1989 - A Year of Progress

Building Developments

In his address at the 1988 Speech Day, the Headmaster announced that major building developments would be commenced in the new year. Visitors to the 1989 Speech Day will have seen that undertaking being fulfilled.

The School Council has approved much needed new buildings, alterations and improvements costing over $1.6m. These projects, most of which should be completed by Term 1, will give the School more science laboratories and classrooms, sporting facilities and, of course, a magnificent Music School. Due for completion early in 1990 are:

- Music School
- Fisher Wing - four additional classrooms by the construction of a new floor
- Science Block - additional laboratories and improvement of existing facilities
- Brown Street - landscaping, drainage and sealing
- Heating - extension and improvements to the School heating system.

Projects already completed are:
- Purchase of city squash courts
- Construction of bus bay in front of the School
- Rebuilding of two tennis courts with all weather surfaces.

It is important to note that all these developments have been funded from the School’s own resources, with no capital assistance from the government. The tennis courts were almost entirely paid for by the P & F and the Foundation helped very substantially with the Music School and the squash courts. All sections of the School community contributed generously to the Music Appeal.

Enrolments

There has been a dramatic increase in enrolments this year, especially in the Preparatory School, and this growth is most encouraging. The School Council has determined, however, to restrict the secondary school to a maximum of 600. TAS will not become too large.

***** Development Officer

The School is now considering appointing a full-time Development Officer. The appointment will be initially for a short term but may lead to a longer term position. Any interested readers are asked to contact the Headmaster (TAS, Private Mail Bag, Armidale: 2350 or 867721422).

***** GPS Representation

We are pleased to report that Sam Payne and Daniel Horsley were selected in GPS teams this year. Sam played in the Rugby 1st XV and Daniel in the Cricket 1st XI.

We congratulate these boys on winning their GPS Ties.
Speech Day - 1989

How The Educalasaurus Lost Its Limbs

[Extract from the Speech Day Address by The Headmaster]

... It is an exciting time for TAS and I hope you can share this excitement and the vision. It is also a costly time as parents are well aware. We know we will have to pay more for our education as costs rise, and as government assistance declines. We know too, that we will have to do more for ourselves and as music is finished we must obviously move on to the next fund-raising project. It is worth it? If you have seen and felt what is happening at TAS today, the atmosphere, the growth, the all round activity, the vitality, the stress on values, you will know in your heart that this is really what education should be.

Let me illustrate it by telling a story. And I assume as all educated readers you are familiar with Kipling.

In the very beginnings, before the High and Far-off times, O Best Beloved, the Educalasaurus was not the shapeless, senseless, senseless, lifeless lump we know today. It stood high and handsome. It fed freely on the fruits of the great wisdom-trees. It raced its brothers and sisters around the fields or rested in the shade of the trees of reflection. It frolicked in fun through the forests, relishing the challenges. It learned love, courted beauty, sang with joy, and, when its day was done, humbly thanked the beginning of beginnings and slept in peace.

But it befell and be happened and became and was, O my Best Beloved, when the Educalasaurus strayed too close to the great, grey-green grey-green marshes of Lake Bulley Griffin, all set about with pepper-political trees, and was suddenly ensnared in a net (of lowest common denominator mesh my Best Beloved) yet by the marsh pygmies. It was trapped. In less than a moment, O my Best Beloved, the marsh pygmies were swarming excitedly in all directions (at marsh pygmies are wont to do) all over the hopelessly, helplessly, k-educaulasaures.

Now attend and listen, O Best Beloved! There in the great, grey-green grey-green marshes of Lake Bulley Griffin the marsh pygmies decided to change (as marsh pygmies are wont to do) their pet Educalasaurus "for its own good", they said (as marsh pygmies are wont to say) and "in the national interest" (as marsh pygmies like to say), and certainly for their own ends.

First of all they cut out its sacred heart and transplanted a secular pace-maker, stitched in place with the most expensive medicare thread. Then they chopped off its intelligent head and replaced it with a minute chip-fitting pre-programmed electronic box to save it the bother of thinking for itself. They refrained, however, in marsh pygmy wisdom, from replacing its mouth for they wished to magnify their efforts and mince their slogans, but in fear that the Educalasaurus might feed itself they fed it, drip by intravenous drip, a sloppy, soupy, multi-purpose, multi-multifarious, multi-disciplined, multi-cultural mishmash.

