

Re-Connect

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

2010 Back to College Weekend

First weekend in
December and the
featured years will be
1950, 1960, 1970,
1980, 1990 and 2000.

To register visit
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UQ Vet School brings new era of service

After years of detailed planning and fundraising, The University of Queensland's \$100 million-plus School of Veterinary Science complex officially opened on August 6 at the University's Gatton campus.

The Federal Member for Blair, Shayne Neumann, opened the state-of-the-art facilities at a function attended by industry, alumni, donors, academic and community leaders.

The Dean of Veterinary Science Professor Jonathan Hill said the relocation of the School to the University's 1068-hectare Gatton campus was an "exciting development" for veterinary education for Queensland and Australia.

"This complex is the most modern in the southern hemisphere and the most comprehensive animal research and teaching centre in Australia," he said.

"The development unites the School in a setting suited to learning and discovery in veterinary



Attendees of the School of Veterinary Science official opening out the front of the new Veterinary Science Building



Head of School of Veterinary Science, Professor Jonathan Hill, Campus Director, Professor Roger Swift, Federal Member for Blair, Shayne Neumann MP and UQ Vice-Chancellor, Professor Paul Greenfield AO at the opening of the Veterinary facilities

science. It provides state-of-the-art teaching facilities for the School's 550 veterinary science students – 80 percent of them female – and a vitality and economic boost to the Lockyer Valley.

"We see the arrival of the School at Gatton as an opportunity for greater industry collaboration, particularly with dairy and beef cattle, swine production and equine operations."

Professor Hill said construction of the new facilities and recruitment of additional staff had transformed the student experience and enhanced learning outcomes.

"This development ensures that UQ will remain a leading centre of excellence in veterinary teaching and research for future generations," he said.

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The Last Word

by Don Oxenham

The UQ Gatton Past Students Association Inc. has established an award namely "Distinguished Past Student Award" to be awarded annually to a past student of the QAHS&C, QAC, or UQ Gatton who has made a valuable and significant contribution in their field of work. The management committee of the association has seen the need to honor past students for their endeavors in what ever field they have chosen.

The award will be open to any past student who has had the pleasure of attending the campus / College for any period of time and nominations are now being sought for this award. Nominations for the award will be accepted on the form available from our website or through the Administrative Officer of the UQGPSA Inc. Required details for the nomination are on the nomination form.

Nominations close on 1 November 2010 and all nominees will be considered with the successful person presented with their award at the *Back to College Weekend* which is held on the first weekend in December (4 and 5 December 2010).

Further information if needed can be obtained by visiting the UQGPSA Inc. website or personally contacting one of the management committee members.

President's Report



Graham McClymont
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UQ Gatton Past Students
Association Inc.

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Welcome to another edition of Re-Connect. Kerry Dowsett was the Editor for the previous edition but unfortunately he has been forced to retire from the management committee of our Association and also as Editor of Re-Connect due to health reasons. Thank you Kerry for your contribution during 2010. It is very much appreciated and we wish you a speedy recovery. This edition of Re-Connect is being edited by several members of the management committee you elected at the AGM last December. I am sure you will enjoy this edition.

Our Association could not operate without volunteers and it is important that these volunteers are recognised. Last May we posted around 2,000 articles of mail to members of our Association and the feature years. This mail was prepared for posting by the following volunteers: Kerry & Kay Dowsett, Peter & Diana Douglas, Don & Denise Oxenham, Alison Van Ansem, Jean Duncan, Jenny Teis, Mal Marsh, Elayne Paterson, Ross Murray and Val Kilah. A big thank you to all our volunteers on behalf of our members.

Management at UQ Gatton has kindly allowed us to use another large room at Morrison Hall so as to expand our Museum. The original rooms in the Museum will be used to display items pre 1980 while the new room will display items from more recent times. Already the new room is looking great as our volunteers continue to do a wonderful job. If you have photographs or items of memorabilia that you would be prepared to donate to our Association, it would be greatly appreciated. Please note that items from more recent decades are just as important as items from the distant past. In 50 years time, this decade will be considered the distant past.

