



A PUBLICATION
OF THE ALUMNI OF
WAGGA TEACHERS' COLLEGE

TALK ABOUT



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Citation for the Wagga Wagga Teachers' College 1947-1971

The University Council of Charles Sturt University is set to approve the nominal naming of a cottage on the Wagga Campus. The name will be WATAL (Wagga Alumni Teachers Association Lodge).

Below is the citation, which was prepared by the historian Dr Nancy Blacklow.

The Wagga Wagga community had been pressing for a teachers' college for over twenty years when, prior to World War II, the Copland Estate was chosen as a possible site. After the war however, this site was no longer appropriate as the Technical College and Wagga Wagga High School Farm occupied a large portion of the land. The former site of the No. 1 RAAF Hospital near the Showground in the fledgling suburb of Turvey Park was therefore chosen. This provided Wagga Wagga Teachers' College (WWTC) with a 65 acre block upon which to establish itself.

Students attended their first lectures at the new College on 9 June 1947, with the official opening a year later on 29 September 1948. Wagga Wagga Teachers' College was the first wholly residential co-educational tertiary institution in Australia. When the College opened, a total of 150 students was enrolled. The initial session (known as the "Pioneers") was drawn from all over the State, and included a number of ex-Service and mature-age students.

By 1948 the Wagga Wagga Teachers' College campus comprised three blocks of women's dormitories, approximately ten male dormitories, three lecture blocks, gymnasium, assembly hall, administration block, dining room and common room. The original dormitories were cream huts of timber and Masonite construction, with no insulation. These huts were linked by covered walkways, and the grounds were landscaped with attractive rose gardens.

By 1955, with 280 students enrolled, the building of permanent brick residences to replace the temporary buildings of the original College commenced. The first such unit, providing modern accommodation for 64 female students and wardens, was completed and ready for occupation in April 1957. More blocks followed in 1958, 1959, 1960 and 1962, when the second permanent brick residence for male students was completed.

Sport in many guises was an important part of life (and the curriculum) at Wagga Wagga Teachers' College. Over the years, the College nurtured competitive teams in Rugby League, Hockey, Table Tennis, Netball, Cricket, Tennis and Soccer. Outside College life, teams from WWTC made an impact on the community at large. A student of the 1947-49 session was one of those responsible for starting the soccer competition in Wagga, and the College team of 1948 captained by Kevin Quinn, were the District Soccer Premiers.

In the course of their studies, Wagga Wagga Teachers' College students were required to undertake two week sessions of practice teaching each year. Schools allocated to pupils included Demonstration Schools like Gurwood Street. Some schools were local: Turvey Park, Lake Albert Public, South Wagga, Gumly Gumly and Ladysmith, or further afield: Coolamon Central, Uranquinty, Lockhart, Narrandera, Junee, or Bullenbong Road (a one-teacher school).

By 1971 there were 450 students enrolled at Wagga Wagga Teachers' College. However, after twenty-four years of turning out fine young teachers, WWTC ceased to exist as a separate entity. Officially closing on Monday 11 December 1971, the College became the Riverina College of Advanced Education on 1 January 1972.

The site of WWTC still remains today, and so do the memories.

2010 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Dear Mr. Bob Collard

I am writing to you to say a massive thank you, I am truly honored and grateful to be a recipient of the Wagga Wagga Teachers College Alumni Scholarship for 2010.

Receiving the scholarship brought tears to my eyes, the scholarship means a great deal to me, as it will make completing my final year at university less stressful, as I will not have to worry so much about the financial demands of completing my degree. Especially with my ten week internship coming up in term three of the school year.

The scholarship will go a long way towards text books which are needed to help me to complete my degree, books and resources for teaching students whilst on my internship, appropriate work wear suited for teaching students and fuel for travel costs whilst on internship.

Scholarships are truly a huge help for university students and I am truly grateful to be a recipient of a wonderful initiative of the Wagga Wagga Teachers College Alumni. Once again I am truly humble for receiving the scholarship, thank you so much for sponsoring this wonderful initiative.

Yours in thanks,
Andrea Cartwright.



Dear Mr Collard,

It is with much appreciation that I write this letter to you, expressing my sincere gratitude for awarding me with the Wagga Wagga Teachers' College Alumni Scholarship, in the amount of \$2,000.00.

I thank you for believing in me as a future teacher, in which I will take with me all your comments and best wishes. What really stuck with me from the interview was your high regard for me going back to University later in life to achieve my dream of becoming a Primary Teacher.

As my University studies are nearing the end, I hope that I will develop further in my teaching career, continually updating my skills, together with learning all I can from the students.

Thank you again for the opportunity. I look forward to keeping in contact with you in the near future.

Yours faithfully,
Samantha Clark



Dear Mr. Collard,

I would like to thank you and the other members of the interview panel for selecting me as the joint winner of the 2010 Wagga Wagga Teachers' College Alumni Scholarship.

Words cannot describe how much it is appreciated and how far it will go in supporting me in my final year of study.

I would again like to thank you for allowing me the opportunity to interview for the scholarship. It was a great pleasure to meet you and it inspired me to continue further study — particularly in the areas of ESL and Special Needs. The advice you and the other members of the panel offered was invaluable.

The scholarship will be used to pay for the remainder of my accommodation on campus for the rest of this semester. Additionally it will be used to buy resources for my internship in Term Three of the school year, as well as living expenses over that time.

I will continue to keep you updated on my progress throughout the year. Thank you again, and I look forward to seeing you at the Scholarship Ceremony in May.

Kind Regards,
Lauren Irvin.

LETTERS PAGE

Dear Lindsay,

Once again I enjoyed reading "Talkabout". It is good to see contributions from people younger than us, even though I did not know any of those in the stories or pictures. It seems a pity that they are not interested or available for the committee. The old stalwarts are doing well. Congratulations!

It is disappointing about the "Cottage". My thoughts went to the article on The Inland Rural Education Foundation and whether our support could go there. Of course the Cottage "would be a fitting memorial to all those who graduated from Wagga Wagga" as is said in your article about "Keeping the Spirit Alive". However, so many students found themselves in one & two teacher country schools in our time and apparently since then. Maybe this would be something that we could support. It seems to me that a great deal of money needs to be raised for a cottage. Do we have sufficient support from younger members for this to eventuate? Just an idea!

Also it has come to my mind more so, as I am intending to go to the 150th Celebrations of Rocky River School near Uralla, south of Armidale in September, probably 10th & 11th. This was my first school in 1950. It is still operating as a two teacher school I think I have a story in John Riley's "Teaching Memories" about my appointment there. I realise that most of my students are now also in the retired group and I am hoping to meet some of them. Maybe an article in the "Talkabout" later this year would be of interest. What do you think? If so when would you need the draft copy?

