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WACOBU newsletter

Wagga Agricultural College Old Boys Union

December 2004

- News of old boys
- Reunion Class of 1949, 1950 and 1974
- Presentation of 1949 Ag Rugby jumper
- Photos of Ag Race Day & Careers Day
- Memories of "Marilyn"
- Reports from Peter Cregan & Ted Wolfe
- Ag Rugby report
- Crop update





WACOBU newsletter available on line at www.csu.edu.au/division/alumni

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PRESIDENTS REPORT

Well I am pleased to report on a busy and productive period since our last newsletter in August. I would like to extend many thanks to the WACOBU committee for their time and effort. Thanks also to all those that have contributed to WACOBU in terms of memberships, Donations and articles for this newsletter.

I would like to make special mention of the following activities & events;

Reunions: Congratulations to Jock Munro and class of 1974 on their reunion weekend that coincided with Ag Races a report of the weekend is detailed within. Congratulations also to John Bowen and class of 1949 & 50 for their reunion. Some members of the committee including myself where able to attend the Clock presentation ceremony at Joyes Hall and dinner at Oura winery afterwards. It was a special occasion for the pioneers of Wagga Agricultural College and glad I and others could share the time.

Donations: Special mention and thanks to class of 1949 & 1950 for a contribution of **\$1000** by Bill Baker the 1st President of WACOBU to the foundation for WACOBU cottage presented to us at their reunion. Thanks also to everyone who has made Brick donations and have taken financial membership status. This will all help to meet our ongoing commitment to pay off WACOBU cottage.

Rugby Jersey Donation: Thankyou Des Spurway for your very personal contribution to WACOBU. We are now the caretakers of the WAC Rugby's <u>first</u> 1st XV Captain's rugby jersey. We will find a fitting place to display this valuable part of Wagga Ag College history.

Data base improvement: You should have received a letter asking you to update your contact details. I apologise if you have updated your details a number of times but we hope this process will finalise our information and simple ongoing maintenance can take place as required.

Member correspondence: We have had a number of past students purchase memberships, memorabilia and made donations. Apologies if we have not acknowledged your contributions we will endeavour to reply ASAP.

Cheese & Wine night postponed: Disappointment over the lack of interest in the Cheese & Wine night that was to be held on the same weekend as 1974 class reunion. Unfortunatley we were unable to commit numbers by the set date to have Lilly Pilly wines across from Leeton. An opportunity may exist down the track to include a number of Old Boys winery products for a tasting evening and we may receive greater support.

Involvement with CSU students: WACOBU was able to provide some support to current students over this period. We held a careers day that was well received and provided speakers for First year dinner (John Mahon) and WAC annual dinner (Michael Vaughan). Thanks to all who were involved in these activities. The occassions serve a practical purpose to the students and increase our profile as a club.

Sports Weekend: This event will be the major reunion activity in 2005. I encourage those interested to contact Ross Henley for their thoughts on the weekend. I am sure that this occasion has the potential to be a fantastic and memorable occasion. If you have thoughts and ideas please discuss with Ross Henley. The success of the occasion will depend on involvement from you all, not on the involvement of the few in the WACOBU committee. Get your team mates together and put the date aside for the weekend and let us know what you think would help make the weekend a success.

Finally I would like to thank Mardi Henely particularly for putting so much of her time and talents into constructing this newsletter, you will agree that it is a fine piece of work. I suggest that amongst all the activities that take place the communication derived from this newsletter is of crucial importance to grow and maintain the momentum of the club.

WACOBU looks forward to your thoughts on the Sports weekend and continued support of our new membership structure through new financial members. Please contact us if you are unsure of your membership status.

Thankyou - Warwick Nightingale – WACOBU President

NEWS OF OLD BOYS

lan Simos - 1949 judithsimos@bigpond.com

Over the past 2 years we have attended both a "50's" and "49's" Wagga College Old Boys Reunions organised in Tamworth, Bowral and Wagga. These were heaps of fun attended by almost all the class of each year - sadly Jim Watson of Ian's year died early in 2004.

Our current address is:

20 Threlkeld Drive, CATTAI, NSW, 2756 - Tel: (02)45 728 698 and our email address is above.

We are on a small horse property on the Hawkesbury River which we are in the process of selling.

Ian is reasonably fit and well - retired after 30 years in the ABC's Rural Dept in the early 1990's - and turned 70 in April this year.

Phil Hausler (Filthy) 1985-1988 Phil.Hausler@nt.gov.au

I have been living in the Northern Territory since 1989 where I currently work with the NT Government Department of Ag in Extension and Agricultural Development based in Darwin and living in Humpty Doo.

Prior to that I managed a Government Research farm 220 km SW of Darwin for 5 years. Married Linda (Arty at CSU) in 1997 and had twin boys Daniel and Mitchell in March 2003.

Work with old boy Fergal O'Gara and motts Peter O'Brien (Jed) and Chris Collins.

Bryan Buchanan (Loin) - 1989 buckybj@ozemail.com.au

Left Wagga after completing studies (1989) and joined Incitec at Mudgee. Returned to Wagga end of 1991 & have worked for companies such as Nufarm & Syngenta. Bit the bullet in February 2004 & bought a fertilizer business at Ganmain. We now also do Ag. chem & agronomy.

Married in 1993 to Rhonda & have 3 children:- Sophie (9), Georgia (6) & Nicholas (3). We live on 250 acre farm at Coolamon.

Phillip Sheridan (Pick) - 1987 psheridan@qldbar.asn.au

Now a Barrister in Brisbane, specialising in Agribusiness Law and NativeTitle.

Highlight of career thus far is cross examining a self confessed witch and making her cry. She hexxed me. As a result have developed a small tail and a liking for insects, but am learning to live with it.

See Anton (Guiseppe) Kowalenko and Paul (Goggles) Gardoll (both 1988 Motts) occasionally, which is more often than I would like. Can report that they are both very fat and bald.

Ray Moir - 1966 raymoir@bigpond.net.au

Still living in Perth and operating as a Turf Management Consultant with clients in Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Brunei and all State of Australia.

Travelling too much, but with a grandson in Sydney and a grandaughter in Melbourne, my wife loves the frequent flyer points!

Still in regular contact with David Aldous (1966) who is now an Assoc Professor at Uni of Melbourne and specialises in turf and sportsfields.

Peter Bentley-Howard - 1990 Grad Dip App Sc pbentley@tpg.com.au

Retired as Head Teacher Sheep and Wool from the Western Institute on 28 November 2003. With my wife Cheryl we have moved to beautiful Lake Macquarie at Newcastle.

