

PANORAMA

A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS
OF BATHURST TEACHERS' COLLEGE
CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY
ISSUE No. 29, SUMMER 2015



THE PRESIDENT WRITES

We are in an era of unprecedented change, allied with one of speed of change. There is ever increasing accountability with an amazing awareness of what happens not only in our micro-world but also in the wider world. Media reporting of events as they happen such as bushfires and other natural disasters, come into our living rooms in real time. Significant events are examined and reconstructed to provide explanations for what has happened as we saw with the MH17 Malaysian airlines disaster. Social media commentaries (via Twitter, FaceBook etc) provide us with views and opinions between groups and individuals. Everything seems to be forensically analysed down to the finest detail. However, is this good?

This explosion of knowledge and the communication to others displays interesting differences between the generations. To the X-Gen and Y-Gen groups this is generally seen as the way things should be and nothing seems to surprise many of them ... seen it all before, so what's new? Older generations tend to despair feeling that not everything should be public knowledge.

This immediacy and short term involvement with things has had an impact on employment and job security. Nowadays jobs are changed regularly either through promotion or using a transferable skill set. A lifelong career in a particular area is no longer the norm. Life seems to be much more transient than before.

For many of us older schoolteachers this is not what we are used to. A job was worked at, experience gained by doing things and modifying them when the fit wasn't right. The possibility of not facing a crisis or issue did not occur to us. Instead colleagues and other mentors helped one through such difficulties using a huge corporate knowledge based on experience and actual solutions built up in the skills arsenal of the employee/person.

Whether this generalised comment about transience and built up personal knowledge and abilities is an indicator of where we are headed is debatable. There are plenty of extremely talented

people in our workforce and in our schools doing spectacularly well. However, it appears that the durability and longevity of a particular career is no longer the norm.

Am I right or wrong in my simplistic assessment of the present day world? Come to the 2016 AGM and talk about this with your friends using the wisdom of long experience in the workplace and beyond.

WAYNE BENSLEY
PRESIDENT
wrbensley@hotmail.com

GUEST SPEAKER FOR OUR 2016 AGM, KAREN JAMEYSON, TALKS ABOUT "THE SCHOOL MAGAZINE"

We are privileged to have Karen Jameyson, the Communications Officer of "The School Magazine" as guest speaker at the 2016 AGM, on the 100th birthday of this publication.

For many of us beginning teaching, this magazine was the only available resource for teaching reading in the Primary School. We can probably recall how we made a story last a week, with introduction to new vocabulary, teacher modelling of reading, oral and written comprehension and oral reading around the class.

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Before moving to Australia in 1990 Karen Jameyson worked on the editorial staff of the *Horn Book Magazine* based in Boston. Once here she joined the editorial staff of *The School Magazine* where she has been since her arrival. For a decade she wrote a "News from Down Under" column about Australian Children's literature for the *Horn Book*. In addition, she has been a freelance reviewer and critic, serving as a judge for the *Children's Book Council of Australia* "Book of the Year Awards" as well as the *NSW Premier's Literary Awards*. She also volunteers for the *International Board of Books for Young People* at both state and national levels.

The School Magazine is not only Australia's oldest literary magazine, but is also the oldest literary magazine for children anywhere in the world. It began in 1916 as a free publication for NSW primary school children, with the aim of presenting Australian writers for Australian children.

It has never gone out of print even in the days of the Depression when the magazine was reduced to a quarter of its size because of printing costs and paper shortages.

Throughout its history, *The School Magazine* has been edited by a who's who of Australian literature: Patricia Wrightson, Lilith Norman, Noreen Shelley, Duncan Ball, and more recently Anna Fienberg and Tohby Riddle, among others. For many illustrators, such as Astra Lakis and Tohby Riddle it kick-started their career.

The magazine is a big reason why children's literature in Australia is so successful. It enabled many authors to make a living, however meagre, from writing and illustrating for children. Today the magazine is printed in a blown-up form for the partially sighted children in the schools and each month copies are printed in Braille.

We look forward to other gems that Karen can reveal about this much loved institution.

An honoured guest at the AGM
will be

MR FRANK ATCHISON

Lecturer in English
at BTC 1951/55

who made sure his students were provided
with a base of knowledge and an
understanding of how to make the world a
better place.

