



# THE THISTLE

.....\*  
KNOX GRAMMAR SCHOOL MAGAZINE  
DECEMBER 2015  
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// DECEMBER 2015



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# THE THISTLE

KNOX GRAMMAR SCHOOL MAGAZINE

Knox Grammar School is a leading Australian day and boarding school for boys. Knox, a Uniting Church school from Years K-12, aims to develop, within a caring environment, young men of faith, wisdom, integrity and compassion. Knox opened in 1924 and today offers an outstanding range of educational and development opportunities.

## ON THE FRONT COVER

One of many colourful light displays on the Knox Senior Secondary Academy at the official opening on 23 October 2015.

## KNOX FACEBOOK AND TWITTER

Stay in touch with the latest from Knox via social media. Like us at [www.facebook.com/knoxgrammar](http://www.facebook.com/knoxgrammar) and follow us at [www.twitter.com/knoxgrammar](http://www.twitter.com/knoxgrammar).

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This edition of *The Thistle* was prepared by Janet Naylor, Publications Manager, Knox Grammar School.

Proofreading by David Hayes, photography by Paul Wright, Cybele Malinowski, Scott Cameron, Knox staff, students and parents.

## CONTRIBUTIONS

Deadline for the June 2016 edition of *The Thistle* is 26 April 2016. OKGA contributions to [okga@knox.nsw.edu.au](mailto:okga@knox.nsw.edu.au). General contributions to [publications@knox.nsw.edu.au](mailto:publications@knox.nsw.edu.au).

## PRINT

*The Thistle* is printed by SKS Printing on ISO accredited Neo Matt. Neo Matt is manufactured using wood fibre from sustainable forests and made from elemental chlorine free bleached pulp.



# KNOX IS INNOVATION WRAPPED IN TRADITION

WORDS BY

Mr John Weeks, Headmaster



**At the start of Term 3, it was a great thrill for our Year 11 and 12 students to walk into the Knox Senior Secondary Academy (KSSA) for the first time.**

The KSSA is more than just another building; in the six months since it opened we have seen a massive transformation in the culture and ethic of senior students at Knox.

As I often say, *"Knox is innovation wrapped in tradition"*, and the KSSA is certainly this statement in practice.

The facade of the Academy has been designed in the style of 'Scottish Baronial' architecture but inside the building you will find flexible learning spaces, new technology and passionate, creative teachers dedicated to the boys' academic success.

A key inspiration for the design of the Academy was 'Social Learning Theory'. This concept, developed by Stanford University psychology professor Albert Bandura, says that behaviour is learned from the environment through the process of observational learning. That is, we learn better in groups and architecture has a strong influence on how we learn and behave.

From the day the KSSA opened, it has been heartening to see 'Social Learning Theory' in action. Throughout the day and into the evening,

the Seniors Hall and KSSA Library are packed with boys working individually and in groups, socialising and meeting with teachers.

Over the spring school holidays, the KSSA was also open for boys in Year 12 to use as a place to prepare for the HSC examinations and many boys took up this opportunity.

The opening of the Academy has also aligned with a change in the School structure implemented at the start of 2015. In January, the Senior School was re-structured into three stage-based academies to provide a 21st Century model of leadership, administration and service which best meets the needs of Knox Grammar School now and into the future – the Junior Secondary (Year 7-8), Middle Secondary (Year 9-10) and Senior Secondary (Year 11-12) academies.

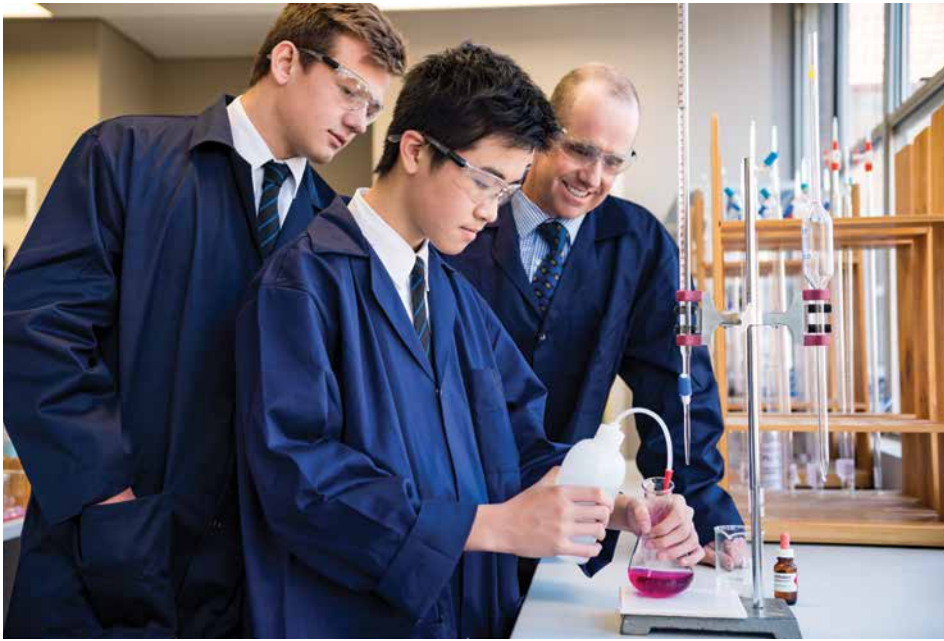
We are acutely aware of the need to ensure that students continue to receive individual care and support into the future; this new structure ensures that each boy can flourish as an individual.

Our journey towards the opening of the KSSA would not have been possible without the generosity of our parents, past parents, Old Boys and wider school community. We are extremely grateful to everyone who has contributed to the KSSA campaign. Thank you.

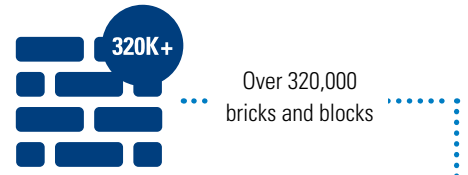


## KSSA AT A GLANCE

- A Seniors Hall for teaching, study and socialising
- The KSSA Library, open until late in the evening for study, with extra support available for students
- Technology-rich classrooms and science labs with movable walls to allow team teaching
- Finance and Legal Studies classrooms, including a corporate-style boardroom
- A 150-seat lecture theatre, with a laboratory bench for science demonstrations
- The Boater Café, serving breakfast, lunch and dinner, with an on-site barista
- An outdoor terrace for recreation



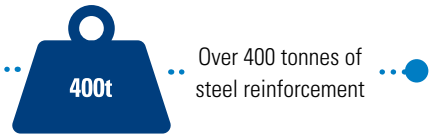
## BY THE NUMBERS



Over 100 different suppliers and subcontractors



Over 232,000 man hrs across both projects



### KSSA PHILOSOPHY

- To allow each boy to grow as an individual and develop a passion for independent learning
- To promote innovative and creative teaching practice by Knox teachers
- To help students develop the determination to build knowledge, master skills and surmount challenges
- To create a culture of academic excellence
- To enable each Year 11 and 12 boy to reach his full academic potential

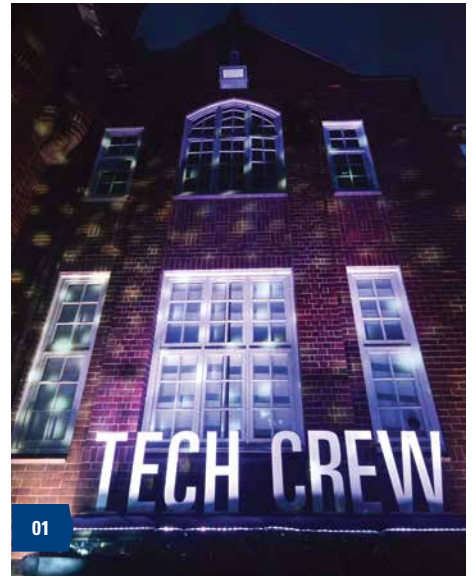




# KNOX ILLUMINATE

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE KNOX SENIOR SECONDARY ACADEMY, 23 OCTOBER 2015





**THANK YOU**

Knox Illuminate was made possible through the support of many individuals and organisations.

Thank you to the Knox Tech Crew, past parent Denis Handlin (for organising Justice Crew) and our many corporate donors including ADCO, Burns and Burns Real Estate, EPM Projects, helloworld Thirroul, helloworld travel Wahroonga, Jones Sontar Architects, Ricoh, SKG Cleaning, Sodexo and Woods Furniture.





05



06

Photos from the evening can be purchased via the online photo gallery. Knox Grammar School has recently partnered with SchoolSnaps to deliver a new secure online technology platform for photographs taken at a range of Knox events and activities. Parents can opt-in to use this service. Access to register for ordering photos from SchoolSnaps is via the Knox Portal – choose the 'Photos' button near the top right.



**VIDEO LINK**

[www.knox.nsw.edu.au/illuminate](http://www.knox.nsw.edu.au/illuminate)



**WEB LINK**

[knoxnet.knox.nsw.edu.au/](http://knoxnet.knox.nsw.edu.au/)



07



- 01 The talented student Tech Crew under the guidance of Mr Ben Caswell, Mr Tobias Ogle (OKG14) and Mr Mark Paterson (OKG14) created the spectacular light and sound display along the main boulevard.
- 02 Mr Adam Sloan explaining the wonders of the Van de Graaff generator, a device for building up large amounts of static electricity.
- 03 Science teacher Mr Michael Hargis with Arthur Pardey (OKG41) in the new Science labs.
- 04 Justice Crew was very popular with the audience
- 05 Battle of the Bands winners, Amish Tech Support
- 06 Ms Erin Nield demonstrating to Flynn Bryant (Y8) and Ewan Bryant (Y7, 2016) a laser to show total internal reflection. This shows how an optic fibre works and how light can "bend" inside a fibre.
- 07 Headmaster Mr John Weeks and Chairman Mr Peter Roach with the Member for Bradford Paul Fletcher MP, who officially opened the Knox Senior Secondary Academy.





# A CULTURE OF GIVING

WORDS BY

Mr Peter Roach (OKG79), Chairman of School Council



**We often say that one of the greatest strengths of the Knox community is its culture of giving.**

As a School, we are indebted to the hundreds of parents and friends of Knox who contribute their time to the School throughout the year.

Through the support of our parent volunteers, this year the Knox Parents' Association raised more than \$100,000, which has been used to buy new resources and equipment for the Prep and Senior boys. This would never have been possible without our parent volunteers who gave up their time to help run events such as Gala Day, Garden Day and the recent Christmas Markets.

The culture of giving at Knox goes right back to its earliest days. In 1923, Sir Robert Gillespie and Andrew Reid provided a deposit of the equivalent of \$200,000 to purchase the current Senior School Campus and School House. Jessie Gillespie provided a donation to build the School Clinic. George Gillespie donated the funds to secure Ewan House in the Great Depression for the equivalent of \$1.3 million. Ernst Williams donated the John Williams Memorial Hall and the McIlraith family donated the school chapel in memory of Old Boys who died in WWII.



In October, it was a thrill for the Knox community to come together to officially open the Knox Senior Secondary Academy. As you will see in this edition of *The Thistle*, the KSSA is a remarkable facility which is revolutionising the teaching and learning for boys in Year 11 and 12.

Facilities such as the KSSA are only possible thanks to the generosity of our school community; the contributions of past parents, parents, Old Boys, staff, corporate sponsors and friends of Knox from the wider School community.

With each family account, parents are asked to give to the Voluntary Building Fund. This regular giving enables the School Council to plan for the future of Knox and refurbish old and outgrown facilities today without large increases to the school fees. Voluntary donations to the Building Fund are tax deductible and I urge parents to seriously consider this form of giving.

Philanthropy is a continuum. The boys at Knox today have access to extraordinary facilities such as the K-2 Centre, the KG1 Building, the Great Hall and Curagul Fields due to the generosity of donors in the past.

Jacqueline O'Brien, a past parent of Knox, puts this well.

**"Giving how and when I can is, for me, a very important part of my on-going connection with my son's school, recognition of the difference it has made to me and my family, and hopefully part of how I can help it to do the same for others."**



Scholarships are also a very important part of how we can give back as a school community. Through the generosity of our donors, each year we are able to offer a program of scholarships which help boys from all walks of life benefit from receiving an education at Knox.

**"Being able get a scholarship at Knox opened up a future for me in Australia. I emigrated from South Africa at the start of Year 6, coming from a different country was a huge step for myself and my family... Through the generosity of Knox, a huge number of doors have been opened for me and my future, and will benefit me for a university degree and achieving my career goals for the future."**

– Garret Badenhorst, Year 12 2015,  
Recipient of the Boarding Scholarship

On behalf of the Knox Grammar School Council, I would like to personally thank every member of the School community for your contributions of time, talents and financial gifts. Your generosity has not only enhanced the tangible aspects of the School, but has contributed to the philanthropic ethos upon which Knox has flourished.

