

### June 2009 Newsletter

# Adelaide Technical High School Old Scholars Association Inc

PO Box 4041 Norwood South SA 5067

Email: athsos@hotmail.com Website: www.athsos.com.au

### From the President

Change is always difficult to evaluate. This is why the Chinese wish, "May you live in times of change" was regarded as a curse. However, change can also be beneficial. It brings the possibility of new life, new direction and reinvigoration.

For the Adelaide Technical High School Old Scholars Association, 2009 promises to be a year of significant change.

Many of the indefatigable members of our Committee had, with a few breaks, fulfilled key committee positions since the reconstitution of the Association. The countless hours which they devoted, not only to the ongoing and visible work of the Committee, but to assisting with reunions, providing information, cataloguing archives etc can never be fully appreciated.

As voluntary workers, they were always able to find time. Unfortunately, however, this was sometimes borrowed from their family or prevented them from fully developing other hobbies and interests.

This, and I believe that the somewhat patchy interest in some of last year's planned reunion activities, led a number of members not to offer themselves for re-election in 2009. Their retirement will be a great loss to our Association and, while I am sure that they will continue to participate in the Association's activities, their diligent efforts will be greatly missed.

Lesley Moir, Chas Grimes and Judy McKeough, in particular, have each, in their unique way, made enormous contributions to our Association over many years. Beryl Aylen did a particularly good job in the role of Treasurer. We will also miss Don McColl's contributions to our deliberations.

However, thanks to the work of Warren West, a potential catastrophe has, we hope, been transformed into a new opportunity.

Julie Hallifax, Charmaine Kitson, Brenda Kitto, Peter Kopli, Raelene Wilsdon, and Jan Brabham have joined Warren West, David Stoba, Ross Taylor, Sue Thomson and I to make up the Committee for 2009. We have had two Committee meetings and are actively pursuing options which we hope will breathe continuing life into our Association.

Escalating prices also mean that our costs must be kept under tight scrutiny and that, in order to contain them, different strategies (especially where they involve communicating with the membership) need to be developed.

2009 cannot be a "business as usual year." Hopefully, the membership will approve and support our efforts. Conversely, they might find some of our decisions either difficult to understand or disappointing.

In either case, I hope you will keep us informed since we are elected to act in the best interests of our membership.

Whatever lies ahead in 2009 and the years beyond, please be assured that every member of the Committee of your Association is working to ensure that Adelaide Technical High School retains an important place in our hearts and in the history of South Australia.

#### Mark Brindal

#### Inside this issue:

Introduction to New Committee Members	2
Committee Members Contact Details	4
Report on the Annual General Meeting	4
News of Old Scholars Where Are They Now?	5
Newsletter Distribution	6
Old Scholar Award	6
Souvenirs Available	6
Coming Events	7
Scholarship Fund Raffle	7
New Member Welcome	8
Lost Old Scholars	8
Class Reunions	8
Membership Form	

### Introduction to New Committee Members

There has been a significant changing of the guard as it were with the retirements of five stalwarts of the ATHSOS Committee at the end of last year plus the retirement of one member earlier in the year due to the pressures of work. Fortunately, others have volunteered to fill the vacant positions. On behalf of all members, we thank them for their willingness to help keep the Association functioning.

The following notes serve to introduce the new members of the Committee:

#### Jan Brabham (nee Atkinson) : 1953-1956

On leaving school I worked as a Secretary for several years. My husband, Roy Brabham, who attended ATHS from 1943-1946 was a senior partner in the architectural firm, Cheesman, Doley Brabham & Neighbour. We lived in Sydney for 5 years until his death in 1970.

I have two children, both married, and two grandchildren – my pride and joy. When my children were at school I served on numerous committees connected with their school, sporting and other activities. I have also been involved in the showing, training and breeding of German Shepherds since a young child. I became a Judge for Obedience Trials and for the Working Dog Group in 1964. Later I became a Specialist Judge for the German Shepherd breed, both in showing and obedience and also an Assessor/Examiner for Trainee Judges in the Working Dog Group.

After my husband's death I returned to Adelaide and became a director of the accountancy firm, Harrison Brabham Evans & Co and have since worked in other accountancy firms. I still work one day a week, mainly in the taxation area, while the rest of my time is largely taken up with family activities.

#### **Julie Hallifax : 1966-1969**

Julie has joined the Committee as Membership Secretary, a difficult role for someone new to the Committee, but the skills and enthusiasm she brings to the task make her well suited for the job.

Living at Fullarton, the new ATHS Glenunga site was a short walk from home. After completing the Commercial Course I have worked in the administration field for my whole working life.

