

ReConnect

A Publication of the UQ Gatton Past Students' Association Inc.



ISSUE 35, WINTER 2020

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

P 0419 778 981

E gattonpaststudents@uq.edu.au

W [gatton.uq.edu.au/alumni/
gatton-past-students-association](http://gatton.uq.edu.au/alumni/gatton-past-students-association)

f facebook.com/UQGPSA

Linked in
[linkedin.com/groups/UQ-Gatton-
Past-Students-Association-5190196](https://linkedin.com/groups/UQ-Gatton-Past-Students-Association-5190196)

STOP PRESS

Nominations close for:

**Distinguished Past Student Award
30 September 2020**

See our website for full details.

Back to College Weekend

**Friday 4 December to
Sunday 6 December 2020**

Inside this Issue

| | |
|---|---|
| President's Report | 2 |
| The Last Word..... | 2 |
| Distinguished Past Students Awards..... | 3 |
| Back to College Weekend | 4 |
| Branch Reunions | 6 |
| Historical Collection | 7 |
| Gone But Not Forgotten | 7 |
| Introducing Kel Freeman | 8 |
| New Gatton campus entry | 8 |
| Executive Committee Members..... | 8 |

Dr Bruce Pengelly 2019 Gatton Gold Medallist

At the December 2019 Graduation ceremony subtropical and tropical farming expert Dr Bruce Pengelly was awarded The University of Queensland Gatton Gold Medal.

Dr Pengelly's research focus for more than 50 years has been on tropical and subtropical farming systems, highlighting plant diversity and tropical forages genetic resources adaptation and the use of tropical and sub-tropical forages in mixed farming systems in Australia, Africa and Indonesia.

After completing a Queensland Diploma in Agriculture of the Queensland Agricultural College in 1968, a Bachelor of Science at James Cook University, he then returned to The University of Queensland to complete his PhD in 1994.

From 1982 to 2000 he was curator and manager of the Australian Tropical Forages Genetic Resources Centre – then the largest and most diverse collection of tropical forages in the world.

Appointed as Program Leader of the CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems Program on Agricultural Landscapes in 2003 and then Assistant Chief of the Division in 2008, he was instrumental in forming the successful international Tropical Forages Database.

He became Partnership Leader of the AUSAID-CSIRO Food Security Initiative in July 2010, where he remained until his retirement in July 2013.

With passion and drive to see his knowledge and expertise shared, Dr Pengelly launched a second career-life, undertaking multiple consultancy roles to apply his significant expertise to the global hotspots where it was needed most.

Dr Pengelly is recognised for his advice on international agricultural research-for-development, including leading reviews of major research projects in Timor Leste and Africa; the



Swedish International Development Agency and Biosciences for East and Central Africa; and more recently, as consultant to the Global Crop Diversity Trust to develop and contribute to implementing a Global Strategy for Tropical Forage Genetic Resources.

He has described the species diversity of at least 10 major tropical forage genera and species, which has ultimately contributed to the commercial release of new pasture cultivars to Australian tropical livestock industries.

He has led research and development projects in Indonesia, East Timor, the cracking black soils of Queensland and New South Wales; and has introduced vital livestock improvement strategies in West, southern and Central Africa.

Dr Pengelly is a CSIRO Lifetime Achievement Medallist and 2011 Medal of 'Officier de l'Ordre National du Burkina Faso' winner, and his scientific and professional appointments are numerous, being on farming advisory boards throughout Australia, and currently on the selection committee of the Churchill Fellows Association of Queensland.

Extracted from UQ website

The Last Word

The Way Forward

For many years the UQGPSA Management Committee has wrestled with the issue of an ageing membership demographic, and how to encourage new, particularly younger, past students, both male and female, to join the Association.

This issue sits within a context of numerous evolving factors – the era of Gatton now as a campus of The University of Queensland; an institution which did not enrol female students until 1969; a time of changing lifestyles and an increase in female participation, managing and operating agricultural enterprises; continued strong engagement and reputation of Gatton graduates within rural industries; rapidly developing communication technology and social media; low UQGPSA membership representation of graduates from recent decades (the 1980s to the 2000 period comprises less than 10 per cent, and just a handful of post-2000 graduate members); and a predominantly male membership, even at a time when around 65 per cent of current Gatton student enrolments are female.

