

PANORAMA

A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS
OF BATHURST TEACHERS' COLLEGE
CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY
ISSUE No. 23, SPRING 2012



NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This year (2012) has seen several group reunions of ex-Bathurst Teachers College students. Many of these are 'significant number' gatherings and highlight the great camaraderie and cohort loyalty of the BTC connection. The 'Pioneers' group (1951-52) are at one end of this spectrum while the 1968-69 group are at the 'younger' end. (Mitchell CAE took over from BTC after this time).

Of such a cohort is the 1964-65 group. They are tracking down as many colleagues as possible for a 50 year reunion in 2014. Finding and then contacting these graduates is a time consuming and, at times, frustrating exercise. *Panorama* is a source of such information.

Ideally however, a wider net is needed. To help spread the awareness of this planned event the group has been holding quarterly get-togethers in different regions of the state (within the \$2.50 NSW travel ticket range). The first was in Sydney in January, then came Katoomba in June, Bowral in October and another is planned for Newcastle in January 2013. This strategy is proving to be successful and is certainly making people aware of the planned 50th year anniversary of starting out at BTC. This reunion is set for the last weekend of March 2014.

The *Panorama* magazine is, from all reports and feedback, a valued communication tool for those who receive it, or follow it up on the CSU website. However it is currently the subject of much discussion, mainly centring on costs. To date the funding of this magazine has largely been covered by donations from BTC graduates. Rising costs and fewer donations have created financial pressures and concern over continuing viability. It should be noted that CSU does NOT provide any financial support for this publication.

We have decided to undertake two strategies to try to keep *Panorama* afloat. One is to introduce a small annual charge of \$25 for anyone who wants to contribute to the Alumni Association and keep receiving *Panorama*. This will help greatly so I urge you to think about whether this is affordable and worthwhile for you.

The other strategy is to seek sponsorship from accommodation and restaurant outlets in the Bathurst area and also from other businesses that may be well used by alumni (e.g. Health Society). It is hoped that this sponsorship in the form of a discreet advertisement on the bottom of each of the inside pages of *Panorama* will help subsidise costs.

As a bi-product, the Alumni committee asks that ex-BTC students/graduates try to support these sponsors when in or around Bathurst. This decision has great potential to be a mutually beneficial arrangement for all.

Just recently the now annual BTTAA Open Garden weekend in Katoomba was held from 12th-15th October. This beautiful garden is very generously offered as a funds raiser by Gail Metcalfe (1960-61 cohort). With help from Alumni committee members this activity raised over \$1900. Gail's garden looked very colourful and spectacular on the day before the Open Garden started. The record snowfall on the Friday gave it a very different look but the following few days saw fine weather and attracted many visitors. A huge "Thank You" goes to Gail and all her support crew for a successful event.

inside

Scholarship Recipient for 2012	2
The Importance of Music Education in Schools	3
Open Garden 2012	4
Continuing to Make a Difference	5
Reunions, planned and unexpected	6
In Memorium	7
The first BTC Wedding	8
News from CSU	8
Invitation to the 2012 Friendship Lunch	10
Funding Appeal & Update of Alumni details	11

Much of this funding gained from the Open Garden is directed towards the provision of an annual scholarship that is awarded to a Charles Sturt University student who has a family connection with a BTC graduate. For 2012 this scholarship was awarded to Kristie Caton from the Dubbo Campus of CSU.

I had the honour of presenting this scholarship to Kristie in May. It was a very well-organised prize presentation evening in Dubbo where Kristie was supported by her mother and grandmother (the BTC connection; Lyn Harrison née Ison, 1951/52)). Elsewhere in this magazine Kristie has written just what the scholarship means to her. She is a very talented and deserving young lady.

WAYNE BENSLEY
PRESIDENT
wrbensley@hotmail.com



KRISTIE CATON WRITES ...

To my Donors,
Thank you for your generosity. I am very appreciative of receiving the Bathurst Teachers' College Alumni Scholarship and the following will put into context just how much it means to me.

Last year, I was lucky enough to be selected to participate in the EU Mobility Project. This included studying and completing a placement in London, UK. Some of the costs were funded but even with assistance not all the expenses were covered. It was a once in a life time experience that I would do again if given the opportunity however it did result in having no income for five months because I was unable to work. It was always in the back of my mind about how I would deal with financial costs upon my return and continue to achieve my best with my studies.

