

# PANORAMA



A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS  
OF BATHURST TEACHERS' COLLEGE  
**CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY**  
ISSUE NO 20, AUTUMN 2011

## BTC CELEBRATES DIAMOND JUBILEE

It was a morning of sunshine and showers when the *Pioneers*, along with a number of other alumni, gathered on Bathurst Alumni Common for a celebration of the Diamond Jubilee. The 1951-2 group had been planning their reunion for several months when CSU suggested the weekend should be opened up to all alumni, as it was the 60th anniversary of the opening of the Bathurst Teachers' College, an institution which was to continue until 1969. At the ceremony a time capsule was opened and people were invited to add items to it before it was resealed. Jane Mitchell, Associate Professor of the School of Teacher Education, gave the welcome address, replied to by Helen Egan, the Alumni President. Later the commemorative plaque pictured below was unveiled. After the ceremony, people admired the fountain and decorative tiles so ably cast by Peter Connolly and Dale Dengate. While the *Pioneer* group continued with their well-planned program, other alumni gathered informally in various eateries around the town to chat and renew friendships. At 6pm equal numbers of *Pioneers* and other alumni gathered for the Diamond Jubilee Dinner, where Col Sharp, Head of Campus, gave the welcome and opening

address. It was an evening to reminisce and catch up over a delicious meal and fine wine. Among the many distinguished alumni, some of whom will be mentioned in further reminiscences, was the guest speaker at the BTCAA AGM, Dave Barr, a former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Western Sydney, Macarthur and his wife, Merryl and Alan Smith, long-term lecturer at CSU, who will be replacing Allan Blanch on the BTCAA Scholarship Selection Committee. Most of the current Alumni Association Committee was in attendance, as was Dale Dengate, editor of this magazine for ten years. Gail Metcalfe received special mention for all the work she put in for the event as Treasurer. Also enjoying the evening was Mary Herbert (née Kennedy) with her husband, Dan, who so generously provided the timber for the seats around the Water Feature. On Sunday morning a service of thanksgiving and celebration was held, with Alan Blanch, long-time contributor to and supporter of the BTCAA, officiating and with various Alumni giving Bible readings. The hymns were accompanied by Peter Connolly on keyboard.

Carole Goodwin  
EDITOR



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## WELCOME ADDRESS

On behalf of the Faculty of Education, and the School of Teacher Education, I would like to warmly welcome you back to the site of the Bathurst Teachers' College, and to the place in which you completed your teacher education. It is a real privilege for me to be able to say a few words today.

Before I start my address I would like to acknowledge the sad passing last Sunday of our colleague and friend, Bob Dengate. Bob worked in the School of Teacher Education from 1986 until 2009 and made a wonderful contribution to maths teaching and teacher education in New South Wales. He will be sadly missed.

I will begin my speech by quoting Isaac Newton. When making reference to the ideas that he developed, he famously said:

*If I have seen a little further it is by standing on the shoulders of Giants.*

I share Newton's sentiments in terms of my work here in Education at Charles Sturt University – those of us who work and study here today are able to see things only because we are able to build on the contributions made by the teachers and students who were here before us at the Bathurst Teachers' College.

*We stand on the shoulders of giants.*

So in welcoming you to this ceremony today on behalf of the Faculty of Education – I would like to acknowledge and pay tribute to the contribution that you have made to our core business – teaching and teacher education. We are very grateful for the legacy that you have provided for us.

Today I think we often hear that schools are very different, that young people are very different, and that teacher education is very different, from the past – from 20 years ago, 40 years ago, and 60 years ago.

While there are some obvious and important differences – I think it is also worth noting that some things stay the same – and it is the things that stay the same that are often the most important.

Last week in a class with first year students, I was reminded of the way in which some things stay the same. The topic under discussion was what to wear for the first practice teaching experience in schools. I had to smile as one young fellow asked how he should do his hair – he said he normally put gel in his hair so it stood up and asked if it might be better if it was combed over. Another young woman asked if it would be appropriate to wear jeans. In my day (30 years ago) the male students were worried about their hair being too long and whether they could get away with not wearing a tie. The female students wouldn't dare wear jeans and we did have some concerns about

the length of skirt we should wear.