In retirement I hope to spend time catching fish on the lake, continuing community work through Rotary with a special interest in the Youth Exchange Program and landscaping our garden.

MEMORIES FROM 1959

Peter Beinssen - 1959

A curious loss of intelligence seems to have occurred in June Sutherland's interesting volume on the history of WAC (1996 edn), where I am not included as having been awarded a diploma. There is probably a reason for this:-

I was suspended during my final exams at the end of 1959 because I was to be the first married in our year. The word got out and a party took place and alcohol was consumed on the premises. Subsequently I was granted the first "post examination" in the college's history. I sat two papers at the Dept Ag in Sydney in January 1960, passed them and was duly awarded the WDA, albeit a couple of months late, which was a few weeks after I had become the first married member of the 59'ers.

It seems likely that all this might have been too complicated for the scribes at the time to cope with, and perhaps, if June's records are right, the fact that I obtained the WDA early in 1960 may have been recorded neither for 1959 nor for 1960. Luckily my subsequent graduations are not in question.

CLASS OF '49 PRESENTATION & REUNION



Des Spurway unveils the 1949er's Clock

 $\frac{\text{R. J. BOWEN'S SPEECH}}{\text{CLOCK PRESENTATION - CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY}}$ $\frac{4^{\text{TH}} \text{NOVEMBER 2004}}{4^{\text{TH}} \text{NOVEMBER 2004}}$

In February 1949 a group of young men caught the Riverina Express from Sydney Central bound for Wagga Wagga. Together with others travelling from various country locations the group of 32 were to be the first intake for the newly formed Wagga Agricultural College. Amongst the group were 12 ex servicemen from World War II to be retrained under a Government Repatriation Scheme. The balance were a group of enthusiastic students ranging in ages from 16 to 19 years.

As this was the first year of W.A.C. conditions were primitive and the old Government experiment farm was unprepared for such a dramatic change. This was still the horse era, the change to tractors having been delayed by the war effort, motor cars were pre war vintage. The College mail was even collected from Bomen railway station in a pony and sulky.

A lot of produce from the farm was consumed in the dining room. This included milk, eggs, poultry, fruit, sheep and an occasional beast. We lived extremely well in 1949, it was only later we heard that the kitchen budget had blown out.

The boys quickly settled into their new environment and adapted to the challenge of developing their agricultural skills. As the college was six miles from the city of Wagga, and the nearest girls, transport was a premium! Most of the students had bicycles but several of the ex servicemen had cars and were relied on for a ride to the local dances as well as into town.

Despite the age variation from 16 of 37 years, the group blended in and bonded very quickly. The influence and experience of the ex servicemen had a big impact on the maturity process of the younger students. The spirit and the mateship that developed as the year progressed saw the ex servicemen decide that they would like to complete the three year course at Wagga, however under C.R.T.S. scheme the ex servicemen were to complete their course at H.A.C. and were only scheduled for one year at Wagga. A deputation to the Principal, and an approach to the Minister, failed and the 12 ex servicemen were compelled to start year 2 at the H.A.C. It was a sad day when we said our farewells in December 1949. Despite the break up of the group, the friendships and camaraderie of the 49'ers has continued to this day, some 55 years later.

The course developed strong independent individuals who thrived under the challenge of working with limited facilities and equipment. A lot of practical farm work was involved with many early starts on the dairy, poultry, horse and pig sections. We did everything from shearing sheep, classing wool, milking cows and working horse teams. In addition to this we did farm mechanics, bookkeeping and some public speaking thrown in for good measure, in fact the 49'ers had to be good all round at everything. Metalwork, engineering, etc., involved a biweekly morning trip to Wagga Technical College. The Bus Driver was often influenced to stop on the return trip at the Black Swan Hotel so the boys could have a quick beer prior to lunch which inevitably saw us arriving at the dining room late. This was a great annoyance to the Head Steward, Bob Butts, who was one of the special personalities associated with the College in those days. Eventually the bus driver was given the message – no more stops at the Black Swan.

The College had limited lecturing staff which resulted in each lecturer having to double up on a number of subjects, even the Principal Dick Doman lectured in agriculture. We have found memories of John Sutherland and Harry Mathews who had big work loads and covered a multiple number of subjects.

The balance between theory and practical the accountability and responsibility to attend all lectures, demonstrations and practical work produced individuals that were destined to succeed in their chosen vocations. Of the original 32 students, 6 returned to the land, 10 took up positions in various Government departments, a further 6 went to agricultural associated industries and 8 entered the commercial world. In addition the Group produced one Politician, one Land Developer, two media personalities and a number of Public Company Directors. At the conclusion of our last lecture in 1951 the Principal, Dick Doman, made the comment that we were a pretty mixed bunch but the only one with a potential to become Prime Minister was Owen Thompson, nicknamed Curly. Curly had a short stint as a cadet valuer, then took off to the Northern Territory where he became a jackaroo/drover. At this stage Curly decided that he would like to start a journalistic career at Glen Innes in northern NSW. Later he moved to Sydney and joined the News Group and became one of Rupert Murdochs top men rising to the position of Chief Editor of The Australian. Later Curly and a Partner acquired The Truth newspaper in Melbourne and a number of radio stations.

R. J. BOWEN'S SPEECH - continued......

Despite the mix of vocations, every one of the 49'ers retained some tie to the land and/or associated industries together with a great loyalty to W.A.C. In addition, without exception, they became good Citizens, good contributors and leaders in their chosen fields. There is no doubt that the training at the College provided the base for their success.

Today we celebrate the commencement of W.A.C. and the passing 55 years since the official opening on the 16th September 1949 by the Honourable E. H. Graham, M.L.A., Minister for Agriculture. We acknowledge the University's co-operation in allowing us to pay tribute to the foundation year of W.A.C. and thank the staff for your participation and hospitality.

