

ADELAIDEAN

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NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

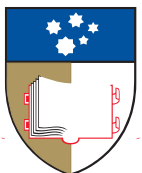
MAY 31, 1999

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FROM NEAR AND FAR

My father, William Lawrence Bragg, enrolled at the University of Adelaide in 1906 at the exceptionally early age of 15. He graduated with first class honours in mathematics in 1908. Shortly afterwards he left South Australia and moved to England with his family because his father, William Henry Bragg, who had been Professor of Mathematics and Physics at Adelaide for 22 years, had accepted a Chair at Leeds University in Yorkshire. My father went up to Cambridge University in 1909, graduating in 1912 and subsequently remained in Cambridge to do research at the Cavendish Laboratory under JJ Thomson.

In 1915, seven years after graduating from Adelaide University, my father, WLB, was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics, jointly with his father, WHB, for their pioneering work in X-ray crystallography. At the age of 25 he was, and still remains, the youngest person ever to have become a Nobel Laureate. By the time he heard the news, the First World War had broken out and he was in France. Stationed close behind the front line, he was working out a method of establishing the position of the enemy guns through "sound ranging". It was a family legend that the local French curé bicycled through the mud to find him, clutching the telegram from Stockholm in his hand.

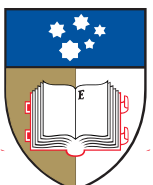
It would be easy to assume that such early distinction in Physics was only gained at the cost of my father's all-round education. He must, one would think, have specialised in the subject at an early age, his talent recognised and fast-tracked at St Peter's College and subsequently at Adelaide University.

This was not really the case. It is true that WLB's father's interest and support ensured that he received the best mathematics and science teaching available. At St Peter's it was the chemistry teacher who inspired him. Much of his tuition at Adelaide University was undertaken by WHB personally; he was even allowed to work in his father's room in the new university building. The extent of knowledge in Physics was of course also much more restricted then. There was simply less to learn. So the courses my father pursued could include mathematics, chemistry and physics, and were much more broadly based and comprehensive than would be possible these days when the frontiers of knowledge have been pushed far further forward. Early specialisation is essential now if the ground is to be covered which leads to original research. Later in his career WLB's awareness of the contribution of the different disciplines, in particular chemistry, would be of use to him in his study of the atomic structure of crystal molecules and later of proteins.

There were other factors in his upbringing and education which were less obvious but contributed, I would guess, to his originality of mind, breadth of knowledge in science and ability to think laterally and creatively. He was a keen natural historian, his interests covered zoology, ornithology and botany. In later life he was an avid bird watcher and a dedicated gardener.

It was only on a recent visit to the botanical gardens of Sydney, Hobart and Melbourne that I realised that the glorious and confidently colourful planning in his various English gardens reflected his Australian origins. Even as a child he would spend hours fossicking on the beach at Glenelg and discovered a new shell which was named after him, 'sepia braggi'.

His grandfather, Charles Todd, Postmaster General, Government Astronomer and Superintendent of Telegraphs for South Australia, had given him an interest in astronomy, in maps and routes and physical geography. An elderly missionary had fired him with stories and examples of the Aboriginal culture long before the days of political correctness. He retained an interest in what would now be classed as social anthropology. This home background reinforced the academic



Aboriginal lands management workshop success

IN A FIRST for South Australia, Aboriginal land holders have met together to discuss land management and to develop priorities for on-ground works and improvements to Aboriginal owned and managed properties.

Run over two days, the Aboriginal Land Management workshop held at Roseworthy Campus attracted people from places such as the Point Pearce Community, the West Coast, Coober Pedy, the Nepabunna community, and the Coorong. Representatives from the three South Australian statutory Aboriginal land holding organisations Anangu Pitjantjatjara, Maralinga Tjarutja and the Aboriginal Lands Trust and from the Indigenous Land Corporation also took part.

The workshop was organised as part of the development of a Strategy for Aboriginal Managed Lands in South Australia (SAMLISA). This project is funded through a Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) grant and is directed by a steering committee with representatives from Aboriginal land holding organisations, PIRSA and the Indigenous Land Corporation.

SAMLISA will produce a report which identifies issues and priorities of Aboriginal land holders to assist in the consideration of future land management support programs and funding allocations for Aboriginal groups. This is particularly important as their circumstances and priorities are often different to those of other landowners.

