

ADELAIDEAN

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NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

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National olive project to be based at Roseworthy

AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST collection of olive varieties will be established at the Roseworthy Campus of the University of Adelaide as part of a major plan to develop a strong, viable industry.

The National Olive Variety Assessment Project (NOVA) is being set up to provide growers with detailed information on the suitability of varieties for Australian conditions—particularly for oil production.

The project was initiated by Primary Industries and Resources South Australia (PIRSA) and will be funded by the Horticultural Research and Development Corporation and Israeli company Agrolive.

The project will include 100 different varieties of olives and cover three hectares of the Roseworthy Campus.

Ms Susan Sweeney, PIRSA's industry development officer for olives, said trials would be established to examine management practices that will maximise quality and yield of oil under Australian conditions.

Ms Sweeney said Australia imports \$110 million worth of olive products each year and there was enormous potential to reduce that figure.

"There are plantings going on around the country but a lot of it is ill-informed with some people planting any old variety and not thinking long

term," she said.

"What we're trying to do is put a bit of caution into their thinking by suggesting they develop a business plan, determine which varieties they want to grow, what market they want to sell to and what sort of product they want to sell."

Ms Sweeney said although olives were first introduced to Australia in 1805, there was very little knowledge of how certain varieties performed here.

"It's important for this project to produce some results because there's virtually nothing in Australia at the moment," she said.

Ms Sweeney said the project would

involve evaluating oil yield, oil quality and flesh to pit ratio for table olives.

She said the Roseworthy Campus was chosen to establish the collection because it had land available, was an educational training and research resource and the University of Adelaide's Faculty of Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences had already participated in olive research.

Ms Sweeney said plantings would take place towards the end of the year.

—Anne Lucas



CONSTRUCTION has begun on the University of Adelaide's new \$6.5 million five-storey Engineering and Mathematics



On 1 July this year the Mawson Graduate Centre for Environmental Studies will merge with the Department of Geography to form a single administrative unit of Geographical and Environmental Studies. Although both areas of academic study will be maintained, this will formally end the 23 year administrative independence of the University's entity

NEWS IN BRIEF

OCEANIA SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

The Director of the Mawson Graduate Centre for Environmental Studies, Associate Professor Nick Harvey, has been appointed by the International START (a global exchange SysTem for Analysis, Research and Training) to be the Australian representative on a new START-Oceania Regional Committee.

The committee's work will involve scientists from the Pacific Island nations, Australia, New Zealand and Hawaii.

The Director of the International START Secretariat in Washington DC, Professor Roland Fuchs, said the Oceania Committee would play an active role in promoting regional cooperation in global change research and capacity building efforts and in supporting the activities of its co-sponsors, the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme, the International Human Dimensions Programme and the World Climate Research Programme.

CHINA EXPERT VISITS

Dr Robert Ash of the School of Oriental and African Studies in London will be visiting the Centre for Asian Studies as a Distinguished Visiting Scholar from 24 July to the end of August.

A former Director of the Contemporary China Institute of London University, and current Director of the European Union China Academic Network, Dr Ash is a leading scholar working on rural development in China.

While in Adelaide, Dr Ash will contribute to undergraduate subjects in Asian Studies and Economics, present seminars, and interact with postgraduate students working on Chinese Studies. He can be contacted through Mrs Jenny Dorsett on 8303 4288.

BASIL HETZEL ON BOOKS

The Friends of the State Library's Wednesday at One series of talks continues on 1 July, with guest speaker Dr Basil Hetzel AC.

Dr Hetzel graduated in Medicine from the University of Adelaide in 1944 and received the MD in 1949. He was Reader and Michell Professor of Medicine at Adelaide, Foundation Professor of Social and Preventive Medicine at Monash, and first Chief, CSIRO Division of Human Nutrition. He is currently Chancellor of the University of South Australia and Lieutenant Governor of South Australia.

Dr Hetzel will talk about the books that have influenced his life, in the Institute Building, North Terrace, at 1pm. Admission \$5 (concession/Friends of the State Library \$3).

AID POLICY APPOINTMENT

Professor Cliff Walsh, Executive Director of the South Australian Centre for Economic Studies, has accepted an invitation from the Minister for Foreign Affairs to become a member of the Aid Advisory Council (AAC) being established as part of the Government's response to the Simons Review of the Australian aid program.

The Minister's stated objective in establishing the AAC is to provide a mechanism by which people working outside Government can advise him on issues relevant to Australia's aid program, injecting community perspectives into aid policy.

Some 800 people attended the inauguration of the University of Adelaide Chapter of the Golden Key National Honour Society in Bonython Hall on Thursday 14 May. Chancellor Bruce Webb is pictured left receiving the charter from Golden Key's Director of International Development, Mr Mark Herndon, watched by Chapter President, engineering student Alan Anderson.