- 01 Pedro Papangelis (Y8) and his father John. The Papangelis family give regularly to Knox including gifts to the Voluntary Building Fund, Knox Senior Secondary Academy and Great Hall and Aquatic Centre.
- 02 Knox staff member Mrs Sue Marchant with her sons Robert (OKG13, left) and Andrew (OKG04). They are recognised on the KSSA Honour Wall along with their father Roger (OKG69) and grandfather John (OKG39) for the family's contribution.



# GENEROSITY

WORDS BY

Ms Athena Rogers, Director of Development

## KNOX SENIOR SECONDARY ACADEMY

On 17 September 2015, Knox Senior Secondary Academy Donors celebrated and experienced firsthand what their investment has achieved for our Year 11 and Year 12 boys.

**“Knox has created this facility so each boy can reach his full academic potential and we thank the donors for making this possible.”**

The School community would like to thank these people for investing in the future of Knox and its boys. Year 11 and 12 now have a facility which caters for their final years of schooling, a facility that can help them transition to a more independent learning practice with learning spaces that promote innovative and creative teaching practices and a culture of academic excellence.



01



02



03

### KNOX YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR SCHOLARSHIP

Knox Grammar School is proud to launch the Knox Young Entrepreneur Scholarship in 2016. It will be directly funded by the Knox Business Directory and donors. Underpinning the School's values is a deep and lasting commitment to our students' future. At Knox, we are committed to a comprehensive range of strategies to create conditions to empower boys to achieve during their time at Knox and in the future. Entrepreneurship is one of those strategies and through the funds raised from the Business Directory and donors, the School has launched the Knox Young Entrepreneur Scholarship.



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WEB LINK

[www.knox.nsw.edu.au/businessdirectory](http://www.knox.nsw.edu.au/businessdirectory)

Contact Ms Athena Rogers ([rogersat@knox.nsw.edu.au](mailto:rogersat@knox.nsw.edu.au)) to find out more about the scholarship



06

- 01 Pipe Band performance
- 02 Stella and John Dennis
- 03 Lindsay Hannan, Warwick Stanwell and Andrew Burns (OKG81)
- 04 Angus Hordern (OKG80) and Arthur Pardey (OKG42)
- 05 Joshua Nairn (Y11), Susan Nairn and Grandparents Lynne and Peter Darnell
- 06 Amanda and Robert MacLean



**Thank you to all our donors**

**GOLD CORPORATE PARTNERS**

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 EPM Projects  
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 Sodexo  
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 helloworld and Roz Martindale

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 helloworld Thirroul  
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 BTF Projects  
 Electrical Design  
 Empire Air Conditioning Services  
 Encore Fire Systems  
 FJ Lambert & Co  
 Gullivers Sport Travel  
 Kisco Painting  
 MDA Australia

**DONOR RECOGNITION**

Tom Antognelli OKG16, Uncle Bruce Roxburgh OKG72  
 Archie Ashford OKG14  
 Mr and Mrs G J Armstrong  
 James Astridge OKG15  
 Nick Astridge OKG18

Aiden Atkinson  
 Mark Avery OKG83  
 Jerson Balaton  
 The Balfour Family  
 J G Barclay OKG14  
 N G Barclay OKG17  
 Nerida and James Bawtree  
 Brad Betty OKG15  
 Austin J Black (OKG14)  
 Hugh Borkman  
 Elliot L Bowen OKG21  
 Nelson C Bowen OKG17  
 Spencer G Bowen OKG11  
 The Bowers Family  
 Chris Brackenrig  
 Nathan Brackenrig  
 Ben Bradshaw  
 Jonathan R Brennan OKG10  
 Alexander JunAn Broadbridge OKG21  
 Matthew Brooke OKG22  
 Calvin Cai  
 Harry Chapman OKG15, Howard Chapman OKG81, Graham Chapman OKG48  
 Toby Chantharasy  
 Aaron Yonglong Chen OKG23  
 Vincent Libo Chen  
 Kevin Chou OKG14  
 William Chung OKG20  
 John F Church  
 The Claridge Family  
 Susan Conde AM  
 Reece Charles Kinsela Condrick OKG16 In Honour of his Father Charles Rodney Russell Kinsela OKG58  
 James Constable OKG20  
 John Constable OKG77  
 Peter Constable OKG88  
 Robert Constable OKG54  
 Thomas Constable OKG19  
 William Constable OKG22  
 Harry Couvret  
 Byron and Annie Cullen

The Cutrone Family  
 The Darnell Family  
 Alan Dear OAM OKG58  
 Christopher Dear OKG61  
 Ian Dear OKG67  
 Alex Denning  
 Hamish Denning  
 Liam Denning  
 Christian Baillie Dennis OKG19  
 John and Stella Dennis  
 Nicholas James Dennis OKG08  
 The Dickson Family  
 Ross James Barton Dinnell OKG59  
 Martin D'Netto  
 Oscar John Dobson OKG17  
 The Druce Family  
 Henry Daunt OKG20  
 The Du Plooy Family  
 James Harrison Dwyer  
 The Edie Family  
 Aaron Erdstein OKG21  
 Frazier A Evans  
 Jake K E Evans  
 Max Evans OKG20  
 The Fisher Family  
 James Fisher OKG20 and Matthew Fisher OKG23 In Honour of David Fisher OKG91  
 Paul Freame  
 Nicholas Frost  
 Brian Fong OKG14  
 Will Gaupset OKG16 In Honour of Greg Gaupset OKG85  
 Lachlan Gee  
 Sam Gibbs OKG16  
 Andrew Gladigau OKG23, Thomas Gladigau OKG17, Paul Gladigau OKG85  
 Dean Gongolidis OKG19  
 Dimitrios and Tina Gongolidis  
 Nicholas Gongolidis OKG16  
 Maximus Gribble OKG20  
 Daniel K Groves OKG22  
 The Gummerson Family

The Haggerty Family  
 Julian Hannan OKG14  
 Lindsay and Ju Hannan  
 Shaun Hannan OKG11  
 Benjamin Hansen OKG17  
 Ethan Hansen OKG20  
 Curtis Harbers OKG13  
 Karl Harbers OKG15  
 Bevan John Keith Harris  
 David J Harvison  
 Jonah W Harvison  
 Oliver J Harvison  
 Jon Heddou  
 Alexander Heintze  
 Luke Henning-Smith  
 Webster Wai-Kin Ho  
 Wilkins Wai-Tak Ho  
 Louis Hollingworth OKG16  
 Angus Hordern OKG80  
 Jack Hoyle  
 Jeremy Huang OKG21  
 Jesse Hughes  
 The Humphrey Family  
 Geoffrey Hung  
 The Hunter Family  
 John Edward Hunter OKG19,  
 John Matthew Fredrick Hunter OKG79, John Moore Hunter OKG46  
 Bryan Inder OKG61  
 Ian Jackman  
 Steven Jarvis OKG17  
 TJ Johnston  
 Harrison Jones OKG08 and Finn Douglas OKG18  
 Aaron Wright Jubb OKG22  
 Max Illing-Kelly  
 Harrison Kemp OKG16 and Timothy Kemp OKG83 In memory of Philip Kemp OKG46  
 Lachlan Kemp OKG15 In Honour of Christopher Kemp OKG82 and Philip Kemp OKG46  
 Kieran Kennedy  
 Xavier Kinchington

Joshua Kindl OKG14  
 Nicholas Kindl OKG16  
 Brandon Charles Kreymborg OKG16  
 Knox Parents' Association  
 Mr and Mrs Ko  
 Eugene Y C Kwan OKG90  
 Nicholas Lake OKG20  
 Joshua Lam OKG16  
 Alexander Landsberry OKG15 In  
 Honour of John Deans, Grandfather  
 OKG46

Michael Landsberry OKG01 In Honour  
 of John Deans, Grandfather OKG46  
 Gavin Lee OKG21 In Honour of Wei Li  
 and Wendy Mao  
 Marcus Lee  
 Robert J Lewis OKG47  
 The Zhu and Li Family  
 Fei Luo and Dan Li  
 Roman Li  
 Winston Lian OKG20  
 Andrew Lin  
 William Liu  
 James Llewellyn Lloyd  
 Oliver Jing Ma OKG2026  
 Flynn F MacGregor  
 Oliver W MacGregor  
 The MacLean Family  
 Sebastian McCaughey OKG20  
 The Malnic Boys  
 John Marchant OKG39  
 Roger Marchant OKG69  
 Andrew Marchant OKG04  
 Robert Marchant OKG13  
 Garth and Margaret Mansfield  
 In Memory of Hamish Martyr  
 from The Class of 2014  
 Nathaniel Keith James Martin  
 David Matthews In Loving Memory  
 of His Father Boyd Matthews  
 Jim Mein AM OKG60  
 Richard Miles OAM OKG39  
 Jordan P Moses  
 Thomas W Moss OKG14  
 Bridin Murnion  
 Joshua Mark Nairn OKG16  
 Liam Nasser OKG15  
 Edward Nathan OKG79  
 Jack Nathan OKG13  
 Sam Nathan OKG17  
 Tom Nathan OKG21  
 The Nethercott Family  
 Oliver John Nicholas OKG12  
 Alastair Nicholls OKG18  
 Cain Nolan OKG18  
 Kevin Nolan OKG14



Jason Yurim Oh OKG16  
 Gregory Onikul  
 A H Osman OKG57  
 The Otto Family  
 Pedro J Papangelis OKG19  
 William Papantoniou  
 Arthur Pardey  
 Ian Pardey  
 Mitchell Pardey  
 The Parsonage Family  
 Nicholas Pearson OKG16  
 Max Zhi Pei  
 Henri Perl OKG15  
 The Pincott Boys  
 Michael Pinn  
 The Plenge Boys  
 Nicholas Pockl-Deen OKG15  
 Ken Powell OKG61  
 Forbes William Pratt  
 The Preketes Family  
 Harry Price OKG17  
 The Rahme Boys  
 Kenneth R Reed AM  
 Lachlan Reeve OKG21 and  
 Matthew Reeve OKG21  
 James Reid  
 Alexander James Roach OKG11  
 Lachlan Peter Roach OKG07  
 Peter and Robyn Roach  
 William David Roach OKG09  
 Henry and Jack Roberts  
 Sydney Robertson  
 Blake Roder OKG23  
 Rodriguez Russell  
 The Ruthven Family  
 The Salucci Family  
 Anthony Sara  
 Jackson Sault  
 Lachlan Seeto OKG18 In Honour  
 of Geoffrey Seeto OKG86 and  
 Mathew Seeto OKG58  
 Christian Sekuloski  
 Wonhyung Seo

Daniel Seto OKG15 In Honour of  
 Barry Seto OKG82 and Michael  
 Seto OKG56  
 The Sharp Boys  
 Edwin YuYuan Shen  
 James Sherwood OKG13  
 Hugh Sherwood OKG15  
 Alexander Nicholas Sky OKG22  
 Lachlan Paul Sky OKG19  
 Nicholas Paul Sky OKG94  
 Nicholas and Margaret Sky  
 Normand Morse Sky OKG28  
 Paul Manning Sky OKG65  
 Max James Cameron Small OKG2025  
 William Oscar Cameron Small OKG23  
 Andrew Smithyman OKG22  
 Stuart Sneyd  
 David Somerville  
 Adam Soonius OKG20  
 Harry Stankovic OKG17  
 James T Stanwell OKG12  
 William T Stanwell OKG14  
 Lachlan T Stanwell OKG16  
 James Stark  
 Samuel Stirling OKG18 In  
 Honour of Guy Stirling OKG83 and  
 Arthur Stirling OKG49  
 The Suleyman Boys  
 Leung Vincent King Sun OKG83  
 Yu Sun OKG19  
 Joshua Sung  
 Karthik W Surendra OKG19  
 J Tan  
 Edward C Tanzil OKG01  
 The Thatcher Family  
 Jack Tomlinson  
 The Uen Family  
 Alexander van Veen OKG15  
 Nicholas van Veen OKG19  
 Kent and Desley Walker  
 Lachlan Walker OKG18  
 Andrew Weeding OKG86 and  
 Oliver Weeding OKG20



Matthew Wedlock OKG17 In  
 Honour of Timothy Wedlock OKG85  
 John and Denise Weeks  
 Mitchell Westhuizen OKG20  
 Daniel G White OKG17  
 Harry H White OKG16  
 Jarleth W White OKG15  
 Lachie L White OKG21  
 Max M White OKG18  
 Rory G White OKG12  
 Warwick G White OKG78  
 Milton Jack Whitmont  
 Brooks C Wilson OKG49  
 Fraser Wilson OKG17 and Campbell  
 Wilson OKG21, In Honour of  
 Grandfather, David Patten Wilson  
 OKG45  
 Henry Wines OKG19  
 The Woodcock Family  
 Alexander Wu  
 Ethan Yan  
 Justin Yan  
 Brian Po-Hsien Yang  
 Ivan Chun-Hsien Yang  
 Kevin Chi-Hsien Yang  
 Nathan Yushen Yang OKG22  
 Richard York OKG88  
 Max Zagorski OKG18

Many anonymous donations have  
 also been made to the campaign.

