



Re-Connect

A Publication of the
UQ Gatton Past Students
Association Inc.
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STOP PRESS

EKKA

The UQ Gatton stand
will be at the
Meating Centre
(above the Meat Hall)

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SCHOLARSHIP OFFERS ASSISTANCE TO STARR STUDENT

The UQ Gatton Past Students Association Scholarship has alleviated some of the financial burden of university studies for one Gatton student. The UQ Gatton Past Students Association Scholarship recipient for 2007 is Miss Sophie-Anne Starr.

This scholarship provides financial assistance to a meritorious student who because of financial, personal or home circumstances might otherwise be unable to enter full time study at UQ Gatton. This scholarship is only open to students commencing the first year of their program at the Gatton Campus. This bursary is \$5,000 per year and is tenable for the normal duration of the program in which the student is enrolled.

Sophie-Anne is currently in her first year of the Bachelor of Applied Science majoring in Veterinary Technology.

Before moving 700 kilometres to the Gatton Campus, Sophie-Anne lived on a rural property west of Rockhampton with her mother.

Coming from a single parent family meant that each day before and after school, Sophie-Anne was responsible for taking care of the stock on the property.



Associate Dean, Professor Richard Williams with scholarship recipient Sophie-Anne Starr and UQGPSA President Graham McClymont

“I used to do feeding, mustering, fencing, maintenance and machine operations while mum was at work”.

In addition to studying the Bachelor of Applied Science, Sophie-Anne plans to complete the University’s Bachelor of Veterinary Science.

“I’ve always wanted to become a vet, ever since I was little”.

“Growing up on the property has meant that I have always been around animals. When I finish my studies and obtain my Veterinary Science degree, I plan to build my own horse stud”.

Sophie-Anne’s dedication to achieving this goal has seen her work hard and gain remarkable results in her first year at university.

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THE LAST WORD

by Craig Tunley

I know that I have said this before and I have heard the same line echo around Queensland/Australia, however, it never ceases to amaze me where/when a Past Student might show up. This week, imagine my surprise when a man that I have often shared a beer with at the Railway Social Club in Hughenden turns out to be a student from the 1946–47 era. I have held chit-chat conversation with this man almost every week for at least the past three years, but had no idea we shared more than one common bond. As you would expect, I promoted the UQ Gatton Past Students Association, the annual Back to College Weekend and benefits of membership, including this great Newsletter. In fact, you can be sure that Len Harmon will receive my copy in the hope that he can join or at the very least attend a Past Student function. After 60 years, I am betting Len would love to go back to College!!!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Graham McClymont
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At our Annual General Meeting last December it gave me great pleasure to accept the position of President of our Association for the third time. It gave me even greater pleasure to see the management committee returned unchanged for another year. The full list of committee members is on the back of this newsletter and members are obviously pleased with the results of the committee's hard work

The UQ Gatton Scholarship Fund that has been set up to financially help a student studying at UQ Gatton is a great success and currently has around \$150,000 which is invested and earning an acceptable rate of return. This fund was established under the guidance of Mal Ferguson when he was President of our Association and it is great to see it being such a wonderful success. The first scholarship of \$5,000 was awarded this year.

The UQ Gatton Historical Collection is going from strength to strength and the display is outstanding. We recently took possession of photographs from 1933 and 1934 of the first 15 football team, students of Thynne House and also the staff and students of the College in 1933. All donations are welcome and can be sent to our office. Donations do not necessarily need to be of the early days. We are looking for memorabilia of all decades as there are many gaps in our collection, especially of the more recent years.

The 2006 Back to College weekend was an outstanding success with the 1956

graduation group celebrating their 50 year reunion the highlight of the weekend. One lady told me on Sunday morning that the boys have had the most wonderful weekend. This is the feedback we like to receive.

The reason that the 50 year reunion went so well was because several members of the year organized and encouraged their mates to attend. It is essential that at least a couple of people from each year group become actively involved in contacting their mates. Please contact me if you would like to help organize your reunion group for this or future years. We are able to help. This year the feature years are those who graduated in 1997, 1987, 1977, 1967, 1957 and 1947.

