To find out all you can about somebody’s life and habits, you might call in a private investigator... if the person was still living.

To understand the lives of past generations, you need an archaeologist — the ‘private eye’ of the past.

Modern archaeology sounds like a tautology but it’s actually a very practical approach to learning about the culture, society, technology, work and environment of past generations.

Second and third-year archaeology students recently spent a week excavating at Bridgedale, a historic property in Bridgetown, in a collaborative project with the National Trust to reinterpret the property.

Very little is known about the earliest use of the house, occupied by the Blechynden family from 1859 onwards.

The Centre for Archaeology’s Dr Alistair Paterson led the field school of 27 students and three postgraduates with the aims of locating original domestic and work structures in relation to the pastoral homestead (still standing), and better understanding life at the property, particularly during the nineteenth century.

Dr Paterson has recently started teaching historical archaeology, which, he says, asks the question: “How did the modern world come about?” by examining the archaeology of recent historic periods. The students will answer this question, in relation to Bridgedale, during the semester as they analyse their samples.

Preparatory research identified the potential location of archaeological features using ground-penetrating radar. The students’ excavations involved digging one-metre-square holes to reveal cultural material.

Although they were unable to find the foundations of an earlier house (it’s possible they may be buried under the South Western Highway), the artefacts and samples indicated the location of discard areas, the remains of demolished structures — both residential and pastoral — and will provide information about aspects of the occupants’ life, such as what they ate at the end of the nineteenth century, and changes to the property which flanks the Blackwood River, such as whether native vegetation was cleared by the settlers.

“Eventually we’re hoping to identify pollen to work out what was in the garden: how much of it was native bushland and household gardens, as opposed to the sculptured gardens seen today,” Dr Paterson said.

The students’ report to the National Trust, at the end of semester, will enable the National Trust to present the life of the Blechynden family at the homestead more accurately.

An interpretation plan will apply to furnishings, garden design and seasonal changes, such as the types of food displayed in the kitchen, and the types of tableware and domestic items the family used.

Dr Paterson said he hoped there would be more collaborations with the National Trust in future.
At last, there are some signs of ‘movement at the station’…

The ‘station’ I have in mind is Commonwealth education policy, particularly as regards the Australian universities and their resourcing.

The word ‘policy’ is, I know, enough to send us all back to a good book or the TV or a campus walk… but do try to read on, as there are some significant developments ahead which will impact on UWA and our working lives, as well as the experience of our students.

Since the pigeon-holed ‘West Report’ of a few years ago, and notably since the more recent aborted Cabinet submission on the funding of higher education, there has been a significant vacuum in Commonwealth policy development.

True, we did have a White Paper on new modes of funded research allocations. But, as that document brought with it no new money, the old jibe – about shifting deckchairs on the “Titanic” – has re-emerged.

What is new this time?

There is a Federal election in the offing and education, along with health, is high on the voters’ concerns, if the polls can be relied upon.

Yet it is also more than that. The global emphasis on ‘knowledge economies’ is beginning to have its impact. The new economies of the world rely heavily on new knowledge, new technologies and new skills. Indeed, they are embedded in cultures that invest in the kind of education that promotes not only innovation but the public values of an educated community.

That awareness has been promoted by international news which penetrates through even much of our parochially-minded media in Australia. And non-awareness has become an increasing concern of business, professional associations and a range of community organisations. Our own AVCC has, since the last Federal election been making the public case for a substantial increase of public funding in the research and teaching mission of Australian universities. The new G08 Secretariat has also developed major papers and lobby campaigns to make the case for investment in research, infrastructure and innovation strategies.

This last week, the ‘Chief Scientist’, Dr Robin Batterham – a sort of national poet laureate of research and innovation, given his part-time status on leave from Rio Tinto – produced a remarkably readable and powerfully-argued case to Government, in drawing these issues together.

In essence, his key report, “A Chance for Change”, sets out the critical reasons as to why we are at a critical moment as a nation in addressing the challenge of becoming one of the leading ‘knowledge nations’. By implication, he also shows what is our likely future, if we fail to invest in the institutions and structures which.. (unfinished)

His Report could indeed have been called “A (Lost/Last?) Chance for Change”.

An excellent summary of that Batterham Report has been circulated by our PVC, Professor Michael Barber, and the document can be read in full on the Web (see: ………

There also needs to be movement at our own ‘station’ of UWA if we are to capture the full value of the changes that are likely to follow the coming election.

In our University we need the right structures and, more still, the right outlook to flourish in the new era.

I have been heartened at the positive response so many of you have given to the recent UWA “Towards an Academic Profile”, which charts that future, by developing the key knowledge areas for the future, the shape and balance of our student load and programs, and foreshadows the new structure of our University, based on broadly conceived ‘Schools’ of research and teaching.

It has also been good to be part of developments in our campus culture which begin to see a new emphasis on industry-links, resource-raising and international outreach. Our core activities and values will survive and flourish because we are increasingly underpinning them with innovation and new initiatives.

Symbolically, this week also saw the revival of that fine tradition of inaugural lectures by our new professors. A crowded audience in the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery – plus media representatives – heard two fascinating lectures on new developments in forensic psychology and child psychology by Professors David Greenberg and Kevin Durkin.

There is clearly much ‘movement’ at UWA… We now wait on the Commonwealth’s new investment in knowledge and implementation of a new framework for funding, so that universities such as ours can truly flourish and play their key role in the shaping of Australia as a major 21st century ‘knowledge nation’.

