Innovation and a commitment to continuous improvement have been key ingredients in the mill’s success. The company utilises its on-site scientific expertise and resources to continually improve its products in association with customers. There is also a unique distribution partnership to oversee the movement of raw materials and finished product. Over recent years the mill and its transport associates have developed an innovative stretch wrap system that ensures the paper rolls reach customers free from damage.

The Boyer Mill is also constantly striving for improvements in environmental performance. A team of specialists continuously review practices and processes at the mill to assess any impact on the environment. Two major improvement projects are presently under construction which will bring improved production capability and reduced environmental impact. A new $6 million hydrogen peroxide bleach plant will enable the manufacture of higher brightness products and reduce water usage and a $14 million secondary effluent plant will reduce the organic discharge load by two thirds.

The introduction of recycled fibre has been an important development at Boyer and has assisted the company in meeting the expectations of its Australian public. Recycled fibre now comprises some 25 percent of the mill’s fibre input. Around three quarters of newsprint sold in Australia is recovered and recycled for further use.
During my time at UTAS, growth has been a major focus.

Five years ago, the number of Tasmanians who had a university degree was the lowest in the country – around eleven per cent. As the only university in the state, it was our duty to boost that figure, and we have done just that – the figure now stands at around sixteen percent, an outstanding achievement.

The same growth agenda has seen us go well into surpluses since 2003 and that is continuing strongly. This gives us a firm base for the next stage of development.

So, a growth dynamic is now well established. But we are not resting on our laurels – rather, this underpins our planning for the future. Student numbers have grown dramatically, but a critical mass increase to 16,000 EFTSU is now our goal with a substantial increase in postgraduate and research training.

We are also keen to ensure our growth spurt does not impinge on our record of excellence. Our research performance speaks for itself, but we are pushing the envelope and aiming to establish ten international-level research institutes in our key areas of strength.

We continue to be one of the top ten research universities in the country, especially important in the light of the new research framework that Australian universities are now funded under.

Building research links and joint centres with International partners is crucial.

Clearly the next phase of UTAS development is to build both our research and graduate quality to rank highly in the International stakes. To achieve this we will further extend our reputation so that there is wider appreciation and support, globally, for what we do.

Developing exchange programs for top staff and students is now a priority. As is this communication to you, our Alumni. Scattered to all corners of the globe, you are a world wide network that has an almost unlimited capacity to boost UTAS in the eyes of the world.

So, talk us up. Stay in touch. Remember your time here – and let the world know you are proud to be a part of UTAS.
CREATING COMMUNITY

We are strengthening relations with graduates by providing more information about UTAS and assisting networking amongst the University community.

A new web-based networking tool, Net Community will be in place in 2007 and will enable graduates to link with one another and to update their own details on the alumni database Raiser’s Edge. It will also give graduates a UTAS email address for life!

An historic connection

The University Alumni, the UTAS Foundation and the University have signed a memorandum of understanding. The MoU provides a practical mechanism for the three organisations to work together and a blueprint for the future. It defines how the Alumni and Foundation can help the University achieve its goals and in turn how the University can support their work.

The Vice-Chancellor said that it was vital that all three organisations had a way of cooperating to coordinate their initiatives.

“The Alumni and the Foundation have an important role to play in helping UTAS to build its profile both nationally and internationally, to build student numbers through advocacy, to access funding for teaching and research initiatives.”

“Our university community has an important role to play in this process as advocates of UTAS. They can also assist us materially by helping UTAS fund initiatives and attract the best students,” said Professor Le Grew.

The new organisation will be actively raising funds and building links with people and institutions that have an interest in Tasmania and the University.

Choosing San Francisco as the venue for launching the UTAS Foundation USA was largely driven by the inaugural directors.

It turned out to be an inspired choice – the city is accessible to many of our graduates and a beautiful location was secured for the function.

The inaugural Board Meeting and an Alumni reception was held in the World Trade Club on the bay. The wine was Tasmanian and the food delicious!

The function was attended by nearly 30 graduates and friends of UTAS – many coming in from nearby states. The conversation flowed as did the wine, and people were enthusiastic about the future directions and the competitive research areas at UTAS positioning their university internationally.

The Foundation USA Directors are keen to assist UTAS through fund raising and building connections with Alumni and friends. They will visit Tasmania in 2007, to meet the University Foundation Directors and Governors, and to update their knowledge of UTAS.

UTAS science graduate Professor Michael Sharpe, now Emeritus Professor of Mathematics at the University of California in San Diego spoke about the new Foundation, and of the importance of maintaining connection.

UTAS LAUNCHES FOUNDATION USA

The University of Tasmania Foundation USA is the product of graduates and friends in the USA seeking convenient ways to give support and receive US-tax deductible status for gifts to UTAS. The Foundation USA was created after a series of interviews with UTAS graduates and friends in the United States showed strong support for its establishment. UTAS diaspora were keen to reconnect with their University and with Tasmania.

In April 2006 the Foundation received complete tax-exempt status (501(c)(3)) in the USA.

The first meeting of the Foundation USA Board: Dr Kim Wright, David Rowell, Chair of the UTAS Foundation, David Thun, John Semler, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Daryl Le Grew and the Board’s Chairman Professor Michael Sharpe.

The Alumni and the Foundation have an important role to play in helping UTAS to build its profile both nationally and internationally, to build student numbers through advocacy, to access funding for teaching and research initiatives.”

“Our university community has an important role to play in this process as advocates of UTAS. They can also assist us materially by helping UTAS fund initiatives and attract the best students,” said Professor Le Grew.
‘Now we have stepped out of the classroom… it is just like the first C++ program we wrote four years ago – “Hello World”, we are coming. We will change the world.’

Devising a joint ceremony that satisfied the demands of both the University of Tasmania and Shanghai Fisheries University was a major challenge for UTAS.

In July 2006, 292 students from a joint UTAS/SFU program offered through the International Education Network Institute headquartered at SFU, received their degrees at a ceremony held at the Nan Hui campus of SFU.

Students qualified for the UTAS Bachelor of Information Systems and the SFU Bachelor of Management.

The graduates were introduced by the Dean of the IEN Institute, Professor Susan Sun, and presented to University of Tasmania Chancellor, Dr Mike Vertigan and President of SFU, Professor Pan Ying Jie following admission to their degrees. The degree testamurs were presented to the graduates by Ms Merry Joyce, Associate Dean (International) Faculty of Business, and Professor Chen Guoliang, Deputy Dean of the IEN Institute.

“UTAS staff tried to ensure that the roles in the ceremony were shared equally between both universities while recognising those aspects that were important for our SFU colleagues and making sure that we retained the essential elements of the UTAS graduation ceremony”, said Greg Parkinson, Alumni Manager and Deputy Director of Public Relations and University Extension at UTAS.

“The successful formula we achieved will set the pattern for future ceremonies.”

After the ceremony at SFU, the UTAS graduation caravan moved south to Hangzhou where students who had studied at the International College at Zhejiang University of Technology had qualified for admission to the UTAS Bachelor of Computing degree. As the graduands in Hangzhou were to receive only the UTAS award, both UTAS and ZUT had agreed that a normal UTAS graduation ceremony was appropriate. ZUT Vice-President, Professor Han Yixiang was asked to address the convocation and new BComp graduate, Zhang Yujian, was invited to speak on behalf of the graduates.

In his speech, Mr Zhang asked his peers to remember the bonds that they developed through the joy and pain they had shared, and the difficulties they had overcome, in building their skills and acquiring their knowledge. He reminded the graduates that no matter what they did, they would never forget the experiences that university life had held for them. As for the future –

‘Now we have stepped out of the classroom and are walking into society, it is just like the first C++ program we wrote four years ago – “Hello World”, we are coming. We will change the world’.

In his graduation address Vice-Chancellor Le Grew offered his congratulations to the faculty of ZUT and UTAS for having developed a cross-cultural curriculum involving language and generic skill development as well as imparting high-level theoretical, technical and professional skills in computing and related areas.

He also commented on the role the graduates would have as leaders in their field in reaching and breaking down barriers, not only of trade and commerce, but also the cultural and social barriers that separate different peoples rather than binding them together. He asked graduates to remember ‘what can be achieved if peoples of the world work together, in harmony’ as they pursue their future with enthusiasm and a great sense of excitement.

The programs in China will increase the pool of alumni in China by some 400 each year for the next five years.

A UTAS Alumni branch is being established in Hong Kong. This initiative is being driven by Nelson Ngai, a UTAS graduate (Bachelor of Information Systems 2003). Nelson has registered a branch with the authorities in Hong Kong and is now looking for expressions of interest from any alumni who would like to assist him in getting the branch up and running. Nelson can be contacted at cyngai@postoffice.utas.edu.au.

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The Distinguished Alumni awards were established to honour graduates for their achievements. They highlight the diversity and quality of the contribution alumni have made to the local, national and international community.

Distinguished Alumni

Hon Peter Rae AO
BA, LLB (Hons), FAffi, FAICD, AADM

A law graduate of the University of Tasmania, Peter Rae was admitted to practise in 1960. His commitment to reform was in the spotlight from early in his career. The establishment of what is now the Australian Securities and Investments Commission was essentially due to his investigations.