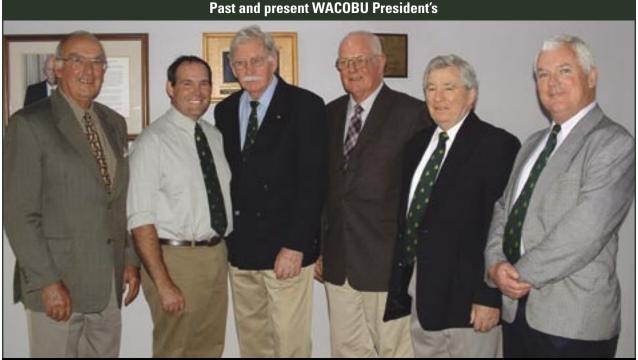
We, the 49'ers are amazed that from this humble beginning has grown the Charles Sturt University of which agriculture remains a major faculty in the available courses and the aig spirit has continued throughout those years. I understand that there is still a strong demand for Wagga Aig Graduates in the work place and I have been advised that all 2003 Aig Graduates have been placed in agricultural related employment. The inclusion of Vet Science commencing next year is another major step forward in the growth of C.S.U. I understand this will be a six year course with over 450 applicants applying to fill 45 positions in Year 1.

The idea of a memorial to record the 49 year and the official opening of W.A.C. was initiated by Des Spurway. Des, who played a major role in the establishment of Rugby in Wagga was an outstanding full back and Captained combined country in 1949. He was also the Captain of the first 15 as well as the first President of the Students Representative Council. Combining Des's idea, Alex McLennan's enthusiasm and the generosity of the 49'ers has enabled us to make this tribute to the history of the University.

I would like to also acknowledge the assistance of Karen Jamieson and John Mahon whose help and encouragement has enabled us to bring this occasion to fruition. Finally Alex McLennan who has worked tirelessly to help me complete this project.

It is indeed fitting that the clock and plaque is located next to Don Joyes who was well known to all of us and apart from his work for the students, the college and the University, he was a great supporter of the O.B.U. and worked tirelessly in the early years of its establishment. Don's widow, Fay, sends her apologies as failing health does not permit her to attend but had been delighted to receive our invitation.

I would like now to present our memorial to the University commemorating the opening of the W.A.C. in September 1949 and ask Des Spurway to unveil the clock and read the commemorative plaque.



Bill Baker, Warwick Nightingale, Alex McLennan, Jim Kemp, John Bowen and John Mahon

CLASS OF '49 PRESENTATION & REUNION

REPORT ON THE 49'ERS CLOCK PRESENTATION TO CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY AND REUNION – WAGGA - 4TH NOVEMBER 2004.

On the afternoon of the 3rd we gathered at the Palm & Pawn, North Wagga. A very enjoyable few hours were spent in the garden meeting old friends and catching up on each others activities. This was followed by a casual dinner of some 25 people which was a very pleasant start to this special reunion.

On Thursday morning the numbers increased to 32 which was made up of 12 x 49'ers, 5 x 50's and partners plus our special guest June Mathews.

At 10:00 a.m. the group visited the R.A.A.F. Base at Forrest Hills as guests of Ted Hayes' son Wing Commander Stephen Hayes. Morning tea was provided followed by a tour of the base and a commentary on the training procedures and an inspection of the facilities. On conclusion a vote of thanks to Stephen and staff was given by Fred Benecke and carried by acclamation. The visit to the base was an interesting and educational experience for all concerned.

This was followed by lunch at The Astor motor inn then back to the motel for a quick change prior to our visit to the college/university.

On driving through the campus it was amazing to see the changes from the early days of W.A.C. The Charles Sturt University now caters for in excess of 35,000 students obviously this includes overseas students in affiliated Institutions. There is still a large agricultural faculty operating and C.S.U. aig graduates are in demand with 100% of 2003 graduates being employed in agriculturally related positions.

The presentation of the commemorative clock and plaque took place in the Joyes Hall annexe at 3:00 p.m. The Head of Campus, Professor David Green, welcomed us and gave an interesting address and expressed the appreciation of the University for the presentation. Professor Green, in his address, placed great importance on the history and tradition of W.A.C. and the role the 49'ers had played.

John Bowen responded and in his comments talked about life as a student in the early days of W.A.C describing the facilities, staff and a number of humorous episodes from the past. He also made mention of the career break up of the 49'ers and their chosen vocations. He also emphasised the important grounding that students had received in preparation for their future. Finally John thanked John Mahon (Old Boy and University Councillor) and Karen Jamieson (Executive Assistant to Professor Green) for their assistance in organising the clock presentation. John also acknowledged Alex McLennan for his help and assistance. Des Spurway then unveiled the plaque and read the inscription. It was his original idea that we should make a presentation to the University to record the history of the opening of W.A.C. and its foundation students. Professor David Green accepted the presentation on behalf of C.S.U. and invited us to join him for afternoon tea which included some very nice C.S.U. wines.

Later we all took the opportunity to inspect the honour boards located in the Sutherland laboratories which record all W.A.C. graduates and O.B.U. presidents.

Dinner that evening was at the Wagga Wagga winery where a top night was had by all. Guests attending were Professor David Green (Head of C.S.U. Campus), Professor Peter Cregan (W.A.C. Old Boy and Head of the School of Agriculture and newly created Vet Science), Professor Ted Wolfe, June Mathews, Wing Commander Hayes, O.B.U. President Warwick Nightingale, Secretary Deb Slinger, Committee Member Ross Henley and wife W.A.C.O.B.U newsletter editor Mardi Henley and John Mahon (Old Boy and Member of C.S.U. Council).

Des Spurway proposed the loyal toast and called for a minutes silence for our deceased members. Later in the evening Des presented his 1949 football jumper to Warwick Nightingale. Des was 1st Captain of W.A.C. 1st XV, in fact captained combined country in the same year. Alex McLennan proposed the toast to W.A.C. and C.S.U. and Ted Wolfe responded appropriately. Ian Simos gave an update on the 1950 year of which five were present that evening. He made special tribute to Jim Watson who passed away early this year.

Professor Peter Cregan gave us a run down on what is happening at the C.S.U. and in particular the new degree in Vet Science to commence in 2005. This will be a six year course with 45 students being accepted for the first intake from applications of approximately 450. The course will concentrate principally on large animals but will include subjects such as communication and business principles with the object of producing a very balanced, skilled graduate.

John Mahon spoke on the history of W.A.C.O.B.U. cottage which is a 50:50 project between O.B.U. and the University and provides accommodation for students doing post graduate studies.

Bill Baker, 1st President of the W.A.C.O.B.U., then presented Warwick Nightingale, current President, with a Bank cheque of \$1,000.00 towards the fund from the 49'ers. Warwick responded and thanked Bill and the 49'ers for the donation. That concluded the formal proceedings and everyone settled in to enjoy the balance of the evening.

