computers in the first and last years of their courses. "The initial focus is on developing personal and professional skills computer skills; whilst pre-graduation the emphasis is on their management as pedagogical tools."

"The spectrum of personal computer confidence upon entry is very wide. Students coming from college have a general knowledge, whilst others can have very little prior exposure", he explains. "Therefore a core curriculum has been provided which makes sure everyone gets the skills they require, and there is a differential assessment to give extra tutorial time for

those who need more practice."

"The IT training online modules in WebCT are included in the unit outlines as recommended learning materials and are easy to access, particularly as many students have lecture notes and bulletin boards for their education course units in WebCT.

"One student noted how he had encountered the supplementary online materials as he logged into WebCT from home. Since I had mentioned the materials in a lecture, he decided to investigate further. His first impression, he says, was a 'little like watching paint dry', because it goes right back to basics."

Andrew said he recommended the International Computer Drivers Licence (ICDL) material to the student. "He soon ranged further and found the PowerPoint tutorials. These were sufficiently helpful and he intends re-visiting them when the topic comes up in the face-to-face tutorials. One slight hitch was the delay for the voice narration to load up. But he suspects his modem is as much to blame for that!"

To have automatic access to the 'IT Training Online' materials, staff and students need to know their university email account name; have a WebCT-compatible web browser or Internet Explorer; have the plug-in Shockwave installed, and be able to access the University's web site.

Assistance can be obtained from computing support staff within schools or sections, or from the Help Desk, extension 1818 or email: helpdesk@utas.edu.au

Seminars • Forums • Performances

Philosophy Cafe

Mateship is a thing of the past

24th April 5.30-7 pm

Sal's Cafe, Salamanca Place

Hosted by Professor Jeff Malpas

Removing the Boundaries

Nicola Goc, lecturer in journalism SEJEL

When the editor/proprietor is the defendant

Friday 19 April, 5pm

St Ives Hotel, Battery Point, Hobart

Scott Slovic, Professor of literature and environment at the University of Nevada, Reno, and Editor of *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*

Numbers and nerves: Seeking a discourse of environmental sensitivity in a world of data

Friday 26 April, 5pm

St Ives Hotel, Battery Point, Hobart

Aquaculture

Judith Handlinger, DPIWE, Mt Pleasant

Diseases in lobsters

Wednesday 24 April, 12.10pm

Brooks Lecture Theatre 8

Further information on School of Aquaculture events: Danielle Johnston on 6324 3811.

Plant Science

Final Honours Seminars

Nina Roberts

Tree ferns as a substrate for ferns and bryophytes in south-east Tasmania

Susan Lambert

*Nutrient effects on superoxide production of *Chattonella marina* from Australia and New Zealand*

Amie Lovell

*The toxic dinoflagellate *Gymnodinium catenatum* in New Zealand: cyst and radionuclide evidence*

Friday 19 April, 3.30pm

Life Science Lecture Theatre 2

Carla Wolbang

Auxin biology of grasses and how it relates to gibberellin biosynthesis

Lucy Harlow

Bacterial associations and PSP toxin production in marine dinoflagellates

Friday 24 April, 4pm

Life Science Lecture Theatre 2

Further details on Plant Sciences seminars:

Catherine Philips on 6226 2603.

Launceston Arts Faculty Seminars

Anne Hardy, Tourism, will present her rescheduled, seminar entitled

There's trouble in paradise: An investigation into stakeholders perceptions of tourism in the Daintree

Thursday 18 April

School of Chemistry Seminars

Honours introductory seminars

Margaret Dooley

Biomimetic syntheses of Galanthamine

Alison Radford

New methods for the synthesis of the Stemonal

Alkaloid: Stenine

Bonnie Atkinson

The degradation of natural Pyrethrins in crop storage

Wednesday 24 April

Further information: Dr Brian Yates 6226 2167

email: Brian.Yates@utas.edu.au

Women's Studies

Associate Professor Margaret Allen, Department of Social Inquiry, University of Adelaide

Sites of Empire: Australian women in India a century ago

Thursday 18 April, 4.15pm

Humanities Room 346, Sandy Bay campus

Philosophy Seminar

Dr Barbara Noske, Research Fellow, Research Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Sydney

Anthropocentrism, androcentrism, ecofeminism: the issue of animals

Friday 19 April, 9.30am

Room 347 Humanities Building, Sandy Bay

Further information is available from Dr Kim Atkins on 6324 3522 or Sandra Kellett on 6226 2255.