- 01 Seniors Hall which showcases the Honour Wall
- 02 Jennifer Nasser and Liam Nasser (OKG15)

# SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVENTURES — AT HOME, IN THE OUTBACK AND OVERSEAS

WORDS BY

Mrs Helen Clarke, Head of Wisdom Faith Life Studies

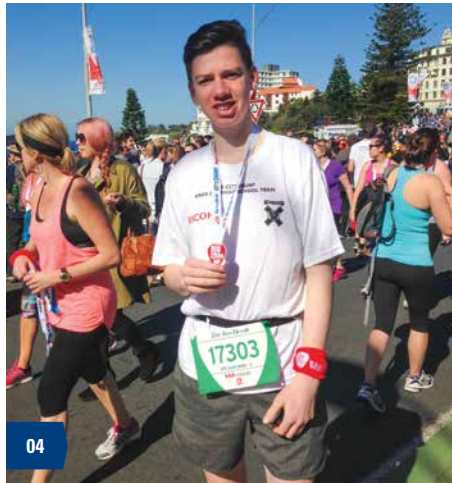


Throughout the year, the Social Justice Portfolio Leadership Team has supported initiatives, such as the Social Justice Stall at Gala Day which raised funds for the natural disasters

in Vanuatu and Nepal and for the ministry of the Rural Chaplain, Julie Greig, who supports drought impacted farmers and isolated children's programs. Over \$2,000 was raised for these appeals.

We continue to work with the local indigenous community of Enngonia in western NSW, alongside Pymble Uniting Church and PLC. Year 10 students taught science in the outback, sporting activities and provided equipment and financial support for the Remote Schools Super Camp; for children from small, isolated schools around Bourke and Nyngan.

The formation of the Social Justice Club this year enables all Senior School students to participate in local, regional and international advocacy initiatives such as support for Legacy Week, the Red Shield Appeal and R U OK? Day and many more.



A new key initiative has been the development of the 'Women Empowering Refugee Women' program where Knox mothers are working with Settlement Services International to support refugee mothers in our community.





06

## KOKODA: IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF HEROES

WORDS BY  
Harry White, Year 11 student

It was an honour to walk the Kokoda Track in the footsteps of the soldiers who fought bravely and nobly for their countries back in 1942 and to experience the terrain they pushed through day after day. The four key values that represent the Australian soldiers and Papua New Guinean 'Fuzzie Wuzzies' are Mateship, Endurance, Courage and Sacrifice. These values were shown by the nine boys, two teachers and porters who embarked on this legendary journey 73 years after the fighting broke out between Australia and Japan in World War II.

Each day we encountered many villages where we had the opportunity to interact with and learn about the culture and history from the local residents. We played endless games of touch footy, AFL and other ball games with the porters and children, and immersed ourselves in the day-to-day routines of the PNG people. Most memorably, we participated in a memorial at the top of Brigade Hill to honour those who fell in World War II. This was especially moving as our porters joined us and sang their national anthem.

Our porters were always willing to lend us a hand and guide us throughout the adventure. It was difficult saying goodbye before leaving



07

on the bus from Owen's Corner back to Port Moresby. The kindness and graciousness of the locals and our porters made the journey unique, personal and very humbling.

Congratulations to the Kokoda 2015 team: Eddie Morris, Dan Riley, Rob Towers, Zac Partridge, Jack Sigler, Rob Sankey, Harry White and Lachie Strang led by Dr Steve Zolezzi and Ms Sophie Wade.



08



- 01 Legacy Day
- 02 Geoffrey Hung (Y12) and Antony Yuen (Y12) collecting for the Red Shield Appeal
- 03 Angus Pratt (Y11) and Lachlan Hemphill (Y11) at the Nyngan Super Camp
- 04 Duncan McMaster (Y10) raising funds for R U OK? as part of the Knox team in the City to Surf
- 05 Helping at ABBOX, Sony Children's Holiday Camp
- 06 We made it - Kokoda
- 07 Jack Sigler (Y10) and Zac Partridge (Y11)
- 08 Navigating one of many creek crossings on the Kokoda Track



## IMMERSION

WORDS BY

Mr Glenn McLachlan, Director of Professional Enhancement

**A feature length documentary film on the 2014 Cambodia Immersion program about the students' experience premiered at Knox in Term 3 this year.**

*Immersion* tracks the liminal journey of a group of Knox and Ravenswood students out of their ordinary lives to the slum communities of Cambodia.

The preparation, organisation and fundraising is challenging but insignificant in comparison to the emotional and physical toll of life in a developing country. The group left Australia as students, arrived in Cambodia as teachers and returned with insight and understanding.

The film is a universal story of courage and everyday heroism of young people supporting communities in need of hope.

The premiere raised \$5,000 in support of our partner NGO, Matesabroad, including the Light of Mercy Foundation, a boarding school for deaf, blind

and disabled students and the school in the slum community of Ark Pi Wat Menchay village.

The Ravenswood and Knox groups visited the school for the first time this year and could see the impact the new educational facility Ark Pi Wat Menchay has had on the community and reflected on their experiences:

*"I think about the trip daily and it has made me focus my goals for my future because I know that my dream field will help kids in developing countries immensely. I lay awake at night thinking about the kids in the community. Are they going to be alright? How can I explain this experience to someone who has never been to Cambodia? I can't. It is just too big of a thing, too many emotions, and too many mental images."*

– Genevieve Blenkin  
(Y11, Ravenswood student)

*"Returning to Sydney, to the cold... I realised just how much our lives differ to those of Cambodians. I feel grateful for the experience, opportunities in my life and for the people I met and became better friends with on the trip. I feel this experience has allowed me to grow and develop as a person, shaping me into the socially just member of society I now consider myself to be. I have a greater sense of compassion toward those in need."*

– Lachlan Stanwell  
(Y11 Knox student)



“The literacy level is the lowest in the Pacific region and it is important to know that we can build an ongoing partnership where we can support the school with resources and support the rebuilding of local infrastructure.”  
 – Adam Goodge, Y10



## VANUATU: A UNITING WORLD AND KNOX PARTNERSHIP

Our partnerships with Uniting World have always been fundamental to the Knox Social Justice program. Vanuatu is a focal area of Uniting World’s relief and development projects. The country is still recovering from the devastation of Cyclone Pam in March this year, with debris of trees upturned and destroyed buildings still visible.

On our arrival in South West Bay Malekula we were greeted by curious and friendly people from the village and welcomed to the school’s hall with flowers, singing and smiling faces. The Year 10 boys from the South West Bay Presbyterian College were our constant companions on the trip. Gradually we understood how hard these boys must work outside of school hours to support their families. All lessons are in English and for most English is their third or fourth language. With national exams set in English, the rigour means few continue onto further education.

We performed a play about the novel *I am David* which was their set text. We were surprised when the whole school became the audience! School life is very different from Australia; students wake up at 5.30am and start reading at 7am with classes from 7.30am until 3.30pm. We were fortunate to share some English quiz games and many games of football and volleyball. We taught the students rugby which was very popular. We even participated in the mourning and funeral of an elderly villager and this reinforced how the communities support each other in times of hardship.

Life is particularly hard for the people of Port Vila; behind the shops and the bustle of the cruise ships, unemployment, poverty and desolation are rife.

The visit to Wan Smol Bag, an NGO which is a theatre group teaching about health, sanitation, and disease, as well as skills and training for homeless youth, was inspiring. Unemployment and poverty impact on Vila as do cuts in overseas aid on the welfare of people of Vanuatu. This Knox partnership seeks to redress some of this

imbalance by our support of the South West Bay School mentoring and English program.

Congratulations to the pioneering team of Year 10 students: Richard Samuel-Gray, Jacob Yang, Rob Batchelor, Matt French, Matt Muir, Harman Sunner, Max Kench, Alex Voinovich, Jack Biggins, Adam Goodge, Mike Meyerhans and Charlie Lorimer led by Mrs Helen Clarke and Mr David Hayes.



**VIDEO LINK**  
[www.knox.nsw.edu.au/vanuatu](http://www.knox.nsw.edu.au/vanuatu)

- 01 Max Kench with his Year 10 buddy from South-West Bay Presbyterian School (SWBPS)
- 02 Alex Voinovich with students from SWBPS
- 03 Harman Sunner teaches traditional Indian dancing to the students of SWBPS bringing much joy to the locals
- 04 Mr John Knox, the Principal of SWBPS, discovers *The Thistle*



# NEXT GENERATION SPORTS UNIFORM

WORDS BY

Mrs Julie Blackburn, Uniform Shop Manager

## TRACK JACKET, PANTS AND SHORTS

The Knox Uniform Shop has launched the new design track jacket, pants and PDHPE shorts. The design was trialled by the Rugby squad on their New Zealand tour in March and was well received.

As well as updating the design to incorporate improved features, it is made from the newly developed technical MicroFlex™ fabric.

Feedback given about the old style was that there was no movement in the fabric and stress to the seams, particularly if worn in high active sports. The sportswear trend is moving towards more fitted garments and fabric with movement. Our supplier took this on board and developed a woven stretch in four directions to cater for vertical and horizontal movement.

The MicroFlex™ fabric maintains the standard of water repellant without a 'gloss' surface finish. The fabric has an increase in weight and handle so the garments sit better when worn and also improve the longevity in the knees on track pants. The new fabric is also resistant to 'pulling' when in contact with rough surfaces.

Whilst changing the fabric, it was decided to update the design integrating improved features; these include:

- Side pockets in shorts and track pants; one side with an invisible zip
- Straight leg style pants with silky lining from the knee down and mesh upwards to prevent dirt from shoes marking the inside lining
- Long zip on inside leg to allow ease of putting on and removing over shoes
- Shorts fractionally shorter to be more adaptable for movement
- Jacket has a hood hidden into the collar and pockets with an invisible zip on one side and with an increased weight in the fabric the jacket becomes more substantial providing warmth
- The jacket even has an inside zip pocket with an eyelet for headphone wires



### JACKETS

Range from \$80-85 in sizes 8Y to 5XL

### TRACK PANTS

Range from \$55-60 in sizes 8Y to 5XL

### PDHPE SHORTS

Range from \$34-40 in sizes 4Y to 5XL

The new track jacket, pants and shorts are now available from the Uniform Shop and online at Flexi-Schools from January 2016.

### UNIFORM SHOP OPENING TIMES

Monday - Friday: 12.30-5.30pm during term time  
Saturday: 9am-12pm (Terms 1 and 4 only)





## THE MICROFLEX FABRIC



MicroFlex™ is a superior performance fabric available in the sportswear market. MicroFlex™ has been engineered to provide maximum stretch in every direction (4 way stretch) allowing for extreme comfort during active movement.

MicroFlex™ is enhanced with the addition of water repellent anti-spill treatment making it ideal for inclement weather or accidental spills.



## TOUR POLO SHIRT, TRAINING T-SHIRT AND SINGLET

Other new items of uniform include:

- Polo shirt for tour groups
- Training t-shirt
- Training singlet

The tour polo shirt and training t-shirt are available to selected groups as advised by the School. The training singlet is for KnoxFit and Senior Weights and Training (SWAT) participants.



- 01 New track jacket, pants and shorts
- 02 Tour polo shirt
- 03 New track jacket
- 04 Training t-shirt and singlet
- 05 Jacket has a hood hidden into the collar
- 06 Jacket has an inside zip pocket with an eyelet for headphone wires
- 07 Pocket with an invisible zip on one side

# CODING AND CREATIVITY GO HAND IN HAND

WORDS BY

Mrs Christine Gray, K-6 ICT Integrator



01

## There is a massive difference between consuming content and being able to create it

Every era demands different skills; teaching coding in schools is a growing trend. The late Steve Jobs of Apple stated, *“Everybody in the country should learn how to program a computer... because it teaches you how to think.”*

In different times and different places, we have taught our children to grow vegetables, build a house, forge a sword or blow a delicate glass, bake bread, create a soufflé, write a story or play cricket.

Technology has transformed education but while students learn how to use it, they rarely learn how it works. At Knox, we understand that teaching children how to code will give them a skill for life. There is a massive difference between consuming content and being able to create it.

Coding and creativity go hand in hand. In K-2 we teach coding like writing a story; without the flow, essence and emotion it has no meaning, they are all just separate actions, but when you code it all together the program knows a beginning, middle and an end. Computer programming languages, when taught well, encourage students to transfer the principles of one language to another.

In K-2 we started with Bee-bots, a child friendly layout which is a perfect starting point for teaching control, directional language and programming to young children. This open-ended resource allowed us to use the Bee-Bots as a tool to enhance learning in Literacy, Science and Numeracy through a multitude of activities.

We are currently in our second phase with Scratch Junior, an App which the boys are really engaged in as they feel their creations grow as their own. This programming language encourages each student to create their own interactive stories, games and animations.

As our boys create with Scratch, they learn to think creatively, work collaboratively and reason systematically. The ability to code is an important part of literacy in today's society. Knox boys are learning important strategies for solving problems, designing projects and communicating ideas; all essential skills for life in the 21st Century.