According to the project leader, University of Adelaide Lecturer Dr Jocelyn Davies, the workshop was an important vehicle to raise ideas and form priorities for land and associated water management.

"South Australian Aboriginal community groups and land holders have been taking a proactive approach to addressing degradation of their lands. Strong support from key government agencies such as the NHT office of PIRSA is helping them get their fair share of assistance from NHT. We are confident the guidelines we are developing for facilitators, community groups and Government funding organisations will be a big step forward for future land and water management," Dr Davies said.

"The workshop was very successful and has helped us to identify what key objectives and issues Aboriginal land

holders have for the future management of their properties.

"About 20% of South Australia is freehold and leasehold land owned by Aboriginal people. Most Aboriginal land holders are in a different situation from other land holders. One reason is that they get little or no income from their land. This is because the land is either very arid, it was purchased in a badly degraded state, it is used as a community living area or it has conservation value which therefore limits agricultural and grazing use. The land also has strong cultural values which can rule out potential economic land uses.

"This means that many Aboriginal groups who own land have limited resources to access it and actively

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Parkinson's research

PSYCHOLOGY researchers are conducting a new study of the emotional and personality changes that occur as a result of Parkinson's Disease.

Parkinson's Disease is a degenerative neurological disorder which affects about one in every 100 people over the age of 50.

It can cause a wide range of physical and psychological symptoms that can result in a great deal of distress, not only for sufferers but also for their families and caregivers.

Very little is known about the emotional and personality changes that occur with Parkinson's Disease, but according to Dr Jane Mathias from the University of Adelaide's Department of Psychology, "many families and caregivers often

comment that these changes in personality and emotional functioning are one of the most distressing aspects of the disorder".

Dr Mathias is conducting a study to learn more about these changes so that clinicians will be better able to understand and treat them.

"Those who participate in the research are asked to complete a brief assessment which is designed to tap into different aspects of emotional and cognitive functioning," Dr Mathias said.

Both people with Parkinson's Disease and healthy people of a similar age will be assessed in order to compare the emotional functioning of each group.

The research project is due to be completed by the end of this year.

Recruitment review

THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE has completed a review of its Recruitment and Career Development Strategy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The strategy—introduced four years ago to enhance indigenous people's access to full-time permanent jobs—has set a goal of 1.5% indigenous employment at the university by April 2000.

As a result of the review, the university has decided that traineeships/apprenticeships and academic positions should be the priority recruitment areas for the

Medical Research Week

MEDICAL RESEARCH FUNDING is one of the main issues being discussed during this year's Medical Research Week (31 May - 4 June).

The week of events, organised by the Australian Society for Medical Research (ASMR), has the theme "The Renaissance of Australian Medical Research".

This follows the recent renaissance of medical research in the United States, which has seen significant government increases in research funding.

The South Australian Minister for Human Services, the Hon. Dean Brown, will officially open the ASMR Medical Research Week at the Radisson Playford in Adelaide on Tuesday, 1 June.

Also present at the opening will be Professor Ralph Bradshaw from the University of California. Professor Bradshaw has been intimately involved in the recent US renaissance in medical research.

Professor Bradshaw will give the keynote address at the ASMR Medical Research Week Dinner at the Radisson Playford, where he will share his concerns about the state of medical research funding in Australia.

The dinner will be attended by representatives from Australia's major political parties as well as a diverse group of Adelaide clinicians and research scientists.

As part of Medical Research Week's Scientific Meeting, Professor Rob Sutherland from the Garvan Medical Institute, Sydney, will discuss current theories of cell cycle progression and its implications for the treatment of cancer. Other presentations from Adelaide researchers include "The effect of cocaine-like drugs during pregnancy on brain development in offspring" and "Inflammation in arthritic joints".

A further highlight of Medical Research Week is a Schools' Career Day at The Investigator Science Centre. The day, which is aimed at informing Year 12 science students of their career options in science, will include displays from Adelaide and Flinders universities and the University of South Australia.

For more information about Medical Research Week contact Sarah Hudson, Tel (08) 8303 4100 or Email <shudson@medicine.adelaide.edu.au>.

Linking disease and economics

A DISTINGUISHED North American economist with a specialist interest in the economic aspects of infectious diseases will deliver the 47th Joseph Fisher Memorial Lecture at The University of Adelaide on 3 June.

