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MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING VICE-CHANCELLOR

Diversity Week – with the theme of Difference-in-Common – was designed to help students and staff reflect on our common humanity and interconnection. Now in its third year, Diversity Week aimed to raise awareness and increase understanding about issues such as disability, sexuality, cultural and linguistic diversity, religious diversity, gender identity, family and carer responsibilities, racism and Indigenous Australian history and culture.

The week also showcased UQ’s commitment to diversity in its role as a world-class university, employer and global citizen.

By way of providing a snapshot of UQ’s diversity, it is worth noting that almost 20 percent of our students are from overseas, coming from 130 different countries. Our staff are increasingly diverse. They speak at least 48 languages other than English at home and come from at least 82 different countries, besides Australia.

Diversity Week 2005 was extremely busy – with about 30 events at our three main campuses.

I had the pleasure of launching the Ally Network for the students and staff behind the Ally Program, which aims to stamp out homophobia on campus.

We also celebrated the achievements of people who have flown the flag for diversity at UQ.

Two Vice-Chancellor’s Equity and Diversity Awards were presented to those who have made a difference. You can read their stories on pages 12 and 13.

The awards lunch also heard from the founder and President of the Arab and Australian Women’s Friendship Association, Nadia Masarweh, who gave a fascinating insight into the life of women in the Arab world.

My thanks go to all who contributed to this successful and important week in the UQ calendar.

Professor Paul Greenfield
Acting Vice-Chancellor

Cover photo: Jazz great James Morrison performs a public concert at the UQ Centre to kick off the Diversity Week celebrations
Global triumph for UQ mooters

The UQ law moot team is on top of the world.

UQ’s T. C. Beirne School of Law Jessup Moot Team has successfully taken on the world in one of the toughest international student legal competitions.

After defeating the team from Malaysia’s International Islamic University, the UQ Jessup Moot Team won the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition in Washington DC, USA.

Comprised of the best competitors from 85 countries around the world, 103 teams took part in the competition that concluded with the final on April 2.

The competition is the largest of its kind internationally.

Students were placed in a hypothetical legal case as representatives in a dispute before an International Court of Justice.

Law School Head and Sir Gerard Rickett, said the win was a marvellous achievement and demonstrated the high standard of UQ’s Law School students and the commitment of its staff.

The UQ team consisted of Ruth Catts, Stephen Colditz, Julian Ensbey, Cameron Forsaith and Nick Luke.

They were coached by senior lecturer Dr Anthony Cassimatis who said he was extremely proud of the team’s achievement.

“The Jessup Moot team’s performance was simply outstanding and was the result of rigorous team preparation in terms of both legal research and advocacy training,” he said.

The world title is a massive victory for UQ and continues a tradition of strong performances in the Jessup competition.

The University has secured a place in the quarter-finals of the Australian rounds for the past six years, winning in 2005 and reaching the international finals in 2002 and 2003.

In 2004, the UQ team received the Richard R. Baxter Award for the best respondent memorial in the world.

The Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition was founded in 1959 and teams from over 80 countries, representing more than 500 law schools, now compete annually in the competition’s regional rounds.

The Jessup Moot team’s performance was simply outstanding and was the result of rigorous team preparation in terms of both legal research and advocacy training.

Nuclear powered scholar

UQ PhD student Eliza Matthews will finish her doctoral research in the US after winning a Fulbright Postgraduate Award.

Ms Matthews was one of seven Australian winners of the prestigious scholarship, worth almost $40,000 each for one year’s study.

Her doctorate, being completed through UQ’s School of History, Philosophy, Religion and Classics, is examining American nuclear relations with India, Pakistan and Israel between 1968 and 1995.

She hopes to interview important policy makers from that era including former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, former secretaries of defence, national security advisers and even past presidents.

She will be based at George Washington University’s Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian studies which is next door to the White House in Washington DC.

“Many diplomats and media commentators have levelled criticism at the US, that it has acted inconsistently in its overthrow of the Saddam Hussein dictatorship in Iraq on the one hand and its diplomatic acquiescence on the issue of Israel and its opaque nuclear status on the other,” Ms Matthews said.

“My thesis will hopefully provide significant insight into the manner in which the US has dealt with rogue states with nuclear aspirations.”

Ms Matthews said she was excited about having easy access to previously classified documents in the US National Archives relating to presidential opinions and nuclear non-proliferation.

She hopes to view material from the Nixon presidency, the Schlesinger papers in the JFK Library, Nuclear Regulatory Commission Records and National Security archives.

“There are so many millions of documents and new things are being declassified all the time,” she said.

Her PhD will show how the US and Australia could adopt more effective strategies to encourage problematic nuclear countries to join nuclear safety agreements.

She said she was looking forward to travelling around the US, visiting Civil War sites and tasting American university life and politics.

Ms Matthews is one of the few humanities scholars to have won Fulbright scholarships in Australia.

After her degree, she hopes to work as a risk advisor to corporations setting up in foreign countries or in foreign affairs or academia.

She will take up her scholarship on October 3.
A frog’s life is FOOD FOR THOUGHT

A UQ PhD student has been investigating why some frogs can digest massive meals after going for years without food. Her results could have important implications for human survival.

Starvation, malnutrition and re-feeding can have deadly consequences for humans and most animals but not Australia’s green-striped burrowing frog. PhD student Rebecca Cramp has found that unlike most animals, which can’t digest food after long periods of starvation, the green-striped burrowing frog is able to absorb nutrients 40 percent more effectively after three months without food, than frogs that had eaten regularly.

“They can take massive meals equivalent to 50 percent of their body mass and maximise their digestive capability from the outset,” Ms Cramp said.

Little is known about the effects of prolonged food deprivation on the gut of animals. Ms Cramp’s study is helping explain why animals such as the green-striped burrowing frog are able to gorge themselves on huge meals without overwhelming their digestive system. “Nothing was known about their digestive physiology when I first started this project and for an animal that can starve for up to four years it’s really interesting when you relate that back to human starvation,” she said.

“There is no way a human could last for four years without food.”

Green-striped burrowing frogs spend upwards of 10 months of the year in burrows in a hibernation-like state known as aestivation.

The frogs return to the surface after heavy rain, sometimes for as little as a week, to find food.

During the study, Ms Cramp and her supervisor Professor Craig Franklin from the School of Integrative Biology collected frogs from areas west of the Great Dividing Range.

They brought the frogs back to the laboratory where one group was kept in aestivation while the other group was fed regularly.

Ms Cramp’s results show that animals can maintain the functional capacity of the gut during aestivation despite significant energy cost, allowing them to digest food as soon as they resurface from aestivation.

“Within 36 hours of the ingestion of the first meal the gut had all but returned to its pre-aestivation state,” she said.

The results of Ms Cramp’s study could have important implications for human survival.

“Human survivors of starvation can endure the horrific and often fatal effects of re-feeding after starvation,” she said.

“Science still understands very little about why that occurs and what can be done about it.”

Team member Bronwen Forsyth said the Cooneana Olive population could be expanded to 250 shrubs within five years if seed was collected and grown at suitable habitats.

“These rare shrubs have survived mining, highways, housing construction and industry,” Ms Forsyth said.

“Ipswich residents drive past these shrubs every day not knowing how rare they are.”

The recovery plan provides for seed collection and propagation, protection from weeds and human disturbance, technical and financial incentives to landowners and more research.

Ms Forsyth said the plan was well received when she presented it to the Ipswich City Council and local Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service officer.

“It’s great to be able to make a practical difference to the environment by assisting the survival of the Cooneana Olive as part of our studies,” she said.

The team of Ms Forsyth, Gillian Benson, Alec Cheney, Kerrie Lock and Joel Stibbard was helped by council officers and naturalist Lloyd Bird.
Birthday bash for our Alf

Nearing the century mark hasn’t slowed down a University stalwart in the slightest.

by Chris Saxby

A Queensland scientist, who worked at UQ for 20 years without pay, celebrated his 99th birthday by opening a new computing facility named in his honour.

