

Re-Connect

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

Back to College
Weekend

6-7 December
2008

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Report.....	2
Birth of a College Icon – Part 2	3
2007 Gold Medal Winner	4
2008 PSA Scholarship Recipient.....	4
Back to College Weekend	5
The Veterans	5
Branch Reunions.....	6
Historical Collection	6
Hatched, Matched and Dispatched	7
Over 60 years of academic tradition	7
Executive Committee Members.....	8

UQ Gatton now with world-class Science Centre

Excitement is stirring at the UQ Gatton campus with the official opening of the Centre for Advanced Animal Science (CAAS) a joint venture between The University of Queensland and the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries.

It was a VIP event with the Queensland Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries, the Honorable Tim Mulherin, officially opening the \$33 million Centre for Advanced Animal Science at The University of Queensland Gatton Campus.

Attendees were then taken on guided tours though the centre where they were able to see the world class facilities which included biosecurity containment rooms for disease and vaccine research, grouped and individual animal pens for nutrition trials, feed processing shed and cattle handling yards.

Professor Roger Swift, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Natural Resources, Agriculture and Veterinary Science, said CAAS research had the potential to impact the agricultural industry in Australia, and internationally.

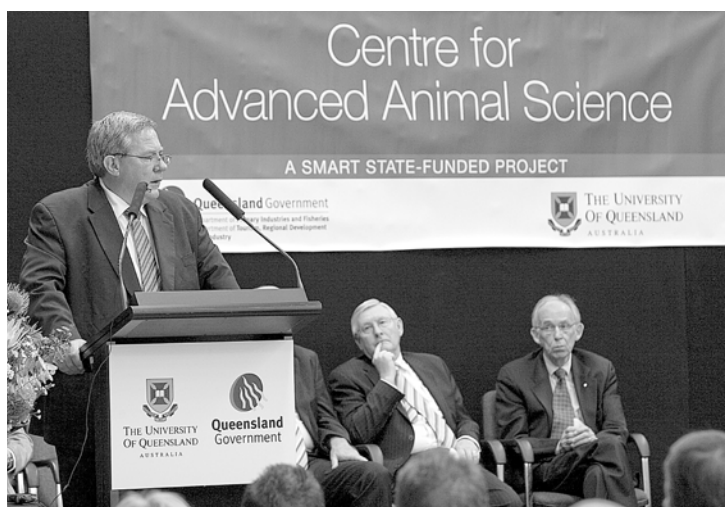
“With the issue of global food shortages now becoming a key topic, CAAS will allow researchers to look into ways of increasing the quantity and quality

of food using sustainable practices, particularly in tropical environments,” Professor Swift said.

“I’m pleased that this new Centre will encourage university and government researchers to collaborate on high-profile projects which will be of direct benefit to our primary producers, and will ensure Queensland’s continued economic development and growth.

“I would particularly like to acknowledge S2F, the CAAS architects, as well as McNab Constructions and local sub-contractors, who did an excellent job on such a complex and highly technical project.”

The true excitement is in the future research projects that will look into ways to reduce greenhouse emissions in livestock, ensure greater beef supply through a tick vaccine and improve biosecurity all at UQ Gatton.



Opening of the Centre for Advanced Animal Science Centre (CAAS)
From left: The Honourable Tim Mulherin MP, Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries; Professor David Siddle, and Sir Llew Edwards AC

The Last Word

by Craig Tunley

Summer is here again and after our recent move south, I am looking forward to attending the AGM on 6 December. It is nine years since I graduated and reading Ray's story on the Veterans makes me realise the 'connection' that some must have with Gatton, a connection that is only possible with the passing of time.

One of the great outcomes of the *Back to College Weekend* is renewing this 'connection'. However it happens, we can all participate. Stories of change contribute to this discussion and we all know how common change is.

I know change is occurring in my region. Increased mining activity, new technology and the debate of mining vs. agriculture is very prevalent. Just goes to show that the more things change, the more they stay the same.