**THE 2015 BTCAA SCHOLARSHIP
WINNER**

Georgia Westcott, whose grandmother Coral Barber (Dawes) attended the Bathurst Teachers'

College in the 1950s, is the 2015 scholarship winner. She is currently studying for a Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood and Primary) at Wagga Wagga campus, after completing her HSC at Peak Hill Central School where she was School Captain and a Sports Captain. While at school, Georgia developed and coordinated a program called *Active Kids After School* which enabled primary-aged children within Peak Hill and the surrounding area to receive sports coaching within their community. As part of this Georgia ran free coaching for a variety of sports, seeking funding for equipment and sourcing afternoon tea to ensure the children had a healthy start free of cost before participating in sport. Over 35 children attended, which was 50% of the primary aged children within the community. Her program raised over \$5,000 for equipment, a shed to contain it and afternoon tea each week. The program ran twice a week and is still running today. Georgia is a shining example of a student our scholarship is designed to assist.

THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY

Joyes Hall at the Wagga Wagga Campus of CSU was filled with scholarship winners and their families for the presentation ceremony. Following the presentations the recipients and the representatives of organisations mingled together in an informal function with drinks and finger food.

Georgia Westcott, the recipient of the Bathurst Teachers' College Alumni Scholarship expressed her gratitude for the support the funds will provide. Although a little homesick to begin with, Georgia is enjoying her first year of study. At the time of the presentations she was looking forward to the semester break and the chance to return home to Peak Hill.

After graduating Georgia hopes for an appointment in the Peak Hill district so that she can work in rural schools.

The scholarship selection committee have made a good choice.

PETER LLOYD



Georgia is shown here being presented with her scholarship by Alumni member Peter Lloyd at the awards ceremony in May.

THANKS FROM GEORGIA WESTCOTT

As a recipient of the Bathurst Teachers' College Alumni Scholarship in 2015, I am writing to express my sincere thanks for the financial support this scholarship has contributed to my studies. It has reduced the financial burden of studying at university for both my family and myself, assisting with purchasing textbooks and accommodation costs. Through this support I have been able to settle into university, as I was a little unsettled at the start about moving so far from home.

After going on my first practice teaching session, I have realised I have chosen the right career path as an Early Childhood and Primary School teacher. I chose to study this course as I have a love for children and a passion for rural education. Throughout the year I have received good marks for all my subjects and really look forward to studying again in 2016. I cannot thank you enough for your kindness and support in 2015.

Kindest regards,
GEORGIA WESTCOTT

DO YOU REMEMBER THIS?

Cooerwull Station and its workers' trains

Lithgow Small Arms Factory employees were not the only workers to use Cooerwull Station.

In the late 1950s I was a primary student at Cooerwull School and twice a year for three weeks at a time, we were inflicted with students from Bathurst Teachers' College who were doing their practical teaching. We had to call them "Visiting Teachers" ('stewed ants' was not acceptable).

They travelled by special train from Bathurst which terminated at Lithgow, stopping at stations on route that were near a school, including Wallerawang and Cooerwull. This train arrived at Cooerwull just before 10am and through the classroom windows we would watch the students cross the A-frame footbridge, wearing their black blazers with gold insignia on the pocket. As Bathurst Teachers' College was a residential facility, several pairs of male students would carry large metal boxes which contained their lunch.

The return trip left Cooerwull heading west just after 3pm after stopping for no more than about a minute and a half – I remember the fun we had watching them all scramble on to the train before it pulled out – probably in a hurry to get away from us!

Peter Marshall, by email to "Australian Railway History" Oct 2015. Thanks to Lew Ford (51-52) for getting us permission to reprint it.



Freddy Waqa – favourite singer at the College Dances 57/58

Those of us at BTC during these years will remember Saturday night dances were not complete without a session by Freddy Waqa, in Australia to gain teaching qualifications from his birthplace in Nauru. He was very popular with the girls, who used to gather round to hear

him sing *To Tale Tale*, a Nauruan folk song, or *Remember You're Mine* as part of his repertoire. Sadly, Fred was killed in a car accident some years ago back home in Nauru.