I thought to myself, "I wonder if you (the Bathurst Teachers' College Alumni) also talked about what you should wear on your first day of school and what the normal rules of fashion were." The rules might have been a bit stricter than today! I do hope I get a chance to talk to you about the specific fashion rules you had to follow. However, my hunch is that irrespective of the fashion rules of the time, we were probably all wondering what we should be wearing on our first day in school so that we looked like a teacher.

The question "what should a teacher look like?" is one thing that has stayed the same across time and is something that we talk about each year in teacher education.

There are, however, other things that stay the same across time, and that are important in relation to both teaching and teacher education.

Here are a couple of principles and purposes that I think important and that have stayed the same:

- The importance of good relationships and communication to the task of teaching.
- The importance of caring for students and their learning.
- The recognition that teaching is a really important profession and one that deserves our utmost respect.
- The need to develop in our teacher education students a capacity to rise to the daily challenges of teaching.

I have read some of the stories that you have written about your initial experiences in teacher education and teaching. The values of resourcefulness, hard work and good humour, shone through in your stories. I hope we can instil those values in our students as they begin their teaching careers.

Now there are some things that change, and certainly the use of new communications technology is making some changes to the work that teachers and students do in classrooms. You may be interested to know that the University is building a new teaching space for the Faculty of Education that will be a model digital classroom. The classroom will contain a raft of cutting-edge technology that can be used to facilitate student learning – high definition video conferencing, interactive whiteboards, laptop computers, digital cameras, and the like.

The new building is just around the corner from where we stand today and construction will be complete in the middle of this year.

I would like to say that there is an open invitation to the Alumni to visit this new classroom once it is open and we will provide a demonstration of the new technology. Certainly I hope we can see you for your next re-union in Bathurst and hold a gathering in this new teaching space.

In conclusion, can I again say thank you for your contribution to teacher education in Bathurst and welcome you to the campus for this important celebration.

To honour the 60th anniversary of the Bathurst Teachers' College, and on behalf of the Faculty of Education, I would like to announce the unveiling of a plaque that recognises this significant date. The plaque will be located near the bench and commemorative tiles in the Bathurst Alumni Common.

Thank you.

JANE MITCHELL

(Associate Professor, School of Teacher Education)

### REPLY BY BTCAA PRESIDENT

Casting your mind back 60 years you will realise that 1951 was not very long after World War 2 – a war which affected everyone, including Australians, with its tragedies, rationing and shortages of goods.

So when the first students arrived on this campus, facilities for accommodation, meals and lectures were crowded, unfinished, or not even started. I know the lecturers who arrived earlier have many tales of, shall I say, extra-curricular activities! I am delighted that three of those lecturers are here today: Ellen Waugh (Art) Betty Pooler, later Mrs MacDonal (P.E.) and Shirley Bonner, later Mrs Stimson (Biology). But we accepted the situation and got on with living and learning and making friends.

By the time of the Official Opening in November 1951, 160 students had formed over 20 social, sporting and special interest clubs as well as a newspaper. All without a grant of any kind. Grants seem to be a prerequisite for doing anything today!

Thanks to the principalship of L.J. Allen and his dedicated staff, over 2000 students graduated from BTC. Some furthered their academic qualifications and transferred to high schools and universities, others pursued careers in law and commerce, the church and the media – the list goes on. And some are still doing a wonderful job as classroom primary teachers.

In today's world where everything is **costed** instead of **valued**, where the news consists of dubious life styles of film stars and so-called sporting heroes, I find inspirational accounts of individuals' lives recorded in *Timelines* in the Sydney Morning Herald. It is not often acknowledgement is given to a primary one-teacher school let alone naming the teacher. However in an account of the life of Audrey Oldfield, a teacher and author of children's books and books on Australian history, tribute was paid to her first teacher, Tom Smith, in a one-teacher school at The Channon, near Lismore.

Many BTC graduates taught in one-teacher schools, fulfilling an important rôle by educating children in isolated areas. There are very few if any of those schools in existence now – a pity because I think they were an important social focus for farming communities.

Today not only are we acknowledging the 60th Anniversary of the founding of Bathurst Teachers' College but also we celebrate the institution which has occupied this campus since 1990 – Charles Sturt University. The first head of campus at Bathurst was Prof. John Collins – Deputy Vice-Chancellor of CSU and a Pioneer student of BTC.

