

# Adelaide Technical High School

## Old Scholars Association Inc

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## Newsletter

June 2010

### EDITORIAL

June already! It seems that half the year has gone before we have been able to draw breath and take stock of where we are and where we are going.

Well, where are we? At the present time we, the Adelaide Technical High School Old Scholars Association Inc, is in a sound position with membership levels consistently at around the 400 mark over the past two years and financially secure in that we have finished each of those years with a small surplus which has been invested in a term deposit account where the accrued interest assists in providing for the two Baccalaureate Scholarships for students of our successor, the Glenunga International High School.

The answer to the question, "where are we going?" perhaps as one would expect, is not as clear. Obviously, our general direction is determined by the objectives of the Association as outlined in the Association's Constitution.

To achieve these objectives, the Association:

- ◆ Publishes three Newsletters and one Magazine each year to keep old scholars informed about the activities of the Association and of their contemporaries
- ◆ Organises social events such as the Picnic and the Annual Luncheon. From time to time it also organises events such as the Memorabilia Display held in 2008 to mark special anniversaries in the life of the school.
- ◆ Presents two memorial scholarships to students at GIHS undertaking the two-year International Baccalaureate course.
- ◆ Has in the past made substantial donations to the Glenunga International High School when it undertook the International Baccalaureate Course.
- ◆ Collects school memorabilia, an activity that can only be described as embarrassingly successful thanks to the generosity of members and the dedication of Archivist Judy McKeough. (The embarrassment arises from not having suitable secure storage for the memorabilia - it currently occupies a large area of the Archivist's home! - nor having an area where selected items can be put on public display.)

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## EDITORIAL (contd)

Bearing this in mind, the various Committees over the years have attempted to form closer ties with GIHS. The provision of the two scholarships was at least partly intended to provide a tangible link between the two schools, while our offer to assist with the formation of a joint old scholars association, representing both GIHS and ATHS was aimed at having the joint association maintain

our history as part of that of GIHS. (This would be similar to how we include the history of the School of Mines Preparatory School as part of our history). To date, these attempts have not been successful so that it is the Committee's intention that the basis for a formal relationship with GIHS be agreed this year.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORT

The 2010 AGM was held on 28 March in Heywood Park with about 35 members and friends in attendance. A total of seven proxy registrations were also recorded. Unlike previous years, the day, but not the meeting, was marred by drizzling rain which started at about 10.00am and continued until all of the guests had left. However, the attendees were able to shelter inside the tent which no doubt contributed to the close and friendly atmosphere.



L to R: Sue Thomson with Murray, Ross Taylor and Warren West before the rains came. (Murray with ears at the ready, alert for the approach of strangers).

During the formal meeting the President reported on the previous year's activities and paid particular tribute to Charmaine Kitson for her work on the Newsletter.

The Treasurer reported that during the previous year the Association's financial position had continued to improve while the Membership Secretary acknowledged the assistance received from Lesley Moir when she first took up the role and reported that total membership was at about the same level as that for the previous year.

Below L to R: Brian Moir, Julie Hallifax (hiding), Lesley Moir, Brenda Kitto, Bill McKeough, Jill Chenery, Judy McKeough and Ian McCarthy



Following presentation of the reports, in accordance with the Constitution the President declared all Committee positions vacant and proposed that the election of the new Committee be conducted by Mr. Graham Maguire. Since there were no further nominations for positions on the Committee other than those from the retiring members, it was moved and carried unanimously that the retiring members be re-appointed for 2010.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORT (contd)**



Above L to R: David Stoba, Graham Maguire (partly obscured), Mark Brindal, Judith Whitehorn (with dog) and Lynne Pigram

Below L to R: Judith Whitehorn, Lois Sampson, Barry Sampson, Lynne Pigram, Robyn Burns, Warren West, Ross Taylor (standing), Charmaine Kitson (taking minutes), Peter Kopli and Raelene Wilsdon listening to the President's address.



The formal meeting then resumed with the President officiating. There were two main items of business, motions to change the Constitution to allow proxies to be counted towards the numbers of members required to reach a quorum at any general meeting of the Association and for a continuation of the two scholarships for students of GIHS. After discussion, both motions were carried. There followed a general discussion on the future of the Association with the members present expressing a desire for the Committee to continue with its efforts to maintain the memory of the school through its relationship with GIHS and to strengthen the Association by encouraging more representation from those who attended the school at Glenside.

At the conclusion of the formal meeting those present enjoyed a chicken lunch with salads and desserts provided by members while taking the opportunity to meet and chat with classmates and other old scholars.



