



Re-Connect

A Publication of the
UQ Gatton Past Students
Association Inc.
Issue 14, Summer 2009

Email:
gatonpaststudents@uq.edu.au

UQGPSA Secretariat:
Box 717
The University of
Queensland
Gatton Campus
GATTON QLD 4343

Phone: (07) 5460 1724

www.uq.edu.au/gatton/paststudents

STOP PRESS

WANTED

Re-Connect Editor

If you are interested in compiling information for two editions per year, please contact Graham McClymont or UQG PSA as per details on Page 8.

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Scholarship is animal magic for UQ Gatton student

UQ Gatton student Temika Nootboom has dreamed of working with animals since she was five years old and, thanks to a recent scholarship win, her dream is set to become a reality.

Ms Nootboom, from Dalby, is the recipient of the UQ Gatton Past Student Association Scholarship, worth \$5,000 per year for the duration of her degree.

“I could not believe it when I won. Since I was a young girl I have grown up around animals and it has always been my passion to work with sick and injured animals,” Ms Nootboom said.

“Without the scholarship, it would have been a struggle to continue my studies and live on campus, coming from a single parent family and living in Dalby.”

Ms Nootboom said she was excited about continuing her Bachelor of Applied Science degree majoring in



Veterinary Technology and happy that her future was now financially secure.

Ms Nootboom is focusing her energy on becoming a rural vet specialising in large animals or working for the RSPCA.

The UQ Gatton Past Students Association Scholarship is open to first year students studying at the Gatton Campus.

Ms Nootboom attended a Scholarship Presentation dinner hosted by the UQ Gatton Past Students Association recently and was overwhelmed that the event was held in her honour.

“It was such a wonderful night and I was humbled that the dinner was focused on me. I learnt a lot from talking to the past students about the events and history of the campus. Everyone I met was lovely,” she said.



Temika Nootboom receiving the UQ Gatton Past Students Association Scholarship from Graham McClymont, the President of the Association

The Last Word

by Craig Tunley

In my final editorial, I want to pay tribute to the man who inspired my career, opened the door to real change and contributed significantly to my Gatton experience.

Rod Jensen was President of the Past Students Association in my final year at Gatton, 1999, a year in which we met, worked together and forged a bond which has made me a better person and, I trust, gave him some joy as well. Nothing like sticking it to them and winning, there can be no better feeling.

Rod fueled my passion for economics and economic development, defining such topics as input-output models, trade area capture and statistical analysis, topics which now make up my professional work and continue to make the heart beat just a little faster thinking of their profound influence on everyday life.

Rod was also passionate about Gatton. He involved me in the Past Students Association and is one of the reasons I have maintained an active involvement in Past Student Association activities since graduation.

While I will not be standing for election to the Committee in 2010, I will certainly return to the Committee in the future and fulfil the dream that Rod and I both share, ensuring that the Past Students Association has a long and successful future and Gatton builds on its world class reputation, a global centre of excellence.

Rod Jensen, you have forever inspired me. Godspeed my friend.

President's Report



Graham McClymont
President,
UQ Gatton Past Students
Association Inc.

Phone: (07) 3378 0201

Email:
g.mcclymont@bigpond.com

The management committee you elected last December has again managed your Association in a very professional manner and our Association goes from strength to strength. People often tell me how well the Association is going and this is a direct result of the committee you elected, the many volunteers as well as Margaret Reisenleiter, our Administrative Officer.

The highlight of the year has been receiving a \$10,000 grant from the Queensland Government's Q150 Community Funding Program. A series of 22 posters has been developed and will be on display at this year's *Back to College Weekend*. Photographs and important documents are also being scanned and stored on computer.

The management committee elected a separate committee to develop the posters. Members of this sub-committee are Jim Madden, Peter Douglas, Julie Reid, Ray Montgomery, Don Oxenham and Craig Tunley. On behalf of all our members, I thank them sincerely for the effort they have put in to developing this wonderful series of posters which highlight the history of QAC and UQ Gatton since 1897.

A year ago in this column, I spoke of the confusion caused by UQ offering agricultural courses at both the St Lucia

and Gatton campuses. It is pleasing to report that commencing from 2010, all first year students studying agriculture at UQ will be based at Gatton. I regard this decision as a very positive step in centralizing all agricultural education at the one campus and reducing the confusion that has reportedly occurred in recent years.