The Alumni of BTC are proud of their links with CSU and regularly visit Bathurst for reunions. We marvel at the technical facilities in lecture rooms, the vast library, sports facilities, the specialist facilities for the many faculties taught here and the single room accommodation! We maintain our links with today's students by awarding a scholarship to a CSU student. Last year the recipient was Rebecca Picker, whose grandfather, Grahame Howard, is present today. We have been welcomed here in the past by heads of campus, vice-chancellors and the late Chancellor David Asimus.

On behalf of all BTC Alumni gathered here today I thank you, Col Sharpe, for your welcome and hospitality and for including us in celebrations for the foundation of Charles Sturt University for which Bathurst Teachers' College was a building block. Thank you, Jane Mitchell, for your enthusiasm for today's students and your interest in our alumni association. Thank you, Michelle Fawkes, for your friendship over many years and also your organisation of various unexpected aspects of this weekend. I thank the members of CSU staff who have been involved in the preparation for today's functions.

Theo Barker in his book *The Story of the Three Colleges* writes, "Bathurst Teachers' College was a happy place." Today we find Archie Millar's words for the College anthem very relevant:

*And when others gather here*

*In our age and in their youth,  
May we all with gratitude  
Find her youthful, honoured,  
strong.*

HELEN EGAN  
President, BTCAA



For news on CSU Alumni go to  
[www.csu.edu.au/alumni](http://www.csu.edu.au/alumni)



### THE CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION TRUST

Support the education of young Australians by giving a tax deductible donation to the Charles Sturt University Foundation Trust. To make a donation or bequest, go to the [Charles Sturt Foundation](http://www.csu.edu.au/alumni) web site or talk to a Faculty Advancement Officer on (02) 6338 4832.

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Everything you need to keep you connected with the University and Alumni publications can be found at [www.csu.edu.au/alumni](http://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.**

### REFLECTIONS FROM A PIONEER

Before we go our separate ways I would like to share with you my reflections on this reunion that celebrates the 60th anniversary of the foundation of Bathurst Teachers' College.

It is a great sadness that some of our number are no longer with us and that some others who had planned to come were unable to join us either through illness or accident. These we hold in our memories. Some – Ray and Bob Kendrick from Vancouver and Gladys Hungerford from Victoria – travelled considerable distances to be here, so strong was their desire to be part of the celebrations. Some overcame physical difficulties in order to rejoin their friends: John and Wendy Bradshaw and Maureen Goslett whose son drove her to Bathurst so that she could attend our formal dinner.

We are all delighted that three of the teaching staff of those bygone days were able to join their former students. We are very proud of them and I hope they are proud of the fruits of their labour.

Everyone I've spoken to attributes what I think of as our unique bonding to what Carole McDiarmid described at our formal dinner as our 'collective identity'. We lived together, ate together and endured the same constraints and discomforts. In a word, we looked out for one another. Bruce

Sargent, when speaking of his first impressions of the college, mentioned that the special focus of our lives there was people. Betty Meehan commented on that first cohort of students being one big circle within which there were many smaller circles: groups that formed bonds because of a common interest be it sport, music, drama or journalism. Dulcie Johnstone told us that she never felt homesick at all until she took up her first teaching appointment.

We will not easily forget the pleasures of this weekend – pleasures that began the moment we all gathered together at the most congenial *Citigate Hotel* on Friday afternoon. During afternoon tea Royce Levi explained to us that the recent floods in Brisbane had delayed the publication of what is to be Volume II of our pioneers' reminiscences. Many of us already have a copy of *Tales and Tidings* which Royce edited and we were all looking forward to the launching of his next edition. He presented a pre-print of *Tales of Classrooms Past and Other Places* to all those who had contributed to it and many pioneers placed orders for the book which should be posted to them in the next few weeks. There was ample time for people to renew friendships before we went to the Entertainment Centre to enjoy the warm hospitality of a mayoral reception. It was gratifying to receive such a welcome and we all enjoyed the talented performances of the Kelso High School's *Circus Surreal* and the Bathurst High School band.



Above: Royce Levi opens the time capsule. If you have any memorabilia you would like to include you can send it to the Advancement Unit and it will be placed in the archives.

Saturday began with a substantial breakfast at *Citigate* in a dining area assigned solely to the Pioneers. This extended into a morning tea and again there were plenty of opportunities for people to mingle and recognize faces not seen – in some cases – for several decades.

