

# Intellectually outstanding



Digs Pascoe\*

Digs Pascoe has been selected to appear in the publication 2000 Outstanding Intellectuals of the 21st Century.

This volume is being published by the International Biographical Centre, Cambridge, England. In celebration of this permanent recognition and international acclaim, a well-known artist in Cambridge has prepared a unique award to honour Digs' selection.

## Origin of man

Digs visited the United Kingdom and met with academics from the British Museum who are enormously interested in South Africa's 'Origin of

Man' sites. At the time Digs was involved in the border caves site and the Space for Elephants programme.

This year the Space for Elephants team educated 60 post-Matriculants together with funding from the Wildland's Trust.

At present an international TV documentary is being prepared about this programme.

## Inspiration

The discovery of the world's largest deposit of emeralds and the saga that followed the discovery, as well as Digs' 30 year involvement in tourism and business opportunities for the rural populations,

inspired the sponsors of the award in Britain.

## Award criteria

Criteria considered for the award were academic qualifications, the way in which these have been used to benefit other people and the

development of opportunities for others which have arisen from his initiatives.

These initiatives have included the design and implementation of automatic control systems in Zambian copper mines which have since been widely adopted in the mining industry; the discovery of the world's largest deposit of emeralds and the way in which Zambia benefited from the discovery and the development of small businesses associated with mining and tourism in Zambia.

Digs continued these tourism initiatives in South Africa with the development of tourism enterprises in rural areas in KwaZulu-Natal and the first repre-

*Digs Pascoe has been honoured by the International Biographical Centre, England in the field of knowledge and understanding arts and humanities*

sentation by South Africans at the Africa Tourism Conference in Lusaka.

## Space for elephants

Digs now leads the Space for Elephants programme which aims to develop opportunities for all communities to benefit from wildlife conservation. This includes the establishment of a museum and research centre where post-graduates study ecology, game management and sociology through the University of Natal. He has also been instrumental in initiating a tourism awareness programme in schools adjoining the Pongola Game Reserve.