Three scholarships of \$700 each were presented at the reception. They went to Ms Najmeh Habili (Commerce and Law), Mr Daniel Sag (Mathematical and Computer Sciences) and Ms Rebecca Whyatt (Civil and Environmental Engineering).

Nobel visit a high point for young scientists

TWO ENTHUSIASTIC young scientists-in-the-making—12-year-olds Matt Geisler and Liam Brassel, students from Cabra Dominican College, Cumberland Park—were thrilled to be selected as the South Australian winners of the 'Australian Medical Research Discoveries' primary school poster competition.

Appropriately in this year of the Florey centenary, Matt and Liam selected Adelaide-born and educated Nobel Laureate Howard Florey as the subject for their entry in the competition, which was sponsored by AMRAD and the Australian Society for Medical Research.

As a boy Howard Florey kicked a football around the streets of

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CAMPUS COMPUTER

Feast of papers at food and drink conference

FOOD AND DRINK—discussion of them, not consumption—will become the focal point for almost 100 delegates at a major international conference at the Univ

Research adds value to abalone

ABALONE RESEARCH at the University of Adelaide is not only finding beneficial ways of using what's normally considered to be waste material, it has also resulted in two new tasty recipes for this under-recognised seafood.

Australia is the source of the world's best quality abalone. A large portion of the abalone catch is exported (mainly to Asia) as abalone meat and represents about 17% of Australia's total seafood exports.

But from each catch of 100kg of abalone, about 40kg is sold as meat, 30kg is shell, and another 30kg is abalone gut waste material.

Each year 40 tonnes of abalone gut material is discarded. For years this has represented a lost opportunity to Australia's abalone industry.

A team of researchers involving Chemical Engineering Honours students Alex Seja and Matthew Dixon, and supervised by Dr Ken Davey (Chemical Engineering) and Dr Connor Thomas (Microbiology & Immunology), is now looking at ways of value-adding the abalone gut material.

Their research will identify key benefits from the extraction or conversion of biological materials in the abalone gut, possibly resulting in new bio-chemical, dietary or medical applications. The aim also is to develop a process for the extraction of these materials which could be put to work in abalone processing plants.

"We were approached by Dover Fisheries in Tasmania to do this research for them," said Dr Davey, who is the director of the university's Food Technology Research Group.

"Because there is so much unused material from the abalone catch, this could save the industry a great deal of money, and it could also have very important scientific, medical or health benefits, for example."

Some of the uses for abalone gut currently being researched include fertiliser production, bio-gas production, as a feed supplement to animals, abalone sauce, a nutrient drink, or as a nutrient medium which could be used in scientific research.

"Abalone is very rich in everything, especially zinc, and in some Asian countries it's considered a delicacy. We're looking at making the abalone



Dr Ken Davey and his wife Madeleine try out chef Heidi Ehrat's dish Abalone Kaye at Blossoms Restaurant. Photo courtesy of Ken Davey.

gut a very high value-added product which will increase its worth to industry and to overseas and local markets," Dr Davey said.

During a visit with his students to Dover Fisheries' Tasmanian plant, Dr Davey became curious about the possible uses of abalone meat in the kitchen. He returned to Adelaide with two cans of the meat and approached a local chef, Ms Heidi Ehrat, to cook it for him.

Ms Ehrat is the proprietor and chef of Blossoms restaurant on Kensington Road, Kensington Gardens (near the Chelsea cinema).

"I accepted Ken's request because it was a challenge—I'd never cooked abalone before," she said.

"I made a few phone calls to some chef friends of mine to find out what the best way to cook it might be. There was quite a lot of meat so I decided to make two dishes."

The first dish was cajun-influenced spiced abalone crepes, which is now called Crepe Abalone Alice (named after Ken Davey's late daughter Alice, who died of SIDS).

"This dish really highlights the texture of the abalone meat. It's a beautiful-tasting sauce, and I also cooked it with prawn meat and mussels," Ms Ehrat said.

The second dish is called Abalone Kaye (named after the wife of Mr

Chris Madsen, the managing director of Dover Fisheries) and was adapted from a recipe by Australian chef Charmaine Solomon.

"The abalone juice from the can was used in this, as well as snow peas and oyster sauce, which really highlight the flavour of the abalone meat.

"The texture and flavour of the meat is unique. It has a lot of integrity, and you can cut the meat paper-thin without it breaking up into pieces. I wasn't sure what to expect from these dishes, but I was very surprised with the results," Ms Ehrat said.

