Grammar Cadets:
on parade since 1870
GOING FOR GOLD

Participation in the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme has grown in popularity at Grammar over the past four years. There are now well over 200 boys from Forms III to VI participating in the Scheme, under the direction of Ms Rita Fin. In 2012, thirty-five boys (most pictured below) are attempting to achieve their Gold level award. Participants are required to demonstrate commitment in three areas of endeavour: Skill, Volunteering and Physical activity, as well as participating in Adventurous Journeys. At Gold level, they are required to undertake an additional activity called the Residential Project.

AIR FORCE CADETS CEREMONIAL PARADE

On 18 November, members of 306 Squadron Australian Air Force Cadets (SGS and SCEGGS, Darlington) held their end of year Ceremonial Parade. Under beautiful blue skies at Weigall, 110 of our Air Force cadets marched past their reviewing Officer, Major General Paul Breerton AM RFD Head, Cadets and Reserves, Employer Support Division. Major General Breerton spoke highly of our cadets’ standard of dress and bearing and also spoke of the gratitude he had for the two Schools’ strong support of Air Force cadets. He then presented trophies to their recipients. Our Commanding Officer, Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) David Roach, was also presented with an award by Major General Breerton in recognition of his ten years of service to the Squadron.

ART MASTERCLASS

The Art Extension programme of masterclasses, life drawing and pottery classes continues to be active and well-attended by boys and masters. On Wednesday afternoons, boys flock to throw pots with Bronadetto Mansfield to the accompaniment of energetic music, or to draw from the model with David Briggs. The first of the Monday Masterclass series was also with Dr Briggs, an expert on colour theory. The second series was with Michelle Hiscock, pictured above with Jack Howard (VI), who introduced the fundamentals of oil painting as she took us through the stages of painting a copy of a full color detail from Titian’s Flora. Participants learned to knife-prime the canvas, transfer the image, draw and underpaint the design, and then paint the picture in a succession of opaque pigments and translucent glazes.
A GIFT IN BLOOM
At the end of 2011 the departing Year 6 at St Ives Prep presented a garden as their gift to the School. Designed to grow flowers, vegetables and fruit trees, the fenced garden is north-facing and situated behind the Science Room. Scientist, Anthony Stimson, planned and constructed the raised beds with the boys, who planted a crop of salad vegetables which was later successfully harvested and served for lunch. Each year, boys in Year 6 will take over responsibility for the garden, and in 2012 monitors are planting and weeding the beds, with the recent plentiful rain ensuring a bumper harvest.

GPS REPRESENTATIVES
Three Grammar boys have gained GPS selection in their summer sports. Cricketer Alex Glendenning (right) was selected in the GPS XI and also gained selection in the NSW Schoolsboys team and State Under 19 team. Daniel Stratton (centre) was chosen for the GPS 2nds Basketball whilst Will Berrigan (left) gained selection in the GPS 1st Tennis team, a remarkable achievement for a boy currently in Form IV. In swimming the following boys were selected to represent the GPS at the CIS carnival: Hal Hughes (I), Marc Chami (I), Perry Naborough (I), Kieran Labraakis (II), Oliver Schwartz (II), Olle Nicolson (II), Sam Ireland (II), Zac Lannigan (III), George Barlin (IV), Conor McGuinness (IV) and Ben Schaffer (V). [Reserves: Joe Ireland (I), Callum Brenton (I), Alistair Leung (II), Charles Chadwick (III), Jack Digby (IV) and Nick Vogel (VI).]

BLACK BELT CHAMPION
Dino Permadi (VI) (pictured right) competed in the Autumn State Taekwondo Championships on 16 March. Competing in his weight division as a black belt practitioner, he received a gold medal in the Under 17 age group and received a silver medal in the Opens. Dino is a keen and talented practitioner who has captained the Grammar Taekwondo Club for three years in a row. We wish him well in his future competitions.

FENCING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
Sholto Douglas (VI) travelled to Moscow in April to compete in the Junior and Cadet World Championships. In his first international competition, he competed in both the Cadet (Under 17) and the Junior (Under 20) Individual Foil, as well as the Junior Men’s Foil team. After achieving four victories out of six Cadet bouts, Sholto’s final rank was 41st out of 99 fencers. In the Juniors he did not do as well, losing all his Poule bouts. Grammar’s fencing coach and Assistant National Coach, Hugh O’Hara (O3 2001), was selected to coach the Foil at the same Championships.

GRAMMAR BOYS AT US COLLEGES
Many Old Sydneysians have chosen to study at colleges in the United States in recent years. Currently one old boy attends each of the following schools: Columbia, Duke, Emory, Georgetown, Tufts, University of Chicago, and Williams. Multiple old boys attend Harvard (3), NYU (2), Princeton (3), and the University of Pennsylvania (3). While the admissions process for this current year has not finished completely, boys in Form VI 2011 have already received many offers. Philip Jameson is going to Yale, Philip Adams to Princeton, Jay Diamtrisch and Rory Glover to Harvard, and Bill Dong to the University of Pennsylvania. Beyond this Justin Cheung, Daniel Pearson, Harry Stratton, and Michael Rice have received various offers from Brown, Columbia, Harvard, Middlebury, MIT, Princeton, Stanford, and Wesleyan. We are very pleased with these results and it is gratifying to receive international recognition from institutions of this calibre.

James Midway and Bob Wu flank statue of John Harvard
James Midway (left) with some of the Harvard crew. (They won)
Nick Staud and Yuein Park with a Princeton Tiger
ROWENA LEE FAREWELLED

On 30 March the St Ives Parents’ Association held an afternoon tea for parents and boys to farewell Headmaster Rowena Lee (pictured right) upon her retirement, in keeping with Rowena’s love of literature, passion for boys’ reading during her time at St Ives, and penchant for wearing hats when on playground duty, the theme was ‘The Mad Hatter’s Tea Party’. The basketball court and lower field areas were filled with hundreds of boys and their families, all dressed appropriately in weird and wonderful hats, sharing cakes, buns and other goodies as they wished Rowena well. Given the amount of time Rowena spent chatting with the endless line of well-wishers it is unclear if she actually had the chance to eat anything!

OVER THE HILLS AND FAR AWAY...

38 boys and staff from both our Prep Schools made Laurel Hill Lodge at Tumbarumba their base for a Combined Concert Band Tour of country NSW late last year. This was the second tour of its kind, after a similar outing to the Port Macquarie region in 2010. Concerts were performed at Tumbarumba, Adelong, Batlow and Tumut Public Schools. With Dr Robert Busan conducting, boys shared their love of music by playing a range of different styles, and by showing their instruments to the children attending to enthuse them to take up an instrument. An outing to a country movie theatre, a Man from Snowy River-style snow, a look at the Snowy Hydro scheme and a night learning about the indigenous people of the area completed the week...on, and a game or two of Touch with their hosts – always the best way of getting to know the locals!

TITANIC CENTENARY

Arthur Gordon McCrae was one of the few Australians on board RMS Titanic when it sank on 15 April 1912. His body was retrieved from the water and buried on 10 May 1912 in the Fairwater Cemetery at Nova Scotia. Gordon McCrae attended Sydney Grammar School before going on to Sydney University where he resided at St Paul’s College. He graduated in Engineering (Mining and Metallurgy) in 1903 and subsequently worked in a gold mine in West Africa followed by a stint as a smelting superintendent at the Spassky mine in Siberia. Intending to seek work in Canada, he bought a 2nd Class ticket for the maiden voyage of the ill-fated Titanic, the pride of the Prestigious White Star Line.