Dr Alf Howard, AM, is well known for being the last survivor of Sir Douglas Mawson’s Australasian expeditions to Antarctica.

In 2000, he was awarded the title of Senior Australian of the Year for his service to science.

The educator and adventurer worked as a research fellow in UQ’s School of Human Movement Studies, where he designed computer programs and provided statistical advice to assist students with their research.

In late 2004, he generously donated $80,000 to fund the new Alf Howard Computer Laboratory.

Dr Howard, who turned 99 on April 30, said he got a kick out of helping students with their projects.

“I’ve always thought the University needed support from the public,” he said.

“From my point of view this was the area in which I was interested in so if I could do anything to help students working in human movement, OK.”

Head of the School of Human Movement Studies, Professor Doune Macdonald, said Mr Howard was irreplaceable and described him as a living treasure.

She joked that although Mr Howard had retired from UQ, the University was yet to find a replacement able to fulfil his many duties.

“We are indebted to Alf for his patient and committed service to the school as a computer programmer and statistics consultant from the late 1970s until recently,” she said.

“Alf worked with us full-time without pay for over 20 years as an honorary research fellow – a perfect staff member whose position is still vacant.”

A photographic portrait of Mr Howard will hang in the new laboratory, which was opened on May 5.

He said he hoped the laboratory would not only help students with their studies but would also remind them of the scientific work done by previous generations.

Dr Howard was part of the Antarctic expedition from 1929 to 1931 when Sir Douglas Mawson claimed 42 percent of Antarctica as Australian territory.

“Our expedition accomplished a lot. We collected an enormous amount of data considering the limited means at our disposal and we opened a lot of doors,” he said.

“But I think our greatest achievement lay in pointing to areas where research was inadequate or non-existent, such as determining exact Antarctic currents.

“We showed what still needed to be done.”

As a 23-year-old chemist, Dr Howard’s main task was to examine the food chain of marine life in the icy waters along the Antarctic coastline.

It was a job that came about purely by chance.

“I was doing postgraduate work in the chemistry department at the University of Melbourne and was asked if I was interested in joining an expedition to the Antarctic,” he said.

It was a journey that was to have a lasting impact on Dr Howard’s life, engendering a fascination with the Antarctic that has seen him return to the area numerous times.

“I just go there for the fun of it but having said that there is a fascination,” he said.

“It’s one of the most beautiful scenes – the ice picks up all the blues, pinks and greens from the sunlight and you can get some marvellous effects.

“As the icebergs break out they make amazing shapes where the bottom ice has melted away.”

After working on Mawson’s expedition, Dr Howard began a distinguished 40-year career with CSIRO, where he developed food refrigeration techniques that are still widely used today.

Following compulsory retirement, a word that doesn’t sit well with the ever-active Dr Howard, he began his PhD at UQ in 1971 examining the psychology of food preference.

He was later appointed an honorary research fellow at the University.

It is this ability to work in many different fields that so impressed his colleagues in the school.

“In the early days when very few people understood computers, he understood not only the computer applications, but you regularly saw him shrouded in reams and reams of computer paper painstakingly assisting students with a range of questions,” Professor Macdonald said.

“What was impressive was that he could jump from topic to topic without hesitation.”

She said all he asked was that there were proper tealeaves so he could make a pot of tea each day.

“He is a man who doesn’t require the limelight despite the fact that he is a living treasure,” she said.

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“He is a man who doesn’t require the limelight despite the fact that he is a living treasure,” she said.
A strong finish made it a hat-trick of wins for Daina Surka in UQ’s 21st annual Great Court Race held on May 11.

The science student never looked threatened in the women’s final running the second fastest time by a woman in the history of the event with 1:42.26.

Ms Surka, who has now won the event three years in a row, came into the final as favourite and an extra injection of speed on the final straight was all that was needed to pull free of arts student Corinne Myles.

The 636 metre one lap dash around UQ’s Great Court is based on the University of Cambridge Race, as featured in the film Chariots of Fire.

Rising track star Mitch Kealey ran to an impressive win in the men’s final.

Nineteen-year-old Mr Kealey, who won the open men’s 1500m at the 2005 State Championships, comfortably held off junior rival Robert Mewing to win in 1.29.40.


A student sack race, won by the I Love New York team, added a light-hearted touch to the traditional event.

In the fourth annual Great Court Handicapped Sprint Race, which was run over 70m, UQ SPORT scholarship holder and javelin representative Joshua Robinson caused an upset by winning for the second consecutive year.

Agricultural science student Megan Sullivan ran down the field from behind to claim victory in the women’s sprint race.
Smart State II earns tick

Announcements at a Queensland Government Community Cabinet meeting at UQ’s St Lucia campus will help with expansion and innovation at the University.

UQ Vice-Chancellor, Professor John Hay, AC, has welcomed the announcement of the second stage of the Smart State Strategy, Smart Queensland.

Premier Peter Beattie made the announcement following a Community Cabinet meeting at UQ’s St Lucia campus in April.

Professor Hay said he was pleased to see initiatives such as three new innovation funds, totaling $200 million, and an extra $20 million for the Smart State Research Facilities Fund.

“Initiatives such as the Smart State Strategy are vital for the ongoing development and prosperity of our State and country,” Professor Hay said.

“It is very appropriate that the announcement was made at UQ, as we are the forefront of research and commercial development.

“The venue for the announcement – the Queensland Bioscience Precinct, which houses the Institute for Molecular Bioscience (IMB) – is a fine example of the Smart State in action.

“The Queensland Government provided vital funding for the construction of the Queensland Bioscience Precinct, as well as ongoing support for the Institute.

“The precinct is at the centre of a plan to build one of the largest concentrations of biological scientists in the world.”

Growth centre

A new CD-ROM is aimed at helping ensure education in plant protection keeps pace with rapid expansion in the crop and horticulture industries.

Queensland’s Director-General for Primary Industries and Fisheries, Dr Jim Varghese, launched the University’s innovative Graduate Certificate in Plant Protection on CD-ROM in April.

“The CD format of the Graduate Certificate Program means that workers in rural areas, both in Australia and overseas, can study plant protection from home,” Dr Varghese said.

“This makes plant protection more accessible to people who work in agricultural areas – those who stand to benefit most from having access to this kind of direct training.”

The CD-ROM was developed in cooperation with the Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Tropical Plant Protection.

Dr Margaret Schneider, Education Program Leader at the CRC and lecturer in entomology at the University, told representatives of the plant industries at the launch that education had not been able to keep up with the rapid pace of industry growth.

“Plant protection education in Australia is also not keeping up with the increasing demands of the growing plant industries and has actually declined in recent years,” Dr Schneider said.

“The most critical problem we face is that the professionals who investigate plant problems are not being replaced by young people at a rate that can keep up with the expansion of the plant industries.”

The rapid growth of the plant industries, including grain, rice, cotton, sugar, wine, nurseries and horticulture in recent years, positions them as Australia’s most valuable agricultural industry, far ahead of traditional agriculture leaders, the livestock industries.
Green machine is ultra lean on gas

The student-designed solar-electric UltraCommuter is being built to challenge some of the practices and beliefs of the international automotive industry.

This is what cars of the future, or at least a family’s second car, should look like, according to University of Queensland students.

It’s called the UltraCommuter – a clean, light, solar-electric concept car that uses 83 percent fewer fuel and emits 87 percent less greenhouse gases than a conventional six cylinder car.

A foam model of the hybrid car was unveiled in April at the RACQ’s 100th birthday celebrations at the Queensland Museum.

Students from UQ’s Sustainable Energy Research Laboratory are building a working model of the UltraCommuter, which they hope to have on the road within a year.