Deryck M. Schreuder
Vice-Chancellor and President
vc@acs.uwa.edu.au
Professor Michael Norton has friends in high places.

You can’t get much higher than the moon, which is where Australia’s first astronaut, Andy Thomas, an old undergraduate friend of Professor Norton’s, hopes to be headed some day.

Thanks to this connection, Professor Norton is doing some work with NASA on his usage of portable accelerometers to predict dynamic stress. Traditionally, surface mounted strain gauges are used, but the mounting of strain gauges is time consuming, difficult and at times inaccurate. These limitations are overcome with the usage of portable accelerometers.

“NASA is sponsoring us in terms of equipment usage, data from shuttle launches and access to site, but not financially,” he said.

Professor Norton has just come down to earth himself after winning the highly-prized Paul Henderson Memorial Award from the Institution of Mechanical Engineers in London.

Although the award is from the UK, it is specifically for Australian members of the Institution and is only awarded when it’s felt appropriate, which is not every year.

It is for a distinguished paper of scientific relevance presented by a member of the Institution.

Professor Norton’s paper on his dynamic stress prediction research, The estimation of dynamic stress in beams, plates and shells, using strain-velocity relationships, was presented at a symposium of the International Union of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (IUTAM) in Southampton. It has also been published as a chapter in a book.

Delegates attend the IUTAM’s symposium by invitation only.

Professor Norton’s winning paper was co-authored by his former PhD student, Dr Denis Karczub, who is now a Principal Engineer with SVT-Engineering Consultants.

Together they have developed practical procedures for measuring dynamic stress on complex structures. The techniques have already been used successfully in the oil and gas and power generation industries to measure dynamic stress and predict fatigue life. The techniques have been used specifically on piping systems, industrial gas turbine exhausts and large mining equipment.

NASA has mounted strain gauges and accelerometers on a test structure at the space shuttle launch pad 39A at the Kennedy Space Centre. Ongoing work between NASA and Professor Norton is aimed at correlating strain gauge measurements with the portable accelerometer technique. The work is a joint effort between UWA (Professor Norton), SVT-Engineering Consultants (Dr Denis Karczub) and NASA Kennedy Space Centre (Dr Ravi Margasahayam and Raoul Caimi).

Professor Norton said his collaboration with NASA was of great help to some of his PhD students. In addition to the ongoing dynamic stress prediction work, NASA is currently assisting with a PhD project supervised by Professor Norton. Graduate student Joanna Kelly is working on predicting mechanical seal failures using acoustic emission techniques. NASA has significant interest in the work and is participating in the project.

Professor Norton with astronaut Andy Thomas when he visited UWA in 1996.
Unexpected discoveries have become award-winning research papers for two postgraduate pathology students.

Maria Franchina and Richard Allcock both recently won awards at the Eleventh Annual Combined Biological Sciences Meeting in Perth.

Miss Franchina’s seminar about a novel system involved in the methylation of DNA won an award for the best oral presentation. Mr Allcock’s presentation of his research into genetic resistance to auto-immune diseases won one of two Medical and Health Research Infrastructure Council of WA’s New Investigator travel awards.

Under the supervision of Dr Peter Kay, Miss Franchina’s PhD research lead her to search for types of enzymes in humans which might be responsible for the methylation of DNA cells.

She explained that DNA methylation is widespread throughout phylogeny and has diverse biological functions. For example, the presence of methylated cytosine residues can control whether or not a gene is expressed. In cancer cells, the methylation system becomes deregulated.

“For many years, it was thought that a single enzyme, DNMT1, was responsible for the methylation of DNA. But, given the complexity of the biological processes in which DNA methylation is involved, we found it difficult to believe it was the work of just one enzyme. So we looked for evidence of other enzymes and found in normal human cells a completely different methylation process, affecting a different DNA sequence,” Miss Franchina said.

The novel methylating system that they have identified mimics a methylating system in bacteria.

Miss Franchina and Dr Kay think they may have discovered a methylating system which is important in viral infection.

Dr Kay said that discoveries like this were one of the exciting spin-offs from cancer research.

Miss Franchina and Dr Kay’s findings have been accepted for publication in DNA and Cell Biology.

Miss Franchina’s colleague, Richard Allcock, was enrolled in the Department of Biochemistry, but performed the studies for his PhD in the Department of Clinical Immunology and Biochemical Genetics at Royal Perth Hospital. He is now employed by the NHMRC and continues to work in the Department of Clinical Immunology and Biochemical Genetics at Royal Perth Hospital.

“I adopted a multi-disciplinary approach for my PhD, attempting to combine genetics with studies of what genes actually do” Mr Allcock said.

He began his science studies with an eye on forensic science, then did his honours thesis in microbiology. It was during that time that he was introduced to immunology and now considers himself principally a molecular immunologist.

For his PhD, he was looking at auto-immune diseases, such as multiple sclerosis (MS) and diabetes.

“There are genes which affect how well we fight infections, and as a side-effect some of those genes also make some people prone to auto-immune diseases such as MS. Initially I had found a variation in a nearby gene which seemed to line up with other genes that affect MS.

“This was unexpected, but very exciting. To examine it further, I needed access to a well-maintained cohort of MS patients. I contacted Dr Emilio de la Concha at the San Carlos Hospital in Madrid, Spain, and he agreed to collaborate. By comparing the DNA from 300 people suffering from MS, I was able to identify a gene that seems to counteract the effect of the susceptibility gene,” Mr Allcock said.