School of Government

Dr Rosemary Sandford,

New directions in cultural heritage for Tasmania

Friday 19 April, 2 pm

Room 586, Level 5, Arts Building, Sandy Bay

Dr Christine Standish

Civil society and post metaphysical liberalism

Friday 26 April, 2 pm

Room 586, Level 5, Arts Building, Sandy Bay

Performances

Conservatorium Concert

Calendar

Friday Lunchtime Concert

Marina Phillips, Director

Ensemble Shiraz, the Conservatorium String Orchestra, present the first in a series of four concerts for 2002.

Friday 19 April, 1.10pm

Conservatorium Recital Hall. Free event.

Visiting Artists Series: Yi Wang – Violin and Shen Deng – Piano

Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra principal violin Yi Wang presents a recital with Conservatorium artist Shan Deng, performing sonatas by Debussy, Prokofiev and Beethoven.

Friday 19 April, 8pm

Conservatorium Recital Hall. Tickets \$20/\$15.

Meadowbank Estate Series: Emily McMillan – Violin and Mandy Parsons – French Horn

A recital featuring two of the Conservatorium's talented postgraduate students.

Friday 26 April, 3pm

Meadowbank Estate. Free entry.

Runnymede Series: Rebecca Lumb – Mezzo Soprano

Postgraduate student Rebecca Lumb presents a program of French music in period location at historic Runnymede House.

Sunday 28 April, 3pm

Runnymede House. Tickets \$6.00

Further information on these or any

Conservatorium events is available from Patrick Taylor on 6226 7306.



CLASSIFIEDS

WANTED TO RENT:

Married, non-smoking academic couple with excellent references (lived in only two rental properties in 11 years) with a cat and dog (also with refs: quiet, well-behaved) looking for 2-3 bedroom house with backyard, preferably near university. Required late June – early July. Willing to consider long-term lease. Phone Dr Brett Hutchins (07) 3876 7029.

FOR SALE: Roll-topdesk: blackwood (Aspect Design), 8 drawers, lockable: \$1300

Sofa bed: Metal frame, big cushions, green and white check: \$450

Bike: Shogun hybrid mountain/street bike, light-weight, very good condition: \$250
Contact: Nancy on 6224 8749 (home) or 6230 7754 (work).

FOR SALE: German "Comet" white projector screen (125 x 125 cm) in as-new condition. \$900ono. Phone: 6326 7535.

WANTED TO RENT:

Thomas Crawford scholar from British Columbia (married) arriving early July is seeking reasonably priced 1 or

2 bedroom flat close to university. Contact Rhonda in the Scholarships Office 2653.

FOR SALE: King single pine bed with 6-inch foam mattress (still in plastic). \$170. Call Jeremy on 6224 3832

FOR LEASE: To professional lady or gentleman. Sandy Bay – spacious, sunny, one bedroom unit, stunning water views, floor heating, off-street parking. \$175 per week ONO. Available July. For inspection phone 6225 1906 or 0417 755 048.

NOTICEBOARD

Landmark legal case draws on article by Dr Kim Atkins

On 22 March this year, England's senior woman judge, Dame Elizabeth Butler-Sloss, ruled that Ms B, a 43-year-old woman paralysed from the neck down and kept alive on a ventilator, had the right to have her life support switched off at her own request. Dame Butler-Sloss said that she had been helped in reaching her judgment about the rights of a competent patient by an article from the *Journal of Applied Philosophy*. The article to which Dame Butler-Sloss referred is by Dr Kim Atkins of the Centre for Applied Philosophy and Ethics at the University of Tasmania: 'Autonomy and the subjective character of experience', *Journal of Applied Philosophy*, vol.17, no.1 (2000).

