

PANORAMA



A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF
BATHURST TEACHERS' COLLEGE
CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY
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Rodney Wells, Music Lecturer and Conductor of Eisteddfod winning choir, Roslyn Wells, Shirley Mould, Ian Harpley and in back row Peter Dargin and David Mould at the recent **celebration of fifty years since graduating from Bathurst Teachers' College.**

Mr and Mrs Rodney Wells made a special effort to join the weekend celebrations. Many recalled the surprise and delight of winning the Sydney Eisteddford in 1959. The B.T.C. Choir record of songs had been taped and was played at the reunion. It still sounded exceptional.

Although those with great voices and musical talents didn't challenge Joan Sutherland, thanks to our enjoyment of singing and the solid foundation gained from our music lecturers, most of us have continued our love of music.

Many of us went into schools and communities as the backbone, if not leaders of choirs, theatrical, revue and dance groups, folk festivals, church music and historical celebrations or organisers of community radio programs. Or was it the first Top Forty Hit parade list which came out in 1958, that drove our 'love'? Fifty years ago none of us could have imagined that we'd be coming to Bathurst in 2009, to celebrate the fact that most of us lived and learned on this campus in the years around 1959.

Doctus Doce- and having been taught, went out to teach. I recall a gathering during our first term of teaching, where our 'horror stories' made my father fear that none of us would serve out our bond. However, we did survive and many went on to teach for over forty years.

Reunions bring back a multitude memories. After a while, we felt we were talking to that younger person we first knew, and so we gathered –'youth afire in the Alma mata of our choice'.

Royce Levi edited an account of first Year Teachers' experiences and *Into the Whirly Wind* was an edition of stories from 'first year out' teachers published by CSU School of Teacher Education - evocative reading.



Col Sharp Head of CSU Bathurst Campus , Director Office of Planning and Audit extended a warm welcome on behalf of Vice Chancellor of CSU. To the BTC Class of 58/59 and those from 1957-58 and 1959-60, he addressed the following:

This means most of you were born around 1940, during the war years with parents that experienced the great depression. So you were prior to the baby boomers; times were relatively difficult, although your family's values were "middle class", especially towards education. After you passed the Intermediate Certificate in Third Year you went on to be one of top 5% academically who progressed to Fifth Year passing the Leaving Certificate. This gave you a

choice of Tertiary education at Sydney University, UNE or UNSW but as it turned out you were lured to BTC to "train" as a teacher. The Scholarship gave £17 2s for ten months after the living costs for full board were deducted. There was a College fee of £5 10s to cover all text books and library fees, but a book allowance of £3 3s. This financial support was probably a major factor as other people of your age were already supporting the family income.

Bathurst Teachers' College training constituted a two year course with everyone doing a first year of general primary. For the second year you had to choose from infants, small schools or lower division, general primary or junior secondary.

You had more practice teaching experience than students of today and this included five practicums with schools as far as Orange and Lithgow involved. Memories remain of a hundred students packing the steam train from Bathurst to Lithgow, with lunches in green tins. It was a long trip as the train kept stopping along the way to let off students for the small schools. The code of dress was strict with stocking, gloves and even hats expected as female students arrived and male students wore jacket and ties at all times, no matter what the weather. Clothes were probably the main expense. Although clothing coupons were no longer required, clothing was expensive with easily laddered stocking requiring 3-5 shillings to replace and most girls made their own skirts and rope petticoats. The College blazer which most students wore cost ten guineas at Gowings, but was worth its weight in gold in unheated college dormitories and lecture rooms.

The class of 1958 were amused to find out that Col Sharp was born in this year. As he was a local lad living at Meadow Flat he recalled the BTC students coming for prac teaching. Later he had one of the graduates – Sally E.L.Howard as his teacher. Col mentioned the number of women who were sent to rural districts, married and stayed there encouraging the families to value education. The first postings received by the students certainly spread them like seeds in the wind. Whether they were sent to isolated areas or to inner city schools with large classes of

mixed abilities they were expected to cover the NSW Dept of Ed curriculum, implement the changing policies and adapt to technologies of the day. From jelly pads, spirit stencils, Gestetner duplicators to photocopiers, to computers and the internet - teachers you have coped with continual change and survived.

In summary Col said: You were born in austere times and through your considerable abilities you have contributed to the massive growth of this nation over the past fifty years. You have been part of the 'noblest of professions' and passed the baton on to many to continue the work of building a better society.