# COMPASSION IN ACTION PROJECT

WORDS BY

Mr Geordie Barham, Prep School Chaplain

Our Year 5 boys embarked on an exciting initiative to help support existing charitable organisations as part of their ‘Compassion in Action’ project. The aim of each project was to provide a hands-on insight into practically valuing compassion.

The process saw the boys organise themselves into small groups, identify a benevolent organisation they wanted to assist through either raising money, promoting awareness or volunteering some of their time to serve. Each project was implemented during Terms 2 and 3 in the boys’ own time, avoiding an overflow of fundraising within the school whilst promoting ownership of their chosen charity.

The process for the boys involved:

1. Designing a clear plan for how their ‘Compassion in Action’ project would work.
2. Seeking permission from parents and requesting for them to help supervise on the day of implementation.
3. Writing a proposal letter addressed to the chosen charity designed to seek their approval to represent them, either by email or by post.
4. Writing a proposal letter addressed to the council/shopping centre management/governing body of wherever the boys had planned to run their project, to gain approval.
5. Implementation of their projects throughout Terms 2 and 3.
6. Sharing their experiences with all Years 3-6 boys at the ‘Compassion in Action’ Expo Day at the end of Term 3.

As a result, the Year 5 boys supported nearly 40 separate charities and organisations, raising over \$35,000 but most importantly leaving an indelible mark on the lives of countless people and animals. Some of the organisations supported included: Monika’s Doggie Rescue, Clothesline, Heart Foundation, Humpty Dumpty Foundation, McGrath Foundation, World Wildlife Fund, World Vision, Guide Dogs Australia, Royal Flying Doctor Service, St Lucy’s Earn and Learn program, Moeloco, RSPCA and many other organisations.



# COMPASSION IN ACTION EXPO

WORDS BY

Mr Jay Crowhurst, Year 5 Wellbeing Leader



02

On 18 September the Prep Auditorium was converted into an exhibition of social action as the Year 5 boys set up amazing displays of their 'Compassion in Action' efforts. The boys were then treated to a motivating speech from Michael Crossland before sharing their projects with parents and the rest of the school. The focus of spending more time and less money assisting their chosen charities was evident and the boys were very proud of their efforts in helping others.

Michael Crossland is one of Australia's most sought after inspirational speakers and he has defied the odds of sickness to build a life of exceptional achievements. Having being diagnosed with cancer on his first birthday, Michael has fought the symptoms of the illness, the side effects of its treatment, including strokes and a heart attack, to play for the Australian Baseball team, become one of the youngest national sales managers at Westpac and now an ambassador for four charity foundations.



03

Michael delivered an unforgettable speech describing his challenges from a very young age and his determination and resilience to overcome any obstacles that he encountered; everyone was enthralled. Michael's passion touched everyone in the room, no exceptions. His ability to relate his story to the students was amazing and this was evident in their intensive listening and quality questions at the end of the session.



04

- 01 1B students: Avaneesh Siva, Aidan Tai, Jamison Carré and Xavier Combes
- 02 Wyl Parker, Peyton Edwards and Aston Bloom
- 03 Alex Sky and Ted Tresseder
- 04 Mr Mark Hemphill, Head of the Preparatory School, and Matthew Brooke

# A DIGITAL KNOX

WORDS BY

Mr Tobias Ogle (OKG14), Tech Crew Co-ordinator



01

In 2011 a community was born: the Knox Tech Crew, formed under the banner of the Knox Academy of Performing Arts and the Knox Sports Academy. In 2013, Mr Ben Caswell commandeered the crew and has overseen it since. The crew has become a close-knit group of boys who come together weekly to share their love for technology, learn from and lead each other, with a common interest to assist the School in incredible ways. The Tech Crew enjoys the financial and organisational support of the Knox Parents' Association, KSA, KAPA, Knox ICT, Knox Philanthropy and Knox Marketing which has helped to provide the boys with well loved gear.

The Tech Crew's calendar features a few major recurring events for the boys to provide technical support. These projects give the boys the opportunity to experience the behind-the-scenes aspects of large scale events. To work alongside industry professionals such as Bob Wheatley from Stolen Planet Productions, and use professional gear is a bonus. In addition, the crew frequently receives service requests from all areas of the School, primarily for filming (both for archival purposes and event recap videos), photography, live streaming, general AV assistance and promotional material for events such as R U OK? Day and Knox Illuminate.



02

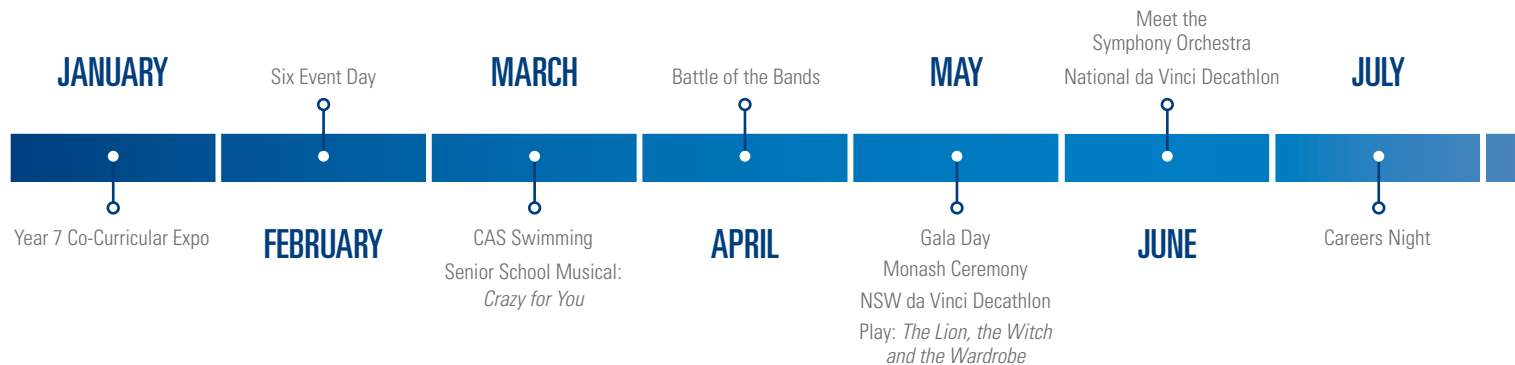


03

Weekly meetings involve skills development, planning, editing, and product demos – most recently in theatrical lighting by Stephen Dallimore and the team from Show Technology Australia.

For Knox Illuminate, the official opening of the Knox Senior Secondary Academy, the crew was allocated a modest budget to develop a sound and light show for the historic Main School Building and the VIP Area. This was a chance for the Tech Crew to investigate, plan, negotiate and direct a major audio-visual event. This process involved working with contractors (including the fantastic team from Resolution X) to design the installation on the night.

## SNAPSHOT OF TECH CREW SUPPORTED EVENTS





## READ THE STORY OF THE KNOX FLIX 2015, SENIOR DIVISION FINALIST (2ND)

### WHAT IF KNOX HAD A SECRET UNDERGROUND INTELLIGENCE AGENCY?

WORDS BY

Alexander Bahramali (Y10), Director and Editor

Once the theme was announced, the team went straight to planning. 'What if...' gave us unlimited creativity, so the hours spent thinking through possible plots and actors quickly multiplied. My fellow teammates, David James (Y10) and Charlie Sargent (Y8) are both members of the Knox Tech Crew, so we have worked on other projects together. Charlie is a reliable individual and a true example how traditional divides such as year groups cease to matter when collaboratively working on a creative project. Mr Henniker was very enthusiastic about the film and at the time when asked Mr Diamond was with him, so who wouldn't try to get two History teachers to feud with one another? The more cameos the better! The filming took about three weeks, scratching out some of our shots and amending the plot along the way. When editing, we decided that nothing was more suited to an action film starring Mr Henniker than an obscure Russian soundtrack! Our final film was greater than any expectations, and it was great to have successfully overcome many obstacles throughout the production and have our work showcased in front of the entire Senior School.



Other creative initiatives include *Knox Flix*, a joint initiative of the Knox Tech Crew and KAPA, which is an annual celebration of the art of filmmaking. The 2015 competition was themed 'What if...?', and Term 3 saw the finalists compete at the KnOscars. Tom Sanderson (Y10) took out first place in the Senior Division with his powerful film *What if daffodils fall?* while Steven Koroknay (Y9) and Flynn Bryant (Y8) claimed victory in the Junior Division with their re-imagining of the classic tale of Richard III, *What if the assassination of the young princes failed?* Hear the story from one of the other entrants in the box to the far right.

Importantly, by investing in the Knox Tech Crew, the School is investing in the futures of the boys, particularly those who seek a career in the media and information industries. We are always looking for opportunities to expand the boys' experience and welcome any industry mentoring or new members.

Please contact Mr Tobias Ogle ([oglet@knox.nsw.edu.au](mailto:oglet@knox.nsw.edu.au)) to find out more.



VIDEO LINK

[www.knox.nsw.edu.au/techcrew](http://www.knox.nsw.edu.au/techcrew)

Watch a collection of the Tech Crew's work

- 01 Knox Pipes and Drums perform to the backdrop of the Tech Crew's Illuminate installation on the Main Boulevard.
- 02 Anton Luger and Cooper Morrison (Y10) work with Mr Bob Wheatley on the audio for the Senior School Musical.
- 03 Lachlan Yelds (Y7) filming the rugby at Gala Day 2015
- 04 The Tech Crew Illuminate Installation
- 05 Year 7 students enjoying being live on the green screen at the 2015 Co-Curricular Expo.
- 06 Alexander Bahramali and David James (Y10) receiving their Knox Flix trophy from Headmaster Mr John Weeks.

Visual Arts Showcase  
Practising Positive Education Conference

SEPTEMBER

Knox Illuminate

NOVEMBER

Years 7-11 Presentation Day  
Christmas Carols Service

AUGUST

Junior Musical: *The Music Man*  
CAS Track and Field  
R U OK? Day

OCTOBER

Play: *The Merchant of Venice*  
KAPA in Concert

DECEMBER

Year 12 Valedictory Ceremony  
Australian Business Week

# SCIENCE FIELD WORK

WORDS BY

Ms Monika Khun, Science teacher and  
Year 12 EES students

Earlier this year, Year 11 Biology and Earth and Environmental Science (EES) classes went to Bantry Bay and Year 12 EES students went to Long Reef and Carroll Creek to complete mandatory field work experiences.

The excursions cover the mandatory field work outcomes from the respective science syllabuses and enable the students to get hands-on experiences in collecting first-hand data with field equipment. A valuable experience, given that the outcomes covered are assessable in the final HSC examinations.

During the day students learnt about the biotic and abiotic factors in an ecosystem and the interactions between humans and the environment. The activities that were carried out included completion of a number of quadrats in different communities, trapping (and release) of local animals, water quality testing, using keys to identify the species present and measurements of a variety of physical factors in the area. We were able to apply theoretical concepts learnt in class to interpret the data collected on the day to describe the inter-relationships within the local area.

This opportunity to apply the concepts learnt in class to a practical situation is beneficial because it enables us to get a greater understanding of what actually happens in our surroundings; something which we do not usually stop to think about. The practical experiences are more readily remembered as one can visualise the day more clearly having carried out the investigation for real rather than on Knox 1 or the School gardens.

The inclement weather conditions did not impact on the enjoyment of the day. We endured extreme conditions at Long Reef and the leech infested slippery rocks at Carroll Creek. Fortunately the separation anxiety from fast food did not deter the enthusiasm during the experiences; the aboriginal carvings and the views made up for that.



Gathering biotic and abiotic data in the field:

- 01 Will Burdon-Smith (Y12)
- 02 Angus Roberts (Y11)
- 03 Jackson Adams (Y11)
- 04 Max Carroll (Y11)



# THE HOUSE IS SITTING

WORDS BY  
Manan Luthra, Year 10 student

In the winter holidays, I found myself in the hallowed halls of the NSW State Parliament yet again as a Youth Parliamentarian.

I represented the electorate of Davidson in the Legislative Assembly as a participant in the YMCA NSW Youth Parliament program. In my second year here, you would expect that I would be an old hand at this, but nothing could have prepared me for the people I'd meet, stories I'd hear and experiences I would have that would shape me into a politically active young person.

The Youth Parliament program is the strongest promoter of apolitical youth advocacy the state has ever seen. From humble beginnings, with 50 participants 13 years ago, the program has since gone on to draft over a dozen bills into New South Wales legislation. For the 2015 program, I joined 124 other participants as a member of the Youth Legislative Assembly. 75 participants went to the Legislative Council.

My own committee, the Infrastructure and Transport Committee, successfully had our bill pass both the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council. It was about Ridesharing services, focusing on standardising the practices of the Uber system with the practices of more conventional taxi industries. We were lucky that this issue had just received some media attention from TV shows like *The Weekly* and *The Project*. On top of the great result of our bill passing both Houses, our committee was also awarded the YMCA Youth Advocacy Shield for Best Committee in the Legislative Assembly. Our hard work researching, debating and collaborating had been rewarded. I think I now understand the struggles our politicians go through in creating their own bills.

