



# THE *Thistle*

KNOX GRAMMAR SCHOOL MAGAZINE



ISSUE 01  
JUNE

# 19

## Knox Gala Day

A showcase of  
community spirit

## School Council

Welcome to the new  
Chairman of Knox  
Grammar School

## Knox Imagine

The Junior Academy  
and Performing Arts  
Centre was officially  
opened on 24 May

Established in 1924, Knox Grammar School offers an innovative approach to education within a caring environment. Knox, a leading Australian day and boarding school, aims to develop children to succeed and grow into young people of faith, wisdom, integrity, compassion and courage. Knox is a Uniting Church school and operates three campuses: Knox Prep (K-6 boys), Wahroonga Prep (Pre-K to Year 6 girls and boys), and Knox Senior School (Years 7-12 day boys and boarders).

## ON THE FRONT COVER

'The Death of Mercutio' from *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare was performed by selected academic Drama students from Years 10 and 11 at Knox Imagine.

## KNOX SOCIAL MEDIA

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# The Junior Academy AND PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE



**MR SCOTT  
JAMES**

Headmaster of Knox  
Grammar School

After a sneak peek on 9 April, it was a great thrill for our Years 7 and 8 students to officially walk into the Junior Academy and Performing Arts Centre at the start of Term 2. The Junior Academy will be a place that allows Years 7 and 8 students to have a common and shared area of the school in which they can hold classes, engage in recreational ‘play’, and congregate and build upon a shared identity.

With construction commencing in February 2017, the ambitious facility has taken approximately two years to build and provides students and staff with outstanding facilities including a 750-seat auditorium, 160-seat drama space, state-of-the-art music, dance and drama teaching rooms, and a large collaborative learning space as part of the Junior Academy.

The Academy model, that now includes the Junior (Years 7 and 8) and Senior (Years 11 and 12) Academies, will take students on a three-stage journey through the Senior School and allow students to experience a differentiation from stage to stage.



\*  
**Top** Rehearsing  
inside the Drama  
Theatre  
**Right** Music  
classes in full swing



✱  
**Top left**  
Morning Assembly  
for Years 7 and  
8 in the Wenkart  
Theatre

**Bottom right**  
Hugh Jackman  
(OKG86) and  
Belinda Wilson  
- *My Fair Lady*  
1985 Musical

The Junior Academy is age specific for teaching and learning for Years 7 and 8 students, supported by administrative and organisational structures focussing on social development as well as the provision of physical structures.

The Academy model of education will ensure Knox is well positioned to meet the educational, organisational and social challenges of the immediate and longer-term future. Thus Knox balances the small school aims with larger and historic school traditions and efficiencies. The learning spaces in the Performing Arts Centre will provide another outlet for students to interact. When combined with dance, music, drama and audio visual, students use the creative side of the brain, consequently serving to generate a rich array of reciprocal benefits for both students and our community.

Music and the performing arts have always been part of our culture and has grown to be an essential part of school life at Knox. For example, the Drama Club (or Dramatic Society as it was also known) was inaugurated in 1929. The intent stated in the *Knox Grammarian* was "... not so much for the furtherance of art as for the educational advantages derived from acting."

The Performing Arts Centre will provide an environment that is uniquely collaborative and creative

and caters for students of all abilities and ages. Undoubtedly, performing arts is an essential part of education. The skills gained in taking part in music and theatre are skills that set students up to cope with life after Knox. That is resilience, communication, empathy and humility.

“

The skills gained in taking part in music and theatre are skills that set students up to cope with life after Knox.

Hugh Jackman (OKG86) said, "The first musical I was ever part of was the phenomenal *The Music Man*. The year was 1983, and I was at Knox Grammar School in Sydney, Australia. I was one of the travelling salesmen, and I think I can actually (almost) remember that unforgettable opening number! That was probably the moment when the magic of theatre was born in me."

We anticipate many more unique experiences to come as the boys fully utilise the Junior Academy and Performing Arts Centre.



## FAST FACTS



**5700m<sup>3</sup>**  
of concrete

**650T**  
of reinforcing  
steel



**1250m<sup>3</sup>**  
of glass

**106,000+**  
bricks



**3,397,663**  
man-hours  
worked

At Knox Imagine, Mr James revealed the Junior Academy would be called the Roach Junior Academy in recognition of the service given to the School by Mr Peter Roach, past Chairman of School Council.

The Wenkart Theatre and Francis Rehearsal Room within the Junior Academy and Performing Arts Centre were also officially named.



# An Introduction TO OUR NEW CHAIRMAN



**MR SIMON  
ROTHERY**

Chairman of Knox  
Grammar School

**I am extremely humbled and proud to be the new Chairman of Knox Grammar School.**

My son Ben has been here since Kindergarten and I have been on the School Council for nine years. I studied economics and finance at Macquarie University and then joined the world of investment banking.

In fact, my passion for economics and finance was very much fostered by a wonderful teacher who I had in Years 11 and 12. He was a young, first year teacher by the name of Mr Phil Harmer. Yes, the same Mr Harmer who is here teaching at Knox!

The School Council's role is to set and oversee the governance framework of the School so that the Headmaster, executive team and staff are then empowered and have the autonomy to execute the School's strategy.

Knox has a wonderfully diverse School Council who have a wide range of skills and professional backgrounds. We have barristers, lawyers, accountants, bankers, technologists, property specialists, philanthropists, communications, media and government specialists as well as Olympians represented on School Council.

While I enjoy finance and its markets, education is a belief for me. I believe that the most important gift that you can give to your children is the best possible education. This is why making a contribution to Knox through the School Council has a true sense of personal purpose for me. I know I can say the same for my fellow School Council members.

The boys and girls of Knox Grammar School, Knox Preparatory School and Wahroonga Preparatory School will be entering a workforce that is rapidly changing.

A world where social media and technology will fundamentally change the nature of work. Globalisation, artificial intelligence and the fourth industrial revolution will herald more change for the next decade than the last half century.

A world where our students will need to think totally differently about their careers.

A world of opportunity but a world that is yet to be invented and one that will require courage, our latest value, and the first time since the School was founded that we have added an additional school value.

✱

**Above and right**  
The Knox Junior Academy and Performing Arts Centre is located on the Senior School campus with a connecting bridge to the Great Hall.  
Image credit – Michael Chorley.





We believe that the students of Knox will require a skill set beyond the standardised HSC curriculum. We want to encourage excellence, curiosity and innovation within the curriculum.

Our scale, breadth and depth, commitment to Knox Total Fitness, wellbeing programs, sport and co-curricular activities, social justice programs and all of the other dimensions of Knox will set our boys and girls up for success in a very different world, a world where courage and resilience will be required. As a School Council, together with the Headmaster, we are looking towards the future to prepare and equip them.

The newly opened Junior Academy and Performing Arts Centre is a world-class facility, incorporating two theatres, a music rehearsal room, recording lab, green room, dance studio, chamber music room as well as 15 private music tuition rooms and six music classrooms. It is home for the Knox Academy of Performing Arts as well as Academic Drama and Music.

The Junior Academy, for Years 7 and 8 boys, focusses on introducing them to secondary school and instilling good learning habits. A key aim of the Junior Academy is to enable each boy to engage and flourish within a comprehensive academic and co-curricular program. These important first years of secondary school are

an important time to develop a boy's sense of personal identity and character formation.

The Middle Academy, for Years 9 and 10 boys, is focussed on building confidence and character, encouraging teamwork and autonomous learning. The School Council has approved the development of a Middle Academy area which will look and feel different to anything the School has done before. The boys will be involved and asked for their input for what will be a very innovative space.

Under this plan, the Senior School will then have three physical academies under the one campus - it is indeed exciting times ahead for Knox as we cater for the specific learning and development needs to support boys through their schooling.

Those who work in education have a profound impact on the lives of students. Certainly they shape our children's future, each and every day. The American historian Henry Brooks Adams best surmises this when he said, "teachers affect eternity, no one can tell where their influence stops." All staff at Knox make the School the special place it is.

I feel privileged to serve as the new Chairman of School Council.

“  
Knox will set our  
boys and girls  
up for success in  
a very different  
world, a world  
where courage  
and resilience will  
be required.”



# Knox Imagine

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE KNOX JUNIOR ACADEMY  
AND PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE









# Around THE GROUNDS



## ANZAC MEMORIAL SERVICE

A meaningful tribute was held on Sunday 19 May for the ANZAC Memorial Service for the Old Knox Grammarians' Association and Ceremonial Parade of the Knox Grammar Cadet Unit. Thank you, Brigadier Ben James AM DSM, who served as the Reviewing Officer.



## KICKING GOALS

Braeden Campbell (Y12) was selected to represent Australia in an AFL match against New Zealand played at Marvel Stadium, Docklands Victoria.

## BASKETBALL CHAMPS

Congratulations to the 1sts Basketball Team on its 71-44 win against St Aloysius' College in the final game for the season. The boys won the CAS Championship and have gone unbeaten for a record 18 games straight in the CAS Competition.



## REPRESENTING NSW

Congratulations to Branden Tse (Y7) who won the All Round Best Male Recurve Award at the National Youth Archery Championship! Representing NSW as a recurve archer, Branden won three gold, one silver and one bronze medal.







## CAS SWIMMING SUCCESS

Congratulations to the Knox Swimming Team which won the CAS Championship for the third year a row!



## Winning Trifecta

Henri Day, Robert Sanderson and Hamish Jones at the Knox Surf Lifesaving Invitational Carnival held at Whale Beach on 16 February.



## RUGBY TOUR

Boys from the 1st and 2nds teams enjoyed playing matches in Fukuoka and Oita as well as immersing themselves in the unique Japanese culture on their tour of Japan in April.



## A WIN FOR TENNIS

Congratulations to the 1sts Tennis Team, winning the CAS Championship with a 7-1 win defeating St Aloysius' College.



## TRAINING WITH THE BEST

Year 7 Cricketers welcomed Australian players Alex Blackwell, Josh Hazlewood and Amanda-Jade Wellington to an incredible after school training session featuring games, drills and a Q&A session.





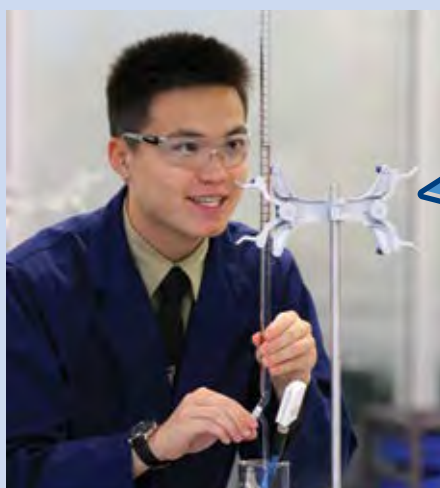
## Bronte Campbell

Australian Olympian Bronte Campbell was a special guest speaker for our Swimming and Diving Team ahead of the CAS Championships. Bronte shared her tips on how to deal with nerves, moving on from disappointment and how to prepare for a big race.



## PREP ON TRACK

The Knox Prep Track and Field saw Years 3-6 compete in events including sprints, discus, shot put, long jump and high jump.



## BEST WISHES

Will Liu (Y12) has been selected for the Australian Chemistry Olympiad Team that will compete in the International Olympiads in Paris in July.



