

PANORAMA



A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF
BATHURST TEACHERS' COLLEGE
CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY
ISSUE No. 15, SUMMER 2008



Emma Davis, BTC Scholarship winner and Allan Blanch , BTC AA representative at the Scholarship and Prizes Presentation Ceremony on 6th May, 2008.

Emma, who is a first year student on the Dubbo campus, is the grand-daughter of Helen Ferguson [nee Bouveret] a BTC pioneer in 1951-52. Helen has written a special piece about Emma, printed on the following page.

I am very honoured to have received this scholarship as it will give me the opportunity to further my studies and allow me to be the best teacher I can possibly be. Thank you for your support. Emma Davis

**BTC ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP WINNER
2008**

EMMA DAVIS

First Recipient of the BTC scholarship and granddaughter of Helen Ferguson (1951-2)

Emma grew up on her parents' grazing property 120 kms by gravel road North West of Bourke. She is one of three children having an older and younger brother. They soon learnt how to help with the sheep work and each were given set daily chores which gave them a sense of responsibility. They made their own fun with imaginative games and there was usually a cubby house with the traditional mud pies.

Their parents made sure that they had social contact with other families and the mobile playgroup was eagerly anticipated once a month. When they were old enough, there were weekly trips to town to play junior cricket and for swimming lessons.

The nearest shops, Post Office and schools are in Bourke so at 4 years of age, Emma's first academic education was Distance Preschool from Dubbo. The next year she enrolled at the Bourke Distance Education School and each Saturday mail day, a completed set of lessons and tapes would be sent to the school and marked lessons from a previous week would arrive in the mailbox down the road. During busy times when Sue was needed to help Tim, a governess was employed. I really enjoyed visiting to give my daughter a break and I was impressed with amount of work that was achieved by the children. Perhaps it was the lack of distractions that helped and parents who understood the importance of education.

Distance Secondary Education has social limitations so the next step was boarding school at Bathurst. Being outgoing and confident and knowing that home wasn't an option, Emma soon settled in into boarding school life where she enjoyed making friends with other girls and joining in the activities.

For some time her ambition has been to be a teacher and she worked hard to obtain the required marks and to gain a place at her first choice of campus at Dubbo. The friendly atmosphere there reminds me of our pioneer year at BTC with students being treated as individuals given that the size of the campus makes this possible. The accommodation is outstanding with individual rooms and excellent facilities. It is quite a contrast to our first semester when we had five girls in a room sharing three drawers and three small hanging spaces. Not a huge problem at the time because most of us through necessity, had a very basic wardrobe.

Emma is aware of the effect of a long drought on country families so being awarded the BTC Scholarship was not only an honour but also a help financially. She is using the first half of the money to help cover the cost of the many and quite expensive text books and other university expenses. Allan Blanch and his wife Pamela made the occasion extra special for Emma by taking her out to dinner the evening before the Presentation Ceremony and giving her a gift.

Emma has not had the ideal start for university life as she was finally diagnosed as having Glandular Fever and spent the last week of the semester in hospital. She is now on the road to recovery after spending the vacation at home with the tender loving care of her mother. She is looking forward to teaching in country schools and is already aware of the special needs of disadvantaged children. I'm sure that she will work to the best of her ability to achieve her goal.

To all the BTC students who contributed to the scholarship fund, you may be assured that your generosity is very much appreciated by Emma and her family and also her proud Grandmother.

Contributed by Helen Ferguson (Bouveret) 1951-2

BTCOA SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

The criteria for the Bathurst Teachers' College Alumni Association scholarship are being expanded to include any descendant of a BTC graduate studying in any year. If you know anyone who may be interested in studying at Charles Sturt University encourage them to get on-line for details of the Charles Sturt Foundation Scholarship Application Form. For further information contact:

Michelle Fawkes - Alumni Relations Officer email, <alumni@csu.edu.au>

Phone: 02 6338 4629 [CSU - Bathurst]

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A BIG THANK YOU

to those BTC Alumni who have contributed generously to three funds over recent years: **the Commemorative Water Feature** - helping with the cost of creating the Commemorative Water Feature on the "BTC Common" area, **the BTC Scholarship**- awarded to Emma Davis- see the front page story – and to **Panorama** for printing and postage costs.