UltraCommuter coordinator Dr Geoff Walker said the car was driven by two electric motors, one in each rear wheel, powered by a lithium ion battery pack.

Dr Walker said it would have a driving range of 500 kilometres with the addition of a gas tank and a top speed of 150 kilometres an hour.

Filling the car with fuel would be as easy as parking in the sun to recharge the battery pack using the 2.5 square metres of transparent solar cells on the bonnet and back windscreen.

A summer day would top-up the battery pack by about 50 kilometres.

It will also be possible to plug the car into a home powerpoint and recharge it overnight.

The car will only weigh about 600 kilograms thanks to an aluminium and carbon-fibre body that was designed for its low-drag aerodynamics, including wheel covers to cut down wheel drag.

Dr Walker said using good aerodynamics and lightweight materials would reduce its energy needs and improve its range and performance.

“We decided that we’d take all we knew about making very slippery, efficient vehicles and apply it to a real car that people could actually register and drive,” Dr Walker said.

“We are aiming for under two litres per 100 kilometres, which is about a five or six-fold reduction on your average car.”

He said the car’s top speed could be boosted at the sacrifice of acceleration.

The UltraCommuter project had cost hundreds of thousands of dollars, but he said the group wanted to challenge the car industry and show off the car’s energy efficiencies at international exhibitions.

There are several PhD theses riding on the success of the UltraCommuter involving the wheel motors, design concepts and energy consumption.

The UltraCommuter project was born in 2000 out of UQ’s successful car project.

“We decided that we’d take all we knew about making very efficient vehicles and apply it to a real car that people could actually register and drive,” Dr Walker said.

The UltraCommuter car body will travel around the State for the next 18 months as part of the RACQ’s touring roadshow on the history of Queensland motoring, entitled Bulldust to Bitumen and Beyond.

Rewriting history

The Old Johnian’s Association is seeking the help of former college residents to collate a history of Edale, the Donaldson wing of St John’s College, which was damaged in a fire on Good Friday.

Anybody with photographs, anecdotes or memorabilia can contact the association, which will be remembering Edale at this year’s Old Johnian’s Dinner on July 22 at the college.

The association consists of former St John’s residents who wish to revive or maintain a connection with each other and the college.

Information: 0408 722 447 or oldjohnians@uq.edu.au or for tickets for the association’s dinner phone (07) 3842 6600.

Real profit from AI

Artificial intelligence (AI) is being used to give early warning of machine faults responsible for millions of dollars of lost profits annually in the underground mining industry.

Dr Daniel Bongers, an engineer from the UQ-based Cooperative Research Centre Mining, developed his fault detection system as part of his PhD project.

He said the technology could reduce machine downtime averaging more than three months each year.

Return of Grace

The Grace College Old Girls’ Association has been reformed and is seeking past residents interested in continuing the college tradition of fun, friendship and learning.

The association enables past students to keep in contact and relive University glory days at regular events.

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month at the college.

Information: graceoga@uq.net.au or contact Leanne Monteverde at green74@optusnet.com.au
Vietnam’s PM welcomed to UQ

The University has highlighted its close ties to Vietnam by hosting a visit by the country’s Prime Minister.

On May 6 Chancellor Sir Llew Edwards, AC, welcomed His Excellency Phan Van Khai and senior Vietnamese officials to the St Lucia campus.

The delegation met with Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International and Development) Professor Trevor Grigg, Institute of Continuing and TESOL Education Director Christine Bundesen and Director of International Education Andrew Everett.

They were also introduced to some of the Vietnamese students studying at UQ.

The number of Vietnamese students in award programs at the University has increased from 14 in 1996 to 190 in 2005, with others participating in English language and short professional education courses.

Mr Khai, who was on the second day of his Australian visit, was later given a tour of UQ’s Institute for Molecular Bioscience by its Director Professor John Mattick, AO.

During the visit, Professor Grigg gave a presentation in which he outlined the research, scholarship, institutional links and capacity building initiatives being undertaken by UQ in Vietnam.

These included the construction and establishment of the University of Danang-University of Queensland English Language Institute (UD-UQ ELI), the first higher education initiative ever under a Business Cooperation Contract in Vietnam.

UD-UQ ELI will be based in Danang and will provide high quality English language training for the central region of the country.

It is expected to commence operations in mid-2006.

Run of the Mill

The past is gradually giving up its secrets at a timber mill settlement.

A team of University of Queensland archaeologists has spent two weeks at historic Mill Point on the shores of Lake Cootharaba near Noosa Heads to help develop a plan for the site’s future.

Project coordinators Dr Sean Ulm, from UQ’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit, and Dr Jon Prangnell, from the School of Social Science, said the work at Mill Point aimed to inform management plans for the preservation of the site as well as enhancing understanding of colonial life in a rural setting.

Dr Ulm said it was also a great opportunity for the 30 archaeology students who attended in February to get valuable field experience.

“It’s not very often students get the chance to experience a dig like this,” he said.

“It is a way for them to develop real world skills.”

A sawmill, which operated at Mill Point between 1869 and 1892, employed up to 200 men in its heyday and is one of the earliest timber milling settlements in Queensland.

The surrounding settlement included houses, a school, shops, a cemetery and an extensive tramway complex for transporting timber from the hinterland.

“This site is an important archaeological resource with the potential to provide significant insights into the daily lives of early European settlers in the area,” Dr Ulm said.

During the 2004 field season, the archaeologists identified and recorded a vast range of artefacts dating to the sawmill period and began mapping material remains of the settlement.

Surveying and recording activities continued this year with the goal of locating various structures, including workers’ houses and the school.

“Owing to the extensive vegetation growth across the site, particularly lantana, our initial visibility was fairly low,” Dr Ulm said.

“One of our main tasks has been to clear the area so we can get a better look at things. Once we have a handle on the layout and extent of the site we can start asking some more specific questions.

“In the coming years we hope to answer some of those questions with test excavations.”

Dr Ulm said the team held a public open day each week as well as hosting two visits by local school students, providing an opportunity to tour the Mill Point site and learn more about the project.

“One of the good things about having the public come through is many are people whose relatives were part of the original settlement and they often have further information about the area,” he said.

Work on the site will continue throughout the year, not only with data analysis from this fieldwork, but also targeted work at the site to support the research of PhD students.

The focus of the 2006 fieldwork season will be established once the results of this year’s analysis and additional survey work are known.
Winning the prestigious Roche Medal has further enhanced Associate Professor Jennifer Martin’s international reputation as a leader in structural biology and protein crystallography.

Bestowed by one of Australia’s premier science bodies, the Australian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB), the Roche Medal is presented to an Australian biochemist or molecular biologist who has made significant contributions in the field.

Dr Martin, from UQ’s Institute for Molecular Bioscience (IMB), said she was surprised and delighted to win the award.

“The Roche Medal is unexpected but appreciated. Science is about discovering how things work so any recognition, particularly from your peers, is very special,” she said.

“I have been very fortunate to work and collaborate with exceptional scientists who have all had a great influence on my research.

“I would like to pay tribute to Queensland’s Chief Scientist, Professor Peter Andrews, who supervised my Masters research and encouraged me to return to Australia to establish my own laboratory at UQ.

“Peter is an inspirational teacher, a great mentor and a wonderful scientist. As a result, I am very fortunate to be involved in the IMB, which was founded by Peter and current Director Professor John Mattick in 2000.

“The IMB’s outstanding facilities, equipment and support have enabled me to pursue my research interests further.”

Professor Mattick said Dr Martin’s career was characterised by sustained excellence.

“Jennifer’s work in the field of protein folding and protein interactions has resulted in publications in highly respected journals such as Nature and the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science,” he said.

As part of the award, Dr Martin will present the Roche Lecture at the ASBMB Conference to be held later in the year.

A UQ scientist has received a top award from the Australian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology for her significant contribution to the field of molecular biology.

