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A bulletin from QUT Foundation Inc., GPO Box 2434, Brisbane 4001 Tel (07) 223 2821

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Phantom Club president remembers QUT marketing lecturer's tips

Looking for something different to give a loved one? A QUT business graduate could have just the answer - an annual membership to The Phantom Club.

President of the Independent Phantom Club of Australia, Mr John Hendersen, 33, established the club with himself as president a year after graduating in 1980. He says a fascination for the "Ghost who walks" is almost ingrained in Australian society.

Membership figures suggest he is correct. More than 5000 Phantom enthusiasts from throughout Australia presently belong to the club. Through Phantom Comic advertisements and word of mouth an additional 1000 join every year.

"Membership is a status symbol - fans are quietly proud to support the Phantom," John said.

But he recognises that not everyone identifies with the hero.

"Phantom fans share the Phantom's retiring character and admire his dedication to crime fighting.

"The Phantom has strength that is only displayed when necessary, a social responsibility, a sense of humour, but most importantly for Australians, he is a quiet achiever," John said.

He said the Phantom was not a superhero and credibility, especially in the early comics and stories, was essential.

The Phantom's fans do not dress in look-a-like outfits, drive a Phantom rendition of the Batmobile or mock their hero in any way.

However, there are a couple of ways a member could identify another.

"Firstly there is the Phantom Club Member salute, to be followed by a secret password, changed regularly to outsmart roughnecks and imposters," John said.

His office - a suburban skull cave - is littered with "Save the Daintree" stickers and conservation posters. "That's no coincidence because the Phantom's homeland is in the jungle," he said. "You didn't know his homeland was in the jungle?"

John slipped a carefully typed note explaining the history of the Phantom story (fact and fiction) across the table. It read: "In 1550 a large British merchant ship was attacked by notorious Singh Pirates off the remote shores of Bangalla. (Where?) With the merchant captain was his son, Kit. Only the boy survived the pirate battle and friendly pygmies nursed him to health. Devastated, he later took the Oath of the Skull to destroy piracy, greed, cruelty and injustice."

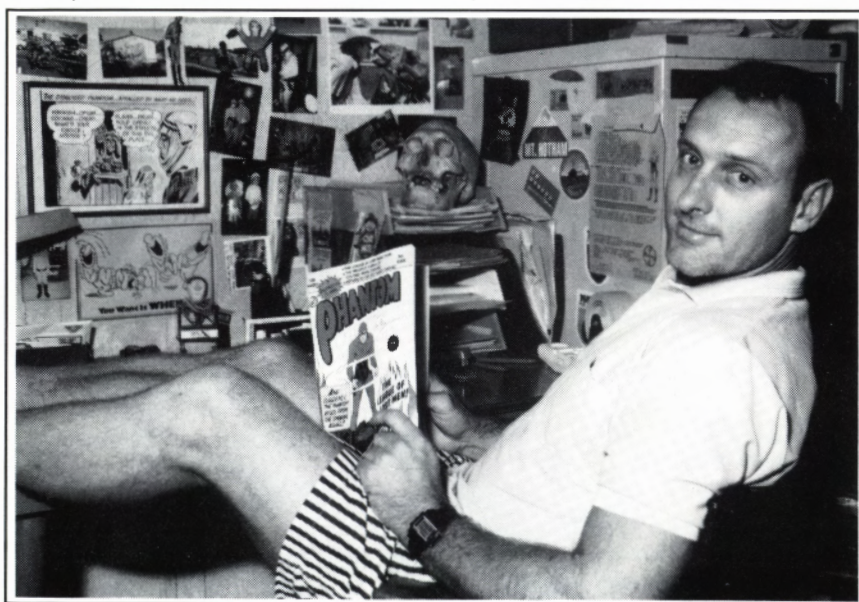
His descendants also lived by the oath - and the Phantom lives on.

Despite the ever increasing number of members, John said: "If your primary goal is to make money, do something else!" Being his own boss and a dedication to Phantom ideals has kept him going.

"I'd do it all over again but slightly differently. I've made some expensive mistakes in time, money and effort, but the only way to learn is to dive in the deep end," he said.

He said QUT gave him a valuable education: "The best thing I learnt was an appreciation that always the customer was right."

Lecturer Mr Su Mon Wong taught him such things: "I can still recall many of his marketing tips. From his advice I realised I should never refer to members as clients or customers. They are loyal fans and therefore friends - members of the big Phantom family," John said.



President of the Phantom Club, Mr John Hendersen, reads up on his hero

The face on a thousand brochures

by Liz Rivers

QUT communication graduate, Ms Niki Charalambous, has become the face on thousands of brochures.

She, together with management lecturer, Mr Bill Edwards, volunteered to don graduate robes for the front cover shot of the Foundation's "Keep in touch" pamphlet.

