



# ReConnect

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

### 2011 *Back to College* Weekend

First weekend in December  
with the feature years being  
1951, 1961, 1971, 1981,  
1991 and 2001

**To register:**  
[www.uq.edu.au/gatton/  
paststudents](http://www.uq.edu.au/gatton/paststudents)

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## Scholarship Support from UQGPSA

Some may see it as investing in the future, as the UQ Gatton Past Students Association continues to support students with generous scholarships to help them through their studies at the Gatton Campus.

In the past five years the UQGPSA has invested \$50,000 to support five students in the fields of agricultural science, veterinary science and applied science.

The 2011 recipient is first year agricultural science student **Danille Fox**, who said, "my passion of working with animals began when I was a young girl growing up on our family property, which has allowed me to work with animals every day."

"I love outback life and since I've begun studying Agricultural Science at UQ I have realised the opportunities and careers associated with agriculture are endless and so important to Australia."

This scholarship and support is a tremendous assistance, and encouraging to make my dream of becoming a rural vet a reality," she said.

The award was presented at a dinner with committee members from the UQGPSA where Ms Fox met previous scholarship recipients Temika Nootboom, a veterinary science student and Caitlyn Frohloff, who is studying applied science.

PSA President, Graham McClymont says the motivation behind the scholarship is to help students at the beginning of their careers and to also attract people into the agricultural industry.



UQGPSA Scholarship 2011 recipient Danille Fox is congratulated by PSA committee member Rob Nielsen (who is wearing his old QAC blazer for the occasion, which he later donated to the Historical Collection)

"The members of our Association all received a sound education while studying at the Gatton Campus, so we would like to see more students beginning their careers here," Mr McClymont said.

"The agricultural industry is calling out for graduates so we would like to do what we can to attract more people into the field as we know the payoffs are rewarding," Mr McClymont said.

UQGPSA scholarships provide financial assistance to the value of \$5,000 per year for the normal duration of the students program.



Previous UQGPSA Scholarship recipients Temika Nootboom and Caitlyn Frohloff also attended the function

# President's Report

## Nominations open for the Distinguished Past Student Award

by Don Oxenham

The UQ Gatton Past Students Association Inc. established the *Distinguished Past Student Award* in 2010 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 a past student for their endeavours in whatever field they have chosen.

The award is open to any past student who has had the pleasure of attending the Gatton Campus for any period of time. Nominations are now sought for the award and 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 the **1 November 2011** and all nominations will be considered.

Further information can be obtained by visiting the UQGPSA Inc. website and all the criteria for the application can be viewed online at [www.uq.edu.au/gatton/paststudents](http://www.uq.edu.au/gatton/paststudents)

All nominations must be submitted to the Administrative Officer of UQGPSA by the closing date.

The inaugural award was presented to Clive Rogers at the *Back to College Weekend* in 2010.



**Graham McClymont**  
President,  
UQ Gatton Past Students  
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Welcome to another edition of *Re-Connect*. Gary Mason is the Editor at present and he is continuing the fine tradition established by previous editors. We are now in our ninth year of issuing two editions of *Re-Connect* per year. From all reports they are well received. Your feedback would be welcome.

As President of our Association, I am one of nine people on the selection committee for the *UQ Gatton Gold Medal*. The members of the selection committee change from time to time and by the time you read this report, the committee will have chosen a worthy winner for 2011. Please note that the selection committee is looking for nominations of UQ Gatton graduates who are high achievers. It is important to note that *UQ Gatton* means Queensland Agricultural College, Queensland Agricultural High School and College, The University of Queensland Gatton College and now The University of Queensland Gatton Campus. Please also note a graduate is regarded as someone who has been issued with a formal qualification from UQ Gatton and this qualification can be a high school certificate from QAHS&C, or a Diploma, Certificate, Advanced Diploma, Degree or other formal qualification. A short course, for example a tractor driving course, does not qualify.

