

# GAZETTE

January 2022



THE  
KING'S  
SCHOOL



First VIII Win the AAGPS Head of the River

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*The environment of The King's School is uniquely suited to developing a healthy risk appetite in our students. While much of society has shifted towards being risk averse, with schools and parents increasingly protecting their children from taking any kind of risk, a King's education seeks to embrace risk as essential for a healthy education.*

# Welcome

*From Tony George, Headmaster*

## **Be Safe + Be Kind = Be King's!**

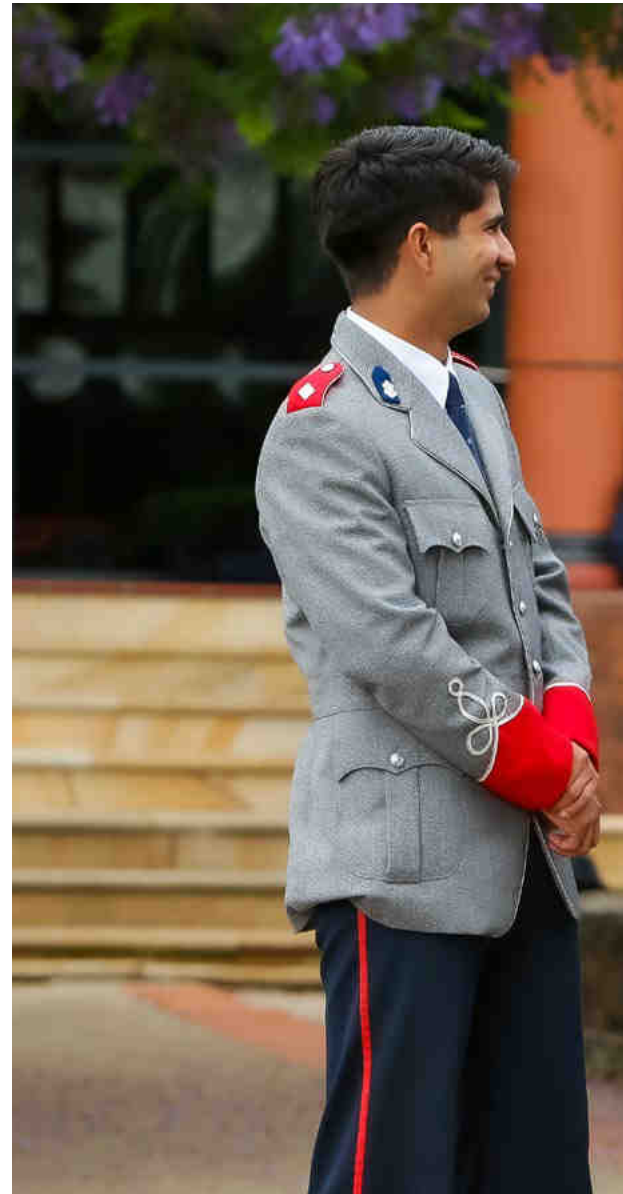
### **The Importance of a Healthy Risk Appetite.**

The King's School has for the last 190 years been committed to the development of graduates who are willing and able to live lives of excellence for the betterment of others. This follows from the School's Christian foundation of producing leaders with a commitment and heart for service.

And while graduates of The King's School have gone on to lead countries, governments, communities, churches and industries, the School's ambition has been for every graduate to lead as and when the opportunity calls upon them to lead. Consequently, the education offered at The King's School is oriented to preparing graduates to be Global Thought Leaders through a unique recipe of Academic Excellence with Character Development in a Christian Community.

The capability and willingness of a King's graduate to step into a situation and step up as required depends on a healthy risk appetite. A healthy risk appetite is one that is neither timid on the one hand, nor reckless or cavalier on the other. While leaders take risks, they need to be calculated and measured, and certainly not foolhardy. The environment of The King's School is uniquely suited to developing a healthy risk appetite in our students. While much of society has shifted towards being risk averse, with schools and parents increasingly protecting their children from taking any kind of risk, a King's education seeks to embrace risk as essential for a healthy education.

It is this commitment to developing a healthy risk appetite that sees a King's education as engaging, adventurous, exciting and demanding. Whether in sport, outdoor education, performing arts, cadets or expeditions, the educational experiences of The King's School are intended to push students to their limits and allow them to fail



safely and well. Knowing and understanding your own limitations is essential for leading oneself, and no one should presume to lead others unless they can first lead themselves. This is what it means to Be King's!

