

# the lion & Lang Syne

Summer 2024 | Vol 35 | Issue 02



The Scots College  
Sydney Australia



Engaging with Each Other and the World



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**Cover:** Glengarry's Intake 2 Dorm D boys face an 18 kilometre course which includes three hills: Sir Stu's Birthday Surprise, a long 900-metre hill, Pipe Band Hill and Heartbreak Hill. All five dorms participate in this gruelling quest. See our Glengarry feature, beginning on page 42.

**Inside Front Cover:** Sailing at Brighton Preparatory School is very special. All boys in Years 2 and 3 go through a Learn to Sail program in Terms 1 and 4 each year. When boys finish Year 3, they select their Sport Specialisation. From this point on, boys sail year-round and compete in many local, interstate and even a few international regattas.

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The Scots College welcomes contributions from readers. To announce a class reunion, engagement, marriage, birth of a child or the passing of an Old Boy, our Alumni Relations Manager can be contacted on +61 2 9391 7606. Unless otherwise stated, Lang Syne articles are written and coordinated by the College's Alumni and Community Development Manager.

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CRICOS Provider Code: 02287G

The Presbyterian Church  
(New South Wales) Property Trust  
ABN 86 438 712 994

**Corrections:** *The Lion & Lang Syne: Winter 2024* (Volume 35, Issue 01)  
Page 57: The 1948 image caption referred to the College Coach as Mr JN Lakts, as recorded in the Office of Heritage and Tradition College Collection. It has since been confirmed that the College Coach was Mr John Lofts. The College Collection and digital publication have been updated accordingly. The caption has also been updated to reflect that Professor Graeme Clark AC ('51) was still a student in 1948.



# From the Chairman



The quote, “Culture eats strategy for breakfast, operational excellence for lunch, and everything else for dinner,” is often attributed to Peter Drucker, the renowned management consultant.

While the authorship is disputed, it resonates with many who hear it. Strategies, plans and roadmaps may change, but culture is deeply ingrained and shifts much more gradually. As the College Council, Principal and leadership team have been developing the new Strategic Plan for 2025 to 2034, we have been also reflecting on what defines Scots. Throughout this process, feedback from all stakeholders has overwhelmingly highlighted the high value placed on the College’s community. So, at launch of our new strategy, we recognise that our community and culture are true advantages.

While we enjoy the benefits of the fruits of our culture, like good gardeners, we must value the tree and roots which have produced them. I am often asked why the Presbyterian Church is involved in a school, as contemporary Australia tends to view education as a government endeavour. However, it was churches that established the first schools in Australia. Three Presbyterian ministers founded The Scots College. Vishal Mangalwadi, in his publication *The Book that Made Your World: How the Bible Created the Soul of Western Civilization*, captures more explicitly the root of these blessings we enjoy.

“

...our revised strategy proudly centres on our Christian foundation.

Beyond education, the Bible has profoundly shaped Western thought, from our understanding of humanity to our values of liberty and diversity, and even the concept of hope.

For example, it is self-evident that human beings have inherent value, yet this belief has not always been universal. Infanticide, for instance, was common practice in ancient Greece and Rome. By contrast, the Bible asserts that humans have been created in God’s image, the crown of God’s creation. Through Jesus Christ, God became human, affirming His commitment to humanity. Christianity, therefore, has given the West its fundamental understanding of human dignity. So, far from minimising the place of Christ in our formation, our revised strategy proudly centres on our Christian foundation.

Our valued College community is a place of flourishing and growth not merely from tradition alone, but through its connection to the Christian faith. While our community may not be exclusively Christian, there is a shared, intuitive belief in a moral architecture to the universe. Each of us plays a role in the flourishing of our students and one another. On behalf of the College Council, thank you for your dedication to this community and for your commitment to seeing our students flourish. You can take pride in the College’s exceptional achievements across Academic, Co-Curricular and Sport activities over the past year.

**Reverend Glen Pather**

Chairman of the College Council

# From the Principal



In 2025, The Scots College will enter a new strategic phase. At the core of our vision is a new way of leading and managing our campuses, programs and priorities.

It will be expressed as a 'Team of Teams' leadership model. The model is not new, as the Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes (4:9-12) reminds us, "Two are better off than one, because together we can work more effectively. If one falls down, the other can help him up."

What then, is the Team of Teams theory? The Team of Teams theory was made popular by retired US Army General Stanley McChrystal who commanded the Joint Special Operations Task Force in Iraq in 2003. It is captured in his book, *Team of Teams: New Rules of Engagement for a Complex World*. It was our privilege to have him address our whole staff team in a Professional Learning Day earlier this year and we have been working together to reshape and refocus our own structures, teams and ideas around key leadership priorities.

A Team of Teams is an approach to building a leadership and organisational structure based on a constellation of smaller teams that are deliberately interconnected and interdependent, working closely together.

This concept demands an extremely transparent communication network with decentralised decision-making. It is challenging because it aims to build the leadership capacity of people, allow more efficient use of time, enable more timely decision-making and facilitate heterosis, or hybrid vigour (where the cross-fertilisation process leads to progeny

that exhibits phenotypic superiority over its parents) across the campuses. In order for the model to perform at an optimum level, it requires that:

- every member of the team needs to be operating at their peak
- every team needs to be operating at their peak
- every team needs every other team to be operating at their peak.

With this model in mind, the personal and collective challenge for a leader with responsibility is to:

- measure one's leadership against the best 'inside' the team (understand and learn from those close to you)
- measure one's leadership against the best 'outside' the team (look at the standards set and achieved by those outside your immediate circle, even school cohort).

At times, working together as a member of a team is harder than working as an individual. Success requires patience, humility, vision and sacrifice. Nevertheless, teamwork protects us from personal failure, allows us to focus on our areas of strength and serves to build community. In terms of one's attitude to leadership and life, we can all benefit from these wise words of Nelson Mandela: "I never lose. I either win or learn."

As a multi-campus College, our task and challenge in this new era is to become a high-functioning team and to use our collective gifts and talents to build a Team of Teams across Academic, Sport and Co-Curricular, pastoral domains and year groups. We are members of The Scots College team.

As a College we have great challenges and great opportunities in front of us. We will meet them as a Team of Teams and aim to make this year, and the years ahead, the very best years in our College's fine history.

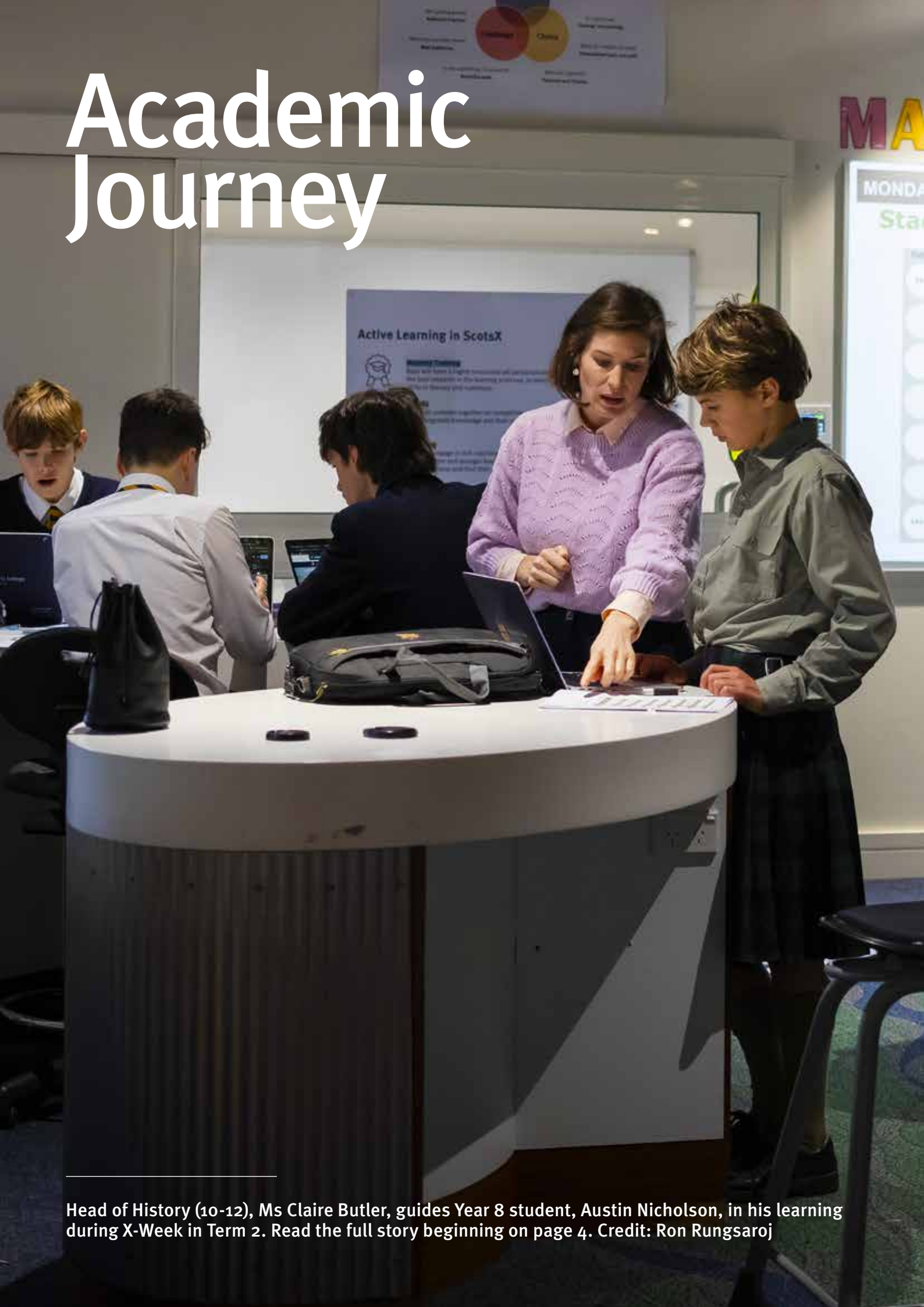
Scots to the fore!

**Dr Ian PM Lambert**  
Principal

“ ... teamwork protects us from personal failure, allows us to focus on our areas of strength and serves to build community.



# Academic Journey



Head of History (10-12), Ms Claire Butler, guides Year 8 student, Austin Nicholson, in his learning during X-Week in Term 2. Read the full story beginning on page 4. Credit: Ron Rungsaroj

Year 8 ScotsX student, Benjamin Galasso, presents his portfolio of work, reflection statement and goals, to his parents and ScotsX Learning Designer, Mr Michael Steggles, at his Term 2 Student-Led Learning Review.



# Discovering the X-Factor

## ACADEMIC JOURNEY

Since 2023 we have been iteratively designing a new form of Middle Years schooling to better cater to the developmental needs of our early adolescent boys. This process is consistent with the College's Brave Hearts Bold Minds philosophy of education.

Our theory of change has been that with an uplift in student motivation, belonging, character and achievement in Years 7-8, we will see greater motivation, character and achievement in the Senior Years.

Our ScotsX 'learning laboratory' has continued to pioneer a new model of learning for Middle Years boys. The three main distinctions of the ScotsX model are:

- a core team of teachers building stronger relationships
- an evolved curriculum giving strong foundations in literacy and numeracy, interdisciplinary and collaborative project opportunities
- experiential learning to build engagement and character, through experiences such as the weekly X-Days and High Table guest speakers.

Starting with one class of 20 boys in 2023 (selected from 47 applicants), the program grew to two classes in 2024 (selected from 78 applicants), reflecting the wide diversity of our student population. We have seen significant improvements in student achievement, engagement and belonging. Here are some of the boys' highlights so far this year:

"I think a highlight of being in ScotsX so far is being able to make friends with people I didn't even know, to challenge myself to work harder and be more productive."

"The X-Days have been exceptional this year! Each one has been interesting, fun and challenging at times, taking me out of my comfort zone. An example of this is how I wasn't comfortable with taking public transport, but my confidence has grown exponentially."

"I don't normally talk that much with elderly people and I don't think much about their life story. When going to The Terraces (Residential Aged Care), I heard so many interesting stories about people who have experienced so much in their life."

In tandem with this parallel learning laboratory, we are also working to 'scale out' new experiences as we reinvent



education for all our Middle Years boys. One expression of this was the launch of X-Week.

In the last week of Term 2, all Year 8 boys engaged in a week-long interdisciplinary experiential education program. The College piloted elements of our developing Middle School curriculum model across the entire cohort.

The program was designed specifically for Scots students and by Scots staff during our April Professional Learning Day and subsequent workshop sessions. Built upon the design principles of authentic connection, real choice and continuous challenge, it aims to embed the best practice emerging from our ScotsX program in a cohort-wide learning experience.

Interweaving the College's Graduate Profile character qualities with a diverse range of Stage 4 New South Wales subject content and outcomes, each X-Week program is an academically rigorous and experientially-focussed curriculum with units such as The Stadium: Then, Now and Into the Future, Urban Exploration, Full STEAM Ahead, Mind Games: The Big Questions, The Art of Music and The Bannockburn Sustainability Experience.

After the successful launch of X-Week with Year 8, the Middle School provided Year 7 boys with their very own X-Week introduction and experience in Term 3. We look forward to offering more stimulating ScotsX and X-Week experiences in 2025.

**Dr Hugh Chilton**  
Head of ScotsX

**Mr Matthew Driscoll**  
Director of Studies (7-9)

“

Our ScotsX ‘learning laboratory’ has continued to pioneer a new model of learning for Middle Years boys.