In 1967 Peter was elected to the Australian Senate as its youngest ever member. He retired in 1986. During that time he was a Shadow Minister and Spokesman for Industry and Commerce, as well as Finance, Education and Science. He was State Minister for Education and the Arts, and also for Technology.

Throughout his period in parliament he was a strong supporter of institutional law reform and deeply concerned with improving our national corporations law.

He was involved in drafting a wide variety of legislation, from the State Authorities Financial Management Act through to a Foreign Ownership of Land Bill and the re-drafting of the Evidence Act.

Peter recently retired as Chairman of one of the country’s most forward-thinking power companies. Under Mr Rae’s chairmanship, Hydro Tasmania developed a reputation for excellence and innovation. Peter became a champion for sustainable energy production in Tasmania. Thanks to his dedication, the clean, green turbines have now become a powerful symbol for change. His emphasis on water and wind solutions has become a feature of the industry’s approach worldwide. He is the Director of the International Hydropower Association, Chairman of Renewable Energy Generators of Australia (REGA) and Vice-President (Oceania) of the World Wind Energy Association.

It was Peter’s vision for the renewables sector that saw the founding of the Renewable and Sustainable Energy Roundtable. He is respected internationally as a passionate and knowledgeable advocate for hydropower in this growing renewable energy industry. His leadership has also brought representatives from the World Bank, the US Department of Energy and the International Hydropower Association to Tasmania.

Peter has willingly and generously donated his time over the years to various causes. As a strong advocate for community, he served as Chairman of the Australian Education Council, and has been director of a number of community organisations including the 10 Days on the Island festival. He is the Managing Director of Australian Business Services and Chairman of a number of other businesses, as well as the Chairman of the Renewable Energy Generators of Australia. He is a Foundation Member of the Australian Academy of Design, where he is particularly involved in educational and planning areas of activity. He is also involved in the provision of legal services to major national corporations and organisations.

Peter’s commitment to creating education opportunities was highlighted in a tangible way at UTAS, where this driven alumnus was not only a member of the Faculty of Law, but also helped to establish a dedicated hydrogen research laboratory.

In 1999 Peter Rae was made an Officer of the Order of Australia for services to business and commerce in Australia and to the Parliament.

- Director - Australian Council for Europe.
- Member of Australian Delegation to COP9 in 2003.
- Alternate Member of the Steering Committee for UNEP Dams & Development Project, Nairobi 2002 and Geneva 2003.
- Partner in Rae & Partners, Lawyers, Tasmania.

The Distinguished Alumni awards were established to honour graduates for their achievements. They highlight the diversity and quality of the contribution alumni have made to the local, national and international community.
Dr Peter Smith

Dr Peter Smith has left an indelible and positive mark on the University community.

He has given a lifetime of service as a dedicated teacher, researcher and mentor. Graduating with a BSc (Hons), his lengthy and productive career in the School of Chemistry at UTAS commenced in 1952. His academic career included periods as Demonstrator, Senior Demonstrator, Lecturer, Senior Lecturer and finally Reader in 1971. His research in structural aspects of Inorganic Chemistry was fruitful, with 40 published papers to his name and 25 supervised honours and PhD students during this same period.

Dr Smith was a keen supporter and instrumental in the formation of the Central Science Laboratory, serving for a time as its Acting Director. He formally "retired" in 1989, and is one of only seven academics to have served the department for more than thirty years.

But beyond being a UTAS alumnus and a distinguished member of the UTAS Chemistry staff, Dr Smith's passion is not just in chemistry books but in creating community.

Peter has been a mentor, guide and friend to countless staff and students.

What sets Peter Smith apart is his attitude, care and general concern. His time in Chemistry was characterised by his genuine interest in the welfare and wellbeing of countless students.

At all times Dr Smith endeavoured to foster a personal rapport with those under his tutelage. He knew each student by name. Many owe a great debt to Dr Smith for his wise counsel, his arrangement of vacation or full-time work, his financial and moral support, and mostly for his genuine interest in their physical good. Generations of UTAS Chemistry students and graduates have benefited from Dr Smith’s hospitality in many other ways - through his late night biscuits and cups of tea, weekend study retreats at his shack at Orford, study trips to Tasmanian industries and related organisations. It is these intangible contributions to Chemistry that has made Dr Smith so special to many.

Even the most cynical and world-weary students would admit: “Dr Smith. Yes. Everyone knows he’s the student’s friend.”

Even in retirement he maintained a strong loyalty to the university and considered those around him to be part of an extended family. This family always commanded his wholehearted support and perhaps more importantly his genuine friendship. To this day Dr Smith keeps close tabs on the career and personal lives of a great many UTAS graduates scattered across the country and overseas.

Throughout his professional career Dr Smith sought to promote the sciences, and in particular the study of Chemistry, through his extensive involvement in related professional societies. He is a Fellow of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute, where his service was recognised in 1988 with the award of a national citation. He remains a strong supporter of the Australian and New Zealand Society for the Advancement of Science, and a member of the Royal Society of Chemistry and the Australian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy.

Dr Smith’s contribution to the University extends beyond the bounds of Chemistry – he has been active in supporting the management of the university, serving on numerous committees and helping to build the graduate community through his active and distinguished involvement with the UTAS Alumni and Foundation.

He has been instrumental in promoting the name and reputation of UTAS, creating new connections between industry and the university to sponsor and promote his discipline.

He maintains the links he developed with Tasmanian high schools and colleges while he was an academic, encouraging collaborative ventures between all levels of science education.

He is a constant supporter and patron of university life; each year he endows several scholarship programs at the University of Tasmania to encourage students to study in the physical sciences. 

At all times Dr Smith endeavoured to foster a personal rapport with those under his tutelage.

He knew each student by name.
“It’s not adult literacy, it’s adult lateracy, and I invented it. Adult lateracy is described by the terms 2D and 3D. 2D describes people as those who need support in using computer technology, while 3D people are those who are independent users.”

By Rochelle Galloway

June Hazzlewood is youthful and enthusiastic about life’s journeys. The 73-year-old recent UTAS graduate has more ‘get up and go’ in her than the average 20-year-old uni student.

After retiring 10 years ago, June found herself itching to do something new and exciting.

She found retirement difficult and yearned to keep her brain active. “I was working for 40 years and all of a sudden you are not going to a conference or a workshop next week, so what are you going to do with the rest of your life?” June said.

With the support of her husband, step-children and grandchildren, June decided to check out UTAS to see what was available with the idea of doing a graduate certificate in Literacy in her mind.

But June got something better.

“I met a lady who found me wandering around who asked if she could help me. I told her what I was doing and she suggested joining the Masters program,” she said.

And before June knew it she was putting together a CV detailing her training history to get back into uni.

June is no stranger to the way university works.

When June turned 60 she started undergraduate studies through Open Learning Australia by distance at Monash University and loved it.
When she began a Masters summer school in Launceston, it just added fuel to her burning desire to learn.

“It was just great, mature-age students from all over Australia. I found this very exciting and stimulating,” she said.

As far as June was concerned, the Masters program was the peak of her academic achievement.

Never did she think this would be the beginning of a whole new stage of her life.

When June completed her study, she was invited to help Sue Kilpatrick from the UTAS Faculty of Education conduct a research project for Telstra and was given a $1000 grant.

“Our project was looking at older people using technology, using the internet and when they went from public to private use, to when they stepped over the threshold and got themselves a computer,” she said.

After June finished the Telstra project, someone suggested to her she should do a PhD.

In typical June fashion, her ears pricked up at the idea of learning something new; however it wasn’t to be so easy.

“They said to me you can’t do it because you should have done a three unit research dissertation instead of course work, so you are going to have to do another masters,” she said.

June completed her second Masters by doing a literature review on technology that would later benefit her PhD.

“It was good because it got me into the way of referencing,” she said.

While June was completing her second Masters, she began setting up a computer workshop for older people.

Incidentally this helped add rich data to her PhD when she started under the watchful eye of Sue Kilpatrick.

June’s thesis explores how older men and women seek to gain skills in technology.

“Part of the thesis experience is that you have to find something original,” said June and that is exactly what she did.

June coined the term adult lateracy which explores the idea of thinking laterally about information, communication and technology.

“Every time I wrote that, the editor would cross out the ‘A’ and make it into an ‘I’, and it’s not adult literacy, it’s adult lateracy and I invented it,” she said.

Adult lateracy is described by the terms 2D and 3D.

2D describes people as those who need support in using computer technology, while 3D people are those who are independent users.

June says that she would have not have achieved her academic endeavours if it had not been for the support of her loving husband and family.

“He is not only supportive but he urged me to go on. At one stage I lost seven hours of work, the computer crashed and I had to do it all again,” she said.

June says that she would have not have achieved her academic endeavours if it had not been for the support of her loving husband and family.

“He would make some useful suggestions and he came up with things that I would not have thought about.”

Her family are also very proud of her, with the grandchildren being “tickled pink their nanna is doing something like this”.

So what is next for June?

Having completed two Masters Degrees and a PhD, June is not yet ready to have a nanna nap.

“I have been working in the community and I am state adviser for ageing in the National Council of Women,” she said.

She has also been putting in for grants for the computer workshops she runs for older people wishing to study computer TAFE courses at a slower level.

