

# ReConnect

A Publication of the UQ Gatton Past Students' Association Inc.



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND  
AUSTRALIA



UQ Gatton  
Past Students'  
Association Inc.



Queensland  
Agricultural High  
School and College



Queensland  
Agricultural  
College

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## STOP PRESS

### *Back to College Weekend*

2 and 3 December 2017

#### To register:

[gatton.uq.edu.au/alumni/  
gatton-past-students-association](http://gatton.uq.edu.au/alumni/gatton-past-students-association)

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## 2017 UQGPSA Scholarship Winner



2017 UQGPSA Scholarship winner Jane Evans is congratulated by UQGPSA President, Kim Jorgensen

### *Congratulations to Jane Evans*

It was a pleasure to congratulate and award the 2017 Scholarship to Jane Evans of Injune, adding to the growing number of students who the Association has been able to support in their academic endeavours. There were 14 applicants this year, all of an extremely high calibre, making it one of the most difficult selection processes the committee had encountered.

"I feel very privileged to have been awarded this scholarship and would like to sincerely thank the Gatton Past Students' Association for generously helping me financially to complete my studies," Ms Evans said.

"I am originally from Injune, just north of Roma in Queensland, and am currently in my first year at The University of Queensland,

Gatton Campus, studying a dual degree in Agribusiness and Sustainable Agriculture."

"After growing up on a small beef cattle property and working on a cattle station in the Northern Territory for a year, I am particularly interested in animal production and am majoring in Livestock and Poultry Science. I am thoroughly enjoying my studies and am very grateful for the support provided by the Gatton Past Students' Association. Not only have they provided financial assistance, but have also given me the opportunity to expand my skills and knowledge within the industry while completing my studies."

"In the future I am hoping to gain employment within the agricultural sector and want to use my studies to make a positive contribution to the industry."

## The Last Word

### Cutting edge at Gatton

Following on from the exposé in the last *Re-Connect* on QAAFI, ranked as the No.1 agricultural research institution in Australia, and No.7 in the world, The Last Word takes a look at the broader research position of the UQ Gatton Campus. World leading environmental and agricultural research is conducted at Gatton across a gamut of scientific disciplines. Cutting edge research facilities include the Queensland Animal Science Precinct (QASP), the Native Wildlife Teaching and Research Facility, the Centre for Animal Welfare and Ethics (CAWE), the Centre for Spray Technology Application Research and Training (C-START), the Global Change Institute's Gatton Solar Research Facility and the Geothermal Centre (QGECE), the Poultry Science Unit and the Research Nursery. These complement the research activities also carried out at Gatton in the School of Agriculture and Food Sciences (SAFS) and the School of Veterinary Science (SVS). Lots can be found about Gatton Campus research activities on the Web site. Take a look: [gatton.uq.edu.au/research-facilities](http://gatton.uq.edu.au/research-facilities)

Slade Lee

## President's Report



**Kim Jorgensen**  
President  
UQ Gatton Past Students' Association  
Inc.

Phone: 0438 130 963  
Email: [jorgensen\\_kim@bigpond.com](mailto:jorgensen_kim@bigpond.com)

It has been a busy six months since our last *Re-Connect* with lots of networking at Reunion lunches and at the 120th Celebration Long Lunch. I have been able to attend all these events so far and have enjoyed catching up with those I already know, meeting other members and hearing their tales of College life. Please check out the photos from these events in this edition. We still have the Brisbane reunion to go which has had to be postponed for a little while.

Earlier in the year we heard of the passing of a key past student who figured in most of our lives in some way. Our back page is devoted to Stan Petherick's life. Everywhere I go I hear the statement: "The one thing Stan taught me was....".

Committee members had the pleasure of inviting our current Scholarship recipients to have dinner with us last month. We were able to congratulate our most recent winner, Jane Evans, and hear about her

plans for her time at Gatton. Hopefully you know all about Jane as you read the front page article before you got to this one.