The large number of former staff that attends the Saturday lunch of the Back to College weekend is also very pleasing and the staff reunion is now an annual event. Other reunion groups are most welcome each year. Please contact me if we can help in any way.

If you know a Gatton graduate who has achieved outstanding success in his/her field, then please consider nomination them for the UQ Gatton Gold Medal. Further details are on our website and nominations close Friday 13 July 2007.

Please visit our website to view the list of merchandise we have for sale. Books and ties make great birthday or Christmas presents.

EKKA

THE UQ GATTON STAND
IS ON THE MOVE AT THE EKKA
— SEE US AT
THE MEATING CENTRE
(ABOVE THE MEAT HALL)

STANLEY PETHERICK MEETING ROOM

The University of Queensland, Gatton Campus officially honoured the contribution and service of Mr Stanley Vincent Petherick, with the naming of the Stanley Petherick Meeting Room in the Foundation Building as part of the 'Back to College' celebrations on Saturday 2 December 2006.

Mr Petherick dedicated over forty-four years teaching at the Gatton Campus between 1938 and 1982 and has for more than six decades been an integral member of the Lockyer Valley community and the UQ Gatton Past Students Association.

His professional contributions span generations of students who studied at the University of Queensland Gatton Campus, formerly known as the Queensland Agricultural College.

Many students who were educated and trained under the guidance of Mr Petherick have gone on to become leaders in industry, enjoying long and prosperous careers as farmers, technologists and scientists.

In 1994, Stanley Petherick's service to agricultural education was recognised with the awarding of the University of Queensland Medal.

Following retirement from the University, Mr Petherick served as president of the UQ Gatton Past Students Association for 12 years.

Graham McClymont, President of the UQ Gatton Past Students Association noted Mr Petherick's involvement and leadership in his letter of recommendation to the University.

"Mr Stanley Vincent Petherick is an exceptional individual whose capacity to lead by example, mentor both young and old, provide pastoral service and provide leadership in community activities makes him a worthy individual for recognition by the University".

The UQ Gatton Past Students Association was a major contributor to the restoration of the Foundation Building.

The Lockyer Valley Community was yet another area in which Stanley was involved. Mr Petherick served as Secretary/Treasurer of the Lockyer Patriotic Fund during World War II; whilst also taking on increased teaching requirements, due to absence of staff members.

Stanley Petherick, Stan to his friends and colleagues, was awarded Honorary Life Membership with the Gatton Agricultural Show Society in 1947.

Graham McClymont invited both Stan and his wife Agnes to share in the celebration when officially naming the Stanley Petherick Meeting Room. A large number of former staff and students attended the naming to help Stan and Agnes celebrate the honour.



Agnes and Stan Petherick at the naming of the Stanley Petherick Meeting Room

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"I'm really enjoying the veterinary technology course. I'm more of a 'hands-on-person' so I love the handling aspects of the degree".

Having grown up on a property that has seen its fair share of drought Sophie-Anne admits that her work ethic stems from her upbringing and her mother's determination.

Sophie's mother took on a second job as Property Manager at a rural real estate agency to bring in the money needed for Sophie's education.

"The only reason I am here at university today is because of mum. Her support, both emotionally and financially, has allowed me to follow my dreams".

DID YOU KNOW?

Why was the siding for the College called Lawes?

Originally the siding was called College Siding. In the mid 1930's a world renowned veterinarian, Sir Arnold Theiler, was visiting Queensland and wished to come to the College. He went to Central Station and asked for a ticket to College Siding. The booking clerk gave him a ticket to Nudgee College Siding and we lost the visit.

To obviate mistakes of this nature it was decided to ask for the name to be changed to Lawes. This was granted and adopted in 1936.

When the Minister reviewed our application for the alteration of the name he minuted the letter "Good Lawes".

Today all that remains of the siding are the memories. The train no longer stops, the waiting shed has been demolished, the platform levelled and all the signage removed. The name Lawes no longer exists!

