

BKTC G&F Newsletter



BKTC G&F - a Chapter of QUT Alumni

The Brisbane Kindergarten Teachers College Newsletter brings into contact graduates and friends who have joined this Chapter because they continue to value teaching approaches that were actively promoted within BKTC from 1911 to 1981. The Chapter aims to highlight the ways in which BKTC graduates have contributed to the health, education and well-being of so many Queensland families raising young children.

Gail Halliwell Editor

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Download a colour version of this Newsletter. Go to:

<http://www.alumni.qut.edu.au/networking/chapters/bktc.jsp>

Our thanks to QUT Alumni staff who print and mail this Newsletter for our Chapter.

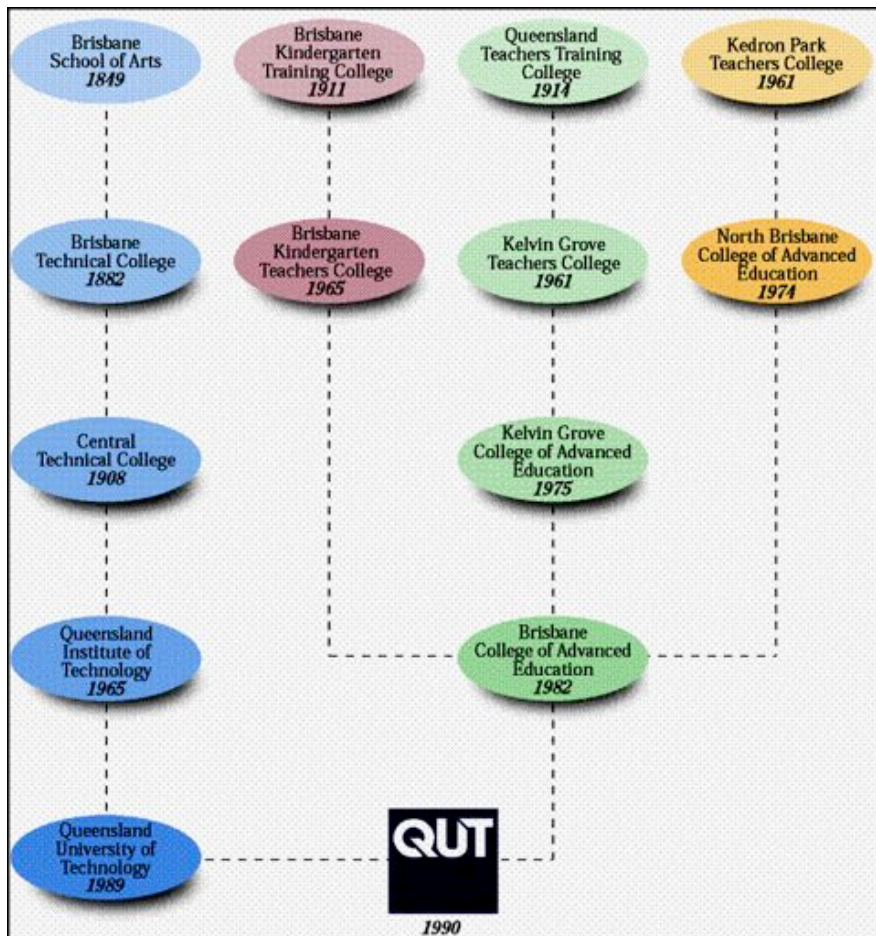


MEMBERSHIP 2009-2011

The BKTC Grads & Friends - a Chapter of the QUT Alumni is working towards a celebration of the centenary of the establishment of BKTC in 1911.

As an incentive to BKTC graduates and friends interested in supporting this 2011 celebration, we are offering a SPECIAL THREE YEAR MEMBERSHIP FEE of THIRTY FIVE DOLLARS (\$35.00) to cover 2009, 2010 & 2011. We hope that 2008 members will take advantage of this offer AND will encourage others to join us. We are working to create projects for 2011 that will ensure all QUT staff and students as well as the general public will become aware of the contribution that this foundational institution of QUT has made in graduating professionals that have provided quality education for children and families in Queensland.