Ian Harpley 1958/59. recalled...In the early teaching months of 1960 many ex-students of BTC made a daily check of the mail. They had all duly written the place of their First Appointment on a piece of paper, sealed it into the College provided self-addressed envelope and posted it to Bathurst. Everyone waited impatiently for the compilation of these letters.

One day it arrived, was hurriedly torn open and scanned to see where everyone was. Firstly, the many unusual place names caught their attention. Robin was at Mumbil, Richard at Tunglebung, Jenny at Currabubula and Peter at Nelungaloo. However, the crowning glory was Dave at Eunonyhareenyha. Such a place had to be well beyond whoop-whoop but a little map checking soon showed that it was only a few miles out of Wagga Wagga.

No-one had been appointed to the highly feared Tibooburra but 5 were in Broken Hill some of whom were locals. The next furthest west appointment was Bev at Ivanhoe. Being west was not the only measure of isolation, Peter at Naradhan, Bruce at Brigalow, Barry at Greg Greg and others were all a long way from the more civilized aspects of life.

The list helped many realize that they weren't on their own. A college friend or acquaintance may have been reasonably close and was contacted and/or visited. I wonder if Universities provide a similar useful service today.

I had always kept my List filed away with important memorabilia. I have been asked to place it in the College Archives and will do so but I will keep copies to remind me of the days gone by.

Nea Kracht [58-59] wrote it was such a great weekend, organised to perfection.. It started on **Friday evening** when about 40 of us gathered at the Knickerbocker Hotel. It was quite exciting to see if you could recognise familiar faces, and as there were people from 57-58 and 59-60 sessions as well, it made it even more of a challenge...didn't recognise a face?? oh, well... they're probably from the other years, but on having a chat to each and everyone, you did recognise them, and no they real-l-l-l-y hadn't changed much at all!! The bar-b-q and salad was excellent, and cooked to perfection by **Barry Wooldridge [in photo]** and Steve Smith.

Saturday morning was again a beautiful day, when several of us brought along our photos, bringing such comments as 'oh remember when...', 'wasn't that funny when..' etc. It was also sad when looking at the group photos, to see that some of our mates had passed over, no longer with us, m-m-m that was a bit of a 'downer', and I guess it's quite amazing that half a century later the rest of us are still here! We then went to CPD [these acronyms had us all puzzled!!] for a wonderful Buffet Lunch. Then it was off again to have a walking tour of the Campus. Now this was so interesting, as I have only been back to BTC three times in the last 50 years, everything was so different, even the tennis courts that I remembered as being way down the 'paddock' seemed to be right up next to LJ's place, which of course they were all the time!! Now that brought quite a few comments from quite a few of the blokes when we were invited right inside LJ's home. I won't mention names, but quite a few had been 'invited' into have a quiet word with LJ, for such interesting things as missing a lecture/being late for various things, wow doesn't it make you think just how well we were trained, imagine now, most of the students at CSU would be fronting up to the Vice Chancellor every day!! Interesting that it was built for the manager of the Experimental Farm which had been established in the 1880s. We saw and read about the 'Water Feature', commemorating our 'Fish Pond', in the quadrangle where we stood in line to receive our monthly pay, The Common Room and the rooms beside which is now a radio station, our rooms which are



now offices, no hospital, where Matron made you gargle aspirin from everything from a sore toe to having tetanus, and how three of 'our' boys convinced the matron that they were failed medical students and were called in for their diagnosis. Wow I didn't know THAT!] the room at the end of our boys dorm which is now the head office for 'Circus Oz', the middle lecture rooms which have been bought by a farmer from just out of town and 'transplanted' to his property and made into his homestead, There was so much to see. The campus is SO big and everything has changed so much. This section of our weekend was interesting (but it took so long we missed out on the planned events, 'Grumpy old men, Grumpy old Women, who are the grumpiest?', Now that would have been interesting,

In the evening at 7.00pm we dressed up for the 50th Celebration Dinner and this went well. Over 80 ex-students attended. We had a scrumptious three course meal with our own choice of wines, beer or soft drinks. Dale gave a welcoming speech involving us all and Colin Sharp, Head of Bathurst Campus, gave an excellent speech which got everyone thinking and talking. The diners then enjoyed catching up with as many as possible before the evening finished.



Sunday, an Ecumenical Service was going to be held in the Cowshed, but because so many people wanted to attend it was held in the Lecture Room.

