SCHOLARSHIP - UP AND RUNNING!

Five years ago at our inaugural Alumni meeting it was proposed that we endeavour to develop a scholarship fund and that we set the target to be reached within five years.

Our hopes have been realised and 2002 will be the first year of the W.W. T.C. Scholarship Award.

A cash payment of $1500 will be made to some worthy student in his/her final year of study in Education at Sturt University.

In general part of the criteria will be that the student should be a relative of an ex-W.W.T.C. student.

If there is no candidate with that background the award is open to all final year students in Education.

Applicants would have to show certain criteria, such as academic ability and career aptitude.

The award will be made at the commencement of the final year.

It is proposed that donations towards the Scholarship Fund be sought annually with our Talkabout subscription (now due), and, that a much more prestigious Scholarship Award will develop.

All our donors can feel proud of their efforts and it is hoped that future donations will be forthcoming.

Keep those scholarship donations coming in. Here is how we stand at present.
The Annual General Meeting of the WWTC Alumni Association was held at Homebush on 5th February, 2002.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is with mixed emotions that I can pen this report for the year 2001. There is a sense of gratification as regards our achievements, the maintenance of quality performance together with the ongoing dedication and commitment of the alumni management team.

Finally, the scholarship fund reached the stage when the first award will be made in the year 2002. Really this is an amazing effort. We trust that the fund will continue to grow and thus allow the WWTC Alumni Scholarship to grow in importance.

Regretfully, this feeling of satisfaction is tempered by the loss of so many colleagues in this period of time. Perhaps the loss of our friends underlines the importance of the scholarship fund in that the name, deeds and importance of WWTC will never be forgotten.

'Talkabout' is acknowledged for its role as a communication link and a quality publication. Unfortunately the wonderful team of Lew Morrell, Lew Crabtree, and Lindsay Budd has been broken with the death of Lew Crabtree. This aspect of our alumni is critical to its ongoing development. It is pleasing that more support, both contribution wise and financially had been forthcoming, but more of both are needed.

Ann Smith and June Hadley have efficiently acted out their secretarial roles. June's contribution has allowed Ann to develop her skills as a researcher of lost alumni. Where does she find the time and the strength?

John Riley's 'Teaching Memories' finally reached publication stage and was a huge success. No birth was more difficult than his.

Of ongoing concern is the increased workload being placed on the CSU's Alumni under the dedicated guidance of Michelle Fawkes. We trust that there will not come a time when our close association to the CSU Alumni with regards the printing (at our cost) of 'Talkabout' will be compromised or that our past reliance on CSU Alumni for the organisation of reunion and access to records will be lost.

We are still seeking to have established a worthwhile 'Memorabilia Site' and concentrated search for memorabilia, which was promised at a combined meeting several years ago. Hope springs eternal!

Roy Parked launched us in a new direction with the organisation of 'local reunions' for WWTC ex-students. It was well done. The challenge rests with other areas to continue this worthwhile concept.

My heartfelt thanks are extended to all members of the Management Committee who serve with vigour and a sense of purpose. Without their efforts there would not be a WWTC Alumni. The Teachers Credit Union has been a rock on which we can rely to hold our meetings and socialise. Long may they prosper.

Bob Collard.

The election of Office Bearers for 2002 resulted as follows:

President: Bob Collard
Vice Presidents: Graeme Wilson, Col Crittenden
Secretary: Ann Smith
Minute Secretary: June Hadley
Treasurer: Lindsay Budd
Editor: Lew Morrell
Committee: Phil Bastick, Dorothy Tanner, Nigel Tanner, Win Wilcox, Kevin Wilcox, John Riley.

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Teaching Memories: John Riley: 2 Woorak Cres, Miranda 2228 Phone 95255304. E-mail: rileyxwtc@aol.com
Alumni Office: Michelle Fawkes: The Alumni Office, Charles Sturt University, Bathurst, 2795. Phone 63384629. E-mail: mfawkes@csu.edu.au.
From the Secretary’s Desk

The main thrust of letters coming across my desk concerns people who have never been on the data base of Charles Sturt University or the address is incorrect or has been struck off for a variety of reasons e.g. moving but not notifying the change of address.

In this Talkabout is a list of names of people who are presumed to have belonged to a certain session (not confirmed) and no address is available. Due to diligence by one or more persons in their session, up to 1957 are fairly well up to date. Since June 2001 seven hundred pieces of information have been emailed to and recorded on the database by Marion de Gabriel at Bathurst. This does not bring into account the phone calls, letters, emails etc. which are part of the finding process. The majority of those who are giving me information are very helpful and encouraging. From 1968 onwards there is still a big job to do.

I persevered to find Doreen Vernon née Manwaring (Pioneer) and found her going from North Balwyn to South Australia. Don and Thelma Davis were sorry to learn that their friend Bev Dominish is deceased. Pauline Wallace née Scott (1949-50) operates a newsagency with her husband at Charnwood in ACT. Don Morrissey (1952-53) wanted the good work kept up and sent a generous donation to enable us to continue.

**DAILY TELEGRAPH ENTRY**

On November 22nd I put an entry in the In Search section of the Daily Telegraph and among replies was one from Bev Fleming née May (1959-60), who told me about Julianne Nevin and Jan Chester née Rodley and Helen Newman née Kerr (1959-60). Helen asked to include her name in the mailing list for Talkabout. From the same session Gwen McLaughlin née Deloiski and Wendy Whatson née Johnson wanted to purchase all the back copies of Talkabout but unfortunately I only had two different copies. Patricia Jaggar née Lee’s sister sent her the Telegraph article. She lives in Greenwich in South Australia. She is still friends with Roslyn Mackey née Anderson of Horsley and Dawn Sale née Jakes who lives in Mount Martha, Victoria. Shirley Waugh née Dockett (1960-61) wishes to receive Talkabout where she has moved to at Wingham. Fay Everson née Potter was also in (1960-61) and is currently teacher/librarian at Sacred Heart, Kooringal. Patricia Lee gave me Roslyn Mackey née Anderson's address. Roslyn thanked me for writing so soon afterwards. She was in 60-61 and now lives in Dapto.

Kay Toohey (1961-62) thanked us for "the blast from the past". She has spent the last ten years teaching Literature—Numeracy at Forbes TAFE. She resigned last year. She sent addresses for Joy Carter née Port and Margaret Jones née Trotter and Patsy Spaul née Miller (all 61-62) Barbara Deece née Todhunter, also 61-62, lives in Cherrybrook and has recently retired. Bev Hamilton (1963-64) enjoyed the memories of the past and the news today. Allan Slater (1960-1961) now lives in Tathra. He appreciated very much what we have done and thanked us for tracking him down. Terrill Schenk née Strahan (1956-57) retired three years ago. She has been on tennis committees local, ACT and Vets. She lives at Weetangera. Robyn Harrigan née Elliott (1962-63) also responded to the Telegraph entry. Her husband is Peter and they have two children, Kylie (26) married and Ivan (24). Wendy Ziruggast née Rien (same section) would be delighted to receive any newsletters or information on reunions in the future. Neryl Hogan née Nixon, also (1962-63) would love to receive a copy of Talkabout. She keeps in contact with Joann Gunn née Oxley (61-62), who lives in the ACT. They want to catch up with news of others. Jan Beale née Delarev (61-62) wrote from Western Australia that her dearest wish is that someone organises a reunion in Sydney in the school holidays so that she can catch up on 40 years of gossip. Her friend is Ros Rogers née Horn. They play tennis each week and celebrate with a wine afterwards. Jenny Cumming née Stigant (62-63) lives in Vaucluse. Jefferey Edward’s (62-63) mail was returned unclaimed, although it had his correct address in Orange. All is now well. Jim Hale (62-63) is still teaching. Some sections of his letter are recorded in another section of this Talkabout. He still has and can wear his College blazer but I told him that John Riley (1948-1950) is holding the record. John wears his regularly to reunions etc. I would be grateful if Gregory Perry of Yamba, Adrian Pryde of Orange, Graeme Philip Crofts of Coffs Harbour would contact me to give their details. Does anyone know where Karen West née Lodding teaches? Greg Ryan of Gungahlin ACT only attended one year (1969) but has great memories of that year in Wagga. I wrote to Kathy Blakemore (1961-62) re getting Stan's name on our database. Stan passed away some time ago. Reg Ryde (1967-68) is still teaching. He admitted that writing letters is not his thing. He has lost contact with everyone from college but would enjoy hearing what they are doing now.

**REST IN PEACE**

As we grow older we are affected by the loss of our friends in the Alumni. This time we have lost one of the editors and committee member, Lew Crabtree (1949-50) and Roy Parker's wife, Joan née Moore (1952-53). Vincent Francis Duffy (1954-55) died in November and Joseph Mirandau (1968-70) died some years ago. Thank you letters were received from Wal Rummery re David's death, Roy Parker and Esme Crabtree.

