The King's Gazette

DEC 2013

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Headmasters are neurotic at the best of times, but when someone chucks rubbish in their school, it is taken personally. How dare they! I overtook the car, swerved in front, stopped, got out and walked to the offending car. I was appalled to see that it was not a car full of air-headed students. It contained a father and son from the visiting school.

I told them haughtily not to throw litter in the School grounds. I then shared further sentiments before allowing the boy and father to drive away. As my anger subsided, I wished I had responded rather better to the boy’s statement, ‘It was only some paper. It wasn’t a bomb!’ All I had managed to say was a rather stuffy, ‘We don’t do that sort of thing around here’ (fully recognising that we sometimes did). This is what I wish I’d said:

WHY WE DON’T THROW LITTER OUT OF A CAR:

• Because we are a member of society and society can reasonably expect our contribution to the rest of society to be positive for as long as we wish to enjoy the benefits of belonging to that society.

• If you become a litter-bug, the litter could fester and breed germs and people could get sick. You might slip on the rubbish and it might ruin the look of your garden (or school!). In short, there are usually good reasons for rules being there.

• Dropping litter makes a statement that you are seriously bad news. It tells people you don’t care about the world you are living in. It says that you are uncaring, spoilt rotten or both. Either way, you expect others to clean up after you.

Some time ago, I was driving behind a car in the School grounds. It was a Saturday and we were playing several games of sport against another school. The window of the car in front was lowered and rubbish was thrown out.

THIS IS WHY!
There may be some who would like a bit more ‘meaty stuff’ about the morality of ‘why’. Here it is, but it is limited because the genre of this article is not one that is going to see it gracing the philosophy section of a university library. Nonetheless, it can be useful to enrich a debate with a heavily opinionated son when you are losing an argument as to why he should not be allowed to have his 18th birthday party in the red-light zone of the city. So, for the parent who wishes to infuse a touch of Philosophy 101 into their conversation, the following is shared. This material might also be useful when, ‘Because I told you so!’ is no longer accepted by a son. So – here goes:

**Consequentialism.**

Although it sounds frightening, the concept is quite simple. The clue to its meaning lies in the word, ‘consequence’. If the consequence of an action is that overall happiness is increased, then it might be the right moral course to take. This is known as ‘the greatest happiness principle’, and, was supported by great thinkers like Jeremy Bentham and John Stuart Mill.

John, playing the drums at midnight might be improving your skills, but it’s stopping your mother and me from sleeping and the cat has run away!

**Existentialism.**

This approach is often associated with people like Soren Kierkegaard, Friedrich Nietzsche and Jean-Paul Sartre. It is a moral code that centres on the individual. Each person has the responsibility for determining what is moral. Existentialists believe there are no good or bad morals. Before a son gets too excited by this philosophy, the right action considered by existentialists is the one that past experience has shown to be the best.

I don’t care what you think! You can’t use the air rifle. Last time you used it, you shot the cat.

**Humanism.**

If a son is going to retreat from a religious imperative to behave, he does not necessarily escape the obligation to treat the cat properly. Although humanists do not give God a look in and do not agree that behavioural codes are dictated by supernatural beings, they still believe in morality, except that it is a morality that is decided by people. This is done by thinking through what is best for the well-being of all.

Stealing the neighbour’s cat won’t send you to hell, but it will upset the neighbours. If we all go around stealing things, it will cost a fortune in extra locks and it will turn our happy community into a sad one. So – we don’t steal – and we haven’t got any cat food.

**Analytic Philosophy.**

The name says it all. People like Bertrand Russell suggested that our morals should be influenced by analysis, logic and by a reference to the natural sciences. Morals are worked out by testing and careful observation.

Although it is said that a cat has nine lives, experience has shown this is not always accurate. Therefore, you will not throw the cat in the fish pond.

**Free thought.**

The pansy flower is the symbol for the Free Thought movement. The word ‘pansy’ comes from the French word pensee, which means ‘thought’. Pansy flowers nod forward in summer, as if deep in thought. Morals are decided by thought. They are decided by reason and are not influenced by the past.

I know we should normally try and find the owner of this cat, but given that it has no collar and seems rather unkempt, I don’t think it’s the neighbours – therefore, we’ll keep it.

**Anarchism.**

This is a term that can excite a son. However, it doesn’t mean going around and blowing things up. Anarchists do not like imposed rules, and favour voluntary codes of behaviour. The word comes from anarchos which means ‘without rules’.

I don’t care what the authorities say about vaccinating the cat. I’m not doing it. It’s not going to catch rabies in this neighbourhood!

That’s enough of that! Although some sons may be interested in philosophical stand-points, most would prefer to hear a rollicking good yarn that illustrates moral standpoints. Boys love stories. Selecting an age-appropriate book about heroes and heroines can provide excellent material for a debate about ‘why’.

However, all this can have a touch of The Waltons about it. Do it if you can, but it might be better to get a son read about moral issues independently. There is plenty of reading material to choose from, both in print form and online. Newspapers are full of moral questions.

When it is age-appropriate, a son should be encouraged to read the newspaper and develop an informed opinion about what is going on. For this reason, giving a son an App for the daily newspaper, or making sure the newspaper is available for all to read, can be important. Even watching the news on television can provide fruitful material for the discussion of what is right and wrong.

Yes, our sons should be allowed to ask ‘why’ – but only if the why is genuine and not a ‘I-so-disagree-with-you’ response.

Sons should occasionally have the table turned and be asked ‘why’. If they wish to forensically examine a parent’s call, they must also be prepared to submit to the same cross-examination. We all need to ask why and question what is happening. But, all need to explain why as well – and that is often the more difficult task.

Dr Tim Hawkes
Headmaster

Yes, our sons should be allowed to ask ‘why’ – but only if the why is genuine and not a ‘I-so-disagree-with-you’ response.
A celebration of old and new activities highlights this edition of the Gazette. Year 7 historians immersed themselves (literally) in ancient Egyptian times, young and older males took their two wheeled transport off the beaten track, visitors to the School exhibited traditional and modern skills, whilst the baton was handed over to an impressive group of Year 12 Kingsmen. Theirs will be the challenge – to continue developing a love of adventure and history amongst the students, whilst ensuring that all boys of the School are respectful and aware of differing world cultures and appreciative of their relative comfort and prosperity.