However, there are far more job vacancies in agriculture than graduates. Please promote studying agriculture at UQ Gatton to our school leavers as the world will need more and more professionally trained agricultural graduates to feed the growing world population. We have around 1,100 members and if each one of our members encouraged only one young person to study agriculture at UQ Gatton, the future of agricultural education in Queensland would be secure.

The School of Veterinary Science will be based at UQ Gatton bringing an extra 600 students and 150 staff in 2010. This will result in approximately 1,600 students studying some form of agriculture at Gatton next year.

For the first time in years, all rooms in the Halls of Residence will be occupied.

It is interesting to note that at UQ Gatton this year, there are twice as many females as males and the ratio of females to males within the Veterinary Science students is three to one. How things have changed since 1897.

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.

The Weighbridge What weighbridge?



Students may bring produce over the weighbridge, ca. 1930.

Apparently, this weighbridge does not exist. There is no record of when it was built, or who built it anywhere in the documented history of the Campus. Maybe it followed a student to school one day and the Principal let him keep it. Who knows?

However, one thing we do know is it had to be here at least as long as the Merv Young White House, from about 1915 onwards.

We know they existed together because they also worked together. When the Campus was a working farm, wool was sold to wool mills as income. Empty wagons would roll up to the weighbridge, be weighed, then circle around to the shearing shed (White House) for loading. On the way out, they were weighed again for pricing. Wherever it came from, the Campus would have lost a lot of money without it.

Although the weighbridge is not in use now, it still works. As very few working weighbridges of its vintage still exist anywhere in Australia, who cares where it came from! We're just glad it is still here.

Do you know?

The weighbridge was relocated to outside the front of CSIRO in 1942.

Does anyone recall where it was previously located?

Historical Collection at Toowoomba Ag Show

Peter Douglas and Val Kilah attended the Ag Show which was held at Toowoomba Showgrounds over three days from 2–4 September 2009 and displayed a collection of memorabilia in conjunction with UQ Gatton Vocational Educational Centre (G-VEC) at the request of Erin Pearl, UQ Gatton Marketing Co-ordinator. The exhibit proved very popular and 60 past students signed the visitor's book and shared their stories of Gatton College days with Peter.

Allen Bruce, Training Co-ordinator, UQ G-VEC arranged for a group of 15 Certificate students to attend on day two, rotating two people to man their display for an hour each as work experience. Our involvement was well worthwhile and we hope this liaison with UQG continues with prospects of a much larger display next year.



Out and about for UQ Gatton and the Past Students Historical Collection are, from left, Peter Douglas, Chairman Historical Collection, Luke Arbuckle, UQ Gatton BAgBus student (on UQ banner), Val Kilah, Volunteer and Doug Cutmore, student 1951–1952

Past President and Honorary Life Member had a passion for Gatton

Rod Jensen

QDAH 1952, QDA and QDH 1954

Prefect 1951–52, Thynne, Rifle Shooting 1952, 2nd XV 1951, 3rd XV 1950 & 1952, Boxing 1950, Under 15 XV 1949.

Attended Kelvin Grove Teachers College 1953. Appointed teacher in agricultural subjects of the general teaching staff QAHS&C February 1954. Transferred January 1955 to become Assistant Organiser of the Junior Farmers. Returned to QAHS&C January 1957 as general teacher and transferred to Corinda State High School January 1962 due to no further intake into the High School at QAC.

Some years later Rod gave up teaching and took up a research assistant role at the University of NSW Armidale and began studying for his Masters as an external student. The family then moved to New Zealand where he was appointed to his first



University teaching position and where he began working on his doctorate. Six years later he returned to Brisbane to begin his academic life at the University of Queensland in the Economics Department. After many years of part time study he received his doctorate and was appointed Professor of Economics and Dean of Commerce and later, Emeritus Professor.

Even in retirement, Rod was a busy man, still giving professional help and was most active in church affairs and doing volunteer work with the UQ Gatton Past Students Historical Collection.

A President of the Past Students Association from 1988 to 2000 and Honorary Life Member (2005), Rod Jensen passed away 23 August 2009.

