

SHS flying HIGHER



Highlights

The Record Online

Real World Design Projects

Rowing Boat Dedications

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SHS flying
HIGHER

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Moore Park NSW 2021

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SYDNEY BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

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ENROLMENT APPLICATIONS

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From the PRINCIPAL



Our School is back in full operation for the first time since 2019 and we are trying to rebuild the High culture and spirit that were damaged during the two and a half years that COVID interrupted our events and routines. Our *Strategic Improvement Plan (2023-2026)* focuses on strategies to improve academic growth, personal wellbeing enhancement for students and staff, and nurturing closer reading and clearer writing. We have made program modifications for Years 7 and 8, focusing on literacy and numeracy progressions. We also added tasks in Stage 4 programs in response to weaknesses found in our performance on some questions within external diagnostic tests.

We have been focusing on improving literacy by using school-wide strategies for sentence expansion, sentence combining and sentence complexity. We are calling our initiative **sentence conscious pedagogy** and we hope to see measurable results by April 2024. Our school-wide goal is to teach students explicitly about sentences and how to use them in specific contexts in each faculty.

To improve our HSC results our students need to do four things better:

- De-code sentences better to improve their comprehension of texts and assessment questions;
- Write clearer, more coherent and more complex sentences;
- Construct better paragraphs with strong thesis statements and a better sense of purpose and audience; and
- Compose more nuanced and sophisticated responses to assessment and examination questions.

We are planning to teach our boys four basic skills so that they can use:

- Appositives (noun phrases) to expand kernel sentences;
- Conjunctions to join simple sentences;

- Subordinate conjunctions to add complexity to sentences; and
- *Because, but, so* clauses to complete stem sentences, making them both more coherent and thoughtful.

Property Update

The perimeter fence was installed by DoE contractors and our neon lighting has been replaced with LED thanks to another DoE grant. Cutler Drive was refurbished with asphalt, new curbing and marked car spaces with limit barriers to protect the walls, again thanks to a welcome DoE grant. At the same time, the path between the tennis courts and the School was widened and re-laid with asphalt. We added an extra concrete pad next to the trailer compound on The Flat as well as a new drainage pit and pipes to take storm water away from the basketball courts. The pad will be covered in artificial grass and will be used as a platform for the revival of lunchtime scrum machine sessions. A new office was created next to the Social Science staffroom in McDonald Wing and the COLA roof was replaced to weatherproof the cricket nets and fencing pistes.

We have been pushing for an upgrade to our toilets for some years and it looks very much as though this work will be completed in 2023. We are progressing with the finishing touches for the Governors Centre, with a list of purchases to be discussed with SGHS. The COLA roof will be extended to the east next term to improve weather protection. Given the very slow roll-out of the Cooler Classrooms Project, we plan to aircondition the Junior Library this year, ahead of all classrooms being connected with airconditioning. We have applied for a grant to upgrade our seating along the tennis court paths to provide more passive recreation space. All in all, we have ticked off some major achievements outlined in our *Site Development Plan 2021-2030*.

Dr K.A. Jaggard OAM

Academic and Co-Curricular Highlights

Over \$18,000 was raised for the Leukaemia Foundation through The World's Greatest Shave event at the school in March.

Jo Kawahashi (2022) and Rahul Pant (2022) were accepted into the Co-op Scholarship Program at UNSW.

Yu Ming Lee (2022) was offered a place at Oxford University to study Classical Archaeology and Ancient History.

Ethan Li and Joshua Li were part of the Dream Rover team representing Australia in the Kibo Robot Programming Challenge, which sets problems for students to solve by programming free-flying robots in the International Space Station. They also participated in the VEX Robotics National Championships where Ethan won a volunteer award.

Joseph Britton was selected into the Public Schools State Drama Ensemble.

Our Theatre Sports team (see page 8) made it to the semi-finals of Impro Australia's Theatre Sports School Challenge.

Luka Miletic was invited to attend the Civics and Citizenship program which included a visit to Parliament House.

Zaydan Hassan published a novel, *Sir Peter Elcas: The Mindral Death*.

Our Sydney High Blue Team won a silver medal at the Middle School Ethics Olympiad.

Vishruth Anand was selected to compete for Sydney Region in the PDC Junior State Debating Championships.

Joshua Li and Eric Scholten achieved Honourable Mentions in the Australian Maths Trust's Australian Mathematical Olympiad.

Andrew Yang was Runner-up in the Painting section of the Young Australian Art Awards.

Totoro Nakagawa-Lagisz won the Science Teachers' Association Scientific Investigation Award for Year 7-8 Biology, the Rowe Scientific Science Communication Award and was third in the K-12 Sebel Testing Award.

Sporting Achievements

Edward Ly (Volleyball), Maxime Jalbert-Locke and Nelson Cheng (Rowing), and Max Russell (Athletics and Cross Country) received Sydney East Blues (pictured, right). For his double sports Blue, Max was also awarded the Sydney East Premier's Sporting Challenge Scholarship.

Our open Cross-Country champion, Max Russell also earned a silver in the 17 years 3000m and gold in the 17 years 2000m steeplechase at the NSW All-Schools Track and Field Championships. At the National All-Schools Championships he won gold in the U18 boys 3000m steeplechase and bronze in the U18 3000m.

High achieved some impressive individual results at the 2022 AAGPS Athletics Championships, particularly from our U13 years age group. After just one GPS Athletics season, Lachlan Leung won the U14 long jump and went on to win bronze in the event at the NSW All Schools Athletics Championship.

Tommy Xu represented Australia in Epee and Oscar Shi represented Australia in Sabre at the Junior and Cadet Asian Fencing Championship held in Uzbekistan.

Our 7A Volleyball team won the Junior Schools Cup and our Year 9 Volleyball team were silver



medallists at the Australian Volleyball Schools Championships (Honours Division) on the Gold Coast. Axel Lam and Ethan Yu were selected to compete in the Australian Youth Beach Volleyball Championships.

In Basketball, Henry Lau scored 39 points in a game against St Ignatius College, a performance in the top five of all time for a High student in First Grade Basketball. Henry was selected to the squad representing Australia at the U15 FIBA Oceania Basketball Tournament in Guam and represented the state on the NSW Metro team in the National U18 Basketball Championships.

High's U15 Basketball team won the CHSSA Basketball Knockout competition. And as CHS winners, High played the winners of GPS, CAS and CCC at the All-Schools Basketball tournament, making it through to the final.

Our First XI Cricket team competed in the 5 Highs tournament and won with the Cecil Rubie Trophy for the annual competition with Melbourne High.