**THE YAHOO GROUP**

Another source of learning about our colleagues is the Yahoo E-group, waggate-alumni@yahoo.com. Initiated by Charlie Ferris and ably assisted by others, there are emails to read from your colleagues every day of the week. Warren Brown (1954-55) has worked in PNG for 11 years and is now Council Clerk at peppermannarti in NT. Slim Dusty sings about the barramundi at Peppermannarti.

Tony Scanlon (1963-64) is a published writer. Malcolm Clune (1958-59) was found in Bemboka and is a regular contributor.

**TEACHING MEMORIES**

Though addressed to John Riley, I am including a letter sent by Shirley Meredith Jones (1950-51). She "devoured" her copy of Teaching Memories - a sheer gastronomical delight - a treasure trove of inimitable college teaching nostalgia. How unwordly we "stawedants" were. Accolades and bouquets and thanks to John and the Alumni for this gem. I will revere it with pride and "giggles".

**P.S. HOW TO CONTACT ANOTHER COLLEAGUE**

Margaret Edwards (1968-70) wanted to find a friend from College. I am not permitted to give her the address wanted but I am willing to address it and send it on, provided she supplies the SAE. I have done this to the satisfaction of a few members.

**WHERE TO NOW?**

Inge Chapman (1969-71) from Cooma North thanked us for previous issues of Talkabout but found she had very little interest in them. It is obvious that we need to work very hard on the incompleteness of the Sessions 1958 to 1971. How much help can you give me?

Ann Smith

**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEETINGS**

All alumni are invited to attend the quarterly meetings which are held at the Teachers Credit Union, Homebush starting at 11 am. Meeting Dates for 2002 are as follows:

- Tuesday, 7th May
- Tuesday, 6th August
- Tuesday, 5th November
Dear Anne,

I have just read "Talkabout" Nov, 2001. It was a wonderful read, full of memories. A lot of things came back and I remembered I still have some photos from then somewhere. I eventually found them and they are enclosed. I thought with them I’d send some recollections of that time for whatever they’re worth.

I was a very young 17 when I went to Wagga in 1962, with no idea what to expect and little idea of what training to be a teacher would involve. Upon arrival I discovered it was my misfortune to have the same surname as the principal. Maurice E. Hale. Someone put it about that I was his son. So I became known by a few as "Little Moz", the principal being "Moz". I remember people looking askance at me for some time. Later in my first year, the principal suspended me for running across a grassed area on the way to lectures, late of course and, had it not been for the vice-principal, Mr Bass, my career as a teacher would have ended there and then.

I saw Gwenda Conibear's name in the November edition. I blame Ms Conibear - no that's not right - attribute to her a life-long love of poetry. I recall one occasion when I was actually early to one of her lectures and proceeded to climb on a desk and grasp a hold of, and swing upside down on a rafter singing an out-of-tune version of "Sea of Love", not knowing she was in a preparation room attached to the lecture room. She came out to hear what the horrible caterwauling was that seemed to be coming from an upper area of her room. I think I fell in love with her at that moment.

Included is a photo taken by the Wagga Advertiser of a group of obviously happy College students tramping down the main street singing if I remember a little ditty called "When the Red Revolution Comes." One verse went something along the lines of "We'll all make Fanny Bridges do a cancan in the gym/ When the Red Revolution comes!" Can't recall exactly why we marched although a lot of it had to do with the administration's efforts to keep the sexes apart by not allowing mixed common rooms. Not that this regulation stopped those who were particularly keen of course. My neighbour in Buna-Marinyah dormitory sawed a section out of the floor under his bed so that his girlfriend could remove an outside grill, crawl under the building, up through the hole and voila!

Enclosed also is a picture of the College baseball team of 1962 with yours truly back left and the wonderfully talented John Garrett, blonde, front row, the star and inspiration of the team. In '64 and '65 I played cricket with John in the Gilgandra Association when I was teaching at Gulargambone and John was at Gilgandra. John married his college sweetheart Pam.

The last photo is the Junior Secondary group of '62-'63. It's shocking to be able to remember only a few names - back row Jeffrey Edwards (3rd)Stu Ebril (4th); third row Tim Golledge, Don McIndoe; front row Gary Bauer (middle), lecturer Mr Hodgson, David Ross, next. The names on the graduation ceremony are familiar, most of them, but sadly putting faces to them is too hard.

It doesn't seem so long ago - it wasn't. I'm not that old! From College I went to western N.S.W. for four years, and then had a three-year break to study at N.S.W. Uni to the end of 1970. I was then at Bomaderry High School for ten years - Jim Smart from the '63-'64 year was teaching locally. From there I went to Castle Hill High, then to Drummoyne Boys' and to St Patrick's Dundas. I was head English/History teacher for five of those years. From there I had a three year break and since '91 I've been at East Hills Girls' where I will probably finish at the end of next year. I have enjoyed teaching over the years, and without really steering them in that direction, my 26 year old and 30 year old sons are both teachers. The younger will commence a year's teaching in Zambia in January with Australian volunteers Abroad.

I look forward to further copies of "Talkabout". It's great to relive all this. Congratulations for what you are doing.

Jim Hale (1962-63)

P.S. I still have my college blazer from '62-'63 and I can still fit into it -- just!

Editors' Note: If Jim nearly got expelled for trespassing on a grassed area what would have been the fate of the Casanova and his architectural additions under his bed? Shot at dawn?
THE COLLEGE RADIO

It was in late 1947 that we decided to brighten the lives of the inhabitants of D Block, Wagga Wagga Teachers' College. A student consortium involving such stalwarts as Jim Munro, Don Davis and Morten Rawlins in Room 1, Don Boyle and myself in Room 3 and John Skein, Alan Nilon and Mac Yabsley in Room 5 agreed to the purchase. The price of this piece of ultimate technology was eighteen pounds.

With a personal income of seven pounds every five weeks, we could only manage a deposit and hope to take it on the "never-never".

"But of course," said the salesman. "All I need is the signature of one person for the books." I stepped forward to take up the pen to sign on the dotted line and to undertake a hire purchase agreement. As well the oldest in our group was just 19. But obstacles are there to be overcome so we approached Stan McEvoy, an ex-serviceman and a fellow student who was also from Bathurst, as were Don Boyle and I. Yes, he would do it. He would be guarantor for our group. The papers were soon signed, the deposit paid, and possession taken of the prized apparatus.

Lots had been drawn and the sequence of possession had been determined. It was to be a weekly changeover on Saturday morning immediately after breakfast and the sequence was Room 3 to Room 5 to Room 1 to Room 3 etc. The radio was installed in Room 3 on the folding examination table, which served as my bedside table and study table because the power point was nearest to it. The switch attached to springs at the head and foot. The beds were metal framed with a wire mesh reflected the joy, the pleasure, the beauty on the shop counter.

"You are 21, of course, aren't you, sir". A hitch - no, I was not yet 18 - not permitted in those enlightened days to enter a licensed hostelry, to vote, or to undertake a hire purchase agreement. As well the oldest in our group was just 19.

One evening stays in my memory. We were all packed into Room 5. The incumbents Nilon, Skein and Yabsley were in their own beds, - visitors (some 15 or so) occupying any available space, sitting on beds, chairs or wrapped in blankets on the floor. All continued swimmingly with the Australian team playing well and on top of the play. At the conclusion of play, about 3 a.m., the ABC wound up the broadcast by playing the National Anthem. Mac Yabsley sprang to attention but unfortunately as he came upright, back and legs straight, the mattress wires gave way and he went straight through to the floor. Much laughter followed. Mac felt John Skein laughed too loudly and too well, so immediately bounced on John's bed for the same fate to it as to his. Despite all his earnest protests it wasn't long before Nilon's bed was in the same sorry condition.

The next morning a pair of pliers was borrowed and the repair began. College beds were metal framed with a wire mesh attached to springs at the head and foot. The wire mesh was made up of V shaped wires - the ends of the V were hooked to clip into the curve of the next V. Easy to break by opening the hook, but easy to mend. However on completion of the repairs, the trio found they had quite a few wire V's left over. These were quickly stored in the ceiling as the manhole (or is it now personhole?) was in the corner of Room 5.

The bed problem occurred to many beds/students over the two years of residence with the same results. The handful of wire V's left over on the completion of each of the repairs was added to the collection in the ceiling. As D Block and its 1948 additions are the only originals left I suppose the accumulation of these little wire bits could still be there. But I digress.

Back to the radio. There were a couple of glitches, such as during the first Christmas holidays, with the monthly payments over the time but all in all we were soon the owners, all 8 of us. Much enjoyment for many people, music of all kinds, radio drama, and especially sport, not only for the 8, but all who passed by, paused or visited.

At graduation, a problem. We had one radio and 8 owners. Not one of the 8 had sufficient money to make an offer to the other seven, nor did any of the other students, graduating or staying.

Then a brilliant thought. I approached the proprietor of the college canteen, Doug Logan. Doug had been such a part of College life catering for the inner man and woman, quite a lot of the time on credit till payday. You remember the payday I mentioned earlier, seven pounds every five weeks. After some negotiations I left the radio with him for the day as a trial. Returning next day, I expected some bartering but I was met with a straight out offer.