Most of us were amazed at the transformation of our Alma Mater when we – together with many alumni from later years – assembled for the



commemorative ceremony on the Alumni Common where Royce Levi's opening of the time capsule revived many memories and led to jocular speculation about when it would next be opened and who would be present on that occasion. The CSU unveiled a plaque which is to be placed within the grounds of the university as a memorial to the opening of Bathurst Teachers College sixty years ago. Helen Egan paid tribute to the Charles Sturt University and outlined the role the Alumni Association played in preserving our connection to the university.

After a delightful lunch and an inspection of Miss Traill's house an ever-obliging bus driver took most of us on to Bathurst Public School where we were introduced to the marvels of modern technology used in today's classrooms. I think many of us felt we would have to undergo a crash-course from our grandchildren before we could dare venture into a class where smart boards and video-conferencing were standard

ably. As guest speaker Ms Carole McDiarmid traced the developments that have taken place in education – particularly in distance education – since our time at Bathurst Teachers' College. Pat Williams responded with a gracious vote of thanks and Spencer Harvey proposed a toast to Charles Sturt University.

And now, here we are, enjoying our last communal gathering in the form of a brunch after our lovely Thanksgiving service shared with many alumni from other years. I think we are all wondering if we shall ever meet again en masse as the Pioneers. Whether or not this comes to pass we will continue to cherish the friendships we have forged and renewed over the sixty years we have known one another.

How blessed are we.  
IMOGEN KELLY  
March 13, 2011



equipment. We owe a great debt to Spencer Harvey who was a powerful force in arranging all these local visits for us.

Saturday ended with the Diamond Jubilee dinner at the dining hall of CSU. So significant was this occasion that the CSU decided to widen the invitation to the BTC alumni as a whole with the result that eighty or so alumni from subsequent years joined in the celebrations. Again, friendship was the keynote of the gathering as we enjoyed a delicious dinner served with excellent Charles Sturt wines. Mr Col Sharp, Head of Campus, made us most welcome and Dr Ralph Rawlinson was prevailed upon at short notice to act as Master of Ceremonies – a role he assumed most

*Above: The "Pioneers" relax after their Sunday brunch*

By the time you read this, further photos taken at the Diamond Jubilee will be on the Alumni Website for your perusal: [www.csu.edu.au/alumni](http://www.csu.edu.au/alumni)

### **THE STRANGER AT THE COMPUTER**

Retirement? What a laugh! From paid work, perhaps, but sometimes I feel I'm working harder and longer hours as a volunteer than I ever did as an educator. Impossible, surely?

In 1981, having seen both children settled at school, I returned to work as a teacher-librarian and, liking the idea of an association that would

support my work, I immediately joined the Children's Book Council of Australia (CBCA).

Having entered the world of Australian children's literature, I was as excited as the children when taking school groups to book fairs, Book Week luncheons, having authors come to the school and actually meeting a favourite author.

In 1991 I was part of a like-minded group, (teacher-librarians, book seller, parents and an author) who founded the first sub-branch of the CBCA. We organized functions for adults and children in the Sutherland-St George area of Sydney – children's lunches with authors and illustrators; adult dinners with guest speakers; and evening gatherings to hear invited authors and illustrators.

Twenty years later I find myself President of the NSW Branch of the CBCA, a voluntary position, and immediately have left behind the world as I knew it:

A two-day Children's Literature Festival in Broken Hill; a two-day National AGM in Brisbane; an award dinner; a newsletter column to write (two, if I count this one); a sub-branches' teleconference; another dinner for a visiting English author; a one-day seminar to celebrate the announcement of the CBCA Book of the Year Awards; primary children's master classes in conjunction with the Sydney Writers Festival; not to mention hundreds of emails. And all this in six months!

To date I feel that I'm on a roller-coaster as so many activities, thankfully, fall into place due to an enthusiastic committee.

The mission statement (yes, they do exist outside the world of education) of the CBCA is 'Engaging the Community with Literature for Young Australians' and I can honestly say this has been my driving force ever since I became a teacher-librarian. It is not surprising that, in retirement, I should find myself involved in an organization with this at its heart.

With the advances of technology and the availability of e-books and e-readers, some would say it was a bad time to lead a 'book' association as there is a perceived belief that the written book will disappear; I don't agree.