In my opinion, the highest points of our time in the Bear Pit were during our Matter of Public Importance (MPI) debates. Essentially, MPIs are a list of topics selected for debate. Over the course of our sitting week, MPI topics ranged from abolishing government selective schools, to investigating the possibility of lowering the voting age to 16, and establishing mental health as a serious issue concerning young people and the community. A particularly noteworthy moment was Jodi McKay, Member for Strathfield, and the main advocate for the lowering of the voting age, acting as the speaker for our debate on this important issue.

A wide array of other influential 'speakers', real members of the Legislative Assembly, took some time out of their schedules to listen to our debates.

**"It was fantastic to see so many people, from all across the state, come together for a week to talk about issues that we are truly passionate about."**

Thomas George (Member for Lismore), John Robertson (Member for Blacktown) and Rosie Batty (Australian of the Year), who chaired our session on family violence, provided us with an invaluable opportunity to make our voice heard, the voice of a younger generation, on pressing issues that our society faces today.

The reception at the end of the first sitting day was another highlight. The Governor of NSW, His Excellency The Honourable David Hurley AC,

graciously invited us to Government House for an evening to celebrate the program, and the work we would be doing to learn about how policy is formulated. The event gave us the chance to take in the stunning views of the coast, reflect on our first day in parliament, and, of course, take some selfies with the Governor. It was very humbling to hear that someone as influential as His Excellency is so interested in what young people have to say!

Youth Parliament 2015 definitely lived up to all expectations. It was fantastic to see so many people, from all across the state, come together for a week to talk about issues that we are truly passionate about. I've said it before and I'll say it again, this program is one of the best things any young person, whether they're political or not, can do. Hear, hear!

I'm now friends with some very bright young people; it will be interesting to see the heights they reach in the next eight to ten years.



# KNOX SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA TOURS CHINA

WORDS BY  
Joshua Cannon, Year 11 student



During the September school holidays, 45 members of the Knox Symphony Orchestra embarked on a world class international performance concert tour of China. Incredible performances with outstanding results, of original professionally graded orchestral works, characterise this amazing opportunity. While public performances were pre-eminent, several school and university exchanges facilitated an international connection between Knox and our hosts.

On this seven concert tour, our orchestra performed in world class concert venues to enthusiastic, capacity audiences. These venues included the Tianjin Concert Hall and the Xi'an Conservatory. However, our first performance was on a rare and special concert platform; the Great Wall of China. This performance was unique to this tour and provided a once in a lifetime opportunity for everyone.

The quality of the music improved with each concert. However, from our first concert in China we were treated like celebrities with members of the orchestra having their photographs taken after performances. This is unlike other tours as we interacted with our audiences. It was evident, through displays of infectious enthusiasm, our audiences thoroughly enjoyed our interpretation of the music and the repertoire we had chosen.

In-between the amazing performances, we saw the iconic sights of each city. The cities we visited included: Beijing, Tianjin, Xi'an, Guilin and Hong Kong. The highlights were:

- Seeing the Great Wall of China
- Eating a traditional duck feast in Beijing
- Bike riding on top of the Xi'an City Wall
- Bullet train ride from Beijing to Xi'an
- Rickshaw ride through Old Beijing
- Visit to the Terracotta Warriors
- Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City
- Cruise on the Li River

This tour also featured six soloists and two chamber ensembles, a String Quartet and Quintet. Frazier Evans played pre-concert music on the Bagpipes while Marcel Lima on Flute and Liam Sherman on Oboe played solo works at the Martial Arts School exchange. The three main soloists on the tour performed solo works with orchestra accompaniment. The soloists were Jason Henery on Double Bass, Timothy de Solom on Violin and Joshua Cannon on Viola.

We engaged in exchanges with the Beijing Experimental School, Guilin University of Arts and Tourism, the Xi'an Martial Arts School and the Guangxi Normal University Music College. These

exchanges established a connection between Knox and our hosts, while offering new insights into traditional Chinese music. During the exchanges we were humbled to receive three model trains designed by the conductor of the orchestra of the Beijing Experimental School, a tea set designed by the President of the Guilin University of Arts and Tourism and a traditional Chinese Tianhu from the Professor of Traditional Chinese Instruments at the Guilin University of Arts and Tourism which will be placed in the new Knox Performing Arts Centre.

A CD is being released of the concert in the Tianjin Concert Hall. It can be purchased from the Knox Academy of Performing Arts office.

- 01 Knox Symphony Orchestra performing on the Great Wall at Juyong Pass
- 02 Old Beijing here we come
- 03 Knox Symphony performing on the concert stage of the Tianjin Concert Hall
- 04 Training tips from the Martial Arts School students
- 05 Final bow at the Guilin University Concert



# THE MUSIC MAN: FROM THE CLARINET CHAIR

WORDS BY  
Miss Jo Carey, Woodwind Tutor and  
First Clarinet in *The Music Man*

The orchestra was small, talented and willing. Keys, reeds, trumpet, trombone, bass and percussion; a close-knit team of staff and students who enjoyed the camaraderie of working together, sharing skills and knowledge and plenty of laughs.

It was delightful to see the personal development of the students in the orchestra and given the importance of their individual parts Eddie Morris, Samuel Charlton and Seyoon Ragavan proved themselves true professionals in rehearsals, personal preparation and focus through every show.

On stage there were 12-14 year old young men and women expressing themselves with a confidence and purpose that I have not seen them do before. This awe grew over both evenings of dress rehearsals and through each show. And from our little pit I could look out into the eyes of friends, family, peers and staff

and see my own delight reflected in every face in the house: I don't think I could stop smiling which had the bonus action of keeping me on pitch.

**"He's a music man and he sells clarinets..." and in Week 8 of Term 3 he certainly sold one to me.**

The life skills in confidence, team work, adjusting to change, commitment to memorising parts, and physical ability through dance, elocution and public presentation are certainly skills that will support these students in many educational, co-curricular and life endeavours.

The hours, days, weeks, months of preparation, care to detail, support and gentle cajoling that goes into creating an event such as this are enormous. Yet over this time there has been nothing but smiles, even when weary, as we all believe in the benefits of what we do for these students and know that the impact



will extend far beyond the final show. Thank you to our production team and parent volunteers.

For now my reeds are working towards other things though I recently saw the scores for our 2016 Knox Musical *On the Town*; my clarinet (and train whistle) will be ready and willing at every rehearsal as we build on the strong developments from *The Music Man* and head towards creating the next spectacular musical production at Knox Grammar School.

01 The cast of *The Music Man* acknowledging the band

# AROUND THE VENUES





# A CULTURE OF LEADERSHIP WITHIN BOARDING

WORDS BY

Mr Brian Sullivan, Head of Boarding



This year, I have been most impressed by the leadership displayed by Head Boarder Garret Badenhorst and Boarding Prefects James Knox and Matthew Giddy; they now pass this important baton onto newly appointed Senior Boarder for 2015/2016 Will West and Boarding Prefects Harry Kemp, Charlie Grellman and Jackson Adams.

Garret leaves Boarding in a wonderful position due to his great leadership and support of his peers and the way he has worked so well with the Boarding staff. I wish to share with you extracts from Garret's impressive farewell speech at the Boarders' Family Dinner.

## BOARDERS PLAY AN INTEGRAL PART WITHIN THE KNOX COMMUNITY

WORDS BY

Garret Badenhorst, Senior Boarder 2015



Over the past six years I have had the opportunity to live with an amazing year group. We started with 11 boarders in Year 7 and have grown to 33 over the past six years. Starting boarding at Knox in Year 7, fresh from South Africa

was one of the scariest and most overwhelming experiences I have ever had to endure. Thankfully I was received into the boarding community with open arms and from day one an effort was made to make me feel at home in the same way every boarder is welcomed, with their wellbeing the focus of staff at all times.

The Year 12 and Year 9 boys have a special connection after going on the Boys to Men camps together as mentors and mentees. These camps offered many lessons and the experiences highlighted potential leaders with each successive camp.

Year 12 boarders have represented Knox at the highest levels of sport:

- Joe Williams and Isaac Ingram played for the 1st XV Rugby while Joe also played in the CAS 1sts and Combined State team
- Jordan Davies and James Knox played in the 1st AFL team who were undefeated
- James Knox and Matt Wesley were in the 1st XI Cricket team
- Troy Dargan played in the SG Ball Cup (rugby league) with Parramatta and also the Holden Cup as well as representing Australia in the Junior Kangaroos tour of Europe

Knox Boarders don't only succeed in the sporting arena. We have enjoyed all of the North Shore school productions that Drew Luland has been in and who could forget the artistic ventures of Jordan Davies with his light boxes of cities around the world.

There was much time, pain, sweat and tears put into the Industrial Tech and D&T projects to get

them completed on time however, the best is yet to be seen in our academic results. The HSC weeks were some of the most intense academically, but each boarder has done themselves, their school and their parents proud; the number on a page does not define who you are.

The constant support of the boarding parents is one of the keystones that sets Knox apart from other schools. The parental support at events such as the Gala Day Boarders Stall, weekend sport or presentation nights and performances is amazing and appreciated. The sacrifices parents make are recognised and inspire the boys to do even better than they thought they could. Support and dedication from the Housemasters and House mums also kept each of us going when we had tough days. The staff team is amazing.

All the experiences and people in Boarding and the wider Knox community mean I am leaving Knox with long-lasting memories.



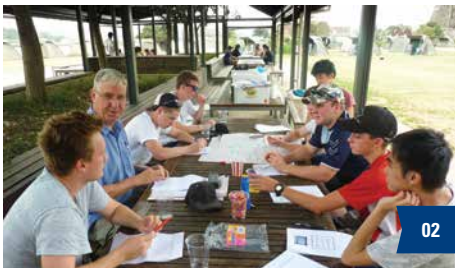
# GIVING BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY

WORDS BY

Mrs Helen Clarke, Head of Wisdom Life Faith Studies



01



02



03

Our flagship Whole of Life programs continue to provide many opportunities for Knox Boarders. These programs aim to develop leadership, independence and social skills with an emphasis on the physical, emotional, academic and spiritual wellbeing of all boys in the Knox Boarding Community.

A particular focus is social justice as we develop the boys' appreciation of issues and disadvantage. Boarders have the opportunity to give back to the community through volunteering activities such as:

- Red Shield Appeal collection
- Legacy Week merchandise sales
- Buddy with St Edmunds students for outings and regular lunch events

At the recent Year 12 Boarders Leadership Camp, students spent a day learning about homelessness, participating in the '\$5 Challenge' and also working at Edward Eagar Lodge Homeless Shelter in Surry Hills. Further, six Stage 6 boarders are delaying their return home for the holidays to serve children with a disability in the Sony Children's Holiday Camp (ABBOX) in December.

01 A group outside Edgar Lodge Surry Hills

02 Rev Peter Robinson discussing the theme of 'Community'

03 CareeringAhead Survey and results session with Mrs Linda Gomez

## KNOWING YOUR STRENGTHS AND CAREER INTERESTS

WORDS BY

Mr Brian Sullivan, Head of Boarding

In supporting and developing our boarders' skills and to help enhance their confidence with future decisions regarding study and career choices, the boys complete the 'Realise2' and 'CareeringAhead' interventions. These outstanding surveys provide each boarder with a better understanding of himself, his strengths and potential career interests.

'Realise2' defines strengths as something you do well (performance), something you feel good doing (energy), and something you do a lot (Linley, Willars, and Biswas-Diener, 2010). It is only when these three are used together can we truly be confident to call it a strength. The research shows us that those who use their strengths are happier, are more confident, have higher self-esteem, have more energy and vitality, experience less stress, are more resilient, and achieve their goals better.

'CareeringAhead' provides the boys with a detailed report that charts their Vocational Interests across three key areas of 'Outdoor, Business and Practical'. This is further broken down into seven different orientations based on 'Conditions, Recognition, Support, Achievement, Relationship, Lifestyle and Independence'. The report goes even further by providing the boys with their graded skills from strongest to weakest in the work place. These skill sets are across 'Things, People, Ideas and Data'. Based on this information the boys are provided several career choices to explore along with university courses and very useful links to review.

# KNOX PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

WORDS BY

Mr Kent Walker (OKG79), President Knox Parents' Association



One of the primary roles of the Knox Parents' Association (KPA) is fundraising. Our major fundraising events for the year are Gala Day, Garden Day and the Christmas Markets. These functions are wonderful community events that bring together all year groups from across the school.

## GALA DAY

Gala Day this year was held on Saturday 2 May. After many years of perfect weather we were probably overdue for a wet and damp day. Despite the constant rain with heavy showers at times, nothing failed to dampen the community spirit that existed between all those that attended and the many Knox parents that volunteered to assist.

## GARDEN DAY

Garden Day this year was held on Friday 4 September in mostly sunshine with Ku-Ring-Gai Avenue, Turramurra, looking amazing with nine beautiful gardens open for inspection. The KPA is extremely grateful to the residents of Ku-Ring-Gai Avenue who so generously opened their houses to the public.