Does anyone know of the whereabouts of any of the "Lawes" platform signs? One of them would make a very important and welcome addition to our Historical Collection.

REPORT ON THE BACK TO COLLEGE WEEKEND – 2006

The Back to College weekend was held on the Gatton Campus during 2–3 December 2006 and was well attended with over 200 people coming from all over Australia. Everybody enjoyed the weekend activities and a great time was had by all. Many past and current staff joined past students returning to catch up with their college friends, some they had not seen since their days as a student.

The 1956 graduation group returned for a special dinner on Friday 1 December 2006 in the Dining Hall to celebrate 50 years since graduation. The majority of the 1956 graduates returned for this special dinner and they even produced a booklet displaying a recent photograph and details on all graduates.

The annual reunion of former staff took place over lunch on Saturday in the Campus Club and a large group of former staff returned for the lunch, some staying for the weekend activities.

The Annual General Meeting was held in the Foundation Building on Saturday afternoon and Graham McClymont was re-elected President. The outgoing committee were all re-elected for another term. The members are obviously satisfied with the committee. Rob Nielsen was made an Honorary Life Member of the Association.

Ross Murray entertained the visitors with bus tours of the Campus on the Saturday.



The class of 1956 interrupts evening celebrations for a snapshot of their Reunion Dinner

On Saturday 2 December 2006, Graham McClymont, President of the UQ Gatton Past Students Association, officially named the meeting room in the Foundation Building the Stanley Petherick Meeting Room. Stan and Agnes Petherick were presented with a framed photograph of the 1937 Principal, staff and students of the College on behalf of the UQ Gatton Past Students Association. Stan immediately found himself in the photo.

The dinner in the Dining Hall on Saturday night was well attended as was fellowship in the Staff & Graduates Club after the dinner. This fellowship continued until the early hours of Sunday morning.

Shelton Hall of Residence as well as the motel was well utilized on both Friday and Saturday nights. A lot of stories were told over breakfast in the Dining Hall on both Saturday and Sunday mornings.

A great weekend was had by all and many are already planning to attend the 2007 weekend on the first weekend in December.



From left: Bill Logan, Ron Swanwick and Stan Petherick remember the good times at the Reunion Dinner



Group of 1978–81 students with Stan Petherick. From left: Ian Jones, Drew Ferguson, Stan Petherick and Ian Learmont

GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Robert “Bob” Macarthur, QDAH 1946. Bob’s funeral was held at Harrisville on 9 August 2006. Bob was a well known Santa Gertrudis breeder and in recent years was principal of Plasvac, an animal blood plasma company.

David “Dave” Meldrum, QDM 1955. Passed away early in August 2006. He was well known for his prowess on the football field and the athletic track. Dave was a member of College Staff from 21 January 1954 to 11 June 1965 as an Instructor in Dairy Cattle.

Trevor Stirling QDAH 2nd Class Hons 1957. Trevor was a Past Principal of Longreach Pastoral College and died on 21 November 2006.

John “Ben” Evans, QDA 1951. Ben was attached to the DPI Research

Station at the College from 1952–56 and was coach of the College Athletic Team in 1956. He passed away on 14 December 2006.

Len Saal, QDA 1962. Len was a great stalwart of rugby league in Toowoomba. He was chairman of the Toowoomba Rugby League and later CEO of the Clydesdales from 1990–2004. Len died on 17 December 2006.

Richard “Dick” Franklin, QDA 1st Class Hons 1950. Dick was a member of staff from 1952–1966 as an Instructor at the Poultry Section and at the Orchard. He died on 2 January 2007.

John “Jack” Christensen, QDA 2nd Class Hons 1935. His career saw him as a sugar chemist with the Bauple Sugar Mill and after the war

working in research with the DPI. Jack died on 25 January 2007.

Arthur (Neal) Brownlie, Neal was a student of College 1932–33 and passed away 4 February 2007.

