

# FABER EST

THE FORTIANS UNION

## BULLETIN



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NUMBER 62

APRIL 2002

Produced for the Ex-Students of:

- ❖ Fort Street Girls' High School
- ❖ Fort Street Boys' High School
- ❖ Fort Street High School

### COMING EVENTS

#### Deferred Fortians Union Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 21 May 2002  
FORTIANS ROOM

Fort Street High, Parramatta Rd Petersham  
Commencing at 7:30pm



#### Fortians Union Annual Dinner



Photo: Courtesy News Limited

Friday 18 October '02  
All Seasons Premier  
Menzies Hotel

**Guest speaker:** Maria  
Skyllas-Kasacos (1969).  
Last year the Annual  
Dinner was a great  
success, so book now to  
avoid missing out.  
Time to start organising  
your year groups  
and book your table(s).



### ABSENT FORTIANS - SHAME ON YOU!

On Wednesday 20 March the Fortians Union Committee convened in the Fortian Room at 6pm for our regular Committee Meeting before proceeding to the Annual General Meeting and the election of Office Bearers for the year 2002. Margaret Lawson presided and almost all Committee Members were present. Apologies were received from three people, two committee members and one other Fortian!

A quorum of 15 is required for the AGM so after waiting the required 30 minutes from the advertised starting time we were forced to abandon yet another Annual General Meeting. The AGM will now be held on Tuesday 21 May at 7pm. Quite honestly Fortians this is an absurd position - a Fortians Union which cannot form a quorum for an AGM from a membership of 800 Life Members and 300 Annual Members!

Annually, Year 12 student leavers are welcomed into the Union with free membership for 12 months and reduced membership while they are still studying.

Fortians, at our last **Annual Dinner**, expressed their gratitude for the organisation of this event, as did those Fortians who accepted the invitation of St Philip's Anglican Church, Sydney, to participate in the Annual Fortian Service, held on 10 March. Dr Fenton Sharpe was the Guest Speaker and Margaret Lawson and Don Newby read the Lessons. The Church welcomed us to Morning Tea and this also enabled Fortians, some of whom had travelled as far a field as Nowra to meet with one another. Speech Day at the Town Hall on February 22nd was both an inspiring and enjoyable event. Ros Moxham's Principal's Report gave us all a comprehensive insight into the aims and achievements of the school year. While the students' awards and the wonderful music was acknowledged by their fellows and parents.



Photo: Courtesy News Limited

**Liz Weekes** ('93) and a member of the victorious Australian Women's Water Polo Team at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, filled in for her team mate **Taryn Woods** (hospitalised for surgery) as the Guest Speaker with just 24 hours notice. Liz, an accomplished motivational speaker,

inspire her listeners with her experiences of setting goals, self discipline and persistence in the years leading up to the Games and related her meeting of challenges with the need for similar dedication on the part of school students and in life at any stage in the future.

The two student chairpersons, **Caroline Grandjean-Thomson** and **Andrew Ta** from year 12, rose to the occasion and exhibiting a high degree of confidence and competence, allowing us all to feel comfortable and enjoy the morning with present day Fortians.

To return to my initial point, Fort Street has given so many of us opportunities for which we are in debt to our old School. It is now "PAYBACK TIME".

When we hold our adjourned AGM on May 21, I sincerely hope to see a quorum and more than that - Fortians offering to HELP on the Committee.

We need an injection of new Team members, surprise us - you may even enjoy it!

Olive Coutts (1949)  
24 March 2002.

## NEWS

It is with sadness that we note the recent death of **Myer Rosenblum OAM** (10/01/1907-18/04/2002). *Faber Est* No: 58, of February, 2001 contained an article, detailing the many facets of his long life.



On a happier note, congratulations to **Andrea Connell**, who leaves Fort Street to take up the position as Principal of Leichhardt High. Younger Fortians will know her as Deputy Principal and regular relieving Principal during the late 90s.



**Fundraising Raffle- Your chance to win** and help the Union! This year we will be selling tickets for our major raffle, to be drawn at the Annual Dinner. The prize is one night's accommodation for two at the **Stamford Hotel**, Sydney Airport and full breakfast - if you win, use it next time you fly on holidays! Tickets \$2 each or three for \$5.00.



