Music Building Under Way

A large audience was present on 23rd June to see distinguished actor, singer and Old Boy, Mr Peter Cousins, Dip.Act. (N.I.D.A.) lay the foundation stone of the new Music Building. Peter was accompanied by his mother, Mrs Marge Cousins who is well known to the T.A.S. Community. Peter was Senior Prefect in 1973 and both he and his mother have been involved in many T.A.S. stage performances.

Under the auspices of the T.A.S. Foundation, an appeal for funds was launched with Mr Jim Graham as Director. The Appeal raised nearly £300,000 through personal donations and fund raising functions. The generosity of the donors and the enthusiasm of Jim and his committee will result in an excellent facility for the teaching of music, which has become an important part of the curriculum at the School.

The original concept had been to build a music complex, combining teaching areas and rehearsal rooms with a large auditorium. Unfortunately the projected cost was too high for both stages to be built at once. The present building has been designed by Tony Deakin of Magoffin & Deakin, Architects.

The builder is Mr Peter Hanian who, despite difficult weather conditions, is making rapid progress. It is to be hoped that before very long the Music Department will be using the first class facilities it has shown it so richly deserves.

G.P.S. Athletics

Above: Cameron Blair (lane 1) winning the Open 100m. He also won the 200m and Long Jump.
Right: Matthew Bookallil smashed the Under 15 1500m record by 9 seconds.

O.B.U. Reunion Weekend
September 15th - 17th 1989
Details page 8
From the Headmaster

The Year 9 Cadet "lost" on a compass trek; the Year 7 boys were packing for a week-end sporting trip to Sydney; the Monitor supervising a fractious dormitory; the second rower slow to the ball; all decisions and responsibilities.

Responsibility begins for the T.A.S. student on entry when he recognises that his being there is a privilege, not a right. It is cultivated in the classroom, demanded in the duties and coupled with discipline reinforced in the routines. Above all it is instilled in the whole Christian ethos of the School, for responsibility is a question of attitudes and values, standards which matter.

"Mene, mene, tekel, upharsin". If we loose sight of our accountability first to God and then to man how can we ever really be responsible?

Master Plan Developments

- The all weather tennis courts are complete.
- The new Music Building is making rapid progress and will be completed by the beginning of next year.
- Kerb and guttering, and the sealing of Brown Street, will commence in July.
- Further landscaping has been completed in the western Fisher Court.
- Garden and tree planting master plans have been drawn up and a planting programme will begin this year.
- The School has now purchased the Armidale Squash Courts in Barney Street. In addition to the three courts, storage has been gained for canoe and motor maintenance, and the School has the lease of the adjacent tennis courts.
- Preliminary sketch plans have been drawn for the new Science laboratories.
- A Boarding House Committee is now working on a brief and preliminary plans for a new boarding house.

The School Centenary

A Formal Centenary Committee, comprising representatives of the Old Boys' School Community, is to be established in July. Its task will be to plan for the Centenary celebration in 1994. If you have any suggestions or ideas please send them to this Committee at the School, to the Headmaster, or to the appropriate Old Boys' or Parents' representatives.

Artist-in-Residence

A relatively recent innovation to the School's cultural teaching programme has been the introduction by the Headmaster of the Artist-in-Residence scheme. As the name implies, this involves the presence at the School of a person accomplished in a particular field of the arts. The stimulation and assistance provided to boys by the proximity of a working artist has proved to be very valuable.

Anne Clarke, a painter, was the first appointment under the scheme. It became obvious during her stay that the idea had great merit and consequently Anne Edgeworth, a poet, was engaged for Term 2, 1989.

Her impressions of the scheme and the School may be of interest to readers. Anne was convinced of the importance of the scheme both to those boys with writing skills and to those wishing to learn or improve. She stressed the necessity for any artist-in-residence to work closely with the staff who in turn should understand the programme and be committed to its utilization.

In this regard she had received enthusiastic cooperation from the School. Interestingly, her own writing had increased during her stay.

Anne Edgeworth has taught Science and English in other schools. Her unusual combination of qualifications include Bachelor of Science (Biochemistry and Organic Chemistry), Bachelor of Arts with Honours (English Literature) and Master of Arts (Drama). She found T.A.S. a community within itself, traditional but flexible, an ideal size which has fostered a close relationship between the staff and boys. She is sorry to go.

Rowing

With the support of the Armidale Rowing Club, boys from Years 11 and 12 were able to row each Sunday in Term I. They were coached by Old Boys of the School and by Richard Lyon. The boys progressed well and towards the end of the term were starting to look competitive. Girls and staff from Beginners' Boat were included.

The rowing club has had some boats donated from the Kings School and we hope to be able to develop skills to allow boys to compete in a regatta at Lithgow in Term 4. We are grateful for the help and encouragement given to our boys by the Armidale Rowing Club and we look forward to Term 4 when this activity will be resumed.

Polocrosse

Although not an official sport at T.A.S., polocrosse became a very popular activity during Term 2.

Playing as the Armidale Juniors team, T.A.S. boys Bernie Smyth, Tom Pariser, Craig Vincenti, Michael Colvin, Liam Smyth, Alan Croll and Nick Jools have formed a formidable team that has developed a sense of team work rather than relying on individuals.

Due to the efforts of coach, Mr Frank Hanson (Secretary of the Armidale Polocrosse Club) and Mr Greg Wilson (One of the Club's most enthusiastic members), the Armidale Club has developed the skills amazingly quickly and now is a force with which to be reckoned.

