Bond’s 10,000th graduate

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The world is watching us

By Kimberley Rice

The world is literally tuning into Bond following the launch of a Bond University on-line production which has been screened around the globe, including countries such as the Netherlands, the United States and Japan.

In late February, footage of this year’s first graduation ceremony was shown online through video streaming.

The man behind the project, Cerum CEO Peter Raft, said people from 38 countries around the world logged on to watch.

“We presume they wanted to see somebody they knew graduating from Bond,” he said.

Operating in Windows Media Player 9, the graduation ceremony production can be accessed through a link on the Bond website at www.bond.edu.au.

The production went on line the week after the graduation ceremony to give the international students time to get back home.

“We thought it would be nice for the students to watch it with their parents and friends back home,” said Peter.

Streaming footage of the graduation ceremony is just part of the collaboration between Cerum and Bond University.

Cerum has also developed a media station to enable the university to stream work produced by Bond University media students.

“We set about giving the students a platform to show their work to the public. This streaming media can be viewed by a worldwide audience,” said Peter.

“Now students who produce their various programs, whether it is a soap opera, a magazine show or a short film, have an audience worldwide.”

Peter talked to Bond University media students before launching the media station project to get their thoughts on the project.

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“The quality of our product is a lot better than some of the others on offer,” said Peter.

“There are been talks with the journalism school to produce a short news clip so we would have our own local news.

“We are also going through the archived material at Bond Media Production.

“There are rooms full of tapes and we are slowly going through them to find the best of the best.”

The media streaming produced by Cerum is of television quality.

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Rebecca’s magic milestone

BOND notched up another magic milestone in February when Rebecca Pole became our 10,000th graduate.

Rebecca, 21, made campus history when she was awarded dual degrees in Commerce and Communications.

“I was so surprised when it was announced,” said Rebecca.

“Fancy being the 10,000th student to graduate from Bond.

“It really is an honour.”

Rebecca moved to the Gold Coast from Bundaberg in 2001 when she won a Vice-Chancellor’s scholarship.

She quickly became known on campus as a mentor to her fellow students, offering helpful advice on such topics as how to cope with cultural differences and how to manage time to get the most out of their studies.

She later landed a part-time job as the Vice-Chancellor’s Scholarship Co-ordinator.

Last year, Rebecca was selected as a delegate to the fifth National Youth Roundtable Conference in Canberra.

The Roundtable, which was established in 1999, takes a cross section of young people aged between 15 and 24 from all walks of life and from all parts of Australia to the national capital to discuss youth issues and to advise the federal government on youth policy.

Rebecca was one of only 50 delegates chosen from more than 780 applicants.

In Canberra, Rebecca became part of a team intent on increasing youth awareness about support services which are available to parents of young people suffering from eating disorders.

When her selection was announced, Federal Children and Youth Affairs Minister, Larry Anthony and McPherson MP, Margaret May, made a special trip to Bond to congratulate Rebecca.

Since finishing her Bond studies, Rebecca has started working with PricewaterhouseCoopers in Brisbane.

Matt’s sights are set on Canberra

By Kimberley Rice

HECTIC doesn’t even begin to describe Matthew Cam’s first semester at Bond.

When he wasn’t studying for his Law/Commerce degree or working at his part time job, the Vice-Chancellor’s Scholar was out making his mark on local politics.

Matthew, 18, stood as a Labor candidate in the recent Byron Shire Council elections, only just missing out after polling impressively.

He sees the Byron election as his first step into a career in politics which, hopefully, will take him all the way to the top job and the title of Australia’s Prime Minister.

The community-minded Matthew has worked as a volunteer with Meals on Wheels, Driver Reviver, the Red Cross and the Salvation Army.

“I really like getting out and helping people,” he said.

A keen public speaker and debater, Matthew’s interest in politics ignited when his local Rotary Club invited him to attend ‘Adventure in Citizenship’ in which a group of young people from around Australia went to Canberra for a close-up look at national politics.

“They took us through the process of legislating and we took part in mock debates, and I was hooked,” he said.

“From that I became interested in politics and joined the Labor party. I’ve been a member ever since.”

When he was asked to run in the Byron Shire election, Matthew jumped at the opportunity.

Balancing university and campaigning was tough but Matthew had a ready supply of volunteer helpers.

“A lot of people from uni came down to Byron to help me campaign,” he said.

“We did a lot of doorknocking and we tried to ensure people were consulted about what they wanted in the shire.”

Matthew said good time management skills were vital to keep on top of everything.

“This is my first semester at university so it has been very difficult managing my time, but I have to be efficient and plan ahead if I want to fit everything in.”
Vice-Chancellor Professor Robert Stable is living up to his promise to ‘look, listen and learn’.

Most Monday nights, he joins a table of students for dinner in the Brasserie to find out what they are thinking and to listen to any issues they may have.

“I want to hear what the students have to say and I want to know about any ideas they may have,” he said.

“The first few dinners have been excellent, and I think both the students and I have learned a lot about each other. Everything has been very positive.”

During those first dinners, conversation topics have included the university’s fee structure, the degree programs in the IT Faculty, and the possibility of anonymous assessment spreading from the Law Faculty to the entire university.

There are no restrictions on what can be discussed, and topics to be debated during future dinners is anybody’s guess.

Student Council president, Eleanor Donovan, who will draw up the guest list each week, said the idea was ‘fantastic’.

“It gives both the VC and the students a chance to get to know each other, which is great,” she said.

“Professor Stable is obviously very keen to keep in touch with the students and to listen to any concerns they might have.

“Every week, we will pick four students, each from a different Faculty, to have dinner with Professor Stable,” she said.

