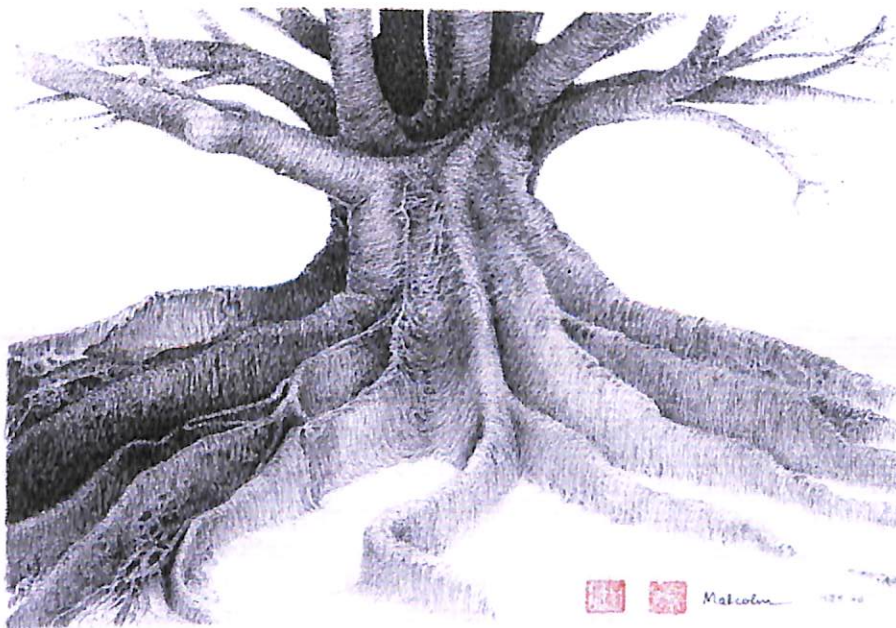


DHSESA NEWSLETTER

SPRING/SUMMER 2015 — ISSUE 68

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MORETON BAY FIG STUDY

(pen drawing)

MALCOLM

PETTIGROVE

Attended DHS 1950's/60's

0434982445





A Journey to Remember

Early this year I learned of a planned 21 day train journey from Tehran to Budapest. The conducted tour was to be led by Barry Jones. This was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, engendering the feeling that the rhythm of life was coming full circle. Barry had been my History Teacher in Form 1 at DHS in 1957 (his first year and mine) and later taught our 4A class in 1960. My interest and sentiments were shared by Rosalind Terry, who had also been taught by Barry and we soon talked each other into going.

Because of unrest at the borders, last minute changes had to be made to keep us safe. Our luxury trip became more like boot camp with additional flights at unearthly hours, nightly hotel bookings to compensate for a substitute Iranian train and the avoidance of certain parts of Turkey. The group was not young but everyone coped remarkably well, quickly developing a strong esprit de corps and a well-developed sense of humour.

Barry had been the carrot for most of us and he did not disappoint. In his inimitable style he gave tutorials during happy hour in the vintage saloon car. We were given background details of the ancient towns, churches, mosques, archaeological sites and the political history, up to the present, of the countries visited. I could not help smiling when I was asked to hold up a map of Asia and Europe – I had become a class monitor again. And I was impressed by his unflagging enthusiasm.

In spite of the difficulties, the promise of experiencing the treasures of Persia was realized. The architecture of the palaces and mosques was magnificent and the colours of the tiles in the mosaics had not lost their vibrancy after hundreds of years of exposure to the elements. They were a wonder to behold. We toured through Jewish and Armenian sectors, visited churches and toured the Zoroastrian Fire Temple in Yazd.

Our specialist guides told us of their origins, customs and beliefs. We visited the famed Eram Persian Garden in Shiraz and feasted on the local food wherever we went.

