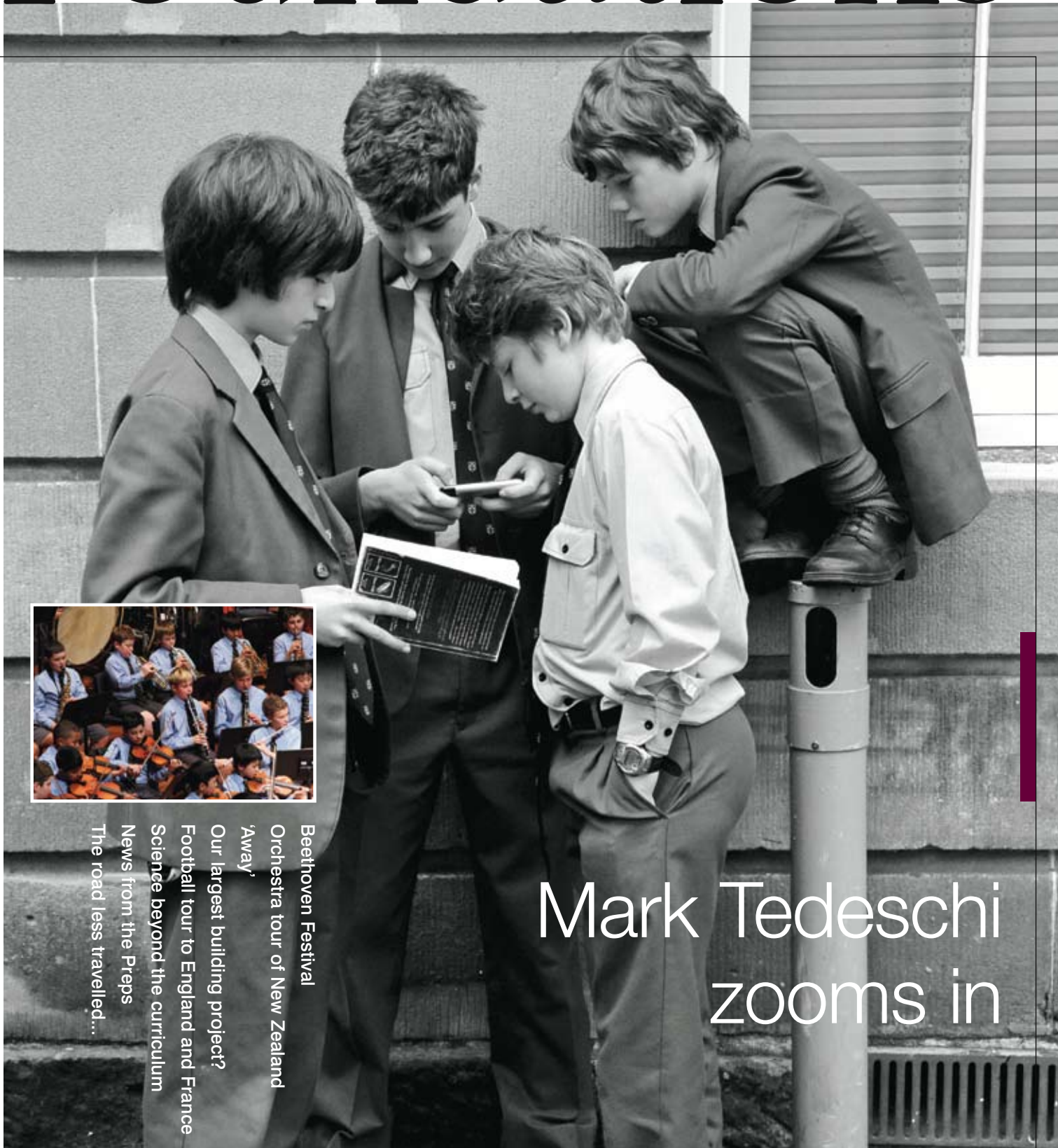


Grammar Foundations



Mark Tedeschi
zooms in

Beethoven Festival
Orchestra tour of New Zealand
'Away'
Our largest building project?
Football tour to England and France
Science beyond the curriculum
News from the Preps
The road less travelled...

Jottings

COMBINED SCHOOLS MUSIC FESTIVAL

Grammar was the host of this year's biennial Combined Schools Music Festival from 17-20 September culminating in a wonderful concert at the Sydney Opera House. This festival featured some of the best musicians from Australia's capital cities.

Schools involved included Westminster School Adelaide, Brisbane Grammar School, Brisbane Girls' Grammar School and Somerville House Brisbane, Canberra Grammar School and Canberra Girls' Grammar School and locally, Ascham School, the Conservatorium of Music High School, St Andrew's Cathedral School, St Mary's Cathedral College and International Grammar School. There were approximately 500 participants in the Festival including boys from St Ives and Edgecliff Preps.

Simon Kenway conducted the Festival Orchestra, Robert Busan the concert band and Ben Macpherson directed the choir. Works included excerpts from *Carmina Burana* (Orff), *Pictures at an Exhibition* (Mussorgsky), *Cloudburst* (Whitacre) and *English Dances* (Arnold).



'BOOTS 4 CHARITY'

In June this year Grammar families donated boxes of second hand football boots to young refugees recently arrived in Sydney through Football United, an initiative of the University of NSW's School of Public Health and Community Medicine. Football United assists young refugees with their integration into Australia through a football development program which uses the common interest of football to bring young people from diverse communities together. The photo shows young refugees from Sudan, Sierra Leone, Iraq and Afghanistan who were thrilled to receive the boots when organiser Sam Molloy (VI) delivered them. Football United has been recognised for its work in community football by receiving an invitation to send a group to a tournament run in association with the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa.

SKIING AT MOUNT HUTT

Overseas ski trips have been gaining in popularity and frequency this year. After returning home from Niseko, Japan in January, plans were quickly made for a trip to Mt Hutt, New Zealand during the July holidays. Twenty-three boys from Forms IV, V and VI, accompanied by Mr Rudge and Mr Howard, enjoyed near perfect ski conditions for the first four days before gale force winds unfortunately closed the mountain for the remaining time. Activities such as ice skating proved to be a good alternative and the boys had a fantastic holiday nonetheless. Japan 2010 here we come!



GPS UNDER 16s CROSS COUNTRY PREMIERSHIP

Our Under 16 team comprising James Bergfield (V), Zac Rea (IV), Michael Kong (IV), Patrick Kelland (III), Cameron Graf (III), Nicholas Brown (III) and Nicolas Vogel (III), won the Under 16 GPS Championship by an astronomical 205 points over nearest rivals Shore School.

Zac Rea finished 3rd in the Australian All Schools National Championships and as a result has been selected to compete in the ISF World Schools Championship in the Czech Republic next year. Zac also finished 1st in the CIS Championships and 2nd in the NSW All Schools Championships.

In the Under 14 division, Sam Gottlieb (II) came 6th in the CIS Championships, 17th in the NSW All Schools Championships and 19th in the Australian All Schools National Championships. He will be able to compete again in the U14 age group next year.



Sam Gottlieb



Zac Rea

FENCERS CLAIM GOLD

Fencing at College Street continues to flourish. The Under 15A team consisting of Patrick Daley (IV), Edward Phillips (III), Jeremy Tinslay (III) and Lachlan Humphrey (II) narrowly beat St Aloysius' College to claim gold in their division. Grammar has won the U15 division for the last three years. In the Novice State championships held on 23 August Patrick Daley came first and Edward Phillips third.

TELLING STORIES: RICHARD TULLOCH AT EDGECLIFF

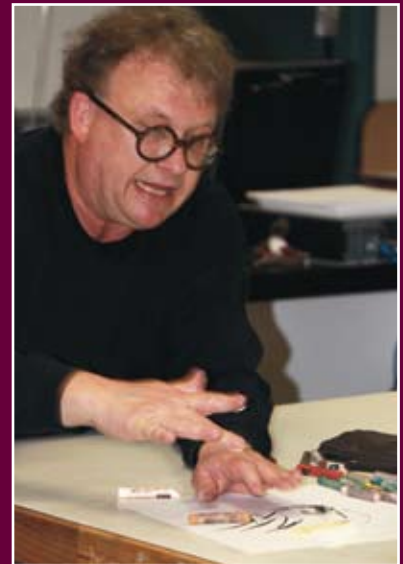
Richard Tulloch (pictured right) was Edgecliff Prep's writer-in-residence from 7 to 18 September. He is a writer whose expertise and experience covers many fields; apart from his forty children's books, he has written for young audiences in theatre, film and television.



His play *Midnite* was our major drama production this year. And he has been responsible for 150 episodes of *Bananas in Pyjamas*! Richard's storytelling entranced the Infants boys and the Primary classes found his workshops on writing stories and 'making it seem real', engaging and worthwhile. An award-winning playwright, Richard also worked creatively with the Fifth Class Extension group in writing for performance.

ART MASTER CLASSES

The Master Class series has been a successful addition to the Visual Art Department's programme this year. Wendy Sharpe gave an enlightening and entertaining class on drawing with pastels followed by the former Director of the National Art School, Bernard Ollis's class resulting in the completion of two large collaborative drawings. Walkley Award-winning artist, Eric Lobbecke talked us through one of his illustrations that was appearing in the following day's national newspapers with such success that all attempts at cartooning Kevin Rudd as the Statue of Liberty were met with collective approval. The Art Master Class Series will continue throughout 2010.



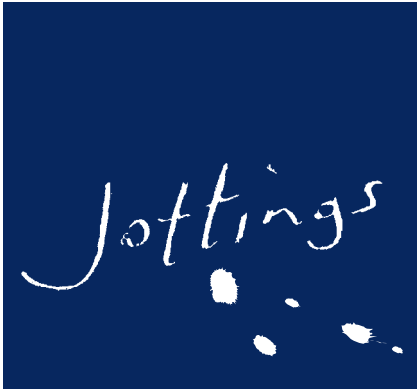
Bernard Ollis



Wendy Sharpe



Eric Lobbecke



JAMES MORRISON: JAZZING IT UP AT ST IVES

Boys at St Ives Prep enjoyed the opportunity to rehearse and play with trumpeter James Morrison, when he visited the School recently as part of the Festival of the Arts. James tutored groups, played with the orchestra and later performed for an appreciative audience.