It is also important to note that the selection committee is looking to award the *UQ Gatton Gold Medal* to a high achiever. A high achievement can be in business, sport, public service, education or any other sector of life. It was noted at the last meeting of the selection committee that a world champion in sport is regarded as a high achiever in a similar way to a high achiever in any other sector

of life after graduating. Full details of the award are on our website.

Our Museum has on display copies of quite a few qualifications that have been sent to our office. We also have a few original qualifications that have been donated. Keep them coming in as the more we receive, the better the collection.

One of the most pleasing functions I have attended this year was a dinner in the Dining Hall for three of our scholarship winners. Prior to our August management committee meeting, the 2009, 2010 and 2011 scholarship winners attended an enjoyable dinner with our management committee as well as two senior members of staff of UQ Gatton. The three young ladies involved are a credit to their parents, UQ Gatton and our Association. It makes me proud to know that our Association is helping them with their studies in a significant and meaningful manner.

Our volunteers continue to be the life blood of our Association and a big thank you to all of our volunteers. There would be no Association without our volunteers. Last May the volunteers prepared 1,932 letters to be sent to members and the feature years. The volunteers on the day were Don Drury, Ken Gillies, Ellen Bachmann, Charlie and Cheryl Teasdale, Heather Murray, Steve and Robyn Beasley, Peter and Diana Douglas, Elayne Paterson, Val Kilah and Julie Reid.

I would also like to thank Margaret Reisenleiter for her assistance in running our office for the past five years. Our Association cannot operate without administrative assistance.

Congratulations to Hon Scot MacDonald MLA, a 1979 graduate who was recently elected to the NSW Parliament. Scot is a member of the Liberal Party and advised that he gave QAC a strong endorsement in his Maiden Speech. Scot is continuing the fine tradition set by other UQ Gatton graduates who have entered politics.

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 the best for the Festive Season.

# UQ Gatton Fitness and Aquatic Centre Opened



The new UQ Gatton Fitness and Aquatic Centre at UQ Gatton opened 29 June 2011

The Olympic Swimming Pool, ca. 1955



Past students would remember swimming in or competing in the old 50m pool at Gatton College, built with the help of many students at the time and officially opened in 1954.

This was the only “Olympic” size pool in the Lockyer Valley for a long period of time and attracted not only resident students, staff and families but also many of the local primary and secondary schools, who bused in to make considerable use of the facility.

Well, the old pool has given way to a new UQ Fitness and Aquatic Centre – **The Gatton War Memorial Pool**, opened on 29 June 2011. It includes a 25m heated pool, cardio and weights room, and a kiosk.

UQ Sport Venue operation manager, Wade Hurst is looking forward to the pool becoming a place where people can exercise, but also socialise with friends and family.

“We encourage the local community to come and use the facility. We have disability access as well as a barbeque on site for people to use,” said Mr Hurst.

“As the warmer months approach we will have swimming programs, including aqua fitness, squad training and learn-to-swim classes.”

Visitors, family and friends are invited to inspect and make use of this new facility, which undoubtedly will add value to the experience of being a student at Gatton Campus.

## Did you know?

The first recorded Swimming Carnival was held on Lockyer Creek on 5 December 1929. Times were not recorded.

The Swimming Carnivals for 1942 and 1943 were cancelled due to low student numbers as a result of the US Army occupation.

There was no Carnival in 1952 as the creek was not running in first term and in the latter part of the year the water was not fit for swimming.

This photo of the UQ Past Students Association Management Committee and guests was taken at the Scholarship Award dinner.



The UQGPSA Management Committee and Guests – 1 August 2011

# Historical Collection

## Can you help?

Can anyone remember the year when Junior A and Junior B (adjacent to No.1 Dining Hall) Dormitory was demolished? Also the double storied Sub-Junior Dorm.

**Please advise the PSA Secretariat if you can assist.**

Email [gattonpaststudents@uq.edu.au](mailto:gattonpaststudents@uq.edu.au)

A very pleasing response to my plea in the last issue of *Re-Connect* for a Riddell House colour pocket and a QAC maroon blazer pocket. Thank you to Harry Jamieson 1949–53 and Josh Jones QDDM 1960 for donating their Honour Blazers and Ian McKenzie QDA 1959 for his pristine QAHS&C maroon blazer. All three are adorned with Riddell pockets!

