



John Perry (48-51) Citizen of the Year

John Perry (48-51) was humbled and delighted to receive the Dalby and District Citizen of the Year Award during the 2015 Australia Day celebrations at the Dalby Showgrounds.

John received the award in recognition of his long history of community service. John is a founding member of the Dalby Lions Club and, through this organisation, has worked tirelessly in the community for over 56 years. John is a former Dalby Town Council Alderman and is currently one of six Volunteers in Policing (VIP) attached to the Dalby/Burnett Police Patrol Group. John has also been involved with many other

community organisations including Dalby State High School P & C Association, St Mary's College P & F Association, Dalby Swimming Club, Dalby/Wambo Development Board, Dalby Scout Group, Dalby Junior Cricket Club and the Dalby Junior Soccer Club.

In announcing the Award, Councillor Charlene Hall, Western Downs Regional Council (WDRC) spoke glowingly of John's outstanding contribution to the community.

(pictured) The WDRC Dalby and District Local Citizen of the Year Award was presented to John Perry by Australia Day Ambassador Marayke Jonkers.

Did you know...

'Spotlight' was the name given to the first College newspaper published by industrious Sub-Junior students in 1941. The first edition sold out, with proceeds going to the Missions. We don't have a copy in our archives - perhaps you do?



AGM

Monday 17 August 2015
 at 5.30pm in the DPSA Room,
 Tyson Manor, Downlands College
 RSVP to dpsa@downlands.qld.edu.au
 An Agenda will be posted to the
 Past Students section of the College
 website in July.
 All Past Students are invited to attend.



Erica Geppert (02-06) was crowned Warwick Rodeo Queen, along with the titles of Overall Fundraiser, Queen Horsemanship and the People's Choice Award in October 2014. Erica considers representing Australia's oldest and most famous rodeo an honour and a privilege. She beams her positive, never-give-up attitude, to inspire young women in rodeo to compete and gain

self-confidence. The title has given Erica unexpected opportunities - such as flying across the globe to be part of an international rodeo event, and sitting in on the 2014 Canadian Rodeo Queen judging in Alberta last November. This July she will fly to Cheyenne, Wyoming USA, for Cheyenne Frontier Days. Once home, Erica, who is also the manager of R.M. Williams store, Warwick, is planning a boot camp to encourage more young ladies to follow their dreams. "I treasure the experiences and friendships that came about at Downlands; it was inspiring to know that teachers and friends believed in me. My advice now is to take that leap of faith as you never know what you are capable of until you put yourself out of your comfort zone."



Erica Geppert
(02-06)
Rodeo Queen

FORTES

what's happening...

We hope you have enjoyed seeing some familiar faces in the 'bumper' 2013-14 edition of FORTES and we thank you for your patience.

Unfortunately, a glitch in the system saw many of those who expected a printed copy being left off the list late last year. We have recently reprinted that issue and copies are being posted with this issue of Spotlight to those who may have missed out.

FORTES 2015 is now in the works and we invite you to contribute articles, photos and PARS.

Please note that each issue of FORTES is also available online, via the College website, as soon as it is sent to the printer. We will still endeavour to send a hard copy to all Past Students who have requested this service.

Advertising in FORTES is also welcomed. Please contact dpsa@downlands.qld.edu.au for more information.

Past Student PRIVACY

Wanting to get in touch with your classmates for a reunion? Lost touch with someone you went to school with?

Downlands can help but what we share is determined by privacy laws which govern what Downlands and the DPSA can and cannot do with Past Student information.

We can provide contact details but only with the express permission of the person about whom information is sought.

Examples of how do we do this:

1. Louise and Bill are organising a reunion (separate to the official College reunion) and want to send invitations to all their classmates. Louise and Bill give us the invitations and postage then we organise address labels and post invitations.

2. Jack is organising a reunion and requests contact details for Jill. We can email, write or telephone Jill to ask her permission to provide her contact details to Jack.

3. Ben attended Downlands with Thomas but has lost contact so Ben emails Downlands requesting Thomas' details. We can email, write or telephone Thomas to ask his permission to provide his contact details to Ben.

Scenario 2 and 3: in both cases, if express permission is granted, then we can pass on contact details. If permission is not granted, we will advise of the response.

The DPSA uses Past Student contact details for reasonable purposes including reunion notifications.

Remember, there are now many ways to find people – please also check out White Pages, Facebook and other internet resources.

