



# 2009 Reunions

45  
1964 - 2009



Mr Dennis Uhr  
1969 - 1997  
Daramalan

1989



Ruth Jarvis



Michael Sergi and Geoff Senz



Rebecca Curtin, Tannara Maher and Clare Larkin



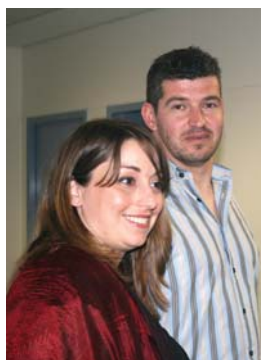
Rachel O'Loughlin and Liz Wiley



Giselle Roberts, Lilian Hathorn and Chris Bilson



Vicki Collins



Ruth Jarvis and Dragomir Neshev



Matt Crocker, Nicole Hoffman, Cate Saunders, Patrick Hatton and Nick Culnane



Nicole Hoffman, Margaret Hemsley, Michael Sergi and Michael Andriolo



Jamelle Boettcher, Peter McKenzie-McHarg, Martin Screen and Joanne Godwin



Gemma Wignall



Melissa Walker, Amanda Munn & Mike Burggraaff



Luke Laffan



Amanda Giurietto, Martin Garratt and Brendan McKeogh



Bronwyn Mulchay & Amanda Giurietto



Sharon Oliver and Alison Redfern







# 2009 Reunions



1999







# Where are they now?



## Peter Paine (1972)



Working at Paragon Printers, a Canberra-based printing company. Pictured here in 1974.

## The Smyth dynasty

**Tim Smyth (1970)**  
MB BS LLB MBA - in Sydney and currently

Deputy Director General, Health System Performance, Quality and Innovation with the NSW Department of Health

**Chris Smyth (1971)** - in Canberra and running a computer systems database consultancy

**John Smyth (1973)** - running a tyre business in Brisbane

**Simon Smyth (1977)** - living in Brisbane and working for a Newcastle based company that provides stock control and associated databases for building supply businesses

**Andrew Smyth (1982)** living in London, chartered accountant and financial controller & tax adviser for a consultancy firm.

## Liam Howard (2005)

Liam created a digital movie which was accepted as one of 16 finalists in this year's prestigious 'Tropfest' short-film competition.

Unfortunately he failed to win the major prize, however he did land a job at NIMIC, an advertising and digital production company in Watson.



Liam Newton

Government Affairs, Group Manager Government Affairs and Senior Adviser Regulatory Affairs.

Prior to joining the NAB, Robert was taxation adviser on the personal staff of the Australian Federal Treasurer, where he worked on the implementation of the GST laws and broader taxation policy over a four year period.

Robert holds degrees in Law and Science from the Australian National University and is admitted as a Barrister and Solicitor of the High Court of Australia.

## Holly Frost (2004)

Last year, **Holly** joined the Royal Australian Navy to train as an aircraft technician and is now at the tri-Service School of Technical Training at RAAF Wagga Wagga.

The course provides instruction in generic trade hand skills, plus aircraft systems theory of operation and detailed component removal and installation.

Holly said, "The best thing about my job is the knowledge I've gained, and walking into a hangar and seeing all the different aircraft with the people I've

grown close to." She went on to say that, "being an aircraft technician is pretty much in my family. My dad was a civilian aircraft technician, my grandpa was an aircraft technician in the British Navy, and my grandma was an aircraft technician in the Women's Royal Navy Service.

"I've always enjoyed doing hands-on things and fixing things

like my car. I never wanted to work in an office."

Holly is one of only two females currently on the course. "During the day I get treated just the same as anyone else then, after work, they're all like my big brothers."

Holly said she joined the Navy because of the travel. "When I was eight, I left Townsville and travelled around Australia with my parents in a bus for three and a half years, so I love the travel".

When Holly finishes her training in May 2010, she will become an aircraft technician at HMAS Albatross in Nowra, NSW. She'll be responsible for ongoing maintenance of aircraft, airframe systems, engines and engine systems at either the flight-line or workshop level.

"I'm looking forward to doing what I've set out to do - putting my theory into practice on real flying helicopters," she said.

## Matthew Kennedy (1994)

won the MBA's 'National Young Builder of the Year' Award last November. See newspaper story on left.

## Angela Worthington (1992)

Angela now lives in Newcastle working as a doctor. She has just finished her speciality training as a cardiologist.

## Queenie Van de Zandt (1988)

Queenie, pictured below with ex-Daramalan music teacher **Ian McLean**, has been busy with a movie this year called *Girls Clock!* as well as a major role in the excellent ABC comedy *Very Small Business*, and appearances in *City Homicide* and *Kath and Kim*.



