HEADMASTER COMMISSIONED

On 8th May, 1987 a simple yet moving service was held in St. Peter’s Cathedral to commission Mr. Kenneth Langford-Smith M.A. as Headmaster of The Armidale School. In welcoming Mr. Langford-Smith before a large congregation, the Bishop of Armidale, the Right Rev. Peter Chiswell, suggested that education lacking reverence for God and His ways is incomplete. He entreated the congregation not to forget the commandments, nor to despise the Lord’s discipline, for He disciplines those that He loves. The Bishop said that the wisdom that comes from the Lord must be sought to ensure a complete education. To create and maintain an environment in which these things are taught is the challenge facing the Headmaster.

The text of Mr. Langford-Smith’s address is printed elsewhere in this edition.

Mr. and Mrs. Langford-Smith with Bishop Chiswell and The Rev. Howard after the commissioning service.

THE McCONVILLE CENTRE

Work on the McConville Centre is now all but finished and the building and its surroundings are almost ready to be brought into use. It would be a mistake to think of the actual building itself as the ‘Centre’; it is only part of the total project. The northern verandah leads to a paved fore-court, that, in turn, to the grassed area, and to the Old Boys’ Barbecue while the eastern verandah with a staircase for quick access to the Cricket Field and rooms below, will prove to be a great asset in the summer months. The McConville Centre will be as useful for its “outdoor” as much as for its “in-door” function. It is a place for people to move in, around, and about.

Behind a curved seat in the fore-court is a work of art in metal, designed by Mr. Reg Magoffin, made by Mr. Peter Wayte, and painted by the Year 10 Art class. The sculpture is based on the Lyre Bird, and is inspired by a verse in Gray’s Elegy...

Perhaps in this ‘embrowned’ spot is laid,
Some heart once pregnant with celestial fire,
Hands, that the rod of empire might have swayed,
Or waked to ecstasy the living lyre.

The cost of this unusual and beautiful piece of work was met by colleagues of Ken McConville, and from monies donated by the 1987 Rugby players, principally from the successful 7-a-side team.

It was the resolve of the McConville and Property Committees that the Centre should be fully and properly furnished. This has meant that even though the target figure of $131,000 has long since been achieved, further funds will still be needed to fully pay for the building. Everyone associated with the project is confident that by the time of opening these will have been raised. At the time of going to press we anticipate a great day for the opening, with three rugby teams from St. Joseph’s College to play at T.A.S. and with plans for a barbecue and Dinner well in hand.

Jim Graham

This edition of Binghi was held back to enable pictures of the opening to be printed.

(top left) Part of the estimated 2,000 people who attended the opening ceremony.

(Left) Members of the McConville family – Kim, Andy and David, Mrs. Helen McConville (partly obscured) and Mrs. Barbie McConville, Bishop Peter Chiswell is in the background.
THE HEADMASTER WRITES

Ruth and I first wish to express publicly our very sincere appreciation for the warmth of welcome we have received. The Staff dinner, the P & F luncheon and the Commissioning Service were particular occasions when that warmth was demonstrated and they were occasions that touched us deeply. More than this, though, have been the very many more informal and unplanned expressions of goodwill, and we have been made to feel that we belong as much in a stylish Tyrrell House! function in the Maxwell Library, as at a glittery auction in town or at a friendly parents' luncheon at Bundarra. It will take us a while to get to know you all personally but we are delighted to be part of such a supportive and close-knit community.

The performance of the Cadet Guard at several Anzac Day ceremonies was my first introduction to the high standards I could expect at T.A.S. They were superb. In a few short, busy weeks since then I have been privileged to see first-hand the success of our students and staff in many areas and have come to commend in particular the achievements of our Band, the prowess of our first XV and the 'virtuoso' talents of the Music Hall.

An especially memorable occasion this term was the visit of John Smith and his team to Armidale and to the School. Their clear, unequivocal and uncompromising message was a challenge to us all and there are many in the community who perhaps have come to a real understanding of Christian commitment or to a strengthening of personal convictions as a result of their time with us.

It is early for me to talk of staff changes but Mr. Michael Rix and Mrs. Lin Resahr are leaving at the end of this term and I shall shortly be appointing their replacements. History has had two generations of good-unable to resume her duties with her protracted illness. We welcome three new Sisters this term—Sister Leslie Berry, Sister Jas Day and Sister Elspeth Belinfien—and between them they run the hospital. Mrs. Barbara Connah, who so capably filled the position of personal secretary to the Headmaster in the interim, has resumed her former part-time position and I am especially pleased to welcome back to the School, Mrs. Lois Warden.

Exciting developments are taking place at the School. In Agriculture plans are well under way for an intensive poultry course. In Science and Music recent achievements with computers have earned us state-wide recognition. The McConville Centre will be opened by the time Bingham is printed, and work on the new Music Centre will begin soon.

In looking ahead to an exciting and challenging future I am asking all members of the School community for their ideas, directed through the appropriate channels, in formulating for the School a definite long term development plan with established priorities. While we anticipate progress and development there is a note of warning to all our supporters (detailed elsewhere in this publication) on political developments which could well thwart our aims. I urge you all to be aware of the issues and to use any influence you may have to ensure that our independence and future is safe-guarded.