The marsh pygmies hesitated, O my Best Beloved (as marsh pygmies are wont to do) about hacking off the legs of the Educalasaurus. There were in two minds (as marsh pygmies are wont to be) in not wanting an active Educalasaurus and yet wishing to promote sport as a spectacle. However, the unions solved the dilemma for them by sneaking in after dark and severing those legs in four swift switches. This left, alas, I am ashamed to say, O my Best Beloved, the helpless, helpless, k-educaulasaures' testicles exposed to public view. Persuaded by their mistresses that this was an affront to equality and a dreadful Ms Take, the marsh pygmies quickly sliced them off. Someone then spotted the tail still swishing angrily at flies and hastily excised this last protraction of privilege.

Finally, O my Best Beloved, the Educalasaurus was no more than a lump of a lump. The marsh pygmies then painted a bicentennial black and allowed it, "in the national interest", to subside slowly into the slime of the great, grey-green, grey-green marshes of Lake Bulley Griffin which is where, if you look carefully, you will find it today.

Just so.

Ladies and Gentlemen, let us keep TAS independent and alive.

(Copyright K.E.)

Guest of honour Professor John O'Gorman delivered a thought-provoking speech appreciated particularly by the Year 12 boys.

Above: Cameron Blair, winner of the GPS Athletics 100m, 200m & Long Jump wearing the proposed sports blazer. He is accompanied by his mother and grandfather, Mr Len Earle, who won the GPS Mile in 1930.

Sports Blazer

When the present navy school blazer replaced the Norfolk jacket as the formal school uniform the existing navy sports blazer became redundant and was discontinued as an item of uniform. Since then the boys have had no special sports blazer and no means, apart from ties, of displaying sporting or house colours.

Over many months the Headmaster and the P & F Uniform Committee have considered submissions on this issue from all members of the School community and, in response to requests, have recommended the reintroduction of a sports blazer. However, they have chosen to go back to the original sports blazer, i.e. one similar to that worn in 1896. It is traditional and distinctive.

The Headmaster or the P & F would welcome comments from readers before a final decision is made this year.

The original sports blazer worn by A. N. Hyman & H. M. Gordon, members of the 1896 cricket team.
P & F Notes

How quickly this year has gone! The P & F continued on with several activities after a great Music Hall, at which we made $33,000. During the football season we held several "Soup Kitchens", each one run by a different regional group. After a slow start last year, they have really grown in popularity and the delicious home made soup, pies, sausage rolls, tea and coffee have been well received by parents, friends and boys. I must make mention of the sterling efforts put in by the Gayra Group under freezing conditions for the TAS - St. Joseph's match. They were swamped with customers and sold out of everything.

The disappointing aspect of these days is the inadequacy of the McConville Centre kitchen. As a result we have made improvements to the kitchen our major project for the year. Plans are being finalised and then quotes will be sought by the School Property Committee. Hopefully in 1990 there will be more room to move in the kitchen.

The McConville Centre is a delightful venue for functions and with better kitchen facilities its use would certainly be enhanced.

We held our Cake Stall on Old Boys' Weekend and raised $250. As well members of the Committee helped Prue Hartigan run the very successful Art Show held in Big School.

We held our Melbourne Cup Luncheon at Gaya and Graham Johnson's beautiful home in Armidale. We planned the luncheon in the garden but unfortunately the weather was against us and drove every one inside. However, this did not detract from a really lovely day in a delightful setting, superb food prepared by the hardworking Committee and an exquisite display and sale of antique and estate jewellery by Margo Rees. We made $2,100 from the luncheon.

Our final effort for the year was the selling of refreshments and providing tea, coffee and Christmas Cake at the end of year play, "Jesus Christ Superstar."

We are delighted to have purchased an Allen Organ, (approx. $19,000) for the School this year. With more functions being held in the Memorial Hall now, the organ is a real asset. Dr Cecil Hill organised a recital in November to celebrate its installation. It was a superb concert, involving the Chapel Choir and various artists and all who attended were most impressed.

Other commitments to the School this year have been:

- $16,000 towards the upgrading of the tennis courts near the School Hospital to a synthetic surface;

Nineteen Ninety Four

Although the School's Centenary is still four years away, planning is already well in hand. The Centenary Committee, a part of the Headmaster's Planning Committee, has begun to formulate timing and invitation plans for special visits to the School.

Committee Chairman Paul Griffiths has been seeking people with ideas and enthusiasm to represent all sections of the School Community for this important initial "ideas and creative" stage. The OBs, the P & F, the boys and other sectors have all been asked to submit as many ideas as possible by July 1 this year. Following that creative deadline the Committee will begin the important task of organising a programme of significant and appropriate events to celebrate the School's first one hundred years.

A feature of the Committee will be the continuance of contributions by the boys. Two boys from Year 8 this year (who will be in Year 12 during our celebrations) are full members of the Committee. They will be backed up by boys from each other senior year who will, of course, form the core of young Old Boys by 1994. All this will give the boys maximum time and ability to contribute to the creation and management of what is, after all, their Centenary Year.