Phillip Johnston, QDA 1939. After leaving College, Phillip followed a career in horticulture. Following service in the Army during WW2 his career changed to one in the building industry. He maintained his interest in orchid breeding and was a foundation member of the Townsville Orchid Society. Phillip died 22 February 2007.

Noel “Ned” Kelly. Was a Chemistry teacher at QAHS & C 1945–55 and passed away 16 March 2007.

Wayne Brown, QCAH 1970. Wayne passed away May 2007.

PROFILE – 2006 UQ GATTON GOLD MEDAL WINNER

GOLD MEDAL

'In 1984 the College Council inaugurated a Gold Medal to be awarded each graduation day for the past student who, in the opinion of Council and the Past Students' Association, had contributed most to a field relevant to the College. "This will be the College's most esteemed award...", reported the Past Students' Association Magazine for that year.'

extract from:
Gatton College – 100 Years
of Science with Practice

Nomination forms
for the
2007 Award
are available from
our website.

Nominations close
Friday 13 July 2007.

Professor Keith Entwistle

A veterinarian who has made significant contributions to the northern Australian cattle industry for more than three decades, Professor Keith Entwistle is the 2006 recipient of the prestigious UQ Gatton Gold Medal.

Professor Entwistle has enjoyed a distinguished career since his Gatton days which has taken him from Julia Creek, Townsville, to South-East Asia, North America and Latin America and now finally to Armidale in the New England region.

He began his tertiary education at Queensland Agricultural College, which later became UQ Gatton Campus, before completing a Bachelor of Veterinary Science (also at UQ), and a PhD at the University of Sydney. What followed has been, and continues to be, a career which has helped to shape beef production in northern Australia.

Professor Entwistle's research with his colleagues from James Cook University and the Queensland Department of Primary Industries (DPI) on reproductive biology and management in Bos indicus-infused cattle has contributed to the expansion of Brahman cattle across northern Australia. "Brahmans were primarily identified for their heat tolerance and tick resistance but did have some fertility problems. Some of the research we've done over the past 30 years has helped to improve bull and cow fertility in Brahmans and Brahman-derived herds across the north," Professor Entwistle said.

While Professor Entwistle spent his early career in northwestern Queensland with the Department of Primary Industries (DPI), he has also enjoyed a successful academic career. He spent 18 years with James Cook University's Graduate School of Tropical Veterinary Science and a further nine years with



UQ Gatton Gold Medal being presented to Professor Keith William Entwistle by Chancellor Sir Llew Edwards

the University of New England (UNE) at Armidale as Executive Dean of the Faculty of the Sciences.

Professor Entwistle has supervised more than 40 PhD and Masters students, many of whom are now senior beef researchers and educators working around the world, and is the author of a large number of scientific and technical papers and reports.

He also has an enviable record in beef cattle research and development in the developing world and has played significant roles in the development of Queensland DPI's Toorak Research Station and in the operations of the Cooperative Research Centres (CRC) for Beef, Wool and Cotton. Since retiring from UNE, he has been heavily involved as a consultant to the beef industry, in education and in overseas aid projects. His achievements were recently recognised by the award of the Gilruth Prize, the highest-ranking award of the Australian Veterinary Association.

His scientific and academic interests have been complimented by his personal cattle producer interests in both north Queensland and New England for many years, which fits well with his alma mater motto, "Science with Practice".

Source: UQ News, 4 December 2006

BRANCH REUNIONS

SUNSHINE COAST BRANCH

The Sunshine Coast Branch had a great reunion on Saturday 10 March with around 60 people attending.

Reunions will be held in future on the second Saturday in March. If you would like to be on the invitation list for future reunions of the Sunshine Coast Branch, please contact one of the organisers.

GOLD COAST BRANCH

The 9th Reunion Luncheon was held at Jupiter's Casino on Saturday 10 February. Fifty two Past Students, Past Staff and guests attended. Special guests included Association Patron Stan, Association President Graham (and Carol), Gold Coast Patron Bill Laver, Past Presidents Rod Jensen (and

Enid) and Bob James. Three of our Association Honorary Life Members, Agnes Petherick, Val Kilah and Julie Reid were also present.

