

Alumni News

"Alumni" = A Club for Past Students and Staff....

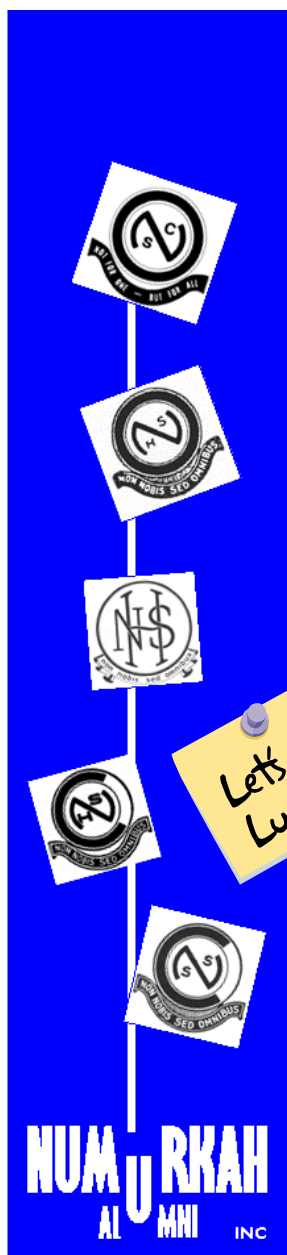
President's Report – Hilary Vella

The past year has seen the Alumni group grow and attract both interest and enquiries. In its inaugural year it has been a challenge for our industrious dragon ladies, Fay and Jan as Secretary and Treasurer. They have faced challenges such as membership year, direct debit and bank fees with the diligence we would expect from anyone associated with the College in any way, and came to meetings with it all sorted - meaning the rest of us could relax a bit.

A big thank-you also to Jack Dell and Robbo for their expertise throughout the year.

Thank you to those who attended meetings also, especially those who travelled from Melbourne - this is an incredible feat which shows dedication, persistence and a slightly deranged look by the time they arrive! The stalwart travelers are none other than Steve Willoughby (1964), Graeme Dodd (1958) & Bill Cantwell (1964). Must be something special about the

students from the 60's! We warm the seats of the Telegraph Hotel to share a meal and run our meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each (Victorian) School term – as a general rule. Of course it is open invitation to our members to join us at these meetings – just please ensure you check with us before embarking on a road trip – just in case we change the date for some unknown reason. Please enjoy this newsletter and I hope to see you at the Blogging day on March 29th.



Invitation to a Blogging Affair – Our Yearly 'Fling'

March 29th 2009
10am to 2pm

Numurkah Secondary College

BYO meat for a BBQ and a salad to share.

We will meet in the Hall, watch an overview of how to blog, then hit the computer rooms to tackle the BLOG.

Everyone welcome....

- FREE to Members -
\$20 for Non-Members (which will make you a member!)

What if you can't come and would like to know more about blogging... well the following instructions should get you started...

Locate the Alumni blog page by typing the following address into your address line [numurkahpaststudentsclub.edu.blogs.org](http://www.numurkahpaststudentsclub.edu.blogs.org). Alternatively find <http://www.numurkahsc.vic.edu.au/> and click on the past student link (left of screen).

Before you begin, remember the 'year' you belong to is the Year 7 or Form 1 year of your group, so even if you graduated in 1966, you should find your name in 1961.

All 'years' are found on the right of the screen under 'tags'.

Click on your year list and, hopefully you will see a list of your mates (and some you probably can't remember!). If you want to read any comments attached to your year level (and remember there are heaps of memories from the Reunion) you will need to click on "comment" – you will find this at the bottom of the list.

You will see that you have the opportunity to leave your own comment. To do so you will need to type in your email address – and as this is an education portal it is completely safe.... Don't forget to 'submit' when you have finished.

Comments have to be 'approved' before you can see them on the blog... this might take a day or two....

Enjoy the experience!

Snippets



President Hilary Vella had the pleasure of presenting students with "All Rounder" scholarships at the presentation evening in December 2008. This award is for students who aren't necessarily academic but put in 100% into their classes and college life. The \$250 scholarships assist with payments for books, stationery and school fees. Your Alumni registrations help us to award these students.

Scholarship Recipients:

Year 7:
Jordan French & Chelsea Baker
Year 8:
Dom Youd & Michelle Vandengoor
Year 9:
Elizabeth Lewis & Jay Carmichael
Year 10:
Tom Madex & Corey Dunn
Year 11:
Kelsy Walker & Kelly Shelton

The alumni also has a page in the 2008 Bangerang (school magazine), this year it features our Secretary Fay and her work throughout the year.

For those who still have a leaning towards one of the college houses, Hunkin won the **swimming** sports (as well as the house spirit award), Gray won the **athletic** sports (Tweddle snapped up the best house spirit award). Tweddle also won the **cross country** and were awarded the overall champion house trophy.