"I'll give you sixteen pounds for it. How does that sound?"

It sounded like manna from heaven. Sixteen pounds! We had paid eighteen for it and had a year and a half of constant use. Now with eight of us we would leave with two pounds each and a host of wonderful memories attached to that beautiful, brown, bakelite radio.

As a footnote: Two years later Winifred and I met Doug Logan on Central Railway Station during a Christmas vacation. After some time the conversation turned to the little radio. It worked well and was his constant companion until he sold the College Canteen and with it the radio. I have often wondered what eventual fate befell that little radio. I hope one that reflected the joy, the pleasure, the education and the companionship it gave to so many of us in those early days of Wagga Wagga Teachers' College.

KEVIN WILCOX 1947 - 49

EDITORS' NOTE: If I was a betting man I would bet you are talking about a HMV LITTLE NIPPER radio. I had one too during College days but paid half a crown more than you did.
MY APPOINTMENT TO
THREE PEAKS.

It was during the September holidays of 1953, my second year of teaching, that I received the telegram telling me to take up the appointment as teacher in charge of the public school at Three Peaks.

Annoyed that I had to leave the comfortable school of Epping West and unable to find Three Peaks on the map of NSW, I went in to the Department of Education to find out where I had to go to at the end of the holidays.

I was ushered into the office of an inspector who said that he was pleased that I had come in as he wanted to talk to me about this school. After showing me that it was located some thirty-two miles out of Condobolin, he explained that I was their first official teacher to be sent there.

Previously it had been what is known as a provisional school; built by the local graziers who paid a few pounds a week (supplemented by a few more pounds by the Department) to some sixteen-year-old girl to “Teach” the kids.

He said. “God knows what you’ll find when you get there but just try to fit in with the local community and get the school running along departmental lines.”

I realized that my journey over many miles of dirt roads would require a bigger and more comfortable motorbike than my 250cc BSA so I set out for Three Peaks on my newly acquired 500cc Matchless. On arriving I found no town – only a sheep station and there, in the middle of the home paddock was a tiny, roughly built station and there, in the middle of the home paddock was a tiny, roughly built school building surrounded by a fence. Some forty metres away was a single, “Thunderbox” toilet.

The Three Peaks station was the property of the Jones family who took and instant dislike to this city-bred teacher with an English accent, and it was with the Joneses that I was supposed to board. Conditions there were somewhat Spartan to say the least.

The evening meal, which was served at around 8.00 pm, was exactly the same each night; one slice of cold mutton (It was a sheep station but they never killed a lamb – always a full-mouthed old ewe!) one lettuce leaf, half a hard-boiled egg and mayonnaise. If I was still hungry – which I always was – then I could fill up on bread, butter and golden syrup.

Immediately after tea, Mr and Mrs Jones would go off to bed leaving the kids (and there was a tribe of them) to wash up before they too went to bed. So at about eight-thirty I had to take a hurricane lamp out to the empty shearers’ quarters where my bed was located.

Seven cows were hand milked each morning but there was no milk to be found in the house except for a very small jugful, which they kept aside when they learned that I took milk in my tea. The rest was all separated, the skim going to the pigs and the cream made into butter and mayonnaise.

At first the school had thirteen students. There was a twelve year old boy called John Durning in Year 6, no-one in Year 5 but three in Year 4; Marcus Jones, age fourteen, his thirteen-year old sister, Elizabeth and a ten-year old girl whose name I have forgotten. All the rest were Year 3 or below.

It is little wonder that Marcus was still in Year 4 at the age of fourteen as he was hardly ever in school. Most mornings his father would tell me that Marcus would not be in school that day, as he was needed to help with some task about the property.

Among the diverse animals that roamed the home paddock was a black pig, which would often enter the schoolyard to attack the garbage bin. Invariable the animal would get its head stuck in the bin and run around, Ned-Kelly like, while the kids threw stones at the bin to make a loud noise in the pig’s ears. Also there was a steer, which would chase the kids, so we started late some mornings if the steer was near the front gate and the kids had to wait for the steer to move a safe distance away before they could make a dash to the safety of the schoolyard.

The few school textbooks owned by the school all dated from the 1920’s and there was no roll, no lesson register and no pupil record cards. All these I had to cadge from the school in Condobolin. This had to be done in a hurry because the mother of the Year 6 boy had informed me that she wished to get John into a competitive agricultural High School and he had no PRC, no IQ rating and he had to sit an entrance exam in a matter of weeks.

I could not get the kids to call me “Sir”, and “Mr Austin” was also out of the question, as they never called any adult male by anything but his first name. As I refused to let them call me by my first name, I was forced to respond to, “Hey teacher” whenever they wanted my attention. At least I did manage to get them to ask to be excused when they wanted to go to the toilet instead of saying, “Can I go and do a shit?”

After a couple of weeks the school population almost doubled as two families of rabbiters set up their caravans and freezer some 100 metres down the road. These kids had never attended any school before, having done only correspondence lessons and on their first day they arrived in obviously brand new and rather expensive looking clothes – attire more suitable for a party of a wedding than for school. Apparently there was a lot of money to be made from trapping rabbits.

I asked one young miss, “Is that a new dress for school you are wearing?”

“Yes,” she replied and, lifting up her dress she added, “and see, I’ve got new pants on too.”

After about a month, the mother of the Year 6 boy, Mrs Durning, approached me and said, “Look, I know what it’s like here. Would you like to come and stay at our place?”

It was with much relief that I moved some five miles down the road to the Durnings’ where life was very different. They went to bed at a sensible hour and fed me very well. They even bought beef from a butcher in town – something the Joneses never did.

Mr Durning had been killed in the war so Mrs Durning managed the property with the help of her brother and young John. Out of school John treated me more like an older brother than a teacher but he always remained respectful in school and I was happy to coach him so that he could pass the entrance exam to the competitive High School – for which he rewarded me by buying me a Parker 51 pen for Christmas from the proceeds of the wool from his poddy lambs.

Most mornings I would take John to school on the back of my motorbike EXCEPT when it was raining and the road was too slippery to be able to hold the bike upright. On those mornings, John would borrow his mum’s Ford V8 Custonline and drive ME to school – and I used to open the gates for him! I dare say that I was the only primary school teacher in NSW who was driven to school by one of his pupils!

Luckily, my stay at Three Peaks lasted just one term before I was transferred to the relative civilization of Bourke.

Michael Austin (1950-51)
From Jim Walsh (1960-61) who now lives in Canada

My first appointment was PS Buddigower 1399, 17 miles from West Wyalong and 8 miles west of the Newell on the Rankin Springs line. When I went to get my ticket the agent at Central said, "Is that a place or a disease?"

Maybe it was a virus: I stayed there for 4 years and only moved because Doug Swan, in his first inspectorate, suggested that part time at Sydney was easier than correspondence at UNE. One year at four nights a week was enough for me. Two years in a Mormon/Mennonite village in Southern Alberta got me enough $s to go to three summers and a winter at the University of Alberta in Edmonton. I intended to teach for a year and to recycle home via Europe (1972 was to be THE year). Instead, I went to a Halloween party, met Fay, began married life in '73 with a mortgage and a six year old daughter (Tasha), lost the mortgage, gained some grey hair, a second daughter (Olivia), four grand kids (none of whom carry a drop of my blood (lucky them)). Along the way I added a part time masters degree...but I "still call Australia home" including remaining a landed immigrant and keeping my Australian passport.

So, as I stare down the barrel of retirement, I can say I did it my way but survived in spite!

Jim Walsh (1960-61)

From Dawn Stewart (Andrews) 1950-51 who is now in Alstonville

One Teacher Schools.

Alan Attwood, Journalist, - writes in The Australian, 1989 about school names from many years ago.

"In 1930 there were 7000 one-teacher schools in Australia, with Victoria and NSW each having about 2000. Most of the teachers had no say in their appointments, which sometimes seemed a sort of penance at the end of their training. One teacher, graduating in 1944, recalls school names being greeted with a rising crescendo of laughter.

A school known as somebody’s Soak, Tank or Bore, such as Claypan’s Bore or Gnorlarling Soak, carried its own warning. "Corner", too, seemed to signal isolation: Mallee Corner, Overland Corner, Dolling’s Corner and Hacklin’s Corner… Some were practical and prosaic: Loch No 3, Gate 89, Group Settlements 3 and 4. Some were whimsical: Bo Peep, Bugle Hut, Inkiepinkie, The Pocket, The Risk, (postcode 2474), Snug, 7054, Nook, 7306, Flowerpot, 7163- (Still so named).

William Crouchley married and went to Paradise (5075 or 7306). It was 1933 and some poor blighter had harvested 150 tonnes of potatoes and could not sell them. The stench of a putrid mountain of spuds wafted through Crouchley’s Paradise.

The teachers, ill prepared as they were, became part of the local community. Some had more practical use than others:
The community’s concern was the same everywhere. They wanted a good footballer. That was the first thing they asked about. Sometimes they rang up and asked before you got there. If you were a good teacher, that was a bonus.