In each carnival they have attended, the team has not only brought home a ribbon, but shown determination and sportsmanship that impressed others.

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Athletics

1989 would have to be a year for the record books as far as Athletics at T.A.S., is concerned. Our School Meeting held on March 22nd, the last day of Term I, was an unsuccessful qualification. A clear warm day gave no indication of the troubles we would have with weather.

In the four week lead-up period to G.P.S. rain fell almost daily. On April 13th we had a meeting with Shore and Nedgney but rain put paid to that. On April 29th the King's Invitation was also cancelled. Boys trained wherever they could but like most schools in Sydney we felt inadequately prepared.

In future years all this will be forgotten but what will remain with us is the extraordinary effort of Cameron Blair. For the first time in almost thirty years a T.A.S. student won the Open G.P.S. sprint. Not only did Cameron achieve outstanding success in the 100 metres, he also won the 200 metres and the Long Jump. Without doubt he must be considered one of the finest athletes T.A.S. has ever produced.

He was not alone in gaining success. Matthew Bookallil ran brilliantly to storm home in the Under 15, 1500 metres not only dominating the event but smashing the O.P.S. record. He followed this with a brilliant victory in the Under 15, 800 metres event. Jason Quech won the Under 13 High Jump and gained second place in the Under 13 Long Jump. Nigel Melbourne copped a fine athletics career by winning the 800 metres Open Division event. Andrew Colvin, who won success last year in Cross Country, came second to the National Champion in the Open 3000 metres.

We were very proud of the boy's efforts this year. To finish ahead of The King's School and Sydney High in the Senior Division and to amass more points than Scots College and Sydney High in the Junior Division are marvellous results given the number of competitors from whom we can choose.

Once again we are indebted to Old Boys and the Sydney branch of the P. & F. to know that all our competitors were cared for so well is a source of comfort and gratitude for coaches and housemasters.

R.A.R.
A Short Walk in the Himalayas

"It was the most exciting and most valuable experience of my life. I grew up more in the last 53 days than in the last five years". So read the final entry in one of the boys' diaries from the T.A.S.-P.L.C. Nepal India Expedition and I'm sure the sentiment would have been endorsed by the other 15 young people on the trip.

A party of ten T.A.S. boys and six P.L.C. girls ranging in age from Year 8 to Year 12 flew from Sydney last December bound for adventure in Asia. Mr Kel Hardingham was group leader. Other adults present were Miss Kay Holswich from T.A.S., Mr and Mrs Nick Kirkwood from P.L.C. and Mrs Hardingham.

Unfortunately space does not permit a full account of the trip which included climbing to 14,000 feet, experiencing blizzards, rafting the Triuli River, chasing rhinoceros by elephant, being arrested for riding the King's elephants without a permit (is this a case of not letting the truth spoil a good story? Ed.) and that was just Nepal.

In India the party saw the remnants of the grandeur of an ancient and rich culture as well as mind-numbing poverty. They met crooks, con-men and wonderfully kind human beings.

Kel Hardingham was considering the possibility of a trip to China in the Christmas 1990 holiday. Unfortunately events in that country make it out of the question. No doubt an alternative destination will be found.

(Extracts from an account of the trip by Mr Hardingham).

*****

P & F Notes

Music Hall

Music Hall this year celebrated its 20th Anniversary and as usual was an outstanding success. We heartily congratulate Mr Jim Graham (and the cast) and Mr Tim Scott (and enthusiastic orchestra) for providing us with a professional and highly entertaining production. Many thanks should go to those many people behind the scenes who put in tireless hours such as Mr Geoff Poulton and the Kitchen Staff, Laundry, Ground Staff, Nightwatchmen, Stage and Lighting Crew, Office Staff, The Bursar, Cleaning Staff and in particular those parents who came to set up tables and work in the kitchen. Out special thanks to the parents who worked at night. It is a very good way to meet new and old members of the T.A.S. community as well as having some fun helping the School. While the profit from the Music Hall has not yet been calculated, it is obvious that, once again, the School will benefit substantially.

Tennis Courts

It is wonderful to see the all-weather tennis courts in constant use and we are sure that the T.A.S. students will benefit greatly from them. The P & F made a very substantial contribution towards the cost of the courts.

School Athletics Day

The P & F would like to thank all those who contributed to the Cake Stall on Athletics Day at the end of Term 1. It was an outstanding success and we raised $1,000. This was a great effort.

Pipe Organ

The P & F has purchased an Allen Pipe Organ (approximate cost $18,500) for the School, to be used in the Memorial Hall. Unfortunately it will not be here for a couple of months as it has to come from America. The Organ will be a great asset as special Church Services for large congregations have to be held in the Memorial Hall.

Music Centre

It is wonderful to see the Music Centre Building underway and providing the weather is on our side it is hoped the Centre will be completed by the beginning of the 1990 School Year.

At one of the performances of Music Hall Dr Philip Yantisch presented, on behalf of the Barraba P & F, a cheque for $12,000, which was the proceeds from the "Bromhall in the Bulging" function held at his property. We would like to thank the Barraba P & F for organising this most enjoyable occasion.