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CLASS OF 2010

EVAN WONG

CEO • CO-FOUNDER • ENTREPRENEUR

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Real World Design Projects

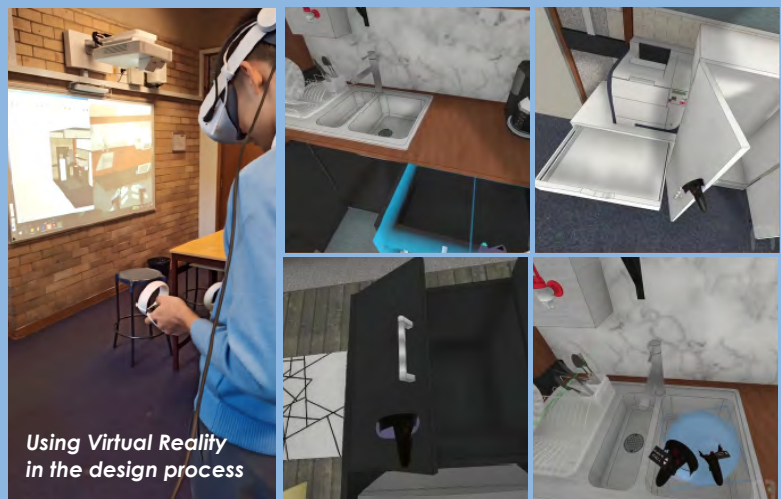
For students, authentic assessment can be the most inspiring and rewarding aspect of learning a school subject. Over the last two years our senior design students were given the opportunity to work on projects addressing real-life design problems identified around the school campus.

Across each of these projects, our student teams were able to utilise new technologies and leverage the resources available to them in our dedicated Makerspace to build and test their prototypes and models. The School was proud to finance the installation of these student designs, with their highly professional-looking outcomes.

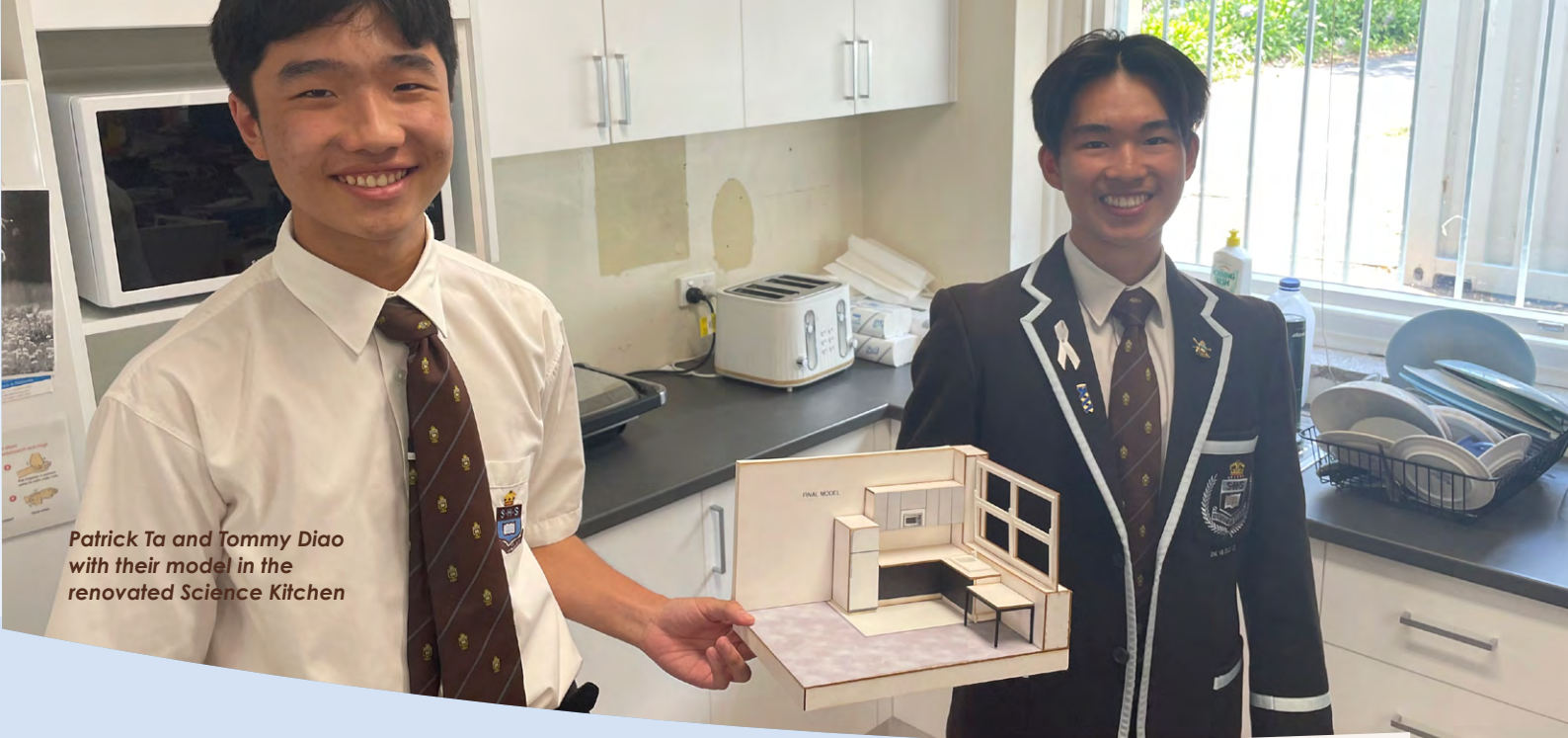
Our thanks go out to the talented boys involved and to their teacher **Dat Huynh (2004)** for his innovation and creativity.

The IA Kitchen Renovation Project

Daniel Guo, Felix Yi, Jason Phua and Jack Huang (Year 10 Graphics Technology 2021) led this pilot project to address authentic design problems around the school. Their methodology focused on developing Design Thinking skills and responding to direct feedback from real clients/users. This was also the first school project to explore the use of Virtual Reality for testing and evaluation of design concepts.



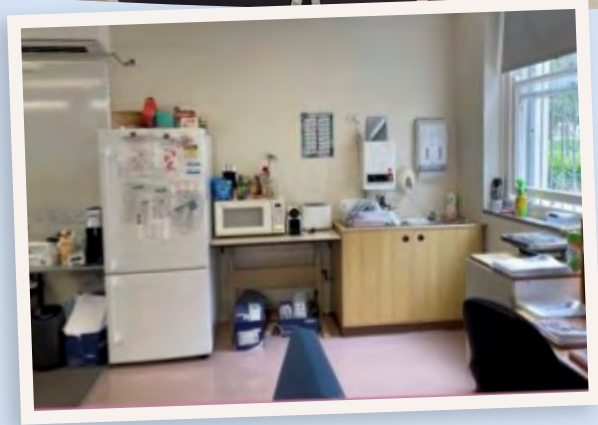
The IA Kitchen Renovation team of Daniel Guo, Felix Yi, Jason Phua and Jack Huang



Patrick Ta and Tommy Diao with their model in the renovated Science Kitchen

The Science Kitchen Renovation Project

This project provided the student team of Patrick Ta and Tommy Diao (Preliminary HSC Design and Technology 2022) with the opportunity to work directly with their clients (the Science staff and Executives) to plan and design the renovation of the Science Kitchen. The project focused on empathy, ergonomics and project management skills.



