

P&C annual report 2008

2008 I think will prove to be a cornerstone year for Manly P and C Association. By pressing ahead with one initiative that relied on our ties with the past, we have created a body of people with a keen eye to the future.

The Manly Selective Campus Alumni Association was the culmination of several years work by a dedicated body of school staff and P and C representatives.

The Alumni, largely the old boys of Manly Boys High School days, but also including a number of graduates of more recent times, is a force in the making.

Our initial Alumni open day was exceptionally successful, with more than 400 former students taking part. In addition we have established a membership databank comprising 521 ex-Manly pupils with myriad life experiences who, we know, will strengthen and enrich our community group as we meet the challenges of the years to come. The costs associated with establishing the school Alumni were minimal but the venture has the potential to bring us rewards in many diverse ways over the years.

I would like to thank the steering committee of Lea Gregory, Edith Hurt, Mary Anne Yeldham, Peter Yeldham and David Tomlin for all their efforts with this venture.

This year the P and C general meeting voted not to continue its participation in the student accident and insurance cover facilitated by the Federation of P&C of NSW.

This year we implemented the rainwater conservation and water saving initiatives approved last year. Total expenditure for this was \$29,000 (including a government grant for \$44,000, meaning that we still have \$15,000 to spend on water conservation).

This initiative and accompanying plumbing improvements have achieved a saving of 6 mega litres a year. The committee has also been actively examining projects involving solar panels. We will be applying for a federal government Solar Schools grant early next year. If successful we hope to reduce the school's carbon footprint and set an example to the school and wider community.

During the year we continued the operation of our long-standing Excellence Fund. There were five recipients of \$250 each.

We had a busy year on the canteen with a fresh intake of volunteers complementing the excellent service provided by our professional team. Canteen supervisor Sue Sample retired this year after many years of service. Canteen assistant supervisor, Lee Truong, also retired during the year. We thank them for creating a positive work environment and for their commitment to the healthy canteen initiative.

We welcome new supervisor Melinda Timms and Brenda Murphy to the school. Patrick O'Brien will continue his role as canteen assistant. Thank you Patrick and many thanks also to the hard-working canteen committee led by Philippa Hayman.

The band committee led by Nic Townsend continues to enrich the musical life of our students and the social life of their parents. The committee hosted a trivia night in addition to their annual dinner dance at Cromer Golf Club. In January the Bands of Manly High will be touring Japan.

Our environmental committee, led by Greg Cooper, continues to achieve great results. Apart from big-ticket items, the committee has also co-ordinated work vital on the

grounds. I would like to thank Hardware and General for the generous donation of a rainwater tank and also thank David Williams from the Manly Warringah Community College making our first tank a reality.

In 2008 we formed a sports committee led by Graeme Hodge in response to community demands and while the committee is still a work in progress, the school's participation in sport has increased. I would also like to thank Isobel McAuley who has organised the 'second hand uniform shop' during the year. Proceeds of sales are deposited in the P&C's general account.

Manly P&C website www.manlypandc.org.au continues to provide information about P&C activities and sub-committees This valuable communication tool needs to have a higher profile providing information and support for time poor parents. Thank you to Jose Diacono our website manager and James Diacono (past student) for his technical expertise.

Joseph Earl and Phil Diacono have represented parent body on the school technology committee. This committee oversees the implementation and upgrades to the school's IT system.

Parent contributions to the Library and Building Funds provide ongoing financial resources for the school and improve student outcomes. I would urge all parents to continue their financial commitment to these tax-deductible funds.

We provided two batches of extra outdoor seating for the students at a cost of \$5,500 each and have other plans for outdoor improvements in the melting pot.

The P&C, together with the school executive, has been examining the adoption of a long-term concept plan for the school, looking in particular at its infrastructure needs over the coming years. We hope to be able to report on our progress early next year. In association with our long-term planning we have established a fund-raising advisory group.

Throughout the year we have been represented at district, regional and state council levels of the P&C Federation and we have also been a voice on the Parents Advisory Group of Northern Beaches Secondary College held at Freshwater Campus.

All this would not have been possible with a full commitment from our hard-working executive. I would like to thank secretary Kathy Leviton, vice-presidents Simon Balderstone and Edith Hurt, treasurer Lance Walker and Kay Mathews, Carmel Fielding, David Turnbull, Greg Cooper, Mary Anne Yeldham and Wayne Christie.

I would also like to thank the school executive: David Tomlin, Meg Tulk and Josie O'Donnell and a special thanks to Judy Boylan and the School Administration and Support staff for all their practical support and assistance throughout the year.

Perry Yeldham, president