*FABER EST* No: 98 SEPTEMBER 2022

**ANNUAL DINNER and AGM**

A reminder that the Fortians Union’s “Annual” Dinner is on Friday, 21 October, 2022, at the Sir Stamford Hotel, Circular Quay, from 7pm. The **Guest Speaker** will be **Cassie McCullagh, 1988**. Attached is a Booking Form, with details of how to make your booking and payment. Bookings close on Friday 14 October.

The Union’s Annual General Meeting will be held at the conclusion of the formal part of the Annual Dinner. All positions are open, and nominations will be taken during the Meeting. If you are unable to attend, you can still nominate, by sending me an email, by Thursday, 20 October.

**FORT FAIR**

Fort Fair will be held at the School, on Friday, 16 September. Please see the attached brochure for all the details.

**FORT STREET FOUNDATION**

The Foundation has received a very generous bequest from the Estate of the late Dr Carol ASHFORD (1956). Both Carol and her sister, the late Judge Linda ASHFORD (1958), were students of Fort Street Girls’ High School. This will provide a number of bursaries, for students in need of financial support for their Tertiary education.

Although Fort Street is a Government funded school, money from the Foundation allows for additional resources to be purchased, and Capital Works undertaken, outside the Department of Education’s Works Program. This way the funds support the current students. Please see the School’s website, under “Our community” for more information about the Funds, which are Tax Deductable, and how to donate.

**PAST FORTIANS**

Robert John **DOWEY** died 26 February, 2022. His wife Anne, describes he as “a proud member of the Fortian 39’ers, a year that produced many distinguished alumni.”

John completed his Leaving Certificate aged 16 and commenced work at the Commonwealth Bank, going to university, at night, to study Economics. On turning 18, he was conscripted and served in the 12th Field Regiment A.M.F. Later he transferred to the navy, and after graduating from Flinders Training Depot, served on H.M.A.S “Rushcutter” and “Penguin”, before joining his ship in Darwin, where he served in the Indian and Arafura Seas. After the War ended in August 1945, he returned to the bank, graduated in Economics and Law, and later completed his Masters Degree in London. John transferred to the Reserve Bank and spent the rest of his working life as a central banker, returning to London some years later, as the Bank’s Chief Representative in Europe, having served as their solicitor. He travelled widely, and after retirement enjoyed cruises and train travel within Australia. He belonged to, and supported a number of organisations, particularly those involved with the navy.

John loved books and reading, had a remarkable memory and always kept up with current affairs.

Collin Max **STAHL** (1951) died 21 July, 2022. An eager member of the Eastern Suburbs Sporting Car Club, Max competed in small rallies and then started racing in his everyday-transport, a Simca Aronde. Working in advertising, in 1963, he found himself in a position to take over the editorship of the monthly *Racing Car News* and also start a weekly radio half-hour about Motor Sport, on Sydney radio station, 2CH. From this point onwards, he was at the core of everything in motor sport, in Australia. The magazine grew and became “The Bible” of Australian motor sports, until weekly and fortnightly opponents took away its immediacy.

While the magazine was strong, Max impressed his opinions on his growing readership. Not that they were always accepted totally, with the glaring exception being seen in the debate about whether Australia should go for a 2-litre racing engine or F5000 as 1970 rolled around. He was never to favour the V8-engined open-wheelers, although he came to agree that they had the ability to present a spectacle.

He had a heart attack in the early eighties, which led to him to losing control of the magazine, and also to him giving up smoking little cigars. In 1986, when the magazine had folded, he headed a group which brought it back to life, for a while, but its time was over.

Max travelled all over Australia, to present radio reports on events like the Southern Cross Rally, when it became an International event, the World Rally Championship rounds, held in WA, and the 4WD Wynns Safari events.

Naturally Max became a close friend of some of the World’s top drivers. Jim Clark gave him the driving suit he used to win at Indianapolis (later stolen). He was close to Jackie Stewart, Andrew Cowan and many more. He also competed in the London-Sydney Marathon in 1968, with Bobby Buchanan-Michaelson, and in 1977 followed the event at close quarters. In later years, he organised his own events, notably the Camp Quality Caper, with the assistance of his new wife, Christine.

A quadruple bypass in the nineties slowed him down, and by 2016 he was starting to lose a lot of his drive. After suffering a stroke, Christine, herself a stroke victim, was unable to care for him, and he went into a Nursing Home, in Scone. On July 18 he had another stroke, this time more serious. He was taken to Maitland hospital, but passed away, after being in a coma for a couple of days.