"Forget health food, I'm at an age where I need all the preservatives I can get."

The "Oldies"

You've heard of the expression "Forget health food, I'm at an age where I need all the preservatives I can get?" Well I don't know how many preservatives are in ploughman's lunches, but that is what the 1942 to 1949 group eat each year at their get together.

Admittedly these past

students are 'pre' Toc Road vintage, but they have certainly got their act together. They have held this event for many years now and can usually manage a turn-out of about 20 people.

Brian and Betty Heard (we affectionately call them the 'Heard' Factor) are always on the look-out for folk of

their vintage to join them. The "Heard Factor" was welcomed to our October meeting where we discussed ways of helping each other out.

If you want to know more about their yearly event I'm sure Betty and Brian would love to hear from you... just contact us and we'll put you in touch.



Senior Students – Their Choices

You may come from an era where you studied 'HSC' and are not sure what students get up to these days. Students have quite a few choices now, including:

- VCE (Victorian Certificate of Education) is for students who (may) want to go to University and who enjoy theory and homework.
- VCAL (Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning) is for students who

are more "hands on" and are likely to go into a trade or traineeship (and who don't like too much theory or homework!).

- VET (Vocational Education & Training) is a subject (Certificate II or III) which is delivered by another provider (usually a TAFE) and can include subjects like hospitality, engineering, automotive, plumbing, electrical etc.

- VCAL & VET complement each other as they are both 'hands-on'.
- ASBA (Australian School Based Apprenticeship) is a part-time apprenticeship. This usually means the student attends school 3-4 days a week and works, as an apprentice, 1-2 days per week.

Does anything here sound familiar – just new names??

Some Blogging Moments

Throughout 2008 a number of people added their thoughts to the Alumni Blog.

I have added them here for your interest.... after all, not all of us enjoy the challenges of computer technology!....

1964 - Julie Dewar (Reynolds)

I too have fond memories of NHS, coming from Invergordon most of my friends were from there, Kaye Turner, Barbara Hutchison, Angela Flammea, Glenda Groves and Lynette German.

I worked in Melbourne from approx 17 y/o, joined the WRAAF, got married, divorced, have one son, eventually remarried 10 years ago, I have 2 grandchildren and 4 step grandchildren.

The majority of my working life was in stockbroking. I am now retired and live in Romsey

1966 - Jennifer Hamilton (Byron)

I live in Bendigo and have done so since 1994. I had a great time catching up with old school mates.

Unfortunately I missed some

as we didn't attend until after lunch and some had gone home by then. Never mind. Next time maybe.

1960 - Max Wilton

I left NHS at the end of term 1 in 1961 and moved to Gippsland (Railway family from Strathmerton, always shifting) and finished my High School education at Moe H.S.

At Moe I do remember Margaret Wallace's Mr Burr making an appearance there and speaking with him so it must have been on one of those Mirboo North Field trips.

At Moe our field trips were to Bright for the Kiewa Scheme and the then local tobacco industry which would be very un P.C. now.

After leaving school I spent the next 34 years in the Police Force and served overseas in the U.S. in 1996.

Happily married to Denise for 35 years, with 3 adult children, one son is a chef living in Antibes, France; another son is an undertaker in London. We were fortunate to have travelled extensively throughout Asia and adopted our daughter from an orphanage in South Korea in 1989, she lives close by.

Although retired from the Police Force I am still attached to the Justice Department and have a part-time position at

Fulham Prison as an Official Visitor, I derive my income from performing ceremonies of marriage (and funerals) as a registered Civil Celebrant, I have very fond memories of Numurkah and send my best to everyone.

Max Wilton
www.weddings2remember.com.au

1975 - Peter Fowles

I am now living in Townsville. Married for 25 years - to the same girl even! Two daughters and one son. Oldest daughter getting married in Jul 09. Only one kid left at home.

I have fond memories of school and of growing up in Numurkah.

Would enjoy the chance to catch up with old (and I use the term carefully) classmates.

1954

We were also able to re-establish contact between Kevin Walker and Janet Hall-Burkitt through the Blog. ☺

Bloggging

Don't know what that is? Would you like to learn? Why not join us at the yearly get-together and find out how? See details elsewhere in this newsletter.



Why not visit our blog page at <http://numurkahpaststudentclub.edublogs.org/>.

"We were also able to re-establish contact between Kevin Walker and Janet Hall-Burkitt through the Blog."

2008 Reunions & Future Reunions...

Most of the details on this page can be found on the Alumni's Blog page.....

Are you having a reunion for your year level? Please shoot your plans through to Fay at car33rs_num@yahoo.com so that it can be popped onto the blog – you just never know who might visit the site!