Thank you also to Kevin Kay 1963 who donated his QAC maroon blazer pocket.

Early this year, Leon Barlow QDA 1949 suggested we should have Stan Petherick's push bike in the Collection. Well, as from 1 August it has been "resting" on the northern wall of the Museum. We thank Stan for this piece of Gatton College folklore purchased second hand in 1938!

Also on 1 August we received a 1943 Furphy Farm Water Cart tank. This is the same model as the one many past students

will remember at College. It was donated by the Department of Employment, Economic Development & Innovation (DEEDI) and made possible by Andrew Douglas AD in Rural Techniques 1981, Hermitage Research Station Manager. Thank you son!

The PSA is again indebted to the Campus Director, Janelle Zahmel, for providing the funding for the new carpet laid throughout the Museum. The rooms are much brighter and more attractive.

The Museum was open during the UQ Campus Open Day in August and volunteers Val Kilah and Julie Reid reported that the number of visitors through the Museum was in excess of 100.

**The Museum is open on Monday afternoons and on other times by appointment.**

*Peter Douglas*



Stan Petherick's push bike is now part of the collection



The Furphy's Farm Water Cart donated by Department of Employment, Economic Development & Innovation



Peter Douglas (left) and Val Kilah receive the honour blazer with Riddell House pocket from Josh Jones 1956–60

# Back to College Weekend

The annual *Back to College* Weekend is scheduled for **Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 December**. The reunion is traditionally held on the first weekend in December each year and we are continuing this fine tradition again this year.

The feature years are those who graduated in 1951, 1961, 1971, 1981, 1991 and 2001. Bill Hoskin has advised that the 1956 graduates are returning for their 55 year reunion as they had a great time five years ago during their 50 year reunion and can't wait another five years for their 60 year reunion.

John Connell has advised that the 1966 graduates are returning for their 45 year reunion and John would like all 1966 graduates to contact him. Please call

**0412 388 093** or email **jamec2@optusnet.com.au** if he has not already contacted you.

It is traditional for the 50 year reunion group to arrive on the Friday afternoon for a relaxing BBQ meal and fellowship in the Staff & Graduates Club beneath the Foundation Building. It is understood that the 1956 graduates also intend to arrive on the Friday afternoon.

The new pool will be operational this year for the first time in several years. If you would like a swim, bring your togs, towel, etc.

There will be guided tours of the new Vet facilities on the Saturday as well as bus tours of the Campus on both Saturday and Sunday.

## Gone, but not forgotten...

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

Emily Dickinson

### James ANDERSON

QDA 1949. At College 1946–49.

His passing has been reported.

### Daniel DOLAN

Cert An Hus 1972.

His passing has been reported.

### Peter ELLIS

QDH 1959. Prefect 1959. Pitt. Athletics – Won Open 880 yards 1958 and 1959. Won 1958 Cross Country.

### Keith ENTWISTLE

AM QDAH 1957 2nd Class Hons.

Prefect 1955–57. Senior Prefect 1957. Pitt.

Athletics 1953–57, setting a new record for Under 15 220 yards in 1953 which stood for 4 years. Captain 1957.

Graduated Bachelor of Veterinary Science, first Class Honours from UQ in 1962.

He worked for 12 years with Qld DPI followed by 30 years at James Cook University and University of New England. In 2006 he was awarded the UQ Gatton Gold Medal and in the 2007 Australia Day Honours he was awarded the AM for service to the beef industry and veterinary education.

Keith passed away 9 May 2011.

### Dale FUELLING

QDAH 1952. College CMF Unit 1951–52.

Dale's funeral was held in Brisbane on 12 August 2011.

### John MILLIKEN

QDA 1956. Senior Cadets 1952–55. College CMF Unit 1956.

He spent the first three years of his career with the Sugar Bureau and the next 6 years with the Taxation Office in Melbourne when he graduated in Accountancy. This was followed by 8 years in North and Central Queensland with the Investigation Branch.