These factors represent both challenges and opportunities for UQGPSA to invigorate its membership and to attract new participants and to increase its female participation rates, especially on its Management Committee and sub-committees.

Your Association has spent considerable effort recently to address this issue. Strategic actions were initiated to raise awareness within the Association of its current role and strategic direction, and an on-line survey was undertaken for members to revisit the role and charter of the Association and its relationship with UQ. A Strategic Planning Workshop of members and UQ senior staff was undertaken, and the outcomes provided a clearer direction and key areas of emerging risk to the Association. One response is to continue investigating a revised Scholarship model via the 'Create Change' initiative currently chartered by The University of Queensland.

It is vital that UQGPSA members provide whatever support and assistance they can to assist the Management Committee to ensure a vibrant future for the Association, and *The Last Word* encourages all members to get involved.

Slade Lee

President's Report



Mark Pace
President
UQ Gatton Past Students'
Association Inc.

M 0414 378 516
E m.pace@uq.edu.au

A warm welcome to all members for 2020.

This year has already seen so much in its first few months. Droughts, fires, floods and financial corrections.

So, where does this leave us with the UQGPSA for 2020? Fortunately, we are progressing well, and I dare say that 2020 will also present us with some surprises and challenges. Firstly, I want to acknowledge the great work of the Committee and their collective efforts to again host the *Back to College Weekend* for 2019. Special thanks to our guest speaker, Professor Bronwyn Harch, Deputy Vice Chancellor Research and Innovation for attending and speaking.

I also wish to thank members at the AGM for re-electing me as President for another year and to welcome our new Committee members for 2020. I am sure most will be quite familiar names:

Ross Murray
Malcolm Ferguson
Kel Freeman
Stewart Bain

Whilst we are on the topic of Committee members, it is with some sadness that we acknowledge the impending retirement of two of our longest serving members from the Committee, being our Treasurer John Guthrie and Secretary Graham McClymont. Both are well known and respected within the UQGPSA and both have announced they will retire from the Committee at the end of this year. They will of course remain as members but I would like to thank them both for their sterling years of service to the UQGPSA and we wish them every success in their retirements.

This means the Association will have a new Treasurer and Secretary for 2021 as well as a new Administrator Service provider. We will keep all members informed as this progresses through the year.

Following on from our Strategic Planning Workshop in July 2019, the Committee has been endeavouring to respond to the key items raised. One key initiative is the establishment of a revised Scholarship model that will further assist in need students to undertake Agricultural studies at the

Gatton Campus. The current "Create Change Scholarship Match" Initiative is matching new funds dollar for dollar and the UQGPSA is currently seeking to raise \$50,000 over five years (\$10,000 per year) in collaboration with UQ Advancement and the Faculty of Science via the two Schools of Agriculture and Food Sciences (SAFS) and Veterinary Sciences (SVS) with match funding attaining \$150,000. Meetings and discussions are underway for this exciting new development which will retain UQGPSA branding in collaboration with the Faculty of Science and UQ Advancement to which this collaboration represents genuine engagement and cooperation across the structures of the Gatton campus and UQ. We will keep all members informed as this initiative progresses through 2020. One of our other key initiatives is to attract more new memberships from the graduate years after the 1980's and to increase our female member numbers and their engagement within the Committee and our other activities and structures. Recent numbers indicate a slowly increasing membership and graduates from the 1970s and beyond are steadily increasing.

Can I remind you all to become familiar with the revised nomination process for our prestigious Gatton Gold Medal Award nominations for 2021. We have so many amazing graduates amongst our ranks who are so deserving of this award and they can only become eligible if you or a group of you nominate these individuals. Also keep in mind our very own Distinguished Past Students' Award (DPSA) nomination process and the promotion of these talented individuals to become applicants for the awards to which up to three per year can be awarded.

Finally, I thank you as the members for supporting our Association and I trust you will enjoy this edition of *Re-Connect*.

Distinguished Past Student Award

Each year we award up to three Distinguished Past Student Awards to suitable Gatton graduates. Nominations are to be received by our office by **30 September 2020**. Full details are on our website.

Please consider nominating an outstanding person from your year as awards will be presented to the successful nominees at the Back to College Weekend in December.