In conclusion, our visit back to the college/university was a wonderful experience. The welcome we received from the Head of Campus, David Green, and his staff made this occasion very special for all those present. The tradition of W.A.C. still lives on but few could believe from this small college has grown an institution of size and reputation of C.S.U. As old boys we are proud that we were part of it and we will watch the future development with great interest.

A GENEROUS AG RUGBY GIFT



The handsome Captain of WAC Rugby Des Spurway, 1949

Des Spurway wrote to Ross and I with great interest towards the "Reunion of Sports" to be held June long weekend 2005.

He has generously provided us with photos from some of the first AG College Rugby games in 1949-1951. We were absolutely thrilled that Des presented the WACOBU Committee with his very own Rugby jumper from 1949 when he was Captain of the First XV. We will have it framed so it can be displayed at Sutherland Labs.



Des Spurway, 2004

Des kept us company at the 1949er's dinner and told many stories of the good old days at WAC. It truly was a pleasure to be invited to share their reunion in Wagga and to hear the history of the Classes of 1949 and 1950.

Mardi Henley

Wagga Ag College 1st XV - 1949



- **Back L-R:-** J.T Best, J.A Thornton*, P.H Drummond, R.B Wearne, D.W Spurway* (Capt), A.B McLennan*, K.L Triffitt, C.R Dickson*, R.R.J Bowen, D.P Bryant.
- Front L-R:- R.J Learmont, W.I Laidlman*, J. Ballard, D. Erickson, C.R Dunn*, B.A Higgins, J.F Murphy.

Coaches:- Dudley Taylor, Stan Power.

* Ex-servicemen

HIGHLIGHTS

Matches Vs - Gordon Sydney 1st Grade, Duntroon, Hawksebury Ag, Teaches College. Des Spurway selected to Captain combined Country Vs Sydneyas lead up to selecting NSW Team.

AG RACE DAY 2004



Tim Sides, Ben Granger, Warwick Nightingale, Steven Bourke Paul McCaskie, Neil Durning, Garth Wickson, Frank Corbett, James Brady

A fine day greeted a record crowd of race goers, estimated at over 3000 people, at the Murrumbidgee Turf Club, for the 17th Annual Ag Race Day.

Around 1600 pre paid tickets were sold, with the remainder being sold at the gate. Licensing police changed the unlimited drinks slightly this year, with 15 'tickets' being issued as you arrived, and you were able to get more tickets if you presented yourself as reasonably sober to staff (unlikely). This didn't present a problem as there were people willing to give away their unused tickets, especially those chalks from over the hill, who as we all know cant handle their piss and prefer to drink 'Latte's'

The beer and the goon and juice flowed freely from 11:30 til 5pm, when security started to herd the rather inebriated patrons from the turf club. Most people then got onto the buses running from the track into town, and the Bridge Tavern and the Duck did not know what had hit them!

KFC was also a very popular establishment with a wait for 15 minutes not uncommon. Recovery at the 'Duck' is reported to be a success but no-one really knows what happened. Please support Ag club's major sponsor the 'Duck' and have a drink with 'Marilyn'.

Cheers - Bernie Byrnes

Drew Braithwaite and Wes Greig

Stuart Osmotherley

AG RACE DAY 2004



The Class of 1974 held their 30 year Reunion at Ag Race Day

Back row (L-R) - Peter Matup, Dennis Greensill, Jim Ross, Al Sylvester

Middle - Tony Voller, Brian Ricketts, Tony Grant, Jock Munro, Jack Murray, Steve Gell, Will Goldfinch, Michael Oakes

Front (kneeling) - Geoff Pierce, Bill Cowell, Allan Jones

Saturday the 16th began with breakfast and a well received address by Prof Jim Pratley, who began his WAC career in our first year. Current staff member Tony Dunn of similar vintage also attended, along with Owen and Keith Lysaght.

The races were most enjoyable despite us being a "tad" older than most of the large crowd of fashionable patrons. We were touched and greatly amused by the reverence shown by the "Motts" towards their mature "Uncles".

The days activities wound up with dinner at the 'Pavilion'. Sunday brunch at the 'Magpie's Nest', saw the conclusion of a most enjoyable weekend, and the promise to meet again in 2009.

74 Aggies please send email addresses to The_Brae@bigpond.com

Jock Munro - 1974

REUNIONS 2005

Is it time for you to organise a reunion for your year? The Class of 1980 & 1985 are holding reunions - is anyone else? Please let us know any details ASAP so we can advertise it for you in the next newsletter.

MEMORIES OF "MARILYN"



Robert Bell, Simon King, Craig Whiting were excited to discover MARILYN at The Black Swan Hotel after AG Race Day - 16.10.04

Ray Moir - 1966

I remember the original in 1965 being in colour and living at Dookie College. Ross Stockings (and ?) hitch hiked (not many of us had a car back then!!) to Dookie and in the middle of the night retrieved her and hitch hiked back to Wagga with her where she was displayed in the common room.

I know little more but if you have contact details for Ross Stockings I am sure he will know the full history as he was a devoted Marilyn fan.

Tink Kilkee - 1967

I first became acquainted with Marilyn back in 1965 during my first year at WAC. On the Anzac weekend a few of us travelled to Dookie via Melborne to retrieve her only to find that some one had been there the night before & had repossessed her. Later as I recall Ross Stockings and Bill Gornall repossessed her back into the WAC fold.

We followed the set of rules and so our security in those days was unsophisticated to what goes on today. It was only about 2 months ago that an ex Orange Ag student mentioned the name "Marilyn" and she was in Orange only sometime earlier and they were surprised that I knew of her existance.

I still have a photo of her in my year valette so it is great that she has returned again to Wagga.

Ross Stockings & Bill Gornall - 1966

Bill has kindly supplied a story & photo which will feature in the next newsletter.

Ken Ryall - 1970

Re the legend as I know it (WAC 1968/70) Marilyn - was a trophy between the USA armed services up until ? when it started doing the circuit between Wagga and Hawkesbury - Yanco College even got in to the act when I was at Wagga.

There were all sorts of "rules" about how she was to be displayed - these were attached to the back of the photo eg she was always to be in a place readily accessible. When I was in first year at Wagga the frame - hung over the fire place in the main common room - it was wired into in the fire alarm. She usually "went" the weekend that the other College visited to play the annual game of Rugby.

My year cheated when I was in third year we put her in a metal frame and bolted her to the wall above a stair case. When Hawkesbury visited they actually brought some detonators with them and tried to "blow" her off the wall - unsuccessfully. But a large crowbar in the middle of the night did the trick and she went back to Hawkesbury.

