Indigenous Health leads to Gatton Gold Medal

Associate Professor Noel Hayman, a champion of improving the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people has been awarded the 2013 University of Queensland Gatton Gold Medal.

Awarded each year to a past student who has made an outstanding contribution in their selected field of endeavour, Dr Hayman attributes his success to his science background during his time at Queensland Agricultural College (UQ Gatton).

Dr Hayman completed a Bachelor of Applied Science (Food Technology) in 1978, possibly the first indigenous Australian to graduate from the College, and successfully moved into an 11 year career in the commercial food processing industry.

It was during this time when he learned that UQ’s Dean of Medicine was keen for Aboriginal people with science degrees to consider studying medicine.

In 1990 he was one of the first indigenous Australians to graduate from UQ with a Bachelor of Medicine and a Bachelor of Surgery. In 1997 he again graduated from UQ with a Masters in Public Health.

Dr Hayman has had a major impact on indigenous people’s health and wellbeing, and as a contributor towards reconciliation throughout Australia.

Other achievements include the publication of 36 peer reviewed articles in national and international publications. He has been keynote speaker at more than 90 conferences throughout the world on issues facing indigenous health and wellbeing.

His background in microbiology has proven valuable for dealing with outbreaks of food poisoning, and knowledge about nutrition has guided his focus on treating diabetes, one of the most prevalent diseases affecting indigenous people.

Dr Hayman is addressing the gap that exists between the life expectancy of indigenous and non-indigenous Australians head-on in his role as Clinical Director of Inala Indigenous Health Service.

He also heads the Southern Queensland Centre of Excellence in Indigenous Primary Health Care, which he helped establish this year, to enhance the Inala service.

In a remarkable 23 year career, Dr Hayman, recognised in 2011 as Queenslander of the Year, has been a medical practitioner, clinical director, academic, board chair and member of many government health agencies, and a direct advisor to both State and Federal governments.
President’s Report

Graham McClymont
President,
UQ Gatton Past Students Association Inc.
Phone: (07) 3378 0201
Email: g mcclymont @bigpond.com

I feel very humbled to have been elected President of our Association for the 10th time at our AGM last December. A big thank you to all our members for your support.

A new Constitution for our Association was approved at our AGM last December. We now have the most recent wording as suggested by the Office of Fair Trading. One change is the removal of the word him when referring to the President. This should have been changed 40 years ago. There are four classes of membership, being Ordinary, Life, Honorary and Associate. Most of our members will be Ordinary members, and they are members for life. Please contact our office if you would like a copy of the new Constitution.

We had a wonderful Back to College Weekend last December and plans are well advanced for another weekend this year. One thing that disappoints me a little is that around 60 former Gatton students attended the weekend, yet they are still not members of our Association. Everyone is invited to the weekend; whether they are members or not, but it would be great if more joined our Association. The main reason for our existence is for the benefit of members.

At the Back to College Weekend last December, we had 295 people register for the weekend. We are hopeful of breaking the 300 mark this year which will be a record. The feature years are those who finished their study in 1954, 1964, 1974, 1984, 1994 and 2004. The 1949, 1959 and 1969 groups are also planning a reunion. Other groups are most welcome. The reunion will be held over the first weekend in December as usual.

Our Museum volunteers have prepared a folder on all Gatton students and staff who have represented their country in sport. Sports represented so far include rugby union, rugby league, touch football, boxing, parachuting and hockey. Please provide names and details of anyone who has represented their country in sport and this is not limited to Australia.

Each year we photocopy and distribute tens of thousands of pages of documents to our members and to members of the feature years. The cost of photocopying and time is substantial. We are going to trial sending our members documents by email. Obviously those members who do not have email will still receive mail in the traditional manner. Please see the separate report on this topic as we do not have the email address for many of our members. I urge all of you to email your contact details to the University who maintain our database of members. This arrangement with the University is working exceptionally well.

Gentlemen, if you attend the funeral of a Gatton friend, please remember to wear your Gatton tie. This is a wonderful ‘show of respect’ and it looks good when a group who are all wearing their Gatton tie attend the funeral of their mate. Ties are available from our office for only $30. We have already sold hundreds, but we have plenty available for sale.