Rugged, proud and independent

Luke Lazarides

QDA 2nd Class Hons. 1947



Riddell House Captain 1947, Prefect 1946–47, Boxing 1944–47, 3rd XV 1947, 2nd in Junior Sheaf Tossing 1945.

Shortly after graduating as Dux in Agriculture, Luke obtained a position with the Bureau of Census and Statistics in Canberra. During his time at the Bureau he undertook degrees in Accountancy (Honours), Economics A (Honours) and Commercial Law.

Later he joined the Ford Motor Company in Geelong as the overseas parts procurement officer and rose through the ranks during the next 25 years. He then joined Austral Pacific Fertilizers.

In retirement he found a passion for writing short stories and poems. An early example of his writing prowess can be found in Issue 2, Re-Connect.

Luke was the instigator of the foundation of the Gold Coast Branch of the UQG PSA. A thorough gentleman at all times who died on 14 May 2009.

2008 UQ Gatton Gold Medal



A veterinarian and mentor recognised for his outstanding contribution to the development of the veterinary profession was honored at The University of Queensland Gatton Campus in 2008.

Dr Kerry Dowsett received the prestigious UQ Gatton Gold

Medal and addressed graduates at the ceremony on 5 December in the Campus Gymnasium.

The UQ Gatton Gold Medal is awarded each year to a past student who has made an outstanding contribution in their field.

“To be recognised in such a way by the place where my career began is a very special and great honour that I will treasure for the remainder of my life,” Dr Dowsett said.

“My career in the animal industries began at Gatton College in the 1960’s.

“As a young fellow I was exposed to the wonders of working with and learning about science and animal husbandry by mentors like Frank Staunton, Harry Sundstrom and Wally Mason.

“The education and experience that I gained at Gatton College shaped the direction of my future that led me to the Veterinary School and a career in research and teaching that became the corner stone of my life.”

After graduating from the Queensland Agricultural College (which became the UQ Gatton Campus) with a Queensland Diploma in Animal Husbandry in 1963, Dr Dowsett went on to complete his Bachelor of Veterinary Science in 1970 and PhD in 1983 at UQ.

Before joining UQ as a lecturer in veterinary medicine in 1975, he

worked as a husbandry officer within the Beef Cattle Husbandry Branch of the Queensland Department of Primary Industries.

He is deeply committed to the training of the next generation of Queensland veterinarians, particularly in the area of equine medicine, continuing to teach and train long into his retirement from UQ in 1997.

Between 1985 and 2004, he supervised the studies of 19 PhD, masters and postgraduate diploma students, based both in Australia and overseas.

He worked as a part-time teacher and trainer for St Joseph’s Nudgee College and the Queensland Racing Training Centre at Deagon and returned to UQ on a part-time basis between 1998 and 2000, teaching first and fourth year veterinary science students in equine husbandry, equine reproduction and equine nutrition.

Dr Dowsett has authored or co-authored more than 50 articles for refereed journals and books and written more than 30 articles for horse industry journals.

He is highly regarded in the industry and was called upon by the Queensland Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries in 2007 to work in the Equine Influenza Veterinary Investigations Section during an EI eradication program.

He has Honorary Life Membership and a Special Award from the University of Queensland Veterinary Student Association and, in 1999, won the Peter Irwin Literary Award from the Australian Equine Veterinary Association.

Aside from his highly successful career as a veterinarian, he is a devotee of Australian Rules football, having been a foundation member of the Brisbane Bears Australian Football Club between 1987 and 1997 and then a foundation member of the Brisbane Lions Australian Football Club between 1997 and 2008.

Did you know?

In 1932, two fuel bowsers were installed between the Power House and the Fuel Shed.

These buildings were located on the corner near the original Riddell Dorm.

The Shell Company provided one for dispensing 2nd grade petrol.

COR erected the other, the first power kerosene bowser in Queensland.

Australia Day Honour 2009



Professor Bob Beeton was a recipient of the Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in the 2009 Australia Day Honours.

Bob received his award for his services to environmental sciences as a researcher and educator and through a range of professional

and natural management organisations.

He is currently an Associate Professor in the School of Integrative Systems at UQ Gatton.

Bob was an academic at QAC from 1976 until the merger with UQ in 1990.

Congratulations Bob.