Distinguished Past Student Awards 2019



Congratulations to (from left): Joe Rickman, Andrew Drysdale, John Pollock

The UQ Gatton Distinguished Past Student Award recognises the tremendous achievements of graduates of The University of Queensland Gatton Campus, in all fields of endeavour. Since the inception of the award in 2010, 23 past students have been awarded this honour. This year, three graduates were awarded Distinguished Past Student Awards for 2019.

Andrew Drysdale

Andrew was raised in Augathella, completing his schooling at Church of England Grammar School in Brisbane before commencing studies in Bachelor of Applied Science (Rural Technology) at the Queensland Agricultural College (QAC) in 1983. He returned to complete a Post-Graduate Diploma of Business (Property Valuation) in 1998 at The University of Queensland Gatton Campus. He has held a wide range of positions including:

- Animal Husbandry Officer & Land Management Officer, Department of Primary Industries Cunnamulla and Charleville.
- Rural Business Consultant with Devine Rural Business Consultants & Valuers, Charleville
- Owner/Manager of "Spring Hill", grazing property, Charleville
- Vegetation Planning Officer, Department of Natural Resources, Charleville.
- Chief Executive Officer, Queensland Murray Darling Committee Inc., Toowoomba.

Since 2006 he has held the position of Chief Executive Officer of the Queensland Natural Resource Management Regional Groups Collective, a Regional Groups Collective formed to provide a state-wide framework for Natural Resource Management regional bodies.

Andrew has also had a distinguished career at Board level with a range of organisations including the Australian Sheep Meats Council,

United Graziers Association of Queensland, Warrego Graziers Association as well as holding the positions of Chief Executive Officer & Company Secretary for the Queensland Murray Darling Committee Inc.

Board positions that he currently holds include the Queensland Biosecurity Ministerial Advisory Committee, the Queensland Regional NRM Groups Collective Ltd, and he is chair of the following organisations:

- National CEO Working Group, Australian Regional NRM Bodies
- Australian Rangelands NRM Alliance – Australian Rangelands NRM Regional Bodies
- Lake Eyre Basin Community Advisory Committee to the Intergovernmental Partnership Agreement.

John Pollock AM

John grew up on a sugar cane farm at Mossman in North Queensland. He attended QAC from 1962 to 1964 and while at Gatton College, he demonstrated his leadership capacity by being appointed a prefect in 1964.

John's distinguished academic career commenced after obtaining a Diploma in Agriculture from QAC in 1964 which saw him awarded both a Bachelor of Agricultural Science and a Master of Agricultural Science from The University of Queensland St Lucia in 1968.

In 1999 he also undertook a Program of Instruction for Lawyers at Harvard Law School.

His working career saw him employed by the Bureau of Sugar Experiment Stations (BSES) as a Researcher Officer / Senior Research Officer following which he joined the Queensland public service in 1986 and moved into management roles with natural resources and research boards including:

- Government Management Consultancy Bureau (GMCB)
- Department of Primary Industries – General Manager Policy Services
- Sugar Research and Development Corporation – Director
- Department of Lands – Director Policy
- Office of the Cabinet – Principal Policy Officer
- Premier's Department – Principal Executive Office

John has held statutory positions with the following organisations:

- Sugar Research and Development Corporation
- Queensland Fisheries Management Authority
- Queensland Coastal Protection Advisory Council
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority Consultative Committee

And he was the Deputy Commissioner of the Murray Darling Basin Commission.

On Australia Day 2019, John Pollock was appointed as a Member of the Order of Australia. His award was supported by the citation: *For significant service to primary industry in Queensland through a range of roles.*

Joe Rickman

Joe completed studies at QAC for a Certificate in Agriculture in 1969 and a Bachelor of Applied Science in 1977, followed by a Master of Science in Engineering Agrology at the University of Edmonton, Canada in 1988.

He went on to work with farmers, scientists and the agricultural industry in more than 27 countries throughout Asia, North America, Africa and the Balkans. As noted in the letter of recommendation for Joe: "He was at the forefront of developing the mechanisation, crop production and research guidelines of the rice industries in a large number of African and South East Asian countries.

