

Adelaidean

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

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Breast, colon cancer targeted

A major improvement in the treatment of cancer patients is taking a big step closer to reality thanks to new research at the University of Adelaide.

The study – being conducted by Professor John Wallace and Dr Grant Booker from the School of Molecular & Biomedical Science – offers good news in the fight against breast and colon cancer, two of Australia’s biggest killers.

Professor Wallace and Dr Booker have received a Development Grant of more than \$154,000 from the National Health and Medical Research Council. The grant will help them to develop a method that aims to improve the effectiveness of chemotherapy.

Their grant is one of only 14 Development Grants announced recently by the Federal Government, and the only one in South Australia.

Development Grants encourage research with commercial potential, helping researchers to translate their work from the early ‘proof of concept’ stage into products that will

ultimately benefit Australia and the world.

Professor Wallace and Dr Booker are studying a protein that helps to prevent cancer cells’ resistance to chemotherapy, thereby making the treatment more effective for patients.

The protein works by attacking and removing growth factors that help cancer cells resist treatment.

In a commercial form, the new method would see injections of the protein given to patients at around the same time as they receive chemotherapy.

“Our aim is to achieve improved destruction of breast and colorectal cancers, but with reduced adverse side effects,” Professor Wallace said.

“Laboratory work conducted by Dr Briony Forbes here in Adelaide suggests that the protein – which is a modified form of a natural carrier



protein for these growth factors – is effective in reducing the growth factors’ ability to assist cancer cells.

“This seems to be effective in breaking down cancer cells’ resistance to chemotherapy, as well as generally preventing the spread of tumours,” he said.

“The University of Adelaide has a very strong reputation in biomedical science, and this grant is another important step – not just towards developing our research further, but in attracting commercial funding which is vital for clinical trials,” he says.

Story by David Ellis



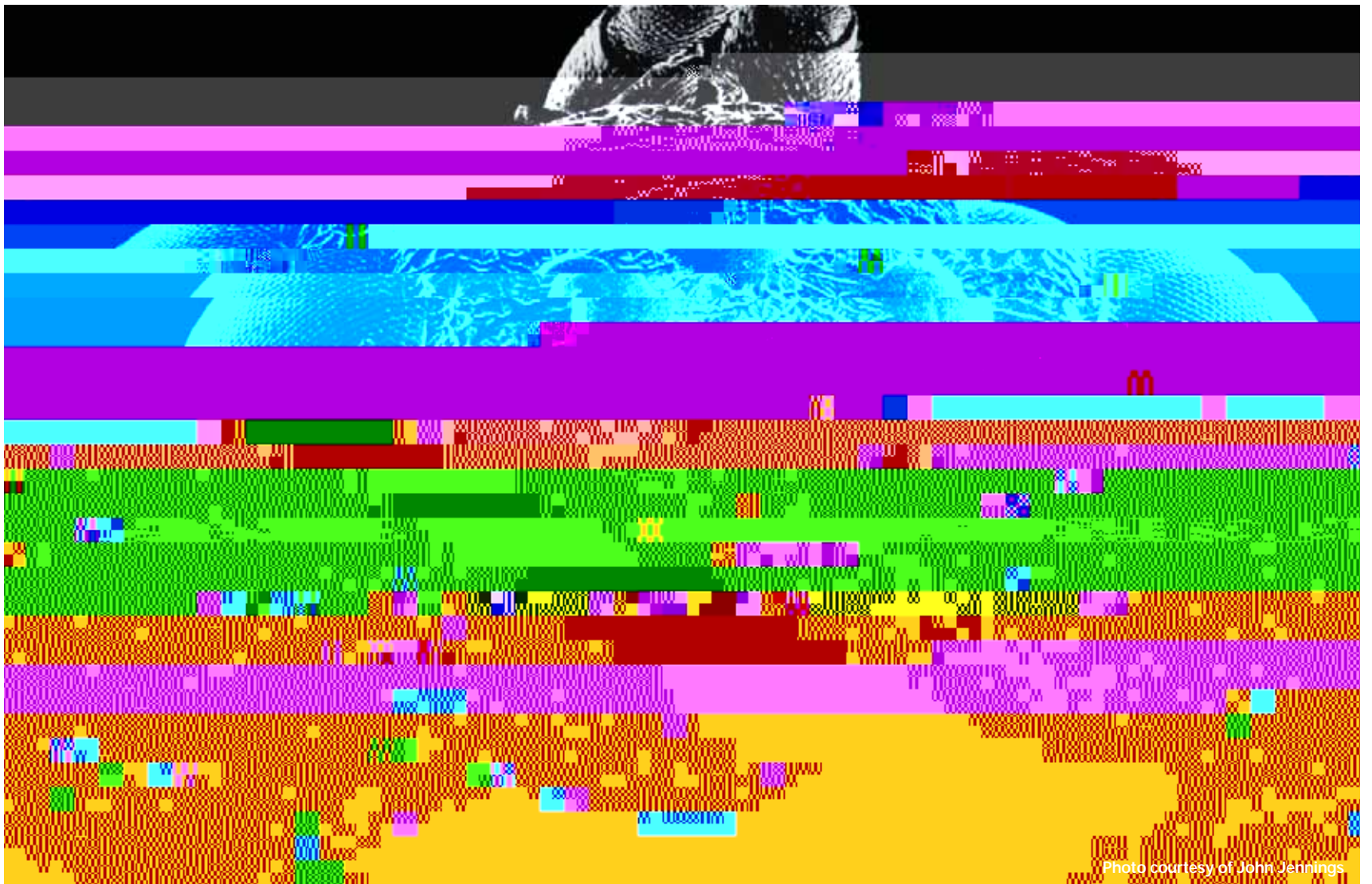
But while the breeding habits of the Giant Australian Cuttlefish are important to South Australia's ecotourism industry, what about the impact on the fishing industry?