In our endeavour to bring children and books together, I believe we are holding our own: children are still thrilled to meet a real-live author and to have a book signed; children still enjoy having stories read to them and talking about them; and, like so many adults, children still enjoy the feel and smell of a book (especially a new one).

Being an over-worked volunteer certainly has repercussions for family (who is that stranger at the computer?) but, with six grandchildren, what else would I do with my time?!!

DENISE CRAMSIE.

<http://nsw.cbca.org.au>

## **IF WE WERE STUDENTS TODAY ...**

*Ever wondered why students go overseas for their practice sessions? Read the report below to find out.*

Associate Professor

NINETTA SANTORO

Head, School of Teacher Education.

I am delighted to have been invited to write about the School of Teacher Education at Bathurst for *Panorama* and to update the Bathurst Teachers' College Alumni on some of the initiatives that have been occurring in the school. Teacher Education continues to be affected by the changing socio-political climate that shapes tertiary education in general. Of particular significance to us, however, are the ongoing debates about teacher standards and national accreditation, the shortage of teachers in rural and remote areas and in some discipline areas as well as debates around teacher quality. In the School of Teacher Education, notions of 'teacher quality' and the provision of 'quality teacher education' are elements of our work with which we are particularly concerned. In this article, I would like to talk about just three of the many initiatives in the school that aim to improve quality teacher education.

### **The need for teachers to be inter-culturally competent**

In 2011 we are conscious of the need to prepare our teachers for an increasingly globalised world in which cultural diversity characterizes many classrooms and student populations. In the last twenty-five years in Australia as well as many other parts of the world, the ethnic and cultural make-up of school communities has undergone rapid and radical change. Unprecedented movements of refugees and immigrants across national borders, as well as the development of global labour and education markets have resulted in communities, some of which have traditionally been culturally homogenous, becoming increasingly diverse. It has become all the more necessary for our teachers to develop intercultural competence through which they understand and can address the needs of students from different cultural and linguistic backgrounds. One way in which this can be done is to make available to teacher education students, opportunities for cultural study tours, or what we call at CSU, *Mobility Programs*. These programs enable our students to visit countries that are significantly different from their own, to experience different teaching and education practices and to consider how culture impacts on teaching and learning and how they, as prospective teachers, are shaped by their own cultural beliefs and values. In 2010 we offered short term cultural programs to our students,

some of whom visited countries such as India or Korea for three weeks, in order to experience education contexts different from those with which they are familiar, to learn about another culture and importantly, to reflect upon their own culture. These trips which were voluntary enabled our students to connect with other teacher education students, teachers and school students from the host culture. They were provided an introduction to language and culture and the opportunities to teach in contexts that were sometimes challenging because they were unfamiliar and required the students to draw on personal and professional resources. We are hoping to extend these opportunities for students to engage in a range of Mobility Programs over the next couple of years.

### **Teacher Educators as researchers**

When we recruit staff as teacher educators it is important that we attract those who are passionate about teaching, who are expert teachers themselves and who have strong links with the profession. However, increasingly, there is a need for us to employ staff who are also researchers and whose research contributes to the scholarship of teaching and informs their own teaching within the university. In the last 2 years we have seen a shift in the number of our staff with PhDs increase from 45% to 75%, a result of our efforts to attract top academics to the school, but also the result of the extraordinary effort of our staff to complete their doctoral studies while working full time. We, in the school of Teacher Education, like all academics in all faculties and universities in Australia have recently had an independent audit of the quality of our research conducted by the Federal Government, the *Excellence in Research for Australia* initiative, commonly called ERA. The quality of our publication outputs, i.e. journal articles and books and research grants were assessed on the basis of their impact and importance to the field of education. We at CSU are delighted that Educational Research at the university was considered 'World Class' and that we have been ranked among the top 10 of Education Faculties in Australia. Many of the staff whose research contributed to such a pleasing outcome are from the School of Teacher Education.