I wish all members the best for the Season and look forward to sampling *Back to College* before I go 'officially' in 2009.

President's Report



Graham McClymont
President,
UQ Gatton Past Students
Association Inc.

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g.mcclymont@bigpond.com

2008 has been another busy year for the management committee you elected at the Annual General Meeting last December. We are always looking for new committee members so if you live in South East Queensland and would like to be on the committee next year, please contact me. We meet at UQ Gatton on the first Monday night of every second month starting in February and the meetings are always enjoyable. At our last meeting I noticed that there was laughter during the entire evening.

When reading this edition of *Re-Connect*, please think of the volunteers who made it possible for you to receive your copy. As well as the committee members listed on the back page, we have a large team of volunteers who prepare thousands of items of mail each year. The volunteers who prepared around 2,200 envelopes for posting on 17 July were Peter and Diana Douglas, Don Oxenham, Heather Murray, Robyn Beasley, Jean Duncan, Jenny Teis, Kemp and Cheryl Teasdale, Ken Jackson, Malcolm Marsh, Ray and Joan Montgomery, Val Kilah and Julie Reid. A big thank you to all of our committee members and volunteers.



Volunteers preparing envelopes for posting

At a recent function in Brisbane I saw a man wearing a UQ Gatton tie. I introduced myself and found that he is a 1963 graduate. The tie was a great ice breaker. Please remember that ties make a great gift and they are available from our office.

It is great to see branch reunions taking place. This year there have been reunions held on the Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast, Brisbane and Mackay. I had the pleasure of attending all of these reunions. If you are interested in holding a UQ Gatton reunion in your region, then please contact our office as we can help.

In my travels I often speak with people working in the agricultural industry who tell me that they cannot employ sufficient numbers of young graduates as they are in short supply. UQ Gatton is now a world class education facility but unfortunately agricultural education is still split between the St Lucia and Gatton campuses of UQ. This is unsatisfactory from both a student and industry perspective. School leavers are obviously not accepting this confusing situation and are enrolling in other courses. The end result is that industry does not have enough young graduates available to take agribusinesses into the next few decades.

Industry needs are not being met by this dilution of expertise. We have pointed this problem out to senior management of UQ Gatton but agricultural education continues to be offered at both St Lucia and Gatton campuses. If you have the opportunity, you may like to let UQ management know that all agricultural education should be centred at UQ Gatton. The School of Veterinary Science will be based at UQ Gatton from 2010 and we extend a hearty welcome to them.

If we don't see you at the *Back to College Weekend*, then on behalf of the management committee, I wish you and your family all the best for the Festive Season.

Birth of a College Icon – Part 2

The creation of a new UQGPSA badge/logo

By Ron Swanwick

Part two and conclusion to the saga commenced in Winter edition of Re-Connect. Visit www.uq.edu.au/gatton/paststudents to view Part 1.

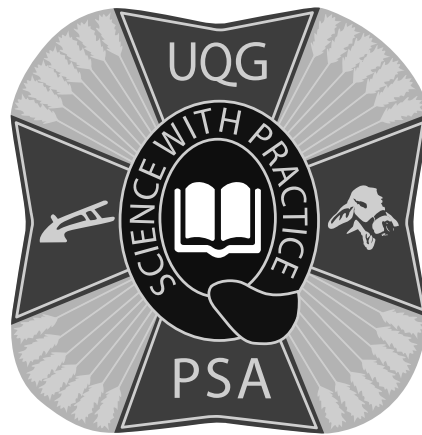
Numerous versions of the PSA badge and the old College badge, and the various shapes and colour combinations, of which a surprising number existed, were reviewed.