“Jennifer has made significant contributions to Australia’s biotechnology industry through her involvement in research that led to the biotech spin-off company Xenome, and through pioneering developments in high throughput crystallography in Australia.

“She is a member of the National Scientific Advisory Committee to the Australian Synchrotron and remains actively involved in Angstrom Art, which is an IMB initiative to communicate science to the general public.”

Dr Martin joins Professors David Hume and Brandon Wainwright as IMB members to receive the Roche Medal.

The University of Queensland’s original art collection is on public display for the first time in 60 years at the University’s original home in George Street in the Brisbane central business district.

The University’s first Professor of Geology, Professor H. C. Richards, who chaired the John Darnell art collection committee, asked geology student Jack Woods to hang the collection.

Professor Richards was the head of trustees for the Queensland Art Gallery and had conducted the first review of Australian museums in the 1930s.

Mr Woods said practical classes in the laboratory were cancelled while the exhibition was shown.

Mr Woods graduated from UQ with a Bachelor of Science in 1946 and a Master of Science in 1953 and was Queensland Director-General of Mines from 1976-1985.

He was awarded the Imperial Service Order in 1985.

Originally known as the Darnell Collection, the University Art Museum collection began in the 1940s following the £17,000 ($34,000) legacy bequeathed to the University by Wynnum businessman John Darnell, who died in 1931.

The show is open from Tuesdays through to Sundays from 10am to 4pm until the end of May, with free parking available on the campus at weekends.
For almost three years, the UQ Ipswich Equity and Diversity Committee has been striving to raise awareness of diversity issues and improve campus life.

The committee, made up of 13 academic and administrative staff, has lobbied for increased student parking, better transport and on-campus childcare.

Its members introduced a first-year student mentoring program and have organised cultural activities for Harmony Day and Diversity Week at UQ Ipswich.

Now their hard work has been recognised by winning the Vice-Chancellor’s Equity and Diversity group award.

The committee consists of Sue Hutley, Dr Marie Kavanagh, Dr Juliana de Nooy, Ngaire Wills, Beth Cavallari, Dr Fiona Bogossian, Julie O’Donohoe, Dr Lesley Jolly, Libby Townley, Michael Williams, Rodney Catling, Sue Scull and Warren Kerswill.

They will use the $10,000 award money to expand a peer-mentoring program for first-year students at the Ipswich campus.

Committee Chair and UQ Ipswich Library Manager Sue Hutley said a coordinator would be employed to train third-year students as mentors who would help first-year students.

The program will target students in behavioural studies, contemporary studies, electronic commerce, multimedia, nursing and social science.

Dr Marie Kavanagh, a Senior Lecturer in accounting, who is responsible for program development in the Faculty of Business, Economics and Law, will coordinate the program.

Ms Hutley said the mentoring would link to First in the Family, an Ipswich support program devised by Contemporary Studies Lecturer Dr Juliana de Nooy, for students who were the first in their family to go to university.

The program, which debuted during Orientation Week in February, was designed to provide support to students so that they would continue studying at Ipswich.

Group works

A floriculturist and an active group of University staff have won UQ’s Vice-Chancellor’s Equity and Diversity Awards.

The individual winner, Dr Margaret Johnston from UQ Gatton, and 13 members of the UQ Ipswich Equity and Diversity Committee, were honoured at the awards lunch at Customs House on May 13.

The awards were held on the final day of UQ’s third annual Diversity Week to recognise people who have improved diversity and equity at UQ.

The aim of the week is to increase understanding of cultures, linguistic and religious diversity, disability, sexuality, gender, family and carer responsibilities, racism and Indigenous Australian history and culture.

Dr Johnston is a senior lecturer who has spent more than two decades in the floriculture and horticulture industries.

She won the individual $5000 prize for her longstanding contributions to equity and mentoring, particularly of women.

Ms Hutley said the committee was honoured to have received the award.

“The Ipswich campus boasts an enthusiastic and dedicated team of staff who are committed to improving life for students at the campus,” she said.

“The award will help us continue this commitment, while extending our projects to include assistance for new students who are met with the task of adapting to university life.”
in a male-dominated industry.

She said she would use the money to foster female networking, attract leading women speakers to Gatton and expand her work in helping an Indigenous native flower business.

The Ipswich group of 13 staff has been working on diversity issues for about three years to improve student life at the Ipswich campus.

They have lobbied for improved student parking, transport and childcare, introduced a first-year student mentoring program and organised many cultural activities.

Committee Chair Sue Hutley said the $10,000 award money would be spent to expand a peer-mentoring program for first-year students.

Award winners were congratulated by guest speaker Nadia Masarweh, the founder and President of the Arab and Australian Women’s Friendship Association (AAWFA).

In her speech on the changing roles of women in the Arab world, Mrs Masarweh said Arab women faced many obstacles such as pressure to conform to old cultural traditions.

But Jordanian women in particular were becoming more involved in political, economic and social life.

“We have to work harder to bridge the gap between their own self-image and what society expects of them,” Mrs Masarweh said.

Jordanian women are now able to divorce, have child visitation rights, see their spouses punished equally for honour crimes and those married to foreigners may soon be able to extend their nationality to their children.

“As an Arab and Jordanian, I am proud and satisfied that real and tangible results and visible changes have taken place not only in Jordan but in most Arab states as well as here in Australia,” she said.

Ms Masarweh said the AAWFA was a new step to acquaint Australians with Arab culture and provide a wider understanding for women of all backgrounds.

UQ staged about 30 events during Diversity Week including concerts, forums, lectures and tours at its St Lucia, Ipswich and Gatton campuses.

Jazz great James Morrison kicked off the week on Monday night with a public concert in support of international friendship at the UQ Centre.

About 750 people attended the Centre’s first public, ticketed concert.

Acting Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Greenfield, UQ Union representative Alex Main and Queensland’s Anti-Discrimination Commissioner Susan Booth helped launch UQ’s Ally Network — the students and staff behind UQ’s safety and awareness program to stamp out homophobia on campus.

Other diversity events included a multifaith forum, a lecture on combating racism, food festivals and a photographic competition.

Dr Johnston

Flower power

Dr Margaret Johnston’s outstanding contributions to equity and mentoring, particularly of women, has earned her the Vice-Chancellor’s Equity and Diversity individual award.

The UQ Gatton senior lecturer, who has spent her career in floriculture and horticulture, is one of only two academic women out of 18 staff in the School of Agronomy and Horticulture.

Dr Johnston said she would use the $5000 award money to foster more female networking and attract leading women speakers in science, farming and business to UQ Gatton.

She said the money would also help the UQ Centre for Native Floriculture’s collaboration with the Kamilaroi community at St George, which is building a native flower business.

Dr Johnston, the centre and Queensland’s Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries are helping the community with project planning and new crop trials.

Three decades ago Dr Johnston was one of Queensland’s first female scientific field officers to work for the Department of Primary Industries.

“I was a floriculturist in the Redlands shire. It was pre-glasshouse days and it was mostly field production of flowers,” Dr Johnston said.

She was in a minority then and even though women have better work opportunities, agriculture remains a largely male-dominated industry.

“There are pockets within the University where there are very low numbers of female staff and students and in this situation it is quite difficult for women,” she said.

“Women can feel pretty isolated so I think providing some support and mentoring to people has been most rewarding.”
An award-winning study into Queensland’s turtle population has raised concerns about the health of the creatures.

The research, which showed the turtles were ingesting toxins from algae found in Moreton Bay, earned UQ PhD student Karen Arthur the $1500 Sirromet Wines Research Prize at the annual Healthy Waterways Awards.

Ms Arthur said large populations of endangered Green and Loggerhead turtles lived and fed in coastal marine habitats where the toxic cyanobacteria *Lyngbya majuscula* had bloomed over the past three years.

