

FABER EST

THE FORTIANS UNION

BULLETIN

NUMBER 63

SEPTEMBER 2002

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Produced for the Ex-Students of:
❖ Fort Street Girls' High School
❖ Fort Street Boys' High School
❖ Fort Street High School

COMING EVENTS

Fortians Union Annual Dinner

Date: **Friday 18 October**
Cost: \$55.00 per person
Time: Dinner commences at 7pm
Venue: Menzies Hotel



Guest speaker: Professor Maria Skyllas-Kazacos (1969). Pictured above. Time to organise your year group and book your table(s)
BOOKINGS CLOSE 4 OCTOBER.



2003 SPEECH DAY

Friday 2 February 2003 at Sydney Town Hall
For more information please contact the school.



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 be Sunday, 9 March, 2003, at 10.00 pm. Please try to attend.



2003 FORTIANS UNION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2003 Annual General Meeting of the Fortians Union will be held on **Wednesday 19 March**. Help us make this the best AGM in recent years bY attending and becoming an active member of the Fortians Union. Would you be more interested in attending if the meeting was held:

- ❖ at a different location?
- ❖ at a different time?

Please let us know how we can increase involvement in your ex-student's Association?



YOUR NEW COMMITTEE

At the deferred AGM the following were elected as your new Fortians Committee:

President: Paul Hurst
Vice Presidents: Denice Smith, Gordon Hill
Treasurer: Don Newby
Secretary: Pat Morson (Mrs)
Committee: Richard Blair, Tamsin Calder, Bryan Coutts, Olive Coutts, Peter Dixon, Terry Glebe, David Mitchell, Margaret Lawson, Jennifer Summers

Foundation Representative: George Jaksic

The Fortian Union's *Honorary Auditor* is Robert Vine (1969) and the *Honorary Solicitor* is Tom Halbert (1950) who volunteered after the AGM.



PAUL HURST ('90) is a third generation Fortian, his grandmother, Gwen Padmore is a former president of the FSGU and his mother Denice a former President of both the OGU and the Fortians Union. Paul is presently managing a retail store, having completed a degree in Industrial Relations and Political Science at UNSW.



TAMSIN CALDER, ('93) has a Bachelor of Economics (Economics & Marketing) from Macquarie University in 1997 and has worked for a range of companies including Intellisol International, Laguna Quays Resort, Tyco Healthcare and the NSW Department of State and Regional Development. Tamsin spent 12 months living in London where she worked for PKF Chartered Accountants and travelled extensively. Returning to Sydney just after the Olympics, Tamsin started working for Hudson Gore Financial Services.



In September 2001 Tamsin completed the Camino de Santiago, a pilgrimage across Spain from Roncesvalles in the Pyrenees to Santiago near the North-West coast. Santiago has been considered a holy town since the discovery of the remains of St James the Apostle in approximately 1000AD. The 737 kilometre walk took 29 days and was both complete torture and utterly amazing! Tamsin is currently working her way through the various courses required in order to become a certified financial planner.

RICHARD BLAIR (1958-63): Former career in child protection. Now book buyer in bookshop chain. Editor newsletter and past president of Marrickville Heritage Society. Travelled extensively. Three siblings David, Tony and Patricia attended Fort Street between 1952 and 1969.

JENNIFER SAUNDERS attended FSGHS from 1953 - 1957, a teacher of French and German, now retired. Jennifer taught at Fort Street in 1988. Jennifer's interests include bushwalking and organising student exchange programs with Germany.



GORDON HILL ('62) is a newspaper production sub-editor. He was an active member of the P&C while his son Alex (Fortian 1999) was at the school, and was on the Sesqui committee.

REUNIONS AND OTHER THINGS

Coming up is the 50th Anniversary reunion of the "**GIRLS OF '52**" will be a luncheon on **Wednesday 16 October** from 10:30am at the Café of the National Trust Building, Observatory Hill Sydney ("Our old school"). They are also arranging a table at the Annual Dinner on Friday 18 October. For details contact **JOAN WILCOX** on 02 9868 3816 or write to 1/21 Ray Road, EPPING NSW 2121.