In case you are wondering about your membership status, a list of current and recently financial members is included with the membership forms attached to this Newsletter. We've included two forms, so you can give or send one to others you know will want to see BKTC featured at QUT in 2011. The 2009 BKTC G&F Executive will soon begin promoting new projects to be developed in 2009 and 3010. We hope you find one that you would like to support.



BKTC is one of four foundational institutions of QUT.

AWARD FOR BILL DEANS

At the QUT Alumni AGM in October 2008, Bill Deans was awarded a QUT Alumni Service Award for his work as President of the BKTC Graduates & Friends, a Chapter of the QUT Alumni.

In nominating him for the award your BKTC G&F Executive said that Bill's foresight was evident in his advocacy for the interests of members of the BKTC G&F Association Inc. as we became part of the QUT Alumni. This was a tenuous time as we negotiated the rules and by-laws of two different bodies. We now have a home within QUT Alumni where we are understood and supported. Bill ensured that we are valued contributors and commentators in our own right.

Always working on our behalf, Bill put in the groundwork that allows us to continue today. He was the first president of our group and a very effective one. He has given freely of his time to work on behalf of our shared interests.



Bill at the 2004 October Get-Together

(extract from QUT Alumni website) What is an Alumni Chapter

An Alumni chapter is a formal, organised association of alumni wishing to network with other QUT alumni for professional, industry, faculty, geographic or special interest purposes. An Alumni chapter needs to have, and to operate, according to a set of by-laws approved by QUT. These are overseen by a formal committee and by members who have been elected to official positions in that committee. The committee will be the body responsible for liaising with QUT Alumni staff, meeting QUT staff and assisting QUT from time to time.

JEAN FERGUSON OAM MEMORIAL LECTURE



The SEVENTH annual lecture was delivered on Tuesday 29 July 2008 at the Owen Wordsworth Rooms QUT Gardens Point campus.

This annual event honours the work of Jean Ferguson OAM, a BKTC graduate whose major contributions to Australian early childhood education are widely recognised.

Approximately seventy guests were in attendance.

It was pleasing to note that a number of teachers and teaching assistants from Brisbane early childhood centres were attracted to the event.





Professor Vi McLean AM, Dean of Teaching Quality QUT was Guest of Honour and she gave an address that made an excellent start to proceedings.

She was congratulated for her recent award of Member of the Order of Australia (AM).

This year Dr Rosemary Perry agreed to speak about her memories of working with Jean Ferguson, as student and as colleague. She shared fascinating anecdotes about her professional association with Jean over many years. Her reminiscences reminded the audience of practices and philosophies long associated with early childhood education. This prepared the audience for a lecture that looked back on practices associated with a fundamental tenet of the work of early childhood educators in the past and then looked at improving practices in the future.



Dr Susan Irvine, CEO of The Gowrie Inc., delivered the lecture titled:

Plan it ... but they might not come: Rethinking parent participation in the early years.

The lecture drew on findings from Sue's PhD thesis and the points raised stimulated interesting questions and much discussion afterward.

You can download the lecture. Type into your browser the web address shown on the Newsletter cover, or, wait for our next Newsletter which will include the lecture.

The seventh Jean Ferguson OAM Memorial lecture was organised by BKTC G&F Executive members Jennette Lavis OAM and Rosalie Raciti, and generously supported by QUT, the Child Watch committee of ECA Qld Branch and The Gowrie Qld inc, The parking provided at no cost by QUT was appreciated.

HONOURING BKTC GRADUATES

As our stories from graduates of the 1930s and 40s are beginning to show, government interest in bringing kindergarten philosophies and practices into school systems might have waxed and waned, but BKTC graduates became ambassadors for good practices with young children in the many rural centres where they resided and raised their own children. Below is our first oral history from a graduate of the next decade, the 1950s, a decade when the community kindergarten movement became the major area of growth for early education in Queensland.