Being awarded this scholarship has enabled me to dedicate time to my studies and to achieve the best I can in order to graduate this year. This would have been rather difficult without your help. So once again I thank you very much!

Regards,

KRISTIE CATON

THE IMPORTANCE OF MUSIC EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

How are Students at CSU prepared today to teach music in schools?

Dr Peter Wilson, Senior Lecturer in Creative Arts at CSU Bathurst

Music is a more potent instrument than any other in education: Plato 2 300 years ago

In the past graduates from Bathurst Teachers' College had a rich range of musical opportunities during their study, both as part of the curriculum and as extra-curricular activities. From recorder lessons, choral singing, performing in a range of bands and choirs as well as regular revues in the Little Theatre, there were abundant musical possibilities for those interested.

Even until 2000, these opportunities remained largely intact as there were three music lecturers on staff who ran a concert band that played on official occasions, a choir and a range of music electives including instrumental music, keyboard, guitar and vocal performance as well as the core music subjects within the teaching courses. Today however, curriculum subjects, i.e. Creative Arts 1 and 2 are all that remain and none of these extra-curricular possibilities exist at Charles Sturt University, except for a ukulele group! As these lecturers retired they were not replaced and compounding with a range of other factors, music has been severely downgraded.

Music is a language which has the unique quality of being able to elucidate a whole range of abstract responses in the listener. It has the ability to evoke feelings and to emotionally impact the viewer. The ability to appreciate music is a key objective of any music curriculum and musical training is a discipline which develops skill and hopefully, a lifelong passion. The second aspect of any musical training is the understandings of philosophy and content of the Creative Arts syllabus which is translated into classroom practice. To the detriment of all of the arts within this curriculum, music is now shared equally with visual arts, drama and dance, resulting in a much diminished allocation of time. This underscores what Richard Gill, music educator and Musical Director for the Victorian Opera claims is a national disgrace.

He outlines some key reasons for teaching music:

- Because it has immeasurable potency and capacity to act on the heart, mind, spirit, and soul of humanity

- Because we acknowledge there is virtually no civilisation on earth without music at the heart of its existence
- Because through it we can learn many skills associated with social inclusion and social interaction
- Because it is unique and has its own integrity as a subject or discipline.

He furthermore argues strongly against rolling all the arts subjects into one curriculum area.

The most recent arts research points out that students learning music (and those exposed to a rich arts curriculum generally) perform better across all areas of the curriculum compared with their counterparts who don't. This finding has implications for the NAPLAN testing regime which shows a decline in literacy and numeracy standards every year it has been in operation. As the curriculum becomes increasingly narrowed to allow a greater focus on literacy and numeracy, all other curriculum areas are diminished. Dr David Zyngier, Senior lecturer in Education, Monash University states,

....schools are struggling with low NAPLAN results having thrown everything out of the curriculum to focus on literacy and numeracy and passing the test It's become a very lean and mean curriculum. It disengages the child from learning and it's only going to get worse.'

One small positive is that the Federal Arts and Education Minister, Peter Garrett, has agreed to include arts subjects in the new national curriculum. Education for music teachers must follow if we are to believe this and perhaps a return to the conservatorium education for music teachers is required.

Now to the main point of this article; in their music classes, current students at CSU Bathurst get to learn ukulele and to accompany themselves singing as part of their own personal musical development. As this forms part of the Creative Arts Syllabus, they learn a range of classroom activities, using drumming, rhythm sticks, percussion, chime bars, glockenspiels to interpret the syllabus into classroom practice. The main objective is to be able to plan, implement and assess music and all areas of the arts.

Dr Wilson has included a Youtube link showing a beginner ukulele class after one month of tuition: <http://youtu.be/wEybl2icssk> The students seem to be having a good time, but sadly there is a severe gender imbalance. Only 5% of students in the primary course are males.

The Work of The Performing Arts Unit in Assisting the Classroom Teacher

This is an interview with Susan Sukkar, Regional Arts Co-ordinator for the Sydney Region at The Performing Arts Centre, who is also responsible for the Instrumental Festival held in the Sydney Opera House each year.