Dr Davey was also impressed by the new dishes.

"People who go for taste rather than bulk in their food would appreciate these dishes, I think. The meat itself is rather expensive, but it's the kind of thing that could become a specialty dish at some of the better restaurants around Adelaide.

"The interesting thing for me is that here we are, exploring new ways of value-adding a waste product from abalone, while at the same time a local restaurant has been able to explore new culinary delights with abalone meat.

"We can only hope that there will be some benefits for industry as well as for people who love good food."

—David Ellis

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A lawyer lost in space

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS of the John Bray Law Chapter are invited to a Dinner at Rococo Cafe, 46 Exchange Place (off Pirie Street) on Friday 17 July at 7:30pm.

The guest speaker at this dinner will be Mr Michael Davis, LLB 73. Michael Davis is a member of the Board of the Satellite Communications Research Centre of the University of South Australia.

In 1995, he was enrolled in the inaugural Master of Space Studies program at the International Space University in Strasbourg, France, and worked at that University in the following year on international telecommunications regulatory and policy issues. He has written widely on space law and telecommunications topics.

The dinner is \$27 per person (for two courses, coffee and petits fours). Drinks not included; guests are invited to purchase their own drinks.

Bookings may be made by

First Hong Kong alumni dinner

THE FIRST Adelaide Alumni Dinner in Hong Kong was held on Tuesday 2 June, with more than 50 alumni attending. Alumni from the 60s through to the mid 90s were present. They came from across faculties, although there was a bias towards the Law! An absence of Dental alumni, of which there a considerable number, was caused by a meeting of the HKDA the same evening.

There is an interesting mix of alumni in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), with a number of expatriates living and working there.

The dinner, held at the Heichinrou Restaurant in Causeway Bay, was organised by Miss Yap Pei Kwun (LLB 96) with help from Miss Wendy Chan Sin Man (BScMa 95) and DHL. The University and the Alumni Association thank them both for their great work.

Speakers included Michael Abbott (LLB 65), who was in the HKSAR to promote the Alumni Convention, and Justice Thomas Gall (LLB 66) of the Court of the First Instance (formerly the HK Supreme Court).

Geoff Sauer also spoke and brought to the alumni the best wishes of the Vice-Chancellor and Alumni Chair, Dr Harry Medlin.



Back: Yap Pei Kwun (PK) LLB '96, Michael Abbott LLB '65. Front: David Pannach RDA '68, Ian Polson '67, Charlie Yuen LLB '78, Margaret Yuen. Photo courtesy Geoff Sauer

It was a night of much warmth and good humour and all present expressed a wish for more—the Adelaide-HKSAR Chapter is not far off.

Our Hong Kong records are by no means complete; if you are aware of alumni who did not receive an invitation please let the Alumni Office know.

China link for Fulbright winner

ADELAIDE ENGINEERING graduate Mara Warwick has won a 1998 Fulbright Postgraduate Student Award — the Engineering Award sponsored by Clough Engineering.

Ms Warwick graduated with Honours in Civil Engineering in 1992, and was the winner of the inaugural Alumni University Medal. In 1994 she won an Asia/Pacific Fellowship of the Australian Trade Commission and went to China where she learnt Mandarin Chinese while working as a professional engineer. She is now fluent in the language, using it constantly in her work.

She has been in China for four years and is currently living in Shanghai, working as a consulting engineer and project manager, primarily in the fields of environmental and water engineering.

She has recently been accepted to study for a PhD in environmental engineering at Stanford University in the United States, and will begin her studies there in September this year.

"Building on the experience I have gained working in China, my PhD research will be in the area of environmental policy implementation in China," Ms Warwick said.

"I have been very fortunate to win two major scholarships to fund my studies—the Fulbright Award sponsored by the Australian-American Educational Foundation, and the George Murray Scholarship awarded by the University of Adelaide."

With Ms Warwick in China is her husband Charles Warwick—also an Adelaide graduate (LLB and BA Hons, 1991).

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MONDAY 22 JUNE

1.00pm Microbiology & Immunology PhD Progress Report: Protective and therapeutic efficacy of DNA vaccines against DHBV infection by Dr Miriam Triyatni. Departmental Library, 5th Floor, Medical School South.

1.10pm History Seminar: Seneca Falls, 1848: The founding conference of the women's rights movement in the United States by Professor Ellen DuBois (University of California, Los Angeles). Seminar Room 420, 4th Floor, Napier Building.

1.10pm Public Health Seminar: Complementary and Alternative Medicine in Australia by Peter Cook (PhD student). Seminar Room, Level 6, Bice Building, RAH.