At school I was known more for my sport, in particular swimming, than for my academic abilities.

On leaving school I continued with my swimming for a while and also played water polo. I later became very involved in netball coaching and administration.

I have lived and worked in the Northern Territory, Victoria and WA as well as in SA, in a variety of secretarial roles in varying fields. I was briefly married many years ago, and having had no children of my own, became a foster carer for 17 years later in life.

These days I work mainly from home, supporting a range of clients administratively. Having had great get togethers with old primary school classmates, getting involved with the ATHS Old Scholars seemed to be an interesting challenge, and taking on Membership Secretary certainly has been!

#### Charmaine Kitson (nee Roocke) : 1961-1963

New Committee Member, Charmaine, has taken up the role of Minute Secretary and not content with that particularly arduous task, has also become a leading member of the Sub-committee responsible for the production of Newsletters.

My working life has always involved the typing and shorthand skills I learned at Adelaide Tech. Over the years I worked for a number of widely known South Australian companies including The Savings Bank of SA, Le Cornu Furniture, Stillwell Ford and for the last twenty years, at insurance brokers, Jardine Lloyd Thompson. From 1977 my late husband and I spent twelve years in Sydney. After 44 years, I retired in early 2008 and am loving the freedom of being able to do what I want, when I want.

I am still in close contact with three friends from my schooldays at the Tech and we spent a very enjoyable couple of days together last year to celebrate our 60<sup>th</sup> birthdays.

#### Brenda Kitto (nee Mell) : 1956-1960

After leaving school I worked in various secretarial positions, continuing after I was married until the first of my three children was born in 1967. I rejoined the workforce in 1977 working part time as a School Assistant in several schools until 1986 when I was seconded to the Australian Education Union, little knowing that I would spend the next twenty years there.

In 2006 I retired and with my husband of 46 years, Ian, I now enjoy visiting the three children and five grandchildren who all live interstate or overseas. When we are not visiting, I find time for activities such as keeping fit, attending classes in mosaics and practical philosophy as well as Lifeline telephone counselling.



### Peter Kopli : 1953-1957

I arrived with my family in Adelaide in May 49 from a displaced persons camp in Germany, unable to speak a word of English. After overcoming the language problem I finished primary school at the Payneham School, along with other members of the Class of '53, Geoff Simpson and the late Kevin Jarrett.

After leaving school at the end of 1957 I worked as a lab assistant in the University of Adelaide Chemical Engineering Department while undertaking part time study at the University. Incidentally I was interviewed for the job by former old scholar, Malcolm Hill, who was the lecturer in Primary Metallurgy. Despite not being particularly scholarly, I finished a graduate diploma in chemistry at the then SAIT. By then I was working at the Waite Institute (Agronomy Section) as a research assistant.

After graduating I worked as a shift assayer at the Pt. Pirie smelters, then at the E&WS Bolivar laboratories before moving to Toronto, Canada to work for Ontario Water Resources. Although the plan was to stay there for a while, when it snowed on the first day of October and would continue to do so for the next 4 to 5 months, I came back to join AMDEL at Glenside and work their Emission Spectrograph. By the mid 70s AMDEL was looking sick so I became a public servant in the Department of Environment and Heritage, working on industrial pollution issues and environmental impact statements and their assessment until I retired from there in 2001.

In 1970 I married Sandra Jansen (cousin of fellow Class of '53 member Geoff Jansen). We had two children, Rebecca and Matthew, both now living in London. Sandra died in 1984 after a 4 year battle with a brain tumour. I was lucky to find someone who would put up with my "pernickety" ways (Rebecca's terminology) and remarried in 2000. Wife Rosemary and I are currently living in the beautiful Coromandel Valley with occasional visits to London to catch up with the children.



### Raelene Wilsdon (nee Roocke) : 1956-1959

I attended Adelaide Technical High School from 1956-1959. After finishing school I worked as a Secretary in an accountant's office. I married Murray in 1965 and in 1970 became a full time mother with the birth of my son followed by a daughter in 1973.

In 1980 I returned to the paid workforce and worked for several major construction companies as a Site Secretary. The last 17 years of my working life was as Office Manager/ HR Officer for a civil engineering company.

Both my husband and I like to travel and have enjoyed holidaying mainly in Europe and the United Kingdom. I also enjoy reading, painting, going to the theatre and since retirement, have returned to learning, attending many interesting courses at the University of the Third Age.