From the Newsletter Editor Gail Halliwell

Val Gill [nee Jones] graduated 1950

Interviewed by Gail Halliwell on Saturday 28 June 2008



Val graduated at the end of 1950. She worked in Brisbane centres for the next three years, in New Zealand for three years, and in Gladstone for over twenty years.

Many of her Gladstone friends refer to her 'life's work' as her years as Director of the Gladstone Kindergarten but it really was much more than that, for she was instrumental in marshalling Gladstone residents to raise funds and obtain local government support for not one, not two, but three community kindergartens in Gladstone.

Since retiring from teaching in 1981, Val has maintained contacts with colleagues involved in early education, keeps a personal yet critical eye on educational quality in school and other programs for young children in Gladstone and continues to participate in various public works in her local community.

Gail: My first contact with Val was at the 2007 November QUT Golden Graduates morning tea. As I sat at the table for ten I was drawn towards this person who was reminiscing with another 1950s graduate about life as a kindergarten teacher. I made a note to myself that hers was a story to capture for this Newsletter.

In June this year my husband and I sailed into Gladstone in our trimaran and when I visited the library to use the internet, I found myself admiring a craft display and one of the artists was Val Gill. It was obviously a sign that I should try to get Val to agree to be interviewed. A telephone call and much encouragement from me led to agreement.

We met on Auckland Hill overlooking Gladstone Harbour, sitting in the sun with birds singing so loudly that sometimes they drowned out our voices as I found when I tried to transcribe the tape. Val is a great story-teller and I've tried to capture some of that below.

Val's involvement with early education 1948-2008

Val grew up in Gladstone, where she attended primary school with her younger brother, her father ran his business and both mother and father were active in local government and social activities.

Gail – Val, what led you to travel to Brisbane in 1948 to study at BKTC?

Well this takes us back to World War II and the threat of Japanese invasion of a town situated on a harbour. Schools were being closed here in Gladstone, and dad packed my mother and brother and me off to Victoria to his brother and some close friends. We lived there for a year and I was ready for secondary education. I was booked to go to Glennie in Toowoomba but we weren't coming back to Gladstone at that time as the War threat was still pretty intense, so I went up to C.E.G.G.S. at Ballarat. Dad's friends were involved with Ballarat Grammar School having sent their daughters there also one son who was serving in the Middle East at that time. We drove up to the school and had a look around and Mum - I don't know what she did - wrote letters I suppose, sent photos and prospectus up to Dad. He said, "If you feel that is right for Val put her in." "That's how I ended up starting my secondary education as a boarder there, and then when the War settled down I ended up staying until I matriculated.

I could only come home for Christmas holidays because you could only get a train permit to travel once a year. When the war ended mum and dad in their wisdom wanted me to come back here to finish my schooling but I resisted so they decided to leave me there. I was really pleased because oh, you know, I was a full on sort of person and those five years were very important years for me.

Anyway when I came home for Christmas after five years away at school, the family rented a shack on Boyne Island where everybody we knew had summer holidays. Today Gordon and I own that shack on the beach and I still love going there. That year we had torrential rain for days and days and all our clothes were wet and mildewed. When we came up to Gladstone to put them through mum's washing machine mum started on – you know Val, the academic year is about to begin and you should be doing something. So I signed up with a chemist friend of theirs, Bill Barker, to start my apprenticeship with him.

A bit later I said, "I don't think I want to do pharmacy mum". She probably could have throttled me but she didn't sound too upset. She went away and came back later to say, "You know I went to a careers thing once with rotary and I've got some pamphlets". She brought them out and one was on kindergarten training. She wondered if I'd like that. I thought or maybe I said, "I don't know much about little children but they might be interesting".

Then, because the academic year was beginning two days hence, she did something that we never did in those days, she rang up and got Elizabeth Faddis, the Principal, on the phone and said that she had this daughter she wanted to do something with. It was soon clear that academically I had all the subjects I needed. When Elizabeth asked, "Can she sing in toon (tune)?" her American accent amused Mum, but she said, "Yes she can sing in tune." - "Does she play a musical instrument? – "Yes she has her letters on piano."