I understand that the original - **this photo ain't the original it was in colour** - was burnt by "townies" at Hawkesbury.

Graham Callaghan - 1986

Just further to the last report, **she was at** Hawkesbury when we had a rugby intercol there in 1986 it was under guard of Motts for the 24 hours while we there.

It was bolted to the wall in their common room where they had pool tables and the Motts were to stay there to make sure it never went missing.

I am sure that not long after this (a month or so) some of our team went back there and it was not in place so couldn't be removed.

I believe before it was at Hawkesbury in 1986 it was at Duntroon (this was the story at the time).

MEMORIES OF "MARILYN"

David Alexander - 1970

WE certainly had her bolted to the wall in 1969 / 70 and all hell broke out when Hawkesbury tried stealing her one night (without luck).

Bruce Smith - 1970

I can give you exact details of "Marilyn" being rescued from the clutches of Hawkesbury.

October 1968 Andrew Whitelaw and myself hitchhiked from Wagga to Richmond, late friday afternoon, with the intention of arriving latish at HAC. At the time Andrew's brother in law was stationed at Richmond RAAF, so we went to their house and dressed in RAAF overalls and off to the campus we marched.

Arriving around 2 or 3am there was still some movement about but it was mostly people stumbling home very very intoxicated. We located "Marilyn" affixed to the ceiling of the common room in the middle of Southee block, some 12 feet in the air. This proposed some difficulty for a little while but eventually we stood a lounge on it's end and I lifted Andy onto my shoulders and he removed her from the ceiling. We quickly got out of the HAC and with "Marilyn" wrapped in a grey blanket with immediately commenced to hitch our way back to Wagga.

We took many precautions on the way back scrutinising anybody who stopped to pick us up, so as to ensure they were not Aggies from Richmond. We arrived back Saturday before midday and managed to get a few hours sleepbecause that night was the grand final for the Colts competition. I don'tremember who won the football, but the tennis club erupted when we held up"Marilyn".

I am not sure how long she stayed at Wagga after that but I believe she moved on to Roseworthy??

Stewart MacLennan - 1971

My 69 - 71 memories are based on a story that the 1949 photo originally belonged to the US air force but had some how been snaffled around the end of the War by Australian troops. I do not recall how it became the property of those studying agriculture - maybe it was their accommodating nature, or eye for fine photography.

Go to this site to learn about the US history of the pic and its value:-

www.marilynfineart.com/pose6.html

In about 1970 it was at Yanco Ag College and a group of WAC students made a night time raid. A combination of SAS style surprise tactics and blood curdling threats were used in the effort to locate the picture. It was brought back to WAC and fixed behind a metal grill bolted to the wall in the Doman block.

I think HAC was its next home but am not sure.

I am sure you will be able to fill the newsletter with the stories you receive!





June 2005 long weekend is the reunion of sports including

> AG RUGBY, NETBALL, HOCKEY, SOCCER etc

but yet again this event will NOT occur if there is no support !



Contact Ross Henley 11 Clipper Way, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650

(02)69 331 222

or email mardi31s@mac.com

AGGIES WAR CRY

The true story is as follows:-

I think it was probably either 1955 or 1956 that we had a competition between all contributors or contributors from each of the Years. This was held at an SRC meeting and judged by the students present and our year's presentation was selected as the best.

This was not an accident as we had quite a bit of practice and the Canberra Grammar School warcry was used as the basis for the WAC war cry. With a team of three (as I remember it) well practised participants from our year (1956) we won the day and I was quite surprised that he has lasted all this time.

That was the way it was, BELIEVE IT OR NOT.

John Furner - 1956

AG RUGBY WEBSITE www.agrugby.rugbynet.com.au

Finally up and running - AG RUGBY is <u>now</u> online...

Complete with news items, points of interest, the latest controversy, photos and links – this is possibly one of the best sites on the www. When prompted for comment after tasking the site, Mr Gordon Bray suggested - "I am intrigued".

This innovative communiqué covers the whole scene of Ag Rugby and poses interactive fields suitable for the whole family. Soon to be included will be two tipping competitions – one encompassing the 2005 Super 12 (14) Comp and a second and possibly more demanding one based on the LOCAL SIRU Competition...(Keep in mind that we want sponsors to donate a prize for the winners).

During the season, we intend to include...

Player Profiles Match Reports Comp Ladder Comp Results Social Activities And much, much more...

If you wish to peruse images of these fine, able-bodied athletes in their prime than check out the new website http://www.agrugby.rugbynet.com.au



AG RUGBY PREZZO NIGHT 2004

On Friday 15 October 2004, Ag Rugby Presentation night was held at the MTC.

108 people were in attendance to hear from guest speaker Matt O'Connor, assistance coach of the ACT Brumbies. He received a typical Ag college welcome, and then later on in the night was sent home to his wife, in a state he had not experienced for some time, i.e DRUNK.

From Presentations, it was onto the Bridge Tavern for more celebratory drinks. Then upholding the tradition, it was down to the Murrumbidgee Gentlemen's Club for Dawn Kegs, and race day preparation, the highlight being Badger driving a ute up a tree. **A great night/morning was had by all!**

AG RUGBY PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Season 2004 was not the most successful year for us on the paddock, however not once did the Aggie's give up. The season looked promising with more than sixty players turning up to training.

We played one trial game against the Geurie goats, although missing out on a win; we were given the opportunity of seeing the new talent in our club. This seasons first years are very talented football players, now possessing a years experience in first grade they will be valuable members of Ag Rugby. Coaches for 2004 were Marty Hogan and Mick Friend. Without these two blokes experience and direction the club would not survive. Mick and Marty's ability to slip into the jumper at time of need is also appreciated. A big thankyou also goes out to fitness fanatic Jim Virgona, for putting us through many enjoyable sessions.

As with past years, the holidays were tough. I must express my thanks to the blokes that came back every week to play at least one hundred and fifty minutes of footy in one day. On that note I would like to thank the 17 blokes that took on Griffith in two grades. At least five of the players were carrying injuries, with one finishing the last 20 minutes with two busted shoulders. It is the big hearts of these players that makes this club great.

Financially, season 2004 was a very successful year. Big thanks go out to Drench Gun and our major sponsor Pat Gurr at the Bridge tavern for running the WAC super draw. The club was also privileged to pick up another sponsorship through BASF. Ag rugby would also like to extend it's appreciation to our sponsors Toll Auto logistics, McKnicle contracting, KFC and the Rivcoll union. Thankyou to Rivcoll's club officer Fiona Henderson for your guidance and support. Thanks also go out to the support of the Netballers and Sundae and his committee for their support at games and help with our sponsors and ladies day.