Now QUT's Public Affairs Officer, she was humbled (and maybe a little flattered) when requested to do an interview.

"I'm used to organising photographs and conducting interviews, not being the subject," she objected.

Niki has been a Foundation member since graduating in 1985, so it was fitting that she appeared on the brochure which invites graduates and friends of QUT also to take up membership.

When asked if posing for the photograph was beyond the normal call of duty, she said that although her work was important, more important was a balanced lifestyle: "Too much work is dangerous to your health, professional aspirations and family."

That theme is reinforced by Niki's office surroundings. Tutankhamen (or at least a poster of him) adorns the wall above her desk - a reminder of a recent trip to Egypt.

"It's not a country for a lone woman - we're easy targets as a source of money and wonderment for the locals. Another lady and I were chased through a field by three Arabs on bikes - really scary," she said.

Photographs of friends and postcards of other distant wanderings are displayed near an ornate plate depicting a typical Greek scene. An inscription on the plate reads "From Greece with love".

Charalambous is a Greek name and Niki is fiercely proud of her heritage. She admitted to having had dreams of owning a coffee shop in the Greek Islands.



Communication graduate, Ms Niki Charalambous, displays the "Keep in touch" brochures

"I intend to travel Europe again when I finish my Master of Business Management, hopefully at the end of next year," she said.

That is not why she is studying, however.

"I enjoyed tutoring first year communication students a couple of years ago and thought that if I wanted to lecture in the future I would need higher qualifications," Niki said.

Study has forced her to adopt a "one day at a time" philosophy.

"Working and studying at a university teaches you to look at alternative ideas objectively. It might sound corny but it's broadened my mind," she said.

QUT is home to her, having spent more time at university than anywhere else. She said: "When I was a student I used to think that I should bring a sleeping bag to uni and park it outside the library at night but students are too poor to buy sleeping bags."

It was ironic that Niki had to shed her high heels and stand on building blocks for the "Keep in touch" cover shot in order to achieve the sought after, successful business image.

This journalist was granted a request for an autographed copy of the brochure. It will be cherished - until the very day Ms Charalambous gains the fame I pray will come her way.

Young graduates hammer out multi-million computer products at Anvil Designs

Cardboard boxes lined the narrow corridors leading into the offices of Anvil Designs, an innovative Brisbane computer company in which QUT graduates play a large part.

Anvil Design's Director of International Business and QUT engineering graduate, Mr Tony Merenda, apologised - something to do with moving to larger premises. The step reflected Anvil Designs' climb to success.

In just four years the company which Tony helped establish has grown from selling IBM clones to producing a range of unique computer products.

All four directors, including Mr Kim Laurie, another QUT engineering graduate, worked for Hartley Paxus computers in 1985 when that company dreamt of developing international hardware and software in Australia.

Anvil Designs is now striving to become the future Australian captain of UNIX (an operating system) and looks certain to succeed. Turn-over for 1990 is expected to top \$10 million.

Tony partly attributed the success to the growth in US sales. Anvil Designs hopes eventually to capture 20 percent of the American UNIX market. So confident is the company that it recently opened an office in Silicon Valley - the big time.

The most astounding piece of Anvil Designs trivia does not concern figures or even products, but the youth of its people. Tony, himself awaiting a 29th birthday, admitted the company was founded on the enthusiasm of the young.

Kim Laurie who is working from the American office is older. He is already 29. Only a third director, Bob Waldie, and a couple of accounting and administration staff are significantly older.

The majority of the 37 staff working in Brisbane are aged between 22 and 28.

Software engineer, Mr David Hudson, is typical of the youngest section of Anvil Designs' employees. He graduated from QUT in computer science last year. During his course he took a year off to work for the Northern Rivers electricity board in New South Wales.

Anvil Designs has already sent him to England, a growing market, and to the US for software development training. He was adamant that Anvil was his home for a few years: "The company structure means that you're moved from one project to another on the first's completion."

Mr Craig Humphrey, an electronic systems engineer, graduated the year before David. He worked for a computer automated brick factory before applying at Anvil Designs.

"About the same time as shift work was starting to get to me I heard Anvil were looking for computer engineers," he said.

Craig's memories of QUT faded

after graduation night - the highlight of his education: "I liked those gowns. They symbolised the end of a long road and the start of a career where someone was actually going to pay me."

Although electronics engineer Mr Steve Novak graduated alongside Tony and Kim in 1981, he is in his infancy at Anvil Designs. Having joined two months ago, Steve brought to the company years of varied engineering experience and an insight into Britain and Europe.

He speaks fluent French, is studying Italian, has lived in England and knows the European scene.

Tony said Anvil Designs needed people like Steve in the US and Europe for product development and service support.

Steve is also working towards a QUT Master of Medical Physics.