Her research found that while green turtles tried to avoid *Lyngbya*, they did ingest small amounts of the toxin, exposing them to a compound known as *Lyngbyatoxin*, which is known to promote tumors.

“*Lyngbya* contains a suite of toxins including tumour promoters and immunosuppressants,” she said.

“It grows on seagrass on which Green turtle feed and poses a threat to the carnivorous Loggerhead turtle via bioaccumulation of the toxins through the food chain.

“Tumour-promoting toxins from marine organisms have been implicated as a possible cause of the debilitating neoplastic disease fibropapillomatosis. However, the effects of *Lyngbya* on biota have not been assessed.”

The presence of the toxin in turtle meat also raises concerns about the health of other herbivores such as dugongs and has implications for local communities that consume turtle as part of their traditional diet.

Ms Arthur, who collaborated with Dr Colin Limpus from Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service and researchers from the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Association in the US, said she was honoured to have received the Healthy Waterways award for her research.

Fellow UQ student Kathryn McMahon was a finalist for the research award for her PhD study into the recovery of subtropical seagrasses from natural disturbances.

UQ lecturer in marine botany Dr James Udy supervised both students at the Centre for Marine Studies.

Ms McMahon’s research found that although herbicide residues were still being found in the State’s marine environment they were not having a detrimental affect on the seagrass.

She investigated seagrass health by testing a new phytotoxicity assay, Tox-Y-PAM.

The assessment took place around southeast Queensland’s Mary River, Great Sandy Straits and Hervey Bay.

Queensland Environment Minister Desley Boyle announced the winners of the awards in April.

“All of the nominations, finalists and award winners completed outstanding work throughout 2004 and their efforts for protecting our precious waterways are to be highly commended,” Ms Boyle said.
When you’re a small shrimp in the fish world, it pays to know how to dance.

The yellow-beaked cleaner shrimp perform a special rocking dance to advertise its parasite cleaning services to host fish.

Dancing guarantees the tiny crustacean easy access to food, according to UQ PhD student Justine Becker.

Ms Becker, from the School of Integrative Biology, has been researching the behaviour of the cleaner shrimp for the past three years, spending nine months at the Lizard Island Research Station, north of Cairns.

These tiny shrimp remove parasites from more than 35 different species of reef fish such as coral trout, rock cod and sweetlip and will even move in and out of their mouth and gills without being eaten.

After diving with them in the wild and observing them in the laboratory, Ms Becker investigated why the shrimp performed the rocking dance, which was a side-to-side motion.

“It appears as if they are signalling to potential client fish: ‘Hey I’m a cleaner’, come over and be cleaned”, Ms Becker said.

“They’ve even used the rocking dance for me a few times, so looking for dancing shrimp makes it easier to spot them as otherwise they are extremely difficult to find.”

The shrimp are about three centimetres long and transparent except for coloured spots and a bright yellow line along their body.

“This yellow provides a stark contrast against the blue background of the water and this combined with the rocking dance probably makes these shrimp highly visible to potential client fish,” she said.

To confirm that the rocking dance was an advertising signal, Ms Becker did a series of experiments where she manipulated the shrimps’ hunger levels and exposed them to rock cods in the lab.

She found that hungry shrimp, which were more willing to clean than full shrimp, spent more time rocking, were approached more by client fish and were observed rocking closer to their clients than full shrimp.

She said her research backed the idea that unrelated organisms can communicate with each other via advertising signals.

Ms Becker was funded by an Australian Museum fellowship.

She was supervised by UQ coral reef ecologist and fish expert Dr Lexa Grutter, behavioural ecologist Associate Professor Anne Goldizen and supported by research assistant Lynda Curtis.
Planning is underway for a new aquatic complex at the University's Gatton campus, as part of an upgrade of facilities for students and staff and the surrounding Lockyer Valley community.

Swim plan needs cash pool

by Chris Saxby

The UQ Gatton War Memorial Swimming Pool, which was completed in 1954 after volunteers used shovels and picks to dig the hole, is to be replaced by a new facility consisting of two heated outdoor pools and a fitness centre.

Plans for the complex, estimated to cost in excess of $1.2 million, are being drawn up under the direction of a group consisting of UQ SPORT, the Faculty of Natural Resources, Agriculture and Veterinary Science, the Development Office and Property and Facilities Division representatives.

UQ SPORT Director Kim Guerin said the new complex was scheduled to open in late 2006.

"The re-opening of the pool is an important project to provide for increased participation opportunities on campus," Ms Guerin said.

"This project is a significant boost for sporting infrastructure at UQ Gatton and will provide the campus and local community with a year-round fitness and aquatic facility."

The new complex will be part of UQ Gatton's proposed Student Life Precinct, which will cater for all student services.

The project group is conducting a feasibility study, including designs and costing.

Ms Guerin said the project required additional funding and financial support ahead of the next stage.

"The project group hopes to secure funding by the year's end before moving on to the tender and construction phases," Ms Guerin said.

The pool has had a long history at UQ Gatton and as the campus' memorial to World War II was the venue for college ANZAC services until 1992.

A College Welfare Fund, initiated by staff in 1944, supported the original Memorial Swimming Pool.

The 50 metre Olympic size pool ended up being twice the intended length as persistent rain in 1953 eroded the original hole.

Ms Guerin said the pool had come to the end of its intended 50-year life span.

UQ's Development Office is helping raise $300,000 for the project and UQ Gatton graduates who donate will have their name recorded on an honour board within the new complex.

Former President of the UQ Gatton Past Students' Association, Mal Ferguson, said the Association recognised the need for new facilities that would benefit students and the wider Gatton community.

"The chance to provide both the campus and the local communities with a new aquatic centre should be supported by all," he said.

Information: contact Kim Guerin at kimg@uqsport.uq.edu.au
Healthy habits in the early years of life have been found to influence the weight of young people in their teenage years.

Overweight teenagers rejoice, you can now blame your parents and the first five years of your life for your plumpness.

New Brisbane research proves fat parents are more likely to have fat children who will grow into fat teenagers if they don’t learn healthy living by age five.

The findings are the latest results from one of the world’s longest running health studies — the Mater-University of Queensland Study of Pregnancy.

About 3000 children in Brisbane had their body mass index (weight in kilograms divided by height in metres square) recorded at age five and then at 14.

Their birthweight, gestational age in weeks, weight gain per day for the first six months after birth, duration of breastfeeding, childhood mental health, parental education, family income and maternal depression were also recorded.

Lead researcher, Dr Abdullah Al Mamun from UQ’s School of Population Health, said overweight or obese girls at age five were more likely than overweight boys to return to healthy weights at 14 years old.

Fat children at both ages were usually heavier babies who had bigger daily weight increases in their first six months.

And if children were overweight at five years old, they were more likely to stay fat at 14.

The latest findings from the Mater study have been published in the International Journal of Obesity.

“They find these are important,” the authors wrote.

The strong association between parental overweight status and adverse changes in their children suggests that tackling adult obesity is likely to be important both for their own health and for that of their offspring.”

Dr Mamun’s paper was co-written with Mater and University of Bristol researchers and fellow UQ researcher and Mater study founder, Professor Jake Najman.

Dr Mamun is now investigating the link between high blood pressure and obesity in children.

He has also applied for a research grant to help families fight obesity through changing meal patterns, improving family relationships and communication or psychological means.

The Mater study was started in 1978 by Professor Najman as a health and social study of 7223 pregnant women.

“Post-deployment illnesses in Australia’s defence and veterans’ community needed to be better understood, according to newly-appointed Director of the Centre for Military and Veterans’ Health (CMVH), Professor Niki Ellis.

The CMVH, created in 2004, is led by UQ in partnership with the University of Adelaide and Charles Darwin University. It was formed to meet the needs of the Departments of Defence and Veterans’ Affairs.