So I was accepted and I got put on the train that same afternoon, the old Rockie mail train that traveled overnight to Brisbane. I arrived the next morning and went to see the powers that be. After an interview they said that they'd accept me. So I said, "Well where's my

bed?" It was out on that veranda part of the old house [Wauna]. I was on the outside the first year, and in the second year I got into one of the inside rooms with two beds - things progress don't they?

The college building had another similar building on the right hand side, the city side, and that was the Friendly Society Hospital. It was on a bigger block than the college site. Blamey Street was all houses then .. And there were two schools.

I stayed there for the three years of study. Staff lived in as well. The big room in the front was adapted by C&K. Joan Cass from England lived there and she had her own room plus bathroom. Elisabeth Faddis lived there too and one other lecturer - other than those three it was all students. We all ate together downstairs in the main dining room and we got to know these staff very well .. and I suppose they got to know us very well too. There were fifteen to eighteen people living there at a time I guess. We had students a year ahead and a year behind and lecturers came and went.

The photo opposite shows Miss Stamp on the left and Miss Faddis on the right. I can't remember the name of the lecturer in the middle.



It was a lovely close knit little society that supported us, encouraged us and of course C&K in those days was such a great charitable organization. It depended on this as there was very little government funding so we were all indoctrinated in the need to press the cause, to go and help raise money which we did very happily because we felt it was our duty, our duty of care .. so we got on with it. I don't see too much of that among current graduates .. I guess times have changed.

That sense of a duty of care really came from within the C&K people, they were modelling and we were learning a way of acting. It was part of a philosophy of how families should be, and also, because a lot of the kindergartens we were going to go into just after the war served migrant mothers, we were also taught to be responsible for them, for their welfare. So we extended our vision further than perhaps a lot of people our age .. we were working in a different field, and the desire to do that was strong ..

Gail: I'm remembering your comment earlier that at 18 as you considered BKTC you 'didn't know much about children but they might be interesting.' Three years later, you have internalized the belief that you have responsibilities to and must work for families as well as young children. I've noted so many of the 30s and 40s graduates I've interviewed make similar comments.

Well it was a very satisfactory experience for me, those three years at college. Also, I liked that I gained confidence in leadership among my peers. We had an election at the beginning of each year, and I was elected president of first year and then second year. That year, 1949, Peggy Banff was college president and she was in her third year. At Peggy's graduation I was

to become college president. I can always remember, I'll never forget, the graduation ceremony down at New Farm, down .. [in that building, a soldier's thing from the war, down on the river, anyway that's where the graduation was] and Peggy had to officially hand over to me as the incoming president. A UQ professor came to hand out certificates. I had to give a little speech and to learn it I used to sit in the bath, in the middle of house and all my friends used to hear me. So off we went for this grad night and everything was going well until in my anxiety as I got ready to give my speech, I looked across at the professor's wife and I thought, "oh she's got a neck like a goanna," and I began to laugh to myself and I shuffled my foot and knocked the microphone and then I nearly forgot the speech! I did recover and all was well – but it is a funny memory for me.

We started in 1948 with thirteen girls. We lost one girl at the end of the first year because her mother was very ill and subsequently died, then we lost another about midway so we finished with eleven graduates. Many married soon after so most had a short teaching career.



Photo taken in 1948 near the College - lots of trees then. It was the end of our first year at BKTC.

I remember that it was the tradition then for the director of your final year at prac to give you your bouquet. We wore white frocks, like debutante frocks, and parents came and we had a Ball following the presentation. I have a Courier Mail photo, I should have it somewhere. It's interesting how we value such things now more than when we were younger.

