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## Where Are They Now?

### B

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### Gail Jacka (nee Bannister)

Hi everyone,

Can u believe it's been 30 years!! It was great to get the call from Michael re. the Reunion... I wonder if we'll recognise each other. All these middle aged people... perhaps we'll need to wear a photo of how we looked way back in our school days!

A bit about my life since then....I have been married for 28 years (amazingly to the same person, Russell, who I first dated when I was 13!) [Cathy Harley](#) was a bridesmaid. We have 3 great kids, Belinda 24, Melanie 22 & Adam 20.

We have lived in the Hills area for the past 25 years, currently on acreage with a horse & and visiting pelican, although last year we bought a great apartment on the water at Forster, so we get to escape to the seaside when we need to. I see kids in the local Hills area from Penno High walking around the shops & can you BELIEVE the girls still wear the same 'sailor' dress uniform we did 30 years ago!

I trained as an early childhood teacher for 3 years, taught for 18 months, then Russ & I started a network marketing business which allowed us to both leave teaching & bring up the kids together while we worked our business from home part time. We now have a pretty large & successful business which spans a number of countries, including China, South Africa, India & England. We also do a bit of property investing.

We've done plenty of travel, including a beautiful cruise around Italy last November, Hawaii in December, & we've just booked a 2 week cruise around Norway & the Scandinavian countries in a few months (It gets easier to take off as the kids get older). Have even passed through beautiful Seattle a few times. All in all, life is good, though like all of us, it hasn't been without it's ups & downs!

I don't see too many from school, (or maybe I see heaps of you around & just don't recognise you!) Anyway, looking forward to seeing you all in June & catching up with some old friends & some of those old 'surfies' I used to do absentee notes for when they took off to the beach for an afternoon... those were the days, heh...

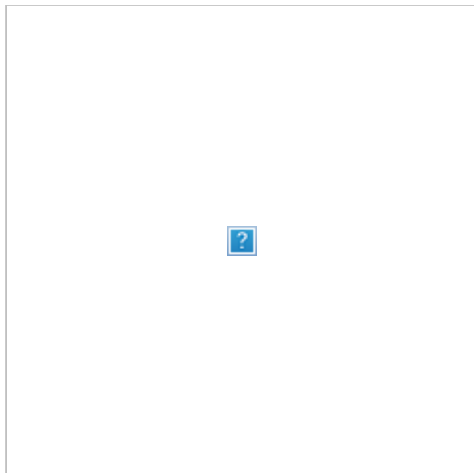
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#### CONTACT INFO:

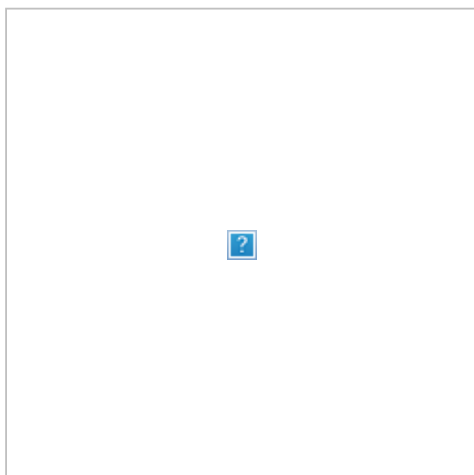
Email: [rjacka@optusnet.com.au](mailto:rjacka@optusnet.com.au)

