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THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
THE EDITH AND JOY LONDON FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 1976

Introduction

The Foundation was inaugurated in March 1975 by the gift of a 348 hectare property to the University by Miss Joy London. Its purpose is to provide a place for instruction and research in the field sciences by providing a protected and managed environment, accumulated background data and accommodation. It is also part of the Foundation agreement that the property be kept substantially in its present rural state.

The Foundation is administered by a Management Committee which, during the year, consisted of:

Miss Joy London
Dr R.E. Barwick (Bailiff)
Dr L.T. Carron
Mr W.C. Fairbanks
Dr A.J. Gibbs (from 10 Dec)
Mr R.A. Hohnen
Dr W.L. Nicholas (Chief Curator) (to 31 Oct)
Mr W.P. Packard (Steward)
Professor D. Walker (Chairman)

The Committee is assisted by Curators in special fields namely:

Mr J.C. Banks	:	woody plants
Dr R.E. Barwick	:	reptiles and amphibia
Dr J.A. Carnahan	:	marine algae
Dr O.F. Dent	:	rural materials
Mr H.J. Gibbney	:	local history
Dr V.A.P. Harris	:	crustacea
Mr H.A. Nix (CSIRO)	:	birds
Mr C.R. Tidemann	:	mammals
Dr N.M. Wace	:	herbaceous plants

Mr J.C. Mitchell is Secretary to the Management Committee, assisted by Mr C. McGregor.

The Committee has met seven times during the year, all but once at Kioloa.

In September, the Foundation established a special relationship with the University of Wollongong under which members of that University will be granted use of the Foundation's property and facilities on the same terms as ANU personnel subject to priority for such use remaining with ANU. In return

Wollongong University will contribute to the Foundation's needs in material, services and, occasionally, money. To facilitate the operation of these arrangements Wollongong University has appointed Dr R. Young to act as liaison officer with the Foundation and to attend meetings of its Management Committee as an observer.

Several Schools and Departments of the University have made generous allocations of funds to the Foundation during the year as well as providing equipment and services. In this last regard, the Committee is particularly grateful for the variety of assistance given by the Department of Zoology.

The rather sudden deterioration in the University's financial outlook toward the end of 1975 demanded a reassessment of the manner in which the Foundation might achieve its aims. This reappraisal was carried out early in 1976 and resulted particularly in substantially changed building plans, the intention being to reduce the total intended expenditure in that area but to make as much of it as possible during 1976. The acceleration in building and allied activities which flowed from these decisions has so dominated the available time of the Committee's officers that progress on the scientific and management fronts has not been so great as the Committee had hoped.

It is appropriate to record that, as activity of all kinds has increased during the year, Miss London, and her manager Mr N. Evans, have been called upon to make many on-the-spot decisions on the Committee's behalf. It is important that this load, though willingly carried, be not allowed to become too great. The Committee is particularly grateful to Mr Evans and Mr McGregor for their constant activity on the Foundation's behalf.

Kioloa Post Office, which had operated on the property from 1911 was closed at the initiative of the Australian Post Office on 31 August.

Grounds and Buildings

The dedication of a small area of the Foundation's property as a car-park and pedestrian access point to the beach came near to completion by the end of the year. The old Avenue has been replaced by a new all-weather road and minor maintenance has been carried out at a few points on other roads on the property. The Shire authorities have made good the verges of the public road and its fencing is almost complete.

The University's application for reservation of the Foundation's property under the N.S.W. Mining Act is still before the State authorities but there is at present no known immediate threat of mining on it.

For a variety of reasons it proved impossible to carry out the projected aerial photography toward the production of a much needed map of the property. However, a line of precise levels was carried through it and tied to the Australian Height Datum on the Prince's Highway.

Exploratory drilling through the superficial deposits at the eastern end of the property failed to locate a source of water of a quality adequate for all purposes and it was decided to provide for users' domestic needs entirely from roof-collected rainwater.