## BREAKING A TEN YEAR OLD RECORD

Congratulations to the Knox Prep Relay Team which won gold at the NSWPSSA State Swimming Championships.



## TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

More than 400 boys participated across 64 events at the Senior School House Track and Field Championships which were held at Narrabeen. Well done to the overall winner, Sinclair House.





## A TRIP TO THE ZOO

As part of their Science studies of 'classification', Year 7 Biology students enjoyed an excursion to Taronga Zoo.



## Ugandan Choir

The 100% hOPE Ugandan Children's Choir were welcomed in the Great Hall by students from Knox Prep, Wahroonga Prep and Ravenswood who got involved with the traditional and contemporary acapella singing, dancing and African rhythm drumming.



## DANCE ENSEMBLE

The KAPA Dance Ensemble featuring 18 boys and girls showcased solos, duets and group pieces in a concert held in the Francis Auditorium on 21 March.



## WOODWINDS ON THE BOULEVARD

Clarinet players across Years 9, 10 and 11 provided lunchtime musical entertainment as part of Woodwinds on the Boulevard.



## PREP MUSIC CAMP

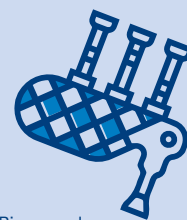
Over 230 boys took part in the Knox Prep Music Camp and were treated to performances by Ambika Circus and TaikOz drummers. The weekend culminated in a concert for family and friends.







## Scots Highland Gathering

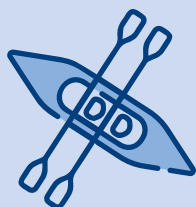


On 31 March, the Knox Pipes and Drums Competition Bands #1 and #2 participated in The Scots College Highland Gathering with many accolades won. The Competition Band #1 was awarded the Lynch Family Cup for the Best Drum Corp in a Juvenile Grade. Congratulations to all involved.



## DISPLAYING WONDERFUL SPORTSMANSHIP AND CHESS ETIQUETTE THROUGHOUT THE SEASON

Well done to the Knox Chess Team which defended its 2018 CAS title and is the 2019 CAS Chess Champion.



## YEAR 4 CAMP

Year 4 enjoyed stand up paddle boarding and canoeing on Lake Macquarie.



## HAPPY CAMPER

Billy Barwick (3S) preparing for his 'giant swing' adventure whilst on Year 3 Camp at Milson Island Sport and Recreation Centre.



## 2019 NSW State Da Vinci Decathlon

Congratulations to the Knox Year 6 team that placed first overall. Well done also to the Year 5 and Year 8 (pictured) teams that placed second overall.







## KEEPING COOL

50 boys drifting down the Colo River at the Year 5 Camp held at Somerset.



## Not Afraid of Heights

Year 6 used their teamwork skills to build milk crates up as high as they could go at Year 6 Camp.



## YEAR 7 CAMP

Many new friendships were forged across Year 7 Camp held at Crosslands Reserve and Berowra Valley National Park.



## MEN FROM SNOWY RIVER

The Year 10 Snowy Mountains Expedition Camp challenged the boys through a variety of outdoor activities.



## 2019 RAAF BOMBER COMMAND COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE

The Pipes and Drums Highland Band participated in the RAAF Bomber Command Commemorative Service held at the Cenotaph in Martin Place in May. The band were under the direction of Pipe Major Austin Wagner, Lead Drummer Viruna Tennakoon and Drum Major William Denton. As part of the service, Jake Evans played *The Last Post* and *Reveille*.





# NEW CURRICULUM PLATFORM

# Knoxigations



**MRS SUE  
FLORO**

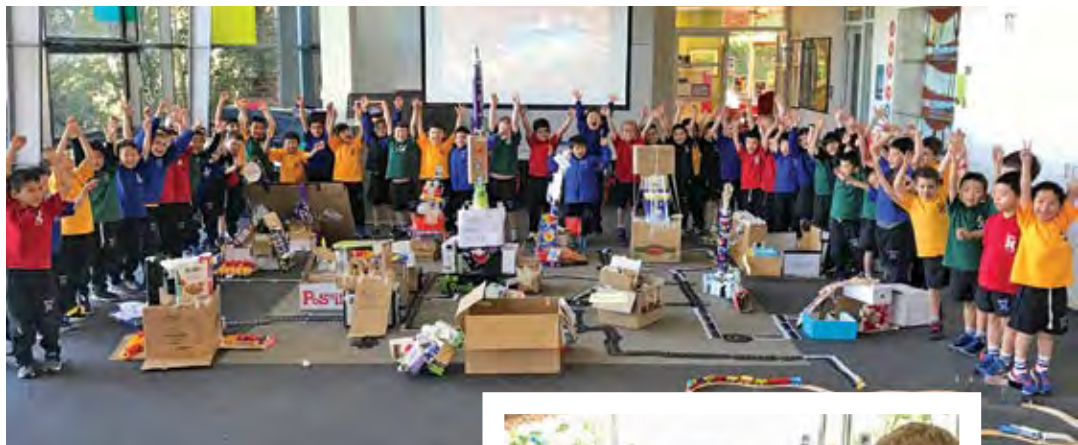
Head of Knox  
Preparatory School

## What does the graduate of 2030 and beyond need to thrive?

This was the focus of our discussions at Knox Prep during 2018, and we embarked on a significant curriculum development project, with the aim of ensuring that not only what our boys learn, but the way they learn it, will prepare them for what can only be described as an ever changing world.

Our new Knoxigations units are designed using recent learning research. We case study and explicitly teach the Australian content, whilst also teaching the skills of the inquiry. The boys then apply those newly learnt skills in an independent or small group inquiry focused on the issues at hand on a global scale. The program is problem based, investigative in nature and designed to encourage the boys to understand their role in making a difference in our world.

We are so thrilled with the results! Our boys are engaged in such deep learning; they are excited about all they're doing at School, and they are taking action independently. Knox Prep is an exciting place to be!



## KINDERGARTEN

**Mrs Mary Mae Burton,  
Kindergarten Team Leader**

As part of our Knoxigations unit on 'People Work Together in Communities', Kindergarten went on their very first excursion to Wannabees Family Playtown. There was great anticipation and excitement amongst the boys as they were able to experience many different occupations, dressing up and role playing. There were builders, tilers, doctors, firemen, postal workers, TV presenters, supermarket workers, chefs and waiters. The boys were highly engaged, being active and learning through play. Through the magic of Virtual Reality, the boys were also able to experience what it was like to be a farmer, a pilot, a policeman and even a fireman.

Kindergarten boys finished their Knoxigations unit by spending a day collaborating, designing, creating and building their very own community made up of different structures to meet needs and wants. There were a huge variety of buildings from courthouses to skyscrapers and Science laboratories. It was an excellent end to their learning of this particular unit of inquiry.



When learning about how 'Celebrations Connect Communities' the boys experienced and explored a variety of cultures from around the world. They created their own celebration and identified traditions that made their celebration special.

After caring for some baby chickens, the boys applied their knowledge and created their own celebration, calling it 'Chick Celebration Day'. The aim of this day was to connect the K-2 students and teach them about responsibility. They suggested this celebration happens every year after the chicks have hatched and are big enough to play. Our next study was 'Foods from Farms and Factories' and the boys made a connection to their first unit, deciding to celebrate that chickens give us eggs to eat. During this unit, the boys enjoyed a variety of hands-on experiences. They looked at how produce is transported and why these systems may be used, questioned why farms are different around the world and created flow charts about what processes foods go through to get to our plates. One of the highlights was the use of Virtual Reality headsets. The boys visited a variety of farms and

## YEAR 1

**Ms Emma Davey,  
Year 1 Team Leader**

Year 1 boys are embracing inquiry learning within the school environment. Their questions, ideas and observations have been at the centre of their educational experience. During our Knoxigations units of work, the boys have explored 'Stories of the World and its People' and 'Interconnected Systems'.





“

Students are encouraged to express their thoughts and challenge one another's ideas.

the teachers watched as wonder transformed into knowledge. The boys developed their coding skills, programming an Ozbit robot to follow the path of their flowchart. The boys then made parents an afternoon tea and presented their discoveries using their new skills.

During these experiences, the boys have had the opportunity to develop stronger relationships with their classmates, improve their communication skills as well as increase the confidence they have in their own ideas and ability to contribute in the classroom. There is an exciting culture in which students are encouraged to express their thoughts and challenge one another's ideas.

## YEAR 2

### **Miss Alicia Watson, Year 2 Team Leader**

In Year 2 the boys are embarking on a journey to deepen their understanding of concepts as part of our Knoxigations inquiry units. The concepts of tradition, change, responsibility, systems and connection are explored through a range of engaging activities where the boys are encouraged to demonstrate and explore their curiosity.

As part of our first Knoxigations unit, we have learnt that 'Stories from the Past Shape our Future'. Year 2 boys have explored the past traditions and culture of Knox. A visit to the School's Archive and Museum in the Senior School allowed the boys to investigate the history of the Prep School, inquire into past traditions and see why these traditions still exist today. In addition to the visit, the boys were given a historical tour of the campus with long standing staff member, Mr Dougal Cole. This gave the students a first-hand experience and their discovery of the original layout of the School led to a discussion of the need for change. After the tour, Year 2 applied their knowledge to then code the timeline of the tour using Ozobots.

Our second Knoxigations unit was 'Ecosystems are Everywhere', sparking some excellent questions and discussion amongst the boys. An excursion to Narrabeen Coastal Environment Centre provided an authentic hands-on experience for the boys as they explored the rock pools and identified the living and non-living things as part of the coastal ecosystem. The 'Celebration of Learning' demonstrated the boys' knowledge and understanding of what makes an ecosystem and how all parts are interconnected, using Minecraft Edu.

It has been great to see the boys develop their social skills as part of the inquiry process. They are learning to listen to, respect and value the opinions of others as well as respond to discussions based on information from their findings. These skills are necessary to challenge the ideas and opinions of others and self-reflect on how their ideas have changed as their knowledge, understanding and skills grow and develop.

## YEAR 3

### **Mr Glenn Stephenson, Year 3 Team Leader**

During Term 1, the Year 3 boys have studied 'Commemorating Significant Events Connects Us to Our Past', as part of the 'Stories of the World and its People' Knoxigations inquiry. Students investigated significant events in Australia's history that we commemorate as a nation, explored the unique reasons for these commemorations and sought to understand how various commemorations in Australia and around the world are both the same and different.

Students participated in an insightful case study on the commemoration of ANZAC Day, exploring its meaning, associated symbols/emblems and its importance to both Australian and New Zealand people.



The inquiry into the 'Big Idea' for this domain culminated in a 'Global Commemorations Expo' which was held towards the end of the term. During this informative event, students presented their comprehensive research on a global commemoration of their choice. The boys delighted in sharing and discussing their work with those who were in attendance.

Throughout this inquiry we explored the difference between a commemoration and a celebration before researching various examples of commemorations from around the world. It was interesting to learn about the unique ways in which people remember significant events and how these can vary depending on your own cultural or religious background. All of the boys also really enjoyed the Global Commemorations Expo and sharing their work with the many parents in attendance.

**– Bruce Ding, 3S**

The Year 3 teachers were also all extremely pleased to see the overall growth and development in the students' understanding of various global commemorations as the boys outlined and discussed their newfound knowledge.