Best Wishes to all on the Committee of the Association and to those who attend the Luncheons. I am so far away now!

June Shaw (Hadley) nee Robson

ROCKY RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOL 1950 - 51

Where is Rocky River? When my appointment was announced on the last days at Wagga Wagga Teachers' College I had no idea where this place was. However, I soon discovered it to be near Armidale and so not far from my home town of Glen Innes. That was a plus for me and my parents, who, I think, thought that I should have attended Teachers' College at Armidale, instead of the distant Wagga Wagga College.

However, was it a plus for my Dad who had to buy me a bicycle to take me from Uralla to the school three miles away? On arriving at Rocky River, we discovered there was no accommodation in the immediate vicinity, so I was "deposited" in a hotel at Uralla. Then my Dad bought the bike. I had ridden a bicycle to school for six years and did not appreciate that I was reduced to this mode of transport as a working person - as a schoolteacher.

Each morning I met some of the pupils on my way, especially when I had to walk up one very steep hill and push the bike. Of course, it was easier going home downhill. Within two days, I found accommodation with a family who lived about half a mile from Uralla on the road to Rocky River. Fortunately, most of this road was of bitumen, so there was no problem with tyres bursting on rough stones. Later I moved to other accommodation with a family right in Uralla, and spent many happy

days with them.

It was so cold! Do you remember that we began our teaching careers in May? For the first time in my life, I suffered from chilblains. These were not on my toes, but on my shinbones. We were not allowed to wear slacks in those days; a lady teacher wore a skirt! Even with thick stockings, my legs would be cold and often wet. The best way to warm them and dry out was to stand by the black iron stoves when they were finally ignited. Remember the chips and wood that had to be used in these heating appliances? With cold shaking fingers, it sometimes seemed that these infuriating means of warming a whole classroom would never light! However, mine did - with the help of the children in my Infants Section. My legs soon became dry and warm, but oh those chilblains!

Yes. I was in charge of the Infants' Section at this two-teacher school. Was I in the Infants' Section at College? No! That was just a mere detail in those days. Infants teachers were needed and we managed, having been good students at Wagga Wagga Teachers' College.

Fortunately, my Dad made it possible for me to have a car for the next winter I spent in the area. It was just as well, as there were several snowstorms that year.

June Shaw (Hadley)

nee Robson 1948-50

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LETTERS PAGE

Dear Lindsay,

I have been meaning to write for some time but keep putting it off until 'tomorrow'.

I have also been meaning to forward some money towards the production of "Talkabout" which I have really enjoyed receiving for many years. A cheque is enclosed.

During 1954-1955, I was at Wagga Teachers College, in which we were trained to be "Small School Teachers" - they were paid better than regular teachers! However once we graduated, most of us ended up in regular classrooms!

My first year was teaching a grade 4-5C class in Cootamundra, where I got to know the local police quite well. My kids were generous often giving me pens, chocolates, etc until I found out that they were a group of shop-lifters!

The next two years were spent in the Relief Service (substitute teaching) at Temora and at Leeton, which was very well paid. The Department paid for hotel accommodation, meals and for a car allowance! I even got to use my 'small school skills' as well as to travel all over the Riverina.

After two years in 'Relief Service' they allowed us to choose our own school. I chose Yenda, near Griffith. When I arrived, I found I had been given a Grade 4 class with 56 students!

While on the "Relief Service" I had been given a scholarship to do External Studies courses at Armidale, like many of my friends. I chose to start with Maths, and had passed two courses when I went to Yenda. About three months after I started at Yenda, the inspector contacted me. The Math teacher in Narrandera High had dropped dead, and he wanted me to replace him. It was an offer I could not refuse! Narrandera was my home town, and the inspector warned me if I refused, he would be inspecting me that year!

Three years later, I transferred to Cowra High, a great school. In my third year there, the Department told me I was to move immediately to Young High. A senior math teacher in Young had quit mid-year. The Department had replaced him with a young teacher in his first year. It caused a parent revolt! This resulted in their pulling him out and throwing me to the lions! I enjoyed Young, they had a great staff and a friendly bunch of parents and kids.

At this stage, I was on the promotion ladder. We noticed that teachers who had 'overseas experience' seemed to find it easy to be promoted. In 1967 the newspapers were full of job offers in Canada.

I took a 'leave of absence' and signed up to teach math at Warburg in Alberta, just outside of Edmonton. The pay they were offering was higher than anyone else. I suspected it was probably a tough place to teach. When I got there, I found it was in the middle of the oilfields!

The school was luxurious! Two years old, very well designed, fully air-conditioned, carpeted throughout, all the teaching aids one could ask for! The staffroom was a dream - a place to relax and drink coffee and talk. Not hard chairs but Chesterfield lounges! I thought I had died and gone to heaven!

Our pay was almost double what we were being paid in Australia. In addition, the Canadian Federal Government made the pay we received for the first two years Tax Free! (If we stayed in Canada for 2 years and a day, we got to keep it. Those who went back to Australia after 23 months in Canada, the Australian Government on their return billed them Australian tax on their earning!). Alberta also had no 'sales tax' and still doesn't.

In 1969, I met the 'girl of my dreams' Vera Lech, a Canadian nurse. When we were married here in Edmonton, my Mum and Dad, came over from Australia. A lot of my fellow teachers from around the Riverina were also teaching here in

Alberta. They were all invited to the wedding - there were over 20 of them at the reception. They said they had a great time, I was too busy to join them! (Most later went back to Australia - parents kept asking them "When are you coming home?")

One thing was missing over *here* - it was books on Australia. In 1973 at the suggestion of the manager of Rigby Publishing in Australia, we formed "Koala Books of Canada Ltd". It started as a hobby company to import books from Australia. It is now in its 36th year and we are now importing books from many countries around the world. We are wholesalers and supply bookstores and libraries of many kinds - public, university, legal, legislative and medical.

In 1975 I started teaching math in an Edmonton high school and retired in 1997 after teaching for 42 years. I then joined the staff of Koala Books full time! I enjoy the work!

During the 40 years Vera and myself have been married, we have travelled the world when we could. Many trips to Australia when our 3 kids were small and recently. We have also travelled over most of western and eastern Europe, UK, Turkey, Japan, China, USA, Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean - I think we have a little aboriginal in us - we like to go "walkabout"!

Well Lindsay, that is more than I intended to write.

A lot of my friends know me as "Jim". It goes back to boarding school (at Goulburn - I was a country kid).

One of my teachers was half blind and could not tell the difference between me and another student from my home town (Jim Willis, later to become one of the bosses in the NSW Police Force). My classmates thought it a great joke and I became 'Jim' to them (I didn't mind - there were five other John's in my class.