### Gay Parsons (nee Bartley)

After 3 yrs teacher training I was offered a job a PLC Croydon. I taught there



Gay and daughter Alex



Gay's daughter Sam

for 13yrs & during that time I married Ken in 1979, completed my B.Ed & a Grad. Dip in Reading & did a lot of travelling OS. I had my first daughter Sam in 1987 and in 1989 I had Alex at the same time as Ken changed jobs from Ground Engineer to Flight Engineer & we moved to Melbourne. Stayed there for 3yrs doing casual teaching & taking up Badminton quite seriously. Came back to Sydney briefly & Sam started school at PLC Croydon then Ken got a job with JAL. He spent 1yr in Japan then we moved to Hawaii. Stayed there for nearly 3yrs. Couldn't work so I joined the PTA! Became secretary & put a Reading program in the girls' school - Kamiloiki Elementary. This was one of the better schools in Hawaii as the dress code required thongs to be worn instead of bare feet. An interesting change after PLC! Came back to Sydney & moved to Kenthurst on 5 acres then 7 & the girls went to Hills Grammar. In 1997 I got a job at Roseville Public teaching reading which I love most of the time. Very challenging working out children's problems. Last year Ken and I split & I bought a house closer in. Sam is in Yr 12 now & Alex in Yr 9 - both doing very well academically + doing Taekwondo quite seriously, playing Touch Football and water & snow skiing. I'm still waiting for a difficult stage from either of them.

**CONTACT INFO:**Email: [GGIparsons@aol.com](mailto:GGIparsons@aol.com)**CONTACT INFO:**Email: [theferns8@optusnet.com.au](mailto:theferns8@optusnet.com.au)**Anne Bishop**

Dear Michael,

Running out of time but I (Anne Bishop) and my husband Bernard Ellis will definitely be there Saturday night. Shall pay money first thing tomorrow morning directly into the account.

Thankyou for ALL you have done, it will be a wonderful event!  
Anne and Bernard

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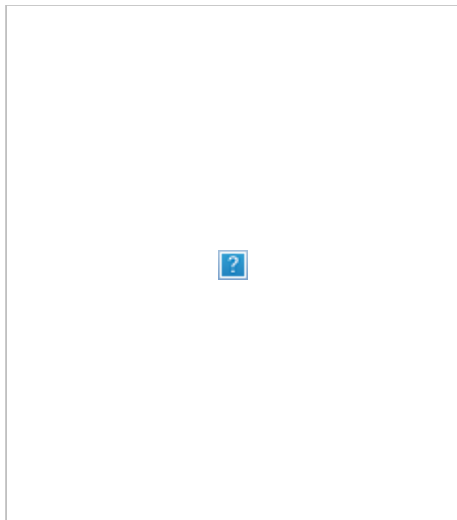
**Andrew Blamey**

Hi Guys,

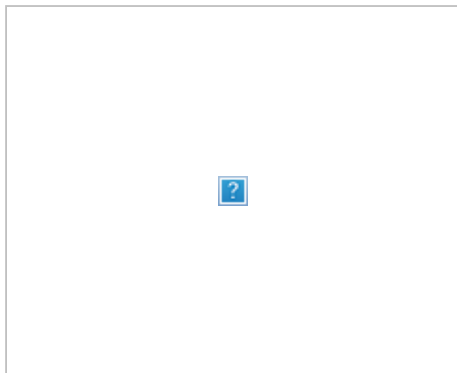
It has been great to hear news about so many of you and I am looking forward to the big events. Special thanks to Bron, Jenny and Michael for getting it all together. You are doing a fantastic job.

What have I been up to? Following school, I completed studies at Sydney Uni. and then registered as an architect. In 1982 I married Karen who I met at Uni. She studied Arts and was teaching high school Maths when we married. We have four children Allison (19), Johanna (16), Susan (13) and Ben (9). In the last few years Karen and I have been enjoying our regained freedom to get away and do things together, now that the children are becoming more self sufficient.

After a few years out of the area we owner built a house on a very steep site



Blameys - Karen and I



BlameyChildren - Left to Right, Susan, Johanna, Allison, Ben in front

back in Pennant Hills and have been here ever since. I made sure I did not have to face the chaos of Sydney roads each day so I located my architectural practice nice and close at Thornleigh! I have been running my own architectural practice (Aibee Architects) for nearly 20 years which specialises in buildings for institutional clients such as churches, schools and community groups. Karen now helps in the practice rather than teaching. My children haven't been able to get away from my buildings as their house, school (Pacific Hills Christian School) and church (Thornleigh Community Baptist Church) were all designed by my practice!