Photo of Carolyn Dixon/Hall, Monte Woodhouse, Jenny Parkins/Teasdale, Nea Kracht, Maria Harkin/Raikes

There was a moment's hesitation, sometimes a quick glance at name tags and faces, then came the enjoyment of catching up and remembering campus life 50 years ago.

Once friends began to speak there were vivid flashes of our past selves, and, remarkably, personalities and voices hardly seemed to have changed. Fond memories tumbled forth, helped by photos and sundry memorabilia people had brought along to share.

I heard again the clear tones of Rod Wells' outstanding choir. I saw us standing on the lecture rooms' verandah, munching contraband apples from the agriculture farm. I smelt again the wonderful aroma in our dorm corridors from Graham 'Poker' Gardiner's fabulous apple pies. Did we spoil the statistics of an orchard's crop, I've always wondered? Ever so briefly we turned back the clock, to all the dreams and vigour of our youth.

A final thought sticks in mind. When introduced to some current students on our campus tour, I loved their bemused expressions. They were probably thinking:

"Good heavens, in 50 years we'll be like them - doddering along!" *by the definitely not doddering*

Keith and Judy Amos [in photo]



Bruce Morey's '09 Reunion Reflections

This Reunion was the best. Maybe as we get older we converge more in our valuing of each other. Certainly there were several comments that as we reflected on the value of the years spent together, we felt we were back there again, as youthful as ever!

It was my privilege to plan the 'ecumenical Church service' on the Sunday morning before we departed. Instead of a tiny Chapel, which used to be the cow shed in our days, we were finally allocated a lecture theatre seating 300. We filled a tenth of the seats. This was a time of reflecting through prayers, hymns, sharing stories and a talk (I won't call it a homily) on our gratitude, our servanthood, our awareness of vulnerability and the challenge to press forward



Those who took part were **Rowland and Jan Croucher**

[in photo] Years '57 and '58, David Barr ('59) Neville Hatton ('57) and Michael Pailthorpe, who is a CSU chaplain. Jenny Teasdale (Parkin) led us in remembering those of our colleagues who are no longer with us. Rod Wells would have conducted the singing, but he was required elsewhere – great to see him there.

I think we all came away with a renewed sense of gratitude for the BTC years and the renewal, or even the development, of bonds over the weekend.

Going Back

Curiously, it was an interesting challenge to walk into the Knickerbocker Hotel on that Friday evening. What would we find? What would "they" look like? Not recognizing anything or anyone, we had to ask where the BTC group was. A small group was there, talking animatedly. They were largely gray-haired and unrecognizable!

As we approached, people were genuine in their welcome but obviously wondering who we were. So began the journey of rediscovering old friends and colleagues. As the evening progressed and more and more arrived, the accumulations of age became irrelevant as we exchanged our stories of the past and our journeys to the now.

A perfect sunny, Spring Saturday saw us swapping stories in the sun. Our teaching paths had been various but mostly rewarding and successful. Only a very few were still teaching; most had settled into satisfying, well earned retirements. A significant proportion had studied further and become academics. A tiny handful, with good health and high energy, were still working and making exciting contributions in a variety of fields, sometimes quite unexpected.

An exploration of the much-expanded campus gave us a chance to view the students of 2009. Some of them could have been "the us" of 50 years ago, in their shorts wearing some scarlet sunburn on the expanse of body we would never have dared expose! Seeing the old, army like dorms, reminded us of just how packed in we were; perhaps it had the intent of bonding us. In that it succeeded!

The Reunion Dinner, with its gourmet food elegantly served, made us remember some of the dreadful meals the 1958/59 kitchen dispensed..."Tram-smash"... and those Green Tins that housed our unappetizing "prac" lunches!

Sunday saw a Chapel Service, not in the cowshed as planned, but in an enormous lecture theatre. There, stories were told, theologies silently compared and people not with us remembered. Of 150 students, who started in 1958, it seems 19 have died., but they remain young in BTC memories.

Over an extended Hyatt-like brunch, (that certainly did not feature greasy, cold, coagulated fried eggs, we recalled as the staple of our BTC breakfasts), we said our farewells. Those formative years when we were just 17 or 18, away from home, training to relieve the rural, teacher shortage in NSW, were now 50 years behind us. But our friendships were still alive and re-energized by this Reunion .

Jenny Teasdale [Parkins]

Moments at Reunions

The First One.

We'll stay at the Knickerbocker – the four of us. I've got my father's Austin A-70. Marie will be at the same hotel.