“I will try to get a good mix of Australian and overseas students, undergraduates and postgraduate students.”

Eleanor said she puts together a report of the dinner conversations and presents it to Professor Stable the morning after each dinner.

“This is not just a cosmetic thing,” she said.

“Professor Stable has promised to consider every issue which comes up.

“His leadership style is very inclusive, and we think that’s great for Bond.”

Professor Stable queues up for his meal in the Brasserie

Staff rewarded for long service

UELII language teacher Jill Barber has spent the past 13 years teaching students from around the world to speak English, but she feels like she is the one who has had the international education.

“It has been like working with the United Nations because of the international nature of the students, and the variety of countries they come from,” said Jill.

“As well as learning English, the students also learn how to mix with other nationalities.

“I hope they carry these skills back home with them as some are destined to become the future leaders of their countries.”

“It has been a very rewarding experience for me,” she said.

When she joined BUELI in July 1990, the Institute was not yet located on the university grounds and teaching took place in the Australian Airlines building in Surfers Paradise.

Jill’s long service, along with 33 other long-term staffers, was recognised at a special function in December.

Others reaching the ten year milestone included the Dean of Law, Professor Duncan Bentley; BUELI’s Director of Studies, Helene Hawes; Kathie Parkinson from the Faculty of Business; Psychology Professor Greg Boyle from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences; Graham Johnson from the Library, the Faculty of Information Technology’s Professor Gavin Finnie, Leith Haines from Student Administration, and the Conference Centre chef, Eerich Valek.

They were each presented with a certificate and the traditional sandstone block mounted on a timber base.

Human Resource Director Chris Andrews said the awards were reinstated last year after a two year absence.

“It is important to acknowledge this type of achievement or milestone in the life of an employee,” he said.
Professor braves the sharks

Most mornings Journalism Professor Mark Pearson braves the shark infested waters of Lake Orr as he paddles to work from his Burleigh Waters home on a flimsy fibreglass kayak.

Then in the evening he does it all again on his way home.

The five-kilometre trip takes him about half an hour each way, double the time it would take him to drive or ride his bike.

“But I don’t have to put up with peak hour traffic, bad drivers or road fumes, there are no petrol costs and it is great exercise,” he said.

“All I have to deal with is the currents and the wind.”

But what about those killer sharks?

“I have seen some very suspicious swirls and shadows following me which can be a bit disturbing,” admits the paddling professor.

“The lakes and canals are supposed to be chock full of vicious bull sharks and the two fatal attacks last year were both on my route.

“Let me tell you, when you think there might be a shark nearby, your heart starts to race and you tend to speed up a bit.

“But, really, the chances of being attacked by a shark are a lot less than being involved in a car accident.”

Dr Pearson has been making the trip regularly since he bought his second-hand kayak for $350 in September last year.

He has picked up a few expert pointers on paddling from former champion Iron Woman and Communications student Linda Halfweeg.

“Linda has been a great help and she has given me some good advice about improving the efficiency of my stroke;” he said.

Dr Pearson said he planned to keep up his kayak commuting even during the colder winter months.

He said kayaking to work can also be very peaceful.

“There’s just me and the birds and the fish and of course, the sharks,” he said.

He admits there have been a few mishaps and he has ended up in the water on a couple of occasions.

“On my first day, I fell out of the kayak which was embarrassing because a builder working nearby saw the whole thing.”

Dr Pearson doesn’t see paddling through dangerous waters as dicing with death.

“The chances of a shark attacking and overturning a kayak are pretty slim,” he said.

“But I certainly wouldn’t go swimming in those lakes.

“There are some big sharks in there.”

Senator Alston joins the Bond family

Former Federal Minister for Communication, Information Technology and the Arts, Senator Richard Alston, has joined Bond as an Adjunct Professor of Information Technology.

He will join the advisory group for the new Centre of ICT Policy and Strategy and will be involved in guiding and leading research and development.

Senator Alston will also be involved in developing research into government and industry relations which will assist those organisations to form policies for development of the ICT industry.

The former barrister, who retired from politics in October last year, holds a total of five university degrees, including an LLB, a BA and a B.Com from Melbourne University, and an LLM and an MBA from Monash University.

He is keenly interested in modern literature, Aboriginal art and oriental rugs.

Chancellor Trevor Rowe said Adjunct Professor Alston would bring a new depth of knowledge to the University and would provide our students with a real-world insight.
A winning outback experience

By Kimberley Rice

BECOMING a finalist in the 17th Annual Anti-Defamation League Dore Schary Award for his documentary 'True Blue Dreaming' was an added bonus for Film and Television student Alex Fischer.

While filming the documentary he had the ultimate Aussie experience – camping under the stars in outback Australia for five weeks as he followed three young men on a journey around Australia visiting remote bush towns.

“We stayed in each town for two or three days trying to inspire the young people we met to cherish their homes and to be proud of being an outback citizen,” said Alex.

“We camped the entire way around. We didn’t stay in hotels, we simply lived in the back of our ute.

“Filming this adventure was amazing, waking up before dawn out in the desert, watching the sun rise and listening to the birds singing.

“I am American so it was just really cool to have that whole experience,” he said.

The Dore Schary Award is awarded each year to student film and video productions which promote human rights and combat bigotry and prejudice.

“The Anti Defamation League wants to show people that in this world, where there is a lot of bad and corruption and evil, there are also inherently good people.”

Alex said being named as a finalist for the award was a real tribute to the three young men featured in his documentary.

“It is a way of paying back the guys for trusting me to come and document it.

“It is a big ask bringing someone in when you have already been together for so long,” he said.

“It must have been difficult for them to have a complete stranger join them.”