Before: the original Science Kitchen

The Wayfinding Project

William Nguyen and Ahasan Kabir (Preliminary HSC Design and Technology 2022) identified the need for better wayfinding as guests and delivery drivers struggled to navigate the school campus. They designed signs in consultation with school stakeholders, and these were created and installed at critical points around the school grounds.



One of the signs on the school grounds



William Nguyen and Ahasan Kabir with one of their prototypes and a finished sign

Creating Drama

Elective Drama challenges, excites and inspires students to create memorable and powerful performances. In their Drama lessons, our students learn crucial skills for creative expression, performance, concentration and cooperation.

Year 9 elective Drama students learn the skills of improvisation, study the origins of theatre through ritual and performance, devise their own monologues, and finish the year with a scripted performance. In 2022, they performed a new play, *In Real Life* (written by Stage 5 Drama teacher Anna Barry), which explored issues related to life online, including cyberbullying. The students workshopped the script in rehearsals to depict characters that resonated with their own lived experience.

Year 10 continues with the development of skills such as improvisation, group-devised scenes and scripted performance. This year they will be introduced to a range of theatre styles including Commedia dell'arte. In Year 11 students devise a one-act play, prepare for their non-performance



individual project and study Australian theatre. Last year's students' creative explorations of character, plot and conflict concluded with a thrilling performance of Oscar Wilde's play *The Importance of being Earnest* (pictured above: Joseph Britton as *Earnest* and Kridaya Singh as *Gwendolen*).

We started 2023 with an excursion to *OnStage*, which presents the best recent HSC performances and projects, and we plan to attend the musical *Into the Woods* at Belvoir St Theatre. We are looking forward to presenting our own productions at the end of the year.

Miri Jassy, Drama Teacher

Good (Theatre) Sports



Theatre Sports is competitive improvisation designed to enhance student creativity in a structured and fun environment. Small teams challenge themselves to create engaging and unscripted performances on the spot, developing drama skills such as stagecraft, comedic timing and vocal confidence. Our classes develop the boys' imaginations as they step outside themselves to create new characters in collaborative ways. Our players meet every

week after school and are coached by Cameron Ryan from Impro Australia. Cameron helps them practise the skills necessary for improvisation as well as focus on the three main judging categories in an improvised scene: technique, narrative and entertainment value.

Highlights from 2022 include performing in the first TheatreSports Play Offs with Sydney Girls High School. After a long break due to COVID restrictions, it was wonderful for our teams to experience performing in front of a live audience. In October, our junior team (pictured left) successfully made it through to the semi-finals of Impro Australia's Theatre Sports School Challenge competition. This competition draws players from across Sydney and regional NSW, involving 190 different school teams over four divisions.

In 2023, we look forward to performing again in the Play Offs against Sydney Girls High School as well as competing in the intermediate and junior divisions of the TheatreSports Schools Challenge.

Anna Barry, Theatre Sports Coordinator

Old Boy Profile: *Michael Diamond* AM MBE



Michael Diamond AM MBE (1952) was born in 1935 to migrant parents who had come to Australia in the mid-1920s. His father died suddenly when Michael was only eight, leaving his mother with three young children. Michael worked while at school and university yet still made time for sporting achievements and extracurricular activities.

What are some highlights from your time at school?

Playing Rugby Union up to First Grade (photo below with the 1952 1st XV), playing on the school Basketball team, taking Public Speaking and Debating classes and participating in the Gymnastics squad.

What is your fondest memory from your school days?

Taking part in school productions of *The Pirates of Penzance*, *The Gondoliers* and *Colletts Inn*.

What did you do after leaving school?

I studied law at the University of Sydney and was President of the Fencing Club, a member of the Second Grade Basketball team, Fencing champion in Epee and Foil and was awarded a University Blue in Fencing in 1956.

I was a 1956 Australian Olympic Training Squad member (injury prevented me from competing officially in the Games). I became the 1962 Australian Epee Fencing champion and won a silver medal in Fencing for Australia at the 1962 Commonwealth and Empire Games.

I was also invited to join the fencing club section of the All-Nations Club, where (at the age of 21) I was appointed to the club's board of directors. This gave me valuable experience as a very young man in boardroom management with major business leaders and dignitaries who were members of that board.

I was fortunate to obtain articles of clerkship with a well-established legal firm with strong church associations which equipped me to practice in a wide area in ecclesiastical and commercial legal work. I became a partner at the age of 24 (and subsequently senior partner) in the legal practice now known as Diamond Conway. For several years I was a corporate advisor and international counsel to Herbalife International, and I traveled extensively in this role.

For over fifty years I acted on a pro bono basis as an honorary advisor on commercial aspects of the formation of the Greek Orthodox Church of Australia, the formation of new parishes, property matters and the passing of an Act of the NSW Parliament incorporating the Church as an entity. I was a member of the Lions Club for many years and am currently a member of the Probus Club. My voluntary work has exposed me to a wide range of institutions and people.

For my services to the community, I was appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in 1989 and a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in 1994.

How did your experience at school influence your later life?

It taught me to study hard, be competitive and enjoy rewarding relationships with people from a wide variety of backgrounds.

Do you keep in touch with (m)any friends from your school days?

I regularly meet up for lunch or coffee with a few school friends and recently attended my year's 70 Year Reunion. I have also enjoyed long-term business relationships with some old schoolmates.

Do you have any advice for current students/younger Old Boys?

I strongly advise them to participate in charitable and community activities to widen their experiences and develop diverse friendships. The connections that I have made by doing so have proved invaluable throughout my life.





From the President of the *Old Boys Union*

It's been a busy six months as we said farewell to 2022 and began a new year without COVID restrictions. Plans are underway for our first major Old Boys event since the pandemic, the All Old Boys Lunch at Royal Randwick on 12 May with special guest **George Miller AO (1963)** (see page 5 for details). The committee is excited to welcome all Old Boys to spend time with their mates and also meet others from the 1950s to recent graduates. We would like to thank Gold Sponsors **Adam Dong (2004)** of Snowpak, **Calvin Ng (2001)** of Aura Group and Bronze Sponsor **Paul Almond (1981)** of Paul Almond Employment Law for their support of this event.