LETTERS PAGE

Six of my classmates also went to WWTC with me, so the nickname went to Wagga!

Lindsay, you can use any of the above in "Talkabout" if you are short of stories.

Kind regards,

John Carolan (1954-55)

Dear Lindsay,

I have enclosed a contribution for the printing and distribution of Talkabout.

It is an important link with the past as I find that almost every copy includes a colleague that I have taught with, been on a committee with, or more importantly, people that I have not had any contact with since they did practice teaching at my school when I was T.I.C at Kapooka.

The March Volume with its story of Eric Hawcroft brought back very pleasant memories of a lecturer who was always the gentleman as well as a dedicated lecturer. I was in his PE Option group and was also included in the activities of the Second Year group.

The most pleasing feature of Volume 13 No 1 was the inclusion from Bob Grant. Bob was the deputy at Tharawal when we launched this school in 1986 with 240 students, eleven teachers and eight demountables in the grounds of Illawong school as our new school building was not ready for occupation until after the May vacation.

Two classes were bused to Menai school each day and Bob took the year six under the trees in the playground for a week until an additional demountable arrived at Illawong.

He was a tower of strength right through the eight years that I was principal, a great favourite with all the boys and girls, and highly respected by staff and parents.

He was awarded a Norman Baker Award by the St George Group of the Australian College of Education for his contribution to the education of boys and girls in this district.

His calmness under pressure and willingness to participate in challenging situation was very much appreciated. His efforts with the trumpet during the time we were developing our concert band program are legendary.

To put in context his contribution to the development of the new school, enrolments in 1986 were 240 and in 1994 almost 900 and included two joined schools; Tharawal and Alford's Point.

My congratulation to everyone for the continued success of our Magazine.

Regards and many thanks,

Fred Armstrong (1951-52)

Dear Lindsay,

I always enjoy Talkabout, but especially the articles in the last publication regarding Shirley Brodie and Roma Hinton. I am using their 1947-49 names for that's how I remember them. I can understand those two girls being lifelong friends. They were so close at college. Shirley would come to our table at end end of every meal and wait for Roma who was given the job of making sure I drank every cup of milk that was allocated to me. An extra jug of milk was supplied to make me grow. I was 5' 3" and 7 stone when I came to College.

I also enjoyed Jim Hartnett's memories of Eric Hawcroft. I was one of the Phys Ed option group which Eric took to Charlotte Pass in the Snowy Mountains for a skiing holiday. None of us had been skiing before but we soon learned. At the end of the holiday the snowfall was so heavy the trucks from the hotel could not get up to the chalet so we

were asked to go in pairs skiing to the hotel, which was fourteen miles away. Jim Hartnett and I set off together. Our luggage was coming in a covered slide pulled by a tractor. I can still see Eric Hawcroft and a few others with damaged limbs sitting on the floor of this wagon with rugs over them and snow coming in through the open window. (no glass).

Jim and I made it to the hotel in good time. It was late in the afternoon that the tractor arrived with the dozen occupants. As we assisted Eric (Mr Hawcroft) into the warm bar, he could only utter, "Ed, take my wallet, a double whiskey!"

Jim Hartnett was also my partner doing a barrel roll at a P.E. demonstration for schools, held in the gym. I will not go into that except to say I can still see Marie Hulme, Don Westby and Eric Hawcroft nearly falling down the back steps of the stage laughing at my embarrassment.

One day at a P.E. lecture in the gym Eric was talking about posture. He said, "Now Mr Whittaker, you have a rather flat chest. Is that where Miss Scott rests her head?" Everyone laughed and as I was standing behind Eric, I pretended to kick him in the backside as payment for his smart remark. However, he saw me out of the corner of his eye and ordered me out of the lecture. Later he came to me and apologized saying he deserved it. That was Eric Hawcroft. He helped me a lot in the gym. I liked him and I think he liked me.

I have fond memories of two of the best years of my life (so far). Thanks to Eric Hawcroft, Jim Hartnett and so many others I am still fit enough to ride my bike from Banora Point in to Coolangatta, have a surf, and ride home, a distance of 20 kilometres.

Edmund Keogh. (1947-49)

TEACHING MEMORIES

FERNTHORPE MEMORIES 1965-1967

Gerard Say continues his recollections of his first appointment to Fernthorpe Public School in 1965.

Recently almost every school in Australia has been a building site as twelve billion dollars is being spent by the Federal Government to stimulate the Australian Economy. It will provide high-quality classrooms, libraries, halls, science laboratories and language centres across the nation for our school-students.

What a contrast to Fernthorpe in the nineteen-sixties! About a half-century old, the building had received the occasional lick of paint and the Public Works visited once in a blue moon as a toilet-pit filled and they needed to dig another. After Fernthorpe was shut at the end of 1969, two years after I had left, I decided a while later to see the building in its new setting as the Pleasant Hills Public School library and art and craft room. It was now in excellent condition complete with a beautiful plaque detailing its history beginning as Fernthorpe Public School, the combination of Ferndale (the place) and Millthorpe (the local landowners).

Sadly, with the agricultural revolution in the past forty-five years and the long-term Riverina drought, the two big two- and three-teacher schools, Pleasant Hills and Rand, I see on their websites, now have only fifteen students each, lower than I ever had at Fernthorpe from 1965-67.

The only structural addition I achieved in my time was an assembly-block on the claypan adjacent to the school-verandah. Such was the intelligence of the contractors that they poured el-cheapo a large block of concrete without any expansion joints. Within a short time, a combination of the clay and the sixty-degree range of temperatures ensured that the block cracked up hopelessly.

Unlike a colleague at Glenara Public, I did not take radical direct action by burning down termite-infested toilets.

Inside the schoolroom, we were highly dependent on the annual requisition sent by Government Stores in Sydney, which

arrived hopefully at The Rand railhead in an undamaged and unpilfered condition. The normal mail, including papers, was delivered three days a week. As I drove home to Wagga most Friday afternoons and returned early Monday morning, I had an extra opportunity to gather resources I required for lessons and for running the school.

In this era of the mass allocation of desktop computers and laptops, our 1965-67 P & C purchases seem rather paltry but they were extremely important then:

- a new Fordigraph duplicating-machine in 1965 that ran on methylated spirits and was pressed into action every day to produce the multiple sheets I created for the different levels in reading, spelling and mathematics;
- a combined portable radio and record-player in 1966 where the lid was made up of two speakers that could be placed independently on either side of the main radio-turntable, allowing for innovations such as outdoors Friday morning folk-dancing;
- a percussion band kit in 1967, using, on charts, a different colour for each instrument: triangles, castanets, kettle drum, cymbals and sticks and learning the French time-names: *taa, taa, taatefee, taataitefee, saa*.