The Year 3 team very much looks forward to the remaining Knoxigations inquiry programs which students will be exploring throughout the rest of the year and to further provide parents with opportunities to celebrate in the boys' authentic learning journeys in 2019.





## YEAR 4

### Mr Jared Rastall, Year 4 Team Leader

In our first Knoxigations unit in the 'Stories of the World and its People' domain, Year 4 learnt and applied their historical and geographical skills to investigate a specific explorer, their journeys and discoveries. Through the inquiry, the boys began to understand that exploration changes our understanding of the world.

As young detectives, they studied a variety of historical world maps in small groups to make connections between particular time periods and world events. They also learnt about the motivations behind certain explorers. The boys made some important discoveries such as the fact that it wasn't Captain James Cook who discovered Australia and nor was it the British who made first contact with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. They also learnt the importance of collaboration; to more effectively process information, boys worked in small teams to 'jigsaw' texts. This is where they divided up text, read their part, considered the main idea and collected some 'Very Important Points' (VIPs) to report back to the group.

The boys worked on formulating 'Un-Googleable' questions they had of a chosen explorer and set about collecting a variety of sources including videos,

websites and books to respond. They produced a discovery map to document and timeline the voyages. The boys learnt about weather patterns such as the 'roaring forties' and came to understand how discoveries such as this influenced exploration and even made it easier. The boys considered how exploration looks different today and they thought about how technology could have made a difference in the past. Using Micro:bits they coded tools that would be useful for explorers including a working compass and transmitter.

As our unit progressed, the boys began to reflect on the character strengths that explorers would demonstrate in order to be successful. They finally thought about the roles they might play in the future exploration of our planet and universe. The unit provided the perfect transition to our second Knoxigations unit on colonisation in the 'Interconnected Systems' domain.

## YEAR 5

### Mrs Tammy Paterson, Year 5 Team Leader

Our Year 5 boys began the year with a look into the future! Our first unit encompassed future city design with our big idea 'Inclusive Design, Sustainable Cities' steering our path. The boys explored the concepts of cause and effect, inclusion, sustainability and change. Initially, we looked at specific examples of cities around the world in terms of their design, use and versatility. A comparison of Canberra and Sydney, showed the benefit of planning ahead and how Canberra was planned so well that it has virtually remained unchanged despite a large population rise.

Once we had tuned in and gathered some information, it was time to get creative and start planning some ideas for our own future cities. The boys used a set of guiding principles under the headings of inclusion and sustainability and were able to choose which category they were interested in learning more about. Once they had chosen their guiding principle it was time to justify their choice.

*What guiding principle did you choose? Why was this important to you?*

Infrastructure forms the foundation for everything in your city. A lot of things can be built in your city such as hospitals, roads, and other services such as policing and infrastructure design and holds it altogether.

– **Charlie Neave, 50**

Designing cities for people who are disabled actually enables better access for all people such as the elderly and mothers with prams. It is the right thing to do and should be the minimum standards by all.

– **Caleb Le Roy, 5T**

Throughout this part of the process the boys gathered their research online and conducted interviews. Year 5 were lucky to have Mr Kamal Prasad (5T parent) come and speak about building sustainable cities of the future. The presentation was engaging and very informative. The boys gained valuable insight into what aspects they need to consider when designing their future cities.

Towards the end of the unit, the boys then applied this knowledge in the creation of a future city (physical model) which they created in teams of three to four students. The boys enjoyed forming groups within a combination of classes.







Below is a student recount of his Knoxigation project.

Under the 'Tinkering Towards Tomorrow' domain, our big idea was that 'Technology Protects Communities'. We designed a *National Geographic* magazine and based this on our chosen natural disaster, which for me was landslides.

As I'm sure the boys in Year 6 will agree, using our Micro:bit was the highlight of this project. With assistance from our peers and teachers, we used this incredible piece of machinery and its many accessories to design and create our final detection system. There were many varieties of detection systems you could create with the help of a website named 'Little Bird Learn' which gave us explicit instructions to follow in order to design our final detection system. This website was a great platform from which we could extend and build upon our coding skills.

In our magazines, we explained our natural disaster, investigated a major historical event of that natural disaster, and what our Micro:bit could do to help prevent this natural disaster in the future. I particularly loved this task! We worked individually, yet got to help others with their project designs as we definitely had some experts in each of the classes. I also liked that we got to experiment with a new piece of technology that we could use in the future and take with us through our journey from Knox Prep and into the Senior School. Overall, this Knoxigations project was one of the most fun and engaging tasks I've taken part in.

– Balfour Andrew, 6F

## YEAR 6

### Mr Liam Flangan, Year 6 Team Leader

Term 1 saw them delving into the world of natural disasters; exploring how and when they occur, the economic, social and environment impacts of these on cities around the world and the science behind the disaster. Most excitingly, the boys completed the unit by designing, coding and creating their very own disaster detection system using their newly acquired Micro:bits.

The disaster detection systems and final magazine designs were simply incredible and the effort and persistence the boys demonstrated throughout the final task was very impressive. Their research skills in discovering relevant information and applying this to their own context was particularly pleasing to see! We cannot wait to see what the boys produce throughout the rest of the year.



# BUILDING Character THROUGH SPORT



**MRS JULIE  
WISEMAN**

Head of Wahroonga  
Preparatory School

Sport is an important part of life at Wahroonga Preparatory School. We value sport as it helps our students to create lifelong healthy habits, encourages teamwork, cohesion, builds self-confidence, resilience and most importantly, allows students to have fun with their peers.

Although we are a small school, we have a lot of opportunities and great success when on the sporting field, track, courts or in the pool. At Wahroonga Preparatory School we do not partake in Saturday sport. However, we are affiliated with and support our local sporting clubs.

Our participation in the Independent Primary Schools Heads of Australia (IPSHA) carnivals allows for our students in Years 3-6 to compete against other independent schools in Swimming, Diving, Cross Country, Gymnastics and Athletics.

## CROSS COUNTRY

Wahroonga Prep and Knox Prep have combined their Cross Country Carnival for the second time this year. This allowed Wahroonga Prep to experience a large-scale carnival and run through the natural terrain at the St Ives Showground. On Saturday 6 April at the IPSHA Cross Country carnival,



14 students from Wahroonga Prep qualified for the IPSHA carnival held at The King's School.

## NETBALL

This year for the first time, Wahroonga Prep has registered a Netball club under the Hills District Netball Association. This has given girls in Years 1 and 2 the opportunity to learn, develop and refine their Netball skills. All teams play in the Hills District NetSetGo winter competition which runs throughout Term 2 and 3.







## WELCOME TO THE DEPUTY HEAD OF WAHROONGA PREPARATORY SCHOOL

### MRS TANYA LORIMER

Deputy Head of Wahroonga  
Preparatory School

I started at the School at the beginning of 2017 and have been involved in the growth of Wahroonga Prep that is a vibrant and successful school where the staff are passionate about teaching and learning with a great commitment to the children and the community.

In this newly created role, I am responsible for assisting the School to realise its vision and mission to be a place which encourages and enables all of our students to explore, enjoy and fulfil their potential.

On a day-to-day basis, I provide leadership in many areas including curriculum, staffing operations and student wellbeing. I thoroughly enjoy working with staff to develop effective teaching practice, focusing on improving teaching and learning.

I have worked across the Catholic system in a number of roles including classroom teaching, literacy facilitator, Religious Education Coordinator and Deputy Principal. I also spent a period of time at Macquarie University lecturing in Classroom Management.

I look forward to maintaining a culture of excellence and innovation, along with instilling a lifelong love of learning.



### IPSHA SPORTS

Wahroonga Prep students have represented the School at the IPSHA Swimming and Diving Carnival. We had nine swimmers contest the Swimming and three divers compete in the diving section. Our three divers performed extremely well at the IPSHA Carnival, all qualifying to compete at the CIS Diving Carnival. Well done to Lara Manuel, Samuel Tan and Ilaria Crowley for their efforts at the CIS Diving carnival. All three students went on to qualify and contest the NSWPSA Diving Carnival.

### BASKETBALL

Amongst the boys, Basketball is a very popular sport at Wahroonga Prep. This year we have four basketball teams who play through the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Basketball Association (HKBA).

Our four teams include the following:

- The Viper Big Shots (Years 1 and 2 team)
- The Viper Long Shots (Years 3 and 4 team)
- The Viper Sure Shots (Year 4 team)
- The Viper Sharp Shooters (Years 5 and 6 team)

All teams play a competition game on a Monday or Wednesday night at either the Brickpit in Thornleigh or at Abbotsleigh School. Each team has a volunteer parent coach and manager to help with the organisation and management. All teams have been doing extremely well this year.







# Pathways

## FOR ELITE ATHLETES

### MR KIERAN DONOHUE

PEAK Chairman

Knox has established the Pathways for Elite Athletes at Knox (PEAK) program to assist high performing student-athletes to achieve excellence in sport, whilst achieving their best in the academic environment.

The PEAK Program for state and national level youth athletes currently attending (or planning to attend) Knox is designed to assist students to effectively transition into a professional sporting environment once they leave school.

PEAK plays an important role in educating and preparing student-athletes for the expectations and demands of professional sport by providing guest speakers, small group workshops, inquiry-based learning experiences and one-on-one mentoring sessions.

After an internal review of the Knox Sports and Aquatics Academy sports offerings, it was ascertained that the physical literacy, foundational movement and sport-specific skills of Knox students was largely well catered for. However,

from a pathways perspective, there was minimal focus on educating and preparing student-athletes for the expectations and demands of professional sport once students graduate from Knox.

Utilising Sport Australia's Foundations, Talent, Elite and Mastery (FTEM) framework, which tracks the major phases of athlete development from the foundation of active lifestyles and sport participation, through to mastery of the chosen sport at the international level, it was determined that our focus needed to be on the talent phases, with a key outcome being more students progressing through to the elite and mastery phases of national and international sporting success.

Each PEAK student-athlete also receives an individual performance plan tailored to their needs and the demands of their sport. This includes support with:

- Goal-setting
- External program/pathways benchmarks
- The student's holistic development in line with the Knox Total Fitness model.

In developing the PEAK program, key 'athlete desirables'





were developed based upon the four key pillars of the Knox Total Fitness Model. The curriculum is delivered in a sequential manner, with focus on a different pillar of the Total Fitness Model each term.

## ACADEMIC FITNESS

Term 1 focusses on academic fitness. This theme is crucial for our students as it lays the foundations to ensure that our students are equipped for the year. This is achieved through learning about effective time management and goal setting, ability to balance responsibilities and effective study habits. We believe that the timing of this theme is crucial as it enables our students to have the capability to fully engage in the content as it is layered in complexity throughout the year.



## PHYSICAL FITNESS

Term 2 unpacks the physical development of our students, including functional strength, nutritional practices, effective preparation and recovery, and understanding injury management rehabilitation and Pre-Operative Rehabilitation.. The aim of this term is to develop the student's capabilities in order to achieve their chosen sport's benchmarks. Effectively, we're equipping the students with the knowledge and tools to train smarter not just harder.

✱

We look forward to supporting the Knox boys and their sporting stories to come!

## SPIRITUAL/PERSONAL FITNESS

Term 3 content relates to spiritual and personal fitness. Throughout the program the students will develop competency in leadership, giving and receiving feedback, performance skills and be educated on burn out, life after sport and the athlete identity transition. This is where we shape the athlete identity as only one piece of the puzzle and develop those crucial life skills to assist the students to ride the highs and lows of an athletic career.