His identification tag states: No. 209 – Male. Estimated age 45 (he was 32). Fair hair. Clothing: blue suit; white canvas shoes; flannel shirt. Effects: diamond and emerald ring; gold links; two watches; key chain; keys; pencil case; foreign bills; letter case. Name: Gordon McCrae.

SNAKES ALIVE!

On Friday 10 February, the Army Cadet Corps hosted a live snake demonstration to a group of prospective Cadets. The boys had an informative presentation on the dangers of snakes and how Australia is host to most of the top ten deadly snakes of the world. Amongst the venomous snakes on display (safely encased!) were a Brown snake, Fierce snake and Red-bellied black snake. It is important that the boys understand the dangers associated with snakes, how to behave if confronted by one and most importantly, what the appropriate first aid treatment is, if bitten. Some of the less-threatening varieties were equally keen to get to know their human companions!
60 YEARS ON

The setting was a dinner for parents on the eve of this year’s Head of the River. Parents of Form VI boys were asked to speak about their experiences with the boat club over the years. Nicola Pain, mother of Matthew Harris, spoke of how her association with rowing had started long before Grammar when her father, Ted Pain, had rowed for Australia at the 1952 Helsinki Olympics. This was met with a shriek from Anne Tucker, mother of Rob Tucker, as her father, Nim Greenwood, had also rowed in the same Bronze Medal-winning VIII at Helsinki.

Neither Rob nor Matthew, who had spent much of their time at the Shed rowing together, had any idea that their two grandfathers had done likewise 60 years ago.

Although Pain and Greenwood both attended Sydney High School, Grammar was also well represented in the ‘52 Olympic rowing team by Mervyn Finlay (OS 1943), Vic Middleton (OS 1945) and Joe Gould (OS 1928) who was sole Selector. (Gould’s blazer is currently displayed in the Weigall Pavilion.)

BROTHER JOHN TAYLOR MEMORIAL PRIZE

Each year the Minister for Education presents the Brother John Taylor Memorial Prize to a student or students who have overcome significant hardship to attain academic excellence in their HSC. The prize comprises a cash grant, a trophy and a certificate recognising the award. Jeremy Kwok (OS 2011) is one of three recipients from last year’s candidature of this prestigious award.

Jeremy (photographed with his Housemaster Jason Slater at the Leavers’ Dinner) made an enormous impact during his years at the School and earned huge respect from the whole School community. Despite his significant visual impairment he threw himself wholeheartedly into music, sport and the library. At Speech Day 2011, he received the Marc Freedman Award for a boy who has led by example, showing outstanding qualities of self-reliance and personal courage.

In his acceptance speech, Jeremy displayed his usual humility and sense of humour, thanking his masters and his family for their patience and support. The School extends its warmest congratulations to him.
OLYMPIADS
Two Grammar boys, John Papantoniou (VI) and Jason Kwong (V), have distinguished themselves by gaining selection in the Australian team of six to compete at the International Mathematics Olympiad to be held in Argentina in July. In Science, Lachlan Vom has been chosen in the Australian team for Chemistry (for the second year running) which will do battle in Washington DC in late July. This is an outstanding achievement for all three boys.

SIPPENHAFT: FAMILY PUNISHMENT IN NAZI GERMANY
Dr Robert Loeffel, who teaches History at College Street, is the author of Family Punishment in Nazi Germany, Sippenhaft, Terror and Myth, published this year by Palgrave Macmillan. Amidst the continuing historical debate about the compliance of the German population with the Nazi regime, this book looks at one form of outright terror, that of Sippenhaft, the threat of punishing families of political enemies. Sippenhaft was also used against the families of soldiers and most especially after the 20 July 1944 assassination attempt against Hitler. Using a range of sources – including prisoner-of-war conversations and oral testimonies from families connected to forms of resistance in Nazi Germany – the threat, fear, infliction and importance of Sippenhaft to Nazi terror is examined.

NSW MEN’S YOUTH VIII
On 11 March the NSW Men’s Youth VIII won the Noel F Wilkinson Trophy at the 2012 Australian Rowing Championships held at Champion Lakes in Western Australia. No fewer than four of the VIII were Old Sydneyians: Rory Glover (OS 2011), Tom McClintock (OS 2009), Jay Ditmarsch (OS 2011) and Philip Adams (all OS 2011).

PLAYING ON
Peter Smith (OS 2007) played in and captained the SGS 1st XV in his final year at Grammar (pictured right). His strong and decisive play led to his selection in the combined GPS 1st XV for the annual representative matches. On leaving Grammar he played with Gordon Colts for a season before moving to Northern Suburbs where he forced his way into their 1st XV. He then made a move to stay before moving to the Welsh club ‘Ospreys’ to try his luck in professional rugby. He has now signed with the Coca-Cola West Red Sparks in Japan for the next two years. Prior to taking up this contract he has been training with the Melbourne Rebels’ A Team Sydney-based squad. This latest contract will further consolidate his drive to become a full time professional rugby player.

3 ‘PODiums’ IN 3 YEARS
Following last year’s win at the Head of the River, Grammar’s 1st VIII was once again on the podium in 2012 after finishing equal third with Newington. An exciting and hard-fought battle between Grammar and Newington saw both crews cross the line neck-and-neck; the decision was left to the judges. Our 3rd place this year means that Grammar’s 1st VIII has been on the podium for the last three years – 2nd in 2010; 1st in 2011 and 3rd in 2012 – a truly remarkable achievement!
Congratulations also to this year’s 4th IV who performed well above their weight to come 3rd.
SENIOR AND SECOND PREFECTS

The Senior Prefect for 2012 is Jim Hansen (pictured right); Sajeev Mahendran has been appointed Second Prefect. Jim, who attended Edgecliff Prep, is a member of this year’s 1st Basketball team and is also a very active musician, principally playing double bass. Sajeev, who joined the School in 2007 from Ermington Primary School, is a keen athlete and musician, and is also strongly involved in community service. He has completed his Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award. With several other Grammar boys, Sajeev also recently undertook community work in Peru (see article ‘On the trail of the Incas’, page 14). Jim and Sajeev are at the helm of this year’s Prefects’ fundraising drive in support of the Smith Family.

OLD BOYS AT ADFA

The OC Army Cadets, Major Cree, writes:
I was fortunate enough to be able to travel to Canberra on the weekend and watch the Chief of Defence Force Parade (CDF) at the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA). This parade marks the end of the first six weeks of training for the Officer Cadets. This year, we have four Old Boys in first year. I am not aware of so many Old Boys ever being in the same year together at ADFA. The parade was a great success and the weather held off, which was great. The boys are all in good spirits and managing well.

Group photo (left to right): MAJ (AAC) Warren Cree (OS1987 – Officer Commanding SGS Cadet Corps); CAPT Huw Kades (OS1982); OCDT Hayden Derrigan (OS111); OCDT Edward Wright (OS111); OCDT Hamish Wallace (OS111); LTCOL Stuart Cree (OS1990).
Single photo: OCDT Narek Shamavonian (OS2009).

REFRAME

Eric Knight (OS2001) (pictured right), Rhodes Scholar 2007, has recently published his first book Reframe: how to solve the world’s trickiest problems. Launched by fellow Old Sydneian Malcolm Turnbull, the book is the story of how we make really big decisions about world politics in a world with short attention spans.

Lev Grossman, book critic at Time Magazine in New York has described it as a kind of ‘freakonomics’ for politics: ‘it’s about how we solve our biggest political problems – immigration, climate change, terrorism, financial crises in a world filled with seemingly irrational people.’