Alex says he is passionate about science fiction and animal movies, such as the Australian box office hit, Babe.

“It is really neat to be able to tell their stories because the animals can’t tell them.

“One of my first movies was about big killer cats.”

Alex is currently working on his next movie with an unusual animal as the star attraction.

“It is about a haunted puddle and the crabs which live around it,” he said.

“I am shooting it when I am not studying for my PhD.

“I have four stunt crabs, one big one and three little ones.

“I have really enjoyed building the sets for this.

“I have created an entire kingdom for them.”

Top marks for Chinese adventure

By Kimberley Rice

LAW and International Relations student Diwaka Prakash has awarded the Soochow University Exchange Program top marks.

“Going to China was one of the best things I have ever done,” he said.

“It was amazing. The adventures we had, the travelling experiences, the people we met I definitely recommend it.”

Diwaka was one of five students to win a scholarship to study at Soochow in China for the September 2003 semester.

The scholarships covered airfares, tuition and on-campus accommodation.

Although he studied Chinese in High School, Diwaka still faced some pretty hefty hurdles with the local language.

“The first three weeks there, I had no idea.

“I couldn’t order a meal or go shopping because I couldn’t speak Chinese,” he said.

“But classroom interaction was the hardest.

“I wanted to make friends with the other students, but I couldn’t even talk to them.

“It was very hard to develop a relationship when I couldn’t speak their language.”

Diwaka eventually learnt enough Chinese to have at least a basic conversation with his classmates and after a couple of months he was even thinking in Chinese.

“It was scary but I didn’t have to think about what I was going to say – it just came out in Chinese,” he said.

Diwaka said there were a lot of differences between university life in China and university life in Australia.

“In China most students travel to university by bicycle,” he said.

“There are literally hundreds of their bikes parked on the grass.

“And the campus is quite large so they also cycle from class to class.”

When in China, ‘do as the Chinese do’ and Diwaka eventually bought his own bike and joined his classmates on the bike tracks.

“It was good exercise and it made it easy to travel around,” he said.

Another difference was the lack of students hanging out in cafes drinking coffee.

“The Chinese have teahouses where we have coffee shops,” said Diwaka.

“There were a couple of teahouses on campus and the students would go there to chill out and read magazines.”
THE Bond University Council has given the official go-ahead for the proposed Medical School.

A new Dean has been appointed, the building contract has been finalised and the Australian Medical Council is set to make its final on-site inspection in April.

Everything is going to plan and the first students are expected to begin studying for their medical degrees in May next year.

Professor Chris Del Mar will be the new Dean of Health Sciences and Medicine and will take up his appointment in May.

The AMC is expected to formally accredit the Medical School in July.

Professor Del Mar currently holds the Chair of General Practice and is Director of the Centre for General Practice at the University of Queensland.

He is recognised as a leader in medical education and has an impressive CV of international research credentials.

A new Medical School building has been planned and will be built on the site of the current FO4 building.

Contracts have been finalised with the Multiplex building company and work is expected to begin almost immediately.

The $18 million building will comprise four levels, with the top level dedicated to state-of-the-art laboratories equipped with some of the latest cutting-edge medical research and teaching equipment.

The 6000 square metre building will include two lecture theatres, each capable of holding as many as 70 students, a number of tutorial rooms and a suite of offices.

It will also be equipped with the latest computer technology.

The FO4 building was originally earmarked to be a Science and Technology building and construction of the foundations and the ground floor commenced along with the first university buildings in the mid 1980s.

Two years later, after the foundations were completed, the building work was suspended.

The new building will be built on those original foundations and will include a bridge linking it to the present Student Centre building.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Robert Stable said the proposed Medical School would take eligible students straight from high school for the five-year degree course.

“We are also looking at taking graduates who meet entry requirements,” he said.

“There will be an emphasis on hands-on training and the Medical School will have the greatest level of clinical contact of any course in the whole country,” he said.

“Our aim is to graduate the future leaders of the medical profession and the health sector and to do that, we need to produce quality graduates of the highest possible standard.”

Professor Stable said it was initially planned to take only 65 students.

“We are very proud of our low student teacher ratio at Bond, and we will keep our student numbers low to maintain that level.”

He said the current ratio was about 10:1 compared with about 23:1 at other universities.

The proposed degree program will see students graduate with their medical degree in only five years, compared with seven years at other universities with a postgraduate degree program.

Bio-Med students Charlie Phillis and Katja Ullrich try out the new lab facilities under the watchful eye of Professor Debra Henly

THE Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine has opened a state-of-the-art medical laboratory at the John Flynn hospital in Tugun.

The lab is equipped with more than $40,000 worth of the latest cutting-edge equipment.

It will initially be used by students studying biochemistry and health sciences and will become part of the Medical School if and when the Australian Medical Council gives the planned school the official go-ahead.

Bio-Med students have already started work in the laboratory, using spectrophotometers, microscopes and a range of other high-tech equipment to conduct experiments in pathology and microbiology.

The laboratory was officially opened in March by Vice-Chancellor, Professor Robert Stable, and the CEO of John Flynn, Mr Lloyd Hill.

Mr Hill said research showed that on-site teaching raised the standard of an entire hospital.
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Go the Go Girls

By Kimberley Rice

Melanie Pilling, Shannon Willoughby and Amy Mills go to all the best nightclubs, they regularly mix with headline celebrities and they go shopping for the latest fashions in all the best boutiques.

And they get paid for it.

The three Journalism graduates are the Go Girls, the Gold Coast Bulletin’s secret weapon in the battle to woo a new generation of young female newspaper readers.

The Go Girls each write a column every Thursday about their lives as thirty-something females, detailing what they get up to socially, any gripes they have, and their opinions on a broad range of subjects.