## SOCIAL FITNESS

Term 4 involves students exploring social and emotional fitness. This covers overcoming adversity, resilience, decision making, performing under pressure, 'coach-ability', respect and responsibility. A large part of this unit will focus on self-regulation as this is an imperative skill for any athlete to succeed.



# Oh, What a Lovely War!



## MR MICHAEL GRIFFITHS

Director of  
Theatre and  
Performance K-12

'Oh What a Lovely War!' was an ambitious production which challenged and inspired its senior cast of Years 10 and 11 Knox students in collaboration with students from a range of nearby independent girls' schools.

The play is a ground breaking and iconic production of 20th century British theatre and rarely attempted by school students because of its extraordinary demands on its performers.

'Oh, What a Lovely War!' is drawn from a myriad of dramatic forms including music hall, satire, dramatic realism and physical theatre. The play offered a darkly humorous portrayal of the horrific events of World War I.

The cast, dressed as traditional pierrots, portrayed a range of soldiers, nurses and politicians who contributed to this circus of warfare in which the valour of the common soldier was celebrated and the many of those in official capacities were recognised for their reckless decisions in battle strategy.

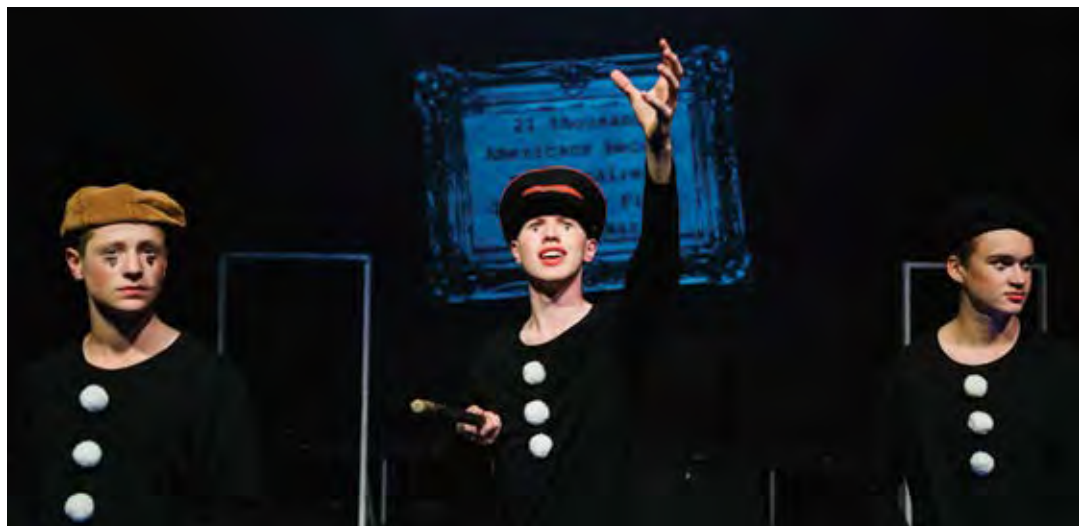
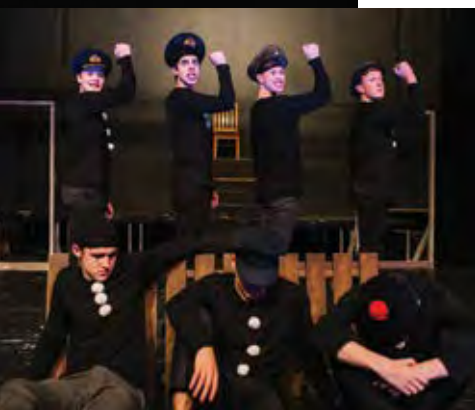


The staging of the production was distinguished by a series of upstage digital images that provided a sobering backdrop with stark presentations of both historical photographs of the war and horrifying statistics of casualties and fatalities in the progress of this war to end all wars.

There is no doubt that the 45 performers and stage crew learnt to develop many vital performance skills relating to the development of both the Individual Project and the Group Performance for the HSC Drama Course. They are to be commended for their sterling efforts and dedication.









RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR  
**Innovation and  
Professional  
Learning**





“  
A collaborative,  
innovative  
and altruistic  
institution that  
fosters student  
and teacher  
excellence to  
achieve equity  
in classrooms.”



**MRS KAREN  
YAGER**

Deputy Headmaster of  
Student and Teacher  
Excellence K-12

Nationally and internationally, there is unequivocal evidence that the quality of teaching is the most significant in-school factor affecting student outcomes.

John Hattie (2015) claims the “greatest influence on student progression in learning is having highly expert, inspired and passionate teachers and school leaders working together to maximise the effect of their teaching on all students in their care.” Bentley and Cazaly (2015) assert that successful schools embed professional collaboration in their culture. Thus, a key initiative of Knox Grammar School is the development of the Research Institute for Innovation and Professional Learning (RiiPL).

RiiPL is committed to being a collaborative, innovative and altruistic institution that fosters student and teacher excellence to achieve equity in classrooms. Therefore, the Institute is designed to support the professional learning of our teaching staff and beyond. All professional learning is evidence informed and grounded in best practice. It is about ensuring that Knox is drawing upon current research and generating new research into how we can provide professional learning that enhances our teachers’ capabilities to develop powerful pedagogies that make a difference to the learning and dispositions of our students.

Staff have access to New South Wales Education Standards Authority endorsed courses and workshops that reflect their needs and the focus of Knox’s strategic intentions. One of our exciting programs is the Aspiring Leaders Program that provides a blended learning approach and the opportunity to shadow a leader in one of our partner schools.

We have partnered with a number of schools whose teachers have free access to all of our professional learning courses. They also work alongside our staff on improving teaching and learning, such as the recent partnership between the PDHPE staff at Knox and Asquith Boys High School.

The following schools are currently RiiPL partner schools: Taree Christian College, Carinya Christian School Tamworth, Marist Eastwood, Illawara Christian School, Asquith Boys High School and Medowie Christian School.

RiiPL has established a research partnership with the University of Newcastle. The school has a number of teaching staff undertaking a Master’s degree in Philosophy or a Doctorate of Philosophy. Our teachers undertaking further study have grounded their research in our school context. For example, research is being conducted into how to enhance a teacher’s capability to develop powerful pedagogies evident through higher-order, innovative and student-centred programs and assessment that promote student excellence. Another one is focussed on using collaboration to improve the teaching of Mathematics.

We hope to create a site of inquiry where research can be undertaken that will inform best practice at Knox and beyond.



# SPAIN AND PORTUGAL TOUR inspires young musicians ON MUSICAL JOURNEY



A workshop with a Spanish military band, a performance at the Australian embassy in Toledo and a joint concert with musicians from the Conservatory of Music Francisco Guerrero in Seville were among the many highlights of Knox Grammar School Symphonic Wind Ensemble's Tour of Spain and Portugal.

Forty students from Years 9 to 12 toured and performed across Portugal and Spain in December, with visits to Madrid, Toledo, Granada, Seville, Lisbon, Sintra and Salamanca.

"Some highlights included flamenco workshops, visiting the kaleidoscopic grounds of Alhambra

and even visiting a bull farm!" said Year 11 student James Tan, who plays trumpet.

"My favourite part of the trip was working with the Spanish Armada Band. Even though there was difficulty in communication, through the universal language of music we were able to both challenge ourselves and enjoy an extensive variety of music."

The tour gave the boys an opportunity to learn about the musical and cultural heritage of Europe, while also working on their own musicianship.

"As we traversed Spain and Portugal, the exposure to different cultures, music and repertoire made us think that music is a lifelong journey which will never end, no matter where you are in the world," said James.





## ON STAGE AT GALA DAY

### MR JAMES BRICE

Head of Co-Curricular and  
Performing Arts K-12

### Over 750 performers showcased their talent at the 2019 Gala Day.

The Great Hall foyer certainly attracted an audience of highly enthusiastic spectators, who enjoyed the amazing sounds of our extensive Knox Senior School Jazz and Stage Bands, Strings, Chamber Music, Orchestral and Choral programs throughout the entire performance schedule. Featured there were the Guitar Ensemble, Y7 Jazz Ensemble, Y8 Jazz Orchestra, Y9 Jazz Ensemble, Stage Band, Big Band, Jazz Messengers, Jazz Combo, String Orchestra, Knox Symphony Orchestra, Voice Male, Male Voice Power, Show Choir, Gallery Choir, First XVI and Treble Makers. From Knox Prep the Jazz Band, Junior, Intermediate and Senior Bands, together with the Prep Performance Ensemble, also performed.

The outdoor Knox 1 Festival Stage can be best described as a rock stage on fire, hosting an extensive and varied selection of contemporary performances from the Battle of the Bands contenders.

Inside the Weeks Senior Academy, the Chamber Music Ensembles featured including the Knox Clarinet Ensemble, Knox Clarinet Quartet 2, Knox String Quartet, Knox Chamber Strings and the Knox Horn Ensemble.

Finally, the Boulevard Stage showcased the following: Knox Clarinet Orchestra, Knox Saxophone Ensemble, Knox Saxophone Quartets 1 and 2, Knox Saxophone Orchestra, Knox Clarinet Quartet, Knox Trombone Choir, Knox All-Brass Ensemble, and the Knox Brass Ensemble.

Extraordinary courage resulting in outstanding performances, musical fulfilment and immense joy, encompassed within Knox's tremendous community spirit were but some of the principal ingredients pertinent to the success of our collective endeavours.

To conclude the day, our 22-piece Pep Band in the stands, certainly complemented the superb efforts on our sporting fields and our performance stages. Gala Day was indeed a celebration. Thank you to all involved for their exceptional assistance and support.

Let's do it all again in 2020!

## BATTLE OF THE BANDS

### MR ROBERT EWAN

Coordinator of Contemporary  
Music Studies

The Knox Battle of the Bands (BOBs) event is a unique opportunity for some of our Contemporary Music students to challenge themselves in composing their own music and performing to a 2,000 strong audience in a real concert atmosphere!

This year we had 12 student rock/pop bands participating in the heats held in Term 1, four of which were selected to perform in the finals. Hosted in the Great Hall on Thursday 2 May, the BOBs finals add an exciting twist to a Thursday assembly. Performing on a large stage with professional sound, lighting and live video streaming, participating students experience the thrill of performing in a concert setting to a large audience.

The four competing bands this year were Kalil (Y12), The Lawn Clippers (Y10), Head Noise (Y11) and Ignition (Y11). Each band performed a cover song from the 1990s as well as an original composition.

All groups performed very well, leaving our three guest judges with a tough task in choosing a winner. Congratulations to Ignition (Douglas Harrison, Oli Ritchie, Michael Yoong and Alex Stuart), who put on a very solid performance, displaying great stage presence and band cohesiveness. I am sure that they will make the most out of the wonderful first prize - a two-day recording session provided by the event's major sponsor, Sony Studios.

Congratulations to all participating bands in this year's BOBs event and thank you to our wonderful Tech Crew.



# Wellbeing

## AT KNOX

### MS AMANDA POOLEY

Director of  
Wellbeing K-12



Positive Psychology, first introduced at Knox in 2009, has the power to enhance and transform the lives of the students at Knox.