In our Museum we have a dedicated ring folder for each year since 1900. Photographs and important documents of each year are stored in their respective folder. We would like to include a copy of QAC, QAHS&C as well as UQG qualifications in the folders. It would be appreciated if you would send us a copy of your qualification that you were awarded at Gatton. For example, in 1900 the only qualification was Queensland Diploma in Agriculture (QDA). In 1950, qualifications were QDA, QDAH, QDDM and QDH. In 1980, there were 10 different qualifications awarded including Associate Diploma, Bachelor Degree, Diploma and Certificate. The list continues to expand and a large number of different qualifications are awarded in recent years. It would be great to have a collection of the different qualifications awarded each year.

It is pleasing to report that our Association has received \$2,810 from the Australian Government's Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs in the Volunteers Grants 2010 programme. We will purchase office equipment as well as a portable projector and screen with the funds.

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.

New Members

A warm welcome to new members.

Gregory Dixon **Clarke** (1976)

Rowland Allan **Cook** (1970)

Robert Alexander **Fullerton** (1960)

Anthony James **Koch** (1990 & 1993)

Jennifer Helen **Shanahan** (2000)

Lekh David **Thomasson** (1980 & 1993)

Elizabeth Sylvia **Thornton** nee Jolly (2001)

Past Students make anything possible with a UQ Scholarship

Through advice, guidance and determination, Caitlyn Frohloff is now pursuing her dream of becoming an animal scientist thanks to the UQ Gatton Past Students Association Scholarship.

Having lived in Kingaroy her whole life, Miss Frohloff has made the transition into University life and is enjoying her first year living on campus in the Halls of Residence, a decision that was made possible with the financial assistance of the scholarship.

“I applied for the scholarship as I was in need of financial assistance to help me complete my uni course” said Miss Frohloff.

“The scholarship has been a tremendous help for this first year of my studies, and will greatly help for the next two years as well. The scholarship has given me enough funding to purchase textbooks and to pay for my accommodation at the University”

She had her heart set on studying at UQ which offered the program she desired along with the learning and practical based facilities that further strengthened her desire to attend UQ.

If it wasn't for Caitlyn's determination to seek advice from her school career counsellor and follow through with her own investigations, she may not be studying a Bachelor of Applied Science majoring in Animal Science and Wildlife Management.

“If I did not receive this scholarship, I would



Caitlyn Frohloff receiving the UQ Gatton Past Students Association Scholarship from Graham McClymont, the President of the Association

have had to move out of my accommodation after the first year, if not sooner. Now with this scholarship, I can afford to stay close to the University and continue my studies” said Miss Frohloff

“I want to become an animal scientist and have always wanted to work closely with animals from a very young age. Without the scholarship I imagine I would not have been able to fully complete the degree” said Miss Frohloff.

The UQ Gatton Past Student Association Scholarship is open to first year students and is worth \$5,000 per year for the duration of their program.

continued from page 1.

UQ Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Greenfield said \$71 million from the Australian Government (including \$47.2 million from the Education Investment Fund) and the generosity of donors, including many UQ alumni, had made the facilities a reality.

“The new-generation Gatton Campus opens opportunities for students and staff, and shores up our capacity to deliver strong learning and research returns on the investments of the Australian and Queensland Governments, industry and private donors.”

The veterinary facilities compliment the \$33 million Centre for Advanced Animal Science (funded by the Queensland Government and UQ), and a \$6.9 million upgrade of dairy teaching and learning facilities, in partnership with the State Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation.

The new facilities include a Veterinary Science Building, the UQ Veterinary Medical Centre Pre-Clinical Teaching Laboratories, and the Veterinary Clinical Studies Building.

Did You Know?

The highlight of the 1950 Foundation Day celebrations was a ceremonial parade led by Lieutenant Colonel C.C.F. Bourne, DSO, Commanding Officer of the 25th Battalion. The parade was formed by all College units – CMF, Senior Cadets and ATC – and included more than 550 students. The Toowoomba City Pipe Band was in attendance.

A feature of this parade was the trooping of the regimental colours of the 25th Battalion.