MY TRIP TO GALLIPOLI 2015

WAYNE BENSLEY

Early this year I received confirmation that I had been successful in a ballot for two tickets to attend the 100th anniversary Anzac Day Dawn Service at Gallipoli in Turkey. I was very pleased, no thrilled, to be so fortunate. I had applied in the smaller military service section of the ballot rather than the general civilian ballot so had hoped that I may have a better chance of success. Thankfully that's how it turned out.

It was also kind of ironic in that 48 years earlier I had been 'successful' in another military based ballot – a ballot that 'won' me 2 years of military service as a National Service conscript.

We (my wife Noni and I) left Australia on April 18th headed for Istanbul. We joined a 12 day 'Splendours of Turkey Highlights' tour that guaranteed us transport first to Ecebat and then on to Gallipoli. For this centenary activity all



visitors to Gallipoli had to be part of an organised tour group.

On the third day of the Turkish tour we were shown over a number of battlefields of the Gelibou peninsula – visiting Kabatepe, Ari Burnu, Anzac Cove, Lone Pine and Chanuk Blair – by a very knowledgeable tour guide. We were very fortunate to be blessed with a clear blue skied day and this made the experience even more special, clear and not hazy.

The most impressionable thing about the area was just how small and rugged it was. There were several significant battlefields within less than 10 kilometres. The landing on the beach at Anzac Cove was very narrow and stony, as well as being backed by steeply rising hills and many gullies. It must have been an absolutely daunting and frightening experience for the original Anzac soldiers.

The following day (Friday 24th April) was a totally different experience. It was exceptionally crowded, with over 400 buses heading for the Anzac Cove site. The transport into the area was one way only and very slow (in good old army parlance, ‘hurry up and wait’). The security was staggering, with heavily armed soldiers everywhere, four different checkpoints for coaches and buses to be physically checked inside and underneath and all passengers individually having their electronic ID cards scanned at each checkpoint. All of that was reassuring but it meant a very long trip to the ceremonial site.

We had started our trip about 3pm in the afternoon, thinking we would be on site by about 8pm, but we didn’t get to the final checkpoint until after midnight. Then there were shuttle buses down to Anzac Cove, so our arrival was actually about 2am on Saturday 25th. The whole area was very packed and it was very, very cold, 2-3°C. There were documentaries, a reflective program, being shown on large screens around the site to help pass the time.

A little after 5am activity started. Soon after a quiet descended on the area and many of the crowd stood and watched as dignitaries and VIP’s were led to the ceremonial dais/platform area fronting the landing beach.

The service began at 5.30am with Army music, military protocols (such as a catafalque party, a guard, usually of four people, that stands watch over a grave or significant monument) and introductions followed by several key addresses. These included a *Call to Remembrance*, addresses by our then PM Tony Abbott, New Zealand PM John Key, and Prince Charles followed by various prayers. It was all very moving.

During this the dawn came bringing a slow brightening over the area. A convoy of navy ships (Australian New Zealand and Turkish) passed by

and the hills behind came to into clearer view. It was all a slowly revealing scene, and gave great cause for reflection about what had happened here.

During the rest of the day there was a service at Lone Pine for Aussies at 11am and at Chanuk Blair for the Kiwis at 1.45pm. The general consensus about the star of both events according to our tour group (a mix of Aussies and Kiwis) was Prince Harry for his friendliness and his desire to mix with people.

Anzac Day was a very overcast, dull day but this made it a little more sombre and reflective for me. It was an experience that could be described as ‘awesome’ and thoroughly worth all the effort and waiting involved. Another bucket list item is now crossed off!



Not content with this, Wayne has taken part in the “Cooee March” from Gilgandra, which arrived in Martin Place in time for Remembrance Day. He is seen here in Springwood with a “Cooee March” descendant, Elaine Hartman, having already walked 550 km and was nursing his first blister. (Ed.)

REUNION REPORTS AND ADVANCE NOTICES

PLAYING THE NINETEENTH

Having considered the thought of enduring Somerset Maugham’s “a good walk spoiled” for 18 holes, members decided the best hole to play was the 19th. And this was the picturesque Narooma golf course where a decent drive could see you out in the ocean, or just wanting to sit and admire the view. It was really no surprise that no one turned up for a round of golf but adjourned immediately to the 19th for the annual get-together lunch of the Southern group on Wednesday 29th July.

