



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA
Achieve International Excellence

A CENTURY OF
ACHIEVEMENT
1913 - 2013



Uniview

Vol. 32 No. 2, Winter 2013



From 'refugee kid'
to Young Australian
of the Year

Remember UWA in your will



Rachael van der Moezel
UWA music student

The University of Western Australia was founded on a spirit of philanthropy with a bequest from Sir John Winthrop Hackett. His legacy continues to thrive as we celebrate our Centenary.

Music lover Reta Thornton generously bequeathed a percentage of her estate to UWA to establish a scholarship trust for students studying music. Her bequest is established in perpetuity in the School of Music and it will provide enhanced music tuition scholarships for students who, like Reta, have a passion for music and wish to follow their dream.

Become a part of the University's next 100 years by including UWA in your will.

For more information contact Bequest Manager Anne Liddle on +61 8 6488 8537, email anne.liddle@uwa.edu.au or visit our website development.uwa.edu.au/bequests.



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Cover image: Prime Minister Julia Gillard presents UWA student Akram Azimi with his Young Australian of the Year award in Canberra (Photo: Professor James Trevelyan)



How to win a Nobel Prize
Nobel Laureate Barry Marshall shows Taylor's College students a T-shirt listing Australia's Nobel Laureates (see *Academic Profile*)

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GROUP OF EIGHT
MEMBER



Behind the scenes in Afghanistan
Australian diplomat and UWA graduate Fred Smith, with an Afghan tribal leader (see *War and peace in Afghanistan*)

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A night to remember



LUMINOUSnight, the public launch of the University's Centenary celebrations, drew more than 35,000 to our campus on February 8, where they enjoyed a night of music, dance and drama. The inspirational projections on Winthrop Hall added to the pleasure of staging UWA's 'gift to the community'.

Every session of the LUMINOUSnight projection was sold out, with spectators even gathering on Stirling Highway to watch the visual art journey through UWA history.

The events of the night were hugely appreciated – some 4,000 crowded the Somerville Auditorium to listen to tango quartet Saggezza and Nova Ensemble, and an equal number gathered in the Great Court to be charmed by Chrissie Parrott's dance work inspired by the peacocks, peahens and other birds on campus. The steady flow of families and groups between the foreshore, the illuminated campus and performance spaces – who were entertained on the way by stilt walkers and puppets – created an unforgettable atmosphere.

LUMINOUSnight gave way to the Alumni Weekend when 1,000 alumni returned to campus to meet old friends, visit old haunts and admire new facilities. There was lots of entertainment, along with a range of stimulating talks that reminded participants of why – over a century – UWA has risen through the global ranks of universities to be counted among the top 100.

UWA graduate Shaun Tan's spectacular sundial, the Centenary history *Seeking Wisdom*, the CD featuring School of Music performers and graduates, the Centenary poem and plant – all were launched, while friendships were rekindled and graduates forged new links with UWA.

The Founding Professors at Open Day

One of the stand-out events during the Alumni Weekend was the booked-out UWA Founding Professors panel discussion and profiles, so the UWA Historical Society is arranging an encore presentation as part of our special Centenary Open Day. The panel will present profiles on the eight Founding Professors: AD Ross, HE Whitfeld, EO Shann, WJ Dakin, WG Woolnough, NT Wilsmore, JW Paterson and WL Murdoch and there will be an accompanying display of memorabilia about the professors and UWA's Irwin Street days. Due to the popularity of this event, registrations will be taken from July at openday.uwa.edu.au



Founding Professors E O Shann (top) and W J Dakin

Over the century, more than 100,000 graduates have passed through this University, moving on to make significant contributions to the global community. Some, like singer/songwriter Fred Smith were on stage, while others were featured in the Alumni Weekend program including Nobel Laureate Professor Barry Marshall, talking about curiosity-driven research, and Sir Rod Eddington, sharing his thoughts on Australia's changing place in the world of business. We have a profile on our Nobel Laureate in this issue and Fred Smith is featured in *War and Peace in Afghanistan*.

"The enthusiasm marking the launch of our Centenary augurs well for our next 100 years," Vice-Chancellor Paul Johnson said as he thanked his staff for the extraordinary effort that went into staging the event. "LUMINOUSnight was the University's gift to the community and it was gratifying to see so many enjoying it on an idyllic summer evening."

And you can continue to enjoy it by visiting centenary.uwa.edu.au and by coming to UWA's Centenary Open Day in August.

Our global ambassadors



Vice-Chancellor Paul Johnson considers UWA's graduates and students its greatest ambassadors and this photo certainly reflects that sense of pride: Young Australian of the Year Akram Azimi (current student) and graduate Michael Sheldrick, (head of a Global Poverty Project campaign) meeting philanthropist and Microsoft founder Bill Gates at the recent Global Vaccine Summit in the United Arab Emirates. The event was co-hosted by the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, Bill Gates and the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi.

Michael and Akram have worked together to raise the funds and the profile of the Global Poverty Project's The End of Polio campaign. They were delighted when Mr Gates singled out Australia as a country committed to polio eradication. It's been a busy year for Akram, and you can read his story in this issue.

UWA Guild celebrates

Like UWA, the UWA Guild is celebrating its centenary this year, and like its predecessors, today's UWA Guild Council is working to enhance the student experience today and into the future.

The Council is also planning a string of Centenary events: during second semester a time capsule will be sealed at the annual Cruikshank-Routley Guild Ball on 25 October and buried in the Guild Village shortly after; on 12 July a Gala Night in Hackett Hall will see the launch of the Guild's centenary history, *Two and Sixpence, A Student Century* (edited by well-known journalist and UWA graduate Patrick Cornish); from 6 – 17 August a display of images and artefacts reflecting the Guild's history will be displayed at the UWA Cullity Gallery; and centenary merchandise – from T-shirts to key rings – is already on sale at the Co-op Bookshop and the Newsagency in the Guild Village.

The Guild also plans to return to Hackett Hall photographic details of a large mural that once covered the wall of the Guild's private dining room in the Hackett Hall extension, opened by then Prime Minister, Sir Robert Menzies, in 1961.

The original mural – destroyed when the wall was demolished – was the work of then up-and-coming artist David Gregson (1934 – 2002) who went on to become one of the State's leading artists. The young artist was well known for his Perth murals and volunteered to decorate the wall. His work became a well-loved feature of a dining room that hosted many notable events in the Guild's history.

Photographs of the original mural and of the artist at work will be unveiled in the Hackett Café at the Guild's Centenary Gala Night in July.

For further details of centenary events, visit the Guild website at: guild.uwa.edu.au/100

We're planning a history of the Guild for the Spring UNIVIEW, so if you served on the Council and have anecdotes or photos to share, please send them to trea.wiltshire@uwa.edu.au



The young artist David Gregson working on the Hackett Hall mural in the 1960s.

The buzz on bees

UWA Extension always has its finger on the pulse of international issues such as the health of the world's bee populations, which is why two experts from the Centre for Integrated Bee Research will feature in Extension's winter program. Tiffane Bates, Apiary



Manager at the Centre, has been involved in beekeeping for two decades and travelled internationally to better understand the possibilities of breeding honey bees that aren't susceptible to the Varroa mite parasite.

UWA research scientist Dr Barbara Baer-Imhoof is investigating how stress affects the fertility of male honey bees.

Rhodes Scholars heading to Oxford



Rhodes Scholars Dr Katharine Noonan and David Sherwood (Photo: Matt Galligan)

UWA's 2013 Rhodes Scholars are preparing to embark on their studies at Oxford University.

Australia-at-large Rhodes Scholar, Dr Katharine Noonan, plans to increase the delivery of mental health services to low-income countries and will undertake a Masters by Research in Psychiatry with the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry section of the prestigious university. The 2005 Dux of St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls was awarded the WA Department of Health Prize in Public Health for the highest mark in fourth year MBBS studies in 2012.

The State's 2013 Rhodes Scholar, David Sherwood, says his undergraduate studies in the research-based Bachelor of Science (Advanced) degree provided a solid foundation in skills that will prove invaluable.

"The research projects tested my ability to rapidly adapt to a new working environment and bring myself up-to-date with the specific theory of the new field," he says. "Through this elite UWA program, I developed innovative and critical thinking skills that I've utilised across all walks of life, especially in leadership positions."

She was also involved in the production of the *More than Honey* documentary voted the most successful documentary in Switzerland in 2012.

Extension's *How to keep a beehive* and *Life in a hive* will be presented during July and August.

You can book directly: extension.uwa.edu.au or telephone 6488 4233.

An Australian first for researcher

Winthrop Professor Harvey Millar, one of the world's most highly cited plant scientists in recent years, has become the first Australian to win the prestigious Charles Albert Shull award that recognises outstanding investigation in the field of plant biology.

The Deputy Director at the ARC Centre of Excellence in Plant Energy Biology has an impressive body of research on plant mitochondria and heads a proteomics laboratory ranked among the world's top 25. In 2012, he won the Australian Academy of Science's Fenner Medal recognising distinguished research in biology.

And while Professor Millar is honoured in the US, one of his former PhD students, Tiago Tomaz – dubbed by local media the 'surfing scientist' – has become a Fulbright Scholar who plans to further his research (enhancing crop productivity to feed a hungry planet) in the United States (see *Our Fulbright Scholars*).



Winthrop Professor Harvey Millar

Wine Show by the Bay

Several graduates involved in the wine industry will join other vignerons on campus for the Wine Show by the Bay being organised by the University Club as a way of celebrating UWA's centenary. There will be a day of sampling and feasting, along with a Long Table picnic lunch. For more information, visit: universityclub.uwa.edu.au

In this issue, Professor Alex Cohen writes about one of the industry's most distinguished researchers, graduate John Gladstones (see *Guest Column*).

"You can do it!"



UWA graduate Dr Jodie Eatt (centre) with Seminar Coordinator Brendon DeGois (School of Indigenous Studies) with visiting Indigenous students (l – r) Madison Edwards, Lenka Hansen and Brandon Cook.

Safety Bay High School student Jodie Eatt was one of the first Indigenous students selected to attend a UWA camp back in 1995. Recently Dr Jodie Eatt returned to campus to address students from her old school (and others across the State), about her journey to complete Medicine in 2001.

The UWA graduate is now considering specialist training in Psychiatry and says: "I've found a career I love and it all started with someone saying, 'You can do it!' Medicine was not a career I'd ever entertained before attending the camp," she recalls.

Throughout her studies, Dr Eatt has spoken to students at leadership seminars, spreading her 'You can do it!' message. Recently she addressed an annual five-day residential camp for Year 11 and 12 students run by the School of Indigenous Studies. This outreach program is now in

its 21st year, and participants have gone on to a range of careers, including becoming lawyers, doctors and engineers.

During the camp, students attend academic and personal development workshops along with social and cultural activities. They also 'buddy up' with current students to get an insight into study at UWA. This year, 70 per cent of new Indigenous enrolments at UWA are outreach program participants.

UWA's Centre for Aboriginal Medical and Dental Health has Australia's highest success rate for Indigenous medical graduates. Indigenous doctors are more likely to come from UWA than almost anywhere in Australia, with a 95 per cent completion rate.

If you'd like to know more about the School of Indigenous Studies outreach programs, phone: 08 6488 3428, email: sis@uwa.edu.au, visit: sis.uwa.edu.au

At the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery

Often penniless and generally reclusive, artist Ian Fairweather avoided the art world "like a plague", yet, according to critic Robert Hughes, his finest works surpassed all other Australian painting.

What makes the artist's work distinctive is an ability to fuse elements of cubism, calligraphy and Aboriginal art into works of extraordinary force and originality. *ORIENTing: Ian Fairweather in Western Australian Collections* runs until 13 July at the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery on campus.

The elusive artist studied at the Hague Academy, London's Slade School of Fine Art and the School of Oriental Studies in the 1920s, before embarking on extensive travels during which he worked as a farmhand in Canada, a road inspector in Shanghai and a bush-cutter in Australia. His final studio was a hut on Australia's Bribie Island but his

work is represented in all state galleries, London's Tate Gallery and Belfast's Ulster Museum.

The gallery's cultural partners in this event are the Confucius Institute and Asian Studies at UWA. Public programs include an exhibition tour by Curator Sally Quin and Professor Ted Snell, Director of the UWA Cultural Precinct; a Chinese calligraphy workshop (July 12); and a special viewing that includes a performance by WA guitarist Christine Yeong. For more information, visit the website: lwgallery.uwa.edu.au

Also on display is an exhibition of works drawn from the Cruthers Collection of Women's Art and the UWA Art Collection. *Towards Perth* includes works by Portia Bennett, Elise Blumann, Audrey Greenhalgh, Jean Appleton, Elizabeth Blair Barber and Edith Trethowan. These artists produced landscapes, seascapes and depictions of Perth that reflected modernist ideas.



Towards Perth exhibition: Audrey Greenhalgh, Morning Shadows, 1947, oil on canvas, The University of Western Australia Art Collection. The Ruby Rose Maller Fine Arts Acquisition Fund, 1993 © courtesy the artist's estate.

UWA gives back

UWA's Centenary is proving a great opportunity to strengthen and celebrate UWA's enduring relationships with the people of regional Western Australia.

With the Mid-West becoming a global hub for radio astronomy as part of the international Square Kilometre Array radio telescope, the recent Astrofest tour of the region involved staff from the International Centre for Radio Astronomy Research (ICRAR), and UWA outreach



Young star-gazer at Astrofest

programs such as AspireUWA and SPICE, stirring excitement about the night sky – and about study opportunities.

The UWA Gives Back project enables staff and students to visit the regions to engage with

local communities and convey the value of UWA research, to get involved with local projects from urban planning to arts productions and inspire local students to consider tertiary studies.

During the year the UWA Guild will encourage student volunteers to participate in regional community projects, such as the Warren Catchment Council's Woylie conservation projects. The Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Visual Arts will work with Geraldton's community and schools on urban design for a town undergoing significant change; the UWA Business School will take high-achieving Pilbara students to engage with local high schools, while the Faculty of Education's Masters students will work with schools in the Morowa area.

In addition, staff, alumni and senior students from the Faculty of Engineering, Computing and Mathematics plan a July road show to the Kimberley while their colleagues from the Faculty of Arts develop a project with Mowanjum Arts and Culture Centre.

For more information on UWA Gives Back visit the website: centenary.uwa.edu.au/uwagivesback

Clough Scholars reaffirm relationship



Clough Executive Vice-President Engineering Gary Bowtell, with Clough Scholars Jessica Regan and Joel Valli, Chief Finance Officer Neil Siford.

Two engineering students at UWA are the newest recipients of the Clough Scholars program initiated by distinguished graduate Dr Harold Clough in 1969. The program reaffirms the longstanding relationship between

Clough and the Faculty of Engineering, Computing and Mathematics at UWA. To date, 200 scholarships have been awarded to engineering students who have gone on to top government, business and resource industry posts.

Graduate wins travel scholarship



UWA lecturer Phillip Goldswain and Thomas Hobbs

Architecture graduate Thomas Hobbs and leading architect Gus Ferguson (who designed several award-winning buildings on campus) share an interest in Scandinavian architecture's relationship with light, context and identity. So it was appropriate that Thomas won the \$10,000 2012 Gus Ferguson Travel Scholarship which he will use to return to Scandinavia to study and photograph local architecture. The graduate previously spent a year in Denmark on exchange, studying at the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts.

Phillip Goldswain, lecturer in the School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Visual Arts, said the winner's proposal had appealed to the award's patron, who is an internationally renowned photographer as well as an architect whose work responds to light.

Mr Ferguson, a former UWA architect, is a keen advocate of mind-broadening travel for young architects. The travel scholarship in his name is awarded every year to a new Architecture graduate.



Open day a winner with families

"We come every year – the kids just love it!" was one mum's verdict during last year's UWA Open Day. She was watching her children peering down microscopes and up telescopes, their wide-eyed delight reflecting the sense of discovery that Open Day is all about.

While catering for all ages, the aim of Open Day is to open minds to the possibility of tertiary studies and to provide guidance to secondary students preparing to make career choices and discipline decisions. For them, it's a chance to meet academics, hear about UWA's research strengths, talk to student advisors and current students and gain access to areas not normally open to the public.

This year's program will

showcase what happens on campus, and the many hands-on activities will be hard to resist. Visitors will be invited to get excited about astronomy, try their hands at surgery, admire the latest Motorsport racing car (built by students) and much more. And when they run out of steam, there is the Matilda Bay foreshore and UWA's gardens in which to relax, enjoy and picnic.

It's all happening on Sunday 11 August and this being UWA's Centenary, there will also be many special talks and tours. You'll also get a second chance to see some of the LUMINOUSnight acts and enjoy screenings of the filmed LUMINOUShall projection. Full details of the program will be available in July at: openday.uwa.edu.au

Partnership generates expertise

Thirteen lucky scholarship winners are benefitting from a global education partnership between UWA and Rio Tinto. The initiative is part of a program to establish a global network of leading education providers to generate expertise for the resource industry.

"We're developing a talent pipeline aligned with UWA's corporate goal to increase diversity by providing opportunities for women and Indigenous students through

scholarships and programs such as Girls in Engineering," says Vice-Chancellor Paul Johnson.

Over the next four years additional scholarships will be awarded and the initiative includes a Rio Tinto Masterclass Program and regular *In the Zone* Boardroom lunches. The first masterclass in May featured Australia's Chief Scientist Professor Ian Chubb and the free lecture was booked out.