To the 2004 committee, Termite, Tim and Johno, I express my thanks for your support and hard work throughout the season. A special thanks goes out to super secretary Bernie Byrnes for his constant support and dedication to the club. A special mention goes out to Free Styler for his organisation of the end of season footy trip. Free Styler has been a great leader for this club and will be missed in the 2005 season. We wish you the best for your'e future career and rugby endeavours.

Format for next years competition is still up in the air, though whatever happens I feel that Ag Rugby will be able to form a good platform for the 2005 season. **Our three tries to nil lead in the start of our last game against the chalks shows that WAC will be back stronger than ever in 2005**.

All the best to the 2005 committee, Im sure they will keep this club going strong on and off the paddock.

Ego Yah - Ben Roberts

WACOBU WINE & CHEESE NIGHT

We received this little gem when we emailed the WACOBU email list to say the Wine & Cheese Night had been cancelled due to lack of support:-

Good to see that attempts to lift the tone of WAC gatherings are still dealt with harshly by the mob. Wine comes in a box and cheese in slices that fit a sandwich. "Cocktail Party" sounded very upmarket until the drinks were mixed in a garbage bin and the tables were slid upon. Try "Kegs, chops and circle work at the MGC". You'll get a better response.

Keep trying - Phillip Sheridan - Pic

REPORT FROM PETER CREGAN

Here is some info on the new BVSc course

We have appointed Professor Kym Abbott to be Director of the veterinary program and he is now hard at work to put the program in place. For our first intake in 2005 we have received 447 applications for the 45 available places and we are now in the process of selecting students on the basis of their questionnaire response, interviews and academic performance- see below for criteria etc. For the next newsletter I will be able to provide full details of how our recruitment /selection process worked and more detail about the course.

General information

The veterinary science course at CSU is a six year degree program which will prepare you for a career in veterinary practice or any of the many other avenues of employment available to veterinary graduates. When you complete this course, you will have developed skills in the diagnosis and management of disease in all common species of farm

animals (cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry) and companion animals (horses, dogs, cats, and others). As a result of the unique structure of the CSU course, you will have particular aptitude, skills and knowledge for working in the farm animal industries.

To achieve this, the course provides a solid grounding in agricultural production systems and the integration of nutrition, genetics, economics and epidemiology into the management of herds and flocks. The CSU course recognises the role of veterinarians in ensuring the safety of animal products for human consumption and the welfare of animals in livestock production systems.

In addition to your scientific and technical training, you will also develop a range of life skills and business skills which will help you in your work as a rural veterinarian.

Selection Criteria:

- High level academic capability.
- A demonstrated interest in, and commitment to, rural Australia, veterinary science and animal production.
- An understanding of the unique, ethical and practical issues that confront veterinarians concerned with rural practice and animal production.
- The capacity to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.

A selection of frequently asked questions about CSU Veterinary Sciences

1. How many places are available each year?

There will be around 45 places available each year.

2. Are there any prerequisite subjects?

There are no formal prerequisites for the Veterinary Science course at CSU, but as it is a science based course, we assume that students will have studied mathematics and chemistry at Year 12 level. If you have not studied Chemistry at Year 12 level, we strongly recommend that you undertake a Study Link course.

3. What UAI/ENTER score do I need to get in?

Your academic record (UAI/ENTER or previous university study) only becomes relevant if you succeeded in the questionnaire and interview. We anticipate that entry to the course will be very competitive and expect that a score around 90, or GPA of around 65, will be required.

4. What will the questionnaire be about?

The purpose of the questionnaire is to find out about your interest in, and commitment to, rural veterinary practice. You may be able to provide evidence of this through your family background, work (including school work experience, part-time jobs and voluntary work), and special interests.

5. Will all applicants be called for an interview?

No. Applicants will be selected for interview on the basis of their questionnaire.

6. Why is the Bachelor of Veterinary Sciences at CSU one year longer than other veterinary science courses?

The extra year enables us to provide a broader course that includes areas such as communication, business management and agriculture and an increased emphasis on production animals as well as the traditional curriculum of veterinary science courses.

7. How many contact hours are involved?

You will have to attend lectures, tutorials and practical classes for approximately 26 hours per week.

8. How much clinical time is involved and where is it conducted?

Clinical activities will be incorporated in each year of the course, starting with a few hours related to your subject content in first year. These will build throughout the course, and culminate in extensive clinical rotations in your final year. You will undertake your placements in regional veterinary practices.

REPORT FROM TED WOLFE

Evolution rather than revolution in agricultural education

Comments provided by Emeritus Professor Ted Wolfe

The rationalisation of degree-level agricultural education continues in Australia. On November 9, the Vice Chancellor of Charles Sturt University (CSU), Professor Ian Goulter, announced that the current Orange Campus of the University of Sydney would become a campus of CSU from 2005. Furthermore, the University of Western Sydney is carefully reviewing its options for agricultural and environmental education at its Hawkesbury campus, and it intends to offer voluntary redundancy packages. Further afield, the University of Melbourne indicated that from 2005 it would offer full-time courses in rural education from only one of its five country campuses, due to low enrolments and accumulated financial losses of more than \$15 million. At the vocational level, the Murrumbidgee College of Agriculture transferred some full-time courses to Tocal and, following reports of the 'poor performance' of four agricultural colleges in Queensland, the Council of Dalby Agricultural College appointed a financial administrator.

These developments are the latest in a series of rationalisation moves that were catalysed by the expansion of the Australian university system (1989) and the McColl review of agricultural education (1991). Muresk Agricultural College near Northam in WA became part of Curtin University in 1987, Gatton Agricultural College became the Gatton Campus of the University of Queensland in 1990, and Roseworthy Agricultural College was integrated into the University of Adelaide from 1991. In 1997, the Victorian College of Agriculture and Horticulture formally merged with the University of Melbourne, affecting agricultural education activities at Burnley, Dookie, Horsham (Longerenong), Glen Ormiston (Warrnambool), Sale (McMillan) and Werribee (Gilbert Chandler).