The teachers had another vital role. From the 1870’s to the 1950’s one of the important services that six Education Departments provided rural Australia, was a constant supply of education, and marriageable men and women. It was government-sponsored gene exchange”.

Dawn Andrews (1950-51)

From Norma Fowler (Phipps 1960-61) who lives in Muswellbrook.

Hello all. Just a little about me, Norma Phipps-now Fowler. I was born at Narrandera, then moved to Warrawong, where I attended the local school in a hall before the school was completed. I attended Wollongong High with lots of other Wagga Students, then Wagga in 60-61. I taught at Port Kembla, Narooma Central, Exeter, Rainbow St Randwick, Morisset, Muswellbrook, Infants and Muswellbrook South.

From 1981-84, I was the Small Schools Consultant for Hunter Region and ran the Upper Hunter Teachers Centre. I married Bob in 1965, and we have three boys and two grandchildren - a boy and a girl. I retired 3 years ago from the position of Assistant Principal at Muswellbrook South. While at College, I was in Iolanthe and Ruddigore and sang with the Girl’s Quartet. I was a late arrival at college, and lived out in my first year, but in second year was in Kambu, next door to Miss Bridges, because I was regarded as "quiet".

In first year, I was in 605 which comprised John Richards, David Parker, Jim Robertson, Jim Sheering, Ken Rothe, Ron Roffe, Bob Playford, Tony Sherlock, Alan Fess Parker, Bob Readon, Ted Prenter, Ralph Sadler, Geoff Peters, Ken Sergeant and Kerry Potts. The girls were Ann Miles, Wendy Robertson, Fay Potter, Jan Sant, Norma Phipps, Jan Parker, Edith Perry, Barb Smith, Laurel Quarmby, Barbara Schmidt, Jan Northmore, Donna Morrissey, Jan Saunders, and Bev Potter. I think most of us were given late scholarships.

In second year, I was in section 603, which comprised: Frank Leonard, Kevin Leys, Murray Luke, Mark McCulla, John McKinnon, George McLean, Phil Maloney, John Mansley, Brian Marsh, David Martin, Bruce Mathewson, Robert Murdoch, Steven Nossiter, Harvey Ord, Alan "Fess" Parker, David Parker, Geoff Peters, Robert Playford, Edward (Ted) Prenter, and Robert Readon.

The girls were Judy Laws, Janet Lea, Colleen McCormack, Elizabeth (Beth) McNeil, Frances Marning, Sandra Matthews, Anne Miles, Wendy Mitchell, Donna Morrissey, Edith Perry and Norma Phipps. Eleven of us ended up with the dreaded "ce"s" and one failed. In my second year, when I was old enough to get my licence, I had a 39 Chev panel van, that belched poisonous fumes, and fitted 16 people to go to the pool. If you jammed your foot on the brake, the back doors flew open, but no one ever fell out.

Norma Fowler (Phipps 60-61)
After a number of years of country service, I was appointed to Gardeners Road Primary School, in the early seventies. During the first couple of days I compiled a list of matters that would require my immediate attention. With 65% children of ethnic background and a pupil population of 900+, it was quite an extensive list and I was beginning to wonder how the deuce I was going to work my way through it.

On the Thursday of the first week, the new Kindergarten children were being enrolled. During mid-morning recess, one of the Clerical Assistants came to the office, quite obviously upset, and said she had received an urgent message from the Infant Mistress that two of the new Kindergarten boys had fallen from the first floor window of the main Infant Block and that my presence was immediately required. My immediate reaction was, "What the devil have I done to deserve this!" and then, "Where the deuce, on my priority list, do I place "Children out of window - falling"?"

However, within a couple of seconds, reason prevailed and I dashed over to the scene.

The report was in fact correct. There, lying on the bitumen, were the two whimpering five-year-olds, being comforted by a tearful Infant Mistress and a weeping 6th Grade girl, of the same ethnic background, acting as an interpreter. Other upset staff members were keeping the area clear of children. The ambulance had already been called and was there in a couple of minutes. Within fifteen minutes of the children being removed to hospital and the parents of both being informed, a reporter from "The Mirror" newspaper, one of the then known "Gardeners Road!"

WELCOME TO GARDENERS ROAD!

The reporter was immediately disappointed when I informed him that there had been an unfortunate incident during the morning and I was not, at this stage, going to make any comment. If he wished any further information, he should contact the Inspector or the Area Director who had matters under control. In fact, neither of them, at this stage, had been informed that an accident had occurred, so the reporter returned to the source of the information, the mechanic across the road who obviously revelled in his fifteen minutes of fame and was only too delighted to further embellish his observations.

Well, how do two children fall out of a first floor window on their first day at school? The two storeys Infant block, surrounded by bitumen, was on the sloping section of the playground and the window from which the children fell was 26 feet above the bitumen. At recess, it was the practice of the teacher of the last class to leave the building to lock the ground floor door so that the building could not be entered.

On this Thursday, the Kindergarten class was the second last to leave. They had assembled with their teacher outside while being given instructions to the whereabouts of the toilets and the canteen etc. Without warning, two of the new children, having seen their brothers in the canteen lines, made a dash to join them. While the teacher went to retrieve these boys the two boys went back to the building to get some fruit for play-lunch. While in their classroom, the last class left the building and the door was locked. When they came to go out, they found they were locked in and panicked. With security mesh on the ground floor windows and thinking in their own minds that they were in deep trouble, they sought some way of escaping and found, to their delight, open windows on the first floor -- so, out they went! They hit the ground and literally bounced!

That evening we hit the front page of "The Mirror", with photos of the building, showing a dotted line of the children's descent. The mechanic had sure gone to town!

But the funny side of the whole episode (if there can be a funny side) was that the mechanic, who didn't live in the district, thought we were Mascot Public School and that's how it appeared in the press! Needless to say, the Boss at Mascot was on the blower first thing next day, wanting to know what the devil was trying to do to his school and reputation! Arranging for the press to rectify the matter was not a task that brought much pleasure. In fact, I thought the report was pretty good!

The written reports and statements from the teachers involved took up a great deal of my time during the next week or so and I was in daily contact with Area Office and my priority list of tasks for urgent attention just went down the drain.

My final conversation with the Director, during which he stated how pleased he was with the way the school had handled the whole matter, brought great relief and in a moment of delight and the release from tension, I made the gross mistake of saying in a light hearted manner that in these days of educational complexities one must expect the occasional "drop-outs"! Well, after about five minutes of vitriolic advice, he eventually came up for air and we completed the conversation quite amicably.

Well, what was the upshot of it all? One of the boys had a small cut on his chin and was back at school two days later; the other had a hairline fracture of a vertebra and returned after one week! Now who doesn't believe in miracles?

Safety mesh was placed on all the first floor windows and the parents of both children were extremely apologetic for the worry the actions of their children must have caused me and, in their broken English, offered to make a donation to the Library!

Almost thirty years later, in these days of our litigious society, it makes me shudder to think what could have happened in the present time!

And that was my welcome to Gardeners Road.

Graeme Wilson (47-49)
Dear Lindsay,

You may recall the story of my first appointment to Rennie in 1952, which was published in Teaching Memories. I have since discovered a couple of photos of the school. The story behind these photographs is as follows.

In 1952, the classroom accommodation consisted of a baby portable classroom. It was tiny! I recall Education Week in August 1952 – if memory serves me correctly it was the first education week – and filled with enthusiasm, I invited the local population to see what went on in the school. I’m not sure if it was by design or good fortune that Joe Lawson was in town. Joe was our local Country Party member and he and his wife arrived at the school with the P and C President. After recess, other residents also arrived and it was soon evident that our tiny classroom was unable to cope with the crowd. Joe and his wife, the P and C President and his wife plus 2 or 3 other local luminaries were ushered into the classroom and when the 19 students stood to say “Good Morning” to our visitors it was literally standing room only. Someone else tried to come into the room and this started a chain reaction amongst our guests, resulting in Mrs Lawson falling onto the wood stove. Fortunately it was unlit and she was not injured. This incident gave our P and C President strong grounds to press Joe for his assistance in having a new classroom. Joe needed little persuasion in view of the near catastrophe to his wife and some weeks later, a large semi trailer arrived at the school with our “new” classroom, moved from a small community some miles away. I had no knowledge of its arrival and the driver stopped in the middle of the playground and shouted out to me, “Right, mate, where do you want it?”

I had no sooner selected a suitable site when another truck arrived with bricks and a brickie, who went to work immediately to build the piers. Next day there stood our new classroom, a bit battered and worse for wear, but oh so huge! A week or so later a fellow from Public Works arrived. He set up camp in the room and in about ten days, transformed the building with a few repairs here and there and painted inside and out. It looked like the Taj Mahal!! It even had dual desks with fancy ironwork on the sides. The day we moved in to the new room was an occasion long remembered – it was bright and airy and huge. We had space.

Even today, almost 50 years later, I still remember Joe Lawson with fondness – even if he belonged to the Country Party!