“If there is something on my mind I write about it,” said Shannon.

“It is a bit of fun, something light to take away from all the hard news and serious stuff in the rest of the paper.”

And although they write about drunken escapades and embarrassing moments, there are some things that must remain unpublished.

“We don’t write about everything we do,” said Melanie.

“Some things have to remain confidential”

A sense of humour and the ability to poke fun at yourself also helps.

“We have to be able to have a giggle at ourselves, otherwise we couldn’t write the columns,” said Amy.

The Go Girls were invented in May last year when the editor decided the paper needed more female readers.

“We were lacking in the 18 to 30 female demographic and the Go Girls were the answer,” said Amy.

Shannon says the ploy is working and the Go Girls columns really do encourage young women to read the paper.

“They buy the paper to read our page, but then they flick through the rest of the paper and read the serious stuff,” she said.

Melanie agrees.

“We know it is working when people tell us our columns are the only reason they buy the paper,” she said.

“One of life’s great mysteries is that neither sex knows what the other is thinking, but here, the guys have it all laid out for them.”

The boys are particularly interested in Melanie’s column.

“I’m the resident single girl,” she explains.

“I once wrote a column about a guy I went out with who never called me back after only two dates.

“After that, I was flooded with letters and emails from guys telling me to forget about him because there are plenty of good guys out there waiting for someone like me.

“A lot of them even invited me out on a date, but so far I haven’t taken any of them up on their offers.”

All three Go Girls were awarded John Burton Cadetship Scholarships which enabled them to complete a journalism cadetship at the Bulletin and, at the same time, study for their Bachelor of Communication degrees at Bond.

“We spent alternate semesters working at the paper and studying at Bond,” said Amy.

“A lot of the things you learn at uni are helpful, but there is so much more you learn in a newsroom which the text books don’t teach you,” she said.

“We are talking to people every day and the phones are constantly ringing.

“You have to get used to confronting people and asking them questions they don’t want to be asked.”

Both Amy and Melanie have completed their four-year cadetships but Shannon still has one semester to go.

Melanie remembers starting as a cadet at the Gold Coast Bulletin.

“They throw you in the deep end your very first week on the job,” she said.

“But that’s the best way to learn.

“It is a big learning curve but hands-on experience is always the best.”

Working as journalists at the Gold Coast Bulletin, the girls have met a number of famous people, including Martina Navratilova, Killing Heidi, and Australian Idol’s Andrew Gee.
Life of love began at Bond

It is amazing how a few years at Bond University can change a person’s life for ever.

For Mark Bennett and Veronica Stevens, Bond was not only an unforgettable educational experience, it was also the catalyst for their careers and a life together.

The pair met on campus in 1994 and were married in August last year at Palazzo Versace on the Gold Coast.

Both Mark and Veronica grew up in and around Sydney, but they were married on the Gold Coast because of their time at Bond.

Their wedding guests included a who’s who of Bond alumni, including groomsman Ken Swiss, ushers Annie Howard and Anthony Greenhill, Jacqui Stasson and her husband Matthew Smith, Nicole Wilson and her husband Ben Munro, Alice Jones and Dana Stoliar.

Both say their time at Bond was the happiest and most fulfilling in their lives.

After graduating, Mark and Veronica spent three years in Hong Kong before settling back in Sydney.

The last quarter of 2003 was relentless with their marriage, honeymoon, new jobs and a country swap all occurring within a few weeks of each other.

Mark, who completed his BCom LLB at Bond University in 1995, returned to Sydney to complete College of Law.

A year later, he joined Baker & McKenzie, in their Sydney property group and completed his Master of Law at UNSW.

After two years at Baker & McKenzie, Mark transferred to their Hong Kong office to focus on property and major project-related transactions in Hong Kong, China, Korea, Taiwan, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand.

He was involved in establishing Hong Kong’s Disneyland and early last year he was admitted to the High Court of Hong Kong.

Veronica completed her LLB at Bond in 1996 and returned to Sydney after completing the College of Law course, also at Bond.

She was admitted at the end of 1997 and began working as a graduate lawyer with Sydney law firm Allen Allen & Hemsley, as they were then known.

During her time with Allens, Veronica completed an LLM (Hons) at the University of Sydney and became one of the youngest ever LLM (Hons) graduates.

Veronica was also working on her Master of Commerce (Hons) at the University of NSW, but when Mark transferred to Hong Kong in January 2001, she joined Clifford Chance in Hong Kong where she specialised in aircraft finance.

In September last year, Mark and Veronica came home and started work with Sydney law firm, Malleson Stephen Jaques, only a month after their wedding in August.

Mark is now a Senior Associate at Mallesons in their projects and investments group, and Veronica has moved from Mallesons to work with Norton White, a specialist asset finance firm.

Reflections in our Crystal Ball

D ust off those dancing shoes and dig out your funkiest outfit, it’s time to party.

Bond staff, students and alumni are set to seriously kick their heels up on May 15 when we celebrate our 15th birthday with a slap-up Crystal Ball at Conrad Jupiters on the Gold Coast.

The night is sure to be one to remember with some great food, lots of fantastic door prizes and the latest dance music provided by Planet Funk, who perform everything from the forgotten hits of yester-year to the latest top forty hits.

May 15 is exactly 15 years since the first 300 courageous students stood in a muddy, unfinished campus ready to begin their Bond classes.

Today, the University is well established with 2750 students currently enrolled and an alumni army of more than 10,000, many of whom are making names for themselves around the world.

The Crystal Ball is a great chance to catch up with all your old uni friends and meet lots of new ones.

You will even get the chance to meet Bond’s new Vice-Chancellor, Professor Robert Stable and his delightful wife Vicki.