Susan MacDonalD
Editor

The School was delighted to recently have Ricky Ponting, a true great of Australian cricket, as our special guest at Assembly. Ricky spoke to the School about his autobiography, *At the Close of Play*, where he explored the themes of courage, commitment, preparation, team work, character, resilience, leadership, contribution and family. He was brilliantly introduced by our most erudite 1st XI Coach, Mr Tony Farrell, who delighted us with metaphors and alliteration while commenting on Ponting’s distinguished career and leadership. A memorable analogy was ‘Ponting… fielding in slips like a Venus Fly Trap’. Ponting’s contribution to International Cricket is well known. What is, perhaps, less known, is the great work he and his wife, Rianna, have done to support people with Cancer. The Ponting Foundation has raised the astonishing figure of $10 million since its establishment in 2002, an achievement that drew warm acclamation from the boys.

A Memorable Analogy was ‘Ponting… Fielding in Slips like a Venus Fly Trap’.
Jack McCalman

The School was thrilled with the recent news that outgoing 2013 School Captain, Jack McCalman had been selected as Captain of the Australian Schools’ Rugby 1st XV. Jack was also voted best player winning the Bronze Boot following the Test matches against New Zealand and Fiji. News has just come to hand that Jack has fittingly also been appointed Captain of the Australian Schools’ team to travel to Europe in late November and December, where they will play Test matches against England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales. This is a wonderful achievement. Interestingly, Jack is the third Australian Schools’ Captain from The King’s School over the past twelve years following Dean Mumm (‘02) and Cameron Mitchell (‘08) and our forty first Schoolboy Rugby International.

Mummies Day

As part of their study of Ancient Egypt, 7BL History class recently took part in a mummy wrapping competition. Toilet rolls were flying as four teams tried to out wrap each other and gain immortality for their client. The teams had to ensure that they included protective amulets such as “wadjet eyes” and “scarab beetles” in the wrappings to protect the body on its journey into the Afterlife.

At the end of the day, the result was a tie between the TKS Mummies and Project Slaves with Khufu’s Bros and Mummies-R-Us close behind.

Scott Ruddock
SNOWSPORTS AT THE KING’S SCHOOL

Snowsports was alive and well at The King’s School during 2013. With the largest team ever to hit the slopes, it has been a season filled with great results, team spirit, new friendships … and the odd bit of snow. This year we had over 80 boys competing at the Regional competition, with boys ranging in age from Kindergarten to our more experienced Year 12 young men. Many thanks must go to our committed families and supportive committee members who run the Snowsports Club. We went to the snow as a team and came home a family!

JAMES TYREE AND JO GRINHAM
Masters in Charge

MANHATTAN TRANSFER AT KING’S

It’s not every school that can attract one of the world’s super groups to work with its students. However, in Term 3, the celebrity group The Manhattan Transfer came to King’s to work with the Senior Choir. With worldwide sales in the millions and Grammy Awards by the dozen, these veterans of sold-out world tours introduced their music to this younger audience when they sang in Futter Hall to the 100 voices Senior Choir.

With hits like Birdland, Operator and A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square, the quartet charmed the boys with their stories, songs and international experiences. Sharing music together came easily, as the boys sang an African song, Siyahamba, then an Elton John number, Answer in the Sky, a Van Morrison song called When God Shines His Light, and finally a classic chorus from the opera Nabucco, the Hebrew Slaves’ Chorus.

Overwhelmed by the size of the choir and the strong sound of the boys, the visiting pop icons worked on freeing the boys up with a little choreography, to help the modern songs come to life. The boys enjoyed the vibrancy and passion of the quartet, and their willingness to work at a level different to that they had previously experienced.

BARRY WALMSLEY
Director of Music

YEAR 12 DRAMA ONSTAGE NOMINEES
A standing ovation for you all!!

THE YEAR TWO LEARNING JOURNEY
It was lovely to see all the terrific work they have done.

THE 2013 PASSING OUT PARADE
Very special day :) 

YEAR 1 MUMS’ GINGERBREAD HOUSE BUILDING
Great night, great fun and lots of laughs :)
Outgoing School Captains, Jack McCalman and Samuel Read, took a break from HSC examination revision to present the School Captain’s crowns and congratulate the new School Captain, Hugh Taylor and Vice Captain, Zac Hodge upon their appointments. A wonderful ovation signalled to the entire school community the popularity of the Headmaster’s appointments and the student body’s perspective on the job well completed by Jack and Samuel.

A successful training and information day followed for the new Monitors as they designed and outlined their vision and goals for leadership of the School. Along with pertinent comments and presentations from the Headmaster, Deputy Headmaster and School Chaplain, the Director of Sport, Mr Peter Phipps (’76) presented a paper on the tradition and appropriate manner of wearing of the School uniform in all of its distinctive variations.

Highlighting the importance of student leadership at The King’s School, outgoing Captains, McCalman and Read, along with School Monitor and Adjutant of the Cadet Corps, Matthew Jacob, spoke candidly of their own experiences at the School in an enthralling manner. The baton was well and truly passed to a new team that has set high standards to achieve to meet the outstanding work of the 2012-2013 King’s School Monitors. The new School Monitors have highlighted a number of areas upon which to focus, including enhancing School spirit through several initiatives, whilst respecting and upholding the traditions, rituals and ceremonies of our school.

A wonderful induction service was held on the opening day of Term 3, where new Senior School Monitors were commissioned in front of the whole School and assembled parents.

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DR STEVEN MIDDLETON
Director of Leadership Studies
A wonderful ovation signalled to the entire school community the popularity of the Headmaster’s appointments.
Head, Heart and Hands – our 6th biennial National Boys’ Education Conference… was nothing short of sensational.

Delegates from across Australia, and across all school systems, were inspired by not only our powerful international speakers such as Baroness Susan Greenfield (Professor – Oxford University), Dr Michael Kimmel (Professor Stony Brook University, NY), but by Dr Michael Carr-Gregg (Psychologist – Melbourne), Mr Richard Glover (ABC Drive Show Presenter and Sydney Morning Herald Journalist) and King’s Headmaster, Dr Tim Hawkes.