And yes, the boots — for those of you who have expressed concern — do now at last have the genuine article, a pair of R.M. Williams.

Stage 1 involves the building of two music classrooms (A and B on the plan). They are not classrooms in the usual sense but specialist teaching areas which include their own group practice or specialist rooms and which are linked to a central store. Area C on the plan is a specialist key-board laboratory. Area D includes staff rooms, instrument stores, six individual practice rooms and three small teaching rooms.

What look like protrusions on the periphery of the building are in fact part of the design to increase sound-proofing and indicate the lengths architect Tony Deakin has gone to in bringing the building the latest concepts from his study of similar centres in both England and Australia.

K.L-S.

SOCcer AT T.A.S.

Soccer is an alive and thriving sport at T.A.S. A combination of games with other schools and a very strong town competition results in teams playing virtually every weekend from May to September. The enthusiasm and dedication of a small group of masters are the key elements in the success of soccer at T.A.S.

The main attraction of the soccer season is the Cranbrook weekend. For many years Cranbrook has brought an U13, U13 and First XI team to Armidale in the very capable hands of Mr. Graham Blayney. On the same weekend T.A.S. sends its U14A and U16A teams to Sydney. This has always been an extremely successful and expecting to continue in the future.

This year we also played soccer against the visiting Sydney High School 1st and 2nd XIs. Both games were noteworthy for their competitiveness and the evenness in the standard of play.

T.A.S. has always fared well in the Armidale competition which has a high standard of play. We field one team in the U13, two in the U14s, two in the U16s and three in the senior competition. We appreciate the efforts of the town teams to accommodate the disruption we cause because of our school holidays. Our 1st XI plays in the men's 2nd Division competition while the 2nd XI and the Sirs (made up of T.A.S. masters, parents and friends of the School) play in the men's third division. Last year our 14A team, under coach Mr. Roger Sattler, won the 14A competition.

In August the T.A.S. 1st XI will travel to Sydney to play Cranbrook and St. Aloysius. These games give our boys exposure to the G.P.S. selectors. Last year two T.A.S. boys gained selection. James McKinnon-Matthews and Mark McCann. We hope that some of our very talented players are chosen this year.

In conclusion I would like to pay tribute to the hard work of T.A.S. soccer players and the dedication of our coaches, Messrs. Jon Amsbrough, Keith Dor, Alan Wilkinson, Roger Sattler, Bill Howarth and also Erolin Chark.

We are indebted to Mr. Ralph Hunt, M.I.C. of Soccer, for this report.

(left) The McConville Centre Opening. This group of boys represents Ken McConville's particular passions; Cadets, sport, scholarship, chapel and leadership.

(right) The Chef, Geoff Postle, caught during the Music Hall. Geoff and his staff have endured a very busy term with the Music Hall, visiting schools and the McConville Centre opening all imposing duties. The School would be a very different place if it did not have the loyal and unstinting support of the non-academic, as well as the academic, staff. All sections of the School have cooperated tremendously to ensure the success of the various functions this year.

(far right) Mr. Phil Slade has donated his brother Clare's Military Cross to the Archives. Mr. Richard Rowland is accepting the gift. Also pictured are Mr. Graham Macdonald and Mr. Harold Buckley.
FOUNDATION NEWS

Two New Board Directors

Both the T.A.S. Council and the Parents' and Friends' Association have, by virtue of donations to the McConnville Memorial Fund, become Trustees of the Foundation. To represent them on the Board, as directors, the Council has appointed Mr. P. W. Grif- fis and the P. & F. Association Mrs. Mary Taylor. We welcome them to our deliberations.

Proposed Extension of Membership

The Board has approved and will submit to the next General Meeting of the Foundation for its approval, an amendment which will, if passed, give as- sociate membership to those contributing $500 – $1499. Associates would gain voting rights and be eligible for nomination to the Board and its Standing Committees.

The effect of this change will be to give greater opportunity to subscribers to the Foundation to par- take in management and policy.

Loan to School

The Board has agreed to lend to the School, in- terest free for two years, $150,000 from Foundation funds to assist the School’s next major Building Pro- ject.

A.H. Cash

Mrs. Mary Taylor, P & F President, shows the strain of organizing the T.A.S. Music Hall. Mary and a group of willing P & F members worked very hard to ensure its success.

P. & F. NOTES

Mrs. Mary Taylor, the President of the P. & F. has kindly supplied Binghi with these notes.

“I want to thank everyone who worked so hard to make the luncheon to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Langford-Smith such a success. I know the Head- master and his wife were pleased at the opportuni- ty to meet so many of the T. A. S. family.

“With over 500 attending, the Guyra parents did a tremendous job cooking and carving the bar- becued lamb. The ladies who prepared the salads must also be thanked – many people com- mented on how delicious and different the salads were. I feel sure that this day will be remembered as a successful and happy occasion. It was very pleasant to meet so many of the T.A.S. family that have been away for a long time.