John passed away in August 2011.

### Michael H. MOORE

Cert in Horticulture 1969.

His passing has been reported.

### Richard MORIARTY

QDAH 1956.

Life after College was spent in the Canungra district dairying, later breeding Poll Herefords, being the local artificial inseminator and for ten years also running a farm stay business.

Richard passed away 18 June 2011.

### Anthony PARDOE

QDAH 1951. College Cadet Corp 1950.

Anthony passed away 18 March 2011.

### Lionel A. Philips

Cert Ag. 1969. Played College Basketball.

His passing has been reported.

### Bill STONE

Junior student 1944–46. Member of College ATC Flight. Bill passed away 28 October 2010.

### David JOHNSON

QDAH 1957.

Passed away 2 July 2011.

### Neil TURNER

Came to College in 1949 to complete his Junior education. B2 XI. Athletics Team. National Party Member for WARREGO 1974–90, then NICKLIN 1990–98.

During this time he was appointed Minister for Transport 1983 and Minister for Primary Industries 1983–86. He was Speaker of the House from 1996 to 1998.

Neil passed away 4 July 2011.

## New Members

**Bishop**, Harold Gilbert  
(1961)

**Clifford**, Peter Edmund  
(1977)

**Itzstein**, Gregory Ross  
(1969)

**Josey**, Maurice James  
(1958)

**Laidlaw**, Kenneth  
(1949)

**MacLennan**, Douglas  
Graham (1961)

**Middleton**, Colin Hill  
(1957)

**Webster**, James Mathieu  
(1991)

## Branch Reunions



First timers at the Gold Coast reunion were Bill Bolton 1955–58; Ken Baker 1956–60 and John Connell 1964–66



Clive Gilchrist 1934–39 met more recent graduate Daryl Edwards 1975–77 at the Gold Coast reunion



Bill Laver AM 1947–49 met UQ Gatton Campus Director, Janelle Zahmel at the Gold Coast reunion

### Gold Coast Reunion

The Branch held its 18th Reunion at the Labrador Sports Club on Saturday 23 July 2011.

Forty eight members and guests enjoyed the seafood lunch and an equally enjoyable talk from Guest Speaker, Professor Michael D'Occhio, Professor of Food Security at The University of Queensland. The topic of his talk was *Australia's Role in Global Food Security*.

We were most fortunate to have the Campus Director, Janelle Zahmel, attending her first Branch Reunion for which we are most grateful.

Also attending were Association President Graham and his wife Carol, Association Past President Bob James, Gold Coast Branch Patron Bill Laver (whose recitation of "The Southport School Grace" was much appreciated), 1999 UQ Gatton Gold Medallist Jim Miller and Honorary Life Member Val Kilah.

We welcomed Ken Baker, Bill Bolton and John Connell, making their first appearance.

It was pleasing to see Dion Danalis up and about again. His recently published book *The Laughing Vet* sold well. It is an enjoyable read – contact him on [c.danalis@bigpond.com](mailto:c.danalis@bigpond.com). He says he will sign it free of charge!

Again I thank Ron McMahon and Bob James for conducting the Raffle, together with George Hannaford (assisted by Diana Douglas) for checking the roll and attending to our finances.

*Peter Douglas*

## *Brisbane Reunion*

The Brisbane reunion was held on Saturday, 27 August at the RSL Sherwood Club with 27 people present. Tony Wood, our co-convenor, was re-admitted to hospital just before the reunion so was unable to attend.

Our guest speaker, Professor Michael D'Occhio, Professor of Food Security at The University of Queensland has

critical insights to both national and global food security issues linked with climate change, natural resources, distribution and marketing and population growth. Professor D'Occhio gave a very interesting and thought provoking talk on Biosecurity in Australia.