Julie Worldon and Bill Thompson with June (56/7) were the organisers of this year’s event. They greeted nineteen guests altogether, 15 alumni and 5 spouses which included Reg 52/3 and Jan Halliburton; from 56/7 Lorrie Armstrong, Leon and

Robyn Brett, Tony and Yuming Hepworth, Danny Mahar, Gordon and Dianne Stewart, Dia and Wolf Wendler, George and Betty Windsor, Isobel Wykes and finally, Helen Cody 60/1. This year we received six apologies.

For the first time we invited outside speakers to our gathering and they were a great success. Geoff Perrem, Industrial Arts and Sharon McCutcheon, Performing Arts were two teachers from Bateman's Bay High School. They were not university academics, theorists or policy makers but practising teachers in school each day. How were they different? They had produced the school's entry in Bell Shakespeare Schools Festival in partnership with Canberra Centre last year. Their school was the only one from NSW.

Six schools were invited to perform their interpretation of a segment of Macbeth, a play that lends itself to supernatural visions beyond the ordinary, and circus is a perfect vehicle for creating this alternate world on stage. Bateman's

Bay HS combined the talents of their circus troupe "Clyde Circus" and their drama ensemble to create the depression era carnival world of Macbeth. Their interpretation of the text, which had to be studied thoroughly in a nearly traditional way, incorporated the essence of "poor theatre", as they used minimal set, props and technology, choosing instead to use voices and bodies to create illusion and atmosphere.

A similar style of production, "Saltwater" – a tale of tears, sweat and the sea, was planned for later this year for the local Bateman's Bay community. Members were most impressed with the presentation, supported by slides, and greatly appreciated the inspiration these two teachers must be to the students, staff and the community. They in turn acknowledged the wonderful support and participation of the staff, community and their relieving Principal, Greg McDonald. Bill Thompson moved a vote of thanks for their great presentation and expressed the hope that they would be able to continue their obviously inspirational work at BBHS.



The annual get-together for 2016 will be in Queanbeyan on the last Wednesday of July, which will be 27th. It will be organised by Reg Halliburton 52/3 who can be contacted at jan.reg@bigpond.net.au, by phone 6297 1859 or at 40 Cameron Rd Queanbeyan 2620.

STAY AT THE CASTLEREAGH

**Special rates for Alumni
\$155 single \$165 double**

The 60/61 Alumni are planning to have their reunion at the 2016 Friendship Lunch so come along and join them.

Members might like to stay at the Castlereagh at the special rates listed above.

**58/59 Cohort
Not Able to Wait Three Years
Until our Next Reunion?
Come and join us at a table the
2016 AGM. If you are coming
from out of town, why not stay
at the hotel & do some
sightseeing as well?**

THE PIONEERS – 65 YEARS SINCE 1951

Dates: Tuesday 8th – Friday 11th March

**Accommodation: Rydges Hotel
(Panorama Circuit) or own choice**

Contact Julia Noon Ph:(02) 9858 1816

54/55 cohort reunion

4th-8th April 2016

53/54 and 55/56 welcome to join in.

Jerilderie: birthplace of Sir John Monash.

Home to “The Dressmaker”

- Retrace the footsteps of Ned Kelly.
- Experience the old and the new on the historic McCaughey homestead.
- Sample the new wave - olives tomatoes and onions.
- Steak by the lake with a choral accompaniment.

And just talk your head off with old friends over coffee or a beer.

For further details please contact:

Gwen McLaughlin (03) 5886 9001

Colleen Goodwin (02) 9362 9094

Tom Hay 0424 229 199

. tomhay555@hotmail.com

Allan Blanche (02) 6334 3520

GRADUATES OF THE CLASS OF 1965/66

**are invited to attend
a 50th Birthday Celebration
in Bathurst in 2016**

Contact Greg Woods

email: woods.greg@yahoo.com.au

or Mobile 0409 457523

IN MEMORIAM

ALAN JOHN BEGGS, 30/10/1933 – 16/05/2015

Alan Beggs sat for the Leaving Certificate at Cobar High School in 1950. In the following March, with seven of his classmates, almost the entire Cobar Leaving Certificate class, he set out on a new adventure to undertake a teacher-training course at Bathurst Teachers College – pioneer students in a brand new course; a

fortuitous opportunity for youth from western NSW to have access to tertiary education. They came by train on the Bourke Mail. Others arrived from the west and north west on the Forbes Mail and the Coonamble Mail, still others on the Sydney train picking up prospective students along the way through the Mountains and from Lithgow. Several were driven; none drove.

