

A PUBLICATION  
OF THE ALUMNI OF  
WAGGA TEACHERS' COLLEGE

# TALKABOUT



Volume 2: No 3

October 1999

## WWTC ALUMNI PRODUCE TALKABOUT

The formation of the Alumni Association in June 1997 has proved a great success. In the two years since its formation the committee, working in close cooperation with the CSU Alumni, has achieved the following results:

- The formation of a constitution that states the objectives of the association. The constitution has been formally approved by Charles Sturt University.
- A mailing list of more than 1900 past students has been produced.
- Contact has been made with many "lost" alumni.
- A Scholarship Fund has been established and alumni have generously supported it to the amount of over \$8000 dollars to date
- A number of reunions of various sessions of College have been arranged through the Alumni Office.
- A newsletter bearing the banner of the original College paper, *Talkabout*, has been produced and distributed by the Alumni Office from material contributed by the Association.

The CSU Alumni staff, under the leadership of Michael Fogarty, has been almost totally responsible for the production and distribution of *Talkabout*.



*Marion DeGabriel, Michael Fogarty, Michelle Fawkes*

However, from this issue things have changed. The CSU Alumni cannot continue funding us. The WWTC Alumni Association will now gather contributions, put the newsletter together and pay the printing costs. The CSU Alumni have agreed to arrange for the printing and distribution.

The Committee has determined that if members continue their contributions we can afford to pay the printing costs to produce three *Talkabouts* each year.

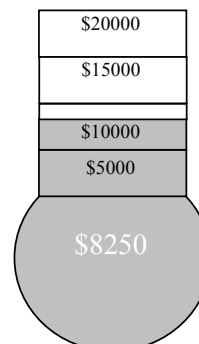
### *The Spirit of Giving is Alive and Well*

Since the July issue of *Talkabout*, gifts towards the Scholarship Appeal have increased so that up until now the total has reached \$8200. Of the 44 gifts received since the last *Talkabout*, 22 were new givers and the others were repeat givers, some of whom increased their gift this year.

Our target by the end of 1999 is \$10000 so it would only take another 90 donations of \$20 to reach this target.

A gift form is enclosed for those who have not as yet been able to make a donation.

**REMEMBER any gift over \$2 is TAX DEDUCTIBLE.**



## From the Editors' Desks



In the last issue of *Talkabout* you were advised of the cost of publication and postage.

Charles Sturt University has informed us that it can no longer afford to fully sponsor *Talkabout* and we are most grateful for the help they have given us.

A committee has been formed comprising Bill Grant, Lew Morrell, Lew Crabtree, Lindsay Budd, John Riley, Graeme Wilson, and Ann Smith. We will endeavour to continue publication. If all alumni make a contribution we can afford to pay the printing costs for 3 productions a year.

We are indebted to Lindsay Budd for the time and expertise that he has contributed to the format and the production of this issue.

In future all items for publication (*Reunion Notices, Reports, Excursions, Articles, etc*) are to be posted to the Editors:-

**Lew Crabtree:**

54 Kiparra Street,  
West Pymble, 2073  
Phone 94985457  
OR

**Lew Morrell:**

25 Grandview Drive,  
Newport, 2106  
Phone 99971506.

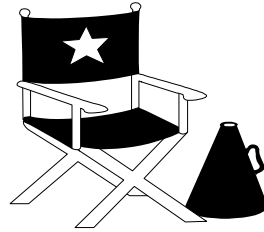
### PLEASE CONTRIBUTE ARTICLES

We hope the articles in this issue will motivate you to contribute.

### KEEP TALKABOUT ALIVE!

Editors.

## President's Message



As you will have already noted in this issue of *Talkabout*, the WWTC Alumni Association has taken over the production of *Talkabout*. We appreciate that the CSU cannot continue funding our Newsletter and we feel that it is necessary to maintain contact with alumni. It is for that reason that a subcommittee has decided that with the support of alumni we will be able to continue producing *Talkabout*.

To this date almost 2000 alumni have been "found" and are on the CSU Alumni database. These are all receiving copies of *Talkabout*.