Events contested at the Foundation Day Sports included Grenade Throwing, Austen Gun Assembly, Bren Gun Competition, Squad Drill and the Anti-Tank Gun Competition.

Riddell House won the day.

The 1935 College Magazine reported :

The Champion Large White boar at the 1934 Royal National Show, the property of the Gatton Agricultural College, weights 896 lb (407.27kg).

Beats many bullocks!

Back to College Weekend 2010

This year the annual Back to College Weekend will be held on Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 December. The weekend is traditionally held on the first weekend in December each year.

The feature years are those who graduated in 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000 but all are welcome. A reunion of staff is another feature of the weekend and is held over lunch on the Saturday.

Partners and friends are most welcome. Double and single accommodation is available in the Halls of Residence.

During the dinner on Saturday night, Peter Douglas will be presented with his Honorary Life Membership Certificate which he was awarded at the AGM of our Association last year.

The weekend formally commences on Saturday morning but some people arrive on Friday afternoon. An informal BBQ is held on the Friday night at the Staff and Graduates Club under the Foundation Building for those who are early arrivals.

A Brief History of the Past Students Association

The first Annual Dinner of the Union of Ex-Students of the Queensland Agricultural College was held on 11 August 1905.

Mr. John Mahon, Principal of the College, presided.

The following was part of one of the speeches:

“Mr. H.C. Webb, in proposing the toast of their Alma Mater, 'The College', alluded to the benefit which would accrue from the publication of a Journal in helping to keep the past and present students more in touch with each other, and advocated that a section of the Queensland Agricultural Journal be asked for in which a start might be made to that end”.

This space was available up until 1910, when no further mention was made of past student activities. In 1913 a College Magazine was published in which was recorded some information on ex-students. A copy of the magazine is on display in the Past Students Museum.

The first Annual General Meeting was held on the 12 August 1905 with the name of the Queensland Agricultural College Old Boys Union. On the 10 August 1906, the name was changed to the Queensland Agricultural College

Ex-Students Club. About the year 1914 or so, the Club was disbanded and it was not until Diploma Day 1921 that mention was made that *“a strenuous effort is being made to re-establish the College Old Boys Union which became moribund during the war”.*

At a meeting of past students and students leaving the College at the end of 1926, held on 23 November, it was decided to form an Old Boys Association. The first General Meeting was held at the College on Diploma Day, 14 December 1926, and it was decided that the title would be the Gatton Agricultural College Old Boys Association. 25 “old boys “ were present.

The following are the names (and years at College) of the original Office Bearers:

Patron: E Logan
President: W.S. Conochie (1906–07)
Vice Presidents:
W.A.G. Diamond (1921–24),
F.C. Coleman (1924–26)
Hon Secretary and Treasurer:
C.S. Christian (1924–26)
Committee:
A.D. Moodie
L. Moody (1919)
E.A.U. McCarthy(1923–25)
E. Melville (1922–26)

D.H. Stevens (1922–24)
D.O. Atherton 1924–26)
L. Radel (1922–24)

The AGM held on 1 August 1973 decided to change the name of the Association from the Gatton Agricultural College Old Boys Association to the Queensland Agricultural College Past Students Association. This change was necessitated as the College name had changed in January 1962 from the Queensland Agricultural High School and College back to the Queensland Agricultural College, and female students had been admitted to the College from January 1969.

The University of Queensland took over the College on 1 January 1990. The AGM of the QACPSA held on 1 December 1990 decided on a further name change to that of the Gatton College Past Students Association.

The AGM held on 6 December 2003 decided on another change to the UQ Gatton Past Students Association. This name change resulted in a complete redesign of the Association badge which was approved at the AGM on 1 December 2007.

Peter Douglas

Back to where it all began for UQ Graduates

The Faculty of Natural Resources, Agriculture and Veterinary Science (NRAVS) hosted a reunion for 65 agricultural science graduates (and partners) from 1940 to 1963 as part of the UQ Centenary celebrations.