In March our Patron **Professor Sir Michael Marmot CH (1961)** (pictured with me, right) returned to the School for the first time in many decades. A London resident, Sir Michael made time during a work visit to Sydney to attend events including a seminar at the School where he was interviewed by the School Council President, Professor Ron Trent. As Sir Michael's area of expertise is Social Health, he provided insight on this topic from both an Australian and global perspective, as well as reflecting on his time as a student at High. He was even able to demonstrate that he still remembered much of *Macbeth*, in which he performed while at High.

The following day, fellow SHSOBU Patron **Bruce Corlett AM (1961)** hosted a lunch for Sir Michael and the 1961 cohort (see page 20). I was lucky enough to be invited to join this very esteemed group of Old Boys as they reminisced about their time at school, their experiences, travels and achievements. Sir Michael gave a short talk about receiving his Companion of Honour from King Charles, having been knighted by Queen Elizabeth in 2018.

I trust everyone has been receiving and enjoying our social media communications and eBulletins.

Sincere thanks to committee member and head of communications, **Drew Laidlaw Hoare (2004)** who has been across our Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn. Please follow the Old Boys Union on your preferred social media platforms to keep up with information in real time.



We have seen more reunions than ever before as Old Boys catch up after the removal of restrictions. We thank reunion manager **Fred Bolling (1967)** for his hard work in supporting these reunions. It's important to remember that the Old Boys Union is a volunteer-run organisation. From communications to events, membership and research support, all is done by our volunteer committee and other Old Boys. Any support (financial or otherwise) you could provide will help us to do even more for our community, and is always greatly appreciated. You can donate online at www.shsobu.org.au/pages/obu-donations or via cheque.

We are seeing many more registrations to the Old Boys platform. Registering ensures you can log in and update your contact details, find friends, access member-only articles, update your career information and support mentoring the students and graduates. If you haven't already registered, you can do so at www.shsobu.org.au.

Good luck for the year ahead and I hope you enjoy this edition of *Flying Higher*.

Paul Harapin (1983)
President, Sydney High Old Boys Union

Time to hit the slopes!

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Adam Dong, class of 2004
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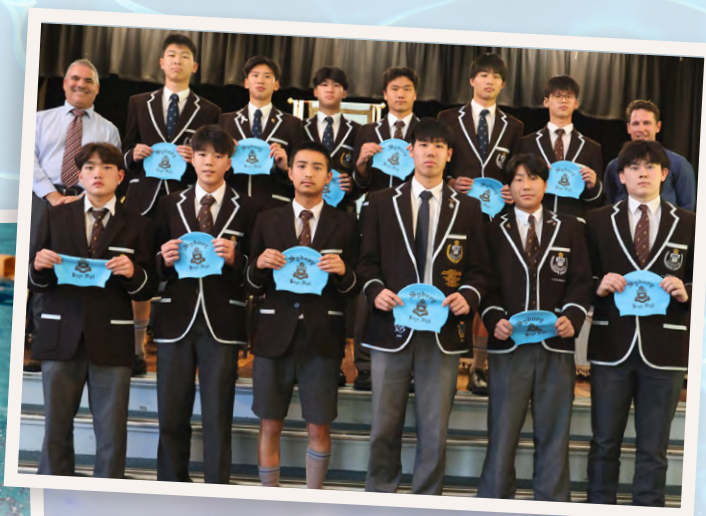
Making a Splash

The Swimming Program at Sydney Boys High School aims to teach the skills of swimming and provide a framework for all swimmers to reach their full potential. The High ethos is built upon teamwork, good sportsmanship, self-discipline and self-esteem. It is hoped that each of our members will build upon these attributes in later life and through swimming create lifelong friendships.

The School's annual swimming carnival is held in early February and all boys are expected to attend. The carnival is used to select the team (Junior, Intermediate and Senior divisions) that will represent the School in the GPS competition. Our top four to six swimmers in each age group compete, with swimmers with the fastest three times recorded from all five GPS carnivals advancing to the CIS/NSW All Schools Swimming Championships.

At this year's school carnival a number of swimmers swam personal best times and records were set in the: U13 50m backstroke by Ryan Chai; U13 200m freestyle by Kester Jan; U14 200m freestyle by Oliver Yin; and by Matthew Chen in the U15 backstroke, U15 butterfly, U15 50m freestyle, and U15 100m freestyle. All results can be viewed via this link: sydneyhigh.school/documents/carnivals/2023/swim.

Peter Loizou, MIC Swimming



On The Record

Old Boy and former president of the SHSOBU **Joseph Waugh (1987)** recently completed the mammoth task of digitising every edition of the school annual *The Record*, going back to the very first edition in December 1909. This invaluable chronicle of our history can now be easily accessed online at: <https://sydneyhigh.school/publications/the-record>.

We are indebted to Joseph for the many years of volunteer work after hours and on weekends that went into this herculean project. With the help of **David Isaacs (2003)**, former editor and long-time teacher Mark Gainford, Merinda Kavich and other archives staff and volunteers, the project involved scanning page after page of documents going back over a century.

Joseph's interest in making the School's history accessible dates back to the end of the analogue era. A Year 8 student during the School's centenary year (1983), he witnessed Old Boy **John Rouse (1945)** creating a digital index of the admissions registers. In an era when computers were scarce, once Joseph became student archivist in 1984, he began to index the 1920s issues of *The Record* using library catalogue cards and an old manual typewriter. At the time, the only complete set of *The Record* was leather-bound and kept in the Principal's office.

By the turn of the century, computers had advanced so far that Joseph found himself leading the team that digitised the NSW Law Reform Commission's collection of reports and other publications going back to 1967 and published them on the internet. He used this experience in 2006 when, with the assistance of **David Isaacs (2003)** and the archives staff and volunteers, he led a project to digitise the photographs in the school archives with the aim of reconnecting Old Boys with the School.

It was to be another ten years before Joseph decided to do something to help answer the many historical questions that could only be resolved by painstaking combing of *The Record*. In 2018 he proposed the idea of a fully-searchable digital collection, and with the support of Dr Jaggard and, once again, advice from David Isaacs, he started work. The project encountered a few obstacles, not the least of

which was the pandemic, which stalled work completely in 2020 and 2021. There were also technical frustrations including the fact that many of the various types of paper used over the years were not entirely compatible with document feeders.

Some of the highlights along the way included discovering *The Record's* reporting of the 1919 influenza pandemic (did you know the School was closed for a term and senior boys had their work posted to them?) and seeing the paid advertisements from the 1920s to 1950s targeting selective schoolboys—a very odd mix of snack foods, sporting equipment, scientific apparatus and white-collar careers.

This is not the end of the story. Joseph and the Old Boys Union are now looking into further ways to make the School's history even more accessible.



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6

"Oh, horror
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Is it really true
addressed a particula
Year as "sonny"?"