Ann Smith has completed an arduous but fruitful search of membership names and addresses for the first five sessions of WWTC. We seek members of the "younger" brigade to act as contact persons for their sessions to send information and updates to the WWTC Alumni secretary so that we can collate and use this data for the benefit of all our colleagues.

It is gratifying to see that the Scholarship fund is steadily creeping towards the 1999 target of \$10000. This is a unique opportunity to participate in a worthy cause and to perpetuate the name of WWTC.

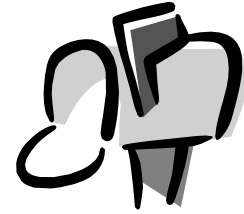
*Bob Collard*

### *Interested in having a Reunion?*

The Alumni Team  
(*Michael, Michelle & Marion*)  
is here to help you.  
Give us a call and we will be able to  
advise and assist in the  
organisation of your special event.

**Phone: (02) 6338 4629**

## Letter to the Editor



### SMALL REUNION

Editor, *Talkabout*

Dear Mr. Morrell,

In answer to Bill Semple's question (July, 1999 issue) concerning the students of 1960 to 1967, I can speak for at least a small group from the 1959-60 session. Seven of us who had spent two years in the good old bottom dorms decided to cash in some of our chips and head for Darling Harbour last month for a three day reunion.

What a fabulous time we had reminiscing and filling in the gaps. We came from Salt Lake City, Vancouver, Alice Springs, Brisbane, Harden, Bathurst and Bardwell Park. We had so much fun we're doing it again in two years time, only next time another member of our group is coming from England to join us.

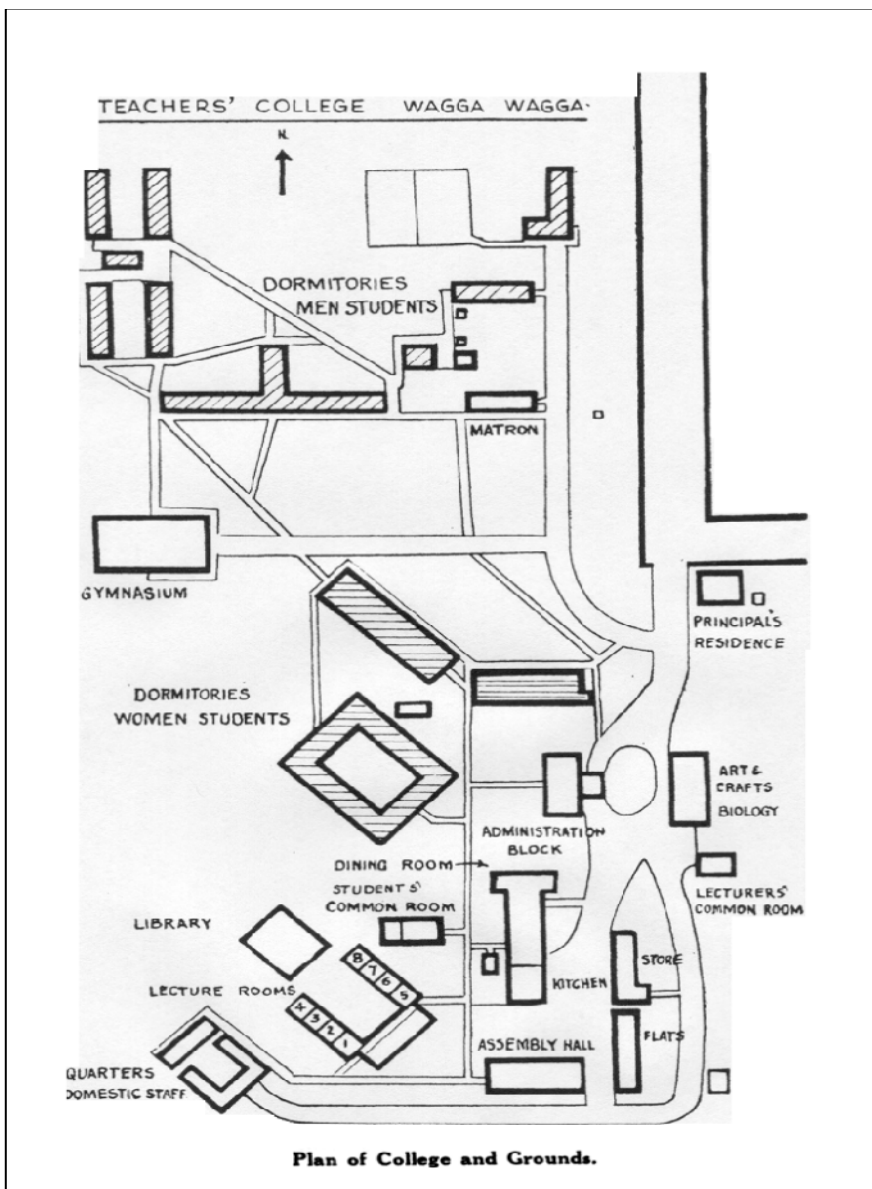
It amazed us how the years fell away after a few glasses of wine. We laughed hard and long about the unbelievably restricted lives we led at WWTC. We had all stretched the rules during our two years at Wagga, and had repeatedly faced the music when our names were called out at breakfast- especially on Monday mornings!