Vicki Sedon (Hon. Sec.)
In his report for the year 1988, the President, Dr Peter Macarthur, drew attention to the net surplus of $242,456 (1987: $190,135) which comprised dividends, interest, donations and profits from the sale of shares. He gave credit to Mr Jim Graham, Director of the Music Centre Appeal, to the Chairman of that Appeal, Dr Rob Robertson-Cuninghame, AO, and the Foundation Membership Committee, the OBU and the P & F. "In particular," he added, "we appreciate and applaud the endurance of the Headmaster, Mr Ken Langford-Smith, and we thank his wife, Ruth, for her frequent attendance and her generous hospitality."

The Future
The potential requirements of the School over the next ten to twenty years after The Master Plan has been adopted will provide us with a great challenge.

We are looking at various ways to increase our giving programme, namely:

- Bequests;
- Approaches to selected persons and firms;
- Endowment Policies in favour of the Foundation;
- Annual Giving;
- Scholarships Endowments;
- Donations from new supporters to the Building Fund.

Elections For 1989-90

President:  Dr P. C. Macarthur
Vice Presidents: Senior: Dr P. A. Wright
Junior: Mr A. F. Vivers


Fellows: Messrs J. R. Treloar, R. A. Vyner, Dr P. A. Wright


Executive Director: Mr A. H. Cash

Treasurer: Mr C. B. Strang

Ex-Officio: The Headmaster, the Bishop

Foundation News

Standing Committees:

Investments: Mr J. M. Abbott (Chairman), Messrs K. A. Brown, M. G. Browning, P. R. Galbraith, C. B. Strang, J. R. Treloar

Programmes & Projects: Mr R. A. Vyner (Chairman), Mr R. P. Agee, Mrs E. S. Beasley, Mr D. L. Graham, Mrs N. M. McDonald, Colonel G. B. McLean, Mrs S. Selby, Mr C. M. Wright.

Bequests: Dr P. A. Wright (Chairman), Messrs R. T. Hodgson, M. L. Taylor, R. A. Vyner, B. A. Wright.

Squash Courts Purchase
The Foundation Board has given $80,000 from its Building Fund towards the purchase of two existing squash courts close to the School. This represents about 75% of the purchase price which is regarded by the School Council as a fair price for the acquisition of such valuable sporting facilities.

Mr Alan Vyner

bursaries for worthy boys who could not otherwise attend the School. Under the terms of the award, all other things being equal, preference should be given to the sons of Old Boys.

The Bursaries are available for award in 1990; enquiries should be addressed to the Headmaster. The Foundation President, Dr Peter Macarthur, acknowledged the foresight and generosity of T.A.S. O.B.U. in providing such magnificent bursaries.

Scholarship Bequests
Bequests to T.A.S., however large or small, are a significant part of the capital funds of the School. The bequests received since 1962 (there were few before) are from G. F. Wigan, T. R. Forster, D. Booker, Miss Elspeth Howie and Mrs. M. Pain. These have been designated for scholarships. As only the interest has been used, these are in perpetuity and awarded under their names. The amount disbursed to students from these bequests was $47,920 in 1988.

Specific Bequests
Specific bequests for material things have recently been rare. One worthy of recall is the ciborium purchase from Christopher Hudson’s saving bank balance. This young man died intestate, but his father designated the money to the School Chapel. The Chaplain, Rev. Bill Howarth, chose a sterling silver ciborium which is used regularly.

Recent Bequest
The latest bequest, received in June, comprised the proceeds ($6,881) of a life policy taken out by R. G. (Dick) Vyner, Old Boy 1916-19, former member of Council and a President of T.A.S. O.B.U. A great gesture from a man whose generosity and loyalty to T.A.S. have been significant and enduring.

A. H. Cash

Mr Jack Abbott

Investment Policy
Jack Abbott, (O.B. 1959-64), Chairman of the Foundation Investments Committee, has been keen to maximise returns on capital without exposure to risk. In this he has been eminently successful, like his predecessor, Mr. G. B. Macdonald, in securing high income from gilt edged investment. The Board is glad to have men on the Investments Committee who are in close touch with the Stock Exchange movements. His committee’s decision in May to lock onto high interest rates for longer terms will no doubt bear fruit.

Dr Peter Wright

Bequests
The Board has decided to publicise and develop a Bequest Programme. Our first bequest circular is included with this edition of BINGHI. The Chairman of the Bequest Committee is Dr Peter Wright.

O.B.U. Bursaries
$25,000 has been received from T.A.S. O.B.U., being the current proceeds from their Bursary Augmentation Fund, the so-called "Cattle Scheme". The interest from this sum is to be used to provide...
Music Hall 1989

Queen Victoria Theatre Company

Many people know of the Queen Victoria Theatre Company as the group who put on the Music Halls at T.A.S. Over the years however the group has performed in other places for other causes.

Before the Music Hall season at T.A.S. this year the company performed for the N.S.W. Gas Conference in Armidale; three nights later they repeated the show at the Long Yard Hotel in Tamworth. Tamworth P. & F. group raised over $2,500 from this - a week later gave their services to the Nambucca Valley Arts Council to help them raise money to purchase a grand piano for their Arts Centre.

Performances for conferences bring in a tidy sum of money for the company, which is then passed on to the Music Centre or other School appeals. D.L.G.

This year's 20th anniversary performance saw the return of many old friends, Phil Street (left) and Alan & Maris Cash (right).

James White Exhibition

Good news for art lovers and others. There will be an exhibition of paintings by James White at T.A.S. from 14th to 17th September.