Just after we
McCredie had been selected to play with the All Schools 1st XI
against University 1sts. Tried as second change, he took 3 for 30,
being the only Schools' bowler to capture more than two wickets. V.
Hyde played with the Schools' 2nds. Congratulations to both.



(By kind permission of "Sydney Mail")

The School used as a Red Cross Hostel.

At a recent meeting of the "Record" committee, the first held since October last, the following motion was passed: "The committee place on record its appreciation of the services rendered by the late Mr. R. J. Hind...



Meet our new Head Teacher of Languages

It gives me great pleasure to introduce myself as the new Head Teacher of Languages at High. The moment I joined the High family, I was immediately impressed by the positive energy amongst the students and the traditions that are upheld by the School. I feel very honoured and privileged to have been appointed to High and given the task of leading the Languages faculty into the future. The School feels like home already.

Before joining High, I taught for several years at a language-specialist high school in Sydney South where I held multiple roles that allowed me to explore the multifaceted nature of education. These include leadership in language education and whole school High Potential and Gifted Education projects, student welfare, and a range of HSC-related NESA experiences, in addition to my primary role as a teacher of Chinese and Japanese. Understanding the value of languages, I admire the variety of languages our boys are able to study here, as well as High's commitment to promoting language education—not only offering two classical languages, Classical Greek and Latin (which is considered a rarity), but also introducing a new modern language, Japanese, on top of the existing Chinese, French, and German languages.

Having the opportunity to experience the beauty of both classical and modern languages is a privilege. They help us to connect with

the past, live in the present, and plan for the future. Whether through consolidating grammar, excavating the root language of medicine and jurisprudence, bonding with your heritage and community, or expanding the possibilities for your future career, the ability to utilise another language is a valuable skill in the 21st century.

Apart from studying languages in a formal manner in the classroom, our boys are offered many opportunities to experience languages in their varying dimensions. Some examples include: state-wide Classics reading competitions; the National Latin Exam; the Chinese Eisteddfod; the Alliance Française Film Festival; and a German cuisine experience. These opportunities are thanks to the hard work of the very committed Languages staff whom I am fortunate to have by my side.

My vision for Languages at High is to maintain and expand these initiatives, while exploring the possibilities of collaborative language activities, and establishing a culture where students find that learning a language is engaging and fulfilling, and will help them to take on the world when they graduate from High. I look forward to seeing this vision realised.

Tommy Zheng
Head Teacher Languages

High Basketball *Success*

Success is peace of mind that is the direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you did your best to become the best that you are capable of becoming.

John Wooden

Sydney High School Basketball teaches student athletes to commit to the ideals of dedication, hard work, resilience, intelligence, and camaraderie. There is a unique communal atmosphere surrounding Basketball at High, not only from current students but also the Old Boys who have attended and played for SHS in the past, together with their parents, guardians and families who have volunteered their services to the program. Everyone, past and present, feels they are a part of the positive PLAY HARD, PLAY SMART and PLAY TOGETHER culture.

High's Basketball Program has developed into a force to be reckoned with. Some key highlights include: back-to-back National Champion Basketball School (2010 & 2011); two-time NSW All Schools State Champion (2011 & 2014); GPS Premierships (2011, 2012, 2014 & 2015)—with the 2014 team achieving the rare feat of being undefeated GPS Champions; and the School being crowned CHS State Champions (undefeated vs all in the state) in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2017, 2018 & 2022. (*The 2012 First Grade team is pictured below.*)

Many talented players have been educated through the program, and a number have gone on to play basketball at the highest level in the US

college system and in the Australian NBL, NBL1 and Boomers. Some notable Old Boys include: **Emmett Naar (2011), Andrija Dumovic (2011), Craig Moller (2012), Geoff Gerlach (2014)** and, more recently, **Isaac Ayoubi (2022)**.

While Basketball at High was not always competitive across all age groups, over the last twenty years, the program has grown from two teams in an age group to ten teams in the Opens age group alone. The success of the program has been thanks to the hard work of many, including MIC Basketball Ben Hayman with the invaluable support of the Basketball Committee, parent and Manager Bruce Gordon, Dr Jaggar and the many Old Boy coaches. It has also been due to the large donations of resources, time and money made by the High Basketball community, including many parents.

There are currently approximately 350 participants in the High Basketball Program, with almost half of the entire school trialling for teams. Our boys' love of the sport extends past the GPS and CHS competitions to regular internal matches and the annual Basketball dinner. Our teams have performed very well again in 2022 with a winning percentage of 52% across all thirty-four teams.

The success of the Basketball Program at High shows what is still possible for the School's sporting programs in an increasingly competitive landscape in the GPS across all sports. More importantly, the life lessons learned through SHS Basketball are still alive and well.



Sailing By

Sailing at High is a unique experience that allows the boys to grow and flourish, both as sportsmen and individuals. During their time in High Sailing, members learn to control pacers (two-man dinghies) with precision and speed, harnessing the power of the wind and waves to compete in races. Although Sailing is not a GPS sport, we compete each Saturday during the normal summer sport season against schools such as The Scots College and Cranbrook School, and take part in several regattas near the end of the season.

There are currently fifty boys who sail at High—a number that has been gradually increasing in the past few years. Long-time coaches Hugo Leeming and Sam Steinberg have been teaching our boys along with other coaches at Woollahra Sailing Club, our usual racing and training venue. Our boys' training and dedication has culminated



in the best competitive season the High Sailing Program has seen in a while. At the NSW State Championships last year, our First Grade team placed fifth out of the twenty-four attending teams, which qualified us for the Australian Secondary Schools Teams Racing Championships at Georges River Sailing Club.

Zhifian Mai, Sailing Captain

Speaking Up

At some point in our lives, all of us will be required to deliver a speech, an announcement or a presentation to an audience. We will hope to influence and impress with our plan, idea or perspective. Public speaking is inevitable and, often, terrifying.

At SBHS the Public Speaking Program is the opposite of terrifying! Each Tuesday afternoon a group of forty-five students from across all year groups, across all personality types and across all trains of thought come together to discuss, listen and share. Public Speaking is a vibrant community, where students regularly have an opportunity to share their opinions and receive feedback on how to improve their delivery.