“It’s an indulgence for me,” she said.
Isn’t it funny that life is what happens when you think you are doing something else?”

By Rochelle Galloway

Anne-Marie Pearse never imagined she would be carrying a vacuum cleaner into the bush when she began her Masters at UTAS. Furthermore she never thought this would lead her to being part of Australia’s most exciting research project for the time – the Tasmanian Devil Facial Tumour. But it is funny where life takes you, when you least expect it.

Anne-Marie moved to Tasmania with her husband the year the Tasman Bridge fell down, and hasn’t looked back since. She approached the Zoology department at UTAS to do her Masters on a flea called the Uropsylla tasmanica, after a degree in Entomology and Genetics at Sydney University.

“It took me a very long time to do research on the Uropsylla tasmanica because it turned out it was a seasonal flea. It was strongly interconnected with the breeding cycle of the host,” Anne-Marie said.

“I tried to work out how it evolved but because fleas are specialised parasites, they tend to evolve with their host so their spines and the way they are built suit them to living on the host,” she said.

Anne-Marie began looking at the chromosomal structure of the flea to work it out, which resulted in taking some members of the University Rugby team on an excursion to catch wombats.

“It was very good tackling practice for them,” she said with a laugh.

“It led me to do all these strange things like feeding vacuum cleaners down wombats burrows. I caught a few frogs but no fleas.”

The host, it turned out was the Dasyurids – quolls and the Tasmania devil. Once Anne-Marie had finished her masters, she was suddenly at a loss as what to do next.

“I felt absolutely shattered, I didn’t know what I was going to do,” she said.

A job came up at the Royal Hobart Hospital looking at human chromosomes, and Anne-Marie jumped at the opportunity.

“I told them that I had never done human chromosomes but I had done flea chromosomes and quoll chromosomes so I knew how to do it,” she said.

Anne-Marie started working at the RHH, taking an interest in what happens to human chromosomes when people get leukemia and as a result spent years studying the role of chromosomal rearrangements in the aetiology of cancer.
While Anne-Maree was working at the RHH, she got a letter from Rottedam Zoo saying that some of their quolls had died from lymphoma.

And from there, things took off.

“It all started again, we were out tracking quolls but this time the quolls had a very good medical service,” said Anne-Maree.

“We had fun taking out the medical staff and nurses into the bush to get blood,” she said.

It was while doing this field work that Anne-Maree stumbled across some devils with facial tumors.

“We found a few devils with funny bumps on their faces that we thought must have been lymphoma,” she said.

“We ended up having to give that one up because we couldn’t follow it through well enough. We didn’t have the technology at that stage, it was too ambitious.”

By this stage, Anne-Maree had developed a bad back, which caused her to stop working.

She decided to head back to UTAS to do classics, but by her second year, she gave up.

“My husband wanted to change his lifestyle so basically I had to give up uni again and we ended moving up north to start a flower farm at Paper Beach on the Tamar,” Anne-Maree said.

She recalls this experience as a total disaster.

“My husband became psychologically allergic to weeds,” she says, before she bursts out laughing.

Anne-Maree’s husband was offered a job soon after this, and the pair packed up and moved to Launceston.

It was around this time that Anne-Maree became involved with the devil research.

“I heard about the devils on the news, so I rang them up and told them I knew quite a lot about devils and cancer, which is a very weird combination so they gave me the job,” she said.

Anne-Maree is appreciative she has such a wonderful job and two fantastic assistants to help her on her research endeavors.

“Because of my back, they have been really flexible. They have given me Kate and another girl called Karen, I am so grateful to them,” she said.

Findings in Anne-Maree’s research have shown the cancerous tumor found on the devils is caused by an infectious cell line and not a virus.

This was proved by a devil called Errol.

“He had a pericentric inversion on chromosome five which he was born with, but when it wasn’t in his cancer we knew it wasn’t his own cells,” she said.

“This was the icing on the cake.”

Anne-Maree has presented her findings at many conferences and her research has been greeted with open arms and enthusiasm. She and Kate Swift have published these results in Nature.

“We are working on the most exciting project going on in Australia at the moment and nearly every medical school wants a piece of this action,” she said.

At present, Anne-Maree and her team are looking at the evolution of the disease, which is linked to her Masters research of the Uropsylla tasmanica.

“It is one of the factors, not in the transmission of the disease or anything like that but in the general health of the devil,” she said.

“They (the fleas) are little maggots that burrow in underneath the skin, and when the devil is infested with those, their immune system is busy since it happens at the same time the devils breed.”

“Isn’t it funny that life is what happens when you think you are doing something else?” Anne-Maree said.

“You know I was going to be an entomologist and I ended up studying human cancer and then went on to study devils with cancer, so you just don’t know.”
By Cherie Cooper

Tasmanian wildlife biologist Nick Mooney is one of the most passionate people working with Tasmanian devils today.

But he didn’t always want to be a crusader for the creatures.

“I actually wanted to be a rock star and be inundated with women!” he says.

Luckily for the devils, Nick decided instead to work at protecting our wildlife.

When he was a kid there wasn’t really any such thing as a biologist.

“You were a vet, worked in a zoo or were a biology teacher - wildlife biology only really hatched in the mid 70s.

“I just wanted to be involved with wildlife and mucking about with captive animals led to a few special people who were studying wildlife - that led to a wish to conserve wildlife.”

Unfailingly focused and driven, Nick is fighting to save the Tasmanian devil population, which is being devastated by the Devil Facial Tumour Disease, or DFTD.

A UTAS Zoology graduate, Nick has been at the frontline of the battle ever since DFTD was detected in the mid nineties, when Dutch wildlife photographer Christo Baars photographed devils.

Baars showed his pictures to Nick who instantly noticed something wrong with the animals, whose lumps and facial lesions were far more severe than the battle-wounds devils often sport.

He has been working with Tasmanian devils for many years and focused on them after studying birds of prey.

“When I was looking in the early to mid-seventies…I was interested in what predators and competitors birds of prey have.

“I looked at peregrine falcons and found that about five per cent of peregrine chicks were killed by devils each year, so I started looking at the sorts of nest sites that devils could get access to,” Nick said.

Nick went on to study the capability of devils to see what influence they might have on other predators - including the thylacine.

“Through the eighties I was conducting various searches for the thylacine and devils were always a dominant part of that - it was very hard searching for the footprints of other animals because devils confuse the issue,” Nick said.

Nick said that it then became plain that if thylacines were extinct they must have had an extremely difficult time breeding when devil abundance was high.

“Devils went up, thylacines went down,” Nick said.

He then began working on the management of devils to prevent the unnecessary killing.

These days Nick’s fight against the terrible DFTD is the focus of his work.

He said that half the battle was urging people to take this awful disease seriously.

“Appreciate the fragility and importance of the devil population and work to understand its special problems - we can't properly protect it from DFTD until we know more but we can carry out precautionary activities such as quarantining some.

“There is a good program up and running now, but it took a while to get there - people need to know that this disease is here and it’s doing terrible damage,” Nick said.

Another important factor is the presence of foxes in the State, an issue that Nick believes has probably been around longer than we think.

“We need to keep thinking about the fox and devil connection, the foxes could have been here for ages but were being suppressed - that means less devils more foxes,” Nick said.

And that means that the foxes could wreak havoc with other native species.

“The fox is the real wild card and the greatest risk to long term devil recovery.

“There is also the issue of isolating Tasmanian devils, putting them on islands in order to prevent DFTD reaching them.

But with the devil population being nearly wiped out in some parts of the State, the battle to save the unique species is going to be tough.

“It is just such a pity that an animal has to be endangered before society shows interest,” Nick said.
WILDLIFE CRUSADER

Menna Jones, tireless crusader for Tasmanian devil welfare, has been a fan of the little marsupials since she was a child.

“I’ve been absolutely besotted with wildlife, particularly mammals and particularly carnivores, since I was about seven or eight years old,” Menna said.

Since then Menna never really deviated from that path and has become an expert on the creatures.

“I completed my first degree at the University of New England and then came down here in 1990 to do my PhD working on carnivores, and in particular devils,” Menna said.

At the moment Menna works two positions, focusing on preserving the devil population which in some areas has dwindled to 80 per cent.

Half of her time is spent working with the State Government devil disease project where she is managing the conservation of wild devil populations. The other half of her time is spent as a research fellow in the School of Zoology.

“The highest priority for us is to ensure that we have an insurance population of devils in Tasmania ... in case the species becomes extinct in the wild.”

“In terms of wild populations our options are extremely limited. At the moment we’re limited to suppressing the disease which means getting diseased animals out of fairly isolated populations.

“We’re testing the idea that if you break the transmission cycle you can drive disease prevalence down in an isolated area and then the population can recover,” Menna said.

“It certainly is distressing to work with - it’s a horrible condition.”

To help fund research into DFTD, Qantas and the University of Tasmania have launched devil-shaped donation boxes that are being installed in major airport terminals and Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife visitors centres.

The donations will support the Tasmanian Devil Facial Tumour Disease Program working to save the species, and a Qantas Tasmanian Devil Research Scholarship at UTAS.
“If we simply wanted to celebrate we would just throw a party. But instead, this is serious stuff - it is a ceremony.”