In Australia, Joe held a wide range of positions, including experimentalist, research officer, senior agricultural extension agronomist in Queensland, engineering consultant with Ford Tractor Company, and research engineer with Dunlop Olympic and Goodyear. This was then followed by many years overseas as:

- Agricultural Engineer – Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand
- Agricultural Consultant – Cambodia
- Head of Operations, Agricultural Engineering and Experiment Station – Philippines
- Regional Coordinator for East and Southern Africa – Mozambique
- Consultant in Rice Technology – Thailand

Back to College Weekend

Check out the rest of
our photos on Facebook!

 facebook.com/UQGPSSA

Mark it in your calendar

The annual *Back to College Weekend* will be held from Friday 4 to Sunday 6 December 2020. The feature years are those who completed their study at Gatton in 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000 and 2010. Other year groups returning are 1955, 1965 and 1975. All year groups are welcome. Please note the year groups are the year study was completed and not necessarily the year of graduation as for several decades, graduation was around May of the following year.

The Friday night BBQ under the stars is proving very popular and is the ideal setting for a relaxing catch up with others from your year group. Saturday is the main day of the reunion with year group photos on the steps of the Foundation building in the late morning before lunch.

Members have first choice of accommodation and there is usually a shortage of Motel rooms as well as double rooms in Shelton, also single, air-conditioned rooms in Shelton. Please advise if you would like to book a room for the reunion. There is no shortage of single, standard student rooms in Shelton and Pitt. There is no need to pay until later in the year and a registration form is available on our website.



Year group at *Back to College Weekend*: 1959

Left to right – Back row: Bruce Chapman, Ian Harris, Don Jones, Lyndon Dadswell, Randal Lemin, Peter Beasley. Front row: Jim Stenhouse, Tony Stegman, Alex Naprasnik



Year group at *Back to College Weekend*: 1964

Left to right – Arthur Wearing, Rod Holland, Peter Forster, Cliff Thomson, Alan Alt, Ken Thomson, James Currie, Col Dabelstein



Year group at *Back to College Weekend*: 1969

Left to right – Front row: Bill Upton, Peter Angel, Greg Smith, Jim Hillier
Middle row: Selwyn Peters, Maurice Conway, Bob Eather, Mick Redden
Back row: Mal Maroske, Beven Love, Graham Cox



**Do we have your
email address?**

If you are receiving a hard copy of this edition of *Re-Connect*, it means we do not have your email address. Email is our preferred means of communication as printing and postage is expensive.

Please email us.

gattonpaststudents@uq.edu.au



Year group at *Back to College Weekend*: 1974

Left to right – Back row: ?, Hugh Clelland, Ross Murray, Kris Hansen, Nev Vallis
Front row: Bob James, Nan Hansen, Russell Page



Year group at *Back to College Weekend*: 1979

Left to right – Back row: Simon Struss, Peter Cook, Paul Colenso, Graham Wilson
Middle row: Jessie Scott, Helen Hope, John Reeve, Peter Scarffe, Graham King
Front row: Bev Hitchens (Purtill), Sue Moyle, Slade Lee, Eric Jones, David Routh



Year group at *Back to College Weekend*: 1999

Left to right – Owen Mills, Jen and Craig Tunley



Year person at *Back to College Weekend* 1989: Dominic Ward

Welcome to new members

Lawrence Peter **Black** (1960)
Robert John **Boshammer** (1984)
Andrew Meabank **Carley** (1979)
Geoffrey Russell **Cullen** (1970)
Lex Hunter **Duncan** (1962)
James Gordon **Hillier** (1969)
Morris Arthur **Lee** (1972)
Russ Gordon **Salisbury** (1979)
Linda Maja **Scells** (1988)
Simon Mark Selwyn **Struss** (1979)
Kevin Allen **Shaw** (1968)
Noel John **Thompson** (1980)
Chieu Yoke **Tio** (1982)

Branch Reunions



Gold Coast Reunion

The number attending was down compared with previous luncheons. Twenty seven attended and 27 apologies were received. Due to reduced numbers, we were allocated a new area with table service. The table layout allowed greater fellowship and all reports were positive.

Special guests included Association President Mark Pace, Past Association President Bob James, 1990 UQ Gatton Gold Medallist Jim Miller and Distinguished Past Student Don Oxenham and Denise.

President Mark Pace talked on the proposed new PSA Scholarship which was received with a lot of interest.

Peter Douglas

QAC Lunch

Regular catch up by the 1963 group at the Lord Stanley Hotel at East Brisbane arranged by Ron Swanwick. These lunches are held quarterly and have a good turnout each time.