Our King’s community really got behind this event: Maintenance, Catering, Marketing, Media Team, Bursarial Department, Administrative Officers, ICT Team, and Teachers – offering workshops and demonstration lessons, and helping with logistics throughout the conference.

The Conference Team designed an experience that had delegates moving from neuroscience and the effect (both positive and negative) of immersion in digital environments, to boys and relationships, practitioner research on boys and learning, hands on learning activities, to creative and inspiring musical interludes. Delegates were generous in their feedback: “World class, informative, interesting” and “enjoyed the practical hands on and creative spirit – the synchronicity of learning and teaching in the digital world as well as the need to be hands on for good learning” were indicative of the buzz felt during this two day event.

In the words of one delegate, “Tuesday was the most interesting single day at a conference I have ever experienced… we enjoyed the way in which the conference participants were integrated into the proceedings as were students at King’s…quality of organization was outstanding.”

ROB CHANDLER & LINDA GIBSON-LANGFORD
Conference Organisers

Not only did we receive tremendous feedback from our online survey, but our Twitter feed was active…

Susan Greenfield speaking about neuroscience “the brain is you”. We should teach kids about their brain. YES!

iMind Q&A session- students on panel say teacher IS important….

Prof Kimmel says privilege is invisible to those who have it – we need to make gender visible to boys- unmask masculinity.

TKS is indebted to the Conference Committee for their professionalism and tireless work in organising this our 6th National Boys’ Education Conference.
The 2013 Year 11 “Arnhem Land Immersion” was the culmination of five years of previous trips that had been organized to the Northern Territory.

In previous years small groups of around 8 to 10 Year 11 boys had embarked on a visit to Tiwi College on the Tiwi Islands. These trips have always been great experiences for our students and have helped them gain an insight into remote indigenous life, particularly some of the educational challenges that indigenous students face in remote schools.

After meeting with Arthur Alla from Red Earth Connections late last year, I was convinced that it would be worthwhile increasing the number of boys involved in such a tour and also changing the focus of our trip. The program offered by Red Earth Connections was very impressive and it was felt that this was a great option for us in 2013.

The positive response of the students when offered opportunity of the trip was terrific, as was the enthusiasm by their parents for this trip. Soon 22 quality Year 11 boys had been recruited to participate. The character of the boys involved was a contributing factor to the success of the trip. The boys demonstrated a positive attitude and a willingness to do what was asked. They made every effort to engage with the local indigenous community and even when faced with long enduring travel on rough dirt roads, they did not complain.

I was also very grateful to fellow staff members, Grant Gerber and Scott Bluzmanis and also to Jon Roper our gappie assistant. Grant in particular was a great asset as he took leadership over the organization of the packing and unpacking of supplies and equipment.

I believe that this trip, more than any of the previous trips, exposed our boys to the positive aspects of indigenous life. The opportunity to learn about the culture of indigenous people in this region of Arnhem Land is very unique. Our boys learnt how to make spears, hunt crabs and make didgeridoos. They participated in ceremonial dances and listened to the elders explain their

// There is a great desire to see our King’s students develop an awareness and appreciation for Indigenous culture. This is a vital part of their education and development.
The flags of France, Germany and China, emblazoned around the senior campus, could also be found tattooed on the faces of eager students, or created by the massed crowds of boys during the 2013 Languages Day. Patriotism was alive, as boys sampled both traditional games like European handball and Badminton, and delicacies of the various foreign cultures. Tasty national treats such as sticky Chinese buns and German kransky sausages were enthusiastically consumed whilst other boys tried their hand at Chinese martial arts and lion dancing ceremonies. The aim, apart from having fun dabbling in treats and new activities, was that all King’s students would see the lifelong value of learning a different language.

Mr Chris Lovell
Coordinator
An enjoyable day was had by Year 7 music students, as they try their skills on African drums.

As part of the mandatory music program, Year 7 students enjoyed a morning experiencing the energy and vitality of African drumming, when Tuza Afuta (a master drummer from Ghana) visited King’s. Sharing the rich cultural heritage of his homeland, Afuta presented an engaging program that enabled all boys to be very hands-on. The morning workshop, focusing on the fundamental concepts of music, such as rhythm and pitch, saw boys using a variety of drums (both pitched and non-pitched instruments) as they learnt how drums were used as communication devices, as well as for dance and other ceremonies.

Witnessing the master drummer’s colourful, traditional African clothing and appreciating his talent, humour and exuberant energy, with hundreds of drums laid out in front of them, the boys learnt and played an authentic African rhythm. As well, they learnt a traditional African song to accompany the drumming rhythm, and experienced African dancing.

Modern and relevant issues that affect children and families in developing African countries were discussed in a positive way through music, from Afuta, who, as a performer spoke from direct experience. The folk tales and stories that were integrated throughout the show gave boys an informed perspective on village life and culture in Africa.

Experiencing music in such a practical way enriches the boys’ understanding of the concepts taught, and in this world, and most certainly in this School, we see this as vitally important. This event was generously funded by the Friends of Music.

Barry Walmsley
Director of Music

Tutor Group rivalry was at the fore as Year 7 boys took to the JS White oval in mini games of touch rugby, football, and tug-o-war. Patriotically wearing their individually designed Tutor Group jerseys, the competition was fierce, but good-natured and at the day’s conclusion, all agreed it had been a wonderful celebration of skill and camaraderie. Edible treats fuelled hungry boys whilst parents and tutors kept watch over their charges.
Dec 13 | TKS Deputy Headmaster

Year 12 Graduation Ceremony

General Cosgrove spoke glowingly of the School’s ethos and the significant contribution made by our Old Boys to society at large.
Term 3 concluded with our Year 12 Graduation Ceremony and Valete Dinner, both occasions affording a heart-warming farewell to the Class of 2013.

At the Graduation Ceremony the School was greatly honoured by the presence of General Peter Cosgrove, who presented prizes and delivered a most thoughtful and empowering address. General Cosgrove spoke glowingly of the School’s ethos and the significant contribution made by our Old Boys to society at large. King’s is highly respected for providing a quality academic education but it is for our ability to prepare young men for life that we are held in the highest esteem. The General referred to the special contribution The King’s School makes in developing a strong sense of community, inculcating noble human values, forming positive self-esteem and it’s widely acknowledged role in instilling a confidence in boys to embrace challenges presented beyond the School gates.