The CMVH focuses on health research, professional development for defence health personnel, e-health and establishment of a strategic think tank with high-level input into the defence health debate.

Professor Ellis has returned to Australia from London to take up the CMVH appointment.

In the UK, she conducted research on health modernisation for London South Bank University and the Department of Health. Her work included improving prevention in primary medical care and increasing cardiac disease treatment capacity, both of interest for military, veterans’ and civilian health professionals.

In Australia, she has held the positions of Inaugural President of the Australasian Faculty of Occupational Medicine, Director of the RSI Strategy for the National Occupational Health and Safety Commission and Director, Health Risk Management, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Sydney.

“Australia’s soldiers, sailors and airmen and women face a range of health issues some of which are similar to civilians and others which are unique to defence,” Professor Ellis said.

“They sometimes work in hostile and stressful environments and it is essential that their health needs are recognised in the short and long term.”
Around 100 high school students from as far as Weipa, Blackall and Newcastle descended on UQ Gatton in March for a week-long FEAST of career-based fun.

Otherwise known as Future Experiences in Agriculture, Science and Technology, the annual residential school provides high-achieving Year 11 and 12 students with a taste of university life.

“FEAST is all about helping high school students make the right decision about their future,” program coordinator Brad Henderson said.

“Some students have had very little exposure to these industries and use FEAST to learn more about the range of university and career options available.

“Others use it to focus their decision-making on what to aim for, what to study at school or which program to enrol in at the end of Year 12.

“Throughout the week, students participated in problem solving and hands-on activities, rubbing shoulders with veterinarians, food technologists, agricultural scientists and environmental scientists.

“They learned about things such as plant tissue culture, extracting DNA, animal anatomy and catchment management.”

Invitations to participate in the FEAST program were issued to high schools in Queensland and northern New South Wales. Students were selected to participate based on their academic achievement, a personal submission and the recommendation of their school.

“Earning selection for FEAST was no easy feat, even with the additional places we have created to cater for the increased demand on the program,” Mr Henderson said.

“It is a real credit to those students who have been successful and the schools that have nominated them.

“Those in the agriculture, animal, food and environment industries will also be buoyed by the level of interest that’s out there among smart young students.”

FEAST is an initiative of UQ’s Faculty of Natural Resources, Agriculture and Veterinary Science.

Regional Australians are being shut out of the information economy because of the lack of access to high-speed Internet connections and poor marketing to stimulate broadband demand, according to a UQ researcher.

The warning comes from social science PhD student Alicia Cameron who has been studying why some regions lag behind others in broadband uptake.

Her thesis, Impediments and enablers to the diffusion of broadband and associated digital technology in non-metropolitan Australia, reveals there are many huddles to improving Australia’s interconnectivity.

Ms Cameron said the main reason was lack of access to Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Lines on existing phone lines.

She said other reasons were the lack of telecommunications competition, the historical lag in broadband uptake in regions compared to cities, and a lack of marketing and programs to encourage broadband use.

Regions had lower levels of workplace training and government offices were often their only way of providing technology training and exposure.

“I don’t think there are many enabling policies in Australia that actually view regional areas as being participants in the information economy,” Ms Cameron said.

She said broadband costs were less of an issue as the cost of high-speed connection had fallen by up to $20 a month and businesses were offered discounted calls to sign-up.

Satellite connections were still expensive but wireless connections were the future with some overseas regional connections clocking between 10 and 52 megabytes per second.

“The trouble in Australia is that in most areas wireless services are not there at the moment and the lack of alternative infrastructure and competition, especially after Telstra is privatised, may see the current monopolies extended and the provision of new services impeded,” she said.

In April, Ms Cameron attended the world summit on the future of the Internet and studied at the International Telecommunications Union Library in Geneva.

She was awarded a $3100 travel grant from UQ’s Graduate School Research Travel Awards to help her access internet policy and media convergence documents at the library.

The Graduate School’s Research Travel Awards grant up to $5000 to postgraduate students who can show that accessing an overseas library, museum or archives will improve their research.

The school will hold an award information session in August.
Mary ready to stand tall

UQ's sculptor has finally completed an imposing statue of Mary Poppins in honour of the character's creator.

It took 10 bronze ingots each weighing 10 kilograms, four days of welding and two months to finish her, but Mary Poppins' transformation from clay to bronze is complete.

The statue of the magical nanny made famous by the Disney film from 1964, will be installed in the city of Maryborough as street art.

The 1.5 metre, 100 kilogram statue will stand on the footpath outside the birthplace of her creator, author Pamela Travers, at the intersection of Richmond and Kent streets.

Mary was commissioned by the Maryborough City Council in honour of Ms Travers who spent at least her first two years in the city.

UQ sculptor Dr Rhyl Hinwood spent months creating Mary’s statue in her Kenmore Hills studio, using UQ Arts student and family friend Imogen Marnane as a model.

Dr Hinwood said once the model for Mary’s statue was completed, rubber and fibreglass moulds were made and from this a wax impression was cast.

A ceramic mould of the wax was then made before the molten bronze was poured and cast at the Perides Art Foundry at Brendale, Brisbane.

Mary’s eight pieces, including her carpet bag and magical parrot-handled umbrella, were then welded together.

Maryborough City Councillor Margaret Wroe said the statue cost about $60,000 with most money donated from residents, the city’s Mary Poppins group, the Proud Mary’s Association, as well as the city council and State Government.

“I think it’s beautiful and we’ll all be very proud of it when it’s finally there,” Councillor Wroe said.

Mary is now in storage in Maryborough after being freighted in a pine crate from Brisbane.

She will be unveiled in early August to celebrate the anniversary of the birth of Ms Travers on August 9.

Dr Hinwood and the Marnane family will be at the unveiling.
Brisbane author Rosamond Siemon will discuss her new book *The Eccentric Mr Wienholt* at a Books and Brunch event at the University on June 5.

Books and Brunch will be a quarterly Sunday morning gathering at Wordsmiths Café, next door to the UQ Bookshop.

For $10, guests will receive a Wordsmiths brunch and hear from a University of Queensland Press (UQP) author.

*The Eccentric Mr Wienholt* is Ms Siemon’s second book, a true story tracing the life of the man she describes as her hero, Arnold Wienholt.

Ms Siemon’s first book *The Mayne Inheritance* was a bestseller, which featured in the One Book One Brisbane campaign.

*The Eccentric Mr Wienholt*, which will be published by UQP in June, took two years to research and is expected to be just as popular.

The book looks at the colourful life of a man who was a wealthy landowner, big-game hunter, war hero and politician.

Ms Siemon said he was a larger-than-life adventurer who enjoyed the unorthodox. Despite being maulled by lions, shot and captured in war and vilified in Australian politics, he forged the life he craved.

“I don’t think he ever knew fear,” she said.

“If you speak of Lawrence of Arabia, then Wienholt really was Wienholt of Africa.”

As a politician Mr Wienholt was both controversial and respected, fighting in four wars between 1899 and 1940.

Ms Siemon said the story almost wrote itself there was so much material.

“I admired the guy, he was different from everyone else and had the courage to be himself,” she said.

Ms Siemon joked that, as an historian, she was not interested in the careful plotting required to write fiction.

“Much of history is more exciting than fiction,” she said.

Ms Siemon said she was looking forward to meeting her readers at the first Books and Brunch, to be held at 10am.

Joanne Carroll

*The Italian Romance* $22.95

Lillian has had to make the hardest decision a woman can make.

In war-torn Australia in 1947, she is forced to choose between her baby daughter and the love of her life, an Italian prisoner-of-war. She flees to Italy to make a new life in an act of love that haunts her for 50 years.

An unexpected meeting in Rome decades later with her abandoned daughter Francesca sets in motion a new chapter in both their lives.

Alan Gould


Alan Gould’s *Selected Poems 1978-2003* captures 25 years of poems by one of Australia’s important writers.