Q: How does the Performing Arts Unit assist classroom teachers to improve their music skills?

A: The Unit conducts Professional Learning courses which include conducting, pedagogy and general classroom music. There are also choral and instrumental workshops. Remote communities are assisted through video conferencing and teachers are flown in from country areas for Professional Development courses at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music.

Q: Many of our alumni from Bathurst Teachers' College went to regional areas to teach. Away from the big centres there are far fewer opportunities for Professional Development. What other outreach programs do the Performing Arts Unit conduct?

A: Apart from the ones already mentioned, we go out to the regional centres such as Dubbo to conduct courses, with teachers from outlying areas travelling in. We take ensembles out on tour and conduct master classes for students and teachers.

Q: Anecdotal evidence suggests that much of the music taught in schools is now 'user pays'. How are students in disadvantaged areas catered for?

A: There are recorder and choir performance opportunities which are very well-utilised in metropolitan and surrounding regions. Unfortunately for those students further away it is still expensive as it involves transport and accommodation costs if the students wish to attend. The Unit also runs choirs, orchestras and a symphonic wind ensemble.

Susan was in Bundanoon when this interview took place, acting as one of three tutors for members of The Sydney Society of Recorder Players, gathered for a weekend of music-making. She concluded her interview with a heart-warming story of the power of music to cross language barriers.

Susan: In 2009, a student orchestra from Mainland China had been driven straight from Sydney Airport to a combined rehearsal for a piece they were performing at the Opera House with the orchestra at Newtown Performing Arts High School. When the rehearsal was over the students, without any direction from their supervisors, shuffled round from the places they

had been assigned, and reorganised themselves in each of the instrumental sections according to need, all without being able to communicate except with signs and gestures. This was followed by an impromptu jam session, watched with some alarm by the Chinese teachers accompanying the students, but thoroughly enjoyed by all the participants. The concert in the Opera House which followed was a resounding success.

Music in our Schools Today – Alan Beggs reflects

Both Peter Wilson and Susan Sukkar's account of their work in the training and support for teachers of music cannot fail to impress us. As well, most teachers have access to online support in music programs and support from their school communities and other teachers. It seems that music education has certainly moved on from the fifties and sixties.

However, along with the other areas of creative arts, there are difficulties facing the teaching of music. The Music Council of Australia claims that only two schools in ten are able to offer effective music education and the Arts Council of Australia wants more attention to the teaching of the creative arts, including music. Teachers report that since 2007 there have been increased demands from authorities for extra time to be spent on literacy and numeracy. Add to this the move for greater power to be granted to principals, which has the potential to put more pressure on the arts, especially if school budgets are tightened.

Finally, there is the perennial problem of every primary teacher having either the confidence or the desire to teach all the creative arts (music, visual art, dance, drama.) Is the expectation too great? A report by Pascol, 2005, in *Early Childhood Australia*, indicated that of a cross section of 19 teachers from independent and government schools in a northern NSW region, only about 20% said that they were confident in teaching music. Of course, this is far too small a sample to be regarded as an indicator, but it does pose the question – back in the fifties and sixties dreamtime, how confident were we about our music teaching? How well resourced? Did we use the recorder? How many of us were competent in playing any other musical instrument? Were all the young women who taught infants competent in playing the piano? Did every school have a piano? Was there a school choir? How many of us relied on the school broadcast? What about those lonely souls in the one teacher school? And did the inspector ask us to give a music lesson, or did we give one anyway?

I'm sure many of us have memories, mostly happy ones, of our experiences in teaching music. We would love to share them with others. Let's hear from you. And we would all like to believe that the

teaching of music remains an integral part of the curriculum, with every school well resourced, not just the more affluent ones.

If you would like to share your experiences of teaching music or would like to tell us how you are pursuing musical interests post school, email any of the Editorial Committee.

Carole Goodwin: carole9999@virginbroadband.com.au

Denise Cramsie: dlcramsie@netspace.net.au

Alan Beggs: alandbarb1@optusnet.com.au

REPORT ON OPEN GARDEN WEEKEND 2012

What an amazing start to the Open Garden event – a 30°C Thursday was followed by a snow storm on the Friday, which closed all the roads in the Upper Blue Mountains! One person braved the elements to visit on that day. The garden looked like fairyland but conditions were slippery to say the least. However, in true fashion for the Mountains, the weather changed for the better for the following three days.



