Wayne Blair's *The Sapphires* lauded by film critics and audiences.
Mother-daughter maths teaching duo go bush.
Attorney General Jarrod Bleijie has legislative reform on his agenda.
Student leader Erin Gregor is an impressive all-rounder.

New frontier opens for space glass.
Rats inspire GPS camera technology.
Heart attack care study rates towns nationwide.
Vice-Chancellor fellows lead the pack in innovative research.
Transcend physical and spiritual limits through sport.

QUT’s Outstanding Alumni Award winners are revealed.
Welcome to the future of interactive learning – The Cube.
Bouquets of caring recognise Queensland community gems.

QUT Links is published by QUT’s Marketing and Communication Department in cooperation with QUT’s Alumni and Development Office. Editorial material is gathered from a range of sources and does not necessarily reflect the opinions and policies of QUT.

CRICOS No. 00213J
WHEN reigning V8 Supercars champion Jamie Whincup speeds off at the start line, Mark Dutton’s feet are planted firmly on the ground.

The TeamVodafone race engineer (pictured) is the cool head who calls the shots in pit-stops and designs V8 Supercars that fly.

But being part of the most successful engineer/driver partnership in V8 Supercars history takes dedication.

The QUT Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical) graduate works 14 hour days in the lead up to 15 yearly events in the V8 Supercars Championship Series.

“A normal day is 12 hours. It’s non-stop. There is no rest,” Mr Dutton said.

“It is fun but it’s a lot of work. Anything worthwhile I believe you have got to work hard for it.

“I like the camaraderie and I’m a competitive person. I try to do my part to be the best at what we do.”

Mr Dutton has spent half of his decade-long career as race engineer for Whincup, Holden’s three-time V8 Supercars champion driver.

Dutton has engineered 54 race wins including two of TeamVodafone’s four Bathurst 1000 titles.

Whincup and Dutton have had the most pole positions in the Ford-Holden rivalry series since 2008, winning three championships and finishing in the top two for the past five years.

They are the only pair in recent history to win championships in Ford and Holden cars.

Mr Dutton, 33, along with the team’s other engineers, has the additional responsibility of designing the team’s Car of the Future, a new model that will replace Falcons and Commodores from next season.

Away from the limelight, Mr Dutton’s daily role is focused on the mechanics of designing cars that reach speeds of up to 300km per hour.

He is among the longest serving employees at Triple Eight Race Engineering in Banyo, where the supercars team is based.

“When we are not at a race meeting we are an engineering company,” he said.

“Niney per cent of my job is designing the cars, its systems and components. We design and build cars from scratch. Everything has to be in the exact right place.”

Look for Mr Dutton trackside during race day telecasts.

V8 SUPERCARS FAST FACTS

Vehicle weight: 1345 kg
Top speed: 299 km/h
0-100km/h: 3.2 seconds
ARTISTIC FLAIR

Creative Industries winner
Jeffrey Tan

Jeffrey Tan is a gifted theatre director, artist, educator and cultural producer who has made a major contribution to the development of Singaporean arts and culture over the past 15 years. He works with the National Arts Council’s Singapore Arts Festival where he spearheads a year-long outreach program designed to engage the festival and its audience. He holds a BA (Drama) from QUT and a Master of Drama and Theatre Education from the University of Warwick.

REBUILDING QUEENSLAND

Science and Technology winner
Graeme Newton

Queensland's recovery from last year's devastating floods was in no small part due to the tireless efforts of Graeme Newton. A renowned strategic leader in major infrastructure project management, he was appointed CEO of the Queensland Reconstruction Authority in February 2011 following a summer of disasters. Eighteen months on, the authority has been internationally recognised for its speed in rebuilding and reconnecting communities across the state. Mr Newton has a Bachelor of Applied Science (Surveying) and an MBA in Project Management from QUT.

DISASTER RECOVERY

Business winner
Trisha Perkins

Trisha Perkins is based in Houston, Texas as ExxonMobil Development Company’s public and government affairs manager where she oversees the company’s public affairs activities across six continents. In 2005, she was part of the ExxonMobil disaster recovery team following hurricanes Rita and Katrina. She worked with the United States government to re-establish critical infrastructure and services, and prepare ExxonMobil's testimony to congressional hearings. Ms Perkins holds a Bachelor of Business (Communication) from QUT.

SAFER ROADS

Health winner
Dr Graham Fraine

Dr Graham Fraine’s long career has focused on keeping Queenslanders safe on the roads. He is the Deputy Director-General (Transport and Safety Regulation) in the Department of Transport and Main Roads where he is responsible for areas that ensure the welfare of our transport system and of the people, vehicles and vessels that use it every day. Dr Fraine has worked in transport policy for more than 19 years. He holds a PhD in Psychology and is a visiting fellow with the Centre for Accident Research and Road Safety – Queensland (CARRS-Q) at QUT.
IT’S nearing the end of the workday at Halfbrick Studios and marketing chief Phil Larsen wears unmatched socks and a faded Jetpack Joyride t-shirt.

At the refurbished two-floor Kelvin Grove office, staff desks are personalised with movie posters and figurines from games and comic books. Fruit Ninja jackets, depicting samurai sword-sliced watermelons, are slung over chairs. Game consoles, large televisions and lounges are scattered throughout common areas.

And the laid-back boss has no office: Halfbrick CEO and founder Shainiel Deo sits wherever he’s needed most.

The atmosphere at Halfbrick is casual. But the developers of Fruit Ninja, Australia’s most successful video game, second in popularity worldwide only to Angry Birds, work hard to maintain an independent attitude.

“We don’t make people conform. Halfbrick is the way it is because of our people,” Mr Larsen says when Links visits.

“We have more than 60 staff, but we’re not going all corporate. Everyone in the company is encouraged to be creative and come up with games.”

Eleven years after Mr Deo founded Halfbrick when he was a QUT student, its philosophy of casual, mobile, digital games has led to phenomenal international success.

British Prime Minister David Cameron, for example, is reported to spend a “scary” amount of time playing Fruit Ninja. The fruit-slicing app has surpassed 300 million downloads in two years, and another Halfbrick game, Jetpack Joyride, has been downloaded more than 30 million times.

Mr Larsen says the ubiquity of apps for smart phones and tablets has only heightened Halfbrick’s determination to be No.1.

“If it’s digital, online and can be downloaded, that’s where we are,” he says.

As other gaming companies closed, Halfbrick has grown, opening an office in Sydney and acquiring Spanish company Onan Games. Mr Deo says the company’s growth will be slow and steady.

“We have a really tight family feel and culture and we want to preserve that,” he says. “We love what we are doing.”

– Stephanie Harrington
BOARDSROOMS where mergers and acquisitions are negotiated are a world away from the wilds of the Southern Ocean. Both can be cold, hard, bleak places but corporate lawyer Teresa Handicott has found and brought warmth to each of them.