Received from 1969 Leaver **Irene Stein**, the following: Mrs **June Heinrich** (nee Montague), Fortian circa 56/57 has been honoured by The University of Newcastle with the degree of Doctor of Education *honoris causa*. June attended Balmain Teachers College and upon graduation was quickly recognised for her abilities. June qualified for a BA (Hons) in Educational Planning and Special Education in 1973. In 1970 June was appointed a Senior Research Fellow with the NSW School Building Research Group.

An opportunity by way of a scholarship saw June studying for a Master of Science in Educational Administration and Industrial Relations at The University of Tennessee. Her career has taken her to The Department of Corrective Services, The Council of Macquarie University, and, after a period of successful academic tenure there, as a Director of The Macquarie Bank and now to Baptist Community Services (NSW & ACT) where she is the current Chief Executive Officer. Congratulations June!



## Justice Michael Kirby - Fortian

We will all have read the recent scurrilous accusations against Justice Michael Kirby, and no doubt the thoughts of all Fortians were with him during this difficult time.

Justice Kirby has come through this sorry saga with dignity and good humour. Michael Kirby continues to make the world a more tolerant place.

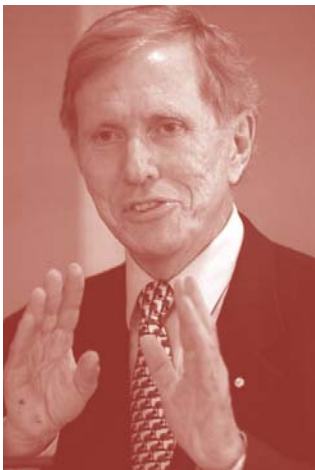


Photo: Courtesy News Limited

## 2003 CHURCH SERVICE

The Rector of St Philip's, Rev Allan Blanch, is trying to persuade Archbishop Robinson to preach next year. Many Old Girls will remember Archbishop Robinson's own time as Rector of St Philip's. The tentative date is Sunday, 9 March, 2003, at 10.00 pm. Please try to attend.



## YOUR CHANCE TO NAME A NEW BUILDING AT FORT STREET

As mentioned in the last *Faber Est*, additional buildings have been approved for Fort Street High School. Work is due to commence later this year.

The Principal, Ros Moxham, would like your help in naming these buildings, and feels that they should be names of significance from the **Girls' School**. The 1969 Kilgour building was named after the first Boys' Headmaster (1911 - 1926). The 1916 building on Parramatta Road has never had a name. Ros thinks this should be named after **William Wilkins**, in recognition of his contribution to the newly established Fort Street Model School and to public education in NSW, in general.

Please send your suggestions via any of the media listed at the top of the front page of this bulletin.



The girls of the Centenary Year, 1949, lost one of their members in 2001 when **Nancy Bovey Le Huray** (nee Hesketh) died after a battle with cancer. Nancy went from Fort Street Girls' High to Balmain Teachers College and on graduation went to Chester Hill public school. The newly appointed Rector, Ken Le Huray met Nancy when he went there to teach Scripture and he and Nancy married in August 1954. They had a daughter and two sons.

Returning to teaching later at Daceyville and Riverwood schools, Nancy specialised in the teaching of English as a second language. After retirement, she maintained her interest in this special work and as a volunteer helped many young migrants to improve their English and qualify for senior studies, and others to make the transition from professions in their birthplace to further study in Australia so they could graduate and be accredited to practise in Australia. Nancy was a much loved member of the "Fabulous 49ers" and each 1st Saturday in September enjoyed returning for the reunion lunch at her old school on Observatory Hill.

*"For years replete, with friendships and memories sweet"*.

O Coutts



## Do you remember school sewing?

We thank Joy Silvestro (Hudson) for her recent donation to the Fortiam Archives of her sewing bag. The donation brought back many fond (and for some not so fond) memories of school sewing lessons, including an animated demonstration of school bloomers from President, Margaret Lawson.



Thanks to the two Fortians, **Gwen Padmore** and **Betty Crompton**, who responded to our request in the last Faber Est. We need more than two responses to arrange a function!

Suggestions are still wanted for functions for our membership. Please contact the Fortians Union with your ideas (and of course offers of help!).

Call our newest Committee Member, Mrs **Pat Morson** with your ideas on 02 9799 2880 and help us to arrange an event for you!



## Membership

A warm welcome to the following new **Life Members**:

- ❖ **Gwendolyn Coomber** (Allen) 1935
- ❖ **Stephanie George** (Coomber) 1963.



## Lost Fortians?

Can you help us find the following Fortians whose newsletters have been returned?