Living with depression

Living with depression is a forum organised for the University community (staff and students) who want to know more about the nature, treatment and reality of depression. If you know someone who is depressed, have been there, or are just interested, you owe it to yourself to be a part of this. Tuesday, April 23, 1pm-2pm at the Sir Raymond Ferrall Centre, Trust Bank Room.

More information: Student Services, Kerslake Building, ph 6324 3787.

Postgraduate Forum

Campus Review's showcase of postgraduate work in Australia, has just published its April issue. The Forum began two years ago and has had submissions from postgraduates from around Australia, the Asia-Pacific, and the US, across many disciplines.

The Forum is a great way to begin a resume of printed work, which will be read by academics, administrators and postgraduates around the country and overseas. You can contribute to the Forum by writing up to 1500 words on your work-in-progress. Contributors should outline their area of research, describe what they have discovered, relate that to the broader context of their discipline, and explain any ramifications and outcomes of their work.

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Contributions are welcome from all postgraduates, in any discipline. Academics are also invited to contribute work that has implications for postgraduate study.

Contact Forum editor David Myton at davidm@camrev.com.au for more information, or call 02 9936 8668

Volunteer mentors required

Co-Pilots is a community mentoring program commencing soon in Launceston. It aims to encourage young people to develop skills and confidence and to find new pathways to learning and work. Co-Pilots links a young person with an adult volunteer to plan and work together on a two-month project that has a community focus.

Expressions of interest are invited from adults (21 years plus) who would like to be mentors for 12 to 15-year-olds in the Co-Pilots program. Mentors from a range of backgrounds are welcome and no previous experience is required. The commitment involves 20 hours free accredited training and at least 16 hours contact time with a young person over a two-month period.

For details contact the Co-Pilots Coordinator on 6323 3368 by Friday 19 April 2002.

A new series on early Christian writers

Following on from last year's Early Christian Writers talks, a new series is set to begin that will cover major figures among the Eastern theologians from the time of Constantine to the end of the fourth century. The first of three talks for this semester was given last week by Fr Max Polak, the Catholic Chaplain, and focused on the writings of Athanasius of Alexandria, particularly in relation to the Council of Nicea and the controversy regarding the Trinity... Subsequent talks will be on St Basil the Great 16 April and the other Cappadocian Fathers, Gregory Nazianzene and Gregory of Nyssa 23 April. The venue is Alexander House (the new Chaplaincy Centre), 40 Alexander Street (white house just up the hill from the TUU parking area), and talks begin at 5.05 pm.

North-West Centre Cultural Calendar

Chain Letters – narrating convict lives

Professor Lucy Frost and Dr Hamish Maxwell-Stewart
We used to think that there were only 100 convict narratives (all written by men) but we now know there are thousands. Lucy and Hamish will reveal how they discovered them.

Friday 19 April, 7.30pm North-West Centre, Mooreville Road, Burnie.

A Pack of Thieves: convict life at Port Arthur

Dr Hamish Maxwell-Stewart
Children aged eight to 13 will learn about and explore life as a convict at one of Australia's most notorious penal stations through role-play and other interactive activities.

Saturday 20 April, 10am to 10.40am North-West Centre, Mooreville Road, Burnie.

For further information on North-West Centre Cultural Calendar events phone 6430 4999.

The opinions expressed in UniTas are not necessarily those of the University.

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Reader contributions are welcome, however the publishers reserve the right to edit copy or hold-over material for future issues. It is under no obligation to publish contributed copy. Letters to the Editor on issues of general University interest are invited. They should be brief and must be signed.

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