FORM 1 CAMP

200 First Formers headed for Lake Macquarie at the end of Term 1 for four days of sunshine (as it turned out) and fun activities with the aim of getting to know each other a little better and making new friends. Assisted by masters, some Fifth Formers and staff from the Sport and Recreation Centre, the boys enjoyed bushwalking, abseiling, sailing, canoeing, kayaking, archery and bike-riding.. with the odd damper-making session thrown in.
A FUTURE MINISTER FOR ROADS?

Arkie Owen (Year 6, Edgecliff Prep 2011) found himself the centre of media attention late last year after running a campaign to have a local traffic problem solved. Arkie petitioned neighbours to gain support for his idea to have a roundabout put in at the intersection of Dover and Military Roads near his home because of problems due to a poor alignment of these streets. He then took their signatures to his local Member of Parliament and, as a result, Waverley Council invited Arkie to address them about the issue. Arkie’s proposal is still under consideration. In the meantime, he has appeared on breakfast television and on the front page of his local paper.

CRICKET GREAT HONOURED

The Grammar Cricket Club has established a new perpetual trophy to be awarded annually to the most outstanding cricketer in the 1st XI. The trophy is named in honour of Old Sydneian, Albert ‘Tibby’ Cotter, a highly esteemed cricketer of international renown early in the 20th century. A member of the Grammar 1st XI from 1899-1901, Cotter went on to represent New South Wales and then Australia in 1904. His skill as a lethal fast bowler earned him the nickname ‘Terror Cotter’ from the English. During the 24 Test matches he played (in which he claimed 89 wickets) Cotter’s most noted performance was perhaps his 7/148 against England at The Oval. Sadly, Cotter was killed in battle at Beersheba in 1917 whilst serving as a member of 12th Australian Light Horse Regiment.

WENDY JAMES – INSIGHTS INTO WOMEN’S LIVES

The guest speaker at this year’s Women’s Association Literary Lunch, held on 11 May, was Wendy James (pictured left), an Australian novelist and short story writer, who gave a wonderful account of her new novel, *The Mistake*. The book is an intriguing story of a mother and the media’s powerful role in shaping our opinions. While her books have been described as both crime and literary fiction, Wendy says she’s simply writing compelling stories about women, giving an insight into their lives as well as looking at the intersection of political and personal relationships. Wendy won the Ned Kelly Award for first crime fiction in 2006 for her novel *Out of the Silence*. 
SEEING DOUBLE
Amongst this year’s new First Form arrivals at College Street were no fewer than four sets of twins. This has proved an added challenge for the Master of the Lower School, Mr Barr, whose task to learn all First Formers’ names by Easter has been made doubly difficult!

THE TIES THAT BIND...
Peter Catchlove (OS 1970) writes to us of the strong bonds of friendship which still tie four Old Sydneyians of the Year of 1970 and who get together regularly around Australia for various events: ‘Enclosed you will find a photograph of us Old Boys at Phillip Island, Victoria for the Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix (Motor GP). We get together for golfing adventures and even rock concerts. A few of us go to Byron Bay at Easter for the Blues Festival. We’re all just kids at heart, but it does emphasise the strength of friendships bonded at College Street some 50 years ago.’

L to R: David Grant, Philip Froud, John Vrachnas and Peter Catchlove (all OS 1970)

SAILING, SURFING AND CUISINE
The Heyworth brothers have been excelling in different fields recently. Daniel (I) skippered Manly Junior No. 27/2 to become Club, State and National Champion with his friend Jesse Dransfield as crew (pictured). Daniel and his brother Ashley (VI) finished 2nd in Flying 11 Class at both State and National levels. Ashley finished 2nd at the Australian Youth Windsurfing titles, and is currently training for the Youth World Titles in Dublin. Meanwhile, back on dry land, Daniel made it to the top 16 of Junior Masterchef!

HEADMASTER’S EXHIBITION
Dr George Kouvaros, Professor of Film at University of NSW, was this year’s examiner for the Headmaster’s Exhibition. The set texts were Michelangelo Antonio’s film L’Eclisse and Gilberto Perez’s collection of essays The Material Ghost. Of candidates from Forms V and VI sat two three-hour papers dealing with issues arising from the film. Professor Kouvaros was impressed by the overall quality of the responses and found it difficult to distinguish between them. But in the end he felt Bostan Nurlanov (VI) had the strongest grasp of the range of formal, ethical and historical issues underpinning the texts and awarded the Exhibition to him. The runner-up, and recipient of the Johns Prize, was Jack Howard (VI).

Left to right: Jack Howard, Bostan Nurlanov and the Headmaster

Pictured (back row)
Gus and Chris Alexakis; Nikhil and Neel Rastogi;
(front row) Nicholas and William Fabian; Oliver and George Owens.
GALLIPOLI BUGLE SOUNDS AGAIN

On Anzac Day this year, trumpeter Jack Stephens (V) had the privilege of playing the Last Post and Reveille on a bugle believed to have been used at Gallipoli during World War I. Jack was invited to play the bugle for the dawn service at St Ives Bowling Club where his grandfather, Ian Grieve, is a member. Made by Henry Potter & Co, the bugle has engraved on it ‘11th Battalion C Company’, along with place names including Alexandria, London and Gallipoli.

ARMY CADETS CEREMONIAL PARADE

The Army Cadet year was brought to a splendid close with the Ceremonial Parade on 11 October at Weigall. The Corps was honoured by the attendance of guest speaker Lieutenant Colonel Hugh Meggitt RAE (OS 1988) who reviewed the parade and presented prizes. As an Old Sydneian, he offered guidance to the departing Form VI Officers, informed by reflections upon his experience in the Cadet Corps in the late 1980s and the value of the role that it played in shaping his life. The presence of a record crowd of parents, grandparents and siblings demonstrated that the value of cadets is very much recognised at home. After individual and platoon prizes for efficiency and excellence were presented, the parade was brought to attention by CUO Wallace and the officers ‘fell out’ for the last time - a poignant moment on a fine afternoon.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Another highly successful whole-School Athletics Carnival was held under mostly sunny skies at Weigall on Tuesday 20 March. Whilst the carnival offers an opportunity for the more talented athletes to chase existing records and compete for places in the GPS team, many boys simply took the opportunity to enter into the fun of the day whilst earning valuable points for their House. Congratulations to Mr Ossowski’s House (KJO), which emerged as the winning House for the third successive year.

SHOULD AULD ACQUAINTANCE BE FORGOT

The departing Sixth Form of 2011 were farewelled at the now-traditional Leavers’ Assembly in Big School on Friday 10 September. In what was a very successful departure from recent years’ practice, the ceremony was held in the afternoon and was followed immediately by the Leavers’ Dinner for Sixth Form boys, their parents, Housemasters and Tutors. In the splendid setting of Nick’s Bar & Grill (where once again we were the guests of the Manettes family) a toast to ‘The Sixth Form’ was proposed by the Senior House Master, Tony Miller, to which the Senior Prefect, Phil Jameson, responded with a toast to ‘The School’.
Richard Dawkins at Grammar

Dr Malcolm Binns was among the 1500 people who flocked to ‘Something From Nothing – An evening with Richard Dawkins and Lawrence Krauss’ in the New Hall.

The New Hall was filled to capacity on Thursday 12 April for a very special event co-hosted by Sydney Grammar and Cosmos magazine. The Grammar community joined with members of the general public to attend an evening with two of the world’s most renowned science popularisers, American theoretical physicist Lawrence Krauss and British evolutionary biologist Richard Dawkins.