Panorama is without doubt the life-line of our association. We all enjoy the articles, details of reunions and snippets of information about the Alumni and CSU. The Editorial team give their time and expertise freely in preparing each edition for publication, but Universities run on user pays budgets these days. I encourage everyone to contribute to the ongoing costs of *Panorama* so we can keep in touch. The BTC Committee look forward to seeing many of you at the AGM on SATURDAY 21st February, 2009 at our usual venue at Mosman Returned Services Club [See form p.8]

Seasons Greetings to you all.

Good health and contentment in 2009.

Helen Egan 9969 3815

President

EDITORIAL REPORT

The Theme of this edition is **Back to Bathurst** as there seem to be a number of reunions planned. As it is twenty years since the University of Charles Sturt was proclaimed, there are a number of functions planned; some took precedence over some of our BTC dates, so **check dates carefully**.

It is always a delight to receive letters from BTC Alumni. As I know *Panorama* readers are interested in the welfare of students from their years or those they taught with at a later stage, I have included snippets from the letters.

A number sent email addresses to save costs, but I am not sure if everyone received notification of *Panorama* on the web. I thought the whole magazine would be sent, but it is only a notification. We try to get 2 editions prepared: one by early April after the AGM and another in November before Christmas postage. So if you don't hear around these times, send Michelle an email, or just look on CSU website under the Alumni heading and follow through to *Panorama*.

**Looking forward to catching up with lots of ex- BTC students in 2009,
Roseann Dale Dengate, Carole Goodwin, Denise Cramsie [1958-89]**

TREASURER'S REPORT

For the past 3 years Alumni of BTC have supported three strands of funding appeals – namely Scholarship Fund, Commemorative Water Feature (fishpond project) and *Panorama* Production.

Many thanks go to those faithful few supporters who have regularly contributed to these three appeals. Remarkably only some 200 of approximately 2000 alumni are regular contributors.

It is pleasing to note that we had sufficient funds in the **Scholarship appeal** to allow us to offer a scholarship for the first time this year. Congratulations to Emma the successful applicant. We do need to keep this fund active in order to continue to offer a scholarship each year.

BTC COMMEMORATIVE WATER FEATURE REPORT

The **Commemorative Water Feature (CWF)** is at last reaching completion and we have almost achieved the target of our portion of the contribution to the project. There have been some delays in the finalisation of the project and planning for the official opening in 2009. We had hoped to combine the opening with the BTCAA AGM in February. However, that was not to be as the launch of the 20th anniversary celebrations of Charles Sturt University are planned around the date. We are now planning to hold the official opening on Saturday 18th April 2009 when the pioneers celebrate their reunion. This is very appropriate as the majority of contributions to the CWF have come from the pioneers group (51/52). Invitations will be sent to everyone in January.

The names of all contributors to the project will be acknowledged on plaques which will be mounted near the CWF. They are also eligible to be entered in a special raffle which will be drawn on the day. First prize is accommodation at a B&B on the south coast and second prize a gift pack of CSU wines. Donations are still being accepted so now is your chance to be included! If you wish to contribute, send your donation with your details to:

The Treasurer, Gail Metcalfe, 14 Banksia Park Road, Katoomba, 2780

The big concern for the committee is the **production costs of *Panorama***. This is the primary means of communicating specifically with BTC Alumni. Rising printing and postage costs have seen the cost of each issue rise to around \$2000. Currently we do not receive enough contributions to cover these costs. There are two ways we can save costs and still produce 2 copies of *Panorama* annually. One is for more members to receive *Panorama* by email and the other is for those people who are **really not interested** in receiving *Panorama* to advise us so that their names can be removed from the mailing list. Alternatively more alumni can subscribe to the magazine. As little as \$10 will secure you 2 copies a year. We look forward to some positive responses from an ever dwindling group of ex BTC graduates.

GAIL METCALFE

Treasurer

The next Committee meeting will be on Saturday 22nd November. St Phillips Church, 3 York Street, Sydney.

Extracts from some letters.

[As we get older some lose the beautiful copperplate style or modified cursive writing style and develop a rather shaky script which is difficult to read so apologies for any errors]

Allan Blanch sent some suggestions for future letters to *Panorama*:

One idea that came to mind was inviting BTC Alumni to send in recollections of some of the sayings of our lecturers or advice they offered. It was a feature of BTC that it only had one

*Principal and when my group was about to leave at the end of 1955, Mr Allen said to the assembly: **Hasten slowly to make friends or enemies.***

*Occasionally Mr Jack Mc Donogh would respond to a greeting: 'How are you?' by saying : **I feel as if I've been kicked in the head by a moth.***

Marie and **Ron** wrote of the challenge of coping with losing hearing ability and 'protective earapace' How long ago college all seems. In some ways we are still the same as those young people, but hopefully different and 'grown up' in other ways.