We are gearing up for *Back to College Weekend* 2017. It is being touted that it will be the best ever with a number of reunions other than Feature Years happening. It is good to see that past students are using our weekend as the focus for their reunions. Thank you to all those working so hard to get these up and running. Registrations are rolling in. Remember if you are going to attend and want an air-conditioned room then you need to get in early.

When I am able I attend the UQ Alumni Friends Committee meetings as your representative. They have been very busy this year with their 50 year Golden Jubilee celebrations. For those of you who have liked our Facebook page you will see posts about this from time to time. Remember that you are an alumnus of UQ so are able to fully participate in these events should you wish.

Thank you to those Committee Members who have contributed to this edition of *Re-Connect* and also to Slade Lee for his continued work at producing the email newsletter.

Here's to the best ever *BTCW*!

## Sunflower Competition Results



Our newest Committee member Trevor Pezet presented our Encouragement Award to Year 9 students from Taroom State School for the 2017 UQ Sunflower Competition.

Nanango State High School outgrew all the competition in this year's **annual Sunflower Competition**, taking the overall grand champion and an additional four awards.

The Year 7 to 10 group in the fertile South Burnett locality grew a giant sunflower weighing 3.463kg, which topped a weigh-in at UQ Gatton Campus.

Nanango State High School is one of 86 high schools from across Queensland, New South Wales, Western Australia, South Australia and Victoria who participated this year, with 3826 students taking part in the classroom.



# *UQ Gatton Campus now under the Auspices of the Faculty of Science*

When Professor Alan Rix, Pro-Vice Chancellor, retired from the University in July this year his role as senior lead for the UQ Gatton Campus passed to Professor Ian Gentle, Deputy Executive Dean and Associate Dean (Research) of the Faculty of Science. In this new role, Professor Gentle will deliver strategic advice and oversight of the Campus operations.

Professor Gentle's 24 years of experience at UQ as a research and teaching academic and in the delivery and management of scientific infrastructure will ensure the UQ Gatton Campus continues to deliver high quality research and teaching.

He is keen to work closely with the Past Students' Association to build stronger links with current staff and students and to cement the UQ Gatton Campus' reputation as the premier agricultural and veterinary educational campus in the Southern Hemisphere.

The recent 120th Anniversary of the Gatton Campus celebration was an opportunity for

Professor Gentle to explore the uniqueness of the heritage and character of the Campus through conversations with past students.

UQ is dedicated to ensuring all students have strong employability and the Faculty is developing Work Integrated Learning (WIL) opportunities. For students in programs delivered at the Gatton Campus, Professor Gentle and his team will work on effective engagement with community groups, local farmers and regional end users.

With a background in physical chemistry and materials science, Professor Gentle is looking forward to tackling new challenges associated with delivering quality research and teaching in agricultural and veterinary science. Prior to his current role as Deputy Executive Dean in the Faculty of Science, Professor Gentle was Deputy Director of the UQ Centre for Microscopy and Microanalysis (CMM), and in 2008–2010 was Head of Science of the Australian Synchrotron, a \$350M particle accelerator in Victoria.

*Mark Pace*



Professor Ian Gentle

## *Historical Collection*

This reporting period is always quiet for the receipt of donations.

Though the quantity may not be large, the quality is of a high standard.

### **Books, Programs, Brochures:**

Maria Chalmers (UQ Gatton Library), Victor Robertson (School of Food and Agriculture Sciences) Ian Bentley, Gary Mason (Wally Mason).

**Certificates:** Gary Mason (Wally Mason).

**QAC Sporting Photos:** Gary Mason.

**College General Photos:** Ian Bentley, Gary Mason.

**Clothing:** Polocrosse shirts (Gary Mason), Food Technology shirts (Ian Bentley).

**The Unusual:** Beehive branding iron QAC Victor Robertson.

A large assortment of veterinary instruments, Gary Mason (Wally Mason).



Veterinary instruments display case

Set of three original WW1 miniature medals and 2 Gallipoli badges issued to Ray Bills, Gary Mason (Wally Mason).

We thank the above donors for their contributions to our valued collection.

We would also like to thank Val Kilah and Julie Reid for their continuing dedication and to Trevor Arthur and Don Oxenham for their ongoing support.

