KENTIAN SOCIETY

SUPPORTING KENT STREET SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

October 2012

From the Chairman

G'day to all Kentians and Alumni members.

Since the last newsletter we have celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the Kentian Society and the Scholarship Foundation has received a very generous donation of $50,000 from Jean and Peter Stokes.

The Anniversary evening was held in the Kent Street SHS staff room with over 30 ex-students attending.

Excellent light refreshments were prepared by the Catering and Hospitality class and the canteen and most of the drinks were donated by members of the committee.

Kath Ward spoke to the group on the direction of Kent Street SHS and quite a bit of reminiscing took place.



Principal Kath Ward meeting Peter and Jean Stokes at the morning tea held in their honour

Jean and Peter feature as the main article in this newsletter. They are happy to be acknowledged for their generosity and hope that it will encourage others *"to do similar within their means."*

Archiving is progressing well thanks to Pat and Vicki. The annual task of sorting the next lot of student records will take place on Thursdays in November and early December and help from volunteers will again be called for.

Bill Prince

Peter and Jean Stokes 2

Kentian Scholarship Foundation Report 3

Kentian Society 20th Anniversary Function 3

Class of 1992 20th Reunion 4

1987-1991 Reunion 4

In The News: Aliens join the Act-Belong-Commit show 4

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Vicki Duball
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Graeme Campbell, Maureen Walkemeyer and Otto Walkemeyer

Kentian Society (Inc.)
P.O. Box 1402
Victoria Park East 6981

Peter and Jean Stokes

Kent Street Senior High School, through the Kentian Scholarship Foundation, was delighted to receive a donation of $50, 000 from Peter and Jean Stokes recently.

Peter Stokes attended Kent Street from 1942 to 1944 in the days when students commenced their secondary education in Year 7. He relocated to Gooseberry Hill at the end of Year 9 and, like so many young men then, commenced work as a messenger boy. Recognising that this was not a career path, Peter gained an apprenticeship under a Perth dentist as a technician.

There was no such thing as technical training in the 1940s. Apprentices simply signed up for a five year period and learnt on the job. Peter attributes his having forged a strong commitment to study by gaining a quality education at Kent Street. This has held him in good stead over the years.



Peter and Jean Stokes

By 1958, Peter was married and had four children. He had remained with the same dentist for 13 years when the opportunity to purchase the Dental Laboratory in the old Ezy-walkin building presented itself.

Having built his own house in the early 1950s, Peter used the equity from the family home to borrow £500 and commence in a business which participated in the great change to dentistry over the coming years.

Specialising in dental crown and bridge and ceramics, Peter Stokes has witnessed dramatic changes in technology. Shifting from the traditional vulcanised rubber methodology, Peter aligned himself to forward thinking dentists in WA, becoming one of the first and leading ceramists in our state.

Over the years, Peter has served as the Chairman of the Dental Laboratory Owners Association and worked in concert with industry and educational partners to commence the first apprenticeship system with formal training. Peter personally taught technical courses to would-be technicians and was a member of the driving force that established the first Dental Laboratory at the Technical School in Lord Street.

In making the decision to donate such a sizeable amount to education, Peter stated *"I believe that education is the best gift."* He has been an active donor of educational grants through other organisations and was eager to spread the funds to his old alumni.

Peter and Jean Stokes went on to have seven children in total and now enjoy their retirement years as happy grandparents, great grandparents and world travellers. Peter and Jean were happy to have their donation made public purely in the hope that this might encourage other alumni to follow their excellent lead.

Kentian Scholarship Foundation Report
Balance Sheet - for year ended 30th June 2012

CURRENT ASSETS	2011	2012
CBA Cheque Account		$50,256.22
CBA Term Deposit …3565		
CBA Term Deposit …7174		$18,363.00
ME Business Account		$499.37
Total Current Assets	**$33,072.36**	**$87,482.59**

TRUST FUNDS	2011	2012
Settled Sum		$100.00
Retained Profits		$87,382.59
TOTAL TRUST FUNDS	**$33,072.36**	**$87,482.59**

For 2013 there will be two $1,000 scholarships; the Kentian Scholarship and the Jean and Peter Stokes Scholarship in Fashion and Design. At this stage it is planned to award a third scholarship of $1,000 in 2014.

Our current average interest rate, over the next 5 years, is 5.2%. Every $20,000 received could provide another $1,000 scholarship and each $5,000 could provide an annual $250 subject prize. Scholarships and prizes may be awarded in the name of the donor/s.

Donation and bequests can be discussed with Bill Prince (08) 9458 3854 and Bob Linfoot (08) 9537 6688.

Kentian Society 20th Anniversary Function



Class of 1992 20th Reunion

The 20th Reunion for the Kent Street SHS Class of 1992 was held at the Balmoral Hotel in East Victoria Park on the 6th of October.

The event was organised by Christopher Lesiter with assistance from Danielle Campbell, Clare Calogero (nee Williams) and Raphael Pearce..

Amongst those attending where: Todd Barac, Karen Bedell, Glen Buktenica, Clare Calogero (nee Williams) , Danielle Campbell, Lori Cooper (nee van Valen), Kym Gale, Tim Gilchrist, Sara Hughes, Malissa Maggi, Kristie Osborn, Raphael Pearce, Tina Restifo, and Stuart Watson.

1987-1991 Reunion

Sam Yua has organised a Facebook group called Come for a drink and catch up for students who attended Kent Street SHS between 1987 and 1991. It will be an informal gathering at the Balmoral Hotel at 901 Albany Highway in East Victoria Park on November 3, 2012.

For more information please visit Facebook.

In The News:

Aliens join the Act-Belong-Commit show

Are aliens taking over the Kent Street Senior High School?

No, it is the years 11 and 12 drama students preparing for their end of year variety show *Episode IV: Sparkles in Space.*

The school gym is slowly being transformed into a spaceship interior and an alien cantina while students are busy making sets, props, costumes and rehearsing at the same time.

The school has also begun a partnership with Act-Belong-Commit.

Principal Kath Ward said the campaign will promote physical and mental wellbeing in the school through encouraging participation and achievement in mental health activities and workshops.

“It’s a great opportunity to spread the wellbeing achievements of the drama students to the whole school,” she said.

Southern Gazette 4 September, p. 10.