



**Deliberating the challenges  
(strengths and weaknesses) of a  
journal: The *Yesterday&Today* as  
example**

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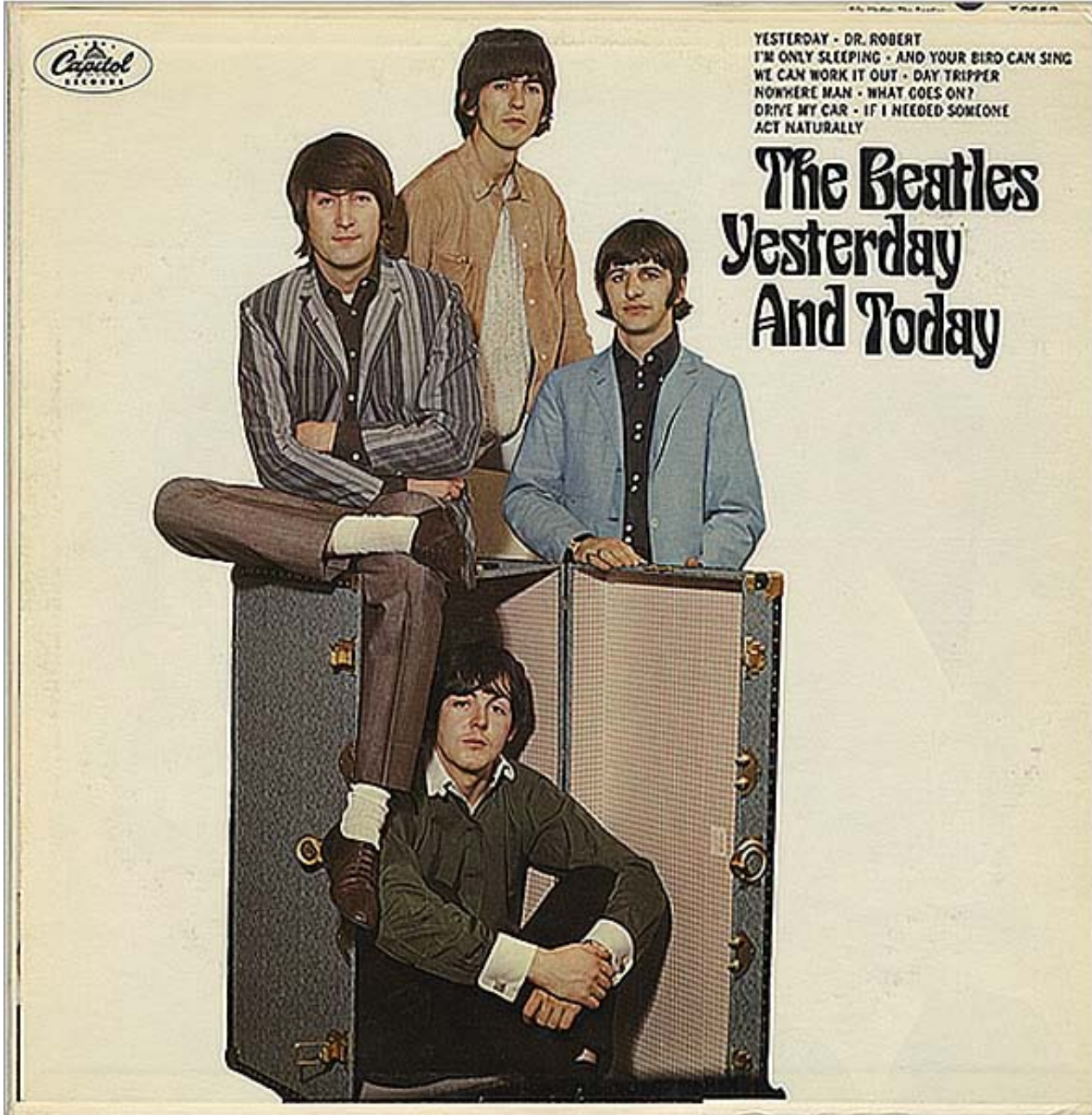
NORTH-WEST UNIVERSITY  
YUNIBESITI YA BOKONE-BOPHIRIMA  
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The original controversial MONO album cover of the Beatles in 1966  
(Photographer Roger Whitaker)

The only Beatles record to lose money for Capitol Records

Source: [arts.guardian.co.uk/pictures/image/0,8543,-11...](https://www.arts.guardian.co.uk/pictures/image/0,8543,-11...)