UWA recipients of the 2013 Rio Tinto Scholarships with Professor Paul Johnson and Rio Tinto's Pilbara Iron Ore Operations President Greg Lilleyman.

The classics come to college

Fazioli grand pianos turn the heads of serious musicians: only 100 are hand-crafted in Italy each year by Paolo Fazioli, so they're pricey, coveted and can be found in places like the Juilliard School in New York.

UWA's School of Music acquired its first Fazioli in 2007 and now a second stands before a classic bay window in the wood-panelled dining hall of St George's College and – says Warden Ian Hardy with obvious pride – its acquisition was driven by School of Music students.

Music has played an important part in college life but Hardy aspires to making the College an acknowledged centre of excellence for performances that will showcase both College and School of Music students.

"We've entered into a partnership with the School of Music to develop the College as a venue for high quality musical programs," explains Hardy. "In this way we will become an extension of the School's activities. We aim to develop

our musical resources, hold vacation programs and offer music scholarships."

Certainly there is no shortage of performance spaces including the Hackett Dining Hall, Chapel and Quadrangle. School of Music and Engineering student Michael Grebla came up with the idea of developing a classical concert series and purchasing a piano. Encouraged by the Warden and knowing the excellence of the hall's acoustics, he pursued the possibility of a Fazioli.

The fact that the piano now sits in the Hackett Dining Hall says much for the generosity of a Georgian, leading WA engineer Peter Knight, and the fact that the School of Music had already established a relationship with the Italian piano maker. Support also came from Vice-Chancellor Paul Johnson, who agreed that money set aside for the College's music program could go towards the piano. And, to the delight of students and staff, in addition to supporting the



Benefactor and graduate Peter Knight unlocks the Fazioli watched by Michael Grebla.

piano purchase, Peter Knight endowed the Knight Family Music Scholarship.

There is a nice add-on to this story that underscores the importance of College life. Georgians of an earlier era shared a room, and School of Music graduate Tony Field's room-mate was engineering student Peter Knight. Tony introduced Peter to classical music, playing Beethoven's *Pathétique*. It was the starting point of a love of music, and both were present at a Georgians' dinner recently when, coincidentally, the second movement of the piece was performed by Michael Grebla.

"It was an emotional moment," recalls Hardy, "and it underscored that this is what College living is about: you're introduced to things that ordinarily you might miss out on but which end up greatly enriching your life."

The UWA St George's College Concert Series, which started with the Fazioli Piano Inauguration Concert in March, is now in full swing and will undoubtedly win many new music converts in the college.

If you would like to know more about the Concert Series and open events, visit the new college website: stgeorgescollege.com.au

Research highlights

In this issue we profile UWA's Nobel Laureate Professor Barry Marshall, who divides his time between ongoing research and his role as WA Ambassador for Life Sciences.

Professor Marshall's story highlights the impressive output of this University's leading-edge scientists in tackling some of the world's most pressing problems. And, as UWA marks its centenary year, the breakthroughs just keep coming.

One such advance relates to the incurable muscle-wasting disease Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD) and the discovery by Professors Steve Wilton and Sue Fletcher of a new genetic treatment approach. It recently won the pair the WA Innovator of the Year Award and has resulted in a licensing agreement with a US drug company.

Another discovery with worldwide impacts came from a collaboration involving 12 of the world's leading plant biologists, including Winthrop Professor Rana Munns of the School of Plant Biology. This high-level research team found that specialised plant membrane transporters can be used to enhance crop yields, nutrient content and resistance to stresses such as salinity and toxicity from heavy metals. Published in the journal *Nature*, this research addresses feeding a hungry world sustainably – and extending the world's stocks of arable land.

Scroll through media reports for the first half of UWA's centenary and you get an insight into the extraordinary breadth of research being advanced on campus and through international collaborations. Thanks to UWA researchers:

- we know more about the role of new blood vessels in treating bone diseases and fractures following research by Winthrop Professor Jiake Xu, co-author of a paper with Harvard University's Professor Vicki Rosen (who visited UWA as part of the Australia-Harvard Fellowship Program);
- our neighbour Timor-Leste has a new variety of high-yield (and highly nutritious) sweet potato much appreciated by subsistence farmers (published in *Field Crops Research*);
- the world has a new super strong metallic composite created by harnessing the properties of nanowires (co-author of this

world first research, published in *Science*, is UWA's Head of the School of Mechanical and Chemical Engineering, Winthrop Professor Yinong Liu);

- three new molecules have been discovered that could play a role in breast and prostate cancer treatments (oncologist Associate Professor Andrew Redfern and colleagues) and the precise delivery of drugs to diseased cancer cells is being commercialised from nanoparticle technology research by Dr Swaminathlyer's team in the School of Chemistry and Biochemistry;
- we're a step closer to unravelling the puzzle of bird migrations (Dr Jeremy Shaw and Professor Martin Saunders from UWA's Centre for Microscopy, Characterisation, published in *Current Biology*);
- and a quicker, cheaper test for Type I diabetes could be on the horizon following research by Professor Grant Morahan and Assistant Professor Cao Nguyen (published in *Diabetes*). And the list goes on...

All these findings are the result of patient and painstaking work – in laboratories and research hubs on campus, in teaching hospitals and through the many research bodies and international collaborations to which UWA contributes.

And with every advance and breakthrough, the skills and curiosity of a new generation of researchers is being nurtured to take on the challenges of the 21st century. All of which is worth celebrating during our centenary!

You can keep abreast of these findings – and other UWA news – by visiting the UWA website: news.uwa.edu.au



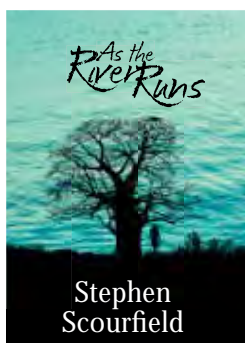
Professor Steve Wilton and Professor Sue Fletcher.

As the River Runs

The award-winning travel editor of *The West Australian*, Stephen Scourfield first ventured into fiction in 2007 with *Other Country*, a UWA Publishing (UWAP) title that won a WA Premier's Book Award and was shortlisted for the Commonwealth Writers' Prize. Now the writer, known for the strong sense of place he brings to travel writing and fiction, has produced his second novel, *As the River Runs*, also published by UWAP.

The Kimberley is the backdrop for a novel encompassing many of the issues current in the political and social arena of a resource-rich state in an ancient landscape. Different values and different – not always overt – agendas are played out in a landscape that has the capacity to change people and perceptions. It makes riveting reading and is available at the UWA Co-op Bookshop and all leading book stores.

New UWAP titles include Amanda Curtin's epic novel spanning four generations, *Elemental*, that travels from Scotland and the Shetland Isles to Fremantle, and Professor Susan Prescott's *The Calling*, a true story of faith, hope and love. You can read about the latter in this issue. For further information of UWAP publications visit: uwap.uwa.edu.au



Graduates give Uniview a tick



UWA graduate Emma Oldfield and her daughter, Poppy.



Thanks to those who wrote in to congratulate us on the February issue. Clearly readers enjoyed being reminded of UWA's rich history and the achievements of graduates working across the world.

Michael Cleaver (BSc, BA) wrote: "So many excellent articles on the history of UWA, it brought back many happy memories of the five years I spent there," while Emma Oldfield emailed: "I'm loving reading about the University's immense history – trying to read as fast as possible while my baby Poppy is asleep – but wanted to say good job, especially with this edition. I'm thinking it may be a keepsake to put with my graduation certificate."

Emma's family have a lengthy history with UWA: her great grandmother Margaret Bracks and grandmother Helen Paxton Fisher studied at UWA, and when Emma graduated in 1997, she proudly wore her great grandmother's rabbit fur hood. The Arts graduate worked with her mother to develop and run LunchBox List, a network and events program for business and professional women, and now combines motherhood with work in business development with an executive search and recruitment firm.

Bringing history home

When Sir John Winthrop Hackett championed the establishment of this University, he endowed a chair considered vital for the State's economy and "the prosperity and good of the people".

The Hackett Professor of Agriculture was one of eight foundation chairs, and, as we celebrate the centenary, research from UWA's Life and Agricultural Sciences has reaped benefits for farmers well beyond Australia. Now recognised internationally, the discipline is ranked 26th in the world.

A year after UWA was established in 1913, the Westralian Farmers Co-operative was established to service and merchandise the wheat and wool the State was already exporting. Today that one time co-operative has become one of Australia's most successful conglomerate companies, Wesfarmers.

The leaders of these two organisations believe it is timely – as UWA celebrates and Wesfarmers prepares to mark its centenary – to come together in creating the Wesfarmers Chair in Australian History at UWA.

Local historians frequently claim that, too often, Western Australia's history has been chronicled from the other side of the continent, so the creation of a Centenary Chair in Australian History at UWA has been hailed as an initiative that will overturn this 'east-centred' perspective.

When the Chair was launched in March, Professor Len Collard, ARC Research Fellow at UWA, said it would guide fresh historical research, promoting academic and community interest in Australian history.

"A new Masters in Education (History) program at UWA is designed specifically for school teachers to ensure that WA history – with its unique regional character and culture – is showcased in the State's education system," Professor Collard said.

Wesfarmers' CEO Richard Goyder hopes the new academic position will "provide an enormously important perspective to current economic, social and environmental debates".

In 2009, UWA won a nationwide bid to establish the federally-funded endowed Chair in Australian Literature. Adding to this pillar, UWA is now working towards the acquisition of a Chair in Australian Art that, like the Wesfarmers Chair in Australian History, will come together under the umbrella of a UWA Centre of Australian Studies.

Dean of Arts, Professor Krishna Sen, says the creation of the Wesfarmers chair has significantly advanced the realisation of this long-term goal to embed the University as a national and international leader in Australian Studies.

Wesfarmers CEO Richard Goyder is our Newsmaker in this issue.



TOP: Wesfarmers CEO Richard Goyder, Dean of Arts Winthrop Professor Krishna Sen and Vice Chancellor Professor Paul Johnson.

St Cat's hosts Scholars



The Governor Malcolm McCusker, Professor Lyn Beazley and Head of St Catherine's Fiona Crowe.

Rhodes Scholars and guests gathered at St Catherine's College earlier this year for an event likely to be an annual fixture in the university year: the Scholars' Dinner. WA Governor Malcolm McCusker, a UWA graduate, launched the initiative that aims to encourage WA students to enter overseas research scholarship programs.

WA's Chief Scientist, UWA's Professor Lyn Beazley,

says scholars will also be encouraged to bring their expertise back to WA.

"At this point, we're targeting Rhodes Scholars and the program, hosted by St Catherine's College, will provide hospitality for new, visiting and returning scholars, as well as offering opportunities for mentoring and networking with current and past scholarship holders."

Curtain up on theatre archive

From its early decades, the University has been a source of entertainment for the people of Perth. The late Dr Leslie Le Soeuf (an Irwin Street student who became a distinguished surgeon and was awarded an OBE for World War II service) recalled that UWA played a major role during the Depression: "There was nothing left in Perth that the ordinary chap and his girl could go and see, but University student functions still took place. Concerts on campus drew people who would bring a rug and enjoy the entertainment."

During the 1950s a new campus tradition was born when yearly revues were staged for the entertainment of students, staff and the community. These high energy productions grew out of the earlier student-staff shows produced by residents of the Guild Hostel and freshers' revues at St George's College.

The existence of amazing performance spaces – from

the Sunken Garden to the New Fortune Theatre – ensured that theatre groups from the Undergraduate Dramatic Society to GRADS thrived.

Several key figures involved in theatre at UWA have assembled an impressive archive of material that was recently presented to Vice-Chancellor Paul Johnson.

The collection comprising 450 prints and graphic items documenting campus theatre and drama performances will be housed in the Reid Library's Special Collections. It was presented at the first Convocation meeting of 2013 by Dr William Dunstone (former lecturer) and Dr Joan Pope who, along with the UWA Centenary Theatre Collection (UWATCH) group, have been researching and collecting material for the past seven years.

Take a bow UWATCH!

In 2013, remember to have your free screening mammogram at BreastScreen WA



It is important for women 50 years or over to have a **FREE** breast screening mammogram at BreastScreen WA every two years.

Once is not enough.
For an appointment phone
13 20 50



Department of Health

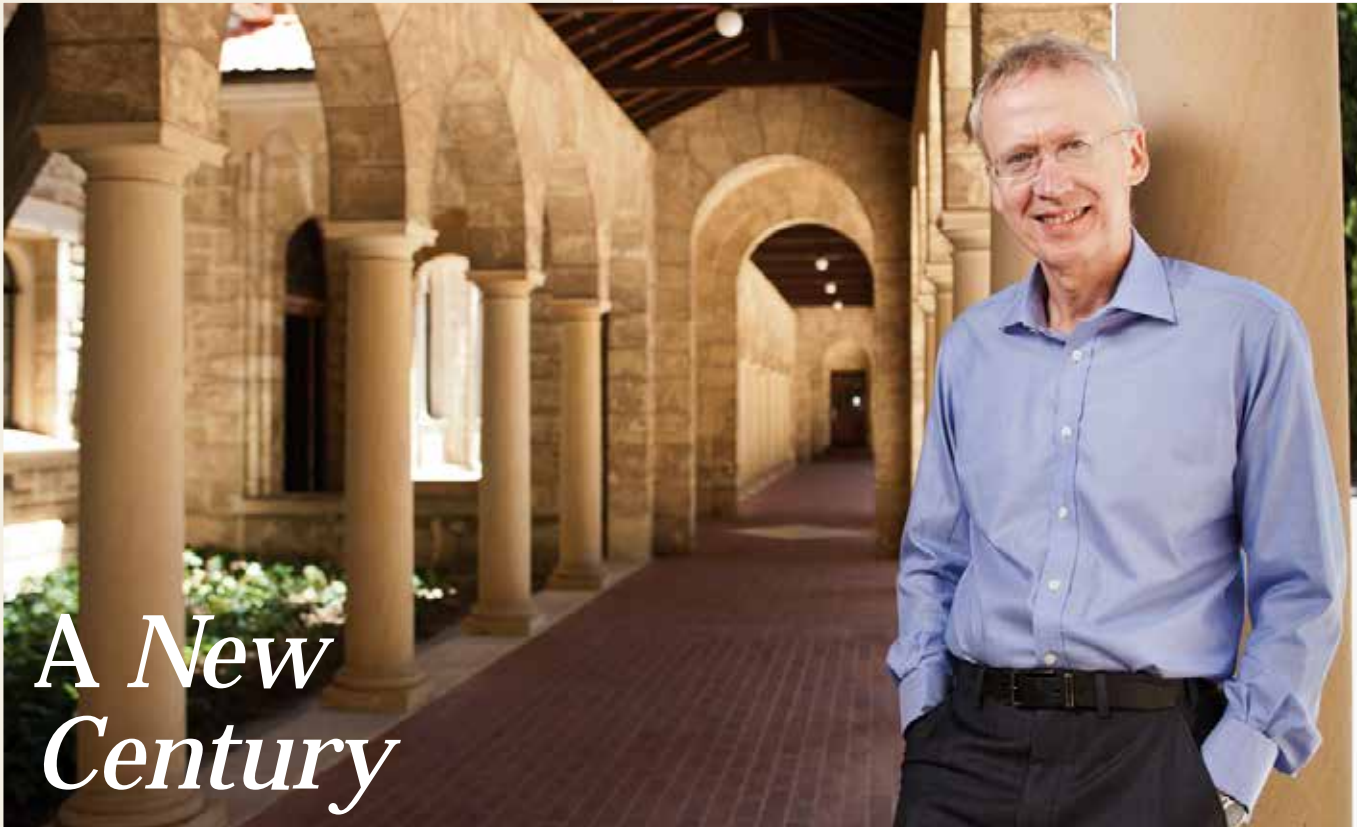


www.breastscreen.health.wa.gov.au

Permanent clinic locations: Bunbury, Cannington, David Jones Rose Clinic, Fremantle, Joondalup, Midland, Mirrabooka, Padbury, Perth City and Rockingham.

Rural locations: Check your local media or the website for mobile screening unit visit dates.

Delivering a **Healthy WA**



A New Century

As we celebrate the year of our centenary, UWA sits poised for continued success on the world stage. Today we are ranked among the top 100 universities globally. In the *New Century* we will rise to the top 50, thanks to our existing and emerging centres of excellence in research, teaching and partnership.

We are fortunate to operate in a part of the world that is home to 60 per cent of the global population, along with expanding economies in nations promising the greatest growth for the 21st century. Increasingly, UWA is being recognised as a leading force for innovation and development in fields such as earth and ocean sciences; radio astronomy; cultural understanding; agriculture and water management; health sciences and disease prevention; foreign policy and economics.

Once isolated by our location, technological advances continue to break down any barriers that tempered UWA's potential for global impact. We continue to embrace new and better avenues for collaboration with other leading-edge universities, as well as international enterprises.

Our incoming Pro Vice-Chancellor, Iain Watt, who served for many years with the Australian Embassy in Beijing, will spearhead UWA's international outreach. Along with the ties we enjoy with Asia, we have longstanding cultural and economic links to the United States and nations in the European Union. Energy and mineral stewardship is an important factor in those links.

Notably, our new Perth US-Asia Centre places us at the strategic centre of Asia/North American discourse. The new Centre is set to become a leading policy think-tank, as well as a research and teaching innovator, promoting deeper understanding of world politics, security and socio-economics. This Centre is just one example of how UWA will provide thought leadership in our ever-changing world.