Our program, Knox Total Fitness, is based upon the principles of Positive Psychology. While mainstream psychology often focuses on people who already suffer from mental health issues, Positive Psychology aims to proactively increase resilience and wellbeing.

Over many years, the School has made a significant investment in staff training and the development of a team of wellbeing staff to ensure that students from across our three campuses are well supported to thrive.

In 2018, the School established a new team of staff, the Knox Wellbeing Directorate, with the intent of being a global leader in evidence-based proactive and preventative program delivery for young people.

While we do have aims of sharing our research and innovative practice with the world, our focus is very much on the students and how we can improve their lives through using tools and concepts from Positive Psychology.

Goal setting is one such practice. Research has shown the power of setting goals in developing a strong sense of agency and fulfilment.

In Term 4 last year, in collaboration with boarding staff, staff from the Wellbeing

Directorate piloted a positive psychology and physical wellbeing measurement tool for boarders in Years 7 to 11. We worked closely with the boys to help them develop specific academic and personal goals, with follow up meetings a few weeks later to discuss their progress.

The boarders also completed an online survey to measure their levels of wellbeing and happiness according to the PERMA (Positive Emotion, Engagement, Relationships, Meaning, Achievement) model.

We also offered sessions for the boarders on topics including personal strengths, mindfulness, meaning and purpose, and sleep, exercise and nutrition.

The students' feedback was overwhelmingly positive and the range of goals they set for themselves was heartening – they included academic, sporting, humanitarian, charitable, self-improving, and some lovely, inclusive social goals.

*"The survey tells me what I'm good at and what I'm bad at, I can then adjust myself to achieve success... by being familiar with myself, I will become more and more invincible."*

*"I found it positive as I could sit down and talk with somebody and express the goals I want to achieve."*

*"It helped me to understand more about my strengths through having a chat with a staff member, and it was helpful for me in determining my future career."*

*"It's good to reflect on yourself."*

*"I gained some insight I did not have before doing this."*

*"This gave me a new opportunity for improvement."*

The overwhelming success of this program in boarding has seen it continue in 2019. We plan to run it twice per year, complemented by our new Senior School mentor program.

The new mentor program for Senior School boys is being co-written by psychologists, Directors of Studies, Team Leaders, Mentors and Heads of Academies; and most significantly, the students themselves.

The boys' experiences are vital to the exploration and creation of the mentor program; ensuring relevant and valuable lessons are being learnt through social learning theory, experientialism and constructivism.

It is with pleasure and humility that we continue to serve Knox and remain grateful to all the staff and students who are assisting us to promote thriving in our School community.



# Cadet

## ANNUAL FIELD EXERCISE

### TOBY LUCK

Year 11 student, CDT SGT  
Unit Publications and  
Media Officer



Annual Field Exercise (AFX) is an enjoyable, yet challenging, journey designed to extend our cadets in a variety of ways. All the recruits have embraced this challenge! Our Cadet leaders developed an excellent program, setting high standards of morale, 'esprit de corps', teamwork and friendship, leading by example for the entire eight days in the field.

AFX presents unique challenges for all companies to overcome. Alpha Company undertook an exciting eight-day theme-based exercise that involved strength and strategy, ingenuity and resilience, extending the cadets to think of alternate ways of solving problems. Our Recruit companies embraced their challenges as they hiked, climbed ropes, completed exercises designed to test field craft, navigation, first aid and radio communication skills, exercises to challenge teamwork, leadership and command skills, camouflage, tactics and stealth. Over the course of the week they developed as a team and became a family. Calf Pen was conquered as every recruit ascended the mountain, proud of their new achievement.

All these activities finally put into practise the skills they have been learning every Friday afternoon since joining Cadets.

Headquarters Company faced many challenges including staffing Command Post shifts from 12am-6am, developing and directing a number of skills-based activities through our Operations Platoon, working as a team to ensure everything ran smoothly on camp, and managing the many administrative and logistical issues that come with supporting over 1,000 cadets and staff in the field.

Support Company really lived up to their name, with Pioneers and Engineers running amazing activities such as the wombat hole and tug of war and Medics and Signallers providing communication and medical care for everyone in the field.



They did an outstanding job in ensuring the camp was challenging and fun, while providing the best care for our cadets.

Overall, it was an outstanding camp - one of the best yet! As we continue in the Cadet year, we are all excited to see our recruits aspire to become future Cadets, Corporals, Sergeants, Warrant Officers, or CUOs. The rest of the year presents new and exciting challenges which we hope will be as enjoyable as AFX.

\* The over 1000-strong Cadet Unit has been an important part of life at Knox since its establishment in 1929 (just five years after the School was established).





# Social Justice

## MRS HELEN CLARKE

Head of Diversity, Justice and Stewardship



### THE WORLD'S GREATEST SHAVE

Each year we are inspired by the boys' enthusiastic and selfless support of the World's Greatest Shave. The ten highest fundraisers had their head shaved on the day by local barber, Greg Luca. There were many laughs and good humour around the boys' 'new look' and collectively they raised over \$20k for the Leukaemia Foundation.

### THE NYNGAN SUPER CAMP

This biannual camp is an initiative of the Uniting City and Country Program where Uniting Church Schools (Knox, Pymble Ladies' College and Ravenswood staff and students) provide a fun educational experience for the children in remote small schools of NSW. Activities included STEM-Robotics, Art, Dance and Orienteering. This is an opportunity for our boys to mentor outback students and hear first-hand the realities of living in remote communities.





## THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BREAKFAST 2019

Our annual International Women's Day Breakfast raised funds for the Hornsby Women's Shelter. Local health advocate and presenter of podcast 'Big Little Kids', Lucy Dahill, presented on the 2019 International Women's Day theme 'Balance for Better'. Lucy explained that women and mothers of young men have many competing demands and the need to be aware of these in order to lead and support

both themselves and others. She explored the meaning of balance through a discussion on juggling the demands of parenting, working and having a social life.

The Papua New Guinea Orchids program was also launched at the breakfast. This is a new Social Justice project in support of respectful relationships which is part of the 'Changing the Dialogue' initiative.



## SHOES FOR THE PHILIPPINES

Over 350 pairs of shoes were recently sent to The British School Manila which arranges to deliver them on to the Purple Centers Foundation School in Tondo, Manila. This school was established near the Smokey Mountain rubbish dumps and aims to educate the poorest 1,000 children who live in shanties there. The shoe donations make it possible for these children to attend school.

Congratulations to Andrew O'Brien (Y9) and James O'Brien (Y6) who coordinated this project and raised funds for the shipping costs of the five large boxes containing shoes donated by the Knox community.



## AMBASSADORS ECOPEACE

Students from Knox were part of a delegation to the EcoPeace Multicultural event at NSW Parliament House on Harmony Day. The Student Ambassadors representing Knox, Masada College and Amity College met EcoPeace Founder, Gidon Bromberg, who presented on the role of access to water as a source of peace and equity worldwide. The Ambassadors will be an ongoing partnership between the three schools.





# INTERNATIONAL Boarding



## **MRS LOUISE JAMES**

International Boarding  
Liaison Officer

## **MS MIM COCKRELL**

International Boarder  
Immersion Program  
Manager



**This year, 210 boys call Knox their home away from home. These boys live on site 24 hours a day, seven days a week for 38 weeks of the year, and along with boarding staff, become a very close-knit community within the School.**

The Knox boarding community has been caring for international students since the School's foundation in 1924, and this year we have 76 boys whose homes include Hong Kong, Shanghai, Beijing, Singapore, Cambodia, Vietnam, Switzerland, USA and New Zealand.

The Knox community in Hong Kong and China continues to grow each year, and this strong

network is supported by Knox representatives making annual visits and hosting community functions. The Headmaster and Mrs James, along with Mr and Mrs Gooding and Mr and Mrs Sullivan had the pleasure of visiting China earlier this term. We hosted two functions; one in Hong Kong and one in Shanghai that were attended by over 200 guests. Guests included current parents, prospective families as well as Old Boys, and were wonderful opportunities to connect with our overseas families.

In addition to these wonderful events, we attended a number of very successful exhibitions held in Hong Kong, Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou as well as numerous semi-formal meetings with current Knox families and their friends.

The hospitality shown to us during our visit was much appreciated and really gave us a sense of

the rich culture that these beautiful cities have to offer. These visits not only allow our overseas families to feel part of the Knox community, but also help us to understand a little more about our Knox boarders and their homes.

## **INTERNATIONAL IMMERSION PROGRAM**

As boarding numbers continue to grow, both locally and overseas from mainland China and Hong Kong, there is an ever-growing need to accommodate the linguistic, social and cultural needs of all students, as well as the reciprocal education of both international and local/rural students.

A proactive step which has been taken is the establishment of the new Cultural Immersion and Diversity (CID) initiative and student-inclusive

committee, run by Ms Mim Cockrell, Mr Brian Sullivan and Mr Justin Zhu. The committee meets fortnightly and has been responsible for the following ideas and changes, with the aim of improving boarding dynamics and ensuring a cohesive and inclusive boarding environment.

Some of the initiatives implemented include:

- A new Chinese chef who makes an authentic Asian-style meal every Wednesday night
- Lunar New Year Games Night
- The introduction of the ConneXions Award awarded to a student who demonstrates a community-mindedness and who makes continual efforts to engage, connect and include students from various backgrounds

As part of the CID initiative, the team ran an EALD (English as an Additional Language) Workshop for Boarding Staff at the start of Term 2 2019 with the aim of providing important practical information that will help in supporting and accommodating EALD students.

The International Boarding Liaison Officer role is simply to add another layer of support for our overseas families. A termly newsletter is sent to give added information and a glimpse into what daily life is like for our boarders. The newsletter includes photos of our overseas boys engaged in different activities and helps to keep families informed of key dates throughout the year.

Getting to know the boarders a little better through the Boarders Suppers for each year group has been wonderful and we look forward to being involved with the many other initiatives on offer this year.

As staff, we are incredibly proud of our international boarding students. While they work to make Knox their home, the contributions they make to boarding, and indeed the wider community, help to make Knox such a diverse and distinctive school.



## ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE/DIALECT

### MRS CAROLYN FAIRJONES AND MR ALEXANDER LEONOV

Year 12 English (EALD) Teachers

Year 12 English as an Additional Language/Dialect (EALD) is a 2 Unit English course designed for students who have had English as the language of instruction for five years or less prior to entry into Year 11. At Knox, the Stage 6 English (EALD) course is taught by teachers who specialise in English language teaching as well as English subject teaching.

With the commencement of the new Stage 6 English syllabus, the Year 12 EALD students have recently studied Module A, 'Texts and Human Experiences' where they interpreted and responded to texts that deal with the question of what it means to be human. They have examined human experiences, behaviours, motivations and emotions that are represented in Rachel Perkins' film 'One Night the Moon' and have considered and reflected on the destructive nature of hubris and racism.

The 1930s outback Australia was the backdrop to understanding the Aboriginal peoples' love of and affinity with the land and how they suffered when faced with racism. The EALD students showed great empathy for the devastation, grief and loss when confronted with the death of a child, and saw the subsequent destruction of hope, dreams and desires. Exploring these human qualities and emotions has provided opportunities for rich classroom discussions and imaginative writing responses for the concurrent Module D, 'Focus on Writing'.