There will be some great lucky door prizes to win, including an accommodation package at Conrad Jupiters, a family pass to Dreamworld, Goodridge Picnic Hampers, a case of De Bortoli wine, a one month movie pass to the Gold Coast Arts Cinema, a double pass to the musical Flat Tops at the Gold Coast Art Centre, a Bond University jersey and free car rental from Campus Travel.

After the ball, the party will continue into the early hours in the Quest Nightclub’s VIP Room.

Tickets are $95 and can be booked by phoning Conrad Jupiters toll free number: 1800 074 144 or by email at: box_office@conrad.com.au
Wyatt Chev’s a ‘class’ writer

F I L M and Television lectures helped graduate turned author Wyatt Shev to write his first novel, *Boom Town*.

“Actually I wrote most of it in class,” said Wyatt.

“I don’t think my lecturers were too happy about it, but I just found it easy to get into the flow of writing when I was in class surrounded by other people.”

*Boom Town* begins as a dark murder mystery but quickly turns into a drug-based drama set in a fictionalised Gold Coast.

Wyatt said his fantasy novel was inspired by movies such as Trainspotting, which is about a group of heroin addicts in Scotland.

“The characters are not based on anyone I know, they are more an amalgamation of stories I have heard, mixed with my own imagination,” he said.

Wyatt has dreamed of being a writer for as long as he can remember.

“I started writing when I was five, at kindergarten,” he said.

“I was the only one who could write his name, so I thought perhaps I had found something I was good at.

“I decided to take that and run with it,” he said.

Wyatt said he liked open-ended, unpredictable books.

“I find many of today’s famous authors just churn out the same predictable garbage.

*Boom Town* leaves a lot of unanswered questions at the end.

“I think that encourages people’s imagination and encourages them to read the book again.

“I don’t like to give my stories neat endings because life is just not like that.”

Wyatt said he found it difficult to get his book published.

“Only about 40 authors are published each year in Australia, and most of them have been published before.

“It makes me angry there is little opportunity for new writers to develop and publish their work here.

“Australian publishers are not very adventurous.

“I spent six solid months sending my manuscript to publishers, and receiving little or no interest,” he said.

Wyatt finally discovered a small publishing company on the Gold Coast called Zeus Publishing, who printed his book, and so far he has sold more than 100 copies.

He has already started writing his next novel, an indictment of American culture, which he believes is taking over the world.

“It is set in Los Angeles in 2019, and tells the story of the fall of American society.

“It tells of a country which has been abandoned by the rest of the world.”

Check out *Boom Town* and a selection of Wyatt’s short stories at www.boomtown.tk

Scott’s a real man of steel

By Sven Haaland and Kristen Belcastro

S C O T T Beasley has come a long way in life since leaving Noosa on the Sunshine Coast in 1989 to become one of Bond’s first students.

After graduating in 1991 with his Bachelor of Commerce, he joined BHP Steel and is now the company’s vice-president of marketing in Vietnam.

“BHP has branches all over the globe and I worked in Wollongong, Melbourne, Singapore, Malaysia, Sydney, Vietnam and on several projects in Thailand,” he said.

Despite being well-travelled, Scott will never forget his memories of Bond.

“It is not often you get a chance to be part of the senior class from day one and help form the direction of a brand new university,” he said.

Scott said one of the most valuable things Bond had given him were the great friendships he made, many of which will last for life.

“We had a heap of fun during our time at uni and it was a special thrill to be a member of the first Colts rugby team to win a premiership.

“But we also worked very hard at our studies,” he said.

Scott said Professors George Beckmann, Neville de Mestre and Rosita Dellios, who supported him along the way, were a great inspiration.

Before joining BHP, Scott worked with Country Road Clothing from 1988 to 1994 in various stores throughout Melbourne and Queensland.

“That was heaps of fun and a great source of spending money,” he said.

Scott had just been posted to BHP’s Singapore office when the Asian crisis hit.

His company was badly hit and Scott was given the choice of either taking a new posting on local Singaporean wage conditions or leaving the company.

He opted to stay with BHP and moved into a cheap flat with a Chinese lady named Madam Fanny Wee in Singapore’s working class district.

During the two years he spent with Madam Wee, Scott learned a lot about Asia and about how to relate to Asian people.

“It also enabled me to remain with BHP Steel and when the economic conditions improved, so did my career prospects,” he said.

Scott now lives in Ho Chi Minh City but has travelled regularly to Vietnam for the past two and a half years, to work on an investment feasibility study.

“Vietnam is an amazing country with a huge future,” he said.

“It is an interesting place to live and the Vietnamese economy is set for significant growth over the next decade.”

BHP Steel recognised the potential and are planning to invest $US105 million in the country, with Scott as head of the marketing team.

Scott expects to remain based in Vietnam for another three years.

“The determination and perseverance I learned at Bond have helped me overcome some amazing obstacles to get me where I am today.”

He is truly Bond’s ‘man of steel’.

Wyatt Shev wrote his book during lectures

BHP has branches all over the globe and after graduating in 1991 with his Bachelor of Commerce, Scott joined BHP Steel and is now the company’s vice-president of marketing in Vietnam. Despite being well-travelled, Scott will never forget his memories of Bond and how he was able to form the direction of a brand new university.

“I think that encourages people’s imagination and encourages them to read the book again. I don’t like to give my stories neat endings because life is just not like that.”

Wyatt Chev wrote his first novel, *Boom Town*, during his time at Bond University. He was inspired by movies such as Trainspotting, which is about a group of heroin addicts in Scotland. The characters are not based on anyone he knows, they are more an amalgamation of stories he has heard, mixed with his own imagination.