Of course, every innovation is accompanied by unexpected outcomes. John McLellan was one of the new Kindergarten children and was very earnest about doing well everything he attempted.

ABC Radio provided the only source of live educational programs, especially in Music, Current Affairs, Social Studies, Drama and Dance. The Dance Program just after Recess on Fridays was at an appropriate time for what, I thought, could be a whole-school activity. Of course, both the different numbers of students at each Year-Level, the range of physical sizes across the children and the possible gender imbalance did offer particular problems.

After the first experience of Dance on our new assembly-block, John McLellan registered his concern with

me. He had been matched with Elaine Wolter who was twice his size and he felt considerable damage had been done to his toes, and his sense of well-being, as they attempted to learn the polka.

I evidently failed to pay sufficient attention to John's concerns because the following Friday, during Recess, I was informed that John was no longer on the playground.

Guessing the five-year-old would take the most direct route home, I drove west towards Kel and Marj Jones' and spotted John about two hundred metres ahead. We had had an excellent amount of rain and the grass along the lane was fence high so as my car approached, John hit the ground. I pretended I had not seen him and drove on slowly and he quickly popped up again in my wing-mirror.

It took some time to convince a very emotional little boy that I would not be endangering his toes again with an ill-matched partner. Years later, John and I were able to laugh about it when the young bank-officer had a meal with me in Chatswood.

According to the Public Instruction Act of 1880 ministers of religion were permitted, in consultation with the Principal and with each student's Parents' permission, to take students belonging to their religious denomination for up to an hour each school day.

My most regular visitor most weeks was Rev. Martin Battarbee, the Anglican Rector at Lockhart. He was an extraordinary character, an Englishman with a wonderful university education who belonged very much in the Anglo-Catholic tradition. He had taught languages in grammar schools and had a deep knowledge of, and devotion to, the Christian mystics such as the two Spaniards, John of the Cross and Terese of Avila.

I thoroughly enjoyed my lunchtime conversations with him. However, I learnt quickly from the families in my school-community that Martin was indeed a square peg in a round hole even though, officially, the local Anglican Parish was within the Riverina Diocese which was very High-Church. They called their clergy priests, not

TEACHING MEMORIES

ministers, often addressed them as Father in the Catholic way, and had sanctuary-lamps in their churches indicating their belief in the real presence of Christ in Holy Communion.

I was the sole Roman Catholic in the Fernthorpe school-community and most of the families were Bible-centred Christians in the Anglican, Methodist, Lutheran and Presbyterian traditions. Naturally, I was very sensitive to the ancient Catholic - Protestant tensions and tried to ensure nothing was said or done that would undermine the parents' belief in my integrity as a teacher in a public school, rightly forbidden to expose the children in my care to any of my own theological and philosophical convictions.

The Second Vatican Council of 1962-65 ended as I started at Fernthorpe. Thank God, many of its decisions helped to demolish the walls that had surrounded the Catholic Church and other Christian denominations over the centuries. It was my privilege years later to attend Martin Battarbee's requiem at the very high-church Anglican, Christ Church St Laurence, near Central Railway in George St, Sydney. There was so much incense, richly embroidered robes and Latin hymns in evidence that my mind was taken back to a church I once experienced as a small boy.

Like Parliament, one tradition that still existed in Fernthorpe was the saying of the Protestant *Our Father* to ask God's blessings on our day. Compared to the Catholic version, there were minimal differences but the major one was that, whereas Catholics concluded with *deliver us from evil* (*libera nos a malo*), the Protestant version continued with *for Thine is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory, forever and ever. Amen.*

The Mathematics of five-to-one in public proclaiming made it almost inevitable, but the setting could have been more discreet. At 10am Mass in St Michael's Cathedral one Sunday morning, just after the new altar was built in front of the high-altar so the priest could face the people in the

congregation, Bishop Henschke was the celebrant, being assisted by one of his priests. The Bishop, after a lifetime of the Latin Mass, was having trouble adapting to the new English Mass and its many changes in gestures as well as words.

I had had a late night and the only space left, of course, had to be the front seat directly in front of the sanctuary. We reached the *Our Father* and the congregation, including me, enthusiastically proclaimed *The Lord's Prayer* except, out of the eight hundred or so voices, it was mine alone that rang out through the Cathedral *For Thine is...* Before I could attempt to hide myself under the pew, Bishop Henschke, despite his advanced age, looked up and directly at me, a long-term altar-server of his in earlier years, and briefly shook his aged head. Fernthorpe had left its mark!

Given our almost unique climate in the temperate regions of Australia, it is possible to work and play outside for almost every one of the two hundred or so days each school-year except when the rain is intense. Unlike Europe and North America with their extreme winters, we do not have to stay indoors where hot meals are served indoors for a sit-down lunch-dinner and the gymnasium is the restricted setting that offers physical education rather than sport.

Because Sport has been so highly regarded in Australian schools, students from overseas have to be taken aside by their teachers and advised that, even in the most academic of schools, they must not bury themselves in their books in the library, avoiding the playground and the oval in non-classroom time. Otherwise, years later, they will learn that, no matter how brilliant their university results, often their failure to form friendships and develop the give-and-take of team-sport will mean that they have been left outside the networks that open the doors to key positions in the working-world.

Fernthorpe students overall had a very positive attitude to both Sport and outdoor activities as was appropriate for their rural setting. Naturally, with a population of 19-17-25 over my three years, the scope for forming sporting

teams was limited, even when an Australian Football team only required sixteen players.

Fortunately, for Winter, I inherited an arrangement whereby the three one-teacher schools of Glenara, Bidgemia and Fernthorpe combined on Friday afternoons to meet the big schools of Rand, Balldale, Daysdale and so on. Netball for the girls and Aussie Rules for the boys were offered. Students in Year 2 and above were eligible to play. A convoy of parental and teacher cars loaded with the children would take off on Friday afternoons to Urangeline Oval (our home ground), across from the Peace Hall, or, earlier still to the faraway places.

The enthusiasm was tremendous and some great talent was spotted.

Another great day was the inter-school athletics where the big school was Pleasant Hills (sadly, no more). It was also held at Urangeline.

Many of the Fernthorpe children threw themselves with great zeal into training for the athletics. Their constant effort around the schoolyard gradually wore a track between the boundary fence and the trees just inside it. I can remember the very keen: the brothers, Paul and Neil Jones, their sister, Robyn and her cousins, Elizabeth and Sharon Jones, Denise Ralston and Lloyd Roennfeldt running circuit after circuit even on hot days and borrowing a stopwatch to try to improve their personal bests.

