

Friends of Stewart House Bulletin 2, 2016 (DRAFT)

Introduction.

The FOSH Committee thought it a good idea to publish a second Bulletin this year to keep everyone updated on what has been going on and as a reminder of coming events. We now have commitments from the Teachers Bank (EdVest), IRSEA, ARPP and ARSP to publish information about our organisation and activities. Any thoughts on further developing communication between members, and prospective members, would be most welcome. Just email alaughlin21@optusnet.com.au or send that letter to FOSH c/- PO Box 21 Freshwater NSW 2096.

Message from our President. (Kerryanne Knox)

The second newsletter for the year contains information about functions held in the first half of the year. These are the Kokoda Memorial Track visit, Stewart House Annual General Meeting and the first Stewart House Charity Race Day.

Membership is starting to grow and there is an online membership now available with a secure payment function. All you have to do is follow the steps:


- Log onto www.stewarhouse.org.au
- Choose "Get Involved" from the menu
- From the drop down menu choose Friends of Stewart House.
- Click "join online"

Our next function is lunch at Doyles on July 21st. Further details are in this newsletter.

If you can make it, we would love to see you.

Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasmlet's aim at supporting 10 more students experience Stewart House or simply raising another \$10 000.

Kokoda Track Memorial Visit, 7 April.

 (Report by Ray Gentles, a big thank you to Ray for hosting a great day



About 40 members of FOSH and their friends and family turned up on our first function of the year. A walk around the Kokoda Memorial Walkway at Concord, with special commentary from some Kokoda Track veterans, was extremely successful.

People enjoyed hearing the real life stories of the trials and tribulations of war time and congratulated the three 90 year plus veterans who were, as some said, "sharp as a tack" and very proud of their contribution to the Australian armed services. It was obvious to us all that the veterans lamented the loss of so many lives and

the absolute futility of war.

Following the guided walk, we headed to the open area for a barbecue lunch and refreshments. The conversation and laughter that happened indicated the success of the day. We happily handed over \$400 for our first fundraiser of the year.

And, following lots of enquiries, we'll do this one again!



Stewart House Day – Annual Presentation Ceremony. (Graeme Philpotts).

Over 120 guests, adults and children representing award recipients attended the Annual Presentation Ceremony. **Jane Lindsay (representing FOSH)**, Cheryl Best (Executive Director DoE) and Kerryn Baird (representing the Premier of NSW) were among the presenters.

School Awards.

Student House continues to recognise the tremendous contribution schools make each year. School donations are acknowledged on a student per capita basis, not on school classification. Five tiers of supporter status (diamond, platinum, gold, silver and bronze) with appropriate award recognition in each tier showcase contributions made by the whole school community.

This year Stewart House awarded 165 Bronze Certificates (sent to schools with appropriate cover letter), 44 silver wall plaques, 28 Gold trophies, 10 Diamond trophies and 4 Platinum trophies. Silver to Diamond tier awardees were invited to the presentation ceremony. Russell Lea Infants picked up their third Diamond Award and were joined this year by Ballimore PS, Mary Brooksbank School and Wewak Street School.

Corporate Awards.

The Stewart House awards program is designed to honour the outstanding contributions, either in cash or kind made by individuals, organisations and corporations in any one calendar year. Five tiers of supporter status (diamond > \$80,000, platinum > \$40,000, gold > \$20,000, silver > \$10,000 and bronze > \$5,000) appropriately acknowledge the generous support received from benefactors.



Diamond status was conferred upon three significant supporters - NSW Department of Education, Northern Sydney Local Health District of NSW Health and Bank of America Merrill Lynch. **Friends of Stewart House received Platinum recognition for their 2015 contribution of \$45,000.** Historically these funds are used to supplement annual bus leasing costs. The three 25-seat Rosa mini buses are leased through Statefleet at an annual cost of \$70,000.

Tom Croker in his role as Deputy Chairman also accepted a cheque from Jane Lindsay (opposite) for \$10,000 from the Friends of Stewart House. These funds will be used in 2016 to fully fund the stay of 9 children at Stewart House .

All awardees as well as a comprehensive analysis of donations made in 2015 may be found in the Stewart House Annual Report accessed by clicking the *Publications* icon on the Stewart House website www.stewarthouse.org.au

Charity Race Day (ASX Thomson Reuters). *(Alan Laughlin/Graeme Philpotts)*

With the weather conditions as wet as they were, over 1,500 guests still enjoyed an afternoon of racing and entertainment in the Grand pavilion at Rosehill Racecourse. We were part of a group of charities and the organisers have reported raising just under \$180,000 for the 18 charities nominated as beneficiaries. This will be distributed towards the end of June, after all accounts for the day have been finalized.