A better understanding of the population structure and movements of the Giant Australian Cuttlefi

It's estimated that 46% of Australians don't have the necessary literacy skills to cope with the demands of today's society. The other 54% are constantly challenged to explore new and emerging "literacies".

A new series starting soon on Radio Adelaide delves into the issue, telling people's success stories of overcoming literacy problems and expanding on what we commonly know as "literacy".

Until she interviewed dozens of learners from 20



Native wasp discovery pays homage to famous explorers

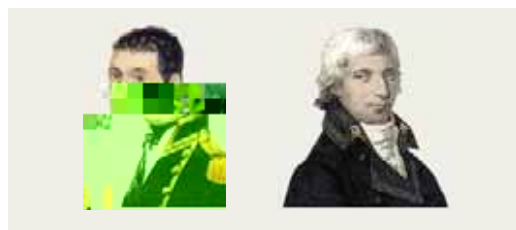
The spirit of discovery in South Australia lives on... in a new wasp!

The historic meeting of explorers Matthew Flinders and Nicolas Baudin on the South Australian coast in 1802 has been commemorated more than 200 years later in the name of a new wasp discovered by University of Adelaide researchers.

The *Aulacus flindersbaudini* (pictured above) is one of three new wasps discovered and named by three University of Adelaide entomologists: Dr John Jennings, Professor Andy Austin and Mr Nick Stevens.

The three wasps belong to the family Aulacidae, which is extremely rare in South Australia. Less than a dozen specimens have been collected over the last 150 years.

The other new species were named *Aulacus grossi*, in honour of its collector Dr Gordon



Matthew Flinders and Nicolas Baudin – two great explorers whose names now grace a new species of wasp discovered on Kangaroo Island

Gross (former curator of Entomology at the South Australian Museum); and *Aulacus belairensis*, after its place of discovery, the Belair National Park.

Dr Jennings said the Aulacidae family is found on all continents, and their larvae live inside the larvae of wasps and beetles which bore into tree branches and trunks.

“Until the new species were discovered, the Aulacidae was known in South Australia from only a single specimen of the species, *Aulacus*

moerens,” he said. “This was described in 1868 and collected on the Adelaide plains. It hasn’t been collected since and is probably locally extinct.

