



*The AME School 1972-1996*

## **AME School 40th Anniversary**

*Weekend 17-18 November 2012*

### **Canberra**

*The New AME Bulletin vol. 1*

*23 January 2012*

- **History Timeline of memories – Sunday**
- **Picnic in the Park – Sunday**
- **Gala Dinner – Saturday night**
  - expressions of interest by 29<sup>th</sup> Feb.
  - tickets on sale end of March
- **and more...**

**PASS THIS ON TO YOUR AME NETWORKS !**

Email: [2012@ameschool.org](mailto:2012@ameschool.org)

Post: PO Box 249, Dickson, ACT, 2601

Web: [www.ameschool.org](http://www.ameschool.org)

Journal: [www.ameschool.org/blog](http://www.ameschool.org/blog)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/#!/groups/ame.alumni](http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/ame.alumni)

## The New AME Bulletin

Dear AME people,

Yes it is I, Bernie, the tall bearded one, author of lots of bulletins at AME and so ... here is another one!

At last year's AME May picnic /gathering at Black Mountain it was terrific to see again and hear the stories of long lost exies. Never to be backward in coming forward, one dear soul, Ross Balderson, came up to me and said through his usual cheery cheesy smile, "Geez ... Bernie you're still alive! Great! You haven't changed a bit!" Well, I thought, yes I am and yes I have! But gee, I must appear geriatric now as Ross himself was not exactly a spring chicken any more – great job, partner, kids, mortgage. It is a long time since Ross was enrolled with us. I was told he would cajole, drag and bribe Cliff Walters and Tony Brown along if we could get a decent get-together going.

Post picnic Peter Petkovic rang me about his enthusiasm to reinvigorate connections. I was amazed at his first blog/journal entry where he described his time at AME (as a teacher of maths, confidant of students, assistant to varied and amazing activities) as a special and formative part of his life. And so through Peter's efforts and Peter Barber's help we have indeed got going, Ross, and we formed – wait for it! – A COMMITTEE. A great enthusiastic life hardened bunch who have met and met to organize a gathering in November 2012 in Canberra.

So we need the AME tree to begin its networking. I have met a lot of exies, parents and staff over the years and love hearing about your varied and exciting lives. So I ask that you read the Bulletin, talk it up, contact friends and have them put time aside so we can be .....theme music..... 'Together Again' in 2012.

Cheers and best wishes,

Bernie Perrett

### ***Where are we all?***

This Bulletin is being sent to most of the 308 ex AME students, 48 parents and 56 ex teachers for whom we currently have contact information. The search is on for the rest of the ~1700 students, teachers and parents for whom we have names. Please help by passing it on to your AME networks.

See list of names linked here: [www.ameschool.org/links.htm](http://www.ameschool.org/links.htm)



A New AME has been incorporated in the ACT for the purpose of reconnecting the wider AME community and specifically to plan and organise a series of events in November 2012 to mark the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the AME School (see last page of this bulletin for our list of objectives).

We have an inaugural committee to coordinate the planning, to commit to the booking of venues, to collect money to underpin the events, and to ensure it is all open and transparent. Bernie Perrett, who will need no introduction, is the President. Other committee members include two students, two parents and three teachers. A moveable number of others assisting includes five parents and two students.

Anyone with time or ideas to contribute should contact the group by email **2012@ameschool.org** or post to PO Box 249, Dickson, ACT, 2601

### **2012 – Together Again 40 years on**

Put the weekend of **17-18 November 2012** into your diaries and look forward to a weekend in Canberra renewing old friendships, remembering times past, reflecting on lasting impacts, and simply having fun together. Present plans are underway for:

- A participatory “Historical Timeline”- Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>
- A Gala Dinner – good food and entertainment (est. cost \$80-120), expressions of interest needed urgently to secure venue – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>
- A Picnic in the Park- BYO food and drink for brunch or lunch -11am-2pm, Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>

Venues to be advised. There are a number of other ideas in the melting pot about which we will advise when they firm up. Register your email address if you haven't already to **2012@ameschool.org**

## Gala Dinner

This will be on the Saturday night and it is planned to make it an evening of good food and wine, entertainment, music, dancing, speeches (and rebuttals you've been holding back on for years) and perhaps roving cameras capturing everyone in their finery!

It is expected to cost in the range of \$80-120.

To book venues requires an indication of likely numbers. We are only asking for expressions of interest at this stage as we know it is difficult to be definite this far ahead. Please register your interest by email to **2012@ameschool.org** heading the email *2012 AME Gala Dinner*.

***Please register your interest by 29<sup>th</sup> February! Tickets on sale by 31<sup>st</sup> March.***

## AME Historical Timeline

**you're invited to join in!**

During the Reunion, an AME Historical Timeline will be created. In preparation, we plan set up sections for each year of the school with photos and anecdotes to remind people of significant events. Over the weekend everyone will be asked to add their own stories, photos and other memorabilia.

In preparation, we are making a start by collecting aural and written memories, photos, writing, journals, stories – and any artefacts from AME's rich history. After the reunion, we plan to compile the Timeline into a published document for distribution among the AME community, and possibly beyond.

Anyone interested in contributing to this project before the Reunion please let us know by emailing Margaret White at **amehistory@gmail.com**

## Funding and Membership

In establishing the *New AME* Inc. to organise these events we debated at some length (sound familiar?!) about what to do to cover our seeding costs. This includes venue, equipment and insurance and other admin. We want as many people as possible to be able to participate. So we decided to establish a small one-off membership fee of \$20 and to invite ex AME people to support this exercise by joining up. We also invite donations. All funds will be used for the purpose of this gathering only, and there will be a formal reporting on financial matters as required by our incorporation.

To pay \$20 membership fee and/or give a donation, make transfers to this account:

Name: The New Association for Modern Education, Inc.  
 BSB: 082-924  
 A/C: 127545446

including your name on the transaction and also advise **2012@ameschool.org**

### **New Association for Modern Education, Inc - Committee**

To incorporate an association the ACT Incorporated Associations Act requires that the association be managed by a committee. The Act requires seven positions; four as a management committee plus three committee members as a minimum structure. One of the members, a resident of the ACT must also act as the Public Officer for communication and filing returns.

We have the following structure:

President – Bernie Perrett	Membership – Jean Norman
Vice President – Kate Dawson	Events – Diana Hodge
Treasurer – Anne Furnass	History – Margaret White
Secretary and Public Officer – Fran Parker (Ashman)	Communications – Peter Petkovic

### **New Association for Modern Education – Objectives**

1. Organise a series of reunion events to mark the 40th Anniversary of the opening of the Association for Modern Education (AME) School in 1972 culminating on 17-18 Nov 2012.
2. Bring as many members of the school's community together to meet, discuss, reminisce and exchange experiences and ideas and have fun.
3. Collect any information possible in all forms and media and disseminate in ways which contribute meaningfully to the ongoing debate about the progressive education of children and lifelong learning.
4. Identify, articulate and preserve AME's values as an enduring contribution and legacy to progressive education and learning.
5. Acknowledge the vision, commitment and courage of AME's founders.
6. Leave a lasting record of the reunion.
7. Plan, organise and run the program of reunion events and activities within the structure of a member-based incorporated association which will operate for two years from December 2012 with a break even financial budget and to wind up the association on fulfilling the objectives unless the membership otherwise determines.
8. Reconnect the AME extended community to realise these objectives.