I put a special effort into preparing them for the 4 x 100m circular relays. Mastering the twenty-two metres' box for changing the baton, placing the baton on the hip on the same side as their dominant hand, with the front runner holding the top of the baton and the final runner running through the finish and not stopping on it.

Unlike the Olympics where a whole group of star-runners often fails to develop any sort of team esprit d'corp and regularly drops the baton, the Fernthorpe Relay Teams performed magnificently and became the team to beat.

The closer settlement of the Urangeline District had its roots in the Soldier Settlement scheme developed after the

TEACHING MEMORIES

First World War. As with many of these schemes, quite inadequate plots of land in quite marginal rainfall areas were awarded by ballot to the returning ex-servicemen, many of whom had limited experience in farming or grazing.

In subsequent years, many of the pioneers were unsuccessful. The most resilient one, I was advised, was a Mr Jones. In my Fernthorpe school-community, the families of five of the Jones brothers in my final year made up fifteen of the twenty-five students (60% of the school). They were good children who usually tried hard.

The social hub was Urangeline Peace Hall which was close to Glenara Public School. An examination of the Rolls of Honour around its walls revealed the extraordinary sacrifice made by the families of the District especially during WW1 in the huge number of servicemen killed or injured.

A closer analysis, moreover, showed that a large number of families with German names had shared in the number of sons slaughtered in the Australian Army during the First World War (1914-1918).

This was particularly tragic when it is realised that xenophobia that had swept Australia and generated great fear of Germany and German people. This saw Germanton renamed as Holbrook after a Victoria Cross winner. Many families of German descent were rounded up and placed in camps at the same time as some of their sons were fighting and dying on the Western Front in France and Belgium. These contradictions destroyed the health of many people in the hardworking German community.

A complete eye-opener was the annual end-of-year School Concert held in the Urangeline Peace Hall when Fernthorpe combined with Glenara Public School.

This was an amazing two-and-a-half to three-hour concert, to which the students in both one-teacher schools gave their all to provide a night of great entertainment for their parents and their families

Individual children, who apparently had struggled with more academic concepts during the school-year, when it came to preparing for the Concert in Term 3 of

the School-Year, with the support of their enthusiastic colleagues, suddenly blossomed into assured performers who remembered their parts in multiple roles, acting, miming, dancing and singing.

It was most impressive but a very long night. Just as well the School-Year was at an end.

Gerard Say (1963-64)

The Baker Incident

This is a true story of an incident which took place when I was Principal of Airds High School in the 80s. Those were the days when the cane was a permitted form of punishment for boys. Names have been changed in order to protect the guilty.

Lindsay Budd 1950-51.

I was sitting in my office systematically attending to the mail that was piling up in my in-tray. I was endeavoring to reach the bottom of the pile before Anne, my senior assistant, could replenish it. She seemed to take a perverse pleasure in ensuring that there was always something in the in-tray. Whenever I neared the bottom of the pile she would mysteriously appear with another bundle of mail.

There was a knock at the door and my Deputy, Stan Jones, sauntered in. He said, "We have had trouble with that Stephen Baker again. This time it's a bit more serious. He told his teacher to 'Get stuffed!' in front of the other kids."

I asked: "Who was the teacher?"

"Geoff Palmer. He has been doing wonders with that class and the kids have been responding very positively. This spoilt brat, Stephen, however, flares up every now and again and can be very difficult. After this incident Geoff sent him to me to be caned and does not want him back in class until he has taken his punishment."

"That is fair enough," I agreed. "Our discipline policy states that verbal abuse is a caning offense. Cane him and send him back to class."

"I tried," said Stan "but he wouldn't hold his hand out."

"Ah, yes," I remembered. "That happened the last time he was to be caned and Dick let him off when he promised to be a good boy. I guess he is trying the same trick again."

"What do you think I should do?" Stan asked.

"Try again, Stan, and if he still won't cooperate, send him to me. He is not going to get away with it again."

"OK," said Stan. "I'll see what I can do."

About half an hour later, I heard Stan's voice coming from the foyer saying loudly, "Stand over there and don't move until I tell you to!"

Stan strode into my office and it was obvious that he was very annoyed.

"It didn't work." He said. "He still wouldn't hold his hand out. Like most bullies the little bugger is basically a coward."

"Oh, well," I said, "We'll leave him out there for a while to calm down. Then I'll have a talk to him and spell out what he has to do to get back into class."

"Righto," Stan said, "Best of luck!"

I continued filing the pile of documents I had gone through while I thought about how I would deal with young Stephen.

At last, I went to the door and called him in.

"Hello, Stephen," I began, "You have got yourself in a bit of bother this time, haven't you?"

He hung his head and answered sulkily, "Yes, Sir."

"You know that our discipline policy prescribes specific punishments for various offenses. Mr Jones has told me about your insolence to Mr Palmer. Your punishment is 4 cuts of the cane. Don't you agree that the punishment is appropriate?"

"I'm not going to get the cane!"

"I'm sorry, Stephen, but I'm afraid you are. You will not be allowed back in class until you have been punished. Now come on, let's get it over with."

I reached in behind my filing cabinet and brought out the cane, which I kept

TEACHING MEMORIES

there. I walked around the desk and said, "OK, stand over there and hold out your hand. Two cuts on each. Which one first?"

He folded his arms across his chest and hung his head.

"Come on, Stephen," I cajoled, "Hold your hand out and don't be such a sook."

"No! I'm not gunna!" he declared.

"I'm sorry, Stephen, but if you won't cooperate I am going to have to talk to your mother."

Stephen's father had not been around for seven years and his mother was trying, not very successfully, to control Stephen and his young brother. I sat at my desk and wrote a note to Mrs Baker briefly explaining the circumstances and asking her to come to school to discuss the matter with me.

"Here, Stephen, it is almost time for the bell. I am letting you go home now because I want you to take this note to your Mum. You tell Mum what it is all about and I will expect to see you both in the morning."

The next morning half an hour after school started Mrs Baker arrived with Stephen. She was obviously annoyed at being summoned to school and opened with "Why can't Stephen go back into class?"

I conducted them both into my office and said, "Sit down Mrs Baker and thank you for coming. You know that we don't tolerate pupils swearing at the teachers. Stephen knows what the punishment is but is not being very cooperative."

Mrs Baker turned to Stephen and asked: "Did you swear at the teacher?"

Stephen reluctantly replied, "I suppose so

"Well you heard Mr Budd. You know you have to get the cane. Now hurry up about it. I have things to do."

I reached for the cane and said, "Come on, Stephen, over here and hold out."