Class of 1977 (HSC year), or year 11 1976, year 10 1975: Get-together Five Dock RSL on Saturday 26 October 2002 at 7pm. For further information, contact **PAULA CAHILL** at: psjpaterson@bigpond.com or 02-9908-3895.

From **LEAH LEVI**, MBBS, University of California, San Diego "I am definitely coming - I booked my flight yesterday, so it's a commitment!! Hope others in Leah's year can join her at the Dinner! Hi - I was in the **class of 1972** (when it was still Fort St GHS) and I'd like to attend the annual dinner this year, hoping that some of my classmates will also

want to observe the 30 year anniversary. Any idea yet if any of them have booked??

Also attending the dinner and coming from Victoria is **JENNIE WELZEL** (Avery) 1960.

MARJORIE WHIFFEN and the "Girls of 1939" recently held a reunion and raised \$100 for the Memorial Board Project - our thanks to the Girls for their donation. Marjorie added that 35 girls attended and all agree that the building at the school should be called the "Fanny Cohen" building. Marjorie's father and five of his brothers saw war service and all were Fortians!

We also received a letter from **JANET PETERS** OAM, (Ashworth 1946) who raised a number of suggestions that will be considered by the Committee, Janet agreed with Marjorie's group about the name of the building, she added "Although Evelyn Rowe was the first principal of the combined school and had come from FSGHS, Miss Cohen was an icon, and should have this honour".

MELBRA THERESE LYONS (COOK) The Girls of 1937 sadly note the passing of their friend and school captain, Melbra.

It is with great sadness that the Girls of '69 note the passing of their schoolmate and friend, **SUSAN GEORGE**, who passed away on August 5th, 2002. Our sympathies are extended to Susan's sister, Lynette who is also a Fortian and to her family.

DONATIONS - thanks to the following Fortians who have recently made donations: John Delmas ('53), Dianne Garrad ('63), Alebert Harris ('29), Janet Peters ('46), Morag Whitney, John Brodie, Gwenda Welsh (Traversi), Rev L A Pullen, who donated **LAURENCE PULLEN's** (32-36) Sports "Blue" from the 1st XV Rugby Union team. Laurence completed his Leaving Certificate in 1936 and was ordained in the Church of England and went on to spend 27 years as a missionary in India.

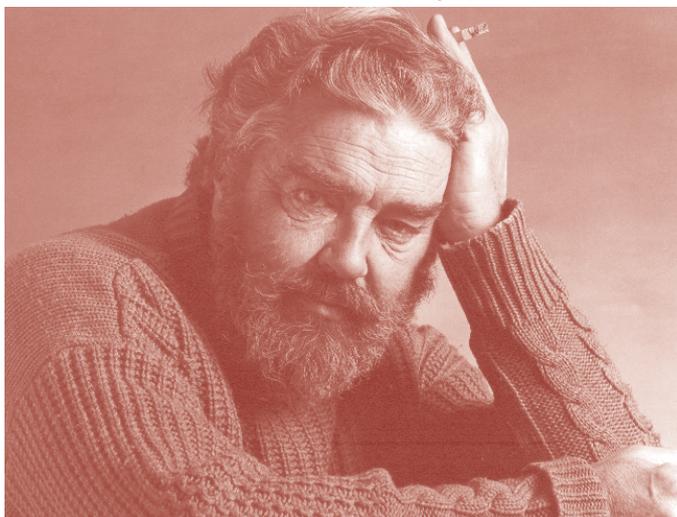
We also received a letter and a copy of "A Tale of two Cities" used in 1926 by Aza at the Fort Street Model School, from **JAN FIELD** (58) who told of the incredible story of Miss **AZA CHILD**, ('29) who was Dux of FSGHS. Aza became a teacher and in 1938 travelled to India and began working in the remote part of Bihar State. When travel was not possible due to political unrest (India was seeking Independence from England), Aza learnt Hindu, Nepali and Urdu and was proficient in Bhojpuri and she wrote the grammar for this language, which has since been used by translators and some universities. Following her retirement in the late

1970s Aza continued her work through the Scripture Union and wrote four Bible commentaries which were published and distributed in India.



A number of books have been published lately by authors who will be of interest to Fortians.

