

A Career in Teaching!

Jim Croft

After graduating in 1955, I completed an Arts degree and travelled to South Korea, where I spent 6 years in the educational field, with the Australian Presbyterian Mission in South Korea.

Upon returning to Australia, in 1964, I worked in the Quality Control Laboratory of the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing firm, Merck, Sharpe & Dohme for 7 years.

Then I became a science teacher in the State school system, following a 6-month course in teacher training for graduates who had industrial experience.

While in this job, I was offered a resident tutorial position at St. Andrew's College, at Sydney University and was given a Teaching Fellowship at the Chemistry School and completed a Ph.D. under Professor E. Ritchie and Dr. W. Taylor, in Natural products.

After this, I resumed science teaching, now in the private school system. I taught at Newington College, St. Mary's Cathedral School and most of the time at The Scots College. Where possible, I chose Chemistry as my choice, but was often involved in Physics teaching with such a shortage of teachers in this subject.

I retired from teaching at the end of 1996 and am now retired in Wentworth Falls in the Blue Mountains, in beautiful and restful surroundings. I am involved with various Community activities, including two Bush Care groups.

One of my three sons majored in Chemistry, at Macquarie University but chose not to pursue this as his career.