The Committee is actively urging any people with ideas and concepts, which could play a part in what is expected to be the biggest year for the School since its foundation, to contribute their ideas as soon as possible.

Another feature is the close co-operation between the Centenary Committee and the History Committee to ensure the publication of the "School History" and other historical documents during the Centenary year.

So, if you have an idea, no matter how small, please pass it on to your appropriate Executive or to Paul Griffiths, PO Box 224, St. Ives, NSW 2075, (02) 443975.

PG.

- A contribution of $500 towards each issue of "Binghi" for production costs;
- $5,000 in recognition of Graeme Graham in writing the History of the School.

Thank you to the Committee who have worked so hard this year and to parents and friends and all members of the School Community who have supported all our functions. It has been a very happy year and I know everyone is looking forward to another in 1990.

Some important dates - 1990

Annual General Meeting - Friday, 23rd February, 1.30 pm.
P & F Meeting - Friday, 16th March, 10 am. Committee Meeting 1.30 pm - General Meeting
Uralla P & F Function - Saturday, 17th March
Music Hall - 8th, 9th, 15th, 16th June at TAS
22nd, 23rd June in Tansworth (Black and White Committee)

For details of how to book for the Armidale performances, please contact Libby Beasley (067 72 2484) or Vicki Sedon (067 75 5261).

Libby Beasley
President

Valedictory Day

The last day of school for the departing Year 12 boys of 1989 was marked by the various functions which combined to make up "Valedictory Day".

Following a morning tea for parents, staff and boys on the Chapel lawn, a special Choral Communion was celebrated in the Memorial Hall where the address was given by the Headmaster. At the luncheon which followed the Guest of Honour was Mr Christopher Kemp, Principal of Egen Zehnder, and student at TAS 1963 67. In his address to the departing Year 12 boys he affirmed that success depended on three things; luck, the ability to plan ahead and leadership, which he described as 'judgment in action'.

Left: The Preparatory School Speech Day: Luca Dimond has just presented Mrs Howarth with a bouquet. Also pictured are Archdeacon Graham Farley (Deputy Chairman of Council), Mr Max Browning (Chairman) and The Headmaster.
Foundation News

Alan Cash to Retire

Alan Cash, the Executive Director of the TAS Foundation, has decided to retire on the occasion of the Annual General Meeting on 19th March, 1990. He has held this position for nearly seven years, since May, 1983, when I persuaded a reluctant ex-Headmaster to accept the task. Alan was one of the earliest and keenest proponents of the Foundation concept.

He was away in retirement when the campaign to establish the Foundation was in its intensive phase but returned to Armidale in May, 1983 to witness the campaign reach its target and attend some of the later functions. During Alan’s period as Executive Director, the Foundation has received over $1.5 million in gifts, commitments, scholarship funds and bequests.

His work involved, among other things, setting up a book-keeping system, advising committees, acting as Secretary to the Foundation Board and writing polite reminder letters to donors. One donor said, out of respect more than fear, we believe, that he would rather get a letter from his bank manager than Alan Cash.

Alan has made an extraordinary contribution to the School. He has carried out his Foundation duties with sensitivity, sincerity and diligence. His wise counsel has been sought and accepted and his patience and competence have, in great measure, led to the success of the TAS Foundation.

I am sure the whole School community will join me in thanking Alan and in wishing him well in his (this time I am assured, final) retirement.

P.C. Macarthur

Hyland Bequest - $50,000

One of the early contributors to The Armidale School Foundation in 1983 was Keith Hyland, OB, 1928-30. His offer of a bequest of $50,000 qualified him as a Founding Trustee, the second person in this category. This was a most generous gift from an Old Boy who spent most of his life in Indo-China.

Keith was imprisoned for eighteen months by the Viet Cong and suffered considerable hardship. The then Headmaster, Alan Cash, invited him to TAS to speak to the boys in March, 1969. He enthralled his audience when he told of his experiences in Vietnam and his many business interests in Indo-China. His first enterprise was to export duck feathers to Europe and he became known as the “duck-feather king.”

Keith Hyland died in a Sydney hospital in April, 1989. The President of the Foundation, Dr Peter Macarthur, described this bequest as truly significant. “We were very sorry,” he said, “to learn of Keith’s death, and we have written to his son, Charles Lap Hyland, to express our sympathy and our praise for his father’s life and work. His fondness for TAS and his pride in its standards and traditions were evident to all who met him.”

His son, Charles, is also an Old Boy of TAS. It was his presence here that developed Keith’s interest in the School; he was very keen to assist in the building programme.

Gift of Paintings

Mrs Roma Crosslé has offered to the Foundation about a dozen of her paintings with all proceeds to the Building Trust. This is a wonderful gesture and much appreciated by the Board.