We give special acknowledgement this year to the ladies from the Craft Stall who sold the very last of hundreds and hundreds of handmade Knox Bears. The craft ladies have raised many thousands of dollars for the KPA over the years and devoted endless hours of their time. It was a very emotional end as they packed up their stall for the very last time.

It was a pleasure to involve St Edmunds School and their students in both the music program and market stalls once again.



“The craft ladies have raised many thousands of dollars for the KPA over the years and devoted endless hours of their time. It was a very emotional end as they packed up their stall for the very last time.”



04



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## CHRISTMAS MARKETS

The Christmas markets were held in the Great Hall on Friday 6 November. Over 50 stalls were on display with an assortment of Christmas items for sale; always extremely popular and well received.

## WISH LIST

Funds raised from these three events each year are returned to the School in the form of pledges or equipment for the boys. Teachers and staff submit their 'wish lists' by the beginning of Term 4, with funds being allocated at a special KPA Gift Meeting in October.

A total of just over \$100,000 was handed back to the School in the form of pledges for various items of equipment that will be used by the boys across the school from K-12.

Gifts for the Prep School included the second and final instalment on the large climbing play structure for Years 3 and 4, Drama Blocks, a Pearl Drum Kit, a 3D Printer and Parrot Spider Drones. For the Senior School, gifts included Snare Drums, Lego Mindstorms Robots, Bass Guitar Amplifiers, a Vinyl Cutter, a Welder, GPS Units for Cadets as well as two Wall Projectors and 83 Whiteboards for the Boarding House.

You can be assured that the teachers very much appreciate the efforts of the KPA in being able to support the learning experience of the boys in such a direct manner.

We would like to sincerely thank all the parents of the Knox community who volunteer when the occasion arises. In our busy lives giving up time to support our son's school can be difficult at times. Any support given to the KPA, no matter how small, is always gratefully received. Thank you all.



07

- 01 The start of Term 3 was an exciting time for Year 3 and 4 students with the arrival of the new climbing playground - Class 4B is pictured.
- 02-03 We give special acknowledgement to the ladies from the Craft Group who sold the very last of hundreds and hundreds of handmade Knox Bears.
- 04-06 Shoppers enjoyed a wide selection of gifts and treats at the Knox Christmas Markets.
- 07 Pudding Lane donated 40% of all pre-orders to the Knox Parents' Association. Pudding Lane Director Kevin Stubbs (OKG83, right) is pictured with his nephew, Jeremy Chivas.



# JAMEN PERCY

Jamen Percy (OKG99) recently won the Aurora category in the prestigious Astronomy Photographer of the Year Competition held at the Royal Observatory in London. His image *Silk Skies* taken in Abisko National Park, Lapland, was one of two of his images selected.

A keen artist, Jamen won the Visual Arts Prize on three occasions whilst at Knox and then pursued Graphic Design at Enmore TAFE. He moved into digital advertising where he grew the digital advertising team at M&CSAATCHI before relocating to London. While working at one of the world's most respected advertising agencies, AKQA, Jamen achieved sought after awards in the industry such as D&AD Yellow Pencil and Cyber Lions Gold for his work on Heineken and other global brands.

While in London, Jamen began taking travel photographs as a hobby and that has grown into a passion and now a business. He has many wildlife photography projects on the move, from camera trapping wild jaguars in caves of the Maya Mountains in Central America to coming face to face with families of bear cubs in Finnish forests.

## Q&A

### How/when did you start taking photos?

I began taking photos eight years ago. I needed to use a camera for my new job and I was travelling so much the rest of the time; it was the combination that helped me to take the plunge into a professional camera system.

### What inspired you to take up photography?

Growing up in Sydney I viewed the rest of the natural world through photographs and film. After moving to London I had better access to many of the

places I had seen in books and on TV. To visit them was always a fantasy and after my first adventure, I was hooked.

### What was your first camera?

My first camera was a Canon 40D; a new model at the time. It was a great leap in terms of investment.

### What is your favourite lens and why?

It's hard to pick a favourite lens as they all have their specialised uses. For the Aurora, I use the widest and fastest possible lens, which also has to be extremely sharp and undistorted; the Carl Zeiss 15mm f/2.8 is the superior choice. My other lenses include the all-rounder Canon 24-70mm MKII (my most used lens by far), a Canon f/2.8 70-200mm MKII and now a super wide Canon f/4 11-24mm.

### “Taking photos is a hobby, turned passion, turned business.”

### What is your favourite subject?

My favourite subject is the one I am going to take next. Discovering new environments, weather conditions and behaviours of wildlife keeps any photographer on edge. It's addictive but a fulfilling and challenging world. Researching the next subject is a big part of the journey, you cannot travel to an area and expect the pictures to appear in front of you: you have to research the best season to go, weather conditions, what has already been photographed and what hasn't.

### What is your dream camera?

The most important equipment anyone can ever have in photography is their eye. It's very easy to get carried away with technological advancements!



Most often fancy features distract the artist from creating a simple message conveyed through a single image. Sure there is new exciting technology that can help achieve ideas, but if you are only relying on technology to create the image you will not succeed. There is a story of a famous photographer in New York who went to a dinner party. Upon welcoming the photographer to the table the host said, *'I have seen your photos and they are amazing, you must have a fantastic camera'*. Later on during the meal, the photographer said, *'This dinner tastes delicious, you must have a fantastic kitchen.'*

Header Image:  
*Silk Skies* taken in Abisko National Park, Lapland



#### WEB LINK

[www.aurorachasers.co](http://www.aurorachasers.co)

Visit the link above to see more of Jamen's work



# WESLEY READ



01



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03



04

The Australian Geographic ANZANG Nature Photographer of the Year competition celebrates the natural heritage of the Australia, New Zealand, Antarctica and New Guinea bioregions each year and Year 10 Knox student Wesley Read finished as Runner Up in the Junior Division with *Trichoglossus moluccanus close-up*.

Wesley, a Knox Boarder from Narrabri, explained how he got the close-up photograph of the Rainbow Lorikeet, "On the morning this was taken it had been raining and several pairs were taking shelter on my grandparents' veranda, where they occasionally feed the birds. This allowed me to sneak up on them and get my shot."

The winning photographs went on display at the South Australian Museum.

## Q&A

### How/when did you start taking photos?

I have been interested in photography since around 2008 when I got my first camera for Christmas. I've always been interested in bushwalking and being able to take pictures of what I saw allowed me to capture small moments that often went unnoticed on first inspection. This inspires me to hone my skills.

### What was your first camera?

My first camera was an old point and shoot Canon but I'm not sure exactly what model it was.

### What is your favourite lens and why?

My favourite lens would have to be my Canon 100mm macro as it is well-suited to close-up photography.

### What is your favourite subject?

Birds, reptiles and amphibians are what I prefer to photograph as they pose a challenge and make for interesting subjects.

### What is your dream camera?

For my dream camera I would like to get a Canon 5D Mark III along with the new Canon 100-400mm telephoto lens.

Header Image:

*Trichoglossus moluccanus close up*

- 01 Famous aurora spot: Ersfjordbotn, Troms, Norway
- 02 Jamen Percy (OKG99) setting up to camera trap wild jaguars in caves of the Maya Mountains
- 03 Face to face with a bear cub in a Finnish forest
- 04 Wesley Read (Y10)



# OLD KNOX GRAMMARIANS' ASSOCIATION

KNOX GRAMMAR SCHOOL ALUMNI

The Old Knox Grammarians' Association (OKGA) is a group of over 10,000 registered members, all of whom share the common experience of having attended Knox.

The OKGA is all about staying in touch with those who share that common experience, philosophy and connection. This section of *The Thistle* was prepared by the Old Knox Grammarians' Association.

## IN THIS SECTION

- 36 President's Report
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- 42 News of Old Boys

## STAYING IN TOUCH

The OKGA maintains an online portal for OKGA members, [www.okga.org.au](http://www.okga.org.au)

The OKGA also produces a calendar of events which features events for Old Boys and selected school events. Old Boys who are organising events such as reunions and functions are encouraged to contact the office to ensure they are included in the calendar.

## CONTACT

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

# PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

WORDS BY  
Mark Wilson (OKG80), President



In 2015, the OKGA has continued to focus on its four key objectives with our functions, reunions and events; the scholarships, bursaries and awards; our Benevolence Program; and School support programs. We like to see ourselves as adaptable yet traditional, being aware of what are our members' needs and expectations, what the School needs from its alumni association, and how we work as an integral part of the Knox community.

The use of social media is encouraging more informal gatherings of Old Boy groups, often in smaller groups, which we support. We have seen the results of this with a few year breakfasts, a recent London catch-up, and a couple of Boarder group drinks. Of course, there have still been the more formal functions, including 12 reunions, the Brisbane weekend, thanks to David Stark (OKG62) and the New York dinner, hosted by Nick Minchin (OKG70).

This year's Anzac Memorial Service for the OKGA was held in the Great Hall for the first time, and is always one of the highlights on the OKGA calendar, and being the Centenary year, was a well-supported ceremony. Added to this was the Honouring Service, recently held in November to coincide with Remembrance Day, where the OKGA presented Ceremonial Swords and Bagpipes to the School Cadet Unit and Pipes and Drums Band, in memory of distinguished Old Boy servicemen.

To commemorate this year's Centenary of Gallipoli, a group of Old Boys led by Angus Hordern (OKG 80) produced a documentary titled *For School and Country*, reflecting stories of 12 Old Boys who served during World War II. It is an excellent production, dedicated to the 68 Knox Old Boys who never came home. Not only has the documentary been presented to the School, but at several Old Boy functions including a group in London.

The OKGA continues to proudly support the Most Improved Awards at both the Prep and the Senior Schools. We see this as a way to help acknowledge those at the School who try hard, achieve significant personal goals but do not always get recognised for their efforts.

Our Benevolence Program, Old Boys for Old Boys, continues to evolve and gain support from members. The support has been provided in many ways to several Old Boys this year, but most importantly by Old Boys supporting each other. Based on the feedback provided to the governors and to the committee, we are committed to growing this program.

Our networking and mentoring initiatives continue to develop and expand too, assisting Old Boys of all ages. Additionally, we have worked with the School at two Careers Evenings for boys in years 10, 11 and 12, where our mentors provided guidance about possible future careers in various industries.

And, of course, we continue to support affiliated groups including Rugby, Football, Cricket, Pipes and Drums, and more recently Squash and AFL. The affiliated groups remain a popular way for our recent school leavers to keep in contact with former classmates, and are growing each year.

The OKGA enjoys its involvement as part of the Knox community through its various functions and events, its support of the School, its assistance with Old Boys in need, and its contact with parents of Knox Old Boys. 2016 is sizing up to be an even bigger year!



# SENIOR KNOXONIANS

WORDS BY

Ted Metcalf (OKG55), Senior Knoxonians' President



The Senior Knoxonians is a group of Old Knox Boys distinguished by having completed their schooling 50 years ago or more. We have a committee structure and meet regularly to plan events designed to cater for this particular group. One such occasion was the August lunch which has been reported in more detail elsewhere.

We have a special relationship with the Barker Over 70s which provides an opportunity to continue the long standing rivalry between our schools as part of the annual Barker vs Knox rugby games. This year the final game of the season was held at Barker and Senior Knoxonians were present for lunch in the Barker dining room and later at the game. At the conclusion of the 1st XV game there is the presentation of trophies; one for the winner of the main game and the other for the School which wins the most games on the day across all grades. This year Knox retained both, and in addition took home the CAS Rugby Shield.

The annual Honouring Service in November is attended by Senior Knoxonians and has special significance as men who served their country are generally drawn from the ranks of members.

Planning for 2016 events is under way and we are pleased to welcome a new member to our committee, Warwick Dickson (OKG55).

# OKGA HONOURING SERVICE, FRIDAY 6 NOVEMBER



**In the lead up to Remembrance Day, the OKGA held its Annual OKGA Honouring Service. As usual, it was a very moving service at which the OKGA presented gifts to the School Cadet Unit and Pipes and Drums in honour of Old Boys who have served during times of conflict.**

In the Headmaster's opening remarks, the congregation also took a moment to reflect on the founding headmaster Mr Neil MacNeil MC, for it was 100 years ago that he was recognised for bravery at the Battle of Loos in WWI, with the Military Cross.

This year, the OKGA took the opportunity to honour:

**Cdre Ian M Burnside OBE (OKG42), RAN.**

The OKGA I M Burnside Officer's Sword was presented by his son, John M Burnside (OKG79) to CUO Daniel Taylor, B Company Commander and School Vice-Captain.

**John C Scott-Waine (OKG42), RAN.**

The OKGA JC Scott-Waine Ceremonial Pipes was presented by his daughter, Diana Scott-Waine to Piper Krishna Suresh.

**Peter Williams (OKG43), RAN.**

The OKGA P Williams Ceremonial Pipes were presented by Peter to Piper Thomas Robinson.

