Sydney Secondary College Leichhardt Campus
Presidents Report for 2007

The main thing I would like to say about 2007 is what a great pleasure it was to work with such a wonderful bunch of people. Our P&C is full of wisdom, concern, intelligence, humour, energy, caring, and above all a great passion for all the wonderful kids at Leichhardt Campus. I thoroughly enjoyed every aspect of the P&C through the year; the meetings were full of lively discussion, considered decisions, and much humour. (Anyone who was at last month’s meeting and heard John Hart’s Lostock story would testify to this...or Fran Bailey’s suggestion last year about getting someone ordained via the internet so we could apply for the Chaplaincy funding!). The events were great fun and we were able to raise an unexpected amount of funds for the school.

The other important aspect of being a P&C is communicating and liaising with staff. This is not always easy in schools, particularly busy ones. At Leichhardt this is not only easy, but the teachers genuinely appreciate the work of the P&C and go out of their way to support it. For example we were successful in getting a federal govt grant of $108,000 for IT equipment. Jayne McMaster, James McMaster, & Stacey O’Connor then worked many many hours beyond their normal duties ensuring we got the best value and the most appropriate equipment. The staff support for the P&C is spearheaded by Andrea and Terry and I would like to express our sincere appreciation to them for their constant support and enthusiasm.

Below I have listed some of the P&C’s achievements during 2007:

- Establishment of the Locker scheme
- The continued maintenance and repairs to Lostock and the generation of income from the property
- Launch of the Oval
- The Trivia Night
- Introduction of wine sales as an ongoing fundraiser
- Funding for 3 years through the Chaplaincy program (Fed. Govt)
- Investing in our Schools grant of $108,000
- Welcome to new parents evening and participation in Yr 7 Orientation Day
- Successful transition of the Uniform Shop to the P&C
- No stopping signs along Derbyshire Rd
- Election Day fundraiser
- Financial Support to The Band Program
- Careers Advisor as guest speaker at P&C meeting
- Community Forum

A special thank you to the following people for their contributions and enthusiasm for the above:

Jeff Hockey    Janet Burstall    Maggie Smyth
Laura Hart     Geoff Oakley     Christine Highett
Phillip Whitefield  Fran Bailey
Eileen Leather   John Hart

And a huge thank you to all those people who come out of the woodwork to help out at the various events and functions and are critical to their success.

The only negative thing about P&C in a year 7-10 college is that you lose great people from the P&C all too quickly. All of a sudden it’s December and parents with kids in year 10 are leaving to go on to Blackwattle and the P&C is suddenly bereft of people such as Maggie Smyth and Geoff Oakley who left at the end of last year. But then the new year comes around and all these wonderful new parents pop up and join in reminding you what a fantastic school community we have here at Leichhardt.

Suzy Velkou
President March 2008