EALD students have gained an appreciation that writing is a process of planning, drafting, editing and publishing; and it has been found that the students' writing has benefitted from exposure to modelling and scaffolding before writing independently. In their portfolio of imaginative writing, the students have drawn from personal experience to make connections between themselves, the world of the text and the wider world. They explored their own hopes and dreams, with the notion of their dreams being 'cancelled'. They explored their own relationship with the land and considered their role in preservation, conservation and appreciation of the world.

Of the many imaginative writing opportunities, the students were able to form opinions, express emotions and engage in deep introspection. They also developed an appreciation for their contribution to and participation in various relationships.



# KNOX Gala Day



Established in 1978,  
Knox Gala Day is the  
largest community event  
on the Knox Grammar  
School calendar.

Gala Day is run and organised by the  
Knox Parents' Association. All funds  
raised are used to purchase new  
equipment and resources to benefit the  
students of Knox.

Thank you for being a part of  
Gala Day 2019!











# Old Knox Grammarians' Association

KNOX GRAMMAR SCHOOL ALUMNI

Founded in 1929, The Old Knox Grammarians' Association was created for the perpetuation of memories, maintenance of friendship, enrichment of Old Boys and support of the School.

The Association is a group of over 10,000 members, all of whom share the common experience of having attended Knox.

This section of the *The Thistle* was prepared by the Old Knox Grammarians' Association.

## IMAGE ABOVE

From the Archives, 1929 School Flag held by Munnings (OKG30) and Winter (OKG31) c1929

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- 47 Births, Marriages, Deaths

## STAYING IN TOUCH

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# President's COLUMN



**JON STEWART  
(OKG03)**

President OKGA

As the School and our alumni community continues to grow in size, many Old Boys are seeking opportunities to continue to give back and support current students. In previous years, Knox Old Boys featured primarily as sporting coaches or officers of cadets, but in more recent times, rapid expansion of school programs has necessitated a growth in Old Boy participation across a wide and expanding range of fields.

Today, with around 1,000 staff employed at Knox (including all full time, part time and casual staff), over 200 are Old Boys, and this number expands even further if you include those who volunteer their time to support the huge number of initiatives that take place throughout the year.

As has been the case for some time, the largest number of Old Boys continues to support the Knox Sports and Aquatics Academy, with around 120 Old Boys working as casual coaches across the



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While there are many former students in various different roles, one attribute remains consistent – their passion and dedication to Knox and the School community.



✱

**Left** Jon Stewart (OKG03) laid the ceremonial wreath at the ANZAC Memorial Service for the Old Knox Grammarians' Association and Ceremonial Parade for the Knox Grammar Cadet Unit held on 19 May. He was accompanied by Knox Prep School Captain, Oliver Smith.

almost 30 different sporting disciplines the School offers in 2019. With the number of sports offerings expanding rapidly in recent years, it's a great way for former students to remain involved in sporting activities after leaving school and supporting current students to increase their experience and expertise. I continue to be impressed by the high calibre of the Knox sports program, and this is a great testament to the young men who support the students in their ongoing participation.

Academic support is a growing area of Old Boy participation, with many former students now providing support with the da Vinci program, mentoring, careers assistance, and tutoring. In a constantly changing educational environment there is enormous value provided by Old Boys who are able to guide and encourage students to develop their academic potential.

As one of the almost 50 Officers in the Knox Cadet Unit, I'm proud to be among a group of dedicated and passionate Old Boys who contribute their time to

provide guidance and mentorship to the next generation of student leaders. Since becoming an Officer in the Unit in 2007, I have enjoyed being able to both continue my association with Knox in a different capacity, while also working with the students (many now from Ravenswood) to help realise their leadership potential.

We look forward to highlighting some of the great stories of Old Boys. While there are many former students in various different roles, one attribute remains consistent - their passion and dedication to Knox and the School community.



# Senior Knoxonian

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



**KEN POWELL  
(OKG61)**

### Senior Knoxonians' President

On Tuesday 12 March, the Senior Knoxonians held their Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Members' Luncheon. I was delighted to welcome 39 members to the AGM where reports were tabled and the proposed committee membership for 2019 was unanimously adopted. It was a pleasure to formalise the appointments of Ian Frame (OKG64), as Vice President, and Roger Blackwood (OKG62), as Treasurer, both having joined the committee during 2018.

It was also resolved to make minor changes to the Constitution, removing anomalies that had existed.

The Members' Luncheon followed, where 70 members and guests adjourned to the Portrait Room to enjoy fellowship and be entertained by the Knox Jazz Messengers and the Knox String Quartet.

In addition to hearing from the Headmaster, Scott James, on the recent interesting developments at the School, we were privileged to have as our guest speaker for the luncheon, Dr Simon Longstaff AO (OKG75) Executive Director of The Ethics Centre. Simon delivered a memorable and thought-provoking speech, broadly based around The Ethics Centre's review of the culture of Australian Cricket. In particular, Simon stressed the significance of Years 11 and 12, in developing rounded individuals capable of making value judgements under pressure. Immediate Past President, Ted Metcalf (OKG55) proposed the vote of thanks to Dr Longstaff.

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**Below** Ted Metcalf (OKG55) gave the vote of thanks to Dr Simon Longstaff AO (OKG75)



## LAW CAREERS BREAKFAST



Old Boys regularly come back to the School to share their experiences and knowledge with the current students. This year the Law Breakfast for Years 11 and 12 students together with their parents was held in the Weeks Senior Academy on 20 March. After hearing from members of the Law faculty from UNSW, the students and parents were able to mingle and talk to Old Boys about their different paths within law.

The Old Boys who attended the breakfast were: Dylan Sherman (OKG12), Harry Chapman (OKG15), Brett Young (OKG90), Max Turner (OKG11), Will Martyr (OKG12), Andrew Clark (OKG08) and Damian Morris (OKG12).

## AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS

The OKGA would like to congratulate the following Old Boys, who were recognised in the Australia Day Honours List. The awarding of these honours allow us to recognise and reflect on the achievements of individuals who make extraordinary contributions to communities across Australia.

### **Richard Barnett AM (OKG60)**

For significant service to medicine through plastic and reconstructive surgery

### **Craig Donaldson AM (OKG78)**

For significant service to medicine in the field of ophthalmology, and to professional eye health bodies

### **Ian Dear OAM (OKG67)**

For service to the community through charitable organisations

### **Chris Lowry OAM (OKG63)**

For service to medicine as an anaesthetist

### **Robert Weatherburn OAM (OKG56)**

For service to the performing arts, particularly through music



# THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE Foundation of the OKGA



## TONY OSMAN (OKG57)

OKGA Honorary Historian

Tuesday 2 April marked the 90th anniversary of the foundation of the Old Knox Grammarians' Association and an informal luncheon was held at the Blue Gum Hotel in Waitara to mark the event. A formal celebration will be held on Saturday 24 August on the occasion of the OKGA 90th Anniversary Dinner.

The School opened its doors on the afternoon of 5 February 1924 with the founding Headmaster, Neil MacNeil MC MA, coming from a teaching post at Cheltenham College in England. The following morning, 28 boys (six of them boarders) commenced their schooling at Knox. The Cheltenham College would have had a significant Old Scholars' Association. Thus, at the instigation of MacNeil, a meeting was called at the YMCA in Sydney on the evening of 2 April 1929 with himself and 13 Old Boys in attendance. Russell Le Gay Brereton (OKG28) was voted in as Chairman (later President) and Robert Morson (OKG29 although having left school in 1927) as Hon Secretary. A Constitution was developed that night.

Since those days, 16,978 students have passed through the doors of Knox, exhibiting a celebration of diversity of

ethnicities as well as some 75 students of indigenous Australian ancestry. With the inclusion of Wahroonga Prep School, ten young ladies are also included.

Allowing for natural attrition by age and an estimated 90% take-up of membership by attendees/graduating students, some 12,456 living persons (including Special Members, Patrons etc) currently are recorded as members of the OKGA. Initially annual membership was available, now only life membership. To have attended at least one term is sufficient for membership. Some schools class all past-students as members of their respective alumni but on the OKGA basis of 'applied for, paid and approved membership' our numbers are arguably the largest in NSW and arguably second in Australia only to Scotch College, Melbourne.

The breadth and depth of activities including, sporting, social and welfare/benevolence is comprehensive and caters to a wide range of interests and support. A dedicated group of committee and office personnel are led by President, Jon Stewart (OKG03) and Hon Secretary, Ian Frame (OKG64).

\*

### Above

An informal lunch at the Blue Gum Hotel for the official 90th anniversary. Peter Sharp (OKG56) is the owner and host of the Blue Gum Hotel and generously donated the wine for the lunch.



## GALA DAY STALL AND CLASSIC CARS

Knox Gala Day featured an OKGA stand, where Old Boys and their families could drop by, chat with old friends who were at Knox for this special day and maybe buy some of the great OKGA memorabilia.

This year in addition to the stall, Alan Foulkes (OKG61) organised a Classic Car Display on the Chapel Lawn where fellow Old Boys and friends of Knox shared their passion for, and interest in classic cars. We had nine cars in total - MG PA 1934 Midget owned by Michael Young (Friend of Knox and member of the Old Boys Pipe Band), 1937 Rolls Royce 25/30 owned by Charlie Frew (Friend of Knox), 1937 Buick 8/40 Special owned by Rob McBrien (OKG78), 1955 Jaguar XK 140 Roadster owned by Lionel Walker (Friend of Knox), 1963 Jaguar Mark II owned by Alan Faulkes (OKG61), 1969 Morris Cooper S owned by John Irwin (OKG70), 1970 Jaguar E Type Coupe owned by John Hall (OKG78), 1976 MG B GT V8 owned by David Webster (Friend of Knox) and a 2008 Ferrari F430 Coupe owned by Roland Slee (OKG81).



For more information

Download the official booklet  
<https://bit.ly/2WG1LYr>

# OKGA Awards

On the occasion of the 89th Annual General Meeting, the following Old Boys were acknowledged:

**Alan Foulkes (OKG61)** joined the Old Boys' Rugby Club in 1962 after representing Knox in the School first XV. In 1988 Alan's son Jason (OKG99) commenced at Knox Prep and this rekindled Alan's deep connections with Knox. He joined the OKGA Committee in 1990 and was later elected President in 1992. Alan's term as president saw significant growth and achievements by the Association. At the end of 1995 Alan left the Committee and in 1999 was invited to join the School Council, a position he held until November 2011. Alan sat on the OKGA Committee as the School Council Liaison during this time. After retiring from School Council, Alan became the inaugural member of the Governors for the OKGA Benevolence Program.

In addition to the School and OKGA, Alan's support for the Old Boys' Rugby Club has extended for more than 50 years and he can still be found on the side lines most Saturdays supporting the players. Alan has given tremendously of his time and energy supporting and promoting the OKGA and it is a privilege to present him with the OKGA Thistle Medal.



In 2015 **Tony Osman (OKG57)** and **Edric Chaffer (OKG50)** were presented with the OKGA Thistle Medallion in recognition of many years of outstanding contribution to the OKGA. Their commitment has remained unabated even to today, with Tony working with the School Archivist preparing for the School's Centenary in 2024 and Edric continuing to follow up and report on all deceased Old Boys, recording and recognising their contribution to School life and the community.