His research paper won the award for PhD students or newly-graduated PhDs. It will pay his expenses to attend the Australasian Society for Immunology’s national conference in Sydney in December. After that, he is due to go to Cambridge for a two-year postdoctoral fellowship.
Although people often focus on the role of lawyers in native title, in fact the process relies heavily on many areas of expertise: the evidence of indigenous claimants and the disciplines of anthropology, history and linguistics.

Crossing the cultural and disciplinary boundaries involved is the focus of a unique workshop and conference on native title due to be held at UWA this month.

Co-convenor, Dr Sandy Toussaint, senior lecturer in anthropology, said that by encouraging practitioners who are all focused on one area (native title) to cross boundaries into other disciplines, they hoped to enrich and clarify perspectives and enhance the research process and outcome.

"Although the native title cases are trying to resolve land issues, other matters are inextricably involved," Dr Toussaint said.

Crossing Boundaries: Anthropology, Linguistics, History and Law in Native Title will run over two days prior to the Australian Anthropological Society’s national conference, hosted this year by the Department of Anthropology at UWA.

The workshop is aimed at helping practitioners from different disciplines to be more aware of the focus of other disciplines, especially in the area of native title.

"Native title is very complex, taking into account people’s lives, culture and society” observed Dr John Henderson, co-convenor and lecturer in the Department of Linguistics.

The idea for the workshop developed from Dr Toussaint’s and Dr Henderson’s long experience with indigenous peoples, including on matters related to Customary Law, language and land, and from a workshop on native title held as part of a linguistics conference at UWA last year. The degree of cross-disciplinary interest became obvious — half the participants were not linguists!

The convenors have had an overwhelming response to the upcoming workshop, with practitioners and academics from each of the four disciplines, as well as people outside these areas (e.g. indigenous land councils, the National Native Title Tribunal, government agencies, independent consultants) wanting to contribute.

They expect about 100 people to attend the forum, which will concentrate on conceptual, practical, ethical and theoretical aspects of native title in Australia.

“It’s often really hard working across boundaries. People sometimes have difficulty understanding from one side what people from another side are trying to say,” Dr Henderson said. “But we have invited a range of people to submit papers on the specific issues of interaction and crossing boundaries and we are anticipating that participants will come along in that frame of mind.”

“We are not promoting the idea of abandoning disciplinary focuses; we’re just trying to promote cooperation, interaction and discussion across disciplines,” he said.

“Some disciplines complement each other really well and I think the areas of anthropology, linguistics, history and law have the potential to work effectively together: we are all very focused on the subject matter of native title and the need for cultural translation and analysis is evident,” Dr Toussaint said.

The keynote speakers are an impressive (and cross-disciplinary) group: The Hon. Fred Chaney, Deputy President of the National Native Title Tribunal; Justice Robert French, from the Federal Court; anthropologist Professor Marcia Langton, from Melbourne University’s Centre for Indigenous Studies; Associate Professor David Trigger, from UWA’s Department of Anthropology; and linguist Dr Patrick McConvell, from the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies.

Ted Wilkes, Director of Perth’s Derbal Yerrigan, will welcome participants to the place and workshop, and a native title film night will conclude the proceedings.

Papers, panel discussions and case studies will be presented in the Fox Lecture Theatre from 9am to 6pm on Tuesday and Wednesday September 19 and 20.

More information is available at: www.arts.uwa.edu.au/AnthropWWW/aas2000/workshops.htm
Turning on the computer and leaving it on all day is something most of us do without thinking.

But the University’s new Energy Committee wants us to be aware that computers are one of the biggest energy guzzlers on campus.

Gordon Walsh, manager of Environmental Services within the Office of Facilities Management and now the new energy co-ordinator, urges the campus community to take an active part in the project to save energy at work:

“Historically OFM has had some good results in energy saving which can be directly linked to the interest and insight of several individuals in Facilities Management.

“This year a thorough energy review by Western Power, followed by diagnostic sessions, highlighted the need for a more systematic approach to energy reduction through a formulated energy management plan incorporating an Energy Committee to drive the process.

“Important feedback from the review indicated that lighting and the use of equipment, particularly computers, are by far our biggest energy users.

“Although all energy initiatives such as co-generation, heat recovery, thermal storage and improved operating control systems will be assessed and applied where viable, there will be a heavy emphasis placed on reducing lighting and equipment energy wastage, through OFM’s initiatives which we hope will be supported by improved departmental energy management.

“Whereas the Energy Committee can apply new systems and advice, essentially the amount of success will depend on departmental goodwill and interest and the Energy Committee will be asking for voluntary departmental energy officers to work with the energy co-ordinator to reduce building energy usage. The officers’ tasks will not be too onerous and they would act as a conduit to allow for information flow and also a focal point for OFM’s advice and support on energy matters.

“Realistically energy reduction provides a win-win situation for everyone on campus.

“The economic considerations are important as reduced expenditure on energy requirements which will allow for more money to be redirected into other worthwhile projects. OFM has shown good business acumen through thermal storage and tariff reduction by moving peak demand, but the Energy Committee is cognisant of the important environmental need to also reduce UWA’s greenhouse emissions.

“Last year alone an estimated 35,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide was emitted through the University’s energy usage, as well as 125 tonnes of sulphur dioxide and 75 tonnes of nitrous oxides.

“As the Commonwealth Government’s Greenhouse Challenge Programme has received a letter of intent signed by the Vice-Chancellor to participate in their project, it is now incumbent on the whole University community to commit to energy reduction across campus.”