This high-powered chairwoman of the board of top-level law firm Corrs Chambers Westgarth specialises in large-scale, complex company mergers and acquisitions (M&A) – her most recent being Macarthur Coal’s legal advisor for the Peabody Energy takeover – and adventuring in faraway places.

Ms Handicott graduated from QUT’s School of Law in 1985 and joined Corrs Chambers Westgarth in 1987.

She was attracted to M&A work from the beginning because it was “extremely interesting and exciting”.

“It is really the overall thrill of forging a deal. It’s intellectually very challenging – it’s legally complex. You lead a large team that must deliver on all aspects of the transaction – corporate, employment, IT law – whatever is required,” she says.

“It’s where law meets commerce so you have to understand the strategy at board level and go beyond the legal aspects – you have to be a commercial animal and put effort into understanding your client’s view of the world.”

Ms Handicott’s reputation as a first-class deal maker is built on exceptional results for clients and her professional integrity. And she is the youngest person and first woman to be appointed to her role at Corrs Chambers Westgarth in 1987.

When a gentoo penguin chick (pictured) recognises the difference between a rock and a soft place and chooses you to climb upon for a snooze, who’s to say ‘no’?

“It was pretty special – a highlight, after a stream of highlights. One chick rested its head on another person in our group and one went to sleep on a backpack,” she says.

“Another climber curled up on my lap for a nap. It must have found my kayaking skirt (made from soft wetsuit material) the most comfortable and warmest place it had ever slept, given it had only ever known the stony beach.”

Nurturing young ones is another of Ms Handicott’s passions. She has chaired QUT’s Law Founders’ Scholarship Fund for more than 10 years. The fund has assisted more than 40 students to overcome a disadvantaged background. Many have now completed their studies and have gained a law degree.

“We have helped students who were refugees, disabled, homeless, from families where no one has a job, or where they are supporting a disabled parent or working to support younger siblings. The fund enables them to work a little less and study more,” she says.

“It’s humbling and inspiring to read through their applications. When I think it’s getting too hard, I just have to think about what they go through.

“Despite these incredible challenges the success rates are in line with everybody else. Once they get their law degree they can always look after themselves and then give back to others.”

– Niki Widdowson
From high-powered boardrooms to Antarctic adventures, this corporate lawyer brings warmth to everything she does.
SWEET READS BOOST INDIGENOUS LITERACY

Education winner

Margaret James

THE literacy of Central Australian Indigenous children has a golden future with a new learn-to-read program developed by a QUT graduate.

The Honey Ant Readers, created by QUT Master of Education (TESOL) graduate Margaret James (pictured) in collaboration with Aboriginal elders from around Alice Springs, is having great success with a new approach to teaching English to Indigenous students.

“For many of these children, Standard Australian English is a fourth or fifth language,” Ms James says.

“There were no appropriate books for teaching them to read; they all were British, American or urban-Australian based and not relevant to Central Australian Aborigines.”

Ms James says the children have backgrounds in differing Indigenous languages and share Aboriginal English in common, which she calls “the language of the playground”, but their Standard Australian English is often poor.

“The main objective of the Honey Ant Readers is to get students reading in the language they already know – Aboriginal English – while teaching them to speak Standard Australian English through rhyme and song,” she says.

“The readers are based on phonetics and gradually shift from Aboriginal English to Standard Australian English, scaffolded according to the stages speakers move through in learning English as a second language.

“Once you can read, you can read. When the children have learned the skill of reading, they will be able to use that skill to read books in Standard Australian English.”

Ms James says the reading program, which was first used in 2010, is showing strong results.

“Literacy is improving,” she says.

– Rachael Wilson

HITTING HIGH NOTES

Special Excellence Award winner

Kate Miller-Heidke

She is the first Australian to snag the grand prize in the International Songwriting Competition; she’s toured with rock-pop icon Ben Folds, starred in an English National Opera production and had a string of multi-platinum hits. Originally trained in opera, Kate Miller-Heidke (pictured) has become an internationally-recognised contemporary singer-songwriter. Her 2007 debut album Little Eve went gold in Australia, followed by the multi-platinum Curiouser (pictured right) in 2008. Ms Miller-Heidke’s many accolades include nine ARJA and APRA nominations and a Helpmann Award. She graduated with a Master of Music from QUT.
The philanthropist will bring cultural, business and social expertise to his role.

QUT is delighted to announce that Mr Tim Fairfax AM has been appointed as our new Chancellor.

Mr Fairfax (pictured at Old Government House with Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Coaldrake) is a leading advocate for philanthropy and the arts in Australia and a highly regarded figure in the business community for his pastoral, transport and communications enterprises.

Mr Fairfax took up the office of QUT Chancellor after Major General (Ret’d) Peter Arnison AC, CVO concluded his eight years of outstanding leadership of the university’s governing body on September 8.

Deputy Chancellor Helen Gluer said QUT was now very honoured to have Tim Fairfax take up this important role.

“Mr Fairfax is a respected community leader who will bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to QUT, reflected in the chair and directorships he holds in numerous and diverse organisations that underpin economic and cultural life in Australia,” she said.

Mr Fairfax, a member of the Fairfax media family and former director of Rural Press Ltd, is a Philanthropy Australia Council member and chairman of the Salvation Army’s Advisory Board.

As chairman of two Fairfax family foundations, Mr Fairfax takes an active leadership role in promoting philanthropy in Australia. His work in this sphere has been recognised with the 2011 Goldman Sachs Philanthropy Leadership award.

A keen supporter of the arts, Mr Fairfax is interim chair of the National Gallery of Australia. He is a founding benefactor and former chair of the National Portrait Gallery and its single largest donor. He is also president of the Queensland Art Gallery Foundation.

His involvement with the higher education sector began as chairman of the University of the Sunshine Coast Foundation in 1997, a post he held for 12 years while serving at that university’s Deputy Chancellor from 2002 to 2009.

Mr Fairfax, who resides in Brisbane, purchased his first cattle property at Monto in Queensland 40 years ago and has since acquired several others in Queensland and New South Wales.

He is a staunch advocate for the rural sector as chair of the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal’s Repair-Restore-Renew Advisory Committee and a member of its Finance and Audit Committee.

Professor Coaldrake said QUT looked forward to working with Mr Fairfax to realise the university’s ambitious plans and consolidate its position as a leading university.

“His strong sense of community and philanthropy align with QUT’s DNA,” Professor Coaldrake said.

“Also, his deep understanding of and expertise in many cultural, social and business industries relate closely with our bold vision for QUT’s future as a university that produces world-class researchers and graduates who are among the most highly sought after in Australia and internationally.”

Mr Fairfax said he was extremely honoured to have been appointed Chancellor of QUT.