# **Committee Members 2009**

President	Mark Brindal	0407 713 578	8373 5081	mark.brindal@bigpond.com
Vice President	Ross Taylor	0431 987 901	8388 9396	roscoet2910@bigpond.com
Vice President/Acting Secretary	Warren West	0417 816 603	8376 0938	warren@gjc.com.au
Treasurer	David Stoba		8266 0007	djs0304@chariot.net.au
Membership Secretary	Julie Hallifax	0412 645 053	8370 3739	julie@boroniavale.com
Minute Secretary	Charmaine Kitson	0419 032 539	8396 0845	ckitson@bigpond.net.au
Committee Members	Jan Brabham	0411 037 435	8276 4025	janbrab@internode.on.net
	Brenda Kitto		8344 5882	ian.bren@bigpond.com
	Peter Kopli		8370 5499	kopli@bigpond.net.au
	Sue Thomson	0402 356 010		
	Raelene Wilsdon	0400 651 327	8264 2477	murray@tearsinrain.com

### Report on the Annual General Meeting

The Association combined AGM and Picnic took place at Heywood Park on Sunday, 5 April. A total of about thirty financial members were in attendance, together with some family members. Special mention must be made of the Young sisters, Ailsa Gallager and Patricia Wilcox who travelled from Melbourne for the event.

The formal meeting started with the presentation of reports from the President and Treasurer on the activities of the Association during the previous year. Highlights were the Memorabilia Display, despite the lower than expected attendance, the Annual Luncheon, which had a record attendance, plus the overall increase in membership which augured well for the future.



The election of the Committee for 2009 was then conducted under the Chairmanship of Graham Maguire. Details of the Committee Members are provided above.



The formalities concluded with presentations to retiring Vice Presidents Chas Grimes and Lesley Moir, Secretary Judy McKeough and Treasurer Beryl Aylen. Those present then enjoyed the chicken and salads lunch while reminiscing about school days, mutual friends and teachers.



### News of Old Scholars : Where Are They Now?

It is intended that this become a regular feature in future Newsletters. We are seeking information from Old Scholars on what they or their friends have been doing since leaving school e.g. careers, life experiences, travel etc

### Michael Cann : 1953-1955

Michael Cann attended Adelaide Tech during the years 1953-1955. After leaving school he undertook a variety of work and travel before settling in New Zealand. As the result of these moves he became "lost" to the Association and in fact was assumed to have died. Let Michael tell his own story:

After leaving school at the end of 1955 I was employed in the insurance business until late 1958 when I was called up in the last intake for National Service. On completing my stay in the army I went to New Zealand for a few months, thus avoiding the weekend army training camps, which were compulsory for all former National Service "graduates", before returning to Adelaide in 1959 where I worked for International Harvester After about twelve months I left Australia for a European holiday.

In Genoa I bought a Vespa 125 motor scooter for about £60 and toured Europe for three months before moving to England for a year and then to Canada for about 8 months. After crossing Canada on the Vespa (a very long ride!) I returned to New Zealand, leaving the Vespa in Vancouver.

Back in New Zealand I went back to clerical work before studying radiography in Dunedin. After marrying Janifer in 1965 we went back to the UK to see my parents and stayed for a couple of years, accumulating twin girls plus another girl during that time. On our return to New Zealand I worked as a charge radiographer, sales representative, clerk and warehouse worker before retiring at age 65. We then turned our house into a Backpackers Lodge and ran it for about three years before selling up and retiring again in 2008.

Since my second retirement we have enjoyed travelling overseas but it is good to return to the family in New Zealand which now includes the three girls born in the UK plus a son Jonathon, who we adopted in 1974. Jonathon is a Chef and has his own restaurant/railway museum at Domett south of Cheviot. I would welcome a visit from any of my former schoolmates holidaying in New Zealand. My address is 251 Hendersons Road Hoonhay, Christchurch NZ, 'phone 3-960-1861.

#### **Beryl Stutchbury (nee Wooding)**

It has been quite an unorthodox journey from the strict discipline of Adelaide Tech. when I was there during the years 1953 to 1956 to becoming an artist. Every day on my way to school I would walk along North Terrace past the Art School to do the Commercial Course. I left school after the Intermediate and had a couple of unsatisfactory office jobs. I then obtained a job as Secretary to a lawyer, with whom I stayed for 7 years until I had children. I had three daughters, now there are 7 grandchildren and 2 greatgrandchildren.

The art began with the first intake for the Craft Certificate Course designed by Don Dunstan (then Premier) to encourage cottage industries in the early 70's. This led to an Art and Craft teaching position at Cabra College. During this time I did a teaching diploma at Sturt CAE part time, majoring in Art and Religion. It took me 10 years due to work and family commitments I left Cabra after 8 years to start up a business from home making silk-screened and air -brushed wall-hangings featuring the Australian landscape. With my husband. I would travel out bush for 6 weeks or so during the winter months in our trusty Pajero to gather ideas for the wall-hangings. For a few years I also produced fabric for quilters using the Australian theme in miniature. My love of the bush and the spectacular scenery must have shown through, as the sales were good for 10 years until I had to give it up due to illness.