Who are we? I'll give you our maiden names so at least some of your readers will know us: Judy Price, Judy Noble, Laurel Pearson, Joan Robinson, Barbara Hobbs, Wendy Louttit and Anne Sheerin. In two years time we'll be joined by Lea Owen as we regale each other with more stories, this time at Avoca Beach.

The class of 59/60 may not be doing big, splashy events, but I'll bet there've been many other get-togethers. Right? Is anybody out there?

Judy Morrison (Noble) – 1959-60

# THE TEACHERS' COLLEGE



This is a plan of the College which was published in the Calendar of 1950-51.

The plan brings back memories of where we as students lived for two years.

Can you remember what the College looked like in the early 50's?

The shaded areas represent the students' living quarters. There were four men and four women Wardens in charge of the dormitories.

The men's dormitories were numbered from 1 to 9.

The women's dormitories were called:

- Phi-Delta
- Kappa-Pi
- Theta-Mu Alpha
- Theta-Mu Beta.

Can you remember the location of your dormitory, its name, and the Warden?

Can you remember where George Blakemore had his rose garden?

Can you remember how small the Library was?

## Aboriginal Names Used in the Intra-mural House System of the Wagga Teachers' College.

*(taken from the CALENDAR of 1950-51)*

The social structure of aboriginal life is based on the family and the horde. The family consists of a man, his wife and children. The horde is made up of a number of families occupying, owning and living on a defined area of land. At any time its members are the males who are born and die in the horde, the unmarried girls and the married women all of whom have become attached to the horde by marriage. The horde is an independent and autonomous unit in its relationships with other hordes.

A tribe is a number of such hordes but is only a unit in so far as its language and general customs are concerned. Virtually, it has no territory and lacks cohesion. The pattern of social behaviour particularly with regard to marriage in any tribe is regulated by the kinship system, whereby tribes are divided into moities, sections and maybe sub-sections. All these divisions, like the tribe and the individual aboriginal have a totem which may be compared to a guardian angel. A totem is generally an animal, a bird or a pant, and to hurt or kill it is an insult.

Wagga Wagga is an aboriginal name and means "many crows"! Wagga City is situated in the territory occupied by the Wiradjeri tribe, the bat being the sex totem of the male and the night owl of the female members.

The four sections of this tribe and their totems are:-

MALE	FEMALE	TOTEM
(1) Ipai	Ipatha	Eagle Hawk
(2) Kambu	Butha	Grey Kangaroo
(3) Mari	Mutha	Emu
(4) Kabi	Kabitha	Porcupine

To give a simple illustration of the function of these four sections in the kinship system, Kambu cannot marry Ipatha, but can marry Mutha. If he does, any children of the marriage are Kabi or Kabitha.