“I look forward to serving the QUT community. I have always been a great admirer of QUT for its innovation, entrepreneurialism and its encouragement for people from low socio-economic backgrounds to participate in tertiary study,” Mr Fairfax said.

“The engagement of alumni and philanthropy are very close to my ideals, as is the encouragement of Indigenous involvement as students and staff.

“High-impact research and strategic partnerships also play a pivotal role in the university life, of which I look forward to learning and having a better understanding.”
**Free health and fitness assessment**

QUT alumni are invited to have a free 90-minute comprehensive health and fitness assessment at our state-of-the-art Human Movement and Exercise clinic at Kelvin Grove until September 20. The assessment includes pre-exercise screening for cardiac risk, blood glucose and cholesterol. Phone QUT Health Clinics on 3138 9777.

**John Humphrey new Executive Dean of Law**

QUT has announced the appointment of John Humphrey as Executive Dean of the Faculty of Law.

Mr Humphrey (pictured) is a leading practitioner and authority nationally in the field of commercial law, specialising in mergers and acquisitions, as well as equity capital markets.

He will join QUT on the back of a high-profile corporate career as a senior partner, deputy chairman and Board member of national law firm King & Wood Mallesons, one of Australia’s leading law firms.

Mr Humphrey, who commences his role at QUT in January, said that he was “looking forward to this exciting new challenge and the opportunity to contribute to the next stage of development of QUT and the Faculty of Law.”

He joined King and Wood Mallesons in 1998 to build its Queensland practice, which subsequently experienced substantial growth. He has served on the Australian Board for an extended period and is currently chair of the firm’s audit and board strategy committees, and is a member of the international firm’s management committee.

**Remembering a national treasure**

Australia lost a music icon and the first Indigenous Australian to receive mainstream success when Jimmy Little (pictured) died in April at age 75.

Mr Little was awarded an honorary doctorate from QUT in 2004, one of the many accolades the entertainer received over a long and successful recording career that began at age 19. He achieved major chart success, including three gold records for his No.1 hit *Royal Telephone*, by 1963. Mr Little maintained a tireless devotion to his craft and community, in particular Aboriginal education. In 1989 he was named Australian Aboriginal of the Year while a decade later he was inducted into the ARIA Australian Music Hall of Fame. In 2004, a public vote named him a National Living Treasure and he received an Order of Australia (AO).

**Elite athletes star at London 2012**

QUT’s ‘sensational seven’ student Olympians returned home victorious with a treasure trove of six medals and the experiences of a lifetime. Swimmer Cate Campbell (pictured second from left) kicked off the tally with a gold medal in the 4x100m freestyle relay on day one. Bronte Barratt and Christian Sprenger each brought home a silver and bronze medal. Bronte was part of the silver-winning team in the 4x200m freestyle relay and bronzed in the 200m freestyle while Christian breaststroked his way to a silver in the 100m and a bronze in the 4x100m medley relay. Water polo player Sophie Smith was part of the team who took bronze. Also in the water was Eloise Amberger who competed in the duet and team synchronized swimming, coming eighth in the latter. Runner Andrew McCabe took part in the 4x100m relay and Hockeyroos captain Madonna Blyth took the team to four wins, one tie and one loss for a fifth place finish.
AS the credits rolled, the 2000-strong audience at the Cannes Film Festival gave The Sapphires a 10-minute standing ovation.

For Wayne Blair, (pictured above) the QUT acting graduate who directed the film and co-wrote its script, thematically the film could be said to mirror the heart of his own story.

He has described The Sapphires as the story of four young Indigenous women from country Victoria who go to Vietnam to entertain troops to find out who they are.

“They fall in love, they see death, they see war but in the end they see themselves,” he has said.

An award-winning junior footballer and cricketer, Mr Blair fell in love with acting while at Rockhampton High School. Although he completed a marketing degree he knew the world of business was not for him.

Being true to himself, in the mid-1990s Mr Blair enrolled in an acting degree at QUT, a move he says was the best thing he ever did.

Anyone who has seen The Sapphires, which opened in August, would agree.

Mr Blair has described directing The Sapphires, his debut feature film, as scary but exciting as he knew the film could be a catalyst for much-needed change.

“So if you want to break down barriers you have to write scripts yourself, you have to direct.”

QUT acting graduate Deborah Mailman stars in the film, which has been distributed to every major international market.

Mr Blair recently returned to QUT as Artist in Residence with support from the Rainbow Reid Foundation.

Critics say: ‘a gem’, ‘brilliant’, ‘a sparkling charmer’

Audiences say: ‘it made my heart sing’

Other QUT acting graduates in the limelight

RYAN JOHNSON is appearing in the second series of TV show Strictly Legal

PAUL HODGE appears in TV’s CSI and the feature film From the Rough

CEILIA MASSINGHAM is starring in CW Network’s new USA TV pilot The Selection

MICHAEL DORMAN appears in the new Robert De Niro film Killer Elite

BRENTON THWAITES stars in the new Blue Lagoon: the Awakening TV film and will play the Prince in the Disney film Maleficent

ANNA MCGAHAH starred in Underbelly Razor and won the Heath Ledger Scholarship to help her pursue her career in Los Angeles
To boldly go where no glass has gone before.

QUT’S first foray into outer space is bound to be a giant step for mankind.

Dr Martin Castillo, from QUT’s Science and Engineering Faculty, has partnered with the United States Air Force to fund world-first research into the development of glass capable of making fibres that deliver information around the globe more efficiently.

Dr Castillo (pictured at QUT’s microgravity drop tower) said the special glass, known as ZBLAN glass, would be the first QUT project to be launched into space.

“True ZBLAN glass can be made only in the absence of gravity,” he said.

“This glass contains a variety of heavy metals that upon cooling create internal stresses which leads to crystallization of the material, an undesired property for glass.

“However, the synthesis of this material in the absence of gravity has the ability to overcome this barrier.”

It is believed the glass could revolutionise the way fibres are made for telecommunications and medical imaging tools.

Dr Castillo said the glass had the lowest theoretical attenuation loss of any glass yet known to man, which means little or no loss in signal occurs within the material.

“ZBLAN glass can be potentially drawn into a solid fibre and signals would be able to be transmitted over much greater distances than in current silicate glass fibres,” he said.

“The result of this is potentially eliminating power consuming amplifiers and repeaters while significantly increasing bandwidth.”

Although the glass has been made, attempts to draw it into a fibre have been unsuccessful.

Research will first be conducted at QUT’s microgravity drop tower in an experiment that will see the glass undergo ~2.1 seconds of microgravity over a 21.3m drop inside of a drag shield.

Dr Castillo, who has previously worked for space programs in the USA and Japan, will also conduct the experiment on NASA’s parabolic flight plane, dubbed the vomit comet, before launching the project into space via a United States Air Force suborbital satellite by mid next year.