Alan embarked upon his new career with enthusiasm and anticipation. He was ready to take on new curriculum options – debating, drama, musical productions and virtually any sporting activity on offer. He represented BTC in cricket (a handy left arm bowler and middle order batsman) and as a front row forward in the college Rugby team.

His early career in teaching took him to small schools in the country: Finley in the Riverina, Woomargama, a one teacher school and then to primary schools in Sydney’s west.

He enrolled in a Bachelor of Arts degree course (evening) at the University of Sydney, driving sometimes four evenings a week after a day in the classroom at Wentworthville to Camperdown and home again at 9.30pm. He backed up with a Master of Education degree, again at night.

He then transferred to teach English and History in high schools in Sydney’s western suburbs gaining promotion to positions of Head Teacher, Deputy Principal and then Principal of Shalvey HS and Carlingford HS.

Typically, Alan’s classroom was a happy, busy, and effective place of learning.

As a high school principal, his leadership was defined by his personal disposition of concern for others: his students, his staff, parents and the community generally. Beyond a wholesome discipline his school was a warm and welcoming place – a school with a heart.

He retired after 40 years in the public school system and then accepted a part time casual teaching position at Granville TAFE where, till he was well into his 70s, he devoted his energy, expertise and charm to lifting up those whose circumstances had deprived them of crucial opportunities, who, through war and discord in their home countries and the upheaval and uncertainty associated with migration to a new country, were socially and educationally disadvantaged. He provided a warm and welcoming haven, he strove to give them confidence and a purpose, to restore their self-esteem. He gave them the tools to bridge the gap.

This stage of his career, after 40 years outstanding service in schools, was one of his noblest achievements.

Loyalty distinguishes Alan’s life:

- to his childhood friends from Cobar;
- to those from school who came to BTC with him;



- to all his college friends; his fellow pioneers;
- to the BTC alumni—he was an inaugural vice-president and gave unbroken service in that role;
- to his teaching colleagues over the years with whom he maintained a social contact;
- to those he came to know through his recreational interests especially those who shared

his interest in horse racing and who joined him over several decades in the annual pilgrimage to The Scone Cup Carnival – stud visits, the racing, budget lodgings, atmosphere, mateship.

He was steadfast and devoted to his parents Ivy and Frank and to his sisters, Jan and Annie.

He knew with a quiet certainty, that Barb and their three children Robert, Kim and Steve absolutely loved him. And they knew with certainty, that he loved them.

Alan has run the race with honour; he has been faithful to all that is good and true and virtuous.

In their sadness, those dear to him can stand proud that Alan was theirs. To all of us he was a wonderful friend.

May his God bless him and keep him.
May he rest in peace.

LEW FORD BTC (1951-52)

As co-members of the Editorial Committee with Alan, we found him to be a warm and friendly colleague, always ready to assist with research and articles. We miss him greatly.

CAROLE GOODWIN AND DENISE CRAMSIE

VALE JOHN CASSIM

John Cassim was a lecturer in Music at Bathurst Teachers' College from 1952 to 1955. He and his twin brother William were born at Aria Park on 10 October 1921. He was educated at Weethalle Public School, St Patrick's College Goulburn and, concurrently, Sydney University and Sydney Conservatorium of Music. John was a skilled horseman and played A Grade hockey for Sydney University.

In 1940 an Army call-up interrupted his studies; he served as a medical orderly until 1945. After the war he qualified for the B.A. and Dip. Ed.

(Sydney) and the Licentiate of the Royal School of Music (London) before teaching for one year at Gardeners Road Public School, Mascot.

His appointment to BTC in 1952 fulfilled his ambition to be involved in training teachers. John, Warden of the Men's No.2 dormitory, was liked and respected by the College students. His enthusiastic instruction in musical appreciation, his conducting of the College choir, his production of musicals (e.g. "Patience" by G and S in 1955) were all greatly appreciated.