# COLLEGE EXAMINATIONS

*Below are some sample questions from eight subject areas examined during the first three years of Wagga Wagga Teachers' College. What long term effects did examination questions such as these have on your teaching practices? (Be honest!)*

. – John Riley

## ENGLISH

1. "Primitive as they are, the ballads achieve effects of which later poetry has lost the secret." Discuss this statement.
2. Write a brief essay on how to tell stories to children.

## MATHEMATICS

1. Give lesson notes for your first lesson on long division in fifth class.

## SOCIAL SCIENCE

1. What are the qualities needed for successful teaching of history? How can you prepare yourself to teach history? What have you actually done to this end?

OR

Discuss the technique of a narrative lesson under the following headings:-

- a) Preparation for the narrative.
- b) Narrative
- c) Sharpening the impression.

(Were there any such subjects as History and Geography by the time we started teaching?)

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

1. What method would you employ in teaching swimming to a group of non-swimmers?

## ARTS AND CRAFTS.

1. Paint a graded wash in a rectangle approximately three inches by four inches, leaving an unpainted square, approximately one inch near the centre of the rectangle.

## MUSIC

1. What is Folk Music? Name three folk songs, stating the country to which each belongs.

## HYGIENE

1. What are the chief modes of spread of infection? What quarantine measures are taken in the case of a child who had:
  - a) Anterior poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis)
  - b) Diphtheria
  - c) ScabiesThe answer for a) was highly topical in the years 1949/50.

## EDUCATION/TEACHING PRINCIPLES & METHODS

1. a) Specify the four main aims towards which a lesson may be directed.  
b) Name the three stages in the development of any topic and briefly indicate the purpose of each stage.  
c) Briefly describe each of the three main types of class control.

### MATHEMATICS

Students were informed that they would be asked to write a short summary on some eminent person who had contributed to the teaching of mathematics.

Some members of the 1950 Smalls School Section decided to invent a mythical mathematician to whom any theories or methods could be attributed. And so Professor von Schwartz of the Heidelberg University was born.

During the marking period, the Maths lecturer, who shall remain nameless, searched fruitlessly through the College Library for any reference to the said Professor von Schwartz.

It wasn't until he came upon the paper of the over enthusiastic James ..... Who had concluded his treatise with "unfortunately Professor von Schwartz came to an untimely demise, he stepped from Peter's House, tripped down the Montessori steps and broke his neck."

The jig was up!

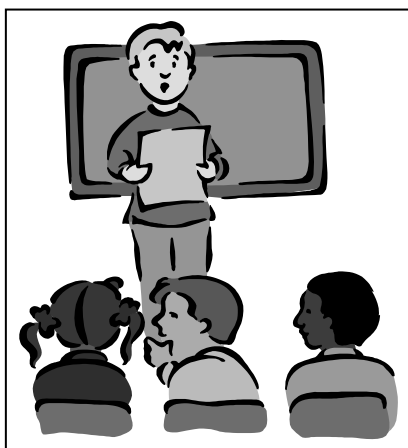
### ALUMNI SERVICES ON THE WEB

at

[http://www.csu.edu.au/division/  
alumni](http://www.csu.edu.au/division/alumni)

"KEEP in TOUCH"

# TEACHING MEMORIES



There has been a heartening response to our appeal for **TEACHING MEMORIES** since *Talkabout* appeared in August, seven *alumni* having sent along one or more stories each. Perhaps this flurry was induced by the mention of "closing the books".

As at 8/8/199 John Riley has received a total of 89 extracts from 37 people, meaning that there must be many others who should have something, no matter how brief, to contribute.

Memories are spread through the chapters as follows:  
COLLEGE DAYS (33);  
EARLY APPOINTMENTS &  
PROBATIONARY DAYS (16)  
PROBLEMS (2\*\*); SCHOOLS (18);  
PUPILS (8\*\*\*); PARENTS (4\*\*\*  
BUREAUCRACY (10).

It can be seen that some chapters are sparsely populated and that contributions would be welcome in these and indeed overall.