It was finally decided that the general scalloped outer shape of the previous PSA badge which has proved popular, would be retained. However, internally the general arrangement of the old College badge, (not PSA badge) would be adopted, with the maroon coloured Maltese Cross predominating with the black and gold oval shaped letter “Q” replacing the circle in the old badge. The plough in the old badge would be replaced with the white open book on a blue background which is the centrepiece of The University of Queensland logo. Due to the oval shape of the “Q”, the two maces which lie behind the white book in The University of Queensland badge were omitted.

It was universally agreed that the domineering nature of the wheat sheaves between the four limbs of the maltese cross should be attenuated so that they became background rather than foreground.

Attention then turned to what should occupy the various limbs of the maltese cross. Initially only the north and south limbs were to be occupied with the letters “UQG” in the north limb and “PSA” in the south limb.

In true democratic fashion, prototypes were put on display for members to comment upon. The artist, yours truly, anticipated general all round admiring murmurs and was discomforted to discover that there was some dichotomy of opinion on the merits of his enfant terrible. Of particular concern was the



oft repeated view that with the removal of the plough from the badge, all symbols agricultural had been divested and therefore was not representative of the agricultural base of the Institution. Yours truly retreated into his cave and brooded over the metaphorical rebuke.

The experimental inclusion of the old plough in the west limb and a Bos indicus bull in the east limb proved symbolically and visually pleasing and the fact that the featured bull, taken from a photo on the front cover of the 1962 College Magazine, was no other than the famed and iconic “Cherokee Little Chief” who created no end of attention during his time at College, completed the symbolic coup.

The time had now come to present the amended and improved version to a test audience, accompanied by soft, menacing, implied threats of unpleasant consequences if this wasn't approved or if any further modifications were suggested or required. By now everyone concerned was probably thoroughly exhausted by the process and quickly acquiesced. With that approval in hand, labour was “induced” (to revert to the previous analogy), and a sturdy youngster was delivered uneventfully, took his first breaths and made his first screaming announcement to the world. (All involved doing well!!!).

And that's the true story of how the new UQPSA badge/logo came about. All will now live happily ever after.

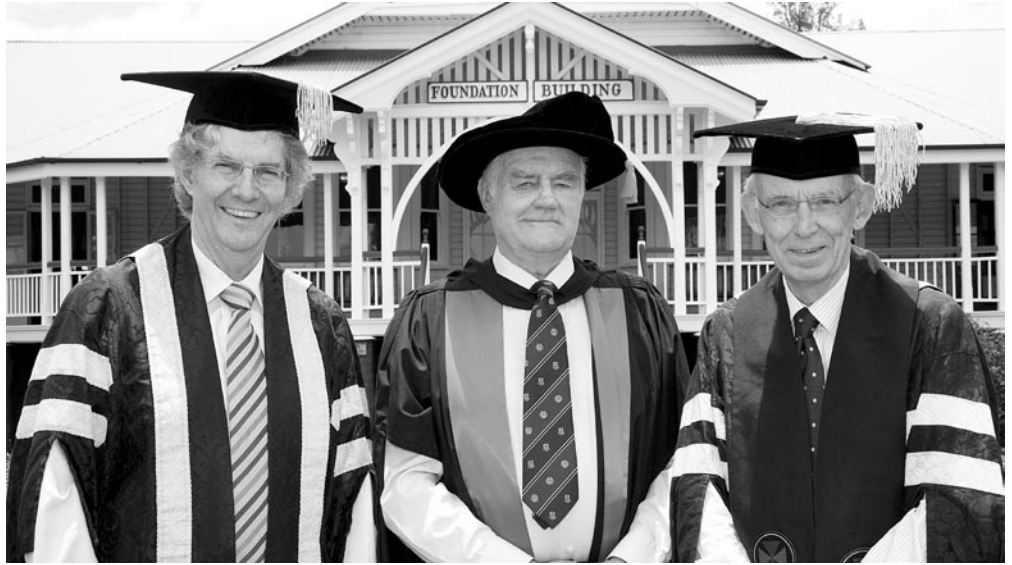


The old PSA badge/logo

Honorary Life Member

Mal Ferguson will be presented with his Honorary Life Membership Certificate during the Saturday dinner of the *Back to College Weekend*. Please come along and support Mal and Leanne.