By this time I had already started at Adelaide Central School of Art to learn how to paint in oils. The Craft Certificate Course had been all about design and now I wanted to know how to paint a picture. I was fortunate to have Rod Taylor and Anna Platten as my teachers (along with many others, of course).

It's been quite a journey, and still is. Last year I had a solo exhibition which showed some of that journey. Earlier this year I was accepted into the South Australian Royal Society of Art and currently am an Associate. Later this year, or next maybe, I hope to become a Fellow of the Society.

### David Welford : 1959-1963

David attended Adelaide Tech. from 1959 to 1963, being one who joined the exodus from North Terrace to the new Glenunga campus in his last term. After leaving school he attended the Adelaide Teachers' College and the University of Adelaide, graduating in 1967. Over the next few years he taught Physics, Science and Maths at seven SA Education Department schools.

A taste for travel developed during Long Service leave in 1981 led to exchange teaching at an English Girls' Grammar school in 1984 followed by a freelance teaching year in the UK in 1989. In Dec 93 he took a Targeted Separation Package after 19 years as a Science Senior Master to learn about farming on his wife's family farm in Western Australia. Moving back to Adelaide in July 1995, David started a business marketing to farmers and bought a property on Kangaroo Island. This has since been developed into Kangaroo Island's best accredited Ecotourism accommodation.

His most recent business initiative is to begin a sustainability consultancy "Living Greener" which aims to help everyone save money and resources.

### Old Scholar Award—Congratulations!

#### Vince Monterola AM, AFSM : 1954-1957

Congratulations to old scholar Vince Monterola who became a Member of the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for his work as Head of the West Coast Recovery Committee following the disastrous fires in 2005 and his many years of service in the emergency services sector.

Vince attended Adelaide Tech. from 1954 to 1957. After leaving school he worked with ETSA, Coca Cola and as Chief Executive of the CFS.

While Chief Executive of the CFS, Vince headed the team that implemented recommendations from a Government review to pull the various emergency service agencies together. This resulted in new legislation that created the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission (SAFCOM). Vince was then appointed Chief Executive and Chairman of that Commission.

Now retired, Vince is about to take up the role of Chairman of the CFS Foundation which supports fire-fighters in need.

### **Newsletter Distribution**

All Newsletters are available from the ATHSOS website. It would significantly reduce our printing and postage costs, which last year were nearly \$3000, if more members were prepared to receive their Newsletters in electronic form. Be trendy, amaze your children and more importantly, help reduce the Association's operating cost by going electronic. When you choose the electronic path you will be advised by email when the Newsletter is available on the website so that you can pick it up at your leisure.

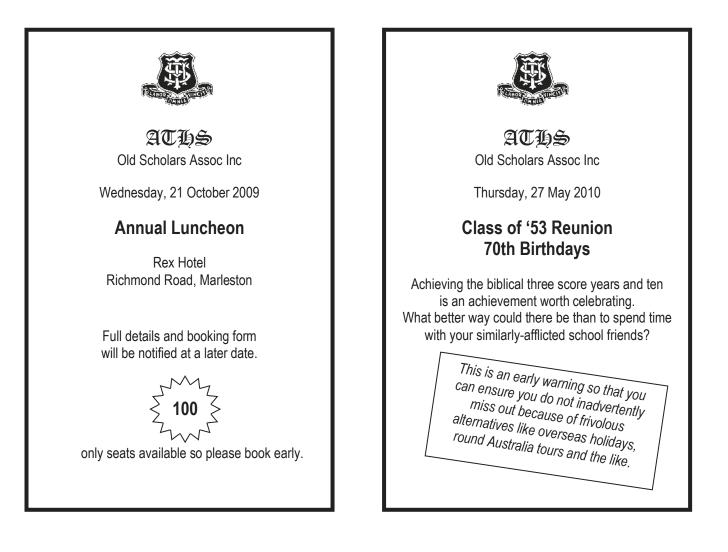
To make the change simply email the Acting Secretary of your decision (warren@gjc.com.au).