1951-52-53 teaching in C&K centres in Brisbane

My first year as teacher was at the Valley, it was a Crèche as well as a Kindergarten in those days, with long hours, children having their dinner there at night. We used to feed them

before they went home, well it was late afternoon I suppose. They had a carefully prepared meal in the middle of the day. We had a cook and that sort of thing. Children got fed again before they went home, because their mothers didn't finish in the factories until very late. The children were just bathed and put to bed when they went home. Some were single supporting mothers, a lot were migrants coming out here to make their way in the world. They have contributed a lot haven't they?

The mothers had to pay for the Crèche hours out of their wages in the factories, whether they were being paid for sewing on buttons or machining, everybody paid the same amount. There was no consideration, as there might be today, to their circumstances.



This photo shows the kindergarten group at Valley in 1951 with myself in the middle at the back, other staff are Jeanette Linedale and Mary ..

After my first year at the Valley, I went to Fiveways Kindergarten at Woolloongabba as the Director. The building later became a Police Youth Club but now all that area is changed. We took children from six weeks of age at that centre. All my staff were old enough to be my mother when I went there as director. There never had been a director as young as me when they put me there, but I managed. We had a good relationship among us all, all these people old enough to be my mother. Lil Sweitzer was the Matron and she had been there a long

time. She was of German descent and she had very definite ideas. She would come down to the kindergarten at 9 o'clock and pick up all the little kids that had to go up to the Creche. We'd keep the others down the bottom, then we'd traipse upstairs for the mid day meal then down again and then late in the afternoon, after my staff had finished, the remaining children would go back up to her and stay with her until the mothers collected them.

So she was well qualified? Yes she had a lot of nursing experience, and was used to being in charge of people and very responsible. It didn't take long before we became and remained very good friends.

1954-55 -56

I left Fiveways in 1954 to go to New Zealand on a working holiday with a friend called Marie Powell, from Ashgrove, she was in our year and we used to do things together. I suggested to her that we might try a working holiday in NZ and she was enthusiastic. We sent over our credentials to see if we would be able to get work and found we could. We accepted some appointments but we gave ourselves a three months buffer from when we went there which was at the beginning of winter - we had a good look at NZ and then we took up the teaching appointments in Auckland.

I soon found that my glowing references from C&K had resulted in an appointment that was not so good for a tourist wanting to learn about Auckland. I was appointed as director at Glenedin, thirteen miles from the Auckland GPO with an hourly bus service, and we lived on the other side of Auckland. Marie got an assistant job in the big main kindergarten in the middle of Queen St, Auckland. Marie wanted to come home at the end of the year as she'd arranged to go to England. I stayed on.

I went down to Wellington, but that was the only kindergarten in all my life that I've never been totally happy in. It didn't jell for me. During this time I'd fallen in love with a New Zealander. I came home to get married and then went back. Then I had Pete, my son. Unfortunately the marriage wasn't to be so Pete and I came home in 1956 when he was about 18 months old. Life was pretty hard for me then. The failed marriage was a major trauma, not the sort of thing that was accepted as it is today. It was almost a stigma, even though I hadn't done anything. So anyway I came home and lived with mum and dad in Harbour Terrace for a good while. I created a whole new garden around the house and looked after Peter. He was my legal responsibility - I had gone to a solicitor and arranged to have that legal responsibility. I thought that was the best way to go.

And time went on, I had friends with children and they'd come to play, but I wanted more - I wanted Pete to have preschool education didn't I? So I started talking with mutual friends with children saying, "you know we really should try to build a kindergarten." They'd say, "Oh Val how would you do that?" I'd say, "Well you've got me, that's a start, all we need is a building." And .. "Yeah that's a good idea."

We had a mayor at the time called Jack O'Malley, who'd been a meat worker, and who wanted Gladstone to have all the things that were good for people. I would see him quite often at functions - we were a well-known family, with a business [P.M. Jones Newsagent and Stationer] in the main street - so I had a chance to talk with him quite a few times. I remember often saying, "Mr. O'Malley we need a kindergarten here for children." "Yes Val, why? I'd give him all my reasons - It was not just for my Peter but for the community."