So many people commented on the peaceful atmosphere of the garden and lingered for quite some time either sitting taking in the view or enjoying a Devonshire tea on the lawn. It was interesting to note the number of overseas travellers who found their way to the garden and even more rewarding to hear their comments of appreciation.

Though a bit disappointing after all the preparation involved, the proceeds of the event realised \$1900. A big thank you goes to all the volunteers who helped before, during and after the event. Great work! Will we do it again – who knows?

At the BTCAA Committee Meeting held on 17th November, a grateful vote of thanks was passed for all the effort Gail has put in to help with fundraising.. Even a heavy snowfall was not allowed to hamper her efforts.

CONTINUING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

After formally retiring from teaching, many of our Alumni are continuing to make a difference in the field of Education. One such is Patrick Connolly (BTC 1958-59) who has just returned from a TALIS (Teaching and Learning International Survey) 2013 Conference in Amsterdam which he attended along with representatives from Chile, Malaysia, Singapore, Finland and Japan.

So, what is TALIS?

It is the first and only international survey on the conditions of teaching and learning. TALIS fills important information gaps in the international comparisons of education systems. It offers an opportunity for teachers and school principals to give their input into education analysis and policy development in some key policy areas. Cross-country analysis from TALIS allows countries to identify other countries facing similar challenges and to learn from other policy approaches. These briefs will provide policy makers, school leaders and teachers alike with a unique perspective on the experiences of teachers in schools around the world.

Who is surveyed?

TALIS 2013 – the second cycle – surveys teachers of lower secondary education and the principals of the schools in which they work. In addition, countries have an option to expand the survey to elementary and upper secondary schools.

How is TALIS carried out?

Separate questionnaires for teachers and principals are developed by international experts in the TALIS Instrument Development Expert Group. Questionnaires are discussed throughout their development with participating countries and teacher representative bodies, in particular the Trade Union Advisory Council (TUAC) at the OECD.

Each questionnaire takes about 45 minutes to complete. The TALIS survey can be completed on line or with pencil and paper. The survey responses are entirely confidential and at no time are the names of individual teachers, principals or schools identified.

Within participating countries, schools as well as teachers within schools are randomly selected to take part in TALIS. For each country – except for smaller countries – some 200 schools and 20 teachers within each of these schools are sampled.

Which countries will participate?

33 countries are taking part in the second round of TALIS. The following OECD countries or regions have already joined TALIS 2013:

Australia, Belgium (Flanders), Canada (Alberta), Chile, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom (England) and United States.

In addition, the following non-member economies will take part in the survey: Brazil, Bulgaria, Croatia, Latvia, Malaysia, Romania, Serbia, Singapore and United Arab Emirates.

What is the focus?

TALIS 2013 has a strong focus on teachers' professional context and the conditions of the learning environments in which they teach. TALIS 2013 will focus on:

- Teacher training and professional development
- Teachers' appraisal and feedback
- School climate
- School leadership
- Teachers' instructional beliefs
- Teachers' pedagogical practices

Patrick adds that being an international survey the whole process is over a five year period and divided into two time frames; the southern hemisphere countries will complete the survey by the end of 2012 and the northern hemisphere countries will conduct their surveys during February and March 2013.

The other important component of the survey is that, regardless of the language the survey is conducted in, the final results and report are in English. In countries where English is not the first language these countries have what they call Language Verifiers, whose task it is to translate the survey findings into English. As a result the final analysis and report is truly equitable and international.

"My role in this process is as the IQCM (International Quality Control Monitor) for Australia.

Following the September meeting in Amsterdam I will now consult with ACER's National Project Manager, and together, we will:

1. randomly select about 20 schools Australia wide,
2. visit each of these schools during Term 4 to follow up the survey process
3. formulate a report for the OECD which will be included in the national report, which in turn becomes part of the final International TALIS Report to be published sometime in 2014."