The paintings are being exhibited on the walls of the Foundation Office at 62 Brown Street, which is open Monday - Friday from 9 am to 12 noon and on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 2 pm to 5 pm (not holidays).

Those so far received are attractive landscapes and flower arrangements in watercolour and framed. Two were sold on the first day - we think at bargain prices.

This is yet another act of generosity from the Crosslé family. Thank you, Roma.

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Squash Courts

Readers will remember that in our July issue we reported that the Foundation provided $80,000 (about 75%) towards the purchase of the squash courts in Barney Street, not far from TAS. Included in the purchase is the lease of several adjacent tennis courts.

An Old Boy, currently working in Japan, read this article and spontaneously sent a donation to the project. He did this because, in his day, squash was first provided as an alternative sport. He was, we recall, a very competent player.

The School is running the squash courts as a business, providing access, after the boys’ use, to the public. It is thriving. A secondary, but important, benefit of the purchase has been the conversion of vacant space under the courts into a canoe storage area and a much needed workshop for the Motor Maintenance Course run as part of the Activities Programme.

School Video Available

A video depicting many aspects of School life has been produced by Paul Griffiths. This excellent production is available at a cost of $40 from the Enrolments Office at the School.

School Council Appointments

The School Council for the triennium 1989-92 comprises:

- Mr Max Browning - appointed by the Bishop;
- Dr Peter Macarthur and Mr Paul Griffiths - appointed by the Council;
- Mrs Christine Olliffe, Archdeacon Graham Farley, Rev. Grant Bell, Messrs Chris Carter and John Mitchell - appointed by the Diocesan Council;
- Mr Dennis Muller - elected by the P & F; Messrs David Connah, Ian Johnston, Bruce Moffatt and Dr Peter Wright - elected by the OBU.

Mr Browning is the Chairman of Council and Archdeacon Farley is Deputy Chairman.

Bishop Peter Chisholm has elected not to take personal membership of Council but will be the Visitor to the School.

Music Hall, 1990

Just to prove that there is still life after 20, Jim Graham went to the UK over the long vacation to seek new inspiration for the plot of the 1990 Music Hall.

Reports indicate that the story is still in his head, but the script will be ready by the time rehearsals start. The Music Hall will be held on 8th/9th June, 15th/16th June.

New members of the School Council pictured with the Chairman, Mr Max Browning (second from right); Mr John Mitchell, Rev. Grant Bell, Mrs Christine Olliffe and Mr Paul Griffiths.
Overseas Exchanges

In recent times TAS has become involved in a series of exchange programmes which have broadened the horizons of our boys visiting other countries as well as allowing our Armidale students to benefit from having overseas students here with us.

In 1989 we had welcomed Andrew Mao, a Rotary exchange student from China; from British schools, as Duty Masters, we have had with us Chris Short and Marcus Taylor from Gordonston and Sam Fairs and Tim Waddington from Woodbridge.

Rarely have so many TAS students had such direct contact with other schools and other cultures. In Term 3 Robert Graham and Nigel Brennan spent six weeks in the traditional exchange we have with our brother school Ranelagh in New Zealand. Sam Brown spent a year at Chartres in France while Sam Sudham, in the last part of this year, has been to schools in Frankfurt (Germany) and Montpelier (France). Dai Griffiths early next year will be accepting an exchange at Salem (Germany), one of the group of schools throughout the world belonging to the Four Square Conference. These schools embrace the general aims of Kurt Hahn, the founder of Gordonstoun.

Jamie Wright was a senior student at Gordonstoun (Scotland) while Hayden O’Brien had an enjoyable year as a Duty Master at Woodbridge. As these exchanges have been so successful, a large number of boys from TAS expressed an interest in spending one year in the UK before moving into tertiary or post-school careers. Students from Year 12 in 1989 who have accepted invitations to take up positions in Britain in 1990 are:

Mark Cowen, Senior Prefect (Woodbridge School, Suffolk)
Peter Dance, (Caldicott, Forsham Royal, Bucks)
Tony Marshall, (Summer Fields, Oxford)
Sam Payne, (The Royal School, Guildford, Surrey)
Ben Ryan, (All Hallows, Dorset)
Jonathan Upton, (Loretto, Musselburgh, East Lothian)

We encourage students to accept such offers. They all have much to give and much still to learn. We feel that this is an ideal way for school leavers to experience the excitement of travel while giving them a supportive base and a network of friends. It is hoped that this exchange system will continue to work for the benefit of both TAS and our British contacts.

R.A.R.

16A Rugby Tour

Nineteen boys travelled to New Zealand in the August vacation to play three matches. The boys were accompanied by the Sportsmaster (Manager), Denis Kellihier (Coach) and five parents.