At the mid-year graduation ceremony in Launceston this year Professor Adrian Franklin made the following speech. Professor Franklin lectures in the UTAS School of Sociology and Social Work and is a panellist on the ABC television series Collectors.

I have spent a great deal of my life at graduation ceremonies like this and as I have looked out at the audiences over the years many faces seemed to be saying: what on earth is all this about?

You are diverted away from this vexing question, dear congregation, by your principal task here -- which is to clap – for a very long time. As you have just discovered...

Mercifully, our hands do not drop off after politely clapping everyone as they receive their degrees (and not, of course, just our loved ones).

And now just as the idea of a cold beer or a reviving cup of tea seems to suggest itself as imminent, it is my task to hold you up for just a while longer.

Now it is not my wish to charm you with apt words, amuse you with an anecdote or two or even give some unsolicited advice on your life ahead. Rather, before you go, before drinks, I set myself the simple task of telling you what IS going on here. What IS a graduation ceremony?

Some of you may have read about the history of graduation ceremonies in your programs. While interesting and certainly relevant it is a mistake to confuse the history of something with its explanation.

Some of you may be thinking, well, it’s a bit obvious really; we are here to celebrate the success of our students, children, grandchildren, brothers, and spouses. And quite right too, we are.

But that's not all we are doing here, is it? If we simply wanted to celebrate surely we would just throw a party in the usual way. But instead of that, here we are in a relatively sombre, formal and official manner. This is serious stuff! It is a ceremony.

But what is a ceremony? The Concise Oxford English Dictionary is interesting on the word ceremony: it includes the phrase ‘empty form’ and ‘punctilious behaviour’ both of which seem to suggest it is merely showy or superfluous, even stuff and nonsense.

Nothing could be further from the truth. However the dictionary also suggests that ‘ceremony’ can mean a rite or ritual that is publicly witnessed. And this is surely what we are doing here today. We are in the middle of a ritual.

To grasp this truth we need to go deeper and here are the five things you need to know in order to understand what is really going on.

First of all then, this is a ritual event; it signals that important change and transition is taking place. Humans don’t like change. It is dangerous and it needs careful handling; rituals are a way of dealing with it.

Anthropologists have found few universal characteristics of human groups around the world, but one is that important transitions in life are always recognised ritually and through them those in transition are helped to make the next step.

Now, why is this?

For all human beings everywhere the path through life is marked by
major transitions. These are not easy. We must leave one cosy scene, in which we have become familiar and comfortable, for life in another. To the uninitiated these transitions always seem scary, new, difficult and challenging. They come with new responsibilities and duties; new skills have to be learned and tasks discharged. We are vulnerable at this time. Rituals recognise this state of transition and the associated fears. They give it shape, mark it, witness it and assist those undergoing the transition.

You will immediately appreciate the relevance of what I say by understanding what the word degree means: on the back of your programs it says that the word degree comes from the Latin word meaning 'step' or 'next step'.

Many of the most important rituals surround these transitions in life and they are called rites of passage. They start with the difficulty and danger of birth itself. Then there is initiation into adulthood, out of childhood. There may be initiation into cults or religions. Then there is betrothal, marriage, becoming a mother or a father, becoming a warrior or priest or some other specialist. For some, there are rituals of becoming a leader and for all of us finally, there are rituals where we depart this life for a life elsewhere.

Rituals occur in special places that require a special sort of time

During the ritual, initiates are neither in their previous status of life nor yet in their next, they are 'in-between'. This liminal state is marked ritually by casting off all the clothing and props of everyday life. The most obvious thing all rituals share is a special site, usually a very different type of site and always away from the routine, mundane space of day-to-day life. This in-between world created for rituals also requires special clothes; headdresses and other paraphernalia and these are often spectacular, finer and larger than life.

Human cultures around the world have marked this liminality in a variety of ways, and I would say that our species is at its most creative and colourful at these moments. Look no further than the choice of building here and my own embarrassingly bright costume to appreciate the truth of this. Even though we up here are not going to dance to the tempo of an outrageous beat for you today, as is customary at rituals in other cultures, we have at least laid on some music, you will notice. And soon we will offer you refreshment.

Everyone in the congregation is relevant

The third thing to know is that everyone in the congregation is relevant; everyone present in the ritual is a part of it. It is not just the initiands or in our case the graduands who have just become graduates. We are all involved and have been involved for some time in the transition we mark today.

Parents and spouses have supported their children and partners in a multitude of ways to get them here today. The road has not been easy, there are stories of failure and disappointment, triumph and elation, depression and sadness; there are periods of gritty determination and plain sailing; there are moments of terror and relief. Today, we recognise all this.

From our point of view, as academics, we look back today at over three years or more of our work, often working very closely with students. They become gradually more a part of the place we inhabit, we watch them grow, develop competence; we delight in opening up the universe to them, the universe of things and ideas, that vast richness that they hardly knew existed before they came here. But having tasted this world they can never return to their old world the same people. We recognise that transition today and we rejoice. But today we also lose them, or a lot of them. So it is bitter sweet.

On the other hand we have just admitted them to their degree. What is not written on the back of your program is that they are at the same time admitted to be members of this university. And this has a lasting benefit.

In a recent survey of friendship in modern societies it was discovered that friends made at university turn out to be the most important, robust and enduring through life. As important are continuing connections with the mother university through references, connections with staff, reunions and alumni activity, but also the external recognition that you are a graduate and member of this place, for ever.

To parents, friends and relatives who are not already members of this university, we say, consider enrolling! These days more and more people value making the transition we are witnessing today. It is never too late to join.

Rituals create a time when extraordinary things happen

During rituals social rules normally strictly observed are often temporarily suspended. Social reserve normally expressed among those who do not know each other is usually relaxed. Precisely because we are united for this brief period, we may establish what anthropologists have called communitas – a feeling of being in this together, travelling a common road. I have watched graduation ceremonies for many years. The periods just before and just after are very life affirming to me, seeing family groups arrive; seeing groups of students messing about, introducing parents to each other, taking photos. Afterwards, the party begins, the gowns come off and hair is let down. A heady mixture of pride, embarrassment and excitement.

This is a day to enjoy, to celebrate, to party as we realise that together we have unleashed a new batch of graduates on the world. It is a wonderful thing for us to do.

Rituals mark new life and renewal

In the cold light of tomorrow morning, through bleary eyes maybe, you graduates will appreciate more fully the long path ahead of you. As from now you carry a new status. You are to be taken more seriously as more fully educated people, perhaps on the road towards more specialist practices and professions. We may see you yet again as modern life seems to require more rather than less transitions and ritual will come to your aid again and again.

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• Issue
Jerry is proud to be an alumnus of UTAS and has offered the university two specialist instruments as a way of giving something back to his alma mater.

Jerry Marcin has a bee in his bonnet – and it’s about bees!

Since completing his Associate Diploma in Agricultural Business Management at the Tasmanian State Institute of Technology in 1988, Jerry has returned to the State regularly to pursue his study of bees.

He is convinced that the purest strain of the bee Apis mellifera is now to be found in Tasmania and has an bank of field research and statistical analysis to back up the claim. Far from being a mongrel population, the Apis mellifera population found in Tasmania is, in Jerry’s eyes, the purest stock in Australia and possibly the purest in the world.

“My belief is that these bees possess unique genes that are similar to those of their English ancestors, but probably different to those of other black bees living on the continent of Europe and in other parts of the world”, said Jerry.

The Apis mellifera was introduced into Tasmania in 1821 with the importation of a hive from England on the sailing ship Mary. Having established itself in the wilderness areas of Tasmania the strain has flourished largely unsullied by the incursions of other strains.

“From the beginning of my research I was aware that this race of bees is rare and virtually cannot be found in a pure form in commercial beekeeping except in the wild,” said Jerry.

“To support my suspicion that this could be the purest race of bees in Australia, and probably in the world, required repetitive sampling and the collection of many specimens from various locations in the wilderness and bee reserve”, he said.

Jerry has visited the State one or two times a year to observe the bee and collect specimens for morphological examination. Minute differences in wing structure characterise genetic differentiation in and between strains, and behavioural patterns in different weather can be matched to other variables.

Jerry is proud to be an alumnus of UTAS and has offered the university two expensive specialist instruments used in the artificial insemination of queen bees as a way of giving something back to his alma mater. He has also thrown down the challenge to a graduate student to carry on his work, offering to provide funding from his own pocket to support the work if necessary.
By Peter Hemphill

He probably has the toughest job in Australia at the moment.
But if he can turn the company around, he will be Australia’s most sought after corporate executive.

Gordon Davis faces a miracle challenge.
As the new managing director of AWB Limited, Mr Davis has the herculean task of lifting the corporate reputation and performance of the scandal-ridden wheat marketer.

Barking at his heels is a vocal minority of anti-single desk farmers, some Liberal politicians hell-bent on removing AWB’s monopoly powers and a number of grain traders looking for a share of wheat exports to prop up their own cash-strapped businesses.

On top of that is a serious drought affecting all corners of the country and the Cole commission report -- due to be released by the end of the month -- expected to recommend charges against some of his staff.

But Mr Davis takes it all in his stride.
“Every business has its challenges,” he said.
“Unfortunately, AWB’s (challenges) have been played out in a very public way.”