“We have just finished another successful Music Hall. I would like to thank everyone who as- sisted, whether they be parents or staff, to make it so enjoyable. We are unable to say, at this early stage, just what profit was made.

“At the O.B.U. weekend the P. & F. is having its usual cake stall. Donations of cakes, slices, jams and produce would be appreciated as would of- fers of help for personing the stall on Saturday, 8th August.

“The P. & F. usually provides a light supper of sandwiches and drinks before the end-of-year play. The support for this function hardly justifies the amount of work involved. Please come to the next P. & F. meeting on August 14th at 1.30 p.m. so that this matter can be discussed. Any sugges- tions would be welcome.”

The School has, this year, received from P. & F. funds the following:

$ 19720

THE MIKADO

Produced and Directed by Jim Graham

Gilbert & Sullivan's famous operetta will be presented by the School on these dates:
Wednesday 5th August at 2.00 p.m. (matinee for schools)
Wednesday 5th August and Thursday 6th Au- gust at 8.00 p.m.
Saturday 8th August following the O.B.U. Dinner.

The TAS Cadet Cadetuique Party at the Dungars- teigh War Memorial on Anzac Day. The boys gave up some of their holidays to be present at Armidale services.
ADDRESS BY THE HEADMASTER, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS COMMISSIONING

When I first came to Armidale for an interview last year not everything was smooth sailing.

Firstly, the plane I came on tried to land me in Tamworth instead.

Then the Bishop had an ingenuouse system of lights rigged up in my room to prepare me for inter-rogation so that I never knew what would happen when I turned the switch on or off.

When I was brought to see the School and stu-dents it was totally deserted. At a private dinner given by members of Council an elaborate plan was made to lock me in the lavatory. Fortunately for me they caught the School solicitor instead - he was forced to climb out of the window and, I understand, is still pursuing litigation.

I really began to wonder what was amiss. What had I done? Perhaps more importantly had I left undone that which I ought to have done?

The real crunch came this year when I received the School Record Book. In it all the Council mem-bers and Staff are listed as “Esquire” - but not the Headmaster. Nor actually are the female members of Staff. But a little bit strange, isn’t it, if only the Headmaster and women are not “Esquire”? Why was I excluded?

But the answer came to me as I sat despondently this week, head lowered, at my first Council meet- ing. Then I saw the light - or rather the boots! That was it! I should have thought of it before. So I rushed down to Hanna’s yesterday and bought a pair of boots. Now that I have them - perhaps not R.M. Williams, but the next best at short notice - hopefully I can truly declare, I, too, can be an “Esquire”.

And it is identity that I want to talk about this evening.

I choose two texts. Firstly, the opening lines from Shakespeare’s Hamlet - Barnardo and Francisco: “Who’s there?”

"Nay, answer me. Stand, and unfold Yourself." Secondly from St. Mark’s Gospel, Chapter 8, verse 27. Jesus as Caesarea Philippi asks his disciples: “Whom do men say that I am?” (And after several answers from them) “But whom say ye that I am?”

To me Hamlet is as much about identity and ap-pearences as it is about anything else. From those early words in the swirling mists on the battlements the play unfolds, but with question after question.

Who is it? Who or what is the Ghost? (Notice how much detail about the ghost’s ap-peareance Hamlet wanted - what exactly did he look like?) Why “seems it so particular” with Hamlet? Is he mad or not mad?

How is Laertes to behave and how does he behave?

Remember the scene where Hamlet chides his mother after the play comparing the two portraits? Or the grave digging scene - what might this skull have been?

Who remembers which is Rosencrantz and which is Guildenstern?

And the play within the play where we have an actor acting the part of an actor acting the part of a King for the benefit of a King who is really an actor. Which is the real man and which is the act?

So Shakespeare questions identity and appear-ance. What is Hamlet really like? There are no easy answers and the end of the play still has doubt - “most likely to have proved most royal”.

And I have chosen that text because I know a lot of you will be saying, what is he like, this bloke from Western Australia? And there will be reports, and stories, and rumours and pictures and interviews. But it works both ways. I want to say - “Stand and unfold Yourself”. Who are you?

We may learn a lot about each other’s identity in various ways but we don’t really get to know each other till we meet, till we work and live together, and that is only the start. The stories, the photographs, the reports, these are the image, they are not the real man. It seems to me that we concentrate a great deal on images, on appearances, today. Perhaps this is a result of developments in media this century; cer-tainly it is in part a result of the persuasive power of advertising and its concentration on image, on sym-bol, as opposed to referent. You must, it seems have a good image to be a successful politician or leader today - and sometimes that seems more important than being a good man.

That is not what the scriptures teach us. The book of Samuel tells us: “. . . the Lord seeth not as man seeth, for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart.”

It is what you are and not what you appear that really matters. “Seems, madam, I know not seems” said Hamlet - it is not appearance with me, its real.

Of course, I have to be interested in appearances. I want the School to have a great public image. It is a great school. I want you, the students to appear well-dressed, well-behaved. I want you to impress. But I don’t believe we achieve this by concentrating on these appearances alone. Let us start with the heart, not so that you must appear “good”, partly perhaps so that you wish to be “good”, but chiefly because you are, in fact, “good”, the inner man is right.