Their first game was in Christchurch to play Christ’s College. This was a very hard match and a fine introduction to New Zealand football. TAS won 0-9.

From Christchurch the team travelled to Timaru where they were entertained on board HMAS Darwin, one of Australia’s newest frigates. The following day the boys played Timaru Boys’ High at Fraser Park, the venue for many representative and provincial games. This was a tough encounter, with both sides playing rugged forward football. Again TAS won, 8-7.

The touring party continued on to Dunedin to play King’s High School. This was a return encounter, for us, having played them at TAS in 1988. Both sides were keen to use the ball and the match was played at a great pace. Unfortunately this game was lost 12-5.

The tour was a great success, as we were able to see a marked improvement in the boys’ skills. We can indeed be very proud of the boys; they were fine ambassadors for the School.

I.D.

The 1989 Spring Art Exhibition

Big School came alive, and was the focus of much interest over the Boys’ Week-end, with the 1989 Spring Art Exhibition. We knew that our Boy artist James White exhibited a fine collection of recent works, many painted during and after a recent trip to Greece and Italy. As well as this a number of works drawing on the countryside of the North-West as subject matter were shown.

In conjunction with the James White collection Barbie Perrin displayed a number of works of folk art, the subject matter, books, along with other pieces of folk art by Diana Brandt. An excellent assortment of hand crafted silver jewellery completed the exhibition.

The exhibition was opened by Mrs Jane Wright on the Thursday preceding the Old Boys’ Week-end, and remained open till the following Sunday evening. The success of the venture was obvious from the start and was reflected in the large number of people who visited Big School over the week-end. If the glass cases were measured in terms of incomers, this exhibition was a triumph. Over $5,000 was made from commissions on sales.

A great debt is owed to James White, Barbie Perrin and the other exhibitors, and very special thanks should go to Pru Hartigan, whose superb management skills were put to full use in organising art work, customers, headmaster, and anyone else who happened to walk past Big School during the course of the week-end.

D.L.G.

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Moree & Tullonna Week-End

It is a few years since TAS functions have been held in the Moree area, but on the week-end of 5th & 6th August the absence of activity was more than remedied.

On Saturday, 5th August, the Chapel choir sang Choral Evensong at St. David’s Church, Tullonna, and this was followed by afternoon tea for choir and congregation at the home of Mr & Mrs Geoff Brennan. On Saturday evening a very successful function with dinner, dancing & entertainment by the Tullonna Bronco’s on the Moree Club. Among the many guests was Bill Yeates Snr, one of our old senior Old Boys; Bill Junior was also there.

On Sunday morning the choir led the worship at Choral Communion at All Saints’ Church.

Our thanks must go to Mrs Sue Gough on whose shoulders fell the responsibility for organising the various functions. Her great efforts made the very successful week-end possible.

Surf Life-Saving

As part of this year’s Activities Programme, Year 11 students were given the opportunity to gain a Surf Life Saving Award. Initially, the group of sixteen students trained for the Surf and Survival Certificate.

This award originated in 1984 and covers five areas of surfing knowledge: surf awareness, dangers of the surf, first aid and rescue (using a surfboard) and resuscitation of patients.

The co-ordinator of the activity, Mr Peter Hall, had previously been part of a team that designed and tested this award at Warilla High School.

The first five Activity Days were spent on theory and tests, patient assessment and some board work in the pool. The group then spent three days at Yamba Surf Club and completed the practical components involving rescues in the surf and resuscitation.

By the start of the final Activities Week, most students had completed their training for this award. It was decided to tie in with the local surf club and try to finish the Surf Bronze Medalion in the final week.

This was an adventuas task as it required between six to seven hours of practical work each day for five days just to complete the course. The Bronze Medalion is the basic qualification required for surf patrol and to compete in surf carnivals. At the end of a very tiring week, eleven of the original squad presented for the exam held by the Yamba Club’s examiners.

The exam began with a daunting run-swim-run of approximately half a kilometre and finished, four and a half hours later, with a resuscitation theory test. All eleven of the squad passed, including Mr Chris Blood who had volunteered to assist during Activities Week and had completed the same training as the students.

The examiner commended the squad members on their training and presentation during the day.

D.L.G.

Mr Hall also passed the SLSAA Training Officer’s Certificate during the exam.

Next year, both surf have run a similar program for around twenty students and will add the St John’s First Aid Certificate to the course. It is an extremely worthwhile and personally satisfying activity. Students are not only involved in a valuable community service but also learn a range of surf skills often denied people from country areas.

Perhaps the greatest bonus is all the personal satisfaction and self esteem gained from completing a very demanding course.

