

# Whitebridge High Ex-Students and Staff Association

## MEETING MINUTES - Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2008

AGENDA ITEM	OUTCOME
<b>Attendees</b>	<p><b>Present:</b> Paul Jeffress, Allan Searant, Margaret Owens, Chris Grezl, Karel Grezl, Peter Sievert, Barbara Rolfe, Janice Battle, Brian Goodwin</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b> Lorraine McEwan-McKenzie, Ron Aurelius, Matthew Morris, Carol Seymour, Julie Kennedy, David Podmore, Ian Wilson.</p>
<b>Minutes of last Meeting</b>	<p>Accepted as a true and accurate recording –            Moved: Peter Sievert            Seconded: Janice Battle</p>
<b>Business Arising from last meeting</b>	<p><b>Action Items:</b></p> <p><b>Website – update - Karel Grezl</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Existing 10MB existing website to be replaced with one 5GB site by Webcity at considerably reduced annual update cost at recommendation of web site designer Blackcat Web Designs. Recommendation accepted by committee. Karel and Chris Grezl kindly offered to pay \$59.40 per annum upkeep of site for next 2 years. Meeting accepted and expressed their gratitude for this generous offer.</li> <li>• Karel is to maintain contact with Cynthia. Cynthia's current attitude is very co-operative and it is likely that she may work beyond her agreed scope.</li> <li>• Allan Searant is to table a number of comments regarding the website with Karel. Karel to address and seek assistance where required</li> </ul> <p><b>Teacher Profile – update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No progress on previous suggestions from those present at meeting</li> <li>• Allan Searant offered to approach Bob Rae and Karel Grezl agreed to reapproach Bob Payne</li> </ul> <p><b>Newsletter Contributions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suggested that recent work completed within school grounds should be shown to highlight work done and type of work that could be done by Exers. Committee expressed their admiration and thanks for work done primarily by Allan and noted the 'above and beyond the call of duty' effort by Ian Wilson.</li> </ul> <p><b>Art Competition – Update – Brian Goodwin.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brian indicated that, as planned, organisation was to start by contacting school Head Art Teacher in next few weeks. For discussion in general business.</li> </ul> <p><b>School Council Report– Brian Goodwin.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not reported, however, noted by Brian that Council resolved to support the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event along the guidelines presented to the Council meeting</li> </ul> <p><b>Margaret Holt Music Prize- Lorraine McEwan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Lorraine's absence no report was issued, however, committee recognised that Margaret required some feedback.</li> </ul> <p><b>Prizes for School Speechday.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many approaches have been made for prizes and it was suggested that Ian be approached for advice on the most worthwhile areas. Paul mentioned that some local service clubs had regular involvement in prizes for schools. Paul agreed to advise on these at the next meeting. It was also suggested that contacts should be made to local businesses to solicit support for prizes.</li> </ul>

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	<p><b>Member/Potential Member Database- Lorraine McEwan/ Janice Battle</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The database is currently a little out of date and Janice will update with available information and forward to Lorraine as guardian.</li> </ul> <p><b>Expanding the Exers Market and Database- Lorraine McEwan/ Brian Goodwin</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brian reported that Facebook had almost 270 direct associations with WHS ex or current students and Myspace had almost 500. Paul has established a site on Facebook and Brian on Myspace with WHS specifically nominated. Considered that a circular requesting contact to Exers would be worthwhile on both websites.</li> </ul> <p><b>45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For discussion in General Business.</li> </ul>
<b>Correspondence</b>	<b>Inwards:</b> Email from Blackkat Web Designs regarding ongoing costs and potential more suitable and cheaper web host. (email from Karel)
<b>Treasurers report</b>	Activity since last report: Cheque to Blackkat Web Design for \$512.00 for web design Current balance: \$670.18
<b>Committee report</b>	Nothing to report other than discussions above.
<b>General Business</b>	
<b>School Projects</b>	Allan reported on activities completed over the School holidays including the “music bowl” area completion and the “frog pond” completion. While a number of Exers contributed, the majority of the work was done by Allan and Ian Wilson. See “Newsletter Contributions” above. Allan indicated that several more projects were possible that the Exers could assist with and he agreed to discuss those with Ian Wilson and report back to the next meeting
<b>Peter Imberger Website</b>	Allan gave brief display and overview of progress on the website, which is obviously a huge effort and is very impressive. Allan hopes to complete it in the near future. The website is already accessible at <a href="http://www.peterimberger.net">www.peterimberger.net</a>
<b>Electronic circulation of the Bridge</b>	As it was not possible to send this to all people on list and it would be unwelcome use of many people’s internet usage, it was resolved to advise via the Newsletter that it was available on the website.
<b>Reunion Guidelines</b>	Proposed that the website should include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A list of suggestions/guidelines for reunions to ensure feedback and possible ongoing contacts in a central place</li> <li>A list of willing reunion organisers for as many years as possible with list to grow in time</li> <li>Short term space to display reunion photos</li> <li>Space to advertise upcoming reunions.</li> <li>Regular ‘plea’ for involvement in Exers by more diverse crew</li> </ul>