*Bob James & Tony Wood*

### **Gold Coast**

*Branch Reunion*

**Labrador  
AFL Sports Club**  
Ashton Street, Labrador

**Saturday  
4 February 2012**

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  
10 March 2012**

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

**TBA**

11:30 am for  
12 noon luncheon

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

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

### **Brisbane**

*Branch Reunion*

**Sherwood Services Club**  
Clewley Street  
Corinda

**Saturday  
25 August 2012**

11.30am for  
12 noon luncheon

Bob James ☎ 3349 1738  
rjames39@bigpond.com

Tony Wood ☎ 3278 0075  
tonydwod@gmail.com

**The annual *Back to College* Weekend is scheduled for Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 December.**

*Dont forget:  
Back to College Weekend*



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Try our quick links at:

[www.uq.edu.au/gatton/paststudents](http://www.uq.edu.au/gatton/paststudents)

# Introducing...

## Mark Pace, Director G-VEC, UQ



I arrived at Gatton Campus in the summer of 1977 in my 1966 Prince Skyline GT complete with a Realistic cassette player pumping out Led Zeppelin at a staggering 4 watts per speaker. My planned 'chick magnet' approach was quickly shattered when I realized that the ratio of male to female students was 5 to 1. At that moment and with literally hundreds of other despondent young male students, the appreciation of beer was dramatically lifted. Little did I know that the next 3 years at QAC were to have a profound impact upon my life, both socially and professionally.

The antics of my life as a QAC student would need more than this space but I recall the excitement of the Regatta's, roof rocking, food fights, parties, and playing at the polo cross events with 4 other brave musicians who learnt how to duck flying stubbies whilst trying to play *Black Magic Woman*.

Through some miracle I graduated and some important person with a crazy gown and feathers in his hat shook my hand and said well done. Loaded with my classy bit of paper I left to take on the world.

About 3 or 4 of us ended up working for the Brisbane Botanical Gardens, where I stayed for around 18 months before deciding to travel to Europe and the States, then onto South America for almost one year. On my return in 1982 I moved to Sydney for 4 years and worked in TAFE, living in Kings Cross, which was like QAC in many ways except the ratio was happily reversed, although you really had to screen your 'lucky strikes' but that's another story!

My career in Horticulture really started to move and I commenced teaching and working in courses. I moved back to Brisbane in 1986 and had a few jobs in nurseries and back in Councils landscaping, before landing a

position at QIT in 1986 and was there till 1990. I also started to learn about University systems and was elected for two years to the QIT/QUT Senate. I also married in 1986.

I moved to the Sunshine Coast in 1990 where I continued working in training and education, progressing into management of Government training and employment programs and the Vocational Education Sector up until 2000. I upgraded my qualifications and undertook my first Post Graduate program through the University of Sydney in Sustainable Agriculture.

By 2001 my marriage had failed and I was working on and off in Dubai when life took a series of dramatic changes.

Enter Ross Murray who advised me to consider working on an exciting new project in the Lockyer Valley based at Gatton College. My first reaction was thanks but I'll send you a postcard from Dubai, but then through a series of twists including a pregnant girlfriend who is now my wife, Gatton was not such a bad place.

So by 2003 I was once again back at Gatton Campus which was now firmly under The University of Queensland. I was surprised to see so many faces from my time in the 70's, and many who were my lecturers became good friends and staff at G-VEC. The campus had well changed but so had I and it was time to take up my new role with pride and vigor.

I lectured up to 2010 and also took over as Program Coordinator of the Queensland Certificate in Agriculture (QCA) program in 2008 which is the only direct qualification to carry over from the QAC days. I also completed my Masters in Rural Systems Management in 2008.

After Ross left in 2006, I took over the Vocational Unit and with a great team developed the recently established (2008) Gatton Vocational Education Centre (G-VEC), which is growing dramatically and expanding into various courses and is fast becoming an integral Centre of the Gatton Campus and developing new models of qualification and engagement. We are currently investigating the reintroduction of the Queensland Diploma in Agriculture (QDA) which has not been issued since the late 1960's.

My role as Director is most challenging but the team approach and great characters within G-VEC and the Gatton Campus community is heartening and the rapid growth of G-VEC illustrates the important doctrine we still advocate *Science with Practice*.