In 1956 he transferred from Bathurst to Alexander Mackie College, Paddington, before accepting an invitation to be Head of the Music Department of Sydney Teachers College, a position he held until his retirement. During his years in Sydney John enjoyed being musical director of some theatrical societies.

After retiring John bought Oakwood Stud near Mittagong, where he bred horses, and lived happily there until his death on 27 July 2013 at the age of ninety-one.

ALLAN BLANCH (BTC
1954-55)

Jon is seen here flanked by John Gunn on the left and Frank Atchinson on the right.



REMEMBERING RALPH WARBURTON

Ralph came to Australia in 1948. He attended Manly Boys High School, where in the first few days he witnessed the bullying of first formers by some older pupils. He stopped this by simply threatening to fight the bullies if it happened again. Bullying instantly fell out of fashion and Ralph was elected prefect on the overwhelming vote of the first formers.

He remained a prefect, played chess for the school, engaged in a variety of sports and sat for his Leaving Certificate. In 1951 he arrived at BTC as it opened. He came with his somewhat left of centre political views already in place. The college was raw, half finished and uncomfortable but he set about assisting with its organisation. He was elected to the SRC and to the position of editor of *Panorama*, a position he held until it was closed down by the principal. Ralph flatly refused to have the paper censored. He always maintained that however temporary the situation, one should view it as permanent and act accordingly.

He played chess, sang in choirs, performed in Gilbert and Sullivan and could always be found

in the evening arguing politics in the common room.

In these short few years Ralph laid down the path he was to take. What was needed was a freedom from direction and a sense of self. What was to be provided was generosity and a sense of social equality. That, and the courage to stick to his principles was to stay with him for the rest of his life.

When he left college he first taught at Saltash and then West Wyalong but a wider world was opening before him and together with two friends, Neil Hope and Les Ross he left for Italy in 1957.

They disembarked in Trieste, hitched a lift to Venice where a chance meeting with two young women, students at the University of Torino, changed their lives. Instead of going to Rome where they had planned, the students induced them to go to Torino where they were provided with an ever increasing number of young people wishing to learn English. With these and some part time employment at the University and other language schools, they did well financially and the three settled in Torino.

This continued until 1962 when Ralph, Neil and another teacher, Brian O'Farrell opened their own school, the *Cambridge School of English*. They taught English by the direct method, published course work and wrote sets of books concerned with English history, literature and

culture. The school was, for several years, very successful but Neil Hope was killed in a motor vehicle accident and his death was a severe blow to the remaining partners. Although the school continued it was dealt yet another blow when Brian O'Farrell decided to go to Canada. The administration, staffing and teaching become burdensome and Ralph, whose first marriage had broken down leaving him the principle carer of his son, accepted an offer to teach in the Italian state secondary system. This, combined with work at the university, was his professional life until he retired.

During this period Ralph had a television career as *Il Professore* who every afternoon would help children with their English homework and he became quite famous. His hospitality was legendary; he played host to hundreds of Australians, some down on their luck and always left strangers with the invitation, "Look me up, I'm the only Warburton in the Torino telephone book"

He married Susan Fitzgibbons and had a daughter, Saskia, who moved to Sidmouth with him when he retired. Here he continued to teach Italian to adults, play chess at a competitive level and table tennis until he was well into his 80s.

Ralph is survived by his wife Susan, their daughter Saskia and his son Matteo, his sisters Doreen Warburton, Jean Thomas and his brother Brian.

KEN SHADBOLT BTC 1952 - 53

News from CSU

Bathurst Teacher's College Alumni Scholarship

The Bathurst Teacher's College Alumni Scholarship is currently open with applications closing on 29 February 2016. The BTCA Scholarship is open to any student who is a descendant of a graduate from the Bathurst Teachers' College studying in any year, with first and second preference given to students studying a Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood and Primary), B of Ed (K – 12) and a Bachelor of Educational Studies, studying on any CSU campus. Third preference will be given to a student studying any subject.