For more information on this project, visit: www.oecd.org/education/preschoolandschool/oecdteachingandlearninginternationalsurveytalishome.htm

Congratulations to Lewis (Lew) Ford (BTC Pioneer 1951-52)

Lew Ford's long-standing contribution to disadvantaged students has been recognised by The Australian College of Educators (NSW Inner City Region). The College is a prestigious professional association of leading educators across Australia. Each year the NSW Inner City Region presents the Ralph Rawlinson Perpetual Award in the category: Education for Disadvantaged Students.

Since retirement as a High School Principal, in 1992, Lew has been involved, as a volunteer, in a number of programs designed to assist disadvantaged students, together with their teachers and parents. These programs include home-school liaison work, helping children with problems of adjustment and learning. He works collaboratively with their parents and their teachers providing much needed support, knowledge and guidance.

The Award was made to Lew: *"in recognition of his outstanding and sustained commitment to the education of disadvantaged students, and in particular for his volunteer work with Mental Illness Education – Australia and the Black Dog Institute as a presenter of the Insight Program for the last twelve years."*

ROYCE LEVI

REUNIONS, BOTH PLANNED AND UNEXPECTED

A Meeting at Sea

Recently while cruising on the MV 'Athena' up to Japan then home to Fremantle (WA), on the last leg of this 38-day voyage(from Sabah to Fremantle) we were seated one day for lunch with Maureen and Patrick Bourke. Both gave interesting lectures throughout the cruise. Discussing the cold days we experienced at most of Japan's ports I mentioned my memories of cold icy grey days at Bathurst Teachers College (53/54). Suddenly Maureen turned, giving me a High Five! Maureen Flanagan (Broken Hill) attended BTC 1960/61. Imagine a mini-BTC-reunion on the Indian Ocean. Certainly it was a pleasant interlude of exchanging fine memories of a great learning centre for student teachers. Regards to the 53/54's

JUNE SPITTLE (BARTLETT)

No Ghost Was There

Ben Chifley's ghost, or should it be poltergeist, did not appear at Benedict House in Queanbeyan

during the Southern Region's annual get together lunch last July. The mother of Ben who was strongly associated with our alma mater's area lived with the Good Samaritan sisters of the Benedictine Order at St Benedict convent for some time in the early 1880s. When her son was born Mary Anne, née Corrigan, named him Joseph Benedict in memory of the convent. Not to be outdone, in the early 1990s P.M. Paul Keating bought the former convent with the intention of making it into a conservatorium of music. These associations warmed the hearts of those former members of one of Australia's "militant" trade unions, the NSW Teachers' Federation, especially those who had also belonged to the TTA; remember it?

However, the alumni members present on the day were far more active than any ghost and enjoyed the lunch, companionship and travel quiz. It was the ninth annual get together with several members, Carol Moore, Ruth Schwensen (Dearle) and Gail Metcalfe, current treasurer of our Alumni Association, attending for their first time. The other sixteen guests were Reg Halliburton 52/3 and Jan; from 56/7 Danny Mahar, Nancy Booth, Leon and Robyn Brett, Gordon and Dianne Stewart, Isobel and Max Wykes, Dia and Wolf Wender; Rob and Bev Thomson 59/60; Helen Cody 60/1; Lyn Gorrie 63/4. Nine apologies were received.

Some quotes from famous figures set the mood for the afternoon, such as:

"He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire." *Winston Churchill*

"He is simply a shiver looking for a spine to run up." *Paul Keating*

"Some cause happiness wherever they go; others, whenever they go." *Oscar Wilde*

"I've had a perfectly wonderful evening. But this wasn't it." *Groucho Marx*

The notice of the function invited members to bring their passports. This was a subtle or maybe obtuse way of suggesting a travel quiz similar to the one introduced by Bill Thompson and Robert Burney in 2008 at Bateman's Bay. Only a few passports were produced and the owners were rewarded for their response.

Nine iconic colour photos of Australian tourist attractions had to be identified by pairs of contestants. Many were quickly named but the one of Siberian huskies sled dog touring at Dinner Plain in the alpine region of northeast Victoria confounded contestants. Pleas that it was a mistake and taken in Canada fell on the judge's deaf ears. Not surprisingly Gail easily recognised the Fairmont Resort hotel in Leura. For those who preferred "chalk and talk" without pictures eight verbal questions asked, for example, "Which is the southern-most lighthouse on mainland

Australia?" and "Iona is a small island off the west coast of which country?" The winners of this year's travel quiz, Helen and Lyn, graciously accepted their prizes.