**Cyril M Arnold (OKG41), RAF.**

The OKGA CM Arnold Ceremonial Pipes were presented by his daughter, Lynne Wade to Piper Timothy Barrie.

**SqnLdr Ronald W Aitken (Ret'd) (OKG55), RAAF.**

The OKGA RW Aitken Ceremonial Pipes were presented by Ronald to Piper Toby Chantharasy.

After the Service, the congregation enjoyed morning tea on the Chapel Lawn, where Old Boys, guests and boys from the School Cadet Unit, were able to discuss the experiences of those honoured with them, or their relatives, during their wartime service.

01 Miss Diana Scott-Waine, Krishna Suresh (Y10), SqnLdr Ron Aitken (Ret'd)(OKG55), Toby Chantharasy (Y8), Mr Peter Williams (OKG43), Thomas Robinson (Y8)

# SENIOR KNOXONIANS' LADIES LUNCHEON

WORDS BY

Mary Powis, Ravenswood Golden Girl

Fifty years ago it would have been highly improbable. Even 20 years ago it might have been rather unlikely. But fast forward to the present and girls are firmly established as a valued part of the Knox Grammar School Army Cadet Unit.

Today, 134 Ravenswood girls are members of the 820-strong unit and in 2016 this number will rise to 149.

Principal of Ravenswood Vicki Steer speaking at the Senior Knoxonians' lunch on 5 August said that at first she felt a bit dubious and she thought there could have been some scepticism in the school community as both Ravenswood and Knox value their traditions of being single sex schools.

*"It was hard to imagine girls setting foot on the hallowed turf of the Knox oval. Now, six years since the first Ravenswood girls joined the cadet corps, girls are fully integrated,"* said Ms Steer.

The keynote address was given by Knox teacher Ms Mel Valent. Mel has been a teacher of technology, graphics and design for Years 7-12 at Knox for ten years and a member of the Cadet Unit for the last six years.

She said that in Term 3, 2011, Ravenswood girls who were interested in the possibility of joining cadets were invited to attend an OKGA parade at Knox.

Ms Valent said, *"As the boys turned to march off the parade ground the girls broke into spontaneous applause. This unsolicited excitement and honouring of the cadets was a small window into the dedication and enthusiasm the girls would bring to the unit over the coming years."*

At an information evening that followed questions from the girls included:

- *"Do we just march on Fridays?"*
- *"Do we have to wear our hair up?"*
- *"What happens on camp?"*

The annual camp at Singleton is one of the highlights of the year. Mel said that although she had been on several other Knox camps previously the cadet camp in 2011 was her first cadet camp.

*"There were a million and one small problems that had to be solved,"* she said.



*"Think toilets and hygiene, showers, fraternisation policies, night lock supervision, new parade layouts, building a leadership group - to name just a few. The checklists began creeping into my dreams at night. With only one rank and two staff members it was very hectic so we looked for girls to assist in roles like medics, CQMs and corporals to cope with all the jobs it takes to run a company on camp."*

Mel said that a key challenge for all cadets on camp is the walk up Singleton Range to the Comms Tower hill top. She went on to say, *"Girls in E Company did this on day two of their first camp. We were utterly exhausted but instead of the usual marching chants we sang all the way and that kept our spirits up."*

*"Following camp came ceremony season with the Anzac Parade, Dining-In Night and the Passing-Out Parade for Year 12. For the Passing-Out Parade SUO Damien Morris had to yell especially loudly because the parade had become much wider. After the Year 12s left we turned our attention to seeing how we could create a rank structure for E Company."*

*We had girls from Years 9-11 and after their first year they could all apply to be juniors or corporals but we needed sergeants as well. On the four-day promo course we threw the girls into some challenging positions with the aim of seeing how well they could think on their feet and to demonstrate to the boys that the girls were very capable."*



Mel said that four outstanding Year 10 girls, Cassie Boyd, Alex Dickinson, Ashley Upon and Jess Hunter were promoted to the rank of sergeant and in 2013 there were four female sergeants and 12 corporals.

In her third year of cadets, Jess Hunter was Head of Operations, Alex Dickensen was a Company CUO and Ash Upton became a Platoon CUO.

In 2014, E Company became like all the other recruit companies with 100 students, each with a section of 12 girls and the rest boys.

Mel said, *"What had once seemed like a strange and foreign idea of having girls in the cadet unit had finally become the norm. The girls say how cadets has allowed them to grow and they have found strengths they never knew they had. All it takes is the right people believing it can happen."*

01 Lt (AAC) Mel Valent and Ted Metcalf

02 Lt (AAC) Mel Valent and Jess Hunter (Ret'd CUO)



# REUNIONS



## 1950: 65 YEAR REUNION

On Wednesday 5 August, a dozen gentlemen gathered before the Senior Knoxonians' lunch. These men were part of the Class of 1950 and came in to remember 65 years since leaving school. Tales were exchanged, and some friendships re-kindled. To finish, the Old Boys went for a small walk around the Senior School and reminisced about their days of walking through the corridors of Knox.

## 1955: 60 YEAR REUNION

On Friday 12 June, a group of 1955 leavers (mostly) gathered at the Blue Gum to celebrate 60 years since finishing school. It was a great chance to reflect on past times and fond memories. The group re-convened on Saturday at Knox to watch the 1st XV Rugby defeat long-time rivals Waverley. Thank you to Ms Jo Tait (School Archivist) and Mr Ben Caswell (School AV Technician) for setting up a wonderful pictorial history for us.

## 1965 – 50 YEAR REUNION

On 13 June, the Class of 65 met for its 50 Year Reunion. Bill Dockrill was the organiser, with assistance from Alex Koroknay. Some of us convened for the Knox vs Waverley Rugby 1sts on the Main Oval. After the game we were led on a tour of the many new buildings in the grounds. Then we converged on Warrabee Bowling Club for dinner. Around 64 turned up and enjoyed an evening of reminiscing and fellowship. The OKGA produced some videos. Ian Frame (OKG64) was of great assistance in the organisation of the reunion. Bill Dockrill as MC, offered a roving microphone which enabled each of us to share either some recollections of our school years or, in some cases, of significant eventualities. Ian Crane came from the US and many from the country or inter-state. There were many exchanges of addresses and contact details and most seemed to enjoy the night.

## 1970: 45 YEAR REUNION

Saturday 25 July was a very busy day at Knox. As well as the usual winter sporting fixtures, it was the final home game for the season, and saw three Old Boy reunions converge on the School to watch the 1st XV secure the Henry Plume Shield, before checking their old haunts in the senior campus. Thank you to our contemporary, Martin Barkl (OKG73 and Knox Science teacher), for taking us for an extended tour through the unfamiliar territory. We then headed to the Oaks to catch up with old mates and share stories of the good times we had.

**01** Class of 1950 – (L-R) David Patten, Kevin Everitt, Jim Graham, John Meikle, Ted "Harry" Trueman, Blair Ross, Malcolm Hughes, Ross Hornibrook, Gerry Bruce, Bruce Fairlie and Edric Chaffer

**02** Class of 1955 – Front row: Ian Leafe, Barrie Blackwell, Warwick Dickson, Ron Aitken, John Wilson, Bill Cloros, Edwin York  
Rear Row: Ian MacPherson, Leo Tutt, Bill Reeve, Richard Cox, John Garland, Jim Press, Dennis Druce, Ted Metcalf, John Mitchell and Tony Chia

**03** Martin Barkl leads the tour around the School

**04** 1975 leavers (story to follow on page 40)

## 1975: 40 YEAR REUNION

Just under 60 of the boys attended the 1975 Leavers' Reunion celebrating our 40th Anniversary. As is 'traditional', a higher percentage of boarders made the trek into the 'Celebrity Room' at City Tattersall's Club thanks to Rob MacDougall's round-up. Upon arrival, everyone enjoyed the benefit of Stutch's lucky dip, rock and roll sunglasses which assisted in warding off the glare of Brown-eye's paparazzi camera flash. With a "circus-y" atmosphere of popcorn and beer, the night got underway with the usual "g'day mates", "how ya goings" and "who are you"! We raised a glass in honour of those mates who had passed on, but kept formalities to a minimum. If you missed it on the night, The Marx Bros *At the Circus* was quietly playing on the big screen; a nod to the rebellious, occasionally madcap times of our year group, and this looped with the Rolling Stones' *Rock and Roll Circus*; no explanation required! It was great to share a few drinks and nice meal with the core of '75, but slightly tinged with the absence of many, something we hope can be remedied for next time.

## 1985: 30 YEAR REUNION

On 2 May, the Class of 1985 celebrated 30 years since leaving Knox. For the first time for many, we returned to Knox to watch the 1st XV rugby have a solid win against Barker, followed by a school tour, then hopped on the chartered bus to the Greengate Hotel in Killara where an upstairs private function was held.

We had over 80, 1985 Old Boys join us for the afternoon/evening; some had flown in from overseas, and others had driven from interstate and the country to be with fellow class mates.

In some cases it was the first time 1985 leavers had attended a reunion, and for those who had been to past reunions, it was again absolutely fantastic to catch up, share so many stories and learn where life had taken us all 30 years on. Naturally none of us had aged it bit!

For those who had not been back to the School, the changes were incredible, especially with the recent opening of the Senior Secondary Academy.

We look forward to keeping in touch, please contact the School to update your contact details so we make sure everyone doesn't miss celebrating our 35 year reunion in 2020.



## 1990: 25 YEAR REUNION

Some 80 leavers attended the 1990 reunion in July. Many in the group watched a quality performance of the Knox 1st XV defeat a spirited effort by St Aloysius. After clinching victory as CAS premiers, the Knox 1st XV also displayed their choir skills with a heart-felt performance of the School Song in front of a home crowd. After the game, a tour of the school by the 1990 leavers included the Great Hall, many visiting the impressive building for first time.

The day concluded at the Rag and Famish Hotel in North Sydney. The 1990 leavers would like to thank many of the leavers who travelled interstate and from regional NSW which ensured a successful event was enjoyed by all. The group would also like to thank Christian Brook for organising an enjoyable day. If you weren't able to attend the event, please send Christian Brook/Hamish Thomson an email with your updated contact details ([christian@boatbooks-aust.com.au](mailto:christian@boatbooks-aust.com.au), [hamishthomson3@bigpond.com.au](mailto:hamishthomson3@bigpond.com.au)) or join the Facebook group 'Knox Grammar School 1990 Leavers'.

## 1995: 20 YEAR REUNION

20 years, how quickly did that go? The 1995 year group gathered in force with over 100 attending. We started with a few looseners at the Greengate then headed to the School to watch 1st XV match. The new buildings were amazing as we were taken on a post-match tour. Many of the lads could not believe the changes in 20 years. It was then onto the Rag and Famish for a great night of catching up and telling tales. We were all a little older, less hair and carrying a middle-aged spread. Many friendships were re-engaged and all are looking to catching up in 5 years' time.

## 2000: 15 YEAR REUNION

On Friday 16 October, the Class of 2000 held its 15 year reunion at the City Tattersall's Club. Attendance was down on the 10 Year reunion with a significant

number of classmates now plying their various trades overseas from Asia to the UK, the Americas and beyond. Not to be outdone, many of those living offshore organised mini-reunions to mark the occasion. For those who were able to attend in Sydney, the evening presented a great opportunity to catch up on old times and discuss the progress of new ventures, experiences, and, in many cases, additions to growing families. Friendships remain as firm as ever and the next reunion in 2020 promises to bring more good news and reasons to celebrate.

## 2005: 10 YEAR REUNION

About 60 boys from the Class of 2005 enjoyed a great night on Friday 16 October at the Crown Hotel in Surry Hills for our 10 year reunion. It was fantastic to catch up with those who we still see quite regularly, as well as mates who we hadn't seen for many years, some since the day we left school!

A special mention and thank you goes to Mitch Craig and John Stump (who flew from Queensland and Narrabri, respectively) as well as Ian Boal and Bob Scott (who drove from Cootamundra and Wagga Wagga, respectively) and others who travelled from outside of Sydney to be at the reunion.

Thank you also to Ed Martin and Myles Taylor for helping to organise a memorable night. It's a shame that we have to wait another five years to (formally) get everyone together again!

## 2010: 5 YEAR REUNION

This year we celebrated our first reunion. Many have still kept in touch, but it was great to see over 100 fellow Old Boys who we have only seen on social media and catch-up in person. Our thanks to the OKGA for helping arrange this evening and we look forward to our next reunion.



# SPORTING AND CULTURAL GROUPS



## KNOX RUGBY

Knox Old Boys' Rugby had a great season with 4ths, Colts and 1sts all making the finals. 1sts almost won the Grand Final, leading 19-7 at half

time but succumbed, not without a struggle, to the professional Balmain team, 43-29.

Much of our success is due to the leadership of Club Coach Mike Cross, who won the prestigious Suburban Rugby Coach of the Year. Mike was supported by dedicated coaches Mike Kline, Joel Thorpe (OKG96), Robbie Frame (OKG08), Cam Ellis (OKG05), Nick Nilsson (OKG86), Jon Peate (OKG02) and Alasdair Davey (OKG00).