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### 2008 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event –

#### Dinner Dance:

- Resolved that no band was required and perhaps a solo guitarist/singer.
- Multimedia presentation covering general info and items for as many years as possible. Accepted that this item will take some coordination.
- Photos for dinner dance and daytime activity. The fellow who took photos at recent reunion offered his services for the September events. He has left previous employer and has formed his own company. It was commented that the quality of his work at the reunion was not good. It was accepted that there was plenty of time to make a choice and many options were available
- The dinner dance committee (Paul Jeffress, Anne Morley, David Podmore and Julie Kennedy) is active and will organise all of the above activities.

#### Daytime Activities:

- Brian highlighted feedback from discussion with Exer, Mick Dwyer who is a Head Teacher at Newcastle Grammar School (NGS). NGS fete is an institution in Newcastle and a phenomenal fundraiser. Mick was good enough to review our proposed activities and comment on his experience with similar activity.
- A number of the fete's activities were discussed regarding progress. It was resolved that a jumping castle was not viable with limited knowledge of likelihood of younger participants.
- Discussed and agreed that Janice was to collate and prepare the history and memorabilia task. Allan agreed to assist and informed the meeting that a great deal of suitable items exist at the school and are available. Margaret agreed to view the final, collected data and assist in the presentation and compilation for the 45<sup>th</sup> celebration and ongoing history.
- Concern at the security of unknown, unchecked people wandering around the school creating a security risk. Brian suggested that school groups, perhaps the sports houses could take responsibility for school tours, watching over the presentations in the library etc.
- Noted that Lorraine had suggested that she could coordinate a choral group to perform.
- Brian noted that a number of significant sports related raffle prizes were likely to be available and perhaps two raffles were required with one drawn at the daytime activity and another at the dinner dance including a possible auction of special prizes. It was also suggested that local businesses should be approached for prizes.
- Paul offered to contact local service club for the food sales on the daytime activity. It was also suggested that the Canteen Committee might be keen to open the canteen instead so proceeds went to the school.
- Comments that Booragul/ Lake Macquarie High were advertising very heavily for their upcoming 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.
- During the above discussions on the daytime activity, the question was raised as to the value of the fete portion of the celebration.
  - The most significant objections were that the task of organising it was too large for such a small group, the real purpose of the celebration was to have a back to school activity and the group didn't have enough experience to pull off a successful day.
  - Brian pointed out that the decision to proceed along the fete style activity was resolved by the Exers over 12 months prior and a commitment to the school had been made. He further highlighted that the involvement of the school and the community in something other than a back to school activity was part of our agreed charter.
  - Brian also advised that the school is prepared to do most of the organisation of the activities and simply needed some more positive guidelines from the Exers.
  - A vote on the agreement to proceed with a fete style activity was held. The result was inconclusive and the Chairman suggested that unless the result was unanimous, we were unable to proceed with the activity.
  - It was further resolved that a subcommittee of Brian, Barbara (absent at time of nomination), Janice and Allan should discuss and report back on a more suitable list of activities for the daytime event. No meeting date, convenor, venue or agenda was proposed.

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<b>Other general business</b>	None
<b>NEXT MEETING:</b>	<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2008 at 7:00 PM at School library.</b>