Stewart House had 503 guests attend and with this number we were afforded platinum sponsor status and Graeme Philpotts was given the opportunity to address the audience to outline our purpose. Over \$3,000 in donations and a promise of \$10,000 in July were directly received by Stewart House after the CEO's presentation. Guests at Stewart House tables spent over \$36,000 on securing silent auction items. As an aside the CEO's wife, Gayle Philpotts won the major raffle prize on the day – a \$30,000 emerald and diamond ring.

Stewart House will receive a donation in excess of \$110,000 as our share of proceeds from the day and recoup of subsidies – the most fruitful single fundraising event in Stewart House's history!

Feedback from guests has been very positive and ASX Thomson Reuters have been inundated with enquiries for next year. All sponsors from this year will receive priority when booking. The event will double in size next year and both the upper level and ground floors of the Grand Pavilion will be used.

Stewart House has already secured 70 tables for next year's event and has suggested to organizers that, at the start of the function, their own volunteers will secure raffle and other donations from guests to expedite the process. As soon as negotiations are completed with the Australian Turf Club, a 'Save the Date' will be issued. Please consider taking a table at next year's event.

Upcoming Events. Activities for 2016, July to November.

July.

Thursday 21st July: Lunch at Doyles Restaurant on the Beach at Watson's Bay. This is the usual indulgence of delicious fish chowder, followed by fish and chips. (also bread roll and free drink). The ferry for Watsons Bay departs from Wharf 4 Circular Quay, at 12.07 - for the 'early birds' there is one at 11.40 am. Please check ferry times closer to the event. Meet inside at 12.15 pm for 12.30 pm start. This outing is always most enjoyable. Bring your friends. (Cost \$40 including \$10 donation to Stewart House). Contact Margaret Harmer (mhsydney@bigpond.com or mobile 0408 286 132) by 14th July. (Note that it is essential to make a booking and a reservation must be cancelled if you are unable to attend as payment may be required by Doyles if they are not advised.)

September.

Tuesday 27 September: High Tea at David Jones Restaurant, Castle Towers, Castle Hill at 10.30 am. Cost is \$30 (includes high tea, \$10 donation to Stewart House and a raffle ticket). Parking is available at the Castle Towers Shopping Centre.

- Public transport options
 - M61 or M610X bus to Castle Hill from Stand C York Street City on the western side of the Queen Victoria Building OR
 - M60 bus to Castle Hill from Stand A Railway Street at Pennant Hills Railway Station.

For enquiries and bookings please contact Judy Brown by 15 September on 0438 731 550 or d_jbrown@bigpond.net.au

Note d_jbrown.

November.

Thursday 10 November: Join with other FOSH members and their friends for an exclusive Movie Moment – This will be a heritage movie, eg. *Gone With The Wind* or ?

FOSH has arranged for a special screening in full Technicolor, at the Roseville Theatre on 10 November, 2016, 5.00pm, at the special price of \$25.00pp. This includes a donation to Stewart House. For those interested the screening will be followed by an evening meal at a nearby local restaurant. Put it in your diary and make a booking NOW.

For bookings and further information ring Brian Powyer 9686 1873 or bpowyer@optusnet.com.au . Bookings by 10 September essential. Please spread the word to as many family members and friends as possible to join us for this special evening with all proceeds going to FOSH in support of Stewart House.

Note: Annual Raffle will be drawn at the Movie Night. Please return tickets by the end of October.

AGM: 17 January 2017, Epping RSL, \$60 per person for lunch, drink with lunch and a small contribution to FOSH.

VALE: Mrs Joyce (Joy) Delaney

It is with great sadness that we inform you that Joy Delaney passed away on the 2nd June, 2016. She would be well known to many of our members.

Joy was a wonderful lady and it was a great pleasure for many of us to enjoy her company and to work with her as a member of the Friends of Stewart House. Her contribution to Stewart House through the Friends was significant.

She joined the Friends in 1971 and has given 45 years of service to children in need. Her considerable sewing skills produced all manner of garments for children. Together with Elvia Frost she convened sewing days for 17 years. This involved regular visits to Stewart House, purchasing fabrics, cutting out and sewing of an enormous range of garments, both at her home and at Stewart House.

Joy was also a member of our committee for many years and contributed to the organisation of fund raising activities as well as regularly attending these functions. She never failed to volunteer to assist in whatever way she could and organised, with other members, a hugely successful trading table at meetings of the Friends.

Many hundreds of children would have benefitted from Joy's generosity, kindness and caring nature. Thank you, Joy, from the children and from the Friends of Stewart House.