Back row from left: Don Oxenham (Junior Vice President), Margaret Reisenleiter (Administrative Officer), John Wildin (Volunteer), Peter Douglas, Bob James, Craig Tunley (Junior Vice President), Ron Swanwick, Jack Steggall, Julie Martin, John Guthrie (Treasurer), Rob Nielsen.

Front row from left: Amber Acreman (Advancement Manager, Faculty of NRAVS), Graham McClymont (President), Nicole Hoskin (Secretary), Tom Ferguson (President, UQ Gatton Students Assn), Julie Reid (Volunteer).

New members

- Ward John Williams (1971)
- Geoffrey Alan Jacobs (1958)
- Howard Warlters (1958)
- Erica Brady (1989,1994,1995)
- Judith Ann Allemand née Tapsall (1980)
- Neville Robert Crowther (1968)
- Kelly Ann McTavish (1999)
- Michael John Steele (1999)
- Michael Charles Cooper (1963)
- John Gerard Martin (1975)
- Howard Stuart Hall (1976)
- James King Teitzel (1960)

July's mail out team

2,047 envelopes posted. Making up the team were Margaret Reisenleiter plus Volunteers: Peter and Diana Douglas, Ray and Joan Montgomery, Des and Elaine Paterson, Don and Denise Oxenham, Malcolm Marsh, Ken Jackson, Heather Murray, Robyn Beasley, Dianne Waller, John Wildin, Val Kilah and Julie Reid.



Historical Collection

The collection continues to grow steadily between *Back to College Weekends*. Since the last report we have received donations of an Honour Blazer pocket, Pitt House pocket and assorted mounted photos in mint condition from Clive Gilchrist (QDAH 1938). Nev Cayley (QDA1963) delivered to us his maroon blazer (QAHS&C), many of his lecture notes and assorted memorabilia. Thank you Clive and Nev.

Doug Hope donated photos taken on the College Jubilee Day on 8 July 1947, one of which shows his father-in-law, Henry Cottrell Webb (QDA 1900), who was a foundation student, planting

a commemorative tree. Six of the original 1897 students each planted a tree in the area between the western wing of Old Shelton and the road to the siding. The name of the planter was recorded against each tree but these have been lost over time.

We are still anxious to obtain a standard maroon QAC blazer pocket (1962–1967) and a Riddell House colour pocket to complete the display of pockets.

Surely someone can assist!

Peter Douglas

Require photos?

Do you need copies of lost or destroyed photos of your College days?

The PSA can copy most photos you require. If we do not have them we will send out an SOS to members for a loan to copy.

Very reasonable prices.

We still require a photo of the old black and white QAHS&C sign at the Main Entrance on the Toowoomba Highway.

“Southern Cross”

Smithy’s “Old Bus” overnighted (in many parts) at the back of Riddell Dorm sometime in 1956.

Thank you for the feed back.

Branch Reunions

Gold Coast Branch

The 14th Reunion was held at the Labrador AFL Sports Club on Saturday 8 August. Fifty past students, staff and friends attended. This was only the second reunion that our Association Patron Stan and Agnes have missed – due to an altercation between his thumb and a circular saw!

Association President Graham and Carol headed an impressive list of Special Guests which included Association Past President Bob James, Honorary Life Members Val Kilah and Julie Reid and Administrative Officer Margaret Reisenleiter, along with our Branch Patron Bill Laver and Honorary Members John Keevers (Hawkesbury OBA) and David Irvine (Dookie OBA).

The 2008 UQ Gatton Gold Medallist Kerry Dowsett and Kay were honoured guests.

We also made welcome six First Time members in Michelle Cullen (Stock & Meat Inspection 1977–79), Philip Black (QDAH 1947) and Alison who travelled up from

Geelong, John Wildin, Nev Vallis, Errol Sigley (all 1958 Graduates) and Colin Hass (QDAH 1960).

I would like to thank George Hannaford for accepting the responsibility as our Treasurer taking over from the late Luke Lazarides.

Peter Douglas

Mackay Branch

The Mackay Branch of the UQ Gatton Past Student’s Association held their 61st Annual Reunion Dinner at the Harrup Park Country Club on 2 August 2009. Using the College data base over 160 past students received an invitation and 33 members and guests attended. Attending members commented that the change to a midday dinner on the weekend is suitable and more relaxing. The local newspaper and radio provided excellent assistance in advertising the event.