Peter Dargin of 582 [small schools section] recalls the fish pond as the focal point for all Small Schools demos and for receiving Bill Newbeck on one occasion.

Don Cross chose to share his last sheet of paper with logos from Minister for Education. NSW 'The Teacher' College, Bathurst. He also sent his last MACE -Mitchell College sheet. with a very different logo style.

Joyce Harris [nee Hodges. 1953-54] recalled being one of the 'Forbes Famous Five'. Although she is 'notorious for losing touch!' she would love to catch up with those still left. She recalled Margaret Young befriending her when she first went to Forbes as a boarder at St Johns and a shy little girl from a one teacher school. ' We both had red hair so perhaps that was the bond.'

Dear Editor,

I have fond memories of the Cowshed during 1967/8.

It was situated far enough away from the main campus to be alone and near enough to feel safe. I often went there to sing and play my guitar with friends and connect with our creator. It came as a surprise many years later when I returned to find a little chapel there, especially as we were given to understand from our art lecturer that it was about to be demolished. He confirmed this by allowing us to paint huge murals over all the internal walls! You might say he was preparing us for decorating the back walls of our classrooms.

Anne Johnston (nee Giles)

Reminiscences of the Cowshed.

At the first reunion for our years 1958-59, I was keen to locate familiar sites; one being the cowshed. I was directed to a lovely chapel, but I didn't recognise it.

Back in 1958, I attended the college Christian Fellowship. In that environment, and became a Christian with a close relationship with God through Jesus.

It was the custom for some of the group to meet on Wednesday evenings for prayer. To my surprise and joy it was out under the stars in the cowshed. We sat on bales of hay and sang hymns such as ' How Great Thou Art'. This was followed by individuals leading us in prayer. Eventually I summoned up courage to pray aloud myself. Sometimes there was deep silence apart from the cows lowing and the crickets humming. It was indeed a peaceful episode in the hub of college life.

Now in 2008, it is the chapel. 'The cowshed' is a lasting memorial to the rustic old barn and the name it has been given is special.

Robyn Wright [Allen]

OBITUARY

Tanya Halesworth, 1935-2008. One of Australia's first female presenters on TV and much admired television presenter in 1960s and 1970s sadly died from cancer during October this year. Known to contemporary BTC students in 1952-53 as Beverley Kemp, actually *Tanya* was her first name and *Halesworth* was that of her first husband; she

later married John Bailey. Tanya lived a very full life after Bathurst. She taught for 3 years, was an actor in Shakespearean plays during the 1960s, completed her degree at Sydney Uni and was selected as a studio announcer for the ABC. She later worked for Channel 7 and 10 as well as bringing up three sons. She tutored at Macquarie Uni and completed her Masters in Philosophy. In her later career, Tanya practised as a psychologist until being diagnosed with cancer earlier this year. Her beaming smile will be linked forever with the early days of Australian television

BTCAA 2008 GET-TOGETHERS

BTCAA (SOUTHERN) GET TOGETHER 2008

“It was a dark and stormy night” so Snoopy used to write but Saturday 26 July was a warm and sunny day at Bateman’s Bay where the Southern group held their annual get together.

Organised by Bill Thompson, Robert Burney and Brian Kelly nineteen ex-students and seven spouses enjoyed each others company and afternoon tea at the Bateman’s Bay Bowling Club. Fourteen apologies were received, including one from Alumni president Helen Egan. Those who attended were John Bradshaw 51/2 and Wendy, Trevor Brew 51/2 and Joy, Brian and Audrey Kelly 51/2, Reg Halliburton 52/3 and Jan, John Alexander 56/7, Laurie Armstrong (Campbell) 56/7, Leon Brett and Robyn (Parslow) 56/7, Danny Mahar 56/7, Bill Thompson and June (Day) 56/7, Dia Wendler 56/7 and Wolf, Isobel Wykes (Hunter) 56/7 and Max, Robert Burney 60/1 and Marilyn (Hoff) 62/3, Helen Cody (Freeman) 60/1, Judy Trindall (Watson) 61/2 and Bill, Lyn Gorrie (Cooper) 63/4 and Geoff.

