

## 2000s

**Shenal Basnayake** [MIntS '01] Currently working for Wallenius Wilhelmsen Logistics AS, the foremost provider of ocean transportation solutions to the world's automobile and break bulk industries. Founder and Chairperson of Young Shipping Australia which is the industry network for all persons 35yrs and under involved in the maritime industry, which is part of Shipping Australian Limited, the peak industry body for all shipowners and maritime services providers in Australia. Member of the Board of the Swedish

Australian Chamber of Commerce – Young Professionals group. Most recently been inducted into the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers as a Member of longest-standing group for maritime professionals in the world.

**Tom Massey** (BA '01) has spent much of his time since leaving Sydney on the boards of the Genesian Theatre – [www.genesiantheatre.com.au](http://www.genesiantheatre.com.au) – and would welcome fellow graduates to his thespian endeavours at same.

**Amanda Martin** (nee Paterson) (BEd Prim '00) was married to Rev Andrew Martin in Mayfair, London

on 30 July 2006. Currently living in Sevenoaks, Kent.

**Lambang Trijuno** (MA Peace & Conflict Studies '01) is Indoensian coordinator for the South East Asia Conflict Studies network (SEACSN), which has the main objectives to promote peace and sustainable peace building within the region since 2001 to now. He is former director of the Center for Security and Peace Studies 2003-2005 (still a researcher at the Center), which has the aims of promoting peace studies and education. He is Director of Peace and Development Initiative, Indonesia, a peace and development research,

training and advocacy NGO, based in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.



## 1990s

**Voon Keat Chang** (BCom '99) has been working in Kuala Lumpur since

 **The University of Sydney**



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graduation. He recently commenced a new career in investment with UK Land Investments International, specializing in providing wealth creation opportunities through strategic land banking investment in highly populated areas, in and around London. As business development, he provides free expert consultation on UK land investment matters to clients in gaining optimum returns. He can be reached at [voonkeat.chang@gmail.com](mailto:voonkeat.chang@gmail.com)



**Cole Ehmke (MA Agric '98)** since leaving Sydney I have returned to the United States and now work in agricultural entrepreneurship at the University of Wyoming. My wife Mariah and I have just had our first child, a beautiful daughter Charlotte. *(Pictured.)*

**Kevin Hiscutt (MEd '95)** is special education teacher of children with Autism. He is enrolled in a Master of Inclusive Education in Autism and continues as a self-employed private tutor. Recently Kevin and his wife, Angela, hosted a fund-raising concert at their home for Liverpool Hospital's Paediatrics Ward.

**Edward R Palmisano (BA '95, LLB '98)** is currently half way through a diplomatic posting at the Australian Embassy in Madrid, Spain, where he works on a range of inter-

national law, disarmament and consular matters. He was deployed to assist the evacuation of Australians from Lebanon during the emergency in 2006.

**Melissa Robins (nee Glasson) (BSc Hons Biochem '95)** I picked up an APA (I) at UNSW within the School of Optometry. I studied, presented and had fun until 2001 researching tear film structure and function (proteins and lipids). Changed field in 2002 to Regulating Affairs in the Medical Industry. It involves implementing the laws of the Therapeutic Goods Act on any medical products. Extremely motivating, ethical and dynamic; (now working for Cardinal Health previously Cochlear Ltd). In 2005 was married and now in 2007 we have first son Drew James Robins and a whole new job to learn!

to ADHD Australia Inc are tax deductible. She has written a book about ADHD -C and ADHD-I. It is free to download from her website, [www.adhd.org.au](http://www.adhd.org.au).

**Susan Duyker (BSc Arch '89 BArch '92)** recently took six months leave, from her job as a Senior Heritage Consultant with Godden Mackay Logan Pty Ltd, to work as a volunteer with the ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) secretariat in Paris. Her principal project was on the risks posed to heritage sites around the world as a result of climate change. Susan is a member of Australia ICOMOS and of the Urban Conservation Committee of the National Trust of Australia (NSW).

## 1970s

**Dr Frank B King (LLB '74)** passed away on 17 May 2007, aged 86. He was one of the refugees from Hungary after the 1956 uprising. He was a Holocaust survivor and then survived Fascism but he could not tolerate remaining under Communism. He left a career as a lawyer in Budapest, which included two doctorates, to study again in Sydney. He practised as a sole practitioner for more than 35 years in the city and also enjoyed teaching law to architecture students at Sydney University for 19 years.

## 1980s

**Jenny Allen (BSc '84)** After working in various government departments for 20 years, Jenny found out only three years ago that she has Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder combined subtype (ADHD-C). In her retirement she has taken an interest in ADHD and is a founding member of ADHD Australia Inc. ADHD Australia aims to assist ADHD children from socially and economically deprived homes. Donations



## SHARE YOUR NEWS

University of Sydney alumni are invited to share their news, adventures and changing circumstances with the alumni community in this section of *SAM*.