Above L to R: Bob Stone (intent on dessert), Lesley Moir, Brian Moir (intent on Bob's dessert), Mark Brindal (hiding behind Brian so he can steal Bob's dessert), Chas Grimes, Ian McCarthy, Margaret Grimes, Graham Maguire and Kath Harrison



Above L to R: Barry Sampson, Lynette Winckel, Peter and June Wass

## REPORT ON CHANGE TO THE CONSTITUTION

The problem of achieving a quorum at Annual General Meetings of the Association has been ever-present since its formation. The Constitution defines a quorum for any General Meeting as twenty-five (25) members or twenty (20) per cent of the members, whichever is the lesser. A number of ways of improving AGM attendances to guarantee sufficient members were present to form a quorum have been proposed and tried over the years, including the current approach of combining the AGM with the Annual Picnic which has proven the most successful of them all, but the problem continues to exist.

After consideration of the Constitution, the Committee came to the conclusion that it was illogical to allow members to appoint proxies to vote on their behalf at meetings if those proxies were not included in the determination of whether a quorum was present.

In this, the Committee was mindful of the example provided by the Office of Business and Consumer Affairs of rules for incorporated associations which suggests that "Ten members (or whatever number is considered appropriate for the total membership) present *personally or by proxy* shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any general meeting."

As the result of these considerations, a motion to add the words "present or by proxy" to Clause 15.1 of the Constitution was presented at the meeting and approved unanimously. The revised Clause will now read:

*"A quorum at any General Meeting of the Association shall be twenty-five (25) members or twenty (20) per cent of the members, present or by proxy, whichever is the lesser."*

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW? : Betty Pahl (Richards)

Dear Secretary,

I am sorry my subscription is late but I am in Pinnaroo SM Hospital at present.

I was thrilled to read news about years 1938-39 in the magazine. I'm 85 now but still follow news. My teachers for Commercial Class were Miss Balchin, Miss Topperwien and Miss Crane. I knew Mr Haskard as Joan (his daughter) attended Grange School with me. So I follow with interest any time her son is mentioned in the magazine.

I have lived on the farm since I was married in March 1945. It was just over the Victorian border.

I lost my husband April 1997 but still kept on living on the farm until just recently.

I have a daughter, 4 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. My son is not married. He is a contractor for Victorian Road Maintenance but still works our farm weekends.

Keep up the good work of magazine. I love it.

Yours sincerely  
BETTY L PAHL

PS: I was an original Life Member. I sent my card to you some time ago but I still have my original life membership badge. Keep up the good work.

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

Over the past century or so there have been dramatic changes in peoples' attitudes to the education of girls generally and to the career options available to them. It is apparent from the following summary of an article from The Advertiser of 4 April 1903 that our founding fathers were prepared to lead these changes even though they did not appear to have the full support of the "Special Reporter".

***What Shall We Do with Our Girls?  
Lady Students at the School of Mines***  
by a Special Reporter

*Punch's advice to young men contemplating matrimony was "Don't". This is certainly rather harsh. I will suggest a course which is more merciful to the gentler sex – "Treat your intended wife to a course of domestic economy at the School of Mines." No small proportion of the brides that are led to the altar in Adelaide have but the slenderest acquaintance with the elementary principles of household management, and subsequent experience has to be purchased at the cost of many mistakes and failures. It is here that the School of Mines steps forward as the ladies' friend – what could be more beneficial to a young lady than to have a thorough training in dressmaking, cookery and laundry work?*

The Reporter went on:

*By the courteous permission of the Registrar (Mr. J. A. Haslam B.Sc.) I was afforded an opportunity of watching the lady students at work on Wednesday. In ten minutes I was ready to acknowledge that really, after all, the work a lady is called on to perform in a household is by no means unskilled. The number of lady students surprised me beyond measure. Certainly at the School of Mines women are afforded equal rights to those enjoyed by men. The women, however, **are wont to intrude in** those branches of technical education which are usually followed by men such as bookbinding, carpentry &c.*

After going on to describe the classes in cookery (taken by Mrs. G. J. Lloyd), the Reporter continued *"There is particularly one section that the housewife needs to master if she would dwell permanently in the sunshine of her husband's smile. It is the disposal of cold meat. Hashes, minces, curries, patties rissoles komeskies and pateaux of meat are all set before the student as cunning devices for making cold mutton appetising....."*. (Does anyone in this day and age know what komeskies and pateaux might be?)