If you have a grandchild, son or daughter who you think may be eligible for the BTCA Scholarship, please encourage them to apply. Further information regarding the Scholarship can be found at <http://www.csu.edu.au/courses/fees-and-costs/help-with-costs/scholarships/foundation/any-year/bathurst-teachers-college-alumni-scholarship>

Stronger Tomorrow – Thank you to BTCA

As an alumni cohort, BTCA are strong fundraisers and have managed to raise a valuable pool of funds that have provided assistance, support and opportunity to many education students over the years. The following clip has been put together to thank our treasured donors who have contributed to the Scholarship Scheme over the years. If on-line, Ctrl + click on the image below to view.

Please continue to forward your funds % CSU Foundation Trust, Panorama Ave, Bathurst NSW 2795 or go on line: <https://www.csu.edu.au/go/give/donations?method=credit-card> and nominate *Bathurst Teachers College* in the drop down Campaign list.

CSU Academic Education Research – Spelling ability predicts student's writing success

Research at Charles Sturt University (CSU) has shown how a student's proficiency in spelling, grammar and punctuation can predict their success with writing.



Mrs Tessa Daffern from CSU's [Research Institute for Professional Practice, Learning and Education \(RIPPLE\)](#) analysed data from year three and year five NAPLAN Writing Tests and Language Conventions Tests (2012-2013) to expose the relationship between spelling, grammar and punctuation, and compositional writing ability for students in year three and year five.

"I wanted to know how aspects of spelling, grammar and punctuation can be used to predict a child's writing ability and compositional writing quality in the middle and upper primary school years," Mrs Daffern said.

"Spelling was found to be the main predictor of compositional writing while punctuation was not an influential independent predictor."

Mrs Daffern also sought to explore the influence of gender and age in terms of compositional writing. The research showed that spelling is a significant predictor of writing success for both males and females, regardless of age.

The research has highlighted the importance of teaching spelling in primary schools and Mrs Daffern hopes it will be useful to teachers.

"This research has confirmed the importance of teaching spelling in the middle and upper primary school years, not just in the early years of schooling," Mrs Daffern said.

Warm Regards,
STACEY FISH
CSU Advancement Unit

YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEEDS YOU!!!



Your BTC Alumni Association has a proud history of keeping us all in touch, providing scholarships for relatives of Alumni like you and producing a biannual magazine called 'Panorama'. A number of key members of the BTCAA have been in their roles for more than 10 years. If they are not replaced the Association may have difficulty continuing.

They would prefer others to have the opportunity to become involved. The positions that need to be filled by new volunteers are:

- Treasurer: a role made easier with a well developed Excel spreadsheet ready for handover to a new Treasurer;
- Panorama Sub-Committee: Editor and Proofreader - an opportunity to make a strong contribution and continue the wonderful 'Panorama' tradition using software fully set up to make formatting and publishing straight forward;
- At least two further Committee positions.

The need is very real. Some of the committee are over 80 years old and if asked, will say how much they have enjoyed their work and involvement. The Alumni Committee usually meets 4 times a year usually on the 3rd Saturday of the months of May, August and November. There is also a full AGM with luncheon and guest speaker in February.

COME ON!!!! LET'S HEAR FROM YOU.

Further details of these positions are available from our President, Wayne Bensley on 0401 849 655 or by email at wrbensley@hotmail.com by 19/02/16

A SPECIAL GUEST
at our
FRIENDSHIP LUNCH

Saturday 20 February 2016

Make up a table with your year group

at

The Castlereagh Boutique Hotel

169 - 171 Castlereagh St, Sydney
(between Park and Market Sts – closer to Park St)

11am – 3pm

Brief AGM prior to lunch

**Karen Jameyson, Communications Officer of “The School Magazine”
which is celebrating its 100th birthday.**

\$56 p.p.

Please send payment with the slip below to:

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

To arrive by: Monday 15th February 2016

I enclose payment of \$56 p.p. for _____ person/s to attend the BTCAA Lunch on Saturday 20 February 2016.

Please tick method of payment:

Cheque Money Order Direct Bank Deposit

BTCAA Bank Account Details: Commonwealth Bank BSB 062300 A/c No. 1013 3521

Please include your name and year when depositing directly to the BTCAA Bank Account

Name: _____ BTC Year: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

I require a receipt Yes / No (Please circle) Include stamped addressed envelope if receipt required.

Please advise of any dietary requirements and seating preferences.