When sourcing historical information, Tony's book, 'The First 70 years – a History', is likened to an OKGA encyclopaedia while the meticulous research, recording and honouring over 15,000 Old Boys is largely attributed to the tremendous time and dedication given by Edric.

It is an honour to bestow on both men Honorary Life Membership of the OKGA which was presented to them by Ian MacPherson (OKG55 and Honorary Life Member).

On Tuesday 26 March, Ian Frame (OKG64), Hon Secretary representing the President of the OKGA joined with the Headmaster, Scott James and senior members of the OKGA to honour **Richard Miles OAM (OKG39)** with the awarding of Honorary Life Membership of the OKGA for conspicuous and dedicated service to the OKGA and the School.

Richard was joined by his son Peter (OKG79) when receiving the honour and Peter spoke on behalf of his father of the gratitude Richard felt towards Knox and the OKGA and the many rewards his long association with Knox had given him.



After leaving School in 1939 Richard served Australia with distinction in World War II with the anti-tank regiments. Following discharge Richard became a chartered accountant and agreed to be the honorary auditor of the OKGA from 1962 to 1966. He joined the Over 70s Club in 1992 (which has since become the Senior Knoxonians) and still sits on that committee today. He was Treasurer of that committee from 1992 to 1994 and President from 1994-1996. He also served on the OKGA committee from 1994-1996.

Some of the initiatives Richard has been involved in, which underpin the OKGA are:

- The development of the War Service Honour Roll in the Chapel
- The Swords and Drums presentation to the Cadet Unit and Pipes and Drums now known as the Honoring Parade
- Richard was on the initial committee formed to produce the Knox Over 70s Club.

In addition to this service to the Old Boys, Richard, together with his late wife Sue, have been supporting the School in a number of ways quietly in the background making a difference in many students' lives.

## Robert (Robbie) Frame (OKG08)

attended the OKGA Summer Most Improved Awards Assembly where he presented awards to those students who have shown resilience, commitment and improvement through effort in the summer sports and activities. Robbie is well known to many of the boys as he established his own successful business in fitness and personal training and has a profile within the industry.



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**Bottom Left**  
Alan Foulkes (OKG61) and Ian Frame (OKG64)

**Middle**  
Tony Osman (OKG57) and Edric Chaffer (OKG50)

**Above**  
Richard Miles OAM (OKG39) with Headmaster, Scott James

**Bottom**  
Robbie Frame (OKG08) presented awards at the OKGA Summer Most Improved Assembly in the Senior School.



# News

## OF OLD BOYS

### ANGUS BEAN (OKG07)

Named the recipient of 2019 National Young Achiever at the annual Australian Industry and Defence Network Dinner held in February this year. Angus received the award in recognition of his contribution to Australia's defence industry, after being judged by a panel of Defence professionals as demonstrating "exceptional talent, leadership and professionalism and future leader in the defence industry". Angus is the Vice President of Dronesield, a worldwide leader in drone detection and disruption technology.

Angus has come back to Knox to present to the Year 12 Design and Technology students where he spoke of his career in Industrial Design. With a background in Industrial Design and Mechanical Engineering, Angus merges the various fields of mechanical hardware, electronics, software, digital interface and technology.

### LACHLAN SWINTON (OKG15)

Was chosen in the NSW Waratahs Super Rugby team for the first time. He played in the opening round against the New Zealand Hurricanes at Brookvale Oval. Lachlan's excellent form for Sydney University in 2018 has seen his meteoric rise to the professional ranks. He is a player whose career will be followed with interest.

### SAXON WARD (OKG15)

Won the NSW State Championship Title for the Open Men's Javelin earlier in March - a great follow-on from his Gold medal for Australia last year at the Oceania Championships.

### JAMES WIDDERS-LEECE (OKG14)

Received an indigenous scholarship to Knox and among a number of achievements was Captain of the 2014 1st XV. He scored a remarkable 17 tries, an incredible feat for any player, let alone a hooker. James was an automatic selection in the CAS 1st XV. He was subsequently signed by the South Sydney Rabbitohs and a big future was predicted. However, after a couple of years his enthusiasm for football waned and he became an ambassador for other indigenous students who attend Knox, and has taken on a mentoring role which has proven extremely helpful for a number of boarders at the school. An article in *The Australian* showcased his work and was a very positive story for students from country NSW who have won scholarships, and an endorsement of the Knox community.

### JAMES WOOD QC (OKG57)

The former NSW Police Royal Commissioner has been chosen to head a Commission into the National Integrity of Sport. This will have wide ramifications in a country obsessed with sport.

### GAVIN BROWN (OKG11)

Received a scholarship to the Manhattan Opera Studio, where he will be singing the role of Tamino from 'The Magic Flute' and performing in concerts at Carnegie Hall. Gavin studied Music 2/Extension at Knox and recently graduated from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music.

### DAVID TAYLOR (OKG15)

Recently, a music video David released was selected as a grand finalist in the International Songwriting Competition. This music video included fellow old boys Marc Ryan (OKG14), Will Cole (OKG15) and Nick Pogonowski (OKG15) in the cast, and Dan Allen (OKG15) assisted with some of the filming. The contest drew over 19,000 entries from around the world, and Taylor's song, 'Goodnight' was selected as one of the 16 grand finalists. The song is the leadoff track from his chart-topping 2016 album, 'Thoughts Then Reality.'

### CHRIS GREEN (OKG11)

South African born and recent school leaver Chris Green has been making a name for himself as a member of the Sydney Thunder Big Bash cricket team. An all-rounder, he is a big hitting batsman and a right arm off-spin bowler who has a lot of followers. He played in the Knox 1st X1 and after leaving school played 1st Grade cricket for Manly-Warringah. Chris' talents saw him offered a place in the Sydney Thunder team where he is now one of the star performers.

CONTINUED OVER THE PAGE >



### ROBIN POTHOF (OKG64)

After Robin left Knox, he joined the Australian Army and was a Royal Military College Duntroon (RMC-D) graduate of 1968. Sadly, Robin was killed in action in Vietnam – the only Knox Old Boy to have lost their life in service since WWII.

As part of their 50th reunion, the RMC-D Class of '68 arranged for Robin to be honoured at the Australian War Memorial's Last Post Ceremony. On Sunday 9 December, members of the Class of '64 and a Knox Grammar School Cadet Unit Honour Guard joined representatives from the Pothof family and the RMC-D Class of 68 in participating in the Australian War Memorial Last Post Ceremony. It was an extremely moving service. The Governor General, Sir Peter Cosgrove was one of Robin's RMC-D graduating class mates and he made time to join his graduating class in remembering Robin. To view the Last Post Ceremony visit: <https://youtu.be/8WhcP21LOzA>

## SAN FRANCISCO REUNION

### RAHUL MERANI (OKG97)

It's with much delight that we share that on Friday, April 26th 2019 - more than 20 Knox Old Boys made plans to gather at an iconic San Francisco location for a multi-generational reunion.

Organized by Rahul Merani and generously sponsored by the Board of Directors Center of Excellence, Penfolds, Electro Board Company and the OKGA, the group hailed from across the decades and across the world.

On a perfect San Francisco Spring evening and with a glass of Penfolds' Grange in hand, the group came together to share what brought them to the USA. They have already made plans to meet more regularly going forward. While most in attendance now reside in the Bay Area, old boys came from as far as Los Angeles, Oregon and even Sydney to celebrate.

We encourage other OKGA groups in cities around the world to come together and celebrate how far you have come from the grand old days of Knox Grammar School.

## SAVE THE DATE

President's Dinner  
Celebrating the 90th Anniversary  
of the OKGA

**SATURDAY  
24TH AUGUST 2019**

#### VENUE

Knox Grammar School, Wahroonga

#### INVITEES

All OKGA members and partners

# OKGA Clubs

## OLD KNOXONIANS' CRICKET CLUB

### CHARLIE BANGS (OKG07)

Club President

The 2018/19 season was another successful one, making the final of the Jack Pace Shield knock out competition for the 7th year in a row and competed for our fourth title in a row. Unfortunately, we lost to St Aloysius' Old Boys in a hard-fought contest. The competition in the City and Suburban this season was strong and we had two good wins in the quarter and semi-finals and the team should be proud for once again making it to the grand final.

We had many stand out performers across the season who contributed to this success. Ollie Morton (OKG15) won the Kelynack Cross Shield for player of the year which was very well deserved and highlights the strength of the younger players in the team contributing with the bat, ball and in the field. Lachy Fenwick (OKG12) took out the Players' Player award after another great season contributing on and off the field.

We've had a great group of Old Boy recent leavers join the club which has made us overall one of the youngest teams in the competition. Fraser Wilson (OKG17) is the latest recruit and had a great first season. He is very talented with the bat and behind the stumps making him a great addition to the OKCC. It's very encouraging to see the club benefitting from a strong relationship with the School which has put us in such a healthy position.

This year we celebrated the 70th year of our club with a function which brought together current players as well as past legends and supporters. It's clear that many great friendships have been forged though the OKCC over the years and it's great to see the strong culture and 'mateship' continue across the decades.

I know all players are keenly anticipating the season 2019/20. We are hoping to go one better and win the JPS Premiership.

Please contact the Club if you are interested in joining or supporting the OKCC  
[cricket@okga.org.au](mailto:cricket@okga.org.au).



## KNOX UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

### CHRIS WISEMAN (OKG06)

Club President

For the first time in our near 25-year history, Knox United Football Club is fielding a junior team in the NSFA Competition in 2019. The team is made up of current Knox Year 8 students and they are competing in U14 Division 2. The boys have started the season well with two wins from their opening three competition games and a hard-fought Golden Goal loss in the State Cup first round.

We are excited about the opportunity to grow Knox United FC into the future and will be seeking expressions of interest from the broader Knox community later in 2019 about opportunities to join our club for the 2020 season and beyond. In conjunction with this expansion we also welcome Pepper Money as Knox United's major shirt sponsor for 2019 - the shirts look fantastic!

Contact [football@okga.org.au](mailto:football@okga.org.au) for further information.





## KNOX OLD BOYS' PIPE BAND

### ALLAN WATTS (OKG77)

Pipe Major

The Old Boys' Pipe Band has continued with its regular round of engagements. At the end of last year, we joined with the School's Pipes and Drums to perform at the Wahroonga Fair. This year, so far, we have played at:

- Bundanoon is Brigadoon (a glorious autumn day in the Southern Highlands with 25 pipe bands)
- Redfern RSL ANZAC Sunday commemoration service
- Various ANZAC services around the state (Gulgong, Wollombi, Narrabeen)
- Novus Foundation charity dinner (Terrey Hills)

We have been honoured to send pipers to various ANZAC church services, weddings, funerals and dinners. A special vote of thanks to Anthony Wicht (OKG98) who has taken on the role of Old Boys' Rugby piper this year.

The Old Boys Pipe Band exists to help old boys and friends keep up with their piping and drumming in a friendly, informal atmosphere. Some of us have just left School and some of us a while ago; some of us play a bit more seriously while others get along when they can.

Contact Allan Watts for more information via email [pipeband@okga.org.au](mailto:pipeband@okga.org.au).



## KNOX RUGBY CLUB 60TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

### JAMES GELLERT (OKG07)

Club President

An incredible night celebrating the 60 year history of Knox Old Boys' Rugby at the Greenwood Hotel was attended by almost 300 players, past and present, along with our most avid supporters. We recognised our greatest on-field participants with the announcement of three 'Teams of the Decade' spanning the 60s and 70s, 80s and 90s, and 2000 to 2019.