2007 UQ Gatton Gold Medal Winner Dr Allan Andrew Baker



From left: Professor John Hay AC, Dr Allan Baker and Sir Llew Edwards AC

Congratulations Miss Ong – 2008 Scholarship Recipient



Congratulations to Miss Hwee Teen Diana Ong (shown here accepting the scholarship from President, Mr Graham McClymont), recipient of the UQ Gatton Past Students Association Scholarship for 2008. Miss Ong is an international student from Singapore and is studying for a Bachelor of Applied Science.

Recipients receive \$5,000 per year for the duration of their course. You can support the scholarship through contributions to a table or chair in the Dining Hall. Contact the secretariat for further information.

Dr Allan Baker completed a Queensland Diploma in Animal Husbandry from the Queensland Agricultural College in 1956. He completed a Bachelor of Veterinary Science (Honours) in 1961 and a PhD in 1968, both from The University of Queensland.

Dr Baker was a Postdoctoral Fellow at Cambridge University from 1969 to 1970, and again in 1975, where he studied livestock embryo transfer and its application.

Also in 1975, he was awarded a French Government Scholarship to study potential agricultural, including veterinary, collaborations between Australia and France.

His work led to him introducing French cattle breeds to Australia the following year, and he was awarded the Agency Pour Cooperation Technique Industrielle Et Economique (ACTIM) Medal in 1975 from the French Government.

In 1982, Dr Baker received a Fellowship with the Australian College of Veterinarian Scientists.

Dr Baker has continued his involvement with UQ Gatton through lecturing appointments and casual academic positions. Between 1963 and 1967, he was Head Lecturer in Animal Science, before serving as a Senior Lecturer between 1970 and 1983. He was a Queensland

Agricultural College Councillor between 1978 and 1983 and from 1985 until 1988, he was Director of UQ's Pastoral Veterinary Centre at Goondiwindi.

He also instructed at the UQ Gatton Dairy as a casual academic between 2002 and 2004.

He was a veterinary practitioner and owner of three veterinary practices between 1988 and 1999, in Allora and Cooroy, Queensland.

Dr Baker has worked extensively with developing countries under the auspices of aid agencies in countries such as Vanuatu, Fiji, Indonesia, Bangladesh and Nepal. He established laboratories and clinics and taught animal husbandry and veterinary science as well as training local livestock and agricultural officers.

Between 1983 and 1985, he was Head of the Livestock Division for the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands and Chief Veterinary Officer in the Solomon Islands.

His overseas work was recognised by the Australian College of Veterinary Science and the Australian Veterinary Association which awarded him the Kesteven Medal in 2005 for his contributions to international veterinary science.

In 2007 he was appointed the Queensland Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries' Operations Manager to deal with the equine influenza outbreak.

The Veterans

December 2007 marked the 60th year since students of the 1947 Diploma Courses completed their studies at College. Also the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the then Queensland Agricultural College & High School was celebrated in 1947.

Since those days, College has undergone changes in administration, courses, student numbers and its physical appearance. It has also changed from those earlier days of boarding school discipline, interhouse sport and the value placed on practical work within the four courses available. The motto 'Science with Practice' has been replaced but it still forms the basis of the Past Students' Association badge.

During the past 60 years we saw the start of the three year Diploma, the cessation of the High School, the establishment of a College of Advanced Education and in 1990 the amalgamation with The University of Queensland. Interestingly, the College had association with the University since 1927 when the Faculty of Agriculture and Mr J.K. Murray,

Principal, became the first Professor of Agriculture.

Those of you who will be present at the *Back to College Weekend* in 2008 and have not visited College since your graduation will be surprised at the physical appearance and the building program. A far cry from the Spartan days after the departure of the 105th Hospital of the United State Army in late 1944.