“I previously spent two years working in Japan trying to produce this glass via gas levitation and with a fibre-pulling apparatus in zero gravity and was unsuccessful,” he said.

“Now I think we’ve been able to formulate very new and different techniques that can be used by anyone in the world.”

- Alita Pashley

QUT LINKS SPRING ’12

SPACE RACE
WHEN QUT’s new $230 million Science and Engineering Centre opens in early 2013 a centrepiece attraction will be The Cube, one of the world’s largest digital interactive learning and display spaces.

Open to the public, The Cube’s two-storey 7m x 7m video walls will offer breathtaking showcases of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) from design to reality, as well as unprecedented learning and research possibilities for our students and researchers.

The Cube (pictured) is integral to achieving QUT’s vision for the Science and Engineering Centre as a research powerhouse.

Connected to the internet, The Cube will use both off-the-shelf tools, such as Google Maps and games engines, as well as bespoke programs to achieve stunning interactive projects. The Cube’s digital walls comprise interactive touch screens at people level and ‘acres’ of integrated, high-definition projection space above.

The Cube can also act like a giant Skype screen and enable conference hook-ups. Companies can hire it to upload data and work collaboratively with colleagues anywhere in the world.

QUT Precincts executive director Professor Susan Street said The Cube would be a place where the community, in particular schools and young people, would engage in science in exciting and inspirational ways.

“Students from schools far and wide will come to The Cube to learn STEM subjects aligned with the national science curriculum,” she said.

“The Cube will play a big part in our ‘knowledge treks’ for students who come to QUT’s annual camps. Students in remote regions will access a digital ‘Cube Class’ where we link The Cube via an app to classroom electronic whiteboards so they can participate in great learning activities.

“The Cube’s applications are endless – what we know for sure is that it will change the way Queenslanders view the place of science in our lives.”

Creative Industries Precinct’s $80m boost

Dance, drama, visual arts and music students will hone their artistic talents in world-class studio spaces as part of the next stage of QUT’s Creative Industries Precinct.

The new $80 million facility in Kelvin Grove will include an 11,000sqm, six-storey building and refurbished heritage spaces, bringing together 125 Creative Industries Faculty staff, undergraduate students from CI and cross-faculty degrees and around 120 PhD students.

Creative Industries Faculty Executive Dean Rod Wissler said the precinct would be a symbol of urban renewal on the edge of the CBD and provide superior teaching and learning spaces.

“When completed, the new buildings will create a vibrant hub for the creative industries in Kelvin Grove,” Professor Wissler said.

More than 3300 QUT students will be based at the Creative Industries Precinct on Musk Avenue and Kelvin Grove Road when stage two is completed in 2014. Construction starts later this year.
Ditching satellites and powerful computers and opting for camera technology inspired by small mammals may be the future of navigation systems.

Dr Michael Milford (pictured), from QUT’s Science and Engineering Faculty, said his research into making more reliable Global Positioning Systems (GPS) using camera technology and mathematical algorithms would make navigating a far cheaper and simpler task.

“At the moment you need three satellites to get a decent GPS signal and even then it can take a minute or more to get a lock on your location,” he said.

“There are some places geographically where you just can’t get satellite signals and even in big cities we have issues with signals being scrambled because of tall buildings or losing them altogether in tunnels.”

The world-first approach to visual navigation algorithms, which has been called SeqSLAM (Sequence Simultaneous Localisation and Mapping), uses local best match and sequence recognition components to lock in locations.

“SeqSLAM uses the assumption that you are already in a specific location and tests that assumption over and over again. For example, if I am in a kitchen in an office block, the algorithm makes the assumption I’m in the office block, looks around and identifies signs that match a kitchen. Then if I stepped out into the corridor it would test to see if the corridor matches the corridor in the existing data of the office block lay out.

“If you keep moving around and repeat the sequence for long enough you are able to uniquely identify where in the world you are using those images and simple mathematical algorithms.”

Dr Milford said the revolution of visual-based navigation came about when Google took photos of almost every street in the world for the Google Street View project.

However, the challenge was making those streets recognisable in a variety of different conditions and to differentiate between streets that were visually similar.

The research was inspired by Dr Milford’s background in the navigational patterns of small mammals such as rats.

— Alita Pashley
EVERY single town in Australia has been rated on its proximity to cardiac care during and after a heart attack, in a QUT-led study.

Associate Professor Robyn Clark (pictured), from QUT’s School of Nursing, led a national research team for the seven-year multi-disciplinary project, called the Cardiac Accessibility and Remoteness Index for Australia (Cardiac ARIA).

The index, developed by cardiology professionals and geographers, tells residents and health professionals what level of emergency and preventative care is available in their neighbourhood for the potentially life-threatening event of a heart attack.

Professor Clark said the project found 71 per cent of Australians lived in Cardiac ARIA “1A” locations, which have specialist hospital care and four types of aftercare within one hour’s drive.

However, she said only 68 per cent of people aged over 65 years of age and 40 per cent of Indigenous people lived within 1A locations.

“The first 60 minutes of experiencing symptoms of a heart attack or any cardiac event is the ‘golden hour’ in which to receive treatment and achieve the best recovery results possible,” she said.

“It is also the maximum length of time people seem willing to travel to get to services that help prevent future secondary attacks, which occur in 50 per cent of cases.”

The Cardiac ARIA index for more than 20,000 Australian locations can be found at http://eprints.qut.edu.au under Professor Clark’s name.

She said each location was given a numeric/alpha rating, where the number related to proximity of emergency cardiac care (ranging one to eight, where one is best), and the alphabetic letter referred to accessibility of services which helped prevent a secondary cardiac event (A to E, where A is best).

She said no matter how near or far a person lived from treatment, the most important factor in surviving a heart attack was to recognise it and seek help as soon as possible.

Professor Clark said heart attacks were caused when build-ups of fatty deposits, called plaque, clotted the arteries that fed the heart muscle and prevented blood flow.

Heart attack symptoms include chest pain, collapse, loss of consciousness, severe shortness of breath, fainting and sustained palpitations with light-headedness.

The research paper was published in the international journal Circulation and received funding from an ARC Linkage Grant and linkage partner AlphaPharm Pty Ltd.

- Rachael Wilson
A family’s flair for maths sends mother-daughter duo west.

AMANDA Day and her daughter Jemma shared a mind for maths, and a nine-hour car ride, when they took on the south-western Queensland town of Charleville for their first teaching practicals this year.

The QUT education students (pictured) are specialising in high school maths and accounting, areas suffering shortages of teachers.

They took their skills to Charleville State High School in May this year for five-week “pracs”, where they first observed and then taught maths classes.