But day after day, dealing with the present reality in Iran, created a disturbing disconnect. The ladies in our group were required to wear scarves and long tops when venturing outside their hotel rooms or train compartments. At the Reza Shrine Complex we had to wear the full chador. When out and about I quickly learned to give way to men when approaching doorways and became familiar with the coldness in their eyes. This was tempered by the eager young children that approached us, wanting to practice their English, and the families that requested we join them in their group photographs.

Journeying through Iran, Turkey, Bulgaria, Romania and Hungary presented an ever-changing, moving landscape. From bone-dry, bare hills and plains, through a smattering of grasses and bushes, to occasional cultivated patches followed by crop fields and then into the forests and mountains of Bulgaria and Rumania, we finally arrived on the plains of Hungary. The construction and style of dwellings similarly changed as did the clothing worn by the people. Budapest was our final destination and it is again, post 1989, a bustling, cosmopolitan city with beautiful boulevards and buildings. We were ready to go home.

The passing of Jill Stagg (Berry)

Imagine my shock when I returned from overseas fully expecting to contact Jill and arrange a visit to her home in Point Lonsdale, to read of her passing in the paper. Things had seemed so positive before I left, with a course of chemotherapy coming to an end. I had known Jill Berry since I was 10 years old when we lived around the corner from her family in Dandenong.

We both attended Dandenong East then Dandenong North Primary schools, followed by Dandenong High School. Although I was two years ahead of her, our paths crossed many times over the coming years. We had a common interest in sport - the last time I could run faster than her I was eleven and she was still eight. After that she grew taller and faster and I could never keep up with her again. More importantly she played a crucial role as a catalyst at the start of the fifty year union I had with my late husband. For that I will be forever grateful.

Her brother, Ian, wrote down memories of Jill for her funeral and these are some extracts:

"The family lived in Cleeland Street, Dandenong. Her early life consisted of playing just about every sporting game possible in the backyard, running under the sprinkler in Summer, "deep sea diving" in the wading pool, attending to chook pens and bird aviaries, bonfire nights on the nearby vacant blocks, going down to the Dandy Market and the Annual Show, swimming in the local baths, seeing films at the Mayfair picture theatre and the first drive-in theatre. Summer holidays were often spent going to the beach at Seaford or Long Island and staying for a few weeks at Rosebud. Two highlights of the 1950s were the Melbourne Olympics and the introduction of television.

Jill developed her sprinting skills when her mother, Ettie, chased her and Ian around the house with a fly swat if they had done something wrong and their father was not home. Jill cleaned them up at Sunday School Picnic Races and successfully competed at the Victorian State School Carnivals held each year at Princes Park, Carlton. When she was a student at DHS she consistently won at the interschool level and then went on to achieve success at both Victorian All-High and All-Schools Championships. She was in the 1964 Victorian relay team that broke the Australian Junior record in 4x 110 yards. Jill broke a bone in her foot while doing the long jump and from then on her athletics career was curtailed. She was, however, a good all-

rounder, playing tennis, hockey and later golf. She was an active participant in both the Brownie and Girl Guide movements, played the piano and organ, conducted Orchid House Choirs and became House Captain, was good at art, read ex-

Jill sets record



tensively and became a keen gardener.

All of these interests and abilities served her in good stead when she became a teacher. She completed a three-year Infant Teachers course at Frankston Teachers College, driving there in her first car – an Austin A40. She taught at schools in Merino and Mt Waverley before taking twelve months off to travel to England. One of her jobs was as a nanny on the royal estate of Sandringham and Jill had in her possession a photo of a group of children in a swimming pool, one of them being a young Diana Spencer.

In 1974 she married David Stagg and after moving to the Eltham area she had their three sons. Two moves later saw her in the Ivanhoe house where she lived for twenty-five years before retiring to Point Lonsdale. When she returned to teaching her schools included Bethall, Reservoir East and Ivanhoe Primary School. Jill became a specialist PE teacher and demonstrated a high level of ability, dedication and professionalism.

Jill got on with people of all ages and backgrounds. She was truly everybody's friend. It was a fitting tribute to a down-to-earth, lovely human being.