COLLEGE NEWS

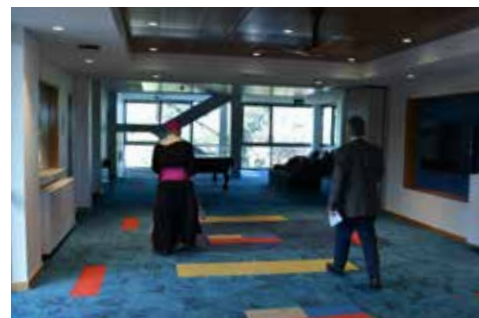


New Junior Boys Boarding House Opens

On 6 June, 2015 The Most Reverend Robert McGuckin DD MCL JCL Bishop of Toowoomba opened the new junior boys boarding house - Harris House.

The building is located on the site of the old Cadet Hut and is named after Fr Ted Harris MSC. The previous junior boys boarding space in Mooney Wing had been known as Harris House for some years. Fr Harris spent a year at Downlands in 1940 before going to PNG to work as a Missionary. He saved the lives of over 400 men after the fall of Rabaul, and after refusing to leave his parishioners, died a martyr in 1942.

The new Harris House is a spacious and comfortable building, meeting the detailed standards required of a modern boarding house - a far cry from the dormitories of yesteryear!



Sunflower Success

Downlands regained the titles of Tallest and Heaviest Sunflowers at UQ's annual Sunflower Competition Weigh-In Day in May 2015. Year 10 students, Baxter McCamley and Jase Lamborn, produced a sunflower weighing a whopping 3.54kg.

Downlands at Beef Australia

Nineteen of our keenest Cattle Show Team members represented the College at Beef Australia last month. The students gained valuable work experience during the week and then brought home a slew of ribbons and pennants for Junior Judging and Parading. Clancy Strong (at left) is pictured with his First Place for Junior Judging, proudly supported by his sister, Kate, mother, Barbara, and father, Clive (Class of 1982). Current senior, Cloe Wallace, from Goondiwindi, also ran into the Prime Minister while she was there!





PARS

Past Students **Todd Donaldson (84-86)**, **Peter Ramsey (75-76)**, and **Geoffry Fordyce (69-73)** (pictured above) were all in attendance at Beef Australia 2015 in Rockhampton.

Kieran Bingham (03-07) is the chef at a new venue, Heya, on Brunswick Street, Fortitude Valley.

Daryl Carrigan (89-94) has been busy farming and contracting around Goondiwindi and Boomi.

Congratulations to **Katie Kelly (91-92)** on recently winning Gold in Japan at the Yokohama World Para-triathlon Event!



Jon McCormack (83-87) Silicon Valley Magazine has an article about Jon's work in Kenya. While he usually prefers to stay behind the camera, this was a great opportunity to highlight the work The Kilgoris Project (TKP) is doing in Western Kenya. The TKP staff, board, and volunteers work tirelessly to enrich the lives of Maasai kids. Read the article here: <http://jonmccormack.com/2015/04/02/article-in-silicon-valley-magazine/>

Philip Kilvington (66-70) After a brief attempt at retirement when he hit 60, Phillip finds himself back at work as an airline pilot and flying the Boeing 767 for Japanese carrier, All Nippon Airways (ANA), a position he has held for 14 years. After leaving Downlands in 1970, Phillip worked as a jackaroo as well as scaring himself with aerial mustering for three years before flying commercially full time. Phillip moved to airlines and jets in 1980 and has flown for Ansett, Polynesian, Malaysia, QantasLink, and ANA. Pilots flying international services lose their licence at age 65, so perhaps he'll re-put his feet up then.

Minnie Moody (03-07) Since completing school, Minnie has been working at Toowoomba Regional Council. She completed a Certificate IV in Project Management and Business Administration. She also competed in the Australasian Local Government Management Challenge against teams from all over Queensland and her team was placed Second for Queensland - the best result ever for a Toowoomba team. Her poem "Racing into History" was published in *Looking Forward, Looking Back: Lessons from the Land* (QRRRW 20th birthday short story collection). Minnie is now in the process of writing a book of poetry.

Pat O'Connor (84-88) is back in Toowoomba after finishing his studies at USQ in 1991. Pat trained as a chartered accountant in Brisbane before counting various beans in London, Sydney and Stanthorpe. He is currently enjoying the Toowoomba lifestyle with his family. During a recent visit, Pat observed that the wind hasn't got any warmer on the Downlands hill!

Louise Quire (09-10) is in her final year at the University of Queensland, studying a Bachelor in Applied Science, majoring in Wildlife Science.

Justin Ryan (81-85) and his family enjoyed a tour of Downlands College in December. Justin now lives in New

Brunswick, Canada, which coincidentally is located diametrically opposite to Toowoomba on the globe (i.e. the two points are directly opposite each other). We hope Justin and his family enjoyed their holiday in Australia!