General Cosgrove articulated that many in society regard boys of The King’s School as privileged, and, of course, they are. However, the General believed a more appropriate description would be ‘obligated’. Our education confers an obligation upon all boys of this School to give back to our community by making a significant contribution to society. As educators I believe it crucial we inculcate a sense of nobless oblige among our students.

The uplifting Ceremony witnessed majestic voice from our boys as they sang a magnificent rendition of Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah to the Welsh melody Cwm Rhondda. On hearing this, General Cosgrove believes he found the answer as to why the Wallabies have the measure of Wales at present. It is due to the presence of King’s boys in the National XV who have mastered the Welsh anthem. He requested now that we focus upon the anthems of New Zealand and South Africa so that the Wallaby fortunes in those countries may be improved.

To conclude what was a very special Graduation Ceremony, General Cosgrove left our graduates with the challenge: ‘Leave not one atom of your potential and your opportunities at rest’. We are most grateful to General Peter Cosgrove for honouring us with his presence and most considered and valuable oration. His contribution to proceedings ensured the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony was an outstanding success.

Dr Andrew Parry
Deputy Headmaster
**Sport**

It has been wonderful to see the planning and vision of a couple of Old Boys and staff come together in the successful launch of Mountain Biking as a new King's sport, and this activity for a selected number of students, will be offered as both a summer and winter sporting option. Hopeful young riders, keen to emulate the success and dreams of their biking heroes, are already enjoying the thrills and spills of the technical King's track. Sporting dreams have also come true for outgoing School Captain, Jack McCalman whose captaincy of the Australian Schoolboy rugby team brings further credit to himself and his school. With the second half of the summer sporting program to look forward to in Term 1 2014, already King's is in a competitive position in cricket, rowing and basketball.

Rowing at King's is going from strength to strength and stroke by stroke.

There are record numbers of boys trying out for the sport and as always there is an instant camaraderie as they sweat it out on the river or in the gym. There were some outstanding achievements at the end of the 2012-13 season with the selection of Robert Black in the Australian Junior Quad that competed in Lithuania in August. There have been some significant events already held at the boatshed. The first such event was that of the annual Open Day, where parents and friends of the School gathered to see the boys up close at their training. It is a real eye opener for many who normally have their eyes closed when most of these boys are at early morning training.

At the Open day we recognised the Year 12 rowers and also announced the new Captains of the Boat Club. For the season ahead, Toby Moore has been named Captain with Archie Hall and Jack O’Neil as his deputies. One final tradition at the Open Day is to christen any of the new boats. This year saw the School lucky enough to purchase a new VIII for the 1st VIII crew. The boat was christened the Martin Robinson in recognition of his years of service to the School as the Chairman of the School Council. Rev Robinson was humbled in accepting the honour. The final event for the year is that of the competition between Newington and King's for the Downer Trophy. This competition is held in conjunction with the Head of the Parramatta Regatta. It was pleasing to see The King's School win the Trophy outright this season, this the thirteenth win for the School in 15 years, the other two years resulting in draws.

James Tyree
Master in Charge
The boat was christened the Martin Robinson in recognition of his years of service to the School as the Chairman of the School Council.
In 2012 a small group of parents approached the School about the possibility of introducing the sport of Mountain Biking to TKS. The rationale behind this approach was to broaden the range of experiences offered to all students and in particular, those activities available to boarders on weekends. Following extensive research into the workings associated with this unique sport and in spite of the inherent risks, the School (spurred on by an incredibly generous offer from one parent to fund the entire project) made the brave decision to not only offer Mountain Biking for 2013, but to build a world class facility within the School grounds.

Dirt Art, a company from Tasmania specialising in the building of Mountain Bike tracks, began construction of the facility in November 2012. Using small machinery and hand tools, the track was carved into the bush making the most of the natural beauty featured in the landscape and following the existing lines between large trees and sandstone deposits. The results are spectacular and the King’s School now has a facility that is the envy of the Sydney mountain biking community.

The most generous and practical financial gift to the School included the provision of a fleet of 20 mountain bikes. The boys selected after application into the sport, are tutored in the maintenance and repair of their bikes, ensuring that they remain road-worthy and in top condition for racing. A typical Saturday involves track building and maintenance and our boys have become proficient with rakes, shovels and wheel barrows, even going so far as to sweep the trails clear of loose dirt and leaves prior to taking to the track. An increased awareness of our activities led to further assistance in the form of a generous supply of crushed granite from Canberra and the use of a small front-end-loader with which to manipulate this material into jumps, tabletops and berms, exponentially increasing the ‘fun factor’ and ride-ability of our trails. We are incredibly grateful to those parents who have made this possible. Thank you very much.

The King’s School now competes in a Mountain Bike racing series along with a number of other Sydney schools. The undisputed highlight of this competition is our home event – when all schools meet to ride the TKS trails and race at the best facility in Sydney. I have no doubt that Mountain Biking will continue to grow as a sport here at King’s and we hope to realise our goal of becoming a genuine force within the All Schools Mountain Biking fraternity.

Josh Hoogland
Master in Charge
The Preparatory School continues to engage its young students in wonderfully colourful and creative endeavours and the Jungle Book extravaganza was an occasion that highlighted a myriad of talents. Talented students and teachers, thinking outside the square, were also able to incorporate so much of the inquiry based lessons, to immerse students in projects that have entertained, taught and resulted in significant community awareness and fund raising. The rewards have been enormous.

Conceptualising life within a depressed third world existence is difficult enough for an adult, let alone for a child.

Recently, the Prep School used the format of simulation activities to enable the boys to develop a greater understanding of life in a third world slum. Labelled a Helptathlon, House group structures were utilised to take the boys through four activities designed to present real life scenarios faced by people living in slum areas of the world.

The Village activity saw House Patrol groups split into two villages, with each patrol acting as a family. Each family was required to accomplish certain tasks – fetch water, make food, plant crops etc. One of the villages had access to an individual who was educated with specific health and life skills, who could guide the group about safety matters. The other village did not have such a resource. The activity emphasised the need for education to promote change, not only within an individual, but within a wider community.