1. Students learn from Scots parent and ScotsX High Table guest speaker, Mr Justin Hind, about the nature of advertising when designing a public health campaign.
2. Year 8 boys, George Giaouris and Cameron Kenny, out and about for X-Day, exploring the origins of British settlement at Sydney Cove, also recorded by early white explorers and settlers as its Aboriginal name, Warrane.



# Artists and Designers

## ACADEMIC JOURNEY

The outgoing Class of 2024 excelled in a diverse showing of patient and impressively conscientious major works and projects coming out of the Art and Design Department.

Boys produced subject matter that was both wildly abstract and simultaneously personal in narrative for their HSC Bodies of Work in Visual Arts.

Many Design and Technology students conceptualised Major Design Projects they could conceivably and immediately use in the wider marketplace. While the students of Software Design and Development (SDD) continue to embrace the fluctuations consistently materialising across the industry, including the rapid development of Artificial Intelligence (AI).

The students of this particular squad were quite a unique, ambitious bunch of characters and personalities, with interesting and passionate stories to tell within their produced hard work. Chronicles of allegorical adventure, what it means to be a young man growing up in 21st century Sydney, accounts about overcoming adversity and the celebration of family origin stories were all shared proudly by these emerging artists.

### Mr Alex Anastas

Head of Visual Arts (10-12)



1. Harry Cooper's (Year 12) Design and Technology Major Design Project focused on creating an innovative, multifunctional dining room table and was nominated as an outstanding work for 2024 SHAPE.
2. Nominated for 2024 SHAPE, Max Deal's (Year 12) meat cabinet dry-ages and cures meat over long periods, increasing the efficiency of meat preservation.

## The Scots College M100s Gallery

On Wednesdays 4 and 11 September, students of Year 12 Visual Arts and TAS (Technological and Applied Studies) hosted their exhibition openings.

Guest speakers included Environmental Artist, Mrs Louise Fowler-Smith and Designer, Mr Robert Barnstone, who helped open each exhibition. On both evenings, awards for outstanding excellence and effort were conferred and student musicians performed at this pinnacle event.



Year 12 Visual Arts HSC Body of Work, David Dickson's oil painting series titled, *Sleeping Rough*, is about three homeless men in his Balmain neighbourhood.



*Sigma in the Dark*, a painting series for Year 12 Visual Arts student, Charles Brann's HSC Body of Work.



## Practising Portraiture

Middle School Visual Arts students started learning the elements of portrait painting with some captivating results. Enjoy this selection from some of the College's young artists.



### Luca Bennett (Year 9)

Luca chose to paint his dad. He chose him because he is a mentor and inspires him. Luca took photos of his dad first and was specific to sit near the window to create the light effect you can see. Luca then used illustrator software to reduce the number of colours and provide a blue palette. Luca used acrylic paint and varnish medium.



### Harry Davies (Year 9)

In this portrait Harry was learning a specific painterly technique in portrait painting that is gestural from British artist Jonathan Yeo. It's tricky as Harry had to be loose with brushstroke but very aligned with face proportions. The painting is a representation of Yeo's 2006 portrait of Rupert Murdoch. Harry used acrylic paint and varnish medium.



### Jordan Dhamarrandji (Year 9)

Jordan chose to paint his hero, Australian Football League (AFL) legend, Adam Goodes. He was inspired by Anh Doh who had created a very loose painting of Goodes in 2018. Interestingly he did not use any black to create this work. He had learnt from the Old Renaissance Masters to mix burnt umber and ultramarine blue. Jordan used acrylic paint and varnish medium.



### Charlie Lamshed (Year 9)

Charlie was inspired to investigate the style of painting portraits by British artist, Jenny Saville. Saville painted grotesque and disfigured portraits and bodies. Charlie was inspired by her loose and disorganised use of paint that conveyed powerful emotions. In this striking portrait of a small child, Charlie was able to experiment with colour and brushstrokes in an erratic way. He focused on making the eyes clearer to draw the viewer in. Charlie used acrylic paint and varnish medium.



Two STEAM Surfboard Design students attend a workshop in the middle of the year.

## Surf Craft

In June, our STEAM Surfboard Design students, above, passed their Ocean Safety Surfer Award, a surf rescue certificate demonstrating competency in surf craft riding. The students finished the term with a blended fade spray paint workshop.

### Ms Sueann Plenkovich

Visual Arts Teacher

“

The students of this particular squad were quite a unique, ambitious bunch of characters and personalities, with interesting and passionate stories to tell within their produced hard work.

# The Launch of the Caledonian Institute

The Scots College is pleased to announce the establishment of The Caledonian Institute, relaunching Scots Research into the next phase of the College's Strategic Plan.

The Caledonian Institute provides professional learning and development at The Scots College as our bridge between research and practice.

## What will The Caledonian Institute do?

It will provide a framework from research to practice, equipping Scots staff to become the finest in Australia.

Research in education has long been happening in schools, though this has often occurred on the periphery – as something done to schools rather than by schools.

Around the world, a growing number of schools have moved to embed research or 'evidence-informed' practice as key to their professional learning and improvement agendas. Since 2012, the College's professional learning has been guided by Scots Research. It has served us well, but now is the time to evolve so that we might continue to grow and improve individually and collectively.

The Caledonian Institute will conduct and champion world-class research innovation, source the best research from across the globe, and then apply it to real-world contexts at The Scots College.

It is time to apply the research of the past decade with bespoke professional learning and development for each

campus, each year group, each department and each staff member. Our quest to reinvent education is amplified by transforming how we learn and grow in our profession.

## How does this relate to Scots and the Presbyterian Church of Australia?

The Scots College's identity as a Presbyterian, non-selective, holistic educator of boys owes a great deal to its founder, the Reverend Arthur Aspinall, whose mentor was Reverend John Dunmore Lang.

The foundations of The Caledonian Institute can be traced back to the vision of Reverend Lang. In 1826, he penned a prospectus for the Caledonian Academy, to be a "model" or "training school" for teachers. The Caledonian Institute is how we do tomorrow, better.

## Our Plans for The Caledonian Institute

Through The Caledonian Institute, The Scots College's plan – one that creates space for exploration, modelling and professional learning – is simple, but profound:

1. Embrace our own research and the best research on offer from across the globe.
2. Convert this distilled evidence into practical collaborations to further build staff capacity and enable a clear pathway from research lab to classroom.
3. Innovate. Refine. Repeat.

## Dr Rob Loe

Director of Research and Learning Innovation



# Creativity



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Erasmus Roppolo (Year 12), lead vocalist for College band, The Electric Lemons, performs at the annual RockNess rock festival, held at Sydney's Paddo RSL in June. Enjoy this exciting article in full, starting on page 12.





# What a Night!

The inaugural Brighton Preparatory Dance Showcase 2024 was held at The Pavilion Performing Arts Centre, Sutherland, in June.

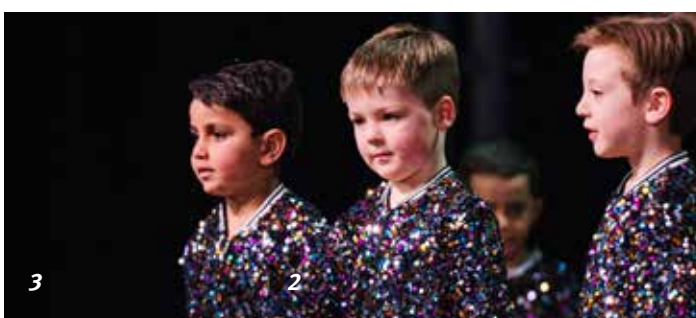
After a busy day of final rehearsals, the Brighton Prep community was treated to a night of boy band hits, colourful costumes and groovy moves. Students from every year group were involved and participated with wonderful enthusiasm. Boys from Kindergarten through to Year 6 performed on stage at this highly memorable event.

Congratulations to Brighton Prep’s Dance, Drama and Creative Arts Teacher, Miss Natasha Toms – and every Brighton Prep boy – on a wonderful evening of entertainment.

**Mrs Denise Viskovic**

Executive Assistant to the Head of the Brighton Preparatory School and Admissions Manager

1. Year 5 boys, Lucas Wu, Eli Keshav and Jameson Isaacs, dancing to *Everybody* – their classic boy band costume is complete with a microphone headset.
2. The movie *Shrek* serves as Year 2’s inspiration when dancing to *I’m a Believer*.
3. Kindergarten students, Luke Azer, Finn Gruse and Maxwell Haddad, proudly wearing sparkly costumes on stage to dance to *One Way or Another* (*Teenage Kicks*).
4. Time travellers from Year 1, dancing to *Year 3000*, at the Brighton Preparatory Dance Showcase 2024.





# Art by Immersion

## CREATIVITY

The Preparatory School's youngest artists engaged their imaginations throughout the year in various immersive art experiences. They dived into paint, crayons and clay, exploring materials and expressing their curiosity for the world around them in new and exciting ways.

The Cubs and Lions area was a hive of activity where we facilitated creative self-expression on individual and collaborative projects each week. Explorations included a woodblock vehicle cityscape, a Sydney Harbour Bridge sculpture and collage canvases inspired by the boys' adventures to Cooper Park.

We engaged local artist Ms Miriam Ross who worked with small groups of Cubs and Lions boys on collaborative mosaic pieces to enhance the Early Learning Centre's grounds.

Kindergarten took inspiration from class investigations, local events, renowned artists and artworks, Van Gogh's swirling night skies and Frida Kahlo's vibrant and detailed portraits.

Our ceramics incursion with local Sydney artist, Ms Kristyn Taylor, provided Kindergarten and Year 1 boys with an authentic and challenging experience with the wonderfully tactile material, clay. They created Australian native animals – beautiful koalas, crocodiles and kookaburras. Ms Taylor worked with the Year 2 boys on individual ceramic pieces, sculpting an array of patterned houses and sailing boats to create works inspired by our beautiful Sydney Harbour foreshore.

The boys have been developing their individual styles and we are seeing them flourish as young artists.

**Ms Tara Holmes and Ms Annabelle Lee**  
Preparatory School Visual Arts Teachers



1. Yining Gao (Year 1) with his captivating self-portrait.
2. Axel Adams (Cubs) adds detail to his monoprint.
3. Kindergarten classmates, Theodore Zhan and Nathan Ling work on their clay creations.
4. Kindergarten student, Jarrah Hayden, focuses on his robot drawing, showing shadow and tone.
5. The Lions boys' collaborative mixed media mural based on their excursions to Cooper Park in autumn.



# Musicality: Updates from the Senior School

## RockNess

The annual RockNess rock festival, a showcase of the Contemporary Music Program, was held at Paddington RSL on 24 June. It featured a number of rock bands from Years 5 to 12. One of the Year 12 rock bands, The Electric Lemons, played the finale of the festival, fresh from their recent success as winners of the Ascham School Battle of the Bands competition!

## Jazz Night

On 30 May, the Coote Theatre was transformed into a jazz club and a very passionate audience of jazz connoisseurs was entertained by the scintillating sounds of the various jazz ensembles at the College.

The younger boys were inspired by a masterclass of tight ensemble playing and soulful improvisation by the Senior musicians, featuring Big Band leader and Vice-Captain of Music, Jarrett Fong (Year 12).



Vice-Captain of Music, Jarrett Fong (Year 12), improvises at the Coote Theatre – transformed into a jazz club in May.



## Nocturnes Large Ensembles Showcase Concerts

Held over three evenings in May and June, the Nocturnes Large Ensembles Showcase Concerts gave boys from Brighton Prep, Bellevue Hill Junior Prep, Senior Prep, Middle and Senior School campuses the opportunity to present their large ensemble repertoire to family and friends. These concerts are always special times of musical camaraderie and renewing friendships across campuses of the College.

### Mr Eric Hutchens

MIC of Music (10-12)



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2

1. Head of Middle School and College conductor, Mr Paul Vickers, guides The Scots College Symphony Orchestra, performing at the Nocturnes Large Ensembles Showcase Concerts.
2. Director of Strings, Ms Hayley Cush, conducting the Combined Strings and Guitars ensemble at the Nocturnes Large Ensembles Showcase Concerts in Term 2.



Scots Big Band 1 celebrates winning the Gold Award at the Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival.

## Big Band

On Sunday 25 August, The Scots College Big Band 1 won a well-deserved Gold Award at the Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival, held at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. They played with a maturity and authenticity seldom heard in secondary level student jazz ensembles outside of the USA.

Australian legend of jazz, and brother of the also famous James, Mr John Morrison, adjudicated. Mr Morrison complimented Deuchar Taylor (Year 12) as a standout drummer of the morning – a wonderful accolade for him. His words towards the band were inspiring and encouraging.

### Mr Ben Stanton

Director of Woodwind, Brass and Percussion Coordinator of Jazz

## Passionate Performances Awarded

Three more Scots boys have been awarded the Associate in Music, Australia (AMusA) in Australian Music Examinations Board (AMEB) practical examinations: Ethan Cox (Year 12) for viola and Patrick Gao (Year 11) for violin. In addition, the College's very talented classical guitarist, Leonard Chen (Year 8), received his Licentiate in Music (Distinction), Australia (LMusA).

These wonderful achievements recognise a musical understanding and performance abilities that are well above the requirements for AMEB Grade 8.

### Mrs Rebecca Cheng

College Accompanist, Director of Keyboard, Coordinator of Vocal and Chapel Music

In *Oliver Twist*, Year 7 boys, Max Lazarus sells wares as a street merchant while Fagin's crafty boys, Harry Flett and Zavier El Hassan, try to outwit him.