It was clear during Krauss’s presentation that the cosmology textbooks need to be updated. Over the last 100 years our universe has been progressively perceived by cosmologists as an eternal universe steadily producing matter as it expands, an oscillating universe bookended by a Big Bang and a Big Crunch, and a positively curved universe (four dimensional, of course) in a state of limitless and accelerating expansion. Krauss indicated that the most recent cosmological measurements and modelling have placed us back into a flat universe, where the positive energy of our universe’s mass and radiation is exactly balanced by its negative gravitational energy, the total current energy of the universe being what it started with – nothing. I recommend Krauss’s book A Universe from Nothing as a great read for budding cosmologists.

Dawkins, en route to the Global Atheism Conference in Melbourne, eloquently proposed that the Scientific Method provides its proponents with the most appropriate tool to analyse and make sense of the world around them. Interestingly, few questions of a religious nature surfaced during question time, more discussion being given to the comparative value of non-scientific ideologies in constructing meaning for events past and present.

The evening was an excellent opportunity for the ‘promotion of useful knowledge’ as espoused by the School’s founder in the Prelude to the Sydney Grammar School Act 1854. It will certainly generate healthy discussion and debate at Grammar for the rest of this year.

Photos courtesy of Corey Butler
At the core of Miller’s play is the issue of human responsibility. Similarly, any performance brings with it a set of responsibilities, whether it be to the playwright and his/her script, the audience or the actors themselves and their collective company. When the subject matter is one of the 20th century’s most defining horrors, the Holocaust, that responsibility becomes even greater and may even prove impossible, for the very act of such representation has proved contentious. Elie Wiesel famously asserted that the ‘truth of Auschwitz remains hidden in its ashes’ and that only the survivors may speak, because ‘no one who has not experienced the event will ever be able to understand it.’ I believe that the truth of which Wiesel speaks does ultimately lie in the ashes, but I also believe that playwrights like Arthur Miller have a right to attempt to understand the issues concerned and to dramatize those issues as sensitively and as responsibly as they can, for how will we ever begin to understand? And the same right was true for a quite remarkable group of 14 year-old boys, realising the fears of a detention room in 1942 Vichy France in 21st century Sydney.

A dense script that dealt in abstraction and psychological subtlety initially proved difficult, even unfathomable. With character having to come from these words, and Miller providing so little action or extensive back story, the challenge was great. But gradually a set of nuanced and moving performances evolved. ‘Seasoned’ performers found the uniquely different script and rehearsal experience challenging, but also deeply rewarding, newcomers brought great discipline to the process and learned an enormous amount about the craft of drama along the way. All appreciated being treated with the maturity necessary
for such a weighty responsibility. Two sold-out performances with deeply appreciative audiences suggested that they succeeded admirably and I can only express my immense pride at how well the boys rose to the demands they faced.

What Inga Clendinnen says of the historian is, I believe, in many ways true of the dramatist and those bringing that work to life on stage:

*If the people of the past are to be given a life beyond their own, beyond the vagaries of fashion and of political exploitation... historians must retrieve and represent the actualities of past experience in accordance with our rule, with patience, scepticism and curiosity, and with whatever art we can muster, provided always that the art remains subject to our rule."

My thanks to a remarkably 'responsible' group of young men: Daniel Gecros, Daniel Rice, Jacob Klisser, Samuel Ireland, Thomas Fisher, Oliver Watson, Nicholas Lehm, Moffatt Maloney, Hugo Dunkley, Luca Lavigne, Jasper Bruce, Dominic Richardson, Hugh Gottlieb, Reuben Challis, Pranav Kalra, James Wilson; and crew, Joshua Milch, Peter Arnott and Seamus MacNamara.
On the Inca Trail
Robin Chretien, Andrew Selbie, Nicolas Vogel and Sajeev Mahendran (Form V 2011) recently headed for Peru where they helped build a village school library.

In the routine of day to day city and school life, it’s easy to forget about the greater world – about people who live over the horizon, and about the many natural wonders that lie hidden awaiting to be discovered. Last September, four Fifth Formers were fortunate enough to be given a taste of this greater world when we accompanied pupils from St Andrew’s Cathedral School on a venture to Peru.

The trip lasted just over two weeks during which we were able to experience not only the vibrant culture of Peru, but also its enchanting and varied landscapes, ranging from the dense humidity of the Amazon jungle to the lofty peaks of the Urubamba Ranges. Arriving at Puerto Maldonado after a day’s travel from home via Santiago and Lima, our senses were immediately assaulted by the dense, humid air. Our first experience was a canoe tour of the unique wildlife of the Amazon rainforest on an extremely isolated lake. The isolation of this area contrasted greatly with the city life of Sydney and Lima. Amazingly, within just 100km of the lake, indigenous tribes which remain out of touch with the ‘outside world’ still live according to indigenous traditions.

One of the transforming experiences we had was our involvement in a community project at Huilloc Village, a remote town located just north of Cusco. The project saw us engaged in various activities from tiling to plastering and building adobe bricks in an effort to help complete a building at the local school that would later be used as a library. While the village students did not share our language or our school resources, we worked side by side with them, shared some laughs, and were soundly beaten by the Peruvian students in a friendly game of soccer. A special mention must be made of Sajeev Mahendran who was named ‘most useful’ for his efforts in our building project. Our involvement with this community was a humbling experience and gave us all a better appreciation of how privileged we are, not only to attend a school such as Grammar, but also to live in a country where schooling and medical and other welfare services are readily available to us.

Following our work at Huilloc, we embarked on the four-day challenge of the Inca Trail, and viewed an assortment of Incan ruins from pre-Conquistador times including the breathtaking Machu Picchu, one of the New Seven Wonders of the World and celebrating the 100th anniversary of its discovery by the American historian Hiram Bingham. The trail amazed us with its history and beauty. We were surprised to be able to see ruins which had been discovered only five years ago. Waking up in ‘The City of Clouds’ on the trail was an experience of a lifetime; peering out of our tent in the early morning revealed a sea of clouds with snowy mountains and Incan ruins appearing to float amongst them.

On our departure, we took with us a wealth of experiences and many friendships forged between both Sydney and Andean, Australian and Peruvian. Most importantly, we had developed a new found appreciation of our lives in Australia and at College Street.
**Musical notes**

Paul Gaske (Chairman of Music) brings us up to date on the highlights of the last two terms.

**Bach birthday recital**
On the Sunday afternoon preceding the 327th birthday of Johann Sebastian Bach, School Organist Robert Wagner (OS 1986) played pieces on the Big School Mander organ in tribute to the Master, including the great *Toccata and Fugue in d minor*, the virtuoso *Prelude and Fugue in e minor*, and arrangements of two of Bach’s famous melodies by Charles-Marie Widor.

**String Concert**
This concert on 15 March opened with a joyous performance of Dvořák’s *Humoresque* by the Viola Ensemble. Shalhoub Strings then played the ‘Boisterous Bourrée’ from Britten’s *Simple Symphony* with gusto. A highlight was the premiere of Nicholas Vines’ challenging and rhythmic *Contró Ehzóth* for cello quartet. Stringendo (all Form I boys) gave a charming rendition of *Mock Morris* by Percy Grainger. AMCO then gave a wonderful performance of the ‘Marcha’ from the *String Serenade* of Dag Wirén. Finally, a combined String Orchestra of nearly 200 boys (43 cellists, 20 violas, 12 double basses and a set of violins) performed *Fiesta* by American composer Ken Keuning.