Then I got more formal about it and wrote him a letter. You know I've still got the print of that at home on that funny green paper you used to put behind paper on the typewriter. I asked, could a public meeting perhaps be called to test the waters, to see if we were capable of building a kindergarten in Gladstone, capable of doing this.

It was the end of 1957 into 1958 when we started working for the kindergarten. In the beginning we had people, especially the older generation, saying, "Those mothers should stay home and look after their children Val. I'd say, "No, the children need lots of times with their mothers and that's very, very important but what about all this interaction, learning through play?" They'd say "learning through play?" and off I'd go. I was good at that. I'd got lots of practice. But people finally gave support when it seemed like a real proposition.

Anyway, the mayor was most enthusiastic so we began working on the idea. It took months, but finally we had a public meeting, The local newspaper, The Observer, called a public meeting in the old town hall, in that front room that is part of the art gallery today. It had a big wooden table and heavy wooden chairs. At that meeting a committee was formed for the establishment of the Gladstone Kindergarten. Mr O'Malley was the first chairman, and we had a very willing group of people, I lined up all the likely people I could think of, attempted to brainwash them a bit, and it was a totally positive thing all round. That was the start.

Land was the next thing. Gladstone then had a population of 6000 people. There wasn't a lot of vacant land that was suitable. I kept looking and looking and then one day when I was puzzling about this with Mr. O'Malley he said, "Val there's this land down in Auckland St. That's state government land I know, I've seen it on government documents." So he checked it out and in little writing at the bottom of the page it said, 'Keep for educational purposes.' He proceeded to explore this next time he went to Brisbane, talking to people in the right offices, it took a while but finally he convinced them - as we'd by then raised a good lot of money and we'd approached Ken Drewe about plans if we could get some land.

Ken Drewe was an old Gladstone boy, a bit older than me. His father was the manager of the meat works out where Queensland Alumina is now and we knew the family very well, my mother was friends with his mother. He went off and did architecture in Brisbane and when we wanted to build Gladstone Kindergarten and were mustering up friends and acquaintances, Max Friend said, "Oh what about Ken Drewe he's a pretty well established architect in Brisbane now." I think we wrote him a letter, you did that in those days, and he said yes he'd design a kindergarten for Gladstone. So he came up and we talked and he did the plans.

After that the C&K asked him to design the new Valley C&K centre. So that was a good thing I felt. He took a lot of interest, he'd never had anything to do with kindergartens before then, didn't understand the needs, but he went about it very scientifically and he contacted Peggy and talked with lots of people before he ran his ideas past them, so he did pretty well. I don't know whether after he did the Valley he did any more C&K work.

Peggy Banff came up to see the site for the kindergarten, she'd been involved in the planning of course, making input from the C&K point of view. She stayed for a couple of days with my parents and me at Harbour Terrace, and that was wonderful. Now my Peter he just loved her - he was just a little bloke - he used to do her drawings and paintings and send them to Brisbane. She'd hang them up in the C&K office, in that little old funny office they had back then on the hill going up from the city. So if I went to Brisbane and popped in I used to see

Pete's work from when he was a little bloke. Peggy didn't come up when we had the official opening of the kindergarten, she was busy for some reason but she came up quite often. We had a strong bond as we'd been students together at college. She was older than me as she'd served in W.W.II. She'd come to college as a Rehabilitation student.

All proceeded in an orderly fashion. I went up to the Bank of New South Wales, where I knew the manager, made an appointment, and he said, "Good morning Val." and I said, "I want to build a kindergarten and I want money from you." I'd had a builder look at the plans and give an estimate which was about 3000 pounds and that was a lot of money in those days .. So I said, "I'll want at least 3000 as we'll need to put money into equipment .. We can't have children there with no equipment." So he said, "Well you get ten guarantors and I'll give you a loan." I said, "I'll start with my father, put P.M. Jones down and I'll go away to find the rest." So I did the rounds of Dad's friends and it took a day and a half. So back I went to the bank and we signed up for the committee.