P.H.

The School History

Of course Jim will have the assistance of the very active and effective History Committee. The convenor, Peter Wright, together with Max Taylor and Owen Wright have nearly completed the huge task of assembling material for the School Register. Mrs Belinda Anstock has provided invaluable secretarial work.

Ian Johnston and Alan Atkinson, the well-known historical researcher and writer, are also members of the History Committee and they will be actively involved in many aspects of the History’s compilation.

It is pleasing to report that at last a satisfactory home has been found for the Archives. Two rooms at the end of Big School have been set aside for storage and display and it is envisaged that Big School itself will be used for selected exhibits.
Japanese Popular

Japanese was first introduced to TAS in 1987 when Year 8 studied it as an introduction to languages, together with French and Latin, and it was taught to all the Preparatory School classes. In the same year, a small group of Year 9 boys showed enough interest for it to be offered as an elective subject. This is the class that will sit for the HSC in 1990.

Language study now begins in the Senior School in Year 7, with the boys having a term each of Japanese, French, Latin and Drama. In Year 8, two of these subjects are studied for a semester each. In Year 9, language study becomes elective. In both 1989 and 1990 the demand for Japanese has been such that two classes of about seventeen students each have been formed.

The Year 7 course is an introductory one, at the end of which the boys can say some simple sentences and recognize hiragana, one of the two Japanese syllabaries. They also have a basic understanding of Japanese culture.

The Year 8 course aims at teaching the students to write hiragana and enlarging their vocabulary to cope with everyday situations.

In Year 9 and 10 reading, writing, oral and aural skills are developed. The second syllabary, katakana, is learned, and so are some kanji - Chinese picture writing adopted by the Japanese. Even the students' culinary skills are broadened! Noodles and green tea in Year 7, sukiyaki in Year 8 and now yakitori and Japanese style parfaits!

The highlight of 1989 was the inaugural New England Japanese Day, held at NEGS. Over 300 students attended, some coming from as far as Narrabri. The day began with a judo demonstration and ended with singing the Japanese version of "Click Go The Shears". During the day, the students participated in eight different activities, such as origami, calligraphy, karuta (a game using kiri-gana), a tea ceremony and a culture quiz.

Three of our students, Brendan O’Brien, Zac Reynolds and Anthony Hodgens, have been accepted as exchange students in the Labo programme. They will spend the Christmas holidays in Japan with host families, attending school and camps and generally leading a Japanese lifestyle. Brendan will be in the Tokyo area and Zac and Anthony in Nagoya.

Information Needed

The School is justly proud of the war service of its Old Boys, many of whom served in both World Wars. These Old Boys are recognised on the various memorials around the School.

Unfortunately there is little information available about their service in the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

The School is very keen to receive any details on this, particularly as a history of the School is being prepared. Please send any information to Mr Jim Graham.

Left: Pictured at the Upper Hunter dinner for parents and Old Boys were Robert Mitchell, Jim Alker, Mike Ryan & David Williams.

Bottom Left: The Headmaster, Mr Ken Langford-Smith with Senior Prefect Mark Conlon at Speech Day. Year 12 presented the School with a very attractive Westminster chime clock in a carved wooden case.

Bottom Right: Philip Bailey and Tim Coupland returned to TAS for the last Music Hall. Philip is pictured here with his contemporary at school, the well known artist Harry Pidgeon.
OBU Annual General Meeting

President's Annual Report

Mr Jim Alker retired at the Annual Meeting after two years as President of the OBU. At the AGM many members expressed their appreciation to Jim for the dedication and enthusiasm which characterised his term of office. Extracts of his Annual Report follow.

"With a mixture of pleasure and regret I submit the Annual Report of the activities of the OBU for the past year, my last as President. During the year four School Councilors were elected under the new rules. Many of you will have followed the progress of the rule changes through 'Binghi' and circulars and many members voted to elect two members of their choice. Dr Peter Wright and Mr David Connah gained these positions. Subsequently Messrs Ian Johnstone and Bruce Mollfatt were appointed by the Committee following a secret ballot. To my mind the elections followed the new rules to the letter and I congratulate those so elected and thank them on behalf of all Old Boys for making themselves available.

"Richard Belfield, after two terms on the Council, did not seek re-election for business reasons. The OBU is grateful to him for his enthusiastic service to the School.

"Our major project for the year was the erection of two additional baths at the Wollomombi Rifle Range. This was quite a task which was successfully completed. Ten days of hard work led the team which included among others Robert Mitchell, Peter and James Croft, Hugh Cameron, David Connah, Stuart Clegghorn, several willing boys and Bill Ward, the Master in Charge of Shooting.