The lecture—Human Behaviour and the Transmission of Infectious Disease: An Economist's Perspective—will be given by Professor Mark Gersovitz (Johns Hopkins University) at Lecture Room 102, 1st Floor, Napier Building, from 5.30-6.30pm.

Professor Gersovitz is recognised internationally as a leading authority on the economies of developing countries.

He has travelled professionally to many Asian and African countries and undertaken projects for the Asian Development Bank, the World Bank and other major financial institutions.

During the 1990s his primary interest has been in the economic aspects of infectious diseases, with particular reference to the AIDS epidemic.

His lecture will focus on the part that is played by economic conditions in the spread of infectious diseases, examining the relationship between health, public policy and economics.

As well as delivering the Fisher Lecture, Professor Gersovitz will conduct a staff seminar in the School of Economics on 4 June.

He will also address undergraduate international finance students on the subject of sovereign debt.

—John Drislane

Award winning novelist joins writing program

THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE'S creative writing program has received a major boost with the appointment of award-winning novelist Eva Sallis as Lecturer in English and Creative Writing.

Dr Sallis, currently a Visiting Research Fellow in the Department of English, was recently named winner of the 1999 Nita May Dobbie award for a first novel by a woman. Her novel *Hiam*—the tale of a traumatised Arab woman driving from Adelaide to Darwin—previously won The Australian/Vogel Literary Award for unpublished fiction in 1997.

Dr Sallis will assist Professor Tom Shapcott who has run the creative writing program since its establishment three years ago.

"I look on the appointment as an opportunity to do everything I really like doing," Dr Sallis said.

"It will enable me to pursue my twin interests of academic work and creative writing and to work with creative and analytical students."

Dr Sallis graduated from the University of Adelaide with a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in 1987 and went on to complete her Masters and PhD at the University, specialising in comparative literature (Arabic and English). She wrote *Hiam* while completing her PhD thesis.

Her other published work includes a book of literary criticism, *Sheherazade through the Looking Glass: the Metamorphosis of the 1001 Nights* (forthcoming June 1999, published by Curzon, UK); and a number of short stories, academic and literary articles, and reviews.

—John Drislane



Dr Eva Sallis

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Change of Arrangements

The Alumni Association will hold its 1999 Annual General Meeting on Thursday 24 June in Napier Lecture Theatre 102.

Members are advised that the time of the meeting has been amended. The meeting will now commence at 6.00pm rather than 7.30pm as previously advised.

Following the meeting, members will be invited to stay for refreshments, and those who would like to join the Chair at dinner afterwards are invited to do so.

To assist with arrangements, members intending to go to dinner are asked to advise the Alumni Office, 8303 5800.

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'Powerful Writing' course

THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH is offering a four-week practical course for people wanting to improve their writing skills.

"Powerful Writing", convened by Dr Tom Burton, Reader in English, is aimed at anyone whose employment requires competence in written communication. Topics covered will include fixing grammatical errors, correct punctuation, editing, structured submissions and reports, Plain English, bloopers and super bloopers.

The course is being run in conjunction with the South Australian Public Administration Industry Training Advisory Body. It will consist of four two-hour sessions (5-7pm) on consecutive Tuesday evenings—27 July, 3 August, 10 August & 17 August. Cost is \$150.

For more details, contact the Department of English, tel. 8303 5130, fax 8303 4341, email <philip.butters@adelaide.edu.au>.