The following Diploma students from 1947 were at last years *Back to College Weekend*. Fred Arndt, Alan Boag, Ralph Epstein, John Fullerton, Luke Lazarides and Ray Montgomery. At past reunions the Veterans came from the 40 year (since graduation) group. To be now in the 60 year group is quite an achievement.

Although the numbers in 1947 were small, many were unable to attend because of distance, health reasons and unfortunately those who had passed away. Those of you present in 2008 should also spare a thought for your absent classmates.

Ray Montgomery
(On behalf of the '47 group)

Back to College Weekend

The *Back to College Weekend* will be held as usual on the first weekend in December which this year is **Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 December.**

The feature years are 1998, 1988, 1978, 1968, 1958 and 1948. The 1962 and 1963 graduates are also returning to celebrate their 46 and 45 year reunion.

The **1958 graduates** are planning on arriving on **Friday, 5 December** to have a BBQ dinner in the Staff & Graduates Club and they have invited early arrivals to join them for the evening.

The annual reunion of staff will be held over lunch on the Saturday.

Gold Coast Branch Reunion

Labrador
AFL Sports Club
Ashton Street, Labrador

Saturday
14 February 2009

11:30 am for
12 noon luncheon

Peter Douglas
☎ 5546 6350
koalamen@bigpond.com

Sunshine Coast Branch Reunion

Caloundra Bowls Club
Cnr Arthur Street and
Burwah Terrace, Caloundra

Saturday
14 March 2009

11 am for
12 noon luncheon

Barry Bendixen
☎ 5499 6576

Frank Natoli
☎ 3264 1242

Mackay Branch Reunion

Date and Venue
To be determined

March/April 2009

Harry Bishop
☎ 4942 1549
harold.bishop7@bigpond.com

Mark Hetherington
☎ 4956 2576
mhetherington@bses.org.au

Brisbane Branch Reunion

Sherwood Services Club
Clewley Street
Corinda

Saturday
22 August 2009

11.30am for
12 noon luncheon

Bob James
☎ 3349 1738
rjames39@bigpond.com

Morris Lake
☎ 3844 1246
lakem@gil.com.au

Branch Reunions

Brisbane

Saturday, 23 August at Sherwood Services Club, Corinda.

We had 30 attend with another 15 apologies so the idea of the Brisbane reunion revival seems to be working.

At the meeting, the Co-host Morris Lake let it be known that our Patron (and Life Member) Stan was only days away from being 90 years young.



Past students attending the Brisbane Reunion at Sherwood Services Club

There was also talk of maybe, if there is enough interest, of having a separate Wife/Husband/Partner program at the *Back to College Weekend*. This may be a bus trip round the Lockyer Valley then up to Toowoomba for a look and on to The Cobb & Co Museum for lunch.

Bob James

Gold Coast

The Gold Coast Branch held its 12th Reunion Lunch at Conrad Jupiters on Saturday, 9 August 2008.

Once again it was a successful occasion with 58 of us having an enjoyable time in spite of the conditions.

As usual, we were privileged to have our Association Patron Stan Petherick and Agnes, President Graham McClymont and Carol, Past Presidents Bob James and Rod Jensen, together with our Gold Coast Branch Patron Bill Laver and representatives from Hawkesbury and Dookie.

The Branch committee decided a change of venue was urgently needed for our next reunion in February and investigated a number of alternate venues. Labrador AFL Sports Club ticks all the boxes so this will be the new venue.

Quiet, private room, good parking, pokies and great Buffet Lunch including Seafood for \$25. Hope to see you there.

Peter Douglas

Historical Collection

We continue to be blessed with donations of memorabilia and display cabinets.

In May, Peter Liddy of the University Art Museum at St Lucia donated two large display cabinets and Peter O'Donnell, Service Manager, organised their delivery to our front door.