You will be hearing more from the Energy Committee as they put plans in place. If you would like to offer to become an energy officer for your department, call Gordon Walsh on ext. 3534 or email him at gwalsh@acs.uwa.edu.au
The establishment of UWA in Albany has addressed more than just an educational issue for the people of the Great Southern region.

The University, its involvement in the community and its plans for industry-driven research, has become an issue of regional development.

With regional development close to the heart of the Deputy Prime Minister, his visit to the UWA Albany Centre last month was very positive.

John Anderson’s visit was arranged by the University’s very active Foundation and the DPM met with a delegation from the Albany community, which has been a driving force behind the University since it set up in their city 20 months ago.

While in Albany Mr Anderson gave an undertaking to call for increased HECS places for UWA.

“He was very sympathetic to our presence here being a regional development issue as well as an educational one,” said Dr Billie Giles-Corti, the Director of the Albany Centre.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Deryck Schreuder, said there was no doubt the DPM now had a greater understanding of the importance of the UWA Albany Centre to the region.

“I commend the community leaders for their initiative in encouraging the Deputy Prime Minister to meet them here. It is clear that the partnership between UWA and the community is building the necessary critical mass to attract national attention to a very important regional initiative,” Professor Schreuder said.

“There are no defined regional universities as such in WA to which to direct HECS-funded places. The provision of such places to WA’s existing universities is vital for our regions. That’s why the Federal Government support for regional higher education development needs to be directed to the Perth-based universities.

The Deputy Premier, Hendy Cowan, also visited the Albany Centre last month, giving the green light for $500,000 to be used to develop the centre’s Master in Regional Development. The Director of the Institute of Regional Development, Associate Professor Peter Waterman, will put one of his staff members into the centre to help run the state-wide master’s degree course.

The centre is about to advertise for another new position—an Executive Officer for the Foundation who will be employed to build research links between the University and local industry in the region, enhancing the already well-established reciprocal benefits for both UWA and the Great Southern.

While in Albany, the Deputy Premier also formally announced a state government commitment of $950,000 over four years for the Albany Centre which will be used for capital development and infrastructure to assist in the centre’s growth.

Communication Skills in University Education Conference

This is the final call for registration for the Communication Skills in University Education Conference on September 28 and 29 being held in the Esplanade Hotel in Fremantle.

If you are interested in developing your students’ communication and literacy skills or improving teaching and learning through good communication, then this is the conference for you.

We have over 90 papers on a wide range of topics including online communication, international students, transition to university, distance education, writing development, oral skills including the development of interview skills, visual communication, group dynamics, indigenous skills and more!

We have three fabulous keynote speakers. Professor Joel Whalen from DePaul University will provide insights about the messages we send others and how to make that communication more effective. Professor James Hartley from Keele University will discuss computers and their impact on student writing, and Professor Peter Elbow will provide reflections on the student writing experience at university.

For more information, please see our website at www.cowan.edu.au/csue2000 or contact us at csue2000@cowan.edu.au.

Don’t delay - registrations close on the September 8.
Monday 4 September

ASTHMA AND ALLERGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE SEMINAR
“Ethical aspects of medical genetics”, Dr Jack Goldblatt. 12.30 to 1.30pm, Joske Seminar Room, Medicine, Fourth Floor, G Block, SCGH.

HISTORY SEMINAR
“Child labour in Japanese coal mines”, Sachiko Sone. 4.30pm, Postgraduate Lounge, Hackett Hall.

Tuesday 5 September

ARCHITECTURE AND FINE ARTS SEMINAR/ SPACE, POLITICS AND THE CITY
“Cities ancient and modern 2”, Professor Paul Hirst, Birkbeck College, London. Following on from the lecture “Cities ancient and modern 1 (given on the 29 August), Paul Hirst will discuss the nineteenth century as the period of explosive city growth which was driven by industrialisation and international trade. 10am, Hew Roberts Lecture Theatre (Nedlands).

Wednesday 6 September

CHEMISTRY SEMINAR
“From amino acids to conducting polymers”, Murray Baker. 12noon, White Lecture Theatre.

PATHOLOGY SEMINAR
“The consequences of vaccination against cytomegalovirus”, Dr Jane Allan, Medicine. 1.10pm, Pathology Conference Room, G14, Ground Floor, M Block, QEIIMC.

ANATOMY AND HUMAN BIOLOGY SEMINAR
“Defining and measuring quality of life”, Dr Davina French. 4 to 5pm, CTEC Seminar Room, adjacent to Anatomy and Human Biology Building.

PHYSIOLOGY SEMINAR
“Cardiac ion channels and hypoxia”, Dr Livia Hool. 5pm, Physiology Seminar Room.

Thursday 7 September

FREE LUNCHTIME CONCERT
“Bronwyn Gibson (piano) performs Beethoven’s Sonata Opus 110 and Serabin’s Sonata No. 4. 1.10pm, Octagon Theatre.

ZOOLOGY SEMINAR
“Seasonal breeding: the case against temperate chauvinism”, Associate Professor Graeme Martin. 4pm, Jennifer Arnold Lecture Theatre.

UNIVERSITY MUSIC SOCIETY—DANCE AND THE PIANO
Mark Coughlan, Graeme Gilling, Roger Smalley and Anna Sleptsova (pianos) in a program of music inspired by the influence of dance. Tickets: $20.35 and $14.85. Telephone 9380 2440. 8pm, Octagon Theatre.