Saturday night: there's a bit of a party on two floors. The upper one, the one booked in my name, is the beer room. Directly below is the spirits room with a Buddha- like man making random mixtures of slightly fatal doses of anything alcoholic. I have a few drinks. Take Marie to the top of Mt Pan for some ' Racing' for nostalgia's sake. By about 2.30 Am, I drop Marie back to the hotel, find my room which is heaped with layers of drunken young men. With no room for me, even on the floor. I drive my car back to College, park off the road and sleep in the car.



In the morning, worse for wear, I return to the Hotel to collect my belongings. My legal room-mates press money on me to pay the bill. It was booked in my name after all! The room looks like what it was – the detritus of a Roman orgy covers the floor – bottles, stubs....

The manager accepts my money. Asks for cleaning fee. I have no more money. And that is how I was blackballed from the Knickerbocker Hotel for the rest of my life without ever sleeping in it.

You know who you are!

The Last Reunion.

Caroline barely remembers me so I tell her the story of my refugee, Latvian, WW11, nominal Wog in North Newtown Demonstration High School experiences. I'm at my fascinating, vulnerable best...

Caroline is so taken with this tale that she mentions to Alan Smith that Peter spent two years at the Bathurst Migrant Hostel in 1950-51. Alan works out that I must have gone to Bathurst Public School which he also attended. We meet, we discuss. We deduce that we shared the same classroom with 47 other boys in 1950, before I could speak English.

This is a revelation, like finding a lost brother, after almost 60 years.

Thank you Caroline.

Peter Grislis 1958-59

In photo below:

Monte ,Carolyn, Diane McKechnie/Flynn, Barry Hyland, Jan Beggs/Cullen, Maria Harkin

Music in the

1950's as

recalled by

David Mould [BTC 1959/60]

Music changed during the 1950's, probably as much as the changes we are seeing today.

The 1950's began with Popular music which ranged from catchy "cute" songs such as "I'm Looking over a four-leafed clover" and "How much is that doggie in the window" through the ballads from the '30's and '40's which were still very popular. The progression through more serious music became evident in the early

1950's with tunes such as "The Happy Wanderer" and "Swedish Rhapsody" (an almost Classical piece of music), the plethora of love songs from artists including Patti Page, Rosemary Clooney, Jo Stafford, Pat Boone, Frankie Laine, Tony Bennett and many, many more.



Suddenly, onto the music scene burst, with quite a resounding bang, performers such as Bill Haley, and the inimitable Elvis Presley. While all the other hit songs maintained their profile, most kids, mainly females of the species, were besotted with the gyrations and stage circus of Presley. Parents were mortified to think that their daughters might be violated by such performers, and many teenagers were forbidden to listen to or attend any concerts where such antics might be performed.

Meantime, there were many great songs and songsters to be heard, and the Americans were not alone in the Popular music field, although more Americans than British and others, were heard in Australia.

We also heard the beginnings of an Australian basis to Popular music, and this continued on, expanding all the while.

The radio was the major means of keeping up with the music scene, certainly in Australia, and with the development of the transistor during the late 1950's, smaller portable radios enabled music to be constantly available for those who could afford such devices. The popularity of Hit Parades, and of the Announcers (or Disk Jockeys, as they were known) on most commercial radio stations increased markedly as the 1950's passed by.

Radios in motor cars became increasingly possible, albeit at great expense as an accessory in those days, but thus began the craze to have "music wherever you go". Young people of the time were able to listen to, and enjoy, a wide range of music - learning of the greats from the 1930's and 1940's (for example, Glen Miller, Benny Goodman, Mills Bros) as well as the latest from the international scene.



One thing, though, was that the tunes were easily hummed, and the words easily understood, and this made for a very strong remembrance factor, something remaining to this very day for those lucky enough to have enjoyed that period. "Wow, what a wonderful weekend we all had! Dale and her team organised the activities really well, which kept us busy all weekend. They even ordered the perfect weather to accompany us. I've been watching the weather on TV for the last few weeks, er...sleet, cold you name it, so packing from up here at Tweed Heads, was extremely hard. Jumpers and coats for those chilly days that we are all familiar with, is quite hard when you're in shorts, singlets and bare feet, so I was glad that my room was close to the car and I didn't have to carry my heavy case too far!!

Kirsten Uibo/C.C and Carole Tarlington 1957/59 recalled the trouser strike. Women were not allowed to wear slacks to lectures held in unheated demountables. As we know, Bathurst can be very cold. They mostly kept warm by dancing and Carole trained all the dancers for the revue. She still runs a performance school in Canada and teaches and could claim the

longest distance traveled to the reunion. Kirsten now lives in Victoria after a full life of teaching, bringing up three successful children and owning some fine race horses of varying success .