The following groups got together in 2008:

1962 - Plans are underway for March 2012... and this should be a big one... contact Janet Stevens (Farrell) on 0358621102..

1940's - Always the last Friday in January - contact Betty & Brian Heard for more details 0358621625. See Page 2.

1956 - Group had a reunion at the Olive Grove in Shepparton March 2008. See page 5 for further details.

1968-73 - Has an annual get together on the first weekend of October. They meet at the GV Hotel in 2008.

The following is a report from David (Dinga) Bell...

"Thirteen of our year together with wives, husbands and partners got together for a night of catching up and reminiscing. None of us had aged a bit...all of us had just aged gracefully. It was great to catch up with fellow school mates that hadn't seen each other for 35 plus years. We aim to make it a regular event in October. We'll keep you and fellow NHS Class mates of 1968-73 posted with regards to date and venue".

If you would like to know please contact David.j.bell@telstra.com or 0417501503 or Diane Symons (nee Finlayson) on 0409821040.

1993-98 - Held a reunion on Saturday 6th December 2008 at the Shamrock Hotel – Please contact Skye Kirne on 0437 086 063 if you don't want to miss out on the next

one. Skye is also on facebook if you want to contact her that way.

1989-1994 - This group is planning a reunion on the 6th & 7th June 2009 (long weekend). The Saturday arrangements are a 3 course dinner (at The Mary McKillop Centre St Joseph Primary School Numurkah) and the College will open briefly on the Sunday for people to have a look and reminisce the good and the bad... Sunday will also be a family day so we can casually get together over lunch and meet all our families . Nicole Watson (maiden name Austin) is planning the weekend and can be contacted on 0438623701 or ndkaca@bigpond.com for further details.

DVD... Don't forget that there are still plenty of copies of the DVD which was put together for the Big Reunion in 2004. This may be a great item to view at your own mini reunion! The DVD contains footage of Numurkah from 1956 onwards and is a great keep-sake. The DVD was compiled by Masters Video Production (MVP) – past students of the college.... If you would like a copy for \$25 please contact the college on 03 58621088, or drop an email to Fay at car33rs_num@yahoo.com

"None of us had aged a bit... all of us had just aged gracefully"



Mandy Kilgour, Linda Dickens, Jenny Rhymaz, David Bell, Marg Cuthbert, Pauline Madill, Lesley Holmes, Diane Finlayson, Robby Bryant, Julie Wright



Year 12's - 2008

43 Year 12 students in 2008 tackled the VCE (Victorian Certificate of Education) or VCAL (Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning).

This year level was ably led by the College Captains Candice Groves and Brady Nichols with assistance from Vice Captains Kirby Sprunt and Glen Gamble (pictured to the right).

18 students applied for higher education courses and 12 successfully received offers for their preferred course. Students chose from a diverse range of interest areas including Podiatry, Environmental Science, Education, Engineering (Civil),

Occupational Therapy, Psychological Science and Health Science.

The Universities / TAFES the students chose were LaTrobe Bendigo (4), Charles Sturt (Albury-Wodonga (3), Victoria University – Melton, RMIT Point Cook, Swinburne - Hawthorn and GOTAFE in Shepparton & Wodonga.

The Dux of the College for 2008 was Glenn Gamble with an ENTER score of 84.4 – he is happy to take a GAP year to save money before he embarks on his Civil Engineering course at Swinburne.

Students preferring not to follow

the higher education road have opted for apprenticeships or traineeships (8), TAFE and part-time courses. Others, at the time of writing, are still seeking full or part time work.

Students from Year 12 2008 are now classified as 'past students' and are eligible to become an alumni member – hence the complementary copy of this year's newsletter is forwarded to each 2008 graduate.

We congratulate these students on their successes and wish them well with their future endeavours.



1956 Reunion

The following is from an article in "The Numurkah Leader" June 11 2008

..."The Numurkah Secondary College's class of 1956 held a reunion at the Olive House Restaurant in Kialla on the last weekend of March (2008). The two organisers, Wendy Gilchrist and Elaine Trickey, said 26 former students attended the reunion and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

"It was just the best time," the women said.

"We had several apologies and some others, mainly local, didn't come for unknown reason, but we had such a good time we've

decided to hold another one at the end of March in 2010. So those who missed out this time can come to the next one". Wendy and Elaine beamed.

They said some travelled from Queensland, the Mornington Peninsula, and Bairnsdale in Gippsland, as well as the local area. If other classmates want to find out more about the 2010 reunion they can contact Wendy on 58269593 or Elaine on 58662658."