We have over 340 people who LIKE our Facebook page and new topics are added every few days including lots of photos. The Facebook address is shown on the front and back of this newsletter. We also have a LinkedIn page with almost 100 members.

Please email your contact details

For many years we have been sending our members a large amount of information by post. The cost to our Association and the environment is considerable, so commencing this year; we will communicate with you by email rather than by filling envelopes and posting them to you.

Those who do not have access to email will still be posted all the usual mail, including Re-Connect. Please advise our office if you would prefer to receive your information by post.

As our membership list is maintained by the Advancement Office of The University of Queensland, we ask that you email the Advancement Office directly at uqalumni@uq.edu.au with your details as listed below.

Your full name
Postal address
Home phone
Mobile
Email
Year of Graduation or Date of Birth

Details can be emailed to our Administration Office gattonpaststudents@uq.edu.au or telephone 07 5460 1724 if you prefer. The office is open every Monday 2:00 to 5:00pm (excluding public holidays).
New Diploma Launched

The new Queensland Diploma in Agricultural Technologies was officially launched during a function at the UQ Gatton Campus by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Dr John McVeigh recently.

A two year vocational program, the Diploma is designed to prepare people to meet the future challenges of agricultural production on a global scale.

UQ Professor Alan Rix said the Diploma was designed to meet the current shortage of applied skills in the sector, and was in immediate response to calls from the Government and industry groups to fill that gap.

Graduates will be able to pursue careers in agricultural and production management, rural merchandising, and research and development in the agricultural industry.

Four areas of specialisation will be offered, including production horticulture, broadacre cropping, animal production and plant protection.

Students will have access to the UQ Gatton farm units which include a commercial dairy, piggery, poultry unit, sheep and goat herd, horticultural fields, nursery, tissue culture, post-harvest facilities, research laboratories and greenhouses, plus an extensive range of modern plant and machinery.

Additionally, a 16-week Certificate III in Rural Operations, which also starts this year, is a collaboration between the UQ Gatton Vocational Education Centre and the Australian Agricultural College Corporation.

This course will cover all aspects of rural operations, including soil preparation and planting, machinery operation and maintenance, irrigation and chemical application, as well as livestock welfare and management.

It is designed to provide a general introduction to agriculture by teaching skills prized by employers across the country.

Historical Collection

There was a marked decrease in donations prior to the Back to College Weekend and then the floodgates opened.

Items of memorabilia are grouped and I thank each person for the donations, which are as follows:

**Photos:** Joseph Liu, Richard Cobb, Neville Cayley, Bruce Da Costa, John Mullay, John Chalk, Sister Gloria Collins, Ken Gillanders and Des Lucas.

**Diploma and Degree Certificates:** Neville Cayley, Russ Stephenson, Colin Glover, Alex Isaacs, Russell Peterson, Bruce Mutch, Peter Brodie, Wayne Gibson, Ian Fotheringham and Ken Gillanders.

**Assorted Literature:** Joseph Liu, Justin Matthews, Ken Gillanders, Neville Cayley, Rob Nielson, John Mullay and Frank Brown.

**Various Items:** Honour Blazer from John Nix. Drawing of “Stock Diplomate” from Ian Steffen, DVD of 25 photos of QAHS&C 1950–51 from John Chalk and the College Senior Cadet Unit Flag from Ian Sobbe.

The Museum is always open for special groups on request.

I thank Val Kilah and Julie Reid for their continued dedication to the efficient running of the Museum and to Kev Lewis and Don Oxenham for availing themselves as required.

*Please keep donations coming.*
Distinguished Past Students Award

Following the successful establishment of extending the number of awardees for achievement in their chosen field of endeavour, 2013 saw the presentation of three awards once again.

Presented at the annual ‘Back to College Weekend’ on the first weekend in December, these awards also recognise the diverse employment opportunities which exist for graduates from Gatton College/UQ Gatton.

D’Arcy Gibbs

Referring to as “an unknown superstar” of Gatton College, now UQ Gatton, D’Arcy Gibbs has worked in over 75 countries, undertaking projects to address world poverty.

Graduating with a Queensland Diploma in Agriculture in 1963, D’Arcy initially spent time on a property at Mungalalla in SW Queensland before moving north to Papua New Guinea where he held various positions in extension and management.