Greta Jungwirth (de Vries) - President

FROM THE CHAIR—68
EX-STUDENTS ON THE MOVE



Arrival- Grand Hyatt Hotel in Dubai.
 Rachel Faggetter, Barry Jones, Greta
 Jungwirth, Alastair Whitford, Rosalind Terry.



Barry conducting a tutorial in the saloon car
 of the vintage train.



A typical example of intricate, sculp-
 tured work in a mosque.

TOMORROW'S EX-STUDENTS

INTERMEDIATE BOYS SOCCER – STATE CHAMPIONS 2015

The Intermediate Boys Sports Team enjoyed some terrific success recently at the State Soccer Final. Garret Cree-Smith has done a fabulous job with these boys, and has held regular training sessions. Our boys came away victors and are the State Champions. They conceded only one goal for the entire day, in the Grand Final. All students displayed excellent sportsmanship and skill, and they wore their DHS track suits with absolute pride.



INTERMEDIATE GIRLS FUTSAL DISTRICT WINNERS 2015



REUNION NEWS

Bill Noblet and his wife Palma, pictured below), have generously hosted another reunion at their new home in Hazlewood (Traralgon). Lavishly catered for (again), by Palma, were **John King** and his wife Glynis, **Tim Rogers** and his wife Val, plus **The Editor** and wife **Lorraine (Vincent)**.



The continuation of this extended warm association, led to the following edited version of 'The Noblet Legacy' as presented in 'A Century Partnership—A History of the Upper Beaconsfield Cricket Club.'

The Noblet boys who attended DHS, namely **Bill, Fred and Graeme**, plus sister **Irene**, were the second generation of the Noblet family in Upper Beaconsfield.

The eldest boy, Bill, (our host) fondly remembers the State Primary School, which had 45 students, and the local military training camp in the early years of WW2. He loved his cricket, becoming a member of the Committee of the Upper Beaconsfield Club at 15, becoming Club Secretary at 17! He blossomed as a cricketer, and as a left-arm seamer took 3/12 as a fourteen year old!

He was involved in two sets of back-to back premierships, firstly at Upper Beaconsfield, and later at Korumburra.

He moved on to DHS in 1948, where some 450 students attended, and the Principal was **Mr. Griffiths**. He had a successful banking and later farming career.

At Korumburra, Bill became one of the few players in the Association to score a century and collect a hat-trick in the same season.

Singularly proud of his late younger brother **Fred**, he cherishes the time they spent together. Fred's earlier performances trumpeted his talent. As a thirteen year old in 1956 (whilst at DHS), he took 10 Lyndhurst South wickets for 68 against his older opponents. Bill supported him with 4/30.

Fred went on to the local A Grade competition, which in his second year netted him 46 wickets at 5.3. He moved onwards and upwards in Country Week competition.

Those of us who were privileged to be contemporaries of Fred at DHS, know of his outstanding middle-distance running prowess. He was also a promising musician.

The History records the following tribute: 'This flourishing sprig of Wattle was cut off in its prime.'

Two local cricketing awards bear the Fred Noblet title.

MORE REUNION NEWS

Our erstwhile Treasurer, Russ Weber, is another Upper Beaconsfield product. He has just organised a reunion of his 1960 group, and a report with photographs will appear in the next edition.

MENTIONED IN DISPATCHES

Thelma Hopkins (Thompson) who has been remembered in a recent Memorial Service, commenced at Dandenong High School in 1935. Her son **Ian**, also and ex-student recalled the tough times her generation had until after the Second World War.

Thelma married the well admired Verdun Hopkins, who was a leading local estate agent. She was a great dancer, cook and home entertainer.



The 'Berwick News' has carried an obituary about the life of **Anna Goodes (Dalla-Zanna)**. Headed 'Beacy cricket stalwart farewell', it recorded that Anna had spent most of her working life with her uncle, the well-known Dandenong business-man Peter Giroto. Anna served as secretary of the West Gippsland Cricket Association through 1994/95 and 1995/96. She was treasurer of the Beaconsfield Cricket Club for 13 years, plus other duties. She was rewarded with a Life Membership in 1995, after giving approximately 30 years of service. So popular was Anna, that in excess of 500 mourners attended her funeral service at Narre Warren.