Wyatt has dreamed of being a writer for as long as he can remember. He decided to take that and run with it, he said. Wyatt said he liked open-ended, unpredictable books. *Boom Town* leaves a lot of unanswered questions at the end. He thinks that encourages people’s imagination and encourages them to read the book again.

“Actually I wrote most of it in class,” said Wyatt. “I don’t think my lecturers were too happy about it, but I just found it easy to get into the flow of writing when I was in class surrounded by other people.”

*Boom Town* begins as a dark murder mystery but quickly turns into a drug-based drama set in a fictionalised Gold Coast.

*Scott’s a real man of steel* by Sven Haaland and Kristen Belcastro

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Two VCs for the price of one

Brisbane alumni got a double dose of Vice-Chancellors when they gathered at Friday’s bar/restaurant for a pre-Christmas function in December.

The then Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ken Moores was there, and so too was the new Vice-Chancellor, Professor Robert Stable.

More than 50 guests, along with a selection of Bond staff, celebrated with a night of good food, cool drinks and a mountain of mingling as they caught up with old friends and made lots of new ones.
At Varsity Central we spent a lot of time targeting the things that would help our location have a positive influence on developing businesses. They’re called the Central Advantages. They cover everything from having access to efficient broadband ICT capabilities, to having somewhere to park your car. Which means once you get your business into Varsity Central you can get on with the job of making it grow, knowing that we’ve done most of the homework for you.

Find out about the definite possibilities for your business at Varsity Central by phoning 07 5578 8833 or visiting www.varsitycentral.com.au to order an information pack.
Cheers and tears

There were cheers and tears at the February graduation ceremony as almost 500 students moved on to a new stage in their lives and careers.

The cheers were, of course, for the successful completion of the graduands’ university studies, but there were a few tears as the former students put their university days behind them and farewelled close friends, many of whom will be travelling overseas and out of reach.

Even the odd academic admitted to a lump in his or her throat as they bade farewell to their now-educated and very grown up charges, some of whom they may never see again.

But amid promises to keep in touch, the graduands and their families and friends sipped champagne in the sun outside the Art Gallery as they waited to pose for their official graduation day photos.

This time around there were some famous names amongst the graduands.

Jessie Singleton, the daughter of colorful advertising

Proud dad Geoff Tompkins toasts daughter Carla’s Bachelor of Communications

Carly Shortell was awarded a Bachelor of Social Sciences (Psychology)

Clarissa Sastra (Bachelor of Law and Finance) and Alvin Krishnandya (Bachelor of Film and Television)

Anna Winberg (Bachelor of International Relations) and Patrick Blake (Bachelor of Commerce)
guru, John Singleton, was all smiles as she accepted her Bachelor of Communications (Business) Degree.

Since finishing her studies at the end of last year, Jessie has been working with her father, but now plans to head off overseas to make her name in the international business world.

“But I will miss Bond,” she said.
“I had so many great times.”

Robert Brock, the son of legendary racing driver, Peter Brock, graduated with his Bachelor of Film and Television, and Olympic swim champion Daniel Kowalski was presented with his Bachelor of Health Sciences (Sports Management).

Carla Tompkins, who graduated with a Bachelor of Communications, is planning to head to London where a public relations job awaits her.

Bond Chancellor, Trevor Rowe officiated at the two ceremonies, presenting 231 undergraduates and 254 postgraduates with their testamurs.
Award winning project

By Kimberley Rice

A close working relationship with the Queensland Police Service led Queensland Health Senior Project Officer, Kay McInnes to Bond’s Department of Criminology.

While working for Queensland Health, Kay spent four years on a project in partnership with the Queensland Police Service to create a co-ordinated approach to people with a mental illness who come to the attention of police.

The project gave Kay a good insight into the workings of the criminal justice system and fuelled a desire to further her knowledge in the area.

She came to Bond and is now studying for her Master of Criminology.

“The while working on the project I learned a lot about how police work,” said Kay.

“We all think we know how they operate when in actual fact we don’t have the slightest idea of what their day-to-day work involves.

“I also learned a lot about the Mental Health Act, about how our courts work, what happens to people who commit a crime, and what happens to victims of crime.”

Kay said the project was designed to develop better working relationships between police and mental health services to prevent crisis situations, or to see them safely resolved.

“Police are constantly in touch with people with mental illness and the two services haven’t worked all that well together in the past,” she said.

“They needed to develop their relationships at a local level where both services could talk to each other about their problems and issues rather than getting angry and feeling powerless to do anything about them.”

The project has resulted in practical solutions to improve police response to mental illness crisis situations, and Kay is particularly proud of the changes made to the amount of time police spend waiting in hospitals.

IT needs a brand new image

The Information Technology industry needs a new image.

“We need to change the view that computer people are all nerds,” said Ron Davison, the Dean of the IT faculty.

“Today the industry is more sophisticated and needs people with the same leadership qualities and communication skills as any other executives.

“IT people need different skills than in the past, and they need to be able to move across the many disciplines present in the IT industry,” he said.

In a bid to attract the ‘right sort of people’, Bond is offering a new half fee scholarship worth $32,000, as part of the University’s sponsorship of the Gold Coast Region Information Technology Forum.

The competition is open to all Year 12 students in the Gold Coast/Northern Rivers area.

Three students spoke at a recent GCRITF breakfast gathering, where they talked about the latest ICT advances and what they mean to Australia.

The trio included Ross Kerker from Tweed River High School, Gregor Wills from AB Patterson College, and the eventual scholarship winner Casey McManus, from Palm Beach Currumbin High School.

Casey began her Bond studies at the beginning of this year and hopes to eventually work in multi-media development.