# Treading the Boards

## The 2024 HSC Drama Showcase

In August, the Drama Studio became the stage for an unforgettable evening as we had the privilege of witnessing the 2024 HSC Drama Showcase. The packed audience was captivated, delighted and deeply moved by the extraordinary talent of the College's young actors. (Photo 1)



This showcase was not just a display of skill but a triumphant celebration of passion, perseverance and years of unwavering dedication. The profound impact of Drama on these young men was evident in every moment of their performances, leaving a lasting impression on all who were fortunate enough to attend.

The College also congratulates the Year 12 HSC Drama students for their NSW Education Standards Authority OnSTAGE nominations; this is an amazing achievement! Well done to all the boys who also received a double nomination for their Individual Project and Group Performance.

## Oliver Twist

In June, the Middle School's production, *Oliver Twist*, opened. Well done to the cast (boys from Years 7 to 9), band (boys from Years 7 and 8), crew, parents and College staff for supporting this colourful and lively production.

## The Comedy Project

In May, Co-Curricular Drama presented *The Comedy Project*. The boys devised their very own sketch show: writing, rehearsing and then performing to a delighted audience. The program, written by the boys themselves claimed that the goal was "... to fulfill a single purpose: to perform the perfect night of sketch comédie" – and it seems they did! Year 12 students Max Wilson, Macgregor Finlayson and Cameron Lau are seen here entertaining the audience in a gently captivating scene. (Photo 2)





# Community

A wide-angle photograph of a river at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, shimmering reflection on the water's surface. In the foreground, two red kayakers are paddling away from the viewer. The background features a lush, green valley with trees and a few buildings, all bathed in the warm, golden light of the setting sun.

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At the College's Glengarry campus, in Kangaroo Valley, boys extend themselves, form lifelong friendships, and have time to reflect on their relationship to the world and spiritual purpose. Turn to page 42 to read more about this extraordinary program.



# Our Social World

## COMMUNITY



### Mulga Artist

In July, the boys in the Senior Prep welcomed 'Mulga' to their Visual Arts lessons as an Artist in Residence. Mulga is Sydney-based artist Mr Joel Moore. His workshop during regular art lessons, guided them through the process of creating his trademark gorilla portrait. (Photo 1)



### Surf's Up!

The Australian Interschools Surfing Championship 2024 was held at Nobby Beach, Gold Coast, in May. Representing Scots, 11 students competed in a pool of over 300 from across Australia. The Junior Tag team coming fourth in the competition. Credit: Aquabumps

At the end of June, The Scots College Surfing Challenge was held at Sydney's Maroubra Beach, with offshore three-foot surf! This year's event saw a record-breaking turnout of 76 competitors across the four divisions. (Photo 2)

### The National Art School Program

In July, Year 11 Visual Arts students, Ian Chou and Beau Dacic, attended Module 1 of the National Art School Intensive in Darlinghurst. The application-only, seven-day HSC intensive is taught by professional artists in professional studios. "I can confidently say I am a better drawer because of it." Beau Dacic (Year 11) "There is a lot to learn from long, consecutive hours in the process of creating an artwork." Ian Chou (Year 11) (Photo 3)



### A South African Adventure

Year 10 boys, Finn Ellis and Angus Johnston, spent Term 3 on student exchange at Kearsney College in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa – navigating life in a new country! (Photo 4)



Harry Uren and Sukeh Noah (Year 10) travelled to South Africa for Term 3 and were hosted by Hilton College, also located in KwaZulu-Natal. They were thrilled to be immersed in a completely new environment. (Photo 5)



"This experience has been life-changing. From game drives and zip-line tours to shark diving and visiting small schools to help kids with their reading, I've had so many amazing adventures ..." Harry Uren (Year 10)

"... We have done so many activities with other exchange students ... such as going to uShaka Marine World, going swimming with sharks (I was the only one in a cage whilst everyone was outside), going to zoos and aquariums ..." Sukeh Noah (Year 10) (Photo 6)



Scots hosted two boys from Kearsney College in Term 4.

Stay in touch with the Scots community at [instagram.com/thescotscollege\\_official](https://www.instagram.com/thescotscollege_official) or [facebook.com/thescotsadvantage](https://www.facebook.com/thescotsadvantage).



# The Auld Tartans Community

## COMMUNITY

The Auld Tartans helps maintain the relationships and friendships of mothers of Old Boys with each other and with the College. Our Association aims to hold social functions, reunions and meetings throughout the year.

We celebrated our 30 year anniversary in 2023 and marked the occasion with a lovely lunch at the Four Seasons Hotel Sydney. We thanked Mrs Lenore Boronkay and her committee on this occasion and welcomed the new committee members, Vice-President, Ms Jo-Ann Davey; Treasurer/Secretary, Mrs Leanne Bell; Country Representative, Mrs Anna Allsop; and myself.

We celebrated Mother's Day at the Royal Motor Yacht Club, Point Piper, enjoying the diversity of year groups and reminiscing about our experiences as Scots mums.

We are hoping to organise a Christmas get-together for members and partners, and perhaps a weekend away in sunny Byron Bay for 2025.

The Auld Tartans will continue to sponsor the Speech Day prize, The Auld Tartans Award for Commitment to Sustainable



The Auld Tartans celebrate Mother's Day at the Royal Motor Yacht Club, Point Piper, in May.

Futures, for another decade. This prize acknowledges students who have contributed research into sustainability.

We look forward to welcoming more members. If you would like a membership form or more information about the Auld Tartans, please email: [theaulttartans@gmail.com](mailto:theaulttartans@gmail.com).

### **Mrs Rebecca Vass**

The Scots College Auld Tartans Association – President

## Staying Agile in Business and Economics

The Scots College Institute of Business and Economics (IBE) recently joined forces with global investment bank Morgan Stanley to develop an informal partnership.

In 2023 the partnership offered Year 12 students William Destro, Jehiel Pather and Cooper Stewart the opportunity to participate in the NextGen Wealth Education program. This two-day crash course in banking and finance enabled the students to explore critical issues relating to macro-economics and AI. Director and Head of Wholesale Distribution at investment firm Roc Partners, Andrew Muston ('10) met with the boys and provided some insights into the world of private equity.

Then, in June, the IBE hosted Mr Arthur Sinodinos AO, in conversation with the College's Business and Economics Teacher, Mr James Cooper. Mr Sinodinos discussed his career as Australian Ambassador to the United States, Chief of Staff for the Howard Government, and Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, as well as his involvement in Australian public policy and politics. Mr Sinodinos encouraged the students to adopt a growth mindset as lifelong learners who could pivot and change.

### **Peter Sklavos (Year 11)**

### **Mr Francis George**

Executive Officer Institute of Business and Economics

# Generosity Progresses Bannockburn

## COMMUNITY

Old Boy, Mr Warren Halloran AM (’44) was a well-known member of the Shoalhaven district. He developed vast tracts of Halloran-owned land in the Jervis Bay region, including Culburra Beach, Callala Bay, Callala Beach and parts of Huskisson on the New South Wales South Coast.

Forward-thinking and generous, Mr Halloran donated land for public services and environmental protection. His rural properties still provide natural corridors and habitats for endemic plants and animals.

It is therefore fitting that Bannockburn, gifted to the College by Mr Halloran, now has a Rewilding Sanctuary. Built with the support of the Halloran Trust, it is the first school-owned and managed sanctuary in Australia. It was completed in October and houses numerous endangered mammals such as potoroos, parma wallabies, bettongs and spotted-tail quolls.

Renovations of the camp shed have also incorporated Halloran relics collected from nearby Halloran properties and repurposed in the build. The new mezzanine was originally in the hay shed at Cooper Cup – a Halloran property that borders Lake Wollumboola.

The original hay shed was in serious disrepair and destined for demolition. After many years of consideration and planning, Bannockburn Property

Manager, Mr Duncan McMaster and local builder, Mr Glen Phillips, removed the Cooper Cup mezzanine and rebuilt it in the camp shed at Bannockburn. The wrought iron used in the balustrade was found in a pile near the Tower House, seemingly collected by Mr Halloran for a future purpose. The timber and red corrugated iron used in the walls were also sourced from Halloran properties.

The new purpose-built stage was constructed from local demolished timber and is framed by an Oregon headboard, complete with two shearing stands – a heritage piece from Western Queensland that was donated by the McMaster family. A huge thank you to the Adventure Academy boys who assisted with the fence construction in Term 3.

Since its official opening in Term 4, the camp shed is now a monument to the Halloran legacy, one that the College’s boys and community can enjoy for decades to come.

### **Mrs Kym McMaster**

Coordinator of Experiential Education – Bannockburn



“ ... it is the first school-owned and managed sanctuary in Australia.

1. Bannockburn Property Manager, Mr Duncan McMaster, surveys the new mezzanine in the camp shed in Term 2.
2. Adventure Academy boys help build the Rewilding Sanctuary fence at Bannockburn in Term 1.



# Speaking from the Heart

## COMMUNITY

### Brighton Preparatory School Debating

In Terms 2 and 3, boys from the Brighton Preparatory School participated in the Independent Primary School Heads of Australia Debating Tournament. We were excited and proud to host teams from PLC Sydney and Trinity Grammar School, and to visit MLC School, Trinity Grammar School, Newington College and Arkana College. Across the competition, the boys saw huge improvement under the watchful eye and expertise of their Debating Coaches Mr Wesley Ngo and Mrs Annie Gerasimou. We were thrilled to invite boys from Year 4 to be a part of the Representative Squad and look forward to raising the bar again in 2025! (Photo 1)



### Eastside Debating Winners

Congratulations to Years 8 and 10 students who competed in the 2024 Eastside Debating Competition in June. Both teams were named Champions in their categories.

The Year 8 team, shown left to right, Joshua Moopanar, Tristen Yew, Christopher Assaad, Teddy Ovenden and James Kurtz displayed exceptional skills to claim this year's championship. (Photo 2)

Year 10 students, also shown left to right, Binuka Ediriweera, Fynn Byrne, William Anderson, Angus McPherson, Tennyson Bors and Angus Johnston led their team to the first grand final victory in the Year 10 division since 2005! (Photo 3)

language Mandarin speakers, showcased not only language proficiency but also critical thinking and cultural exchange. This is an impressive start!

### The Lawrence Campbell Oratory Competition

In May, the College hosted The Lawrence Campbell Oratory Competition, an annual competition of impromptu public speaking between representatives of each of the Great Public Schools (GPS) and Combined Associated Schools (CAS) in New South Wales. Congratulations to Macgregor Finlayson (Year 12) who was selected to represent the College in this wonderful event.

### The Ethics Olympiad

Continuing our tradition of excellence, one of our Senior teams secured third place in the NSW Ethics Olympiad, narrowly missing a spot in the international finals, following the successes of the past two years. Well done boys on an impressive result!



2



3

### A Great First Year!

The Chinese debaters had an incredible first year in their competition in the 2024 NSW High School Chinese Debating League, advancing to the grand final. This annual tournament, featuring both native and second-





# Some Amazing Preparatory School Moments

## Swimming Sensations!

The School Sports Australia National Championships were held on the Gold Coast in August.

Scots had the most students competing and won more medals than any school – a total of 19 medals (14 gold and five bronze): Edmund Jewell – five gold, one bronze; Thomas Penny – seven gold; Aodhan Taylor – one gold and two bronze; Lewis Jewell – one gold and two bronze. What an extraordinary effort!

## Outstanding Cross Country Competitors

Congratulations to Jacob Brook (Year 3), Henry Greenfield Parker (Year 4) and Elliot Webster (Year 5) who competed at the NSW Primary Schools Sports Association (NSWPSSA) Cross Country Championships in July at the International Equestrian Centre, Horsley Park: Elliot Webster, 11 Years 3km – fourth place; Henry Greenfield Parker 10 Years 2km – tenth place; and Jacob Brook, 8/9 Years 2km – 17th place. (Photo 1)







2

## The Battle of the Bands

In August, three Senior Preparatory Rock Bands performed in the inaugural IPSHA Battle of the Bands held at the Wenkart Theatre, Knox Grammar School.

Fourteen boys from Years 5 and 6 – also known by their stage names of ‘Crash’, ‘Smashed Potatoes’ and ‘The Black Stripes’, enjoyed the experience of performing in a theatre for a large crowd against bands from schools such as Trinity Grammar School, Knox Grammar School, and Emmanuel School. The Best Band was awarded to our very own Year 6 Band, Crash! (Photo 2)

## Let’s Write a Book in a Day

On Tuesday 3 September, Year 6 boys visited Kambala for the ‘Write a Book in a Day’ experience. The boys and girls worked collaboratively in groups to plan, write and illustrate a book in one day. This experience helped raise money for The Kids’ Cancer Project. The books are also available for kids in hospitals around Australia to read. Well done, boys! (Photo 3)



3



4

## Showcasing Dance and Drama Stars

In Term 3, the Year 6 cohort performed Disney’s *Aladdin JR*. Led by Dance and Drama Company student leaders, boys rehearsed through Term 2 and collaborated on developing, rehearsing and critically analysing songs, dances and scenes – taking a whole production from page to stage at the NIDA Parade Theatre. (Photo 4)



5

## Turning Triangles into Squares

Honours Mathematics student, Yiwei Xia (Year 2), had his Mathematics solutions published on the NRICH website in August. NRICH is connected to the Millennium Mathematics Project, University of Cambridge. Students were given interactive tangram pieces that had to be organised into at least five squares. See their creative and colourful solutions at <https://nrich.maths.org/problems/tangrams#tab-solution>. (Photo 5)

## NAPLAN Gets Even Better!

This year’s NAPLAN results are a testament to excellence in program design and highly effective classroom teaching practices in the Preparatory School. Implementing and sustaining a Writing Improvement Strategy has seen incredible gains made in students’ writing. We are particularly proud of the boys’ NAPLAN Writing results which saw 97 percent of students in Year 3 and 95 percent of students in Year 5 achieve in the Strong and Exceeding bands.