Amanda is enrolled in a Graduate Diploma course in Education, after completing a bachelor degree in accounting at QUT last year, and is due to graduate at the end of this year. Jemma is in her second year of a Bachelor of Education and is due to finish in 2014.

“It was really great to go out there together,” said Jemma, who taught maths to Year 10 and Year 12 students, “we planned our lessons together and gave each other a hand if we weren’t sure on how to teach something or wanted to try something different.”

Jemma said the school was welcoming, with friendly students and helpful teachers.

“We wanted to do our pracs in a regional town, because graduate teachers often get their first job in regional areas and we wanted to try it to see if we liked it,” she said.

“We had a ball. We had excellent supervising teachers and we learned a lot from them.”

Amanda, who taught Year 11 maths students, said they both looked forward to the experience.

“It’s a very small school, with 250 students and 26 teachers, so it was an opportunity to get to know the students and teachers,” she said.

Amanda discovered she loved teaching while undertaking training and assessment to teach vocational training during her bachelor degree and Jemma found her passion while teaching dancers in the United Kingdom.

Sharing the family’s flair for numbers is Jemma’s younger sister Fiona, who began QUT’s Bachelor of Education course, specialising in maths and accounting, this year.

- Rachael Wilson
Juvenile justice and tougher sentencing top the Attorney-General’s reform agenda.

QUEENSLAND’S new Attorney-General and Minister for Justice Jarrod Bleijie has already made a sizeable dent in what is a significant legislative reform agenda.

The Kawana MP (pictured) is determined to change areas considered in need of reform including juvenile justice, the sentencing of child sex offenders and over-regulation in commercial and property law.

It is a resolve that was borne out of doing the hard yards studying law at QUT and working full-time for a Sunshine Coast legal firm while completing his five-year articled clerkship.

With responsibility for juvenile justice now coming under his portfolio, Mr Bleijie, 30, has some firm views on how juveniles can better be dealt with to help them stay out of the prison system.

“With 32 per cent of kids in detention having been there five times or more, we need to think innovatively to break this cycle of crime,” he said.

The groundwork for a youth boot camp trial that will see 80 juveniles attend three-month training and treatment programs is underway.

Quick to act, too, on repeat child sex offenders and murderers, Mr Bleijie has introduced into Parliament new sentencing laws that will see those found guilty spend a non-parole period of at least 20 years in jail.

Undaunted by the hard work his legislative reform agenda promises, the Attorney-General has some salient advice not only for law students but students generally.

“University isn’t meant to be easy and you have got to go through some pain to acquire the skills and ultimately the piece of paper that will enable you to make and take advantage of life’s opportunities. Don’t give up!” Mr Bleijie said.

He said his achievements would not have been possible without the support of his understanding wife, Sally, who is the mainstay of their family unit which includes Taylor, 8, Maddison, 6, and two-year-old Jasper.

– Rose Trapnell
HE is trying to make life easier for 1.5 million people living with debilitating arthritis; she is working to solve a major wastewater problem in Australia’s mining industry.

Dr Travis Klein and Dr Sara Couperthwaite’s fields vary, but the talented duo (pictured) share a common goal of making a difference with their research.

They are among early and mid-career researchers boosting the university’s profile as Vice-Chancellor Research Fellows, with a new group of up to 10 2012 fellows to be announced this year.

Dr Klein, from the Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation (IHBI) at QUT, has used his fellowship and accompanying $20,000 support grant to establish a research group focused on cartilage regeneration.

“At this time in your career it’s important to publish in journals and to build a track record. My fellowship has provided the opportunity, time and financial support to start a research group,” he said.

Dr Klein’s team is developing cost-effective tissue fabrication technologies to engineer cartilage for people with osteoarthritis, a condition caused by the wear and tear of cartilage, which stops the joints from working properly.

“We’re working on forming new cartilage tissues that resemble normal cartilage by combining gels that incorporate specific molecules and cells from osteoarthritis patients.

“We’re also using these tissues to help understand osteoarthritis,” he said.

The VC Research Fellowships have enabled Dr Klein, 35, and Dr Couperthwaite, 27, to secure prestigious Australian Research Council fellowships to further advance their work.

Dr Couperthwaite, who completed a PhD at QUT, is developing a pre-treatment to remove heavy metals such as cobalt, copper, nickel and chromium from industrial wastewater generated by the mining industry.

“I want to pre-treat the wastewater before it is disposed of in dams so if there is dam failure or flooding it minimises the impact on the environment,” she said.

Dr Couperthwaite, from the Science and Engineering Faculty, has developed a hydrotalcite compound that traps heavy metals efficiently using a method called thermal activation. She hopes the compound could be used one day to recycle industrial wastewater for use in the agricultural industry or other sectors.

“It’s important to make industries such as mining as environmentally safe as possible,” Dr Couperthwaite said.

“If we can pre-treat industrial wastewater and re-use it, it will make good use of scarce water resources.”
EXTREME sportspeople – the ones who kayak over waterfalls, jump off cliffs or surf five-storey high waves – are neither daredevils nor thrill seekers but highly skilled athletes, says QUT’s Dr Eric Brymer.

Dr Brymer’s PhD thesis on the experience of extreme sports sparked the making of Transcendence, a 45-minute documentary by New Zealand filmmaker Josh Neilson which delved into the motivations of four extreme sports people.

The Faculty of Health course coordinator (pictured) appears in Transcendence, which had its Australian premiere at QUT Kelvin Grove, to explain the psychological pay-offs that drive people to go beyond the boundaries of traditional sports.

“Extreme sports are those in which the most likely outcome of one mistake or miscalculation means death – no one can rescue you if you make an error,” Dr Brymer said.

“People who take part in extreme sports are psychologically grounded people who have trained for years; they are not daredevils.

“They are people who explore the edge; they want to find out what is around the next corner, and they take responsibility for their own survival.

“Extreme sportspeople are reconnecting with this human instinct. You can’t do extreme sports unless you are technically skilled, have had years of experience and know deeply who you are and what you are capable of.”

Dr Brymer has found a common theme in interviews with extreme sports enthusiasts is that they know they cannot “beat” the sheer rock face they are climbing without ropes, nor “fight” the mighty wave they are riding.

“Instead, they say they ‘become part of the rock and feel their way up it’ or part of the wave so that they can move through it and work with it,” he said.

“The athletes report that as they are engaged in their sport ‘time stands still’, their ‘senses are all alive’ or their mind is ‘still and peaceful’.”

Dr Brymer said the tendency of society to ‘pathologise’ extreme sports people as having a death wish or being risk-takers was dangerous.

“If we do that we are less likely to have structures for what they need to learn,” he said.

“If we see this type of sport as normal and understand it, we can ensure processes are in place to allow people who get interested in it to get training.”