A YEAR IN FINLAND

Fraser Perry (VI) is off to Finland in 2010 as part of the Rotary Youth Exchange programme. As well as attending school and immersing himself in Finnish culture, Fraser will get plenty of time to do what he likes best – fishing and fly tying. During the year he will have the opportunity to train with Team Finland and compete at the European Fly Fishing Championships. He will also attend the International Fly Tying Symposium. Fraser has been involved in a number of fishing related activities during the last two years including the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Future Leadership Programme. This Department has the primary responsibility for helping Australian agricultural, food, fisheries and forest industries become more competitive, profitable and sustainable.

HSC MAJOR WORKS

The 2009 HSC exhibition of artworks was opened by Dr Vallance on the evening of Thursday, 20 August. The exhibition represented the combined submission of work by thirty-three boys who between them worked in a variety of media that included photo media, sculpture, drawing and painting. The work was displayed in the Art Department and is a culmination of considerable preparation and planning on the part of the boys. This was reflected in a presentation of process diaries that illuminated to anybody prepared to dig a little deeper, the inspiration and story behind the making of much of what was offered up for consideration.



Alex Ryan, 'NOW' (digital image)



Benj Shand, 'The enigma of existing without' (photograph)



Tom McKenzie, 'The pain and the ecstasy' (photograph)

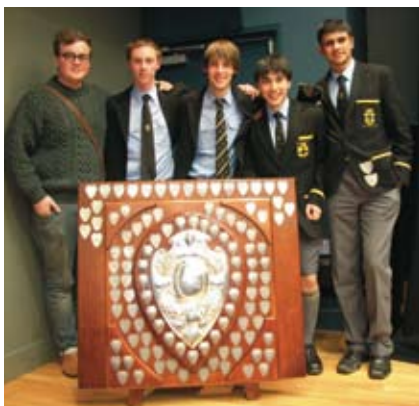
NEW BUILDING WORKS AT ST IVES

Throughout this year a building programme has brought changes to St Ives Preparatory School. The first stage of the building is now completed providing enlarged, well-resourced classrooms and learning spaces for boys in Years 4 to 6.

The next stage will see a cluster of rooms for Year 3 and an Italian classroom. The most welcome change will come with the construction of a new Library and Administration building in the centre of the School, on the site of the old Headmaster's Residence, due for completion at the end of 2010.

SUPPORTING LEGACY AND THE CANCER COUNCIL

On 21 September, Form VI boys volunteered some time before school and during lunchtime to sell badges for Legacy Badge Day and daffodils and other goodies for The Cancer Council's Daffodil Day. Both charities were delighted with their efforts and wrote to thank them for being involved in their annual fundraising. The money from Daffodil Day is used for cancer research. Money collected for Legacy helps provide support services for ex-servicemen and women.



TRIPLE GPS DEBATING PREMIERSHIPS

While it's not unusual to find debates taking place in the Palladium Building on a Friday night, Friday 11 September saw something a little more unusual occurring, with all three of Grammar's senior debating teams securing a GPS premiership. In the case of the undefeated GPS Firsts – pictured (*left to right*) Steve Hind (coach), Sam Molloy (captain), Anthony Smith, Nick Chung and Aneesh Davé – this was the School's first outright premiership since 1999, a premiership having been shared in 2007. Although the Seconds dropped one debate to High, they too finished the season as outright premiers. The Thirds were also undefeated.

INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE OLYMPIAD MEDALLISTS

During the June/July holidays James Woodmansey and Thomas Lacy (both VI) represented Australia in the International Science Olympiads. James (pictured right) was in the Biology team that went to Tsukuba in Japan and Thomas pictured (*left*) in the Physics team that competed in Mérida, Mexico.

The results of the examinations, one practical and the other theoretical, are graded in much the same way that we grade our junior results, except that the names given to the grades are different. A 'gold medal', of which 23 were awarded in Biology, is equivalent to our 'High Distinction' and so on.

James is not only the first Grammar boy to represent Australia in Biology, he also won a gold medal, which makes him the first Grammar boy to achieve this in a Science Olympiad. The Australian team won two gold and two silver medals.

Thomas won a silver medal; he was the best of the Australians, which equals the School's best result in Physics. The Australian team won one silver and two bronze medals.



Photograph courtesy Mark Tedesch

SPYING ON NATURE

In Science Club at Edgecliff Prep, a group of boys have been celebrating spring, by installing a small spy camera in a nest-box which hangs outside the Science Laboratory window. The camera remotely feeds to a large screen in the classroom so the boys can watch the birds nesting without interruption. A pair of Indian Mynas started building a nest on the first day of spring. This was met with great excitement as well as an element of disappointment that it wasn't a native species that has adopted the nest-box. The boys have been collecting footage and trying their hand at making documentaries.



YAMAHA MUSIC FESTIVAL

In June the Sydney Grammar School Big Band, under Vlad Khusid's direction, competed in the Stage Band section of the annual Yamaha Music Festival. Many schools from around Sydney participate in this very popular festival where, following their performance, the groups spend time with the adjudicator in a workshop. This year the boys worked with local identity Saul Richardson.



COX SELECTED IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

Simon Audas (VI), coxswain of the Grammar 2nd VIII (2008 and 2009), was selected in the National Talent Identification Development Rowing Squad. Twenty-seven athletes who are the next generation of talented young rowers from the Australian Institute of Sport embarked on a six-day tour of New Zealand in May. The squad included four crews: a men's and women's quad, a men's eight and a women's coxless four. Those selected have been identified as having high performance potential and the NTID tour gave them the opportunity to gain valuable international competition experience. The Australian Men's U18 VIII (pictured; Simon back right), was the only crew to win all its races, beating highly favoured New Zealand crews which went on to compete at the World Rowing Championships.



MUSIC AND POETRY AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE

In May Grammar boys participated in the Opening Ceremony of the 21st Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar at NSW Parliament House. The Form IV Brass Sextet (Philip Adams, Justin Cheung, Kevin Liu, Max Mallen-Cooper, Nidhiraj Singh and Hamish Wallace) performed musical items for the Consuls-General and other delegates from the participating countries



and then, with Daniel Nicholson (V) singing, performed the National Anthem at the start of the ceremony. (It is believed that this was the first-ever performance of *Advance Australia Fair* in the Legislative Assembly Chamber.) Later in the ceremony, Joel Selby (V) recited poetry by Judith Wright before the boys adjourned to the Parliament Dining Room where they mingled with the delegates over morning tea.

CHINESE SPEAKING COMPETITION

On 28 June three boys currently learning Mandarin, Andrew Kam (V), George Williams and Tim Large (both IV) participated in the Chinese Bridge Competition for high school students. The competition requires participants to deliver a speech in Chinese and present a cultural performance, as well as answer questions on Chinese culture and history. After more than three hours of competition, George Williams was awarded first prize, Andrew Kam was placed second, and Tim Large was highly commended. George's recitation of the poem 'The Descendant of the Dragon' was regarded as the highlight of the competition. These boys went on to compete in the World Chinese Bridge Competition in China in October.



Left to right: Tim Large, Andrew Kam, George Williams with Ms Ruth Wong

KATTHY CAVALIERE AND THE CAMERA OBSCURA

During Term III, Fifth and Sixth Class boys at Edgecliff Prep worked with artist Katthy Cavaliere and her 'walk-in' camera obscura. Boys worked inside the camera using the upside-down image of the city as seen from the Art Room balcony to make chalk pastel cityscapes. A selection of these works was exhibited in the RW Billing Hall at the Senior Concert.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Over forty boys from Forms IV to VI have volunteered to assist on a regular basis at three centres: the Vincentian Village, the Holdsworth Centre and the Matthew Talbot Hostel. At Holdsworth, the boys supervise and form a support network for children with learning difficulties, while at the Matthew Talbot, the boys help serve meals to homeless men in the inner city. Pool competitions are the order of the day at the Vincentian Village, an aged-care centre close to the School.

The boys certainly gain much from their experiences and these centres are very grateful for the valuable role that our boys play.



ALL STOPS OUT: JOHN SCOTT IN RECITAL

At the start of Term III the distinguished organist John Scott visited Grammar as part of a worldwide concert tour. Formerly Organist at London's St Paul's Cathedral, he is now Director of Music at the famous St Thomas' Church, Fifth Avenue, New York and is widely regarded as one of the finest musicians in the world today.

He gave a magnificent solo recital in Big School on 28 July playing music from the 18th to the 21st centuries and showing off the fine tone colours of the Mander organ.

AUSTRALIAN PERCUSSION EISTEDDFOD

Two Sydney Grammar School percussion ensembles competed in the Australian Percussion Eisteddfod in Burwood on 5 September. Schools from around Australia performed in many ensembles on a great variety of percussion instruments from garbage cans, drum kits, home made marimbas to professional equipment. The standard was extremely high. Under the direction of Iain Scotland, our Senior Percussion Ensemble won 2nd prize.

OLD BOYS EXCEL IN RUGBY

Hugh Hawkins (OS 2006) (pictured top right) continues to make good progress with his rugby career representing premier club Sydney University in a number of 1st Grade games this year. Cameron Crawford (OS 2006) (pictured below right) has also made the 1st Grade team at Northern Suburbs playing in the centres and on the wing. He recently created a piece of history in scoring seven tries in the one 1st Grade game and has been invited to trial for the ACT Brumbies academy in October. Peter Smith (OS 2007) is also playing higher grades at Gordon who are performing strongly this season. A number of other recent leavers are making their mark scattered through the Colts teams of the Sydney Premiership. Hugh, Cam and Peter are all coaching rugby at Grammar.



FLUENT IN LATIN AND GREEK

Ten boys from Forms IV and V participated in the Finals of the Greek and Latin Reading Competition organised by the Classical Association of New South Wales, held in the Palladium Theatre on 13 August. Tim Large, Horace Ng and Eric Xu were finalists in the Year 10 Latin competition, and Tim Large, David Vasak and Christian Toh in the Greek competition for Years 10 and 11. Another five Fourth Form Latin boys joined in for the Year 10 Choral Reading competition (pictured). Tim Large and Christian Toh maintained Grammar's successful record by coming first and second in the Greek competition.



JAZZ, ARIA AND CONCERTO COMPETITION

The finals of the annual Form V Eisteddfod were held last term. The finalists performed before special guest adjudicators John Morrison (Jazz) and Taryn Fiebig (Aria and Concerto).