Mr Davis, 50, came to AWB from Orica Limited. He had been head of Orica’s Australia Asia mining services division.

He has business and agricultural science degrees from the University of Melbourne and the University of Tasmania.

His basic training was in forestry and he spent 10 years out in the field. His closest link to agriculture was five years as manager of Incitec Fertilisers. He was also a policy adviser to former Federal Liberal leader John Hewson.

Since joining AWB, Mr Davis has set himself four clear areas to focus on in the short term, some of which are interlinked. Rebuilding its reputation and increasing its communications is a key.

“Reputation is something that we have to build over time,” he said.

He has been meeting AWB staff, farmers, market analysts and some politicians to give them an understanding of where he wants to head the company.

Mr Davis said the culture and organisation of AWB was also a priority.

“That means getting a coherent understanding of how people should behave and what the company can expect,” he said.

“The major priority is to stabilise the organisation.

“One once we get certainty and stability in the organisation, we can start building for the future.”

The third area of focus is governance and company structure.

Mr Davis said the company had evolved from a statutory marketing authority to a demutualised company listed on the Australian Stock Exchange.

“From the outside, I saw we had to put a focus on where we want to go, not where we came from,” he said.

“We also have to work on rebuilding staff.”

The other focus area was short-term financial performance.

Mr Davis said the business was going to enter a difficult time with the drought.

“We need to do everything we can to keep our cost base in control,” he said.

All eyes will be focused on Mr Davis as he further outlines his strategy for the company.
Keith Bradshaw, the new Secretary and CEO of Lords, the world’s oldest cricket club, graduated in 1990 from the University of Tasmania with a Bachelor of Commerce degree.

He is the first non-Briton to head Lords in 120 years. The famed Lords is the headquarters of the Marylebone Cricket Club, the governing body of cricket and England’s premier ground for domestic and international matches.

I couldn’t believe my ears when I was headhunted for this position”, said Keith.

“When the consultant phoned I first thought that he was talking about the Melbourne Cricket Club!”

“I was very happy, working as a partner at Deloitte. It was a Thursday evening, I was about to watch the first day of the fourth Ashes test when a friend, who runs a recruiting firm in Sydney, rang to tell me their affiliate firm had won the job of recruiting the next CEO for the MCC and would I be interested?”

“I thought to myself, here’s an opportunity, grab it with both hands and see if you can make it happen.”

“I was ecstatic. It was a feeling I hadn’t experienced in a long time. Amazing! I remember getting the phone call and thinking, I’m not ready for them to say no, I’ve lived with this for 5 months, gee don’t ring up and tell me, no.”

The Bachelor of Commerce graduate is now responsible for running a club with an annual turnover of more than 23 million pounds and over 200 staff.

Growing up, I had no idea of the future. My goal was to play test cricket for Tasmania,” Keith said.

Keith did indeed played cricket professionally for over three years. He played county cricket in the UK and also represented Tasmania – he captained the State side whenever David Boon was playing internationally.

But he aspired higher.

“When I realised I wasn’t going to make it to the next level in cricket I decided to focus on a career in business and completed my Commerce degree at UTAS.”

Keith retired from competitive cricket to complete his studies at and then went on to forge a career as an accountant and administrator in Tasmania, with Price Waterhouse and Deloitte, where he rose through the ranks to become a partner.

“When I started, I had no fixed plans, but during my course of study became interested in accounting and aspired to become a chartered accountant.” Keith kicked off his career as an auditor. He says auditing gave him a range of business skills.

“I worked with many different types of clients and got to understand businesses. It provided a solid foundation on which to base my future career in IT project management and management consulting.”

One of the things he remembers about UTAS is the people – in particular, the well known commentator, columnist, consultant and economics academic Dr Bruce Felmingham.

“Bruce Felmingham, one of my lecturers, was fantastic. He was incredibly intelligent, incredibly motivated; he motivated me in terms of my work and taught me not to take myself too seriously.

“The big lesson learnt from Bruce was that you can work hard, you can achieve, but you can have fun at the same time.”

After graduating Keith took the first steps towards a career in chartered accounting.

“I was relieved at having passed! and [that I] got through working and studying part-time.

“It was really the first step on another path that was just beginning.” Keith spent time in auditing, worked in IT project management with Price Waterhouse and then as a management consultant and a partner at Deloitte.

“I have been fortunate in having steady employment and have stayed on for quite a period of time because I’ve had challenging work and have enjoyed what I’ve been doing and felt it’s advanced me.
“In having a career plan it’s important to understand where it will lead and especially how to get to the next step. You need to be flexible and willing to change as opportunities present themselves.”

Keith’s advice for young professionals thinking about a career move?

“If you're not being challenged and learning new things, then it’s time to move on.”

It is his experience on the field, as well as behind a desk, which Keith says has helped him get where he is today.

“The skills you gain from playing sport and being part of a team are skills that can be applied in the business environment: being a leader; playing to your strengths; motivating people; bringing a team together with everyone contributing; and letting people do things they are good at.”

His career path did not always lead him through such hallowed halls as Lords – it wasn’t even always a comfortable desk job.

“My first job was pulling beers, washing turf and stacking bricks to support my way through uni,” he says. But for Keith, it was all part of the mix.

“In any job you need to interact with people at all levels. I learnt this early on, working in a factory, stacking bricks on a conveyor belt … I got an understanding of working relationships and learning to get on with different kinds of people.”

“Over the years, through my work, I have come into contact with a range of people with fantastic skills. The lesson learnt from this was to surround myself with good people - mentors, colleagues, friends, people I could learn from.”

“I’m ambitious but realistic, you need to focus on what you want and understand what you need to do to get what you want.”

Keith’s advice:

Be ambitious.
Always strive to achieve.
Surround yourself with good people.
Always treat people as you would have them treat you.
Relationships are important, learn from them.
Don’t be afraid to make a change, if it’s not working, move on.
Don’t burn any bridges.
By Cherie Cooper

When you mention the name Flynn in Tasmania, chances are the first person that springs to mind is the swashbuckling film star Errol Flynn.

But recently the street next to the Life Sciences building on the UTAS Hobart campus was renamed to honour the less infamous Flynn, Errol’s father TT.

Theodore Thompson, or TT, Flynn arrived in Tasmania in 1909 with his young wife, who was then pregnant with Errol.

Fresh from teaching high school science in Maitland and Newcastle, he took up the new post of first lecturer of Biology.

TT Flynn was integral in the advancement of biology and fisheries in Tasmania, spending fifteen years harnessing the resources of State and Commonwealth governments and even forming a private company to harvest pelagic fish stocks.

Flynn’s family caused him some understandable stresses throughout his life. Errol was a notorious troublemaker even from a young age, and was often expelled from whichever school he was attending at the time.

As a young child Errol often got pocket money from his father as a reward for capturing native animals which Flynn then exported.

Flynn was highly admired by his students and was nicknamed TT - although they never called him that to his face.

He was also more than simply a distinguished, intelligent academic: he was also a colourful and unique character who was the subject of many quirky tales - although whether they are fact or fiction is debatable.

It was said that Professor Flynn was tall, debonair and handsome, resulting in him becoming the subject of crushes from female students, prompting comparisons to his son’s own womanising antics.

Flynn was also unusually talented with coloured chalks, and created classroom diagrams that were easily understood as well as artistic - he also became slightly notorious after creating chalk drawings of intimate areas of the female anatomy outside a hotel after a dinner party.

He also allegedly caused another stir by producing a marsupial from his pocket at a staff dance, an act which earned him a black eye from a less than pleased guest.

Flynn’s wife Lily (she later changed her name to the more glamorous Marelle) was the vivacious daughter of a master mariner and as unfaithful to Flynn as he was to her, although the two ended up together in later life.

The wilful young beauty Marelle was not cut out for life in a small and wild state, and travelled at every opportunity, sometimes taking her and TT’s daughter Rosemary along with her.
At one stage an upset and lonely Professor Flynn was left alone in Tasmania, with Errol unhappily interned at a London boarding school and Marelle and Rosemary living in France.

Laboratory manager in the University Life Sciences building, Barry Rumbold, wanted to rename the street by Life Sciences TT Flynn Street to commemorate the late professor.

“It used to irk me, because TT was an important and fascinating character and so few people remember him,” Barry said.

His mission was successful, as earlier this year the street was officially renamed TT Flynn Street.

“People alive today have met the man who started biology in Tasmania - At places like Cambridge it’s centuries back, but with us it’s virtually within living memory.

“It’s just one of those things, time goes on, history passes, and the only people who might care or have any knowledge of him have mostly passed on,” Barry said.

Associate Professor Randy Rose, also based in Life Sciences, applauds the street renaming, agreeing that it is important to remember TT Flynn and his many achievements.

Randy sees TT Flynn as an academic inspiration, as Randy’s PhD carried on the work that one of TT’s many scientific papers on bettongs (small nocturnal marsupials) began.

“One particular paper encouraged a lot of people to speculate, including me, to actually go and study the strange little beasts.

“This paper is important, we still quote it today and it was penned in 1930. Some things Professor Flynn couldn’t explain but with modern technology we can now do that,” Randy said.

Another of Professor Flynn’s myriad roles was as a conservationist - he was concerned about depleted bettong numbers and even predicted the demise of the thylacine.