Without question, our students stand to benefit dramatically as we realise our vision for UWA in the *New Century*. We are developing the leaders of tomorrow as our students learn first-hand about the challenges and opportunities of the future and, through their studies, are given the tools to address these issues. Partnerships with institutions around the world (including 20 agreements with US universities) allow our students to travel and experience different perspectives first-hand.

These are exciting times for our University and none of it would be possible without the foundation laid by the leaders, alumni and friends who, together, built this great institution. We owe a tremendous debt to the vision and support of leaders like Sir John Winthrop Hackett, whose bequest founded UWA. One hundred years from now we will owe an equal debt to the valued members of our community who walk with us into the *New Century*.

I welcome our students, alumni, faculty, staff, friends and collaborators near and far to be part of this historic journey. This is our time.

Paul Johnson
Vice-Chancellor

“Stepping into another world...”



From “refugee kid with no prospects” to Young Australian of the Year – the journey of UWA student Akram Azimi.

The Prime Minister Julia Gillard
with UWA student and Young
Australian of the Year Akram Azimi
(Photo: NADC Stefan Postles)

Akram Azimi was born in 1987 – two years before Soviet troops withdrew from his homeland and a protracted civil war was unleashed. At the height of the civil conflict, with the Taliban conducting civilian massacres and gaining ground, the 11-year-old’s parents and his brother fled from Kabul.

“We didn’t have a choice,” says the UWA triple major student, recalling the street battles that surrounded his home. “We literally grabbed whatever we could, and with the clothes on our backs, we fled – through a city that was in the process of being sacked.”

He remembers the family’s successful request for asylum in Australia and their arrival in Perth in 1999 as “stepping into another world; a world full of compassion.”

But of course there were hurdles to be overcome: school children can be less than compassionate and Akram felt his difference from those around him at Warwick Senior High School acutely. “I have this big nose and big bushy eyebrows,” he remembers, along with his old split shoes that made kids laugh.

However, compassion there was aplenty in the school staff. It was clear Akram had potential and his teachers were generous with their time, offering extra help before and after school. And these educators were amply rewarded as they watched a student who had initially shown little interest in his studies transformed into a high achiever.

As Akram sees it, he went from being “a refugee kid with no prospects” to becoming school dux, with an impressive tertiary entrance score. And even that early sense of alienation was put to positive use, fuelling a

determination to help others feel a sense of belonging and to build bridges between communities.

When Akram became a contender for the 2013 Young Australian of the Year earlier this year, the judges were clearly impressed by his commitment to making the best of his educational opportunities – he is currently studying law, science and anthropology – but also by his philanthropic work with young Indigenous Australians in the Kimberley and with primary school students in a Wheatbelt town.

Receiving his award from Prime Minister Julia Gillard before an audience of flag-waving Australians, Akram paid tribute to the country that “has been incredibly good to me”.

He was grateful not only for the new beginning their family was offered, but for the overseas aid given to his country long before he arrived in Australia. This funded polio vaccination programs in Afghanistan and Pakistan which, along with Nigeria, are among the last countries still battling a disease that causes irreversible paralysis and death.

“I believe every child deserves the right to a healthy life, whoever they are and wherever they were born – whether in Perth, the heart of the Kimberley or Afghanistan,” he said, in his award acceptance speech. “That’s why I will be using my time as Young Australian of the Year to celebrate the generosity of the Australian spirit and the role Australians have played in ensuring children everywhere receive the protection of the polio vaccine.”

“My own story is a classic example of how Australian dollars have saved the lives of our most vulnerable neighbours. Indeed, I am alive and healthy today because Australian tax payers contributed funds to vaccinate

children – like me – in war-torn Afghanistan. I want to do everything I can to ensure that all children can be free from this devastating disease.”

Akram’s commitment to the eradication of polio won praise from UWA graduate Michael Sheldrick (LLB and BA), Campaign Manager for The End of Polio that is part of the Global Poverty Project. “You would be hard pressed to find a more deserving and gracious awardee and I have no doubt whatsoever that his example will inspire many Australians to give much more of themselves in time, skills and money.”

Vice-Chancellor Paul Johnson said Akram’s achievement illustrated the transformative effect of access to education in a free society. He also commended the student for his work to support others on campus and beyond.

The Young Australian of the Year citation noted that Akram was intent on giving back to his adopted country: “Akram uses his leadership and pastoral skills to help young people in remote and rural Western Australia. In 2011 he co-founded a student run initiative *I am the Other*, set up to raise awareness about Indigenous issues in universities.

“His philanthropic roles have included working with True Blue Dreaming, which helps disadvantaged remote Indigenous communities. For three years, Akram mentored young Indigenous people in the Looma community in the Kimberley region and he has mentored primary school students in the small farming community of Wyalkatchem ... He is also mentoring a Special Olympics athlete to help raise community awareness of disability issues.”

It was former St George’s College Chaplain Richard Pingelly who suggested that Akram join a student camp volunteering in the Kimberley, an experience that was the beginning of an abiding relationship with his Kimberley ‘family’.

In 2011, Akram and fellow law students Kelsi Forrest and Dylan Collard, together with medical student Dwain Burrige, co-founded the *I am the Other* initiative which aims to inspire a new generation of students to become aware of the culture, aspirations and perspectives of Indigenous Australians.



(Photo: Matt Galligan)

I will be using my time as Young Australian of the Year to celebrate the generosity of the Australian spirit and the role Australians have played in ensuring children everywhere receive the protection of the polio vaccine.



Akram Azimi and Prime Minister Julia Gillard indicating how close the world is to eradicating polio (Photo: Winthrop Professor James Trevelyan)

The UWA student paid particular tribute to a mother he calls his hero: “Not only has she adjusted to her new life in Australia, but she has retrained as a nurse while making a home for us here.” ■

If you would like to know more about True Blue Dreaming – founded by UWA graduate and Young Australian of the Year for 2001, Dr James Fitzpatrick – visit: truebluedreaming.org.au



alumni

**Kingswood College
50 Year Celebration**

Saturday 30 November 2013

The College is planning to celebrate the occasion of 50 Years since Kingswood College welcomed its first residents.

The College will provide accommodation over the weekend and the nature and extent of the celebration will depend upon the interest from past Kingswood residents.

Please contact Margo Webb at Trinity on **9423 9423** or by email at mwebb@trinity.uwa.edu.au to register your interest.



Nobel Laureate Professor Barry Marshall

UWA has long been recognised for the excellence of its research and the contribution this output has globally. Nobel Laureate Professor Barry Marshall's story has inspired many a young scientist intent on taking up the challenges of medical research in the 21st century. But he and fellow Nobel Laureate Emeritus Professor Robin Warren had to fight to get their ground-breaking research accepted.

Professor Barry Marshall shows his Nobel Prize to top students aiming at studying medicine at UWA. The Taylors College students at the UWA Claremont campus are (L – R) Nadiyah Binte Muhmad Nasir (Singapore), Chenghao (Kim) Jin (China), Gene Clyde Lim (Singapore), Xin Hui Melissa Tan (Singapore) and Ryan Ho (Malaysia). (Photo: Ron D'Raine)

In 1983 – the year in which a slender yacht with an innovative keel sailed to glory at Newport, making Western Australia the home of the America's Cup and putting some American noses out of joint – a UWA graduate with a reputation as a maverick researcher was preparing to introduce his ground-breaking research to an international meeting of gastroenterologists in Belgium.

The Newport contest was yet to happen when the conference opened and the UWA researcher was introduced by a leading British bacteriologist: "This is Barry Marshall and he's found an interesting and new bacterium."

Before the UWA graduate presented his discovery that many ulcers were caused by bacteria not stress and could be treated with antibiotics, the graduate flicked an image of Perth on to the screen.

As a panorama of the city, the ocean, the river – and that sleek yacht – appeared, the young researcher told his audience that Australia was on the cusp of winning the world's most famous yacht race.

"I really threw down the gauntlet knowing there'd be lots of Americans in the audience. There was uproar! Paper balls were thrown at me!" recalls Professor Marshall. There was a similar response when he delivered his findings on the bacterium *Helicobacter pylori*.

"Although people were sceptical, they went home with the aim of proving me wrong, which was great. That's how science moves forward. You put up your hypothesis and everyone tries to shoot you down!

"However, gradually over the next few years, one by one, those people trying to prove me wrong fell by the

wayside or actually converted to my camp and became experts in their own right in helicobacter. By that time Dr Robin Warren and I had been studying these bacteria for several years and we knew we were onto something big."

The pair was already inured to scepticism – from fellow researchers, pharmaceutical companies producing ulcer treatment drugs and from gastroenterologists with unshakeable ideas about the troublesome ulcers that brought a revolving door of patients to their clinics for endoscopies and prescriptions.

"There was a campaign," recalls Professor Marshall, "and everyone was against us apart from a few backers. I knew we were right and when gastroenterologists criticised me I knew they were making their living doing endoscopies. So I thought: I'm going to show you guys.

"Perhaps I could have been more diplomatic at times and certainly I'm a lot more mature now, but what I learnt is that you've got to be pretty thick-skinned and ready to take the blows.

"In those days, it used to cut me to the quick when people got up and criticised my work. I was called a 'brash young man', a 'zealot' – and I read the history of the zealots and, you know, I was exactly like that!"

What made him so determined?

The key appears to be a compelling curiosity that his colleagues say he's never lost, and that today sees him building computers and robots in the little spare time he has. It was also important that he grew up in a household where his mother was a nurse (so there were medical books around) and his tradesman father had a shed full of tools and tempting – and sometimes potentially explosive – chemicals.

"We did all sorts of boy-type projects that you would never do today – like making firecrackers – and when my father did a correspondence course in diesel engineering and refrigeration, that brought interesting technical books into the house.

"I was always curious and very interested in science. In school it was: 'wow, next year I can do chemistry and geometry'; then in med school it was: 'next year I'll be able to do anatomy' or work on cadavers, which was my big goal in first year medicine.

"Every year there was something exciting I was looking forward to. Medicine is like that, just so varied and, during my internship, every single sub-specialty I did, I'd come home and say to my wife Adrienne: 'This is really great! I want to be a neurosurgeon!' Or a haematologist, or cancer specialist.

"Everything fascinated me, and it was only because I got involved in this little project with stomach bacteria that I ended up in gastroenterology. But any speciality would have kept me happy."

The fascination with ulcers began when he was doing a gastroenterology fellowship and met pathologist Dr Robin Warren who had 20 patients with interesting bacteria in their stomachs. Dr Warren was, according to his co-researcher, "a bit obsessive, a little eccentric", so, concedes Professor Marshall, they were probably a good match.



I've always liked to do things a little differently, to buck authority, to try something out of the box – so I was immediately hooked!

"He had a theory about stomach bacteria he had encountered in biopsies. But these bacteria weren't in the medical books, so colleagues didn't take his theories seriously," remembers Professor Marshall.

"One day Robin gave me a tutorial on the helicobacter and it amazed me to see these bacteria that the world didn't know about. I knew that almost every pathologist in the world described gastritis differently – in others words, they didn't properly understand it.

"Well, I've always liked to do things a little differently, to buck authority, to try something out of the box – so I was immediately hooked!

"Later, I was convinced our idea was so beneficial it would eventually find favour – if only it was allowed to float, for while there was plenty of money going into ulcer research, it was not going into these bacteria."

During an intensive international literature search, the pair discovered that some researchers had started down the path they were pursuing but hadn't travelled the full journey leading to a coherent hypothesis linking the bacteria and ulcers.

Their own journey to recognition was frustratingly long and required a good deal of gritty determination. For instance, the graduate saw his abstract rejected by a meeting of Australian gastroenterologists and encountered consistent opposition. But he did have the benefit of supportive senior colleagues at UWA, along with some high-profile supporters in the both the United States and Britain.

Deciding to take matters into his own hands in the absence of a double-blind study to prove his hypothesis, Barry Marshall took the drastic step of testing his discovery on himself. To the horror of lab technicians, he drank a cocktail of more than a million bacteria to see if

they produced in him the familiar ulcer symptoms he saw in patients.

Remembering that now famous experiment in July 1984 and how sick it made him, Professor Marshall admits he might not take such a radical course today. But what it proved – after biopsies and endoscopies – was that the researchers were on the right track. A course of antibiotics soon dealt with the aftermath of an experiment which had horrified his wife Adrienne, but had made the road ahead to recognition that much easier.

Finally the tide began to turn, bringing in its wake support from drug companies, requests for speaking engagements around a world and a swag of international awards: in 1997, Barry Marshall won the Paul Ehrlich Prize from Frankfurt, in 1995 the Warren Alpert Prize from Harvard Medical School, in 1996 the American College of Gastroenterology Baker Award Lecture, in 1998 the prestigious Australian Florey Medal and the Research Prize from the Australian Gastroenterological Society.

In 1999 the graduate was inducted as a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science and a Fellow of the British Royal Society, and in 2001 he won the Clunies Ross National Science and Technology Award considered a bellwether for even higher international recognition. That came with the 2005 announcement of the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine that he shared with Dr Warren.

The pair had suspected they were in the running for a Nobel and, in the years prior to receiving it, they established a tradition of gathering with their families for fish and chips on the foreshore at Matilda Bay as the prizes were announced in Sweden – for Nobel winners get no prior warning.

“They had almost reached the point where they thought it would never happen,” recalls Kris Laurie, a UWA graduate and former CEO of the Leukaemia Foundation

who now runs The Office of the Nobel Laureates (ONL) based at UWA’s Claremont Campus.

Overnight, the UWA researchers’ lives were turned upside down as congratulations, further awards and invitations from around the world arrived.

“Please, come and sort this mess,” the Nobel Laureate pleaded to Kris Laurie, and having worked with him before, the UWA graduate was happy to oblige by establishing and managing an office (partly funded by the State Government), to support the State’s two internationally acknowledged science stars.

The government also appointed the pair WA Ambassadors for Life Sciences with a brief to represent the State nationally and globally, setting up networks of infectious disease researchers and promoting the State as a place where innovative ideas were hatched.

In his role as WA Ambassador for Life Sciences, Professor Marshall – supported by Emeritus Professor Dr Robin Warren – is an active advocate for medical research and improved health and education standards. His views are sought on many areas of policy and community concerns and his ideas stimulate community conversations.

The high profile of the Nobel Laureates brings benefits to UWA and Western Australia in ways other than scientific research and medical practices. One example is Brand Awareness. Each time Professor Marshall is introduced, his role at UWA is part of the introduction and in most cases his visits are reported in the media. This is especially obvious in Asian countries where Nobel Laureates are held in the highest regard.

Today Professor Marshall divides his time between patients at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital (his research is ongoing), the Marshall Centre for Infectious Disease Research and Training, the Nobel Laureates’ office and his private biotech companies. As WA Ambassador for Life Sciences, he is a champion for science and innovation, using the example of his own Perth based companies to highlight the benefits that WA has to offer as a centre for Biotechnology.

The Office of the Nobel Laureates is set in the grounds of UWA’s Claremont campus that also accommodates Taylors College. The latter provides international students with an academic pathway to study at UWA. Since winning the Nobel Prize, Professor Marshall has criss-crossed Asia, visiting schools, universities and research institutes. His easy manner and genuine interest in encouraging students means that the Nobel Laureate enjoys almost pop star celebrity status across the region – and on the Claremont campus.

When he’s not travelling the world to collect honorary degrees or to address major medical conferences,



(Left) The Nobel Prize winners at the award ceremony in Sweden.

(Opposite left) Professor Marshall in the Nobel Laureates Office with his Mandarin teacher Tracy Zhang from the Confucius Institute based at UWA Claremont.

(Opposite right) Barry Marshall and Taylors College student Kearney Jun Yao Tan from Singapore.



Professor Marshall has twice weekly Mandarin lessons provided by the Confucius Institute that also has a home in the heritage complex.

Professor Marshall is also the Scientific Director of a private company Ondek (in which UWA is a stakeholder) that aims to develop vaccines that could be delivered using a modified version of helicobacter.

His advice to postdoctoral researchers determined to make their mark in medical research?

"You have to realise that the scientific process is going to pit you against many who may tell you are wrong because it's much easier to prove something is wrong rather than right: you only need to find one measure that contradicts a hypothesis and it falls down. So you must be prepared to fight for your idea. If you are not committed, you'll give up before your idea matures and you achieve certainty.

"In the case of helicobacter, there were several researchers who started out along the path we took. Maybe their research was not funded. Maybe they didn't think it was important enough.

"Dr Warren and I had been researching it for three years before anyone else heard about it and that was one of the advantages of working in isolation in Western Australia – you could test a lot of ideas and the ones that didn't work simply fell by the wayside, and you went on.

"For me, curiosity-driven research is a little like being involved in a new childhood game that you just couldn't bear to leave. Universities, institutions and industries need to give their researchers that bit of extra space and capacity to do this sort of research.

"While we need people working on applied research, we also need to give young, hungry researchers that extra day, that additional capacity to experiment, to follow their instincts, and to have the time to really study the available literature. While you might say 'blue sky' research is an expensive process, it can also result in huge rewards.



Perhaps I could have been more diplomatic at times and certainly I'm a lot more mature now, but what I learnt is that you've got to be pretty thick-skinned and ready to take the blows.

"I think we get that notion in Western Australia and UWA especially gets it."

Helicobacter has been around for a long time – it's a bacterium so persistent it has been found with the DNA of pre-Columbian mummies preserved in the mountain caves of Peru.