*Peter Douglas*



# GATTON CAMPUS CELEBRATES 120 YEARS

1897 ★ 2017



Gatton Campus is celebrating 120 years of education excellence this year. On 27 July, a large crowd of former students including five Gold Medallists, plus past and current staff and friends, gathered to enjoy a fabulous three-course lunch in a marquee under the palms in the central walkway, and to celebrate the anniversary of the founding of the original Queensland Agricultural College. Two of our members, Alan Brimblecombe and John Round had attended the 50th, 100th and now the 120th celebrations – a big achievement by both of these gentlemen.

Guests at the lunch were welcomed by Professor Alan Rix' successor as head of the Campus, Professor Ian Gentle,



Cutting the Cake! (l-r) Professor Melissa Brown, Executive Dean, Faculty of Science; Professor Ian Gentle, Deputy Executive Dean and Associate Dean (Research) Faculty of Science; Janelle Zahmel, UQ Gatton Campus Director; Tanya Milligan, Lockyer Valley Regional Council Mayor, and Associate Professor Victor Galea, Deputy Head of the School of Agriculture and Food Sciences



Jim Sands 1979–1983 and Jeffrey McMahon

who in addition to his duties at Gatton, is the Deputy Executive Dean and Associate Dean (Research) for the Faculty of Science. Food Ambassador for the Lockyer Valley, celebrity chef Alastair McLeod, also provided a very entertaining cooking demonstration as part of the proceedings.

The lunch got quite some media attention with some members being featured on the ABC Rural website and our Patron Peter Douglas being interviewed by ABC Toowoomba radio.



Morris Lee 1968–1972, Pam Jackson and Ken Jackson 1968–1971



Cooking demonstration by chef Alastair McLeod



Stewart Bain 1967–1968 and Angus McEwan 1963–1965



Some of the 200 or so guests (not counting the students!) who enjoyed lunch on the day



# UQGPSA Scholarship Fund Recipients Review

At our last Committee meeting, it was a pleasure to catch up over dinner with our current scholarship recipients, all of whom are still studying in their chosen fields.

Since its inception in 2007, we've been able to support 11 students, offering a total of \$145,000 in assistance.

It is a goal of the Association to continue this support, in being ever present to not just past students, but the past students of tomorrow.

We'd asked the most recent scholarship winners to give us an update of where they're at and what the support of the Association has meant to them.

## 2016 – Loretta Tonscheck *Bachelor of Agribusiness*

"My long-term ambition is to own and operate a successful beef cattle farming enterprise. I am continuing to enjoy the degree immensely and look forward to all that UQ has to offer for the remainder of the program.

I am honoured and greatly appreciative of the financial assistance from UQGPSA. The assistance allows me to have increased focus on my studies throughout the semester rather than working to cover living costs and this is invaluable."

## 2015 – Taylor Bunworth *Bachelor of Veterinary Science*

"I've always had a huge passion for horses and during my studies have found a keen interest in equine reproduction.

Beginning my farm placement and gaining clinical work experience on weekends have definitely been highlights. I am so grateful to the Association for their generosity as this scholarship enables me to focus on gaining knowledge and skills that I know will be invaluable as I begin my career."

## 2014 – Sara Rodes *Bachelor of Veterinary Science*

"Hoping to continue into 5th year clinical rotations at the end of the year, the UQGPSA scholarship has allowed me to experience things that I would have never been able to achieve and I am greatly thankful. I had been able to travel to Townsville to participate in the AVA Student Conference where I learnt skills in horse lameness diagnostics, wildlife conservation, small animal emergency care, and got the opportunity to network with industry specialists.

I've further accepted a placement in Brazil at a small animal clinic and a rural clinic at the end of the year where I hope to broaden my knowledge of international veterinary techniques and communications."

## 2013 – Lexus Hughes *Bachelor of Applied Science (Graduate), currently studying Honours*

"I have always had a love and an overwhelming appreciation for the environment and it was this love, which drove me to enrol in my undergrad. Studying at UQ, I quickly realised I had a passion for research, especially with feral animals. After completing my Honours I hope to continue my education by completing a PhD.