Which brings me to my second text. Jesus asked the disciples whom people thought he was. And he got all kinds of answers. But what really interested him was what they said personally, face to face. It was Peter who could say directly and confidently “You are Christ”, you are my Lord.

Can we say the same?

The only real way to right the inner man, to have a true relationship with our God, is not just to hear about him or simply to read about him but to come to meet him in Christ.

These then are our challenges as we come to meet and know each other and live and work together: “Who’s there?”

“Nay, answer me: stand and unfold Yourself”.

“Whom do men say that I am?”

“Whom say ye that I am?”

— BINGHI —

The Headmaster and Major Mason-Jones at the TAS Anzac Day Service.

Solly’, the School’s fearless guard dog, barks from after being ejected from the Music Hall.

N.E. SCHOOLBOYS COUNTRY CHAMPIONS

New England retained the Caltex Cup for a re-cord fourth successive year at the N.S.W. Country Schools’ R.U. Championships held during the Queen’s Birthday weekend.

The team, captained by Ian Alker, was coached by Mr. Ian Dundon, the T.A.S. Sportsmaster. It comprised boys from only two schools, O’Connor Catholic High and T.A.S. The highlight of the cham-pionship was New England’s 10-9 win against West-ern Schools when both teams produced rugby of a standard worthy of a much older age group. Eight players from T.A.S. were subsequently selected in the N.S.W. Country School’s teams. In the 1sts are Tim Ryan, Ian Alker, Andrew Carruthers and Jef-frey Hale while Craig Benham, Richard Whitehead, Gordon Bevan and Tim Nash made the 2nds. Joshua Smith gained a place as a reserve.

Country Schools’ first match is against Combined Colleges in Sydney on June 28th. Following this game, a Country Schools’ team will be selected to play in various matches including a Gold Coast tour-nament and against Irish Schools in Armidale on Au-gust 5th.

The victorious New England Schoolboys Team, TAS Sportsmaster Ian Dundon (top left) was coach and O.B. Jim Alker (bottom left) was team manager.
TAS PIONEERS CAMBRIDGE LINKS

Under a scheme developed by the University of Cambridge in the UK, students at TAS will be able to gain world-recognized accreditation for Information Technology courses that will be taught at the School.

T.A.S. is pioneering the provision of these courses, called the CIT scheme, in Australia.

Nine year eleven students are trying this in 1987. They are enrolled in an HSC Other Approved Studies course, called Text Processing, under the jurisdiction of the NSW Board of Senior School Studies.

This OAS course has been structured to include the course work required for the Cambridge accreditation. This involves learning the skills of word processing, small computer management, editing and page layout, and will lead to the award of a certificate in Word Processing.

Other courses involving Electronics, Teletext, Desk Top Publishing, Spreadsheets, Database management, Robotics, Communications, basic Computer Literacy and Programming will soon become available.

OAS courses have had rather a chequered past in NSW schools, as their worth is perceived to be less than the more traditional HSC subjects. More often than not this means that the course “dies” after a few years, and students are compelled to study courses that suit neither their ability nor chosen career.

It is intended that, as well as completing work for new or existing courses at the school level, students may elect to submit their work for CIT courses. The ensuing accreditation will help to give non-Board courses a parity of esteem with the more accepted HSC subjects, and hence allow the students more flexibility in their subject choice.

The availability of CIT courses is not limited to non-HSC subjects, indeed it is not limited to boys! It is conceivable that parents and friends could also be involved in this scheme.

Mr. Ian Ellis, the Director of the University of New England’s Computer Centre, has kindly agreed to act as the Australian moderator for Cambridge as the following electronic mail item shows:

To: MGL001 (6607: MGL001)
From: A. MASSEY (CED068)
Delivered: Thu 4-June-87 1:56
0527 Swiss 100/7
Subject: CIT ACCREDITATION

Dear Mr. Levins,

As the fax message from Ian Ellis, Director of Computing at Armidale University, has now arrived, confirming his willingness to act on our behalf, I am delighted to be able to confirm that the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate is able to provide accreditation for The Armidale School under the Cambridge Information Technology Scheme.

You will be interested to hear that you are the first Australian CIT centre.

Yours sincerely,
A.J. Massey
(Assistant Secretary-Vocational Training and Education)

We look forward to a successful and profitable liaison with the University of Cambridge.

MGL

[Mr. Levins’ article does not indicate that this link with Cambridge was initiated by him and it is through his perseverance and enthusiasm that the courses are being taught. Ed.]

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC INSTRUCTION ACT

The Education and Public Instruction Bill was recently passed by the Legislative Council and will, after being gazetted, be the law governing schooling in N.S.W. While the need to rationalize the legislation covering education in the State is recognised, some provisions of the Act have extremely serious implications for non-government schools.

The legislation establishes a Board of Secondary Education which, in its function as the sole registration authority for non-government secondary schools, is not responsible to the Minister. This means, of course, that it is not sensitive to the views of the electorate.