The exhibition will be opened on Thursday 14th and will extend over the Old Boys' Weekend. Proceeds from the commission on the sale of paintings will be directed towards the Foundation funds, and we are grateful again to James for his continued generosity.

Along with the art exhibition there will also be a display and sale of antique silver and "fold art work" by Barbie Perrin. These should provide an interesting and beneficial adjunct to Old Boys' Weekend.

Moree District Dinner and Dance

At about the time "Binghi" reaches you the Moree district will be enjoying a T.A.S. weekend. A dinner and dance will be held in the Moree Club on Saturday 5th August - the T.A.S. Big Band to provide the music; with the reputation they have at the moment, this should be a treat for all those who wish to prove their dancing skills. During the dinner the new T.A.S. video will have its first public exposure.

On Sunday at 9.00 a.m. the T.A.S. Chapel Choir will lead the worship at All Saints Anglican Church at a service of Holy Communion and we thank Rev. Newby for making this possible.

Yeoman of the Guard

It looks as if this year, for the first time ever, the G. & S. will "go outside". Jim Graham has plans for a spectacular presentation of "Yeoman of the Guard" in the Lawrance Memorial Quadrangle for the last week-end of Term IV, and the evening before Speech Day. Even bigger and better than "Cameo" he says.

The Term play will be "The Fantastics" - a small but delightful musical, which claims to be the longest running musical ever presented on Broadway. It opened there about 20 years ago and is still going.

Bronhill in the Bullring

"Just one huge success" was the way most people judged "Bronhill in the Bullring". The Barraba/Bingara P. & F. and O.B. group had worked tirelessly for weeks to make sure that nothing was left to chance. In almost perfect weather 400 people made the journey to Phil and Lyle Yantsch's beautiful property, Piedmont - dinner in a huge marquee - champagne - the works! The star - June Bronhill herself - but suffering from a bad virus infection. On the other hand if she'd not told us, we would never have known. Paul Griffiths presided as a splendid Master of Ceremonies, and within minutes June had her audience in stitches, in tears, in the palm of her hand. With beautiful songs and hilarious stories. The audience loved it and so did she, delighted, she said, to do her bit for the Music Centre.

We all say "thank you" to Phil and Lyle Yantsch and to the Barraba/Bingara Group for a top night and a cheque for $1,000.

D.L.G.

Left: June Bronhill, El Toro & Phil Yantsch
Right: Cadet Corps - ANZAC Day
Sydney Function

It was wet and miserable outside the Pymble Golf Club on Saturday night 13th May, but inside some 80-90 Old Boys, Friends, Masters, Parents and others were enjoying cocktails prior to a fabulous evening of friendship, fine food and frolic.

Never let it be said that any TAS Old Boy needs an excuse to have a good time, but there was the added bonus of most having watched TAS do very well at the Shore Invitation Centenary Meet and applaud the 1st XV on its magnificent win. Well done boys.

The dinner was excellent and we were thoroughly entertained by the TAS Jazz Band. Once again, the boys gave the very polished performance we have come to expect by now - and we wish to thank them all.

After dinner, many kilos were shed on the dance floor with guests dancing - no rock and rolling could have been more appropriate to that fabulous Sydney group "The Fugitives". We do hope that there were not too many slipped discs, torn ligaments and sore muscles the following day.

To sum it up "WHAT A NIGHT".

Book early for next year and remember this is not just for Old Boys, but for all friends of TAS.

M. Tauber

★★★★★

Rugby

The T.A.S. First XV has achieved mixed success in the 1989 season. Of the nine games played, the team has won five and lost four.

The obvious highlight of the season was the match with Shore in May. With the school taking 300 boys to Sydney for various activities, the weekend reached its climax with the First XV match. In terribly wet conditions the combined efforts of the backs and the forwards resulted in a hard fought 7-4 victory to T.A.S.

After a resounding defeat at the hands of Marist Brothers, Ashgrove, the side lifted its efforts and had strong wins over local U/20 teams - Armidale Old Boys, and St. Albert's College.

The next school match was against Scots Bathurst at T.A.S. With the backs showing their brilliance, the side ran in four tries to nil with the final score being 16-6.

As anticipated, a large crowd attended the annual T.A.S. versus St Joseph's match. In appalling weather the match was very tight from the kick-off. Despite the large size difference between the two forward packs the T.A.S. forwards applied themselves well in what was a forward dominated match. With T.A.S. leading 6-4 at half-time, the School looked destined to an after match snack of fruit salad and ice cream. Luck however did not favour T.A.S. and at full time the score was 8-6 to St. Joseph's.

The final match of the term saw the team travel to Dubbo to play The Scots School, Bathurst again as the "curtain raiser" to the British Lions versus N.S.W. "B" match. After a slow start the side co-ordinated well and the final score found T.A.S. convincing winners 19-4. It was a great honour for the School to be asked to play this match and many favourable comments were heard.

The T.A.S. First XV made a gradual improvement through out the first half of the season and with continuing commitment should look forward to more success next term.

Sam Payne, Mark Conlon and Mike Cusato were selected in the N.S.W. Country Schoolboys First XV and Sam was named player of the Series. Angus Kurien, Gerh Arden and Matthew Wakeling played in the Second XV.

I.D.