Photo – Year group QAC Lunch: 1963

Left to right clockwise – Jack Donoghue, Harold Neal, Peter Philp, Alby Taylor, Ross Smith; (standing) Michael Cooper, Geoff Runge, Wal Taylor, John Herbertson, Peter Warhurst; (sitting) Charlie Teasdale, Jack Groenendyk (obscured), Bill White (standing), Greg Jolly, Kerry Dowsett; Ron Swanwick photographer. D'Arcy Gibbs also attended but only his arm is visible in the photo.

| Branch Reunion | Venue | Date | Time | Contact |
|----------------|---|---------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Mackay | West's Football Club Walkerston | Sunday 24 May 2020 | 11am for 12 noon lunch | Mark Hetherington M 0407 595 349 m.hetherington@pcpsl.com.au John Whitaker M 0437 331 093 john-.whitaker@bigpond.com |
| Rockhampton | Red Lion Hotel 138 Denham Street Allentown | Sunday 31 May 2020 | 11.30am for 12 noon lunch | Julie Martin M 0439 362 364 jazzie@bigpond.com |
| Canberra | Canberra Yacht Club 1 Mariner Place Yarralumla | TBC | 12 noon lunch | Kim Jorgensen M 0438 130 963 jorgensen_kim@bigpond.com |
| Bundaberg | East End Hotel 58 Princess Street East Bundaberg | Sunday 7 June 2020 | 11.30am for 12 noon lunch | Mike Moller M 0478 154 593 mmoller57@gmail.com |
| Gold Coast | Labrador AFL Sports Club Ashton Street Labrador | Saturday 25 July 2020 | 11am for 12 noon lunch | Peter Douglas P 07 5546 6350 koalamen@bigpond.com |
| North QLD | Barron Valley Hotel Atherton | Sunday 6 September 2020 | 11.30am for 12 noon lunch | Kim Jorgensen M 0438 130 963 jorgensen_kim@bigpond.com |
| Brisbane | TBC | Saturday 14 November 2020 | 11.30am for 12 noon lunch | Kim Jorgensen M 0438 130 963 jorgensen_kim@bigpond.com |
| Sunshine Coast | Caloundra Bowls Club Cnr Arthur Street and Burwah Terrace Caloundra | Saturday 6 March 2021 | 11.30am for 12 noon lunch | Peter Jacobson M 0419 662 467 peter.jacobson@agriculture.gov.au |

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

BENJAMIN, Frank Morris OAM

At College 1948–49. Riddell.
1949: Prefect. Senior Swimming
Champion, B Grade XV.
1948: Runner-up Senior Swimming
Champion.
He was awarded an OAM in the 2016
Australia Day Honours for Service
to the Merino Sheep Industry in
Queensland.
Bill passed away 30 November 2019.

BRODIE, Peter James

QDH 1951.
At College 1950–51. 1951: Debating.
Peter passed away in October 2019.

CAMPBELL, Charles Ross

At College 1947–50.
1950: Shelton House Captain, Prefect,
Captain Inter-Collegiate Tennis.
Swimming.
1949: Inter-Collegiate Tennis, A2 XI.
1948: Junior Swimming Champion.
1947: Swimming, Under 15 XV, Air
Training Corps.
Ross passed away in Port Washington,
Wisconsin, USA on 17 December 2019.

DALEY, Peter “Dan”

QDAH 1958.
At College 1956–58. Pitt.
1958: Prefect. Awarded V Edward
Fegan Trophy – most competent
student in handling stock. Athletics.
CMF 1957–58.
On leaving College, he joined DPI
and after 5 years undertook the
Veterinary Science course at Uni.

After graduation, he spent three
years in private practice followed by
two years with the Commonwealth
and Queensland Governments. Peter
established his own practice in Capel,
WA and after 28 1/2 years retired to
Pittsworth to breed horses and cattle.
Peter passed away 24 January 2020.

DANALIS, James

QDAH 1959.
At College 1955–59.
1959: 1st Junior Judging Pigs, Gatton
Show.
3rd Junior Judging Pigs, Toowoomba
Show.
3rd Junior Judging Fat Lambs, RNA.
3rd Junior Judging Stud Sheep, RNA.
He attended UQ gaining a BVSc in 1964.
Brother of Dion, QDAH 1960, BVSc 1965.
Jim passed away 6 November 2019.