The second activity placed students in the scenario of becoming workers within a factory. Boys were given various pieces of equipment and they were required to make as many items as they could for sale within a set timeframe. Teachers took on the roles of merchants and tourists and walked through the factory area, haggling over sales and beating down the prices to unfair levels. This activity allowed the boys to recognise how difficult it was to produce goods for sale from limited resources and how some people are powerless to exploitation.

Living in a country of order, comfort and prosperity it is difficult to gain a complete understanding of other communities that constantly live under the spectre of hardship and survival.
The third scenario required patrol groups to construct a slum area. Using cardboard, string and tape, students were required to construct a shelter that could hold the ‘family’. The ‘slum village’ faced a number of real life challenges to their survival – demolition of the area, fire, relocation etc. This exercise reinforced to the boys the good fortune they enjoy in simply coming home to a safe, comfortable, stable dwelling.

The final activity saw students required to use their creativity to develop equipment and games for their group to enjoy during recreation time. Using rags, plastic bags and other materials they made balls and other items and then developed team games such as relays and soccer. This exercise reinforced the simplistic way in which children used items within their environment for recreational purposes.

Each session concluded with a debriefing component, where the boys were able to share about their involvement, challenges, feelings and thoughts as a result of the experiences. Teachers guided the students into making connections with real world situations. These were recorded in their student passport.

The money raised from the event, totalling $16,000, was devoted to the work of International Care Ministries, a Christian organisation that works with those families in extreme poverty in the Philippines, and Watoto Ministries that work with orphaned children and vulnerable women in Uganda.

The Helptathlon was a bold, creative and consuming project to undertake. However, the rewards were great in meaningfully educating the boys about a quality of life that is so far removed from their own existence, but one that is still very prevalent and often hidden within our world. It also raised valuable funds that will support the work of two organisations making a difference in vulnerable and oppressed communities.

Peter Allison
Head of the Preparatory School
A Celebration of Community

The King's Prep School community was showcased superbly at the King's School Art Show and Spring Festival weekend in August.

Bathed in beautiful spring sunshine for the entire weekend, crowds flocked to the School over the course of the weekend in record numbers to witness the staging of an extraordinary event, largely operated by the volunteer work of committed Prep School parents and boys. The weekend began with a new look Art Show Gala Opening in Gowan Brae, on Friday evening. Selected works from the Olsen Irwin and Richard Martin Galleries adorned the walls of the historic building. Guests enjoyed contemporary Australian artists Craig Ruddy, Geoffrey Dyer and Matthew Johnson talking about their work. The proceedings included the announcement of the winning entry for The King’s School Art Prize, Blossoms near Kuranda in Mist, by Jun Chen and a presentation by Editor in Chief of Belle and judge on ‘The Block’, Neale Whitaker. A highlight of the evening was the auction of a beautiful painting by Matthew Johnson, commissioned by The King’s School that raised $18,000 for the Children’s Hospital Westmead.

Saturday saw the fun, colour and activity of the Spring Festival begin with patrons enjoying market stalls, gourmet food, High Tea and children’s activities alongside 1,000 paintings, etchings, photographs and sculptures by prominent local and international artists. An afternoon game by the Western Sydney Wanderers FC against a King’s School side made up of Old Boys, staff and current students on the JS White Oval, celebrated the first official game of football played in NSW between The King’s School and The Gentleman Wanderers back in 1880.

On Sunday, the playing fields became a sea of vintage cars as the All British Car Clubs displayed their restored historic and more contemporary motor vehicles. The event attracted significant media attention and was featured on Channel 7’s Sunrise and the Discovery Channel also filmed an episode of a global network program, Trading Up.

The weekend was an opportunity to share the wonderful grounds of The King’s School with the wider community and allow them to experience a tiny sampling of The King’s School experience. What was evident to all who attended was the tremendous way that a school community comes together with such purpose and commitment. I pay tribute to the Chairman of the Art Show, Aaron Malouf, his dedicated committee and the Prep School parent volunteers and boys, who helped to showcase the unique spirit of The King’s School community and to raise very valuable funds that will assist the ongoing provision of outstanding facilities for our boys to enjoy.

Peter Allison
Head of the Preparatory School

See more photos from this fantastic weekend on page 26
The Prep School Year 4, 5 and 6 have set the bar high for future Prep performances with their colourful showcase of Disney’s ‘The Jungle Book’

The King’s School Preparatory School recently showcased the Disney classic, The Jungle Book; a musical known for its fabulous mix of foot tapping tunes and a colourful storyline. Enjoyed by all, the production involved 45 boys from Years 4, 5 and 6, completing five action filled performances over two days. Happily, the boys showed their theatrical skills in performances that also included two community shows to local schools.

It was a wonderful display of creative talent by the Preparatory School boys and one that they will remember for many years to come. The impressive costumes, uniquely dramatic and colourful jungle faces of each character and the entire jungle set certainly made you feel members of the various audiences feel as if they were part of the jungle family.

There is no doubt about it; this jungle adventure has been a highlight of the Preparatory School year!
It was a wonderful display of creative talent by the Preparatory School boys and one that they will remember for many years to come.
It is not surprising that they made contact with King’s, which prompted some research into this essential area of school life in a boarding community.

Up until the time of Headmaster Macarthur (1868-86) the wife of the headmaster was responsible for the health and well being of the students, with one young man remembering Mrs Forrest handing out liberal doses of castor oil. The health of the students was a constant concern, as outbreaks of diseases such as the 1842 epidemic of scarlet fever, almost caused the School to close. Health and diet was the subject of an open letter in 1877 and the Archives holds another letter from 1924 in which a prospective parent needed reassurance that the health of the School was more than satisfactory before he would enrol his son. During the 1920s and 30s Headmaster Baker, in his Annual Speech Day Report, noted that the work of the Sister both in the School Hospital and in the Boarding Houses was significant and involved both health care and pastoral care, a theme continued in the latter part of the century, where it was noted that jelly beans were dispensed as often as band aids.

