

Submission Regarding Building C Block – Timber Demountable Ballina Coast High School

The building known as C Block is the Ballina High School historic timber building located on the north side of the aquaculture shed, adjacent to the main oval. Over the years, it has been used for many purposes.

In the Project Overview on Page 9 Appendix C Development Plan Part B, the building is labelled "Future Agriculture," "Garden Store," and "Outdoor Equipment Store." I believe that a timber building is not suitable to store petrol operated garden and outdoor equipment, oils and chemicals for agriculture and garden use. Currently, there is a double colourbond shed between the Marine Discovery Centre and the Hospitality complex, accessible from Martin Street and from the school playground. This shed has always been used to house the tractor (prior to the zero turn being purchased), ride on mower/s, push mowers, garden equipment, tools etc.

The *Ballina Schools' Historical Society Inc.* has requested that the classroom known as C1 of this timber building be made available to store the Ballina High School extensive memorabilia, as well as memorabilia from feeder schools in the Ballina shire. The Principal of Ballina Coast High School, Ms Janeen Silcock, is extremely supportive of this request and can see the merit in locating the huge amount of items on the new school site in Classroom C1. Ms Janeen Silcock is a former Ballina High School student graduate and former executive teacher at Ballina High School. The current Principal of Ballina High School, Mr Daniel Henman, is also supportive of this request.

C Block is a building remembered by staff and students back to the early 1950's. The building is ideally situated for the purpose of storing the Ballina Schools' Historical Society Inc.'s collection. The collection has been donated by former staff, students, families of former staff and students and community members. Over the farewell to Ballina High School weekend in November 2016, it was estimated by the media that over 4,000 people visited the school during the weekend and entered the school library where a plethora of interesting items and photographs were on display. Some visitors spent several hours searching through newsclips, school magazines and school publications.

Over the years, there has been great interest in the Ballina High School memorabilia, archives and honour boards. The Ballina High School 75th anniversary weekend, brought former staff and students from all over Australia and the world, as did the farewell weekend in 2016. This is evidenced in the information that many visitors recorded on the registers at these two events.

The membership of the newly formed *Ballina Schools' Historical Society Inc.* is growing rapidly. The Society is now registered with ATO as a charity. Office Bearers and members of the Society are former staff, executive, teaching and support; former students, including the Mayor of Ballina Shire, David Wright; former and current Ballina High School P&C Presidents and community members interested in retaining the proud history of public education in the Ballina Shire, in particular, secondary education.

On behalf of the *Ballina Schools' Historical Society Inc.*, I request that the classroom space C1 be made available to the society for the purpose of displaying and storing the Ballina High School and other Ballina Shire school memorabilia. The remaining two rooms of the building could be used for "Future Agriculture" and storage.

Alison Draper

*Student from the 1960's and a retired casual Ballina High School Teacher
Member of Ballina Schools' Historical Society Inc.*