The winners (below) will all perform solos at concerts next year accompanied by various ensembles. They also received CD vouchers and concert tickets donated by the Music Association.

- Jazz: Aidan Alexander (drum kit)
Aria: Daniel Nicholson (baritone)
Concerto: 1st Nicholas Della Marta (trumpet)
2nd Nicholas Stead (piano)
3rd Joseph Eisinger (cello)



Nicholas Della Marta

Jottings

OUR FOURTH KOKODA TREK

In the July holidays, 57 boys, parents (both mums and dads) and staff from College Street walked the Kokoda Track. This is the fourth time now an expedition has been launched from College Street. Several parents have walked the track up to three times as each of their sons has reached a suitable age. The excursion is tough and hazardous as recent tragic events have shown. Much fitness training and preparation goes into it in the months before departure to ensure a safe and enjoyable trek.

The Kokoda Track is not only an enormous physical challenge but it also provides the opportunity to learn first hand, in situ, a significant amount about the Australian experience in fighting the Japanese in 1942. As always, the local people in Papua New Guinea are welcoming hosts and provide our trekkers with a culturally rewarding exchange.



Photograph courtesy Craig Johnston

Footnote: On Friday 4 September, a mix of fourteen Sydney Grammar parents, masters and one boy, attended the annual KTF fundraising dinner in aid of providing educational scholarships for young people in Papua New Guinea. Public education even at primary school in PNG involves school fees and to attend high school many students need to find board and lodging away from their home village. KTF is already providing over 120 scholarships which are awarded to students who display academic excellence. At the dinner, a new scholarship for tertiary education was awarded. It is hoped to provide up to 200 scholarships in the near future. The Grammar contingent included a mix of people who have walked the Kokoda Track with the School over the last four expeditions.



LEAVERS' ASSEMBLY

Big School was packed on the last day of Term III with the entire Sixth Form and their parents, Housemasters and Tutors who came to wish them well on their last official day of school. A reading by the Senior Prefect and an address by the Headmaster were interspersed with musical items by Sam Payne ('cello) and the Grammarphones. The formalities over, the boys lingered in the upper playground for photographs and the traditional signing of shirts.



GPS REPRESENTATIVES

In Term III Mischa Hardwick (VI) and Lewis McLeod (VI) were selected in the combined GPS 1st Football XI, and James Fermanis (V), Sam Payne (VI) and Jeremy Wilson (VI) in the GPS 3rd XI. Hardwick was also selected in the Combined Independent Schools team and was a shadow selection for NSW. In Rugby Jacob Celermajer (VI) and Terry Jeong (V) gained selection in the combined GPS 3rd XV. In Rifle Shooting Ben Webster (VI) and Rob Selbie (V) were selected for the combined GPS team.



Left to right: Peter Barratt, James Ryan, Fin Robinson

Peter Barratt, Finlay Robinson and James Ryan (all IV) were selected in the combined U16 GPS Rugby team which trialed for the NSW team to play in the National Championships in October. Barratt was subsequently selected in the NSW U16 team to participate in those Championships.

'GENES TO GALAXIES'

Eugene Holdenson-Kimura and Yuem Park (both Form V) were recently awarded scholarships to attend the 2009 Professor Harry Messel International Science School, from 12 July to 25 July at the University of Sydney. The School, entitled 'Genes to Galaxies', was a two-week residential program involving 145 students from 10 countries.

The following link leads to the ISS website: http://www.physics.usyd.edu.au/foundation/index_iss.html

MORE DEBATING SUCCESS

Thirty-two schools participate in the ISDA competition and this year Grammar won three out of six divisions: Years 7, 9 and 10. Our Form IV team comprising William Hannah, Tim Large, Paul Mersiades, James Monaghan, Daniel Pearson and Harry Stratton, was undefeated throughout the season.

The Form III team consisting of Benjamin Challis, Mischa Davenport, George Fermanis, Beeshman Nandakumar, Bostan Nurlanov and John Papantoniou and coached by Heydon Letcher (OS 2008) also won their division by defeating an impressive Queenwood team on the topic 'that alcohol sponsorship in sport should be banned'.

The Form I team (pictured left to right: James Stratton, Phillip McKay, Grant Kynaston, Kevin Lee, Tom Molloy, Hugo Umbers) coached by Steve Hind, also beat Queenwood School in their grand final debating the topic 'that organ donation should be compulsory'. The team won nine out of ten debates.



FRENCH EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

For the last twelve years Grammar has been involved with a short-term exchange with the Lycée Sainte Croix, in Neuilly-sur-Seine. For five weeks in June and July boys in Forms III and IV host a pupil from that school and in return spend five weeks with them and their families in December/January. This program has boosted our boys' motivation to learn French and helped them gain cultural sensitivity. Three

years ago we also introduced a long-term exchange program whereby three or four Form IV boys get the chance to spend Term IV at the École Alsacienne, located in the famous Latin Quarter of Paris. Boys who have been through this exchange program come back to Australia as quasi-bilinguals.

Pictured above in Paris: Nikbil Prakash, Alasdair Guaran and Patrick Daley.



TRIO PERFORMS AT CITY RECITAL HALL

Brian Lee (V), Cyril Tang (V) and Sam Payne (VI), pictured (left to right) on stage at the City Recital Hall, Angel Place, were selected to perform on Thursday 30 July as part of a concert series *A Little Lunch Music*. This concert was open to the public and was entitled 'Stars of the Future: outstanding young performers from around the city'. The boys performed the first movement of Australian composer Nigel Westlake's *Piano Trio*.



WEIGALL PAVILION

The pavilion at Weigall has undergone major extensions and renovations this year. The most significant improvement has been an increase by a third in area of the large function area, now to be known as 'The Old Sydneians' Room' thanks to a very generous contribution from the OSU. 'Home' and 'Away' changing rooms have been added as have changing rooms for female coaches. The Tuck Shop has been reoriented to face Weigall 1, thus enabling parents behind the counter to keep an eye on the match! A lift has been installed and the barbecue facilities updated. In all, the pavilion has a smarter, fresher and more modern feel. (See OSU section for details of the official opening.)



Photograph courtesy Steve Miller



Combined Preps' Orchestra in New Zealand

Boys from St Ives and Edgecliff Prep came together to export one of our best commodities – music – across the Tasman Sea to New Zealand.

On 18 July, the Combined Orchestra consisting of sixty-eight excited boys from St Ives and Edgecliff Preps, flew to Auckland for the biennial New Zealand Orchestra Tour.

The tour was the culmination of much hard work and weekend rehearsals. A varied programme featured orchestra, band, string and choral pieces. Concerts were given at six Auckland schools and we combined with these schools to perform at Holy Trinity Cathedral in Auckland. Playing in such an impressive setting to a capacity audience was a highlight of the tour. The Pacifica Dance Group from Dilworth School opened the concert with a lively Islanders' dance routine and the concert closed with the Combined Orchestra of 188 players playing an arrangement of Tchaikowsky's *1812 Overture*.

Included in the orchestra repertoire was Howard Shore's *Lord of the Rings – the Two Towers*. After farewelling our kind billet host families from The King's School, Auckland it was appropriate we headed south to Matamata to explore the set of Hobbiton.

The latter part of the tour included several days at Rotorua where boys were given tuition in the *haka* at the Maori concert and *hangi* (feast). We also visited



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a sheep farm, the Pirongia Clydesdale horse stud and had the thrill of luge rides overlooking the crater lake. The visit to Wai-o-Tapu Thermal Wonderland with its bubbling mud and spurting geysers, was a popular inclusion.

We explored another film set at the Waitomo glow worm caves used in the opening scenes of *Star Wars*.

We returned to Australia with a renewed appreciation of our New Zealand neighbours and the generous host families who made this orchestra tour possible. It's quite certain that friendships will be maintained across the Tasman for many years to come.

- 1 At Pirongia Clydesdale horse stud
- 2 Auckland Cathedral
- 3 'When in Rome... well, Rotorua'
- 4 Hobbiton set, Matamata
- 5 Combined orchestras, Auckland



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The road less travelled...

In the first of two articles on Grammar boys who have chosen to study overseas, we hear from Ben Hardy, Mac Steele and Nick Bartz who packed their books and bags for the USA.

Ben Hardy (OS 2008) – University of Pennsylvania

'It's very rare that you can experience a place for barely a month and have the confidence to call it home. If intimidation isn't what casts the initial seed of doubt, then the unpredictability of the unfamiliar probably is. I remember walking through the gates of Grammar as a First Former in 2003, pants past the ankles yet socks pulled tightly to the knee, palms just a little clammy. I didn't realize at the time how fortunate I really was to be in such incredible company. But I very quickly came to appreciate how great an effect on my life my time at Grammar would have. This year, I've started afresh at the University of Pennsylvania with the hope of majoring in health care management at the Wharton School of Business. Incredibly, the novelty that is living in a foreign country is hardly comparable to the feeling of belonging I have already come to feel here. Never have I so immediately been accepted into a circle of students and faculty so accomplished and never have I so avidly absorbed the vibrancy of spirit of a university and its city. Yet in the same breath, I will never forget that it was my life at Grammar which drove me to make as ambitious a move as mine to the United States. For those who have given any thought at all to post-graduation, pursue your dreams – mine have certainly paid off.'

Photo courtesy: Ben Hardy



Photo courtesy: Denise Applewhite, Office of Communications, Princeton University

Mac Steele (OS 2005) – Princeton

'For me, as an American citizen, studying in the US may not have been the road less travelled. But for most Grammar boys, the prospect of living in college, much less halfway around the world is quite daunting. While it is a risk to break from the Sydney Uni Commerce/Law track, the rewards can be fantastic. I've had opportunities at Princeton that simply are not possible elsewhere in the world. For example, this past summer, I received a grant to travel all over the world and study the impact of globalization on development. The greatest reward is certainly the friendships I've made. Every day I'm intimidated by my classmates who are the best in the world at their respective endeavours. Although it is always hard to leave the beautiful shores of Sydney, I'm thankful for the exposure I've had to new places and new ideas. Plus, it's only an 18-hour flight back!'