### **The Alumni Project**

You may recall that many of you living in the Bathurst region were invited last year to be involved in a pilot project that involved a small number of our Primary Education students speaking with you about your early experiences of teacher education at Bathurst Teachers' College and your early experiences of teaching. This was a fantastic opportunity for some of our students to

learn from a previous generation of teachers and to develop understandings of the differences and similarities between their experiences and yours. Academics in the school have subsequently interviewed the students who spoke to you about what you taught them and we have been analyzing the data from those interviews. Findings suggest that students drew inspiration and encouragement from their interaction with you, greater understanding of teaching as a life-long career and an increased capacity to relate their current studies to their future careers. We think that connecting pre-service teachers to alumni who have made teaching their life-long career engages students with histories and images of the profession and of professionals that support them in finding their own place in the profession at an early stage of pre-service education. I would like to sincerely thank those of you who gave your time to the students and were prepared to share with them your recollections of a special career and to inspire them to think about theirs differently. Some of us in the School of Teacher Education are preparing a paper based on the project for the Australian Teacher Education Association Conference this year in July in Melbourne. I will make sure a copy of that paper is made available to you.

When we initially called for volunteers among you, the positive response was overwhelming and we simply couldn't connect a student teacher with each of you who had volunteered. However, we hope to continue with the project this year and will be seeking your input again.

Finally, the recent celebrations of the 'Pioneer' group of students from Bathurst Teachers' College held over the weekend of 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> March reminded me of the importance of the enduring connections and relationships between people who came together from all over NSW 60 years ago to train as teachers. The continued interest of that group of people, as well as subsequent groups of Alumni, in the preparation of teachers in 2011, is evidence of their lifelong passion and commitment to teaching and its importance in contributing to social change. I look forward to continued strong relationships between the School of Teacher Education and the Alumni.

## **REUNION NOTICES**

### **1961-62 50TH REUNION AND CELEBRATION 2012**

A small committee of six has been formed to commence organising the 50th celebration in 2012. We would appreciate you either phoning or emailing us so we can compile a list of former students.



September/October has been pencilled in for this 50th reunion weekend (Friday through Sunday). Bathurst is planned to be the venue for the reunion. Please contact us if you have any suggestions or questions.

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### 1962/3 BTC SESSION NEWS

There was a small informal gathering of 1962/3 members on 30 March, held over lunch at the South Steyne Floating Restaurant in Darling Harbour, Sydney. We were treated to an excellent meal in luxury surroundings (the Board Room!!) and a very good time was had by all. Before the meal we had a time to share our life highlights, and that brought up many memories and prolonged conversations while we ate. Those present asked for another similar event, perhaps in Spring, and lunch was definitely the preferred time. Apologies and messages of support were received from many other classmates, including distant friends Leonie Sayers (Canada), Geoff McLane (France), Betty Fitzsimmons (New Zealand) and Garry Hunter (Indonesia). Due to the cost of communication, advertising next time will only be via email, so Bruce and Heather Fairhall need that information if not already supplied.

Of the 183 students recorded for our year, we have three who cannot be located at all, and clues (school, married name, siblings etc.) are needed to help locate them before the 50 Year Reunion is held. Those missing are: **Rhonda Castle; Ngaere Pownall and Janet Parkin.**

There is scant information recorded for three other students, and so we are seeking up to date direct contact info (phone, address, email) for: **Ruth Barker; Aline Johnston (TerHorst) and Kathy O'Leary (Funnell).**

Thank you to all our fellow students who have helped with the searches over the past year, so if we can complete the data with the above six and keep contact info (especially email) up to date then the task of the Reunion Organising Committee will be much easier.

Our 1962/3 Database is maintained by Bruce Fairhall, Post Office Box 333, North Richmond NSW 2754. Phone (02) 4571 1019.

Email: [bruce@fairhall.id.au](mailto:bruce@fairhall.id.au)

### SOUTHERN GET-TOGETHER

At Wollongong on Wed 27 July for lunch.  
Details from Danny Mahar 56/7  
ph 4228 5260 [danny.mahar@bigpond.com](mailto:danny.mahar@bigpond.com)

### 1960 - 61 50TH REUNION

2011 is your 50<sup>th</sup> reunion and at Bathurst in March some of those attending expressed an interest in celebrating it later in the year. If you would like to take part, please contact Gail Metcalfe Ph (02) 4782 1573 or email: [gailfmetcalfe@bigpond.com](mailto:gailfmetcalfe@bigpond.com)



### YOUR NEW ALUMNI COMMITTEE

At the BTCAA AGM, held at the Mosman RSL on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> February, the new committee was elected:

**President:** Helen Egan

**Vice Presidents:** Alan Beggs, Wayne Bensley

**Secretary:** Carole Sharp

**Treasurer:** Gail Metcalfe

**'Panorama' Sub-Committee:** Carole Goodwin,  
Denise Cramsie

**Minutes Secretary:** Val Woodward

**General Members:** Peter Connolly, Greg Woods,  
Carina Doyle, Royce Levi,  
Ken Shadbolt, Wanda Zaniewski

### ADDRESS AT THE BTCAA AGM

Guest Speaker, **David Barr**, BTC student in 1958 -59 and Former Deputy Vice Chancellor for the University of Western Sydney, Macarthur, was introduced to the meeting by Denise Cramsie (nee Strahan) who had shared the delights of Mr Whitbread's Maths Elective in those far-off years.