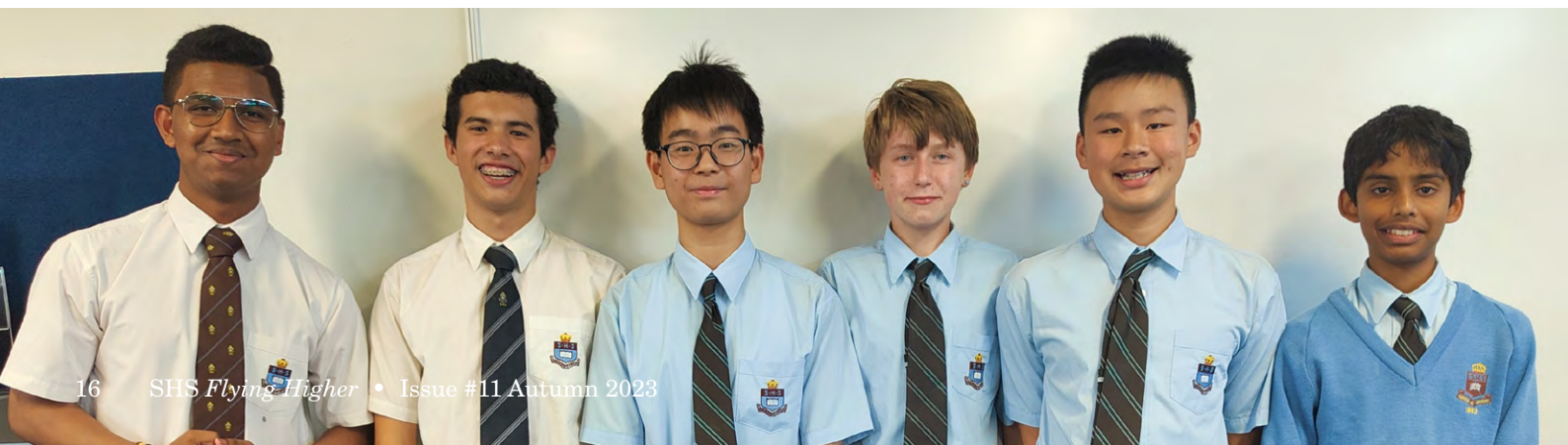
Last year we experienced significant growth, such that we divided the junior and senior groups. Our coaches **Jivan Naganathan (2021)** and Rohan Gandhi,

who bring years of experience in public speaking competitions (including the prestigious Lawrence Campbell Oratory), can now set a high standard. Their feedback, attention to detail and high expectations have elevated the standards of all students in the current program.

Each year we enter students into Rostrum, Legacy, UN Voice and Plain English speaking competitions, as well as the Lawrence Campbell Oratory. Students present prepared speeches and, in a blazing display of courage and eloquence, also present an impromptu speech on a topic they receive just minutes beforehand.

Cassandra Pride, MIC Public Speaking

2022 Internal competition finalists: Sabir Rahman, Eric Scholten, Maurice Wong, Otis Candy, Michael Truong and Arvind Nandakishor



The Sydney High School Blazer: A Captain's Perspective

The Sydney High School uniform has evolved in a number of ways over the years. Here we feature a personal recollection from 1960 School Captain **Anthony (Tony) Cairns** about the evolution of the blazer during his time at the School.

The modest impact that myself and my vice captain, **Peter Tzannes (1960)**, had on the School's uniform arose from my discontent during the years at High after I commenced my privileged attendance in 1957 with the then policy that if a student wished to wear a blazer, unless he had represented the School in some competitive arena, he was not entitled to have the school crest on the blazer, no more than the strips of blue piping on the pockets. It was a source of irritation to myself and others that boys were wandering around Sydney with blazers that did not appropriately identify his/the School.

Having given it a lot of thought, with my recently-endowed honour, privilege and authority as School Captain of the Class of 1960, I approached our then highly regarded Headmaster Mr Ken Andrews to voice my discontent, and propose that all boys be allowed to have the crest on their blazers, and that those who had achieved the honour of representing the School be entitled to have a laurel wreath embroidered around the crest, given the historic symbolic significance of the laurel wreath.

Upon review of Union Committee minutes recently discovered in the archives by former OBU president **Joseph Waugh (1987)**, it is clear that the ability for all boys to wear a pocket on their blazer identifying the School was discussed numerous times by Headmaster Andrews, Secretary Mr Jessep and the Union Committee members until it was confirmed in a meeting on 6 October 1960 that:

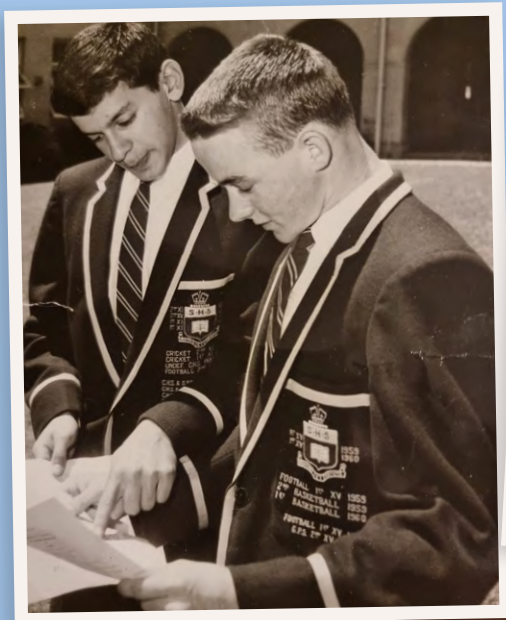
BLAZERS: Every boy on becoming a financial member of the Union is entitled to wear a blazer with the school crest embroidered on the pocket. No authority is needed.

SPORTS POCKET: A specifically designed sports pocket may be worn by a boy who, in one or more of the following sports, has represented the School in at least one third of the total matches played by his team:

- Athletics: CHS (Zone) or GPS Carnivals
- Basketball: Grades 1 and 2—CHS Competition
- Cricket: Grades 1,2,3,4,5,6—CHS and GPS Matches
- Football (as Rugby was known in those days): Grades 1,2,3,15a,14a,13a—CHS and GPS Matches
- Rifle Shooting: Grades 1 and 2—GPS Competition
- Rowing: The VIII, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th IVs, Junior VIII
- Swimming: CHS (Zone) Carnival
- Tennis: Grades 1,2,3,4—CHS Competition
- Water Polo: Grades 1,2,3—CHS Competition

In each case written authority must be obtained from the Secretary of the Union

In the years to follow, Tony's suggestion of the laurel wreath was instituted on the blazer pockets. The photo below, left, shows Peter and Tony in 1960, wearing the earlier version of the blazers without the laurel wreath, while the photo below, right, shows the current version with the laurels in situ.



Sydney Boys High School

PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION (P&C) 2023

Last year brought our first normal full year of school activities post-COVID. As the year ended, the clouds finally parted and the sun began to shine upon us after the flood of rain we had in 2022 which resulted in many cancelled sporting events.

2022 was a very active 'in-person' year for the P&C. All the traditionally in-person events which we were not able to hold during COVID made a welcome return, including the P&C helping to organise both Orientation Day and Open Day. For the first time ever, Welcome Night was hosted wholly by the P&C in the Governors Centre with support from the Sailing parents and boys.