Bill Thompson has offered to organise next year's get together in the Shoalhaven, probably at "Coolangatta Village" restaurant, about seven kilometres from Nowra on the last Wednesday in July 2013 which will be the 31st. His contact is: email- billnjune@shoalhaven.net.au, phone- 4421 4780, address- 18 Phillip Drive North Nowra 2541. Otherwise: Reg Halliburton - jan.reg@bigpond.net.au; phone- 6297 1859.

REG HALLIBURTON



A Meeting in the Blue Mountains

The inaugural get-together of BTC AA in the Blue Mountains was not big on numbers, (photo above) but we hope to have a much larger roll-up in 2013. Proposed date: Wednesday 29th May 2013 at the Lawson Hotel (just opposite the railway station.) All Alumni welcome. Enquiries: Carole Goodwin: carole9999@virginbroadband.com.au
Gail Metcalfe: gailmetcalfe@bigpond.com

1962/1963 BTC Session Reunion

A small organising committee has settled on a date for the 50 Year Anniversary of the 1962/3 Session of BTC "going out into the big world": It will be the weekend of **Friday 7 to Sunday 9 February 2014**.

The event will include a range of activities (still being planned) but will be based around the Charles Sturt University at Bathurst. Members of that Session are asked to note the date in their Diary, and try to leave that weekend free.

Our Session consisted of 183 young men and women, and we have been able to track down 181 of those. Does anyone have any clues to help us locate **Ngaere Pownall** and **Janet Parkin**? Surely someone must know something about their family, friends or schools that would put us on the path to

locate these two ladies, and if so we'd love to hear from you soon

To ensure that no-one is missed off next year's mail-outs for this Anniversary, please advise Bruce Fairhall of any change of email or mail address. Bruce can be contacted at:

Email: bruce@fairhall.id.au or **Mail:** Post Office Box 833, Dapto NSW 2530.

TONY LANE and BRUCE FAIRHILL
for the Organising Committee

50th Reunion 1964-65

Plans and organisation for a 50th reunion in 2014 of the 1964-65 BTC cohort are progressing well. For further details, Please contact David Bales on (02) 4328-1638 or via email at sdbales@gmail.com.

This group is already having meetings to plan their big event, as can be seen by the photo below.



PIONEERS 51-52, if we have an informal reunion in May 2013, would you be interested?
Julia Noon (02) 9858 1816, juliadnoon@gmail.com
Ralph (02) 9743 4117

As we go to print, the **1961/62** cohort has just celebrated their 50th reunion and we hope for a detailed report in our next issue.

The 9th Informal Regular Get-Together of **BTC 1957-58** will also just have taken place.

The Passing of Lawrence Robert Flynn

1 June 1924 – 6 July 2012

**First President of the BTC Student
Representative Council**

Former students of Bathurst Teachers College were saddened to hear of the death of Lawrie Flynn on Friday, July 6. Lawrie will be remembered always, from those first years of the College, as a caring and quietly courageous supporter of his fellow students, especially the younger ones,

many of whom were experiencing their first years away from home.

Always a role model, in teaching as in life, Lawrie with his wife June (nee Scifleet and a fellow student of BTC in Lawrie's time) remain, in the minds of those of us who were there with them, as sources of reassurance and strength to keep on with the learning struggle.

Lawrie and June's children: Cathy, Robert, Jo, Marie, Anthony, Chris, and Paul (who died in a road accident many years ago) are a tribute to the love of Lawrie and June for each other, and to the strength of their fine family. June and her children can be assured that they are very secure, with Lawrie, in the hearts and memories of many people.

A Special Fifties Wedding - Lawrie and June



60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to James (BTC 51-52) and Muriel Waddell who were married at Christchurch St Lawrence, Sydney, August 1952.



This was the first BTC Wedding.

Jim, who had studied the special course for small or one teacher schools in his second year of training, reasoned that if they were married before his graduation later in the year the Dept. of Education would appoint him to a school with a residence. He

was right! His first appointment was Tibooburra!

Jim is well remembered as a talented pianist and as our first modern major-general in the college production of the "Pirates of Penzance." Both he and Muriel have been regular attendees at Pioneers' Reunions and Alumni Association functions. They have been living in Wagga Wagga for some years.