“We only have one specimen of *Aulacus flindersbaudini*, which was collected by Professor Andy Austin at West Bay in the Flinders Chase National Park on Kangaroo Island. The wasp is reddish brown and about 8mm long. Because all we have is the male of the species, we know nothing about its biology or host species.

“Given the location of the wasp, and with the recent celebrations of the 200th anniversary of the meeting between Flinders and Baudin and the opening of the University of Adelaide’s new Flinders-Baudin Research Centre on Kangaroo Island, we thought the name to be entirely appropriate.”

The descriptions of the new wasp species have just been published in the current issue of the Transactions of The Royal Society of South Australia.

Story by Ben Osborne

Space student has high hopes

biology: my life”

Now the University of Adelaide student is one of only a handful of Australians taking part in a once-in-a-lifetime event – attending the world’s most prestigious education program dealing with all aspects of space, the International Space University (ISU).

Ms Clayfield (pictured), who is completing her PhD in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Adelaide, has won a prestigious scholarship to attend the ISU summer program.

The program runs from June 27 to August 27 and is being held for the first time in Australia, hosted by South Australia’s three universities – Adelaide, UniSA and Flinders.

As one of 115 graduate-level students from around the world, Ms Clayfield is taking part in lectures, team projects, field trips and a range of other academic activities, and learning from more than 160 international and Australian space experts who have travelled to Adelaide for the event.

The *Adelaidean* spoke with Ms Clayfield in the lead-up to the official launch of the ISU Adelaide program.

What is your overall interest in space, and how did you develop that interest?

I’ve always been fascinated by space, both as a result of astronomy lessons in early high school, and a passion for science-fiction novels! The adventure and excitement of exploring a place we still know so little about, and can potentially learn so much about our origins from, drives my desire to contribute to the space industry in some way.

Aside from inspiring me to study mechanical engineering, my enthusiasm for space exploration has also led me to become involved in a number of educational programs, such as the South Australian Space School and the SpaceFutures youth space conferences, in order to share knowledge with other students and young professionals, and hopefully inspire them as I was inspired.

What do you hope to achieve from attendance at the International Space University summer program?

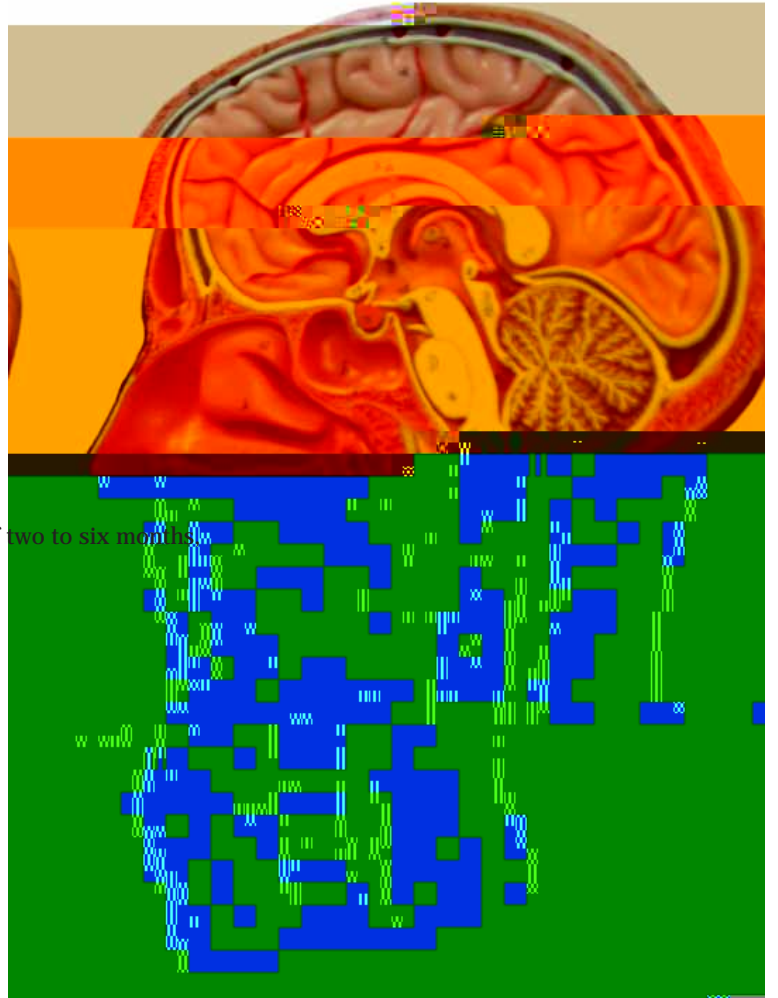
It is not just engineers who make space activity possible, and it was through my participation in both SpaceFutures and the Space Generation Summit in 2002 that I became more aware of the great importance politics plays in the development of the space industry.

