exclusive

OPUS VISITS SHORTLAND SITE
MUD, MUSH AND

Once again Opus has brought to you, its readers, the inside story of events of interest to students. It is common knowledge that plans have been made for the establishment of Newcastle University at the Shortland site, but who has seen the Shortland site? Opus felt that the university members were being asked to feel enthusiastic about moving to a site which, as far as they knew, might not really exist. Therefore Opus staff felt it was necessary that Shortland be visited and students be informed about it. Unfortunately the staff visit to Shortland could not be said to be an un-

qualified success; the first time we went rain spoiled any chances of taking photographs or even seeing the site. The second visit was slightly more successful - we found the site, but in finding the site we also found the swamp, mosquitoes, and lantana, and of course the inevitable rain.

The Shortland site offers planners and architects ample scope for originality in the planning and setting out of the buildings. If the buildings are so situated as to preserve as much of the sloping hillsides and natural bush, Newcastle University could become one of the most beautiful university sites in Australia.

The present access tracks skirt many positions that would be ideally suited for such buildings as the library and the Union Building. However, much of the beauty of the deep ravines which run down to the numerous streams crossing the site will be lost as these will have to be filled in or graded over.

It is difficult, however, to view the site properly, as the Teachers' College keeps popping in and out of the university site. Until this is decided it is difficult to look at Shortland with any real foresight.

Local Resident Speaks

While at the Shortland site Opus interviewed one of the oldest and most respected members of the community, asking his views on the establishment of the university in his neighbourhood. He seemed delighted to be asked, in fact it was some time before we managed to finish the interview, parts of which are shown below.

For all my 97 years' residence in Shortland I have been waiting for the arrival of an institution of education. At last we have somewhere handy to send our five Leaving Certificate holders.

I really didn't think they'd do anything with that lantana-covered patch between the garbage dump and the swamps. But I suppose they just had to build a Uni there. It was such a waste to have Newcastle's best pub stuck out here with no-one to keep it open all night. Whooop!
Mosquitoes —

Shortland Visit

ABSOL FOR UNI?

The Shortland site is one of the few remaining stretches of natural bushland left in the Newcastle district. At this time of the year the wildflowers are in all bloom, and spring growth is everywhere. Bellbirds live in the gum trees. A creek wanders through the site. It is the perfect place to hold a barbecue or picnic.

With all this natural beauty I hesitate to say that the overall picture of the site is incomplete without mention of some of the main objectives of our little operation, did it imply?

The male section of the area that we are concerned with are the local buskers (blue, not those seen on a grazing holiday as little boys scout). The female section of the area make a distinctive mark on the surrounding landscape, with their own unique set of objectives for their little operation, the first inhabitants of the future University site.

"Constructed" upon a higher rise, within about a quarter mile of the main road, is the sanitation of a local busker community. With this in mind I would suggest those about to be swallowed in our "peaceful" existence of the shortland to consider the direction of their activities, if this is the correct term.

"If this is the correct term, perhaps the "enlightened" collective system of the site to put in the shortland to our problems? With equal-proportioned and standardised men there would be no recourse in the dark clothes for the "peaceful" group to their activities.

Our "happiness" was a search usually ending only in darkness. What use if liberty in the end belies the cause?

And all those barrister clients — what use? Man will continue as the black ant of the universe, drive for his life and I hasten packing the last mile of our "peaceful" existence.

P.D.

WEST OF THE WALL

The Dividing Line?

Perhaps a more appropriate subtitle would be the invisible mural. After all the gossips between the black and white bar, between the black and white line, have always been and are, are we always aware of the line? What is the line? And what does it mean? What are those living on the wrong side of the line? What are those living on the wrong side of the line? What are those living on the wrong side of the line?

Who are they? Our staff has since made enquiries, but no one seems to know. Typical answers to our queries have been "The lived in Shortland for years and I haven't seen an aborigine yet." "People on the Uni site".

"Don't be stupid, I've never seen anyone and it's our duty to maintain the separation of races." Perhaps the above are the main reasons for the new aborigine settlement. The man said he was separated when he was a boy, he smiled and both parties parted on their separate ways. That was all.

A baby cried in an old room. From somewhere voices were raised, seeming it seemed. From somewhere else came the sound of raucous laughter. We saw nothing.

The rain became more and more intense. We moved in the direction of the baby's cry. One man, a white man, and an aborigine, were standing in the rain with an "empty" empty frame. The man said he was a friend of the aborigine's, they smiled and both parties parted on their separate ways. That was all.

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Newcastle College Students' Association, Has been made by Brian Rogers of the Department of Geography, University of New England. The aim is to determine as accurately as possible where each university draws its students and to discover any regional, national or international differences in student's backgrounds.

Some of the questions that will be asked concern the type of school attended for matriculation, the occupation of the family broadsheet, the manner in which the university draws its students and the type of town or city students come from. Other questions will seek information on why Newcastle College was chosen, the general education and the attitude of students towards higher education.

Students will not have to dig for their birth certificates, just free but seldom is it accurate.

Pausing in retrospect, I wonder what will happen to the bellbirds, wildflowers, and the natural beauty once the pile driver's set to work. Perhaps we should act fast and start a society for the preservation of "aborigines" to the Shortland site.

"Where are they? Our Unicorn is the only one to answer. We said that he had enjoyed his year with Opus and regretted "leaving", but duty were demoted in his time. I would recommend the job to anyone with an interest in that field, but in the end I just got sick of news;"

Vivian

Join the Crowd!

Nominations will be called for the third term for the following positions:

Opus Editor, Revue Director, Orientation Director, Health Officer, Employment Officer.

To prove they have done, and since no one will be asked to explain what has been done on that moonless night when he or she didn't arrive home until dawn, it is hoped that all students will be able to spare the two minutes necessary to answer the questions that will be asked.

A more precise picture can be formed if a high percentage of completed forms are handed in and this is most important in a college such as Newcastle which has a relatively small number of students.

It is appreciated that Newcastle students will co-operate in this matter as have students from other universities and in any case most people will agree that filling in questionnaires such as these give simply marvellous practice for the future "personal quizzes" that are sure to run their course.