He later established himself in a rural development role concentrating on under-developed countries which are too numerous to mention here, suffice to say they are located in Asia, Central Asia, Pacific, Oceania, Eastern and Central Europe, Middle East, large tracts of Africa, Central America and the Caribbean.

This work required consultation and communication at a multi-lateral and bilateral level with major international institutions, leading to basic household self-sufficiency through improved crop yields and animal performance.

In the quest for rural development D’Arcy also became involved in conflict resolution and war reconstruction in places like Ethiopia and Eritrea, Bosnia, Namibia and Cambodia.

Winning over suspicious and recalcitrant Government officials in North Korea and China by persuading them to adopt change to the way they operated, in particular alleviating poverty in the face of starvation – extremely challenging programs.

To sum up the outstanding career of D’Arcy Gibbs, it is best left to one of his colleagues who worked with him on several projects.

He said, “100 missions over 30 years in 60 countries represents a formidable consistent record of delivering satisfactory G & S to a wide range of clients”… “an unstated deep moral commitment to his work”… “an uncomplaining, self-reliant resilience in dealing with personal and professional challenges; a sensitivity and attention to the needs and vulnerabilities of others; and a huge capacity for hard work”.

A worthy recipient of the DPSA on the 50th anniversary of his graduation.

Ian Sobbe

A farmer fascinated with fossils. So few words but with massive impact.

Ian graduated in 1968 with a Queensland Certificate in Animal Husbandry (Hons) and like many before him went on to work as a JO (Junior Officer) the following year.

He returned to the family farm briefly before returning to the College, appointed to the Department of Animal Industries as a laboratory technician; a position he held for the next eight years.

Returning to the family property at Clifton, Ian and his wife Dianne settled into producing cereal crops and beef cattle.

During this time Ian has held many positions dealing with agriculture on the Darling Downs, including being a member of the Southern Downs Drought Advisory Committee, past south-eastern zone chairman and State Councillor of the Queensland Grain Growers Association and past chairman of the Central Downs Landcare.

But his big interest and lifelong hobby never left him and he continued to explore the depths of palaeontology, with his main interest being Pleistocene vertebrate faunas, taphonomy, palaeoecology and palaeoclimatology, Cretaceous faunas and fossil preparation.

With his background, experience and passion in this field he was appointed an Honorary Research Fellow/ Honorary Associate of the Queensland Museum in 1987, a position he continues in, while also
being a consultant to the Cobb and Co Museum, Toowoomba.

Ian also continues to be involved in the collection, preparation and preservation of specimens which now reside in museum collections.

In recent years he has also been involved with projects undertaken by staff and students of QUT and UQ, including the most detailed stratigraphic collecting and dating program of Pleistocene sediments undertaken on the Darling Downs thus far.

Ian has written or co-written several published scientific papers, published a number of research abstracts and miscellaneous papers.

His interest and determination to not only self-educate but to also educate others certainly justifies the awarding of the DPSA to another high achieving past student.

Dr Peter Thornber

Animal welfare and health policy lies at the heart of Peter Thornber’s illustrious career which all began with his graduation from UQ Gatton in 1973 with a Degree in Applied Science – Rural Technology.

Peter went on to study Veterinary Science at UQ Brisbane, graduating in 1977, followed by five years working overseas in the Soloman Islands and the United Kingdom.

On his return he completed a Diploma of Teaching and then accepted an instructors position at Ithaca College of TAFE for the next six years, specialising in veterinary nursing.

This led to the Australian Quarantine Inspection Service in Canberra, followed by postings to various areas of Animal Health Australia and the Australian Government Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

Peter has extensive animal health and welfare policy experience and has worked closely with international governments and organisations – he is currently the Director, Australian Animal Welfare Strategy and Communications, Biosecurity Animal Division.

He is a specialist animal welfare member of the Australia and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists, and the AVAs special interest group on welfare and ethics.

Peter is the animal welfare expert representative for the Asia/Oceania on the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Permanent Animal Welfare Working Group which develops international welfare standards.

He was responsible for the drafting and finalisation of the Australian Welfare Strategy, aimed at all Australians and all uses of animals.

Under this Strategy, he is providing leadership and funding to develop new Australian Standards and Guidelines for land transport of livestock, zoo animals, cattle and sheep.