The UQGPSA Scholarship went a long way to ensuring the financial burden of tertiary study was barely noticed. The semester instalments assisted with my living away from home expenses, resource materials and traveling fees. I am ever grateful to the Past Students' Association for helping me through my undergrad and giving me a helping hand in life."

## 2012 – Jahk Hughes *Bachelor of Veterinary Science*

"The study of veterinary science is quite fascinating; there is a huge knowledge base to understand in such a brief period. When I graduate I hope to move forward into a career path that will offer professional and personal growth. My main interests currently lie in surgery and anaesthesia, and I enjoy the challenges they present.

The UQGPSA scholarship has enabled myself to purchase textbooks I usually would not have access to. It has enabled travel to placements to gain experience with people who will be my future clients. I am thankful for everything the Association has provided and I am excited to join the Association once I am able to call myself a Past Student."

*Trevor Pezet*



Jahk Hughes, Sara Rodes, Taylor Bunworth and Loretta Tonscheck



Lexus Hughes

# Branch Reunions

## Gold Coast Reunion

Our 30th Reunion Lunch was held on 29 July, attended by 39 members, spouses and friends.

The 26 apologies missed out on our famous Seafood Lunch.

We were pleased to welcome our new Association President Kim, who also became a member of the First Timers Club.



Gold Coast Reunion: Carol Fullerton, Carolyn Mack, Bernie Mack and Jim Miller



Mackay Reunion: Christopher Henn, Gibb Turner, Errol Leggett



Bundaberg Reunion: Grae Shelton, Allan Pitt, Vivien Pitt, Kay Shelton

Check out the rest of our photos on Facebook !

The meeting was fortunate to hear a very informative address by Wayne Bryden, Professor of Animal Science at Gatton.

Wayne spoke on the recent developments and future plans of the Campus.

Unfortunately, due to family health reasons, Bill Laver submitted his resignation as our Branch Patron.

Those present showed their appreciation of Bill's dedication by immediate acclamation.

We would like to give a big thank you as always to Diana Douglas and Dot Sim for their assistance at the door and to Ron McMahon, Bob James and Don Oxenham for conducting the Raffle which realised \$281.00.

*Peter Douglas*

## Mackay Branch Reunion

Another relaxing lunch, in a new venue this year, was attended by about 30 in Mackay. The AGM was conducted and a special mention was made of the passing of Stan Petherick. There were many stories starting with "The most important thing Stan taught me....". Kim Jorgensen attended the lunch on behalf of the Committee and enjoyed meeting up with Mackay members again.

## Bundaberg Branch Reunion

Sunday lunch at the East End was well attended by Bundy and District past students. The East End was again rated as an excellent venue allowing us to have our own room and not disturb others. Thanks to Mike Moller for arranging the day. We saw a few new faces at this year's event which was pleasing. Kim Jorgensen again attended on behalf of the Committee.

## New Members

Philip Montose **Carnell** (1971)

Lindsay James **Coghill** (1967 and 1973)

Peter Jon **Day** (1987)

Thi Thuy **Phan** (2007)

Steven Carl **Pocock** (2007)

Geoffrey Gurner **Tually** (Staff 1971–1987)

Brian Edward **Watson** (1967)

# Gone, but not forgotten...

*Because I could not stop for Death  
He kindly stopped for me  
The Carriage held but just Ourselves  
And Immortality.*

Emily Dickinson

## CAIRNS, William Howitt

QDA 1946. At College 1945 – 46.  
ATC Flight 1945.  
After College, Rockhampton as Assistant Entomologist. To Biloela with tobacco research. Joined AMP to work on the Land Development Scheme "The 90 mile Desert". From property development to head of AMP Investments. In retirement he became a councillor with the R.A.S. In charge of Woodchopping, on Wine Committee and Finance Committee.  
William passed away 11 March 2017.

