

Whitebridge High Ex-Students and Staff Association

MEETING MINUTES - Monday 28th July, 2008

AGENDA ITEM	OUTCOME
Attendees	<p>Present: Greg Kay, Peter Sievert, Janice Battle, David Podmore, Allan Searant, Ian Wilson, Julie Turnbull</p> <p>Apologies: Lorraine McEwan McKenzie, David Martin</p>
Minutes of last Meeting	<p>Accepted as a true and accurate recording – Moved: Peter Sievert Seconded: Janice Battle</p>
Business Arising from last meeting	<p>Action Items:</p> <p>Website</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An invoice for \$190 was just received from Black Kat Web Design this month for the most recent website development work & this brings the account up to date. • Sponsorship to the value of \$250 was received from Bradley Wilson of AOK Health, with the possibility of ongoing commissions for any sales via our website advertising. • Acknowledgement of David Podmore's [Real Estate Newcastle] previous contribution of \$500 has also been made. Both of these businesses have an advertising logo on the Home page of the website, & have been acknowledged in our latest Newsletter. We are actively pursuing further support. • The success of the recent improvements to the website, as well as further improvements to our membership database, has resulted in over 500 additional visits (total Hits of 1746), and total Guestbook entries of 60 since our last meeting. This is an excellent result and confirms that this essential element of our association is starting to pay dividends! • Based on some of the entries in the 'Guestbook' it is clearly seen that there is a need for everyone to leave a message so all former students & teachers can be confident they are in contact with members from their respective years! <p>Newsletter Status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The second edition [Winter 2008] of the 'new look' newsletter, compiled by Bob McKibbin of Yamba, has just been distributed as an email attachment & also uploaded to the Newsletter section of the 'Official' page on our website. There has been very positive feedback! • It was suggested that we report the passing of some of our ex students & teachers in forthcoming editions. <p>School Council Report– Allan Searant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next meeting is scheduled for 14th August 2008. <p>Membership Recruitment & Database</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was reiterated that, from a communication viewpoint, all the association needs is forty reunion organiser's details, representing all the years that have passed through Whitebridge High School. Efforts to complete this list, which is posted on the website' continues. <p>45th Anniversary Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For discussion in General Business.
Correspondence	<p>Inwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contacted by ex Industrial Arts teacher (1971-1979) Barry Prior that he has a copy of a missing 1973 Span magazine for us.

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Treasurers report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A further cheque has been drawn for Black Kat Web Design for \$190.00 Current account balance is \$171.43
Committee report	Nothing to report other than discussions above.
General Business	
Saturday 13th September 2008 45th Anniversary Event	<p>Anniversary Dinner at Wests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many approaches have been made to local businesses for sponsorship of the 45th Anniversary celebrations, but the number of positive responses has been disappointing! Apart from the earlier reported \$100 donation from Creer Property Charlestown, we are pleased to report that Charlestown Square Shopping Centre have donated 4 X \$25 gift vouchers, & we have just received from Pandora's Hair Witchery at Charlestown two \$70 vouchers, several \$20 vouchers, & several miscellaneous vouchers. We will send letters of appreciation, & acknowledge their generosity on the website & in the next newsletter. Charlestown Chamber of Commerce advised they would advertise the anniversary celebrations in their newsletter. It was decided that the raffle proposed for the celebrations will only be run at the function in the evening. Contact has been made with the local & Upper Hunter radio stations, as well as NBN & Channel 10 television stations, to run messages on their 'Community Notice Boards' about our forthcoming event. Contact with all the newspapers with advertising & perhaps an article about the 45th Anniversary Celebrations is now being prepared. General talk around the meeting table was that there were so many (locals in particular) who are not aware of the forthcoming celebrations! The school will run further advertising in the next edition of 'The Bridge' newsletter. Greg Kay (an ex student from 1966-1971) attended the meeting & has kindly offered to take on the role as MC for the evening (Greg does some 'on air' segments for 2NURFM community radio station). It was suggested that perhaps a short report summarising the highlights of the first 45 years of Whitebridge H S should be prepared. All agreed that all efforts should be made to get a table of retired/ ex teachers to attend (sponsored if possible) – this would be a wonderful highlight of the evening. Ian Wilson suggested that there are many long serving teachers at WHS who would also be interested in attending, and would also be a very desirable feature for the evening. Tickets sales through Sticky Tickets are now gaining momentum as the function at Western Suburbs Leagues Club is fast approaching – less than 7 weeks away! Some reports are being received about a reluctance to purchase tickets in this manner and Janice & Julie can be contacted directly if there are difficulties. The entertainment arranged for the evening is a trio by mark Taylor called 'Chocolat' & fees for the evening total \$660. The 'Light & Sound' expenses for the function are stated to be \$250. A quote for \$549 for 'decorations' was being considered. <p>'Back to School' Open Day Event</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allan Searant will continue to progress the preparation of two Power Point slideshow presentations (with assistance from a Year 9 student), as well as assembling available memorabilia for viewing in the Library building. An offer was received from former student Lorraine McEwan McKenzie for the reformed 'McEwan Pipe Band' (many members of which were ex students) to perform during this daytime event. All at the meeting thought this was a great idea & would add something special to the program.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ian Wilson will co-ordinate with students and staff re a musical concert (the school's 'General Managers' band has agreed to participate) in the Assembly Hall and possibly the outdoor Performance Area adjacent 'G' Music Block (subject to weather); an Art Display by students; availability of outdoor sporting fields; opening of the canteen Building and provision of food and drinks. • Ian Wilson advised that the school will be used for the local government elections on that day, and the southern end of 'A' Block will be made available for this purpose. • Janice Battle suggested that we have a 'Guestbook' for visitors to the school on the day for future follow-up activities. • It was also suggested that arrangements be made for the attendance by some dignitaries (especially ex students) for participation in the day's proceedings.
Other general business	<p>Seniors Presentation Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The presentation for the outgoing Year 12 students will be held on Thursday 25th September 2008. • At this presentation the 'Ex Students & Staff' Award for Industrial Arts will again be awarded, & it is proposed to have the inaugural award(s) for the Science Faculty. The details will be finalised at the next meeting.
NEXT MEETING:	<p>Monday 25th August, 2008 at 7:00PM in the School Library</p> <p>[The meeting has been brought forward from the scheduled Friday 5th September 2008 in view of reviewing & finalising the 45th Anniversary Celebrations planned for Saturday 13th September 2008]</p>