Like David Malouf and Roger McDonald, Gould began his writing career as a poet and moved on to write fiction and non-fiction, but there is no mistaking his poetic touch nor his absolute dedication to his craft.

Nike Bourke

Illustrated by Stella Danalis, *What the Sky Knows* $26.95

This stunning picture book invites the reader to fly with birds and angels, float with clouds and balloons, to change colours, blow breezes and stir up storms.

*What the Sky Knows* challenges the traditional way of reading. Stella Danalis has used visual tricks and jokes in a very contemporary manner that will immediately engage young readers.

Catherine Bateson

*Millie and the Night Heron* $16.95

Millie begins high school in a new town. For the first time she can remember, her mum has a proper job, teaching art.

Millie has a crush on a boy called Rowan, an enemy called Tayla and three good friends, Sarah, Helen and Rachel.

*Millie and the Night Heron* explores the changing concept of family in contemporary life through the eyes of Millie, a sharply observant chronicler.
River walks into novel

Twenty years after a boy vanishes along the Brisbane River, psychologist Madeleine Jeffries is called home to help untangle a chain of similar disappearances. To do so, she must confront secrets and guilt from her own past.

This gripping tale was created by the literary world’s newest star, the aptly named Kimberley Starr, a UQ Master of Philosophy student. Her first novel, The Kingdom Where Nobody Dies, set on the Brisbane River, has struck a chord with local readers and in April was selected as the focus for the 2005 One Book One Brisbane campaign.

“I like to walk along the river near my house and noticed the way the shadows in the mangroves and under the rotting jetties were so dark because of the brightness of the Brisbane sun,” she said.

“I began to consider what sort of dark story could be set here.

“Then, I have children myself and my oldest son in particular seems to grow so quickly he is like a different person each day.

“I was prompted to think about how people change as they grow up, yet some sort of essential nugget of their character remains the same.”

The Kingdom Where Nobody Dies, which is published by The University of Queensland Press, is set in the fictional Brisbane suburb of River Pocket.

It tells the story of a psychologist who is forced to relive her traumatic teenage years while solving the mystery of a series of disappearing children.

Ms Starr said the book, a psychological thriller, was an exploration of grief, responsibility and repercussions, and the way childhood actions can echo throughout our lives.

“The missing child is a great theme in Australian stories and one of the ideas I took from this experience was the idea that one of the missing children we all have in our adult lives is an earlier version of ourselves,” she said.

Ms Starr, said it wasn’t until she won the Queensland Premier’s Literary Award in 2003 for best emerging author, that she was able to get anything longer than a short story published.

“Someone once told me that if you can stop writing, you probably should,” she said.

“It has been so hard to make progress that I have learned to make writing something I do for myself, first.

“I can’t imagine not writing. It’s an essential part of who I am. Having readers is nice too.”

Her readers will have an opportunity to tell her what they think of her work during the One Book One Brisbane campaign, which will get into full swing later in the year.

The Legend of Big Red

Andrew Aiden

It’s also thought to be the home of Big Red, a giant and elusive fish, a legend of the local area. And Barney and Liam are determined to find and catch him.

But they’re about to discover that there’s much more to be found at Bailey’s Swamp than some big old fish.

The Kingdom Where Nobody Dies

Ms Starr

James Roy

The Legend of Big Red

$16.95

Bailey’s Swamp is a lot of things. Beautiful. Secluded. Creepy.

It’s also thought to be the home of Big Red, a giant and elusive fish, a legend of the local area. And Barney and Liam are determined to find and catch him.

But they’re about to discover that there’s much more to be found at Bailey’s Swamp than some big old fish.

Phenomena in physics

A new book by a UQ lecturer attempts to uncover one of the most mysterious phenomenon in quantum physics – quantum interference.

Interference causes many common optical phenomena, such as the colour patterns seen in soap bubbles or in the oily puddles in a petrol station.

UQ’s Dr Zbigniew Ficek and co-author of Quantum Interference and Coherence: theory and experiments, Stuart Swain, present a history of quantum interference, from the early ideas to the most recent developments in the field.

For the first time, the book brings together accounts of many phenomena involving quantum interference and provides detailed theoretical treatments and experimental analysis.

Published by Springer, the book is useful for both theoreticians and experimentalists working in the fields of quantum and atom optics.
No pain in the neck
UQ physiotherapists are trialling a device that could revolutionise neck pain management.

The device was developed by PhD student Shaun O’Leary in conjunction with Professor Gwendolen Jull and Dr Bill Vicenzino, from UQ’s Faculty of Health Sciences.

It is the first device that allows physiotherapists to both accurately assess and rehabilitate the specific muscles affecting people with neck pain.

It has been licensed to Neckmetrix, a company formed by UQ’s main commercialisation arm, UniQuest.

Mining innovation
The Julius Kruttschnitt Mineral Research Centre’s Mining Research Manager Dr Gideon Chitombo was one of many mining industry figures to attend the 2005 Queensland Innovation in Mining Forum in March.

Held at the Queensland parliamentary annex, the forum aimed to challenge traditional perceptions of the mining industry.

The forum attracted over 200 people, including students from 31 high schools, government ministers and senior researchers.

Rotary health grants
UQ researchers have been awarded $1.5 million in medical research grants for 2005 from the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund.

Professor David Kavanagh, from the Faculty of Health Sciences received two grants totalling $105,080. Professor Matt Sanders, from the School of Psychology, also received two grants totalling $110,610 and Katherine Morley, from UQ’s Institute for Molecular Bioscience, is now in the second year of her $26,000 per annum three-year fellowship.

Rod has news for students
Network Seven newsreader Rod Young has given UQ students some advice on how to get ahead in the journalism profession.

One of Queensland’s best-known television personalities has spent a day at his former University honing the skills of the next generation of journalists.

Television Journalism students from UQ’s School of Journalism and Communication spoke their first lines in front of the camera under the watchful eye of Seven Network newsreader Rod Young.

He said, that despite the apparent glory of being a television presenter, he hoped he had been able to let them know there was a lot of work that went on behind the scenes.

“Like anything, practice makes perfect,” he said.

“If you have a serious and straightforward demeanour it gives people confidence that what you are saying is correct.”

Mr Young, a UQ Arts graduate from the 1970s, joked he had spotted a number of future Network Seven stars among the eager students.

The students were filmed reading from an autocue in the University’s VideoVision Studio Facility on May 10 and were then given constructive criticism on how they could improve their television skills.

Mr Young joined Seven in 2002 as co-presenter of Brisbane’s weeknight news service with Kay McGrath.

He previously worked for the ABC and on radio stations 4BU and 4AK.

Lecturer in television studies Karen Berkman said the students had gained a great deal from having such an established figure watching over them.

“The fact that Rod is able to reduce it to mechanical procedures makes it seem as though it’s something that is possible for anyone to achieve,” she said.

Ms Berkman said the students had taken on the challenge bravely.

“That’s quite difficult reading off an autocue so you need to be familiar with what you are reading,” she said.

With television becoming an increasingly popular avenue for journalism students, Ms Berkman said it was important to teach script-writing, vocal, audio and visual production skills at an early stage in their careers.

“Unfortunately a lot of journalism educators tell students that you can’t get jobs in this area – in my experience if you want to make it in this area you can,” she said.

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PRIZES

- **The John Fox Memorial Bursary 2005**: for a student enrolled in the Bachelor of Engineering program who is an orphan or a fatherless Australian born male and who intends to specialise in electrical engineering. **Worth**: $600. **Closing**: June 30. **Information**: 07 3365 1984.