MALAYSIA GRADUATION 1999



Trying it on for size: the robing room



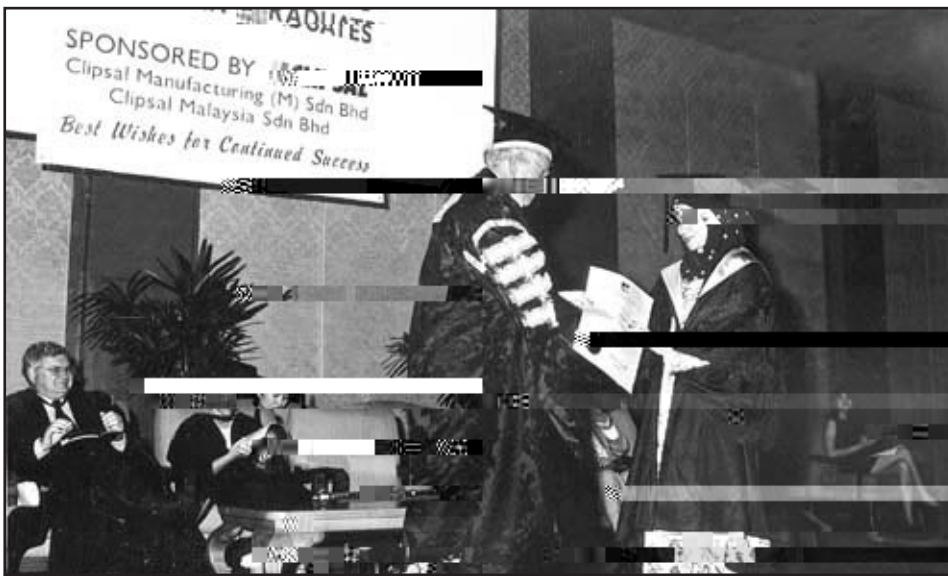
A family group before the ceremony



Adjusting the Chief Minister's hood as the academic procession forms



Guest speaker Professor Syed Jalaludin



Dentistry graduate Yeti Rosalina Muslim Tandjung receives her parchment



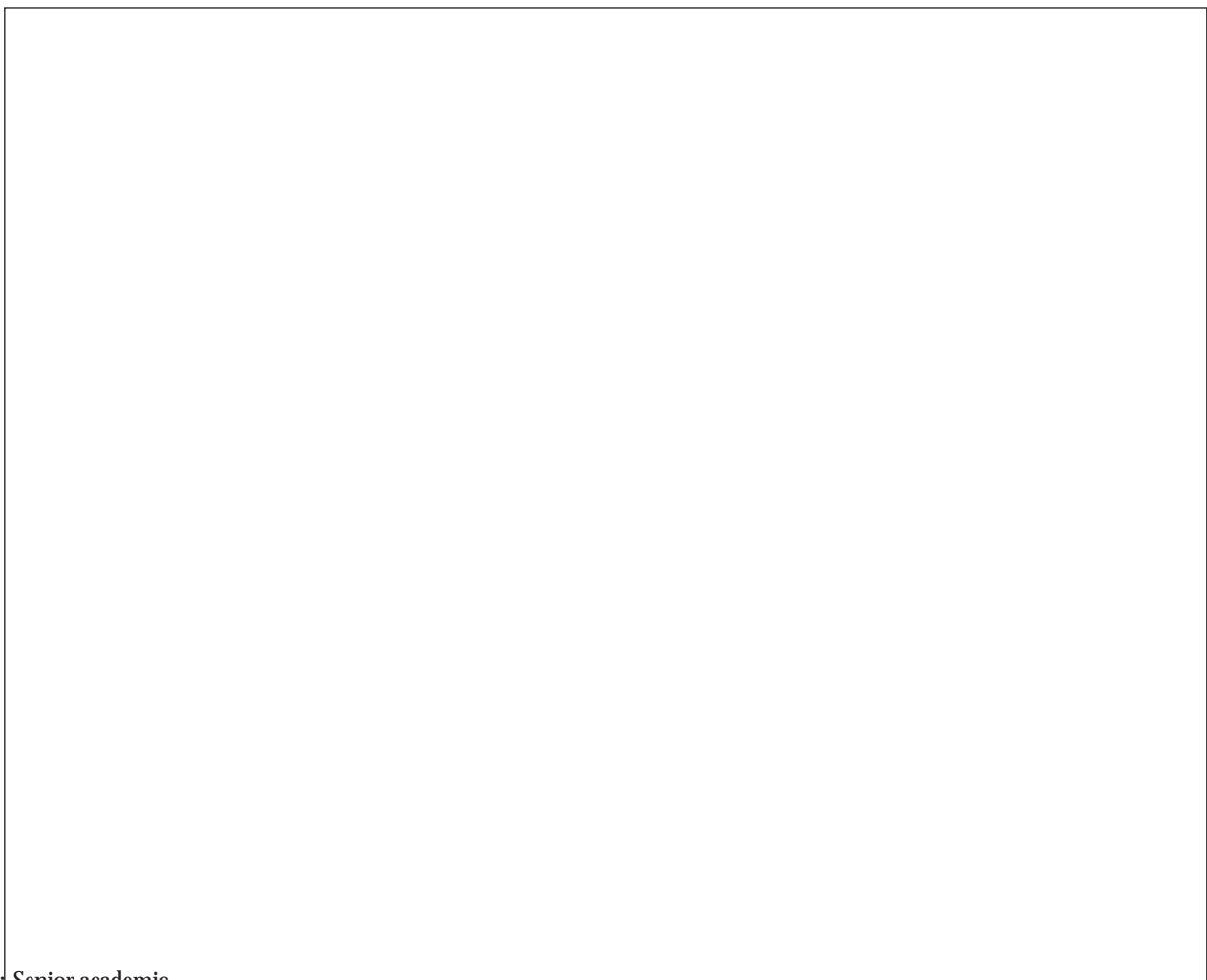
Chair of Alumni Association Greg Crafter and Silver Jubilant Khow Eng Hock (BE 1970)