Ann's impressions of the 50th Reunion of the Year 58/59 of Bathurst Teachers College:

The distance involved for some people who made a huge effort to come to the Reunion ; this made it a better experience for those of us who travelled much shorter distances. Thank you to those folk.

Meeting up with people I hadn't seen for many years and, in the case of some, for 50 years. Although we all seemed to be sporting grey hair, or no hair!, wonky knees and a lot more wrinkles than we did 50 years ago, it was great to find that we were all essentially the same interesting people, though with an extra layer of experience and wisdom gained through 50 more years of living.

It was great to share the stories, mostly good, of other people's journeys in the teaching years and beyond, and in many cases, to hear the stories of people who had taken a different path in their lives.



These stories were from folk whose contribution to the community was immense and high profile, as well as those who have quietly and consistently made a worthwhile contribution wherever they found themselves over the years.

It was great to have a number of the 1957/58 and 1959/60 Years to celebrate with us. For me personally, the highlight was being able to spend time with a number of people from the Christian Fellowship (CF) and Student Christian Movement (SCM) Groups who had meant a lot to me, as well as each other, during our time at BTC. The Sunday morning service gave us time to reflect

on the past 50 years and what it has brought us in our Christian lives, and also to remember quite a number of people who are no longer with us.

Another highlight was the Reunion Dinner; an interesting trip down memory lane in the speeches, with a young looking Colin Sharp, Head of Campus at today's CSU, painting a vivid contrast between our BTC life, his college experience 20 years later, and that of CSU students today – a different world! Were we perhaps the lucky ones after all?

All in all, a weekend of friendship, fellowship and lots of talk together, and a chance to say to each other "Well, we're still here and it's good to be alive and still doing and experiencing many exciting things. We may be retired but we still have lots to offer."

Ann Williamson née Warren 1958-59. In photo with Carole Goodwin, Ann and Marie Grislis.

Fifty years ago, in another century, the reunion would have been incomprehensible to our minds;

there were more immediate concerns, even though Arch Millar intimated we were the lucky recipients of 'a gift of an interval of time'. We were approaching the last hurdles: exams, a final prac and graduation. What will I wear? Who will be there?

Then the big questions. What will become of us? Where will we end up in the lottery of appointments?

Well, we got over all that and tumbled into life proper. This was a much longer course and very testing. A, B, C and D ratings were awarded, gained and lost. The rural gene pool improved. Some reached the pinnacles, others worked the chalkface while the dissatisfied or adventurous slipped out through the gate into the world beyond.

Through all this there remains a bond with the alma mater and that interval of time. A simple time but one that influenced many of us much more than its calendar length. An interesting clutch of lecturers prepared us to teach the Blue Book. I'm not sure about the 'trained' but there were threads of a broader education. College life and dorm life were the major influences. For the first time we lived with a broad spectrum of people in a 24/7 confine. We were mixing with the opposite sex-although this was very tentative and time constrained in most cases. But the main thing was that we were talking in this new environment-sense, drivel, romance, aspirations-bouncing ideas and discussing subjects we had not previously had the words for, the opportunity or the time. We were getting into other minds guided, in part, by the college itself.

The return, apart from observing the wearing of time-the waists, the hair, the lines, the droops and the: 'Well I'm glad I didn't.'-was to discover how those dispersed minds coped, to get the continuing story of lives once known. And we compare them with our own.

Peter Dargin

BTCOA SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

If you know anyone who may be interested in studying at Charles Sturt University encourage them to get on-line for details of the Charles Sturt Foundation Scholarship Application Form. For further information contact:

Alumni Relations Officer email, alumni@csu.edu.au Phone: 02 6338 4629 [CSU - Bathurst

REPORTS FROM SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Introduction to Kristie Caton, 2009 Bathurst Teachers' College Alumni Scholarship recipient

Kristie started the Bachelor of Education (EC/Primary) program earlier this year.

Kristie's grandmother Mrs Lyn Harrison (nee Ison) was a student in the pioneer years of Bathurst Teacher's College.

Kristie's dream is to become a primary teacher and she has taken her first steps towards achieving this dream by enrolling in the Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood and Primary) program having completed her HSC studies at Dubbo College Senior Campus last year. She enjoys watching children develop and mature into productive adolescents.