Phil Bastick (1950-51)

GAUDEAMUS IGITUR

We all sang Gaudeamus at College but how many of us knew what the words meant?

In one of Terry Pratchett’s books a character called Treadle talks about his university days:

“Yes, that's it,' said Treadle. 'Alma mater, gaudy armours eagle tour and so on.”

Treadle refers here to the old student's (drinking) song 'Gaudeamus Igitur', written in 1781 by Christian Wilhelm Kindleben, a priest in Leipzig who got kicked out because of his student songs.

The song is still in use at many universities and schools, where it gets sung during graduation ceremonies.

The actual lyrics are:

"Gaudeamus igitur,
Iuvenes dum sumus.
Post iucundam iuventutem,
Post molestam senectutem,
Nos habebit humus,
Nos habebit humus."

Which roughly translates to:

"Let us be merry, therefore, Whilst we are young men. After the joys of youth, After the pain of old age, The ground will have us, The ground will have us."

“Our Town”

Theatre Party

Members of the cast and crew of “Our Town” from 1964 are planning to hold a reunion via a theatre party to the same play at the Pavilion Theatre, Castle Hill on Saturday, 1st June this year. The event is being coordinated by Lenore Grunsell, who can be contacted at:

Phone: (02) 9983-9192
Email: grunsell@ozemail.com.au

or 177 Bobbin Head Road, Turramurra North, 2074.

The same theatre group recently staged “The Glass Menagerie”, and it was stunning, so a great night of theatre and reminiscences is to be had by all.
Ann Smith asked me to write this at the end of the day when a lot of people had gone home. I did not remember clearly all the details of names so please forgive me. I suspect I got the job because I was having such a good time, and knew so many there.

As we walked into the Master Builders Club I wondered how we would find the others. That problem was solved when someone arrived simultaneously wearing a WWTC T-shirt. It was Phil Bastick with his wife Margaret. Ann had arrived with them wearing a nametag so I met my first familiar person.

It was great to see Bill Keast, sporting his Canadian accent and complexion, and the E group members claimed me quickly. Even though I had never met them, they felt like old friends from all our email messages.

I was alarmed when I was told that the Egroup were buying lunch, but then I found out someone was fibbing. Lindsay Budd greeted everyone warmly and made a quick speech to start off the day, having stepped in when Roy Parker had been unable to attend. We were all very sad to hear about the passing of Roy's wife just the week before. Roy had sent a message that if he didn't have a house full of relatives he would have been there.

There were people there from the very first session right up to the 60/61 session - my group. I found some recognisable faces in Norma Phipps, Georgina Wood-Davies and she of the phenomenal memory, Gwenda Starling. Forgive my poor memory, I can't remember their married names. The talk reached fever pitch very quickly as we all encountered old mates from our time at college. Lunch rushed past in a blur, but my husband Brian assured me the food was excellent. As a Town Boy of Wagga, the reunion was not so meaningful for him, but all greeted him with friendliness as well.

I soon found my old boss, Bill Atkinson and wife Bev, and caught up with their news. Nigel Tanner was disappointed to find there was more of me than there had been in the staff photo Bill had sent to Egroup from the 80's!

Later in the day the reminiscences increased with the arrival of Brian and Gerda Keast, and we were able to catch up on old school mates as well. The day ended with people promising to keep in touch and the hope of further reunions to come.

Kay Killick (nee Harris 60-61)

Bill Atkinson (57/58) wrote:

After communicating with these people for some time (E-group), I finally met many of them, for the first time last Saturday. What a joy that was! Lunch with Lindsay and Lew, some trainspotting with John Riley, photo with Nigel and Dorothy, long yarn with Ann, a joke or two with Bill K. and fond memories with Kay and Brian. Many thanks to Roy and Lindsay for making the day possible.

WOLLONGONG LUNCHEON

Brian and Gerda Keast, Kay Killick, Norma Fowler, Gwenda Zapert, Georgina Greene, Bill Keast.

Vic Chapman attended the luncheon and related to us one of many events during his time at Thirroul.

ONE OF THOSE

This is just one of those incidents that used to turn an otherwise pedestrian sort of school day into a memorable one.

This took place towards the end of my days in the teaching service when I was Principal at Thirroul P.S. on the South Coast (1987-1990). You'll recollect this was a time of significant and accelerated change. It required Principals, and also other members of staff, to attend meetings mostly away from one's own school on a fairly regular basis.

On this particular day I'd returned from one of these meetings to find my Clerical Assistant a little distressed to say the least.

A policeman recently transferred from N.W. New South Wales to the area, came to enrol his son in Year 6. He was dutifully "walked through" the information about the school and presented with the standard forms to complete. The Application for Enrolment Form had just been amended to include for statistical purposes etc the question, "Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent?"

It proved to be a great form of amusement. My Clerical Assistant, like all Clerical Assistants, zealously guarded all things animal, vegetable and mineral belonging to the school. Though distressed by what transpired she just had to tell me about the enrolment episode. It appears that when she voiced the question of ethnicity, the law man thumped the desk and further underlined his displeasure by saying: "Madam, I've come all this way to get away from those bastards!"

Forever loyal she said, "I too thumped the desk and said, 'Our Principal is one of those!'"

I thereupon asked her to reflect on her reply and was comforted to know that I was just a dusky bloke and nothing more.

Vic Chapman 1950-51
SYDNEY CITY LUNCHEONS

Submitted by June Hadley (Robson 1948-50)

It was the occasion of the 50th Anniversary Reunion of the commencement of WWTC at Wagga Wagga in May 1997, and at the barbecue it was decided that a group would try to meet regularly in Sydney. The first date and place were then set - 15th July 1997 at Circular Quay. Somehow I became the organiser. Following several phone calls to various people we decided that we would go to the Intercontinental Hotel to the Buffet Luncheon.

Those attending were Lorna Robinson (Egan), Jeanette O’Connell (Urqahart), Norma Cook (Jenkins), Pat Carey (Plowman), Mona Lyman (Cheyney), Hazel Mann (Kaye), Fay Mitchell (Mullins), Dorothy Tanner (Williamson), Christel Wangmann (Cox), and the only male, John Riley.

Again at Circular Quay on 10th November 1998 John and I met Christel, Lorna, Jeanette, Norma, Shirley Slater (Morcom) and Grace Wilson (Ferrier). We went to a restaurant at David Jones. During 1998 we continued at that restaurant for our meetings in January, April and July but as a member of the Masonic Club in Castlereagh Street, I encouraged them to come there for our final meeting of the year in November. Since then we have continued to meet at the Masonic Club four times a year inviting partners in May 1999 to join us. Twelve people attended with 25 attending in November.

Apart from those mentioned above, Alumni who have attended have included Bonnie Myors (Mutch), Eileen Garvan (Pickering), Eileen Donohoe (Ryan), Bruce and Margo Phillips (Wilson), Ann Smith (Broadhead), Betty (Elizabth) Punton, Barbara Maynard (Hoare), Margaret Watts (Broadribb), Kevin and Win Wilcox (Walshaw), Maureen Dalziel (Lane), Malcolm Hanraty, Graeme Wilson (‘49-’50), Graeme Wilson (‘47-’49), Stan Falkiner, Pam Martin (Georgeson), Joan Johnson (Armstrong), Jan Silverside (Renatti), Audrey Schaecken (Sear), Bernice Munro (Press), Margaret Bailey (Christie), Col Crittenden, Bob Collard, Col Yarham, Phil Bastick, Shirley James (Cook), Paul Gallagher, Pat Dalton, Clare Hopkins (McGee), Lew Morrell, Lew Crabtree, Lindsay Budd, Gwen Ferguson (Roberts) and former lecturer Ruby Riach.

John Riley now assists in taking bookings and has also become a member of the Masonic Club. The bookings for this year have been made for approximately 20 to 25 people. As long as John or I know about a week beforehand we can include even more people. All Wagga Wagga Alumni are welcome.

Come to the Masonic Club, 169 Castlereagh Street anytime from 10.30am. “Sign-in” either as a temporary member, or as a guest of one of our members. Proceed to the 2nd Floor Lounge to socialize over a cup of coffee or a suitable drink. At 12 noon we proceed to the 4th Floor Dining Room for lunch where one may select two courses from the three available with choices in each course. The cost at present is $25. Drinks at the luncheon may be included depending on the price!

The dates for your diary are –

Monday 11th February –
Wednesday 15th May –
Thursday 1st August –
Friday 22nd November.

Contact John Riley at 95255304 or June Hadley (Robson) 98753949 one week in advance.