This was the fifth annual get together for the group and the one at which the agenda was changed from the hitherto personal histories to a more entertaining way of stirring mainly college memories. Bill and Robert devised three quizzes for small teams which were changed for each quiz. Our first quiz was to recognise from travel brochure photos famous places and the countries where they were to be found. We discovered how well travelled some of our members are while others, perhaps, were looking forward to some exotic visits.

The quizzes, designed to stir college memories, a difficult task considering the time span of years represented by our members, caused much discussion, animation and laughter. For example, what was the distance L.J. prescribed should be between male and female students; how should you address a letter to himself; what was contained in the green metal boxes that accompanied us on practice teaching; what was the best thing about doing your prac. at Portland.

The third quiz related more to photos which had been found among the treasures of some of our members; some from college itself and some which had appeared in *Panorama*. One photo showed ten National Servicemen from which we had to pick the five students because their sergeant said you could always pick students; strange how imperceptive some of us proved to be. Many of us did not recognise the photo published in *Panorama* taken at a swimming camp at Broken Bay with the girls in their short gym skirts and long socks, or the 1958-59 choir which won the choral section of the City of Sydney Eisteddfod (what a contrast to Prime’s “Battle of the Choirs“!) Keep reading *Panorama* as we might have a similar quiz next year.

It was decided that future get togethers would alternate between coastal and tableland locations. Also, as most members were now retired, we should try week day meetings and change to lunch rather than afternoon tea. Consequently, in 2009, we shall meet in

Bungendore for lunch on Wednesday 22nd July. Venue and details will be advised next year. Reg Halliburton on 6297 1859 or at jan.reg@bigpond.net.au is the organiser for the next get together. Members are also reminded to advise him of any changes to your addresses - email or postal.

Danny Mahar, ever optimistic, volunteered to organise the 2010 get together in Wollongong.

Answers to questions in para 4: Distance between the sexes - 2ft, which I remembered; address the letter - L.J.Allen Esq - cop that!; in the green metal boxes - lunch, but the judges preferred "the makings", I didn't recall that; the best thing about Portland prac - going home! of course.

I think Bill Thompson and Robert Burney made up most of the quiz questions.
Regards and good publishing Reg Halliburton

Dates for your Diary, 2009

February

6-8th 1963-64 reunion

21st BTCAA AGM Luncheon

27-28th- 1st March 1962-63 reunion

April 40 Years since LJ Allen retired from BTC

17-19th Pioneers, 1951-52 reunion

June, 2nd Celebrations of the foundation of CSU, 20 years ago.

July, 22nd Wednesday BTCAA Southern gathering

October 30-31st - November 1st 1956-7, 1958-59, 1959-60 reunion

DETAILS:

BTC 1963-64 Reunion 45th Anniversary Reunion

Dates: 6th, 7th and 8th February 2009

Venue: Centre for Professional Development (CPD) Charles Sturt University, Bathurst

For more information contact:-
Noel Stonham — 02 6254 4261 or

Email to: alumni@csu.edu.au

BTC 1962-63 Reunion

**Dates: 27th and 28th February and
1st March, 2009**

Venue: Centre for Professional Development (CPD) Charles Sturt University, Bathurst

For more information contact:-
Tony Lane — 0428 524 266 or

Email to: alumni@csu.edu.au

**BTC Pioneers 1951-52
Dates: 17,18,19th April, 2009**

Venue: CSU Bathurst

Details with costs will be sent in January, 2009 ONLY to those who replied to previous Newsletter

Enquiries: Alan Beggs : [02] 9639 7839,
8 Benwerrin Ave, Baulkham Hills 2153
Lew Ford [02] 9527 1949
Helen Egan [02] 9969 3815
Bruce Sargent [02]9580 6426

BTC 1957-58, 1958--59, 1959-60 Reunion
50th Anniversary Celebrations

Dates : Friday 30th, Sat 31st October and Sunday 1st November, 2009
[note this date has been changed.]

Program:

Venues: Friday 30/10/09 Knickerbocker hotel 6PM
Saturday venue Centre for Professional Development [CPD] - Dinner at 7pm.
Sunday Ecumenical Service in cowshed and departure breakfast
Venue Centre for Professional Development [CPD]
Bathurst

Registration forms and details will be sent.
Contact Michelle Fawkes BTC Alumni Office
6338 4629

CSU NEWS

Get Connected to CSU Alumni

Charles Sturt University has launched a new Alumni Website
Everything you need to keep you connected with the University and Alumni can be found at www.csu.edu.au/alumni

The Commemorative Water Feature located on BTC Common is nearly completed and Ex-Students will have the opportunity of seeing it when they attend their reunions next year.