The Board’s composition is weighted against the interests of non-government schools. Of the nineteen members that may be appointed, only three can be said to represent directly these interests. There are to be two nominees of the Catholic Education Commission of N.S.W. and one nominee of either the Headmasters’ Conference or the Association of Heads of Independent Girls’ Schools. The Act further provides that the Minister can require a nominating person or body to provide a list (of as many people as he specifies) from which he may select the appointee. This provision gives the Minister a significant measure of control over the composition of the Board.

Other members of the Board include two nominees of the N.S.W. Teachers’ Federation, two of the Executive of the Federation of Parents’ and Citizens’ Associations of N.S.W., two of the N.S.W. Council of High School Principals, one of the Labour Council of N.S.W. and two nominees of the Director General of Education. None of these members could be expected to be sympathetic to independent schools.

The legislation, as well as giving this Board the power of registration of all non-government secondary schools in N.S.W., has the potential for the imposition of unreasonable regulations concerning “patterns of study including the balance between compulsory and optional courses of study or experiences required of candidates for either of the secondary certificates” and “the nature and purpose of any rules and regulations...governing the registration of schools offering secondary education”. In other words the government has the power to intrude into, and diminish, to an unreasonable extent, the independence of policy and curriculum of non-government schools.

The Act has adopted terminology similar to the new schools provisions of the Commonwealth legislation under which the growth and expansion of the non-government sector is being curtailed. The establishment of new independent schools and the expansion of others will be fraught with difficulties and, in some cases, may prove impossible.

Supporters of non-government schools may justifiably feel the Act is an unwarranted intrusion into the independent education sector. They should be concerned at its implications, particularly as so much power is vested in a Board on which non-government schools are so poorly represented.

Dr. Metherell, the Opposition spokesman on education, has said that the Coalition will, on gaining office, repeal the Act.

G.D.C.

(The Editor wishes to acknowledge the work of the N.S.W. Parents’ Council which represents the interests of parents of children in non-government schools. Much of the information in this article comes from its publications.)

G.P.S. ECUMENICAL SERVICE

The annual G.P.S. Ecumenical Church Service will be held this year at T.A.S. It will take place in the Assembly Hall at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday 16th October. A Barbecue Lunch will be provided after the Service.

A G.P.S. Dinner will be held on Saturday, 17th October at the New Seven Brothers Restaurant (7.00 for 7.30 p.m). A guest speaker is being arranged.

It is requested that those wishing to attend the Dinner contact Mr. Robert Mitchell, West Strath-roy, Armidale, 2350 (067 75 5522) by 5th October, 1987.

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SAFETY AND RUGBY

(Rugby, despite certain public misconceptions, has never been a safer game for boys to play. Injuries do occur in contact sports, but their level of seriousness has been reduced through the development of constructive and responsible attitudes and approaches, which in turn are implemented through sensible, responsible coaching and refereeing within the framework of safe laws. In fact, Dr. J. Yeo, of Royal North Shore Spinal Unit, maintains that there is now more chance of suffering serious injury in travelling to the game than in actually playing it.

A. The G.P.S. Approach

COACHING: All schools have undertaken exhaustive measures to ensure that the coaching of boys is very responsible.

REFEREERING: All referees are instructed with an emphasis on safety, and are strongly advised that being fully conversant with the laws permits them to implement the spirit of the laws and the laws themselves. They are made aware that they must recognize and stop any potentially dangerous situation.

B. Safety Awareness

Boys must begin each training session and match warm up with neck-strengthening exercises. Boys are issued with pamphlets explaining ways in which necks can be strengthened. They are shown the video "The Lost Cord", and techniques in neck-strengthening are demonstrated. Camps, seminars and school talks ensure that all boys are conversant with the effects of the new laws, particularly in forward play. It has been shown that front row is merely a position on the field, and in fact a Newington College survey over eighteen years has revealed that the chances of injury are greater at full-back than in the front-row.

Coaches are instructed to select boys in positions which suit their abilities. They are fully aware of the development of dangerous situations and are guided in ways of preventing their development, particularly in the areas of correct binding, foot position and the "crouch-touch-bind" technique.

INTER-SCHOOL CO-OPERATION: All schools have co-operated in the development of a sensible, responsible attitude towards the implementation of the Under 19 Laws. The formerly omnipresent "win-at-all-costs" attitude is gradually being broken down, and all schools are unanimous in their agreement that the safety of boys under their control is of paramount importance. Steps are taken to ensure that teams are correctly matched.

RULE VARIATIONS: Different variations to the traditional 15-man game are being employed where it is considered necessary, whether it be through the reluctance of boys to play in the front-row or through inadequate experience.

C. Under Nineteen Laws

The A.A.G.P.S. played a leading role in the introduction of the Under 19 Laws in 1985 after some serious injuries in the previous season. These laws are considered to be excellent if they are properly coached and enforced. Such laws as both hookers must strike, hookers must not adopt a pushing position with their feet, specific binding instructions, no wheeling of the scrum, pushing must be in a goal-line direction with no collapsing or "popping", have all resulted in a depowering of the scrum. The strict enforcement of the "crouch-touch-bind" technique has greatly reduced the power of impact and thereby increased the safety of the players in the front row. Further domestic variations such as the limitation of the movement of the scrum and the replacement provisions in the case of dismissal from the field of or "sin-binning" have enhanced the safety aspect of G.P.S. Rugby.