The School’s first hospital was a cottage purchased by George Fairfowl Macarthur that was turned into accommodation for Masters in 1887 when Headmaster St John Gray provided a purpose built hospital. This too became staff accommodation when negotiations between Stacey Waddy, on behalf of Council and the Walter and Eliza Trust, allowed for the building of a new brick cottage hospital. By 1916, each of the boarding Houses had a matron and the hospital was only opened during times of epidemics, such as in 1924 and 1926 with the chicken pox outbreak or the 1926 flu outbreak or when a boy needed a longer than normal recuperation. In 1940 this hospital also became accommodation and rooms at Thomas House were converted to cope with medical emergencies.

The current Health Centre was opened in 1964 as part of the Stage II building works at Gowan Brae, in order to continue the tradition of health care at The King’s School. In the early years of the School unfortunately many of these Health related staff members were nameless, but over time the Magazine reveals that most, including visiting doctors and dentists, were very long serving members of the School community. Not only did they deal with the cuts, sprains, bruises and breaks of a winter season of sport, they were and continue to be a reassuring smile to a King’s boy.

There are times when our current sister, Kerry Milosovic, and her staff deal with over 100 boys a day. The work is varied - dispensing pills, checking dressings, arranging transport to outside consultations, booking appointments for the afternoon clinic, triaging the sick and consoling the not so sick. There are times when wards are full, or days when merely a smile or a repair to a missing coat button is all that is needed. The tradition of providing both health care and pastoral care, however, is vital work of this King’s School community.
The health of the students was a constant concern, as outbreaks of diseases such as the 1842 epidemic of scarlet fever, almost caused the School to close.

There are times when our current sister, Kerry Milosovic, and her staff deal with over 100 boys a day.
Cadel Evans opens mountain bike trails at the inaugural King’s Mountain Bike Classic

Describing the new mountain biking facilities at The Kings School in Parramatta as ‘fantastic’, Cadel Evans said that such a well-built and professionally constructed course was something that, ‘I hadn’t experienced, as mountain biking has developed so much in Australia since I raced.’

Opening the course at the inaugural King’s Mountain Bike Classic on Sunday, 3 November, the winner of the 2011 Tour de France, said, ‘my career started at a race like this many years ago in 1991.’ ‘I started in mountain biking riding in the forest, and living out in the country, went to an event just like this in Melbourne and started racing. That’s how I got into competitive cycling,’ Cadel said.

‘I think that facilities and opportunities like this allow people to have an experience and get a taste for the sport. If someone likes cycling, this is a great introduction to it. There’s a long way you can go in the world with cycling,’ Cadel said. As he presented awards to race winners, Cadel said that sport was a great way of learning life lessons because it pushes us to our limits. ‘If we lose the race today or the cricket match tomorrow, or whatever, it’s not that costly, the point is to learn those lessons and move on.’

Cadel Evans also suggested that sports such as mountain biking can work to help tackle problems of obesity in young Australians with rates as high as 25%. ‘We are having some problems with a lack of activity in younger generations and I’m all for cycling and I’m all for sport in general,’ he said. At the official ceremony Deputy Headmaster, Dr Andrew Parry (’78), described...
the new facility as a place that provides a great opportunity for the School to do something different for its students, as well as somewhere that members of the local community can enjoy and make use of on special Open Days throughout the year.

Dr Parry acknowledged the generous support of David Paradise (‘77), Old Boy and current parent, who donated the 4.2 kilometre trail network that was passionately championed by Old Boy and parent, Tim Meares (‘84). Both men came up with the idea for a track at King’s over dinner in Paris the night before Cadel Evans completed last year’s Tour.

Tim, who competed alongside David in the first ever King’s Mountain Bike Classic, and who came third in the Open Male Solo category, worked on the construction of the course, sourcing Dirt Art’s Simon French, who builds courses around Australia and who is a veteran in the Australian mountain bike industry.

‘I thought the inaugural event was a great day because there were around a hundred riders all participating together in a wonderful friendly atmosphere,’ Tim said. The King’s Mountain Bike Classic was held over a 3.4 kilometre course for the race duration of two hours. The event saw Old Boys from the School competing in teams with their sons and brothers, alongside current students, current parents and students from other schools including St Ignatius’ College Riverview and Thomas Hassall Anglican College.

Richard Todhunter (‘78) who was competing alongside his son Ben, said, ‘It’s a challenging course, with a couple of good climbs in there to really get the legs and lungs going.’

Not only did we receive tremendous feedback on the day, but our Facebook feed received some of the following comments.

Well done King’s, an excellent event beautifully run, love your work! Thank you

It was a great day! Well done to all the participants and it was amazing to hear the stories of Jack Haig and Cadel Evans.
NEW LEADERSHIP TEAM 2013
One of the highlights for the end of each year is meeting the student leadership team for the following year. It is customary to have a dinner in the Trophy Room with the OBU committee, the School Monitors and a small group of staff members. It is a relaxed but formal occasion, where this year, following on from Dr Parry’s introductory speech, the attributes of Leadership and the Legacy that the year of 2014 will leave, were discussed.

It was most interesting discussing and contrasting the difference in leadership and responsibility from the mid 1970s to the present day. It is obvious that the School Captain Hugh Taylor and Vice-Captain and Zac Hodge are focussed on the year ahead and have a number of admirable objectives for the coming year. We wish them the very best with their quest and hope that all of the Monitors gain from the leadership opportunity.

COUNTRY FUNCTION
We recently held a country function at the Old Convent at Borenore this time, a Saturday night dinner. This is always an enjoyable function and is supported by Old Boys from the surrounding area, parents of Old Boys and parents interested in educating their sons at King’s. We would like to thank Andrew Green (’77) and Henry Hook (’89) for their assistance in organising this event.

The title of “Headmaster” at King’s, like a US President, seems to be an ever enduring title. It also seems that each era of school leavers associates and identifies with the resident Headmaster during their final school years. We were again delighted to have the continued support from the Headmasters with Canon and Mrs Kurrle and Dr Tim and Jane Hawkes joining us for the occasion. Canon Kurrle, after seeing Peter Mac Smith (’80) in attendance, recounted a humorous incident of a boarding house, late night rendezvous and Tara girls. All of that before grace and in a Convent.

Please join us at a future event if the opportunity arises, or the locating dart lands somewhere on the map near your area of residence.