On 9 October, the Club presented Life Memberships to Richard Martyr (OKG78) and David Uttley (OKG81), two men who for almost 20 years played and served magnificently as presidents during the 1980s and 1990s. Marilynn Buchanan, a parent of Knox Old Boys, who has served as Club Secretary for 15 years was also honoured.

Club President Bernie O'Bree and Club Commodore Bryn Robertson (OKG95) presented the Club awards:

- Clubman of the Year – Ian Thompson
- President's Award – Fraser Engelen
- 1st Grade Best and Fairest – Ezra Luxton
- 2nd Grade Best and Fairest – Billy Foster

- 3rd Grade Best and Fairest – Seb Jones
- 4th Grade Best and Fairest – Ravi De Silva
- Colts Best and Fairest – Brendan Flaherty
- Colts Rookie of the Year – Angus Engelen
- Grade Rookie of the Year – Lachlan Scott

Much of the success of the Club is made possible by Old Boys who provided sponsorship: Brendan Bateman (OKG02) of B&M Building, David Bokor (OKG04) of LJ Hooker Pymble, James Hunter (OKG96) of Ord Minnett, Nathan Franks (OKG95) of Enhance Financial, Oliver Sheer (OKG01) of Be Challenged, plus Chester Wong of McCarrolls Toyota and Chris Logan of Wideline – who has supported Knox rugby for over 10 years. The Club is indebted to these men.

The support of Anthony Moore and Tim Holman (OKG08) from Vitality Physios has unquestionably had a tremendous impact on reducing sporting injuries.

Vital to the club's resurgence has been the influx of recent school leavers. With time limitations imposed by university and work commitments, training one night a week enables these boys to continue their rugby.

Importantly Knox Old Boys' Rugby is not just about rugby. Every effort is made to assist boys with jobs and internships, plus we provide one of the best social programs of any sporting club with the support of the Rag & Famish in North Sydney.

To become part of the 2016 season, contact Robbie Frame (OKG08) on 0449 177 899 or Angus Bownes (OKG12) on 0423 593 386 or email [rugby@okga.org.au](mailto:rugby@okga.org.au).

## KNOX RUGBY CLUB LIFE MEMBERS

1. Dave Hartnell 2004
2. Jim Graham 2005
3. Phil Tuck 2006
4. Ian King 2007
5. Jack Shute 2008
6. Ian Frame 2009
7. Grahame Pratt 2010
8. Scott Tunbridge 2011
9. Marilynn Buchanan 2013
10. Richard Martyr 2015
11. David Uttley 2015



## KNOX UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

WORDS BY  
Chris Wiseman (OKG06),  
President Knox United FC

2015 started successfully with the Knox United invitational XI winning the Mallecoota Cup for the second year in succession. Competition kicked off in April and 2015 will go down as a season of extremely mixed results. Three grand final appearances, one semi final appearance, one promotion, one relegation and one runners-up in a league along with several other solid mid-table positions.

Knox United fielded four squads in the Northern Suburbs Football Association (NSFA) competitions; two in Division 2 (Knox Black and Knox Blue), a Division 6 squad and an Over 35s squad in Division 3 of the O35s competition. We had 111 registered

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01 2015 Colts





players. As a club we played in 140 regular season fixtures, recording 60 wins, 18 draws and 62 losses. 283 goals were scored for and 327 against. Knox United teams scored a total of 209 points this year. Congratulations must go to the Knox Black first grade squad who won their league and with it promotion back to the NSFA Premier League. Coach Gui De Souza and Captain David Guthrie (OKG06) should be very proud of their achievements.

This year was the 20th Anniversary of Knox United as a club and to mark this occasion we held a gala dinner at Killara Golf Club on 26 September. On the night, past and present players got together to share collective memories of the last two decades of Knox United Football. We announced a 'Knox United All Star Squad' rewarding those players who have shown the Knox spirit both on and off the pitch. The team is as follows:

- GK: Derek Walker (former Knox teacher)
- LB: Dean Chivas (OKG06), CB: David Guthrie (OKG06), CB: Lachlan Wills (OKG95), RB: Aiden Nuttall (OKG01)
- CDM: Daniel Figgis (OKG94), Matthew Giutronich (OKG00)
- CAM: Nicholas Bozic (OKG08)
- FWDS: Mark MacDonald (OKG93), Simon Giutronich (OKG95), Mark Jennigs (OKG95)
- Bench: Ken Greenhead (former Knox goalkeeping coach), Brad Cole (Knox past parent), Christopher Grainger (OKG98), David Stone (OKG96), Cameron Wills (OKG01)
- Coach: Tim Dyce (Knox past parent)

Lachlan Wills was named the Captain of this prestigious team. Congratulations to all who were selected.

Finally I wish to acknowledge the unwavering support of our sponsors, without who we simply would not exist: OKGA, Irwin Packaging, Tensegrity Sports and Pymble Pub.

It has been a pleasure leading this club for the last 12 months and I am extremely excited about the future. If you are interested in playing next season, please email [football@okga.org.au](mailto:football@okga.org.au).



## OKGA PIPE BAND

In May, the Old Boys' Pipe Band continued its tradition of playing at the Novus Foundation charity dinner. The Novus Foundation

is a collaboration between the Rotary Club of Wahroonga, the San Foundation and the McCarroll Automotive Group. Unfortunately our regular bass drummer, Ian Watts (OKG08), could not be there this year, as he was getting married; nor could his dad, Pipe Major Allan Watts (OKG77). But the band played on, ably led by Charlie Hunter (OKG13).

Throughout the winter, individual members have played at many and varied dinners, weddings, celebrations, funerals and other occasions. In particular, it is quite likely that you heard the skirl of the pipes at the Old Boys' Rugby. The Old Boys' Pipe Band has been proud to supply pipers to strike fear into the hearts of the opponents and lift the spirit of the Old Boys' rugby players.

We are always on the look-out for more members. So, if you have a set of pipes under the bed, or some drum sticks at the bottom of the wardrobe, why not get them out and join us. We practise Sunday afternoons 5-6.30pm and our next major engagement will be at Wahroonga Fair. For more details, contact Allan Watts ([pipeband@okga.org.au](mailto:pipeband@okga.org.au)).

# NEWS OF OLD BOYS

## QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

The OKGA would like to congratulate these Old Boys who were recognised on the June long weekend with Medals and Membership to the Order of Australia.

Samuel Stuart Clark AM (OKG73)

– For significant service to the law, through senior roles with professional legal bodies, to strategic reform, and to the rural fire service.

Stephen Francis Higgs AM (OKG64)

– For significant service to community health through leadership roles with medical research organisations, particularly to juvenile diabetes.

Raymond Lindsay Donald OAM (OKG65)

– For service to local government, and to the community of Nyngan.

Richard Reynolds Miles OAM (OKG39)

– For service to the community, particularly through roles with education organisations.

Alan C Wale OAM (Knox teacher 1970-74)

– For service to the visual arts, and to craft and woodworking associations.

## MATT CANNON OKG07

As a school student, Matt was a CUO in charge of the Medics Platoon. Outside of school, Matt was a volunteer with St John Ambulance Cadets. Since finishing school, Matt has gone on to complete a nursing degree and paramedic training. He has continued volunteering with St John Ambulance and is currently a State Officer.

August saw the XV Pacific Games take place in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea and Matt has been the driving force behind a campaign to help the PNG St John Ambulance service in preparation for these games. He has already moved ½ tonne of medical supplies there, supported by St John Ambulance Australia and Physio-control (manufacturer of Lifepak Defibrillators). Matt was in PNG to assist with the service at the Games and will also assist in training their ambulance officers in advance skills.



## EVAN OLMSTEAD OKG08

For those who made the pilgrimage to the UK for the Rugby World Cup, you may have seen Evan Olmstead, who was selected to play as part of the Canadian Rugby team's 31-man squad. Evan was part of the School's undefeated CAS premiership-winning 1st XV team in 2008 before plying his trade as a 2nd Rower for the Parramatta Two-Blues' 1st Grade side in the Shute Shield competition. After persistent years of hard work and constant travel between Canada and Australia for a number of training camps, Evan made his test debut for Canada against Samoa in Toronto as part of the Pacific Nations Cup.

## ANGUS MARTIN OKG14

Angus was selected in the Australian Under 25 Rifle Team to compete in the Long Range World Championships in Ohio, USA earlier this month. After eight stages of 15 shots at 800yds, 900yds

and 1000yds, Angus finished third in the U21s with 588.55, 2 points and 3 centres behind the U21 World Champion. In the overall rankings, Angus was placed 59th and the best of the Aussie U25 contingent.

## ANDREW CLARK OKG08

Andrew Clark, a graduate of Macquarie University (Bachelor of Arts and Law), has been awarded the highly prestigious Cambridge Australia Erich Narev Scholarship to study for a Masters in postgraduate law at Cambridge University. He will study for a Masters in Corporate Law at Cambridge's Jesus College.

The Cambridge Australia Erich Narev Scholarship is available to residents or graduates of a New South Wales university, to study for a Masters degree at Cambridge. The aim of the scholarship is to foster the candidate's intellectual, ethical and spiritual life to enable them to become effective leaders in the community.

*"It is deeply humbling to have been awarded the Cambridge Australia Erich Narev Scholarship. Not only does this scholarship represent an opportunity to learn from internationally respected academics and practitioners in their field of expertise, it is a unique opportunity to engage with young people from around the globe about our different societies, passions and life experiences,"* said Andrew.

## BIRTHS

Macalistar L Cutler, son of Nicholas (OKG93) and Lou Cutler – 4/10/15

Lucas F Trembath Fuentes, son of Simon (OKG01) and Natalia Trembath – 28/9/15

Arya SD Garcia, son of Adam (OKG91) and Nathalia Garcia

Matilda Gill, daughter of Duncan (OKG97) and Kim Gill – 18/7/15

Oscar Hutchinson, son of Scott (OKG98) and Lisa Hutchinson – 27/7/15

Hugo S Kovacic, son of Felipe Kovacic (OKG95) and Isabelle Piairol – 20/5/15

Ryan Mansukhani, son of Adrian (OKG98) and Stacy Mansukhani – 11/11/15

Charlotte J Petterson, daughter of Stuart (OKG98) and Keiranne Petterson – 2/11/15

Elizabeth G Temisgian, daughter of Jack Temisgian (OKG11) and Katherine Lockman – 3/11/15

Owen Way, son of Michael (OKG93) and Ilse Way – 20/10/15

## MARRIAGES

Clary Castrission OAM (OKG01) and Kavita Desai – 18/10/15

Philip Chu (OKG98) and Elizabeth Yu – 31/10/15

Trent Dowling (OKG95) and Alexandra Tomkins – 26/6/15

Alan Manning (OKG99) and Nicole Drakos – 12/10/15

Alex Montefiore (OKG08) and Stacey Vassallo – 9/7/15

Tim Purcell (OKG77) and Ilona Cipe – 16/10/15

Schalk Van Der Merwe (OKG08) and Emily Read – 17/10/15

Ian Watts (OKG08) and Joanna Lyon – 30/5/15

## DEATHS

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

Edward Gordon "Ted" Carter (OKG38) – 15/6/15

Peter Anthony Charge (OKG58) – 4/8/15

David Parker Craig AO, FAA, FRS (OKG36) – 1/7/15

Kenneth Downes (OKG44) – 13/6/15

Arthur William Hurst Evans (OKG51) – 22/6/15

Andrew James Frost (OKG82) – 6/5/15

Donald James Gordon (OKG69) – 2/8/15

John Harold "Jack" Gregory (OKG37) – 12/8/15

Philip John Grimshaw (OKG47) – 25/5/15

Sir Kenneth Sydney Jacobs KBE (OKG34) – 24/5/15

David "DJ" Jolly (OKG Special Member) – 1/8/15

Richard "Dick" Henry Lamb (OKG68) – 4/11/15

John Joseph Landau (OKG67) – 10/8/15

Graham Awdry Orton (OKG44) – 9/10/15

Colin Robert "Rob" Paterson (OKG57) – 24/6/15

Alan Ruthven Smith (OKG48) – 3/8/15

Peter Blair Royle (OKG71) – 29/6/15

Earnest Alfred "Alf" Vale (OKG46) – 9/4/15

William "Bill" Peter James White (OKG77) – 1/8/15

Milton Jack Whitmont (OKG46) – 16/9/15

Richard George Wright (OKG72) – 24/7/15

01 Old Boys' Pipe Band at the Novus Foundation Dinner

02 Matt Cannon with Mollen, PNG Ambulance Director

03 Evan Olmstead – photo courtesy of Bellmedia, Canada

04 Andrew Clark – photo courtesy of Cambridge Australia



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#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

There has been a Sports and Studies prize at Knox since 1924 when RCR Savage was first recipient. By 1926 the prize was endowed by founder, Mr BC Fuller. In 1936, the prize was endowed by Mrs WH Cary in memory her husband and became known as the Wilfred Hezlet Cary Memorial Prize.