At the conclusion of each season the G.P.S. Rugby Sub-Committee conducts an exhaustive analysis of the implementation of the Under 19 Laws during that season and its findings and recommendations are forwarded to all relevant authorities. Since the introduction of the laws a marked improvement has been noted in the standard of their implementation and accordingly the safety of all players has been greatly advantaged.

D. Conclusion

The game of Rugby, under the present Under Nineteen Laws, presents very few hazards for boys when they are responsibly coached and refereed. The employment of the correct techniques and the development of an awareness of their own safety and that of their opponents will provide them with long-standing enjoyment from the game.

"That game was never worth a rap
For a rational man to play
In which no danger, no mishap
Can possibly find a way.

Adam Lindsay Gordon"

[It is emphasised that these are only extracts from a very comprehensive report, a full copy of which is available at the School.]

MUSIC HALL 1987

(above) Villain (Geoff Perry) rows heroine (Sue Stonier) out to sea to do dastardly deeds.
(right) One of the stars of the show, Michael Keovers, performing on the trapeze with part of the chorus in the foreground.
O.B.U. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I will begin my report with a summary of the position relating to the Synod resolution to reduce Old Boys representation on the T.A.S. Council. The Council will be held during the second week of July 1987 and it is anticipated that the conclusion by then it will not be possible for a final decision to be taken.

You will see on the reverse side of the O.B.U. Weekend Booking Sheet a reprint of the Diocesan Council questionnaire which has been circulated to all parents and to the O.B.U. Committee. The O.B.U. was invited to circularize all its members and for that reason the questionnaire has been reprinted so that it is not being economically feasible to send each member a copy by post.

Many of you may be unfamiliar with the workings of Council and will wonder why this questionnaire has appeared. The aim is to gauge the feeling of the T.A.S. community to the present Council structure and its effectiveness especially in relation to direct parent representation and to Council size and its consequent efficiency. Apparently it is thought that inefficiency arises from the very size of Council but it can be equally thought that the size enables more expertise to be available and the formation of the various sub-committees made easier.

O.B.U. research indicates that other G.P.S. Schools have larger Councils. For instance Kings and Shore have 18 and Newington has 25. These Colleges mirror our own with 5 or 6 elected representatives from their Old Boys' Union. In fact there are, at present, only 48 Old Boys on these Councils and the statutory numbers would indicate, as they have been increased in recent years, that the criteria beats other qualifications. Interestingly it has also shown that none of the schools has a special position for parents; however they may, once again, be appointed by virtue of other qualifications.

You will be familiar with the outstanding and unselfish service members of the O.B.U. have given, and continue to give, to the Council and to the School since the 1890's. The Committee believes the present structure and composition of Council should remain the same, as we have been given no compelling reason for change. In fact the Committee has presented the Diocesan Council with what it believes to be a powerful case for maintaining the present O.B.U. representation.

The rules of appointment to Council should allow a broad based expertise to be represented and this is the case. The appointment of a parent to Council is also possible under the existing ordinance and this person could attend meetings.

As the A.G.M. of the O.B.U. will be held on the 9th August, the Bishop has agreed to extend the date of replies to the questionnaire from 31st July until after the meeting. This will allow our members to discuss the matter fully and present a submission. It would be appropriate for those tendering an apology for the Meeting to accompany that with their thoughts. In expectation of a longer A.G.M. than usual we have decided to include a sandwich lunch during the meeting. To end this topic we emphasise the Committee's view that we see no need to alter the structure or size of Council.

A reply from the Headmaster, Mr. Ken Langford-Smith, has been received accepting our invitation for him and his wife to be our Guests of Honour at the O.B.U. Annual Dinner. Mr. Langford-Smith will also be the Guest Speaker. We look forward to hearing from, and welcoming, him.

We were pleased to present to George Crossle 100 pounds sterling on behalf of the O.B.U. This was to ensure his enjoyment whilst on a trip to Ireland, and to recognise, in an inadequate way, his outstanding service to the O.B.U. His letter thanks us and indicate, as you might expect, the judicious spending of same. His absence in the office and elsewhere is obvious and the problem of what to put on the back page of "Binghi" has caused David Connah many hours of worry. Mrs. Belinda Anstoke has very capably held the fort while George is away.

Rugby will be played against all age Old Boys at this coming Reunion Weekend, with the format of previous years being adhered to. We will endeavour to play three teams against the School. For the first time we will feature a seven-a-side match involving those O.B.U.'s 35 years and older (it was suggested they play on the tennis court). As there will be a majority of "67 returning may I suggest they remember to bring their sandwiches"?

You will be aware that my term of 2 years as your President will end at the forthcoming A.G.M. I ask you to consider nominations for your choice of incoming President. I have enjoyed my term and consider it a privilege to have offered what I have been able. Thank you for this opportunity.