The 50 Year Agricultural Science Reunion provided the perfect setting to launch Professor Emeritus L. Ross Humphreys' new book *Agricultural Science at UQ: A Centenary Celebration* as many of these graduates were involved in some of the ground breaking work in agriculture in the 1950s and 60s.

"It's full of good stories about how UQ staff and agricultural science graduates have changed agriculture since the very early days," Professor Humphreys said. "Agriculture in Australia and in some tropical countries would be quite different today if UQ had not fostered agricultural science."

"The reunion lunch provided an ideal setting to launch the book, particularly as some of the people who attended the lunch featured in the book. It was an enjoyable day and it was an excellent opportunity to catch up with former colleagues," he said.

As part of the reunion the graduates attended a celebratory lunch held at St Lucia, heard talks from researchers on cutting edge research in Agriculture, browsed through the Past Students Museum and visited new facilities on the Gatton Campus. The activities provided a great opportunity for these graduates to return to where it all began and relive old memories.

The first students of Agricultural Science graduated in 1929, and UQ has since produced a stream of professionals who have worked with landholders and policy makers to change the practice of agriculture.

Copies of the book can be ordered by fax or email from The School Manager, School of Land, Crop and Food Sciences, The University of Queensland Brisbane, Q 4072, Fax 07 3365 1177 or email a.hanson@uq.edu.au. For further information: phone 07 3365 1171.



Historical Collection

The ever increasing receipt of memorabilia has resulted in the need for expansion. The Campus Manager, Janelle Zahmel made available the room adjacent to the Museum being the old Diploma Classroom and in more recent years, The Meeting Room.

The room was thoroughly cleaned and painted, new floor coverings laid, ample picture rails provided and security screens attached to the windows.

We are extremely grateful to Janelle for her continuing support of the Past Students Association and thank her sincerely.

On 27 August we received the largest and most significant donation of memorabilia to the Collection.

Leith Andrews QDAH 1954, and Lecturer in Animal Husbandry 1963–66, presented an array of personal



effects of the late Sir Keith Murray, Principal of QAHS&C from September 1923 to January 1946. Items presented included his Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire regalia, his full set of WW1 and WW2 medals including the OBE and Efficiency Decoration, his dress sword and Sam

Browne Belt together with assorted citations and badges. Leith is well connected to the College as he is a nephew of Sir Keith's on his father's side, a nephew of H.G. Sundstrom Lecturer and Senior Lecturer in An Hus 1946–76 on his mother's side and son-in-law of C.S. Christian QDD 1926, Chief, Division of Land Research and Regional Survey, CSIRO.

We are indebted to Leith and his family for their generosity.

Peter Douglas

Jack Keith Murray obtained Degrees in Agricultural Science and Arts as well as a Diploma in Military Science from the University of Sydney. He served in the A.I.F. during World War I.



He lectured in Bacteriology at Hawkesbury Agricultural College before coming to Queensland when appointed as the fifth Principal of the recreated Queensland Agricultural High School and College in 1923. While at the College he instituted the first Hybrid Maize project in Queensland in 1927 and was instrumental in establishing a unit of C.S.I.R. Division of Plant Industry within the College grounds. With his military background he introduced military training and formed the 1st Cavalry Mobile Veterinary Section in 1925.

The College Library, built in 1973, is named in his honour.

(Extract UQGPSA Q150 Poster 21)

Branch Reunions

Gold Coast Reunion

The 16th Reunion Luncheon was held at the Labrador AFL Sports Club on Saturday 31 July 2010.

The attendance was not the highest we have had over the years, however, 45 past students, staff and friends sat down to a luscious lunch washed down with first class fellowship.

Special guests included Association President Graham McClymont and his wife, Carol, Gold Coast Branch Patron Bill Laver, Assn Honorary Life Members Val Kilah, Julie Reid and Ross Murray, Honorary Member and Hawkesbury Old Boy John Keevers and his wife Jan.

Barry Kerven (1950–54), Geoff Jacobs (1956–58) now residing in Albury and Peter Rudd (1958–63) were welcomed as First Timers.

A special welcome was given to Clive Gilchrist (1934–38).