In NSW, the overall situation in university-level education in agriculture has fortunately lacked some of the speed, drama and rhetoric that have accompanied changes in other States. Developments were slower, in part due to the regional complexity of NSW, where at one time there were 6 universities providing agricultural education. However, significant changes and consolidation have occurred. In 1994, Orange Agricultural College left UNE for the University of Sydney, while in 1996 UNSW decided to close the Department of Wool and Animal Sciences.

For two good reasons, the slower pace of adjustment in NSW was fortuitous. First, for several years the demand for graduates in agricultural and agribusiness disciplines has outstripped supply. In NSW, the supply of university graduates in agriculture and related sciences has risen steadily, with the numbers of graduates emanating from the University of Sydney and Charles Sturt University being particularly strong. For example, from the CSU School of Agriculture in 2004, the graduates from Bachelor degrees in Agriculture numbered 41, Agribusiness 7, Equine Studies 23 and Environmental Horticulture 4. These numbers may have been more had there not been made a decision to restrict the development of horticulture and agribusiness courses at the Wagga campus, to create student places for the CSU degree program in Veterinary Science, which begins in 2005. However, the decision has helped create a complementarity between the rural management courses at Orange and the technically oriented nature of the Agriculture course strands at Wagga (agriculture, agronomy, animal production, horticulture, irrigation). Graduates in 2004 from related courses at Wagga, provided by other Schools in the Faculty of Science and Agriculture, included Environmental Science (28), Food Science (18), Viticulture (25) and Wine Science (44). [Courses in rural pharmacy and nursing will continue at Orange.]

Second, the quiet evolution that is taking place in agricultural education in NSW, rather than a forced revolution, has preserved some of the important diversity that has always been a feature of degree-level agricultural courses in NSW. The unique features of the CSU Wagga and Orange courses, mentioned previously, are important. So too are the characteristics of 4-year graduates in Agricultural Science, Agricultural Economics, Resource Economics and Animal Science from the University of Sydney, and the attributes and perspectives of Rural Science and Agriculture graduates from the University of New England. A further source of diversity, well worth preserving, is the emphasis on systems agriculture at the University of Western Sydney, where problem solving has been a notable and important component of the curriculum.

Currently, despite the difficult conditions being experienced in parts of regional Australia, and the downsizing of Departments of Primary Industry in NSW and Victoria due to changing government priorities, there are abundant employment prospects for graduates from agriculture and agribusiness courses. An acceptance by employers of the need for and value of commercial agronomists in rural areas has continued, and this growth has since been joined by a strong industry interest in graduates from the agribusiness and farm employment sectors, as well as an appreciation of the potential of graduates in animal production. Agricultural graduates also find careers as teachers, in Landcare and environmental occupations, in medical and scientific research, and in applied disciplines such as forensic science. One factor that counts for CSU graduates is that many are willing to go to some of the more remote areas of NSW, Australia and the world to take up employment offers. Currently, there are 3 'aggies' participating in a Study Abroad program that CSU shares with the University of Delaware and North Dakota State University, and many graduates head off for work experience in foreign lands immediately after the graduation ceremony each April.

Hopefully, WACOBU members, along with graduates from Orange, CSU and other NSW universities, will maintain their usual goodwill and take a special interest in the future of agricultural education. Adjustments are necessary as a consequence of the processes of change, not only in the agriculture itself but also in the funding of universities. For a time, the spotlight will be on the successful integration of the Orange campus into CSU.

Ted Wolfe was Head of the School of Agriculture from 1990 to 1997. Since retiring in 2001, he has maintained his interests in agriculture, agricultural education and research. Currently, Professor Jim Pratley is the Dean of the Faculty of Science and Agriculture at CSU. Associate Professor Peter Cregan is the Head of the School of Agricultural and Veterinary Sciences at CSU, and Professor Kevin Parton is Dean and Head of Campus at Orange.

CAREERS DAY



WAC students of 2nd & 3rd year, WACOBU representatives and guest speakers attend Careers Day 2004.

On Wednesday the 13 of October, Warwick Nightingale and the WACOBU committee organised a "Careers Day" at uni for the agriculture students.

The guest speakers were past Wagga Agriculture College graduates and included:-

- John Lucas Terrabyte
- Phil Hando and Danny Parnell British American Tobacco
- Michael Vaughan AWB Limited
- Dougald Powell Landmark
- Deb Slinger Department of Primary Industries
- Ross Henley Riverina Co-op.

All the presenters gave an insight into their careers (past & present) since completing university at Wagga Agricultural College. This gave the students an interesting guide to career prospects available to students with an agriculture degree from Wagga and was greatly appreciated. Later we all moved back to the Ag Tavern for a few drinks thanks to WACOBU and got to meet the presenters in a less formal manner.

Special thanks to the presenters for giving up their time to speak, many students took a lot out of the day and was well worth attending and thank you to Warwick and the WACOBU committee for organising a great day on behalf of the students.

Adrian Englefield – President of the Agriculture Club 2004

CROP UPDATE WACOBU Crop Fundraiser

David Lock has informed me that we are potentially looking at 70 to 80 tonne of good malting Barley. Late rains have benefited the crop and this forecast is a pleasing given a season that was starting to promise very little.

I have sent letters to various agribusiness suppliers in the hope that we may obtain some sponsorship to cover costs.

Once again thankyou to David Lock for this opportunity and we hope for a favourable harvest.

Warwick Nightingale.

WACOBU COTTATGE

URGENT - PLEASE DONATE - ONLY \$25.00 per brick.

WACOBU Cottage is an accommodation building for agricultural post-graduate students jointly funded by Charles Sturt University - Riverina, and the Wagga Agricultural College Old Boys Union (WACOBU). The WACOBU committee is aiming to sell 1,000 bricks as part of our contribution towards the building. Follow the WACOBU members listed above, and donate a brick or two for WACOBU Cottage. We have 1700 members. A brick donation will make a significant contribution to the WACOBU Cottage Project.