At the meeting, Harry Bishop (President), Mark Hetherington (Secretary / Treasurer) and the current committee were re-elected. Guest Speaker Neil Cliffe, Primary

Industries & Fisheries Mackay, reminisced on his experiences at the College during 1980 to 1983.

At the start of the meeting members stood to observe a minute’s silence in memory of Colin Story (QDA 1934; passed away in Mackay 23/12/2008) and Tom Graham (QDA 1927; passed away in Rockhampton 15/01/2009). Members added the names of other past students they knew who have passed away since last meeting.

Harry Bishop

Brisbane Branch

Thirty-six past students attended the Brisbane Branch Reunion held in August. Attendance numbers were up despite also receiving 18 apologies and organizers expect numbers to continue to increase.

In 2010 we will hold our Brisbane reunion on the last Saturday of August probably at the same venue of Sherwood RSL.

Bob James

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 and Dispatched is the page for making sure that everyone knows.

Gone, but not forgotten

Bill BUSS QDA 1935, Prefect 1935, Thynne, 1st XV 1934–35, 1st XI 1935, Trooper 1st CMVS.

An excellent though diminutive half-back who represented Toowoomba against Warwick and the 1935 Maoris. His working life was spent in the cattle industry. From 1939 he ran the family property at Mt. Larcom in partnership with his brother Ken, QAHS&C 1937–38.

He enlisted in the AIF, seeing action at Tobruk, El Alamein and New Guinea.

Bill died in Emerald on 11 April 2009, the day after his 93rd birthday.

John CAY Prefect 1940, Thynne, 1st XI 1940, 2nd XV 1940 Captain.

Passed away 19 May 2009.

Charles RAABE QDAH 1951

Reported as having passed away in recent years.

Robert KRIEDEMANN QDAH 1961, Prefect 1961.

Reported as having passed away in recent years.

Kerry BARNES QDAH 1966, Riddell House Colours 1965–66, 1st XV 1966, Darling Downs Rep, Under 19 XV Vice Captain 1965, Under 18 Swimming Champion 1965.

Passed away May 2009.

Max BRAITHWAITE QDA 1966, Under 19 XV 1965, Combined Darling Downs Rep. Passed away 20 June 2009.

Sally ABBOTT (nee Kemp) BAppSc (Horticultural Technology) 1979.

Sally established Bowen Crop Monitoring Services Pty Ltd soon after graduating from Gatton.

Sally was the first crop protection consultant in horticulture and the Australian tomato industry.

Sally passed away on 11 July 2009 after a four year battle with cancer. She is survived by her husband, Dale, and their two children, Ben and Lucy. Sally was a friend of all who knew her.

John WILDIN QDH 1959, Prefect 1957–58, Pitt House Captain 1958, Senior Champion Athlete 1957, 1st XV Vice Captain 1958, A2 XI 1957–58 Captain (1958).

After graduating from UQ with a BAgSc Degree, John's career focused on extending liveweight gains of beef cattle into the dry season. He experimented with legumes such as lablab, stylos and leucaena; ponded pastures; and introduced grasses. In many circles he is regarded as the 'Father of leucaena in Central Queensland' and was awarded Fellow of the Tropical Grassland Society of Australia in 1966.

John died whilst on holidays in Fiji on 13 September 2009. He will be sadly missed.

Ray MCNAMARA BAgSc UQ 1951.

Ray commenced work at College in 1951 as Instructor in Agronomy following completion of his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Queensland the previous year. Ray rose swiftly through the academic ranks, being appointed Senior Lecturer in 1954. In 1973 he became Senior Lecturer and Officer-in-Charge of the new Department of Field Services.

It is, however, Ray's extra curricular activities that are perhaps more well known and remembered by students and staff. He was chairman of the QAC Sports Committee, President of the College Welfare Fund and President of Gatton College Past Students Association. He was involved in the QAC Football Club, leading College teams to premiership honours. After hanging up his playing boots, Ray coached the College Firsts for many years. Ray was also Queensland Country Coach and Selector.