Michael Thomson (93-94) was also spotted at Beef Australia, working hard as Media Coordinator. He is pictured below overseeing a film shoot with the 'Demon Chef', Alvin Leung, from Canada.



Officer Cadet Harry Wagner (08-12) presented a wreath to Britain's Prince Charles, Prince of Wales, during a memorial service on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of Çanakkale Land Battles on Gallipoli Peninsula in Çanakkale, Turkey on April 25, 2015.

Evan Whitton (38-46), is journalistic royalty. A five-time Walkley Award winner, he devoted decades to reporting on corruption. But behind all that lies a tender, episodic and fateful love story with his wife Noela, 85. Read the fabulous article about Evan and Noela online: <http://www.smh.com.au/good-weekend/two-of-us/two-of-us-20150529-ghawdw>

Congratulations to talented Downlander **Craig Wilkinson (02-05)** whose business, Optikal Bloc, has just been awarded a Gold Matilda Award for their 2014 body of work (*Pale Blue Dot, The Mountaintop, Wuthering Heights, Gasp!* and 1984) and a Silver Matilda for Best Technical Design for their projection work on La Boite Theatre Company's production of *Pale Blue Dot*.

You are invited to the
29TH ANNUAL DOWNLANDS ART EXHIBITION
7-9 AUGUST 2015 TOOWOOMBA

Local, National and International Artists | Art from \$20 - \$35,000
 Meet Feature Artist, Archibald Finalist, Paul Newton
 Gala Opening 7pm Friday 7 August, 2015 & open 10-4pm Sat-Sun

"Landing Gear Down" by Jacqueline Hill

www.downlandstart.com



DOWNLANDER



DOWNLANDS COLLEGE

REUNIONS - 2015



All Downlanders, but particularly those from the **Classes of 35, 45, 55, 65, 75, 85, 90, 95 and 05** are invited back to the College to renew old friendships during our Annual Reunion Weekend.

28-30 August 2015

Saturday 29 August

At Downlands -

6pm - DPSA President's Reunion Drinks. Complimentary first drink. All invited. RSVP required.

7pm - Reunion Dinner \$45 per head. RSVP required.

BOOK ONLINE via College Website

Sunday 30 August

9am - Past Students Mass

10am - Morning Tea and College Tour. RSVP required.

1945 (70 years)

Attending Downlands Reunion Dinner
Contacts: Martin McGrane & Graham Joyner

1955 (60 years)

For details of where and when
Contact: Barry Collis
bmcollis@bigpond.net.au

1965 (50 years)

Attending Downlands Reunion Dinner
Contact: Graham Whyte
whythome@bigpond.com

1975 (40 years)

29th August Reunion at GOLD PARK
Contact: Corby Orford
see Facebook page

1985 (30 years)

2, 3, 4 October in Brisbane
Contact: Bronwyn Dickenson nee O'Sullivan
bdickenson@westpac.com.au

1990 (25 years)

Attending Downlands Reunion Dinner
Contact: Lauren Russell nee Battle via
dpsa@downlands.qld.edu.au

1995 (20 years)

Attending Downlands Reunion Dinner
Contact: Karleigh Melbourne
see Class of 1995 Facebook page

2005 (10 years)

Attending Downlands Reunion Dinner
Contact: Emily Brown

Please check the missing lists on the College website and help us spread the word about these reunions. For more information contact:
dpsa@downlands.qld.edu.au

CALENDAR - 2015

20 July	DPSA Meeting
7-9 Aug	Art Exhibition downlandsart.com
17 Aug	DPSA Meeting
20 Aug	Grandparents Day
24-28 Aug	Chevalier Week
28 Aug	Downlands Golf Day (TBC)
29 Aug	Downlands Grammar Day (away)
29 Aug	Reunion Dinner
30 Aug	Past Student Mass
21 Sept	DPSA Meeting
11 Sept	Gryphon Call (Social Drinks)
19 Oct	DPSA Meeting
20 Oct	Paul Morton Choral Festival
31 Oct	Derby Day at Downlands downlandsraceday.com
13 Nov	Gryphon Call (Social Drinks)
16 Nov	DPSA Meeting
21 Nov	Valedictory Mass

Dates correct at time of printing.

Please check for updates:

www.downlands.qld.edu.au

Past students and teachers are warmly invited to

Jubilee Celebrations



for the 50th Anniversary of the Priesthood of Fr Vince Carroll MSC

Wednesday 16 September 2015 - 11am Mass at Downlands, followed by lunch.
Please RSVP to the College on 07 4690 9500.



Downlands College

TOOWOOMBA QUEENSLAND AUSTRALIA