One of our principal story sources is 'Gipps-Land Gate', the Journal of the Dandenong and District Historical Society. The current issue carried the following momentous proclamation from July 15th 1942: 'Mr & Mrs F B Jenkins of "Kelonz" Heatherton Road Noble Park have been warmly congratulated by their friends on the birth of a daughter, **Gail Margaret' Gail (Saddler)** is our own Membership Officer, and sister to **Verna (Woods) and Ross**, who also attended DHS.

The 'Gipps - Land Gate' referred to immediately above, also reported that other ex-students had made the following contributions: **Ken Masters and Margo Hartley (Corbin)** were speakers at the August and June meetings respectively; **Carmen Powell (Cruickshank)** is to speak at the forthcoming Annual Meeting. All of these functions are chaired by **Chris Keys**. There was a report about the wedding of **Thelma Rendell** to Doug Keys in November 1942.

The words by Ken Masters about his family's role in WW1 appear in the magazine, along with other notable local soldiers from that time. Ring 97948967 for copies or membership.

REUNION NEWS



1951

Back Row: Peter Bruce, Mike Kinsella, Frank Alderton, Peter Rose, Joe Rumble, David Ferguson, Ian Stuart, Geoff Pentland, Frank Hicks, Kevin Cripps, Don Turner, Bob Dudley, Neil Hewson, Barry Simon. **Middle Row:** Mary Nemet, Betty Harris, Noela Bursill, Pam Brown, Lois Hunter, Beth Tonks, Betty Broughton, Nancy Taylor, Bev Maynard, Margaret Morris, Betty Dilworth, ? , Dorce Hein. **Front Row:** Alma Henshaw, Marion McLean, Elaine Waters, Val Rodba, Gail Russell, Nell Cussen, Miss Armstrong, Mr Alexander, Gwen Evans, Pat Egan, Enid Law, Shirley Guest, Maureen Hazlett. **Cross-Legged in Front:** Barry Murphy, George Gill, Lou Russell, Lindsay Green



A group of Lou Russell's DHS contemporaries meets at Tooradin every few months. The names from this recent gathering are: (Left to right) Marion Wulf (nee Smith) Lou Russell, Dawn Wilson (nee Rowley) Joan Risely (nee Brewer) Janice Pearson (nee Mitchell).

ION WHYKES RAISES THE BAR

Due to the substantial nature of the advertising offer received from Ion Whykes (refer 'From the Chair'), the Committee is pleased to make the following space available for Ion's company.

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MEMBERSHIP RULES

This is taken to be for a calendar year, regardless of which month the payment is made. Some people choose the option to pay for 2 or 3 calendar years. If a new member joins in the last 3 or 4 months of the year, their membership is usually carried into the next year. These practices have been adopted to be in line with the rules of the Association and to create the least work for the Committee.

SCHOOL BADGES

Available from our memorabilia collection, and can be purchased through the Association. Price is \$10 which includes postage within Australia.

- A Replica school badge
- B Stick pin
- C Special 90th Anniv. badge

DHSESA OFFICE BEARERS

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Secretary—I.T.

Gary Matthews

Treasurer

Russell Weber

Historian/Ordinary Member

Dawn Harris (Burhop)

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WEBSITE/INTERNET

The web address is www.dhs-exstudents.synthasite.com. A further option for finding us is to do a 'google search', and simply type in **dhs ex students**, **without** clicking Australian sites, and you will see our site at the top of the list.

For further information, contact Gary Matthews by email at gazzcazz@hotmail.com or phone him on 5941 2507.

If you would like to receive the Newsletter by email, please notify the Secretary, as we are considering this option. Also for those over 80 years, there are no annual fees. Please advise.

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