Infection remains rife in Africa and Asia and while symptoms may not appear until later in life, the infection is usually acquired in childhood. In Africa, China and Russia more than half the population has the bacteria, and more than 80 percent of refugees settling in WA (who are tested) are shown to have the bacteria. In third world countries, says Professor Marshall, people often can't afford the cost of an antibiotic.

"In some ways helicobacter is an irritant in that some people go on leading normal lives unaware that they have it. However, it sets you up for ulcer and (a one per cent chance) stomach cancer. So I'm in favour of treating everyone and wiping it out. But the concept of treating half the world with antibiotics is pretty horrific to most doctors, because resistant bacteria would develop.

"A possible solution is a vaccine but while I suspect it's going to be a long haul to finish the helicobacter story, at least now there are literally thousands of scientists working on it around the world."

One interesting line of research currently being pursued by Professor Marshall's team centres on the development of a 'super vaccine' – against viruses such as influenza, HIV and bird flu – that would harness the staying power of the bacterium.

The Marshall Centre, founded in 2007 to celebrate the award of the Nobel Prize to the WA researchers, provides a focus for infectious diseases research and epidemiology and encourages internationally competitive research that is attracting the interest of biotechnology companies. The centre is also active in postgraduate, professional and public education. For more information visit the website: marshallcentre.biomedchem.uwa.edu.au ■

CONTACT

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When awarded an Order of Australia for his contribution to business, UWA graduate Richard Goyder said he was inspired by those around him receiving Australia Day Honours at Government House – business leaders, medical professionals and everyday heroes. Writing about the Wesfarmers CEO, *The Australian* has noted a calmness striking for a man who heads the nation's biggest employer. Richard Goyder joined Wesfarmers in 1993 and went on to complete the Advanced Management Program at the Harvard Business School in 1998. Appointed Chief Financial Officer in 2004, he assumed the role of Managing Director and CEO in 2005. Among many other appointments, the UWA graduate is a director of the UWA Business School Advisory Board and Chair of the Australian B20 (the key business advisory body to the international economic forum which includes business leaders from all G20 economies).

As a secondary student, did you have a clear idea of what you wanted to study?

I thought that I might want to study law as I had a strong interest in politics. In those days, you needed to do a year in another course before you could be admitted to the Law School. I chose Commerce because of my interest in it.

As it turns out, I completed my Commerce degree at UWA and didn't perform well enough to be admitted to the law school!

How did you view your future career when studying at UWA and what were the 'landmarks' that helped to shape your career?

My time at UWA was really enjoyable. I spent my first year at St George's College, played with the University Football Club for some years, met some great friends (including my wife Janine who was studying Education at the time). These were times when there were more jobs for Commerce students than the number of us graduating. So, I didn't worry too much about what I would be when I finished.

What are the major challenges of your current role and what are the personal qualities that have proved to be assets in your career?

As CEO of a listed company, there are responsibilities to all your stakeholders; shareholders, employees and customers, suppliers and the community in which we operate. The challenge is to meet the expectations of those stakeholders over the long term in an environment where there is a huge focus on the short term. Key parts of the role are to be clear on the direction of the organisation, put great people in place, and set and live the standards expected.

The personal qualities that have helped me are – my background of growing up in the bush and living through difficult times there, patience, a commercial focus, and being the person I am, not trying to be someone else.

In my time as CEO, I have had a very strong focus on building the human resource capabilities and this has afforded me the opportunity to engage with some outstanding people.

I have been really helped by having a wonderful life partner (Janine) and family, as well as a very supportive Board and executive team.

What is your working day like and how do you relax?

My working day is always different, one of the great things about being CEO of Wesfarmers.

I am out of Perth at least as much as I am home, so when I am in Perth, I try to have dinner with the family, and work at home after that. When I am travelling, I try to fit as much into a day as I can, so as not to extend my trip! We are fortunate to be invited to some great things like WASO, opera, ballet etc.

I relax through spending time with my family, and we have a holiday home on the south coast which we love spending time at. Janine and I enjoy sport, so attend a lot of football games and the other events. We also really enjoy going to various art events. We walk together a lot and when I can find time, I enjoy a (slow) jog!

What does the future hold?

The future is unpredictable but I am optimistic about it. In WA and Australia, we are blessed with great beauty and natural resources, and really talented people. We are also on the doorstep of countries with great growth opportunities, so if we are innovative, outward looking and engaging, we could have incredible opportunities.

From a personal point of view, I have a wonderful family, a brilliant job and so much to look forward to. Part of that is making a contribution to our community through things like the B20 Chairmanship, AFL football and education. ■



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War & Peace in Afghanistan

Afghanistan is seldom out of the news – and it's hard to forget images of patrolling Diggers; turbaned mujahideen, and young girls braving the Taliban to attend schools. Today, while flag-draped coffins and suicide bombers dominate headlines, UWA graduates have been working behind-the-scenes in areas as diverse as quiet diplomacy and community development. Meanwhile, on campus scholarship students and Afghan government officials are acquiring skills that will help to secure the future of a nation rich in history, culture and natural resources.

[Trea Wiltshire reports](#)



Diggers on patrol in Afghanistan (Photo: DFAT)

(Main image) Walls pitted with shrapnel at Kabul's Darul Aman Palace (the old Kings Palace) overlaid with a new image: the hope of peace (Photo: Phil Sparrow)

The tale of two diplomats

There can't be many instances when father and son diplomats find themselves representing Australia in the same conflict zone: Richard Smith working at the highest level, sometimes representing Foreign Minister Bob Carr at international meetings; Fred Smith working alongside young Diggers and Afghan tribal leaders.

It's a double act that benefits Australia's operations in a country inured to decades of civil and military strife.

Ric Smith (BA 1965, BEd 1968) has had a long association with DFAT, including serving as Australian Ambassador to the People's Republic of China and to Indonesia. When, in 2009, the newly created post of Australia's Special Envoy for Afghanistan and Pakistan called for the skills of a seasoned diplomat, the UWA graduate willingly came out of retirement. The appointment would take on another dimension when his son Fred put his hand up for an on-the-ground diplomatic post in the war zone.


"The United States was pushing for 'special representatives' from key countries who could play a greater civilian involvement in policy and development activity in Afghanistan, and that was backed by the then Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd," Ric explains.

The UWA graduate took on the challenge of liaising with the Afghan government, making sure Australia's perspective on the conflict was heard at international meetings and helping ensure Australia's contribution was fully 'joined up' and 'whole-of-government' in its nature.

"While Fred was living with Australian soldiers in Tarin Kowt and later in a tent in the Chora Valley and was very close to the action, I was more often at meetings in London, Brussels and New York, not to mention Canberra," recalls Ric.

"Insurgency of this kind rarely ends in clear-cut victory or defeat, rather in a political outcome as there will probably be in this case. Afghanistan of course is not about to become Switzerland, nor do I believe it will go back to what it was in 2001," he says.

"Yes, the Taliban will still be out there, in some areas more than others, but advances have been made: roads have been completed across the country, eight million kids are in school (compared with 200,000 in 2001), there are 40 television and radio stations, women are in Parliament and girls are in school, there is now a credible Afghan

A white dove is drawn on a cracked, dry, brownish-grey surface. The dove has a prominent red eye and red markings on its wings. The background is a textured, cracked earth, suggesting a harsh, arid environment. The dove is positioned in the lower-left to center area of the frame.

**“I am drawn to postings where
the situation is dynamic and
fast changing and people are
trying to find the hope to keep
moving forward.”**
UWA GRADUATE FRED SMITH



Australia's Special Envoy at work in Afghanistan. Father and son meet at the airstrip of Tarin Kowt. "This is a family classic," says Ric Smith. "Me, and those around me, in helmet and body armour and Fred without any of that!" Both father and son are UWA graduates.

security force and international aid will continue – so in significant ways the lights are on and can't be switched off.

"While we went into Afghanistan in 2001 to pursue al-Qa'ida and terrorism – and largely that will be achieved when we draw down troops – along the way we have also been working to develop support for Afghanistan from neighbouring countries. This is a strategy in which Turkey has had an important role, with good participation from Iran, Pakistan, Uzbekistan and others in the region.

"While the US and NATO/ISAF were playing a key role in Afghanistan, it was easy for neighbouring countries to do relatively little. But as our forces draw down and focus more on training roles, India and China are stepping up and providing more aid. The common view they all share is that a stable Afghanistan is in the interests of all its neighbours.

"It is a remarkable thing that a decade into the conflict, military support is still coming from some 50 countries, while 70 countries provide varying levels of aid. And this must be appreciated in the context of the many differences among countries like India and Pakistan, Iran and Pakistan and Saudi Arabia and Iran.

Ric Smith joined External Affairs (now DFAT) in 1969 and his long career saw him and his wife Jan (BA 1967) posted to Delhi, Tel Aviv, Manila and Hawaii before appointments to China and Indonesia.

He was nearing the end of his term as Ambassador in Jakarta in 2002 when the Bali bombings occurred, etching in his mind scenes he won't ever forget: "The amazing courage and stoicism of families searching for life; the Indonesian nurses and doctors working day and night in Sangla hospital, a small country hospital coping with a massive tragedy only because of these super-human efforts; the Red Cross organising hundreds of Balinese high school students to pack ice on body bags in the morgue. And hundreds of the 3,000

"He's working at the highest level of the strategic chain and I am working on the ground, so there has probably been some value for the government in melding both perspectives," says Fred Smith.



Australians who lived in Bali wanting to help and taking people into their homes."

He recalls that in the end he came away remembering how fantastic people had been. "You hold on to those positive things, and while I couldn't be at last year's marking of the event, I watched the images and recognised many people I had encountered."

The diplomat went on to serve for four years as Secretary to the Department of Defence before retiring in 2006. Since then he has been a Distinguished Fellow at the S Rajaratnam School of International Studies in Singapore, and an Australian Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson Centre for International Scholars in Washington. In 2004 he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Letters by UWA and he is a board member of the Energy and Minerals Institute.

Ric Smith believes that during his career there have been three defining events: the end of the Cold War, the rise of China and the power shift to Asia, and – something he believes is overlooked – the falling out between Iran and the United States in the late 70s. The latter, he says, has done much to shape the agenda of the Middle East and Asia.

"And the consequences of all three are still being played out."

On the ground diplomacy: Fred Smith

UWA graduate Iain 'Fred' Smith grew up listening to wide-ranging discussions on global geopolitics when his father 'talked shop' with visiting diplomats across the dinner table of their Canberra home. He found those early diplomatic insights fascinating and after completing a UWA Economics degree, he followed in his father's footsteps and joined DFAT.

The UWA graduate has added an unusual tool to diplomacy: his passion for music and mastery of guitar and harmonica have helped to build bridges and explain peace processes in postings like Bougainville and the Solomon Islands where he served as part of Australia's peace monitoring teams. More recently, his song-writing helped him – and soldiers stationed in Afghanistan – make sense of a conflict zone that claims the lives of young Australians.

"When I started writing songs and performing on the folk circuit, I thought I'd have to choose between working as a diplomat and being a singer/songwriter. However, 20 years later, they seem to co-exist happily," says Fred, who returned to campus to perform at UWA's centenary celebration, LUMINOUSnight.

Fred's eighth album, *The Dust of Uruzgan*, has become the musical legacy of two years in Afghanistan as the first DFAT officer posted to the troubled province as part of Australia's Mentoring and Reconstruction



"Now I'm going back to Townsville,
it's the city of my birth.

Some go back to Ballarat and
some go back to Perth.

I'll be living with my mother
who's still trying to understand.

Why we are spending blood and
treasure in the dust of Uruzgan..."

FROM FRED SMITH'S BALLAD,
THE DUST OF URUZGAN

Task Force. The title ballad – it's on the iPod of many a Digger – won plaudits from the likes of songwriter John Schumann, whose *I was only 19* became synonymous with the Vietnam conflict. "What Fred is doing is sending dispatches from the front line," Schumann has said. "He happens to be a bureaucrat, but he is a bureaucrat with heart, in a world of vacuous song."

The title song tells the true story of the death of a 22-year-old Digger when his mate stands on a bomb trigger buried beneath desert sand. It is told from the perspective of the surviving soldier, learning to live with the loss of a limb, the loss of his mate and the guilt of surviving.

While the final verse appears to question the presence of Australian troops in Afghanistan, Fred – who protested against the Iraq War – believes passionately in Australia's presence there and sees the advances that don't make it into the media.

Fred's song also weaves together the elements of a Digger's life in Uruzgan: the frustration – to man and machinery – of pervading desert dust, the brutality of the enemy, the corruption and ever-present danger, the heartless warlords and the promise of children who "look into your eye and walk into your heart".

As soon as the task force was announced, Fred put up his hand and was sent to Tarin Kowt, the capital of Uruzgan in 2009. He worked 12 hours a day, seven days a week for two-month stints, with short breaks in Canberra or Dubai.

"This sort of work has become my speciality. I am drawn to postings where the situation is dynamic and fast-changing, where society is breaking down and people are trying to find the hope to keep moving forward," he explains.

What was his brief?

"In some ways it was typical Foreign Affairs work – building relationships to improve our understanding of the situation and in order to influence events as far as is possible; building trust with the provincial government in particular and with tribal leaders who are very influential in Afghanistan."

While the media presents a grim scenario for Afghanistan's future as NATO/ISAF troops are drawn down, Fred is more optimistic.

"Tarin Kowt has grown by a factor of four in the past decade. There are more schools and public buildings; we have a good relationship with a provincial government that is becoming more robust. Part of our job relates to the Australian Government's support for capacity-building programs and these are bearing fruit.

"These things are a cause for cautious optimism along with the fact that – after the chaos and regression of the civil war period and the thuggery of Taliban rule – people have had some experience of relative stability and political leaders are getting a chance to regroup and rebuild.

"I suspect that in the future there may well be an accommodation with the Taliban in Pashtun areas but it is patently clear that no one likes what the Taliban represents and they'll only succeed in re-establishing in localities with leadership weaknesses and factional disputes."



(L-R) The Sparrow family: UWA graduate Julie and Phil and their children Rachel, Pieta and Elijah; (Above) Health lessons at Rubat village, Northern Afghanistan. (Photos, except family portrait, by Phil Sparrow)

(Left) The Shrine at Mazar-i-Sharif

In this remote desert town there is a NATO/ISAF airstrip and Fred is part of an Australian/American base for 2,000 troops. In addition, there are 15 US and Australian civilians (diplomats and aid administrators).

"One of the things I really enjoy is the camaraderie of guys out in the desert doing a difficult job," he observes. "You make very close friends very quickly because of the intensity of it. There are deep emotions and you rely on your sense of humour to get by. I have worked with the military before, so I know its culture, conventions and hierarchy. There is also a spirit of service as opposed to just looking after yourself. It's a good matey culture to fit into."

Living conditions?

"Hot and dusty and basic: two to three guys in a shipping container. And there's the loss of Afghan civilians you have been working closely with, sometimes in battle, sometimes in tribal squabbles."

Given the high-pressure atmosphere, breaks in Dubai add a surreal dimension.

"It's a massive shift: waiters in white, air-conditioning, swimming pools, 52 television channels, watching the cricket from India," he says. "For me it's like decompression, throwing a switch. Apart from the exhaustion and the sense of being on the brink, as soon as the plane lifts off out of that desert, ideas for songs flood in; you're open to all the things you've experienced which you kind of had to keep a lid on with the day-to-day work grind."

"In Tarin Kowt I might jot down or quietly strum a few notes in the night, but as soon as I leave, I literally haemorrhage ideas, songs, music. I wrote six or seven verses of *The Dust of Uruzgan* on the Hercules flying out to Dubai."

Would he like to go back?

"Absolutely! Having been involved in starting up the Foreign Affairs presence in Tarin Kowt, I am keen to see how it unfolds."

A decade in a war zone

UWA graduates Julie and Phil Sparrow have spent more than a decade training locals to run vital community development projects and working to alleviate the plight of trafficked women and children.

When Julie and Phil Sparrow first went to Afghanistan in 1999, it was mired in civil war. Working with the Christian aid group TEAR Australia in Mazar-i-Sharif, they lived under Taliban rule for two years before being evacuated following 9/11.

Knowing they had skills that could be used, the couple returned to Mazar in 2003 and have spent much of the past decade in Afghanistan. Recently, wanting their children Pieta (12), Elijah (9) and Rachel (3) to know what it is to grow up in Australia, they returned to Perth.

"While the kids could navigate their way through airports in Dubai and Kabul, there was a lot they don't know about Australia – we decided it was time to put that right," says Phil.

However, projects still draw them back, and Phil continues to work with TEAR Australia, one of AusAID's preferred partners. He is currently researching the complex operating environments of some of the 29 countries where TEAR operates. He also continues to be associated with Hagar International (which works with trafficked women and girls), having earlier established its offices in Afghanistan.

"Working with Hagar was a great opportunity because it was an area in which we both had skills to offer," says Phil. "Julie organised training for the women and I worked with courts, police and border officials. The common response to trafficked women – whether Afghan, Chinese, Tajik and Uzbek – was to treat them like criminals and put them in jail, because no one knew what to do with them."

"Half of our time involved working with officials to set up processes and policies, and encouraging border police to recognise trafficking situations and deal with them humanely," says Phil.

"The other half involved helping victims who couldn't go back to their families.

"Hagar offers such women training to give them economic and social independence and rebuild their shattered self-esteem. Shelters did exist, but there was very little training on offer.