HOPE, Adrian Ross

DipAppSc 2008.
Adrian was tragically drowned
attempting to save his father, having
saved his mother, after a boat crash in
early September 2019.

HORSLEY, John Nicklin

QDDM 2nd Class Hons. 1954.
At College 1950–54. Shelton.
1954: 1st XV.
1953: 1st XV, Inter-Collegiate Tennis.
1952: Prefect, 1st XI, 2nd XV, A2 IV,
Inter-Collegiate Tennis, CMF.
1951: 2nd XV, B2 XI, Boxing.
1950: 3rd XV, B1 XI, Athletics.
Nick passed away 24 October 2019.

HOSIER, Christina Royal

BBus(HM) 1986.
Christina passed away 11 November
2019.

LIM, Jit Kim

QDH 1967.
1967: Table Tennis.
1966: Table Tennis, Captain College
2 Team.
Passed away 8 November 2019.

MATTHEWS, Benjamin Charles Henry

QDA 1961.
At College 1957–61. Pitt.
Ben passed away 17 September 2019.

O'FARRELL, James Lewis

QDA 2nd Class Hons 1957.
At College 1953–57. Pitt.
1957: Prefect, CMF. Won, Setting Up
the Reaper and Binder and Maize
Drilling, Ag Day Sports.
Jim passed away 21 January 2020.

PRICE, George Stewart

QDAH 1965.
At College 1963–65. Thynne.
Gained half House Colours 1965.
George passed away 10 October 2019.

SHELTON, Grae John

DipBus 1979.
Owned and operated a successful
real estate business in Bundaberg for
many years.
Husband of Kay Hunter, BBus
(Hospitality Management) 1979.
Grae passed away 8 February 2020.

SIGLEY, Errol Vance

QDDM 1958.
Attended College 1956–58.
Temporary Junior Assistant 1959.
Errol joined Nestles in January 1960
and in 1966 joined DPI. 1973 saw him
back at QAC as an Instructor in Dairy
Manufactures. He was disillusioned
with the course and after 12 months
returned to the Department. Here
he remained until retirement in
2000. In 1979 he gained an Arts
(Economics-Psychology) degree and
in 1981 a degree in Economics. His
work included eliminating pesticide
residues: dairy factory advisory
role: and developing and presenting
training courses.
The Sigley Family have had a great
affiliation with the College, in that,
Errol's grandfather Robert was an
inaugural student in 1897, his father
Gordon QDD 1927 (External Examiner
for many years) together with two
brothers 1949–52.
Errol passed away 13 February 2020.

SIMMONDS, Ian Donald

QDAH 1956.
At College 1954–56.
Ian passed away in December 2019.

WHITE, Bernard Charles Luton

QDA 1959.
At College 1956–59.
Charlie passed away 14 October 2019.

Historical Collection

It is with great pleasure I present my first report
on the historical collection (museum).

Following the upheaval of packing and storage
of all items in the collection, it is pleasing (and
a relief) to tell you that the relocation to the
ground floor western wing of Morrison Hall is
now about 95 per cent complete.

This was achieved through the efforts of Julie
Reid and myself, plus the co-opting of some
very handy heavy lifters at various stages of the
process.

Some semblance of organisation has been
successful with more open space available to
view all that is on display....making the experience
more enjoyable and hopefully give visitors some
memories to take away.

Donations continue to keep us busy with
cataloguing and display, and we sincerely thank
all those who have contributed.

Books and brochures: Ian Bentley, Alice
Schwarz-Brunold (Design Gatton campus)

College magazines: Ian Bentley, Gavin Lawson

College photos: Ian Bentley, Lex Duncan,
Ross Hoey, Max Bacon, Robyn Hohenhaus
(Management Studies Building), John Patterson.

QAC Student Union items: Christine Goring,
Gavin Lawson

A reunion of the QAHS&C sub-junior/junior
classes attracted 55 past students (1947–1965)
on 18 September 2019, resulting in a great get
together for some who had not seen each other
since finishing at the College. An all-day smoko,
lunch and bus tours of the campus was fully
appreciated by the group, who vowed not to take
so long to get together again.

With the repairs and renovations completed on
the northern ground floor of Morrison Hall, we
were able to almost complete our displays for the
Back to College Weekend in December. Those
who inspected the museum spoke highly of the
new location and display of items.

Thanks again to all who contributed in the
relocation of our much valued historical collection,
and hopefully it will not be necessary again.