## Jeremenko (1991)

**Robert** has been appointed Senior Tax Counsel by the Taxation Institute of Australia, Australia's leading professional association.

Robert appointment comes after five years at the National Australia Bank where he held the roles of Head of International

## Robert



## The kings and queens of Pop

Canberra Pops Orchestra

STORY AND PHOTOS: LYN MILLS

**K**ings and queens was the theme for the winter performance of our Canberra Pops Orchestra and with guest artist Queenie Van De Zandt bagging the queen title, by default our silver-haired conductor Ian McLean was looking to be king of this castle.

A pretty prince was closer to the mark with his gold-sprinkled blue velvet top, but thankfully the royal dresser didn't put him in tights.

To us he is king of this castle and as a money-making arm of the Canberra Symphony Orchestra long may he reign as they search for a new sponsor, to put Pops partnerships and investment from the powers that be back into this successful and valued part of our musical scene.

Look what it did for my singing career as I quite happily glow in the accolades as a one hit wonder. On this night there was something for everyone, from a pump-it-up opening of the Pops *Dancing Queen* with the Pops Dancers, to a Johann Strauss *Emperor Waltz* and a mention that perhaps McLean is Canberra's answer to Andre Rieu.

Oh no, not if it's about the hair and McLean is not known as a violinist. He prefers to strut to a different drum beat.

Tim Dal Corvito out Jacksomed Michael in a thriller of a *Thriller* performance with the whole shebang of orchestra, chorus and dancers dressing to suit the look and putting energy and enthusiasm into this concert.

We love their work, long may they continue in the kingdom of Pops.

social@canberratimes.com.au



Pamela Gesling and Joy Gibson.

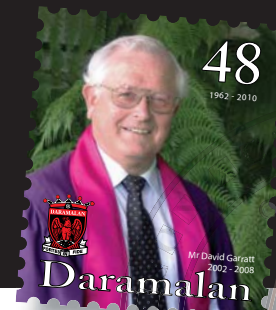


Queenie Van De Zandt and Ian McLean.





# Where are they now?



## Ben Faulks (1999)

Ben became a member of the Daramalan College Board in July 2009. He has a Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of Canberra and

is Principal Ray White Belconnen. He is pictured here in the social pages of the "City News" at the "Great Minds Charity Trivia Night" in early May

## Angela Fewtrell (2000)

Also pictured in the "City News" social pages is Angela from the class of 2000. Angela is working and has a seven-year-old son.



## Neil Hardy (1971)

Neil is now a the chief instructor at the Fire Dragon kung fu schools in Canberra and Queanbeyan. He is pictured below right demonstrating his talents in Civic late last year.



He is also the brother of **Jon Hardy (1972)**, left, one of two Daramalan students who formed part of the original Canberra Raiders team when they joined the NRL in the early 80s.



The other student was

## Peter McGrath, (1972)

(pictured left in 1970)

now a prominent Canberra lawyer with his firm "Griffin Legal", as well as being a member of the Daramalan Board. Peter is also the Chairman of Australian Rugby Union.



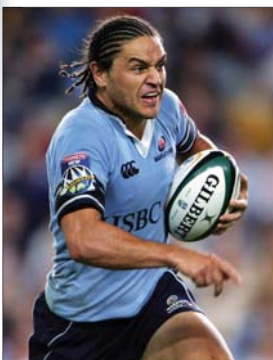
While on the subject of football, almost 20 years later, the current Raiders field another two ex-Dara students in the form of **Daniel Vidot (2008)** left, and **Marc Herbert (2005)** below.

Daniel debuted with the first grade team last June and Marc

a fixture since early last year.

Still on football, this time the Rugby Union kind, **Daniel Halangahu (2001)** plays for

the NSW Waratahs. He wears the No.10 jersey as well as having kicking duties. He maintained his form for Sydney University in the Tooheys New Shute Shield where



he finished second in the 'Ken Catchpole Medal' count despite not taking the field until mid-season.

## James Wookey (2008)

James has just

finished in a local musical production of "Spamalot" whilst studying at the ANU.



## Rod Lee (1976)

Rod (right) is now a motor mechanic with his own mechanical repair business called "RJ Mechanical" (phone 6299 0207) located in East Queanbeyan.

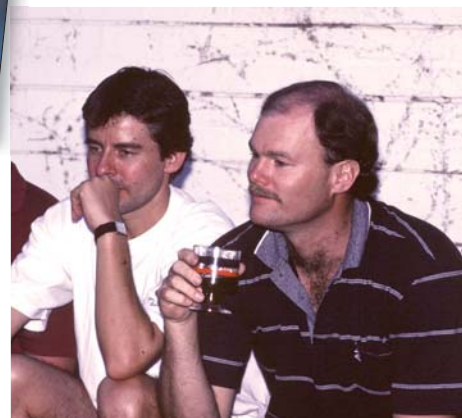
Rod is married with four children - all girls - and countless grandchildren.

