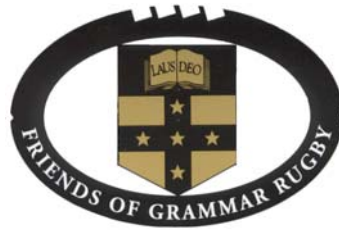




College Street
Darlinghurst NSW 2010

FRIENDS OF GRAMMAR RUGBY

9th ANNUAL REPORT 2008



College Street
Darlinghurst NSW 2010

PAST PRESIDENTS

2000-2002	Graham Walker
2003-2004	Tony Crawford
2005-2006	Anthony Gooch
2007 – 2007	Josephine Sukkar

Office Bearers

Partons	Phil Harry
	Eric Tindall
President	Steven Duchon
Honorary Secretary	Philip Begg
Honorary Treasurer	Peter Grimes

Honorary Life Members

John Duffy
Dr Roger Vanderfield



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President's Report 2008

2008 continued the much restricted role of Friends of Grammar Rugby in light of the revised charter imposed by the Headmaster. Without the ability to fundraise, Friends activities were restricted to hosting its annual dinner and to offering some financial assistance to the School rugby tour from funds raised in previous years.

The Annual Dinner was again held at The Royal Sydney Golf Club on 5 September 2008. The evening was well attended and guests were entertained by Robert Sheldon's talk on the importance of the role of Grammar rugby in the grander scheme, followed by a fascinating (albeit lengthy) recount by Peter Fenton on all things sporting in Australian history. Thanks go to the FOGR committee and their respective partners for all their efforts in ensuring the evening was a resounding success.

On the field, Grammar posted sound performances across the grades and schools, despite the worrying lack of depth in the preparatory schools. The 1st XV provided some gritty performances playing well above their weight with particularly strong performances beating Shore and High and holding the eventual premiers St Ignatius to a narrow loss.

Four Grammar boys were selected in the Combined GPS teams: Callum Fryer (2nd XV) and Stephen Coudinaris, Alex Siviour and Rory Boyden representing the 3rd XV.

Friends wishes to express their thanks to the Sports Master Mrs Sharon Ditmarsch and the Director of Rugby, Mr John Warr, who together with all of the coaches throughout the Grammar schools, worked extremely hard in preparing our boys and ensuring their maximum safety on-field at all times.

I must personally thank the members of the Executive Committee, Mr Philip Begg (Secretary) and Peter Grimes (Treasurer). In particular, we farewell Peter Grimes who has skilfully and diligently handled the financial aspects of FOGR over the past few years.

The future of FOGR is now at a crossroads as its significance in the involvement in the school and rugby communities is questionable given the limitations on its charter. I sincerely hope that the continuance of Friends is sustainable in providing the Grammar rugby community at large with a voice and an outlet to foster rugby at the school.

Steven Duchon
President

November 2008