### Souvenirs Available

•	History book "ATHS				٠	Key rings		\$	1.00
•	ON SALE	includes postage	\$ ¢	35.00 5.00	•	Placemats	haana 2005 2009)	¢	2.00.00
•	Old Scholars' Badge	38	φ	5.00		limited numbers (from lunc	neons 2005-2008)	\$	2.00 ea
•	Cuff Links		\$	15.00 pr	•	Prints of Brookman Buildin	g	Fr	ee
•	SPECIAL PRICE Old Scholars' Badge	e and Cuff Links	\$	17.50	•	Old Scholars' Magazines	(1996-2007) or 5 for (2008)	\$	5.00 ea 20.00 15.00 ea

### **Coming Events**

Please put the following dates in your diary or attach them on the 'fridge as a reminder.



## Scholarship Fund Raffle

As part of our fund-raising activities to support the Moyle and Cannell Scholarships the Association conducts a raffle with prizes to be drawn at the Annual Luncheon. In the past there have been some generous donations of prizes which has meant greater proceeds are available to be put towards the cost of the Scholarships.

We are now seeking donations of prizes for the 2009 raffle. Would anyone who is able to help please contact the Secretary as soon as possible. While the prizes themselves do not have to be made available until the beginning of September, we need to know what is available in order to prepare tickets etc.

## New Member Welcome

On behalf of all members of the Association, we welcome the following Old Scholars who have chosen to join us this year in helping perpetuate the memory of a unique school that was the Adelaide Technical High School:

ALLEN Valerie (Chapman)	1939	GOOLD Sidonia (Douglas)	1950-54	RICHES Brian	1948-51
BAYLY Kay (Donovan)	1951-53	JOHNSON Brian	1947	RULE Diane (Grealy)	1958-60
BECK Barry	1956-60	KEELER Pamela (Hailes)	1953-55	SALKELD Peter	1950
BURRIDGE Michael	1946-48	KITTO Brenda (Mell)	1956-59	TAYLOR Glenys (Wood)	1949-51
CLARKE Ann	1956-59	LUBCKE Gwen (Earl)	1938-39	TONKIN Lindsay	1961-65
EDWARDS Susan (Ackland)	1958-60	PARTINGTON David	1954-58	WILSDON Raelene (Roocke	e) 1956-59

Thank you to those who have renewed your membership for 2009.

A gentle reminder for everyone else that your subscriptions are now due. We need your continued support so please organise your renewal soon.

Attached is a Membership Subscription/Renewal form (also available on our website www.athsos.com.au/membership).

### Lost Old Scholars

While thanks to our "missing persons sleuth", Graham Maguire, our database of former Adelaide Tech students is nearly complete, there are a number of Old Scholars who remain untraced. There are lists of these people on the website (www.athsos.com.au) one in the "Who's Who" section and the other in the "Latest News" section. Would anyone able to provide details of the listed people please advise the Acting Secretary or the Membership Secretary.

## **Class Reunions**

One of the objectives of the Association is to help maintain relationships between former students by means of social functions. Experience has shown that some of the most popular functions are Class Reunions. The Committee would therefore be pleased to assist people wishing to arrange such functions. It might be worth pointing out that this year marks the fiftieth anniversary of the commencement of the Class of '59 - an anniversary well worth celebrating!

If there are any class members out there who are interested in organising a reunion and require some assistance, please contact the Acting Secretary.



# Adelaide Technical High School

Old Scholars Association Inc



# Membership Subscription / Renewal : 2009

Presen	t Surname:							
Given N	Names:							
Postal	Address:							
Reside	ntial Address (if different):							
Home p	bhone: ( ) Mobile:							
Email:								
	Enrol me as a financial member for year 2009—\$30.00							
	Accept my donation for \$\$ \$10 \$\$25 Other \$ (please tick relevant box)							
1	I wish to receive the Newsletter by post. For cost reasons, Newsletters will no longer be posted unless specifically requested. <u>Please consider carefully</u> before indicating that you wish to receive Newsletters by post.							
	Email me notification when a Newsletter is posted on the website : www.athsos.com.au							
	note that your personal details will not be divulged to other Old Scholars except to those responsible for management Association nor to any person or organisation without your express permission.							
Payme	nt method:							
	Cheque / Money Order / Cash Please make cheque or money order payable to ATHSOSA Inc.							
•	Visa / Mastercard (please circle card type)							
	Card number /							
	Name on card (please print) Signature							
	Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) BSB: 105 125 Account No: 461 744 540 When processing please include your name as a reference and <u>attach a copy of the deposit receipt to this form</u> so that we know who made the deposit.							
For Of	fice Use Only							

Receipt No	Receipt Date	Amount	Ch/MO/Visa/EFT	Date Recorded	

Please post completed form and cheque/money order or EFT deposit slip to ATHS Old Scholars Association Inc, PO Box 4041, Norwood South SA 5067

Page 9