Stephen folded his arms and defiantly replied, "I'm not going to get the cane."

"I think you had better take him home, Mrs Baker, and bring him back when he

is willing to take his punishment."

Mrs Baker walked out of my office in a huff followed by Stephen. I could see them walking home through my window and Mrs Baker was yelling at Stephen and he was yelling back.

By this time there were several staff members lined up to see me. I had just finished with the third and was writing a reminder note when Mrs Baker appeared. She strode in and stood in front of my desk with Stephen behind her.

"He's going to take his punishment now," she said.

"Is that right, Stephen?"

"Looks like it, eh?" Stephen muttered sullenly.

I went over to the door, closed it, then fetched the cane from behind the filing cabinet.

"OK, Stephen, stand over here and hold out your hand." I intended to give him a couple of light strokes to get it over with.

"No. I'm not gunna!"

By now, I was becoming quite exasperated. Mrs Baker was looking daggers at Stephen so on an impulse I handed her the cane and said, "Here, Mrs Baker, I am only allowed to hit him on the palm of his hand but you can hit him anywhere you like."

She appeared a bit startled by my suggestion but by now she had become rather irate. She took the cane and gave Stephen a sharp swipe across the back of his legs.

Stephen was more shocked than hurt and he yelled, "Shit, Mum, that hurt!"

"Yes," she said, "and this is going to hurt more!" She proceeded to give him several more whacks as he hopped and howled, "Hey, stop it, Mum!"

Eventually I retrieved the cane and said, "Thank you, Mrs Baker. Stephen has received his punishment and can now be allowed back into class. I hope I don't have to ask for your assistance again."

Mrs Baker shook her finger at Stephen who was rubbing his legs and sniveling. "You'd better behave yourself, you hear me?"

I opened the door and ushered her out. I then turned to Stephen and said, "You go and tell Mr Jones that you have taken your punishment. Then after you apologize to Mr Palmer you can return to class."

As he turned to go I called to him, "And Stephen, stay out of trouble or I will send for your mother!"

COMING EVENTS

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

The next quarterly meeting of the Alumni Association will be held at 11 am on: Tuesday 10th August, 2010. The meeting will be held at: NSW Teachers Federation Conference Centre. 37 Reservoir Street Surry Hills. All welcome.

WWTC ALUMNI LUNCHEONS

The next Alumni luncheon will be held at the Icons Restaurant in the Marriott Hotel, Pitt Street Sydney (near the Quay) on Tuesday 17th August, 2010.

For bookings contact Lindsay Budd on 9601 3003 a week before.

HALL OF FAME

NICK, KEVIN, SIMPLY THE BEST



The two of us: Nick Best (left) and Kevin Riolo met at College and have been good mates for the past 55 years.

The following article was published in the Illawarra Mercury in March 2010. The journalist, Mike Gandon, has given his permission to reprint the article in Talkabout.

NICK Best and Kevin Riolo met as 17-year-olds on the Riverina Express on their way to Wagga Wagga Teachers' College in 1955.

They then roomed together at college for the next two years.

When Riolo came to Wollongong to teach at Berkeley Primary in 1962, they met again at a South Coast PSAAA meeting and then played rugby league with Thirroul.

The Butchers found them accommodation at Thirroul.

Riolo joined the Illawarra Rugby League Referees' Association (RA) in 1965 and Best the Group Seven Referees' Association in 1966.

In 1970, they both became delegates from their respective associations to the Country Rugby League Referees' Association (CRLRA).

Riolo became secretary of Illawarra RA in 1971 whilst Best was elected Group Seven RA president.

"During those years, we both refereed several first-grade grand finals in our respective leagues," Riolo recalled.

In 1977, Riolo was elected secretary of the CRLRA and Best was elected president in 1982.

They still hold those positions.

Best and Riolo were invited to be foundation members of the National Rugby League Referees' Accreditation Scheme in 1992.

They are still on that committee and Riolo chairs the meetings.

They were then asked to be members of the steering committee to set up the Australian Rugby League Referees' Association, formed in 1999. They are still board members of the association and Best is the deputy chairman.

For the past 11 years, Riolo has also been the Illawarra Referees' nominee to the board of the Illawarra Division Rugby League.

Best and Riolo have travelled to Penang, New Guinea, Fiji, Norfolk Island and all the Australian states to lecture for the ARL.

Three weeks ago, they were both honoured with life membership of the ARLRA.

"We have been great mates for the past 55 years, and we were particularly thrilled to receive this latest life membership together," Riolo said.

HALL OF FAME

RUBY RIACH OAM FACE

Ruby Riach was educated at Beni Public School (a small one teacher school fifteen kilometers out of Dubbo) and Dubbo High School (the only high school west of Orange at the time), from which she accepted a Department of Education Scholarship to study primary teacher education at Sydney Teachers' College, graduating in 1945. Her early teaching experience was in metropolitan primary schools, prior to an appointment at Warren Central School, where she taught students preparing for the Intermediate Certificate. Having enrolled at East Sydney Technical College as an evening student while in Sydney and continuing her studies by correspondence upon transferring to Warren, she was required to teach Needlework to students studying this subject for the Intermediate.

Following further experience in teaching Needlework in country schools, she was invited to accept a secondment to Wagga Wagga Teachers' College to lecture to students preparing to teach craft in primary schools. She taught part-time at the Wagga Wagga Demonstration School and also became a residential member of the College staff, supervising students in residence. This enabled her to participate in the many dramatical and musical activities for students and offer services for the welfare of students.

In 1955, she was transferred to Sydney Teachers' College/Sydney College to lecture in curriculum development and teaching procedures to students preparing to teach in primary and secondary schools. She enrolled as a part-time student at the University of Sydney to qualify for an Arts degree completing studies in Philosophy, Education, History and Geography with Distinction courses in Philosophy and Geography. A Master of Education, firstly at pass level and then as an honours degree, was completed with a thesis: *A Comparative Study of Home Economics with special reference to aims in New South Wales*. The thesis required a comparative study of Home Economics education in England, Canada, United States of America and New Zealand.

During thirty years of service at Sydney Teachers' College/Sydney College of Advanced Education, Ruby served on several curriculum development committees for the Department of Education. She prepared and presented numerous in-service programs for teachers, particularly those relating to changes in curriculum content and assessment. In



addition, she held leadership positions on the NSW Board of Studies Examinations Committees in Needlework and Textiles and Design.

Ruby's administrative experience was extensive, with service given to the College Academic Board and Council as well as to course assessment committees at other Colleges of Advanced Education. The development of Diploma and Degree level courses at Sydney Teachers' College/Sydney College of Advanced Education, provided great opportunities to apply knowledge and experience to advance the education of teachers in New South Wales. A period of Study Leave spent in England in 1977 allowed Ruby to gain knowledge of advances in teacher education in that country.

