



Wesley School for Seniors

Newsbites – Issue 1

Term 1 (29 January 2019 – 12 April 2019)

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School for Seniors Update

By Jeannie Mathews, Program Coordinator

It's a very exciting year for School for Seniors as we turn 50 years this year. The school first began on March 6, 1969. The fee per term was \$1. Although there are not many people at the school from then, we do have tutors and students currently at the school who have been here for nearly 30 years. We will be using various occasions during the year to acknowledge our long-term representatives so please watch out the notice board for details.

We just concluded our first event for the year which was the multicultural day. Our guest talk for the term was on how to manage anxiety and depression and was well attended. Thank you to all who participated.

Message

By Rev. Keith Garner, Superintendent & CEO

I am glad of the opportunity to write these few words to you during this important season of Lent, as we approach Easter.

This is a busy time in the life of Wesley Mission and my own role, as many of you know, is one that covers many areas. But when we approach Easter, I have no doubt at all that my contribution as a Christian minister is at its sharpest. In all kinds of ways, we seek to commend faith and its importance to the wider community of Sydney through our life and witness. This is carried out in a wide variety of ways, ranging from special events on Palm Sunday and Good Friday to an Easter Breakfast and Easter Lunch, as well as our televised Easter Sunrise Service at the Sydney Opera House. This final event is broadcast live on Channel 9, in addition to being simulcast on radio stations across Australia.

Wesley Mission has been involved in this kind of mission for well over 50 years and I never cease to be amazed at the numbers of people whose lives are changed by hearing the good news that we have to declare, especially at this time of the year.

As I write these words, I am conscious of the contribution that the School for Seniors makes to the life of Wesley Mission. I enjoy exploring the different classes and invariably meet participants in our lifts and when I ask what class are they on their way to or from, I am pleasantly surprised at the huge diversity of answers I receive.

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Lent and Easter combine as a time for new beginnings. It is as we receive and embrace God's gift of forgiveness and love, as well as opening ourselves to the opportunity of new life, that we discover the central message of Christianity.

The good news that will reverberate around the world at Easter can be just as joyful today as it was when it spread from disciple to disciple on that first Easter morning. As Easter coincides with the days getting shorter, it comes as a vibrant reminder that all our days and lives are transformed by God's gift of love.

Lo! Jesus meets us risen from the tomb; Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom; Let the church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing, For the Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting. I would wish to send my warmest greetings to all members of the School for Seniors.

Warmly yours, Keith

Tutor Column

By Paul Hurst, Tutor

Our School is Turning 50! Believe it or not Wesley School for Seniors is in its 50th Year!

I thought it might be interesting to look back to the year that School for Seniors started—1969. There were so many exciting events happening in the world at that time. This will surely bring back some memories for one and all. Where were you in 1969? I was still in High School.

1969 was the year of the first moon landing, the invention of the microprocessor which kicked started the home computer revolution and the Arpanet which evolved into the Internet.

Technology

- Seiko sells the first Quartz Watch
- The first automatic teller machine ATM or Cash Machine is installed in the United States
- Creation of ARPANET, the predecessor of the Internet, First communication sent 1969
- The Boeing 747 jumbo jet makes its debut. It carried 191 people on maiden flight...

Space Race

On July 20th one of man's crowning achievements occurred when American Astronaut Neil Armstrong became the first human to set foot on the Moon and uttered the immortal words "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

Aussie Politics

The Australian Prime Minister was John Gorton from the Liberal Party, while the opposition leader and future Prime Minister was Gough Whitlam. Overall 1969 was an exciting time to grow up in. This report compiled by Paul Hurst, tutor of Modern and Ancient History.

Music

The Beatles released Abbey Road their last album made together.

The classic album's cover art featured the iconic photograph of John Lennon, Ringo Starr, Paul McCartney, and George Harrison walking across a zebra crossing near the entrance to the famous Abbey Road recording studio.

This rock album featured that incredibly popular song "Something".