HARRISFORD
Harrisford, being the original building to house the School in the 1830s, is of historical significance to the School and rates as one of the oldest houses in Parramatta. It was purchased and restored by the Old Boys’ Union in the 1970s and requires constant repair and maintenance.

We are pleased to be able to report that the Union has been successful in its application for a NSW Heritage Grant to assist in the conservation and maintenance of Harrisford House. This dollar for dollar grant will assist in the continual process of upkeep required for such an historical building. It will assist at this time in a major upgrade to the building’s exterior that is showing its age since the last major refurbishment. Substantial architectural plans have been completed and we hope that the changes will add additional functionality to the building. It is envisaged that this grant, together with a substantial contribution from the Union, will restore the building and enable it to be a commercially viable office or rental prospect. As we near the end of the year, on behalf of the Old Boys’ Union Committee we wish you a safe holiday and a Merry Christmas. Please join us for one of the many events and functions that are planned for next year.

Peter Harvey (’75)
TKS OBU President
BACK TO SCHOOL
Rob Hilliard (‘97) will join the teaching ranks at King’s from January 2014 after serving as an Officer in the British Army. The 34 year-old will return to his alma mater as Housemaster of Dalmas House.

Hilliard has a Bachelor of Arts (First Class Honours) from the Australian National University, a Postgraduate Diploma of Education from the University of Canberra and a Master of Philosophy from the University of Cambridge. He has taught History at Canberra Grammar School, Strathallan School, Scotland and at King’s.

Since joining the British Army in 2008 he has undertaken two tours of Afghanistan with the Rifles Regiment, as Platoon Commander and as Captain. For the past 12 months he has been Aide de Camp to the Commandant at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst.

During his time at Cambridge he represented in Cricket and Rugby, receiving Colours in each sport, and has just returned from captaining the British Army Cricket XI Touring Team to India and Nepal.

Meanwhile, as Rob takes up his post in Parramatta, on the eastern seaboard, in Bondi, his younger brother Iain (‘99) has been making waves of his own in the classroom.

The Sydney Morning Herald recently featured the sculpture work of Iain’s Year 3 class, in preparation for Bondi Public School’s Sculpture by the School. The class used more than 50 plastic milk cartons to create a wave and printed messages about recycling an old surfboard, in a bid to teach the youngsters about ocean pollution.

COMING DOWN THE MOUNTAIN
On Sunday, 3 November, I headed over to my alma mater to compete in the King’s MTB Classic. This was my first MTB race in more than two years, but despite my lack of fitness and rusty skills, I just had to give it a go.

Being out on the course brought back many happy memories. It rolled past our old abseiling cliffs, up Pack Drill Hill (no easier than it was in PE) and Hunts Creek, brought back memories of Streamwatch excursions during Science periods. The courteousness of the riders passing me on the course also reminded me that old-fashioned TKS sportsmanship was still very much alive.

Special congratulations must go to those involved in getting the course up and running. I have ridden many MTB racetracks and this one would have to be one of the most free-flowing trails I have ridden in Australia. I will be back for next time.

Michael Leung (‘99)

TAKE A SEAT
Angus Taylor (‘84) has become the latest Old Boy to reach Federal Parliament, after winning the seat of Hume, north of Canberra.

Taylor, born in Nimmitabel in southeast New South Wales, studied honours economics/law at the University of Sydney, winning the University Medal for economics, after attending King’s and then won a Rhodes Scholarship to study a masters in economics.

Since returning to Australia, Taylor has thrown himself into agriculture, an area about which he is passionate, and one he intends to advocate for in Parliament.

“Regional Australia needs a real focus; we need to be heard; we need to make our voice heard ... that’s in the national interest. If we want to give rural areas the focus they deserve, if we want to get regional issues understood, we have to make our case ... regional Australia is now driving the Australian economy in a way it didn’t in the past.”

DOWN THE ROAD
Engineer Lex Stewart (‘68) was a Palmer United Party candidate for the seat of Riverina, which was won by the incumbent, the National’s Michael McCormack.

Giving the four larger parties a legitimate challenge motivated Lex to run for office. He told the Gazette that the proverb, Don’t curse the darkness, light a candle, led him to accept Clive Palmer’s approach to contest the election.

Lex is well remembered for having received a Royal Pardon by the Queen Lex, dressed in full period costume, arrived ashore in his motorised tinny moments before the official party in their rowing boat.

During his time at Cambridge he represented in Cricket and Rugby, receiving Colours in each sport, and has just returned from captaining the British Army Cricket XI Touring Team to India.
Unable to escape the firm grasp of the local constabulary, Lex was momentarily captured, only to be officially pardoned by Her Majesty who asked the New South Wales Premier ‘to be lenient on the lads’, and so he instructed the Police Commissioner that the Police should tender no evidence when Lex and his boat driver appeared in court a few days later.

Reflecting on that event, he said: “The story was front-page news from Auckland to London. It was difficult to penetrate the extensive police security and there was a team of about eight of us. We attended the rehearsal a few days beforehand, asked questions and planned distances and times. I said to the media at the time that my King’s Cadet Corps training helped me organise and perform such a difficult exercise.”

AFGHAN SUN
Former ADF Colonel, Stuart Yeaman (‘85) AM, recently launched his book, Afghan Sun – Defence, Diplomacy, Development and the Taliban, recounting his experience leading his troops in Afghanistan. A Queensland Greens Senate candidate, Yeaman, recounts dangerous missions through Taliban-held territory to help re-build the war-torn country. One reflection included 14 days of extreme danger, trekking 400 kilometres while dodging ambushes and improvised explosive device attacks to repair bombed bridges. Graduated from the Royal Military College, Duntroon, after King’s, as a civil engineer, he is currently employed as a senior project manager at an environment and engineering consultancy firm in South Brisbane.

KOBS RUGBY
Whilst the 2013 season might not be one we’d write about in our History annals, there’s no doubt that the 4th Grade side who came from a third place season finish to narrowly come second in the Grand Final, is to be celebrated. To add to the season were several off-field events, including a Great Gatsby night, perhaps giving reverence to the fact that Gowan Brae is particularly featured in the re-make of the great film!