Thanks are extended to the following recent contributors -  
Anne Smith (Dinham) & Marcia Stephenson - Early Infants Appointments  
Arthur H. King - Initiation 1951; Bongongolong Appointment  
Margaret Watts (Broadribb) - Extracts from the Archives  
Joan Gerard (Templeton) - Finding Casual Work; Parental Support  
Helen Kidd (Yabsley) Problem Pupil; An Inspector; teaching Overseas  
Judith Hiatt (Hann) Excursion to See the Queen (1954); Warring Parents

\*\*\*\*\*

Judith Hiatt's experience taking pupils from Brewarrina to

Dubbo to see the Queen brings to mind a range of experiences, which might have been the lot of teachers in outback schools. How many, for example, suffered from the effects of natural disasters such as **floods, bushfire, drought?**

What was it like in the early days having to travel to those distant schools by exasperatingly slow and uncomfortable **MAIL TRAINS** or **BUSES** or other forms of transport before you could afford to buy a car?

Where did you **board** in those days, and were there any remarkable or unusual **local people** you came in contact with?

## SOME EXAMPLES

Back in the sixties my teaching husband John was transferred from Dareton to Moree. At Dareton Primary School I had been employed as a casual teacher of needlework.

After settling in at Moree I visited the office of the School Inspector to inform him I would be available for casual teaching. He informed me that there were no teaching vacancies available at that time, but he could give me a position as a school cleaner. I declined. Having four children of my own, I felt I had enough cleaning to do there.

I have great respect for school cleaners, and during 47 years of teaching many of them became my friends. However, on the day of that interview with the Inspector, I was left wondering if he would have offered the job of a cleaner to a casual *male* teacher.

JOAN GERARD  
(TEMPLETON) 1951-52

## FIRST APPOINTMENT

I had just turned 19 when I received my first appointment as the Teacher in Charge of a small school between Wagga and Albury. February was always very hot and dry and my 13 pupils had become used to me wearing khaki shorts, open-neck shirt and sandals to school.

One particularly hot day I was sitting in the classroom having

lunch when I heard a knock on the door. The children were playing outside so I had not heard a car arrive. I went to the door and there was the School Inspector, dressed immaculately in a suit, looking hot and bothered.

He took one look at me and asked, "Could I see the teacher, please?"

LINDSAY BUDD - 1950-51

## MORE OF THOSE MEMORABLE (FORGETTABLE) PUPILS

Reading the July 1999 issue of *Talkabout* has stirred me to write about some of my teaching experiences.

I was a little older than most of my colleagues at College, having done a year of nursing at North Shore and another year as a chemist assistant before going to Wagga.

In my second year at College I met and started going out with Peter Kidd who had been appointed a Maths teacher at the high school. Going out through the week was really frowned on; I remember that I had to have special permission from George Blakemore to go with Peter to a concert given by Isaac Stern.

Peter and I married on 7th January 1956, and I was appointed to Gumly Gumly, a two-teacher school. I taught the Lower Division. One of my most 'memorable' pupils came from that school.

Children from Gumly Boys' Home attended our school, and in 2nd Class I had an obnoxious lad by the name of Bill (not his real name). Having had enough of his antics one day, I told him to stand outside the door. Of course that was fatal, because he absconded. It resulted in our having to call the police and he wasn't found till the next day.

All the time we were looking for him he was up in a tree in the playground, no doubt thinking it was all a great joke.

I heard some years later that he had been killed in a car crash trying to escape from the police.

HELEN KIDD (YABSLEY) -1954-55

# ON STUFFING THE HOOTER



*In brief: a hooter was installed on the W.W.T.C. campus in the winter of 1950. A handful of students plugged it with papier-mâché.*

*The administration unplugged it and set it working again.*

I recall a causative sense of outrage, the generally held distaste for the vulgar and the aggravation of incongruence. Here was a klaxon-type device in a blatant central position bolted high atop a telegraph pole. You'll remember that pole – half way along the path from the main gate to the gym and at the point of separation for those going to the men's dorms or to the women's. A pole strategically placed at the geographic centre of the campus; the pole that marked the trysting place ("under the light") of the students from both sides of the path. Unfortunately it was also the perfect pole to install an intrusive obscene hooter.