TT wrote in 1928 that he had hundreds of bettongs to study, yet in a paper only two years later wrote: “there is some difficulty in securing specimens and there is inevitability that with the spread of settlement its numbers will be more seriously depleted.”

“He was wrong about certain things concerning the bettong population, which is secure, but he was right in the things he said about the thylacine disappearing,” Randy said.

Randy was lucky enough to stumble upon some of TT’s original texts when he was exploring under the Life Sciences building some thirty odd years ago.

One is a pamphlet about kangaroos apparently aimed at the average citizen.

He also allegedly caused another stir by producing a marsupial from his pocket at a staff dance, an act which earned him a black eye from a less than pleased guest.

“TT Flynn actually wrote things for working men - he wrote quite a lot on marsupials, although not as much on the thylacine,” Randy said.

Randy said that Professor Flynn must have thrived in Tasmania, which would have been like a new world to the NSW native.

“It would have been great for someone like him because everywhere he went and everything he did, there would have been something new and fascinating to study,” Randy said.

Bob Casey, owner of Drifters Café in Salamanca and founder of the Errol Flynn society, is an Errol aficionado but knows quite a bit about his dad too.

“I saw the TT Flynn Street sign up one day and I thought it was good that TT was being recognised. It’s important to remember him; Errol gets all the glory,” Bob said.

As if his academic expertise was not enough, Professor Flynn apparently conducted dancing and fencing classes in Hobart.

“He definitely taught fencing, but the dancing classes are more of a rumour; we don’t know if that’s completely true,” Bob said.

“TT had a few of Errol’s characteristics in that he liked a drink or two and he liked the ladies - and he was always short of money, something that Errol inherited,” Bob said.

Bob said that TT was seen as a rogue of sorts because he was banned from Beaumaris zoo for trading in Tasmanian tigers.

“He knew they were facing extinction but it was considered scientifically immoral and was frowned upon,” Bob said.

By naming a UTAS street after TT Flynn at least some small part of his memory will be cemented into Hobart society.
UTAS based publishing company Quintus, which began in 2005, is well under way with two high-quality titles already released and more on the way.

Quintus Publishing is a partnership between the university and Arts Tasmania and aims to raise the profile of both local literature and the university by producing commercially viable quality books.

Director of publishing at Quintus David Owen said that the beginnings of Quintus are modest but the company is well and truly up and running, with another half a dozen books in the pipeline.

"Quintus publishing is just a university press; it aims to release commercial titles that will assist in us gaining profile in the Australian publishing industry," David said.

The name Quintus is suitably literary, coming from the title of *Quintus Servinton*, a convict-written book from 1830 and is recognised as the first Australian novel.

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The name Quintus is suitably literary, coming from the title of *Quintus Servinton*, a convict-written book from 1830 and is recognised as the first Australian novel. The work is a biographical work of fiction written by Henry Savary, a British business man whose fraudulent dealings almost led to his hanging. Instead, Savary was deported to the Port Arthur penitentiary in Van Diemen's Land.

"We’re going to republish Quintus Servinton next year; it will be a fairly modest print run but it’s an important title."

The first book Quintus released was *Claiming Ground: Twenty-five years of Tasmania’s Arts for Public Buildings Scheme*, edited by the Head of the School of Art, Professor Noel Frankham. Claiming Ground examines public works of art accompanied by insightful text by various contributors.
The second book, Pat Brassington by Anne Marsh, charts the artwork of Brassington, one of Australia’s most respected photo media artists, who obtained her Bachelor and Master of Fine Arts at the Tasmanian University School of Art.

David said that there was a perception that university presses often just recycle old theses, or else are aggressively commercial in their approach to publishing. Quintus will instead focus on publishing books of a particularly high standard.

“One of the hallmarks of Quintus is quality - quality of design, quality of the physical product, and also quality of the text,” David said.

The next Quintus book scheduled for publication next April will be Giving Ground by Dr Libby Lester, a lecturer in the School of Journalism, which will review 40 years of environmental conflict in Tasmania as reported by the media.

While an association with either the university or Tasmania is a plus, Quintus is not limited to publishing books solely by Tasmanians or about Tasmania.

“It’s not going to be a closed shop; I’m quite keen to see what’s out there,” says David.

Renowned Tasmanian artist Pat Brassington's work has been called complex, funny, moving and disturbing - and that's the way she sees the world. 

“Don't you find the world is all of those things, disturbing and complex? That's the arena in which I operate,” she says.

Pat’s altered-photo works are beautiful images that tease, puzzle and delight and even disturb the viewer. And while many turn to a creative act to de-stress, Pat says creating her enigmatic art is far from calming.

“Creating artworks is not relaxing, a fair dose of critical judgment is required.

“There can be frustrating moments. But having said that there can be some satisfaction achieved when an image I'm working on starts to approximate what I envisage in my mind’s eye,” Pat says.

Pat was delighted to be included in the Quintus Tasmanian artist monograph series, saying it is an initiative she applauds.

She even enjoyed the pre-production process.

“In particular the interaction I had with Anne Marsh, the author, and Lynda Warner, the designer … it was a collaborative achievement in many ways and it is a beautiful book.

“Writing for the monograph gave Anne the opportunity to expand on ideas previously hinted at, to flesh out new ones and I was very pleased with the end result,” Pat says.

Pat entered the Tasmanian School of Art as a mature-age student and thrived immediately.

“I dreamed of going on to Art School, a long dreaming – around 18 years.

“Art was my favourite subject during my earlier schooling, and my favourite activity outside of school hours was to draw and paint,” Pat says.

With her work now in demand worldwide at festivals and exhibitions, Pat is currently working on a new series of digital prints, “In my Mother’s House” that will be exhibited in Sydney early next year.

“I shot a roll of film about 10 years ago and it’s taken all this time for me to feel confident enough to do something with them.”
UTAS has launched Australia’s first magazine about … words!
More specifically, typotastic is about typography – the art and techniques of type.

A new publication from the graphic studio at the University of Tasmania’s School of Art, typotastic will be published twice a year. It is the first magazine in the country to be dedicated solely to the critical exploration of typography.

Head of Graphic Design Justy Phillips said the project aims to promote a new level of engagement and interest in critical design writing in Australia, while at the same time celebrating the ‘local’ design community here in Tasmania.

In the introduction, Justy says typotastic will bring readers closer to the eclectic realities of our language:

“In a contemporary culture, punctuated by the pursuits of the fanatic - driven by religion, politics or money - we offer you a different type of devotee - one fuelled by an excessive enthusiasm for typography.”

tytopastic is produced by students and staff of the graphic design studio at the UTAS School of Art, with contributions from Australian and international designers, typographers and writers.
Dr Jane Quon, a Post Doctoral Fellow in the Tasmanian School of Art, Hobart, presented *The Net is Cast* (2006), a screen-based installation at the Zendai Museum of Modern Art, Shanghai, China in August, 2006 as a component of a major international exhibition, ‘Strange Attractors: Charm Between Art and Science’.

*The Net is Cast* was developed by Dr Quon as part of an ARC Linkages project involving UTAS in partnership with the WorldFish Centre, Penang. This project investigates applications of art in the communication of marine-ecological and related social issues, particularly as these affect poor people in developing countries. A ten-minute film was produced in this thematic context. Projected onto five three-metre-long Japanese paper screens, the film presents, in monochromatic, relatively minimalist terms, imagery of traditional Asian fish-traps – beautiful in their simplicity and effectiveness, yet rapidly being rendered obsolete by technological devices. These images have been integrated with penned lines from 16th century Japanese poetry, visualised through allusion to Asian brush-and-ink drawing.

The work was intended to provide a counterpoint to the exploitative ecologically devastating and socially destructive big-industry fishing methods that are wreaking havoc among traditional fishing communities. It presented instead a world – albeit one whose future is problematic – of relative harmony and ecological balance that provides for sustainability of the fishery resource and the ongoing rhythm of life of a community.
“I’m keen for students to develop their inner designer ... I try to push them to justify why they do things.”

By Robert Elliott and Cherie Cooper

Simon Ancher teaches teaching design to design students so they can then go on to teach design.

Sound complicated? Not if you are a passionate designer with a drive to teach, like Simon is.

Simon is a lecturer in the design and technology department of the Education faculty.

He also teaches design in wood and metal, graphic design, and CAD (Computer Assisted Drafting) and design history.

Simon has a Bachelor of Fine Arts with first class honours and a major in furniture design - he has also completed a degree in environmental design.

And if this sounds like enough hard work, that’s not all.

“I’m also a designer and I’ve got one year to go on my architecture degree.

Simon’s designs have been selected for various exhibitions including the Sydney based annual design event “Workshopped”. His work was shown in the nationally touring exhibition Design Island in 2004.

“That was like a sample of Tasmanian design so it was great to be part of that,” Simon said.

He was also involved with the Tasmanian Young Designer’s Month for the past three years.

This year Simon’s entry in the Tasmanian Wood Design Collection Biennial Exhibition won the Premier’s Best in Show award.

“The Tasmanian Wood Design Collection acquired my piece and it becomes part of the permanent collection – there was monetary award too so that was tremendous.”