Most Australians will know of Kenneth Cook the author of the 1970 film *Wake In Fright*, in which a young teacher is caught up in the rougher side of life in an outback town, and many will have read the



Fortian Kenneth Cook

novel by **Kenneth Cook** but few will know he was a Fortian (1946). Forty years after it first appeared, a new edition of the book has been published (Text Media). *Wake In Fright* is the best known of more than 20 books in various genres by Cook, who was also a newspaper journalist, laboratory technician, TV documentary film maker and even had a part in setting up the first butterfly farm near Sydney. He died in 1988.

From Paris, Fortian **Leslie Johnston** has sent a copy of the latest book he has co-written, *Anglais, Gestion Economie d'entreprise, Travail Ressources humaines*, a French title for a book for those who wish to improve their use of English in business management. Les has been teaching English for academic purposes at the Sorbonne since the 1970s. He looks back fondly on the years he was a pupil of Ron Horan in 1964 and '65. "I've never forgotten where I came from," he writes in an inscription in the copy he sent.

Stephen Scheduling, a staff member and student counsellor of recent years, has written a follow-up to his earlier book, *A Small Unsigned Painting*, an intriguing piece of detective work into the world of art. This one, *The National Picture* (Vintage, \$22.95) takes him to Hobart on the trail of a missing 1840s painting of the same title, which leads into revelations about the dealings of colonialists with the Tasmanian Aborigines.

Fortians of the late 1960s and early '70s may remember science teacher **Peter Macinnis**. His

erudite new book, *Bittersweet, The Story of Sugar* (Allen & Unwin) recounts with wit and humour the history of the commodity from its discovery and its role in politics, economics and science - and the slave trade.



Don't forget to book for the **ANNUAL DINNER** - Denise Quay and Denice Smith (1969) recently posted out over 120 letters to the Girls of '69 - they hope to say a large group from their year attending and challenge the Boy of '69 to also attend. Dinner bookings close on Friday 4 October so don't put it off complete the attached form and post it off today!



Finally if you are an **ANNUAL MEMBER OF THE FORTIANS UNION** your membership fee is **due on 1 January**. Unless these fees are paid, we will not be able to continue to send you the "Faber Est" and we really want to continue to reach as many Fortians as possible. Do you know Fortians who are not members of the Fortians Union? Send them the enclosed membership form and encourage them to join and participate in the activities.



SCHOOL NEWS: Work on the extensions to the school is expected to start before long so that good use can be made of the Christmas New Year break. The school is hoping to have use of the new buildings sometime in 2003, all going well! Administration and Science Labs will go on the car park inside the Fort Street gates, with a performance space and more classrooms on unused land on the Andreas Street and Parramatta Road corner. Updating of the older buildings will follow. No decision has been made yet on naming the new buildings; suggestions are still sought on whom to name them after, particularly those with special significance to the girls.



SATURDAY NOVEMBER 16, return of the popular **SCHOOL TRIVIA NIGHT** Fortians welcome to form a table details from Nyin Cameron 9555 9946.



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MAROON & SILVER The book published for the Sesquicentenary in 1999, costs \$39.95 (plus postage and handling of \$5.05). See the enclosed order form. This celebratory volume, used the rich archives of Fort Street High School, the photographs, drawings and sketches reproduced in this book vividly reflect the school's history through 150 years. The history of Fort Street is unfolded in an exciting series of vignettes covering the principal phases of the school's development over the years since 1849 and is designed as a coffee-table volume.
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FORTIANS UNION ANNUAL DINNER

BOOKING FORM.

Date: Friday October 18 2002

Venue: Menzies Hotel

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

The Fortians Union
PO Box N1, PETERSHAM NORTH NSW 2049

Cost per person \$55, no. in this booking: __: \$ ____
I enclose my cheque or money order made payable to the Fortians Union for \$ ____.

Surname: _____

Given name: _____

Name at School: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Mobile: _____

I wish to sit with the following year group: _____ (ie last year at school)

Others in this booking:

Please book no later than Friday 4 October
NO TICKETS WILL BE MAILED OUT
BOOKINGS WILL BE CHECKED AT THE DOOR.

Parking on the evening is available at Secure Parking - entry in Wynyard Lane off Margaret Street.

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