Nick Bartz (OS 2005) – Yale

'The three years I have spent studying at Yale have been some of the most incredible years of my life. I have had the chance to study with some truly amazing minds and the opportunity and encouragement to pursue my passions. But while studying at Yale does afford me a wealth of opportunity that other schools (universities) might not, the most rewarding part of my experience has always been the thrill and excitement of being in a completely different culture. When I first came to the United States I was shocked by how easily the country blew away my expectations and how suddenly my perspective on my own life and the world around me could be revitalized. This feeling of excitement and constant rejuvenation has allowed me, time and time again, to re-evaluate what I truly want to do with my life and to make the choices I really want to make, rather than those comfortable or easy choices that we all feel compelled to make.'



Photo courtesy: Michael Marsland, Yale University

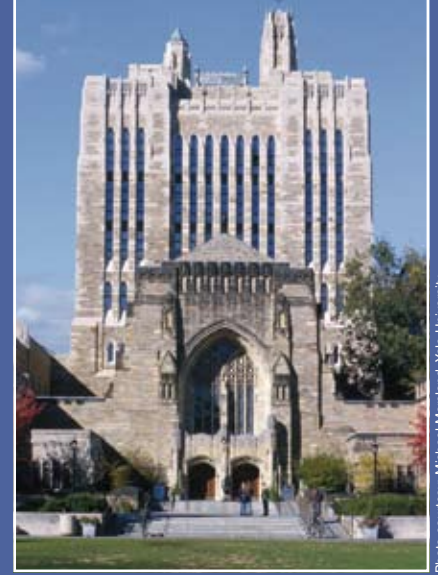


Photo courtesy: Michael Marsland, Yale University

Our largest building project?

The Headmaster, Dr John Vallance, unveils plans for an exciting new development at College Street.

For as many years as we can remember, one of Grammar's greatest strengths has also provided one of its greatest challenges. The School's position at the heart of the City of Sydney has given generations of young men unique access to all kinds of opportunities and experiences which are simply not available away from the centre of our city's life. On the other hand, lack of space has always meant that we have had to make special, often cumbersome and costly arrangements to accommodate many of the activities essential to the proper running of any good school.

Playground space for instance, has always been limited, as has room for

organized sport at College Street. In wet weather boys have restricted room in which to find shelter. And a current lack of suitable indoor space means that the school needs to arrange three separate assemblies each week if every boy in Forms I to VI is to be fully involved in this important aspect of the life of his school community. Earlier this year, pressure of space meant that a school concert had to be moved to the main hall at the Conservatorium of Music, and even then many disappointed parents and friends were turned away.

All this is about to change. At an historic meeting in late August the Trustees approved one of the largest

building projects in our history. The area between the middle playground and the Palladium Building is to be excavated and a large underground hall built there. The roof of the hall will form a continuation of the main playground almost to the edge of the Palladium, thereby doubling the size of the middle playground and providing enough room for two new basketball courts. Underneath, the new hall will seat up to one thousand five hundred people – more than enough to fit the whole senior school including masters. This means that for the first time in living memory we will all be able to gather under one roof for assemblies and other activities. The



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hall has been designed acoustically with concerts in mind, and this will provide a huge boost for our music programme. But it will also be available for indoor sports such as volleyball, fencing and Tae Kwon Do, major examinations and social functions. Covered passages around the hall will give boys much needed room to sit and relax out of the sun and rain.

An unusual confluence of circumstances has made this possible. The cost of building is lower than it has been for many years, and support from the Federal Government for major and much needed improvements at both St Ives and Edgecliff means that the School's own resources can be focused on this particular project. We will launch a capital campaign shortly to help us defray some of the cost of the development, and very much hope that you will wish to support us when the time comes.

I should stress that in the midst of all this physical building activity, our long-term commitment to building the means-tested scholarship programme has not been set aside. We have simply decided to seize an extraordinary opportunity to transform the facilities of Grammar for a new generation.

Preliminary work started at the end of September. Throughout the construction process, the emphasis will be on ensuring that the School and its neighbours can continue to operate with a minimum of disruption. Noisy work is to be suspended altogether during the HSC examination period, and it is hoped that most of the initial digging will be complete by the end of January 2010, with the roof installed and the playground extension available for use by boys in time for the beginning of Term I

next year. The entire project is scheduled for completion early in 2011.

Some artist's impressions, and a cross sectional model of the building are reproduced here. If you would like more information, please don't hesitate to contact the Development Office.

- 1 The view from the back of the hall
- 2 Some of the new playground space that will be created above the hall
- 3 Cross sectional model
- 4 The main entrance



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Beethoven Festival



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Greg Howard (Head of Brass) looks back over a month of music-making celebrating the work of Ludwig van Beethoven.

The focus of the School's month-long Music Festival during Term II was the work of Ludwig van Beethoven. Performance repertoire was chosen from every facet of Beethoven's output and was performed by literally hundreds of boys from all three Schools – College Street, Edgecliff Preparatory and St Ives Preparatory – in four main concerts and in over twenty recitals, masterclasses, lectures and seminars. Some of these were enhanced by guest artists Gerard Willems, Kammer Ensemble, Daniel Yeadon and Stephanie McCallum, whose words of encouragement and, indeed, their own performances were inspirational. Boys performed as soloists and as ensemble members, some composed Beethoven-inspired works for chamber groups and others presented papers on their musicological research.

Some of the Festival's highlights include the concert in Big School which was a guided performance of the whole *Fifth Symphony* with transcriptions for organ and piano in the first, second and third movements before finishing with the School Orchestra in the fourth. Performances by College Street choirs, soloists and ensembles at each of the Preparatory schools strengthened the musical links between the three schools.



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The Festival concluded with a performance at Verbruggen Hall, Sydney Conservatorium of Music (which highlighted our need for a suitable performance space with adequate capacity) with a programme including works for larger forces including wind band and the Combined Preparatory Schools Orchestra. The final work was the *Choral Fantasy* Op.80 with Gerard Willems, piano and the School Orchestra and combined choirs. This concert was the culmination of a month of celebration of Beethoven's music at Grammar which highlighted his spirit and the enduring importance of his legacy. The forces involved in realizing the goals of the entire project represented the dedicated interest and time of many people. They all happily dedicated their efforts to every boy who played, sang, listened to and somehow connected with Beethoven.

- 1 Micael van der Mark (II)
- 2 Sam Milch (Edgecliff Prep)
- 3 Vincent Lo, 'cello' (III)
- 4 Combined Prep Orchestra (section)
- 5 Gerard Willems with choir and orchestra



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Science beyond the curriculum

Tim Illes (VI), Matthew Allwright (II), Edmund Zhang (I) and Dr Malcolm Binns (Science Department) write up their findings on three recent expeditions.

Big School was filled on the evening of 27 May when Professor Mike Archer, Dean of Science at the University of New South Wales, queried whether extinction really is forever. He not only updated us on the state of cloning technology but also kept us entertained with his wit and humour. In addition to discussing how the *Thylacinus cynocephalus* may be brought back from extinction he revealed the truth about many urban myths on cloning such as why ‘Dolly the Sheep’, the first cloned animal, died at such a young age. Professor Archer’s cloning attempts to date were impressive but it was his vision and persistence in accomplishing scientific feats considered impossible by colleagues that was inspiring.

A balmy Sunday mid-Term III found us wandering around North Head Sanctuary. Our tour guides demonstrated how to navigate using compass and maps and then told us to ‘lead on’ through the remainder of the excursion. We were introduced to the endangered Eastern Suburbs Banksia Shrub and the bandicoot as well as other flora and fauna in this wilderness-in-suburbia. All walkers were retrieved by lunchtime.

During the July school holidays, we set off for two days of exploration at Jenolan Caves in the Blue Mountains. We experienced the caves as seen by the early explorers except that we relied on head torches mounted on our hard hats rather than fluttering candles held by hand. Thus equipped, we squeezed through the ‘corkscrew’ and ‘mailed’ ourselves through the ‘letterbox’. In the other daytime session we looked at the terrain above the caves, learnt how it affected cave formation far below, and monitored the chemistry of the Jenolan River. Following dinner we twisted and turned through rarely travelled tunnels interconnecting most of the Jenolan’s tourist caves in search of the most aesthetic formation – but which one?!

- 1 Collecting samples at North Head Sanctuary
- 2 Underground at Jenolan Caves
- 3 About to visit rarely travelled tunnels at Jenolan Caves
- 4 Dr Binns with a visitor from the Australian Museum
- 5 Professor Archer questions whether extinction is forever



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Mark Tedeschi zooms in

An Old Sydneian famed for his advocacy skills in some of the country's most famous criminal trials recently returned to Grammar in a different guise...

Mark Tedeschi QC is best known to the general public as Senior Crown Prosecutor of New South Wales and for his recent successes in a number of cases that have made headlines around Australia. But Mr Tedeschi – an Old Sydneian – is also a distinguished and recognized photographer, and it was in this capacity that he spent part of Term III at College Street as Art Fellow.

The residency was highly successful and set a new standard for the involvement of the Art Fellow in School life. Mr Tedeschi spent much of his time at College Street visiting classes, assemblies, the library and sporting events and taking photographs of the boys and masters at work. Grammar life has been the subject of earlier documentary photographic series – selections from the pictures taken by Max Dupain and later his son Rex were published by the School a few years ago

– and Mr Tedeschi, too, found it a source of rich photographic material.

At the conclusion of the residency the Art Department held an exhibition of Mr Tedeschi's pictures, which was opened by the Headmaster and attracted a record crowd, including many people from both the legal profession and the art world. The pictures were memorable and sometimes poignant, notable for their sympathetic perceptiveness and for a fine sense of timing, of the precise moment in an individual's gesture or in the dynamic of a group.

Although taken in colour, Mr Tedeschi's photographs were printed in black and white, which helped to distance them from the anecdotal and invest them with a more timeless and reflective quality. Tonal relations are stronger in black and white, and so compositional structure is enhanced. This choice of a classic photographic style also established Mr Tedeschi's pictures as the direct successors of the documentary work of the two Dupains.

In addition to his work in photographing School life, Mr Tedeschi was visited in his studio by groups of



boys during Tutorials and also took part in a number of photography classes for different Forms. He ran a series of photography masterclasses on Wednesday evenings following our weekly life-drawing class. These were very well attended by boys of all ages as well as by a number of staff members.