Kristie has always been greatly involved in community and school activities, most of them sports related. She is highly involved in netball – not only as a player, but also as a coach, mentor and umpire. As a member of the Dubbo Netball umpire committee she mentors younger umpires. At high school she was voted a prefect for her contribution to Dubbo netball.

Her other favorite sport is swimming. She qualified for the combined high school state swimming championships for five consecutive years and broke over seven records. She achieved this by committing herself to 7-9 training sessions a week.

Through her grandmother, Kristie also got involved in Meals on Wheels and regularly visits people in nursing homes. She became very motivated in these activities because she realized how important these visits are for the elderly and that she is able to brighten somebody else's day just by taking the time to chat with them.

I am honoured and greatly appreciate receiving the Bathurst Teachers' College Alumni Scholarship. I have put the first half of the money towards the numerous and expensive text books for first year and other university expenses.



Helen Ferguson presented me with the award and I thank her for her words of encouragement and thoughtful gift. I am also grateful to my family who have assisted me in every aspect.

My favourite subject so far has been 'Children as Learners.' It has expanded my knowledge of child development and although heavily theory based, I thoroughly enjoyed it. I endeavour to teach in country towns in order to give back to the community that gave to me and will continue to work hard to achieve my goal.

Once again thank you to those who contributed to the scholarship fund. It has made my start to university a far less stressful process, for which I am truly grateful.
Kristie Caton

Lynette Harrison née Ison [1955-56] sent this note
I had the pleasure of meeting and talking with Helen Ferguson last week. The occasion was the presentation of Scholarships and Academic prizes at Charles Sturt Dubbo Campus.

I am the proud grandmother of Kristie Caton, the recipient of this years BTC Alumni Scholarship presented by Helen whose own granddaughter received the Scholarship last year. We look forward to seeing more of Helen when she and her husband visit Dubbo. We discussed our days at Bathurst. I thought we were crowded with four beds to a room and one heater in each corridor. Helen said there were five in her room! Kristie and her family were delighted and most appreciative of the BTC Award and as she is a very conscientious student, the award will be a tremendous help to her studies. Thankyou, Lynette

Emma Davis, the first Scholarship winner sent this report.

I'm still enjoying the Early Childhood Education Course and I can't believe that I'm nearing the end of my second year. At the end of last year, I applied for the position of Residential Advisor on Dubbo Campus and my application was successful. Before the first semester began, I spent two weeks training in Bathurst in preparation for the position, followed by another week at the end of the first semester. In this position, I have a duty of care for the students by helping the new students to settle into university life, arrange activities and be available to offer help when the need arises.

This year I was selected as one of the four delegates from the CSU Halls of Residence to represent the Uni at the National Association of Australian University Colleges Annual Conference which was held from July 5th to July 11th at St. Andrews College within Sydney University. The association is a peak body that represents students living in residences across Australia. I found it a great experience to have been given the opportunity to meet students from all parts of Australia. There were a number of guest speakers and I learnt a lot from the information sessions. Of course the most exciting part was the "End of Conference Ball" held at the Sydney Opera House.

At the end of last semester, I completed four weeks of prac. at a long daycare centre in Dubbo with the 3-5 year olds. I enjoyed it very much and I think that I would like to work with that age group when I finish my degree. I was very lucky as the centre was very good and my associate teacher was very helpful and provided me with valuable information. Next year we will have two pracs, one with infants and the other with primary children. I'm hoping to be given one in a rural school and one in an urban area just to experience the difference.

Away from Uni life, I entered the Bourke Miss Showgirl Competition. The entrants were interviewed and then spoke in front of an audience at the "Get to Know the Showgirls" evening. It was good experience and I was honoured to be announced the winner. I will be competing at zone level next year with thirty girls across the region. As a part of my prize, I will be going to Sydney in December for a week at the June Dally- Watkins School of Personal and Professional Development.

I was very pleased to be present at the Scholarship Awards to see another Dubbo student, Kristie Caton receive this year's BTC Scholarship.

As you can see, I have had a really busy year and I haven't even mentioned assignments! I would once again like to thank all the BTC students for the scholarship I received last year, it was really appreciated.



BTCAA PIONEERS GET TOGETHER IN 2009

A BIG THANK YOU FROM THE PRESIDENT

A huge thank-you to those members of BTCAA who contributed generously to the Commemorative Water feature in Bathurst Alumni Common at Charles Sturt University. It was wonderful to see so many people (especially “from the past”) at the official unveiling in April.