Computer Terms

BIT: A word used to describe computers, as in "Our son's computer cost quite a bit."
BOOT: What your friends give you because you spend too much time bragging about your computer skills.
BUG: What your eyes do after you stare at the tiny green computer screen for more than 15 minutes. Also: what computer magazine companies do to you after they get your name on their mailing list.
CHIPS: The fattening, non-nutritional food computer users eat to avoid having to leave their keyboards for meals.
COPY: What you have to do during school tests because you spend too much time at the computer and not enough time studying.
CURSOR: What you turn into when you can't get your computer to perform, as in "You $% computer!"
DISK: What goes out in your back after bending over a computer keyboard for seven hours at a clip.
DUMP: The place all your former hobbies wind up soon after you install your computer.
ERROR: What you made the first time you walked into a computer showroom to "just look."
EXPANSION UNIT: The new room you have to build on to your home to house your computer and all its peripherals.
FILE: What your secretary can now do to her nails six and a half hours a day, now that the computer does her day's work in 30 minutes.
FLOPPY: The condition of a constant computer user's stomach due to lack of exercise and a steady diet of junk food (see Chips).
HARDWARE: Tools, such as lawn mowers, rakes and other heavy equipment you haven't laid a finger on since getting your computer.
IBM: The kind of missile your family members and friends would like to drop on your computer so you'll pay attention to them again.
MENU: What you'll never see again after buying a computer because you'll be too poor to eat in a restaurant.
MONITOR: Often thought to be a word associated with computers, this word actually refers to those obnoxious kids who always want to see your hall pass at school.
PROGRAMS: Those things you used to look at on your television before you hooked your computer up to it.
RETURN: What lots of people do with their computers after only a week and a half.
TERMINAL: A place where you can find buses, trains and really good deals on hot computers.
WINDOW: What you leave the computer out of after you accidentally erase a program that took you three days to set up.
VALE LEW CRABTREE

Lewis James Crabtree : What memories that name evokes. Lew Crabtree was to his colleagues kind and understanding, a splendid conversationalist with a delightful sense of humour. As an ex-serviceman in 1949 he was six or seven years older than the majority of the teacher-trainee students who all looked up to him as a wise mentor and guide. At college it was amazing, he appeared as a more mature person, you would take him for a lecturer rather than a student and for the next fifty or so years, while the rest of us aged, he hardly changed in appearance. Often when ex-students met over the years, their opening remarks were always "Lew Crabtree, you haven't changed a bit!" I would jokingly interject with "Yes, but he didn't start College until he was sixty!" In all those years his appearance hadn't changed nor had his enduring qualities. Lew took a very active part in College life and was a man of many parts. He was the students' Federation Union Representative. He wrote articles for our College paper "Talkabout". He was a sub-editor of the 1950 Literary Magazine. He will always be remembered for his dazzling portrayal of Major General Stanley in the "Pirates of Penzance" and his starring role in "The Admirable Crichton". He was one of the instigators of the more civilised initiation of the 1950 students, where the College staff were impersonated by the students (mainly ex-servicemen). He convinced George Blakemore, the College Principal, that this type of initiation was preferable to an initiation involving any form of brutality. Lew was brilliant as the College Doctor and had the freshers completely fooled. Lew started his teaching career as a teacher-in-charge of a small school, progressing to staff schools, and, on attaining his degree transferred to high school teaching. He went on to lecture trainee teachers at Macquarie University. It was in this field that I met him in later years; I was Principal at Winston Heights when he appeared at my office as supervisor of trainee practice teachers. Our friendship was renewed. In recent years he has been co-editor of the resurrected "Talkabout", the official communicator for the Alumni of Wagga Wagga Teachers' College now Sturt University. He was a foundation committee man of the Alumni Association and as a member of that Committee helped to guide it to the place of significance it occupies today. Lew was the much loved husband of Esme, loving and admired father and father-in-law of Jeff and Julie, treasured grandpa of Jessica and Madeline. Only brother to Julie and uncle to Kath and Merry. He was loved by all his friends and esteemed by all who worked with him.

VALE LEW: YOU LEAVE US WITH MANY FOND MEMORIES.

Lew Morrell (1949-50)
FROM THE PRESIDENT.

With the passing of Lew Crabtree, not only have our ranks been depleted, but the quality of the W.W.T.C. Alumni Management Committee has been diminished. Lew had been a member of the Management Committee since its inception in 1997. He, together with Lew Morrell and Lindsay Budd, created and developed the alumni paper, "Talkabout" and many of the witticisms that appeared in its pages can be sourced back to Lew Crabtree. He had a commitment that was inspirational and together with a quiet sagacity contributed to the many and often lengthy debates that have taken place at our meetings. I have no doubts that he would have been delighted with the launch of our Scholarship Award in 2002 as he had input since its launch to the present time. To Esme and the Crabtree family we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

Bob Collard (1948-50)

JOHN PATRICK CLARKE

Members of the 1956-57 session of WWTC will be saddened to learn of the death of John Clarke at Taree on 1st June 2001. John is survived by his wife Dorothy, sons Michael and Paul, daughter Ann and their families. John and Dorothy attended our session reunions at Ranelagh House, Robertson, in 1998 and 2000. It was clear to all who met John at these gatherings that, in spite of health problems, he remained the open, friendly person we had first come to know back in 1956-57. The cheeky smile and twinkle in the eye were still there. John Clarke completed his secondary education at Griffith H S in 1952 and for a time worked with Wade Shire Council. A strong interest in teaching led him to WWTC at the beginning of 1956. He soon adapted to college life, becoming a popular member of the Kambu-Mari push and of Section 1. During his time at the college, John enjoyed participating in Gilbert and Sullivan productions and he was also an enthusiastic member of Dr Gammage's biology class. Above all, he was always a loyal and caring member of our youthful community. Following graduation John was appointed teacher-in-charge at Dyer's Crossing P S in the Taree district. Here he met Dorothy Gallagher and in January 1960 they married at Krambach. A few years later John and Dorothy made their home at Cundletown and John continued to teach in the Taree district. After transferring to secondary schooling, John completed a degree with the university of New England. Over the years he taught at Forster High, had two periods at Taree High and in 1978 he was transferred to Wingham High where he remained until his retirement in 1993. John was always known as a very caring person. Over many years he continued to make a valuable contribution to the well being of young people through his work as an enthusiastic teacher as well as through active roles in P & F organizations and in junior sporting clubs. John was always proud of his association with WWTC and valued highly the friendships formed there. We extend our deepest sympathies to Dorothy and to all John’s family.

Keith Crittenden (1956-57)
The long awaited “TEACHING MEMORIES” has been a great success and copies are still available for those who forgot to order one.

It was compiled for the WWTC Alumni Association by John Riley (1948-50). John has collected a huge selection of stories and anecdotes from many ex-students who let us in on the extraordinary conditions many of us experienced in the early days of College and teaching, and has arranged them under appropriate headings.

The Chapter headings are as follows:
Chapter 1: College Days
Chapter 2: Early Appointments
Chapter 3: Schools
Chapter 4: Pupils
Chapter 5: Inspectors and Bureaucracy
Chapter 6: To the Present

The books are available at a cost of $20 including postage and may be purchased by sending a cheque to the Treasurer, Lindsay Budd at:
4 Flemington Close
CASULA 2170.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO TALKABOUT

The Committee wishes to acknowledge with thanks, those alumni who have contributed at least $10 since the publication of the last Talkabout.

Vera Anderberg
Janet Atkins
Arthur Baillie

Jim and Melva Banks
Margaret Beale
Judith Bensley
Ken Bolton
Margery Bonson
James Bower
Dr Nick and Shirley Bricknell
Jeanette M Briggs
Brian Brock
Barbara Brown
Bob Brownlie
Patricia Buchanan
Lindsay and Gladys Budd
Jacqui Burgess
Terence Burke
Patricia Byrne
Bob Caden
Russell and Gloria Cassidy
Vic and Ruth Chapman
Ruth Chiswell
Margaret Christiansen
Shirley Clarke
Norma Clarke
Professoressa Eden-Margaret Clay McLean
Bill Clayton
Allan and Pat Cobbin
Barry Cohen
Jolyn Colefax
Margaret ‘Dawn’ Cook
Neroli Cooper
Pat Dalton
Beverley Dalton
Faye Davis
Yvonne Day
Bob Deller
Helens Dobmins
Heather Durrant
Wilma Emerton
Graham Forrest
Edward Fowler
Sandra Fowlie
Lucie Gabb
Bob and Lorraine Gass
Dawn Glase
Janice Graham
Keith and Barbara Grant
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Diane Gruber
Paul and Noeline Gurrier-Jones
Robert Hagan
Jim Hale
Robyn Hanigan
Judith Harrison(Price)
Eric Hawcroft
Susan Hazell
Colline Heather
Peter Hennessy
Margaret Higgins
Irene Hodge
Ann and Roy Holmes
Terence Holt
Neville Hopper
James Jamieson
Marshall Johnson
Ted Kaye
Bill Keast
Gordon King
Velma Kneale
Kevin Kotzur

Barry Lawrence
Don Learmonth
Jeanette Lewis
Luke Livissianos
David Long
Joe Lonsdale
Roslyn Mackey
Bob Mackintosh
Jennifer Madden
Hazel Mann
Ian Manwaring
William Maskey
Nooleen Mary Maurer
Cheryl McConnell
Ruth McFadden
Elaine McIlquham
Paul McInerny
Alys McMaughton
Kevin and Leonie Mitchell
John Moon
Daniel Morrissey
Elizabeth Morrow
Rhona Morton
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Anne Parsons
Lyne Petherbridge
Elaine Petrovic
Linda Pettersson
Ray Petts
Graeme Phillips
Rose Pickard
Ron and Decima Pickles
Janice Pouler
Shirley Radcliff
Ruby Riach
Janet J Robertson
Betty Robertson
Lorna Robinson
Wendy Rogers
Merrilyn Rumble
Wendy Rutherford
Reginald Ryde
Valma Simpson
Patricia Simpson
Beryl Singer
Ann Smith
Keith and Lyn Solomon
Laurie Spargo
Geoff Spiller
Lynette Stewart
Kevin Street
Colin Swan
M Thomas
John Tierney
Kay Toohey
Dean Travis
Barbara Trist
Hans van Haalen
Doreen Vernon
John Wallace
Christel Wangmann
Ellen Waugh
Shirley Waugh
Marion Wiley
Mary Williams
Michael and Pam Wilmot
Graeme Wilson
Georgina Wilson-Greene
John and Bronwyn Young
DO YOU KNOW THE WHEREABOUTS OF THESE ALUMNI?