The builder, George Young was a truly wonderful man. He did a lot of things for people in this community. We wanted him to build it. He costed it at 3, 463 pounds and that was more than the 3,000 pounds. He said, "Look Val, I'll build it and you people can pay me the rest when you've got the money." I said, "Yes." He offered me his hand and we shook hands and off he went to build the kindergarten.

So we got busy then, we paid him back in about four and a half years. We'd have a function every week, all the usual things and unusual as well. Then it got to once a fortnight then once a month to meet this commitment because we were determined to remove the commitment as soon as we could. Then we got to the children's fashion parade the annual things and we settled into that. But we were very fortunate in the support we got from the Gladstone community. We got the building well equipped.

Do you know when it opened, you'll laugh when I tell you this. It was on 11 July 1960 and that was my Peter's fifth birthday - so he got six months at kindergarten! We had an official opening at the end of that month, we had the Gladstone Municipal Band and the whole town came. It was a marvelous day. We'd asked the Governor to come and when he couldn't come we asked C&K. There was a Lady Eleanor Svarte with them at the time, I can't recall her function. We flew her up and she performed the official opening.

I was director of the kindergarten for twenty-one years until 1981. They were happy years. People say to me, Val that kindergarten was your life's work. Well it sort of is.

I remarried in 1964 and Gordon and I built our house at Roberts Street. Gordon was a grazier at the time, managing the family partnership property at Calliope. Sometimes I'd drive out to Diglum along 35 miles of dirt road at night. I would go out with Pete and all his mates in the school holidays. The family partnership for the property was dissolved about 1983 as the brothers all wanted to go their own ways. Gordon was quite heart broken. That's when he got involved in this shipping business. He started off with P&O as the manager of the slipway, then moved to the marina. He'd always loved the sea. He readjusted to living in my world when I'd been living in his and so we've gone merrily along.

Because of the influx that came with QAL (Queensland Alumina Limited), housing, everything was stretched to its limits - including our kindergarten. I had a waiting list of 365 children and I knew that those at the end of the list would never get to kindergarten. So I got

busy again. This was about 1966. I started with the dentist, Graham Wilson, Phyllis Robertson and others with the right sort of influence and thinking who would take up the call, "Hey we need another kindergarten." I guess I tried brainwashing a little, contacted others that I thought might be good committee material, went to friend Mr. O'Malley again and got another public meeting called. We got more land in a housing area in West Gladstone and the kindergarten was opened as a C&K affiliated centre in 1967.

But the town continued to grow and then I did it again - lined up some more people, had another public meeting and a third kindergarten committee was formed. It is still functioning today and Debbie Elliott was the first Director. She's still there - a bit like me. All three are affiliated. The names have changed though. West Gladstone is now called Biralee Kindergarten. The third one is called, Koolyangarra, an aboriginal word that means something to do with children.

I still go down to Gladstone Kindergarten every so often, when they have a function, like the opening of the bike track. They invited me and I went along, it's nice you know- they want a cake cut and they say Val would you like to come down and cut a cake? I just enjoy the lovely relaxed association with them and I just enjoy sitting on little chairs with children - it's special, it really is. It's a good kindergarten to this day,



Trends have changed, you know, and I sometimes I think, "Oh my goodness," but never say a word. Like the bike track. When the bike track was proposed, they had me down there last year to cut a cake or something and one of the men on the committee was so carried away with the idea of a bike track. I thought, 'concrete' and couldn't help myself, "Is it going to be concrete? Where is it going to be?" I envisaged it among the trees I'd spent so much time on and loved so much. They said, "Over in that corner that's not used much." Anyway they got a grant, a lot of

money, and he did a lot of the work and they had a big opening for it so they invited me to the opening and I went along. Well I decided it is a good thing, the kindergarten purchased a couple of tricycles and children are allowed to bring their own on one day a week and they've designed it so there are a couple of crossings where they've got to learn road safety so I'm convinced now it does serve a purpose.