The P&C managed to raise enough funds to fully fund a replacement school bus, which has just been ordered. The bus will be used to ferry students to activities including Debating and Rowing. Other school initiatives the P&C have funded include: Social Science textbooks; expansion of language offerings; Sentence Conscious Pedagogy; the COLA roof extension; and the Wayfinding Project (see page 7).

A range of guest speakers made presentations at last year's meetings, a number of whom will present again this year. The HSC presentation by Dr Jaggar proved very popular, as did Ms Prides' English presentation. This year our joint P&C meeting with the girls' school will be hosted by them, and they have selected the topic of 'Perfectionism', which is very relevant given that both schools are top-performing selective schools.

While the Canteen is operating well, we still need more volunteers. The core group of parents who have supported the operation for many years could use some help and several of them have boys finishing Year 12 this year. They work tirelessly, generating significant income which is pumped back into the School via the P&C. Well done team! As this is such an integral part of the P&C, it is important that enough volunteers are recruited—minimising the number of paid staff helps maximise the Canteen's profits. Parents, your spare time would be very much appreciated! Please email us at: sbhs.pandc@gmail.com if you can help.

With sporting events having 'kicked off' at the stadiums surrounding the School, the car park fundraising has also increased as sports fans fill our parking lots during events. The P&C thanks all the parents who have volunteered with the car parking.

Looking ahead for the coming year, the P&C will continue to be guided by the School as to how we can further provide support, whether it be through volunteering or financially from the P&C accounts. The P&C is also on the hunt for new volunteers to support the various subcommittees and, in particular, the Canteen.

Andrew Hybler
Year 11 Parent and P&C President



Boat Naming Ceremony

In March the Rowing Program had the pleasure of naming two boats after two very different servants of Rowing at High.

The first boat to be named was the First IV, named after Leslie Cheng. Les (*pictured below with his family*) is a Rowing parent, who took over as President of the Rowing Committee at the start of COVID and soon became Mr Everywhere Man. With so few people allowed to be onsite at the time, Les took it upon himself to be father of the night, head chef and maintenance man at the rowing sheds. He oversaw the refurbishment of the downstairs and ensured the boys had access to whatever they would need to perform to the best of their abilities. The boat naming was a small appreciation of the countless hours Les spent making Rowing at High a better place.

The second boat was named after **Doug Donoghue AM (1953)**. The naming of the new First VIII boat in his honour was in recognition of what Doug meant to Sydney High and Rowing Australia. Doug was a Prefect at Sydney High in 1953 and was greatly admired as a leader and passionate supporter of the School. He commenced his rowing while at school, where he coxed fours and the eight before finishing by rowing in the Second IV. He did not forget this grounding and gave back by coaching junior crews and the First VIII.

He joined Sydney Rowing Club whilst still at school and remained a staunch member. During his membership, he rowed, then coached and then became a distinguished administrator of the Club. He was a Director, Vice President, received the Order of Merit and remained the Chair of the Sydney Rowing Club Foundation until a few months prior to his death in August 2022. As far as the sport is concerned, perhaps his most influential contribution was in 1995-96 when he and John Boulton, respectively representing the AOC and the ASC, took over the Rowing Australia high performance program during a financially-distressed time for Rowing Australia. They were not only able to maintain the program, but Australia went from a low-ranking nation in the sport in 1995, to the most successful nation at the 1996 Olympic regatta.

In 2020, Doug was elected to life membership of Rowing Australia for his endeavours. It was an honour to have John Coates AC (*below, top right*) christen the boat (*shown below crewed by the First VIII*) and commemorate such an impressive Australian and Old Boy of the School.

George Barris, Deputy Principal Senior School and MIC Rowing





OBU Reunions and Events

Upcoming Reunions and Events

Friday, 12 May 2023

All Old Boy Lunch

<https://www.shsobu.org.au/event/captains-lunch-12-may-2023-celebrate-high-success>

Friday, 9 June 2023

London Old Boys Dinner

<https://www.shsobu.org.au/event/london-old-boys-meetup-friday-9-june-2023>

Friday, 17 June 2023

Class of 2013: 10 Year Reunion

<https://www.shsobu.org.au/event/10-year-reunion-class-of-2013-save-the-date-saturday-17-june-2023>

Saturday, 29 July 2023

Back to High Day at McKay

<https://www.shsobu.org.au/event/back-to-high-day-2023>

Saturday, 29 July 2023

Class of 2003: 20 Year Reunion

<https://www.shsobu.org.au/event/class-of-2003-20-year-reunion>

Saturday, 26 August 2023

Class of 2018: 5 Year Reunion

<https://www.shsobu.org.au/event/save-the-date-class-of-2018-5-year-reunion-1>

Saturday, 16 September 2023

Class of 1978: 45 Year Reunion

<https://www.shsobu.org.au/event/save-the-date-class-of-1978-45-year-reunion-1>

Saturday, 21 October 2023

Class of 1983: 40 Year Reunion

<https://www.shsobu.org.au/event/save-the-date-class-of-1983-40-year-reunion>

Sunday, 12 November 2023

Class of 1963: 60 Year Reunion

<https://www.shsobu.org.au/event/class-of-1963-60-year-reunion>

OBU Patron **Professor Sir Michael Marmot CH (1961)** attended a seminar at the School in which he spoke with School Council President Professor Ron Trent on Social Justice and Global Health Inequalities. The following day, fellow OBU Patron **Bruce Corlett AM (1961)** hosted him at a lunch with the 1961 cohort.



Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Sydney High Old Boys Union will be held on Wednesday, 7 June 2023 via zoom commencing at 6.30 p.m. Nominations and voting are open for all paid up members or Life Members of the Union and close at 6.30 p.m. on 31 May. Details may be found at <https://www.shsobu.org.au/event/2023-annual-general-meeting-1>. Contact OBU Secretary Darren Howard with any questions on: 0432 988 773 or dhoward@meriteast.com.au.

Capping it Off



Sohail Mohideen (1993) was finally presented with his Honour Cap by the Principal, Dr Jaggar, after almost three decades. Sohail was awarded the Honour Cap for his achievements at school but due to a supply issue at the time, never received the actual cap.

Sohail's extraordinary achievements during his time at High were:

School Captain, Honour Cap, Captain of First Grade Cricket, Vice Captain of First Grade Soccer, The John Waterhouse Prize, The Oswald Chapman Memorial Prize, AC McKibbin Trophy for Cricket, UNSWCC Batting Award, Sporting Blue for Cricket, GPS Cricket Representative, Sporting Blue for Soccer, GPS Soccer Representative, CIS Soccer Representative, GPS Premiership Soccer, CIS Cup Winner Soccer.

He also scored 98.5 in the HSC, so was the definition of a Sydney High School All-Rounder and a worthy winner of the Honour Cap.