The Reporter then commented on the dress-making class (taken by Mrs. S. J. Aimley) that he visited and added that it was proposed to establish a class for laundry work, also under the direction of Mrs. G. J. Lloyd, which he thought was certainly needed *"because few ladies know how to iron a shirt without smashing the buttons and how to starch collars so they will not collapse before the day is out."*

In talking about the intrusion of ladies into the normally male classes the Reporter said:

*It would be thought by most people that carpentry was essentially the occupation for a man but in the carpentry class at the School of Mines I found lady students. The instructor, Mr. W. F. Basford, told me it was his experience that ladies, although slower in their work, were more painstaking. He pointed to the fact that some truly excellent work had been done by Miss Benda and Miss Watson. The former had gained Diplomas at the local Chamber of Manufactures Exhibition and the Bendigo Exhibition for a hall chair she had made with her own hands. "They are not any more trouble than the boys", remarked Mr. Basford "and carpentering provides them with healthy recreation. There is no need for Sandow exercises after they come down here." (Is there anyone out there who knows what Sandow exercises were?)*

## FROM THE ARCHIVES (contd)

*In Mr. Dalby's class, one lady is taking up the study of physics, while there are a good many receiving instruction in bookbinding under Mr. Webb. The instruction afforded in book-keeping, typewriting and shorthand is largely availed of by young ladies who seek to gain a livelihood in commercial circles.*

The only conclusion we can draw from the story is that in 1903, the "Special Reporter" believed that a woman's place was in the home and that for the most part, women were largely untrained for the role. However, the School of Mines, while offering women courses in the traditional "domestic sciences", was taking a different view in providing them with opportunities to study male occupations to enable them to take more wide-ranging roles in society.

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Recently when discussing the move of the school from North Terrace to Glenunga the subject of a time capsule was mentioned. It was thought that a capsule containing ATHS memorabilia had been buried somewhere on the site during the first year of operation of the new school. Unfortunately no one has been able to confirm that a capsule was buried on the new site, nor if it had, where it was buried. The Committee would appreciate any information that would shed some light on this matter.

### TIME CAPSULE

While the concept of a school war cry seems very much a thing of the past, there would be few old scholars who are unable to recall the words:

### WAR CRY

*Warrigarooma! Warrigarooma! Warrigarooma! Roo!  
Techs. we are! Techs we are!  
Hurrah for the gold and blue!  
In football, cricket and tennis, we play the game right through!  
Tech School, Adelaide!  
Hurrah for the gold and blue!*

The question is when was the war cry written and by whom? It was certainly well known in the 1940's so that it would appear to have come from an earlier time. Anyone able to provide any information at all about the war cry and its origins, please contact any member of the Committee.

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS (contd)

Over the years the School Magazine generally included descriptions of the year's school trips. However, one suspects that for one reason or another, the best stories may not have seen the light of day. Now is the time to rectify this gap in our school history.

The Committee would be pleased to receive the "real" stories of school trips and excursions for publication in later Newsletters. All stories should be addressed to the Secretary and should be accompanied by photographs where possible. Authors of stories selected for publication will be rewarded with a copy of the Bryce Kohler book "Adelaide Technical High School – The Story".

**PRIZE FOR  
STORIES OF  
SCHOOL TRIPS**

**WHERE ARE  
THEY NOW**

Member feed back has been very positive about the recent articles that have appeared under the headings of Where Are They Now and/or Contributions From Old Scholars.

**These can only continue with member participation  
—please consider sharing your life experiences.**

Judy McKeough (Downie) is interested in getting further copies of 'Tech Talk' for the archives. Please check your memorabilia—you may be able to assist.

Her contact details are

telephone : 08 8353 3910  
email : jandbmckeough@bigpond.com

**TECH TALES**

## DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

The Annual Luncheon has been scheduled for Wednesday, 20 October 2010 at The Rex Hotel, Richmond Road, Marleston.

The function will take a similar form to those of previous luncheons at the venue except that in response to suggestions from members there will be no Guest Speaker. This change is to provide more time for people to catch up with their friends and former schoolmates.

**While the function is still months away, the Committee would appreciate offers for the supply of prizes for the Scholarship Raffle as soon as possible.**



## SOUVENIRS AVAILABLE

History book "ATHS—The Story"	
<b>On Sale</b> : includes postage	\$ 35.00
Old Scholars' Badges	\$ 5.00
Cuff Links	\$ 15.00 pr
<b>Special Price</b>	
Old Scholars' Badge & Cuff Links	\$ 17.50
Key rings	\$ 1.00
Placemats limited numbers (from luncheons 2005-2008)	\$ 2.00 ea
Prints of Brookman Building	Free
Old Scholars' Magazines	
(1996-2008)	\$ 5.00 ea
or 5 for	\$ 20.00
(2009)	\$ 15.00 ea

Please contact Ross Taylor on 0431 987 901 or email [roscoet2910@bigpond.com](mailto:roscoet2910@bigpond.com) if you wish to purchase merchandise.

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