Friday 8 September

MICROBIOLOGY SEMINAR
“An infectious cDNA clone for the analysis of virulence determinants in Murray Valley encephalitis virus”, Rob Hurrelbrink. 9am, Seminar Room I.I, L Block, QEIIMC.

ASIAN STUDIES SEMINAR

CENTRE FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH IN NEUROPSYCHIATRY SEMINAR
“Regulation of brain amyloid formation in Alzheimer’s Disease”, Professor Sam Gandy, New York University School of Medicine. 3.30pm, Seminar Room 3, Goscyone House, Graylands Hospital.

CIVIL AND RESOURCE ENGINEERING SEMINAR
“Experimental development of a model jack-up”, George Vlahos. 3.45pm, Room E151, First Floor, Civil Engineering Building.

Monday 11 and Tuesday 12 to Friday 15 September

CRYO ELECTRON MICROSCOPY WORKSHOP
Guest speaker, Dr Martin Mueller from Zurich, Switzerland, is an internationally-renowned researcher in the field of Cryo microscopy with more than 20 years experience. He will lecture on Cryo EM techniques and applications on Monday 11 September from 9am to 5pm (Economics and Commerce Lecture Room, Third Floor, Economics and Commerce Building). Between Tuesday 12 and Friday 15 September, Dr Mueller will run hands-on practicals on Cryo facilities at the Centre for Microscopy and Microanalysis, Physics Building. All those interested in the workshops should pre-register as places are limited. There is no cost for this workshop. To register, call Steve Parry on ext. 2766 or email sparry@cylene.uwa.edu.au. For further information on the workshop, contact John Kuo on ext. 2765 or ijskuo@cylene.uwa.edu.au.

Tuesday 12 September

ARCHITECTURE AND FINE ARTS SEMINAR/ SPACE, POLITICS AND THE CITY
“Cities ancient and modern 3”, Professor Paul Hirst, Birkbeck College, London. Following on from the lecture “Cities ancient and modern 1 and 2 (given on the 29 August and 5 September), Paul Hirst will discuss “Exubria, Edge City and the death of public space”. 10am, Hew Roberts Lecture Theatre (Nedlands).

SOIL SCIENCE AND PLANT NUTRITION SEMINAR
“Physiological regulation of ammonia exchange between plants and the atmosphere”, Soren Husted, The Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University, Copenhagen. 4pm, Agriculture Lecture Theatre.

PERTH MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE GROUP TALK
“Social constraint and the public sphere: problems in reading satire and humour in early modern Britain”, Professor Conal Condren, University of New South Wales. 7.30pm, Postgraduate Common Room, Hackett hall.

Wednesday 13 September

CHEMISTRY SEMINAR

ENGLISH WORK-IN-PROGRESS SEMINAR
“Psychoanalysis, classicism and the English effeminatus, 1918”, Dr Richard Read. (Recommended reading: Matthew Arnold’s Dover Beach [1867] and/or Francis Thompson’s The Hound of Heaven [1983].) 1 to 2pm, Ground Floor Common Room.
ANATOMY AND HUMAN BIOLOGY SEMINAR
“Physiological apoptosis: various signals regulate the death and tissue re-modelling responses”, Professor Bob Friis, Department of Clinical Research, University of Bern, Switzerland. 4 to 5pm, CTEC Seminar Room, adjacent to Anatomy and Human Biology Building.

ENVIRONMENTAL DYNAMICS SEMINAR
“The concept of effective length: defining the active regions of catchment response to rainfall”, Dr Santosh Aryal, CSIRO. 4 to 5pm, Blakers Lecture Theatre.

THE PHILOSOPHY SOCIETY MEETING
“Myth and history: redrawing the distinction through image and space”, Rebecca Collins. 4.30pm, Arts Seminar Room 1.33.

PHYSIOLOGY SEMINAR
“The plasticity of muscles: tales from fish and mice”, Dr Helga Guderley, Laval University, Quebec. 5pm, Department of Physiology.

FRIENDS OF THE UWA LIBRARY SEMINAR
“The Jews of Southern Arabia: their origins and history”, Michael Crouch. 7.30 for 8pm, Library Training Room, Reid Library.

Thursday 14 September

FREE LUNCHEON CONCERT
“The WAIM Brass Ensemble, directed by Darryl Poulsen. 1.10pm, Octagon Theatre.

ZOOGOGY SEMINAR
“Subtidal food thieves”, Dr John Himmelman, Laval University, Quebec. 4pm, Jennifer Arnold Lecture Theatre.

Friday 15 September

MICROBIOLOGY SEMINAR
“The characterisation of p270, an integral component of a human SWI/SNF chromatin re-modelling complex”, Dr Peter Dallas, TVW Rethelon Institute for Child Health Research. 9am, Seminar Room I.1, L Block, QEIIMC.

ANTHROPOLOGY SEMINAR
“But I’ve never seen change like this . . . .: Dairy industry rationalisation and farm family lifestyles under pressure on the Atherton Tablelands, far North Queensland”, Jan Anderson. 12 to 1pm, Anthropology Conference Room, First Floor, Social Sciences Building.

BIOCHEMISTRY SEMINAR
“Approaches to the synthesis of mechanism-based hydrolases and synthases”, A/Prof Bob Stick. 1pm, Simmonds Lecture Theatre.

CENTRE FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH IN NEUROPSYCHIATRY SEMINAR
“Who will have a good outcome among persons with psychotic illness?”, Vera Morgan, Psychiatry and Behavioural Science. 3.30pm, Seminar Room 3, Gascoyne House, Graylands Hospital.