Sometimes I wonder though - our training in those days was very thorough and it was a wonderful, life changing experience. Are the young ones today as thoroughly prepared?

I haven't had much to do with the State preschools or preps apart from taking my grand daughter on one day. It seemed all right. But one of my bandwagons is the sale of those State preschools. A couple here in Gladstone are for sale, yet every second week there is a hue and cry from people coming to Gladstone to work. They can't get their children into child care, kindergarten and so on.

Involvement in the QUT Golden Graduates morning tea:

Well they sent me an invitation to the very first one in 2000 – graduates of 1950. I've been to them all so far - and to me it's important. Last year 2007 was disappointing though, only myself and Margaret Jolley who we picked up at Noosa, Gordon drove us down, were there from our year. We have had more other years.

I think making our presence felt at these functions is worth while. I enjoy it, it is nice to touch base with those old roots, close bonds, especially with those who lived at college. I don't know how many of us were 'res' students, we'd all been to boarding school of course. The others were 'day girls'

Gail – I'm interested in those terms 'res students', 'day girls'. Another graduate of the nineteen forties talked of 'government girls'.

Yes now I can see that the line of demarcation was very strong. I'll tell you a funny story - last year when we were leaving the morning tea, we were moving towards the lift with some other ladies and I stepped aside a bit to let them go in, and they looked at my name tag and said, "Ah you're kindergarten graduates." We said with smiles, "Yes." They said, "Oh we remember you, you're the ones that used to parade up Victoria Park Road with great big handbags and gloves." And we did ... and they didn't. Marg and I were dumbfounded, we just stood and let them go their way.



Note from Editor: It would be wonderful to be able to interview all eleven graduates of 1950 wouldn't it?

Do YOU know a 1950s graduate who would be willing to share her experiences related to early education?

Members financial 2009-2011

Janice	Akes
Betty	Barnes
Frances	Clark
Marjorie	Cunningham
Anne	Dallas
Robyn	Davey
Rosemarie	Dawes
William	Deans
Christine	Denning
Mary	Elliott
Frances	Fitch
Deborah	Gahan
Jocelyn	Grant-Taylor
Gail	Halliwell
Susan	Hayne
Edna	Irwin
Juliette	Job
Christine	Larkin
Jennette	Lavis
Barbara	MacDiarmid
Joan	Macnaught
Marie	McMicking
Margaret	Moss
Giuseppina	Musumeci
Catherine	O'Connor
Mary	O'Sullivan
Althea	Pearson
Judith	Pfeffer
Pamela	Quinn
Rosalie	Raciti
Alison	Robson
Merelyn	Rostron
Margaret	Sear
Christine	Shackleton-Skuja
Sheree	Shannon
Denise	Sherwood
Margaret	Slaughter
Anne	Taylor
Robbie	Wensley
Susan	Whitaker
Vicki	Whittle

Members financial 2007 / 2008

Rhonda	Biggs
Lynette	Bower

Helen	Brandl
Beverley	Broughton
Joan	Bulcock
Susan	Campbell
Jan	Carnegie
Jennifer	Daniloff
Conny	Eba
Ann	Farrell
Dorothy	Graham-Wilson
Nieke	Groenenberg
Angela	Hack
Vicki	Hall
Valerie	Hall-Matthews
Carmel	Harrison
Margaret	Henry
Alice	Hodgson
Jennifer-Rose	Holmes
Margaret	Hudson
Helen	Kent
Debra	Kuether
Noelinda	Lawlor
Ruth	Lightbody
Ann	Lock
Belinda	Macartney
Mary	Mahoney
Jeanette	Martin
Isabell	Maynard
Betty	McCutchan
Pamela	McGahey
Jocelyn	Medhurst
Joanne	Moran
Susan	O'Dwyer
Penny	Palmer
Rosemary	Perry
Mary	Richardson
Marion	Russell
Marie	Tiley
Marjorie	Voss
Prue	Walsh
Kerryann	Walsh
Kim	Walters
Julie	Whiting
Therese	Wolters