**Ms Lisa Sharpe**

Head of Curriculum – Preparatory Schools

# Designed by Boys for Boys

## COMMUNITY

On Wednesday 27 November, our new playground at the Junior Preparatory School, Elmwood, was officially opened by majority donor, Mrs Sarah Murdoch.

We look forward to the boys enjoying this new play equipment for many years to come. They will undoubtedly create lasting memories for many, many hours. It will be wonderful to hear their laughter and see their excitement as they explore these new outdoor play opportunities and challenges together.

Please enjoy reading the Principal's Message, below, describing this wonderful event as it appeared in *Scots News*, Term 4 Week 7.

### Mr Greg Asquith

Assistant Head of the Junior Preparatory School

... The Junior Prep playground is a wonderful story that begins with our very own students.

In 2019, the Year 9 Design and Technology (who graduated in 2022), were invited to enter a competition that would leave a lasting impact on the College. The response was overwhelming and, after careful deliberation, Sam Hirst ('22) was selected as the winner. His concepts were presented to UmbaCo, the landscape architects responsible for bringing the vision to life. The ultimate playground design – that we now enjoy – became a blend of the winning conceptual elements, adapted for safety.

The design very deliberately encourages boys to use their imagination, challenge themselves, and freely explore outdoor play – as children love to do.

We extend our sincere thanks to Mrs Sarah and Mr Lachlan Murdoch, Mrs Tania and Mr Ben Masden, the Mayor of the Municipality of Woollahra, Ms Sarah Swan and our many generous donors who have made this project possible. Special thanks to the Director of Advancement, Mrs Jenelle Webster and Capital Project Manager, Mr Jim Karadimis, for their excellent coordination.

### Dr Ian PM Lambert

Principal



1. The architect's view of the Elmwood multi-courts. In 2019, Year 9 Design and Technology students worked in partnership with UmbaCo Landscape Architects to create play equipment for the Junior Preparatory School. Credit: UmbaCo Landscape Architects
2. Principal, Dr Ian PM Lambert with Mr Lachlan Murdoch, Mrs Sarah Murdoch, Mayor of the Municipality of Woollahra, Ms Sarah Swan and Head of the Preparatory School – Deputy Principal, Mr John Crerar at the official opening of Elmwood, the Junior Preparatory School playground in November.
3. Junior Prep boys have fun exploring Elmwood and using the new Junior Prep play equipment, at the official opening of Elmwood in November.



# Camaraderie



Prefect and 1st XV Rugby fullback, William Johnson (Year 12), evades Saint Ignatius' College Riverview tacklers in 'monsoonal' conditions on The Scots College's Main Oval, just moments before scoring the match-winning try in the last play of the game. For Sport updates across five pages, the action begins on page 24.





# Making History: AAGPS Athletics Champions – Again!

This year has been remarkable for our Athletics program. We proudly celebrated our achievement as Athletic Association of the Great Public Schools (AAGPS) Athletics Champions, marking back-to-back victories – a feat last accomplished in 1969/1970.

Congratulations boys on this victory! This achievement goes beyond the shield and patches; it embodies the spirit, teamwork and quest for excellence that has led us to triumph. Your commitment and perseverance were evident on competition day, showing that with hard work and clear goals, anything is achievable.

As you savour this victory, remember the values of perseverance, discipline, humility and a never-say-die attitude that many of you displayed. These lessons will stay with you long after the celebrations end.

To those athletes who missed out this year and those in the stands, your involvement will be essential as we prepare to face the formidable The King's School team next season.

Winning the Premiership also reflects the hard work and dedication of our athletes and support staff. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our coaching team: Mr David Guest, Mr Rob Marks, Mr Andrew Matthews, Mr Gary Toohey and Mr Lindsay Watson, along with our Old Boy coaches and College staff. Your guidance and support have been invaluable.

To the parents, carers and supporters in the stands, your unwavering enthusiasm played a crucial role in our success. Your energy uplifted our athletes, particularly during the thrilling Opens 4x100m relay.

Together, we can rise to the challenge and strive for a third consecutive championship – a prospect that excites us all.

**Mr Andrew Goldrick**  
Director of Athletics



The Opens 4x400m relay team, Joel Cochran (Year 12), William Johnson (Year 12), Max Deal (Year 12) and Charles White (Year 10), celebrate with the AAGPS Athletics Championship Shield.





1. William Hufton (Year 7) leading the pack in the Under 13s 1,500m.
2. Harry Jenkins (Year 10) giving all his energy to his second throw of the day, in the Under 15s shot-put.
3. Xander Smith (Year 10) flies down the back straight in the third leg of the 4x400m relay.
4. Hugo Clarke (Year 7) shows perfect technique as he races to the finish line in the Under 13s hurdles.
5. Max Deal (Year 12) and Jay McKenzie (Year 12) celebrate the 2024 AAGPS Opens Premiership win.
6. After a hard fall in the hurdles, Jay McKenzie (Year 12) recovers to win the Open 200m.
7. Opens Champions, Co-Captain of Athletics, Archer Dunstan (Year 12), Aidan Gow (Year 12), Jay McKenzie (Year 12), Onitoni Large (Year 11), Jack Muller (Year 12) and Conrad Blackwell-Smith (Year 10), were awarded the AAGPS Opens Championship Medal for winning an individual or relay event.
8. Thomas Perkins (Year 8) flying high and setting a new personal best time in the AAGPS Athletics Championship Under 14s high jump.
9. Harvey Coburn (Year 8) flying around the last bend in front of a huge crowd of Scots supporters in the Junior 4x400m relay.

“

Winning the Premiership also reflects the hard work and dedication of our athletes and support staff.



The team gathers for some important discussions during time out at the final match between The Scots College and Sydney Boys High School in August.



# Excellence Through Teams

In August, Scots Open AAGPS teams won Premierships in 1sts Volleyball (our first title), Cross Country (Opens and Juniors) and 2nd XV Rugby (undefeated championship). Along with the summer Premierships in 2nds Basketball, 1st XI Cricket and 1sts and 2nds Water Polo, their success is unprecedented.

Added to this are their national titles in Sailing, Pipes and Drums and Snowsports. Together, they have demonstrated great depth and breadth of achievement and a wonderful culture of excellence through teams.

We salute the boys and their respective coaches and directors for their dedication, commitment and success this year.

**Dr Ian PM Lambert**  
Principal



## Basketball

Congratulations to The Scots College 1sts Basketball team who won the Athletic Association of the Great Public Schools (AAGPS) Raschke Cup for the second consecutive year, defeating The King's School with a score of 89-55.

## Chess

In September, the Junior, Intermediate and Senior Chess teams, won the Battle of the Hill Championship trophy against Cranbrook School. It was a tight match, with a final score of Cranbrook School winning seven games and The Scots College winning eight. The Senior team then competed at the Great Public Schools Chess Championship 2024. The team placed fourth behind Sydney Boys High School, Sydney Grammar School and The King's School. (Photo 1)

## Cross Country – Opens and Juniors

Our primary goal for the season was to secure the AAGPS Cross Country titles. We were resolute in achieving this with humility, respect and teamwork. The boys succeeded – the Juniors were crowned Champions and the Seniors Premiers. The Junior team triumphed with a remarkable margin of 26 points, while the Senior team achieved an even more impressive victory by 150 points. (Photo 2)

## Rifle Shooting

The winter season was challenged by wet weather. Scots fielded two teams in the NSW Rifle Association All Schools match at Hornsby Rifle Range in July, which featured nearly 119 shooters competing in teams of five. The Scots 2024 AAGPS 1sts and 2nds Rifle Shooting teams performed well (Photo 3). The 1sts team narrowly missed the top spot, finishing third overall.

## Rugby

The 2nd XV Rugby (Photo 4) were undefeated in every match. Their well-rounded game plan combined forward strength with backline flair. The Home game against Saint Ignatius' College Riverview in Round 3 was the highlight. In horrendous conditions, they won 47-0. The 3rd XV put in a strong performance, finishing second overall. They were one win away from claiming the top spot. The 1st XV had a tough competition with unpredictable weather. Despite the muddy conditions that often hampered their usual fast-paced game, the team secured third place.

Congratulations to Heinz Lemoto (Year 11) and Zac Fittler (Year 12) who represented Australia in October in the Under 18s game against New Zealand Schools in Hamilton, New Zealand. Australia was victorious, scoring 38-31!







## Sailing

The rigorous preparation leading up to the Australian Secondary Schools Team Racing Championships in July involved intensive training sessions, strategy workshops and participation in numerous local competitions. The Scots 1sts Sailing team's hard work paid off as they secured a fourth consecutive national title. (Photo 5)

## Snowsports

The Senior Snowsports team secured the overall Champion Secondary Boys School at the Sydney Regional Interschools Snowsport Championships for the 23rd time and the overall Champion Secondary Boys School at the NSW/ACT/QLD State Interschools Snowsport Championships for the 21st time. This culminated in the 14th consecutive victory at the Australian Interschools Snowsport Championships (Photo 7) through the effort and performances of all 47 Scots athletes.

Following superb team and individual results at the Sydney Regional in July, the Scots Preparatory School



Snowsports team (comprising of boys from the Preparatory School and Brighton Preparatory School) went on to win the 2024 NSW/ACT/QLD State Interschools Snowsport Championships in August. This was followed by a hard-fought second place at the Australian Interschools Snowsport Championships in September!

## Volleyball

### Indoor Volleyball – 1sts Volleyball

In the AAGPS competition, six boys were selected for the New South Wales Combined Independent Schools teams. Thirteen players were selected to represent NSW at Junior and Youth levels, and Ethan Yu (Year 9) and Angus Watson (Year 11) were selected to represent Australia for their age group.

The 2nds team, despite injuries and Glengarry, went on to finish second. This team supported our 1sts often, doubling up sessions and being there at training and games. With their support, the 1sts Volleyball team won its first-ever AAGPS Premiership. With a record crowd and support, the 1sts team defeated Sydney Boys High School, 3-1. (Photo 6)





# Pipes and Drums: Events

## CAMARADERIE

The College's Pipes and Drums have been travelling far and wide for competition and camaraderie.



### On Anzac Day

At the Dawn Service, the College's Pipes and Drums Command Sergeant Major (CSM) Piper, Ben Guiney (Year 12), played the lament at the North Bondi RSL Club. Pipes and Drums then performed in the Anzac March, in the Sydney CBD. Over 110 boys participated, including ten who flew back from their Rugby Tour in Queensland in time to join the march. The students who remained in Queensland paid their respects and laid a wreath at an Anzac Service in Burleigh Heads.

### At the Annual Parade of Remembrance

Congratulations to our Senior students in Pipes and Drums, Cadet Unit and Orchestra for their excellent leadership and example, demonstrated on Sunday 26 May in the 72nd Annual Parade of Remembrance. Thank you to our Reviewing Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Mark Browning and other distinguished guests, who joined us in commemorating the service and sacrifices of Scots Old Boys and staff who served in the armed services during periods of conflict and as peacekeepers.



### On the King's Birthday

On Saturday 8 June, The Scots College Pipes and Drums performed at the King's Birthday Parade at Government House. The boys performed alongside the Corrective Services NSW Band.

### The Logies!

At the annual TV Week Logie Awards in August, The Scots College Pipes band delivered a powerful performance, joining Guy Sebastian and Jessica Mauboy in a heartfelt tribute to the legendary John Farnham. After rehearsing throughout the term, the pipers performed at night on Sunday 18 August to play John Farnham's iconic *You're the Voice* which was met with great enthusiasm from the crowd.





# Giving Day 2024 – Thank You!

We are delighted to share the remarkable success of Giving Day, held on 29 August, a day that truly showcased the spirit and generosity of our Scots community.

Thanks to the incredible support of 542 individual donors, we received a total of \$372,652 in community donations. When combined with the contributions from our matching donors, this resulted in a phenomenal total of \$722,652 – raised in just one day.

This achievement is not only a testament to the dedication of our supporters but also a significant step towards our vision for the future. We are pleased to announce that, as a direct outcome of this success, we will be establishing a new scholarship: The Lachlan and Sarah Murdoch Scholarship, into perpetuity. This scholarship will provide ongoing support to future generations of students, ensuring they can benefit from the exceptional education and opportunities for which The Scots College is renowned.

Looking ahead, the Foundation is ambitiously working towards creating ten scholarships into perpetuity by 2030. This goal is now firmly within reach, thanks to the College community's unwavering support and commitment. Your contributions are setting us on this promising path and helping us make a lasting impact on the lives of our students.

**Giving**  
*Day* 2024

## Introducing the Boarding Bursary Foundation

We are excited to introduce the Boarding Bursary Foundation, a pivotal initiative dedicated to supporting regional students at The Scots College. The mission of the Foundation is to establish funds that provide essential support for Boarding students from regional areas, ensuring that families who might not otherwise be able to afford it, can still access the exceptional education and rich tradition our College offers. The Boarding Bursary Foundation envisions a vibrant community where both regional and city students benefit from diverse and shared experiences, strengthening the ties that bind us all.

Under the leadership of Chair, Robert Tuck ('83) and supported by 12 dedicated past and present families, the Foundation is committed to this important cause. In 2024, 75 boarding students were supported through scholarships or bursaries, though not all were fully funded.