Fashion

Yes, it was the era of flared trousers for both men and women. It was a time of long hair for men and short hair for women? Men started going to unisex hairdressers. Jewellery was in abundance, especially for men!



Article based on <http://www.thepeoplehistory.com/1969.html>



Tutor Column

By Jan Heddema, Tutor – French Language

We wish to celebrate 50 years quickly passed. Many students took part. Today we have a party. Come inside, don't be silly.

Our school is in a festive mood. The school is especially for the elderly. Who we should not forget. And they are always motivated

An extensive program is available. And everyone can take part. We teach French, German, Italian

All students work hard. We have also an Art class. These artists are really good. There is also a Music class. And the sounds are very good. Those who wish to dance. For you there is a chance

Singing, dancing, make a choice. All activities are fun. To finish this story. You are invited to come, see you soon.

French version

Cinquant Ays Sont Vii' passes. Beaucoup d'eleves ont participe'. Cejour nous aurons une f'ele. Entrez chez nous, Ne soyez pas be'le. Notre e'cole doit ce'le'brer. Une e'cole pour les age's

Qui on ne peut pas oublier. De plus ils sont tre's motive's. Un beau program me est pre'pare'.Ou' tous pevvent participer Le Francais, L'Alleyand et l'Italien

Tous les participant etudiant bien. Aussi il ya une classe pour La Peinture. Ce sont les artistes bien su'r. De plus nous e'tudions de la musique. Les sons sont vraiment magnifiques

Il ya ceux qui aiment la danse .Veux_tu Aussi un peu de chance?

Chanter, Danser vous pouvez choisir

Les activites sont un Plaisir

Pour finir cette belle histoire

De vous envire et au revoir!

Student Column

School for Seniors has been operating in Carlingford since Sep 2016. Below is a snippet of the Carlingford school art class, students' artwork



Events at SFS

Multicultural Day

Thursday, 21 March 2019

Multicultural day was celebrated for the 3rd year in a row at school for seniors in the city. Students and Tutors represented their culture through music, dance, puppetry, French songs, geography and historical knowledge.





Upcoming Events

Easter Service in the Wesley Church	11 April
We have some exciting holiday Workshops and we are enrolling now! Please contact the office for more information.	15-26 April

By Cherrie Bourke, Tutor Knitting and Wesley Connect volunteer.

Can you imagine....

Wesley Connect, located on the ground floor, looks after people through their food and care program, that are homeless or are on low incomes and are doing it tough at the moment. All food (non-perishable) is donated.

For the first time in its three years of operation last month Wesley Connect has had empty shelves, barely getting by. On average Connect serves 80 people a week.

Can you imagine if even just half of the students from SFS donated 1 can or packet a week to this program what an impact that would have.

Most in need are tin fish or meat, chunky soups, long life milk, pasta sauce, tin fruit and pot noodles. Donations can be left at any day or direct to Connect Tues, Wed, Thurs.

Thank you in advance and God Bless you.

Notes

The school has in the last year purchased 2 televisions, 3 computers, a CD player and clocks so as to facilitate better learning in the various school for seniors' instruction rooms.

All students are requested to get bottles to re-fill at the water station on Level 3. If using cups please do not leave it in the rooms or across the hallway.

Enrolment and Course Facts

Wesley School for Seniors has a brochure and a new student handbook. These are available at the office. The student handbook can be downloaded from the website too. Please hand out to friends and family interested in courses for seniors!

The school is run by invaluable volunteer support. Current figures are as below.

Enrolment numbers	481
Volunteer Tutors	90
SFS Classes	96
Volunteer admin including op shop	8

Term 2 enrolment for 2019 starts on Monday, 1 April 2019.

The school office will be open during the holiday period for the holiday classes.

Term 2 classes will start on Monday, 29 April 2019.

SFS council

School council, which includes students and tutors representatives, meets twice each term. We have elected 2 new representatives to the council Karen Dryden and Eric Fong as student and tutor representatives. We would like to welcome them to the council meetings.

Wish you all a Happy and Blessed Easter!