The Gold Coast teenager is a good example of the type of person being attracted to IT today and she is excited about winning the Bond scholarship.

“I looked into the IT courses at all of the universities, and Bond always seemed like the best choice,” she said.

Professor Davison said the scholarship would provide a new educational opportunity each year for a capable IT student from the Gold Coast/Northern Rivers regions.

“The Gold Coast is Australia’s sixth largest city and it is the fastest growing area in the country with a rapidly developing Information Technology industry,” he said.

“We need more home-grown, talented Gold Coast people who will eventually become the IT leaders of the future.”
Almost half of all the suicide bombers who are leaving a trail of death and destruction around the world are university graduates, a visiting guest lecturer has revealed.

Leading British counterterrorism expert, Nicholas O’Brien, provided a fascinating insight into the murky world of terrorism when he spoke to a group of International Relations and Criminology students at Bond in February.

Mr O’Brien, who has investigated terrorism in most of the world’s hotspots, including the Middle East, Sri Lanka, Moscow and Europe, and is now attached to the British High Commission in Canberra, said investigations had found that 46 per cent of the suicide bombers were university graduates.

Another 35 per cent had been educated to at least the end of high school.

“These people aren’t stupid,” he said.

“They are usually very bright and intelligent people, but they are completely and deeply devoted to their cause.”

“They are psychologically and physically war-trained, and they are ready to die for their cause.

“There is no shortage of would-be martyrs and we have been told people in the Middle East are literally queuing up to join groups like Hamas and Al Qaeda where they can be trained physically war-trained, and they are ready to die for their cause.

“Often they prepare themselves for death by shaving their beards and mustaches and having their hair cut,” he said.

“But in recent times they have become more sophisticated and now they might disguise themselves as Jewish rabbis or as monks to avoid detection.

“They might also be wearing strange or unusually bulky clothing, such as an overcoat in summer, to hide the explosives.

“It is also likely they would be very calm, although their eyes would be wide open and there would be signs of tension showing on their faces.

“They might also be wearing strange or unusually bulky clothing, such as an overcoat in summer, to hide the explosives.

“Samson pushed down the pillars of a temple, bringing the building crashing down on top of himself and everyone else who was in there.”

Mr O’Brien said suicide bombers had now become the preferred weapon of the terrorist and in recent years, they had increased to a point where they were now a weekly, or sometimes, even a daily occurrence.

“Suicide attacks are almost impossible to stop, they are nearly always successful, and suicide bombers don’t need to plan a getaway,” he said.

Mr O’Brien said the trainee suicide bombers were promised an improved social status and that their families would be looked after financially.

“Some do it because of their strong religious commitment, or just because they are patriotic,” he said.

“Many are motivated simply by hatred and greed, while others are prepared to kill themselves because they are promised eternal after-life in Paradise, complete with 72 virgins awaiting for them.

“They are also told their act of martyrdom will guarantee places in Paradise for at least 70 of their relatives.”

Mr O’Brien told of a bomber who was knocked unconscious during a botched suicide bomb attempt and woke up in a white-walled hospital room with two nurses attending to him.

“He was convinced he was in Heaven and that the two nurses were the first two of his promised 72 virgins.”

Mr O’Brien also described how, after a 29-year-old trainee lawyer blew herself up in Israel, her brother refused to mourn.

“Why should I cry?” he said.

“This is like her wedding day. It is the happiest day of her life.”

Mr O’Brien said it was sometimes possible to spot a suicide terrorist by his appearance.

“Detectives at Scotland Yard, when he spoke to a London mosque and was indoctrinated by the extremists there,” he said.

“Osama Bin Laden has even mentioned Australia five or six times in his taped messages.”

Mr O’Brien said many suicide bombers went armed with two bombs strapped to their bodies, in case one failed to detonate.

“We have even found bombs which have been fitted with a timing device just in case the bomber can’t find the courage to go through with it.”

He said the terrorists often preferred civilian targets instead of police or military targets because they created more impact in the media.
Golfers make-a-wish come true

A CHARITY day organised by the Bond University Golf Club raised an amazing $18,500 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Sponsorships raised $10,000 and the rest was raised with raffle tickets, a gambling hole and two charity auctions.

Items auctioned included a game of golf for three people with golf legend Wayne Grady, a BMW baby racer, a framed shirt signed by swimming sensation Grant Hackett, a headband, racquet and shirt signed by tennis legend Pat Cash and a framed signed shirt by golfer Adam Scott.

Bond students Bart Coleman, Henry Sayers, Andrew Haigh and Michael Steale won the morning golf round and the main prize, a day trip on Chancellor Trevor Rowe’s luxury boat, Mabuhay.

The afternoon round was won by Gavin Hopper and Michael Newell from the Cash Hopper International Tennis Academy, with former Vice-Chancellor Professor Ken Moores and his golfing partner, Wayne Myers a close second.

They will also set sail on the Mabuhay.

Golf Club president Nick Jonsson, vice-president David Radszuweit, director Dave White, secretary Sam Brown and treasurer Sofi Jonsson secured more than 70 sponsors, including ANZ, Dell, AAPT, Delfin, Telstra, Xerox, The Drink nightclub, NEC, TechnologyOne, and the Bond University Bookshop.

The 256 players were divided into two groups and the first golfers hit off from the Glades Golf Course at 7am.

A number of special activities were organised for many of the holes.

Girls from The Drink were at the 3rd hole with a heart-starter, while masseur Malcolm Mackay lay in wait at the 6th, offering much needed neck massages.

At the 12th hole, Red Bull served up energy drinks, and on the 17th, the golfers had the chance to win some great prizes by simply hitting their ball into a circle on the green.