CIVIL AND RESOURCE ENGINEERING SEMINAR
“Behaviour of rocks during and after decompression”, Professor Boris Tarasov. 3.45pm, Room E151, First Floor, Civil Engineering Building.

Saturday 16 September

CLASSICS AND ANCIENT HISTORYIADESTE HUMANIORES
“Egyptian mumification”, Jasmine Day. 2 to 5pm, Alexander Lecture Theatre. Cost $10 and $5, afternoon tea included.

Sunday 17 September

SPRING MUSTER
The annual Spring Muster, a light-hearted revue featuring staff and students of WAIM; expect the unexpected! Entry by donation. 6.30pm, Callaway Music Auditorium.
Two first-year Science/Engineering students have won an honourable mention in the Stockholm Water Prize.

Jerome Bowen and Jason Le Coultre were runners up in the junior section of the prize, announced recently in Sweden. The pair, representing Australia, won a trip to the presentations.

Their Reservoir Regulator, an automated water distribution system for farms, was featured in UWA News on May 29, soon after the boys won the national finals. They had begun work on the project while still at school together at Trinity College and a refined version of the regulator was built by the Department of Physics for the presentation of their project in Sydney early this year.

Both students plan to continue working with the Centre for Water Research, whose Director, Professor Jorg Imberger, won the (senior) Stockholm Water Prize in 1996.

Jerome Bowen and Jason Le Coultre with part of their prize-winning regulator.

---

Students honoured in Stockholm

Singers’ choice: improve or audition

Ever wanted to sing the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel’s Messiah? Or just want to improve your singing?

Come along to two free workshops on voice production organised by the UWA Choral Society and run by Cornelius de Munck. Cornelius is a lecturer in Voice at the WA Conservatorium of Music and is a highly respected teacher and performer.

The workshops will be run on Wednesday September 13 in the Callaway Auditorium and Wednesday September 20 in Winthrop Hall, from 7.30 to 9.45pm. They will cover a range of singing techniques.

Included in the workshops will be preparation for a short (and private) audition to join the UWA Choral Society for their production of Messiah in Winthrop Hall in December. If you have one, BYO Messiah score. If you want to come along to the workshops but not audition, then you’re very welcome to do that.

If you’re interested in attending the workshops, want to audition or just want more information, then email Sabbia at sabbia@mech.uwa.edu.au or phone on ext. 3058.
Scholarship powers up career

Engineering has always been in Karyne Wong’s blood. Now she is channelling that energy into electric power.

Ms Wong, whose father is a mechanical engineer, has won Western Power’s ninth annual Bruce Kirkwood Memorial Scholarship, after demonstrating her keen interest in electric power engineering.

The fourth-year Engineering Commerce student is pleased with the opportunity of gaining “real world” experience during vacation employment with Western Power.

“While other fields of study such as IT are recording growth in student numbers, there are many opportunities in the power engineering field and I will be promoting them among students,” she said.

Western Power Managing Director, David Eiszele (pictured with Ms Wong) said it was important for Western Power to recognise and reward young talent in the engineering field.

The scholarship honours the late Bruce Kirkwood, former CEO of the SEC and an energy expert of international standing.

There are times when all of us have challenging issues to deal with. When personal or work related issues make life difficult, the University has an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) to help staff manage these issues more effectively.

The EAP is a professional, confidential counselling and consultation service. The services of Davidson Trahaire are available FREE to you and your family for up to six sessions a year.

For appointments, please ring Davidson Trahaire on 9382 8100 or if urgent 9480 4847 (24 hours). Their offices are located at Suite 11, 100 Hay St, Subiaco. Further information can be obtained at www.admin.uwa.edu.au/sho

Teaching Internship Scheme 2001

The Teaching and Learning Committee introduced a Teaching Internship Scheme in 2000 for promising doctoral research students to develop teaching skills in their field and to undertake a programme of professional development activities during the course of their PhD candidature. The scheme has run successfully in its inaugural year and a call for applications is now being distributed for 2001.

The aim of the scheme is to enhance the future employment prospects of the interns and to assist in attracting and retaining outstanding students at UWA. Both full-time and part-time PhD students may apply, whether or not in receipt of a scholarship. The scope of employment of the interns does not exceed the employment restrictions detailed under postgraduate scholarship schemes.

The scheme offers in 2001, twelve (12) fully-funded internships, each of which include a teaching component to the value of $5000 and a professional development component costed at $2204.

The guidelines and proforma are on the web at: http://www.acs.uwa.edu.au/reg/sec/teachintern.htm

The closing date for this scheme is Friday September 29 2000.

If you have any queries, please contact the Executive Officer of the Teaching and Learning Committee, Mrs Sue Smurthwaite, on ext. 2459 or email: ssmurthwaite@admin.uwa.edu.au
The success of an Australian popular science book proves that Australians are not ‘dumbing down’, according to its author, Peter Spinks.

Wizards of Oz, about the achievements of Australian scientists, including physicists from UWA, is No. 1 on the New Scientist bestseller list — for the second time in the 12 months since it was published.

“Australians are clearly fascinated by the many achievements of their own scientists and technologists,” says Peter Spinks, an internationally acclaimed science writer based in Melbourne.

He says the book dispels, once and for all, any notion that Australia is a scientific backwater that’s given the world little more than Vegemite, the wine dispensing cask and the Hills Hoist.