The work in question was called The Plied Rocker – a rocking chair for the 21st century, Simon described it as a is a chaise-longue for relaxation and thought.
Benches and chairs are a particular passion for Simon. He says he is attracted to the challenge of creating intriguing designs and forms that are functional as well as being visually intriguing.

Simon is currently designing a bench seat in honour of the late entrepreneur Claudio Alcorso, which will be situated at Moorilla Winery.

Simon said that the commission for the sculpture was an absolute honour and he appreciated the opportunity to commemorate Alcorso’s memory.

When viewed from the front the seat looks like a wine bottle on its side, a reference to Claudio’s work in the wine industry.

Simon said that the attention to detail and sophistication of the bench is a reference to the way Claudio presented himself and his refined vineyard.

Simon said that it’s important to involve his students in the process of his designing, showing them his drawings and models before the final piece is revealed.

“It’s more important to have students actually see the process and the finished product rather than just looking at a textbook.

“It’s how design’s generally done; it has a rigorous nature; you don’t just come up with an idea and then make it; you work through that process,” Simon said.

“We’re trying to instigate a design driven approach … so that the kids get an opportunity to design and develop an idea further,” Simon said.

To achieve this, Simon has created a permanent exhibition space within the workshop so that visitors can view the work that students have created, rather than an alienating industrial space.

“It’s going to be quite exciting when we can display a student’s work. When they know it’s going to be on display it raises the standard of work and improves their confidence,” Simon said.

“I’m keen for them to develop their inner designer and they’re only going to do that by having more contact time in the workshop and with me to bounce their ideas off.”

He also tries to push students and make them justify why they’re doing things or why.

“In doing that they’re undertaking design development without even realising.”

For this designer, good design is about fulfilling a need.

“Once you’ve met the brief … if you can make it look so simple that anyone could do it … well that takes skill.”

“Working at the uni is a fantastic opportunity to pass on my knowledge in design.”
A recent exhibition by a Tasmanian artist created new ways to see outback Western Australia.

UTAS Visual Arts graduate Rodney Glick teamed up with fellow artist Lynnette Voevodin to create an exhibition at the Art Gallery of Western Australia called *24Hr Panoramas*.

Video panorama projections – two of which have had international exhibitions – make up the display. The outback scenes were filmed in WA along the Great Eastern Highway, in the Rudall River National Park, and in the Nullarbor along the Indian Pacific railway between Perth and Adelaide.

The projections compress digital video, but don’t shorten time. They present the landscape in twenty-four individual one-hour segments, filmed from twenty-four individual camera positions – each documenting one hour of the day.

The works operate like a large, moving landscape painting to create a vast panorama, in which the entire day can be viewed in a mere 60 minutes. The frame-by-frame structure is never static; movement occurs as shifting detail.

The effect gives a brief review of an enormous subject – a full day in the Australian landscape.

Glick and Voevodin have worked collaboratively on the series since 1999 and were artists-in-residence at Open Studio Ssamzie Space, Seoul, South Korea (2003), and worked in England (2006) at Stour Valley Art Project and as artists-in-residence at King’s Wood, Challock, Kent County. In 2006 Rodney Glick was the first Australian invited to participate in the Apexart Residency Program in New York.

The exhibition runs until 21 January 2007.
Dr Keith McVilly has dedicated his studies to understanding those who have been marginalised and misunderstood. The former UTAS School of Psychology student, and more recently a PhD graduate of the University of Sydney, has focused his research on understanding the needs of people with intellectual disabilities.

Keith says it is the challenges inherent in his work which keep him going.

"Many people do find working or socialising with people who appear different, such as people with disability as off-putting," Dr McVilly said.

"When people are willing to accept difference within our communities, we discover how similar we all are."

This outlook and Keith’s honest approach to humanity have contributed to developing a tool to assess loneliness in adults with intellectual disability.

The tool was developed as part of Keith’s PhD thesis: *I get by with a little help from my friends; adults with intellectual disability discuss friendship*, which explored the friendship aspirations and experiences of adults with an intellectual disability.

His work won him the Australian Psychology Society’s 2005 Award for a thesis in the field of relationships.

The flashcard-style tool for gauging friendship was developed from a tool used to investigate loneliness in children.

Relationships have been identified by the World Health Organisation as a significant factor associated with a person’s mental and physical health. While there has been a history of researching relationships, in particular friendship networks within the general population, little attention has been paid to the social relationships experienced by persons with intellectual disability.

In his work as a clinical psychologist, Keith says that a frequent theme that popped up in adults with an intellectual disability was a lack of stability in a meaningful relationship.

"By supporting a person to develop meaningful relationships, behaviours naturally changed for the better," Keith said.

Those who did not have stable friendships were more prone to anxiety and depression.

Keith selected friendship as the focus of his research over more clinical foci as he felt that researchers have for too long pathologised people with disability.

“The friendship study was about elucidating the human qualities, needs and aspirations of people with disability that clinicians and the wider society commonly ignore," Keith said.

“I chose to focus my research on adults with intellectual disability because this is a group in our community who are poorly understood … and as a consequence are both socially isolated and politically marginalised.

“I hope to better understand the social needs of people with disability, which my research suggests is not that different from the needs of the rest of the community.”

“I think people’s lack of recognition to the common humanity that we all share contributes to the lack of understanding within this field," he said.

Keith’s research was conducted via a series of focus groups involving intellectually disabled adults from self-advocacy groups and those attending TAFE colleges.

McVilly says that he would not have had as solid an academic grounding in psychology if there had not been a little help from his friend, UTAS mentor Dr Rosanne Burton-Smith.

“Dr Burton-Smith first opened my mind to the possibility of work and research in the field of intellectual disability through her undergraduate teaching,” Keith said.

“Dr Burton-Smith first opened my mind to the possibility of work and research in the field of intellectual disability through her undergraduate teaching,” Keith said.

“She encouraged me to become involved in field research … that led me to pursue working within this field,” said Dr McVilly.

Keith is currently working as a lecturer in disability studies in the School of Heath Science at RMIT University in Melbourne.
Friends are very important to Tony Hogg. From his home in Brisbane, he keeps in touch with far-flung friends all around the world, hatching plans to visit them whenever he can.

His links to Japan in particular are very strong. Although retired, the friendships he forged more than 30 years ago have sent him to Japan no less than three times in the past year, thanks to very fond memories - and an eagerness to not let distance make him a stranger.

A consummate diplomat – well-read, well-travelled and widely experienced – Tony has an astounding mind and astonishing general knowledge capped off with wide-ranging interests, including a passionate love of jazz music. In fact his most recent Japan jaunt was solely for mingling at a music festival, a weekend that saw Tony “saturated in jazz”.

Making a trip to Japan purely for some concerts one might be forgiven for thinking that Tony Hogg is Japanese, but while the country was home to Hogg for many years, and provided both his first and last postings as an Australian overseas diplomat, Tony is a proud Launceston lad.

Like so many Tasmanians, however, Tony felt a restless urge to discover bigger things.

“In many ways Tasmania is idyllic, but from a very early age I had a driving passion to go overseas. I had a feeling of being isolated in Tasmania, of not being part of the world.” Little wonder then that the diplomatic corps beckoned young Tony in the early 70s.

Attending the University of Tasmania in Hobart in the 60s, Tony majored in Economics and German. Like many students, he was particularly inspired by one of his lecturers, whose fascinating life story sparked Tony’s interest in the Japanese language.

“My German teacher had been a lecturer at the University of Tokyo during the war and I began to learn Japanese with the help of a Japanese-German dictionary,” he laughs.

Realising Tony’s linguistic talent, his friends persuaded him to study Japanese seriously and Tony made the second of his many upheavals, moving to Canberra to study Japanese at the then quite new Australian National University.

Applying to the diplomatic corps as a graduate with language skills in 1971, Tony was appointed First Secretary in the commercial section of the Australian Embassy in Japan. He was in his early 30s and had hardly travelled overseas – but for the next twenty-odd years he would call countries other than Australia home.

“The 70s were a very exciting time to be working in Japan,” Tony says.

“As the UK turned to Europe, Australia turned to Asia. The Australian dollar weakened, so there were more opportunities to sell our things here. I also worked with an Australian trading company in Tokyo, and that gave me a lot of practical experience, actual market experience that set me on my way.”

Those early Japan years gave Tony an enduring interest in the region. Travelling extensively, and often alone, he observed and learned all he could at every opportunity, such was his thirst for cultural knowledge and life experience.

But before Tony could get too comfortable in Japan, the Australian government posted him to Baghdad.

This posting opened up the entire Middle East to him.
“It was a very special time in my life. After Japan, there was a marked culture shock in day-to-day living in Baghdad. Foreigners forged very intense friendships because of our circumstances. Only those living through those experiences can truly understand.” The bonds of friendship were so strong that Tony and friends from Baghdad days still schedule regular reunions.

Tony also travelled extensively throughout Iraq, though each trip required special clearances. He moved more freely around other Middle Eastern countries, studying their histories and absorbing their customs. “I explored as much as I could,” he reminisces. “I’ve been fascinated by the region ever since.”

Next came Yugoslavia, and his years there gave him still more insights into other lifestyles before Japan called him back to what was for him “a very unusual posting.” He was appointed Consul General in Osaka, where his responsibilities were suddenly widened far beyond the commercial and trade roles in which he had specialised.