Terry Coventry

THE OLDER OLD BOYS' DINNER

It was reported in the April Binghi that Max Taylor, Peter Wright and others are planning a special dinner for all those who left school in 1941 or before, to be held on Friday August 7th. Arrangement have now been made for this to be held at the Armidale Bowling Club, and letters of invitation have gone out to over 190 Old Boys requesting their attendance with wives at 6 p.m. for 7 p.m. on that date.

This will be rather a special occasion, providing an opportunity for the older generation of Old Boys who may have lost touch with one another over the years to get together as a pipe opener for the O.B.U. Weekend. Those who have not yet gone back to the School for some time will see many changes, and feel sure will find much to be impressed with, not least of which is the fine present generation of pupils and staff. It is hoped that the new Headmaster, Mr. Ken Langford-Smith and his wife, Ruth, will be able to join us at the dinner.

Should any Old Boy, who left in 1941 or earlier and wishes to attend the dinner, not receive a letter of invitation, please let Max Taylor or Peter Wright know. The address is C/- T.A.S., Douglas Street, Armidale. 2350

CLASS OF '67 REUNION

Preparations are well advanced for a reunion of all those leaving School in the "Class of '67". This was the first year of the Wyndham Scheme and therefore included the first students to sit for the Higher School Certificate. The reunion however will include many who left before sixth year (year 12).

In addition to joining in the normal OBU activities, the 'Class of '67' will be holding a special reunion dinner at the Cattlemans Motel on the night of Friday, 7 August. It appears at this stage that between 30 and 40 Old Boys from this year will be attending, suggesting that this will be one of the larger reunion groups of recent years. Since the "Class of '67" seem to be a fairly domesticated lot, plenty of wives and children should be in attendance and it is planned to provide a little additional amusement for all by conducting a special 'guided tour' of the School on the Saturday morning, pointing out some of the scenes of infamous crimes and amusing incidents.

As a warm-up for the OBU weekend a dinner was held in Sydney at the end of last year. This was intended to gauge interest in the reunion and also to discuss activities. As the photo shows, 90% of the attendees have not changed a scrap since they left school! The identity of one of the dinner guests however has had his classmatings passing.

Any Old Boys from the 'Class of '67' who have not responded to the material that was sent to them earlier this year are of course very welcome to attend the reunion. Those wishing to attend the dinner should contact Bruce White in Sydney on (02) 3267-6077.

The Class of '67 (standing left to right) Peter Tomkins, Duncan Stuart, Henry Nicholson (hands up those who guessed), Bob Adams, Harry Hall, Chris Kemp, Roger Martel, Ross Farrell, Quentin Wright, George Sours, [front] Peter Williams, Peter Johnston, Bruce White.

O.B.U. WEEKEND

AUGUST 7th, 8th and 9th

Friday 7th:
Special Reunion Dinners for 1941 (and earlier) and 1967 leavers.

Saturday 8th:
Tennis, Golf and Shooting v the School
Barbecue Lunch
Rugby v the School
Drinks in Big School
O.B.U. Dinner
"The Mikado" by Gilbert & Sullivan

Sunday 9th:
O.B.U. Chapel Service
General Meeting
Smorgasbord Lunch
Full details are on the enclosed booking sheet.

T.A.S. O.B.U.
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the O.B.U. will be held on Sunday, 9th August following the O.B.U. Chapel Service. The following items have been included on the Agenda by the Committee:

1. A proposal to raise the life membership subscription to $100, with the proviso that all Old Boys applies to join the Union within 12 months of leaving the School, the subscription will be $75.

2. The proposal by the Synod of the Diocese of Armidale to reduce the O.B.U. representation on the T.A.S. Council. The Committee is of the view that the present representation should be maintained.

R.W.L. Crossle
(Hon. Sec.)
O.B.U. NOTES

Libby Bailey, wife of GRAHAM, has kindly sent the following notes:

JOHN MILLS (72-82) has just spent 15 months overseas as part of the International Agricultural Exchange Association scheme. He divided his time between Denmark and Texas, U.S.A. He’s now searching for a job on an oil rig near Roma, Qld., with a view to financing a trip to New Zealand before the snow runs out. Brother SCOTT MILLS (79-84), having had 12 months on a cattle property near Warren and 12 months on the family property near North Star, is now at Orange Ag. College playing rugby with the Second XV.

DUNCAN MCDONALD (77-82), after a brief spell of landscape gardening, has now landed a job (if not yet a seat) on the Sydney Stock Exchange. Brother CAMERON MCDONALD (79-84) completed his first year at Massey University in Victoria, and is presently doing a year’s practical work in Western Australia before returning to College for his final year.

SAM BAILEY (80-85), who spent most of last year based at Stonehenge, south of Longreach, has moved further north to Avon Downs Station in the Territory. We hear his heels are higher and his hats are bigger — but his bullock-skiing effort at a local rodeo is best forgotten. He and DAVID ALKER (80-85), who’s now based near Longreach, hope to be back at TAS on 27th June to honour their rugby coach, Ken McConvil,

ALASTAIR JONES (79-84) spent a year on Windy Station, Quirindi under the guidance of Old Boy DAVID STEFFENSON, but is now back on the family property at Palmalawaha and has switched his rugby allegiance from Quirindi to Moree.