## CALEY, VH James

B Agr Sc Dip Ed.  
Appointed Lecturer in Bacteriology at QAC 11 May 1970. Retired in June 1988 to take up the position as Anglican Chaplain at UQ.  
Jim passed away 28 July 2017.

## EMMERSON, Frederick Robert

QDAH 1956.  
Fred passed away 28 December 2016.

## EWART, William Graham

QDAH 1960. Thynne.  
1955 ATC; Under 8st 7lbs XV.  
1956 Sgt ATC; Under 8st 7lbs XV; Boxing.  
1957 Sgt ATC; Under 8st 7lbs XV Captain: Boxing.  
1958 Under 8st 7lbs XV Premiers.  
1959 1st XV; A Grade XI; Boxing.  
Bill passed away 27 August 2016.

## HANCOCK, Jason Leonard

B App Sc 1991.  
Jason passed away 30 May 2017.

## JORDAN, Andrew Thomas

QDH 1967.  
Andrew passed away 19 February 2017.

## LOUTTIT, Fay

Clerical Officer CSIRO Cooper Lab.  
At QAC 1959 – 64.  
Fay passed away 29 June 2017.

## MATTHEWS, Archie Alexander

QDA 1949. At College 1946 – 49.  
Senior Cadets 1948; 3rd XV 1949.  
Archie passed away 1 July 2017.

## MURRAY, Ray Maxwell

QDAH 2nd Class Hons 1958. Thynne.  
1955 4th XV; B2 XI.  
1956 2nd B XV; A2 XI; CMF.  
1957 2nd XV; A2 XI; CMF.  
Temporary Junior Assistant (JO) 1958. Graduated BVSc from UQ 1963; MVSc 1970.  
Brother of Alan "Doc" QDAH 1957.  
Max passed away 23 July 2017.

## MURRAY, William Clyde

QDAH 1960.  
William passed away 19 February 2015.

## NEUMANN, Peter James

QDA 1956. Shelton. Prefect 1955 – 56.  
1954 Senior Swimming Champion.  
1955 Runner-up Senior Swimming Champion. 2nd A XV.  
Rutile and zircon mineral sands business.  
Peter passed away 1 April 2017.

## O'DONNELL, Declan J.

Sub-Diploma student 1951.  
It was reported that Declan passed away early 2017.

## PETHERICK, Stanley Vincent

1937 QDA 1st Class Hons. Senior Prefect.  
Thynne House Captain. 1st XV. 2nd XI.  
1936 Prefect. 1st XV. 2nd XI.  
1935 Junior Certificate, 6A and 1B.  
1934 Dux of Sub-Junior Year.  
Stan passed away on 20 April 2017.

## SECOMBE, Edward Peter Charles

QDAH 2nd Class Hons 1952. Prefect.  
Shelton House Captain 1952.  
Athletics 1951 – 52; Won 880yds Championship 1951.  
CMF 1951, Cpl 1952.  
It was reported that Peter passed away in 2015.

Peter Douglas

## Gold Coast Branch Reunion

Labrador  
AFL Sports Club  
Ashton Street  
Labrador

**Saturday  
10 February 2018**

11:00am for  
12 noon luncheon

Peter Douglas  
☎ (07) 5546 6350  
koalamen  
@bigpond.com

## Sunshine Coast Branch Reunion

Caloundra Bowls Club  
Cnr Arthur Street and  
Burwah Terrace  
Caloundra

**Saturday  
10 March 2018**

11:30am for  
12 noon luncheon

Peter Jacobson  
☎ 0419 662 467  
peter.jacobson  
@agriculture.gov.au

## Mackay Branch Reunion

West Tigers Mackay  
Walkerston

**Sunday  
20 May 2018**

11:00am for  
12 noon luncheon

Mark Hetherington  
☎ 0407 595 349  
m.hetherington  
@pcpsl.com.au

John Whitaker  
☎ 0437 331 093  
john-.whitaker  
@bigpond.com

## Bundaberg Branch Reunion

East End Hotel  
58 Princess Street  
East Bundaberg

**Sunday  
10 June 2018**

11:00am for  
12 noon luncheon

Mike Moller  
☎ 0478 154 593  
mmoller57@gmail.com

## Brisbane Branch Reunion

East's League Club  
Langlands Park  
40 Main Avenue  
Coorparoo

**TBA**

11:30am for  
12 noon luncheon

Slade Lee  
☎ (07) 3821 1739  
Slade.Lee  
@internode.on.net



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Don Oxenham  
Julie Reid

### Try our quick links at:

[gatton.uq.edu.au/alumni/](http://gatton.uq.edu.au/alumni/)  
[gatton-past-students-association](http://gatton-past-students-association)