Throughout our Giving Day campaign this year, we saw tremendous generosity: 138 separate donations specifically designated for Boarding Bursaries raised \$78,400 after matching. This, together with the 254 donations totalling \$72,048 in 2023, will look to build a bursary into perpetuity.

This remarkable support highlights the community's dedication to ensuring that every student, regardless of their background, can benefit from an enriching education at The Scots College.

**Mrs Jenelle Webster**  
Director of Advancement



# Lang Syne



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Former Scots Pipes and Drums Pipe Major, Duncan Roberts ('03) celebrates a successful climb of Ben Nevis, Scotland's highest mountain, with a special rendition of the well-known Scottish song, *Devil's Pulpit*. Read about Duncan's adventurous career, beginning on page 40.

# From the Old Boys' Union President



This year I had the honour of travelling with the Principal, Dr Ian PM Lambert, to visit fellow Old Boys in San Francisco, New York, London and Hong Kong to celebrate our proud history.

It was fantastic to meet with over 120 Old Boys of all ages and backgrounds across these great cities, all who had their own stories and all their own journeys. But what was extremely consistent, was their love and appreciation of their time at the College. Every person had his own version of his time at Scots, and his own version of what he enjoyed – all were grateful for what they took away.

There is no doubt that our time at the College, as well as the dedication of the Old Boys' Union itself, has made this 125-year anniversary a special one for all to remember.

We have also hosted over ten reunions at the College this year, with over 750 attending. It is always great to see so many Old Boys of all ages get back together and talk about their glory days, even if they do become somewhat embellished!

In October, we also had a very special 125th Anniversary Dinner in the newly refurbished College Dining Hall. A capacity of 300 Old Boys were entertained by a panel of amazing Old Boys who have all represented their country in one form or another. It was a cracking night, with almost every Old Boy



1. The Scots College Old Boys' Union President, Mathew Collett shaking hands with each Year 12 student, as they graduate as fine young men and walk through the Old Boys' Union Tower to become part of Scots esteemed alumni.
2. The Scots College Old Boys' Union President, Mathew Collett walking to the podium to commence the inaugural Old Boys' Union induction in the Hyder Theatre, Level 2 of the newly completed John Cunningham Student Centre.
3. Mathew Collett catching up with London locals Courtney Austin ('87), Tim Clark ('87) and Jason Collins ('89) on the 125th Anniversary tour.

commenting on how great it was to be back at Bellevue Hill and see the new John Cunningham Student Centre and our amazing Old Boys' Union Tower.

I look forward to seeing you throughout the year and Scots to the fore!

**Mathew Collett ('86)**  
Old Boys' Union President



# What Lies Beneath

## LANG SYNE NEWS

When a major restoration to Aspinall House in 2013 required some engineering work below the floor, tradesmen discovered a small collection of interesting treasures: square nails, part of a broken record, buttons and shoes along with a carpenter's axe.

The 'Kent' pattern facing axe, from West Midlands tool manufacturer W Gilpin, was likely used to shape internal construction timbers when Aspinall House – then known as St Killian's – was built in 1885. After a period leasing the building, Reverend and first Principal of the College, Arthur Ashworth Aspinall, bought St Killian's from the estate of Judge Joshua Josephson.

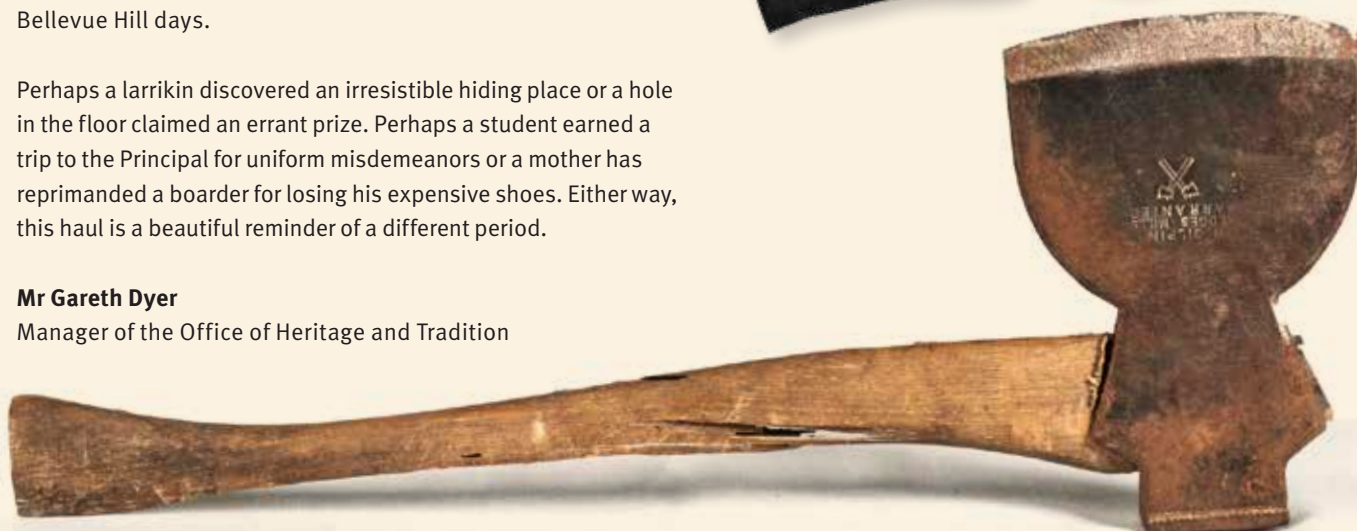
The flared head of the axe allowed a carpenter to perform small fine work by gripping the axe with their hand close to the blade. The tool can be used left or right-handed, the handle is damaged and there are definite signs that it was frequently used.

The shoes are not a pair. They are slightly different sizes but in similar condition; very discoloured and missing laces. They appear to have been part of the uniform of the early Bellevue Hill days.

Perhaps a larrikin discovered an irresistible hiding place or a hole in the floor claimed an errant prize. Perhaps a student earned a trip to the Principal for uniform misdemeanors or a mother has reprimanded a boarder for losing his expensive shoes. Either way, this haul is a beautiful reminder of a different period.

### Mr Gareth Dyer

Manager of the Office of Heritage and Tradition



“

... a beautiful reminder of a different period.

1. School shoes, part of the early uniform, circa 1900.  
Credit: Iggy Cranfield ('15)
  2. The piece of broken record found under Aspinall House:  
*Open the Doors To Your Heart*, a 1978 disco/funk/soul recording by JOB Orchestra.
  3. A carpenter's facing axe, circa 1880, from West Midlands tool manufacturer W Gilpin.  
Credit: Former member of Scots staff, Mr Andrew Copeland
- Source: The College Collection, Office of Heritage and Tradition

# 100 Not Out!

## LANG SYNE NEWS

In 2024, The Scots College community proudly celebrates an extraordinary milestone as two of its distinguished Old Boys, Jim Hislop ('40) and John Ryrie ('42) turned 100 years old.

These centenarians represent living links to the country and the College's rich history, embodying resilience, leadership, service and dedication – values instilled during their formative years at Scots.

### March – Jim Hislop ('40): A Legacy of Leadership

Jim Hislop always says, “Do the right thing all day, every day and you will always sleep well at night [but] do lousy things and they stay on your back for the rest of your life.”

Jim arrived at Scots in 1938 as a 13-year-old Day Boy from Darling Point. He enjoyed a good coffee, played a bit of Cricket and was a frequent try scorer for the Rugby Under 15 XV but it was Rifle Shooting where he made his mark. Jim was the best shot in the school over 400 and 500 yards.

After university, in January 1943, Jim joined the Royal Australian Air Force and was posted to Papua New Guinea as a Leading Aircraftman in a Radar Unit.

Jim believes the key to good health and longevity is a combination of modern medicine and the women in his life; wife of 61 years, Robin and their two daughters, Margot and Susie. They simply can't get by without him.

### October – John Ryrie ('42): Strength Through Service

John Ryrie ('42) started at the Preparatory School in 1935 and went on to cox the 2nd IV Rowing crew and swim in the AAGPS 500 yards relay team in his later years. He recalls brilliant teachers like Mr Lewis 'Doc' Simmons with his detention book, the religious teaching of Mr Horace 'Barney' Cubis, Mathematics with Mr Frederick Pollock and the stained fingers of Mr Denys 'Inky' Radford.

John's incredible service in the Australian Air Force during World War II has rightly been well documented and published over the years.

His support for The Scots College is unshakable. John served on the Old Boys' Union (OBU) Committee as Secretary and Vice-President, including as President between 1983 and 1984. During his time on the OBU Committee, John campaigned in vain to keep the boater straw hat as part of the uniform. A regular visitor, John still enjoys popping into the College from his Vaucluse family home, where he has resided for more than 50 years.



“ These centenarians represent living links to the country and the College's rich history, embodying resilience, leadership, service and dedication ...

1. Jim Hislop ('40) celebrates his 100th birthday at home, displaying his letter from His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen.
2. John Ryrie ('42) at the 71st Annual Parade of Remembrance in June 2023.



The Scots 1991/2 VIII Rowing crew getting out on the water for the first time in a long time: Cox, Matthew Chalmers ('91), Stroke, Kirby Parsonage ('91), Ed Mobbs ('92), Luke Bowman ('92), John Tyson ('91), Brad Eather ('91), Alex Warner ('92), Ben Wark ('92) and Bow, Jeremy Child ('91).



# They've Still Got It

On Saturday 12 October, over 60 Scots Old Boys from the Classes of 1991 and 1992 took part in the 2024 GPS Gold Challenge. This biennial event is fondly referred to as “The Greatest Reunion” you’ll ever attend.

Organised by Duncan St John ('91) and Mark Greig ('92), the weekend brought together more than 650 Old Boys from nine GPS schools in a vibrant celebration of camaraderie, friendly rivalry, and lasting connections.

Hosted at Newington College, the event featured a range of sports and activities designed to rekindle old rivalries and inspire some healthy competition. Old Boys took part in basketball, debating, football, golf, indoor cricket, rowing, running, shooting, swimming, tennis and touch rugby, with each event offering a few rusty bodies the chance to prove ‘they’ve still got it’!

Some of the standout performances on the day were the Scots runners. Matt Younger ('91) and George Cooney ('92) took out the 60m Dash in both finals, plus the 1992 team won the 3,000m Cross Country Relay and claimed the overall 1992 Athletics Championship trophy.

The closing dinner was a highlight, with all competitors being piped into Newington College’s Centenary Hall by our very own Edward Hickson ('92). During dinner, a representative from each school participated in a very entertaining debate on the topic, “Sport is the heart and soul of a GPS school”.

The weekend exemplified the true spirit of the GPS community, with everyone coming away with more incredible memories and stronger bonds across schools and generations. The 2024 GPS Gold Challenge was a resounding success, reminding all who attended of the lasting impact of their school years and the joy of reconnecting with lifelong friends.

The GPS Gold Challenge will be back in 2026 for the Classes of 1993 and 1994. Stay tuned!



Julian Hughes ('92) hands on the ‘baton’ to Angus Jones ('92) to bring home the 3,000m Cross Country Relay for the Scots 1992 team.





# The Way of the Wallaby

The Scots College has a storied tradition of contributing to the fabric of Australian Rugby, producing exceptionally talented players who have gone on to represent the Wallabies.

This legacy began over a century ago when Old Boys Hugh Buntine (1914) and Hugh Taylor (1919) first wore the Wallaby gold jersey in 1923 against the All Blacks. Since that time, Scots has proudly seen 26 Old Boys don the national colours in Rugby Union, with their achievements celebrated by the entire College community, at the time and still to this day.

While the representation of Scots Old Boys in the Wallabies has been fairly consistent through the years, the rare occasions when multiple Old Boys have been selected to play in the same team are particularly special. These instances serve as a testament to the College's enduring Rugby culture and the exceptional calibre of its players.

Most recently, on Saturday 20 July, Andrew Kellaway ('13), Darby Lancaster ('21) and Jeremy Williams ('18) played together for the Wallabies against Georgia in Sydney. This remarkable achievement was celebrated across the

Scots community, showcasing the ongoing impact of the College's Rugby program at the highest level.

This was not the first time multiple Scots Old Boys have made their mark in a Wallabies side. In 1962, Norm Storey ('54), Stewart Boyce ('59), Beresford Ellwood ('54), and Ken Catchpole ('57) were all selected to play the All Blacks in Sydney. To have four Old Boys in a Wallabies line-up was an extraordinary achievement and remains a standout moment in the College's rich Rugby history.

The following year, in 1963, Stewart's twin brother, James Boyce ('59), Ken Catchpole ('57), and Beresford Ellwood ('54) toured with the Wallabies to South Africa, further reinforcing the connection between The Scots College and the national team.

Earlier, in 1953, Maxwell Elliot ('46), David Brockhoff OAM ('46) and John Solomon ('47) also toured South Africa with the Wallabies. Their inclusion in such a prestigious tour underlined Scots' longstanding tradition of producing players capable of competing on the international stage.

These historical highlights are not just a source of pride but serve as inspiration for current Scots students.