This is a list of names of students who attended Wagga Wagga Teacher's College, whose addresses have not been found (Jan 2002). It is requested that anyone who can help at all would send the information to:

Mrs Ann Smith, 24 Whitworth St Westmead 2145
Phone: 02 9635 0449 email: annrae@bigpond.com.au

Ann is the secretary of the Wagga Wagga Teacher's College Alumni. She has been doing an incredible amount of work searching for alumni who may not know of the existence of Talkabout. She forwards the addresses to the Alumni Office at Charles Sturt University so that the alumni can be added to the Talkabout mailing list.

1947 - 1949
Margaret Adams now Arthur, Mary Fealy, Norma Nielson, Moira Smyth

1948 - 1950
Dora Boughton, Maurice Davies, Joan Forman, Alison Hoffman, Betty James, Edith Morton, Margaret Olive, Dorothy Ramsey, Una (Vera) Vine, Beth Wold

1949 - 1950
Shirley Angrave, Ona Duschke, Robert Fitzgibbon, Mary Kellert, Elaine Lashbrook, William Lawson, Nancy McColl, June Matheson, Gladys Robbins, Margaret Robertson.

1950 - 1951
Maureen James, Alexa Joy Murphy, Paul Rafferty, Karen Riedell now Kelly, William Small, Robert Smith.

1951 - 1952
Margaret Canavan now Rushworth in UK, Margaret Clare, Alice Gregory, Rosemary McFarland, Gabrielle Shirlaw, George Stanley, Bruce Wilson.

1952 - 1953
George Blackgrove, Margaret Cattell now Murphy, Betty Ellery, Lorna Jermyn, Maureen McGrath, Moyna Martin, Diana Mellick now Andriske, Pamela Priest, Margaret Scott now Wade, Shirley Stevens, Margaret Wailes, Valerie Wicks.

1953 - 1954

1954 - 1955

1955 - 1956
Ian Clacher, Anne Robertson now Henzell, Lorraine Langridge, Pamela Timbs.

1956 - 1957
Maree Bosworth, Karen Dare, Kenneth McIntosh, Judith Rodgers, Lorna Stephenson.

1957 - 1958
Margaret Alexander, Patricia Brown, Margaret James, Gerard Mollenhorst, Margaret O'Brien, Kadri Reiman, Kathleen Tweedale now Miller.

1958 - 1959
Wendy Austin now Nash, Trevor Borzsonyi, Judith Brown, Pamela Bulmer now Jamieson, Ron Burns, James Butler, Maureen Byrnes, Margaret Clark, Lorraine Cunantop now Hassal, Ross Graham, Margaret Heery, Sylvia Henry, Joan Jenkins, now McPherson, Laurence Lephird, Gail Lindsay, Jann Lodge, Ann Lyons, Robert McCarthy, Marcia Mason now West, Elaine Middlemiss, Lorna Murray, Rita O'Brien, Sandra Parkinson, Maureen Paterson, Valerie Place, Kevin Plummer, Margaret Puglies, Catherine Reid, Beverley Roberts now Richardson, Anne Rutledge, Ena Scarlett, Margaret Semmens now Wallis, Rodney Smallbone, Jennifer Smith, Janet Stevenson, Beverley Stretton, Janwyn Terlick now Cox, Margaret Walker, Jean Walsh, Richard Waring, Rhondda Watts, Patricia Williams, Helen Willson.

1959 - 1960
Barbara Alley, Margaret Anderson, Faye Blomfield, Rodney Bourke, Alice Boxwell, Ann Bradley, Mary Breese, Margaret Brownie, Patricia Burge, Catherine Burgess, Margaret Burke, Kathleen Bryan, Helen Campbell, Claire Carroll, Robyn Chisholm, Gloria Clarke, Janet Clifford, Ron Cody, Elizabeth Connelly, Judith Cox, Margaret Dick, Jennifer Dudley, Dawn Duncan, Lesley Farr, Rosemary Farlow, Dennis Faulkner, Julie Fisher, Ann Flintham, Arvid Franzen, Barbara Freeman, Marie Fuller, Helen Futter, Lynnette Grosvenor, David Harris, Patricia Hayes, Julia Hennessy, Gillian Hogg now Dodd, Pamela Holmes, Kathleen Home, Roslyn Imrie, Michele Ison, Ann Jallard, Susan Jarvis, Thelma Johnson, Wendy Johnson, Jennifer Knight now Hammond, Leonie Lakeman, Denise Lannen, Margaret Lord, Annette McCausland, Jill McGrath, Rhonda McNicol, Lyn Maher, Tiu Malo in Fiji, Elizabeth Manwaring, Norma Marchesin, Barbara Martin,
Margaret Minshall, Janice Molan, Denise Murphy, Lynette Norris, Leonie Nugent, Darcy Owens, Carolyn Pattendon, Robyn Payne, Norma Perkins, Marie Pierce, Marilyn Pope, Lesley Proud, Lynette Pudney, Marta Richter, Rae Rooke, Nerida Rowe, Zelma Rush, Judith Schirmer, Patricia Schmidt, Kathleen Sharrock, Deline Siebels, Anthony Skinner, Jeannette Slattery, Adrienne Sorozsozuk, James South, Diana Strang, Judith Stuckey, Shirley Thomas, Joan Thompson, Marion Thompson, Stella Tonitto, Gary Walker, Margaret Watson, Brian Webb, Patricia Webster, Margaret Weise.

1960 -1961
Marlene Asmus, Joan Baker, Helen Barrett, Graham Barrett, Rozlin Bastian, Helen Beck, Bernadette Bell, Judith Benson, Helen Bradley, Yvonne Bradley, Sandra Brown, Wendy Bryant, David Burns, Deidre Cadet, Denise Clacken, Graham Cooper, Myrene Court, Therese Curtis, Maureen Curtis, Maree Dignam, Merrol Eastment, Margaret Elphick, Gary Flanigan, Helen Gardiner, Denise Glacken, Michael Gow, Yvonne Graham, Marion Gray now Eastcott, Pamela Hamilton, Anne Hogan, Ronald Houison, Diana Humphries, Elizabeth Hutchison, Shirley James, Leslie Johnson, John Jones, Ken Jorgensen, Ronnette Kelly, Judith Laws, Janet Lea, Roslyn Lodge, Phillip Maloney, Frances Marning, Brian Marsh, Robynne Mason, Dorothy Masters, Judith McCaffery, Alwyn McDonald, Roslyn McGilvray, Mark McCullin in Canada, Elizabeth McLaren, Anne Miles, Robin Moore, Donna Morrissey, Jan Northmore, Janice Parker, Edith Perry, Beverley Potter, Alan Pymont, Lauren Quarnby, Madelaine Rowe, Janice Sant, Gwen Saunderscock, Robyn Schenk, Pamela Schmidt, Barbara Smith, Elaine Smith, Alan Smith, Ronella Sneddon, Elizabeth Talbot, Sylvia Taylor, Pamela Thomas, Diane Thompson, Lorraine Walton, Marcia Watling, Alwyn Webb, Helen Wetherly, Dianne Whitterton, Jacqueline Willcox, Colleen Willis, Jan Manchev, Wurd, Margaret Warner, Barbara Wyman, Jennifer Xu, Margaret Yordanova, Patricia Ziegler.