“Australians, after all, have achieved a string of scientific firsts. They include building the world’s smallest machine, conducting studies of exploding stars billions of light years away (which suggest that the universe is expanding at an increasing rate) and discovering the richest deposits of gold, silver, copper and zinc sulphide,” he said.

These are just a handful of the scores of recent accomplishments by Australian scientists detailed in Wizards of Oz, which celebrates the collective scientific triumphs of some of our best palaeontologists, geologists, physicists, astronomers, chemists, meteorologists, ecologists and biotechnologists.

It includes the trailblazing work of several prominent UWA physicists, including Professor David Blair, Dr Ron Burman, Simon Woodings, Dr Michael Tobar, Dr Eugene Ivanov, Dr Tony Mann and Dr Andre Luiten who have worked on a range of cutting-edge projects including the search for gravity waves and exploding stars, the development of a low-noise detector and a super accurate clock.

Wizards of Oz has been described by scientists and educators as “a useful snapshot of where Australian science is and where it is heading”. It is available at the Co-op Bookshop for $21.88 (including GST).
Long-serving staff members might remember occupational therapist Cecile Dorward, herding her OT students into anatomy lessons during the 1960s.

She had a reputation as a spectacular teacher, always punctuating her classes with laughter.

But pioneering occupational therapy in WA was only one of Cecile’s ‘nine lives’.

Cecile Dorward left school in England at the age of 16 to work with a 1920’s feminist group, the Women Decorators.

She married a professor of philosophy twice her age and mixed with the intellectual superstars of the day, including Bertrand Russell, Aldous Huxley and J. B. S. Haldane.

They joined a canal boat revival, living on the waterways of England for nearly 20 years.

After Alan’s premature death, Cecile came to WA, where she practised and taught occupational therapy. Then, at the age of 58 she began touring the world alone in a campervan, continuing (with frequent trips home to WA) until she was 84 and becoming known as the world’s oldest hippy.

But her adventures didn’t end there. In partnership with writer and former UWA psychology lecturer, Ron Davidson, she recently went through the gruelling, painful and revolutionary process of writing her life story.

Her prologue, written at the age of 89, is one of the most extraordinary introductions to an autobiography — fitting for a woman who has led such an extraordinary life.

Cecile and Ron Davidson’s book, launched this week, is called Anything but Ordinary: The Nine Lives of Cecile.

It has a strong university theme, with fascinating details about the philosophy group at Cambridge in the 1930s, which included and attracted people like G. E. Moore, Maynard Keynes and Virginia Woolf.

The co-authors recreate remarkable details, providing real insight into Cecile’s times and her own social, political, psychological and sexual journey through those times.

Anything But Ordinary: The Nine Lives of Cecile Dorward is available at the Co-op Bookshop.

Celebrating the Sri Lankan connection

One of two recent books co-authored by UWA wife-and-husband teams was launched by the Foreign Minister, the Hon. Alexander Downer.

Dr Ian vanden Driesen, and honorary senior research fellow in the Department of Organisation and Labour Studies, and Dr Cynthia vanden Driesen, a lecturer in linguistics and language at Edith Cowan University, have edited a book which celebrates the role Sri Lankan people have played in Australian society.

Celebrations: Fifty Years of Sri Lanka/Australian Interaction was produced to co-incide with Sri Lanka having reached 50 years of independence.

It was commissioned by the previous Sri Lankan High Commissioner in Australia, Elmo Seneviratne, who visited UWA as a guest of the Centre for Migration and Development Studies.

The book was launched in Canberra at the home of his successor, H. E. Bandara.

In his foreword, Richard Woolcott, one of Australia’s best known Asian experts, says “...it illustrates the disproportionate and valuable contribution they have made to Australia’s multi-ethnic multicultural society.”
**Redundant Equipment for Sale**

Departments are reminded that all University equipment available for sale must be advertised in the *UWA News*. Receipts should be PeopleSoft account coded 490 (computing with barcode), 491 (non-computing with barcode) or 493 (items with no barcode). If equipment has an existing barcode please contact extension 3618/2547 for details.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>COND.</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
<th>DEPARTMENT</th>
<th>EXT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MAC Quadra 605</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Linley</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td>2086</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xerox 5009 Photocopier</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktop TOTAL PERIPHERALS 486D</td>
<td>OFFERS</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>Mark</td>
<td>ECEL</td>
<td>1405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktop TOTAL PERIPHERALS 486DX2/50, 16MB</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Linley</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td>2086</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktop TOTAL PERIPHERALS 486DX2/66, 8MB</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktop TOTAL PERIPHERALS 486DX2/66, 8MB x 5</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktop TOTAL PERIPHERALS 486DX2/66, 16MB</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktop TOTAL PERIPHERALS 486DX4/100 16MB</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktop COMPUCON 486DX4/120 32MB</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktop APPLE CENTRIS 660AV</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktop APPLE IIc</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktop APPLE LC475</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktop APPLE LC475</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktop APPLE LC475</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktop APPLE LC475</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktop APPLE LC475</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktop APPLE LCII</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktop APPLE MACINTOSH II</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktop Apple Macintosh IIci</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktop Apple Macintosh Iicx</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktop Apple Macintosh SE</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bids should be accepted by Monday September 18 with departments to have first option**

Departments are reminded that all University equipment available for sale must be advertised in the *UWA News*. Receipts should be PeopleSoft account coded 490 (computing with barcode), 491 (non-computing with barcode) or 493 (items with no barcode). If equipment has an existing barcode please contact extension 3618/2547 for details.