The photo below shows how much progress has been made.

However, we still need donations to help us complete the project. All donations will be recognised on a plaque to be erected near the Water Feature. Donations above \$2.00 are Tax Deductible if receipted through the Charles Sturt Foundation, Panorama Avenue, Bathurst NSW 2795. Send your donation today and help us complete this wonderful Memorial to those who attended Bathurst Teachers' College.



Time to correct mistakes of ABC



Story by Fiona Halloran

The appointment of receivers to manage the private childcare operator ABC Learning Centres represents a prime opportunity for the Rudd government to make right the mistakes of the past, according to a Charles Sturt University (CSU) academic. The childcare operator yesterday went into voluntary administration with the receivers assuring parents that the centres will remain open. "Many early childhood experts had expressed concern about the growing monopoly of ABC, particularly in regional areas," said Senior Lecturer with the CSU [School of Teacher Education](#) Ms Fran Press. "The Commonwealth should show leadership by brokering a deal between the three levels of government and the community sector to ensure the survival of childcare places. Not only would this ensure the retention of much needed childcare places, it would put them in a good position to work toward the fulfilment of election promises concerning the provision of early childhood education." The fact ABC currently has about 30 per cent of long day care places in Australia is unusual. "No other country entrusts so much childcare to just one provider," said Ms Press.

Marketing Mint money

Story by Bruce Andrews



Five groups of final year marketing students at Charles Sturt University (CSU) will deliver marketing plans to representatives of the Royal Australian Mint at a presentation at the Bathurst Campus on Thursday 6 November. Lecturer in marketing at the [School of Marketing and Management](#), Mr Andrew Mashman, explained that following an invitation from Dr Felicity Mullens, Marketing Manager of the Royal Australian Mint, his class of [strategic marketing](#)

[management](#) students travelled to Canberra to inspect the Mint and be briefed about Australia's diminishing use of coin-based currency, the Mint's core business. After returning, the students worked in groups for eight weeks to explore marketing strategies and research opportunities the Mint could consider. "Each group will deliver a 20-minute presentation to communicate how they would ensure the longevity of Australia's premium minting facility," Mr Mashman said. "The students feel the pressure to perform because of the client's involvement, and as graduating students they know this will be an important step in their transition into the workforce in 2009."

Award for promoting affinity in Australian society

Story by Fiona Halloran



A national award promoting religious harmony and acceptance within Australian society has been bestowed on Charles Sturt University (CSU) lecturer in theology, Associate Professor Clive Pearson.

The principal of the United Theological College (UTC) in Sydney, within the CSU [School of Theology](#), received an Australian Affinity Award in September. The award recognised Professor Pearson's significant contributions in the study of religion, interfaith and intercultural dialogue, and the 'facilitating' by CSU in this dialogue. Associate Professor Pearson was particularly recognised for his work on the public theology of issues of diversity in Sydney, including analysis of the riots in the Sydney suburb of Cronulla in December 2005. "The United Theological College has been working with Affinity and Sydney's Islamic community firstly out of concern for the neighbour, for the stranger in our midst and a concern for social cohesion," said Associate Professor Pearson. "We have attended and presented at each other's conferences because we believe that it is important for a Christian theology to be done these days in the presence of the religious other as well as the secular."

To keep up to date on CSU in the News go to:- www.csu.edu.au/alumni



You are invited to the:
**BTC Alumni Association
Annual Luncheon and
Annual General Meeting**

*Saturday 21 February 2009
at the Mosman Returned Servicemen's Club
719 Military Rd, Mosman 2088
AGM commences at 11.30 a.m.
Lunch commences at 1 p.m.*

*Guest Speaker will be former BTC student 1965 "66
David Simmons*

Former Minister for Tourism , Arts and Environment in the Hawke Government.

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

Tea and coffee are available from 11 a.m.

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

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

The AGM will be short, so there will be plenty of #chat-time\$.

Please send payment with the slip below together with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to:

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

to arrive by: Friday 6th February 2009

For further information contact Helen Egan 9969 3815. Alan Beggs 9639 7839, Gail Metcalfe 4782 1573

Received from: _____ BTC Year _____

the amount of \$ _____, with thanks.

(Treasurer) [Include stamped self-addressed envelope if receipt required]

More photos of the Water Feature



Tiles - up close

created by Peter Connolly BTC 1951-52; Roseann Dengate BTC 1958-59 and Dr Peter Wilson, Sculpture