"We managed to establish Hagar's presence in Afghanistan before the security situation forced us to leave for a while in 2009. However, we left with the sense that the organisation could stand on its own. Now in its fourth year, it has funding from the United States, the United Nations and private donors."

The couple later returned for a final appointment with TEAR.

While acknowledging Afghanistan's challenges, when Julie left she was buoyed by some of the positive things she witnessed.

"For me, the best thing was meeting strong, middle-class Afghan women passionately advocating for women's rights," she says. "They're able to do this effectively because they're educated, bright and articulate – and because they have supportive husbands.

"What we don't often hear in the news is material on women working to advance the status of women: the female lawyers, police officers, teachers – and recently the first female helicopter pilot and police chief!

"Yes, they're still the exception, but what they're doing is exceptional and will make a difference. These are strong, courageous women fighting for their country – they don't want to flee."

While Phil sees a deeply-divided Afghanistan spanning perhaps the next decade, he's confident a more stable nation will emerge.

"If you take the long view, there's cause for hope," he says. "The best work by expatriates adopts this long-term view. You need patience, and a threshold of five to ten years before you see outcomes.

"When expats go to Afghanistan with that approach, the results are generally positive and Australians are good at adopting that approach. We're naturally a thrifty people



Hazarajat women washing (Photo: Phil Sparrow)

and can be comfortable with hardship. And we generally like to live on a similar level to those we're helping."

The Sparrows believe Australia has a lot to offer Afghanistan, especially in the sphere of education. Julie tells of the success of the new Afghan National Institute of Music headed by an Afghan who studied in Melbourne. Under the Taliban, music was banned and musicians buried their instruments or fled.

"The Institute accepts children from difficult backgrounds and they benefit from fantastic tutors from all over the world," she says.

"The best work we've seen in Afghanistan involves training that gives Afghans a vision for their own country – rather than a vision of exiting to start a new life elsewhere," adds Phil.

The couple agree that while they protected their children from much of what happened beyond home and school, they could not be sheltered from the reality of Afghan life. "They were aware of the security situation and extensive military presence. They also experienced the conditions in which a lot of Afghans live, and saw children like themselves who had to work to support their families.

"There were restrictions that were hard for them, like never being able to walk anywhere alone. Having said that, they made wonderful friends and had many rich experiences. Since coming back we've given them much more freedom than they would have had in Afghanistan."

So there is the joy of learning to surf, of walking to school, spending time with relatives and discovering the landscape that their parents knew when growing up.

While Afghanistan may eventually fade to become an early chapter in their lives, one suspects that it still looms large in the minds of Julie and Phil, and that Afghanistan has not seen the last of the Sparrows.

Certainly their contribution has already spurred others, including UWA graduates Tom and Lyn Shackles who are heading to Afghanistan. Both are maths teachers with extensive experience. They also have a long history of involvement in leadership of community and Christian organisations. Tom will serve as the Support Director for education projects while Lyn combines teaching English to adults with teaching in a school catering for the primary-aged children of expat staff.

Building capacity in Afghanistan

UWA has long enjoyed a reputation as a 'good neighbour' within our region and it's a reputation earned by staff and students.

In addition, the Federal Government's Australia Awards Scholarships (formerly known as Australian Development Scholarships) allow UWA to extend the welcome mat to neighbouring students, enabling them to acquire postgraduate skills that will eventually be invested in their communities.

When Afghanistan's Ministry of Mines appealed to Australia to assist with training scholarships last year, study at UWA became a top priority for one of the successful Australia Awards Scholarship winners.



Afghan student Mohammad Mustafa Atayee with his wife Khadeja and son Mudasar (Photo: Matt Galligan)

Mohammad Mustafa Atayee, one of 200 hopefuls, was working with the Ministry of Mines in Kabul when he applied for the scholarship. The Kabul University Law graduate particularly wanted to come to UWA because our Masters in Commercial and Resources Law is the only course of its kind in Australia.

When he completes his Masters degree, he will be one of very few Afghans with expertise in resources law.

Mohammad believes the development of Afghanistan's mineral wealth is crucial. "It is like virgin country in terms of resources," he says. "We have yet to discover the full extent of our mineral wealth but we know it will help to build our country's vital infrastructure."

He chose to come to Australia – "and especially to UWA" – because of our expertise in all areas of mine development and operations, and in formulating laws that relate to resource development.

On arrival at UWA, the postgraduate student completed a Graduate Diploma in Commercial and Resources Law and is now working towards the Masters he hopes to complete in April 2014.

Mohammad is optimistic about his country's future. "Development is already happening, but access to quality education is the key to the sustainable development of our resources."

Mohammad has an uncle living in Perth, and has been joined by his wife Khadeja and his three-year-old son Mudasar.

"Development is already happening, but access to quality education is the key to the sustainable development of our resources," says Australian Awards Scholarship student Mohammad Mustafa Atayee.

Tailored course for Afghan officials

The International Mining for Development Centre based at UWA (in partnership with The University of Queensland and the Federal Government) recently hosted a group of six officials from Afghanistan's Ministry of Mines and tailored a 12-week course to provide an insight into Australian mining governance and technical practices – from exploration to closure and rehabilitation.

"Last year the Ambassador for Afghanistan visited UWA to reinforce the need for programs such as this," said director Ian Satchwell. "Afghanistan, like Australia, has an abundance of natural resources – iron ore, copper, gold, lithium, coal, uranium, oil and gas – that could progress its economic development. However, there are fears about the potential negative impacts that could result if exploration and operations are poorly overseen and benefits fall well short of what is achievable."

With the State's long history of mining and UWA's research and training expertise, the campus was the starting point for the group that also spent time at the WA School of Mines in Kalgoorlie, Curtin University and The University of Queensland (UQ). The visitors studied mineral titles, approvals, legislative frameworks, data mining, royalties, geotechnical risk management, occupational safety and a raft of other matters including land access and community engagement.

"In addition to knowledge and skills developed in this course, the interactions between participants and with course presenters and government will help to build new knowledge networks," said Satchwell. "Professional networks will help in the design and implementation of improvements that will contribute to the Ministry of Mines' ability to respond to governmental and technical imperatives. This network will help to strengthen the training and capacity-building relationships between Afghanistan and Australian professionals and institutions. ■

CONTACT

For more information on AusAID and International Sponsored Students at UWA, contact deborah.pyatt@uwa.edu.au

The International Mining for Development Centre, based in UWA's Energy and Mineral Institute, is a partnership involving UQ's Sustainable Mining Institute.

For more information, contact:
ian.satchwell@im4dc.uwa.edu.au

UWA's good sports

While its centenary is still a few years away, the UWA Athletics Club is celebrating the publication of a history that highlights those who won glory for the club.



While the centenary of the UWA Athletic Club is still a few years away, the club has already celebrated the publication of its history, *The Fat Man's Odyssey, a history of The University of Western Australia Athletic Club*.

Published by the Friends of the UWA Athletic Club, the history was written by UWA graduate, club member and former State sprinter, Professor James Wieland.

This comprehensive record of the phenomenal growth of the club tracks its development from 1918, when athletics on campus was a once-a-year activity, through to its contemporary status, with 500 members and the biggest junior membership of any WA athletic club.

Within years of the University opening its doors in Irwin Street, the first event organised by an Athletics Committee was held at Loton's Park, East Perth and by 1928 the club was established – at a time when Winthrop Hall and the Administration Building were well advanced and St George's College was nearing completion.

“With a large sports oval with a turf wicket, a practice oval and grass tennis courts, and a women's hockey ground beginning to take shape, the Crawley Campus

The outstanding 1930 athletics team showing Ralph Honner (president) and Bob Nunn (captain) on either side of the cup, and Dr Lesley Le Souef standing on the left in the middle row. As a Lt Colonel in WWII, Ralph Honner was awarded a MC and DSO and was one of Australia's top soldiers. Dr Le Soeuf, a surgeon who also had a distinguished military career, became a member of the UWA Senate and was the club's first Life Member. Bob Nunn is the only UWA student to be awarded four Full Blues.





(Left) Kylie Wheeler, who won a Commonwealth Games silver medal in the Decathlon, finished 9th in the event at the Beijing Olympics, and captained the club for nine years.



(Above & inset) Triple Olympic Gold Medallist sprinter Shirley Strickland, who won her first sprint at the club in the 1943 Freshers' Carnival with Mollie ('Pol') Perkins (later Dinham), winner of the same events at the 1941 carnival, photographed in 2003. Both went on to serve as officials with the club.

was becoming a reality. It was almost three years before these dreams came to fruition, but students were beginning to visualise their university," records the author.

Certainly 1928 was a year that would be remembered because the University Athletic Club won the WA Amateur Athletic Association's 4 x 200 yards relay at Subiaco Oval, putting the newly-formed campus club firmly on the athletics map.

The foundation President was Griff Richards, who also was the first Editor of *The Pelican*, and went on to have a distinguished career in journalism. He modestly declined to accept Life Membership of the Club in 1931 but at the Club's 70th Anniversary Dinner, in 1998, the sprightly 90-year-old graciously received the long-overdue award.

The first athletic carnival at Crawley in 1929 was, noted the *The Sunday Times*, "well-organised and watched by an enthusiastic gathering". Making a clean sweep of the women's events was Elsie Tolerton who won both running races and the long jump wearing what was described as the female runners' standard costume of "stockings, petticoats and whatever underclothing and whatnots were dictated by decorum".

A year later to the delight of spectators and competitors alike, such "decorum" was set aside and competitors appeared in outfits offering more freedom of movement. In subsequent years, Elsie continued her run of success in shorts.

The 1929 carnival was also notable for the performances of several male athletes who broke records and went on to compete in the second annual State Championships.

As the Club's collective confidence grew in the 1960s, a set of club trophies was developed, from the Keith Allen Perpetual Trophy launched in the 60-61 season for the leading A Grade point scorer to the Lyn Foreman Trophy (for the leading female U/18 athlete) in the 1990s.

The book draws on media reports, plus those of *Black Swan* and its successor *The Pelican*, and also on a comprehensive set of UAC Minutes, newsletters and Year books.

The Club's first Olympian, Shirley Strickland, made her debut in the Women's events in the 1943 Freshers' Carnival, winning both the 75 and 100 yard sprints – she later presented a trophy, the Strickland Cup, to the club.

Why the title of this engaging book? The image was apparently inspired by an ancient Greek burlesque vase on display in Oxford University's Ashmolean Museum depicting a running Odysseus crossing the sea on a raft of wine skins. To club members, the fleet-of-foot Grecian became "the little fat bloke" and a well-loved figure on club T-shirts.

The author writes that the story of UAC is "a great yarn about survival" and he covers both high and low moments, as well as highlighting the feats of legendary



(Left) Len Vlahov, who won 21 State discus titles and who “stood above the club like a Colossus” in the early 1960s.

(Below) Elsie Tolerton who won several events at the 1929 carnival wearing what was described as the female runners “standard costume of stockings, petticoats and whatever underclothing and whatnots were dictated by decorum”.



The book is available for \$60.00 from Eric Isaacson.
 Email: elpc@inet.net.au
 Address: 63 Holland Street, Wembley,
 Tel: 08 9387 4357

figures such as Len Vlahov, who won 21 State discus titles “and stood above the club like a Colossus” in the early 60s; the inimitable Keith Allen, three times Australian hammer throw champion and the only UWA athlete to compete before and after the Second World War; Brian Oliver, superb horizontal jumper, first West Australian to triple jump 50 feet, gold medallist in the 1950 Commonwealth Games, winner of three bronze medals at the 1954 Commonwealth Games, and 1956 Olympian; Jack Sumich, whose club javelin throw record has stood for 49 years, and Kylie Wheeler, who won a Commonwealth Games silver medal in the Decathlon, finished 9th in the event at the Beijing Olympics, and captained the club for nine years.

Club President (1954) Don Young and former UWA Sportsman of the Year, Colin O’Sullivan, went on to form the Friends of UWA Athletics which has sponsored the writing of this history. Eighteen Rhodes Scholars were members of the club during their undergraduate days, as were two Federal Cabinet Members, and numerous distinguished academics, clergymen, doctors, engineers, journalists, musicians, lawyers, scientists, soldiers and teachers.

The book also traces the trajectory of sporting facilities available to club members from the early Crawley campus to the impressive Sports Park at McGillivray. It also pays tribute to off-track support from individuals such as Geoffrey Miller and Peter Johnston for the additional legal talents they brought to the club when they were needed to counter a further attempt by the State Athletic Association to de-register the Club. ■



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Investing in smart minds

It's an exciting time to be in science, says UWA graduate and astrophysicist Dr Jim Buckee who has created a UWA fellowship that will bring an additional smart mind to the team taking on the challenges posed by the world's biggest radio astronomy project, the Square Kilometre Array. Simone Hewett reports

According to rugby experts, the hooker is the player with the most responsibility: not only does he have to hook the ball for the scrum-half and throw it for the jumpers in the line-outs, but he works under intense pressure.

As President and CEO of Talisman Energy (formerly BP Canada), Jim Buckee's skills honed as a hooker for UWA Rugby Club during the 1960s meant he was well-equipped to deal with the challenges of running such a large, high-profile company. And all this on top of his considerable academic accomplishments, including a Bachelor of Science (First Class Honours) at UWA, followed by a PhD in Astrophysics at Oxford University.

But after almost 40 years' working in the petroleum industry around the world in nine different countries, Dr Buckee was keen to throw his support behind "big science" research. And the announcement last year that the world's biggest radio telescope – the Square Kilometre Array project – was to be built in Western Australia's Mid-West, provided a scheme that ticked all the boxes.

"I've always been interested in the issues the SKA will be tackling," Dr Buckee said. "They are very fundamental, they are to do with our basic understanding of the universe and this will be a world-class project.

"Much as the Large Hadron Collider is the biggest thing at the little end, this will be the biggest thing for a long time at the large end so I'm very glad to be involved."

Dr Buckee donated \$2 million to support radio astronomy research at UWA in the form of a postdoctoral research position. The Jim Buckee Fellowship in Astrophysics will provide ongoing annual funding for a researcher to join the growing ranks of the International Centre for Radio Astronomy Research (ICRAR) at UWA.

"I think the SKA will be really important scientifically to the University and to the State. It has already attracted 120 new minds," he said.

"As I understand it, the WA Premier Colin Barnett says the State can be great through science and this is a figurehead project."

Dr Buckee said he would always be grateful for the financial support he received as a student, both from the Gledden Fellowship (at UWA) and later from Merton College (Oxford).

"They were very important...and really helped me through a critical point in my life and so I'm happy to do things for other people," he said.



"Much as the Large Hadron Collider is the biggest thing at the little end, this will be the biggest thing for a long time at the large end so I'm very glad to be involved."

At the age of 12, Dr Buckee emigrated from the United Kingdom, with his family in 1958. He attended Wesley College before studying physics, chemistry and applied mathematics at UWA, living on campus at Kingswood College (now Trinity) for most of his student life.

"Wesley and UWA gave me a very good formal education and so I got a lot of the principles right," he said. "That's so important. You can be creative for the rest of your life but you've got to have the basic principles and I think UWA prepared me very well in that sense.

"A lot of my memories of my time at UWA involve rugby training on James Oval. It was a lot of fun but I also worked hard."

Winning a Gledden Fellowship to study astrophysics at Oxford University came at a crucial time for Dr Buckee – it meant he was not drafted into the army during the Vietnam War.

"I had been called up to serve so if I had not won this scholarship, I would have ended up going to Vietnam," Dr Buckee said.



UWA graduate Dr Jim Buckee
(Photo: Matt Galligan)

After Talisman had established a scholarship program in Canada and he had set up his own scholarship at Oxford's Merton College, Dr Buckee was keen to offer support to his alma mater.

A conversation with Professor Peter Quinn, Director of ICRAR, during a UWA Alumni event in London created an opportunity to realise his ambition.

"I got talking to Professor Quinn and asked what he needed and he said he'd love a postdoc fellowship. So I said, 'OK I'll do that'," he recalls.

Dr Buckee said it was an exciting time to be involved in science research.

"Peter Quinn, Lister Staveley-Smith and Ian McArthur have said they just wish they were starting out again in their careers so they could see what the future unfolds," he said.

"There was a feeling during the past 10 years that we'd done most of science and we're just tidying up the loose ends and now it's really clear we don't understand anything. It's breaking apart (knowledge) in the big end, the little end and in the middle as well. As Professor Ian McArthur [Head of the School of Physics] put it: 'Seeing quantum effects on a relatively macro scale, that's in the middle as it were, and we're beginning to be able to do that.'"

With family members still living in Perth (including some UWA students), Dr Buckee divides his time between the UK and WA. He is delighted to be involved in bringing a super smart mind to Western Australia to work on the SKA project.

"What I get out of it is a loose acquaintance (with the fellowship recipient) and the ability to keep up with the project. I'm not going to do any work myself but I'm really interested to see what the researcher will do and what the SKA project itself discovers." ■

CONTACT

For further information about supporting UWA please contact Jo Agnew, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, jo.agnew@uwa.edu.au

For more information about the SKA visit the website: icrar.org

"It meant I couldn't come back to Australia immediately afterwards; I needed an extension and Merton gave me some money so I was able to finish my PhD. At that time lots of companies were trying to recruit university leavers, and I was offered a number of positions but chose to go to Shell because they offered six months of practical training in the Hague, which sounded like fun so we did that."