The club paid special tribute to long-standing servants of Old Boys Rugby, including the presentation of honour caps to those who've played 300 or more games.

This is something we hope will inspire the next generation to continue playing for many years. Congratulations in particular to Al Bennet (OKG74) and Ian MacLaughlan (OKG83) who have both played 500+ games - incredible!

We honoured the late-great Gus Fergusson (OKG82) with Life Membership for his decades of service as a player (400+ games), coach and administrator. It was also fitting to announce Bryn Robertson (OKG95) and Jon Bonwick (OKG93) as Life Members on the night, and award all of our Life Members with their own special honorary cap.

Long may Knox Old Boys' Rugby Club continue!

For further information or opportunities to get involved please email [rugby@okga.org.au](mailto:rugby@okga.org.au).

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**Opposite page**  
United U14s with Coach Vince Cali after their first game, a 2-0 win over North Sydney FC

**Top left and above**  
Celebrating 60 years of the Knox Rugby Club

**Top right**  
The Bundanoon Highland Gathering

# Obituaries

## JOHN PHILIP STEVENSON AM RAN (RET'D) (OKG39) 24/8/21 - 30/1/19

Phil's distinguished naval career began in January 1939, as a midshipman on the HMAS Canberra (I). He was on loan to the Royal Navy in May, and in the Mediterranean on the HMS Shropshire, when WWII broke out. He returned to the RAN in February 1941 on board HMAS Nestor, and was serving on this ship when it sank the German submarine U-127 off Cape St Vincent.

At the end of WWII, Phil was on the HMAS Shropshire (formerly the HMS Shropshire) in Tokyo Bay during the Japanese surrender. He was part of a USA/Australia/Canada team assigned to POW recovery duty around Nagasaki. There he saw first-hand the effects of the atomic bomb, detonated less than two weeks earlier.

After the war, Lieutenant Commander Stevenson went to the UK for the coronation of the Queen, where he commanded the RAN detachment ashore during the coronation parade. It was also around this time that he was promoted to Commander. In 1956 he was the Naval equerry to the Duke of Edinburgh during his visit to Australia for the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games.

In subsequent years, he was selected to attend the Naval Command Course at the US Naval War College, Rhode Island USA, and as the defence attache to Thailand. He was promoted to Captain in 1960. He was appointed honorary aide-de-camp to the Governor-General in December 1961, then later as Naval attache in Washington, before taking command of the recommissioned HMAS Melbourne (II) in October 1968.

A joint USN/RAN Board of Inquiry into the tragic accident with the USS Frank E Evans held Captain Stevenson partly responsible stating that, as commanding officer of Melbourne, he could have done more to prevent the collision from occurring; however, a subsequent RAN court-martial cleared him of any responsibility.

Captain Stevenson subsequently resigned from the RAN in 1970 bringing to an end what had been, up to that point, a distinguished 35-year naval career. The story of his experience of the Melbourne/Evans tragedy was told by his wife, Joanne, in the books 'In the Wake' (1972) and 'No Case to Answer' (1999).

Stevenson received an official apology from the Minister for Defence, the Hon Stephen Smith

MP, in November 2012. Sadly his wife did not live to hear the apology as she passed away on 26 June, 2012.

Captain Stevenson, worked at AGL from 1970-1985 after which he was tasked with setting up ELGas from 1985-1987. He then retired and spent time skiing in Lake Tahoe before finally retiring to Burradoo with Joanne in 2000. They were married for 54 years when she died in 2012.

## DON CALDWELL-SMITH (OKG40) 9/12/23 – 14/3/19

### ANGUS HORDERN (OKG80)

Don Caldwell-Smith joined the fight in the World War II with the Australian Army. He was based in Sydney during the attack on the harbour. Shortly after, Don transferred to the Royal Australian Air Force. After training, he found himself posted to the European theatre of war, a pilot for RAF Bomber Command. Don was the skipper of a Lancaster bomber.

He and his crew survived their full tour of 30 missions in the skies above Occupied Europe and Germany - a campaign that had the greatest casualty rate of the war after the German U-boat crews. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. Don was not just an accomplished officer, but a leader and 'one of the boys'. He would always opt out of utilising the relative luxuries available to officers, preferring to bunk with his men. Don was a fine gentleman who will be sorely missed by his wife Alison. Lest We Forget.



Angus Hordern (OKG80) represented the Old Boys and the School at both these distinguished Old Boy's funeral services. Angus got to know both men when interviewing them for the video 'For School and Country' and remembers both men as gentlemen who demonstrated great humility and compassion for their fellow man. They appreciated the importance of working closely together in a team environment and attributed much of their success to their education at Knox which extended from the books to working in a team environment in the school Cadet Corps and rugby teams.

## STEVEN ROBINSON (OKG61) 29/9/44 – 4/1/19

### EDRIC CHAFFER (OKG50) AND KEN POWELL (OKG61)

Steven was born in Lancashire UK. His father was an engineer who moved with his family to Australia when Steven was quite young. He commenced his secondary education at Knox in 1957.

Steven was one of the quiet achievers of the class of 1961, a member of the orchestra, school and house choirs. He did not particularly like compulsory cadets and sports and regretted that his love of sailing was not able to be accommodated as a sport at Knox.

He appeared on the academic prize list every year from 1958, and in his final year, he was awarded the Distinction Prize 'Duci Proxime Accessit' (runner up to Dux of the School). He was inspired by Physics and Mathematics teacher, HM 'Martin' Cooper, who became a lifelong friend. His decision to become a Science teacher was undoubtedly influenced by Cooper, who clearly served as one of his mentors.

Steven became an extraordinary Science teacher. He had the ability to spark the flame of curiosity and develop courage and confidence in his students, to solve problems and develop leadership in a quiet, subtle, fluid and deliberately invisible way.

Among Steven's many interests was a long-time commitment to the Maritime Museum's 'James Craig' sailing ship's for which he had a driving passion, being among many other things, the ship's 'Bosun'. He also developed many ship-building and repairing skills, including sail-making and repairing sails aloft. He was a keen bushwalker, and loved travel, classical music, architecture and engineering. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Mary, son Andrew, daughter Hilary Purdie and six grandchildren.

Edric Chaffer, who attended Steven's funeral contributes the following: "The fact that Steven became an extraordinary Science teacher who developed his students' abilities in such a remarkable way, I believe, is worth reporting. It also fits in with how, under McKenzie's Headmastership, a more encompassing, and at the same time a more diverse, school community was developed." Edric also made the point that, as a teacher, Steven Robinson's abilities encompass the ideals expressed by the current headmaster, Scott James, in developing individual student abilities.

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**Above** Angus Hordern (OKG80) represented the OKGA and School at both Don Caldwell-Smith and Phil Stevenson's funeral services



# Announcements

## BIRTHS

Henry T Dowling, son of Trent (OKG95) and Alexandra Dowling – 1/1/19

Daniel J Kemsley, son of Kevin (OKG07) and Anidha Kemsley – 28/12/18

Isabelle M Mitchell, daughter of Rohan (OKG11) and Jessie Mitchell – 1/3/19

Sophie E Porm, daughter of Andrew (OKG98) and Georgie Porm – 30/4/19

Eden O Shao, daughter of Mike (OKG06) and Jenny Shao – 21/2/19

Quinn J Sursok – son of Shaun Sursok (OKG97) and Michelle Schoots – 8/5/19

Audrey R R Thomas, daughter of Clayton Thomas (OKG98) and Karlie Ballon – 10/2/19

Oscar Thrift-Hewson, son of Michael Thrift (OKG00) and Kate Hewson – 20/4/19

Augustus L S Trembath – son of Marty Trembath (OKG03) and Talya Saada – 17/4/19

## MARRIAGES

Peter Bokor (OKG09) and Caitlin Aquilina – 1/6/19

Matt Fenn (OKG09) and Jessica Brown – 2/3/19

Zachory Fields (OKG06) and Ale Palacios – 3/5/19

Charles Freeman (OKG12) and Anna Szabo – 27/4/19

Tim Heasman (OKG08) and Ellie – 5/1/19

Jeremy Inder (OKG04) and Jennifer Ward – 2/6/19

Thomas Kaye (OKG10) and Maviel Tanevski – 10/3/19

Mark Lawley (OKG08) and Steph Rae – 5/1/19

Joseph Luk (OKG01) and Cass Hong – 1/4/19

Daniel Marr (OKG06) and Yolanda Zhu – 6/10/18

Myles Taylor (OKG05) and Elise O'Toole – 27/4/19

Tim Yeap (OKG08) and Debby Ong – 2/2/19

## DEATHS

*The OKGA extends its sincere sympathies to the families of the following Old Knox Grammarians who have passed away.*

Donald Caldwell-Smith (OKG40)  
9/12/23 – 14/3/19

Andrew Robert Clark (OKG75)  
1/6/57 – 5/5/19

Ian Alexander Davidson (OKG64)  
22/7/46 – 2/5/19

Peter Hamilton Davies (OKG45)  
29/12/28 – 22/12/18

Edward George Wyberg Docker (OKG45)  
9/6/28 – 5/1/19

Christopher Daking MacFarlane Drew (OKG52)  
14/7/35 – 3/4/19

Matthew Roy Craig Ellison (OKG92)  
29/12/74 – 27/4/19

Robert Malcolm Hughes (OKG50)  
9/8/33 – 15/1/19

Geoffrey Ian Mathieson Jacoby (OKG47/48)  
4/5/29 – 11/12/18

Peter John Keft (OKG62)  
15/9/45 – 14/5/19

Alistair James Laos (OKG06)  
10/8/88 – 4/19

Ian Ronald Stephen McDonald (OKG59)  
27/12/41 – 15/4/19

John Meredith-Jones (OKG53)  
8/2/37 – 22/2/19

David Alan Mifflin (OKG71)  
17/11/53 – 28/1/19

Louis Peter Miller (OKG42)  
14/2/25 – 9/1/19

Richard Moyes (OKG63)  
9/3/45 – 25/2/19

Irwin Carter Newman (OKG46)  
5/2/30 – 11/4/19

Geoffrey Willis Reardon (OKG44)  
12/7/1926 - 8/5/2019

Mark Stuart Rissman (OKG76)  
30/1/59 – 5/4/19

Hamish Harry Riches (OKG44)  
6/4/27 – 16/3/19

Steven Robinson (OKG61)  
29/9/44 – 4/1/19

David Edward Ross (OKG73)  
27/4/55 – 8/12/18

John Philip Stevenson (OKG39)  
24/8/21 – 30/1/19

Lawrence Douglas Stewart (OKG45)  
24/3/28 – 18/2/19

Bruce Braham Symonds (OKG36)  
18/10/19 – 14/2/19

Nicholas James John Taylor (OKG04)  
19/1/87 – 20/10/18

Malcolm Albert Parkes Thom (OKG56)  
12/2/40 – 30/12/18

Martin William Webster (OKG75)  
7/8/57 – 2/12/18

Frank Evan Williams (OKG51)  
22/10/34 – 12/5/19

David Bateman Woods (OKG38)  
25/9/21 – 31/12/18

Richard Donald Wright (OKG48)  
21/5/31 – 7/1/19



# DISCOVER EXTRAORDINARY

## Contact Us

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