He displayed a confidence in Anvil Designs that was invigorating. "The firm has only just begun and the sky is the limit. I believe it could grow to have a \$100 million turnover," he said.



Part of the Anvil Designs crew, (from left) Mr Craig Humphrey, Mr Tony Merenda, Mr Damon Kelly and Mr Steve Novak.

Nurses have a ball at dinner dance

More than 60 nursing graduates and friends danced the evening away at the Nursing Alumni inaugural dinner dance at the Park Royal on 30 November.

The dinner dance was the alumni's first large get together.

Nursing Alumni president, Ms Annette Anning, said: "The accent was on having fun. Although we were small in number, we were large in life."

She said the band was appropriately named "Standing room only" and the fact that it was a week night deterred nobody.

"People were still dancing to every-

thing from Buddy Holly to modern music until midnight," she said.

The heads of Brisbane and the Gold Coast nursing schools accepted invitations. They were: Ms Carol Swendson from BCAE Carseldine, Ms Elizabeth Davies from McAuley College, Mr Pierre Baume from the Gold Coast CAE and Ms Joan Penridge from QUT.

Engineering alumni members joined their sisters to celebrate. The Nursing Alumni, the second such QUT association to be established, was formed earlier this year - 18 months after the Engineering Alumni was set up. The two now have a close relationship.

Party jazzed-up members' Christmas

Foundation members, eager to join the spirit of Christmas, attended their Christmas party on 14 November.

The party was the first of many held on campus. About 100 members mixed and mingled to have the celebration heralded a success.

A jazz rendition of "Oh come all ye faithful", played by a four piece band called Squeaky Clean, added the final touch to the festive atmosphere.

Santa Claus visited with chocolates. Alias Mr Henk Smit, Santa was the husband of Ms Gwen Smit, Development Office secretary and co-organiser of the party.

President of the QUT Foundation, Mr Bill Blair, welcomed members and their guests before briefly reflecting on the Foundation's successes during 1989.



Santa, Mr Henk Smit, with his wife, Gwen, at the party.

Employer gives return ticket to QUT

Saunders Havill Associates, a Brisbane surveying firm, has awarded a QUT graduate employee a bursary to return to the university for further study.

Mr Michael Kleine, 26, graduated with a Bachelor of Applied Science - Surveying in 1986.

The bursary will allow him to return to QUT for the one year full-time Graduate Diploma of Surveying Practice.

At its completion he will be eligible for a surveying licence.

He joined Saunders Havill three years before he graduated, when he was completing what has affectionately become known as the "sandwich" course in surveying. No longer offered, the course allowed students to alternate periods of study with periods of full-time work.

New Engineering Alumni president

Engineering alumni thanks Mr Chris Murphy of CMPS for being its first president and welcomes in the new president, Mr Tony Smith of Telecom.



Members' breakfasts

A Foundation members' breakfast was held on 2 November with the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dennis Gibson. Members enjoyed croissants, cereal, yoghurts and fresh fruit while listening to Professor Gibson talk on amalgamation proceedings and his predictions for the Queensland tertiary scene into the next decade.



More alumni on the way

Science and Law have had preliminary talks on the establishment of faculty alumni.



Associate student membership

The Foundation has introduced a free student membership. Students undertaking their first full-time course can become associate members and as such will be invited to Foundation functions where they can meet graduates and captains of industry, and receive newsletters and publications. Further information is available from the Development Office on 223 2147.



Foundation

Mugs, ties and shirts

QUT has a new university tie - cousin to the old school tie.

Woven from practical polyester and made in Australia, the ties are navy blue with tiny white polka dots and sport a small QUT logo in the lower left corner.

QUT coffee mugs and polo shirts complete the set - tie for work, polo shirt for play and coffee mug to help escape exhaustion from too much work and play.

The Bonds polo shirts come in a range of sizes and an assortment of colours to suit both the trendy wearer and the more conservative buyer.

These are available from the QUT Foundation Office. Phone Trudy Levanes on (07) 223 2821.

Mail orders can be made but items are less expensive if collected from campus.

Prices shown are at a discount for members.



Order Form

If you would like to order QUT memorabilia please fill in the order form and send it to the QUT Foundation, GPO Box 2434, Brisbane 4001. Enquiries can be directed to the Foundation Office, Trudy Levanes on (07) 223 2821.

Orders will be mailed directly to you but mugs must be collected from the Foundation Office, U Block, QUT. Prices quoted include mailing costs (allow three weeks). If you want to collect from campus, please phone the Foundation Office for details.

Name:
 Address: Postcode
 Phone:(W)

I wish to order: (place number in boxes provided)

Bonds Polo shirts \$25.00	Mugs <input type="checkbox"/> \$5.00
size	Ties <input type="checkbox"/> \$15.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 90	<input type="checkbox"/> yellow
<input type="checkbox"/> 100	<input type="checkbox"/> white
<input type="checkbox"/> 110	<input type="checkbox"/> green
<input type="checkbox"/> 120	<input type="checkbox"/> red

My cheque for \$....., payable to the QUT Foundation, accompanies this order.