Karen and I have always enjoyed being involved in many volunteer situations with various Christian groups, especially working together where possible. We have organised and assisted many holiday trips for people with disabilities taking them to many parts of Australia and helped lead recreational groups for people with disabilities in a large variety of capacities. Currently we also lead the Scripture Union Family Mission Team at Lake Conjola each Christmas holiday. (A team of about 60 people that provide holiday activities for children and adults in two caravan parks.) We still both enjoy taking on new challenges and seeing ourselves grow through steep learning curves!

There has been great excitement in our house during the last week as our eldest daughter Allison has just had a short story, which she wrote as a major work for HSC, published in a compendium of the best works by HSC students of 2003. What an encouragement for her in her passion for writing to be published so early.

Hope to see heaps of you at the reunion.

Andrew Blamey

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#### \*Kevin Brennan

Hi Michael,

I was talking to Ross Oates who has asked me to send you my details. I married Sue Larven who also went to Penno same year and we have 2 sons 18 yrs and 20 yrs. Great idea to have a reunion. We will try to attend

Best Regards  
Kevin Brennan and Sue Brennan (Larven)

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#### CONTACT INFO:

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#### Shayne Devonport (nee Bromham)

Hi Bron,

It was great to get the call from Robyn Lamb about the reunion. I had one of those moments when I turned up to play tennis last weekend and [Janet Marshall](#) was also there. I'm sure we would never have recognized each other except for your amazing website, but it turns out we live in the same suburb and have a child at the same school.

You'll be pleased to know that I haven't pursued a musical career, despite the fact that we did sing together in the Year 10 talent quest (my only public singing performance). I had a few years off after school then went to Sydney Uni and did law. Worked in music copyright for a while, then as a merchant banker in the mid 1980's. I went to Macquarie University as a lecturer in the

law school in 1989 and stayed there until 1999 when I moved to London.

I've just come back from living in London and Paris for 4 years. Still married to Adam (19 years) and have 2 children, Georgia is 16 and in year 11 at Barker College in Horsnby and Luke is 11 and at Greenwich Public School.

I'm looking forward to catching up on the last 31 years. I think it might be the first time I've been to Penno Pub as an over 18 year old.

Shayne Davenport (Bromham)

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### **Ellen Miller (nee Butler)**

I left Penno High in fifth grade in 1972 to get married but eventually I did get an education and now after thirty years I not only have a 29 year old daughter but three degrees!

I have now been happily married to James for 23 years. After spending over twenty years in corporate finance I have now set up my own CPA Accountancy Practice operating from our home in Woy Woy on the beautiful Central Coast.

Its been great reading the web site. All those names I remember. I still keep in touch with Jenny Bludorn (Morey). Jenny was my bridesmaid twice!

My photos are too bad (and too fat) to publish so everyone will just have to use their imagination on what a 48 year old accountant looks like.

Best wishes to everyone from Penno, Ellen (Ellie).

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### **CONTACT INFO:**

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### **Kim Harrison (nee Butler)**

Wow is all I can say. I have just spent the best part of an hour in this website. What a lot of memories there are here. Robyn Lamb contacted me re. the reunion and I will definitely be there. Well done to all organising it.

Having lived out of Sydney since school finished I have lost contact with lots of people and had wondered if this would ever happen -- a reunion, that is. Hurray for technology.

I am now Kim Harrison (nee Butler). After school I went to Wagga and trained as a teacher. I am still teaching. We now live in Ulladulla/Mollymook on the South Coast and I teach at the Primary school there. I have been teaching for 26 years. I started teaching in the Riverina and taught there for 15 years prior to the South Coast. I met David, my husband of 25 years out west (he is a teacher too), and we have 2 children, Robert who is 21 and Prudence who is 18.

We live a 2 minute walk from the beach at present which is great as I married a surfer. Albeit an old one now. But it is great to be able to walk there and enjoy the beach.

This is so good and lots of fun. I saw **Kathy Dunesky, Julie Litchfield** and **Robyn Lamb** in the holidays. It was a mini reunion. It was great to see them and catch up on old times. Looking forward to seeing you,

Regards Kim

PS I am working on a photo

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