Tocal’s 50th Anniversary Success

A big weekend was held at Tocal to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of the College and agricultural education on the property. Over 600 people visited the Campus and undertook tours and were part of the Saturday night Shindig.

“Guests returned from right across the country from every state and territory”. Dr Cameron Archer, Tocal College Principal said. “We are absolutely delighted with the turnout and support for Tocal”.

A group of the first fifteen students were also present and took part in a ceremonial tree planting with the College’s first Principal, Rev. Dr Colin Ford, along with long-time farmer and supporter, Mr Eric Holiday OAM.

“Guests were treated to a large bonfire, fire drums and then a spectacular firework show at 9pm on Saturday night. The event brought people together who had not seen each other for many years”. Dr Archer said. The Tocal property is a great attraction for students as they work and live on it for their period as full time residential students. They enjoyed getting back across the property and seeing the changes which have occurred.

The weekend also saw the establishment of a new organisation; the Tocal Alumni which will include ex-students, former staff and community members who have an interest in Tocal. The Alumni will be an integral part of the College’s operation in the future. A working party has been established to create the Alumni and formally launch it at Foundation Day in November. The creation of the Alumni is a part of the maturation of Tocal and creates a foundation for the future.

The 50th Anniversary celebrations could not have occurred without the outstanding commitment of staff, students and also the contractors who provide many services to Tocal. The weekend coincided with Peek into the Past at Tocal Homestead. This was also most successful with a record crowd attending.

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