Visa (tick) Card Number: _____
 Bankcard
 Mastercard _____

Signature _____

Keeping in touch

QUT Foundation has had a tremendous response from members who may be found in New York City, the United Kingdom, Indonesia, Sydney and the Sunshine Coast.



Leonie Sue Adams

BBus (Management) 1988, Director/Consultant of Entex Pty Ltd, a marketing and management consulting firm. Ph. 8521377 or (018) 732 045 (mobile).

Ross Benn

BAppSc (Built Environment) 1989, Artist with Reg Childs Advertising at New Farm. Ph. 358 3318.

Ian Cargill

BEng (Mech) 1977, BEng (Elec) 1988, Software Engineer with Wyatts Limited in the United Kingdom. Ph. (0372) 844 270.

Nicki Csorba

BBus (Comm) 1986, PRO Projects for Government Electricity Company, London.

Quentin Doyle

LLB 1984, Partner with Heiner and Doyle Solicitors. Ph. (071) 917 877.

Lyn Friend

BBus (Comm) 1984, Public Relations Officer with the Water Resources Commission in Brisbane. Ph. 224 7358.

Ross Gibbins

BEng (Civil) 1979, Fields Contracts - Controls Engineer with Pt Jaya Kinhill Arkonin. Kinhill Engineers are engineering managers for infrastructure construction of the largest coal mine in Indonesia. He also says, "there are no phones in the jungles of Borneo".

Simon Gilliland

BBus (Comm) 1982, Principal of The Newsletter Shop, a public relations business specialising in newsletters. Ph. 398 5955. Simon says, "its great to hear what other graduates are doing".

Sujit Das Gupta

BEng (Elect) 1983, GradDip Business Administration 1988, Instruments/Electrical Engineer with Incitec/ACF and Shirleys. Ph. 390 9814.

Lindy Hart

AssocDip Applied Biology 1984, Technical Assistant - Plant Breeding with CSIRO, Division of Tropical Crops and Pastures. Ph. 289 1169.

Scarlett Hodgman

BBus (Comm) 1986, Account Manager/Director with The Practice - Public Relations Consultants in London.

Michelle Hutton

BBus (Comm), 1987, Senior Consultant with Network Communications in Sydney. Ph. (02) 959 3801. Michelle reports that three QUT graduates are employed in Network's Sydney office.

Philip Knight

BBus (Management) 1982, Research Manager - Group Strategic Planning with ANZ Banking Corporation in Melbourne. Ph. (03) 658 1556. Philip is interested in hearing from other management graduates from his era.

Nigel Martin

BEng (Mech) 1987, Lubrication Sales Engineer with BP Oil, Brisbane. Ph. 225 9113.

Ivan McDonald

Dip Architecture 1984, Principal of Ivan McDonald Architect. Ph. 254 1178.

Steve Powell

BEng (Elect) 1968, Manager for Aged Care at the Baptist Community Service, Brisbane. Ph. 252 9540.

Michael Power

BBus (Comm) 1977, Training manager NSW/Qld for McDonalds System of Australia Limited, Sydney. Ph. (02) 875 6666.

Deborah Prior

DipAppSc (Nursing Education) 1983, is designer and coordinator for a Hospice Palliative Care course for registered nurses - a joint Queensland Cancer Fund, Mt Olivet Hospital and Blue Nursing Service project. Ph. 391 6199.

Kim Raymond

BAppSci (Built Environment), GradDip (Architecture) 1979, Manager of Champion Services Inc, New York City. Ph. (718) 782 7000. Kim has been living in New York since 1982 and started an architectural woodwork and interior construction company in 1984.

Graham Stenton

LLB, 1987, Company Solicitor for Perpetual Trusts Qld Ltd. Ph. 834 5656. Graham manages the Wills Department and advises the company on company law developments and matters affecting trust administration.

Vicki Twigg

Certificate Biological Laboratory Techniques 1978, screener at Drs Sullivan and Nicolaidis. Vicki's son has a law degree from QUT and her husband who was one of the original students of QIT when it was first established, has an engineering degree.

Peter White

BAppSci (Chemistry) 1989, environmental scientist with the Queensland Electricity Commission in Brisbane. Ph. 228 7316. Peter would be interested in establishing professional contacts with other graduates in the environmental/safety field.



Similar notes will be published in each issue of "QUT Links", but your help is required. Either fill in the Response Card on this page or ring the Development Office.

KEEP IN TOUCH RESPONSE CARD

Name (please print)

Degree(s)

Year(s) of graduation

Company/Organisation

Position

Phone

News

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I am happy for this information to appear in "QUT Links".

Signature Date