**Choral Concert**
On 24 November the first choral concert in the New Hall showcased pieces for upper voice choirs (including boys from the Preparatory Schools), tenor and bass ensembles and mixed voice choirs. Included on the programme was a new piece written for the Crooniores by one of its members, Harry Godber (III) and a rarely-performed work by Beethoven, *Elegischer Gesang*, written for choir and string quartet. The concert finished with a rousing rendition of ‘The Heavens Are Telling’ from Haydn’s *The Creation*.

**Jo Fabro**
Renowned Sydney based jazz vocalist Jo Fabro has started a series of workshops with a select group of Form V and VI jazz pupils. Ms Fabro has been performing at some of Sydney’s top venues such as The Basement, Will & Toby’s, The Marble Bar, The Vanguard and Star City Casino and at festivals such as the Manly Jazz Festival and Peats Ridge Music Festival and Carols in the Domain.

**Haleyoun**
Haleyoun, an Australian ensemble dedicated to the performance of new and recent music for voice and instruments, was resident at the School for part of Term I. The ensemble, comprising on this occasion singers Jenny Duck-Chong and Alison Morgan, fellow vocalists Jo Burton and Belinda Montgomery, and harpist Genevieve Lang, performed their first concert on the floor of the New Hall and featured the work of a number of contemporary Australian and British composers.
The Song Company

The Song Company, under the direction of their conductor, Roland Peelman, were artists-in-residence for a week in March during which they shared their professional experience in a series of seminars, open rehearsals and concerts. On Thursday 22 March musicians from College Street and Edgecliff Preparatory, the Sydnician Bach Choir and our guests The Song Company performed works by Ross Edwards (OS 1951), Elena Kats-Chernin, Nigel Butterley (OS 1951), Giovanni Gabrieli and Peter Sculthorpe. The New Hall also provided the perfect acoustic and spatial environment for celebrated didgeridoo player, William Barton. The programme ended with an SGS-commissioned work, In Praise of Sandstone, by Elliott Gyger (OS 1985) written for choirs, soloists, seven percussionists and piano four hands.

AMEB Shield

In 2011 Sydney Grammar was awarded the AMEB shield for the 17th time in the last 19 years. Photographed at the presentation ceremony after being awarded their Associate in Music (AMusA) in March were (left to right): Mr Paul Gaske, Jim Xu, Francis Young, Daniel Cheung (all piano), Victory Wang (violin – LMusA with Distinction), Aaron Lee (cello), Jonathan Yee (oboe) and Mr Robert Nis. Ben Haire (OS 2010) has also been awarded an Associate Diploma for viola.
St Ives Prep comes together to celebrate

Rowena Lee, retiring Headmaster, looks back on her final Presentation Day, the first to be held in the New Hall.

On Presentation Day 2011 the St Ives community came together in the New Hall at College Street. It was the first time in recent history that all boys, staff and parents had been able to share this occasion as one; and the first time our Presentation Day had been held in such a spectacular venue!

With 430 boys in the School, the existing hall at St Ives has never been able to accommodate such a large group. So the School had traditionally held two separate assemblies on Presentation Day, one in the morning for boys in K-2 and a second in the afternoon for those in Years 3-6. It was Dr Vallance who suggested that St Ives does as Edgecliff Prep has done for a number of years: conduct Presentation Day at College Street.

Planning began early in Term III. It was decided that the School Orchestra would play and that a choir of boys in Years 2-6 would come together especially to perform for the occasion. Rehearsals and practices continued on home turf until early December when boys were bussed to College Street to introduce them to the New Hall.

Parents were invited to book seats online and with a capacity of 1500 (the New Hall being well over twice the size of that at St Ives), all who wished to attend would be welcome. Boys would be seated with their Grade, with Kindergarten boys invited to sit with their parents.

Presentation Day arrived and, following a brass fanfare, the whole School watched Transition receive a copy of Carpe Diem, and prize-winners their books, from Mr David Kirk, Chairman of Trustees. The School Orchestra performed Rites of Tamburo by Robert Smith and the Choir and Chamber Orchestra presented Sailing Away by Paul Jarman.

Fittingly, at the conclusion of the ceremony, boys from Year 6 led those assembled from the Hall into the College Street playground, where in just a few weeks they would return as First Formers.
Leading by example

Year 6 boys at Edgecliff Prep have been learning how to be positive role models, as Stuart Ferguson (Director of Pastoral Care) reports.

Over the past four years, a number of programmes have been implemented to provide Year 6 Edgecliff boys with the opportunity to serve their school and to assist in developing an inclusive school culture. These programmes have evolved around the premise that leadership involves serving one’s community and the Year 6 boys are doing this through Infants soccer and rugby clinics, the Reading Club and the Helping in the Playground (HIP) programme.

Throughout Term 1 the Year 6 boys participate in a specially designed unit of work, which prepares them for their roles in the HIP programme. In this role the Year 6 boys act as support to the teachers on duty at recess and lunch, and helping junior boys. During their training they learn about specific skills such as active listening, clear communication, effective questioning and conflict resolution.

The Year 6 boys are also actively involved with the infants boys through a number of structured activities. They organise and run soccer and rugby clinics with Year 2 boys at lunch times, during Terms II and III. These clinics help prepare the Year 2 boys for the structured team trainings which commence in Year 3, whilst providing the Year 6 boys with an opportunity to share some of their experience with them. In addition, the Year 6 boys are involved in the Reading Club, where they read to boys in Transition and Year 1. This activity focuses on connecting boys from different Years, whilst building literacy skills.

These activities have helped build a sense of giving and community amongst the Year 6 boys. Furthermore, it has provided the opportunity for the younger boys to have positive role models to look up to, something to which all boys are responding well.

1 Helping in the playground as a handball referee
2 Will Dixon reading to Transition boys as part of the Infants Reading Club
3 Running a Year 2 rugby clinic
4 Marcus Shouniuk reading to Transition boys as part of the Infants Reading Club
5 Organising a Year 2 football clinic
As You Like It

And we liked it a lot. Hugh Jameson (III) soliloquizes on his experience of the latest Grammar/SCEGGS Shakespeare production.

Recipe for directing a successful Film Play: determination, patience, creativity, endless enthusiasm, about eight cups of coffee per rehearsal, a flexible sense of humour, a touch of awkward, and a death stare.

Some say that the risk involved in bringing a group of 15 year-old boys in contact with girls, Shakespeare and underdogs in August last year held parallels to the launching of the Apollo 11 on 20 July, 1969. Others say that this combination of factors had the makings of a sort of disaster that we rarely see anywhere but on reality television.

Furthermore, some say that of the 37 plays that Shakespeare wrote, As You Like It, a story that focuses on love, lust and mutiny, is the most likely to prompt a mass rebellion against the establishment. However, in typical Grammar style, Ms Bronwer Williams (Director), ignoring the voices that may or may not have been in her head, dived headfirst into an experience like no other.

As You Like It is a tale of young people; some are fleeing persecution and mistreatment, others are wandering through life with no clear purpose. All arrive in the Forest of Arden, a spiritual, mystifying setting in which the characters are transformed over time. In a sense our production of this play was like As You Like It itself — full of young people, most of whom had no idea of what to expect from the experience. Over time, they were morphed into actors and actresses by Ms Williams, who wasted little time in demanding the four key elements of success in drama — energy, intention, physicality and focus.