– Niki Widdowson

Transcendence, not a death wish, drives these skilled athletes.
Life-saving pilotless planes

Unmanned aircraft could provide vital intelligence to help Australian authorities fight natural disasters, such as the 2011 Queensland floods, thanks to a $7 million project underway in Brisbane. Project ResQu brings together the nation’s top aerospace experts from QUT, Boeing Research & Technology-Australia, Boeing subsidiary Insitu Pacific and CSIRO. Associate Professor Duncan Campbell, Director of the Australian Research Centre for Aerospace Automation (ARCAA) at QUT, said the project was a world-leading one that would fast-track research to help unmanned aircraft become airborne for routine operations sooner. Professor Campbell said UAVs fitted with cameras would be able to help pinpoint communities and people in need of rescue during natural disasters, potentially saving lives.

Banana health hero

The humble banana will soon be saving pregnant women’s lives in India. New strains of bananas will be developed by QUT scientists to tackle India’s high rate of iron-deficiency anaemia, a major cause of maternal death during childbirth. The Indian government will invest in the project over four years to generate bananas rich in iron, after a Letter of Intent was signed by QUT Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Coadlake and Dr Renu Swarup of India’s Department of Biotechnology. Distinguished Professor James Dale, director of the Centre for Tropical Crops and Biocommodities at QUT and project co-leader, said iron-deficiency anaemia was common in India.

Crunch time for old buildings

The building boom of the 80s has left Brisbane and much of Australia with a bunch of ageing commercial buildings and a big bill to replace or upgrade them so they can withstand the challenges of the future. QUT construction researcher Professor Jay Yang said the average age of Queensland’s office buildings was around 29 years and they had reached a critical time for major upgrading and refitting for ongoing use. He said if office buildings were left as they were they would continue to have high energy consumption and high output of carbon dioxide.

Healing wounds in Europe

A wound-healing invention developed at QUT is awaiting regulatory approval for entry into the European market. Professor Zee Upton from QUT’s Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation (IHBI) is the technical founder and consulting Chief Scientific Officer for Tissue Therapies Limited – the biotechnology company developing VitroGro® ECM. Professor Upton said a protein in the ECM liquid was extremely sticky and quickly adhered to the wound bed. Professor Upton said the treatment had achieved remarkable results in an international human trial.

Nanoparticles explain weird lunar soil

A stunning discovery by QUT soil scientist Marek Zbik of nanoparticles inside bubbles of glass in lunar soil could solve the mystery of why the moon’s surface topsoil has many unusual properties. Dr Zbik, from the Science and Engineering Faculty, said scientists had long observed the strange behaviour of lunar soil but had not taken much notice of the nano and submicron particles found in the soil and their source was unknown. Dr Zbik took the lunar soil samples to Taiwan where he could study the glass bubbles without breaking them using a new technique for studying nano materials. He said the lunar glass bubbles were filled with a highly porous network of alien-looking glassy particles that span the bubbles’ interior.
YOU’D be forgiven for feeling exhausted after reading through Erin Gregor’s CV or scrolling through her diary. The QUT business and journalism student (pictured) has fit more into the past four years than many people fit into an entire career ... and she hasn’t even finished uni yet!

Erin’s devotion to her studies, her university and helping the community have earned her the 2012 QUT Student Leader of the Year award.

Her efforts have also impressed potential employers: she’s already accepted a 2013 position as an associate consultant with the Sydney office of global management consulting firm Bain & Company.

Erin’s extra-curricular activities – at home and abroad – have included representing QUT in seven international business case competitions, attending seven Model United Nations conferences, serving on the Business School Student Advisory Committee, working as a student ambassador, and helping organise the QUT Ball.

“Travel is a huge part of my life and I’ve been so lucky to have so many wonderful travel opportunities,” she said.

“Being chair of the Security Council at the Paris International Model United Nations and winning the USC Marshall International Case Competition in Los Angeles were both once-in-a-lifetime experiences.”

Erin’s volunteer work has included helping Volunteering Queensland with its social media information during the 2011 Queensland floods and later coordinating 30 QUT international students for volunteering placements.

“I’ve also had the opportunity to speak to school students about volunteering through the yLead program,” she said.

“Meeting school students who are passionate about helping others is really inspiring and gives me a lot of faith in the good things people can achieve.”

Getting her own priorities in order and balancing her time is something Erin has learnt a lot about in recent years.

“If there is something I’m really passionate about, I will try to find time to fit it in,” she said.

“On the other hand, there are only 24 hours in a day and learning when to say ‘no’ can be just as important.

“The last four years have been a big juggling act but I wouldn’t trade the experiences I’ve had for anything.”

– Mechelle McMahon

This student leader has squeezed a career’s worth of accomplishments into her studies.

QUT has recognised 10 students with excellence awards in the 2012 Student Leadership Awards, including Peter Von Einem and Kirralea Parsons.

Peter is studying toward a Bachelor of Justice, with a major in policing. He helps connect the student body through initiatives such as QUT Connect, East West Language Exchange and Start Smart and his community work includes promoting gender equality health initiatives.

Kirralea is a dual degree student studying a Bachelor of Health Science and a Bachelor of Media and Communication. She volunteers with QUT Connect, East West and International Student Services, hosts an annual picnic for fellow students, and has mentored Indigenous high school students.

Peter and Kirralea have also both benefited from the QUT Learning Potential Fund, which is supported by QUT staff, alumni and community donations.
THE scent of flowers wafts through the hallway of Shannon Yeardley’s Queenslander. Sunflowers, lilies and tulips are grouped into plastic buckets on the kitchen table. And a brown Labrador lolls around the back deck, which overlooks five acres of bushland in Samford, north-west of Brisbane.

The Flower Project, a volunteer-run program which delivers bouquets of flowers to overlooked people in the community, started here, in Mrs Yeardley’s home, a year ago. Its success has turned the psychologist, who completed a Master of Clinical Psychology at QUT in 2006, into a symbol of petal power.

“It still amazes me how quickly it has grown,” says Mrs Yeardley (pictured above left). “Through doing a floristry course, I ended up with a house full of flowers.

“I thought wouldn’t it be great to acknowledge people on the fringes of society and to thank people in carers’ roles. That’s how it all started.”

Up to 20 people receive bouquets each week, with flowers arranged by volunteers and delivered through the foundation, which recently received charitable status.

More than 700 bouquets have been distributed since the Flower Project’s inception to “community gems” including foster carers, volunteers, parents of special needs children, and health and service professionals.

“And basically anybody going through a rough time who needs a bit of sunshine,” Mrs Yeardley says.

The foundation has gained national attention, featuring on Channel 7’s Sunrise program and in major newspapers.

“It’s a simple gesture, but it’s what the flowers symbolise that’s important,” says Mrs Yeardley, who is CEO of the Flower Project Foundation.

“For someone feeling isolated or lonely, a small acknowledgement can make their week.”