1961 - 1962
Diana Alexander, Irena Alkeviclus, Diane Ayliffe, Judith Bate, George Bennett, Beverly Bennett, Carol Bishop, Brian Blacker, Kay Brooker, Valerie Callaghan, Fernanda Centofanti, Janie Chambers, Janice Coddington, Leslie Corner now Saunders, Patricia Cornwell, Heather Cram, Susan Cushing, Helen Delmenico, Patricia Dixon, Dale Donaldson, Janice Durham, Elaine Dwyer, Penelope Elton, Eileen Farrow, Vincent Fisher, Kay Gahan, Roberta Giles, Colleen Glover, Roger Griffin, Michael Gow, Margaret Harrison, Robert Hetherington, Renstie Hoven, Ruth Howlett, Caryll Hunter, Robyn Kennedy, Lynette Langshaw, James Lewis, Pamela Luck, Lance Mac Donnell, Merilee McCarthy, Maureen Mc Donnell, Kathleen McGirr, Nina McGuire, Jill McLean, Anne Michelle, Margaret Mullins, John Murphy, Graham O'Neill, Lyndsay Paterson now Pearce, Graham Patten, Christina Pendlebury, Trevor Richards, Suzanne Robbins, Edna Thompson, Diane Turner, Leonard Turner, D'ArCY Watson, Colleen Willis, Beverley Willis

1962 - 1963
Margaret Armour, Malcolm Beazley, Helen Bowden, Verna Canning, Rosemary Cantlay, Anne Carter, Kevin Chinnock, Judith Cole, Craig Copley, Jennifer Crawford, Valerie Curtis, Carol Dalton, Hazel Druitt, William Elderidge, Marion Fox, Eleanor Furse, Margaret Gibbons, Isabel Graham, Lynette Griffin, Jocelyn Hall, Peter Hamilton, Lynette Harris, Julie Hartnett, Elizabeth Henry, Margot Herrick, Beverley Hurrell, Judith Hyde, Carole Kelleher, Maureen Kennedy, Terence Lane, Maree Le Clere, Iris Leavesley, June Lewin, Valerie Lister, Eleanor Luff, Helen Lynch, Jill McAlpin, Patricia McClintock, Jillian McCormack, Leone McInerney, Carolyn McNaughton, Kerry Melville, Janice Meredith, Diane Metcalfe, Fay Moore, Margaret Ottaway, Judith Paech, Mildred Parrish, Carmel Piltz, Geoffrey Piper, Robyn Priest, Jeanne Quartel, Beverley Richardson nee Roberts, Pamela Roberts, Margaret Rollston, David Ross, Lynette Ross, Marcia Sargant, Constance Sides, Helen Sinfield, Robyn Small, Janet Smith, Charles Thomas, Narelle Thompson, Noelene Towers, Beverley Underhill, Marion Verner, Cheryl Walmsley, Suzanne Ward, Gillian Watson, John Watts, Judith Webb, Carolynne Webster, Pamela Wells, Dorothy Wiseley, Wieslaw Woods, Ray Cassidy

1963 - 1964
Trina Batther, Barbara Bender, Susan Bentley, Susan Boyd, Ida Brown, Margaret Byron now Gleeson, John Costin, Urdu Delaney, Susan Harrison, Maurice Hyam, Mary Impye, Johanna Hansen, Edith Jefferis, Lynette Johnson, Meggan Jones, Beatrice Jordon, Wendy King, Robyn Koth, Lynette Lefay, Luella Lills, Colin Mortimer, Judith Munro now Miller, Kevin Myers, Anna Pappos, Marie Quilty now Sumpton, Margaret Rimes, Gabriel Roffey, Marie Scoble, Judith Stevenson, Kay Symons, Virginia Veitch now Romney, Nola Walmsley, Colleen Walsh, Gabrielle Zeidler.

1964 - 1965
Pamela Callaghan, George Clifford, Roger Craig, Olga Croake, Robert Denny, Shirley Fisher, Constance Fliervoo now Jones, Sheila Gourley, Geoffrey Hick, Alexander Melville, Lee Morris, Margaret Oliver, Madelon O'Sullivan, David Rankin, Marilyn Rotherham, now Wharton, Don Smith, Valerie Stephenson, Barbara Tucker, Jennifer Wiley now Boyd, Anne Williamson now McCrone, Rev Robert Woolner

1965 - 1966
Noela Barton, Robyn Beridge, Diane Carmichael now Hammond, Colleen Clyde, Jane Commans now Fifield, Frances Common, Sid Fifield, Grahame Forbes, Noel Fox, Suzanne Geagghan now York, Andrea Gilson, Hugo Joubbink, Claire Kelly now Clough, Valerie Kubank, Lynette Lauff now Daviss, Lenja Laurich now Kobelke, Christine Law, Helga Lester, Michael Lynch, Leonie McClellan now Kennedy, Diane Morgan, Francine Murden, Francine Murden now Voss, Peter O'Connell, Lynette O'Connor, Carole Peggam now Wright, Susan Pym now Thompson, Sandy Rogers, Helen Saines now Harvey, Margaret Saunders, Marcus Shanahan, Marilyn Sharpe now Juner, Victoria Strutt, Margaret Sutton, Lesley Symons, Geoffrey Toister, Wendy White now Tucker, Helen White.

1966 - 1967
Cheryl Brydon, Dianne Cavanaugh now Grantham, Carol Forster, Ruth Frank, Dorothy Hawke, Penelope Hawkes, Beverley Hayden, Robert James, Sara Johnson, Verdon Lienthal, Robin Lindsay, Barbara Miller now Davies, Saul Motingwa, Annette Murray now Sale, Simon O'Brien, Christine O'Connor, Lynette Ronning now Jarratt, Anne Sedwick, John Smith, Joan Strong, Lorraine Werry, Jeanette Zurawaski

1967 - 1968
Marion Allmand, Toni Ames, Nina Avery, Rhonda Bergen, Marion Bratel, Susan Brown Crawford, Patricia Browne, Margaret Cannon, Mary Clifford, Jane Creighton, Judith de Maloney, Carolyn Downes, Sharlyn Downs, Diana Ellicott, Ann Fairfax, Roy Flowers, Pamela Foley, Margaret Forbes, Kerri-Gai Gladwin, Barbara Hamill, Patricia Happy, Julie Heanne, Susan Heywood, Shirley Jobbins, Susan Jones, Suzanne Keen, Susan Keith, Lorraine Laycock, Judith Matthews, Helen McGuire, Daryl McIntyre, Patricia McMahon, Donald Metcalf, Fay
Newth Helen Nicolas, Faye Pizarro, Patricia Rackham, Anita Rae, Maurice Robson, Janet Rogan, Pauline Rohan, Katherine Roughley, Margaret Rowley, June Schipp, Rebecca Sharp, Jennifer Shepherd, Christopher Simpson, Marilyn Spensley, Heather Stonham, Christine Trevenar, Lorraine Vaughan, Richard Warden, Judith Wayman, Shirley Webb,

1968 - 1970

1969 - 1971
Beverley Alexander, Lorraine Banfield, Janet Battenher, Cheryl Beard, Maxine Bedgood, Bronwyn Beecher, Christine Berry, Gail Brown, Pauline Burch, Lurline Butler, Suzanne Cattle, Judith Cheyne, Geraldine Clear, Peter Coleman, Moreen Coleman, Margaret Colwell, Deborah Cox now Muirhead, Carmel Crawford, Carol Croker, Lynette Cross, Francine Dessai now Walsh, Pamela Dickey, Kay Dobson, Sharon Dougherty, Sharon Dougherty, Judith Doughty, Barbara Finnen, Wendy Fletcher, Helen Gilbert, now Kelly, Jeff Goodfellow, Pamela Graham, Eileen Guthrie, Rodney Crawford, Joy Heaton, Robert Hosking, Jane Howson, Gillian Hume, Jooneen Johnson, Lynette Johnson now Ruskin, Helen Keir, Janice Kimber now Moore, Maureen Klippsch, Jean Lake, Catherine Lee, Brenda Lemke, Carol Liebeck, Ann Linder, Patricia Looker, John Lynch, Ron Lyons, Stewart Macarthur, Judith Mackay, Carol McArdele, Barbara McGann, Lynette McLean, Robert McRae, Barbara Meech, Annette Miller, Peter Miller, Alma Mitchell, Rhonda Murdoch, Rita Nicholl, Lynette Nolan, Ann O'Brien, Ray Parkins, Marilyn Paynter, Joan Richardson, Dawn Robinson, Anne Sammut, Janice Sammut, Helen Sharp, Anne Shepherd, Valda Smitchens, Janette Smith, Margaret Tarra, Lorraine Taylor, Megan Thomas, Meredith Turner, Gail Tydeman, Marianne Van de Brug, Patricia Williams, Christina Wrecyrz, Kathleen Writer,

1970

1971
I only have the following who did their first year at Wagga Teacher's College and completed their training as Riverina College of Advanced Education, Jennifer Allen, Denis Ashton, Shirley Aspinall, Christopher Baines, Maxine Bedgood, Linda Blankley, Jillian Boatwright, Ann Cahill, Wayne Bradley, Tim Brosnan, Ann Cahill, Suzanne Cattle, Judith Cheyne, Annette Johnson, Julie Levic, Andy Robertson, John Selwood, Ray Signor, Robert Watson.

Much help needed to find more names from this 1971 session and their addresses. Also these extra ones from 1960 - 1961.


Apologies for any errors of omission, spelling or putting in the wrong session.

With your cooperation we can find a large number of your friends from College days.

Ann Smith.