Peter is seen by the profession as an expert, mentor and leader as recognised by the Australian Veterinary Association’s President’s Award in May 2013.

Celebrating 40 years since his graduation from Gatton, his DPSA is due recognition of his hard work and dedication to the welfare of animals world wide.

Invest in Agriculture’s Future

If you value the opportunities you gained through your time at Gatton, and are in the financial position to do so, you are strongly encouraged to consider making a tax-deductible contribution to the PSA Scholarship Fund.

The fund has now been operating for a number of years and provides recipients financial support to the value of $5000 per year, for the duration of their study program.

As PSA President Graham McClymont has observed, “the members of our Association all received a sound education while studying at Gatton and we are keen to see more students beginning their careers here”.

For further information, go to the UQGPSA website: www.uq.edu.au/gatton/paststudents

New members

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<td>Michael John Boyle (1973)</td>
<td>Ian Stuart McInnes (1963)</td>
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<td>William Charles Carroll (1964)</td>
<td>John Dyson McLeish (1973)</td>
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<td>Peter John Doyle (1968)</td>
<td>William Boyce Messer (1964)</td>
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<td>Christopher Robert Goodwin (1972)</td>
<td>Robert James Nunn (1948)</td>
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<td>Russell Faithfull Green (1973)</td>
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<td>Jaswinder Sing Takhar (1975)</td>
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<td>William Heath White (1963)</td>
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Branch Reunions

Gold Coast Branch Reunion
Labrador AFL Sports Club
Ashton Street
Labrador
Saturday 2 August 2014
11:00am for 12 noon luncheon
Peter Douglas
☎️ (07) 5546 6350
koalamen@bigpond.com

Brisbane Branch Reunion
The Greek Club
26 Edmondstone Street
South Brisbane
Saturday 23 August 2014
11.30am for 12 noon luncheon
Slade Lee
☎️ (07) 3821 1739
slade.lee@scu.edu.au
Sue Moyle
☎️ (07) 3821 1739

Mackay Branch Reunion
Railway Hotel
Eton Road, Marian
Sunday 1 June 2014
11:00am for 12 noon luncheon
Mark Hetherington
☎️ 0407 595 349
m.hetherington@pcpsl.com.au
Clive Rogers
☎️ 0439 514 555
clive.rogers@westnet.com.au

Sunshine Coast Branch Reunion
The annual reunion for Sunshine Coast Past Students was held on Saturday the fifteenth of March, at the Caloundra Bowls Club. This year’s attendance proved the largest, to date. Seventy five past students, with families and friends, came from as far afield as Redland Bay, Childers and the Whitsundays.

The PSA was represented by Gatton stalwarts Val Kilah, Ross Murray and Gary Mason. Added to their support was president, Graham McClymont’s helpful presence as well as PSA treasurer, John Guthrie. Margaret Reisenleiter was unable to attend but worked to prepare the printed name tags and the memorabilia, for sale on the day.

The efforts of everyone who attended are appreciated. Whether it was the distance travelled, the adjustment of routines and schedules, or overcoming health constraints: your presence contributed to the shared, good feelings of everyone there.

Special thanks goes out to those who network and collaborate, to ensure that others are informed and that anyone requiring assistance is helped with transport. For next year, please let the Association know if you need transport to Caloundra. Also, please offer any suggestions to improve the reunion experience.

It has been noted that, for the Sunshine Coast branch, the majority of attendees are from the earlier Diploma years. This suggests the close and abiding ties that formed out of College, and later vocational, experiences. Younger past students have noted this solidarity amongst our older colleagues. Can a similar closeness grow amongst the younger folk? We need more of their numbers at reunions, to begin this experiment.

This year, we missed the presence of Archie Matthews and Reg Wells due to health considerations. Sincere best wishes go out to you both.

Thanks to everyone for the coin donations. Collectively, this small change ensures that we are ready to meet again next March. Until then, safe travels.
AKERS, James (Jim) William

ANDERSON, Blair (Jock)

BAILEY, Cara Jean (nee Stone)
BAppSc 1985. We have been advised of her passing.