Make-A-Wish chairman Sandra Brattstrom said most of the money raised would be spent bringing sick children for a holiday on the Gold Coast.

The winners’ list

**Morning Field**

**Winning teams – net**
First: Bart Colman, Henry Sayers, Andy Haigh, Michael Steele
2nd: Scott Hamilton, Bart Crutchley
3rd: John Flynn, Jason Gross, Peter Yates, Paul Grouder

**Nearest The Pins**
3rd Hole: Darren Lawrence
4th Hole: Peter Schauman
13th Hole: Yugo
17th Hole: Andrew Kimpston

**Afternoon Field**

**Winning teams – net**
First: Gavin Hopper, Mike Newell
2nd Ken Moores, Wayne Myers
3rd Roy Aslaksen, Trig Kloster

**Gross Pair Winners**
1st Jason Kan, Steve Wyndham
2nd Craig Cork, Belinda Kerr

**Nearest The Pins**
3rd Hole: Steve Wyndham
5th Hole: Belinda Kerr
13th Hole: Peter Mclean
17th Hole: Lee Stuesser

**Ladies Longest Drive**
Belinda Kerr

**Mens Longest Drive**
Craig Schofield

**Raffle Prizes**
Yacht Cruise – Garry Toftul
Yacht Cruise – Steve Farrar
$100 Bookshop – Gaoon Sconce
Game of Golf at Robin – Tony Brady
Game of Golf at Colonial – Neil Rangeley
Game of Golf at Colonial – Jenny Morrow
$50 Bookshop – M Berardone

The event was organised after golf club president Nick Jonsson heard how thieves stole eight-year-old leukaemia sufferer Aaron Curtain’s $300 donation.

The golf club raised more than $580 for Aaron and opted to follow up with a charity day.

“We formed some excellent links with local businesses, and many potential employers said the day opened their eyes to what a Bond graduate had to offer,” said Nick.

Celebrity players included former NSW State of Origin legends, Jason Taylor and Alan Wilson, Parramatta Eels head trainer, Craig Caterrick, World surfing champion Linda Halfweeg, and tennis coach Gavin Hopper.

Nick Jonsson and David Radszuweit presented Aaron Curtain with an oversized cheque for $18,500 which was passed on the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

The Charity Day is now set to be an annual event and Nick and his team are planning a follow up event in August to raise even more money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Students who want to help should contact Nick Jonsson on 0438-450951 or log onto www.bondgolf.com.au
THE Bond University Dragonboat Club now officially owns its very own boat.

The club picked up the boat in January and it was officially ‘launched’ on club sign-on day by Vice-Chancellor Professor Robert Stable when he smashed the obligatory bottle of champagne across its bows.

The boat has been named Rob after coach Rob Daveys who pushed for the $12,000 funding from BUSA.

“It’s a guaranteed winner,” said Rob.

“In the past we have had to train and race in borrowed boats, but now we have our own state-of-the-art boat, there will be no stopping us.”

Rob said the Bond team is in the top four on the Gold Coast, close behind the current Australian champions.

“In the past we have been limited in where we could train and for how long we could train,” said Rob.

“Twice a week we used to leave here at 6am and drive to the Spit out near Seaworld where we had access to a borrowed boat, but only for an hour.

“For many Bond students, it meant missing out on breakfast so they could be back and ready in time for the first classes of the day.

“But now we have this boat, we can train out on Lake Orr virtually any time we want.

“And there will be no need for wasted travelling time.”

The new boat has been acclaimed as the best in Australia. It was made by Sydney boatbuilders Race 1 who built the boats for the Oarsome Foursome Olympic team.

It weighs only 200kg, about 50kg lighter than any other boat racing in Queensland, a factor which will give the Bond team a distinct advantage.

Bond will field a range of teams in this year’s competition, including mixed teams and a women’s team.

Each crew includes 22 paddlers, a drummer to provide the rhythm, and a sweep to steer things along.

The new boat doesn’t yet have its trademark ornate Dragon’s head and high tail.

“Traditionally, the heads and tails don’t go on until we are actually racing,” said Rob.

“We don’t have a head or a tail yet, but I do know where we can borrow a set on race days.

“The next step will be to try and raise enough money to buy our own set, as well as a storage shed where we can keep the boat and its fittings.”

PARALYMPIC swimming champion Christopher Diehm just keeps on winning.

Last year he won a full-fee sporting scholarship to study Information Technology at Bond, and only days after he started his studies, he was named Cairns’ Junior Citizen of the Year.

Chris, who has suffered a serious bone disorder since birth, took up swimming when he was 10 after doctors told him it could help his recovery.

He was soon invited to compete in the Queensland Disabled Games and systematically worked his way up through the rankings.

He now holds the current world record for the 200-metre freestyle (long course) and 800-metre freestyle (short course) events.

Until recently, he also held the world record for the 50-metre backstroke event.

Chris is currently ranked First Australian in the 200-metre freestyle, the 50-metre backstroke, the 100-metre backstroke and the 200-metre individual medley.

Last year, at the Spanish National Disability Championships, he won five gold medals and a bronze.

He was also named Queensland Junior Male Disabled Athlete of the Year in 2002/3.
Discover the many exciting living options such as The Quay, in the heart of Varsity Lakes with contemporary homes and waterfront apartment living. Or there’s Azzurra Island - the ultimate premium island address. Or Varsity Sound, seemingly a world away from the rest of the Gold Coast, yet so conveniently located.

This brilliant range of living options surround the spectacular 80 hectare Lake Orr, emerging Market Square with cafés, all day dining and shopping, landscaped parks, first class education facilities and an innovative business precinct to make Varsity Lakes a special place to live, learn, work, and play.

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