Its installation provoked immediate frowns and mumblings of derision. To be a student institutionalised and bonded was one thing but to be offended by the trappings of incarceration was quite another. A hooter to denote the timetable of the administrative expediencies of reveille, meals, lectures and assemblies was an anachronistic leftover from the previous decade's concentration camps. The rustic ambience of our college was being fouled under our very sensitive early-adult noses.

The incessant cajolery in Talkabout against the insidiousness of student apathy must have struck home, for a war party of zealots from the male section of the student body met to fly in the face of lassitude.

And although the memory of ageing alumni is notoriously fuzzy, the silver details of that meeting remain untarnished. The insurgents talked about the efficacy of a good stuffing -- what items in our cultural property deserve to

be well and truly stuffed -- like olives, Christmas turkeys, a few lecturers, most administrators, and especially, all hooters.

But hooter is the wrong term for that obscenity. It did not hoot. Tugboats on foggy estuaries hoot for the purposes of well-being and with the dignified resonance of respect. The campus hooter belched like a klaxon on a vintage automobile whereby a rubber ball on the narrow end of a sound tunnel is squeezed and a self righteous spasm of atonality is emitted. Its purpose is to arrogantly bestow on itself the eternal right of passage.

Furthermore that hooter's emission was neither spasm nor wail nor call-to-arms nor "thing of beauty or a joy forever!"

It was an obscenity without a rhythm and without a pitch, disgustingly electronic without a vibrato, only a long, long plank of toneless severity. Proof enough for the decision makers to be presented with the rewards of the olive and the festive fowl and for the saboteurs to get on with it.

It was one of those foggy (June/July) nights where you can only guess where the moon is – good for gaol escapees, petty burglars and foxes in the chicken yard. At well past one o'clock we met in Hut 9's common room and prepared papier-mâché (a la Norm Donnison's puppet recipe) from newspaper and starch paste heated in a billy with the ubiquitous immersion heater. The alum was omitted in the belief that any critter that climbed high up a vertical pole, dodging electric wires in a search for starch in a long funnel was more than welcome to it.

We didn't wear balaclavas or even streak our faces with soot but we did pay homage to the muse of subversion by wearing dark clothes. Then forward through the shadows to Mrs Whittaker's quarters where an extension ladder lay in the crawl space under the floor. Thence to the pole with its demon exposed and vulnerable.

Just when the ladder was extended and resting below the hooter it became obvious that the actual stuffer had not been appointed. In the ensuing whispering it was revealed that everyone

was either nursing a football injury, gym sprain or an agonising fear of heights, – but was a gifted ladder holder.

So it was by default that the seemingly least afflicted and least convincing got the climbing job.

It was then a matter of going up into the haze, imploring the others to hold the ladder steady, swinging a billy of stuffing with a priming stick, and worrying about the voltage in close wires and the proximity of the Principal's residence. Anyway the job was done, the procedures were reversed, the evidence disposed of ..... and off smirking to bed.

I was surprised how little papier-mâché a hooter holds. Mind you there wasn't too much that could be detected from the ground but just enough to mute the sound.

The next morning brought more than ample reward. Instead of the extended *blatt* of invasive vulgarity came the gentle purring of a replete and very contented cat. You almost had to be directly underneath it to hear it.

For us the administrative response was a source of utmost equal joy. A length of barbed wire was wound around the pole about nine feet from the ground and extending five feet upwards. The ladder was not suspected and was left unfettered in full view under the same house. We had obviously been accorded physical skills that none of us pretended to, and no questions were asked about our whereabouts that night either. However the hooter was cleaned out and put back on the payroll but it didn't quite sound the same again. It had lost its self-respect and coexistence.