At the time of her retirement from Sydney College of Advanced Education in 1986, Ruby held the position of Principal Lecturer and Head of Department, coordinating the Bachelor of Education program for Home economics. In 1989, she was awarded the Sydney College of Advanced Education Medal for meritorious and distinguished service to the College.

Ruby has always been committed to the value of professional educational organizations to benefit educators and promote the work they do. She was a founding member of the Home Economics association of Australia (now known as the Home Economics Institute of Australia), serving over time as President, Secretary and Business Manager of the Association's Journal. Furthermore, Ruby encouraged and assisted teachers to establish the Textile Educators' Association. She was created a Life Member of each of these associations and holds a Fellowship award from the Home Economics Institute of Australia. The Joint Council of Professional Teacher Associations (now the Professional Teachers' Council), formed in the late 1960's, aimed to be a united voice from the professional associations. Ruby attended the first meeting, with a view to establishing such a Council. She served as Minute Secretary, Treasurer and

later as President.

Her contribution to the Australian College of Educators (formerly the Australian College of Education) has been enormous. She became a member in the late 1960's and was awarded a Fellowship in 1977 in recognition of contributions to teacher education, both pre-service and in-service and to educational administration and student welfare. She has served in several executive positions at the New South Wales Chapter/Branch level – Treasurer, Secretary (for a period of twelve years) and Chairman, as well as a member of Council for eight years, as a co-opted member, as Chapter Chairman and as an elected member respectively.

In the wider community Ruby was an active member of the Sydney Zonta Club for over thirty years. She held the position of Treasurer of the organization, as well as membership of various sub-committees within the Club.

Ruby was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in 1996 in the Queen's Birthday Honours' List "*for service to education as a teacher and administrator, including service as Honorary Secretary of the NSW Chapter of the Australian College of Education*". She joined the Order of Australia Association, which aims to honour Australian citizenship and was elected Honorary Secretary in 1997, a position she held for seven years.

Since retirement, Ruby has devoted time to the ex-students of Dubbo High School and in 1987 joined the Committee formed in Sydney, to bring ex-students together for fellowship, knowledge of each other's achievements and to explore ways to assist the school. For the past twelve years, she has been President of the Club, known as the Ex-students Bindy Club. (The school magazine was given the title of the "Bindyite" when it was first published in the early 1920's).

In 2005 Ruby moved to live in Dubbo and is well located to retain connections with the Bindy Club, the Australian College of Educators through its Orana Regional Branch and the Order of Australian Association through its Regional Group.

We congratulate Ruby on her achievements to date and applaud the excellence of her contributions to education and the community.

(This article was published on the Australian College of Educators website. Ed.)

A LIFE OF ACHIEVEMENT

CECILE HERDEN (WAKELING) 1950-51



Cecile was born in Bega in January 1932. Early years were spent living in the farming district around Bega. She had memories of churning the cream to make butter, of riding the horses along the river flats, setting rabbit traps by lantern light, sitting by the fire at night feasting on apples from the family's orchard.

She did her Secondary School at St Scholastica's College Glebe. She was the first of her family to leave home and her homesickness was nearly unbearable. However, she spent five wonderful years there and developed many skills such as music, which stood her in good stead in her later life. She also learned leadership and was elected School Captain in her final year.

In June 1950, she commenced at WWTC and met many lifelong friends, played lots of competition sport, and enjoyed the Saturday dances. It was there that she met and fell in love with the only man in her life, Peter Herden.

Cecile's first appointment was to the new Pymble Infants. She and the Principal were the only teachers and they built up the school from no equipment, no chalk, and no books to a thriving little infants school, with a piano being one of the first purchases so Cecile could make use of her music skills.

In 1954, Cecile and Peter were married at St Joseph's College Chapel, Hunters Hill and both took up teaching positions



at South Tamworth where they bought their first house.

In 1961 they moved to Cowra and Cecile eventually became head of the infants department at Malyan School where she worked until her retirement in 1986.

In 1996 Peter was struck down with a terminal brain tumor and died in 1996. Cecile eventually moved into town and was becoming increasingly aware of her newly acquired Rheumatoid Arthritis and its painful and debilitating effects. However, she threw herself into both old and new interests and community works.

She was a member of the Cowra Ladies Choir for 30 years and enjoyed many incredible performances as a member, at venues including the Sydney Entertainment Centre and the Opera House.

She was awarded an Australia Day award for her services to the community. These included:

CWA while still at Woodstock, Inner Wheel, World Peace Bell, Catholic Womens League, P&C and P&F Organizations, An inaugural member of St Rafael's Choir, Cowra Loss and Grief group, Founding member of Cancer Action Group, St Rafael's Pastoral Council.

She passed away on 24th October 2009.

VALE PAMELA PAYNE (LOVETT) 1948-50.

*"Memory oft will tread the journey,
Wagga College back to thee."*

to quote from Our College Anthem.

Pam and I met as roommates, this being dictated by the practice of allocating places in alphabetical order (Room 8 "Kappa Pi" - a 6-bed room), and our friendship developed through exchanging ideas, happenings, laughter and at odd times, differences.

In 1948 we were placed in Section 483 and in 1949 we both joined the Infant Section. At the beginning of second year, we moved to a 4 bed room, and so with two years together as roommates and section mates, our life time friendship began. 60+ years of attending special occasions, keeping in touch, exchanging family news (mainly at Christmas times), as well as sharing and caring, and visiting when the opportunity arose.

After Ray's passing, and whilst living in Heatherbrae, Pam's career took a different direction in Raymond Terrace where she worked until she finally retired and relocated to Newcastle.

Pam's greatest involvement was with the FRIENDSHIP FORCE INTERNATIONAL,

FRIENDSHIP FORCE Clubs around the world aim to foster friendship, with group visits to and from other countries. The Newcastle Friendship Force began in 1988, Pam and Ray joined in that same year.

1989 - Pam was Activities Director — organizing functions and activities with expertise. She was involved in the First Australian FF Conference held in Newcastle

1990/1991/1992 - Pam was Secretary of the Newcastle Friendship Force, travelling to international clubs and hosting groups from other countries.

1993 - Pam was Exchange Director taking members to Tokai Club in Japan and was also Exchange Director for a visiting Japanese FF Club.

1995 & 1996 - Pam was President of the Newcastle FF.

She played a major role in Newcastle FF for many years. She was always willing to throw her home open to host and entertain Friendship Force members from the local club, other Australian clubs and of course International clubs. Her expertise in

A LIFE OF ACHIEVEMENT

human relations and establishment of friendships with people around the world was a bonus for Newcastle Friendship Force.