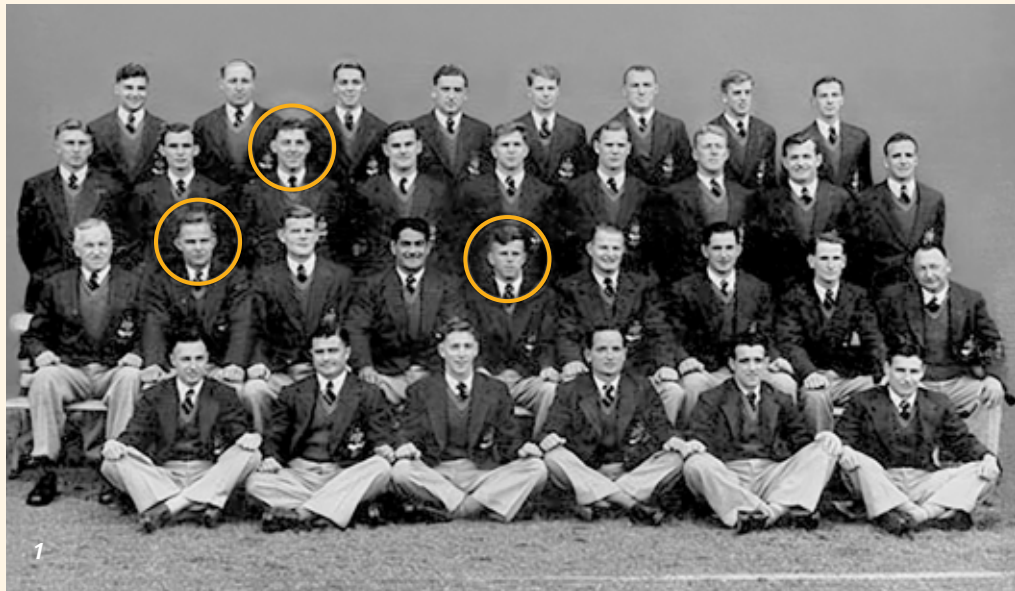


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The achievements of these Old Boys reflect the values of dedication, teamwork and excellence that are central to The Scots College ethos.

The achievements of these Old Boys reflect the values of dedication, teamwork and excellence that are central to The Scots College ethos. For every Scots boy, the stories of those who have gone before them in the Wallabies jersey are a powerful reminder of what is possible with hard work, passion and love for the game.

1. The 1953 Wallabies Touring Squad to South Africa featuring Maxwell Elliot ('46) in the second row from the back, with David Brockhoff OAM ('46) and John Solomon ('47) in the first row.
2. The 1962 Wallabies team that played New Zealand featuring Norm Storey ('54) in the back row, Stewart Boyce ('59) middle row and seated at front, Beresford Ellwood ('54) and Ken Catchpole ('57).
3. The 1963 Wallabies Touring Squad to South Africa featuring Beresford Ellwood ('54) in the back row, James Boyce ('59) in the first row and Ken Catchpole ('57), seated at the front.





# From the Socials

## LANG SYNE NEWS



### Kokoda Trip

Old Boys, Alex Warner ('92), Jock Hazelton ('21) and Mark Greig ('92) recently completed a trip along the Kokoda Track. Thankfully, they also managed to arrange a set of bagpipes to play at two services along the track. Well done lads! (Photo 1)

### Youth America's Cup

Another Scots Old Boy representing Australia! Cole Tapper ('20), was selected in Australia's first Youth America's Cup Sailing team to compete in the prestigious race in Barcelona in September. The Andoo Australia youth squad, led by Cole as skipper, with co-helm Mr Jack Ferguson and trimmers Mr Max Paul and Mr Tom Needham, relished the return of winds in Barcelona to show their talent in the Group B field of only six invitation-only nations.

Cole has had a decorated Sailing career to date and is currently the world number 1 ranked skipper in youth match racing and 9th ranked Open skipper.

The Scots influence can also be seen off the water with Harry Price ('13) and John 'Herman' Winning ('01) amongst the coaching ranks of the Youth America's Cup teams.



### Champion Charlie!

He's done it again ... And for only the fourth time in the 25-year history of the Paddleboard World Championships, Charlie Verco ('19) has recorded back-to-back wins for 2023 and 2024. Widely acknowledged as one of the toughest endurance events in surf sports, Charlie completed the 32-mile Hawaiian course in the world's second fastest time in July, ahead of a world class field of international athletes. (Photo 3)

### Old Boys at the Basel Tattoo

Great to see our Scots Old Boys Pipes and Drums band members using their skills and representing us with pride. John Robertson ('85), Angus Byrne ('17), Nick Tragoustis ('00), Steven Patterson ('84) and David Patterson ('20) played with the New South Wales Police Pipe Band at the Basel Tattoo in Switzerland in July. (Photo 4)

### Still on Top

A big congratulations to Angus Crichton ('14) for taking out the Wally Lewis Medal (Player of the Series) and the Brad Fittler Medal (NSW Player of the Year) in this year's State of Origin Series win over Queensland. Great stuff! (Photo 2)





# Merci Paris

## PROFILE

In 2024 two Old Boys participated in the Olympics and Paralympics in Paris. Head Coach of the Australian Men's Water Polo team, Tim Hamill ('95) and Australian Wheelchair Rugby player, Andrew Edmondson ('08), took a moment out of their busy lives to tell us all about it.



Australian Sharks Head Coach, Tim Hamill ('95), talks with players during the men's preliminary round win over Serbia at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. Credit: Deep Blue Media/Water Polo Australia

## Summer Olympics – Paris, July 2024 – Tim Hamill ('95)

While the Australian Men's Water Polo team didn't walk away with a medal at the Paris Olympics, the Aussie Sharks, as they're known, did walk away with a number of world-class wins from the pool – defeating defending Olympic champions (and eventual gold medallists) Serbia, and top five ranked nations, France and Hungary.

This was due in no small part to the tactical and emotional investment of former Captain of Water Polo, Head Coach Tim Hamill ('95).

"Whilst we ultimately fell agonisingly short [there was a penalty shoot-out loss against the USA in the quarter finals] of playing for an Olympic medal for the first time in Australian Men's Water Polo history, I was immensely proud about not only how the players performed on the biggest stage in world sport, but how they have approached the last three years."

## Summer Paralympics – Paris, August 2024 – Andrew Edmondson ('08)

After securing a Gold medal in Rio in 2016, Andrew Edmondson ('08) and the Australian Wheelchair Rugby team secured a Bronze medal at the Paralympic Games in Paris earlier this year.

"... It was so exciting to be in Paris after the pandemic-affected Tokyo Games of 2021. The city was buzzing with energy, the French got behind Wheelchair Rugby and the atmosphere was incredible."

The Australian Steelers had to put the heartbreak of their semi-final loss to eventual Gold medallists, Japan, behind them, defeating Great Britain 50-48 to claim the Bronze medal.

"The semi-final loss in extra time was gutting, but the team's fight to come back in the next match was awesome and we were stoked to come away with a Bronze medal."



Andrew Edmondson ('08) carries the ball in Australia's successful Bronze medal match against Great Britain at the Paris Paralympics. Credit: Paralympics Australia



# A Heart for Adventure

After years of sitting behind a computer in a career in marketing, former College Pipes and Drums Pipe Major, Duncan Roberts ('03), found himself getting to the end of his days and wondering, “How am I making the world a better place? Am I living life to the fullest or am I just on the hamster wheel keeping my head above water?”

This realisation lit a fire in him, a desire to do good in the world whilst also living a life full of adventure. “Life is fickle,” he thought, “I want to make sure that I leave the world a better place when I’m gone and leave people with a good story to tell about me at the end of it all!”

He then needed to figure out how and where to direct this energy. His light-bulb moment was a simple one: Just head off into a really remote part of the world, do some wacky

challenges, all the while raising funds and awareness for different charities. And just like that, the concept of DuncanDOES was born.

As it doesn’t get more remote than Iceland – and wackier than skateboarding around it – Duncan started there.

In May 2023, Duncan successfully completed his first DuncanDOES challenge: skating 1,400 kilometres around Iceland in 38 days to raise funds for Sea Shepherd Australia, a non-profit marine conservation organisation that defends our oceans from illegal exploitation.

Even as the spring pushed into summer, there was a constant threat of the elements in the Icelandic countryside. The wind, rain and low temperatures meant that many situations on Duncan’s skateboard became quite life threatening, especially moving through big mountain passes. Although most days were long and gruelling, Duncan made it a priority to “enjoy the journey, rather than the result”.





Duncan swims towards Urquhart Castle on the western bank of Loch Ness.  
Credit: @skatingforchange

Not done with the wet and cold landscapes of the Northern Hemisphere, Duncan traded in the skateboard for a pair of speedos. Well, a full-length wetsuit and swimming cap to be precise. ‘DuncanDOES Round 2’, was heading to the moody Scottish Highlands to swim across Loch Ness, the biggest body of freshwater in the United Kingdom (UK) and then climb Ben Nevis, a mountain in the Grampian Mountain range and the highest peak in the UK – all in one day!

For this challenge, Duncan partnered with livin.org, a Gold Coast organisation working to remove the stigma around mental health with the motto: It ain’t weak to speak.

The two-kilometre swim through the dark and deep loch, that reached as low as six degrees in pockets, was a harrowing experience for Duncan. Upon reaching his target of Urquhart Castle on the western

bank of Loch Ness, Duncan refuelled, warmed up and donned his trusty Black Watch kilt for the ascent up Ben Nevis. Once the arduous ascent from Fort William was complete, Duncan pulled out his bagpipes for special rendition of the well-known Scottish song, *Devil’s Pulpit*. DuncanDOES – all done!

The best place to follow along and support Duncan’s adventures is on Instagram at @skatingforchange.



1. Duncan climbing Ben Nevis, the highest mountain in the United Kingdom, in his Scots Black Watch kilt.  
Credit: @skatingforchange
2. Duncan’s second major quest included swimming across Loch Ness and then climbing Ben Nevis mountain – the highest peak in the UK – all in one day!  
Credit: @jesshenderson6 on Instagram
3. Surrounded by ice and seals, Duncan jumps into the frigid waters of a glacial lagoon in Jökulsárlón, Iceland.  
Credit: @skatingforchange

“We weren’t the first settlers but we were still very much pioneers back then,” remembers Ben Le Brun of the 1990 Glengarry intake. Michael Sheika, Brek Batley and Ben Le Brun, standing behind Michael Liebmann.



# Looking Back at Glengarry

Founding Principal of Glengarry, Mr Graeme Renney, believed that immersing boys in nature would shape them in unique ways, setting Scots boys apart.

Decades later, his vision has proven true. As most Scots Old Boys who have experienced Glengarry – as students or fathers – will attest, it was the transformative moment in their Scots journey when they truly stepped into young manhood.

“I always remember the boy we sent to Glengarry returned home a more mature and independent young man,” said Tony Le Brun (’52), father of Ben Le Brun (’93).

The day-to-day life at Glengarry hasn’t changed dramatically, Head of Glengarry, Mr Tony Banks, says. “We’ll always provide boys with opportunities to seek adventure throughout the program on

a regular basis. One of the greatest challenges the boys will always have is learning to live with a group of people who are different to them, whether that be different values and beliefs or simply living habits.”

The boys learn tolerance, compassion and compromise. “I’ve discovered a lot about myself. How I can live with other people, which I didn’t really know before,” George Petrohilos (’16) said after completing The Long Journey Home in 2013.

Current Glengarry English Teacher and Old Boy, Paul Bevis (’00) agrees. “One of the key virtues I learnt about myself was compassion for others as I was living with people from all walks of life. Some boys had divorced parents, some boys didn’t have family in the country, so it made me think about being in other people’s shoes.”

For 13 and 14-year-old boys, time away from family and friends is a big challenge. “I probably spent the first few

weeks in shell shock being away from home and having to fend for myself. But the camaraderie and friendship with all the boys helped immensely,” says Ben Le Brun (’93).

Paul Bevis (’00) knows this first-hand, now as an English Teacher and Dorm Master at Glengarry, 27 years after his time in Kangaroo Valley, and he feels strongly about helping boys through this transition:

“I take the role of ‘loco parentis’ very seriously, supporting the boys like their parents would. When I was at Glengarry, the relationship with staff, outside the classroom, is what surprised me most about the experience. I found out that teachers are human too, and that’s what I try to remember, now I’m a Dorm Master.”

Most Old Boys would agree, the impact of Glengarry grows on you with time. Ben Le Brun (’93): “Looking back now, Glengarry was a rite of passage that I remember very fondly. I can’t believe it has been nearly 35 years!”



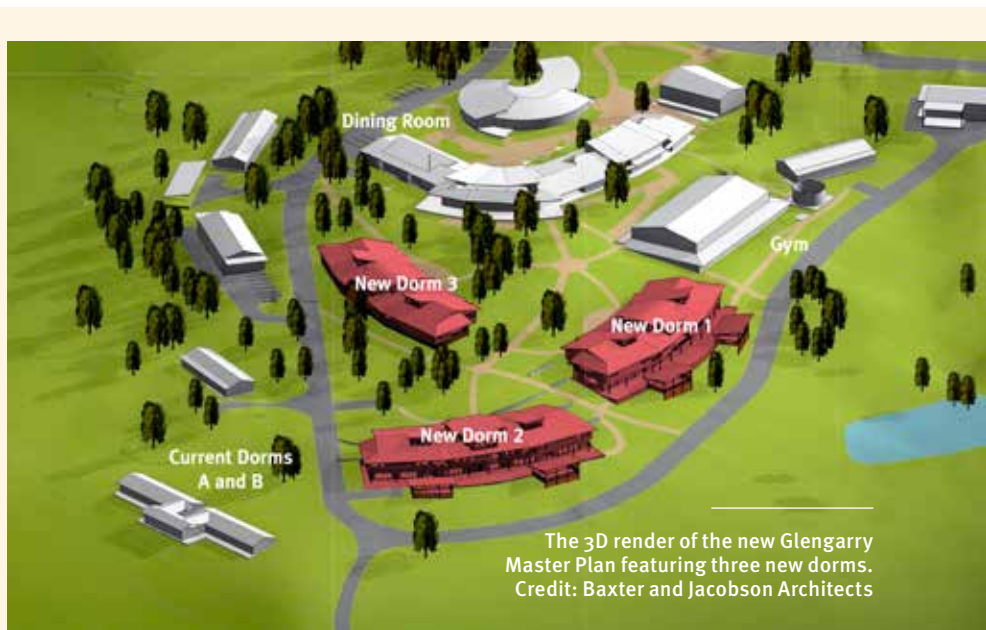


1. Glengarry boys cool off at a shallow creek after a long hike in 1999.
2. Back in 1997, Paul Bevis ('00), with his mother, Faye, on the Glengarry Parent Hike.
3. Now, an English Teacher and Dorm Master at Glengarry, Paul Bevis with his son, Elliot, in 2022.
4. Tony Le Brun ('52) with his son, Ben Le Brun ('93) who was at Glengarry in 1990.