ROYCE LEVI

NEWS FROM CSU

Bathurst Teacher's College Alumni Fundraising

The Bathurst Teacher's College Alumni Fund currently sits at \$28,145.55. This is a wonderful effort by the Alumni Association and is a great credit to all who have donated over the years. This money currently supports a BTCA Scholarship for a Charles Sturt University student. The BTCA Scholarship is currently being advertised to CSU students via the CSU web site www.csu.edu.au/scholarships. First preference is given to a first year student studying any course in the Faculty of Education (including Distance Education) at any campus, but widens to include students studying in any year at any campus, provided they are family members of a BTC graduate.

If you are aware of an eligible person who is considering enrolling in a course at CSU in 2013, please encourage them to apply via the CSU web site. The closing date for new students is 10 February 2013.

All members of the BTC are encouraged to continue to send your gift for support to the BTCA Fund to the **Charles Sturt University Foundation Trust c/o PO Box 883 Orange 2800 NSW**. Alternatively, you can make an online donation at: <http://alumni.csu.edu.au/get-involved/supporting-csu>, select the **Bathurst Teacher's College Alumni Fund**.

CSU Academic Education Research - Learning to Know and Do

Starting with recognition of what students 'know' and 'can do', a CSU academic explains how research can impact teaching, and vice versa, in modern Australian education.

CSU education researcher and lecturer Dr Noella Mackenzie gets back to foundational knowledge when she starts on a new teaching or research project.



“In my research and my teaching, I start with what students ‘know’ and ‘can do’. All new learning builds on existing knowledge and experience,” Dr Mackenzie said.

“However, sometimes when a student moves from one situation to another, say from preschool to school or from high school or work or university, what they bring with them is not always fully recognised or valued.”

According to Dr Mackenzie, relationships between teachers and students are a key to successful learning at all levels.

“Sometimes the phrase ‘meeting of minds’ is used to describe how teachers and students must connect for effective learning to take place. This is evident both in my research findings and my daily experiences of teaching at Charles Sturt University,” said Dr Mackenzie.

After a long career in teaching in schools and in educational consultancy, Dr Mackenzie greatly values opportunities for student teachers to work with teachers in schools.

“In one literacy subject I teach, student teachers spend time in classrooms as teachers’ aids and create digital stories to reflect the pupils’ developing understandings. This allows student teachers to build on what they know and can do, utilising their knowledge of technology to demonstrate their developing knowledge of how to teach literacy.

In 2001, Dr Mackenzie was recognised for her work with students and teachers in the NSW Department of Education and Communities, receiving an Education Minister’s award for teaching excellence.

STACEY FISH



“THE STORY OF THREE COLLEGES”

by Theo Barker

Free copies still available to Alumni

Simply write your name and postal address and include \$10 for package and posting to Helen Egan,
8 Gladstone Ave Mosman 2088.

The book gives an interesting account of the Experiment Farm, Bathurst Teachers’ College and Mitchell College of Advanced Education from 1895-1987 written by well-known historian and lecturer Theo Barker.

On the following page you will see the invitation to the BTCAA Annual General Meeting for 2013. As the Association is solely funded by contributions from its members, the Committee has decided to put the notice of motion below to the meeting. So come and have your say in the delightful and easily accessible Castlereagh Boutique Hotel, just a few steps from Town Hall Station, Sydney

NOTION OF MOTION TO AGM

That BTCAA introduce a membership fee of \$25 p.a. which will include subscription to *Panorama*.

FRIENDSHIP

Catch up with old friends and meet new ones

LUNCH

Saturday 23 February 2013
on 4th Floor

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

GUEST SPEAKER

to be advised

\$50 p.p.

*Please send payment with the slip below and a stamped, self-addressed envelope to:
Mrs Gail Metcalfe (Treasurer), 14 Banksia Park Rd, Katoomba 2780
to arrive by: Monday 18th February 2013*

I enclose payment of \$50pp for _____ person/s to attend the BTCAA Lunch on Saturday 23 February 2013.

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 when depositing directly to the BTCAA Bank Account

Name: _____ BTC Year: _____

Address: _____

I require a receipt Yes / No (Please circle)

