Newsletter # 18 – 10 December 2011

www.telopea68.org

Today is exactly eight weeks since we gathered in the staff room at Telopea Park High School.

What has happened since then?

Well, the website continues to be updated by Jan from Brussels, from Serbia, and now in Luxembourg. At <u>Event Photos</u> you will find three albums of photos from the reunion, most with captions. The albums have 129/335/125 photographs in them, clearly too many but they have been submitted by a number of people and I am trying to cull them down to a reasonable number (what is a reasonable number?). There are five short videos now, and more will be added.

There is also a new album entitled <u>Post Reunion gatherings</u>. One of the heartening results of the reunion is that people are getting back in contact after so many years and making new friends. Phone calls, emails and visits, the reunion now has a new ongoing life. John Walsh was in Brisbane recently and caught up with Steve Maitland and Steven Hills and also Rob Nicholls who was there from Melbourne at the same time (no photos?). Five of the 'girls' got together in Nara Park in Lennox Gardens in Canberra (by the lake near the old Hotel Canberra) on November 29. The Melbourne Telopeans now have a Melbourne Chapter which intends to meet each three months. Jenny and I attended their inaugural lunch at the Argo in South Yarra on November 19. The photos show that thirteen of us attended. They don't show that five partners were also there and Rob Nicholls called in but couldn't stay. Their next lunch will be on February 11 at a venue yet to be decided. If you are interested in joining us please contact <u>Valda Krastins</u> or <u>Barry Ballard</u>.

Not to be outdone, and because it is a nice idea, there is now planning for a Sydney Chapter. Please contact <u>Elizabeth Martin</u> or <u>Dinah Clark</u>.

Queenslanders, <u>Steve Maitland</u> is prepared to organise an event in Brisbane. Contact Steve if you are interested and/ or have ideas. Christine Harris, now living in Italy, will be visiting her mother in Sydney for a month from December 23 and it is hoped that a Sydney lunch can be fitted in to her schedule.

Please contact me if you need addresses and/ or phone numbers (email addresses are easily obtained from the website) or if you would like any information circulated and do send a photographic record for the website.

You may be interested in how far these Telopea seeds have strayed.

Of 213 people whose whereabouts I know, here is a summary of where we are:

ACT and Queanbeyan - 99.

NSW - 59 incl. 16 in Sydney.

Victoria - 15 incl. 10 in Melbourne.

Queensland - 16 incl. 3 in Brisbane.

W.A. - 3 in Perth/ Fremantle plus one in Bunbury.

N.T. - 3, all in Darwin.

S.A. - 1 in Adelaide.

Tasmania - 1 (in Mathinna).

Overseas:

USA - 10.

Malaysia - 2.

NZ, England, South Africa, Italy - 1 each.

Does anyone else share my curiosity in other directions? For example, who is the oldest, who is the youngest?

Kaye Hargreaves and I think that she is the youngest. Kaye's date of birth is 29 October 1951, so she wasn't even 60 at the reunion. I believe the oldest of us was born on 21 January 1950 - is there anyone who can beat that?

Keep sending your biographical stories in and keep checking to see who has been added to the list. I shouldn't pick winners but I did enjoy reading Richard Swan's tale, Valda's is due any minute and I'm hoping to see one from Lois and Christine before too long. (Sorry about that pressure but I know you can handle it). And I'm still looking for recent photos from those people without one on the website. We now have 353 names listed as people qualified for our moving year. There are 326 'then' photos and 134 'now' photos. 65 of you have contributed stories about yourself and there are another 21 Googled items. This email will be sent to 181 people. At least 142 students or teachers (including partners) attended at least one event of the reunion.

The debrief mentioned in my last newsletter has not yet happened. I hope that we can reschedule this to Saturday 4 February. If you would like to come please let me know.

Before then I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and a bright start to 2012. Thank you for all the messages, the cards and emails following the reunion. It has been a truly satisfying exercise.

Brett

PS There are other reunions happening and happened. Some of you might be curious about them. Here are their websites:

The 1962 leavers are meeting in Canberra in March 2012 http://tphs1962.blogspot.com/

The 1971 leavers had theirs in November http://www.wix.com/michelehall/TPHSreunion40years1971

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