1993 First XI Football

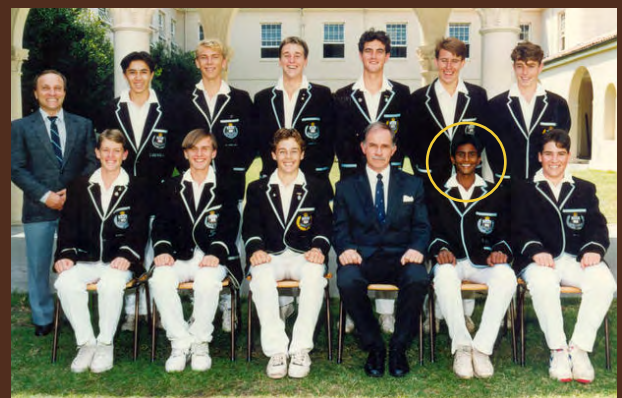
The Honour Cap

An Honour Cap may be awarded (by the Blues Committee) to a boy who has shown outstanding merit in a number of sports, specifically:

- Excellence in a branch of sport; e.g. having obtained the standard of those selected in the 1st or 2nd grade GPS representative teams.
- Sportmanship

In more recent years the award has required three sporting blues and the highest scholastic excellence. Since 1950 the award has only been conferred twelve times (to the below recipients), making it one of the rarest Sydney High School achievements:

- 1954: Brian Allsop
- 1973: Neil McGill
- 1977: Bruce Ramsey
- 1982: Alan Davies
- 1985: Andrew McGill
- 1988: Adam Magro
- 1993: Sohail Mohideen
- 2005: Mischa Steen
- 2007: Dakshika Gunaratne
- 2013: Ivor Metcalf
- 2015: Leonard Mah
- 2019: Samuel Yu



1992 First XI Cricket

Vale

John Utting (1945) passed away in April 2020.

Frank Mason (1957) passed away in 2021.

Maxwell (Phillip) Lemkin (1961) (pictured below with the 1960 2nd Grade Shooting team) passed away on 17 January 2021 in Ben Lomond, California. After leaving High, he went on to work in the banking industry. On a trip to America he met his wife Linda and they married and eventually settled in California. Phillip was a writer of books, including *A Trail of Gold*, which was accepted into the Jewish Holocaust Museums in Australia and Israel.



Alan McLeod (1945) passed away on 1 December 2021. After leaving High, Alan majored in English at the University of Sydney and went on to earn a postgraduate BEd. He completed his studies in the US, where he met and married his wife and eventually settled. Alan became an English professor and taught at a number of colleges in New York and Pennsylvania, eventually becoming Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Rider University in New Jersey. Alan was a prolific writer, mostly in the field of (British) Commonwealth literature and he wrote five books and edited many more. Even though he had settled in the US, he never forgot his alma mater, and was an engaged supporter of High from afar. He sent our Library a collection of his works as well as a comprehensive collection of American classic literature which was named the Alan McLeod Collection in his honour.

Robert (Bob) McKenzie Mostyn (1946) passed away peacefully on 17 July 2022 at the age of 93.

Jack Ritich (1958) passed away on 27 August 2022. Jack started at the AMP the Monday after he finished his leaving certificate exams,

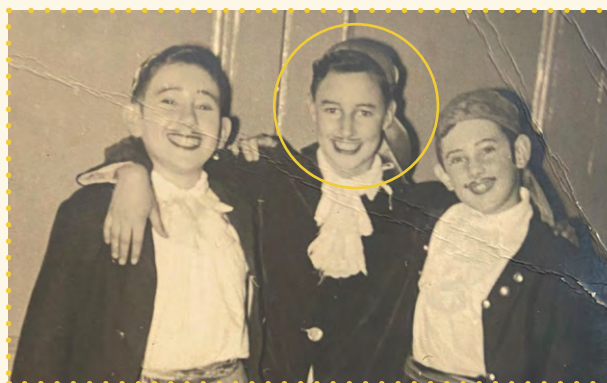
and studied Economics at Sydney University in the evenings. He went on to become Managing Director and Chairman of AMP Capital. Throughout his career, he took on multiple chairmanships and he was a passionate supporter and active board member of a range of philanthropic organisations. One of his lasting legacies is the Angel Place Recital Hall in Sydney.

Peter Tilley (1953) (shown below with the 1953 2nd XV) passed away on 5 September 2022. A retired Lieutenant Colonel, Peter was a Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order and served as a company commander in Vietnam. His name is on the Vietnam Honour Board in the Great Hall.



John Argue AM (1950) passed away on 18 September 2022. An innovator, teacher, researcher and mentor in the urban water industry, John generously shared his time with students and urban water practitioners well beyond his formal retirement, such was his passion to support others in the creation of high-quality urban spaces through better (water sensitive) design.

Ian Devereux (1953) (pictured below in a school production) passed away on 5 October 2022. A proud SBHS alumni, Devereux served in the RAAF in Vietnam and was a fixture at the School's ANZAC Day ceremonies.





Dr Kendal Binns (1940) passed away on 11 December 2022 at the age of 99, just three months short of his century. A former Prefect, he represented High with distinction in the Cricket 1st XI which won both the CHS and GPS premierships in 1938/39 (*shown above: the winning 1938 1st XI*) as well as the 1938 and 1940 Athletics premiership winning teams. Kendal graduated with Honours in Dentistry at Sydney University and served as a dentist in the Australian Army until 1948. He established a dental practice and was awarded life membership of the Australian Dental Association, Pennant Hills Golf Club and Sydney University Union. He was triple Blue in Cricket and Baseball and played in the NSW Claxton Shield winning team of 1951. He was proud of his time at High and flew the High flag as a supporter when he took his children to the Head of the River.

Barry Webb AM (1957) passed away in December 2022. A school champion in the hurdles and high jump, Barry won the GPS high jump and went on to be awarded a Sporting Blue from the University of Sydney, where he studied Engineering and Science. A renowned lighting authority, Barry won international recognition for his innovative lighting designs. One of his most significant projects was the illumination of Anzac Parade, Canberra. He was the lighting engineer behind a number of installations for the 2000 Olympics, including the

solar-powered lighting of Olympic Boulevard at Sydney's Olympic Park and the Olympic rings on the Harbour Bridge. He was a Member of the Order of Australia, an Honorary Fellow of the Institution of Engineers Australia and received an Honorary Doctor of Engineering from Sydney University.

Richard (Dick) Webb (1956) passed away on 6 February 2023.

Stephen Gell (1971) passed away on 10 April 2023. A member of the 1971 GPS Premiership-winning Rugby First XV (*below*), Steve immersed himself in many communities, from farming to rugby to viticulture and winemaking.





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