Another huge thank-you to those members who have supported financially our association for expenses, especially the production and distribution of *Panorama* throughout the year.

Since the formation of BTCAA in 2001 the “glue” that has kept us together has been the two editions each year of *Panorama*. Articles and photos sent to our editorial team have helped them produce a welcome and interesting magazine BUT costs have increased.

Your committee would be worry-free if *every member* contributed *at least \$20* to support BTCAA. Don’t leave it to the faithful few!

WILL YOU BE LUCKY?

The names for all contributions received by 27 February 2010 will go in the draw for a weekend at Jan and Greg Woods’ B & B. Apartment, Sanctuary Point. Look on Greg’s website for details. www.bythebeachsands.com.au

The lucky winner will be drawn at the AGM and lunch on Sat 27 February.

So - send your donations in now!

There have been several 'year' reunions during 2009 at Bathurst and elsewhere. Some are already planned for future years – it's great to keep in touch with old friends, So that we can keep in touch with you please inform the Alumni Office at CSU if you change your address. I hope to see you all at the AGM and Lunch in February.
Helen Egan

BTCAA REUNIONS

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY , 2010

Saturday 27 February

Wednesday 28th July,

SOUTHERN GROUP

Parlez vous, FrancaIs, Mesdames et Messieurs? Well, not many of us did, i.e. BTCAA Southern group members who were meeting in downtown Bungendore's up-market French restaurant on Wednesday 22d July.

Twelve ex students and three spouses enjoyed each others' company and the delicious cuisine of *Le Tres Bon* authentic French restaurant of chef Christophe Gregoire. Fortunately the menu had the dishes described in English for those of us who had forgotten our high school French which mostly had not included culinary delights. A couple of the more daring diners tried *escargots traditionels*, we knew they were fresh as it was raining, and *lapereau aux pruneaux*, better known by another name by those who had done their country service. One of the desserts, "aux fruits de la passion" stirred memories in some of our members.

For our sixth annual meeting we received apologies from thirteen members but RegHalliburton 52/3 and Jan, Bill Thompson and June (Day) 56/7, Isobel Wykes (Hunter) 56/7 and Max, Leon Brett and Robyn (Parslow) 56/7, Gordon Stewart 56/7 and Diane, Danny Mahar 56/7, Rob and Bev Thomson (59/60), Helen Cody (Freeman) 60/1 attended as did our newest, and oldest, member Fred Hodgson 53/4. Newest as it was his first meeting with the Southern group and oldest because he had turned eighty that week. Being born in 1929 he must have been a "mature age" student when he arrived at BTC. Nobody used the term "mature age student" then; they were just older. This prompted the "Age Versus Youth" team games of 5 2/53 to be recalled.

A self generated trivia quiz, where contestants write the questions and answers, provided amusement and discussion, such as "How much did Fff..Fred charge for an apple pie?" – the enlightening answer – "I don't know" – and neither did anyone else! "Where was the best place to hide the apples?" – you should have heard some of the places. "Who was in charge of the hospital?" and "Who was in charge of the dining room?" caused conflicting answers – was it Miss Green for both or someone else? The question "Which was considered best class ever to go through?" resulted in much rivalry with 56/7 members, being in the majority, winning the case. (See "Panorama" issue 16 Autumn 2009 page 2)

We had mixed pairs for our major trivia quiz of twenty questions which was won by Robyn Brett and Gordon Stewart who looked forward to enjoying their wine prize with a score of eleven. Maybe next year's quiz will be easier, with higher scores and a play-off.

In keeping with last year's decision to avoid school holidays and meet mid week for lunch, meetings will now be on the **last Wednesday in July**. So for 2010 the lunch will be on **Wednesday 28th July in Goulburn. Venue, possibly Workers Club**, and details will be advised next year. Reg Halliburton, 6297 1859 or jan.reg@bigpond.net.au is the organiser. Members are reminded also to advise him of any changes to their addresses – email or postal – or phone numbers. Happy ensuing year, see you all then.