Mr Tedeschi even offered a couple of sessions talking to boys about the law as a profession. He also sponsored and personally offered prizes in three age categories for a photographic competition, with three categories. The entries were exhibited at the same time as Mr Tedeschi's own work and the winners (Angus Hannam, Will Sayer and Joshua Milch) were announced by the Headmaster during his opening speech.





Altogether, it is hard to imagine anyone achieving so much, and giving so generously of their time, during a residency of a little over a month. Mr Tedeschi's stay at College Street was greatly appreciated by masters and boys alike, and we sincerely hope that he may return for another such residency in the next year or two.





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Pennington and Bambini Strings

For the youngest string players at St Ives Prep, their musical journey begins here, writes Ros Murray.

Have you ever listened to the wonderful music played by St Ives Prep's Maffey Strings? Do you enjoy listening to the Alastair Mackerras Chamber Orchestra at College Street? For the many boys from St Ives who are part of these orchestras, their musical journey began with Pennington and Bambini Strings, our orchestra at St Ives for violin and 'cello players from Transition, Year 1 and Year 2.

St Ives Prep is in the fortunate position of having more than sixty young boys, aged between five and eight years who play in Pennington and Bambini Strings every Tuesday afternoon. All boys who learn to play violin or 'cello in the K-2 years are welcome to join. Our situation is quite unusual, as very few schools could boast an orchestra of this size and with the musical skill that our young boys continually demonstrate. How does it happen? Not as with a traditional orchestra! To start with, the boys can't tune their instruments. Many of the youngest have only been learning for a short time and they are in the early stages of reading music, if at all. In rehearsals, boys develop the skills needed to play in an orchestra, skills older players take for granted.

Over the years the standard of the boys' playing has risen. Once we would have expected such young musicians to play short pieces of music in unison, or at best in two simple parts. But when given the challenge of playing four-part



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string repertoire these boys have shown they are more than capable of mastering it – and playing it well! It is even more amazing, as most of the boys are playing small instruments: ½ size and ¼ size violins or 'celli and sometimes even smaller!

This year the boys in Pennington and Bambini Strings have already performed in the combined St Ives Prep and PLC Sydney concert in July. Later in Term IV they will perform at the Annual Concert.

By the time they move into their primary years these boys will be confident and competent orchestral musicians, ready to meet future challenges on their musical journey through the School.



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- 1 Alex Hua in rehearsal with Bambini Strings
- 2 Pennington Strings working hard
- 3 Lucas Robertson
- 4 Gus Cloney

Staying fit – and staying focussed

Film-making and Fitness Club: just two of the limitless number of extra-curricular activities on offer at Edgecliff Prep.



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Fitness Club

With the growing concerns associated with childhood obesity and lowering fitness levels, the Fitness Club provides a wonderful opportunity for boys to improve and maintain their fitness. Additional benefits include improved concentration in class and enhanced self-esteem. It is also a positive grounding for the future, decreasing the chances of developing diabetes and heart conditions later in life.

Prior to the establishment of the Fitness Club for Primary boys in 1995, boys were able to attend the 100k Club where they would attempt to run 100 kilometres around Weigall by the end of the year but, not surprisingly, numbers dwindled. The Club is now held four mornings a week with boys being rewarded for their attendance. Boys receive gold medals if they attend 100 or more sessions, silver for 75+, bronze for 50+ visits and a certificate for 25+ visits. Approximately 120 boys gain a medal or certificate each year. For the past three years all the Infants boys have attended their own Fitness Club for two mornings a week.

The boys participate in many fitness-based activities including circuit training, plyometrics, strength training, sprint training, endurance training and cardio-boxing classes. They certainly earn these rewards as the sessions are quite intense. Fitness tests in Physical Education lessons have clearly shown that the regular attendees have significantly improved their results. The coaches of School sporting teams also notice the importance of having fit boys in their teams.

6th Class film-making

Over the past two terms 6th Class boys have written and directed their own short films. They ranged greatly in style and genre with the boys assuming performance roles as well as those 'behind-the-scenes'.

The boys used the School's cameras and equipment while gaining a fundamental knowledge of the art of film-making. All boys had the opportunity to be an actor, director, cinematographer or costume designer when filming their projects.

There were many unusual and creative stories developed by the groups. They included a tale of espionage involving a giant silver potato, a story in the style of '24' where the boys had to find a bomb before it blew up the School! Another tale involved a time-travelling yarn where the boys were launched into the past and future in front of a bewildered teacher.

There was also a sports fable in which the 'under dogs' were pitted against an arrogant basketball team, a spoof on home video shows (complete with duelling hosts), and finally a tale that spanned the Pacific Ocean with a boy coming to Australia from the United States to escape his mysterious past.

The boys continue to be fascinated with making movies and have relished the opportunity to find their voice through the medium of film and participate in a positive and collaborative process.

- 1 'And, ACTION!' The filming commences
- 2 Fitness Club
- 3 Enjoying a push-up or two
- 4 Chasing the clock
- 5 Reviewing the results

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'Away'

Joel Selby (V) reflects on his experience acting in Michael Gow's popular play about three internally-conflicted Australian families on holiday during the 1960s.

Set against the background of the baby-boom Australia of 1968, *Away* might seem a challenging task to perform and relate to at a boys' school today. However, this was certainly not the case for the drama production of Term II, directed by Bronwen Williams. The play deals with the themes of class difference, loss and reconciliation, and responses to tragedy and healing, not things with which every teenager can instantly identify. In fact, some of the cast (myself included) weren't sure until opening night if any of the boys in the audience would 'get' it. However, as we began to realise that these themes were not stuck in 1968 and could easily apply to us today, our fears quickly faded. And they disappeared completely when we heard the audience's response to Edward Emmett (IV) as Puck and the other fairies in a school production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* prancing onto the stage, wearing green tights, flowery singlets and leafy pantaloons.

Much like the way Shakespeare's play-within-a-play exposes the main characters of Tom and Meg (Edward Emmett and Molly Fowler) to new worlds of character and emotion, I too, found myself being part of something entirely new. Up until Form V, although seeing many plays, I had never been involved in any of the School's productions. I cannot express enough how rewarding an experience it was. The experience of working together with a common purpose with boys from different parts of the School and girls from SCEGGS, in meeting all the challenges of the play – lines being learnt, characters being mastered, blocking, lighting, costume and soundtrack being perfected – led to a fantastic feeling as all of the threads wove together for three outstanding performances. We attained that often elusive feeling of absolute cohesion at our final dress rehearsal before production week, which also served as a

great birthday present for our director.

The play was also a new and rewarding experience for other members of the cast. It was an introduction to the stage for Freddy Jensen and Thomas Lingafelter (both V) and Daniel Kemsley and Justin Cheung (both IV). Justin's artistic skill also contributed to the publicity for the play as he designed the poster. Thomas Lingafelter discovered how to access his rarely seen angry side. Callum Wylie (V) learnt to play the ukulele and featured in hula-girl costume, complete with grass skirt and a coconut bikini-top. Seasoned actor Benjamin Brooks (V) faced the challenge of playing Harry, Tom's father, having to step outside his comfort zone in order to convey the harrowing emotions of a father mourning the slow death of his son through cancer.

Some fond memories from *Away* include the warm energy buzzing round the room during rehearsals, Ms Williams' 'alternative' warm-up games such as 'Zap-Zing-Bounce-Woosh-Boing', learning to waltz in white dinner jackets and the first rotation of the giant mirror ball set up in the AMT. Being part of the cast gave me friendships across Forms, new relationships with masters and an insight into the extraordinary amount of effort required for a drama production.



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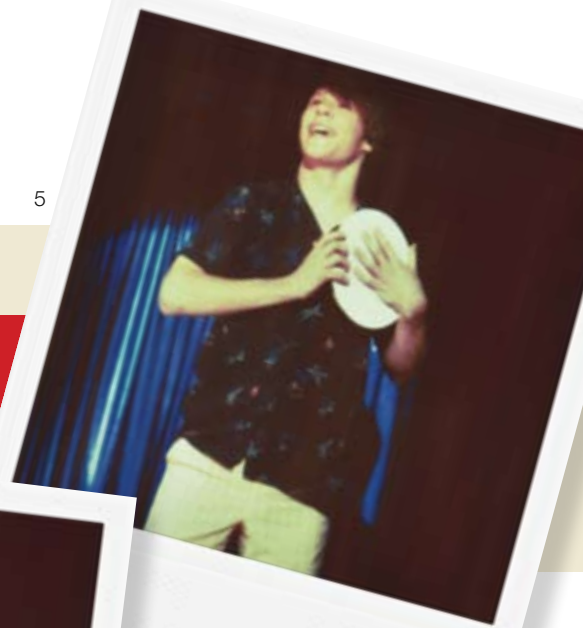
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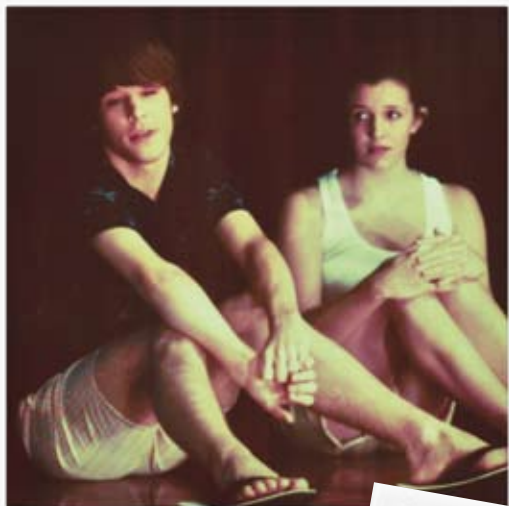
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- 1 Callum Wyllie (chorus)
- 2 Tom Lingafelter (Roy), Molly Fowler (Meg) and Daniel Kemsley (Jim)
- 3 Freddy Jensen, Joel Selby, Callum Wyllie, Justin Cheung (campers)
- 4 Daniel Kemsley (Jim) and Ben Brooks (Harry)
- 5 Edward Emmett (Tom)
- 6 Edward Emmett (Tom – as a fairy)
- 7 Edward Emmett (Tom) with Molly Fowler (Meg)
- 8 Ben Brooks (Harry)
- 9 The company takes a bow

Winter sport round-up

Sharon Ditmarsch, who steps down as Sportsmaster at the end of Term IV after six years of distinguished service, sends us her last *Foundations* report.



