

KEN GOODLET CV

1. I graduated from the University of Sydney in 1960 and 1961 in Arts and Education respectively, majoring in English, History and Anthropology. Asian History was a major component of my history course.
2. I taught my majors in NSW schools from the beginning of 1961 until early 1965, when I, with my wife Jan and our two small children, left Australia to teach at St Patrick's Secondary School in Tawau, where I was Vice Principal from 1966 until the end of 1972 when I returned to Australia.
3. From first arriving in Tawau, I realised there was no record of its history, a subject I was very interested in. I have always been interested in helping people find their place in the world through an understanding of their history. Partly out of this interest and partly out of a desire to find interesting topics to set my students to write English essays about, I set my students the task of researching their family histories. During the school holidays, I would visit the older relatives with the most interesting stories and interview them, my students acting as interpreters where necessary. I soon realised that I had a rich historical resource on Tawau and, after authenticating the interviews where possible with archival material, wrote up an 80,000 word University of Sydney Master's thesis, awarded in 1977, which appeared in a limited edition Sabah government printing in 2003 as *The Origin and Early Development of the Tawau Community, 1880-1942*.
4. My Tawau research included Silimpon, and my article, 'Coal Mining at Silimpon, 1906-1932', was published in the *Sabah Society Journal* in 1972.
5. My interest in and links with Tawau continued over the years and led from 2001 onwards to a decision to publish a more complete and user-friendly story of Tawau to 2008, a task that involved visits to Tawau in 2001, 2004 and 2008 to conduct further interviews and research, some with former students who had participated in this work forty years before.
6. My career from early 1973 in Australia was teaching and, from 1977 to 1985, Deputy Headmaster of a secondary school. From 1986 until 1997 I was employed as editor for an Australian book publisher. After that, I did some teaching and some editing.
7. My interest in history, in writing and in editing and publishing led me to write two community histories in Australia, one a 308 page history commissioned by the school where I worked from 1974 until 1985 called *Mountain Springtime: a History of Blue Mountains Grammar School*, published by the school in 2002, and the other, a 182 page self-published local history, *Hazelbrook and Woodford: a story of two Blue Mountains towns*, published in 2006, for which I received an Energy Australia National Trust award in 2007.