Energy was never far under the surface. The cast had all acquired a certain gene for endless enthusiasm that their bodies thrived on more than oxygen. There was never a dull moment. This creative drive and lack of inhibition made As You Like It a canvas that every cast-member threw some paint on.

But unless you’re from the mid-20th century, randomly throwing paint on a canvas isn’t art. The story behind the paint is founded on intention. At any stage of our rehearsal we could be stopped dead cold and asked what our characters were doing, feeling, or reacting to. We learned that without intention we were just people standing on a stage reciting a story. But with it, the characters we were portraying were believable and full of depth, and we could live and enjoy the play more fully.

Physicality is needed to convey a convincing presence on stage, and to make the play as engaging as possible. With three rows in the cast we had biceps to spare, although these weren’t always much help as we tried to learn rockabilly dance moves.

As for focus we knew we wanted it, but couldn’t find it anywhere. A combination of fear of humiliation and fear of Ms Williams’s increasingly inventive threats eventually won out, and
thus the four key elements were brought together and the play was a success.

Looking back on our glorious antics, I see now that we learned a lot and Ms Williams certainly claims to be very proud of us. Still, when I think back to *As You Like It*, it is not pride that characterises her. Head tilted to the side, one eyebrow raised, hand on hip and weight on the back foot, with a look of total disbelief at what we are doing, she has her lips curved upwards in a desperate attempt to hold in cogs of laughter.

For the memories that will last all of us a lifetime – ‘Cheers, Ma’am!’
Summer sport round-up

Sportsmaster, Michael Curran, brings us up-to-date on an ever-expanding range of summer sporting activity at College Street.

The Cricket Club had another competitive season fielding twenty teams. The 13s age group showed promising potential whilst Under 15s were the strongest with most teams winning most games; the 15Bs were the most successful team in the Club. The 2nd XI began promisingly with two pre-season wins but were unable to carry this form into the season proper. The 1st XI were brilliant at times with emphatic wins over Melbourne Grammar (T20) and High. Their performances against Scots and St Joseph’s were equally impressive. Unfortunately, the prestigious ‘Bat’ was lost to Melbourne Grammar.

Basketball was another sport where we saw improvement and development across all age groups; we are also fortunate in having a number of keen Old Boys coaching junior teams. The 15As and Bs were our most successful teams. The Firsts finished their season off with an impressive victory in an ‘away’ game against Riverview. They won three games during the season and played some excellent stretches of games. Sean Marshall and Harry Gill tied for Most Valuable Player while Daniel Stratton was awarded Best Clubman for his tireless service to Grammar Basketball.

The Boat Club had another good season. In the Juniors, special mention should be made of the Year 9 2nd Quad who won their event at the prestigious Riverview Gold Cup and most of their races throughout the season. In the Seniors, the 4th IV rowed an exceptional race to come 3rd at the GPS Regatta. The 1st VIII did themselves (and the School) proud crossing the line in a dead heat for third place with Newington. They displayed great skill and determination in the last 500m of the race, and superb
Sportsmanship on the podium when the announcer failed to acknowledge their placing.

Grammar were co-winners of the Roberta Nett Fencing Competition and won the Al Rae Shield outright. In the Under 15 division, Jesse Morris won gold whilst Gregory Lam won bronze in the Under 13s. In the National Individual qualifiers held in March, Sholta Douglas, Jesse Morris and Edward Philips were placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd respectively in the Foil, whilst David Lu was 1st in the Sabre and Lachlan Humphreys 3rd in the Épée. Sholta represented Australia in Foil at the Junior and Cadet World Championships in Moscow in April (see ‘Jottings’).

In Swimming, the Junior squad finished second overall in the GPS season. New records were set by Clive Nicolson in the Under 13 100m Backstroke (1:13.08) and Ben Schaffer in the Under 17 Freestyle (53.23). Ben was named Swimmer of the Season for both CIS and GPS. The Junior Freestyle Relay team also set a new record (1:53.31) for its event as did the Junior Medley Relay team (2:13:35). In the GPS 6 x 50m All Age Freestyle relay Grammar emerged victorious for the second year in a row after a nail-biting final leg.

In Tennis the Firsts and Seconds gained good experience against traditionally very strong schools such as Newington and King’s. There were also some notable successes, such as the Firsts’ victory against Scots and the excellent record in the Under 13 age-group; most remarkably, the 13As did not drop a set all season.

Over 90 boys participated in the new Cross Fit program which offers constantly varied functional movements at high intensity and looks to increase fitness across a broad range of modal domains.
A day to remember

Butterflies gave way to burgers as First Formers were led through their first day at College Street by Fifth Form Peer Support Leaders.
Science beyond the curriculum

Richard Gong (I), Hugh Russell (I), Jules Hobkirk (III) and Dr Malcolm Binns write up their findings on SBTC’s latest scientific expeditions.

One could have been forgiven for thinking that the end of time was at hand in December 2011 when Grammar families spent a night at Sydney Observatory to watch the moon ‘turn to blood’ during one of the best lunar eclipses for many years. After sharing a (last?) meal at the adjacent Youth Hostel Association, boys and parents were treated to an early evening program of planets, stars and space exploration presented by the Observatory staff before the feature event began at midnight. Fortunately, the skies remained clear and provided an excellent view of this rare event.

Late in February 2012 geologist Dr Ian Graham (UNSW) accompanied boys and parents on a geological walking tour of Sydney city. Big School and surrounds are a common sight to Grammar boys who pass the building five days a week, but probably very few had noticed the archaic 1930s shell-grit mortar used to cement the roughly hewn blocks on the outside wall of the Edward Barton Room.

We also found that not all stone is as durable as the School’s Hawkesbury sandstone. It was evident that many of Sydney’s buildings are significantly eroding with the passage of time and the relentless fall of the city’s acid rain. Down by Circular Quay, the once mirror-smooth facades of buildings have become rough to the touch due to their limestone and serpentine veneers dissolving away in only a matter of decades.

Neither April Fool’s Day, nor the beginning of daylight saving fooled the thirty or so adventurers who set off in search of geological treasures on the Central Coast on Sunday 1 April. This time Dr Graham obtained access to private quarries where he had previously dated minerals. At Mulbring we swung our picks and mallets to extract Early Permian marine fossils from their 275 million year old rocky matrix, while at Kulnura we drove into the middle of a ‘recently’ extinct volcano. We finished the day with our pockets full of collectors’ items.

1 Basalt quarry at Kulnura
2 Calcite crystals
3 Significant erosion, Cook and Phillip Park
4 Finding fossils at Mulbring quarry
5 Stages of a lunar eclipse
We hear from seven more Old Sydneians about where life has taken them – so far.

Jonathan Patchett (OS 2007)
I got into the line of work because I knew from an early age I was very mechanically minded and enjoyed being ‘hands on’ with what I did. I started my apprenticeship the day after my very last HSC exam for a small domestic electrical company. After nine months I was contracted with a new company which operates on large projects such as the Sydney Cricket Ground, Sydney Football Stadium, Sydney Showground, Taronga Zoo, Queenwood School and Newington College and Sydney’s domestic and international airports, all of which I have worked on.

My work varies from jobs as mundane as digging holes and putting in mains cables, constructing and installing light fittings and connecting electrical equipment, to installing smart automation lighting and power wiring switchboards for large commercial venues such as Taronga Zoo and Queenwood, and installing data networks and PA and evacuation systems.