The Athletics season began with a rain-delayed school carnival followed by a rapid acceleration in training for the 114th AAGPS Championships. Two school records were broken over the season: the U15 100m by Karl Pratley (III) and the U15 4x100m relay. Grammar's performance at the AAGPS Championships was the best in recent years. Phillip Hatzis (I) won the U13 Hurdles (Division), Zac Rea (IV) won the U16 1500m; Karl Pratley (III) took the prestigious U15 100m and 200m double and the U15 relay team of Karl Pratley, Nic Vogel (III), Rhett Coleman (III) and Calvin Hee (III) also won.

The School fielded 30 football teams. The 1st XI won the Plate in the Saint Andrew's Cup in April but started the GPS season with some unexpected losses. They showed great spirit to overcome a strong Newington side and defeat Scots the following week. The 2nd XI were overpowered early on but improved to win their last two matches. The Fred Raine Memorial Trophy for the most successful senior team was won by the 16C XI and the Sam Lands Cup for the most successful junior team was awarded to the 13C XI.

2009 was a difficult year for Grammar's 17 rugby teams where we were faced with strong opposition from most GPS Schools. An Opens squad toured England and Ireland in April. A training camp was held at Weigall during the April vacation and the Ball and Boy program for the Prep Schools continued to attract good numbers. The 1st XV scored a strong win





against High and performed courageously against all other GPS schools. The 2nd XV was competitive in all their games finishing with a well-deserved draw against The Armidale School's 1st XV. The 16s competed strongly and will bolster the senior ranks over the next few years.

In Rifle Shooting, the annual NSW All Schools Cup was shot in the last week of the July School holidays followed by the GPS Competition in the first week of Term III. Hamish Tym (III) and Ben Webster (VI) gained maximum scores at the 600 round but our combined scores were not good enough for a podium finish this year.

Cross Country continues to grow and has more than doubled in size since 2005. Sam Gottlieb (II) represented the School at the Australian All Schools Cross Country Championships and impressed with a 19th position. After a strong season the U16 team won the GPS

Championship. The front runners were Zac Rea (IV), Joshua Bergfield (V), Patrick Kelland (III), Cameron Graf (III), Nick Brown (III) and Nic Vogel (III). Rea and Bergfield represented the School at the NSW All Schools Championships finishing 2nd and 13th respectively. The greatest success this year was Rea's spectacular 3rd place at the Australian All Schools Cross Country Championships. He has been selected to compete in the World School Championships next year.

In Volleyball the junior squad won first place in Sydney High's Junior Tournament, whilst the senior squad, captained by Robin Marshall (VD), competed against some tough opposition to earn some respectable results. Grammar's CAS team played commendably with the Firsts retaining their 2nd placing in the competition for the second year running. In the GPS, pressure from determined opposition saw

the Firsts (GPS) finish 3rd to High and Newington. This season saw the standard of volleyball lift to another level for all four senior teams.

Fencing had its best season so far with ten teams competing in the recent Schools' League. The U15A team won gold from 19 teams with Patrick Daley and Edward Phillips featuring prominently. The U13As won silver in their division with Sholto Douglas (II) taking the trophy for highest points.

The TaeKwon Do Club is growing. Training now runs on Saturdays to better prepare boys for competitions. Grammar came third at the All-Schools TaeKwon Do tournament at Loreto Normanhurst during Term III.

See 'Jottings' for GPS representative selections and other individual sporting achievements.





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Grammar football goes home

And thirty-two boys have the footballing experience of a lifetime!



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During the September/October holidays, thirty-two Grammar footballers, accompanied by five masters and a physiotherapist, headed over to England and France for the footballing experience of a lifetime. A senior squad comprising seventeen boys from Fourth and Fifth Forms and a junior squad drawn from Second and Third Forms played five matches against English competition and watched six top-flight professional games from the world-famous English Premier League, the UEFA Champions League and the English Championship. The football extravaganza began with the Premier League game between Fulham and Arsenal where the boys were treated to front row seats watching Socceroo Mark Schwarzer warm up only metres away for over an hour before kick-off. Subsequently they watched Manchester United overcome the German champions Wolfsburg, Tottenham Hotspur against Bolton, Everton featuring Socceroo Tim Cahill and Lucas Neill against Stoke City, Aston Villa against football's richest club, Manchester City, and, of course, Mr Townley's beloved Crystal Palace with Australian Nicky Carle. They also toured some of the iconic stadiums, visiting Wembley, Old Trafford and Anfield, where the boys got to visit the dressing rooms frequented by players of the stature of Wayne Rooney, Steven Gerrard and Frank Lampard and also learn about some important events



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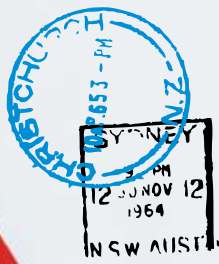
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that have shaped the game's history – the 1966 World Cup win, the Munich air crash and more recently the Hillsborough disaster.

The boys played some very competitive fixtures against private and state school teams, the highlight being their final fixtures, night games played under floodlights against a local club side in their stadium. Despite torrential rain, both teams emerged victorious by a solitary goal. The boys thoroughly enjoyed their experiences of English hospitality as they were billeted by the families of several of their opponents. In amongst all the footballing culture, the tourists also visited numerous historic landmarks such as Buckingham Palace, the Tower of London, Warwick Castle, Shakespeare's home town of Stratford, the city of Liverpool, home of the Beatles, and Lord's Cricket Ground.

In Northern France the boys spent a very sobering day touring the battlefields of the Great War. They also visited the Australian memorial and the village of Villers-Bretonneux, liberated by Australian soldiers and with strong and enduring ties to our country. In Paris the boys climbed the Eiffel Tower, ascended the Arc de Triomphe at night and visited the Louvre, Notre Dame and Sacre Coeur. They shopped on the Champs-Élysées, ate snails and finally were treated to a day at EuroDisney. An *excellent* time was had by all!

- 1 'Haven't they heard of mobiles here?'
- 2 Calling on HM The Queen
- 3 Playing against Kineton School, Warwick
- 4 Huddle before match at Chellaston School, Derby
- 5 Staff with the FA Cup, Wembley
- 6 Military Cemetery, Villers-Bretonneux



Barton Barrack (centre left) surrounded by his favourite class in Kadikoy, Istanbul

Postcards

Continuing our series on the whereabouts and doings of our Old Boys.

Tom Levi (OS 2003)

Tom has spent the last eight months working in The Netherlands at the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, and the Permanent Court of Arbitration. Now in Sydney, he is spending time with his brother Ashley who remains in hospital following a serious injury earlier this year (see page 29).

He writes:

'The Hague touts itself as the International City of Peace and Justice. Working in Chambers at the Yugoslavia War Crimes Tribunal, I drafted part of a preparatory judgment on the siege of Sarajevo, sharing an office with ten multilingual interns claiming a dozen nationalities between them.'

A few kilometres down the road, some two hundred Sudanese nationals congregated at the Peace Palace to attend the hearings for an arbitration to determine the boundary between North and South Sudan. The hope is that the arbitration will end over a century of fighting between the Government and

rebel groups in the South. It is one of the few times in the Peace Palace's history that African tribal members, dressed in traditional robes, have prayed on the front lawns.

Several days after, I attended a conference with the Presidents and Prosecutors of all the international criminal tribunals from The Hague to Cambodia and Sierra Leone. Richard Goldstone, the Human Rights Council's envoy to Gaza, visited this week to discuss justice in Africa and the international fight against impunity.

Dave Rennick (OS 2000)

A lot has changed since Tim Derricourt, Alex Moore and Dave Rennick, got their band together, then called 'Periwinkle', while still at Grammar.

Now called 'Dappled Cities' the group goes from strength to strength with an Australian National 'Wall of Zounds' tour earlier this year to coincide with the release of their third album, *Zounds*. This follows on from *Granddance* (2006) and *A Smile* (2004) both of which were

well received and enabled them to travel the world and play in 'all manner of fun festivals and some awful dive bars'.

According to Dave Rennick, 'with the latest album *Zounds* we really wanted to make a statement and worked on it for about nine months. Our influences for the record included Beck, Scott Walker, Air, the Flaming Lips and Radiohead – all ambitious songwriters with clever production.'

The group plans to tour the USA again, as well as Europe and perhaps even Japan, a country they have yet to visit. In addition to Dave Rennick (OS 2000) the group comprises Tim Derricourt (OS 2000), Alex Moore (OS 2000) and Alan Kumpulainen. Ned Cooke (OS 2000) joined the group in 2006.

Barton Barrack (OS 1967)

Bart writes to us from Istanbul, Turkey where he teaches English.

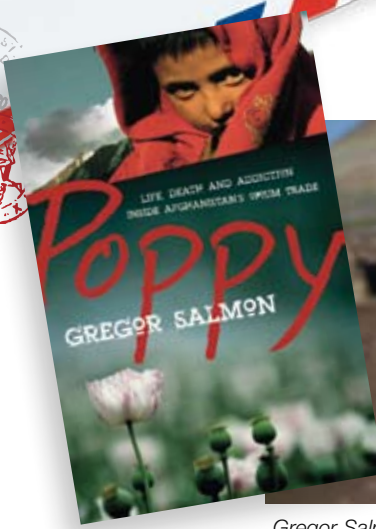
He reports that his predominately Asian students, aged from 15 to 50, are keen to learn and have an abiding interest in all things Australian. This



Tom Levi (left) with Christian Kroner, Sec. General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, and intern, Paulo Perassi



'Dappled Cities' (left to right) Dave Rennick, Alan Kumpulainen, Ned Cooke, Alex Moore and Tim Derricourt



Gregor Salmon in Afghanistan and (inset) his new book *Poppy*

relationship with water; and *Dancing in the Wind* (2007) for children's choir and adult choir, setting to music poetry by WB Yeats and the Chilean, Vicente Huidobro. Text sources for other recent pieces have included Christopher Brennan, Ern Malley and Charles Darwin.



Gabriel van Aalst

Gabriel van Aalst (OS 2000)

Since leaving Sydney Grammar in 2000, Gabriel tells us that he has forgotten his French and laments his lack of Latin but has, nonetheless, made his way through the arts world. He studied film-making and law at university with honours in musical theatre (theory, not jazz hands). During this time he worked on *The Lion King*, *The Producers* and various television shows including *Farscape* as well as spending six years with Sydney Youth Orchestra including three on its board.