The Kioloa Bush Fire Brigade completed the construction of a building on the property, to house fire fighting equipment belonging to the Brigade and the Foundation, from materials supplied by the Foundation.

In accordance with the revised plans for the provision of accommodation, the Foundation engaged the University's Maintenance Section to construct a laboratory and an amenities block to the designs of Mr R.E. Featherstone; substantial progress with these buildings had been made by the end of the year. Parties of volunteers from within the University have refurbished one of the existing cottages to serve as a bunk-house and begun work on a second one. Work preparatory to the similar treatment of other buildings has also been carried out and the School House has been moved to a more appropriate site on the Avenue.

A new plan for the provision of power to all buildings has been negotiated with the local Electricity Authority and is almost operational. Sewage and sullage disposal has required extended consideration but a satisfactory plan is believed to have emerged. The two main tanks for rain water storage have been installed but the full system is not yet complete.

Dr O.F. Dent has begun to collect and curate old farm machinery and similar materials from the property and its environs.

Teaching and Research

Because of the very limited accommodation available, the Committee has not actively encouraged Departments to use the Foundation for class teaching purposes. Nevertheless 483 student-nights were recorded during the year by parties from Departments (notably Zoology, Geography, Geology) prepared to make do with the inadequate facilities available.

Progress has been made with the biological inventory of the property, particularly in respect of small mammals (Mr C.R. Tidemann), reptiles (Dr R.E. Barwick), birds (ANU Biological Society), woody plants (Mr J.C. Banks) and herbaceous plants (Dr N.M. Wace). Mr R. Willink has prepared a report

on the geology of the area. Mr H.J. Gibbney has maintained his enquiries into the history of the district and has prepared an initial account of his findings.

Several members of the University have used the Foundation property for their research during the year. Amongst the projects are studies of population levels in rats (Ms D. Woodside) and bats (Mr C.R. Tidemann), of location and movement of lizards (Dr R.E. Barwick) and of plant viruses (Dr A.J. Gibbs).

Friends of Kioloa

Early in the year an attempt was made to recruit much needed energy to the Foundation for a variety of tasks, including building and general maintenance, by the formation of a 'club' called the Friends of Kioloa. It was envisaged that such a body of people would also provide a continuing source of advice on, and interest in, the Foundation's activities and might eventually arrange its own programme in collaboration with the Management Committee. Progress in this regard has not been so great as was hoped not for any lack of enthusiasm or offers of help but because of difficulty in finding persons of sufficient interest and knowledge to organise and direct the work of volunteer parties. It is hoped that this situation can be improved. In the meantime, the Management Committee is very grateful to all those who have physically helped the Foundation throughout the year.

D. Walker
Chairman

THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

EDITH & JOY LONDON FOUNDATION, KIOLOA, N.S.W.

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE TO 31 DECEMBER 1976

1.	<u>INCOME</u>		\$	\$
(a)	10.80.996	ANU grants and contributions	85,200.00	
(b)	10.80.998	Miscellaneous : rent and use of facilities	1,281.50	
(c)	10.80.999	Anonymous donation	50,000.00	
(d)	10.80.901	Interest : all monies	7,840.27	
(e)	97.34.406	Minor Works capital funds	10,000.00	154,321.77
2.	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>			
(a)	10.80.347	Other Expenses (agreement commitments etc.)	6,193.45	
(b)	10.80.370	Maintenance (buildings, fences roads)	1,235.58	
(c)	10.80.371	Small works and conversions	14,779.48	
(d)	10.80.373	Equipment (inventory items)	3,437.06	
(e)	10.80.374	Construction of Laboratory and Amenities Block	66,305.66	
(f)	10.80.401	Functions, meetings and travel	1,024.57	
(g)	97.34.406	Restructuring Cottage No.4 and services	10,000.00	102,975.80
		Carry forward to 1977		51,345.97

15 February 1977