★★★★★

Above right: The St Joseph's match was played in appalling conditions.
Right: Angus Gordon about to score against Armidale Old Boys. Ed Campbell is in attendance. The less said about the sideline the better.
REGINALD JOHN MAGOFFIN 1905 - 1989

So much has already been said about Reg, not only in the daily newspapers and architectural journals, that any writer must inevitably experience a feeling of humbleness as he attempts to write something on this great man. A most distinguished Old Boy of T.A.S., and one of a small number to be appointed to the office of Honorary Life Vice-President of O.B.S. As such he represented O.B.S. at many meetings even though, in later years, his state of health made this difficult for him.

His knowledge and love of T.A.S. was frequently demonstrated, with great determination, until the last days of his life in fact, as he endeavoured to make an important contribution to the successful planning and design of the Music Centre.

Long before he became an architect, indeed when he was a child, he became interested in the construction and design of buildings. Not only was this interest in those buildings which to a layman could be described as ordinary, but he inherited a lasting interest in theatres and opera houses. The Australian Broadcasting Commission was aware of Reg's ability in that regard; in fact his advice was sought on the seating and associated acoustics in the final construction stages of the Sydney Opera House Auditorium; small wonder that he wanted to contribute towards the construction of a well designed Music Centre.

Reg's early childhood was spent in Central Queensland where his late father (who died when Reg was a small boy) owned land near Winton. His mother's name is Margaretha de Koninck; she was enrolled at T.A.S. on 1.9.1917. Her name was May Wills Magoffin, a grand-niece of the explorer, William Wills, who was lost with so many women are told, actually drove bullock wagons through Central Queensland. Reg remembered many very happy times with his father brother David and himself before they came to train to T.A.S. in 1917. The Headmaster of the time, Rev. F.T. Perkins, was in relation of the Magoffin brothers. It was for this reason that they were sent to the School. Reg recalled a feeling of danger when his brother was sent off to the training at T.A.S. had the invitation accepted, they later observed, their pocket money would have been lost to the card-sharps in their compartment!

During his school days Reg came to the conclusion that he preferred Architecture and Art to a life on the family property. Before leaving T.A.S. to pursue those ambitions, he had participated to the full, finally as Senior Prefect, winner of the Rawson Cup, the Blaxland and Higginsbotham Prizes, as well as linked to the wider network of sporting activities. His Valedict (Armidale, May 1925) was probably the most impressive, certainly until that period, in the history of the School.

In the 1920's he would go on to observe such a fine architect and architect; a very gentle man who was in every way a gentleman with a great appreciation of good music, so well read, yet one who was able to be inquisitive and enquiring, as awarded colours for boxing (4 years), football (2 years), athletics (2 years), shooting (3 years), half colours for cricket (1924) and Abbott House colours (1923-4).

Additional information shows that R.J. Magoffin was Prefect for 3 years before becoming Senior Prefect; he also won the Poltcher (2 years) and Percy Marks Cups. He served on all the main Sporting Committees, as well as the House, School, Golf, and Drama Committees and was Secretary to the School Club and Librarian for 3 years.

After leaving T.A.S. he began his studies in Architecture at Sydney Technical College and the Technical School of Arts, appropriately joining a firm founded by Mr. Sulman, who had designed the main School building. The name of the firm was changed and Christopher Wren, an Old Boy who assisted Reg as he specialised in the design of theatres and public halls.

O.B.U. Guest Speaker

The guest speaker at the O.B.U. Reunion Dinner will be Mr. Bob Birch, (at T.A.S. 1938-43). He has had a long association with the Department of Railways and Transport in New South Wales and is now retired. Mr. Birch was, among many other posts, High Commissioner in Fiji, Tonga, Singapore, New Guinea, Switzerland and Lesotho, and Ambassador to South Africa.

Acknowledgements

The Editor would like to thank Messrs. P. E. Servenver, I. Dunkon, D. L. Graham, G. B. Macdonald, R. H. Maroney, A. Rowling and Mr. W. A. Rowling for their contributions and photographs.

Speech Day – Thursday 7th Dec

School Council Elections

The following Old Boys have been elected to the School Council:

- Dr. P. A. Wright and Mr. G. D. Combe
- Mr. L. B. McEwan
- Mr. J. H. Hay
d and I. M. Johnstone (elected by the Committee).

Mr. R. E. Belfield

Mr. Belfield, who has been on the Council

since 1983, did not seek re-election owing to his business commitments. Dick served on the Property Committee, which was an active, working and enthusiastic, Councillor, whose first concern was always the welfare of the School. His expertise in his particular field will be missed.

BINGHI is published by The Armidale School to keep all members of the School Community informed of the activities of the boys, the P.S., the O.B.U., the Foundation and developments within the School itself. The O.B.S.O.B.U. contributes to the cost of its production.

Articles and photographs are always welcome. Please send contributions to G. D. Comber, T.A.S., Private Mail Bag, Armidale, 2350.
O.B.U. Reunion Weekend 15th, 16th & 17th September 1989

The President and Committee of the Old Boys' Union extend a cordial invitation to Old Boys, Parents and Friends and members of the School Staff to attend and participate in the various events.