This experience led him to the position of Associate Producer at Andrew McKinnon Presentations where he was in charge of theatrical tours throughout Australia, New Zealand and North America including touring the incomparable Miriam Margolyes (Professor Sprout in *Harry Potter*), Steven Berkoff (*Octopussy*), David Helfgott and a fully imported stage production of *Porgy and Bess*.

Postcards *continued*

extends to our wildlife, in particular kangaroos, however they are horrified at the thought of our famous marsupial appearing on the menu.

Barton believes a strong bond exists between the two countries, with the battlefield site at Gallipoli a constant reminder of the great losses experienced by both sides.

Bart sees strong similarities between Sydney and Istanbul with their marvellous harbours, extensive system of ferry boats and captivating cafés overlooking the water. He describes the energy of the city as 'almost overwhelming' which is matched by the easy going, somewhat larrikin nature of the locals.

Australian-born soccer great, Harry Kewell plays for the local team and is treated like a god. (When he scores the crowd starts up a rendition of 'Daddy Cool' with 'Daddy' being replaced with 'Harry'.) Emotions also run high with the playing of the Turkish National Anthem at the beginning of each match.

Gregor Salmon (OS 1983)

The media release* for Gregor Salmon's latest book makes for compelling reading: 'In early 2007, against sound advice, Sydney based writer Gregor Salmon went to Afghanistan to explore the country's drug trade. He barely knew a soul.

He'd been warned to trust no-one. He was alone and faced an imposing and fearful task. Afghanistan is one of the world's most dangerous locations. War, suicide bombs, kidnappings and the Taliban await the visitor. Then there's the opium. Afghanistan has a near monopoly on the drug, producing 90 per cent of the world's supply.'

Gregor brings this hair-raising adventure to life in his latest book, *Poppy*, a unique and definitive account of Afghanistan's opium trade. His first book, *Heart Soul Fire*, was written with boxer, Paul Briggs. Gregor has written for numerous Australian magazines and has also worked as a producer in television and online.'

* with thanks to Random House, Australia

Elliott Gyger (OS 1985)

Elliott Gyger returned to Australia in January 2008 after eleven years at Harvard, where he undertook his PhD and subsequently held the position of Assistant Professor of Music. He is currently Lecturer in Composition at the University of Melbourne. He has pursued an active career as a composer ever since graduating from Sydney Grammar having had works performed by many of Australia's major orchestras and ensembles as well as numerous groups in North America. In recent years his fascination with languages and texts has led him to concentrate on writing for voices. Recent major works have included *From the hungry waiting country* (2006), a song cycle for four female singers and harp, inspired by Australia's precarious



Elliott Gyger

Photograph courtesy David Ellis





Richard Greenwood

In December of 2008, Gabriel took up the position of Orchestra Manager with the Australian Chamber Orchestra where he is responsible for touring the ensemble. His daily joy is having the privilege of listening to them and it doesn't hurt that they play in the world's greatest concert halls including Disney Hall in LA, Carnegie Hall and the Sydney Opera House. So far he has managed not to destroy any priceless instruments and as such judges himself a success.

Lachlan Nicolson (OS 2003)

Lachlan Nicolson (pictured below) attended Grammar from 1997 to 2003 where he played clarinet and piano. Now 23, Lachlan is starting to make an impression on the Sydney music scene.

While completing a Bachelor of Liberal Studies (International) at the University of Sydney, Lachlan composed music for several independent films and plays and began to compose, produce and perform music under the moniker Pluto Goneski. In 2008, his song 'Stars to Your Feet' was selected for the S3 Song Summit in Sydney where it was reviewed in an open forum by industry professionals.

In 2009 Lachlan's song 'Same Perfume' won *Tropscore*, the film music competition part of *Tropfest*, the biggest short film festival in the world. Entrants from around Australia had to write and



Richard Greenwood's 'Ice Girl'

produce music for a silent short film. The judges included Tim Finn and Nigel Westlake (who composed the music for *Babe* and *Antarctica*). As winner, Lachlan performed his score live at *Tropfest* in the Domain with a 3-piece band and string quartet to an estimated 150,000 people.

The original recording of 'Same Perfume' together with the film can be seen at http://maxtv.com.au/tropscore/finalists_winner.php. For the live performance at *Tropfest* go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JFNB3tx0z-8>

Richard Greenwood (OS 1979)

Richard tells us that, while still at school, he came to the conclusion that he should follow a creative career path. After completing a Bachelor of Science degree in Landscape Architecture, he began working for a company in Sydney which specialised in international large scale landscape projects. These included the Chinese Gardens in Darling Harbour and Water World in Hong Kong. According to Richard, one of his most interesting projects at this time was creating an urban landscape development for the centre of Riyadh in Saudi Arabia. The project had its down side, however, when he was arrested for taking a photograph of a mosque!

From there, his career has taken him to Malaysia and then New Zealand where he is now based, with offices in Auckland and Queenstown. His work today involves high-end residential work and resort-lodge facilities in New Zealand and the South Pacific. Here he is in his element and is currently engaged in designing and building an underground pool spa facility into the side of a mountain in the southern alps of New Zealand.

'Ice Girl' is a project where Richard had the brief to combine sculpture with a pool landscape for a residential development. He writes 'We designed

the sculpture to work with the minimalist landscape design. Space was tight so we designed a narrow lap pool with tiled water wall. We used a mirrored retro stone relief to add some interest in an otherwise fairly stark landscape design.'

David Teh (OS 1995)

David Teh is an independent art critic and curator based in Bangkok. With a PhD in critical theory from the University of Sydney (2005), he lectures widely on the history and theory of art and visual culture. David contributes to various magazines and journals including *Art Asia Pacific* and *Art & Australia*. In 2005, he moved to Thailand to undertake an Asialink arts management residency. His curatorial projects there have included *Platform*, a showcase of Thai installation artists (2006), *The More Things Change... The 5th Bangkok Experimental Film Festival* (2008) and most recently, *Unreal Asia*, a thematic film and video program for the 55th International Short Film Festival, Oberhausen, Germany (2009). In Australia, David was a co-founder and moderator of the Fibreculture forum for internet culture, and is a director of Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney. This year he will take up a position as a lecturer at the National University of Singapore.



David Teh



HOME AT LAST

In the November 2008 edition of *Foundations* we reported that the remains of Private David Fisher (OS 1962), who disappeared in September 1969 in the jungles of Vietnam, had been found after extensive research work. David was a member of the Special Air Services Regiment. He was lost when he fell from a rope while a RAAF helicopter was conducting a 'hot extraction' of his patrol.

Since then Private Fisher's remains have been repatriated to Australia.

On Tuesday, 18 August this year, during a moving national service honouring all Australian Vietnam War veterans, David's sister, Annie Cowdroy, unveiled a plaque in memory of her brother. The simple and heartfelt message on his memorial plaque reads 'Home at Last'. The service was attended by the Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd and the Governor-General, Quentin Bryce, pictured (right) presenting the Australian flag to Annie Cowdroy.

David Fisher is remembered with a plaque at the southern end of Big School.



Old Sydneians' Union



ANZAC ASSEMBLY – RECALLING THE LAST GREAT CAVALRY CHARGE OF THE MODERN ERA

The Anzac Assembly was held on Friday 1 May. This year our special guest was distinguished Old Sydneian, Lieutenant General John Grey AC (Ret'd). Now based in Cairns as Chancellor of James Cook University, he made a welcome first return to the School since leaving in 1956.

In his address David Patrick (Head of History) paid tribute to the leadership of Old Sydneian, Sir Harry Chauvel (OS 1884) who commanded the Desert Mounted Corps at the Battle of Beersheba in 1917. As the first Australian to achieve the rank of full General, he later served as Chief of the General Staff. Lieutenant General Grey followed a similar career path and is a former Chief of the Army.

Special attention was drawn to Chauvel's biographer Alec Hill, a former Senior History Master at Sydney Grammar School who died last year. A new edition of his book *Chauvel of the Light Horse* was launched on 2 October, 2009 in Canberra as part of the Army Military Conference.

In all, this year's Assembly was attended by 48 Old Sydneians, including several who came from interstate such as Syd Sharp (OS 1935) and Frank Buckley (OS

1942). Veteran Old Boys Jacques Spira (OS 1936) and Dr Stan Goulston AO MC (OS 1932) were in attendance, as was Bill Boyd (OS 1933) accompanied by his sons, Gwynn (OS 1963) and Malcolm (OS 1965). The occasion was of special significance to Don Newport (OS 1943) whose father served with the Light Horse. A newcomer to the event was Major Hugh Meggitt (OS 1988) who served in Afghanistan and is now based in Canberra.



Major Hugh Meggitt, Lt Gen John Grey and Syd Sharp



VALE CHARLES 'BUD' TINGWELL AM (OS 1940)

On 15 May this year Australia lost one of its longest working and most loved actors, Charles 'Bud' Tingwell (OS 1940). We were privileged to have this prominent Old Sydneian as our guest speaker at the OSU Dinner held at Parliament House in Sydney in September 2005. The glowing reviews in *The Sydneian* in Bud's day proved to be an indication of his future success in theatre, films and television.

Here, his brother Patrick Tingwell (OS 1947) sums up his brother's remarkable career.



'Bud never stopped working right up to the time when he was hospitalised in late 2008. His work in teaching and mentoring young people became a most important part of his contribution to the acting, directing, writing and production profession which he loved. Bud was so highly regarded and respected by his peers and others with whom he had come into contact, that it was fitting that he was given a State funeral in Melbourne on 20 May 2009 with over 1,000 attending.'

'Bud will be remembered for his enthusiasm and dedication to his profession and at the same time being a humble and sincere person who cared for others throughout his extremely full and productive life.'

Patrick Tingwell (OS 1947)

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE OLD SYDNEIANS' ROOM

The OSU Annual Dinner on Friday 4 September, held at the newly refurbished Weigall Pavilion, saw the official opening by OSU Patron, The Hon. Sir Anthony Mason AC, KBE (OS 1942) of 'The Old Sydneians' Room'. The room has been named in recognition of the generous financial support provided by the OSU towards the project.

Award-winning business journalist, Michael West (OS 1980) was guest speaker, attracting a large group from his alumni year organised by Tony Wakefield (OS 1980). Michael's father, Roderick West AM (OS 1950) was also there to lend his support.