Thankfully, the boys' time at Glengarry is not one of those occasions where, as George Bernard Shaw says, "youth is wasted on the young." The telling moment is the morning of The Long Journey Home, when the boys share their feelings on their time at Glengarry coming to an end.

The common theme, almost unanimously shared every intake, is that they can't believe it went by so fast. "It's scary to think how fast it's gone," said Tom Jensen ('16) in The Long Journey Home video of 2013. "It feels pretty hard, knowing Glengarry is already over," Andreas Thoma ('16) said later that same day.

This must be the ultimate sign of someone enjoying themselves. As they say, "time flies when you're having fun."



The 3D render of the new Glengarry Master Plan featuring three new dorms. Credit: Baxter and Jacobson Architects

## Looking Ahead: Glengarry

In response to the devastation caused by the 2019 bushfires, the College embarked on a new Master Plan for the Glengarry campus, centred around the construction of three new, modern dormitories.

Each dormitory will accommodate up to 40 students and include two staff quarters and four classrooms, all located further up the Glengarry ridgeline within the new bushfire safety zone. New facilities will

secure Glengarry as a leading outdoor education campus.

To view the detailed Master Plan or learn about how you can be involved in the ongoing development of Glengarry, please scan the QR code.





# A Next-Gen Researcher

## AFTER SCOTS

Effram Wei ('22) is on a path to a distinguished career in biomanufacturing, where cutting-edge science is transforming healthcare.

During his time at Scots, he served as a College Prefect, Captain of Chess, Captain of Table Tennis, and was an influential member of the Music Department. His desire for academic growth and new experiences led him to pursue university studies far from Sydney.

Effram's journey led him to the prestigious Johns Hopkins University (JHU) in Baltimore, Maryland, an institution renowned for its research-driven focus and academic rigor (ranked sixth nationally by *U.S. News* in 2024). "I believe Hopkins was a great fit for me since I always had a great interest in the life sciences, and specifically the combination of biology and chemistry with engineering," Effram explained.

At JHU, Effram is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering with a double major in Applied Mathematics and Statistics. This unique blend of disciplines allows him to dive deep into the complex world of biomanufacturing – an area at the forefront of pharmaceutical and medical innovation.

"One of the projects I'm involved in is engineering stable mammalian cell lines in creating Adeno-Associated Virus (AAV), a necessary delivery vector for modern gene therapy," Effram said. This is the method medical scientists use to deliver healthy genes into human cells to correct genetic disorders. For example, AAV vectors can be used to treat conditions like Spinal Muscular Atrophy by introducing functional copies of genes into patients' cells, offering hope where traditional treatments fall short.

As he nears the completion of his four-year undergraduate program, Effram hopes to stay in the United States to pursue a PhD in this field and then to continue this work internationally.



Effram Wei ('22) outside Gilman Hall, one of the first major academic buildings on the Johns Hopkins University campus in Baltimore, Maryland, USA.

"To be involved in research and development teams of a top-tier pharmaceutical company like Pfizer or AstraZeneca, focusing on next-generation therapy, would be incredible," he said.

His long-term goal is to help develop groundbreaking treatments that improve access to the best therapeutic methods for more people. "To allow more people in the community to have greater access to the best treatments and therapeutic methods would be something I would be very proud to be a part of in the future."

“ ... I always had a great interest in the life sciences ...



# The Walgett Picnic Races

## RECONNECTING

On Saturday 15 June, the Old Boys' Union hosted parents, carers, Old Boys and the wider Scots community for the Walgett Picnic Races at the Walgett Racecourse.

The event is one of the annual highlights of the Western New South Wales calendar. This year was even more significant, being the Old Boys' Union's (OBU) 125th Anniversary year.



1. Bill Powell ('81), Chris Atkinson ('80) and Hugh Ricardo ('21) enjoying the great weather for the Scots Old Boys' Union 125th Anniversary function at the 2024 Walgett Picnic Races.
2. Old Boys and past Scots parents, Duncan McGregor ('86), Mrs Sue McGregor, Mrs Karen Ricardo, Peter Ricardo ('89), Mrs Penny Jones, Mr Alister Jones and Chris Atkinson ('80), catch up with each other at the Walgett Picnic Races.
3. Old Boy Boarders, Ollie Black ('21), Jock Hazelton ('21), Gerry Crowe ('21), Daniel Bullock ('21), Hugh Ricardo ('21) and Mr Nick Deshon, catch up at the Scots OBU 125th Anniversary function at the Walgett Picnic Races.
4. Mrs Alison Lambert, Charles Hickson ('89), Peter Ricardo ('89) and Principal, Dr Ian PM Lambert are hosted by OBU President, Mathew Collett ('86) at the Scots OBU 125th Anniversary function at the Walgett Picnic Races.



Jordon Zhong ('20), David York ('86), Andrew Calderwood ('86), Mihir Mehta ('96) and Charlie Coombs ('02) connect in New York City at the Moxy Hotel in Times Square.

# Overseas Reunions

Over 120 Old Boys who are now living in the United States, United Kingdom and South-East Asia, gathered in June and July to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the Old Boys' Union (OBU).

Old Boys from the 1960s to very recent graduating years attended dinners and functions to connect. Hosted by OBU President, Mathew Collett ('86); Alumni and Community Development Manager, David Burnett ('01); Principal, Dr Ian PM Lambert and Mrs Alison Lambert, Old Boys from the 1960s to 2023 connected at dinners and functions in Hong Kong, London, New York City and San Francisco.

It is fantastic to see so many Old Boys of all ages, thriving abroad. Young Old Boys of Sydney should have confidence in knowing there are fellow Scots Old Boys in all pockets of the globe, ready to assist them on their adventures and careers abroad.

1. Rodger Spencer ('98), Jerry Chang ('98), Andison Hung ('98) and Allan Cheng ('98) in Hong Kong at the Grand Hyatt.
2. Stanley Lo ('95), Alexander Chin ('03), Louis Siu ('03), Jonathan Young ('01), Jonathan Chan ('05), Vince Chiu ('05), Henry Wong ('02) and Davies Kan ('01) in Hong Kong.







1. Charles Shiplee ('76) and Michael Lennox ('82) reconnecting for the 125th Anniversary of the Scots Old Boys' Union at the London Marriott Hotel County Hall.
2. Jason Groves ('90) and Anton Eisdell ('62) meeting for the first time in London at the 125th Anniversary of the Scots Old Boys' Union event.
3. Old Boys, partners and parents gather at the London Marriott Hotel County Hall for the 125th Anniversary celebration of the Old Boys' Union.
4. Charles Shiplee ('76), Nick Langmead ('99) and Courtney Austin ('87) meet Principal, Dr Ian PM Lambert, in London at the 125th Anniversary of the OBU event.
5. Alumni and Community Development Manager, David Burnett ('01), Mac Sutton ('03), Jamie Sutton ('60), OBU President, Mathew Collett ('86) and Iain Hassall ('94) at Wayfare Tavern in San Francisco.
6. Will Adams ('14), Charlie Thompson ('19), Billy Sanders ('19), Old Boys' Union (OBU) President, Mathew Collett ('86) and James Stanley ('17) in New York City.
7. George Bundock-Livingston ('04) and Jeremy Wawn ('05) sporting New York City corporate get-up at the 125th Anniversary of the Scots Old Boys' Union at the Moxy Hotel in Times Square.





# Stronger Than Ever After 125 Years!

On a blustery evening in late October, 220 Scots Old Boys, spanning cohorts from 1942 through to 2023, gathered at the College for the 125th Anniversary Dinner of the Old Boys' Union (OBU).

The evening began with pre-dinner drinks in the stunning new John Cunningham Student Centre, where Old Boys were captivated by the building's meticulous detail and craftsmanship.

Emcee, Tim Webster ('69), kicked off with a tremendous *Address to a Haggis*, delivered with gusto by Mr Chris Purves. Laughter soon filled the room as Scots father and comedian Mr Chris Radburn took to the stage, bringing levity and humour to the evening.

The highlight of the evening was the inspiring sports panel featuring an impressive line-up of Scots Old Boys who have reached incredible heights in their careers. OBU President, Mat Collett ('86) interviewed the panel, which included: world-renowned horse trainer, Lee Freedman ('73); NFL (National Football League) trailblazer, Colin Scotts ('81); Wallabies legend, Tim Gavin ('81); four-time Olympic Water Polo player, Tom Whalan ('98); Paralympic Gold Medallist in Wheelchair Rugby, Andrew Edmondson ('08); and current Australian Rugby Union Wallabies stars, Andrew Kellaway ('13)

and Jeremy Williams ('18). Their stories, full of honesty, perseverance and pride, captivated the audience and underscored the breadth of talent within the Scots alumni.

We were also honoured to share this milestone event with a table of Old Boys from the 1940s and 1950s, including John Ryrie ('42), who celebrated his 100th birthday just days before.

"What a great way to celebrate our 125-year anniversary – back in the newly refurbished College Dining Hall – so many Old Boys, young and old, celebrating our Scots history," OBU President, Mathew Collett ('86) said.



Piper, Oliver Carmont (Year 11), enters the Dining Hall at the beginning of the 125th Anniversary Dinner of the Scots Old Boys' Union in October.



# Reunions

## RECONNECTING

### Class of 1964

We were pleased that 33 of our classmates from 1964 came together for a reunion lunch at the College in August. We enjoyed reminiscing, sharing stories and celebrating our time together. We were somewhat concerned in the realisation that this was now 60 years ago. We were grateful that current Principal, Dr Ian PM Lambert, took the time to call in and speak to us. We are looking forward, with hope and confidence, to our next reunion in five years, 2029.

**Jeff Persson ('64)**



John Howard, Graham Bonnette, Paul Franks, Jeff Persson and Craig Perry at their 60th anniversary reunion in August.



A great group photo for the 50-year Reunion for the Class of 1974.

### Class of 1974

A fantastic 50-year reunion was enjoyed by over 50 Old Boys on Friday 17 May. Old Boys from interstate and many country areas made the effort to attend and reminisce about days gone by too quickly. The highlight of the dinner was the pipers who, after 50 years, managed to muster enough breath to rekindle memories of the days of the Pipes and Drums. The following day, the boys regrouped to watch a memorable 1st XV Rugby match and enjoy an afternoon tea.

**Mike Samios ('74)**



The group shot of the Class of 1979.

### Class of 1979

Another milestone was reached by the Class of 1979 when they celebrated their 45-year reunion with a dinner in the Lang Walker Business Centre on 17 August. Reunion Coordinators Ian Poole and Peter Taylor rounded up close to 60 Old Boys for a thoroughly enjoyable evening, many of whom came early to watch the 1st XV Rugby match between Scots and Shore. A memorable match that saw Shore win on the bell, to secure their first outright premiership since 1969.

# Reunions

## RECONNECTING



The Class of 1984 at their evening reunion function at The Nelson Hotel, Bondi Junction.

## Class of 1984

A large and engaged reunion committee led by Angus Sevil did a fantastic job rounding up 69 Old Boys from the Class of 1984 for their 40-Year reunion on Saturday 17 August. They enjoyed a great afternoon at the Scots versus Shore Rugby match before heading up to The Nelson Hotel in Bondi Junction for an evening function. The Class of 1984 also did an incredible job raising \$4,000 for the College to name a step in the Old Boys' Union Tower of the John Cunningham Student Centre.

## Class of 1989

On Saturday 17 August just under 50 Old Boys from the Class of 1989, many traveling from interstate or country NSW, met for their 35th reunion at the Lang Walker Business Centre. Lachlan Menzies, Peter Ricardo and Duncan Gordon all played the bagpipes as old friends caught up in the shadow of the new building, the John Cunningham Student Centre.

We watched the undefeated Scots 2nd XV Rugby clinch the premiership, then witnessed a heartbreaking last-minute try from Shore's 1st XV to steal their first outright premiership in 55 years. After the game, we headed to The Phoenix in Woollahra and shared more drinks, laughs and recounted stories of when we were young, idealistic and, on average 30 kilograms lighter. It was a good event and the boys are looking forward to catching up in five years.

### Jason Elias ('89)

## Class of 1994

The Class of 1994 30-year reunion on 10 August was a memorable event with around 60 alumni reconnecting over an afternoon of nostalgia. Former classmates reminisced about old times while enjoying a thrilling 1st XV Rugby match. The atmosphere was filled with laughter, shared stories, and the camaraderie that marked their school days. It was a perfect blend of past and present, celebrating lasting friendships and the spirit of their school years.