BEATTIE, Alan John.
OAM. 1943 Prefect. Shelton. ATC. Alan was a Sub Diploma student in 1943, leaving at the end of the year to enlist in the RAAF. Discharged in 1946 he returned to the family farm on the Atherton Tableland. Granted a Churchill Scholarship in 1973 to study Agriculture in the UK. Returned to Australia in 1974 and moved to Channel Nine’s EXTRA where for 17 years he was a successful presenter on LANDLINE. He left the ABC in 1991 and prior to retirement sold real estate on the Atherton Tableland. Don passed away on 2 February 2014.

BERTRAM, John Richard.

BETTS, Jock

BEWICK, John (Bill) Milne
Member of the College Staff 1953–79, where his career was varied. He began work as the Swimming Pool supervisor, adding in 1967, Assistant Physical Education Officer for some years. He was appointed Dormitory Master of Pitt, then Shelton as well as Junior A and Sub Junior A and B. In his spare time he coached College football teams from weight, age up to Under 19 and grade teams. His coaching produced a number of International and State representatives in both Union and League. His other spare time was involved in the College Senior Cadet Corps which he joined as a Lieutenant in 1955, promoted to Captain in 1957 and appointed OC in 1969.

BIBB, Jon
1991
Bunty – Ann passed away 1 January 2014.

GIBSON, Roderick William

HARDMAN, John R.F.

HARTWIG, Charles Neville

HASELER, Richard (Dick) Wyndham

HEALY, Jerome (Jerry)
QDA 1942, 1942 Prefect. Shelton. 1941 1st X1, 1st XV. 1st XV. He was one of 23 students (Diploma) remaining after 14 March 1942 when the US Army 153rd Station Hospital took over the majority of the College buildings. After College he joined the Dept. of Ag. and Stock serving firstly in Rockhampton (Tobacco) and later in Kingaroy (Peanuts). Jerry passed away 24 April 2013.

LAWRENCE, Scott Ian

LOCARNINI, Donald Alexander
At College 1949–52 College Senior Cadets 1949–52 and member of College Rifle Club. He had a variety of occupations starting at the Mills Milla Butter Factory in 1953; National Service, followed by work as a Wholesale Merchant and a period in NZ in a survey team. Back in Innisfail in 1963 he sold Holden cars and later purchased a vending machine franchise. He became a successful house builder and prior to retirement sold real estate on the Atherton Tableland. Don passed away on 2 February 2014.

LOGAN, William (Bill) Minle
Member of the College Staff 1953–79, where his career was varied. He began work as the Swimming Pool Supervisor, adding in 1967, Assistant Physical Education Officer for some years. He was appointed Dormitory Master of Pitt, then Shelton as well as Junior A and Sub Junior A and B. In his spare time he coached College football teams from weight, age up to Under 19 and grade teams. His coaching produced a number of International and State representatives in both Union and League. His other spare time was involved in the College Senior Cadet Corps which he joined as a Lieutenant in 1955, promoted to Captain in 1957 and appointed OC in 1969. Bill passed away 18 January 2014.

LONG, Ken

MAHER, Paul Charles Joseph

MURRAY, Douglas Moreton
QDAH 1968. After College he spent some four years as a Jackeroo and Drover in Central Queensland. This was followed as a rural trainee with the ABC, receiving postings to most States. In the late 1980’s he was appointed as a Senior Reporter with the ABC on its Rural Program COUNTRYWIDE. He then became presenter on LANDLINE. He left the ABC in 1991 and moved to Channel Nine’s EXTRA where for 17 years he was ‘The Man with the Hat’, bringing humorous and positive reports to the viewers. Doug passed away on 12 March 2014.

NORMAN, John Henry

NORMAN, Ralph Jeffries

OELRICH, Peter Brenchley

PETHERICK, Agnes Fraser
Honorary Life Member UQGPSA. Wife of Stanley Petherick QDA 1937. Agnes was in the first group graduating from the Queensland Teachers Training College fully qualified as both general and domestic science teachers. A wonderful talented and gifted lady. She accompanied Stan to many Branch Reunions throughout Queensland over many years. Agnes passed away 20 October 2013.