4.00pm Crop Protection Seminar: Systematics and biogeography of hyptogstrine wasps by John Jennings (PhD student). Lecture Room 1, Teaching Wing, Waite Campus.

TUESDAY 23 JUNE

12noon Lyell McEwin Health Service: Good Palliative Care Orders by Dr Sue Haynes (Consultant Physician, Palliative Care). Conference Room 1, Community Health Building, Lyell McEwin.

12noon Child Health Research Institute Seminar: A Journey from Structure to Function for a Membrane Protein: From a Spot on a Gel to a Mouse by Professor Jim W Goding (Monash Medical School). Seminar Room, 7th Floor, Reiger Building, WCH.

12.30pm General Practice Seminar: Did we really do that? How GPs treated essential hypertension at the Family Practice Unit - a retrospective

COMING EVENTS

June 22nd — July 3rd

observational study by Dr Glyn Brokensha. Room 3, Level 2, Margaret Graham Building, RAH.

1.10pm Anatomical Sciences Seminar: Birds and Nerves by Dr Christine Lunam (Flinders University). Room S127, Medical School South.

WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE

1.10pm Genetics: PhD research proposals by Lillian Allen and David Wheeler. Seminar Room, Ground Floor, Fisher Building.

4.00pm Physiology Seminar: Effects of age and oophorectomy on calcium balance in the rat by Dr Peter O'Loughlin (Clinical Biochemistry, IMVS). N416, Med Sch North.

THURSDAY 25 JUNE

12noon HCCR/IMVS Seminar: An investigation of the Role of Leukaemia Inhibitory Factor in Teratocarcinogenesis by Dr Linda Shearwin (Division of Haematology, HCCR). Verco Theatre, IMVS.

1.00pm Chemical Pathology Seminar: Living with Cystic Fibrosis by Sue Meeuwissen. Seminar Room 1, 4th Floor, Clarence Reiger Building, WCH.

FRIDAY 26 JUNE

1.15pm Inaugural Lecture Series: Welding in the service of man by Professor Ian Henderson (Mechanical

Engineering). Lecture Theatre 102, Napier Building.

4.00pm Economics Seminar: On the Determinants of Fiscal Centralization: Theory and Evidence by Ugo Panizza (Università di Torino/ Inter American Development Bank). Eric Russell Room LG14, Napier Building.

6.00pm Centre for Intercultural Studies & Multicultural Education Performance/Discussion: Hellenic Heritage in Theatre Education: Intercultural Perspectives by Fragments. The Little Theatre (ground floor, western wing), Union House. Refreshments from 5.30pm. Enquiries: Mr Mariusz Kurgan/Mrs Elizabeth Balan 8303 5788.

SATURDAY 27 JUNE

2.30pm History of Science, Ideas & Technology Talk: Head protection by helmets in industry by Professor Donald Simpson (History of Science, Ideas & Technology Group). Royal Society Rooms, Plane Tree Court (behind State Library), Kintore Avenue, Adelaide.

MONDAY 29 JUNE

1.00pm Microbiology & Immunology Seminar: A study of antisense mechanisms in HIV-1 infection by Dr Luke Johnson (Microbiology & Immunology). Departmental Library, 5th Floor, Medical School South.

TUESDAY 30 JUNE

12noon Lyell McEwin Health Service: Using Clinical Indicators to Improve Patient Outcomes. Conference Room 1, Community Health Building, Lyell McEwin.

7.30pm Music Studies / Musicology Society of Aust Seminar Series: At the Source of Nausicaa: An examination of style within Peggy Glanville-Hicks' opera by Efrosini Gialidis. Tonality and modality in the JS Bach chorale preludes from the Neumeister Collection by Peter Kelsall. Room 1116, Schulz Building. Refreshments provided - gold coin donation.

WEDNESDAY 1 JULY

1.10pm Genetics: PhD proposals by Anthony Pietsch and Sarah Harmer. Seminar Rm, Ground Flr, Fisher Bldg.

2.15pm English / Cultural Studies Staff/Postgrad Seminar: An open forum in conjunction with the "Musical Visions" conference in association with the Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music. Speakers: Dr J Feuer (English, Uni of Pittsburgh), Prof G Turner (English, Uni of Queensland) & Dr M Reger (Sociology & Anthropology, Tel Aviv Uni). Room 617, Napier.

FRIDAY 3 JULY

1.15pm Inaugural Lecture: Orthodontics - a moving experience by Prof Wayne Sampson (Orthodontics). Lecture Theatre 102, Napier Building.

4.00pm Obstetrics & Gynaecology Seminar: Implantation failure in interleukin-11 receptor knockout mice by Dr L Rob (Walter & Eliza Institute of Medical Research). Seminar Room, Level 6, Medical School North.