By the time he completed his PhD, Dr Buckee had married a fellow Oxford student Susan, and the newlyweds spent six months in the Hague before Dr Buckee went on to work in several northern European oil and gas hubs, including Norway, Aberdeen and Lowestoft.

Dr Buckee returned to Perth in 1973 to work on the fledgling North West Shelf project, including stints as a drilling engineer on the North Rankin A and Goodwyn and Angel gas discoveries.

He then moved to the Burmah oil company, based in New Zealand, before joining BP in 1977, working in London, Calgary, Qatar, Norway and Alaska. He returned to Canada in 1991 and was made CEO of Talisman Energy in 1992 where he remained until his retirement in 2007.

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The cover of *The Calling* shows the couple's wedding in Hong Kong in 1937

The Calling

A new title from UWA Publishing celebrates the life of the author's intrepid grandmother.



Portrait of Monica, aged 20, in 1932 (courtesy of Helen Silver)

When Winthrop Professor Susan Prescott reflected on the life of her grandmother Monica Prescott for a UWA Centenary Trust for Women luncheon several years ago, her talk also encompassed the achievements of Sir Stanley Prescott, UWA's first full-time Vice-Chancellor.

The Trust lunch was held in 2007, the 50th anniversary of the foundation of UWA's Medical School (in which her grandfather played a major role). It was also the year in which the graduate became a full professor.

However, it was Monica Prescott's story that absorbed her audience. The Centenary Trust for Women is committed to supporting women who struggle to fund their studies (and details of the July luncheon are on the cover sheet of this issue). Monica Prescott's determination to study medicine – when few women did – and to become a medical missionary in China made her an exemplary role model for the Trust audience.

Professor Prescott went on to write an account of her grandmother's life: *The Calling, a true story of faith, hope and love* that was recently published.

Asked by her granddaughter whether she had experienced prejudice in the pursuit and practice of her career, Monica Prescott said it never occurred to her that this might be an issue.

"Her answer implied that although there clearly were strong social inequalities between genders, she was somehow able to dismantle this on a personal level... Instead, she believed that we should just get on and do what we want regardless. She felt that with that approach we take the power away from the issues, and can still bring about change..."

Monica had appreciated that to study medicine in the Britain of the 1930s, her only option was to secure a scholarship. "I knew I would probably never get one," she later recalled, but she found one for a candidate who attended church and didn't smoke or drink – requirements she met effortlessly!

"Monica made the most of every minute of her 94 years... She never stopped appreciating her life and she never stopped having fun. We always marvelled at her love and excitement, and her positive attitude and enthusiasm touched so many."

— SUSAN PRESCOTT



"I was probably the only one who did," she later joked.

Even before Monica had completed her degree, the London Missionary Society had agreed to send her to China. Meanwhile she met (and clearly influenced) the young lecturer Stanley Prescott who preceded her to China, taking up his first medical post at a university hospital in Tsinan in China's north.

On graduating, Monica planned to join him, however it was 1937 and Japan already occupied much of a China. On a liner bound for Shanghai, Monica was forced to disembark in Hong Kong – and the story of the young doctor sailing to China for a Christmas wedding made it into the *Daily Mirror*.

The newspapers also covered Stanley's perilous journey to meet his fiancée, traveling by night in small Chinese junks and catching a coal boat bound for the British colony. His Chinese language skills did much to ensure the couple was reunited. After a Hong Kong wedding – and undeterred by the military situation – the couple returned to a Tsinan patrolled by Japanese soldiers and under a strict curfew.

The couple spent several years at the Shantung Christian University (established by American and Canadian Presbyterians, English Baptists and Anglicans) that was renowned for its medical education program.

"As the Japanese needed the best medical care for their soldiers, they let the missionaries stay," records the graduate in *The Calling*. Monica worked as a doctor, Stanley as medical superintendent and they secretly tried to divert some of the Japanese funds for the hospital to treat the local Chinese "whose suffering was often far greater and frequently at the hands of the Japanese. On many occasions they found themselves having to hide Chinese patients from Japanese soldiers."

Meanwhile the killing and raping of civilians was happening around them in Tsinan as in other cities as the Japanese army pushed south. "Monica never spoke of the atrocities she must have witnessed," writes her granddaughter. "This may partly have been that she blocked out these memories..."

Once Japan joined the Axis, foreign missionaries became 'the enemy', the Japanese withdrew funding, food became increasingly scarce and anti-foreign sentiment – fuelled by the occupying forces and the rise of nationalism – made the situation untenable. Fearing their son would spend his early years in a concentration camp,




The author Winthrop Professor Susan Prescott

Monica fled to Hong Kong and later to Australia. Stanley followed, but it was always their intention to return to a country they had come to love.

After wartime appointments, Stanley was appointed Master of Ormond College at the University of Melbourne. Having welcomed West Australian students to the college to complete their clinical training, Stanley was approached to become UWA Vice Chancellor in 1953, and to establish a full medical program in Perth.

Professor Susan Prescott relishes the symmetry that has seen her attend the medical school founded by her grandfather, spend four years at St Catherine's College where the sought-after Prescott Wing celebrates both of her grandparents (Monica was very active on the board), and be awarded Raine Foundation support for her research in allergic diseases.

The UWA graduate is the author of *The Allergy Epidemic: A Mystery of Modern Life* (UWAP). Like *The Calling*, it is available at the UWA Co-Op Bookshop and all leading bookstores. For information on recent titles from UWAP, visit the website: uwap.uwa.edu.au ■



Barry Marshall Seeks
Volunteers for Edible Vaccine Trial

Imagine being part of a scientific breakthrough which would revolutionise the way vaccinations and other drugs are administered.

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Our Fulbright Scholars

“I had to work hard... lecturers in particular were always willing to spend time outside of class to assist me. I felt I was a student rather than a student number to most professors and tutors in the school,” says Fulbright Scholar Roxanne Moore.

Two UWA graduates have been awarded 2013 Fulbright Scholarships to study in the United States, joining an elite worldwide group that claims dozens of Nobel Laureates and Pulitzer Prize winners in its ranks.

The areas in which Roxanne Moore and Tiago Tomaz are making their careers – human right advocacy and feeding a hungry world – reflect the scholarship's high ideals. They join last year's winner, Sam Brophy-Williams who is nearing the end of his Master of Public Health studies at Harvard University (see *Grad Briefs*).

Roxanne came to UWA from Margaret River, and remembers the value of the Flying Start Orientation Program and the Blackstone Society for providing ‘instant friends’. She also found an inspiring mentor when doing a parliamentary internship with former MLC Giz Watson that led to full time work in the parliamentarian's electorate office. “This was the first real human rights work I'd done,” she recalls.

The graduate credits many in the Law School for their help including Professor Simon Young, Associate Professor Alex Gardner and Professor Natalia Skead. “I certainly didn't breeze through Law by any means.



I had to work hard and these lecturers in particular were always willing to spend time outside of class to assist me. I felt I was a student rather than a student number to most professors and tutors in the school," she remembers.

Mooting helped hone her debating skills and she won the Blake Dawson Waldron Student Paper Competition in 2010 and was in the 2009 international Jessup Mooting contest that sparked her enthusiasm for international and human rights law. "I'll never forget representing UWA internationally in Washington DC and will always be indebted to my coaches Ben Gauntlett and Jeremy Sher as well as graduates David Leigh and Breony Allen."

When she applied for a Fulbright, Roxanne contacted professors, graduates and Human Rights Watch to ask advice about the best place to study international and human rights law in the United States. "Overwhelmingly, the response was New York University," says Roxanne who is hoping that an international internship will come out of her NYU studies. Long term, she wants to return to Australia to become a human rights advocate.

"Australia is one of the only liberal democracies without national human rights protection, and it's time that changed," she says. "I hope to significantly contribute to building these legal structures for human rights protection, and I'd like to see a nation that values human rights, respects our international obligations and works to protect the vulnerable, not just in legal terms but more broadly as a cultural change. Call me a dreamer, but I think we can get there."

While Roxanne began to consider international law while mooting in Washington, Tiago Tomaz says he had

plenty of time to consider the extraordinary properties of oxygen "sitting on my surf board breathing in the clean ocean air and thinking about the crucial role that plants play in supplying it".

For his PhD completed last year, the graduate studied the way plant metabolism can be manipulated to produce beneficial traits in plants. At the UWA-based Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence in Plant Energy Biology, Tiago investigated the way plants "breathe" and produce energy. His key finding was that removing two proteins involved in respiration can increase levels of Vitamin C and have a big effect on plant growth. He pays tribute to his supervisor, Winthrop Professor Harvey Millar, who recently became the first Australian to win a prestigious American award (see *In Focus*).

Tiago, whose long term plan is to build a career in Australian agriculture, is now looking forward to working at the University of Illinois, a world leader in research on major crop adaptations to future climates. The next two years will be spent on field research in WA and the US, exploring wheat, barley and corn cultivation in water-limited and frost-prone areas.

"My time as a student at UWA gave me a clear route to pursuing my passion for the environment," says the graduate. "I'm now looking to building upon the knowledge and techniques learnt at UWA by applying these outside the laboratory in field-based research on crop plants."


Since graduating Tiago has worked as a research officer with the Department of Agriculture WA. "The tight knit-relationships between the department and this State's agricultural sector have given me the opportunity to meet growers, breeders and other important players," says the graduate, "and being a people person, I enjoy the human element of my work." ■



LEFT: Tiago Tomaz, a keen surfer, began considering the extraordinary properties of oxygen "sitting on my surf board breathing in the clean ocean air and thinking about the crucial role that plants play in supplying it". (Photo: Matt Galligan)

Are you Pregnant?

If you're over 18 and in the first 15 weeks of pregnancy, and would like to join our study to determine what pregnant women and their unborn children are exposed to, please call Dr Kimberley McAuley on 6488 2987 or visit uwa.edu.au/pregnancystudy

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IN VINO, VERITAS: IN LUPINO, LUX

UWA graduate John Gladstones's *Viticulture and Environment* has received accolades from the world governing body of viticulture and winemaking in Paris, has a line of longitude named after him and a worldwide reputation as a scientist. His research led to the selection of Margaret River as a suitable place in which to grow vines. Professor Alex Cohen pays tribute to his wide ranging achievements.

John Gladstones stands astride two of the most significant natural developments in this State, each emanating, in considerable degree, from within The University of Western Australia.

An urban lad, he was educated at Guildford Grammar School where the sons of country people were brought to a standard of learning designed to fit them for a place in the leadership of the State's rural communities. From his early years he was fascinated by and devoted to the raising of plants with an assiduity and commitment which assured their flourishing. With this intense background of dedication to making things grow, together with an outstanding intellect and spirit of enquiry, his life's course was virtually charted for him.

Gladstones commenced his UWA studies in 1950 in the Faculty of Agriculture at the apogee of its lustre. The great Eric Underwood had gathered about him a stellar group of young researchers: Jack Loneregan, Lex Parker and the greatly loved, infinitely productive Reg Moir, as well as other highly dedicated scholars. Alan Robson joined later and further heightened the international standing of the group.

There was no aspect of soil, animal science, trace nutrients and climatic influence which did not attract their critical inspection, stimulated by the vast, dry, leached and malnourished land which comprises so much of Western Australia. Not only was their interest kindled, but their practical insights saw the arid landscape yield to those quintessentials for which it yearned and then plenteously repaid its benefactors.

It was on to the shoulders of these giants that John Gladstones clambered. From the beginning he was attracted to the study of the lupin – the wolf bean – that bitterly unchewable seed known from time immemorial. This unloved basic food substitute was used when times were desperate but the roots and foliage contained



Professor Alex Cohen

material which, if returned to the soil, caused enhanced richness and sturdiness of crops. That magical element, which we now know as nitrogen, makes the lupin a highly desirable alternating crop. When returned to the earth by ploughing or by merely leaving the harvested stubble as mulch, the roots and seeds supply rich amounts of nitrogen. Who could have

guessed that one day this maligned plant could assume such great importance to agriculture and to human well-being and longevity?

In 1959, after twelve months of postdoctoral study in Canada, Gladstones returned to UWA as a lecturer responsible for the fields of climatology, horticulture, crop physiology and ecology – all of those elements of that 'terroir' which was to be his intellectual and practical domain. Being a long-time friend and admirer of the legendary Jack Mann of Houghton Wines in the Swan Valley he was well aware that the grapes were nourished by back-ploughing the green manure of the narrow-leafed blue lupin, planted between the vines. This ancestor of the now commercially viable Mandelup variety had adverse features due to the large amount of bitter alkaloid it contained, the premature rupture of the pod with the profligate scattering of the seed and its late maturing. All of these factors were inimical to the use of the variety as a commercial crop.

Over the next ten years, within the reciprocal relationship of a dedicated community of scholars and in an enlightened atmosphere of UWA co-operation and support, Gladstones successively removed these limitations. Following his development of the first true crop varieties of the narrow-leafed lupin, his national and international reputation grew apace. Peer-reviewed praise and commendation raised his profile to the status of 'lupin guru' with accolades and named lectures trailing in its wake. Simultaneous research on subterranean clover,



John Gladstones (Photo: WA Newspapers)



Vine picture courtesy of the Margaret River Wine Industry Association.

serradella and wine grapes complemented his authority. Not all of his later conclusions on climate change, based on considered and carefully evaluated results, have been unreservedly accepted, but their veracity remains largely unquestioned.

Yet there was more. Gladstones' widely enquiring mind, and his access to the largest vineyard and winery in the State, led naturally to his consideration of product enhancement. It was generally conceded that the Swan Valley wines, although robust and flavourful, lacked delicacy, predictability, durability and what Jack Mann was pleased to attribute to his well-chosen corks as 'nobility'. He had earlier given Gladstones the use of about a hectare of land on which lupin, in its various forms and mutations, could be observed and culled. This typically generous action was an important factor which contributed to Gladstones' later decision to seriously research the prospects of a better environment for producing table wines in the cooler South-Western regions of Western Australia. Some years earlier, a visiting professor from California, Harold Olmo, had broadly canvassed this possibility.

Serendipity dwells happily within the intellectual freedom and broad boundaries of great universities. She is to be found where there is academic freedom, lack of constrained direction and an empathetic material support. Where envy, estrangement, dissatisfaction, ingratitude and academic mediocrity abide, she is not to be found. The prepared mind will always be her suitor and captivator. Ask any Nobel Laureate.

Such was the case when John Gladstones first predicted, and helped persuade, a few courageous vintners – particularly the late Tom Cullity – to raise their flag of quality to the masthead of Margaret River. Many documents, publications and memoirs attest to this insightful paternity of locale and the trials, tribulations and triumphs which followed.

See him now, at eighty years: short of stature but upright and alert with a gentle tone of voice and turn of phrase which indicates the wealth of knowledge, understanding and tolerance underpinned by the confidence born of study, intellectual contest and humility. His eyes are clear and focused on the moment but may cloud at times into the banks of challenging memory and enquiry. Here is the epitome of the naturalist scholar and perpetual student with which the tapestry of great universities is populated and adorned.

Within the last five years the lupin has burst into prominence in the treatment of those two death-dealers obesity and diabetes mellitus. Winthrop Professor Peter Leedman heads a consortium of all the relevant research institutions in Western Australia canvassing many interlocking areas. So pressing are the problems and so persuasive the evidence that the venture has been funded by the State Government to the tune of \$4.5 million within the rubric of a Centre for Food and Genomic Medicine. The Centre has brought together groups with complementary expertise from the State in a new collaborative project directed and integrated by UWA.

This is collegiate research at its best. It forges a critical mass which must be of benefit to all in terms of intellectual growth and practical outcomes. It validates the claim that UWA has contributed massively to the intellectual and commercial viability of the State and nation and is geared to do much more. Already the initial clinical outcomes have vindicated the use of lupins in a whole range of increasingly valuable foodstuffs and medical preparations. It must be added, as a commercial aside, that 85% of the world's viable lupin crop is grown in Western Australia. In what promises to be a huge commercial market, this reality cannot be underestimated.

John Gladstones richly deserves a place within the pantheon of the great investigators and thinkers associated with this University over the century of its existence. Wine, Terroir and Climate Change are but parts of this fecund whole. Each will be given due prominence over the coming months as UWA reflects with justifiable pride on the prestigious pathways it has developed and widened. ■



Government of Western Australia
Department of Health

Have you been involved in donor-assisted conception?

The Voluntary Register is a service for donor-conceived adults, parents of a donor-conceived child, and donors in Western Australia.

People involved in donor-assisted conception when donations were anonymous (before 1 December 2004) are particularly encouraged to register. This may help donor-conceived people gain information about their origins.

For further information go to www.voluntaryregister.health.wa.gov.au or www.rtc.org.au

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Gifts of *learning*

Three talented sisters who studied at UWA — and shared a lifelong love of learning and teaching — donated and bequeathed to support research and education.

The young Horsfall sisters:
Margaret, Muriel and Constance.

The Horsfall sisters – Margaret, Muriel and Constance – never forgot the help that scholarships such as the Hackett Bursary could make in the life of a university student. Grateful for the assistance they had received, the sisters were determined to support UWA and to help future students to reach their full potential by easing the journey of those faced with financial difficulties. The bequests and donations the Horsfall family gifted to UWA are now assisting research and students while honouring the memory of family members.

Margaret and Muriel Horsfall attended their first school in India during the first decade of the 20th century. The family had journeyed from Yorkshire to Hyderabad when their father Herbert Horsfall was appointed Chief Engineer for the Nizam of Hyderabad.