I would like to extend a big thank you to Diana Douglas and George Hannaford for their sterling work in attendance at the door, to Ron McMahon for donating the horticultural raffle prizes and conducting the raffle in partnership with George and to Jim Galletly for his rendition of the Cambridge Trinity College Grace.

The next Gold Coast Reunion Luncheon will be held at the same venue on Saturday 5 February 2011.

Peter Douglas



Clive Gilchrist and Ray O'Grady at the Gold Coast Reunion

Brisbane Reunion

The Brisbane branch met on Saturday 28 August at the Sherwood Services Club. The quality of the people who attended was exceptionally high and we all enjoyed great food and each others company.

It is pleasing to report that Tony Wood has agreed to help organise the reunion in future and we are expecting a massive turnout next year.

Bob James

Hatched, Matched and Dispatched

Would you like to share a significant event?

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 is kept up-to-date.

Gone, but not forgotten

Vernon Atkinson QDS 2nd Class Hons 1939. Pitt House 1938. With the establishment of Riddell in 1939 he was transferred to Riddell House, giving him the rare distinction of being appointed to two different sporting houses. He served as a Trooper in 1 CMVS in 1939. Vern passed away in the early part of this year.

Ken Bigg 1950–52. He was a talented half-back representing the College : 7 stone 7 lbs XV 1950. Under 15 XV 1951. 3rd XV 1952. Member of Boxing Team 1951. He lived in Meandarra and Toowoomba for many years. Ken passed away in Toowoomba on 5 August 2010 aged 75 years.

Bob Colbran Attended College in 1947 as a fourth year Ag. Science degree course student. During his time at QAC he opened the bowling for the 1st XI, achieving the figures of 4/36 and 3/24 in a match against Mt. Sylvia. Bob passed away on 12 April 2010 aged 83 years.

Doug Grant QDAH 1945. He was enrolled at QAHS&C as a Sub-Junior in 1942 and on 9 March was "sent home" when the US Army occupied the main College area. When the College re-opened in full on 15 February 1943 he returned as a Junior student.

Thynne House Captain 1945. Prefect 1945. Swimming Champion 1944. Boxing 1944. 1st XV 1945. 2nd XV 1944. 1st XI 1945. Member of the College Flight of the ATC 1944–45. Doug passed away 7 June 2010.

Fred Kleckham QDS 1934. He was at QAHS&C 1933–34 and a member of Pitt House. Fred spent over 30 years with the Department of Agriculture in PNG and passed away on 12 May 2010.

Bill McGregor QDAH 1950. Prefect 1949–50. Pitt House. Under 15 XV 1947. "D" Grade XV 1948. 3rd XV 1949. "B" Grade XV 1950 Captain. AI XI 1950. He was a member of the College Flight of the ATC 1947–48 and the CMF Unit in 1950. Bill passed away 30 June 2010.

Bill Miller QDD 1947. He spent 4 years at College and was a member of Thynne House. During his senior years he was a keen athlete and boxer and in 1947 was a member of the 2nd XV.

For many years he was employed with the Agricultural Bank. Bill passed away in August 2010.

Graham Park B.App.Sc. (Rur.Tech.) He was at College for 4 years in the late 1980's. Graham ran his own Landscape Design and Construction business and had been Chairman of the Australian Centre for Lifestyle Horticulture and Vice President of Landscape Queensland Industries. Graham passed away 14 February 2010.

Reg Scott QDA 1947. He came to the College in 1939. The US Army occupation of the College in 1942 interrupted his studies. After service in the 2nd AIF he returned in 1947 to gain a Diploma in Agriculture. He was a member of Shelton House. Reg passed away 19 March 2010.

Merv Sugars QDD 1942. He was at College from February 1939 to December 1942 and was one of 23 Diploma students (and 1 university student) who was permitted to continue their studies when the American Army arrived on 14 March 1942. Merv passed away on 27 April 2010.