BACK TO BRITTEN TO CELEBRATE ITS 50TH BIRTHDAY
The connectedness of those who proudly wore the “hot mustard” dating back from 1963 was very evident in a wonderful evening hosted by the current Housemaster of Britten, Susan MacDonald, and her amazingly supportive 2013 Britten parents. The “50 years in Britten Party” saw every decade represented at the function with all House Captains and their Vice Captains invited to the Cocktail Party. Roger Hudson (‘63) and his Vice Captain, Bill McLeod (‘63) although unable to attend, sent wonderful emails and their Britten reminiscences, added to by the “older” team - Phil Crawford (‘71), Michael Horrocks (‘78), John Marshall (‘79), John Afaras (‘81) and Aaron Malouf (‘84) added richly to the evening. A commemorative pin has been struck and if you are an Old Boy of Britten and would like a pin, please email Susan at srm@kings.edu.

Daniel MacDonald (‘99)
OBU Editor

SHARE YOUR NEWS WITH US.
We are always after good news stories. Send them to srm@kings.edu.au
## Births

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Parents</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Galloway ('78)</td>
<td>David William Clapham and Kate</td>
<td>a son Miles William Saxon on 9 April 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hinchcliffe ('87)</td>
<td>Rodney Ian and Michelle</td>
<td>a daughter Olivia Zahra on 12 July 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maple-Brown ('91)</td>
<td>Andrew Robert and Emma</td>
<td>a son Oscar on 17 June 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin ('95)</td>
<td>Charles John and Phoebe</td>
<td>a son Jack Antony John on 12 September 2010 brother to Chloe Georgina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pembroke-Birss ('00)</td>
<td>Jack William and Natasha</td>
<td>a daughter Minnie Nova on 12 July 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong ('00)</td>
<td>Andrew John and Lauren</td>
<td>a son Archer Eric on 20 July 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watson ('98)</td>
<td>Adam Leslie and Alexandra</td>
<td>a son Remy Alexander Knox on 5 July 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wells ('94)</td>
<td>Charles Richard William and Katrina</td>
<td>a son Oliver Mackay on 24 June 2013 brother to Grace and Henry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whittington ('97)</td>
<td>Peter James Keith Oliver and Steph</td>
<td>a daughter Alexandra Sarah on 22 July 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilson ('90)</td>
<td>Monte Bruce and Nivia</td>
<td>a son Lucas Limeira on 19 September 2013 brother to Sophia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young ('97)</td>
<td>Andrew Bruce and Gloria</td>
<td>a daughter Georgia Lee on 11 July 2013 sister to James Bruce born on 27 October 2011</td>
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## Deaths

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Alcorn ('43)</td>
<td>Robert John Macquarie on 1 November 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Archer ('50)</td>
<td>Ian Morison on 20 September 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beattie ('56)</td>
<td>Michael James on 21 June 2013</td>
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<td>Blunt ('43)</td>
<td>Jack Taylor on 18 August 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bownds ('99)</td>
<td>Warwick Richard on 15 June 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capel ('40)</td>
<td>Daniel Lyle Spencer on 29 July 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Davidson ('12)</td>
<td>Charles William Maximilian on 1 September 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edwards ('54)</td>
<td>Clarence James Brindley on 29 June 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finley ('38)</td>
<td>Adrian Geoffrey on 14 October 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gault ('39)</td>
<td>Henry Llewelyn on 28 January 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hammond ('57)</td>
<td>John MacDonald on 26 November 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harley ('72)</td>
<td>Richard James on 18 August 2013</td>
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<td>Heath ('46)</td>
<td>Peter Rodney Noel on 28 August 2013</td>
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<td>Hoare ('50)</td>
<td>Peter Raymond on 13 July 2013</td>
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<td>Liddle ('46)</td>
<td>Eswin Corry Oakley Richards on 15 October 2013</td>
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<td>Macdonald ('32)</td>
<td>Colin Grant on 24 October 2013</td>
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<td>Matthews ('11)</td>
<td>Justin Mark on 11 August 2013</td>
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<td>Maxwell ('90)</td>
<td>Peter Vernon on 8 October 2013</td>
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<td>Moore ('86)</td>
<td>Garth Douglas on 2 November 2013</td>
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<td>Odbert ('81)</td>
<td>John Dennis on 14 July 2013</td>
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<td>Sargent ('60)</td>
<td>David Nicholas on 2 September 2012</td>
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<td>Smithers ('65)</td>
<td>Peter Welsford on 27 July 2013</td>
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<td>Strigess ('57)</td>
<td>Peter Reynolds on 3 November 2013</td>
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<td>Stranger ('82)</td>
<td>Michael Theo on 30 September 2013</td>
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<td>Sutherland ('59)</td>
<td>Hamish Alastair Myline on 3 September 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tillman ('77)</td>
<td>Ross Anthony on 3 October 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wilson ('48)</td>
<td>Reginald Lister Harvey on 23 June 2013</td>
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## Marriages

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Michaelides ('01)</td>
<td>Michael Alexander</td>
<td>To Anna Theodorou on 24 August 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whittaker ('00)</td>
<td>Lachlan Timothy</td>
<td>To Elise Kirkham on 28 September 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ziegelmayer ('02)</td>
<td>Ferdinand</td>
<td>To Carolin Charlotte Femers on 11 May 2013</td>
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## Engagements

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<th>Name</th>
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<th>Event Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Archibald ('01)</td>
<td>Robert Kenneth</td>
<td>To Francesca Cumani</td>
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<tr>
<td>Austin ('03)</td>
<td>James Sidney Avern</td>
<td>To Clair Francis Hull</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown ('98)</td>
<td>Duncan Alexander</td>
<td>To Amie Walker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coats ('04)</td>
<td>Robert Norman</td>
<td>To Emily Robinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leung ('99)</td>
<td>Michael Francis</td>
<td>To Katie Cooper</td>
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<td>McGrath ('07)</td>
<td>Nathan James</td>
<td>To Sophie Browne</td>
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<tr>
<td>McGregor ('96)</td>
<td>Ben Lachlan</td>
<td>To Susana Colmenar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wright ('02)</td>
<td>Nicholas StepheN</td>
<td>To Luisa Scoppa</td>
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