The graduates, Silver Jubilants and stage party gathered for the official photograph



Relaxing at the High Tea after the ceremony. All photographs: Charlie's Photography, Klang.



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PARKSIDE: Lovely villa furnished house required by visiting Academic and family arriving 3 August 1999 for 12 months. Prefer close to schools east or south suburbs. Ph Dinah Ayers 8303 5475. medicine.adelaide.edu.au>

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SEACLIFF: House for rent 3 br, 5 mins walk from beach & amenities, transport to city & Flinders, fully furn., non-smoking, no pets. Avail from 2 Aug 99 - 5 Jan 2000. \$185 pw, 4 weeks bond. Ph Sharyn 8377 0895(h), 8201 2122(w).

SWITZERLAND: Furnished flat 4 km from Interlake, on University of Adelaide campus. 2 bedrooms, lounge, can be used as office. Available for 1 year or more. Ph Lisa 8362 1424

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WANTED: Senior academic couple from the UK require furnished house or apartment, with off street parking, prefer

Bulletin Board

12noon Plant Science Seminar:
Allelopathy - Keeping the Greenies at bay by Associate Professor Dr Max Tate (Plant Science). Charles Hawker Conference Centre, Waite.

1.10pm Law Seminar Series: The Business of Migration: Organised Crime and Illegal Migration in Australia and the Asia-Pacific Region by Andreas Schloenhardt. Room 216, Ligertwood.

1.10pm History Staff/Post-graduate Seminar: The Nobel Quadruped: historians should not forget the horse by Dr Roger Hainsworth (History). Common Room 420, 4th Floor, Napier Building.

1.10pm Geographical & Environmental Studies Seminar: Population geography: prospects and challenges by Professor Graeme Hugo. Room 104, Environmental Studies Bldg.

2.00pm English Seminar: The Turn of the Shrew: Domestic surveillance and the toxic nanny in the movies by Joy McEntee. Room 618, Napier.

4.00pm Applied & Molecular Ecology Seminar: Germination stimulants for parasitic weed - Are they involved in host recognition? by Dr Koichi Yoneyama (University of Utsunomiya, Japan). Charles Hawker Conference Centre, Waite Campus.

6.00pm Centre for Intercultural Studies & Multicultural Education Seminar: Refugees from Laos: The Case of Cultural Adaptation of the Hmong People in Aust

Applications for the following
vacancy will be considered
only from members of the
staff of the University**

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Revenue Office: Change of Hours

From 1 June 1999, the Revenue Office cashiers located on the 4th floor at 230 North Terrace will be available to receive payments from 9.00am - 4.00pm, Monday - Friday. The office was previously open until 5.00pm.

The earlier closing time will enable the cashiers to close off and prepare rec

Research Grants & Fellowships

The following is a list of grant, fellowship and other research funding schemes currently available for application. A more detailed electronic version of this listing (Update: Research), together with guidelines and application forms for some of the major schemes, are available at: <<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/RB/>>. For hard copy application forms and guidelines for any of the funding schemes listed below, please contact the Research Branch, ext 35137; or email <louise.moore@adelaide.edu.au> .

Sponsored Programs Information Network (SPIN): SPIN Australia - A database containing current and comprehensive information on over 2,600 government and private funding opportunities. The SPIN web site is accessible via the Research Branch web site.

Industry, Science & Resources; Dept of (DISR) - Technology Diffusion Program (TDP): This Program has three integrated compo