[www.facebook.com/UQGPSA](https://www.facebook.com/UQGPSA)



<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/UQ-Gatton-Past-Students-Association-5190196>

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# Vale Stanley Vincent Petherick



Stanley Vincent Petherick was born in 1919, and raised on the family dairy farm "Trecarne", Lockyer. Stan's keenest desire was to work with the herd and it was this love that caused him to lose all the fingers on his right hand in an accident with the knives of the chaffcutter as he was feeding cattle.

From an era when a job meant a man worked in the same employ for his entire working life, Stan transcended even this. Stan devoted his life to the Gatton Campus – before, during, and after his career.

At the age of 15, Stan attended the then Queensland Agricultural High School and College. He was a Prefect in 1936 and Senior Prefect in 1937 as well as being Captain of Thynne House and a member of the 2nd XI Cricket Team and the 1st XV Football Team and was awarded colours for this latter sport. His diligence and achievement in his studies was rewarded with Dux of the College 1st Class Honours at his 1937 graduation. His excellence in applying himself was recognised with a Scholarship to the University but as he expected to return to his father's property, he instead took up a research post at the College studying the management and productivity of Rhodes grass pastures on the College soils. Upon completion of his research, he joined the staff as the Agriculturist, remaining in the employ of the College until his retirement in 1982. The decision to remain at the College was made with the passing of his father – the family farm was sold to meet the needs of his mother and sisters.

During the years of the Second World War, many College staff left for war service and as a result, Stan found himself undertaking more and more responsibilities on the College farm,

lecturing and expanding the products grown on campus including – at the request of the Commonwealth – opium poppies and carrots.

Stan's career as a lecturer formally began in 1946. In 1967, he was promoted to Lecturer in Crop Agronomy and remained in this position until his retirement some 15 years later.

Stan was heavily active in the College community, holding various positions including:

- Honorary Secretary-Treasurer of the College Patriotic Fund (1940 – 1945);
- Member, College Sports Committee (1947 – 1982);
- Staff Representative Gatton College Old Boys' Association (1949 – 1967);
- Vice President Gatton Agricultural College Old Boys' Association (1968 – 1981);
- Member of the first College Council (1971 – 1979);
- President of the newly titled Qld Agricultural College Past Students' Association (1982 – 1993);
- Patron of the UQ Gatton Past Students' Association (1998 – 2010).

With the encouragement of the then-director, Dr T.M. Morrison, he inaugurated the Royal National Association Hospitality Stand for past students attending the Ekka. Assisted by Ross Murray, Stan constructed an Academic Mace in Queensland Silky Oak and embellished with the badges of the College and Past Students' Association. This Mace was carried by Stan at the Head of the Academic Procession each year.

It would not be an under-statement to declare Stan a legend of the Gatton Campus. In 1982, the Association made him an Honorary Life Member of the Past Students' Association for his services to the Association. This was further complemented in 2006 with the dedication of the Stan Petherick Meeting Room in the Foundation Building.

The Past Students' Association was first formed in 1905 and in the 112 years since then there have been 14 Presidents, 18 Patrons and 63 Honorary Life Members. Stan is the only person who has had the honour of being all three at various times. This shows how highly Stan was thought of within the UQ Gatton Past Students' Association.

Stan enjoyed the support of his wife, Agnes, whom he married on 10 June 1944. They had two sons and a daughter, six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Agnes pre-deceased her husband in 2013. Stan passed away on 20 April 2017 and was interred at Pinaroo Lawn Cemetery, Brisbane.

*Julie Martin*