Also in May, some items of Army Mess property which had been at the Queensland University Regiment for safe-keeping were returned to the Past Students Association. These are now displayed in the two cabinets mentioned above. More items are to be returned before the *Back to College Weekend*.

Mrs Joan Ross, widow of Alan A Ross QDA 1934, has kindly donated Alan's Diploma, Milk and Cream Tester's Certificate and his Second Class Internal Combustion Certificate of Competency. Alan was a very keen photographer and Mrs Ross also donated a large collection of his photos (all captioned) depicting the College in 1934. She has also given us his Prefect's badge, two large QAHS&C lapel badges (which we have been seeking for some years) and his OBA lapel badge. We are extremely indebted to Mrs Ross and we thank her sincerely.

Iean Russell organised a large purpose-built-in display cabinet

for our use. This is located on the northern side of the Management Studies building, behind the sandstone mural sculpture. It now houses a wide range of assorted memorabilia. Thank you Iean.

We are still requesting a photo of the old timber QAHS&C sign which was at the Toowoomba Highway entrance.

Does anyone recall the year in which Smithy's "Southern Cross" overnighted at Riddell while being transported by road to Brisbane?

Peter Douglas

Hatched, Matched and Dispatched

A significant event you'd like to share?

We would like to hear from you news of members activities. Career moves, marriages, births and other interesting events. Hatched, Matched & Dispatched is the page for making sure that everyone knows.

New Members

A warm welcome to new members.

Graham Mallet (1957), Colin Robert Shortland (1973 & 1974) John Patrick McNee (1967 Non-Graduate), Clyde Ronald McMahon (1968 & 1972), Kenneth Geoffrey Baker (1959), Rebecca Meghan Ryan (2007), James Robert Burke (2007), Simone Altmann (nee Abbott) (1997), David Arthur Beak (1958), Peter Raymond Long (1968), John Campbell Greaves (1957 Non-Graduate), Robert Norman Eldred (1968), Graeme Beutel (1963), John Tomlin (1990), George Desmond Smith (1958), John van Sliedregt (1989), Peter Spence Milne (1965 Non-Graduate), Natalie Ann Hollis née Dahler (1988 & 1997), John Gerard Ahearn (1968), Peter John Bryant Brady (1968), Susan Jean Hobson (1998), Robert Neville Thatcher (1963).

Did you know Pat Vickers?

Patrick John (Pat) Vickers was a student at Nambour High School in 1949–50 and moved to QAC for diploma studies in 1951–2. He graduated as dux in Agriculture and proceeded in 1953 to the Queensland Teachers College. He was posted as the agricultural teacher to Warwick State High School and later joined the Fleet Air Arm where he trained as a pilot. He was killed in Vietnam in 1968. His sister Fran Bryce is collecting material for a family book on Pat's life and would be grateful for any information or recollections from anyone who knew him as a student or professional. Fran has been provided with material from the Historical Collection at UQ Gatton and from a number of close friends of Pat over the years. Her email address is franbryce@bigpond.com

Gone, but not forgotten

Leslie Harold BATTEN

Assistant teacher of General Subjects from February 1946 to August 1948. College Senior XV member during his stay. Les passed away 1 June 2008.

Norman Thomas CARR

QDA 1951, QDAH 1952, QDH 1953. Prefect 1951, Junior Champion Athlete 1950, 1st XV 1951. Riddell. Teacher of General Subjects 1953. Norm passed away suddenly 28 August 2008.

Kelvin John CRANSTON

QDDM 1957. 1stXV 1957, 2nd B XV 1956, 2nd A XV 1955. Junior Swimming Champion 1955. Riddell Kel was a hurdler of note, played for Brisbane Souths Rugby League Club which he captained for a number of years. He passed away 27 August 2008.

John Fraser FAWCKNER

QDAH 1963 1st XV 1962, vice captain 1963. Pitt John passed away suddenly 24 June 2008.