"Another highlight of the year was the donation to the Foundation of $25,000 for scholarship and bursary purposes. The money came from the Bursary Augmentation Fund, ably managed by Peter Morse. We appreciate his efforts and, of course, that of all Old Boys who have contributed by running stock.

"I must congratulate the band of enthusiastic Old Boys in Sydney. This branch has become very active in helping both the School and the OBU.

"Sadly during the year we lost from our ranks Reg Magoffin and Dick Vyner, two well-known and dedicated Old Boys who gave much to TAS. We were shocked to learn also of the death, earlier in the year, of Barney Hyem, a very young Old Boy, in a tragic accident.

"During my two years as President, I have grown to appreciate the responsibility of the members of the Committee in assisting the School. Their dedication to detail, expressions of concern and approval, willingness to muscle in and help and their spirit of co-operation has made my term an easy and enjoyable one.

"As I stand down from the Chair, I would like Old Boys to consider carefully where they stand. It is not good enough to leave everything to the Committee as happens in too many organisations. For example some did not bother to exercise their vote in the recent Council election and this apathy can eventually erode the OBU base. To my mind the Union must remain independent, dedicated and strong to fulfil its very important function within the School community.

"I must thank many people for their help during the last two years, the Bishop, Headmaster, Deputy Headmaster and Jim Graham from within the School for their help and advice; Robert Mitchell and James Croft for organising the Reunion weekend; and of course, as ever, to George Crossland Secretary and Peter Croft as Treasurer for their assistance and co-operation without which my job would have been impossible."

Sydney Branch Notes

On Sunday evening, 25th November, the Sydney Branch of the OBU, together with Parents and Friends, hosted their Christmas Party at the magnificent home of John and Susie McIntosh at Pymble. John and Susie, for some 26 months, have painstakingly renovated the house and it is a show-piece and we were most grateful to them both for their kind consideration. John is an Old Boy of some repute, having left the School in the early 60s and is now a director of First Boston Equities Limited.

We were delighted to see Old Boys of many different years, including Warwick Lewarne who was, of course, President of the OBU in the mid 60s; John Westmacott, Senior Partner, Felser Russell Accountants in the city; Mike Smith, Exploration Manager for Austpak Gold and also a host of new parents, whose sons will join the School community in 1990.

It was a most successful and entertaining evening which will hopefully be the forerunner of many such functions that the Sydney Old Boys will host in 1990.

Plans for 1990

Planning is well under way for three key functions to be hosted by the Sydney Old Boys this year.

In March a barbecue is being organised to welcome new Old Boys to Sydney while in May the dinner dance, which was so successful in 1989, will be held. We hope it can coincide with a 1st XV fixture.

Our pièce de résistance in 1990 will, we hope, be an art exhibition which we intend to hold in October. Other shows raise huge sums by this means - why not TAS?

At this stage, dates are not final but all Sydney OBs will be notified as soon as possible.

M. Tauber

Binghi is published by The Armidale School to keep all members of the School community informed of the activities of the boys, the P & F, the OBU, the Foundation and developments within the School itself. The TASOBU and the P & F contribute to the cost of its production.

Articles and photographs are always welcome. Please send contributions to G.D. Connah, TAS, Private Mail Bag, Armidale N.S.W. 2350.

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Sydney Branch Christmas Party

At the party were Martin Tauber, Cathy & Peter Williams and Susie McIntosh.
Old Boys’ Union Notes

Clerical And General Intelligence

Rev. BRUCE MARSHALL, 39-44, is President of the Tasmanian Branch of the Australian College of Education.

VEN. DAVID BOWDEN, Chaplain 73-74, writes that Rev. ROGER ZOHRAK, 72-77, on August 2nd was induced Priest in Charge of Belmont North/Redhead. And also in the congregation was Rev. DAVID O’NEILL, Music Master 72-74. The Ven. David also reports that Rev. BRIAN BAILEY, 45-46, brother of STEPHEN PHILIP, GRAHAM and DAVID conducted a session on communication at the Newcastle Diocesan conference of Lay Readers. The report ended with the inspiring words, TAS for ever!

ANDREW MCGILLIAM, 73-74, is completing a thesis for a Ph.D. in Anthropology at ANU. As his wife is an archaeologist their conversation should be interesting if abstruse.

JOHN LEEWIN-CLARK, 37-39, writes from Bentoora Village, Kincumber. He was here for OBU Weekend and remains staggered by the School’s growth and buoyancy since he was here.

Movement Orders Etc.

GUY WRAIY, 61-65, lives in Plymouth, Maine, USA where he is establishing a publishing business. He is married and has two children and hopes to visit us for the 50th anniversary of his leaving TAS. He wrote to seek the address of STEUART MCKERN, which we were able to supply.