When the inevitable arrived and it was time for Tony to retire from Commonwealth duties the Queensland Government Commission immediately offered the far-from-retirement-ready Tony a job in Tokyo.

“I accepted with alacrity.” Tony says.

“I was to do at State level what I had once done with a trading company. Queensland had several major projects in trade and investment. I would like to think that in my career I helped many Australian businesses to success in Japan.”

Now finally retired, he still travels with unquenched curiosity, just as he did when he was working. In 2005 he toured central Asia, adding to his “spread of countries”, always looking, listening and delving into their cultures. Today his mother, at 91, still wonders why he cannot stay still. “Tasmania is very nice, dear,” she tells him on a visit home, and he agrees. “Yet,” he says, “I am thankful for the advice I received many years ago to study Japanese.”

Adapted from an article by VIVIENNE KENRICK

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A Welcome and a Farewell

The University of Tasmania is delighted to announce the appointment of the new Chancellor of the University, Mr Damian Bugg AM, QC.

Deputy Chancellor, Dr Martyn Forrest said Mr Bugg was elected unanimously by the University Council following an extensive search.

Mr Bugg has served on the University Council since September 2001.

He was born in Tasmania and attended school and university in Hobart and was admitted to the Bar of the Supreme Court of Tasmania in 1969. He was Senior Litigation Partner in the Hobart law firm Dobson, Mitchell and Allport when he was appointed the first Director of Public Prosecutions for Tasmania in July 1986. He took silk in 1994.

He has been President of the Bar Association of Tasmania, Chairman of the Legal Assistance Scheme and a Member of the Council of the Law Society of Tasmania. He was a Member of the Council of the Australian Institute of Judicial Administration for 9 years and is currently President and a Board Member of the Canadian based International Society for the Reform of Criminal Law.

In 1998 Mr Bugg was made a Fellow of the University of Tasmania and was appointed Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions in August 1999.

Dr Forrest also paid tribute to the outgoing Chancellor Dr Michael Vertigan AC who served two full terms as Chancellor with great distinction.

"Interaction with staff and students has been a feature of Dr Vertigan’s term. His professionalism has been coupled with great warmth and humility and it has been a pleasure working with him."

"The university has benefited from his significant experience in corporate governance, and his cooperative approach and outstanding commitment to UTAS were a hallmark of his service," Dr Forrest said.

Dr Vertigan has held the position of Chancellor of the University of Tasmania since October 1998. He was made a Companion of the Order of Australia in 2004 and awarded a Centenary of Federation Medal in 2001.

Innovation Celebration

In September, the Premier of Tasmania, the Hon. Paul Lennon officially opened the university’s ground-breaking Australian Innovation and Research Centre (AIRC).

The AIRC was founded at the University of Tasmania this year with a substantial commitment of resources from the university, the Tasmanian Government and several private donors.

Mr Lennon said innovation is vital for growing the Tasmanian economy.

"Professors Jonathan West and Keith Smith and their colleagues will contribute fresh ideas to Tasmania’s and Australia’s policy-makers, business leaders and the public to improve innovation, entrepreneurial performance and economic development."

"Already, NSW Premier Morris Iemma has announced he will draw upon the expertise of the AIRC for advice on restructuring the NSW economy and the New Zealand Ministry of Economic Development has also called on the AIRC for advice on its innovation-based development strategy," Mr Lennon said.

UTAS Vice-Chancellor, Professor Daryl Le Grew said the AIRC will help take Tasmanian innovation to the world.

"This is an international centre working out of Tasmania.

"This centre can conduct research on the Tasmanian economy which can then be transferred to the global picture. We are the perfect model for regional or city-state economies.

"Tasmania has a wellspring of talent across a whole raft of academic disciplines which then feed into industry sectors.

"The AIRC will show how a community this size can make its mark on the world," Professor Le Grew said. Collaboration agreements have been concluded with the Australia and New Zealand School of Government and with the Melbourne University Business School. In Europe, the AIRC will be a participant in the EU Network of Excellence.
The Australian Maritime College will soon be affiliated with the University of Tasmania.

UTAS and the AMC recently signed a heads of agreement which sets out the basis on which the UTAS/AMC integration will proceed. This follows a period of detailed discussion between UTAS, the AMC and the government agencies responsible for the two institutions.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Daryl Le Grew, said the integration, which is subject to Australian Government approval, would strengthen the overall provision of maritime and maritime-related education and training in Tasmania.

The Acting President of the AMC, Professor Tom Hardy said that at no time in Australian history has the need for high-quality maritime education, training and research been so starkly evident.

"By joining forces with the University of Tasmania, AMC, as Australia’s national maritime institute, will be able to reallocate resources to lead the way in several areas of vital importance to our economic well-being, national security and protection of the marine environment," he said.

Integration offers opportunities for staff and students through a renewed or enhanced range of undergraduate and postgraduate courses and research activities. There will be no involuntary redundancies of employees of the AMC as a direct result of the integration.

The AMC will remain based on its current sites. There will be a period of transition in 2007 during which finalisation of funding, governance and other implementation arrangements will take place. Formal integration is planned from 1 January 2008.

Professor Malek Pourzanjani has just started in his role of Principal of the AMC. The Vice-Chancellor said Professor Pourzanjani’s academic record and experience in maritime studies fitted perfectly with the UTAS/AMC affiliation business case.

"Professor Pourzanjani is a distinguished maritime scholar and expert, until recently based at the World Maritime University in Sweden.

"I would like to commend the work of Acting Principal Professor Peter Boyce and the Council of the AMC who have worked tirelessly to ensure the affiliation process has moved forward as smoothly as possible."
William David Joske 1928 - 2006

William David Joske was born in Melbourne on 4 July 1928. Bill began as the youngest pupil at Melbourne Grammar where he remained until his matriculation in 1945. In his final year he won the school prizes in English Literature, Geography and Debating. At age thirteen Bill contracted polio, and boxing was prescribed to help strengthen the wasted leg muscles. Bill proved so successful at the sport that he became the Australian Universities bantamweight champion in 1946, and a Full Blue in his first year at Melbourne University. At Melbourne Bill studied philosophy, winning the Exhibition in the discipline, and in due course completing his BA, MA and PhD. Bill worked for a time in the Inquiry Office of the State Library of Victoria. He completed his PhD dissertation studying under the supervision of Professor AC (Camo) Jackson at the University of Melbourne.

In 1967, Bill was in Oxford on an Australian Nuffield Research Fellowship in the Humanities, and in that year he also published his main work, Material Objects. He held academic positions at Western Australian, Melbourne and Monash universities before being appointed to the Chair in Philosophy at the University of Tasmania in 1969. The Chair had been vacant since the dismissal of Professor Sidney Orr in 1955, and Bill’s appointment was crucial in enabling the rebuilding of Philosophy at the University of Tasmania.

His career at UTAS was an illustrious one. He was a well-loved teacher, and his commitment and ability were recognised by a Teaching Excellence Award in 1991. In addition to serving on a number of important committees, he chaired the Professorial Board in 1982 and 1983, was Dean of the Faculty of Arts in 1970-72, and 1978-79, and University Ombudsman from 1985-92. For many years, he represented the University on the State Library Board of Tasmania which he chaired from 1977-82. He also gave great service to Jane Franklin Hall as both a Fellow and a member of Council for over two decades eventually being made a Fellow Emeritus of the College.

Bill was a much-respected figure within the wider philosophical community, and was elected President of the Australasian Association of Philosophy in 1969-70. Bill maintained a close relationship with the School of Philosophy, and UTAS, up until the time of his death; he will be greatly missed, but his contribution will not be forgotten.

Bill is survived by his wife, Helen, and three children – Fiona, a doctor, Caroline, a lawyer, and Stephen, an economist, four grandchildren, and his only brother, Richard, Emeritus Professor of Medicine at the University of Western Australia.

Wendy Edith Smith 1938 - 2005

Many former staff and students at the University of Tasmania will be sad to learn that the former Director of the University of Tasmania’s Child Care Centre died in 2005. Wendy was a popular and much loved staff member of the centre and her own children are still stopped in the street as people recall Wendy’s smile and kind nature.

Wendy considered herself fortunate professionally; she adored children and her work life revolved around them. Her staff at the centre were friends, loyal and supportive even though they were aware there was a problem towards the end of her directorship. Sadly, Wendy was not diagnosed as having Alzheimer’s disease until two years after her retirement in 1994, aged only 56.

At home Wendy’s life revolved around her husband Graham, her beloved father Arthur Parr (dec) (Snowy, the ex-caretaker from Friends school) and 5 children and 11 grandchildren. Wendy was a surrounded by close friends throughout her life as she had a sunny nature, was very caring and loving, and happily spared a lot of time for everyone. As her disease progressed, Wendy was cared for in her final years by a loving team at Mary’s Grange Nursing Home until her death.

Wendy was a beautiful person and family and friends miss her but no-one will ever forget such a special person. If anyone wants to remember Wendy, there is a rose dedicated to her in the new rose garden at the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens – so pop by and say “Hello!” – I’m sure Mum will smile back!

By Ceri Flowers, Wendy’s daughter
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