**Friday 15th**
- 1964 Leavers' Reunion - contact Rob Mitchell (067) 75 5522
- 1979 Leavers' Reunion - contact Peter Robinson (067) 72 9936
- N.E.G.S. P&F Fundraising Ball - contact Mrs Wilma Swales (067) 78 9135

**Saturday 16th**
- Sport v The School
- 8.00 a.m. Nine holes golf - Armidale Golf Club - contact Ross Roberts (067) 78 4348
- 9.00 a.m. Tennis at School Courts - contact James Croft (067) 78 4495
- Shooting (full bore) at Wollombi Range 9.00 a.m. sharp - (range is about 5 km east of Wollombi on right - the road will be signposted) - contact Rob Mitchell (067) 75 5522
- 11.30 a.m. Pre-lunch Drinks — Barbecue Lunch, near McConvile Centre 12.00 noon - $5.00 per head - pay on the day

**Sunday 17th**
- 8.30 a.m. O.B.U. Annual General Meeting - McConvile Centre
- 10.15 a.m. O.B.U. Chapel Service
- 11.30 a.m. Cadets Passing Out Parade
- 1.00 p.m. Lunch - $7.00 per head (pay at door)

12.30 p.m. Football: 2nd XV vs The School
2.00 p.m. Football: 1st XV vs The School
3.30 p.m. Croft Cup presentation, McConvile Centre Afternoon Tea/Drinks. The O.B.U. Committee will be operating a bar on Saturday afternoon where drinks may be purchased. Under no circumstances is other liquor to be brought on to the School Grounds.

Pre-Dinner drinks in War Memorial Hall
6.30 p.m.
7.30 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. Old Boys' Dinner - School Dining Room, $28.00 per head. Guest Speaker - Robert Birch. Followed by light entertainment courtesy of Jim Graham and others.

History Notes
The collection of information about all Old Boys and Staff for the School Register continues and at the present rate of progress this phase should be completed later this year. Then the task of checking, collating and arranging the mass of data in a form suitable for printing will commence. In the interests of accuracy this will require much care and diligence. There is a suggestion that if time and costs permit a number of draft copies might be produced for circulation and correction.

The advertisement in the "new look" January issue of 'Binghi' inviting applications from members of the School community for the position of Historian has drawn some interesting responses. These are now being considered, and it is hoped a firm appointment can soon be announced.

The Sulman planks of the original School building mentioned in the last 'Binghi' have now been suitably framed and, together with a photograph of a portrait of Sir John Sulman, are now on display at the entrance to the dining hall. Archival memorabilia continues to come in. To all donors, our grateful thanks, especially to Mrs Jackson, daughter of Sergeant W. A. Shape, and her sons, who most generously sent the Sergeant's war service medals. These have been framed and may be seen in the Archdall room. A photograph of Sergeant Marchant has been obtained for framing and the pictures of the two Sergeants will be hung in the foyer of the Gymnasium. Some other photographs which have been sent in are not yet fully identified. As opportunity permits some will be printed in future 'Binghies' with a request for identification. We start with one given by Phillip Bailey. Can anyone give us the date, the occasion and the names of the Snow Boys? If so, pen to paper please.

P.A.W.

**Booking Sheet**

Please return form to the Hon. Secretary, T.A.S. O.B.U., Private Bag, Armidale. N.S.W. 2350 by 6th September.

To avoid possible disappointment it is requested that this form be completed and returned by the due date. I would like to participate in (please tick):

- [ ] O.B.U. Dinner (incl. Pre-Dinner Drinks)
  @ $28 per head

- [ ] Tennis
- [ ] Golf
- [ ] Shooting
- [ ] Rugby

N° attending ................ $ ....................

Name: ____________________________
Address: __________________________

Please enclose cheque payable to the T.A.S. O.B.U.
O.B.U. President's Report

Time travels quickly and I realise with some regret that my two year term as President is drawing to a close. It was with some misgivings that I accepted, in 1987, the confidence of the O.B.U. in becoming President. It has been an honour, and those early fears soon dissipated as the Committee applied itself to the many and varied requests made of it. For members' loyalty and support I shall be forever grateful.

Looking back I feel that perhaps I could have made better use of the practical skills of the Committee. Under my tenure several projects have been undertaken. The first was the draining and widening of Backfield. The drainage has been put to the test this winter and all well. The second project has been to provide two additional blocks at the Wallomoonie Rifle Range. This will increase the capacity of the range by 100% and greatly assist the shooting team. Once again Terry Coventry has been the organiser and my thanks go to him.

However, the ceremonial powers of the Committee have been well and truly tested. Many items of business are discussed at meetings as you can imagine, but, more recently, changes to the School Ordinance and composition of the School Council with subsequent amendments to our own Rules to accommodate these changes, have really put the Committee on its mettle. Many of us are aware of what we are, at present, holding the first election to Council under the new rules, so our efforts will be put to the test. Many of the funds raised by the O.B.U. have, I expect, been managed by Peter Morse, we have been able to make $25,000 available to the Foundation, the interest of which will be used for scholarships. Well done, Peter.

O. B. U. Notes (cont'd)

DAVID COOK, 62-64, USN (retd) told us of the death of his father in Queensland. David and wife Michael visited his mother and called in on us here. They now reside for the Campus Campaign for Charity in the USA.

It was good to see PHIL BAILEY and TIM COPLELAND back in Australia albeit for a short time. They are not really establishing themselves here but have promised to return. They are both still training and are going strong.

JAMES EGGINS, 64-70, is now Marketing Manager at Olympic Dam, part of the BHP Downs Mining project. Address 6/5 Furniss Street, North Adelaide.

