KENTIAN SOCIETY

SUPPORTING KENT STREET SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

From the President:
Welcome to our special edition (and first) newsletter for 2022, with thanks to our long-time Kentian, committee-member and Archives volunteer Pat Sanders. This newsletter particularly celebrates our Kentian Archives and as such is longer than usual.

If you have an enquiry about your time at the school or events in school history, please contact the Archives directly here. You can direct general enquiries about membership or Society matters to the Society email box.

Dr Gillian Colclough

The Kentian Society Archives
Each Thursday morning during term at Kent Street Senior High School a group of dedicated Kentian Archivists meet to continue the ongoing work of cataloguing, photocopying, researching information on ex-students and school events, and combining duplicate archive material, to name just a few of many tasks. New volunteers are always welcome, and indeed necessary.
If you are interested, please contact us on archives@kentians.org.au

Vicki is working on accumulating a file of newspaper obituaries of high achieving Kent Street students. She has also assisted Paul in his work assembling large information boards covering various spheres of interests and activities. These are for display in the windows of the Kentian Rooms situated in the Science Block in the hope of attracting the attention and curiosity of students as they pass. They are changed regularly. Spheres of interest have included Kent Street Olympic Competitors (e.g., Margaret Burville), School Cricketers, Fashion students and the meaning of the School Crest.

Pat is attempting to collate the many catalogue entries on Mollie Dinham, former teacher and principal at Kent Street. She played an important part in the introduction of the Aviation course as well as other achievements in advancing the school and recording its history.

2022 AGM— Bill Prince retirement

Our AGM took place during pandemic restrictions, and could not be held at the school. With rain forecast, we opted for the next best choice of meeting in Bill's garage. In recognition of his contribution to the Kentian Society and the Kentian Scholarship Foundation, we presented Bill with a Certificate of Appreciation signed by all involved, and a playing card box embossed with the Kent Street logo and his name for his bridge games.



Bill was a student from 1957 to 1961. He was a Committee Member from 2000 to 2006, then President and also a founding member and Chair of the Kentian Scholarship Foundation until his retirement this year. Now that he has the time, Bill is committed to helping in the archives work, where he can offer his extensive knowledge of Kent Street history, its students, teachers and characters.

Archives Morning Tea June 15 2022

We held a special morning tea this month, thanks to a Grant from Volunteering WA and Lotterywest. Hosted by Kentian President, Gillian Colclough, the event brought together ex-students from the 1950s, a number of later students and our present Archives volunteers to recognise their efforts and attract more volunteers for their important work. The Grant funds provided Volunteering Australia lanyards, pens and badges to acknowledge our volunteers' hard work.

Principal Kate Wilson gave a heartwarming speech about the value that the school place on the Archives and presented the Archives Committee members with specially designed coffee cups.

Former Kentian Society President Bill Prince, now focused more than ever on the Archives, gave an entertaining speech on behalf of Archive Manager Vicki Duball. His talk showed the depth of knowledge that our volunteers have about the school, its traditions, special events and of course its many characters.

The Grant funding also allowed for a very tasty menu provided by Certificate 2 Hospitality students, which included scones jam and cream, caramel slice, mini kangaroo meat pies and a vegetarian galette. Thanks to Ingrid Hills, Home Economics and Hospitality Teacher, the students were on hand to pour coffee and tea, serve food and chat with guests. Functions like this also show present students the value of being a Kentian, and we hope that they join us after graduation.

This function was well attended, and although several intending guests were unable to join us on the day, those who came along seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves. Several brought items to donate to the Archive collection. Invited guests were Helen Baker, Peter Burns, Graeme Campbell (Kentian Society Minutes Secretary), Annette Collop, Paul De Laeter, Rod Della Vedova, Vicki Duball (Archives Manager), Alan Dufty, Greg Gunson, Leanne Hair, Anne Hart, Erica Henderson, Stan Kailis (Patron), Kathleen Kath, Ross Landers, Chris Lesiter (Kentian Society Treasurer), Craig Lynch (Deputy Principal), John McDonald, Avis Milne, Patricia Morris, Pat Pinkus, David Price (Kentian Society VP), Bill Prince, Pat Sanders, Bill Shepherd, Noel Simmons, Geoff Smith, Kate Wilson (Principal) and John Williamson.

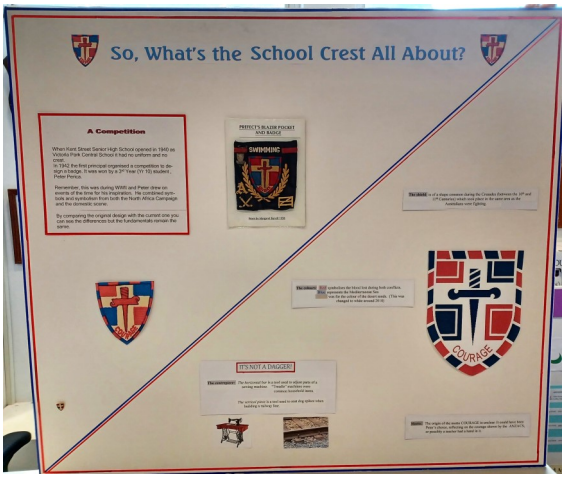
After morning tea guests were conducted on a tour of the Kentian office and storage area known as 'the dungeon'. We hope, from the interest shown, to encourage more volunteers, and will consider making this an annual event.

We are deeply grateful to Volunteering WA and LotteryWest for making this occasion possible.

Conference room, KSSHS, Archives morning tea June 15, 2022



Paul de Laeter has put together several information boards that can be seen by students and staff passing by the Archives office. Here's a sample of his work.





Archives visitors June 15.



Former Head Girl Erica Henderson (Yates) & Annette Collop



Kathleen Kath and Peter Burns



Paul de Laeter and Geoff Smith

'The Dungeon': during planning of the science wing upgrade around 2010, Principal Rod Beresford saw the opportunity to provide an office next to the dungeon for the Kentians. The dungeon had been neglected for years but fortunately the 70th celebration provided the work force. Twelve Kentian volunteers cleaned it out, removing ten cubic metres of rubbish and organising the space before furnishing the office.

Kentian Society Membership

Is your membership up to date? Being a member helps the society to maintain and build its presence at the school and contribute to the funds needed to operate and expand the Archives. A five year membership is $35 for singles and $50 for couples. Life membership is $100. You will find applications for new memberships here or just go to www.kentians.org.au Email the completed form to society@kentians.org.au

Is your email address up to date? If you're an existing member but have not received a copy of this newsletter, the membership menu also includes an update form.