For this reason, I’m hoping to major in Space Law and Policy at the International Space University.

Our space industry curriculum is still relatively small. There are

There are also three “theme

Union
Hall, University of Adelaide, North
Terrace Campus



“The Thinkers will undergo residencies of two to six months”

Jiri Tancibudek (1921-2004)

Internationally renowned oboist and teacher Jiri Tancibudek was a charismatic presence over five decades within and beyond the Elder Conservatorium of Music.

He was born in Czechoslovakia in 1921 and graduated from both the Prague Conservatorium and its Academy of Music, and was soon recognised as one of the star oboists of his generation. From 1945 to 1950 he occupied the Principal Oboe chair in the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra during its golden era under the conductor Rafael Kubelik when it was considered to be one of the finest orchestras in the world.

Although he intensely disliked the communist regime that tightened its grip in 1948 Tancibudek could have stayed in Czechoslovakia; his position was an exalted one and did not bring him into any direct conflict with the Stalinist authorities. For his wife and her family, however, things were different. Together they defected in January 1950, crossing to Bavaria in a perilous 36-hour trek through mountainous terrain in sub-zero temperatures. They left everything – except his precious oboe – behind, in order to suggest they had just gone for a casual stroll. Czechoslovakia's loss soon became Australia's gain.

Once in the West, Tancibudek was invited to join another of the world's

great orchestras, the Chicago Symphony. Fortunately – from the Australian perspective – he declined. Curiously, a US visa was initially offered only to himself and not to his wife (a feature of US immigration in those days); and so they came to Australia. His first position was that of oboe teacher at the then NSW State Conservatorium in Sydney; but he was soon headhunted by the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and subsequently occupied their Principal Oboe chair for eleven years.

The move to Adelaide, jointly to establish the University of Adelaide Wind Quintet, and to teach at the Elder Conservatorium of Music, was thanks to the vision and good judgement of Professor John Bishop, who had invited him to perform (with Yehudi Menuhin) at the 1962 Adelaide Festival. Tancibudek was to perform with this internationally acclaimed ensemble from 1964 to 1986. They commissioned numerous Australian works, made countless recordings and broadcasts, and gave concerts in Australia and overseas. Through the 1960s, 70s and 80s, with Tancibudek as the guru, Adelaide was 'the' place for oboists. Today his former students occupy positions in many leading orchestras throughout Australia and overseas. After his retirement from the Elder Conservatorium Tancibudek often



attended concerts in Elder Hall, still taking a keen interest in the latest emerging talent. Fittingly, the last music he heard was in a rehearsal of the Elder Conservatorium Chamber Orchestra (which he had established in 1973) with his former student Jeffrey Crellin (who has his old chair in the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra). Jiri Tancibudek was flying from Adelaide to Europe when he died in the skies above the red centre, on Saturday, May 1.