Pam Pilgrim (Grayland) found this article on the Alumni's blog and left this message "So sorry I didn't know about the reunion. I taught at Numurkah High in 1956 – I was twenty. Remember it with affection. Pam P"

*Photograph: Standing LtoR: Marg (Pop) Gunn, John (Truck) Carr, Graeme (Sno) Cowan, Elgin (Doc) Dougherty, John Decker, John Wallace, Joy Melville-Pallant, (hidden)Wendy Gartrell-Gilchrist, John McBride, Helen Watters-Aberton, David Brown, Anne Weston-Blunsom, Peter Fry, Bev Rielly- Dunne, Bob Wakefield, Bev Storer-Cocks
Seated LtoR: Kevin Hansen, Margaret Blackley- Rhode, Jan Sutcliffe-Willis, Lynne Finch-Sutton, Margaret Gilmore- Clayton, Elaine Maudsley-Trickey, Bev Wright-McKellar*



Numurkah Alumni Inc

Contact details:

President:
Hilary Vella
Ph: 03 5826 5257

Secretary:
Fay Scadden
Ph: 03 58621088
Fax: 03 58621808
0429 407 766

Email:
car33rs_num@yahoo.com

Snail mail:
P.O. Box 229,
Numurkah, Vic, 3636

We're on the Web!

See us at:
numurkahpaststudentsclub.edublogs.org
OR
<http://www.numurkahsc.vic.edu.au/>

Talking About Careers....

As you may be aware our Alumni Secretary is also the Careers Advisor at Numurkah Secondary College. If you feel that you have career advice you would like to share with the current students please contact Fay to discuss a suitable time. Senior students have a study day at school on Wednesday (they don't have any scheduled classes) so this is a great day to speak to them - although other

days can be negotiated if this isn't suitable.

Stacey Weeks (Minotti) (92-97), an ex-student of Numurkah and now a HR Manager at GV Health, took time out of her busy schedule to chat to senior students about the many and varied careers in the health industry. **Gail Jenkins (Denman)** arranged Stacey's visit - thanks to both for their interest and assistance.

Another way to assist current and newly graduated students is to act as a mentor or someone to talk to about University life, for example one of our members, **Helen Aberton (Watters) (Yr 56)**, has offered to be a contact if a student is enrolled at nearby Deakin (Waurm Ponds Campus) or Uni Melb, as she is currently a postgraduate student at the latter.

Financial Alumni Members..

Please note: Fay has tried her hardest to ensure this list is correct, please call if think there is an error.

CURRENT MEMBERSHIPS Due March 2009 :Sonia Strachan - Allert (86), Mary - Dickens (59), Leah Boyd - Hall (82), Anne Maree Crowe - Heard (75), Bronwyn Atkins - Hopkins (71), John - Wallace *(56), Due Oct 2009: Bill - Cantwell (60), Gail Jenkins - Denman (62), Graeme - Dodd *(58), Karen - Duplex (62), Janet Stevens - Farrell* (62), Janice

Jenkin - Finn (64), Roslyn McCracken - Hansen (61), Elizabeth Hine - Martindale (59), Julie Wilkinson - Ottrey (72), Leigh - Robertson (T), Robert bob - Saxton** (51), Fay - Scadden (Staff), Raymond - Stevens (55), Ann Blunson - Weston (56), Stephen - Willoughby* (64), Due Mar 2010: Elaine Gravina - Brown (61), Barbara Dealy - Corry (76), James jim - Dealy (65), Margaret Clayton - Gilmour (56), Due Oct 2010: Kevin - Hansen** (56), Due Oct 2011: Hilary Vella - McAllister (72), Due Oct 2012: Margaret Watts - Cossens (53), Peter - Dealy (60), George - Edge

(53), Wendy - McAllister (59), Due Mar 2013: Diane Symons - Finlayson** (68), Brian - Miller (80), Allan butch - Roberts (61), Due Oct 2013: Bernie - Alston (69), Roslyn Dawn - Cook (60), Diana - Newton** (59), Kevin - Walker* (54).

Expired Memberships 2008: Jack - Dell (Teacher), Joy Hutchins - Gread (51), Alyson - Hyde (62), Heather McLauchlan - Kennedy (60), Patricia Young - Purchase (50), Lynette Harrison - Ratcliffe (51), Susan Helmore - Twitt (69), Helen Aberton - Watters (56), Faye - Wells (64).

*Will receive a Bangerang
**Scholarship Giftee & Bangerang

Our Committee...

President -Hilary Vella
Vice President - Kevin Hansen
Secretary - Fay Scadden
Treasurer - Jan Stevens
Publicity Officer - Jack Dell

Committee Members - Gail (Denman) Jenkins, Stephen Willoughby, Julie Wilkinson, Bill Cantwell, Barb Dealy (School Council Rep), Leigh Robertson, Graeme Dodd

This publication was put together by Junior dragon Fay as Jack, our publicity officer, is overworked and underpaid... ☺

NUMURKAH ALUMNI INC
PO Box 229
104 Tocumwal Road
Numurkah Vic 3636