Inevitably the hooter-stuffers went their separate ways and some of us have not met again since but the magic of past relationships is not in the accuracy of recall but in the attitudes that are left behind. Of great comfort in looking back is the residue of the warmth and companionship and good fellowship. We undertook a prank that was popular for the right reasons. It incurred no personal insult and damaged no property. It's still a giggle!

*Roger Clements 1949/50*

# REPORT OF WWTC ALUMNI MEETING

## A summary of the August meeting of WWTC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION held at Homebush.

President Bob Collard welcomed the 13 members present and added a special word of greeting to Pamela Regan, nee Beatty, attending for the first time..

1. The Canberra Reunion was reviewed with strong statements of its great success due in large measure to the efforts of a number of key organisers and the general support of members. The coverage given in *Talkabout* was extensive but the Committee was disappointed that this caused the omission of a number of contributors' articles. The Committee is considering appropriate future action on this issue.

2. Communications recording the death of David William (Bill) Gregory in April and Alexander Robert Tobin in May were received with sadness

3. Through the efforts of the Alumni Office at Charles Sturt University and the persistence of our Secretary Ann Smith, an extensive database of ex-students has now been established

This should greatly assist our efforts to make communications more extensive and effective. Time will tell!

4. A full discussion of the future of *Talkabout* was held. Given the difficulties associated with cost cuts at the University Alumni Office, which would preclude the full subsidisation of the cost of production of the paper in the future, it was agreed that our association would take a more direct role both in determining the content of the journal as well as in its production. Committee members elected were Lew Morrell, Lew Crabtree, Bill Grant, John Riley, Lindsay Budd and Bob Collard as ex-officio.

5. Ann Smith was thanked for her work with the questionnaire to elicit, among other things, a preferred venue for the next reunion. The most popular choice of those who responded was Sydney followed by Wagga and then Canberra. A final decision will be made when the results of further committee investigations are known.

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Please note Association meetings are held quarterly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at the Teachers Credit Union, Homebush, 1<sup>st</sup> floor. Starting time 11 am. Duration approx 1½ hours. Snack lunch available plus tea and biscuits.

### Future Meeting Dates:

9<sup>th</sup> November 1999  
8<sup>th</sup> February 2000  
9<sup>th</sup> May 2000  
8<sup>th</sup> August 2000  
14<sup>th</sup> November 2000

## RESULTS OF QUESTIONNAIRE.

A questionnaire sent to alumni from the first four sessions of WWTC yielded the following results on the question of where the next reunion should be held.

Sydney	42
Wagga	35
Canberra	34
Newcastle	9

Remainder – no preference.

Ann Smith, our Secretary who conducted the survey, wishes to thank the 148 respondents for their cooperation and also those who have provided information on newly 'found' alumni.

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Larry Lacey (1950-51) was contacted by Ann Smith and wrote to her from Yamba. Larry was medically retired in 1970 from a Service related injury and now due to fibro myalgia has difficulty in standing and walking.

Although he says he has "been away from teachers for so long", he was able to provide Ann with some useful information on the whereabouts of some of his peers.

Larry says that he would welcome a call from people visiting the area and he said that he would like to hear from Jim Bates, Marshall Johnson and Bill Heap.

Anyone wishing to contact Larry will find him at:

6 Urara Street, Yamba, 2464.  
Phone 02 6646 1520

## A GET TOGETHER OVER LUNCH

Mid the charm of a High-Ceiling Dining Room?

**WHEN:** Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> November, 1999; 11.40 for midday.

**WHERE:** Masonic Club, Castlereagh St, Sydney.

Meet at Lounge near Reception on Ground Floor.