Herbert's brief was to design bridges that could withstand monsoonal floods, but clearly he did much more in sharing his knowledge with others. When the family left India in 1910, his fellow workers expressed their appreciation: "Your learning has always been at our disposal, and the manner in which you imparted it is characteristic of you." Difficult engineering concepts never previously explained to them had become clear, they said in a tribute to the fine engineer – and their words were emblazoned on silk banners that later found a place in the Horsfall family home.

In 1912 the family moved to Western Australia where Herbert became a senior railway engineer with the Public Works Department. Perhaps as a result of the esteem in which their father was held, the three Horsfall girls (Constance was born in India) were acutely aware of the value of learning and teaching. Educated at Perth Modern School and then UWA, they completed BAs and Diplomas in Education at a time when it was unusual for girls to be so well educated.

The three high achievers went on to teach and Margaret later received a Carnegie Grant and a Fulbright Scholarship to study art education in America. She lectured in Education and was made a Fellow of the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce, London, in 1952.

Muriel taught maths in WA and Tasmania and she when she and Connie retired from teaching, they lived in Tasmania. Buying a farm in Richmond, they also established a museum, The Granary, to display their collection of Aboriginal artefact and local history. The museum became an extension of their enthusiasm for education, becoming a popular destination for school groups. Meanwhile, the sisters relished a range of artistic and creative pursuits, and when not painting or doing handicrafts, they tended an extensive garden and a small flock of sheep that provided wool for their spinning.



Annalise Phan was awarded the Mary Horsfall Outer Metropolitan Scholarship in Medicine scholarship during the first year of her studies at UWA in 2006.



Constance Horsfall and Muriel Horsfall

“Bequests have an ongoing and far-reaching positive impact and the Horsfall family’s foresight and generosity will continue to benefit students, the University and ultimately the wider community well into the future. The University is most grateful to these wonderful philanthropic women.”



The Horsfall family in India

Today, UWA research and students are benefitting from the generosity of the sisters and their step-mother Mary. The sisters donated (in memory of their parents) the Margaret and Herbert Horsfall Memorial Bursary in the Faculty of Architecture Landscape and Visual Arts, and after Constance passed away they perpetuated her memory by supported students in the Faculty of Education. And when their step-mother Mary died, she generously bequeathed to support medicine. A medical research fund, student travel scholarships and a scholarship for medical student who experience financial hardship were established in her name.

Annalise Phan was awarded the Mary Horsfall Outer Metropolitan Scholarship in Medicine scholarship during the first year of her studies at UWA in 2006.

“I came from a school that was fairly unrepresented at UWA,” she recalls, “and at the time my family were struggling with a small business that ate most of their time and made finances tighter,” recalls Annalise.

“I remember quickly becoming overwhelmed by my studies while navigating university life, but once I got the scholarship I didn’t have to worry about part-time work to pay for stethoscopes and textbooks. The scholarship allowed me to attend camps and conferences, both social and educational, and these enhanced my learning and kept me motivated. I’m very grateful because this scholarship has opened so many doors for me during this long course.”

Fourth year medical student Matthew Chau also believes he would not have been able to pursue his studies without the help of the scholarship. “Initially I struggled and my grades started dropping, but with the encouragement of tutors and staff, I have found my motivation again. Now I’m happy to say I’ve never tried so hard in my life and now I feel as though this journey has just started! I’m looking forward to future challenges.”

“Bequests have an ongoing and far-reaching positive impact and the Horsfall family’s foresight and generosity will continue to benefit students, the University and ultimately the wider community well into the future. The University is most grateful to these wonderful philanthropic women”, says the Bequest Manager, Anne Liddle. ■

CONTACT

If you would like to know more about scholarships at UWA visit the website: scholarships.uwa.edu.au

For information about bequests, contact Bequest Manager Anne Liddle on Tel: +61 8 6488 8537 or Email: anne.liddle@uwa.edu.au

Information is also available on the website: development.uwa.edu.au/bequests



100 UWA graduates celebrate 100 years of Convocation

By Jim Paparo

Not even early morning showers could deter 100 graduates from The University of Western Australia from celebrating 100 years since the inaugural Convocation of UWA Graduates meeting, on the steps of the very building where the first meeting took place on 4 March 1913.

"This very special event was a wonderful tribute to those who established Convocation 100 years ago and allowed us to commemorate that first meeting and acknowledge the role Convocation members have helped play in the development of UWA into one of the world's great universities," said Dr Fran Pesich, President of the UWA Historical Society, and Convocation Council Member.

"And for those who took part – from relatively recent UWA graduates, to some who first graduated more than half a century ago, and even the descendants of inaugural UWA students – it was a great opportunity to catch up with other UWA colleagues, in some cases not seen in many years."

One of the very earliest UWA graduates was represented at the event by his great-granddaughter, UWA graduate Barbara Hughes, who carried a framed photo of him.

"In 1912, my great-grandfather, James Onward McNamara, had been working as a clerk at the Lands Office in Cathedral Avenue, Perth and just around the corner in Hay Street, the fledgling University of Western Australia was taking applications for its first year of undergraduate courses," said Ms Hughes.

Mr McNamara enrolled for a Bachelor of Arts Degree and, in April 1913 aged over 50, began attending evening lectures at the new University. He graduated in 1917.

"I had only discovered over the UWA centenary celebrations weekend in February that James was an inaugural student and, with my direct connection with one of the very first UWA graduates, I was keen to be at the Convocation photo shoot," she said.

UWA graduate Mary Tannock was also there at the recent celebration and her aunt, May Tannock – later Dame Elizabeth Couchman – was also a 1913 student who graduated in 1916.

May Tannock came to Perth in 1913 from Geelong in Victoria to complete a Bachelor of Arts degree at the new free University in WA, studying political science, economics and constitutional law.

Dr Pesich thanked all those who took part in the celebration, and all UWA Historical Society and Convocation members who made it all happen.

"Thanks to research undertaken by UWA Historical Society's Joan Pope, and hard work by Convocation Councillor and UWA Historical Society member Pauline Tremlett and her team, we were able to appropriately celebrate the centenary of that first meeting back in 1913," said Dr Pesich. ■

From the Warden



Monday, 4 March 2013 marked a significant achievement in the history of Convocation with the Council marking 100 years since its first meeting in St Georges Hall, Hay Street (see previous page).

At that inaugural meeting, Bishop Charles Riley (1854-1929) was appointed as the first of the 31 Wardens of Convocation elected during the past 100 years. To mark this century of service we have updated our website to include details of these past Wardens.

Now as we commence our second century of service to the University community, I feel privileged to have been elected as the 32nd Warden to continue this fine tradition.

At the first general meeting of Convocation for the forthcoming century (referred to in the statutes by the exciting title of Ordinary Meeting) held on Friday 15 March 2013, the results of the 2013 elections were announced as follows:

- Warden – Warren Kerr AM
- Deputy Warden – Paul McCann AM

The following members of Convocation Council were re-elected:

- Clinical Professor Lesley Cala
- Mr Ashok Desai
- Dr Judith Owen
- Mr Ian Passmore OAM

The following new Councillors were elected:

- Mr Robert Johnson
- Dr Susan King
- Dr Doug McGhie
- Mr Chuan Ong
- Dr Zarin Salter

Having completed their terms, the following members of Council have retired:

- Mr David Hodgkinson (Warden)
- Mr Geoffrey Leach
- Winthrop Professor Graeme Martin
- Mr Raoul Oehmen (Deputy Warden & Treasurer)
- Mr Jim Paparo

Mr David Hodgkinson will take over from Mr Simon Dawkins, the advisory role on Council as Immediate Past Warden. Mr Simon Dawkins has now completed his role as the Immediate Past Warden, but he will continue to have an active involvement in Convocation through his role as one of the four Convocation-elected members of the UWA Senate.

On behalf of the Council, I wish to thank David Hodgkinson in his role as Warden, the Convocation Officer, Juanita Perez Scott and her staff-members, Cristina Kelly and Christopher Gorham for the professional manner in which the elections were conducted.

During David's term as the Warden of Convocation, we have seen many productive initiatives pursued to celebrate the 100th anniversary of both the University and Convocation. I wish to congratulate David Hodgkinson and Raoul Oehmen on what they have achieved and to thank them for the firm foundation we now have to continue the contribution that Convocation can make as we enter the next century of our history.

To ensure that I had an adequate knowledge of this history, during part of the Easter break, I refreshed my knowledge of the events leading to the establishment of UWA, by reading through the Hansard reports of the Parliamentary debates conducted in 1911 on the UWA Act.

It revealed some interesting insights. Because Sir John Winthrop Hackett was a member of the Legislative Council, I was able to read in his own words of his hopes and aspirations for the University and the role that he wished Convocation to play in its governance.

In February 1911, he indicated that after a comprehensive investigation of the governance systems then used by universities in Europe and the USA, his committee had: "come back to consideration of the Australian model, which is the simplest and most effective for our purposes."

In his words: "The Australian model consists of two chambers. We call one chamber, the smaller and the executive one, the Senate and the larger chamber, the Convocation. The Senate has responsibility for the entire administration of the University and a share of the legislation it initiates. The Convocation has the entire electoral rights of the University in its hands and the right to review and amend legislation."

The membership of Convocation was also considered in some detail during these Parliamentary debates. When introducing the legislation to create UWA, the Minister, the Hon Robert McKenzie, drew members attention to the fact that WA's commercial, industrial, scientific and educational institutions would be represented on Convocation so that there would be a direct relationship between these organisations and the University.

This legislation also ensured that all subsequent graduates of UWA became members and in later years amendments were made to ensure that academic staff also had the right to become members of Convocation.

From these parliamentary speeches, we know the clear intentions of Sir John Winthrop Hackett and the Premier of the day, the Hon Frank Wilson regarding the role that Convocation would play in ensuring the success of The University of Western Australia.

Now 100 years later we have the opportunity to review this contribution and plan for the next century of achievements to ensure that Convocation continues to ensure that UWA is responsive to the needs of its stakeholders including graduates, staff-members and the representatives from the commercial, industrial, scientific, professional, educational and academic organisations with whom UWA now works in a symbiotic relationship.

I look forward to continuing that work on your behalf during my term as the Warden of Convocation.

Warren Kerr AM
Warden of Convocation

Convocation backing for childhood eating disorder research

A serendipitous invitation to a Women's Week event provided a spark that resulted in PhD candidate Michelle Jongenelis winning a 2012 Convocation Postgraduate Research Travel Award.

When Michelle, a beginning UWA PhD/Masters student, was invited to Government House for Women's Week in 2008, little did she know that her quest for an inspiring research topic was about to come to an end.

As a Clinical Psychology postgrad, she had been seeking a topic that she would still be passionate about after eight years of study and hard work. Having already discussed possible research paths with an expert in the field of eating disorders (UWA's Associate Professor Susan Byrne), she had a broad idea that she wanted to investigate eating disorders, particularly eating disorders in children, but had no clear direction beyond that.

The subject for discussion at the Women's Week function was the objectification of women. Each of the guest speakers asserted that, as a result of objectification, women experience psychological disorders at a disproportionately higher rate than men.

But Michelle was particularly interested in the speakers' assertion that objectification could also be linked to the increasing rates of eating disorders in children. She knew she had found the topic she'd been looking for: an examination of the consequences of objectification in children.

"After recruiting an expert in media and marketing, UWA's Professor Simone Pettigrew, to be my co-supervisor with Associate Professor Byrne, I began recruiting children from Perth primary schools and conducting research that would be of value," says Michelle.

"An extensive literature review revealed that objectification had not been examined in children so I had no idea what I was going to find, or if I would find anything at all."

Five years and almost 1000 interviews with five to 11 year olds later, Michelle's research indicates that children, girls especially, experience self-objectification (that is, they have learnt to see themselves as objects to be looked at and evaluated) to the same extent as adolescents and adults.

Additionally, self-objectification predicts increased eating disorder symptoms such as body shame, weight and shape concern, and dietary restraint.

"After being awarded a 2012 Convocation Postgraduate Travel Award, I now have the opportunity to share my research with one of the leading researchers in body image and self-objectification," says Michelle.

"Thanks to the generosity of Convocation, I will travel to the University of Kent at Canterbury in the UK to present my findings to Dr Rachel Calogero.

"I could not be more pleased and I wish to sincerely thank Convocation for giving me this wonderful opportunity." ■



Award-winner Michelle Jongenelis with a participant in her research project.

Convocation
invites all graduates
and other members
of Convocation to attend

Second Ordinary Meeting
to be held on
Friday 20 September 2013
at 5.30pm for a 6.00pm start
at the Auditorium,
The University Club



Hon Justice James Edelman
of the Supreme Court
of Western Australia
will be speaking on
"Challenges for University education
in the next century"

Further details at
convocation.uwa.edu.au

Refreshments will follow the meeting
RSVP on (08) 6488 3006
or via convocation@uwa.edu.au



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Centenary Fever has Struck Convocation – Please can you help?

Former Warden Dr Joan Pope OAM and former Deputy Warden and Convocation-elected Senator Pauline Tremlett are busy researching and compiling a Chronicle of Convocation, 100 years of graduate engagement and service to the University.

Some fascinating information is coming to light reflecting not only the history of the University but the involvement of the people of Western Australia in its establishment and development. However, despite both Joan and Pauline being hoarders of legendary status, there are big gaps in the records which need to be filled and for this your assistance would be very much appreciated! Some issues of *Crawley*, Convocation's own magazine, are missing from not only their own personal collections but also from Archives and the Reid Library. These and the preceding Newsletters of Convocation from the 1960s are badly needed, and they also want to see any other records of, and especially images of any past Convocation activities.

Were you part of the first Convocation organised trip to China? Did you attend any of the country Convocation dinners that were held in several centres? Were you the recipient of a Convocation Prize, or an Award for further study or travel overseas? Did you tour behind the scenes of Kings Park or the Perth Zoo? Do you have any pictures of yourself (and/or others) at any Convocation activities? Ideally including the 25th Semi Jubilee in 1938 or the 50th Jubilee in 1963? If so we would love to hear from you! Please put the names of the people on the backs of the photos. And if you have any spare time and typing skills Joan and Pauline would really appreciate a good old-fashioned shorthand typist to assist them as they decipher handwritten minutes and attempt to transcribe them.

Please trawl through your memory banks and memorabilia and contact us; Pauline on ptremlett@inet.net.au, or Joan popejoan@cygnus.uwa.edu.au, or through the Office of Convocation on (08) 6488 3006, or via convocation@uwa.edu.au. ■

50th Reunion Lunch for 2013

The 50th Reunion of all those who graduated or gained higher degrees in 1963 will take place on Saturday 16 November 2013 at the University Club of Western Australia.

Registration and further details available at convocation.uwa.edu.au



Keep in touch!

"Grad Briefs – they're the first thing I read," writes one graduate. "They often remind me of former classmates and colleagues and have enabled me to resume long-lost friendships," writes poet, author and graduate William Grono. That's what Grad Briefs networking is all about, so let us know where you are, what you're doing and put us in the picture: hard copy (which we'll return on request), digital image (tif or jpeg file at 300 dpi).

Email terry.larder@uwa.edu.au or post to Terry Larder, The University of Western Australia, M474, 35 Stirling Highway, Crawley, WA 6009. We'd love to hear from you.

1950s



David White (BA 1950) had a professional career spanning more than 42 years as a geologist, initially working with the Commonwealth Bureau of Mineral Resources in Canberra. Later, David was a manager of a mineral exploration company for a joint venture of USA oil companies. He gained full Blues in Athletics and Australian Rules Football (1947-48) while at UWA.



Catharine Cool (née Bruce) (BA 1951) pursued graduate studies in Psychology at University College, London and conducted field research and teaching in Samoa. She married an American and raised three children living as a Foreign Service wife in numerous postings in Asia. Catharine has written two volumes of poetry and published three memoirs. She writes that through all of her life of travels, she remains aware how indebted she is to UWA for those wonderful years of growing and learning more than half a century ago. Former classmates can contact her at castlecool@cox.net.



Neville Threlfall (BA 1952) still works part-time for the Uniting Church and engages in community service as well as writing about the history of Papua New Guinea. He worked there for more than 20 years and has just published his third book, *Mangroves, Coconuts and Frangipani: The Story of Rabaul*. Neville lives in Bateau Bay, NSW.

Richard (Dick) Cairnes (BEd 1957; BA 1965) retired from the position of Regional Secondary School Superintendent with the Education Department of WA in 1987. Since then he has worked occasionally with the Department, most notably as relieving principal of Yiyili, an Aboriginal community school located between Fitzroy Crossing and Halls Creek. Former classmates can contact him at rcairnes3@gmail.com.

Kim Paterson (LLB 1958) was admitted to practice as a lawyer in September 1960. He established his own practice in 1966 and when approached by Peter Dowding, Paterson and Dowding was established and flourishes to this day. Kim and his family decided on a sea-change and in 1976 he took up the appointment as the City Solicitor to the City of Launceston. He terminated this appointment in 1983 and joined the firm Zeeman Kable and Page (ZKP) of Launceston, as a partner. After 14 years with ZKP, he established his own firm, Kim Paterson and Associates which he sold on retirement. Married with three adult children, he would love to hear from former classmates at: kimpaterson@fastmail.com.

Blodwyn Timms (née Lloyd) (BA 1959) writes that since reaching the age of 80, she can now look back over a life spent in Christian service in various cultural groups. Her academic life has been developed through reading and external study. Blodwyn has two sons and a grandson (who are also UWA graduates).