Craig Bradley Jenny Bradley John Bowen John Miller A & T Grant Jeff Granger Jane Granger **Brian Higgins** Andrew Vile David Macauley Deb Slinger James Grellman E Miller J Slater Ken Slade **Chris Slinger** Peter Regan The 49ers **Col Plater** Pat Coughlan Tony Paton Rob Dunkley Jeannie Dunklev **Michael Oakes** Warwick Date David Clarke Harley Delves **Garry Seamer** Peter Draper R Iddon **R** Kobecke **B** Atkins G Veness I Simpson J Mahon G Kegan **D** Applevard C Beckingham

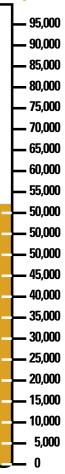
T Hanmer **R** Bowen **F** Butler C Lehmann P Robinson J Mellor **R** Ballantyne S Tomson T Fllwood **R** Blackmore R Cox E Kulmer J Slatter J Lymbery Tim Hutcheon WD&HOWills D Lock N Moody **R** Thomas A Holmes A Robson J McRae **T** Fletcher D Bruckner G Bruckner G Condon T De Salis R & M Henley Neil Bruce Phillip Asimus **R** Prangnell E Moloney K Edyvean A Pursehouse Bob Alexander Jeff Bailev Tom Barker (dec) Alan Barton

Alan Douglas David Elder Ian Fuller John Furner Lex Govaars John Grellman Jim Harris Bruce Irvine Tom Kennaway Bill Love (dec) Lawrence Moss Ken Packham Ian Perrett Jim Piper John Peterson Rod Shearer **Ross Shepherd Rex Small** Keith Harris R Gill Alan Anderson Scott Vaessen Michael Beer Craig Cowell Ray Cox M Eisenhauer R Gault Mike O'Hare Norm Sewell **Neil Heriot** Andrew Kerry **Ron Umbers** Bill Cowell Tim Hutchinson M & M Oldfield Ian Johnson Steve Manion Allan Holmes

Derek Ingold **Colin Woods** Stephen Bourke Ron Cullen John Crawford Graeme Worboys Jason McClintock Paul Cocking Simon **McFarlance** Michael Watt John Walker Colin Brett Stephen Dunn **David Alexander** Robyn O'Leary John Roberson Lionel Doran **David Sloane** Terry Cracknell Andrew Dowd David Barrow Graeme Parr Alex Calabria James Madden Fergal O'Gara Phil Howsler Jock Munro Peter Beinssen Andrew Glasson Jock Munroe Graham Quade **Richard Hayes** Bruce Grady Allan Silvester Peter Neilson Class of 1949/1950 Wayne Barry

Maurice Woodman Raymond Cox Chris Armstrong Ben & Samantha Granger Tim Condon Michael Oldfield John Armstrong Tom Armstrong David Alexander Geoffrey Paton Caroline & John Betts

100,000



WACOBU MEMORABILIA

Name	
Address	
	Postcode
Date of birthYears at College (F	rom)(to)
Please find enclosed cheque/money order for:	-
• WACOBU stickers (\$1.00)	\$
• WACOBU tie (\$30.00)	\$
• WACOBU lapel badges (\$2.00)	\$
 WACOBU Centenary hat (\$12.00) 	\$
• WACOBU pewter (\$50.00)	\$
• WACOBU plain hat (\$10.00)	\$ 3 3 3 1 2 1
• "Farm Boys to PHD" (\$30.00)	s
 Ladies WACOBU shield pendant (\$65.00) 	\$ (き) 日本語 目 /空)
• Video (\$30.00)	\$
• WACOBU plaques (\$30.00)	S
• WACOBU keyring (\$15.00)	\$
Total	\$
Make cheques/money orders payable to:	
WACOBU, Po Box 1078, WAGGAWAGGA NSW 2650	
Variation of address/personal notes form (PRINT DET	AILS).
EMAIL address	
Name (IN FULL)	
Address	Postcode
Personal notes	
CREDIT CARD PAYM	ENT for WACOBU
MEMBERSHIP & I	MEMORABILIA
Name (IN FULL)	
	Telephone
Please debit my credit card for \$ MAST	ERCARD / VISA / BANKCARD / AMEX
Name on card	

Expiry date.....Signature....

FAX TO - 02 63 384 766

WACOBU MEMBERSHIP

Name	
Address	
	Postcode
Years at College	
Date of Birth	

Please find enclosed cheque/money order for:

· · · ·	
• WHITE Membership fee (\$10.00)	\$
• GOLD Membership fee (\$100.00)	\$
• LIFE Membership (\$400.00)	\$
• Donation (\$25.00)	\$
Total	\$

Make cheques/money orders payable to:

Charles Sturt University

c/o Alumni Office/WACOBU

Charles Sturt University

Panorama Avenue, BATHURST NSW 2795

Variation of address/personal notes form (PRINT DETAILS).

Name	
	Postcode
EMAIL address	
Personal notes	<u></u>

WACOBU MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

The executive of WACOBU and Alumni office met recently to discuss our WACOBU memberships. It was proposed and unanimously accepted that a white, gold and life WACOBU membership be provided for our members.

The difference between Alumni Membership and WACOBU Membership is to be a donation to WACOBU.

White WACOBU membership \$10 annually

(paid in the replied paid envelope)

- WACOBU newsletter
- 20% discount on all CSU wines
- one complimentary copy of the University Alumni magazine
- notification of all reunions for your year or course

Gold WACOBU membership \$100 annually _____

(paid in replied paid envelope)

- WACOBU newsletter
- donation to WACOBU
- one complimentary copy of the University Alumni magazine
- notification of all reunions for your year or course
- 10% discount on post graduate fees CSU
- 25% discount on all award winning CSU wines
- priority for your children and grandchildren to be allocated places in University residences for their first year of study
- use of University facilities (excluding the library) at preferential rates
- the option to apply for Alumni membership to the CSU libraries
- access to the Bathurst Campus' Centre for Professional Development at preferential rates
- 10% discount on fees/charges associated with attending a reunion
- special christmas wine offer
- any other special benefits or offers that are negotiated on behalf of members

Life Gold WACOBU Membership \$400

(paid in replied paid envelope)

 this includes all benefits of a Gold Membership but only paid once.

If you unsure if your membership is up to date please contact Ben Granger, WACOBU Treasurer, on 0408 612 074.

The Alumni will also provide assistance for the WACOBU executive with the collection of annual membership payments, assisting organisation of reunions, collection of money from fundraisers and most importantly insurance cover which we have paid ourselves over the past ten years. All of this assistance will allow the volunteer executive to place time into fundraising for the WACOBU Cottage and scholarship fund.



EMAIL

If you have an email address (and any of other old boys) please email the address below so I can put you on the email list to receive future WACOBU newsletters via emailed PDF's. This will greatly help our cause to cut down on printing expenses. So far we have around 260 addresses.

We are still in the process of updating the current address list so that you do not receive an email and printed version - this will take a while with 1800 addresses - so I apologise if you receive both but hopefully this will not occur next time - let us know if it does.

If you have any information for the next newsletter email Mardi Henley:mardi31s@mac.com