**MENU:** Select two of three courses, with a number of choices available for each course.

**COST:** Approx. \$20; drinks extra.

**CONTACT:** June Hadley (9875 3949) or John Riley (9525 5304) for bookings at least a week in advance.

**WHO:** Anyone from WWTC, regardless of Session.

**We look forward to making you welcome.**

### DATES FOR 2000

TUESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> February

WEDNESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> May

THURSDAY 17<sup>th</sup> August

FRIDAY 24<sup>th</sup> November

(Days staggered to cater for those with regular commitments)

## BILL GRANT IN NEW GUINEA.

*Over the past three years Bill Grant has had a number of trips to Papua New Guinea working on an Institutional Strengthening Project for AusAid - here are two of his shorter stories about experiences in the north.*

On my recent visit to Papua New Guinea (despite my reputed hand in the overthrow of the Government, a tag I was given after being on the edge of a serious tribal battle at Goroka last year!!) I recall two incidents which reflect not only the oft quoted descriptor of the country as "The Land of the Unexpected" but also the dramatic cultural differences to be observed across the country.

### Scene 1

In conversation with a primary school inspector he recounted the story of his visit to a fairly remote Western Highlands two teacher school.

While looking at the children's work at one end of the large open schoolroom he noticed that everyone has suddenly become silent and not a soul was moving - not even the teachers. Turning around he saw a tall, stately man in full ceremonial war dress with mask, bird of paradise feathers, shield and spear. He proceeded to parade around the school, not uttering a word but occasionally fixing his gaze on the work of one child. After some ten minutes he simply turned on his heel and headed for the jungle. "Who on earth was that?" asked the Inspector.

"Oh, he's a member of the School Council - every month or so he just appears to check up on the children!!"

And who was it said that the school inspector was the ogre?

### Scene 2

Just after the pomp and ceremony of the swearing in of a new Prime Minister, following some really cunning political manoeuvres, an

article appeared in the local Port Moresby paper:

"The rain and tears came down and were soon drowned out by the sound of kundus and song as a tiny hamlet tucked away at the mouth of the Lakekamu river in the Gulf Province came alive yesterday. This is Kukipi, a village of about 500, home to the seventh Prime Minister of PNG, Sir Mekere Morauta."

School was suspended for the day as young and old gathered around the radio. From early morning till late in the day the villagers celebrated.

*"A village leader Joe Ipoe said there was traditional dancing and singing of prophet songs, while others slaughtered pigs and prepared for a big feast. He said that a meeting by the village leaders resolved for celebrations to continue for the rest of the week."*

It is really remarkable that democratic government, however fragile, has come so far in this land of so many cultural differences, allegiances and languages.

### IDEAS FOR FUTURE CONTENT OF TALKABOUT

Here are some ideas for what could be included in future issues. Your suggestions are invited:-

- Alumni Association news, including report of results of quarterly meetings; President's Message.
- News concerning the welfare of former colleagues.
- Dates for planned reunions, get-togethers, social functions, committee meetings.
- Photographs from College or Teaching days, e.g. the galvanised iron shed you were forced to teach your one-teacher class in; pupils in costume for play days; etc.
- Items of a contemporary nature that readers can relate to as ex teachers and members of our society.

## HOW WELL DID WE TEACH THEM?

*Lew Crabtree has compiled a selection of actual (ALLEGEDLY) student bloopers collected by teachers. Here are a few of them:*

1. Ancient Egypt was inhabited by mummies and they all wrote in hydraulics. They lived in the Sarah Dessert and travelled by Camelot. The climate of the Sarah is such that the inhabitants had to live elsewhere.

2. The Greeks were a highly sculptured people and without them we wouldn't have any history. The Greeks also had myths. A myth is a female moth.

3. Socrates was a famous Greek teacher who went around giving people advice. They killed him. Socrates died from an overdose of wedlock. After his death his career suffered a dramatic decline.

4. In the Olympic Games, Greeks ran races, jumped, hurled the biscuits and threw the java.

5. Eventually the Romans conquered the Greeks. History calls people Romans because they never stayed in one place for very long.

6. Julius Caesar extinguished himself on the battlefields of Gaul. The Ides of March murdered him because they thought he was going to be made king. Dying, he gasped out "Tee hee Brutus!"

### GIFT FORM

The Scholarship Gift Form has been redesigned to include the management's contribution form and will be posted with this issue of *Talkabout*.

This method serves two purposes:

1. Gifts and contributions can be sent to the Alumni Office in Bathurst with one payment.
2. Your copy of *Talkabout* will remain intact..