Dave opted to talk about what he has learnt from life rather than give his prepared dissertation. Appointed to Punchbowl Boy's Primary at the age



of eighteen he now wonders: "What were they thinking?" especially when looking at his own three sons and their friends at that age.

So what are life's lessons? In his still-current position on the Education Board of the Society of Urologists in Melbourne Dave has learnt his first lesson: that it is as important to know what you do not know as to what you do, in order to be able to say that you cannot help but will refer the person to someone who can. As young teachers we were afraid that someone would ask us something we could not answer, yet it is important to be aware of the limits of our knowledge. The most dangerous people are those who think they know everything.



*Dave is relaxing, before his address, with four other members from 1958-59.  
Back: Jenny Hughes (née Hohnhorst), Carole Goodwin (Aggett)  
Front: Dale Dengate (Morgan) Denise Cramsie (Strahan)*

Lesson Number 2 is that we are primarily self-interested. Examples of this include politicians from Western Sydney, the area in which Dave worked for many years, who know that they must appear interested in their constituency, yet are still operating on the premise that what is good for the client should also be good for the politician. They listen, but do not hear. In the same way, many go into the medical profession to make money rather than for humanitarian goals. If a procedure will cut waiting times for patients but at the same time affect the surgeon's income, they will resist the change. University academics also give different reasons for changes in the faculty other than the real one, which is to preserve their own position.

Lesson Number 3 is that mistakes are made even for the most altruistic reasons. The University of Western Sydney focusses on equity. Programs

were developed to help students in the area, who might be the first in their families to attend a tertiary institution, to achieve good outcomes. However, once these were achieved, the students were not grateful, because their results were less valued than a degree from a more prestigious or established institution. Another attempt at equity was to help Aboriginal students attain a teaching degree, which would have had the word "aboriginal" in the title. Pat O'Shane, magistrate and indigenous activist, convinced the University that this would simply devalue the degree, so the name was dropped.

Lesson number 4 is that older people are becoming "the worried well". A urologist has calculated the amount of money he could make from this phenomenon: as we reach our seventies and older we should not expect a cure for our complaint but learn to live with it. The health system is spending a huge amount on the last six years of people's lives.

Dave concluded by extolling the joys of retirement; during his working life, which often involved a 70-hour working week he had to yield to the demands and obligations of his position, but now although still employed part-time, he has the freedom of choice to take up new challenges, and to walk away if these are not working out. As retirees we do not have to please others or to try to second guess what people want of us. Later on we may not know that we have forgotten what we did know, but what we will remember is the value of the career we had during our working life.

## ALUMNI CONTACTS

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**IT'S ON AGAIN**

Saturday 24th Sunday 25th September  
10.00am – 4pm

Edgemount  
14 Banksia Park Road Katoomba

Entry \$5 per person  
Devonshire Teas available.

Come and enjoy the magnificent views and an  
acre of landscape

and at the same time help support  
the BTCAA Scholarship Appeal

**SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

At the AGM, the report from CSU showed 2010 as a successful fundraising year for the Scholarship Fund, with an additional \$2950 being added. The BTCAA Scholarship for 2011 has had a number of applications which are being validated and finalised at the moment.

Alan Blanch has been on the selection committee since its inception and has done a wonderful job; he is now retiring, with his place being taken by Alan Smith, alumnus of 58-59, who will work with the continuing selectors, Helen Barber and Spencer Harvey.

One reason for the additional funds raised in 2010 was the Open Garden run by Gail Metcalfe, to be repeated this year.