Gary Mason



Photographs

The Museum has a severe
shortage of class and
sporting photographs from
the 1970s to the present
time. If you can assist, please
scan and email them to
our Association or send us
the original photograph,
preferably with captions.
We can return original
photographs if required.

UQ Gatton Past Students' Association Inc.

Box 717
The University of Queensland
Gatton Campus, GATTON QLD 4343
Australia

Patron
Peter Douglas

President
Mark Pace
M 0419 751 836
E m.pace@uq.edu.au

Senior Vice-President
Bruce Birtwell

Secretary
Graham McClymont
M 0419 778 981
E gattonpaststudents@uq.edu.au

Treasurer
John Guthrie

Junior Vice-President
Jim Madden

Committee Members
Stewart Bain
Doug English
Mal Ferguson
Kel Freeman
Kim Jorgensen
Julie Martin
Gary Mason
Ross Murray
Rob Nielsen
Adrian O'Connor
Trevor Pezet
Ron Swanwick

Editor 'Re-Connect'
Kim Jorgensen
E jorgensen_kim@bigpond.com

Museum Volunteers
Peter Douglas, Val Kilah
Gary Mason, Don Oxenham, Julie Reid
E gattonpsamuseum@uq.edu.au

The new view from the Walkway to the Administration building. Ready for planting.



Introducing Kel Freeman



Kelven was born in Rosewood in October 1947 and moved to Gatton in 1949 when his father purchased a butcher shop in Railway Street. He attended the Gatton State School up to year eight (Scholarship) after which he attended Toowoomba Grammar School from 1964 to 1967, in what he describes as the worst years of his life. Having completed Senior and Matriculating, his father decided that he needed more education so he was enrolled at Queensland Agricultural College (QAC) at Gatton. This started what he calls the best three years of his life. He graduated with a Diploma in Animal Husbandry in 1967. On enrolment at QAC, he joined the Citizens Military Forces purely as a means of earning money away from family.

On leaving QAC, started work almost immediately in the family butchering business in Gatton. Very quickly learning all facets of both the small butchery business as well as the small abattoir. He successfully built and managed a 30 sow piggery near the abattoir to supply the butcher shops. In 1969, took over one of the butcher shops and stayed in that shop until 1998.

Kelven maintained membership of the Army Reserve after graduating from College rising through the ranks to eventually command the College unit (QAC Training Unit) as a Major for

four years in the late 1970s. He was privileged to command the Beating of the Retreat ceremony to farewell the long term College director Mr Neil Briton in 1978. After his term at QAC Training Unit, he qualified for promotion to Lieutenant Colonel and on promotion, commanded the 25th Battalion, The Royal Queensland Regiment based in Toowoomba for four years. During his time at 25 RQR, he commanded a detachment of ANZAC troops on exercise in Hawaii with the US Army's 25th Infantry Division.

Kelven retired from the Reserve in 1986 to concentrate on the business.

Kelven and wife Chris sold the butchering business in 1998 and he then worked in various roles in the meat industry including meat wholesaling, supermarket butchering, consulting roles in the food industry and production supervision for Australian Agricultural Company at Stanbroke Abattoir, Grantham and Casino Abattoir.

Kelven married the Dutch chook farmers daughter, Christine van Ansem, from Forest Hill in 1969 and have three children. There are now six grandchildren ranging in age from 10 to 19 years old.

Since selling the butchery, they have been fortunate to do a good deal of overseas travel including Canada, Alaska, UK, Europe, Malaysia, Singapore, China, New Zealand and four countries in Southern Africa.

Now fully retired they have joined the "grey nomads" in travelling within Australia having just purchased their second caravan. So far travelling about 180,000 kilometres in this wonderful country. One amazing facet of "grey nomading" is that wherever you go in this vast country there is a QAC or UQ Gatton graduate to exchange experiences with. Now looking forward to seeing much more of this fantastic country.

New Gatton campus entry

Work started in September 2019 on the new entry landscape and will be finished by the end of March 2020. The project is to re-energise the campus heart and cultivate a safe and inviting, lifelong learning environment. It will provide a wide and clear pedestrian thoroughfare through the site connecting the foundation precinct to the campus heart and entry from the Inner Ring Road. (Does that trigger memories?). It will be framed by layered canopies in the form of trees, terraces and arbour study structures.

