



XER'S NEWSLETTER

People and places

One problem several reunion organizers have mentioned is that some people cannot be located; they appear to have disappeared off the face of the earth. In some instances though, missing people have been found through brothers and/or sisters who attended the school in other years. To assist in this process we would like to compile a list of reunion organizers so if you would like to be on the list, please contact us.

Website

Thanks to the efforts of three ex-Whitebridge students, the Xers now has a website for your reference at www.whxers.org.au

Like all good ideas, this website will evolve over time to embrace new ideas and initiatives. We would like to thank the three people who have created this first ever website.

Karel Grezl, class of '69, is a member of the Xers executive who assumed responsibility for devising this first website. In turn, Karel turned to another ex-student from Whitebridge, Ben King (1997-2002) who then enlisted the assistance of another Whitebridge ex-student, Mitchell Hawkins (1995-2000). Ben (Newcastle Onsite IT) and Mitchell (Green Lane Studios) are both professional IT professionals who both list website design as one of their specialties. You may note references to their companies at the foot of the Xers website.

Reunions and forthcoming events

Whitebridge ` School Year 12 - Class of 1986 Reunion

Eighty seven students attended the Year 12, Class of 1986 reunion on Saturday 23 September 2006 at Central Charlestown Leagues Club. The night was a great success with a lot of reminiscing and catching up with old friends. Memories of the "flasher", the "pizza hut" and "Miss Jindabyne" came flooding back with the Whitebridge High Trivia quiz, hosted by none other than Miss Jindabyne himself, Craig Smailes, assisted by the lovely Cameron Jurd.

The crowd enjoyed the dulcet tones of classic 1980s music whilst enjoying or cringing at the DVD photo display of old school classics. Thanks to Harry Kolatchew who bravely and single handedly represented the Whitebridge High teachers past and present. The reunion has sparked a frenzy of emails and will undoubtedly lead to the rekindling of old friendships.

The Charlestown Easters who went to Whitebridge High got together for a reunion photo.

Vol 1 No 2 Summer 2006



The original administration block shortly after construction in 1965. Few will remember that the school was originally built on the site of a local primary school that was removed to a local farm.

Newsletter Spotlight

This quarterly newsletter intends to keep you up date with who, what and why from ex-students and staff of Whitebridge High School.

If you have any news please feel free to contribute.

Please feel free to forward this newsletter to any ex-students or ex-teachers of WHS.





From left back: Carolyn Raine, Leanne Bates, Bradley Smith, Jenny Rodgers, Stephen Cunningham, Justine Humphries, Jenny Davies, Craig Smailes, Leanne Lindsley, Michael Walsh, Sue Wilson, Paul Anlezark and Louise Cooper.

Reunion of Class of 63-68.

If the class of '86 want to see how they will look in another twenty years time they only need look to the photo below. A small subset of the year (and who said all that maths went to waste?) reunited at the Beach Hotel Merewether on 7th October. Quality not quantity is always the hallmark of a successful and enjoyable night. A highlight of the evening was recognition of the efforts of Dianne Gillespie who has been the backbone behind so many of the reunions organised previously.

The last of the party goes still raging 42 years after those first days at Cardiff - ah, I mean Whitebridge - come and join the exers next time we'd love to see you again! Ann will be coming back from Scotland again in 2008.



Left to right: Ian Bartrop, Paul Jeffress, Anne Morley, Dianne Gillespie, Elaina Brock, Noel Brock, Elaina Young, Neil Smith, Peter Williams, Brian Goodwin

Reunion of Year of '81

Reunion of Year of '81

A kaleidoscope of the '81 reunion held at the Brewery in October. Kerrie Whitla has filed a full report which will be published in the next Newsletter.



Top left L-R: Michelle Bryson (nee Rigby), Leanne Rutsch (nee Haworth), Kirsten Katz (nee Beck), Sally Mathwin (nee Rawlings)

Top right L-R: Robert Vaisey, Joy Melville (nee Perring), Geoff Davidson, Glenys Evans

Bottom right L-R: Son of Mark Golding, Mark Golding, Ronnie Bryson, Geoff Davidson

Bottom left L-R: Richard Milne, Jenny (nee Carter), Michelle Bryson (nee Rigby), Sally Mathwin (nee Rawlings)

2008 Back to School Event

Saturday activities could comprise an old fashioned school fete during the day followed by a school fund raising dinner on the Saturday night. For reunion organisers wanting to take advantage of the timing of this event, the Saturday activities could be preceded by year reunions on the previous evening.

The two Saturday activities - the fete and the formal dinner will require two subcommittees to coordinate and administer such things as function planning, promotion, insurances, risk assessment, scheduling, liaison with school staff, the student body, P&C, school council and the like.

Friday Night

Each year (or combination of years) could hold a separate reunion at a venue of their choice.

Saturday - "School fete"

A school event in the old style with a mixture of 'entertainment' stalls - I can only remember the hoopla and the 'knock-'me-downs' - and product stalls giving ex-students with their own businesses a chance to parade their wares / services or those of their employer mixed with stalls or an area exhibiting current school programmes and the achievements of present students. Included in this would be entertainment and catering (food stalls) - Entertainment would be bands, choirs and other forms of entertainment provided by ex-students who wish to contribute.

Saturday night - formal dinner

Relatively formal dinner with year tables, entertainment (probably resourced from within our own ranks) coupled with auctions, collection of school memorabilia and silent auctions.

Last meeting 6 October 2006

1. Karel reported on progress of website which is now being designed by ex-students of WHS—see above.
2. Feedback from the first newsletter was very positive.
3. Brian Goodwin (first boy school captain) reported on Year 12 presentation day.

3. Brian Goodwin (first boy school captain) reported on Year 12 presentation day.
4. Plans are proceeding with a major event to be held in 2008 as a back to school day. More will be reported on this in coming months and we are looking for volunteers to help organize this event.

Next meeting

The next meeting is to be held 1 December . If you have any topic you would like brought up at the meeting please contact any member of the executive or come to the meeting.

Questions or comments? Email us at jeffress@optusnet.com.au or lorlymc@bigpond.net.au