## Steven Bent (1975)

Steven is now a primary School

teacher at Good Shepherd Primary School in Amaroo after spending many years in the Public Service.

He has two children, **Patrick (2009)** and **Georgia**, who is one of the current Daramalan vice-captains. Patrick achieved one of the ACT highest ATAR scores (the old UAI) for Daramalan at 99.94 in last years graduating year. He is now enrolled in actuarial studies at the ANU.



Steven Bent (left) and Rod Lee pictured here 1988

## Peter Gregory (1977)

Peter has been working on police rounds at The Age over the last year, but he is now left to start at Monash University as a lecturer in its journalism department. His main area will be journalism and the law, but he will also be teaching and researching. He has also begun his PhD - through the University of South Australia - on the topic of suppression orders, which, coming from Canberra, should well and truly give him a few bonus credits.

## Paul Fowler (1978)

Currently General Manager at Multimedia Solutions Australia and previously with Optus, PowerTel and ISPhone Australasia.



## Sarah Worthington (1988)

Sarah successfully completed her Master of Business Administration at The Open University in the UK in 2009 and is still in Germany, working for Deutsche Bank, and living in Fulda with her husband.



Sarah L. Worthington

## news



## Neal's a smash hit!

ANOTHER day at the office for kung fu Master Neal Hardy as he shatters concrete slabs with one hand (right) and, lying on a bed of nails, has more slabs smashed on his stomach with a sledgehammer. Why? Master Hardy, chief instructor of Fire Dragon kung fu school at Ainslie and Queanbeyan, was giving a promotional demonstration to a slack-jawed lunchtime audience in City Walk. Photos by Silas







# Where are they now?

48  
1962 - 2010

Ms Rita Daniels  
2009 - present  
Daramalan

## Peter J Casey (1989)

is on air with ABC radio every Sunday morning and recently won "Best New Talent" at the national ABC Awards.

## Tim Kirk. (1984)

Not only was **Tim** (below right) and his Murrumbateman-based "Clonakilla Wines" featured heavily in the local press, but his award-winning Shiraz Vignier was on most of Australia's "Best Reds" list. The wine is now a sell out. Tim is featured here on the front cover of "The Canberra Times" Food and Wine lift-out in July last year.

## Ashleigh Mannix (2005)

**Ashleigh** (below) has gone on to forge a successful recording career releasing two albums and winning commercial radio's "New Artist 2 Radio" gong this year. She also featured in this double-page colour spread in the "Sun Herald" weekend newspaper last year, (see story below) modelling a new range of designer frocks.

**Ashleigh Mannix** has one of those grins that says, "I can't believe this is really happening." Yet the 21-year-old musician from Canberra does have plenty of reasons to light up a room with her megawatt smile. She's just finished recording a single, 'Sparkle', and is poised to work on her as-yet unnamed album. And, after winning Commercial Radio Australia's New Artist 2 Radio competition last year along with two other Australian acts, she's sharing a \$150,000 advertising deal across four radio networks. Her single, 'Pieces of You', from her aptly titled debut release, *My First EP*, will also have radio airtime.

"It's been an awesome time," says Mannix, who spent much of 2008 performing at events in Australia, the US, Europe and Japan for her sponsor, clothing label Billabong. Mannix picked up a guitar at the age of 11 and made her singing debut at 12, performing 'Luka' by Suzanne Vega at a Christmas recital. "I was only going to play the guitar, but my music teacher, Kieran Roberts, had heard me sing it in lessons. So I go onstage, and he puts a microphone in front of my face and tells me to sing. I was really nervous. That was the first time I sang; I owe it to him."

At 15, she was writing songs, one of them winning her and a school friend the inter-school Battle of the Bands competition in 2003. By her high-school graduation, in 2005, she was performing at local cafes and music festivals.

With her star rising, Mannix was courted by one of the country's most influential record companies, but she turned it down, preferring an independent path. "We were amazed I was even offered it, but I wanted to see how far I could go doing it this way - indie," she says. "For me, this is fun. I can make my own calls and I can take Mum and Dad everywhere with me, which I really like to do. I'm funded by my parents - that's pretty much my label." **SM**

*My First EP (MGM) is out now. For more information and tour dates, visit [www.ashleighmannix.com](http://www.ashleighmannix.com).*



## Gongs for talented pair



**WINNERS:** ABC radio presenter Peter J. Casey (left) and sports broadcaster of the year Tim Kirk.

Canberra's Got Talent. ABC 666 bagged two awards at the annual ABC Local Radio Awards at Parliament House on Wednesday night. Canberra had the honour of taking out the Metropolitan Station 12 months on air. Sunday morning new talent Casey said, "Only at the age of 26." Casey, who is on leave from his music and English teaching position at Lake Tuggerah, was the piano man on *Play School*. Veteran sports broadcaster of the year for the third time, Kirk, who describes his pre-commentary preparation as "like studying for an exam", has called nearly every *Raiders* and *Brunbies* game at Canberra Stadium since 1986, as well as covering five Olympics and four Commonwealth Games. "It's sort of your pants stuff, like theatre of the mind and it's unlike any other form of broadcasting. You're speaking non-stop for three hours at a reasonable pace without stalling up," Kirk said.