1960s

Ian Hunt (BSc(Agric) 1962; DipEd 1963) now manages a mixed citrus fruits and Australian native wildflower farm near Coff's Harbour, NSW. Ian spent the past 10 years working in Indonesia. Former classmates can contact him at gleneving1@yahoo.com.au.



Lynette Hurry (née Hymus) (BA 1962; DipEd 1964) writes that after teaching high school Music and English, she travelled extensively for 10 years; seven as hostess with P&O cruise ships. She married Captain Andrew Hurry and they raised three children. Now a widow, Lynette's hobbies remain writing (16 books) and singing. She has a Master's degree in Creative

Writing and has a prospect of a lectureship with the Princess Line. Former classmates can contact her at lynhurry@bigpond.com.

John Melville-Jones (PhD 1963) writes that he is now a Senior Honorary Research Fellow in the Classics and Ancient History Department at UWA. He completed a short book for the University's Centenary this year, entitled *The Hackett Memorial Buildings at The University of Western Australia*. Published by Hesperian Press, the book is available for purchase at UWA's Visitors Information Centre.

Uggappakodi Bhat (PhD 1965) is Emeritus Professor in the Faculty of Statistical Science and Operations Research at the Southern Methodist University, in Texas. In 2007 he retired from the post of Dean at the School of Education and Human Development at the university.



Ted Witham (BA 1966) is enjoying retirement and writes that he is having some success with publishing short fiction and

poetry. His 800-word history of his childhood piano teacher, Marjorie Bowman, will feature in *Inside History* later this year.

Ralph Cook (BA 1967) taught in Primary and Secondary schools in WA as well as teaching English as a second language in Japan. Ralph retired in 2000.

Janis Purdy (BA 1968; DipEd 1969; BJuris 1977; LLB 1978) has been living in England for the past 32 years, but has visited WA every four months. She was admitted as barrister and solicitor in WA in 1978 and admitted

as a solicitor in England and Wales in 1984. Former classmates can contact her at janis.purdy@virgin.net.

1970s

Patrick Cornish (BA 1970; BA(Hons) 1978; MA 1980) writes that he enjoys writing and editing for a range of employers. He accepts he is losing the battle on the correct use of apostrophes. Patrick is Chair of the Australian Dictionary of Biography - WA working party. Former classmates can contact him at patrickcornish@aol.com.

Bruce Matthews (BSc(Hons) 1971; DipEd 1976; PhD 1976; BEd (Hons) 1980) retired at the end of 2011 from the position as Headmaster of the Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School after 13.5 years in the role. While enjoying retirement, Bruce is also on the Board of the School Curriculum and Standards Authority and Chair of its Standards Committee.

Tony Virili (BA 1973) retired last October and returned to Australia after more than 30 years working in Tokyo.

William Lines (BEC 1974) writes that after supervising multi-million dollar construction projects in Canberra for several years, he has now moved to a rural property east of Hobart. Here he plans to build a house and pursue self-sufficiency. He has published seven books, but doubts that he will write again owing to his passion for building his own home.

Boris Ioannidis (BCom(Hons) 1975) is a chartered accountant and has worked for many years in the accounting and taxation area. He is a member of the Tax Institute and is married with two adult children.

Robert Atkins (BSc 1976) retired from the position of Deputy Director General Environment Services with the

Cycling to the South Pole

Three years after becoming the first woman to cycle 22,000km across Africa from west to east, **Kate Leeming** (BPE 1987; DipEd 1988) is preparing for her next adventure – to become the first person to cycle to the South Pole. Kate will use a purpose-built bike designed and built in the United States for her expedition. It features a patented all-wheel-drive system to accommodate the extra-wide titanium forks, which will house 12cm-wide tyres. Antarctica is the coldest, driest and windiest continent in the world and the surface under Kate's bike will range from solid ice to extremely deep drifts of powder snow. She will also face dangerous crevasses in the mountainous regions and temperatures ranging from minus 10C on the coast to minus 40C at altitudes of up to 3400m. The wind chill will add significantly to the difficult nature of the challenge.

Kate must raise \$1.5m to enable her to undertake her expedition, Breaking the Cycle – South Pole. She is hoping to also raise funds to support The Global Fund, which finances medical programs targeting HIV-related diseases. Before and during the trip, she will collaborate in a comprehensive e-learning leadership course for school children and young people. Her international support team includes Australian polar explorer, Eric Phillips as guide, award-winning Swiss filmmaker Claudio von Planta and British remote locations specialist Phil Coates in charge of communications and taking still images. For more details: kateleeming.com





Robert Atkins

WA Department of Environment and Conservation in November 2012, after 32 years in the Western Australian public service. He had previously held the positions of Director Environment Regulation and Manager of then Swan River Trust. Robert writes that he is now able to spend more time wood turning, "going bush" and doing genealogy research.

1980s

Stephen Treloar (BSc 1983; DipEd 1983) is Head of Senior School at Georgiana Molloy Anglican School in Busselton. He was awarded the De Laeter Medal for Science Teaching by the Science Teachers Association of WA and was presented with this honour at the STAWA Future Science Conference held at UWA last year.

Stuart Bonnington (BA 1986) has been serving as a Minister for the Presbyterian Church since 1990. He completed a Master of Theology in 2001 through his research in church history. Stuart combines local church ministry with his responsibilities as the Superintendent of the Presbyterian Inland Mission, which was a successor to the Australian Inland Mission. Last October was the centenary celebration of its foundation under the leadership of Dr John Flynn. Stuart has been researching the life of John Flynn for the past 10 years in collaboration with Stephen Dyer. They have released a book on Flynn and the Presbyterian Church in outback Australia, entitled *Views Beyond the Furthest Fence*. Former classmates can contact Stuart at melbonn@bigpond.com.

Kerrie House (BSc 1987) is the Science Curriculum Coordinator at Melbourne Girls Grammar. For the past five years, she worked for the Oracle Corporation. Former classmates can contact her at kerrie213@gmail.com.

Richard Sisson (BA(Hons) 1987) was recently appointed to the Board of the Asean Development Bank, which has its headquarters in Manila. Since graduating, he has undertaken a Master's degree in Public Policy and worked principally for the Australian Government.



Anna Michelson (née Thisainayagan) (BA 1988) has had a varied career in Federal, State and private enterprise in a range of senior management level roles. Anna also graduated from Edith Cowan with an MBA degree. She purchased a Graduates' Walk paver as a way of celebrating her education milestones and as a symbol of appreciation for the sacrifices made by her proud

parents. She is currently Assistant Director at the Department of Transport Driver and Vehicle Services and writes that she is working through her 'travel bucket list' with her husband. They trekked to near Everest Base Camp in 2011 and this year kayaked in Antarctica.

David Blunt (BE 1989) completed his PhD studies last year at the University of Adelaide. Former classmates can contact David at bluntd@optusnet.com.au.

1990s

Annette Hansen (PhD 1991) retired as a high school teacher of German in September 2010. Annette and her husband, **Alexander Hansen** (PhD 1987) live six months of the year in Brisbane and the other six in Paris.

Julian Leach (BSc 1993) completed a Master's degree at Edith Cowan University. He is currently the Sustainable Development Manager with South Boulder Mines Limited, in West Perth. Former classmates can contact him at julian@southbouldermines.com.au.

Catherine Taplin (née Fielding) (BEc 1998) worked in Guinea for four years and is now working in Arizona in a Human Resources role with Rio Tinto Copper.

2000s



R. Bruce Backman (PhD 2000) writes that he is an avid reader of *Uniview* and thought readers might like to see a shot he took of Winthrop Hall in 1997. "I took it using a film Nikon 401x with architectural (slow) film. I chose a quiet night (2am) and exposed the film for 10 minutes. It was a very tricky shot requiring many attempts." And it's beautiful. Many thanks Bruce

Ming Xiao Zhou (BEnvDes 2002; BArch(Hons) 2004) is a design coordinator for a Singapore architectural design consultancy firm based in Jakarta. She is working on several projects in Indonesia and has recently completed a project in Bali called 'Beach Walk Bali'.

Daniel Hewitt (MB BS 2003) is a dermatologist at Burswood Dermatology. Former classmates can contact him at dthewitt@gmail.com.

David Livingstone (BLArch 2004) writes that he was diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome in 2009, when he was working for the City of Swan,

Graduates mark centenary – in Boston!

While UWA was busy celebrating its centenary, graduates **Ned** and **Sam Brophy-Williams** got together in Boston and pulled on their UWA Centenary T-shirts (sent by their mother, UWA News editor Lindy Brophy) for a photo in Copley Square. Sam was studying at Harvard, completing a Masters in Public Health, on a General Sir John Monash Scholarship. Ned is doing his PhD in sport science through the University of Tasmania, based at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra. Ned (BSc(Hons) 2011) stayed with his brother Sam (MB BS 2010) during a month-long holiday in the US.



in Perth. He has since moved to Tasmania for a sea change and is hoping to start his own landscape design business in the next five years. Former classmates can contact David at antcity72@yahoo.com.au.

Michael Valent (EMBA 2004) is currently working for Newcrest Mining Limited as Manager in open cut mining at Telfer Operations, one of Australia's largest open pit operations for material movement.



Christopher Hesford (BSc(Agric) 2005; BSc 2010) and **Emma Cribb** (BSc 2004; DipEd 2005) first met at the UWA Rowing Club 10 years ago. They married last October at Aquinas College Chapel followed by a reception at Acqua Viva in Nedlands. The newlyweds are living and working in Kalgoorlie. Former classmates can contact Emma at hesford.emma@gmail.com.

Philip Brown (MB BS 2006) is now working for the Albany hospital.

Surya Kiong (BCompSc & BE 2009) is a FIFO (fly-in, fly-out) electrical engineer based in Port Hedland. He writes, 'FIFO life is great when you are still single and the best thing is that you can travel anywhere you want during your time off.' Former classmates can contact him at surya.kiong@hotmail.com.

2010s



Wong Ho Cheung (BCom 2011) is working in accounting and auditing in Hong Kong and writes that he is missing the unforgettable uni life even though it has only been one year since he was at UWA.

Sabrina Ahmad (PhD 2012) is working in Malaysia for a public university in the area of software engineering. Sabrina is also enjoying doing software development projects as a consultant.

Rosalind Hewett (BA(Hons) 2012) is completing a PhD at the ANU College of Asia and the Pacific. Last year, Rosalind spent several months in Leiden, Netherlands as an affiliated fellow at the Royal Netherlands Institute of South East Asian and Caribbean Studies. This year she will live in Indonesia for nine months while conducting oral history interviews. She writes that none of this would have happened, if not for the wonderful programs and supportive staff in the Indonesian and History Departments at UWA during her undergraduate and honours year.



Marilyn Manson (BSc 2012) is working as a medical outlet assistant for All Health Medical Supplies, in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia. Former classmates can contact Marilyn at concord_412@hotmail.com.

Cycling for cancer research

UWA Business School graduate **Elise Marciano** is challenging herself to cycle 200km this October to raise funds for cancer research. Elise, who completed a double degree in Economics and Commerce in 2010, will ride from Perth to Pinjarra and back over two days as part of the Sunsuper Ride to Conquer Cancer. She is hoping to raise \$2,500 for the Western Australian Institute for Medical Research. "Like most Australians, I have close friends and family who have been affected by cancer," says Elise. "The Ride to Conquer Cancer is a great opportunity to challenge myself and raise funds for research," says Elise, who is part of Team Woodside. After graduating, Elise joined Woodside in 2011 in the commercial stream of the three-year graduate program. Her first rotation was as a contract specialist in production, and she is now working as a commercial analyst in exploration.



Yoon Sen Lee, his wife Ivy and son Shaun Hern Lee, a talented pianist.

Graduate shares his skills

Yoon Sen Lee (B.Mus.hons) was born in Singapore and obtained the UK's diplomas of the Licentiate of the Royal Schools of Music, (LRSM) Licentiate of the Guildhall School of Music (LGSM) and the Associate of the London College of Music (ALCM). In 1994, he won first prize in UWA's VOSE Prize Concerto Competition and performed with the WA Symphony Orchestra. In that same year, Yoon Sen pursued further studies in Holland on the performance of the fortepiano and in 1996, completing the Masters of Music degree. He is now a specialist on the performance of both the fortepiano (18th century piano) and the modern piano and is also involved in voice, conducting and composition teaching.

A senior music examiner and advisory board member for the Australian Music Examinations Board (WA), the graduate has nurtured many students who became musicians and winners in various local and international piano competitions. In 2006, he established the Yoon Sen Lee Music School and he has been awarded various Best Teacher Awards at national and international levels.

In 2011, Yoon Sen was awarded the Excellence Award in Promoting Chinese Culture through performance and education in music for the Chinese community. This was in conjunction with the Year of Chinese Culture at the Australia's Award Ceremony. In the same year, Yoon Sen was nominated for the Golden Wattle Awards for the Top Ten Outstanding Australian Chinese Youth.

As a performer, Yoon Sen performs as pianist and fortepianist and in duo, and with chamber orchestras around Europe, Australia and Asia. With young musicians, he formed the YSL ensemble, performing concerts regularly in Perth. Yoon Sen has been the conductor for the Australian Youth Choir and currently is the conductor of The Bridge Junior Choir and the Kingsway Methodist Church Choir. He is also the artistic director of Aus-Sino Youth Music Association promoting western and eastern music in Australia and China.

Thomas Quinlivan (GradDipEdL 2012) is Head of Primary School at Kingsway Christian College. Former classmates can contact him at tquinlivan@inet.net.au.

Atlanta Veld (BSc(Rest.Ecol) 2012) successfully applied to study for her Master's degree, however, an opportunity to work with the City of Albany as a Lands Officer made her defer studies for this year. She is also continuing with her own self-funded research into the nesting behaviour and juvenile development of the Oblong Turtle (*cheldonia oblonga*).

Sally Ascott (BSc 2013) is an environmental consultant at 360 Environmental Consultancy. She works with the soil, water and air assessment team in the fields of contamination in soil and ground water, flora and fauna protection.

Isha Simpson (BA(Com.St) 2013) filmed for the World Healing Day in 2012 and is a published writer for the Kumara Healing and Wellness Centre. She is hoping to raise awareness in the health and well-being areas.

The Write Stuff!

UWA graduates venturing into fiction have a great track record of publication success – and they are prolific!

Recently Fremantle Press has published titles by **Deb Fitzpatrick** (a junior fiction story for adventurous boys, *The Amazing Spencer Gray*), **Julienne van Loon's** suspenseful *Harmless* and Dianne Wolfer's *Light Horse Boy* (about a pair of West Australian who discover the brutal realities of war when embarking on 'the adventure' of the Great War).

The publishing company is also celebrating the win by **Ten Tiny Things** (by author and graduate **Meg McKinlay** and illustrator Kyle Hughes-Odger) of a Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators award.

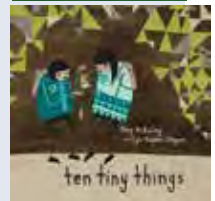
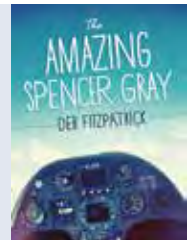
Following the success of her debut novel *A Stranger in my Street*, graduate **Deborah Burrows** (who has four degrees) recently launched *Taking a Chance*, a murder mystery set in wartime Perth in 1943, at the Co-op Bookshop in the Guild Village.

As the wife of an EU diplomat, **Pamela O'Cuneen** spent two decades in Africa, living in several different countries and getting to know a range of cultures. In her memoir *Culture Shock and Canapés*, she highlights the importance of humour in negotiating the high and lows of her time in Africa.

John Cailles, who completed degrees in Education and in Creative Writing, has written several novels and a collection of short stories. His most recent novel, *Green Olives and Red Wine*, is published by Melrose Books

Graduate **Sue Williams**, who has written for ABC's Science Show (Radio National) studied marine biology in the UK and has had a varied career as accountant, marine biologist and a science writer. After completing a PhD at UWA, she began to focus on writing, producing *Murder With The Lot*, a novel published by Text.

Award-winning author **Ken Spillman's** work successfully spans history, short fiction, poetry and scriptwriting – and novels for young adults and children. His latest in the latter category is *Jake's Cooking Craze* with illustrations by Chris Nixon. This follows the successful *Jake's Gigantic List* and others in the popular Jake series (published by Fremantle Press) that have been sold to India, China, Indonesia and France.



Pamela O'Cuneen

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To celebrate our Centenary, UWA is 'Giving Back' to regional Western Australians.

What would you like to achieve?



As an important part of our Centenary celebrations, The University of Western Australia is running a special program to benefit the regional Western Australian communities which have always supported and collaborated with us.

The *UWA Gives Back* initiative involves our Student Guild, and all faculties, going 'on the road' to provide a wide range of hands-on educational experiences. For example, in the wheatbelt towns of Pingelly, Brookton and Narrogin the UWA Future Farm will be the host for a wide range of research projects, school-based activities and lectures, all run in close consultation with the local communities.

Other inspiring initiatives across the State include business-leader seminars, community events, research programs, free public lectures, new-technology demonstrations, arts performances, an endangered species conservation project and a mock-trial for prospective Law students.

We are proud to have helped make a difference to the State's rural communities for the past 100 years and look forward to continuing this relationship in the future.

To find out more about how *UWA Gives Back* will provide a special purpose to our Centenary and your community, please visit us online at centenary.uwa.edu.au/uwagivesback



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