REED, Gerry

ROBERTS, Robert (Bob) John
QDA 1956. 1955 2nd A XV. 1956 2nd A XV. CMF 1954–56. In 1957 he was a Temporary Junior Assistant (JO) in Agronomy at College. He then joined the International Harvester Co. and in 1959 joined the Soil Conservation Branch of Ag and Stock, based in Kingaroy. After 2½ years Bob joined the Rural Dept. of the ABC. Thirty years later he retired from the ABC and tried his hand at owning a paper run and at journalism. Bob passed away 21 December 2013.

TAN, Chee Woe
QDH 2nd Class Hons 1965. 1963 Reserve A Hockey, 1965 A Grade Hockey. From 1966–70 he was Senior Assistant Manager of rubber and oil palm plantations in Malaysia. During 1970–81 he was Senior Curator at the Istana Presidential Palace in Singapore and Assistant Commissioner of National Parks, Singapore. In 1981, he set up a successful landscaping business. Chee Woe passed away 13 September 2013.

TAYLOR, George Arthur

NORMAN, Keith Leonard

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

Gone, but not forgotten...
Back in late 1967 a letter arrived at home from Wyman’s Menswear Gatton. It contained a list of clothing needed for a student attending the Queensland Agricultural College. This letter preceded the official notification that my application would be enrolled in an Animal Husbandry course at “Gatton College” had been approved. What a surprise! My parents and I were over the moon that I would be attending such a prestigious rural education institution. 

Like many who attended Gatton College my first impressions were absolutely astounding. What a place!!! Sure this was my first time away from home, but with so many students in the same situation one learned to make friends fast. The College provided the opportunity to feel secure, the accommodation was a bit spartan but one managed to cope. The food was good and there was plenty of it for growing youths.

The education the College provided was a real eye opener for me. Many new rural type subjects both theoretical and practical. For me the farm practical work was the thing I looked forward to each week, all types of livestock and agricultural work. The opportunity to put theory into practice became my benchmark. I suppose this bore out the College logo insignia at the front of the building. This College environment provided a real sense of belonging to a place. Upon reflection I can say how proud I was to have attended the College at that time.

But times do change and at the end of my 1969 course I returned home to work for a Stock and Station agent. This lasted 12 months and the yen to return to the College life became too strong and I found employment in the Animal Industries Department. Once again life was just perfect. This was also for another reason, I started going out with one of the Librarians, Janette Moor. I must say these were somewhat wild times for me, wine, women and sport and living on College was the icing on the cake.

However all good things must come to an end, Janette pulled me into gear and I enrolled part time in the Bachelor of Applied Science (Rural Technology) course. Three years of steady work saw me pass the first year. I married Janette and proceeded to enrol full time in the RT course, three years on I passed with flying colours.

Another stint on the College staff as a Junior Officer occurred in 1977/78 but it was time for me to move on. The lure of a new opportunity saw me take up a position as a Rural Officer with a large Australian Bank. The theoretical and practical experience gained from my time at the College helped immensely and being able to talk the language of a farmer was a blessing.

I stayed with this Company for 20 years and the need to move closer to our two daughters and other family members, was the reason for me moving into retirement. Janette and I now operate a small Hanoverian Horse Stud at Tallegalla which keeps us very busy. Janette, in a return to the past, now works part time in the College Library. She has recently been elected to the Presidency of the Hanoverian Horse Society of Australia. I am a Classifier with the Hanoverian Society.

Over the years I became interested in the Hanoverian Society and joined the Hanoverian Horse Study Club. I organised reunions in Bowen, Townsville, Cairns, Atherton and Walkamin. It is amazing just how many past students are out there. Currently I have undertaken to do a few things differently as a committee member of the UQGPSA. As a means of making contact with past students I will be endeavouring to attend matches played by the College Rugby Club and set up a PSA tent where past students can come and have a talk and hopefully join up as a member. Also as a means of making contact with current students and providing some relevancy of the UQ GPSA to these students, I am attempting to work through the College Rugby Club to organise sports first aid and sports trainers courses.

I still enjoy returning to the College on a Monday afternoon and get a real buzz out of volunteering to work in the College Museum/ Historical collection housed under Old Shelton/ Morrison Hall.

I know times change and students can now live off campus, study externally and spend little time on the College, but we all have a responsibility to the memory of the College and to those students and staff who have preceded us, to retain the sense of place and history of this great educational institution.