Political intelligence from Mrs Diana Wood, who lives in ART, 39-42, and who has just completed her training at the Mansion House, London but arranged this trip to coincide with the 20th anniversary of Jim Graham's Music Hall in both features.

Odds and Ends

SIMON MORSLEY, 78-84, is a pilot with Tama; brother CHRISTOPHER pursues his acting career with success, including "A Country Practice" and a lead role in "The Heroes" which made a great hit in the USA. His TAS cadet training was a great help in the latter.

JAMES EGGINS, 64-70, is now Marketing Manager at Olympic Dam, part of the BHP Downs Mining project. Address 6/5 Furniss Street, North Adelaide.

Political intelligence from Mrs Diana Wood, who lives in ART, 39-42, and who has just completed her training at the Mansion House, London but arranged this trip to coincide with the 20th anniversary of Jim Graham's Music Hall in both features.

With the approach of the O.B.U. Weekend on 15th, 16th and 17th September I would like to write to you all, especially members of the P. E., to attend our barbecue and sporting events on Saturday. (More details of the weekend are elsewhere in "Binghi") and I should draw O.B.U.'s attention to the change of time for the A.G.M., viz., 8.30 a.m. Business will be limited to matters relating to the A.G.M. and I hope the time change does not alter the attendance and significance of the meeting. The move is to allow everyone to attend the Passing Out Parade - a spectacle in itself. The overall plan for the events of the weekend is in the capable hands of Robert Mitchell and James Croft and again my thanks to them.

In other "Binghi" reports I have made mention of the appointment of O.B.U. by the Headmaster, Deputy Headmaster and Mr. Jim Graham. I must express my appreciation, for it is through them, their help and advice, that such a good working relationship between the School and the O.B.U. continues. Finally, I want to thank all members of the Committee for their support during the year and especially to George Crossle who, as Secretary, never leaves a stone unturned, and Peter Croft, the Treasurer. To the Old Boys elected to the School Council I offer our congratulations, assistance and best wishes for the next three years.

J.C. Alker

Wing Commander Tindal

In the last "Binghi" an article appeared concerning Old Boy A.R. Tindal. It wrongly stated that he was killed defending Carson Airbase (near Katherine) in attack on Japanese aircraft. In fact Wing Commander Tindal was killed in action during the first air raid on Darwin. Carson Airbase has subsequently been renamed after him and the base for 75 Squadron equipped with F/A 18 Hornets.

Richard Grantham Vyner
1902 – 1989

It is with sadness we report the death on 1st March, 1989, of a great friend and distinguished Old Boy of the School, Mr. Dick Vyner. Dick was born in 1902 near Armitage as a son of a Tennessee-surnamed surgeon. After a period in Sydney, the family returned to Armitage when Dick was enrolled at T.A.S. He was a keen sportsman, playing rugby, cricket and tennis.

On leaving the School he joined the E.S. & A. Bank and at twenty-one became the youngest accountant in the bank's 200 branches. Soon after, Dick left the bank and took over the lease of his mother's small block of land near Walcha. After a difficult period coping with severe climatic conditions and rabbits, and with the premonition of a depression, he returned to the city and a job as the secretary for a finance company. However, at the height of the depression he returned, with a wife and baby, to Walcha where he stretched his reduced finances to go back on the land. With a sense of urgency to hasten his progress, he decided to make use of his accountancy skills by opening a small stock agency business at Armitage.

War intervened and Dick attempted to enlist. Initially he was rejected on medical grounds but a second application was successful. He served in Australia and New Guinea as a Sergeant in the Maintenance Coy. A.I.F., commonly known as the "biscuit bombers".

Some time after his discharge and to educate his two sons, John and Ricard, Dick moved to Armitage and joined his brother, Des, as an auctioneer with wool and stock brokers, Wincombe Cartron.

Having two boys A.T.A. rekindled his interest in the welfare of the School. Dick was President of the O.B.U. and took an active role on many fund raising committees, including the White House and Memorial Hall Appeals. He gave his time and machinery to O.B.U. working bees.

More important than his financial assistance was his devotion to the School with its capacity to inculcate in boys the Christian qualities in which he so strongly believed. Dick served with distinction on the School Council and was a Fellow of the T.A.S. Foundation. He was a fervent Rugby supporter and many Old Boys will remember his regular attendance at School matches. But mostly their memories will remember him as a kind and gentle man, always courteous and always with a smile.

Dick Vyner did not neglect the wider community. He was involved with Legacy and served for a period on the Dumaresq Shire Council. His funeral service was held in the School Chapel and was attended by many Old Boys and friends. Dick is survived by sons John and Richard. His grandson, Thomas, is now at T.A.S. and granddaughter, Holly, at N.E.G.S.

G.D. Cornish
Old Boys’ Union Notes

Congratulations

MARWOOD KINGSMILL, 44-47, back from a lecture tour of Singapore, China etc., found himself appointed Public Service Commissioner for WA with responsibility for 100,000 people. "I often think how lucky I was to go to TAS, and I am grateful for the influence of Gordon Fisher, Brian Mattingley and others."

EDWARD WRIGHT, 57-61, son of OWEN, 27-31 has been elected President of the Cattle Council of Australia. This in addition to numerous cattle industry and marketing jobs, not to mention running Wongwibinda. And on a somewhat lower plane PAT COULPLAND, TERRY COVENTRY and RICHARD WRIGHT are all Vice-Presidents of the Armidale District Council and Branch of the NSW Farmers’ Association.