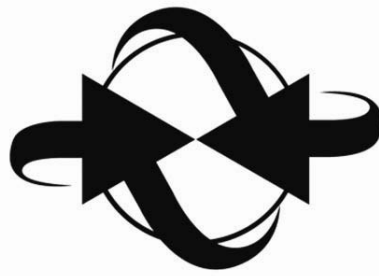


YESTERDAY - DR. ROBERT  
I'M ONLY SLEEPING - AND YOUR BIRD CAN SING  
WE CAN WORK IT OUT - DAY TRIPPER  
NOWHERE MAN - WHAT GOES ON?  
DRIVE MY CAR - IF I NEEDED SOMEONE  
ACT NATURALLY

# The Beatles Yesterday And Today

**The Cover Up! The Yesterday And Today Album Cover**

Source: <http://buythebutchercover.com/>



## *Some history...*

- \* When the Beatles were busy making their own “YandT”, history journals in the teaching of History in South Africa were scarce to absent. The less than two that existed, were approached in a more popular way as “easy digestible history” and not sufficiently historical, neither educationally focused (scientific);
- \* *Historia Junior*, 1956-1980 (Afrikaans and English);
- \* *Yesterday and Today/Gister en Vandag*, 1981-1997
- \* *Yesterday&Today*, 2006- re-established as a national journal for research in especially the fields of history teaching and research related findings **to improve the teaching of History (GET; FET &HET educational levels).**



# Challenges

## Strengths (in re-establishing)

- Sufficient motivation among HET scientists and FET;GET practitioners;
- A needy voice and space to reflect educational progress and research from a History (teaching) perspective;
- A willingness in providing financial support: the NWU, Vaal Triangle Campus;
- A clear future focus (aim and purpose) to professionally develop the Journal to become accredited, yet remain scientifically focused but practical /applied.



# Challenges

## **Weaknesses:**

### ***Currently:***

- Insufficient funds to develop the Journal towards some criteria that is regarded as acceptable for accreditation (eg. the publishing of 2 editions annually; lack of accreditation = lack in receiving substantial high profile articles);
- The majority of research contributions in the *Yesterday&Today* are from HET experts though the content also wants to be shared with, and applies to, history educators in the GET and FET levels.

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# Challenges

## **Weaknesses:**

### ***Future concerns to be addressed:***

- GET and FET educators in History who's articles are accepted most of times will not be able to afford page fees;
- GET and FET educators are the prime targets in HET History teaching methodology research. Therefore the inclusion of a percentage of practically/applied articles/discussions , created from scientific research and developed through years of experiences in history teaching also needs consideration in journals striving to be acknowledged as mainly a scientific journal such as the present day *Yesterday&Today*. Ironically its professional nature and “market” requires a consideration of both, but an empathy and understanding in assessment criteria and policy guidelines for accredited scientific journals maybe lacking.



## CONTENTS

### ARTICLES

- Michelle Koekemoer*  
Educating the nation about Union – Whose heritage? 1
- Paul M Haupt*  
The school as a microcosm of communities and their heritage and the need to encapsulate this in the writing of school histories 15
- Elize S van Eeden*  
Exploring local histories in the use and appreciation of Heritage and History in history curricula 23
- Henriëtte J Lubbe*  
The value of open distance learning (ODL) in assisting history teachers with heritage investigation 51
- Pieter Warnich*  
The value and role of cemeteries: Designing a possible methodology for teaching heritage to history learners 71
- Matthew Marwick*  
Setting up a school museum 97
- Sue Krige*  
'The power of power': Power stations as industrial heritage and their place in history and heritage education 107
- Susanne Popp*  
Trans-European convergences in national textbooks for history education? An approach to the comparison of image sources in schoolbooks 127
- Milton L van Wyk & Arend E Carl*  
The portfolio as an authentic assessment tool for learning: Is it serving its purpose? 141
- HANDS ON ARTICLES**
- Simon Haw*  
What's in a monument? – The importance of context 163  
Getting your hands dirty – history fieldwork 171
- BOOK REVIEWS**
- The Holocaust Industry: Reflections on the Exploitation of Jewish Suffering 177  
Rabble Rouser for Peace 180

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YESTERDAY  
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