Among the distinguished guests were the Headmaster, Dr John Vallance, Chairman of Trustees, Mr David Gonski AC (OS 1971), The Hon. Malcolm Turnbull MP (OS 1972) and The Hon. Mervyn Finlay QC (OS 1943).

Thanks go to all those who organised tables including Paul Isherwood AO (OS 1956), Past President Tony Crawford (OS 1973), Dr Bruce Storey (OS 1946), Professor Jim McLeod AO (OS 1948), Roger Kerr (OS 1950), Phillip Harry AM (OS 1953-54), Nicholas Reid (OS 2000) and Craig Moran (OS 1972).

UK BRANCH SECRETARY MAKES A FLYING VISIT

We were pleased to welcome back to the School the Secretary of the London branch of the Old Sydneians' Union, James Aitken (OS 1988) on 8 April. James, who was here on holidays with his family, has been working in London for the past ten years. He managed to fit in a meeting with the Headmaster and a tour of the School and was brought up to date with the workings of the OSU Office.

ASHLEY LEVI (OS 2008)

Ash has just celebrated his 19th birthday and has made his first big trip out of the hospital for a short period at the local pub with a few very close friends.

He has undoubtedly set a record for the most birthday messages on Facebook: 400 at last count. Thank you everyone! This, combined with a bedroom filled with balloons and plenty of friends around, has kept a smile on his face.

Life in the Spinal Unit for Ash is now very busy with daily exhausting routines which include seeing speech therapists, physiotherapists and occupational therapists to name but a few. It is a very long road to recovery, but at a millimetre a day, there are minuscule signs of improvement evident.

The Levi family thanks everyone sincerely for their continual love, support, encouragement and patience.

Left: Ash in the Prince of Wales Spinal Ward courtyard with Grammar friends (left to right) Stephen Coudounaris, Callum Fryer, Josh Berger, Tristan McDonald, Alex Siviour, Richard Schonell and Jordan Sukkar (all OS 2008).



The plaque unveiled: Sir Anthony Mason and the Headmaster



2009 OSU SCHOLAR

Jack McClellan (VI) is the recipient of the OSU Scholarship for 2009. Jack is not only strong academically, but a great all-rounder – a gifted musician and talented sportsman. He is also fluent in French and hopes to spend his gap year teaching in Paris.

Jack was among a strong and impressive group of candidates for this high honour.

This year the presentation was held at the Union, University and Schools Club. Those in attendance included the Headmaster, Jack's parents Justice Peter McClellan and his wife Sue Morgan, the Patron of the OSU, Sir Anthony Mason AC, KBE and Lady Mason, Leon Shohmelian (President of the OSU), Erica Aronsten (Director of Development) and members of the OSU committee.



Dr Vallance with Jack McClellan and his parents

OLD SYDNEIANS' SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In 2007, a group of old boys from the year of 1948 established a special Old Sydneians' Scholarship Fund to provide more means-tested scholarships at College Street.

In taking the lead with this initiative they hope, through bequests, gifts and pledges, to be able to help transform the life of a talented young man who would otherwise be unable to attend this great school. (To find out more, please see the enclosed brochure.)

We would like to thank the following donors to the Old Sydneians' Scholarship Fund.

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Anonymous (6) | Mr GM Lillyman (OS 1943) |
| Dr MJ Aitken (OS 1944) | Dr MA Lloyd (OS 1948) |
| Dr JG Barratt (OS 1948) | Mr RG Lowe (OS 1950) |
| Mr BO Bell (OS 1948) | Mr RCH MacKellar (OS 1939) |
| Mr BR Bluett (OS 1949) | Mr MW McLennan (OS 1957) |
| Mr K & Mrs L Bryant (OS 1974) | Mr RJ Meunier (OS 1961) |
| Mr JP Bullard (OS 1958) | Mr BC Mitchell (OS 1938) |
| Dr JJ Burke (OS 1958) | Mr F H Mullens (OS 1950) |
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| Prof. R Davis (USA) (OS 1949) | Mr PC Perry OAM (OS 1939) |
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| Mr AJ Downe (OS 1984) | Dr TJ Playfair (OS 1961) |
| Mr WD Fenwick (OS 1948) | Mr WH Rees (OS 1948) |
| Mr R Ferster (OS 1968) in memory of his father Samuel Stanley Ferster | Dr WTH Scales OAM (OS 1934) |
| Mr TJ Flanagan (OS 1949) | Dr JAV Schofield (OS 1941) |
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| Mr LG Gerrand (OS 1940) | Mr EL Sommerlad (OS 1936) |
| Dr SJM Goulston AO MC (OS 1932) | Mr PC Stannard (OS 1948) |
| Mr M Green AM (OS 1948) | Mr IR Stevenson (OS 1942) |
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| Mr JB Heaton (OS 1952) | Professor TK Taylor (OS 1948) |
| Mr AK Hislop (OS 1948) | Dr CCS Toh (Singapore) (OS 1948) |
| Mr FG Hoeter MBE ED (OS 1942) | The late Dr IR Vanderfield AO OBE (OS 1944) |
| Mr NV Holcombe (OS 1933) | Dr CE Vaughan (OS 1944) |
| Mr GWH Howard (OS 1950) | Dr JE Venerys (OS 1950) |
| Capt. RRW Humbley (Ret'd) (OS 1936) | Mr RM Wagner (OS 1949) |
| Mr IS Hunt (OS 1942) | Dr DZ Wechsler (OS 91) |
| Dr RS Hyslop (OS 1950) | Mr CP Wesley (OS 1944) |
| Mr WT Jones (OS 1950) | Mr RR West (OS 1944) |
| Mr RC Knock (OS 1949) | Professor JS Wiley (OS 1954) |

You might like to consider giving in memory of a family member, former master or someone with a strong connection to the School. For more information on how you can make a difference, contact the Director of Development on (02) 9332 5708.

THE AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE – DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO TELL?

Award winning filmmaker, Michael Dillon AM (OS 1962), in collaboration with the historian, Dr Jonathan King, is about to start a film about one of our most famous Old Sydneians, General Sir Harry Chauvel and the Australian Light Horse brigade. A book is also planned. They are keen to hear from descendants of men who served with

the Australian Light Horse Brigade and may have diaries or interesting stories which have been handed down the generations and which might be helpful for both the book and the film.

If you can assist, please contact Dr Jonathan King at jonathanandjane@bigpond.com



VALE IAN WYNESS (OS 1954)

It is with great sadness that we record the passing of Ian Brian Falconer Wyness. For twelve years Ian served as a loyal and very active Honorary Secretary to the Old Sydneians' Union, UK branch.

Ian worked in several Sydney architectural practices while studying at the University of New South Wales from which he graduated in 1965.

Soon after joining an architects' practice in London, he became a partner. Later he was to establish an Australian branch for his firm. He returned to the UK as a director in the firm until his retirement. He settled in West Sussex at The Haven near Billingshurst where his home, The Old Post House, became known as 'The Haven Hilton' for its welcome and hospitality.

This was the venue for the first OSU Summer Barbecue in 1997 and remained so (with only two exceptions) for the following eleven years. Ian also pushed for the acquisition of an OSU flag which was always flown with the Australian flag at the barbecues and displayed at the Annual Dinner in October.

We in the UK have much to remember Ian for and we will be keeping the OSU flag flying over this outpost of the OSU empire. *Laus Deo.*

Kenneth Deane (OS 1941)



All Old Boy enquiries

If you have any enquiries contact **Wendy Scotter** in the **Development Office**
Tel +61 2 9332 5888
Fax +61 2 9332 5866
Email info@osu.com.au

A SPECIAL BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION FOR A HIGH ACHIEVER

Ken Goddard (OS 1950) writes to tell us of a celebration in June when friends and family gathered at the home of Bruce Ritchie (OS 1947) at Buderim on the Sunshine Coast to celebrate his 80th birthday. It was a real gathering of the Ritchie clan with wife Jean, Old Sydneian sons David (OS 1976), Malcolm (OS 1978) and Michael (OS 1980) and a host of other family members.

Ken Goddard, keen to mark the occasion, surprised Bruce with a plaque he had had made recording Bruce's remarkable accomplishments during his time at the School between 1942 and 1947. Bruce also received a copy of the publication *Inside Sydney Grammar School* as a gift from the Old Sydneians' Union.

Bruce continued to excel at sport long after school, representing NSW in cricket and playing with such legends as Jim Burke and Ritchie Benaud.

SPECIAL EVENING ASSEMBLY HONOURS OUR BENEFACTORS

Old Sydneians, current and former Trustees (including two former Chairmen), former scholars, major benefactors, senior staff, representatives of the School Associations, the President of the OSU and members of the OSU executive were among the 180 guests gathered in Big School for a Commemoration of Benefactors assembly on Tuesday, May 26.

The occasion provided an opportunity to honour and thank our benefactors including those who have given so generously to our scholarship fund. Former scholars were well represented on the night, including Dr William Cammack OAM (OS 1934).

The Headmaster spoke of the important role played by benefactors in the history of the School. It is thanks to their support that the School has been able to undertake major capital works such as the recent refurbishment of the Weigall Pavilion. This development has been strongly supported by the Old Sydneians' Union.

The value of the means-tested scholarship program was evident in the addresses given by former scholars and prominent Old Sydneians, Professor David Celermajer (OS 1978) and Professor Bryan Gaensler (OS 1990). Both spoke of the experience of coming to the School on a scholarship and the benefits of such an education on their lives and future careers.

Music was provided by organist Harrison Jones (OS 2008) and an Old Sydneian string quartet consisting of Andrew Luboski (OS 2004) Benjamin Chan (OS 2005) Dion Wong (OS 2006) and Roy Chen (OS 2007).

The evening concluded with an address by the Chairman of Trustees, Mr David Gonski AC (OS 1971).



Prof. David Celermajer (left) with the Headmaster and Prof. Bryan Gaensler



Three Chairmen of Trustees: Paul Isherwood, David Gonski (centre) and Prof. Phil Harris



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College St, Darlinghurst, NSW 2010
Telephone +61 2 9332 5877
Facsimile +61 2 9332 5866
Email foundation@sydgram.nsw.edu.au

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– *courtesy Craig Bryant*