Contributed by Professor Charles Bodman Rae, Elder Professor of Music

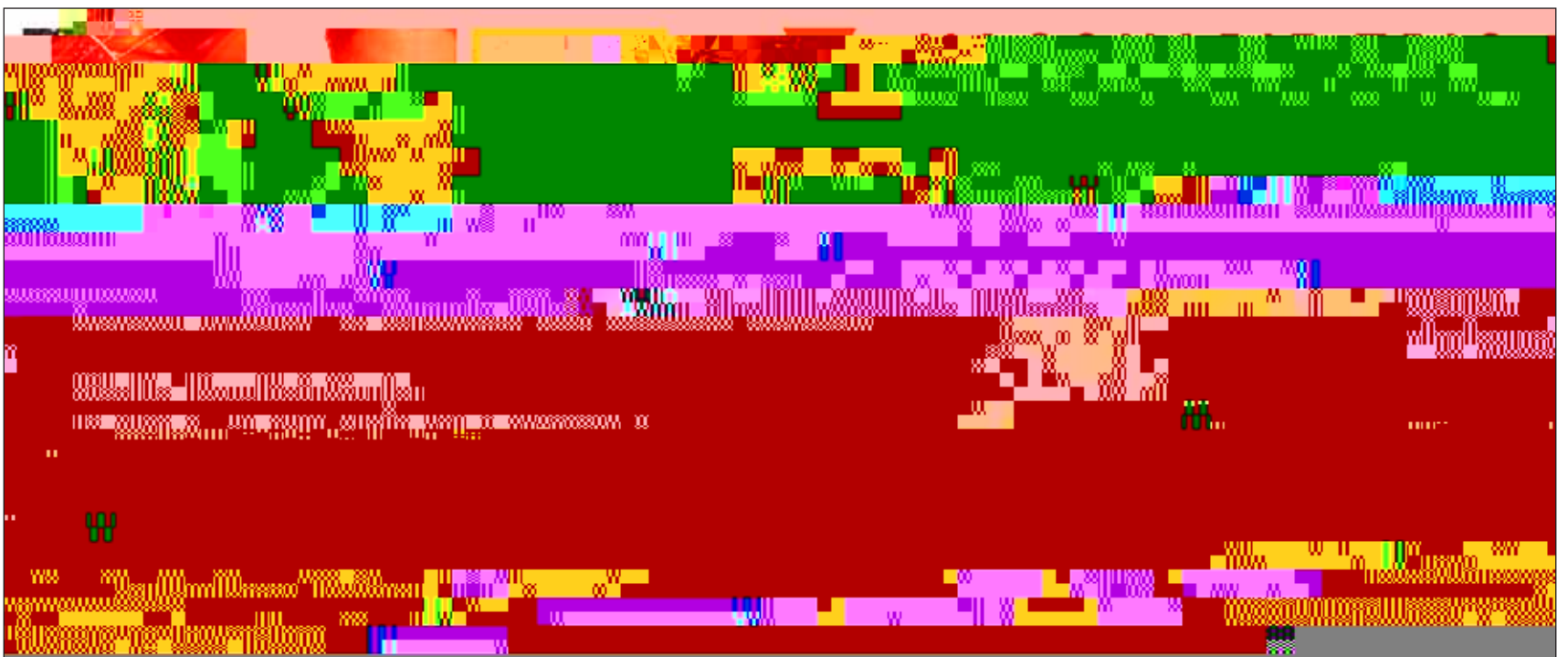
A special memorial concert celebrating the life and achievements of Jiri Tancibudek will be held at 6.30pm on Sunday, August 15 at Elder Hall.

All proceeds from the concert will go to the newly-formed Jiri Tancibudek Memorial Scholarship for Oboe, which will be awarded to the best young oboists to study at the Elder School of Music.

Among the performers at the concert will be Jeffrey Crellin (Principal Oboe with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra), David Nuttall (oboist, from the Canberra School of Music at ANU), the Elder Conservatorium Chamber Orchestra (which includes former students of Jiri Tancibudek), members of the Tancibudek family and other friends, colleagues and former students.

Tax-deductible donations towards the Jiri Tancibudek Scholarship can also be made by contacting the Elder School of Music on (08) 8303 5272 or the Alumni, Community Relations and Development office on (08) 8303 5800.

Tickets for the concert are \$15/\$10, and available from BASS or at the door.



Melissa Holzberger graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in 1997 and a Bachelor of Laws in 1999 at the University of Adelaide.

