

FROM THE RECORDING MADE at the October function

- I just remember the calibre of the lecturers we had. I remember Barbara Poulter organising us from the College to go out and help clean up after the '74 flood. Gloria Logan organised anyone who wanted to go to the Australian Education of the Arts Conference at the University of NSW. I went and Gough Whitlam was there as a guest speaker and we got to meet him.
- There were the music teachers like Mrs Lewis who taught Piano here and who got us playing and performing.
- The calibre of our lecturers like Anne Spooner our science teacher and her practical sense of inquiry and the confidence that they all gave us to encourage us to go out and do it.
- I remember doing the Christmas Pageant at the City Hall.
- Yes and I remember being the back of a horse.
- I was a lion one year.
- There was the time when they needed us to model in a fashion parade they had. I had to wear the 'scratchy' crimplene suit.
- I remember going to a building in Northey St and painting a huge backdrop with turrets and things. I think it must have been a city council building and it's still there even though it went under in the '74 floods. We also were in 'boxes' at the very front of the Warana festival. That was part of our community contribution I suppose.
- Does anyone know why BKTC girls were involved in these things?
- I would think it was the 'public face' of the college to promote itself.
- Organisations used to have floats in the Warana Parade and so I think C & K became involved and therefore the college. Like in the early 50's, when the C & K, to get funds, would promote the "Floral Carpet". Various Kindergartens had stalls at it in the City Hall. We students from the college were a captive audience and had to go in there every day for the whole day and help. I remember the coins we had to put around the edge, they were pennies and that helped to raise funds too. As students we had to place the petals onto a design drawn on hessian and spread across the whole floor of the ballroom at city hall. It was a beautiful design and they had a fence around it. Rotary helped too. That was the 50's for you, the men took the money!
- When we did things at college you'd think, what am I doing this for, but when you got out teaching you'd find yourself doing all sorts of things you'd never done before, not just teaching in the classroom. You'd just do it.
- Remember those resources you had to make at college?
- Oh, everything: Puppets, story books, felt boards, etc. We had to have a huge resource collection. I noticed as the years went by those students who came out for Prac had absolutely nothing. I started saying to them to watch Playschool because you might see something that you could make and use or a song you might learn.

- Of course we were there from 9-5, five days a week. There was none of this going to college for only 2 days a week.
- I think that's what contributed to the socialisation, because you were there with that same group all day, every day. I was a 1976 graduate and we were organised alphabetically,
- Barb: Do you recall the common room? Yes. There were no facilities there, only a tap over a sink and tables and chairs and we'd all go in there 1st, 2nd and 3rd years. Sometimes we'd admire the 3rd years with their shoes and their scarves.
- I remember coming from the country in our cotton shifts and sandals, walking into the college on the first day and seeing all these Brisbane girls in their linen frocks, made up to glory.
- I remember my first year out, the Preschool adviser came and was checking everything and as she was about to leave she said, "I've forgotten something. I haven't measured your skirt. Now bend over. It probably was Ok or I would have noticed. Just make sure you are conscious of pulling it down."
- When 'hot pants' came in we thought they were a really good idea.
- Did anyone stop you from wearing them?
- No we were unstoppable.
- What do people remember of child studies?
- I remember you had to find someone in your neighbourhood. I was from the country and didn't know anyone and so I knocked on a door and I must say the family were absolutely wonderful. I negotiated the times I would go and spend observing the child and writing it down, because at that time we didn't use recorders or take photos. You relied on your skill at getting it down and then try and tie it in with Prescott. I graduated in '76 and I remember it was a very long assignment. There were pages and pages of it and you looked at the developmental aspects and tried to tie these in with reference to study books.
- I wish students still did that because most of them come in with very little idea of how to observe children and understanding of their development.
- What's that about Prescott?
- Well that was Miss Ferguson who brought that in. You had to rewrite the observation and have a line drawn down the middle of the page and then write which of Prescott's categories it came into. It took forever because every statement you made you had to relate to one of these stages. I was really very frightened of her (Miss Ferguson) actually. She ruled the roost.
- I did a child study of a little 4 year old boy called Craig in 1972 or 3 and when our eldest son was born we named him Craig.
- The problem is when you come to name your own children there are certain names you won't go near!

- You mentioned about how encouraging you were to this young male student and that's something I remember about college, we were encouraged. Judy won't remember that I was one of her students. I remember we had to write our own curriculum and I submitted it very late and I could have very easily been failed, but Judy passed me and I remember her actually sitting with me one-on-one, and thanking me for doing that work on the curriculum and just encouraging me. What a difference that makes to a student. I do believe that what we take out as Early Childhood teachers to the children is that encouragement.
- Well I had Jean Ferguson and we had so many weeks to work out this set of objectives in a varied number of areas, and you can use them today. That's the time I remember, she was my mentor. She had so many good ideas on so many things. I think she was a mentor for so many of the students she worked with. She was passionate.....
- I agree with them. So many of our lecturers were encouraging. Glenda Roache (who was so passionate about history and music, playing of music, and the other areas in music as well), I remember she helped us with a presentation at a girls' schools in front of Parents, students and the C & K Board and anyone else who came.
- I remember Olive McMahon at her kindergarten - going out to observe. This day she had a really bad headache and she had this wonderful rapport with the children, she brought them all together and she said, "I'm really sorry, but today I'm feeling terrible, I've got this bad headache, do you think you could be fairly quiet for me?" And they were! She thanked them.
- I started College in 1971 and left and then went back in 1977 and did the three years then. I really felt that year I did in 1971 was never a waste. I felt it really set me up for motherhood. It was such a rich experience and then to go to motherhood.
- We had a whole term on working with Parents; one whole lecture was on interviewing Parents. One-on-one interviews with Parents are almost done away with now. I found just recently the piece of paper I wrote on how to go about it. The students don't get taught that now.