Gold Coast Branch Reunion

Labrador
AFL Sports Club
Ashton Street, Labrador

**Saturday
5 February 2011**

11:30 am for
12 noon luncheon

Peter Douglas ☎ 5546 6350
koalamen@bigpond.com

Brisbane Branch Reunion

Sherwood Services Club
Clewley Street
Corinda

**Saturday
27 August 2011**

11.30am for
12 noon luncheon

Bob James ☎ 3349 1738
rjames39@bigpond.com
Tony Wood ☎ 3278 0075
tonywood@gmail.com

Sunshine Coast Branch Reunion

Caloundra Bowls Club
Cnr Arthur Street and
Burwah Terrace, Caloundra

**Saturday
12 March 2011**

11:30 am for
12 noon luncheon

Barry Bendixen ☎ 5499 6576
Frank Natoli ☎ 3264 1242

Mackay Branch Reunion

date and venue
to be announced
in next issue

Harry Bishop ☎ 4942 1549
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details online

[www.alumni.uq.edu.au/
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205-Out General/Sep10

Introducing ...



Julie Martin
*Junior Vice-
President,
UQ Gatton
Past Students
Association*

I graduated from QAC with an Associate Diploma of Applied Science (Stock and Meat Inspection). The class I graduated with were the last of the 3 year course for Stock and Meat, all classes after that studied for 2 years. This was just prior to the University taking over.

My piece of paper enabled me to take up a position as a Stock Inspector, based at the Animal Research Institute at Yeerongpilly, in March 1989. Thus started my career with the Queensland Public Service.

In those days, our job was to spray horses, attend the weekly Cannon Hill sales and ensure entry of stock into and out of the RNA grounds for the Ekka. Well, we may have done a few other things but that's my enduring memory of my time in Brisbane. Winter carnival time was always busy planning the sprays of various racehorses that were flown interstate or to New Zealand for the next 'big' race. I've met all the trainers at one time or another and issued paperwork for some of the big name racehorses, including Vo Rogue and Rough Habit. Cannon Hill Saleyards closed down in October 1991, I was the last stock inspector to attend the sale.

On to Roma. I had a choice of three centres that I could choose from for transfer, I chose Roma as it was the furthest from Brisbane. Roma also had saleyards, just on a slightly larger scale than Cannon Hill. We also had ticks, again on a much larger scale – this time I worked in an eradication area spread over a dozen or so cattle properties. During my time, we not only eradicated cattle ticks but in the process managed to shift the tick line to place over 300 properties in the tick free area.

After eight years in Roma, I went on to Mackay but had barely brushed the dust off my boots when I left to go travelling overseas. On my return, I quit the job and headed off to work as a casual Administration Officer at a school in the

Lockyer Valley. I enjoyed my time there but I bought a house and the need for more dollars lured me back to the Department of Primary Industries, this time as an inspector with the Fire Ant program. I worked here for a couple of years then went to Emerald with the Citrus Canker team, working on the eradication project. After this, it was back to head office for a few years, working on the animal welfare database as well as processing appointments of staff.

In 2007, my partner and I moved back to the Lockyer Valley. We both love living here. I work out of the Gatton Research Station and am now the compliance database administrator for Biosecurity Queensland. I work with the Investigations Unit, assisting in managing complaints lodged regarding potential breaches of the various Acts administered by Biosecurity Queensland.

On reflecting over the past twenty years, there have been some big changes to the job that was done by a Stock Inspector. There is no longer a DPI (now Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation), the old Veterinary Services Branch was abolished many years ago, taking on several different incarnations until the present group Biosecurity Queensland. And Stock Inspectors have been replaced with Biosecurity Officers. The work we used to do – brucellosis and tuberculosis testing, on-property cattle tick clearance, tailtagging of stock – has evolved as we eradicated the diseases, wised up on workplace health and safety and moved towards lifelong traceability of stock.

I enjoy returning to the site of the old QAC. It is fabulous to think that the oldest University in Queensland is now located on the site of the oldest tertiary facility in Queensland. One of the key issues for me has been the retention and preservation of the old buildings – to date, the elements of modernity seem to have successfully blended with the old. It is even more exciting to see the number of students who now call Gatton Campus 'home'. After twenty years, the changes wrought by the Dawkins plan are finally settling. And the old Queensland Agricultural College is reaping the benefits.