- ❖ Janet Clayton (Calver ) 1970
- ❖ Mr J C Degotardi - St Ives
- ❖ Mrs N Dwyer - Wattle Park SA
- ❖ Mrs S Freiriechs - Wulagai NT
- ❖ Mrs K Hansar - Burnside SA
- ❖ Mr E Hickey - Epping
- ❖ Mrs N Kim - Dundas
- ❖ Mr J Lander - Chatswood
- ❖ Mr A G Loudon - Newport
- ❖ Miss G Monteath - Burwood
- ❖ Mrs B Morton - Dee Why
- ❖ Mr S O'Donnell - Five Dock
- ❖ Dr David O'Malley - Gosford
- ❖ Mr X K Pham - Lidcombe
- ❖ Mr K J Pickett - Carlingford
- ❖ Ms V S Rajan - Strathfield
- ❖ Mrs M Royal - Castle Hill
- ❖ Mr J M Stewart - Woolwich
- ❖ Mr K P Stone - Lane Cove
- ❖ Miss G Warne- Beecroft
- ❖ Mrs Weekes - Lennox Heads
- ❖ Mr Y JJ Yao - Ashfield



## Where are they now? Fortian Email Contact:

The Fortians Union receive many emails from Fortians. After the roars of laughter at the very polite emails addressed "Dear Paula". This is caused by Denice's email address using her husband's name (Paul A) ie [paulasmith@ozemail.com.au](mailto:paulasmith@ozemail.com.au), we read on.

A recent email really caught our eye, as he wanted us to know him 'before his passing'. Thanks Jim. So Fortians here is a brief profile of Dr James Deves.

**Dr. James R. Deves**, MB.BS. FRCS(ED) FRACS, Ear, Nose, Throat, Head and Neck Surgeon of Gosford. Jim, a Prefect, left FSBHS in 1963, he studied Medicine at Sydney University, graduating in 1971.

Jim worked at the following hospitals, Wagga Wagga Base Hospital, 1971, was Senior Resident Medical Officer Royal Canberra Hospital, ACT, 1972, Surgical Registrar (General Surgery), Royal Canberra Hospital, ACT, 1973, Townsville General Hospital, QLD, 1974, Surgical Registrar (Accident & Emergency), Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, U.K., 1975, Surgical Registrar (Otorhinolaryngology), R.G.H. Concord, NSW, 1977/78, Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children, 1978 St Vincent's Hospital, NSW, 1979/80. Jim is currently VMO at Gosford, North Gosford Private and Berkeley Vale Private Hospitals.

Jim has been a tutor at Newcastle and New South Wales Universities and has seen Military Service in the RAAF. During which time he has been involved in the following Military Operations - Northern Endeavour, Bathurst Is. Northern Territory, 1996; Northern Endeavour, Port Keats and Bathurst Island, NT, 1997; Bel Isi, International Peacekeeping Force, Bougainville, Papua New Guinea, 1999 and 2000.

What a busy career! Congratulations on being awarded an Australian Service Medal (ASM) Jim.

Keep sending your emails to Denice @:

[paulasmith@ozemail.com.au](mailto:paulasmith@ozemail.com.au)



## Fort Street Memorial Boards

News on the War Service Memorial Boards - we are sure as Australia commemorates Anzac Day our thoughts go to Fortians who have served and to our long term project. Like all Fortian activities the most pressing problem is of course raising sufficient funds to complete the project! We believe that assistance is at hand through the Department of Veterans Affairs Commemorations - Grants Program. This program provides funding for organisations to highlight the sacrifice and service of those who have served in all wars and conflicts in which Australia has been involved since Federation. If anyone would like to assist with this funding submission, contact Denice on 9667 2142 (AH) or 0409 652 942.



*At the Opening of the Sydney Harbour Bridge, **Reginald Sharpe** (Cpt FSBHS) and **Beryl Lamble** (Cpt FSGHS), reading the message of goodwill from the country school children of NSW to the Premier.*

**FORTIANS UNION MEMBERSHIP FORM**

**Membership Application.**

Please complete this form and mail it with your payment to:

The Fortians Union  
PO Box N1, PETERSHAM NORTH NSW 2049

**Subscription fees:**

- Free (first year after leaving school)
- \$15 Pensioner / Students (annual)
- \$25 Annual Membership
- \$100 Life Membership**

I would like to donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in addition to my membership subscription of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

I enclose my cheque or money order made payable to the Fortians Union for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Given name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name at School: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Awards: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Year awarded: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Years at school: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

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