He retired in 1983. Ray remained Patron of the Gatton College Football Club until his death and his name lives on through the Number 2 oval at UQ Gatton.

Ray passed away 18 August 2009, aged 86.

Gold Coast

Branch Reunion

Labrador

AFL Sports Club

Ashton Street, Labrador

Saturday

6 February 2010

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

13 March 2010

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 2010

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

Mark Hetherington
☎ 0408 884 621
mhetherington@bses.org.au

Brisbane

Branch Reunion

Sherwood Services Club

Clewley Street
Corinda

Saturday

28 August 2010

11.30am for
12 noon luncheon

Bob James ☎ 3349 1738
rjames39@bigpond.com

UQ Gatton Past Students Association Inc.

Box 717
The University of Queensland
Gatton Campus
GATTON QLD 4343

President

Graham McClymont
11 Aldergrove Street
CHAPEL HILL QLD 4069
Phone: (07) 3378 0201
Mobile: 0419 778 981
Email: g.mcclymont@bigpond.com

Senior Vice-President

Jim Madden
Email: jemadden@hotmail.com

Secretary

Nicole Hoskin
Email:
nicole_hoskin@bigpond.com

Treasurer

John Guthrie

Junior Vice-President

Don Oxenham
Craig Tunley

Committee Members

Peter Douglas
Bob James
Julie Martin
Rob Nielsen
Peter Ramsay
Jack Steggall
Ron Swanwick

Administrative Officer

Margaret Reisenleiter
Phone: (07) 5460 1724
Email:
gattonpaststudents@uq.edu.au

Editor 'Re-Connect'

Craig Tunley
108 Bunya Street
Dalby Qld 4405
Email: craig.tunley@gmail.com

Historical Collection

Val Kilah
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)

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Introducing ...



John Guthrie

I commenced study at QAC in 1966 in the last of the 3 year diploma course. I finished the QDAH in 1968 and started

work at the College in February 1969 as a field assistant at the old dairy factory. In that year I completed all my dairy certificates (e.g. Cheese and Butter-making etc.). In 1969 I started the tertiary course on a part time basis while working both at the dairy factory and the new Food Studies building as a technician in Food Microbiology and later in charge of the new pilot plant at food studies. I graduated with an applied science degree in Food Technology in 1979 and after 10 years on the staff

joined the DPI in Rockhampton. For my entire career in the DPI I stayed in Rockhampton as a dairy then food technologist to the Central Queensland food processing industry. For the last 13 years of my career I undertook research in applications of near infrared spectroscopy to assessing food quality non-invasively and inline in 'real time'. During this period I was awarded both a Masters followed by a PhD in this area of science by the Central Queensland University. I retired in 2006 and now live on a small acreage in the sunshine coast hinterland at Cooroy. My wife Sandra and I have 2 adult daughters and 3 grandkids. My elder daughter Kim also completed a degree (B Bus (Tourism Mgt)) in 1993 at UQ Gatton and I believe that she is the first offspring of a Gatton degree graduate to in turn complete a degree at Gatton.

Summary of Gatton 2008 Reunion speech

It was 45 years last Thursday since we graduated with Diplomas from the "old Queensland Agricultural High School and College". There have been revolutionary changes in the structure and function of the College since that time but that special indefinable "Gatton spirit" appears to have survived. The reunions have been very important to Kay and me over the years as it is a great social occasion that provides the opportunity to tell lies, catch up with the news and generally have a great time. The older we get the better we used to be. The education we received from the College was as broad and diverse as any available in Australia at that time. I believe that it did an exceptional job of preparing students for the "real world".

Our education was based on sound academic principles and practical aspects. There was nothing better at keeping you in your place than turning

over the deep litter at the piggery or digging post holes in the heats of the Ag Day Sports.

My time at Gatton was one of the most interesting, fun filled, exciting times of my life. I am very proud to be a Graduate from this College and feel honoured to be here with you all tonight on the 45th Anniversary of our Diploma Day.

Dr Kerry Dowsett

Did you know?

Throwing the Boomerang was an event in the 1935 Annual Athletics Carnival.

There is no recorded information as to distance or "returnability" other than JE Bean won the open event and AP Greenfield the under 16 event.

Paul Greenfield DFC was a Lancaster pilot, 61 Sqn, killed in action 9 April 1945.