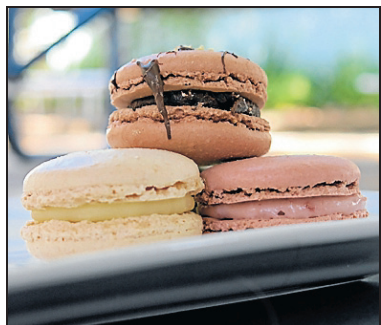


Primary entry #5: Kotara South Public School



K.S.P.S. XPRESS



TASTY: Some yummy macarons.
Picture: Maddy Gonullu

The queue is forming at the Letter Q

By **OSCAR SHEARMAN**
and **ALEX HOLLITT**

BUSINESS owner Kendall Sowerby has recently opened Letter Q – a cafe in Joslin Street, Kotara South.

"I opened the Letter Q because I always wanted my own business and I love coffee," Ms Sowerby said.

All it takes is for one person to read the Letter Q cafe's Facebook page and it starts a new revolution of sweet tooth lovers.

According to Ms Sowerby, people are coming from all around Australia, including as far as Perth and Sydney, especially to try their famous macarons.

The Letter Q sells more than 3000 macarons a week as well as other beautiful sweet products for their customers.

The Letter Q has up to 30 different flavours of macarons with favourites like salted caramel, peanut butter and chocolate. The Letter Q makes sweets to suit the occasion such as heart-shaped macarons on Valentine's Day. They had to close down online orders because they proved too popular.

Every morning the Letter Q is jam packed with sugar-addicted folk looking for their morning coffee with maybe a biscuit or two. Local resident Paul John says the coffee "is the best in town".

The cafe sells macarons in boxes that can be kept and re-used. It is much cheaper that way and the boxes are environmentally friendly.

By **TENZIN DAKPA**

TIBETANS have been fighting for what many consider their freedom since the Chinese government militarily reclaimed the independent state in 1950.

Since then, Tibetans in India, China and even Australia regularly hold protest marches and rallies in hope of regaining their independence.

More than 100 Tibetans have self-immolated by setting themselves on fire since 2008 as a sign of protest.

These Tibetan people have taken such drastic measures in the hope to freely practise their own religion and language.

They also pray for the return of His Holiness, the 14th Dalai Lama, who currently lives in India, to restore the freedom to choose a Tibetan way of life.

Australia is now home to many Tibetan families who have made the decision to flee their native homeland.

Yunden Tharchen, a Kotara South resident, along with his wife, is one of those people who have left for what they felt was a better, safer life in Australia.

"I left in 1991 and travelled to India with my wife. Not by plane, not by boat and not by car. We walked on foot through the Himalayan mountains.



EXILED: The Tibetan flag has not flown in its home country for years.

Picture: Maddy Ginullu

"It took one year," Mr Tharchen said.
It was a difficult decision to leave

all their family and travel to an unknown country.
Mr Tharchen and his wife lived

in India before eventually travelling to Australia.

He and his wife and children regularly attend protests in both Sydney and Canberra.

This month, protesters gathered at the Chinese Embassy in Canberra. Hundreds of Tibetan, Australian and even Chinese people attended the rally.

Mr Tharchen told reporters: "We hope to have our land returned to Tibet from the Chinese. The Chinese have treated Tibetans like slaves since the occupation.

"We want the killing, torturing and genocide in Tibet to stop."

The protesters hope the people of the world, United Nations and prime ministers will help save Tibetans who they say are suffering under Chinese authority.

At the protest earlier this year on March 18, the protesters sang the Tibetan national anthem, which they are not allowed to do under Chinese rule in Tibet or in China.

They remained silent for one minute and bowed their heads to pray for Tibetans who have died in Tibet since the occupation.

An Australian Parliament official also gave a speech in support of their protest.

Mr Tharchen said he would return to Tibet if China moved out.

"This would make the land how it was before when there was peace," he said.

FAREWELL:

Dianne Stewart has taught many students during her years of service.
Picture: Maddy Gonullu



Teaching through years of change

By **MADDIE SHIPWAY**
and **EMILY KEOGH**

ASSISTANT principal Dianne Stewart has taught at Kotara South Public School for 27 years.

Over the decades she has inspired and changed the lives of the many students she has taught.

Mrs Stewart announced late last year that she would be retiring and "hanging up the chalk" this month.

This news has been bitter-sweet for both teachers and students who will find it hard to imagine the school without her.

Mrs Stewart has taught over 600 students during her years of service and has remarked on how many changes there have been to education over the years.

"It is worth remembering that education is change and that teachers are the agents of change," she said.

She commented that her magic wish is for the government to increase spending for all public schools and to employ extra personnel for students with special needs.

All the students and staff will miss Mrs Stewart as she embarks on the next exciting stage of her life.

"I will miss life at KSPS as it has been a home away from home for me," Mrs Stewart said.

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