Board co-director Fiona Engwirda, who completed a Bachelor of Music and Education at QUT, became involved with the Flower Project when she received a bouquet after her two-and-a-half-year-old daughter, Kate, passed away.

“For me, it has been a very rewarding journey. Knowing what we experienced with the loss of our daughter, receiving the flowers really made me want to do it for others,” says Mrs Engwirda (pictured above right).

The foundation is expanding to include a corporate appreciation program to give employers the chance to recognise staff.

“We hope to go nation-wide. It has to be self-sustaining but it’s definitely a possibility,” Mrs Yeardley says.

Visit www.theflowerproject.com.au to donate, suggest a recipient or for more information.

– Stephanie Harrington
Welcome Ken Gideon

KEN Gideon has recently joined QUT as Alumni Manager with a wealth of experience and a strong vision for the future of the program.

His goal is to take QUT Alumni to the next level, to be known as the best university alumni program in Australia.

Ken aims to achieve this by implementing alumni involvement at a strategic planning level and encouraging ongoing communication with graduates.

“The Alumni Program is about a mutually engaging relationship between QUT and our alumni that involves the exchange of time, treasure and talent,” he said.

Ken believes that there are many ways that QUT and alumni can support each other - through mentor programs, funding and sharing graduate talent with current QUT students.

His involvement in graduate engagement began as a volunteer during his undergraduate study at Old Dominion University in Virginia, USA, where Ken obtained a BS and MEd focusing on higher education administration.

He was heavily involved with alumni throughout his 17 years with Old Dominion University as Assistant Director for Licensing and Special Events Coordinator before coming to Australia to work with USQ.

Throughout his role as the Events Manager and then Project Manager Development with USQ, Ken introduced an excellent development program.

Ken completed a Graduate Diploma in Organisation Communication from UQ during that time.

More recently, Ken was the Alumni and Engagement Manager for the School of Medicine, University of Queensland, where he created a thriving School of Medicine alumni program from scratch.

Ken’s enthusiasm and expertise are welcome additions to the QUT Alumni team where he has an open-door policy that also extends to our alumni. If you have any questions or comments for Ken contact him directly at ken.gideon@qut.edu.au.
Come to 2012 QUT Alumni Annual General Meeting and Volunteer Reception

Graduates of QUT and its predecessor institutions are invited to the 2012 QUT Alumni Annual General Meeting and Volunteer Reception. The evening is an opportunity to hear about the year’s alumni activities and an opportunity to identify issues that you wish the Alumni Board to address. The Alumni Service Awards for 2012 will be presented at the meeting. Voting for Alumni Board members will also take place and the results of the election will be declared at the meeting. Alumni can vote via postal ballot from September 21 or at the AGM. For further AGM information or to RSVP, contact the Alumni Office on (07) 3138 4778 or email alumni@qut.edu.au

Singapore alumni event

A networking event in May featured an entertaining presentation from 2012 Creative Industries OAA winner, Jeffrey Tan while eminent Alumnus Ms Carmee Lim was guest speaker at the Singapore graduation ceremony.

Thailand alumni event

QUT International and QUT Business School had an event in Bangkok in June.

London alumni celebration

The Olympics isn’t the only party this year. The Trade and Investment Queensland Europe Office, in conjunction with QUT and six other Queensland universities, is hosting an all Queensland Alumni Cocktail reception in London on Friday September 14 at the Edward Lumley Hall, Royal College of Surgeons of England. Email alumni@qut.edu.au for more information.

Singapore honour for Jeffrey Tan

Jeffrey Tan (pictured with Alumni manager Ken Gideon) was named Young Alumnus of the Year at the 2012 Distinguished Australian Alumni Awards at the Australian High Commission in Singapore. Jeffrey has also been announced as the 2012 Creative Industries Faculty Outstanding Alumni Award winner for 2012. Read more about Jeffrey on page 2.
**Services and benefits for QUT alumni**

Various services and benefits that are now available exclusively to QUT alumni. These include NAB@ work banking benefits and QUT Bookshop discounts. For more information, please visit www.qut.edu.au/alumni

**Are you moving interstate or overseas?**

If you are moving interstate or overseas, QUT’s alumni chapters would be glad to welcome you. Getting involved with the alumni chapters is a great way to stay connected and network with other graduates. For more information, contact the Alumni Office at alumni@qut.edu.au and we’ll help you get connected.

**Calling all QUT Golden Graduates**

Did you complete study at one of QUT’s predecessor institutions in 1961 or earlier? If so, you are invited to the annual 2012 Golden Graduates Morning Tea, supported by Live Life Villages and Malouf Pharmacies.

- **Date:** Saturday, November 3
- **Enquiry:** Contact Alumni Office on (07) 3138 1837

---

**Get a piece of QUT history**

It may affectionately be known as Brisbane’s ugliest building, but L block (pictured above) holds special memories for many QUT grads. A training ground since 1969, the old block will shut its doors at the end of exams on November 23 and be demolished brick by brick. Civil engineering, surveying and construction management and maths students will have fond (and maybe fraught) memories of the building which has housed QUT’s food court and bookstore as well as faculty and staff offices. As a special farewell to L block, QUT is making available a limited number of commemorative bricks. To find out how to own one email s.ganske@qut.edu.au

**Built Environment and Engineering Dean’s Scholars**

The alumni group held their annual Great Debate, an event that involves students and alumni from different engineering disciplines battling it out to determine which discipline is best at solving a particular problem. The 2012 victors were Electrical Engineering.

**Outstanding alumni tribute wins international award**

A coffee table book to mark the 20th anniversary of the QUT Outstanding Alumni Awards won two awards in June in the 2012 CASE Circle of Excellence Awards run by US-based Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). The gold award in the institutional relations publications category was awarded to QUT’s Alumni and Development team for the beautifully produced Inspire: QUT Outstanding Alumni Awards - Celebrating 20 years. QUT photographer Sonja de Sterke won the silver award for Photographer of the Year.

**DO YOU KNOW AN OUTSTANDING QUT ALUMNUS?**

Each year the Outstanding Alumni Awards recognise alumni of QUT and its predecessor institutions for exceptional professional, academic or research achievement and contribution to the community. If you know an outstanding QUT graduate who has made a significant contribution, please submit a nomination form. For more information, visit www.qut.edu.au/alumni, contact (07) 3138 2821 or email alumni@qut.edu.au

Nominations close March, 2013

---

Join Our Alumni E-Newsletter for special offers, alumni events and activities, QUT and alumni news.

How to contact the alumni office: Web www.qut.edu.au/alumni E alumni@qut.edu.au P +61 7 3138 4778 Fax +61 7 3138 1514 Mail QUT Alumni, GPO Box 2434, Brisbane Q 4001, Australia
Submit online at www.qut.edu.au/alumni or email alumni@qut.edu.au or fax an update to +61 7 3138 1514

keep in touch
Share your news
Quote the year you prefer to be listed under, if you have more than one degree from QUT or a predecessor institution. QUT Links reserves the right to edit all Keep in Touch notes received.