We're interested in hearing about your career, academic achievements, community involvement, or other events in your life.

Please send details via email or post to the Sydney Alumni Magazine editor. Full contact details are listed on page 1.

You can also update your details and search for classmates online by registering with your Alumni Web Community at [www.usyd.edu.au/alumni](http://www.usyd.edu.au/alumni)

## Teeth 'n' smiles

Dr Paul Kotala (BSc '81, PhD (Dentistry) '86)

Paul Kotala was awarded the 2007 Academy of Dentistry International Humanitarian Award for his work in Laos. He tells Helen McKenzie about it

Back in 2002 in his Mosman surgery, Paul Kotala distracted his patients from their oral ordeal with virtual TV via state-of-the-art specs; and a pink fluffy pig to cuddle.

"It gave them something to hold on to rather than gripping the arms of the chair. Playing with the soft toy relaxed their shoulder and neck muscles." That was five years ago.

Today there are likely to be real pigs in Kotala's work place and he has found that jaw muscles relax involuntarily when the patient is tipped back and their head is gripped between his knees. This happens when Kotala is working for Tooth Aid in the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Laos.) It is a job he clearly loves and does for love.

Kotala founded Tooth Aid Inc. in 2003. "I knew I wanted to do something along the lines of volunteer work. Instead of doing two weeks and never going back, I wanted to make a real difference. Then the director of the hospital in Nambak asked for help. I thought I could fit in with WHO (World Health Organisation) or some other agency but no one had a dental program, so I started my own."

Now, every three months, he leaves Sydney for two weeks in remote villages.

"Laos in 2005 had about 300 dentists; 52 per cent were in Vientiane, the capital, which has roughly nine per cent of the population. No dentists went past the state capitals."

At Kotala's instigation a pilot study began.

"When we first started we didn't know whether people would value dentistry. We saw 360 people in the first seven days."

Tooth Aid has now provided some 10,000 services to more than 4000 people and averages 50 patients a day.

"Initially a lot of the work was extractions, so you don't necessarily need running water or electricity. We would work on verandas and use the sun for light; hand instruments to remove decay and hand-mix materials. Everything had to be transportable in tuk-tuks or boats to get to the remote villages."

While work in the villages remains at much the same basic level, Tooth Aid has built a dental hospital in Nambak with a surgery for a permanent dentist,

denture-making equipment and educational programs.

Funds are raised through membership of Tooth Aid. Dentists contribute an annual \$110 – the cost of a check up and clean. Kotala has had some corporate success: a portable chair and sterilization equipment. The NSW Department of Corrective Services, where he now works as a prison dentist, has donated obsolete materials; Heine (instrument makers) gave a halogen light. Tooth Aid has also retrained a local dentist to Australian standards. Dr Suksida is now full time in the hospital.

"We pay her the princely sum of \$US600 per year and the government pays her \$12.50 per month."

Kotala has received many offers from Australian dentists to work in Laos. The job is not for everyone.

"You must like camping, and hair dryers are not available."

Adventurous eating habits are an advantage as the local diet includes bamboo worms, mole, tiger cat, snake and squirrel. The Tooth Aid working party, including translators, usually stays in the village chief's hut. In June Kotala visited villages where he was their first white person.

"I'm double the size of local adults who are around 40 to 50 kilos. They often pull the hairs on my legs, put their hands around my calves because they are so big. They're wonderful people, really friendly and respectful but without any concept of personal space."

Tooth Aid is a long way from the Mosman clinic of old.

"I was treating this lady – everyone was laughing as I tried to shoo away a pig that would not leave her side. The translator said: you'll never get rid of it, it's her pet pig." Neither pink nor fluffy but very relaxing.

More information:  
[www.toothaid.org](http://www.toothaid.org)





**Ellen McGirr (MBBS Hons '77 MA Higher Ed '06)** has been in clinical consultant practice at Lismore/Ballina for the last 25 years. After obtaining the Masters in Higher Education she has been appointed at Bond University as Associate Professor Clinical Medicine – a part-time academic appointment.

**Thomas Schwab (BE '75 GradDipEd '76)** is continuing in his roles: as artistic mentor in Cumberland Region (NSW) and abroad, as well as directing projects for community health/education here and overseas. (It involves sourcing private funds for development on a localised level.)