BTC COMMEMORATIVE WATER FEATURE REPORT

WATER FEATURE IS COMPLETE

It was a brilliant Bathurst Autumn morning when we gathered to see the fruition of a dream – recognition of the fact that Charles Sturt University began as a Teachers' College training enthusiastic young people to follow their chosen profession. Everything was colour co-ordinated with the woman handing out the commemorative programs wearing the matching red and dark grey of the commemorative banners. The dignitaries, including our president, Helen Egan, sat under the shelter of a marquee behind the dais and a few of us were fortunate to find a place on one of the rustic seats made from timber donated by the alumnus, Mary Herbert (Kennedy). Seated on it was Gail Metcalfe, the treasurer of our association who, together with Alumni Committee members Helen Egan and Allen Beggs, had worked so hard to make this dream become a reality. After the welcome by the Master of Ceremonies and Head of Campus, Mr Col Sharp, came the proclamation of the Bathurst Alumni Common taking in the area between the Heffron Building and the Ponton Theatre. To us, of course, it was the place you entered late at night when you went to push your essay under the door of the Administration Building so that you would not lose marks for lateness or to crowd into the theatre to see one of the lively college revues. The plaques giving the history of the buildings surrounding the Common and the listing of the donors who made the water feature possible were unveiled before Peter Wilson, the artist responsible for the design and execution of the Commemorative Water Feature lifted off the cover to reveal it to the crowd. Two trees were planted, one in memory of Lionel J. Allen, with the spade being wielded by his widow, his daughter and his granddaughter, the other to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the naming of the Ponton Theatre. After the requisite speeches, we gathered round the feature to identify the tiles we had donated, cleverly inscribed with our designs by Dale Dengate and Peter Connolly, before heading off to the Mitchell Cafe for a buffet lunch. The drive home past Sunny Corner, with the poplars in the school grounds a glorious gold, was a trip down memory lane.

The completion of a Dream

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Carole Goodwin



Get Connected to CSU Alumni Enjoy *Panorama* in colour

Charles Sturt University has launched an Alumni Website

Everything you need to keep you connected with the University and Alumni publications can be found at www.csu.edu.au/alumni - Inform the CSU Alumni office and you'll be linked to the new *Panorama*. This way you won't miss out on news of get togethers and celebrations.

Sott and Helen Pollock/Chadwick [57-58] Judy Robins/Shore and Stan Shore[56-57] and Dale discuss the design of the tiles they had donated to the Water Feature.



Bernie and Alison Tipping at the fifty years celebration dinner

2009 Management Committee

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Alan Beggs

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Peter Connolly

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Greg Woods

Carina Doyle

**If you would like to be part of the BTC AA committee, come along to the AGM .
Donate to the Management Fund to support “Panorama” and win a holiday in this beach house.**



BTC Alumni Association
Annual Luncheon and Annual General Meeting
Saturday 27 February 2010
at the Mosman Returned Servicemen's Club
719 Military Rd, Mosman 2088

AGM commences at 11.30 a.m.

Lunch commences at 1 p.m.

Guest Speaker will be former BTC lecturer
Oliver Fiala

Lunch: consists of a two-course meal in the dining room on the second floor with glorious views of the harbour and the city. **Cost \$35.00 pp.** Please notify of any special dietary requirements. Drinks can be bought at bar prices.

Tea and coffee are available from 11 a.m.

Transport: If coming by ferry to Mosman Bay Wharf, catch the 230 bus and alight at Mosman Junction outside the Club. The 244, 245, 247 bus can be caught from the QVB or Carrington St, Wynyard. (Stand A). Alight at Mosman Post Office (op. the Club). If coming by car there is limited parking under the building itself or in the surrounding streets.

Arrange a table with friends and come along to support your Alumni Association.

The AGM will be short, so there will be plenty of "chat-time".

For further information contact Helen Egan (02) 9969 3815, Alan Beggs (02) 9639 7839 or

Gail Metcalfe (02) 4782 1573



Please send payment with this slip and a stamped, self-addressed envelope to:

Mrs Gail Metcalfe (Treasurer), 14 Banksia Park Rd, Katoomba 2780

to arrive by: Friday 12th February 2010

I enclose payment (*cheques/money orders made out to BTCAA*) of \$35 pp for _____ person/s to attend the BTCAA AGM on Saturday 27 February 2010.

Name/s of those attending: _____



You may not be aware that BTCAA Committee does not have access to your contact details which are held by CSU Alumni Office. We have been advised that due to privacy laws this information cannot be released to the Committee unless your authorisation is given to us.

Therefore we are seeking your permission to have these details released to the Committee. Your co-operation in this matter would be appreciated.

Would you kindly complete this slip and return it to the secretary:-

Wanda Zaniewski at PO Box 7 Regents Park NSW 2143.

I give permission / do not give permission to CSU Alumni Office to release my contact details to the BTCAA Committee. (Cross out that which does not apply)