After four years of study and work, I am now a fully qualified electrician and plan on starting my own business in the near future. For the time being, however, I am still keen to continue learning more ‘tricks of the trade’ from others with more experience in the industry. I was nominated for the NEC NSW Electrical Apprentice of the Year (commercial/domestic category) in 2011. After making it onto the shortlist, I was pleased to be awarded 3rd place in the State.

William Hyams (OS 1997)
I have had an interesting journey since leaving Grammar. After graduating from the University of Sydney (BA Hons) in 2001, I went four-wheel driving around the country with fellow Old Sydneian Adam Perl.

After returning I pursued a Master’s Degree in Tourism at James Cook University, Townsville, specialising in the emerging field of Ecotourism. My research was part of a nationwide collaboration to develop national codes of practice for the sustainable management of tourism interactions with dugongs and marine turtles. Field research took me to iconic locations including Ningaloo Reef, Shark Bay (WA) and the Hinchenbrook Channel (Qld). This experience inspired me to commence doctoral studies exploring the importance of traditional knowledge in the development of Indigenous ecotourism. Aside from publication opportunities, my work facilitated the market entry of two (now multi-award winning) Indigenous tourism experiences. Via new Australian Government funding I was later employed on a two-year contract to advance the Indigenous tourism sector across north Queensland. While this role ultimately diverted me from my doctoral research, it has opened up further career opportunities.

I am now employed with the Queensland Government providing Indigenous enterprise support across north Queensland, including Palm Island. My wife Claire and I really enjoy the lifestyle of north Queensland with our growing family of bears.

Robin Marshall (OS 2000)
Applying to universities in Sydney seemed like all the rage back in ’09. After a brief stint at one following school, I fast became disillusioned with the serenity and sunlight that is Sydney. I was seeking dreary, overcast weather and I needed Daniel Radcliffe to autograph my first edition of Harry Potter. Thus out I missed the film-set by several years, but the city of Durham is still as magical as I first imagined when I applied to study English Literature at the University two years ago.

Durham is three hours north of London on the northeast coast of England, surrounded by beautiful rolling hills and an equally beautiful

Durham Castle – (inset) Robin Marshall
local northern accent. Living in an 11th century Norman castle has its perks, despite the very outdated 'heating system' and surprising lack of bidding house elves. Meals are eaten in the Great Hall, and twice weekly we attend formal dinners in academic gowns. Despite this, it's really not as pretentious as it sounds.

The university system in England ensures that everyone who applies to a university is not originally from that part of the country. The diverse mix of people alone makes this city an incredibly stimulating place to study, not to mention the inspirational lectures taught by equally inspirational lecturers. There is a plethora of clubs and societies to join, both within one's college as well as university-wide. I could not recommend the University of Durham more to any Grammar boy wishing to study in the UK.

**Philip Freeman (GS 1992)**

Phil has worked for the Australian Conservation Foundation for the past five years as a campaigner for action on climate change. In July he will become National Manager of Communications at WWF Australia.

I first became interested in environmental problems and solutions when studying geography at Grammar. This led me to study environmental policy and law at Sydney University and at the University of California, Berkeley. Since then, I've moved away from corporate law to corporate lawyer, to volunteer stints in Sri Lanka and East Timor, and now working in the not-for-profit sector.

Why do I work on climate change? I look back to my grandparents who in 1938 were well-to-do Jewish parents in Nazi Germany. They were visited by a business acquaintance who had ended up in the SS. He risked his neck and tipped off my grandparents, telling them that if they didn't leave Germany within a month they would be sent to a concentration camp. So they faced a terrible choice, with huge consequences. Would they listen to this warning, or would they wait and see, hoping things would blow over? I'm glad they made the right choice. I guess the moral of the story is that most big decisions have to be made on limited or contested information -- but who do you trust, and is delay a viable option? On climate change I trust the methodology of peer-reviewed science.

**James Mackay (GS 2012)**

By the time I left school nearly a decade ago, I already had my sights set firmly on training as an actor. This was largely thanks to the Grammar drama programme, and its rare combination of excellent plays and infectious passion from the masters who produced, directed, and on one memorable occasion, appeared in them.

The first step was a three-year stint at Sydney University, ostensibly completing an Arts Degree; in fact, a thinly-veiled excuse to do as much student theatre as humanly possible. At the end of 2005 I was accepted into the acting course at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) in Perth, a whirlwind three years of acting classes of every method imaginable, as well as rigorous voice and movement.

Above: James Mackay as Dancecry in STC’s ‘Les Liaisons Dangereuses’ with Hugo Weaving as Vilmont

Left: James Mackay as Charles Stewart in ‘Singularly’ directed by Roland Joffé
training. The cruelty of drama school is that it prepares you for a frequency and intensity of work you will never encounter in the industry, and the first significant steps into the profession are about managing the ubiquitous waiting, frustration and disappointment, rather than working.

The past couple of years have been more consistent and kindly, however, including pinch-me moments like working for Roland Joffe in his upcoming film *Singularity* (a sweeping historical epic set in colonial India), to my current job - sharing a stage with actors I have long admired at the Sydney Theatre Company, in one of my favourite plays, Christopher Hampton's *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*.

**Associate Professor Michael Kohn (OS 1978)**

I studied Medicine after school, eventually found my niche in Paediatrics and moved to New York for three years pursuing a postgraduate Fellowship in Adolescent Medicine. This was an emerging area of clinical medicine that seemed to be a good fit. You needed to be an 'all-rounder', generally tolerant and non-judgemental, and have an interest in developing an evidence base to support the field. Returning to Australia and finding employment in a public (universal) health care system with strong academic connections and ease of access to energetic and like-minded colleagues was more than I could have hoped.

Over the last 15 years I have had the opportunity to be a member of many teams and innovate in clinical practice, establishing services for homeless youth, eating disorders, weight management and drug and alcohol. A research focus on the neurobiology of how mental and physical health may be linked has enabled local and international collaboration. This has led to media and policy interest, and invitations to participate in government and NGO committees.

I very much enjoyed the camaraderie from inclusiveness I experienced at Grammar and the grounding in a classical education through which I have sought to question and challenge what is presented as knowledge. I have tried to temper these drives and attend to the necessities of ageing, whilst also being a husband, father and provider.

**Jonathan Steinbeck (OS 1987)**

After finishing at Grammar in 1987 I entered university and eventually graduated with a MA (Asian Studies) from the University of New South Wales. This path finally led me to fulfill my ambition of joining the Army. My career as an Army Officer has not been typical but it has given me some fantastic opportunities. I have had long term postings in Indonesia, Malaysia and South Korea as well as operational deployments to East Timor and the Middle East.

I am now back in Indonesia for a second time, attending the Indonesian Military’s senior staff college, which is conducted wholly in Indonesian - somewhat ironic given the very sensible recommendation I was given at Grammar that I should not study any foreign languages beyond First Form; my French and Latin marks were not inspiring. The staff college is in Bandung on the island of Java and I am studying alongside approximately 100 Indonesian officers. It is a great opportunity to see the world through Indonesian eyes and is one of the ways that the Australian Defence Force tries to increase mutual understanding between us and the military of our closest neighbour. Indonesia has certainly developed in the ten years ago since I was last posted here. It still faces big challenges, not the least of which is a projected doubling of its population over the next thirty years. These challenges make it an exciting time to be back here supporting a key relationship for both countries.

[Editor's note: Jonathan still holds no fewer than eight SGS swimming records!]