## 1960s

**Peter Bailey (Gen Sc '62 MSc '67, DipAgEnt '63)** I wish to pay belated tribute to those university staff that put up with me during my many years as a science undergraduate. Especially to my tutors in chemistry and physics who ground their teeth and rolled their eyes at

my stupidities. I have now retired after 40 years as an entomologist and have finished editing a book on insects in Australian crops and pastures. Details at [www.publish.csiro.au/books/crops & pastures](http://www.publish.csiro.au/books/crops&pastures)

**Marlene Hall (nee Campbell) (BA Hons '66 MA Hons '86)**

is enjoying her second career as a lawyer as much as she enjoyed her first career teaching English literature. She works as an in-house lawyer for the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing, heading a team specialising in aged care law.

**Patricia Jeannine Martin (nee McMahon) (BA, DipEd, LLB '69)** married Arthur Martin (Cobar and Wellington, NSW) on Easter Saturday, 7 April 2007 at St Andrews Uniting Church, Dubbo, NSW. Attendants included Philip Norman of Kew, Melbourne as family rep (cousin to Patricia); Elizabeth Shirlaw, University of Sydney Law School and IH as matron of honour; Ted Martin, best man (brother to Arthur), Jasmin Keenan (flower girl) daughter of Janette Mather (University of Sydney Law School) and Grand Goodwin; Gene-Michael Goodwin (pageboy) son of Janette Mather and Grant Goodwin (who have been seconded to PNG for three years from the ATO, Canberra). Elizabeth Shirlaw works as a solicitor with the Western Aboriginal

Legal Service, Dubbo. Arthur and Patricia are retired; Arthur was on the staff of Wellington TAFE for more than 20 years; Patricia's last position was Executive Secretary, Australian Institute of International Affairs, Sydney. Patricia was president SUIHAA for two years.

**Dennis McManus PSM (BA'69, Dip T&C Planning '72, MBuilt Env. '81)** Retired in 2006 after 14 challenging years with NSW Planning and 25 fulfilling years with NSW Heritage. Awarded Public Service Medal in 1997 for services to heritage conservation in NSW. Now living at Kangaloon in the Southern Highlands with partner Shizuo Aoki. Interests include gardening and U3A classes.



**Ernest M To, BE '66 MBldgSc '73, FASCE(Life),** celebrated his 70th birthday skiing Perisher Blue in August 2007.

**Ken Waldron, Professor (BE '64, MEng '65, DEng '99)** is spending the period July-December 2007 and same period in 2008 in the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Technology Sydney and the ARC Centre for Autonomous Systems while on sabbatical leave from Stanford University.

## 1950s

**Sue Camden (nee Susie Fekete) (BSc '53 DipEd '53)** retired after 30 years of Maths teaching in high schools, broken by 12 years living in Vanuatu (then the New Hebrides). Her late husband, Bill, translated the while of the Bible into Bislama, the national language of Vanuatu during this time. She has, since retirement, been teaching ESL to classes at her church as a volunteer; if you can teach Maths you can teach anything!

**Associate Professor W Bruce Conolly AM (MBBS '59, FRCS, FRACS, FACS)** was awarded the title "Pioneer in Hand Surgery" at the 10th Triennial Congress of the International Federation of the Society for Surgery of the Hand, held in Sydney in the presence of 1400 surgeons from 50 countries. His was the third appointment given to an Australian since the award was founded in 1970. The previous two were the late Sir Benjamin



Rank and the late Bernard O'Brien, both of Melbourne. Assoc Prof Conolly founded the Sydney Hospital Hand Unit in 1969, the first such unit in Australia. He has conducted teaching courses in more than 20 developing countries over the past 25 years. He holds associate professorships at the both the University of Sydney and University of NSW as a part time staff surgeon at Sydney Hospital and a visiting Hand Surgeon to St Luke's Hospital Hand Unit.

Frank Cruice (BA '52, MEd '87, DipTheo '69, Cert TESOL '93) taught at Stanmore, Hillston, Eastwood. Later as a Christian Brother taught in 12 schools in Queensland and NSW; 14 years as Deputy. Specialised in Senior English and Modern History. In retirement has taught migrants, makes tapes of texts for visually impaired pupils and reads newspapers over station 2RPH (radio for the print handicapped) and conducts tours around St Mary's Cathedral. Served on the Council for the Australian Catholic Historical Society.

Dr Pat Howden (BSc '55) at 74 and living in frugal luxury on a mere 10 per cent pension in reportedly the most sustainable Solar Aussie home (hence his enduring Sustainable Home Engineering R&D). Now realises he's an Engineering-Physics Greenie Downwardly-Mobile Peasant in the Slow Lane, having helped 84 countries, returned from the USA via own '65 sail

and widely published 650 ongoing papers, seminars and books; besides recording 1500 fully operational adventurous inventions (including SU+NASA electronics, a childhood obsession), plus discoveries since 1930s more recently as a self-funded independent researcher. Needing no doctor in 22 years, though recently diagnosed mildly diabetic (too laidback?) he hates competitive sport and retired in '72 aged 39 as UK Chief Eng, Robotic Machine Tools when starting his Math Library MAL. Pat's '74-'75 campus Eco-Tech Workshop shed – involved with SU Autonomous House – completed a nine-year SU relationship.