**CONDITION** refers to the general condition of item (1 = as new; 2 = good; 3 = serviceable; 4 = unserviceable). **AGE** refers to the nearest year.
**ACADEMIC BOARD**

**NOMINATIONS FOR MEMBERS FROM THE POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH STAFF**

The constitution of the Academic Board provides for three members elected by the Board from among those members of the postdoctoral research staff of the University who:

(i) are not professors or lecturers;
(ii) have full-time or 50 per cent or greater fractional appointments of at least two years’ duration; and
(iii) submit a nomination form, with any additional material specified, in accordance with the requirements of an advertisement in the University’s internal newspaper.

By its R91(2)/2000 the Board resolved:

“(2) that the requirement in Statute No.19 that postdoctoral research staff nominated for election to the Board have appointments of “at least two years’ duration” be flexibly interpreted such that if a nominee can reasonably expect that he/she will be able to serve for the two-year period for which he/she is standing, the nomination be accepted.”

Nominations for one vacancy for the period 1 January 2001 to 31 December 2002 are invited from postdoctoral research staff who meet the criteria set out above.

Nominees must be proposed and seconded by members of the Academic Board and must provide certification from their head of department that they meet the eligibility criteria. Nomination forms are obtainable on the web at the following address: http://www.acs.uwa.edu.au/reg/AC-BOARD/BOARDNOMINATIONS.HTM or from Mrs Sue Allan on ext 2451. In addition each nominee must submit a statement, not exceeding half a page of A4 paper in total, of his/her background and reasons for wishing to serve on the Board.

Nominations must reach the Assistant Director, Secretariat Services, Mrs Jackie Massey on ext. 2457, no later than 5pm on MONDAY SEPTEMBER 11 2000. An election will be conducted, if required, at the meeting of the Academic Board on September 20.

Information on the role of the Board, scheduled meeting dates and Board membership are also available from Mrs Massey on ext. 2457.
The life of the University of Western Australia has been immensely enriched by the contribution of those who fled the horrors of war-torn Europe. Joe Gentilli was one such; Paul Kovesi, another.

Paul was born on November 29 1926, and died at his home in Mount Claremont on August 8 2000. He and his younger brother Julius were brought up in the elegant estate town of Tata in western Hungary, speaking a language that has nothing in common with either the Romance or the Germanic languages of Europe.

Halfway through a medical course at the University of Budapest, he and his wife-to-be, Julia Fekete, fled their Russian-occupied homeland by creeping at night through a forest and a border patrolled by German Shepherd dogs and their Russian guards. They were moved on from Austria to a holding camp and at length shipped from Bremen with a host of other destitute migrants, owning nothing but the clothes on their backs and the courage that sustained them.

They arrived in Fremantle in 1950, were married in 1951, and still learning a strange language, enrolled at The University of Western Australia while working part-time at menial tasks. Paul as a hotel yardman in Como, Julia graduated as a dentist, Paul, improbably, in English literature. After a couple of years as a High School teacher, Paul went off to Kings College, Cambridge, where he completed a second Bachelor of Arts. His increasing mastery of English literature was paralleled by a concomitant reduction in dental caries in Cambridgeshire, where Julia saw cavities as opportunities. Paul’s appointment to Monash followed (from 1963 to 1967), and then to the Department of English at The University of Western Australia, of which he was a member until retirement in 1992.

It was an extraordinary achievement, to be born to one tongue, learn another so different, as a young adult, and achieve a command of its every subtle nuance, well beyond the reach of most native speakers. Paul was not bookish in the narrow sense, did not live for books or in books: rather he made the best of English literature a part of the fabric of his mind and used it for living and giving. His relations with friends, of whom there were many, were constantly lit up by wise words, shared wit, sharp perceptions, imaginative insights, fertilised by an intimate acquaintance with Shakespeare, Coleridge, Thomas Hardy and Philip Larkin. This is what he gave his students. English literature was never for him a cadaver awaiting critical dissection, but a resource to share, to love, to enrich. He was a very good teacher, putting into practice Sir Philip Sidney’s gloss on ‘docere cum delectatione’; to teach by delighting. In short, he exemplified the motto of his university; he sought, found and shared wisdom.

Like many of those who come from a deep culture, a part of Paul remained in it, despite his commitment to ours. When I had an opportunity, I went to Tata, walked it well, fixed in memory the eighteenth-century gymnasium where he went to school, the bridge he crossed to get to it by the old water mill and the ponded stream above it, the well-managed beech woods on the hillsides, the lineaments of the Roman town from which it grew, the splendid outcrop of ammonite-rich Jurassic limestone on the ridge above the town. So Paul and I could reminisce about ‘the good old days’ that never were, a game for both of us, wholly fictive on my part. Virtual reality, mostly specious, has its uses in the service of friendship.

Paul Kovesi knew that friendship is an art, one that he cultivated assiduously, reminding us of the primary meaning of ‘to cultivate’. His way was hardly known to those of a more materialistic and more casual race, for whom a safer and easier life had not burnt into the soul so strong a sense of our mutual dependence. But we learnt from him — many students, colleagues, many people. He will be missed.

Paul had a pact with an old colleague from the Department of English, Len Burrows, that the ‘last man out’ would read Thomas Hardy’s poem Afterwards at the graveside of the other. Burrows read it, superbly, at Karrakatta. Speaking to him later, I commented on the pact. ‘Yes’, said Len. ‘I won. Or lost’.