Following a stint as an Associate to Justice O'Loughlin in the Australian Federal Court in 2000 and two years' practice at Thomson Playford Lawyers, Ms Holzberger received a prestigious Chevening Scholarship to study in the United Kingdom.

Only four fully funded postgraduate scholarships are selected from 29 countries each year, and Ms Holzberger was the first Australian to be awarded the scholarship since its inception 10 years ago.

The Tripartite Chevening scholarship was funded by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, together with Rio Tinto plc and the Centre for Energy, Petroleum and Mineral Law and Policy, University of Dundee, Scotland – the leading graduate school worldwide in the field of natural resources, energy and environmental law and

04 Alumni Events

Melbourne Network: Wine Tasting Evening

Date: Friday, July 16

Time: 6-8pm

Venue: The Wine Society,
673 Bourke Street, Melbourne

RSVP: There will be limited numbers for this event so
please register your interest asap to Joan Soon
phone: 08 8303 3317 or email
joan.soon@adelaide.edu.au

Professional Development 2-Day Course

"Managing Technology Innovation" presented by
Dr Catherine Banbury, St Mary's College,
California - The MBA Alumni Association

This course will focus on (California)-9 101 foc4:Ca2tollege52941 .ine SociWmhwy'

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d his famous *The Selfish*

suite version of *The*
tingale and the Rose was an
rtunity for me to capture the
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ry and make them work together
r 15 to 20 minutes,” she said.

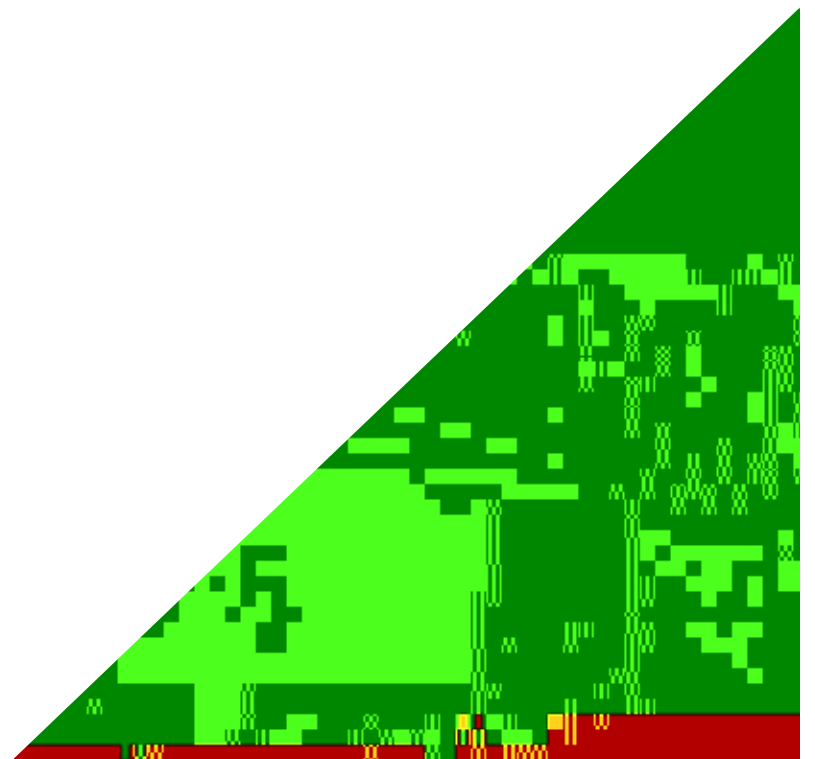
ne challenge was to find out what
orks well together and what doesn't,
aintain some thematic unity and
en also make sure the storyline of
he original is still easy to follow for
he audience.”

Rosanna, 21, is combining her
Music degree with a Bachelor of
Arts degree, majoring in French
and English. Currently principal
clarinet in the Elder Conservatori
Symphony Orchestra, she harbou
plans to study music in France a
completion of her Adelaide def

“I didn't expect to be perform
she said. “(Elder Conserva
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