*The President and BTCAA Committee*

*invite all BTC Alumni to a lunch to celebrate  
the 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Bathurst Teachers' College Alumni Association*

*at*

*The Strangers' Dining Room  
NSW Parliament House*

*on*

*Friday 4th November 2011 at 11.30 am*

*Guest Speaker to be advised*

*Cost: For two course meal and beverages: \$75*

**PLEASE NOTE:**

- An invitation with details and a request for payment will be sent in July/August to all alumni who —
1. gave name and address to Gail Metcalfe at the recent celebratory weekend at Bathurst
  2. fill in tear-off form and return it to Gail before Tuesday 31st May to assist us with our plans

For any enquiries contact Gail Metcalfe [gailfmetcalfe@bigpond.com](mailto:gailfmetcalfe@bigpond.com)  
or Helen Egan (02) 9969 3815



Cut off and send to Gail Metcalfe, 14 Banksia Park Rd, Katoomba 2780 Ph: (02) 4782 1573 before Thursday 30th June.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

BTC Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Ph. No: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose a stamped business sized, self addressed envelope



# The Bathurst Teachers' College Alumni Association Scholarship Appeal



## KEEPING THE SPIRIT ALIVE IN 2011 TO SECURE THE FUTURE

The Scholarship Appeal Fund is building. We have so far raised over \$21 600. In order to establish a perpetual Scholarship we need to raise \$25,000. If each of us were to contribute just \$10 our Scholarship would expand in no time.

The Scholarship Fund is an important project as it will serve not only to assist students who are related to our members but also perpetuate the spirit and comradeship which was established so long ago and still exists. The BTC Alumni Association will have direct input into how this fund is managed and where the fund will expend its monies. All information pertaining to activities of the Fund will be communicated to our membership through 'PANORAMA'.

Your willingness and courage to 'secure the future' providing for the best possible education for members of the BTC Alumni family is a worthwhile goal.

### BTC Alumni Association Fund

Costs of producing 'PANORAMA' and the running of the BTC Alumni Association obviously require some expenditure. An annual contribution of at least \$20 from all members of BTCAA ensures the continuation of our Association.



Please indicate your support for The BTCAA Scholarship Appeal and/or your willingness to help the Management Committee by completing the forms below and returning them as specified.

**Take care where you send your contributions - please look carefully at the addresses for each donation.** If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact BTCAA Treasurer, Gail Metcalfe on 02 4782 1573 or Charles Sturt University on (02) 6338 4629.

<p><b>I want to support the BTCAA Scholarship Appeal (all gifts over \$2.00 are tax deductible)</b>  <i>Please send to: Charles Sturt Foundation Charles Sturt          University, Panorama Ave, Bathurst, NSW, 2795.</i></p> <p>My gift for 2011 is: \$ _____          (cheque/money order enclosed)          Please find enclosed my cheque for \$ _____          OR please debit my credit card for \$ _____</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;"></td><td style="width: 10%;"></td><td style="width: 10%;"></td><td style="width: 10%;"></td><td style="width: 10%;"></td><td style="width: 10%;"></td><td style="width: 10%;"></td><td style="width: 10%;"></td><td style="width: 10%;"></td><td style="width: 10%;"></td><td style="width: 10%;"></td><td style="width: 10%;"></td><td style="width: 10%;"></td><td style="width: 10%;"></td><td style="width: 10%;"></td><td style="width: 10%;"></td><td style="width: 10%;"></td><td style="width: 10%;"></td><td style="width: 10%;"></td><td style="width: 10%;"></td> </tr> </table> <p>Card Type:      Mastercard      or      Visa</p> <p>Name on Card: _____</p> <p>Expiry on Card: _____</p> <p>Signature of Cardholder: _____</p> <p>Surname: _____</p> <p>Given Name: _____</p> <p>YearGroup: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Postcode: _____</p> <p>Home phone: _____</p> <p>Mobile: _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p>																					<p><b>I wish to assist the financial viability of the BTCAA</b>  <i>Please send to: BTCAA c/- Gail Metcalfe,          14 Banksia Park Road, Katoomba NSW 2780</i></p> <p>My contribution for 2011 is: \$ _____          (cheque/money order enclosed)</p> <p>Please include a stamped self addressed envelope if you          require a receipt</p> <p>Surname: _____</p> <p>Former Surname: _____</p> <p>GivenName: _____</p> <p>YearGroup: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Postcode: _____</p> <p>Home phone: _____</p> <p>Mobile: _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I would prefer to receive my Panorama via email</p>