2000s

Luk Chau (Leo)
BInfoTech 2006
Leo hasn’t caught up with classmates in a long time and misses his university days. He wishes his fellow classmates happiness and wellbeing.
lukoasis@yahoo.com.hk

Priya Panwar (nee Dalal)
BA/LLB 2008
Priya graduated in 2008 with a degree in arts/laws (honours) and worked as an associate to her honour Chief Judge Wolfe in 2009. After practising insurance law at Cooper Grace Ward for almost two years, Priya works at Carter Newell in the construction & engineering team. Outside of work and study, Priya enjoys volunteering, playing guitar, Bollywood dancing, hip hop and volleyball.
ppanwar@carternewell.com
(07) 3000 8390

Dr Cory Taylor
PhD 2006
Cory has continued to work as a screenwriter on various projects, in collaboration with local producers and directors since graduation. A number of her works have been selected to appear in International Film Festivals. Cory’s debut novel Me and Mr Booker was published to critical acclaim by Text Publishing, and has gone on to win the Pacific Region Commonwealth Book Prize for 2012.
cory.taylor6@bigpond.com

Eliza Vassallo
PostGradDipPsych 2002
Since graduating Eliza has worked in various places, a private boys’ school, a hospital and after having two children of her own, has ventured into private practice. Her practice, Child’s Play Queensland, offers psychological counselling to children and adolescents. Eliza’s speciality is grief and loss counselling for those experiencing family separation and divorce.
eliza@childsplyqld.com.au

2000s

Susan (Sue) Russell
DiplEd(Sec-Comm) 1988
Sue currently works in alumni relations at St Aidan’s Anglican Girls’ School. Sue is married to David and has two children, Tom, 22, and Meg, 20.
s.russell@staidans.qld.edu.au
0409 274 247

Murray Jorgensen
Btech(Civ) 1975
Since moving to Western Australia in 1976, Murray has worked on major resource development projects in contracts management and study management roles. Murray is employed with the Dampier Port Authority as Strategic Development Manager. Murray is on the planning team for a major new port on the Pilbara Coast.
murray@westnet.com.au
0457 539 040

Marie Holmes
(Cnee Brookes)
CertTeach 1962
After moving from Queensland to New South Wales in 1968, Marie taught for New South Wales government schools and Catholic schools.
mariejholmes@gmail.com
(02) 4625 2876

Peter Row
BBus(Management) 1990
Peter has recently returned to Brisbane following 15 years in the US, UK and UAE. Initially he worked as a development manager with Lend Lease focusing on retail property. He is now co-founder and managing director of a specialist consultancy in the same field. Peter is looking to expand this business in the Asia Pacific.
peter.row@vindicoretail.com

1990s

Janet Dyke
MEd 1997
Janet is working as administrator of the Anglican Parish of Kawana Waters on Queensland’s Sunshine Coast. She was recently appointed as an Examining Chaplain for the Diocese of Brisbane.
janet.dyke@gmail.com
0414 704 312

Robyn Osborne
GradDipEd(EarlyChild)(Preservice) 1997
Robyn was recently selected for the second national QWC/Allen & Unwin Manuscript Development Program for Children’s fiction writers with her manuscript Peta’s Niary. Robyn’s other books include Dog Logic – a pooch’s guide to dogs behaving badly and D.O.G.
osborne.robyn@gmail.com
www.robynosborne.com

1990s

Michael Jukes
DipElectrical Engineering 1968, Postgrad Bus Admin QUT
Now retired after 47 years service with Brisbane City Council, Michael worked as an electrical engineer gaining experience in the electrical industry, water supply and sewerage, and as a corrosion technologist ACA.
michael.jukes762@gmail.com
0432 408 518
ON behalf of the QUT community, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Peter Arnison for his eight years of truly outstanding service to this University as our Chancellor. I would also like to thank Barbara Arnison, the co-captain of ‘team Arnison’, for her great interest in the people and life of QUT.

The modern Chancellor has three roles. The first is the very public and ceremonial one we witness at graduation ceremonies over which the Chancellor presides. The second is that of corporate governance, with the Chancellor chairing the QUT Council, our governing body, and serving on senior committees such as Finance and Resources, and Audit and Risk. The third is the community role the Chancellor plays within our own community as well as in the broader world as an ambassador and advocate for the University.

Reflecting back to the time of his joining us, Peter was already a much-admired figure in the community when he was appointed to QUT in 2003 and we felt very fortunate to secure him as our Chancellor. During his career, he had distinguished himself in public service, business leadership and in the armed services. He served for 37 years in the Australian Army in a variety of infantry command appointments, retiring as Land Commander Australia in June 1996. He then earned the respect of Queenslanders as the State’s 23rd Governor from 1997 to 2003.

To this day, he has continued to lead and serve on several high profile boards including as chairman of the Centre for Military and Veterans’ Health; a director of Energex Limited; and a director of the Australian Multicultural Foundation. And then in 2011 Peter was chosen to chair the Brisbane City Council Flood Response Review Board.

Peter Arnison’s noble sense of public service is all too rare in today’s community. His genuine like of and interest in people has enabled him to discharge his ceremonial, governance and community responsibilities with a warmth and grace that has seen people respond and relate to him in each sphere.

In his ceremonial duties, he presided over some 91 QUT graduation ceremonies (80 in Brisbane and 11 offshore) and, over the eight years of his Chancellorship, has greeted some 23,000 graduating students on stage. And for each and every student he has greeted, he always has had something special to say – which most will remember.

Peter Arnison has been a strong and effective Chair of our governing body, considerate of the views of others and utterly diligent in all aspects of his committee engagement. The QUT Council itself comprises 21 members and it is no easy task to keep Council on track and cohesive, but Peter has achieved superbly on both counts and maintained good humour as well.

Nowhere has Peter’s commitment to community been seen more clearly than in his leadership of our Outstanding Alumni Awards, a signature event in each year’s calendar.

Our warmest thanks, Peter and Barbara, for your mighty contribution to QUT. Our very best wishes for the future.

Professor Peter Coaldrake, AO
Vice-Chancellor
Alumnus Deanna Hood has the world at her feet and she wants to better it. At age 20, she is a TED Worldwide Talent Search finalist; has helped design life-changing technologies; and completed a double degree in maths and electrical engineering at QUT with a near-perfect grade point average. Ms Hood, who grew up in Brisbane and started university at age 15, was named the QUT 2011 Kindler Medallist in July. She recently moved to Europe to start a prestigious Erasmus Mundus European Master of Computer Vision and Robotics, one of seven scholarships offered internationally to non-European residents.