(this information was supplied by another Wagga friend Pat Sheriff (Hammond)- Room 6 'Kappa -Pi' - 1948-50).

Like many of us, Pam had some years away from teaching as her family arrived. Pam and Ray are survived by: 4 children, 11 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

We will remember you Pam.

Joan Stanford (Kuskey — 1948-50)

RALPH BRYANT OAM 1949-50



Respected and renowned educator and community stalwart, Ralph Bryant has died at the age of 80.

His death was described by Wyong Mayor Bob Graham as a “great and sad loss for the whole shire”.

Wyong councillor Bill Symington said: “The breadth of people Ralph had personal contact with across the Central Coast was second to none.”

The Entrance State Labor MP Grant McBride described Ralph as an “unbelievable” person. “He was the heart and soul of the Wyong shire community,” Mr McBride said. “There was so much this man contributed in terms of Rotary activities, school activities and, most importantly, the Central Coast Festival of Arts.”

Ralph was born at Cowra in 1929, and met his wife Maureen (O’Sullivan) at Wagga Teachers College. They married in 1954 and went on to have five children and establish formidable teaching careers in the Wagga region.

Ralph had a two-year secondment in Zambia as Education Advisor to the teacher training colleges under the Ministry of Education in Lusaka. Maureen taught there in classes with 26 different nationalities.

When they returned, Ralph spent some time in head office in Sydney. They then moved to Kanwal Primary School, a large disadvantaged school just outside Wyong on the Central Coast. Ralph remained there as Principal for 25 years with Maureen working on the staff, and after Ralph left, she became Deputy Principal.

Ralph was active in Toukley Rotary for many years, spearheading projects and fundraising events.

Ralph’s enthusiasm for his community never stopped: he was representing the Annual Vocational Excellence Awards just the day before he died. His dedication saw him receive many awards, including a Medal of the Order of Australia for fundraising for medical research, the New south Wales Premier’s Community Service Award, a record seven Rotary Quill Awards, and Rotary’s highest award, a Paul Harris Fellow, plus countless community and educational awards.

But Ralph did not do what he did for awards. It was his behind the scenes hard work and drive that helped raise millions of dollars for organisations

such as Cancer Care, Renal Dialysis and Central Coast Medical Research.

Ralph had many impressive organisational skills, which included his belief in everyone’s potential, his appreciation and gratitude for help, which he constantly expressed, a great sense of humor under all circumstances, and an ability to get the job done.

He was a life member and fellow of the Australian College of Education and patron of its Central Coast branch. The College introduced the Annual Ralph Bryant Award for Education Excellence and Innovation.

He will be best remembered for his tenacity in ensuring whatever project he was involved in was a complete success.

He was a resident of Legacy Hostel, Norah Head, when he died, while Maureen, who suffered early onset dementia, lives at Nareen Gardens.

He is survived by four children, David, Lindy, Nicole and Rebekah (Martin is deceased), seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

In Memoriam

*Years go by, memories stay
As near and dear as yesterday.*

Pamela Payne (Lovett)
1948-50 October 2009

Ralph Bryant
1949-50 February 2010

Cecile Herden (Wakeling)
1950-51 October 2009

Lyndsay Pearce (Patterson)
1961-62 May 2009

NEWS FROM CSU

Education not schooling is job of teachers

A leading educational academic has urged Australian teachers to avoid becoming cautious under the 'transparency' of the modern Australian classroom.

Professor of Education at Charles Sturt University (CSU) Stephen Kemmis said, "The work of Australian schools in 2010 is open to scrutiny in ways the work of medical doctors, lawyers, electricians or car mechanics will never be".



"Politicians call the detailed curricula, assessments and recommended teaching techniques 'transparency' but the right name for them is scrutiny. This scrutiny will make the teaching profession very cautious and some teachers much more timid."

"The internationally-recognised CSU academic says the job of teachers is to educate students, not just to give them schooling.

"Teachers must find times and ways to take their eyes off the details of the national curriculum, the official tests and assessments, the NAPLAN results, the *My School* data and the ways of teaching the experts recommend," Professor Kemmis said.

He said the educational job is always concerned with the lives of students - not just their grades - and with the fates we share in our communities.

Addressing teaching graduates at CSU in Wagga Wagga, Professor Kemmis acknowledged there is a day-to-day struggle between education and schooling and conflicting curriculum, assessment, employer and professional demands.

"As teachers stand in that class, it is all too easy to listen to the army of advisors and supervisors insistently murmuring their advice and expectations over your shoulder. Sometimes their murmur rises to a roar loud enough to drown out the voices of the students."

QUICK FACTS

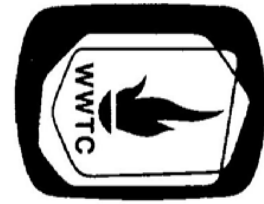
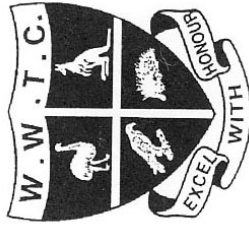
In two recent independent surveys of Australian university graduates and students by the Australian Centre for Educational Research (*Graduate Pathways Report; Australasian Survey of Student Engagement*) it was found that:

- Charles Sturt University graduates state they are more likely to do a Charles Sturt University degree again than the sector average (+2.7per cent).
- The median salary of Charles Sturt University graduates is higher than sector average one, three and five years after graduation.
- The rate of full-time and part time employment of Charles Sturt University graduates is equivalent to sector average.
- Charles Sturt University students significantly exceed the sector average for participation in practicum, internships, fieldwork education or clinical placement (+12 per cent).
- Charles Sturt University students significantly exceed the sector average for participation in industry placement or work experience (+13 per cent).
- Charles Sturt University students significantly exceed the sector average for acquiring job-related or work related knowledge and skills (+13 per cent).
- Charles Sturt University significantly exceeds the sector average for work integrated learning score (+9 per cent).
- Charles Sturt University significantly exceeds the sector average for occupation and degree relationship (+9.2 per cent).
- Charles Sturt University exceeds the sector average for the extent to which the degree prepared graduate for work (+5.6 per cent)

CONTACT US

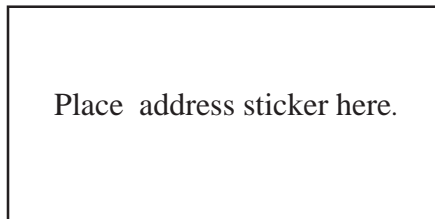
For all Alumni enquiries please contact the University Advancement Unit on (02) 6338 4680, or email Aimee Cook aicook@csu.edu.au

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