Seemingly showing less stamina than Kirk, breakfast show host Ross Solly was surprisingly absent from his early Thursday morning shift. "Ross is a bit tired and emotional after the tension and high drama of the awards night", his fill-in Alex Solly explained on-air at 8.30am. Solly maintained he had pre-arranged the morning off, and was "bright eyed and bushy-tailed" after the night before.

**Ring in the changes**  
WHAT did Jon Stanhope's office and the Canberra Hospital's children's ward have in common? Virtually the same phone number, but not any more. Sources in the paediatric unit have told *Today* the ward was told to drop its internal paging number -

## Elissa Brunato (2006)

**Elissa** (right) went on to study Fashion Design at CIT after taking out the 'Vocational School Student of the Year Award' at the 2006 ACT Training Excellence Awards. She was recently featured on the front cover of 'City News' as well as an inside story to announce her winning a major fashion Award at this year's *Fashion Exposed*, Sydney premier fashion Trade Fair.



## FOOD & WINE

## TOP FLIGHT

The best boutique wines



## COVER STORY

By Kathryn Vukovjak  
**YOUNG fashion designer and Canberra Institute of Technology graduate Elissa Brunato has won the Debut Apparel Award for best spring/summer 2010/11 collection at Fashion Exposed, Australia's largest fashion trade fair in Sydney.**

Through her label E'Senk, Elissa, 21, presented a capsule womenswear collection called "Mind's Eye" at tops and dresses with printed, treated, hand-dyed and de-gummed designs.  
"Winning this is amazing. It's good," says Elissa, who graduated from CIT only last year.  
"I really didn't understand when they called my name that I'd won, because I just didn't expect it at all. It's given me a kickstart and exposure to launching my label and my career."  
Elissa's prizes include a sought-after stand at Fashion Exposed 2011, an annual subscription to *FashionTrend*

Australia and free WGSN trend workshops throughout the year.  
She also plans to travel to the UK and Europe this year, with a month spent studying at Central Saint Martin's College in London, which lists the late Alexander McQueen among its alumni.  
Elissa says that her clothes appeal to people who like beautiful things.  
"They're not just trendy," she says. "It's all about finding people who want that, and developing a loyal following."  
"I've had interest from Sydney and Brisbane boutiques, who have said my label would be in the high-end price bracket, but they've told me they need that," she says. "So I need to stay in touch with them and keep following up."  
Elissa says that building her business is the next step.  
"For me now it's about making sure that every collection I release is new and exciting," she says. "E'Senk has to keep evolving."  
The hard part that getting exposure is the easy part, and finding my spot in the market."  
She says her next collection will be another spring/summer, because the soft, intricate fabrics she creates are best suited to the season. Her aim is to build an autumn/winter collection for her third.

## Daniel Fitzpatrick (2000)

Was awarded the Construction Industry's Outstanding Apprentice of 2009 at the CITC Apprentice Awards at Thoroughbred Park last year.



## Plenty of skills here

Apprentice Awards

STORY AND PHOTOS: LYN MILLS

**W**hen a plumber is a girl, the electrician is a young woman, and the bricklayer more familiar as a little sister, you're getting around the local shop, you're getting old. It was a day off and a lunch where the mums came to shed a tear for their babies as graduating apprentices and award winners at the annual Construction Industry Training Council (CITC) lunch at Thoroughbred Park. Training in the ACT is apparently at record levels, he assured the skill shortage is being addressed. I found a plasterer, Chris Townley, who knows about pre-metric fixing and has a grandfather to teach him about those old fancy ceilings and cornices.  
Ashley Harris is a strapping young lad about five feet taller than when I last saw him and is a bricklayer with the McPherson Building Group in Gungahlin. For this lunch not just Mum and Dad came along but his boss too. The big winner on the day was Daniel Fitzpatrick as the 2009 Outstanding Apprentice. With a Bachelor of Graphic Design under his belt he decided to get into building and construction as a carpenter.  
And many settlers and relatives of

2009 Outstanding Graduating Apprentice Daniel McPherson. Photo courtesy Tanya Fitzgeraid at H&M