## 1940s


Bob Brown (BEc '54 DipEd '55) was President of the University Labour Club and the Australian Student Labour Federation. He taught from 1956 until 1978 when he became State MP

for Cessnock. He was also a Cessnock alderman from 1968-1950 and Mayor for eight years. From 1980 to 1988 he was federal MP for Hunter and Charlton and Land Transport Minister in the Hawke and Keating governments. He is author of Student Economics, The Australian Economy, economics workbooks (with his wife Joy) and the three volume Governing Australia. In 2007 he was awarded an AM. He retired to Corlette near Port Stephens.

Dorothy Campbell (nee Evans) (BA '49) my husband Scott and I have recently had published a book, *The Liberating of Lady Chatterley and Other True Stories: a history of the NSW Council for Civil Liberties*, through Southwood Press, publisher for the CCL. It was launched at the Law Society on 12 November 2007.

Nancye Perry (nee Kent) (BSc PGCA Agric Entom '45) born 16 December 1918, author and artist,

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Trout Biologist Vic Fisheries & Game Dept 1952-55; Senior Resident Officer, Commonwealth Health Department (Plant Quarantine) 1955-57 (compulsorily retired upon marriage) many other research positions; lists her recreations in Who's Who as family history, writing, reading, book collecting, dog obedience training, photography and fishing; is living at Eaglemont, Victoria with her husband of 50 years ...

**Warren Perry (BEC '41)** born 28 January 1909, writer and military historian among whose many publications are a Biography of Professor RH Samuel and more than 100 papers in the field of military history; he has been a frequent contributor to the Australian Dictionary of Biography; he was an officer in the CMF, appointed Lieutenant 1st Medium Artillery Brigade, Sept 1930



(continuous service since that time); transferred to Unattached List AMF from 1938, served WW2 AIF Regiment and Staff Appts (Australian and New Guinea) demobbed Sydney in 1946 with rank of major. His Who's Who entry lists his recreations as classical music, walking, English and German history and literature.

**Rosalind Rothschild (nee Baxter) (BVSc '49)** On 1 August 2007, eight retired veterinarians shared a round table luncheon. The venue was a beachside restaurant, overlooking the Waitemata harbour in Auckland, NZ. Wine and reminiscences flowed. Of this congenial group of old colleagues, no fewer than five were Sydney graduates: Terry Goldfinch ('49), Ros Rothschild, Graham Wallace ('50), Reg Trounson ('50) and Tony Priestley ('59). We have every intention of repeating this happy event.

**Harold Taskis (BSc Chem '45 DipEd '46)** is presently living with his second wife at Helidon Spa, Queensland (near Toowoomba). Before that we were in Sandstone Point and for ten years in Marysville, Victoria. Long retired, I write a lot of traditional poetry (it has metre. Rhymes and makes sense) and have just written my 1084th. I rarely hear of any of my fellow students so was delighted to read the note of Hilma and Clem Ellis in the Spring issue of SAM. ■

Jane Healy (BEC (Hons) '03 LLB '05)

## Dreaming spires beckon

A few years ago, while backpacking around Europe, Jane Healy found herself in Oxford.

"It was just a day trip, I never envisaged actually studying there," says Healy, one of four young Australians who are the latest Chevening Scholarship winners.



The Chevening Scholarships program is funded by the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and "offers outstanding graduates and young professionals the opportunity to study at UK universities."

Healy is from Maitland NSW, the second of four siblings: older sister and two younger brothers. She was a pupil at All Saints College and did not spend her childhood dreaming of a career as a lawyer.

"No, not at all," Healy says. "When I finished school I didn't really know what I wanted to do. I enjoyed economics so I opted for that when I went to Sydney, and I decided on law because I thought it could be interesting. Once I started I found I really loved it."

Her love is for the law, however, rather than the popular prospect of making lots of money. "She laughs: "No, I like to work in areas that interest me. I couldn't say I'm in it for the money."

"Trade issues can have big ramifications for people who don't even realise they are being affected," she says. "Historically, trade negotiations have been controlled by developed countries at the expense of developing countries and that has to change."

When asked how likely it is that the powerful can be persuaded to voluntarily give up power, she chuckles. "Well, I know it's not an easy option, but we have to start somewhere. I think there's evidence that some leaders at least are beginning to realise that short-term gain for their countries is not enough."

In January Healy begins a Bachelor of Civil Law at Magdalen College, focussing on international trade law and believes that this choice will give her the international dimension in her subject area.

For more information on The Chevening Scholarship see: [www.britishcouncil.org.au](http://www.britishcouncil.org.au)