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UQ LIBRARY HOURS FOR 2005

Library hours are available on the Library’s homepage at www.cybrary.uq.edu.au
S

SEMINARS

■ Wednesday, May 25
Centre for Buddhist Studies and UQ Sanskrit Society, practical mindfulness: a skill for success in the 21st Century. Martina Sheehan (noon-2pm, Room E301, Forgan Smith Bldg). Details: p.pecenko@uq.edu.au

■ Friday, May 27
School of Biomedical Sciences, seminar program, Regulating neuronal CaMKII in vivo – more complex than we thought. Professor John A P Rostas, Hunter Medical Research Institute, University of Newcastle (1-2pm, Room 305, Skermer Bldg). Details: 07 3365 4066.

■ Friday, June 3
School of Biomedical Sciences, seminar program, Disrupted interoferon signalling disturbs the brain in unexpectedly different ways. Professor Iain Campbell, University of Sydney (1-2pm, Room 305, Skermer Bldg). Details: 07 3365 4066.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit, working papers in archaeology seminar series. Tracing human dispersals: developing new techniques for characterising early modern human core technologies, Dr Chris Clarkson (3-4pm, Room 207, Gordon Greenwood Bldg). Details: 07 3365 2385.

■ Tuesday, June 7
Queensland Alcohol & Drug Research & Education Centre, seminar series, Education and communication tactics for use with op)portunitistic interventions, Gai Lemon (10am-noon, Room 113, School of Population Health, Herston). Details: 07 3365 5189 (bookings essential).

■ Wednesday, June 8
Centre for Buddhist Studies and the Brisbane Buddhas Exhibition, Compassion – the practice of Buddhism. Venerable Lozang Thubten (7-9pm, Room E302, Forgan Smith Bldg). Details: p.pecenko@uq.edu.au

■ Friday, June 10
School of Biomedical Sciences, seminar program, Mining the ‘gene regulatory outback’: the treasures of translational control, Dr Thomas Preiss, Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute, Sydney (1-2pm, Room 305, Skermer Bldg). Details: 07 3365 4066.

Friday, June 17
Centre for Buddhist Studies and the Brisbane Buddhas Exhibition. Brisbane Buddhas Exhibition, Louise Denoon, Senior Curator, Museum of Brisbane and Dr Primoz Pecenko (7-9pm, Room E302, Forgan Smith Bldg). Details: p.pecenko@uq.edu.au

C

CONCERTS

■ Thursday, May 26
School of Music, free lunchtime concert, Masters clarinet candidate Karen Haefeld will present Mozart’s Clarinet Concerto, Stravinsky’s Three Pieces for Solo Clarinet and other works (12.30pm, Nickson Room). Details: 07 3365 3505.

■ Saturday, May 28
Queensland University Musical Society, Mostly Mozart – a performance of Mozart works (7.30pm, St Andrew’s Uniting Church, Cnr Creek and Ann Streets, Brisbane CBD, $18 adults and $12 concession). Details: https://bookings.waterespeire.com.au or 0411 899 986.

■ Sunday, May 29
School of Music, Sundays at Customs House, Continuing with the 4MB Festival of Classics featuring Bach, the University Chorale, conducted by Rêka Casernyev, presents choral arrangements by Bach and German motets by Brahms, Beger and Mendelssohn (11.30am The Long Room). Details: 07 3365 3505.

■ Tuesday, June 2
School of Music, free lunchtime concert, The Brass Ensemble and Symphonic Wind Band will fill the hall with their grand sound, playing a number of well-known works for wind and brass interspersed with chamber music interludes (12.30pm, UQ Centre). Details: 07 3365 3505.

■ Saturday, June 4
Underground Productions, About Face, a play by Noelle Janaczewska (8pm, Cement Box Theatre, St Lucia campus, $10 adults, $8 concession). Details: 07 3377 3388.

CLASSIFIEDS

* Classifieds are free, but are available only to staff, students and visiting academics.

TO RENT/HOUSE SIT

■ Highgate Hill: large furnished bedroom in Queenslander, available now. Close to all facilities. Suit female postgrad student. Kay: 07 3365 6556 or k.saunders@uq.edu.au

■ Indooroopilly: Unfurnished room (min 5 months lease) for non-smoking vegetarian from Jun 24, $100/wk. Overlooks river, close to all amenities, car park. Manish or Torah: 07 33788890 or compugues@yahoo.com

■ Toowong: 3bd hse, would suit staff members, great location opposite park, 5 mins to UQ, study, big living area, balcony and outdoor entertaining area, $520/wk negotiable. Sue: 07 3871 1270 or 0439 650 167.

■ Kelvin Grove: 3bd hse, can come furnished, available from August 2005. Close all amenities. Home exchange in Vancouver, Canada available. Haida: haidaluke@yahoo.ca or haida.luke@uq.edu.au

■ Sinnamon Park: furnished 3 bd, 2bd, A/C hse, short drive from UQ St Lucia. Ideal for overseas family. Short or long-term rentals considered. Patricia: 07 3372 9412 or 0407 376 133

■ Point Lookout, North Stradbroke Island: 3bd (1 q/4 sgl), walk beaches and shops, stereo, TV, gas BBQ, d/washer, w/machine, dryer, no pets. Malcolm: 07 3376 5764 or m.mclennan@uq.edu.au

■ Kelvin Grove: 3bd hse, can come furnished, available from August 2005. Close all amenities. Home exchange in Vancouver, Canada available. Haida: haidaluke@yahoo.ca or haidaluke@uq.edu.au

WANTED TO RENT/HOUSE SIT

■ Visiting academic needs rental for herself, daughter near Griffith University, Nathan campus from June 3 for 6-8 weeks. Jochen: j.mueller@uq.edu.au

■ Visiting academic needs rental accommodation for family of 5 from July 2-24. Peter: peter@elee.canterbury.ac.nz

INSTITUTE OF CONTINUING & TESOL EDUCATION (ICTE-UQ)

Professional Internships

FOR UQ INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

■ Gain valuable work experience in your chosen area of study
■ Receive professional training, a work report and reference
■ Internationalise your resume/CV
■ Enhance your career opportunities

INFORMATION SESSION

Friday 24 June 2005
1.30pm, Room 516/517, Joyce Ackroyd Building

At the end of the presentation, time will be made available for students to speak with representatives to discuss the program in more detail.

For further information on the Professional Internship Program (PJP) contact ICTE-UQ by email pip@icte.uq.edu.au or visit www.icte.uq.edu.au

The University of Queensland Australia

INSTITUTE OF CONTINUING
& TESOL EDUCATION
(ICTE-UQ)

UQ NEWS. MAY 2005

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Dr Claire Aland’s love for learning anatomy developed during her undergraduate science studies at UQ.

Now an associate lecturer, Dr Aland teaches anatomy and her fascination with the science of the human body has never waned.

Much of her success and passion for the subject can be attributed to the quality facilities provided by UQ’s Anatomy and Developmental Biology division, and the valuable gift provided by donors.

The University is committed to showing gratitude to donors, their friends and family, and holds a Thanksgiving Service every year.

This year’s service was held on the evening of May 4 with support from the Stuartholme School choir and instrumental ensemble.

It gave families, staff and students time to remember through prayer, song and ceremony.

“I really appreciate the opportunity the Thanksgiving Service gives me to show my gratitude to the donors for the gift they have given us,” Dr Aland said.

“The service is very good for families. It allows them to see that their loved ones’ donations mean a great deal to students.”

“It allows families to see that donations are appreciated and respected,” she said.

Dr Aland said she was very thankful for the donors.

“Donations are essential and the benefits gained from learning through donations is extremely significant.”

“I’ve always loved anatomy. I find it a challenge and it’s very complex.”

“There is always something to learn and every person is different. It is fascinating to see and learn how the body works.”

“I also like to teach anatomy and pass my enthusiasm for the topic to my students.”

Over 1000 students graduated from UQ’s Faculty of Health Sciences in 2004, and up to 5000 students use the facilities each semester.

UQ health sciences graduates become doctors, dentists, pharmacists, physiotherapists and a broad range of other health professionals and scientists.