### Micah Hewson ('94)



Reuniting and watching Rugby: 1989 classmates, Sinclair Durbin, Brett Morley, Alexander James and Jason Elias on the balcony of the Lang Walker Business Centre in August.



Daniel Gunning, Joseph Dahdah, Tom Bowman and Chris Dyball on the balcony of the Lang Walker Business Centre in August.





The Class of 2014 on the Main Oval, enjoying the biggest reunion in more than six years.



A few members of the Class of 1999 gathered for lunch in Rose Bay before meeting at the College for their reunion function in July.

### Class of 1999

The Class of 1999 celebrated their 25th-year reunion on 27 July this year. It was a great turnout from the year group with 20 gathering for lunch at The Boat House in Rose Bay, before a large group of nearly 50 met at the Lang Walker Business Centre to watch both the 1st and 2nd XV play some really exciting Rugby against St Joseph's College (Joeys). Many had travelled interstate and at least one from the USA for the reunion. Following the Rugby, we gathered down at the Royal Oak Hotel in Double Bay, where we reminisced about school days and plans commenced for our next reunion in five years, if not sooner.

**Michael Lyons ('99)**

### Class of 2004

Led by reunion coordinator Morgan Campbell, the Class of 2004 gathered for their milestone 20-year reunion at the Lang Walker Business Centre on Saturday 27 July. A great turnout of over 60 Old Boys enjoyed the Scots versus Joeys 1st XV Rugby game that Scots claimed in the last play of the game.

### Class of 2014

Reunion coordinator, Ben Jeavons-Fellows and the Class of 2014 did an incredible job rounding up 76 Old Boys for their 10-year reunion on Saturday 18 May. The biggest reunion on campus in over six years gathered for the Scots versus The King's School 1st XV Rugby match on the Scots Main Oval before heading to the Royal Oak Hotel in Double Bay to kick on.

### Class of 2019

Thanks to reunion coordinators Hugo Collett and Hugo Walker, the Class of 2019 had a great turnout to celebrate their 5-year reunion. Unfortunately due to monsoonal conditions on Saturday 1 June for the Scots versus Saint Ignatius' College Riverview rugby match, the reunion was moved to the Royal Oak Hotel in Double Bay. Thanks to the power of live-streamed school sport, the game was put up on the big screen, and close to 100 Old Boys came together later that evening to reminisce about their glory days not many years earlier.

# Judith Hayden

VALE

Throughout the many years, roles and cherished memories at The Scots College, my mother experienced a deep connection to the community.

I was surprised when Mum started as the House Matron at Royle House in 1987. Considering her qualifications, I asked her why she had chosen this path. She simply replied that she knew it was the right move for her and she was absolutely correct.

Twenty years later, I inquired why she remained there. Despite her upbringing as a doctor's daughter, owning a valuable Harry Seidler-designed unit in Darlinghurst, and being eligible for a part-pension, she said, "I stay here because of the boys, Ruth, and I have some dear friends in the community." It became evident that leaving the community and her sense of purpose was unappealing.

As time passed, I realised that Scots was more than just a school for Mum; it contributed to her bright mental capacity and vibrant personality. The community kept her youthful and invigorated throughout her 70s. While others played bridge, Mum engaged with students and staff, resolved issues, and always kept an open door for those in need. She thoroughly enjoyed her 33 years of service.

Eventually, aging and reduced mobility made it difficult for her to cross the oval, but she persevered until she couldn't anymore. She moved back to Queensland, her home state. A year later, she was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

We made the most of our remaining time together, which included a visit to her childhood school, The Glennie School in Toowoomba. This beautifully maintained school reminded me of The Scots College. While standing outside, I asked Mum if she missed Scots. She replied, "No, but I miss all the people in it." Spoken like a true 83-year-old just three weeks before she passed away on 8 April 2023.

Her unwavering love for the community will always remain in our hearts.

**Ms Ruth Hayden, daughter.**



1. Judith Hayden with her grandchildren, Luis and Liv Hayden and Miles Trost.
2. Judith Hayden at Burleigh Heads, Queensland, in 2023.



# Allan John Edgar ('54)

## VALE

### “It’s a long way from The Rocks to Head Prefect of The Scots College.”

Allan John Edgar ('54) was the first of his family to finish school and the first to go to university. He was always very proud of that.

A steam train took eight year old Allan to The Scots College, Bathurst, in February 1945. The discipline of the school initially rattled him, however, he found joy in playing sports and began to learn how to learn.

“I am very sorry indeed for losing him — he is the finest boy I have ever had to teach,” wrote John Bulkeley, his teacher at Bathurst, when Allan moved to Royle House in January 1948.

In an illustrious sporting career at the Senior School, Allan was in the 1st XI Cricket for three years and 1st XV Rugby for two years, captaining both in 1954. He represented the Athletic Association of the Great Public Schools (AAGPS) 1st XI Cricket in 1953 and 1954 (Captain) and AAGPS 1st XV Rugby in 1954. In three magical seasons in the first XI, Allan Edgar ('54) bagged an incredible 171 wickets in 21 matches, including when he famously dismissed seven St Joseph’s College batsmen for just 11 runs. His AAGPS bowling record of 65 wickets in seven games still stands today. He won the AAGPS Athletics Championship in 1953 and was runner-up to the Open Champion – the best athlete across all events.

In his final year, Allan appeared on five Honour boards: Head Prefect, Captain of Cricket, Captain of Rugby, Captain of Royle House and Honour Cap. He is one of only two boys in the College’s history to achieve this feat,

with Hugh Buntine in 1914. Allan finished his time at Scots in Bellevue Hill, where Principal Alexander Anderson said: “Allan Edgar has been a courageous and just Captain of the school.”

After Scots, he played first grade cricket and rugby. He won the Australian Universities Heavyweight Boxing title twice, narrowly missing the chance of going to the 1960 Summer Olympic Games in Rome, when he lost in the semifinal of the Light Heavyweight trials, breaking his thumb. It was the only fight he ever lost.

Allan married Margo Anderson in 1959. They had three children, Anthony, Martin and Katherine, and celebrated 55 years of marriage. Professionally, Allan worked in computing from early 1963 until he retired.

“My years at The Scots College were without question, the most significant and formative of my life,” Allan wrote in a letter to Principal, Dr Ian PM Lambert in 2018. “My education at The Scots College went far beyond just the classroom. Everything I ever dreamed of came from Scots and, for this, I am, and have been, forever grateful.”

Allan’s grandson, Robert Edgar graduated from Scots in 2020.

**Written by Anthony Edgar, son.**

1. Allan on the day he started at The Scots College, Bathurst, with 42 other young students.
2. The 1st XI Cricket finished as undefeated premiers in 1953. Allan is seated second from right.



# Kerry Gordon Jones ('67)

## VALE

Kerry Gordon Jones ('67) was born on 9 March 1950 and passed away on 5 August 2024. A Boarder in Aspinall House, Kerry grew up on Sydney's Northern Beaches, Harbord, Elanora Heights, Collaroy Basin and Narrabeen Lakes.

He became an apprentice carpenter and joiner after he finished school, and went on to join the family building business once his training was complete. Kerry also had a rural interest for 42 years, producing fat calves.

Kerry was a proud builder. In 1995, he received first place in the Master Builders Association of NSW Excellence in Housing Awards for a development he had designed and built in Harbord – he beat the best!

Kerry maintained friendships with his former schoolmates, often reliving the funny times they had shared at Scots. He was an active member of the Morgan Car Owners' Club of Australia. Kerry owned several Morgans and enjoyed the camaraderie with his fellow enthusiasts. He was a scrutineer and flag marshal with the club.

Kerry bravely battled a series of health concerns in recent years. Complications from a torn rotator cuff operation led to his immune system breaking down. He developed sugar diabetes, kidney failure resulting in a kidney transplant – remarkably his loving wife Marian was his donor – and then developed liver cancer.

Kerry is survived by his wife, Marian, son Dion, daughter Nivana, and grandson, Johnny.

**Written by Darren Jones ('65), brother.**

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In 1995, he received first place in the Master Builders Association of NSW Excellence in Housing Awards ... he beat the best!



1. Kerry Jones ('67) and wife, Marian, at the Master Builders Association presentation night in 1995, where he received a NSW Excellence in Housing Award.
2. Year 12 student, Kerry, sits in the front row, second from the left, for the 1967 Aspinall House photo.



# William 'Bill' Barnett ('56)

## VALE

Dr Bill Barnett ('56), an ophthalmologist who served Tamworth, the north-west region and parts of the Hunter Valley for 36 years, has died at the age of 85. Bill passed away in Sydney on Tuesday 27 August.

Born in Narromine, Dr Barnett attended The Scots College between 1950 and 1956 as a Boarder and was Captain of Fairfax House and a Prefect in 1956. He was also Vice-Captain of the Athletic Association of the Great Public Schools (AAGPS) Tennis team and won the 1956 championship.

Bill attended The University of Sydney where he studied medicine between 1957 and 1963 and was employed as a Resident Medical Officer at St George Hospital in 1963, 1964 and 1965. He was the first Ophthalmic Registrar at the hospital. In 1969, he relocated to Tamworth commencing practice as an ophthalmic surgeon, retiring in 2005.

Dr Barnett was one of the first eye specialists in the region to offer laser cataract surgery and during the 1970s regularly flew by light aircraft to see patients in Moree and Narrabri. He also performed cataract operations in a mobile surgical bus at Gunnedah, Narrabri and Moree. Bill undertook postgraduate studies in London, Boston and New York.

Bill was a keen tennis player, reader and traveller. He is survived by his wife, Elaine, son, David, daughters, Sally and Kirsty and his six grandchildren.

**Written by Elaine Barnett, wife.**



1. Vice-Captain of Tennis, Bill Barnett ('56), seated second from right, in the annual team photo.
2. In the 1956 Fairfax House photo, House Captain, Bill is seated in the second row, seventh from the right, beside staff member, Mr Arthur Dunn.



# Neville Adams ('46)

## VALE

At a memorial service for fellow Old Boy, Graham Thornton ('46), Neville Adams ('46) was a valuable source of information about his friend and former classmate. It's a task he was familiar with, having performed it a few times before, and he posed the question: "Who will be around to write about me?"

Neville's own words recount some of his memories from his days at Scots.

We moved to Sydney from New Zealand in 1936. I started at Scots a week after Dad died in 1942. Attending the Spitfire Fair with Dad was one of the last memories I have of him.

There were about 50 boys in first year in 1942. I was in Armstrong House, and I rode my bike to school. Looking back, my time at school was undistinguished, neither academic nor sporting prowess being evident.

I am happy to say that I did enjoy my years at Scots. Many of my memories revolve around the war. The building of the air raid shelters and the joy of seeing them removed, the shelling of Rose Bay by the Japanese in May 1942, the mornings in Assembly when [then Principal] Mr Anderson read out the names of Old Boys who had been killed in action or taken as prisoners of war and, best of all, that one assembly when we were kept waiting until about 10:00am at which time Mr Anderson arrived and announced that the Japanese had surrendered.

We had a half day to watch the Rugby, and I remember going to North Sydney Oval that afternoon to see [AA]GPS [Athletic Association of the Great Public Schools] play CHS [Combined High Schools]; Terry McBride ('45) opposite Trevor Allan [future Australian Rugby Union player]. It felt like a party.

Neville was proud of his career as a pharmacist in Wollongong. He was a respected man of the community and much admired.

Neville is fondly remembered for his memory and recall of events. Many times, we have been quite amazed and amused by his ability to not only recall an event, but also the day of the week on which it occurred. The breadth of the events could range from the declaration of war to a sporting, family or political event. His iPad was always at the ready to confirm facts.

Neville was the last surviving member of his year group.

He was a devoted husband and father who we loved dearly, and we miss his presence in our lives every day.

**Ms Georgina and Ms Roslyn Adams, daughters.**



Neville Adams ('46) enjoyed socialising at a range of social, sporting and family events, including a Scots Old Boys black-tie dinner in the 1990s.

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Neville was proud of his career as a pharmacist in Wollongong. He was a respected man of the community and much admired.



# Peter Haigh ('49)

## VALE

Peter Haigh passed away on 27 June 2024 aged 92 years.

He spent his final school years to 1949 as a Boarder at Scots after his mother died from tuberculosis.

He competed in Athletics at the College, but also loved Sailing and was always active.

He was one of only two students in his year to graduate in architecture at The University of Sydney without repeating a year. Whilst not in the bar there, he won a competition to design some gates at the university, though I am unsure if they still stand.

He then travelled to Switzerland after receiving a scholarship to do an MBA in Geneva.

He spent his life in business, firstly, in the United Kingdom and Canada, before settling back in Sydney.

He was a truly personable man of his generation, without agenda, possessed of a rare humour and the hardest worker I've ever known.

A dedicated family man, he is greatly missed by his wife of 65 years, two surviving children, three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

He sent both his sons to Scots, though Jamie ('79) sadly passed away some years ago.

He carried a piece of Scots with him throughout his life.

His generation is irreplaceable and almost gone now, but never forgotten.

Honour. Diligence. Integrity.

Utinam patribus nostris digni simus.

**Alex Haigh ('84), son.**



Peter Haigh ('49) relaxing in his garden in the 1960s.

## Bequeath a Gift to The Scots College

If you have bequeathed a gift to The Scots College and have not yet notified us to update our registry, please contact the Director of Advancement at [foundation@scots.college](mailto:foundation@scots.college) or call +61 2 9391 7853.

It would be our honour to formally acknowledge and thank your family, for your generous support. Such a gift will support generations of Scots boys, providing them with the finest preparation for life.

# Scots: The finest preparation for life.



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