David George NICHOLS

QDH 1962. 1st XV 1961–62. David passed away 31 August 2008 in Victoria.

Philip Gordon GOUGH

Phil was a Sub – Diploma student in 1953. His funeral was held in Buderim on 8 September 2008.

Over 60 years of academic tradition

The Huth family of Haigslea celebrated an academic tradition in 2007 that spans 61 years.

In 1946, Gordon Huth graduated from the Queensland Agricultural College and High School with a Diploma in Dairy Manufactures. In 2007, Gordon's grandson, Mark Jackwitz, graduated from The University of Queensland Gatton Campus with a Bachelor of Applied Science.

Graduation day was a time for memories as Gordon sat proudly in the audience and relived his own graduation. Gordon felt "immense pride in that more than 60 years after I completed my studies there was another member of the family doing the same, it is an unreal scenario to find yourself in."

Gordon, as he winds down his own career, said he will now watch Mark's career with interest.

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Julie Reid

Try our new quick links at:

www.uq.edu.au/gatton/paststudents

Update your contact
details online

[www.alumni.uq.edu.au/
update-your-details](http://www.alumni.uq.edu.au/update-your-details)

158-Out General/Nov08

Introducing ...



**Margaret
Reisenleiter**
*Administrative
Officer, UQ Gatton
Past Students
Association*

I am the youngest (by a long way) in a family of six children, born Margaret Luck in Laidley to farming parents from Woodlands. I was an aunty five times over by the time I was born and grew up with my nieces and nephews being more like my siblings than my real siblings. When I was five my parents and I moved to Gatton, leaving the farm to my only brother and my sister who were the closest to me in age, being 20 and 19 respectively at that time. My education was done entirely with the Sisters of Mercy at Gatton Convent.

Upon leaving school, I commenced work at the Bank of New South Wales (now Westpac) in Gatton as secretary to the Manager for a few years before moving to the ledger section, where I quite happily worked the ledger machines, keeping track of people's finances for many years. I later became the first female country teller in Queensland for the Bank of NSW, a position I held for the next 5 years in what was then a very male dominated area. It was at this time that I married Glenn Reisenleiter, a farmer and stockman from the Mt Sylvia area outside Gatton. My association with the Gatton College started two weeks after we married when Glenn gained employment at the

Queensland Agricultural College as a stockman at Farm Square. I quite enjoyed accompanying him to the Exhibition, local shows, and stud sales.

When I finished working at the bank, I spent a number of years doing clerical work for a local electrical contracting firm before setting up my own bookkeeping and typing service. I bought a computer and printer and set about finding someone to write a bookkeeping program for me as there were none available on the market at that time. I taught myself to use the computer and invited some of the larger business firms in town to a viewing to show them how computers could assist them in their business. My closest support was a fellow I used to phone in Sydney. The business grew and I employed people to help me do the work.

During a particularly stressful period in my life, I wound down the business, keeping only a small number of clients, and spent 10 years doing administration work for a local mechanical business. I then decided to kick-start the business again and soon afterwards I was approached by Val Kilah, UQ Gatton Past Students Historical Collection volunteer, and one of my former clients and so began my time as administrative officer a few hours each week for the UQ Gatton Past Students Association, commencing in mid 2006.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working for the Association, being involved with the committee, renewing old acquaintances, and meeting members and graduates.

Campus Development Update

Vet School – The fences are up and the builders are on campus to begin the big job of making sure the new Vet School is finished to welcome the 2010 Veterinary Science students.

Some roads have been closed for the construction works on the School of Veterinary Science Project. Also the speed limit for the outer ring road has dropped to 30km an hour.

Gatton Aquatic Centre – \$3 million has been received by the University to begin construction on the new campus pool. Architectus have been appointed as the Architects for the project. The decision has been made to demolish the grandstand but will be keeping the original hole. The new pools will be going into the original hole as it is heritage listed. Construction is set to begin during 2009.