E. W. R. BARLOW, 58-62, is Dean of the Faculty of Horticulture at the new University of Western Sydney of which Hawkesbury Ag College is a constituent. One would hazard a guess that the UWS got a bargain in our Snow.

PETER TAYLOR, 66-72 has amassed 4 Distinctions in his Vet. Science course at Monash University.

IAN KIERNAN, 52-58, of solo round - the world yachting fame is leading the campaign to clean up Sydney Harbour.

JON TAYLOR, 62-67, is waging an endless war on die-back, planting up to 1000 trees per hour with a machine that he built himself. Jon would have much in common with ROBIN KING, at TAS with PHIL VERNON, 21-27, who has made a name for himself with his tree planting and conservation work near Cooma.

And a final congratulation to our Athletics team who did so well in the GPS Carnival, and especially to Cameron Blair, grandson of LEN EARLE, 25-30, on winning THREE senior events, and to Matthew Bookallil who clipped 9 seconds, no less, off the Under 15 1500m record. It is worth mentioning that Len Earle also won the Senior Mile all those years ago. Blood will out.

Marital etc. Congratulations

TRENT CHAPMAN, 82-88, son of MARK, 60-61, is engaged to Sophie McCarthy, ex-PLC, who is studying in Toowoomba. Trent is in Brisbane.

CHRIS BAILEY, 74-79, is married to Melinda Plowman and busy refurbishing an old house in Waratub. He is a B Com, from Newcastle University and is a Marketing Administrator. He retired after 100 games for Newcastle University Rugby Union Club and now merely acts as club coach.

RALPH HOKSINS, 71-73, married Jill Karasaki in San Francisco in March. They live at 5457 Broadway, Oakland, California 94618 and DOUG WIDDUP, 55-62, now in Goulburn has another daughter, his 5th child, born last November.


PETER RAYNER, 72-74, wrote from Ivanhoe, VIC. They were expecting a second child in April. He has been promoted by his company to those southern parts while JOHN LYONS, 59-65, is in Yorkshire where he is Check Captain for a major British airline, flying and training pilots on Boeing. He has a son, Timothy, enrolled for TAS in 1991. And when PETER COUSENS, 69-73, and Suzy had their daughter Daisy baptised in St Thomas, North Sydney, what did the organist play as a voluntary? No prize is offered.

BILL HOLCOMBE, 79-82, son of MURRAY, 49-52, has just become engaged to Elizabeth Holland. He has moved from Coolga to Buckulla, Burrum Junction and tells us that Murray is well.

Hithers and Thithers

REV. PETER TAYLOR, 51-58, has moved from Holy Trinity, Chatswood, to St Matthew’s, West Pennant Hills.

ROY FORSYTH, 32-35, has gone from Armidale to 22 Palm Road, Forster. His long service to the OBU is equaled or even surpassed by his wonderful work for Autumn Lodge. He remains an Honorary Vice-President of the OBU.

Mrs O’Brien writes that son HAYDN, 83-88, is working as a duty master at Woodbridge School, Suffolk, before going to University. He also plans to tour Europe and PAUL PERROTT, 59-64, has moved from Toowoomba to Brisbane. 172 Tile Street Walco.

DAVID and PETER HICKS, 79-82, have changed addresses from Macksville to Scotts Head where Peter and their father run the pharmacy. COMRIE BUCKNELL, 66-71, sent a postcard from London to say that he’s resigned from the ABC after 15 years to start his own business as a consultant in radio.

WILLIAM WINTER, 74-80, having attended Marcus Oldham Ag College is working in Melbourne for the Rural Finance Corp while brother CHARLES JAMES, 78-83, after many and varied jobs in Canada and USA should be nearly home by now after touring the UK and Europe.

VICTOR JENKINS, 35-41, has moved from Lemon Tree Passage to 14 Haines Close, Woolgoolga. We hear that ANDREW WATSON, 83-88, is in Japan on a Rotary Exchange Scholarship.

JIM VASEY’S, 72-76, new address is at Biggerara Waters, Queensland. During part-time Army training he met BILL BOYD-LAW who was in the Army team in the Bicentennial Camel Race.

TIM MOFFATT, 78-83, son of BRUCE, 53-58, is on an Ag Exchange Programme in Canada and USA. A 9 months trip working 5 days per week for $450 per month. Hard yakka and ANDY PILCHER, Senior Prefect 61 has moved address from Thallon to Uralla to be nearer TAS.

(Cont’d p5)

Obituaries

G. E. R. (Roy) CARTER, 33-38, died in March in his home town of Barabara.

B. M. HUGHES, 25-29, died at Newbold, Copmanhurst, in April 67. He worked first at Cunnamulla but later, apart from war service in the RAAF, spent his whole life at Newbold.

Gos Croy, 26-30, tells us of the death of his brother GILBERT, 24-28, at Calourinda after a long illness. He had a distinguished war record in the RAAF, Flt-Lt, DPC, MID, served in Queensland, PNG and later bought a property near Dalveen, which he sold a year ago.

With great regret we report the death, in an accident, of DAVID ‘Barney’ HYEM, 81-87, from the Gunnedah area.

Henry Belfield told us of the death of D. A. G. PAGE, son of the late Sir Earle and father of Judge and Don. He was at TAS from 25-27 and then went to Sydney High School.