Engagements etc.

CRAIG STODDART, 77-78, from Walcha is to be married on 3rd October to Mandy Wilkinson.

ANDREW CHAPMAN, 80-85, was married on 30th May to Joanne Roworth of Breeza. Andrew is working with Elders Pastoral at Forbes.

PAUL GLASSON, 52-57, is to marry Roslyn Ramsey (N.E.G.S. 56-64). Our congratulations to them all.

G.D.C.

Congratulations To

IAN KIERNAN, 52-58, who came 6th in the solo division World Yacht Race and who, on finishing, said all he wanted to do was to see his wife.

ANDREW WOOD, 76-81, son of STEWART, 39-42, is now a member of The Agricultural Technologists of Australia and is present in England on an international agricultural exchange programme.

In December last year both ALEX DANGAR, 74-82, and TIM MACDONALD, 77-82, graduated from Sydney Tech. Alex (Fred) has been posted to the 1st Armoured Regiment and Tim is finishing an Honours Degree in English after which he will go to the Royal Australian Army Ordnance Corps.

STEWART McRAE, 79-84, is studying a lead-up course to a Graduate Diploma in Landscape Architecture and despite the rigours of the social life involved with tertiary education is to receive the Andrew Brock Memorial Prize.

ADRIAN ALLINGHAM, 52-53, is now a Det. Chief Inspector with the N.S.W. Drug and Crime Command. His twin, EAN HOUNET, 69-73, has been transferred from Armidale to Coopersook, where he will be officer-in-charge. Ean was well known in Armidale for his interest in rugby, having played for City and United.

Guzia Slone looks forward to IVIL REID, 42-46, its new president. He was deputy president since 1978.

Odds and Ends

Previously lost Old Boy CAMPBELL ANDERSON, 52-57, has surfaced as the Managing Director of Reunion Goldfields Consolidated Ltd.

ALLAN BIDEN, 30-32, recently called at the School after an absence of many years. He was a pilot instructor in the RAAF during the war and an industrial chemist with Roche for two years before becoming a high school principal. He is planning to move to the Gold Coast.

DAVID DAVIES, 42-50, is the Chairman of CALM Services (Computer Aided Livestock Marketing) which is presently demonstrating its system to overseas livestock exchanges.

NIGEL HARDEN, 60-67, is moving house in Armidale and advises that his brother SIMON, 71-73, has recently married and lives at Cloncurry and another brother PIERS, 60-70, now resides in the U.K. working for a commodities broker.

Jack Sippe, 54-59, has reported, and the probably gullible editor believed, that his wife got a free trip on a New Orleans riverboat by calling herself Mrs. Sippe.

The New England National Park Advisory Committee recently honoured the work of Dr. Philip Wright and his son Dr. Peter Wright. Dr. Wright [Sen.] initiated the move to establish the national park in 1931, and was a Trustee for many years. Subsequently Dr. Peter Wright served on the Trust and Advisory Committee, and for many years Other TAS Old Boys appointed to the Trust included Col. H.F. White, Messrs Richard White and David Conner. Pictured at the ceremony were [from left] Mr. Bruce Wright, Dr. Peter Wright, Messrs Tim and David Wright and Mr. Richard White.

Acknowledgements

The Editors wish to thank the following for their contributions and photographs: Messrs. Ralph Hunt, Jim Vasey, Ian Donou, Martin Levias and particularly David Toppin for his photographs.

OBITUARIES

It is with deep regret that we record the deaths of Mr. Adrian Consett Stephen and Mrs. Jan McGaw. Our sympathy is extended to their families and friends. Full obituaries will appear in the next issue of Binghi.

SCHOOL HISTORY AND OLD BOYS' REGISTER

The Council History Committee was gratified to find at its meeting on May 25th that there was a good initial response to the questionnaire sent out in the April issue of “Binghi”. To that date 103 Old Boys had completed the forms, and as we go to press the number stands at 150.

This is most encouraging, and on behalf of the Committee I extend warm thanks to all those who have responded so willingly with detailed and accurate information. We hope that those who gave reminiscences of their school days enjoyed dredging up old memories, all of which (No names, no pack drill!) will provide good background information to the writing of the history.

We look forward to a continuation of this good response, and to those who have not yet got around to putting pen to paper, may we issue a gentle reminder? If by chance you have lost your form, let us know and another will be sent.

Work on the Register has proceeded well, thanks to the efforts of George Crosse, a number of Old Boy volunteers, and lastly Mrs. Amstock who has become very interested in the project. From now on she will be able to devote much of her available time to it.

Thank you to the Old Boy who sent a donation to help defray costs and to those who have sent photographs and other memorabilia, and have given details of deceased Old Boys.

With this sort of cooperation we are well on the way. Let’s keep it up.

Peter A. Wright, Convenor, History Committee.

Future Editions

The Editors of 'Binghi' are always grateful to receive copy. Please send contributions or photographs to G. D. Connah, c/o T.A.S., Douglas Street, Armidale.