*[Image of Michael Kohn]*

*[Image of Jonathan Steinbeck]*
From the archives
Gordon Cooper, Archivist, writes:

NEWS FROM THE FRONT
When accessioning a collection of papers recently the Assistant Archivist, Bridget Minatel, came across a letter written from the front lines at Gallipoli to the Headmaster, HNP Sloman, by AA Abbott, the son of a Major-General in the British Army and a member of the School staff from 1913-1915. Abbott took leave from the School and enlisted in the 1st AIF with the rank of Captain. The letter, dated 1 November, 1915, was written about five weeks before the commencement of the withdrawal of the Australian troops from the Gallipoli Peninsula.
Abbott gives a first-hand account of the experiences of an Australian soldier fighting on the front: freezing cold and wet in the winter; hot, with swarms of flies and other insects in the summer; the horror of the rotting corpses in no man's land, the apparent impossibility of either side making any headway against the other. Probably the most interesting part of the letter is Abbott's very conservatice political stance. He was a strong supporter of conscription, later to be rejected by the Australian voters in the referendums of 1916 and 1917, and he expressed the view that the Germans were prosecuting the war with a ‘singleness of purpose’, which he contrasted to the ‘apathetic’ of those of the British and her allies were not mobilising their resources as effectively as the Germans.

Gordon Cooper, Archivist

THANK YOU
The Archivist wishes to thank the following people for their kind donations:

Paul Isherwood – newspaper article about Andrew Grace (OS 1989);
funeral orders of service
John Matley – memorabilia
Richard Adamsor – class photos
David King – photo of father in military uniform
Robert Lehane – his book on William Iland (see photograph)
Philip Seith – obituary for Simon Kerr SC (OS 1989)

David Meale – monograph on Norman Stead (OS 1925), murdered in Darlington in 1936
Hugh Martin – prize book of CE Weigall
The Hon BJK Cohen – four photographs
Anne and Roger Goldfinch – sports blazer with pocket belonging to Arthur Campbell (OS 1931)
Jim Windrayer – his book on WA Windrayer (see photograph)
Cranbrook School Archives

LOOKING BACK
In this remarkable photograph two very youthful future Headmasters of the School, Herbert Dettmann and ‘Sandy’ Phillips, appear together. Messrs Savigny, Marks and Giles all have current trophies or prizes at the School named after them, as does Barbour’s son, Eric, whose beautiful sandstone double staircase at the northern end of the School (shown in part here) was demolished to make way for the War Memorial Wing in the 1950s.

“Masters of the Lower School, 1906”
Top: ____, HS Dettmann, FG Philips
Middle: ____, WH Savigny, DP O’Reilly, ____, ____, H Marks
Seated: R Bode, D McBurney, A Giles, CJD Goldie, GP Barbour

Gordon Cooper, Archivist
ANNUAL DINNER

The 2012 Annual Dinner will be held at the Union, University and Schools Club on Friday 24 August and we are very pleased to announce that David Gonski AO is to be our guest speaker. Members and guests are invited to attend the dinner by registering online at www.osu.com.au or by calling 9332 5888.

1951 REUNION

A group of 1951 Old Sydneians celebrated their 60-year reunion with an enjoyable luncheon at Welchall Pavilion on Friday 28 October 2011. Amongst those who attended were (front, left to right): Bruce Robin, Nigel Butterley, John Tunkard, Paul Jeremy, Gilbert Ashby, Don Heath, Peter Nathan, John Edwards (Convener), Alan Grundy, David Emanuel, John Webster; (standing left to right): Jeff Harry, John Bell, John Button, Ernie Young, John Butler, Richard Utley, Doug Muras, Cameron Darnam and (back): Geoff Barratt, Peter North, Ian Mackay, Peter Robinson, Michael Pine, Peter Meldrum, Darrell Myers, Roger Wilkinson, Ian Fitger, John Gray, John Carrick, Geoff Seddon, Wally Forbes and Peter Rauma.

UK BRANCH DINNER

On Friday 4 November 2011 eighteen Old Sydneians gathered for the OSU (UK Branch) Annual Dinner at The Oxford & Cambridge Club on Pall Mall. All in attendance engaged in a lively, roundtable discussion about the future of the OSU here in the UK, and how we can ensure it remains relevant, with a number of very useful suggestions being proposed.

In attendance were Ken O’Cono, Adrian Jack, Chris Joak, Steve Hall, Justin Hall, Alan Sko, Simon Gooling, Philip Sourry, Philip Parr, Seamus Bone, Hamish Macdonald, Llewellyn Thomas, James Birrell, Peter Tsoulis, Ian Brett, Marc Halpern, David Andrews and James Altken.

While we did not realise it at the time, our dinner was also our last opportunity to toast our dear friend Ken Deane, who subsequently passed away just before Christmas after a brief illness. Being part of the OSU was very important to Ken: with the exception of the two years when he was out of the country, he had not missed an OSU UK annual dinner since 1960. He loved them, and would unfailingly catch the train down from Ripon each year. He will be sorely missed.

There are currently one hundred or so Old Sydneians in the UK and Adrian Jack and James Altken hope to meet most of them in the year ahead.
OSU IS COMING TO THE USA
In September the Union will hold its first functions in New York and Los Angeles, with a view to establishing OSU Chapters in the US. Please visit the website either to register your interest in attending these functions, or just to let us know that you or other Old Boys now reside in the US.

STAYING IN TOUCH WITH THE UNION
Your current email address is the most important information we need to serve you best. Of the 15,000 or so eligible members, we currently have only 5,600 email addresses, so please let us have your updated contact details. www.osu.com.au is where you can register and establish your OSU Profile and Preferences, and register your interest in a range of events. You are also invited to register your details with our new Linkedin site.

GPS GOLD CHALLENGE 2012
The GPS Gold Challenge is an event held every two years for Old Boys of the AAGPS who have reached, or are about to reach, the age of 50. It aims to rekindle friendships among former classmates, develop new contacts among the GPS fraternity, and raise money for our designated charity, Hedkite, an organisation which assists children suffering from cancer, and their families. The 2012 GPS Gold Challenge will be held at Riverview on Saturday 6 October with the golf competition conducted the day before at Ryde-Parramatta Golf Club. This year’s event will be run as a ‘double header’ with Old Boys from both the leaving classes of 1979 and 1980 participating in separate competitions. There are nine competitions – golf, rowing, tennis, touch rugby, indoor cricket, athletics, swimming, basketball and debating – followed by a dinner on the Saturday night.

Enquiries please to Neil Karpin (Neil@stairform.com.au) for 1979 leavers; and Tony Wakefield (TonyWakefield@mbwsydne.com.au) for 1980 leavers.

OSU SCHOLAR FOR 2012
Ian Matchett (pictured below) is the recipient of the OSU Scholarship for 2012 and received his award at the Scholar’s Dinner from the Patron of the Union, Sir Anthony Mason, and the Headmaster, Dr John Vaile. Ian hopes to go to the US for his undergraduate studies next year and then to study Medicine in Australia.

MENTORING PROGRAM
A feature of the three remaining Mentoring Program functions this year will be a keynote speech by an invited speaker followed by discussion. For full details please go to www.osu.com.au

All Old Boys enquiries
If you have any enquiries please contact Wendy Scotter in the Development Office.
Tel +61 2 9332 5888 Fax +61 2 9332 5866 Email info@osu.com.au

ANZAC LUNCH
FRIDAY 27 APRIL 2012

Foundation
Issue 46

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Front cover photograph – Flag Party, Army Cadets Ceremonial Parade
Back cover photograph – Wherever I lay my hat (That’s my home)
Photographs courtesy Tim Molloy