DAVID COOK, 75-81, son of Mrs E COOK, Hon. OB (I) is still working for Elders. He has moved to Unit 2, 62 Shakespeare Avenue, Magill, SA.

GY KEMP, 66-74, has given up teaching and now runs the Dick Smith Electronics shop in the Richardson Arcade in Armidale.

Dr. DAVID PAYLE, 64-69, is now living in Tokyo where his wife is First Secretary (Commercial) at the Australian Embassy. He is working for Springer Verlag, a medical and scientific firm of publishers, translating abstract texts from Japanese into English and vice versa. He was previously at La Jolla, Cal. where JONATHAN SPRENT, 56-60 is now, according to our records. In Tokyo, of all places, he recently met SPENCER LING of the ABC in Sydney and GREG CORNELSEN, 63-70, on a mission for Elders IXL. David tells us that brother MICHAEL is also with AGC in Sydney, while Peter, after doing all sorts of exciting things all over the world, is now back in Africa working on tropical pathology. What things people do.

ROD PAYLE, 55-57, Captain RAN (retd) is back from France and to be found at Rosebank Farm, Lismore, accompanied by wife and children.

A very interesting letter from Prof. W.R. HICKS, father of Mrs LINDSAY and RALPH. Mike has a small soft-goods business in Texas while Ralph, recently married, is in charge of publicity for the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco. (GEORGE REHMET, NB). The Professor has resigned from Bowling Green Uni. and is at present teaching the Xerox German. Could he possibly get CAMPBELL HEATHER, 65-68 of Zam Tablik 19, 6246 Grass hutten 1, West Germany? In less exotic areas GARY ROBERTSON has moved from Chatswood to Cairns, PO Box 1923.

Odds and Ends

A letter from Hon. O.B. BILLY WARD, master of Shooting, expressing enthusiasm about the OBU work on the Wallamba Rifle Range. That range, by the way, was originally donated by the late Mr Philip A. Wright of Wallumbah Station, and has been restored to use by his son, DAVID, 42-50.

Amusing letter from COLIN CLIFFT, 43-47, enclosing a photo from the last “Bingo” of the joint TAS/PLC party in the Himalayas. His comment; “What a contrast from the trains in the 40s when TAS and NGS had to travel on different days in case the train should be late.” Colin now has the magnificent property, Yandarlo, near Tambo, north of Charleville.

R.W.L.C.

Obituaries

We report with deep regret the deaths of the following Old Boys, and express our sympathy to their relations and friends.

DAVID HICKS, 1979, died recently as a result of an accident at his home in England. He trained in the Fleet Air Arm of the RAN and was seconded to the Royal Navy at the time of his leaving. GEOFFREY L. CARTER 27-29, died recently at his home in Point Piper, Sydney. A Prefect at TAS, he joined AGC after leaving and before he was appointed Assistant General Manager. In his obituary notice AGC said “The position that we enjoy today is largely attributable to his outstanding leadership and management.” His younger brother Anthony, 28-50, was killed in World War II when his bomber was shot down.

W.S. BIGG (Bill), 13-18, died in his home in Moreland Street, Armidale. Most of his life was spent on his fine property, Thalgarrah, and when he retired he sold it to John Robertson, 59-65. His son, Philip, 51/54, is on the land near Warwick, Qld.

GRAHAM JAKINS, 49-50, brother of Barry, 49/54, died in Brisbane after a by-pass operation. On leaving TAS he jockeyed for a while and then joined the insurance industry in which he was very highly regarded. Many OBU’s attended his funeral and Barry wrote to us, inter alia, “I have always felt that there is a bond between TAS boys that lasts a lifetime, and the code of behaviour and manners we were taught there have served us well all through life.”

G.N. WENTWORTH, 23-27, died at Kentworth Gardens, Bowral. A brother and contemporary at TAS of the Hon. W.C. Wentworth, he spent most of his life on the land near Leadville. His son, P.F.N. (Fitz), 56/59, is now at Sunbury Forest.

KEITH HYLAND, 28-30, died in April in Sydney. An article about Keith appears in “Foundation News.”

JOHN HINCHCLIFFE, 55-60, several OBU’s have reported John’s untimely death, among them contemporaries Richard Black and Philip Bailey. Philip was a prefect and Captain at TAS and was a Prefect and Captain of Abbots. He described him as a natural and respected leader as well as an excellent rugby player. John was working life with the Vestey Food Group and at the time of his death was Manager of the Company’s Sea Foods Division in Perth. He was survived by his wife, Penelope, and two children.

R.W.L.C.

Guest of Honour at the OBU Reunion Dinner, Mr Bob Birch with his wife and Mr and Mrs Paul Johnstone.