At the last reunion a motion was passed unanimously to donate \$500.00 to the UQ Gatton Scholarship Endowment Fund. This has been done and arrangements have been made for two chair plaques bearing the inscription "Gold Coast Branch, UQ Gatton Past Students Association" to be attached to two chairs in the Dining Hall.

The next Reunion Luncheon will be our 10th Reunion and your attendance will help us to help you have a most memorable occasion.

Peter Douglas
Branch President

GOLD COAST BRANCH REUNION

Food Fantasy
Jupiters Casino

SATURDAY
4 AUGUST 2007

11:30 AM FOR
12 NOON LUNCHEON

Peter Douglas
5546 6350
koalamen@bigpond.com

BRISBANE BRANCH REUNION

Sherwood Services Club
Clewley Street, Corinda

SATURDAY
25 AUGUST 2007

11AM FOR
12 NOON LUNCHEON

Bob James
3349 1738
rjames3@primusonline.com.au

Rod Jensen
3379 6250
r.jensen@uq.edu.au

SUNSHINE COAST BRANCH REUNION

Caloundra Bowls Club
Cnr Arthur Street and
Burwah Terrace, Caloundra

SATURDAY
8 MARCH 2008

11AM FOR
12 NOON LUNCHEON

Barry Bendixen
5499 6576

Frank Natoli
3264 1242

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Try our new quick link at:

www.uq.edu.au/gatton/paststudents

INTRODUCING ...



JACK STEGGALL (TREASURER)

It took Jack six years to complete a four year course in Food Technology and some colleagues would suggest he

was lacking in academic ability but others knew it was just a hard course with lots of distractions. The Hospitality Management Course had just started and it wasn't attracting the typical student with cow dung between the toes. To the delight of many students the gender bias was moving in a different direction and social life on and around campus improved significantly to the detriment of many academic results. Jack was one such casualty but eventually graduated and moved to Gladstone to work for Port Curtis Dairy as Dairy Technologist for four years.

A Sydney ingredient company plucked Jack out of Gladstone and into the commercial world of supplying Food Ingredients to Food Manufacturing companies. This was essentially a sales

role that led to product management with ingredients to address various organoleptic and processing issues.

Someone once said that Sydney is a great place for the young and the rich and after ten years Jack was in neither category so it was time to move on. A product rationalisation within Bush Boake Allen led to a business opportunity with some of the smaller accounts so along with his wife Linda they established their own business formulating and blending Food Ingredient Premixes in Brisbane. The company is now 15 years old, includes 4 Food Technologists and supplies products to the Health Care market.

Jack is a member of the Brisbane Golf Club and the factory relocation to nearby Salisbury has enabled a little more time on the course to work on a very stubborn handicap.

The association is very mindful of delivering services to members and Jack is fortunate to be working with an active and dedicated committee that has achieved this while still maintaining adequate funds to meet member's requirements in the future.

THE HISTORICAL COLLECTION

The Collection is expanding at a steady rate and now presents a very attractive display of memorabilia. Many of the old sporting trophies previously housed in the Dining Hall are now exhibited and make an impressive attraction.

The Centenary collection is on display in one of two cabinets kindly donated by Mrs. Black, daughter of Winston Grimes, QDA 1931.

Harley Armistead, QDA 1937, has donated his Honour Blazer (in pristine condition) and assorted group and sporting photos to the collection, for which we are most grateful.

Cliff Wyndham, QDH 1937, has donated his Honour Blazer and Pitt House

(Captain 1936) pockets together with the S.A.C.R.C medal, donated by the Southern Queensland Rifle Association, in 1935 and awarded to him in 1935.

The volunteers are still requesting donations of "all things College", particularly 1930's, 40's and 50's College Magazines and especially 1946, 47, 57 and 1978.

A previous request for the early QAHS & C lapel badge, era 1924-1935 and about the size of a 20 cent coin, proved fruitless. However, an original Old Boys Association lapel badge has been kindly donated by Col Story QDA 1934 and this is very much appreciated.