However, a healthy risk appetite is not merely about being adventurous and taking on extraordinary challenges. It is first and foremost grounded in being safe and kind. Being safe is not merely about avoidance, of not doing something – rather, it is about being competent and experienced for taking a risk. For example, jumping out of an aeroplane is foolhardy for someone unqualified and inexperienced, but for a paratrooper who is both trained and qualified, jumping out of an aeroplane requires a commitment to safety. Similarly, a healthy risk appetite is one that ensures the safety of others and takes care of one's mates. Kindness is ensuring that the actions we take are considerate and caring of others, and that those actions help and support others with their challenges and difficulties.



This way of thinking about a healthy risk appetite can be summed up quite nicely by the following equation:

**Be Safe + Be Kind = Be King's!**

Every student I talk to loves the unique opportunities for challenge and adventure on offer at The King's School. Each student is able to find and embrace his own interests and passions, all the while being challenged and supported to grow and develop in leadership. This is what we mean by be King's! But if we are to continue enjoying and benefiting from the unique King's environment of challenge and adventure, then every one of us must ensure that we are both safe and kind.

Being safe means being qualified and experienced to do what we intend to do. While our teachers, coaches and mentors ensure that our students grow in their training and experience, it is still the responsibility of every student to ensure that

they, and others, are safe when engaging in an activity. With 320 acres of adventure in Parramatta and 170 acres in the Southern Highlands, it is not possible to supervise every student every minute of the day. A King's education requires that every student take responsibility for their own safety and the safety of others.

Being kind means caring and supporting those around you, being collaborative and committed to teamwork and collegiality. Leadership depends on being able to motivate, inspire, influence and encourage others. Unkind people lack the ability to genuinely lead, and inevitably resort to coercion and bullying. This kind of behaviour has no place at The King's School, as it contradicts the educational purposes of the School and values of our School community.

Be Safe + Be Kind = Be King's! is an easy equation for all our students to understand and remember. Everyone needs to ensure that we uphold all the elements of this

equation, for any lack of safety or lack of kindness can compromise the School's commitment to providing an educational adventure unlike any other. None of us should take the unique educational offerings of The King's School for granted, and so it is up to every one of us to make sure that we keep upholding a healthy risk appetite in an environment of safety and kindness.

**Fortiter et fideliter: Be Safe + Be Kind = Be King's!**



# Brave and Faithful in a Challenging World

**It was my privilege in December to speak on behalf of the School Council at the Graduation for our wonderful Class of 2021. It was a singular pleasure to extend the Council's congratulations to the graduating class on their achievements and for the resilience they have shown in tough and extraordinary times. The Class of 2021 are unique.**

They have endured two years of disruption while completing their senior studies in a global pandemic. Of course, while their journey has been challenging, the capacity of the boys to weather these storms was never in doubt because we know that King's stands for the strength of character of the students we turn out. I have no doubt that this year's Graduates, like the generations of Kingsmen before them, will go on to make their mark in the world in the service of others.

I am very proud of the way that The King's School responded to the challenges of the COVID pandemic. However, I am also pleased that, despite the disruptions, the Council was also very focused on matters of strategy. The vast majority of initiatives in the first Triennium Plan for 2019-2021 have been achieved. The second Triennium Strategic Plan for 2022 to 2024 is in the final review stages and will be shared with the community early in Term 1 2022.

As the pandemic has continued to impose restrictions on all of us, there has been a tendency to think of a return to what was before, which seems to me to be a lost opportunity. As a school that is focused on producing graduates that are highly regarded internationally for the quality of their education and the strength of their character, we need to be looking forward, rather than looking back to what was. We should look towards progress, to creating a new and brighter future that supports and nurtures others and that is more collaborative, more empathetic, more equitable and more giving. The future requires leaders who embrace our motto, *Fortiter et Fideliter*, and who will truly be brave and faithful, to achieve excellence for others and in the service of others. As a School Council, this is very much at the forefront of our thinking as we tackle the

competing challenges of responding to the COVID pandemic and maintaining our focus on the future.

The Council of The King's School is comprised entirely of volunteers who give freely of their time and expertise. I extend my appreciation to the fourteen other Governors for their dedication to driving transformational change while, as the Bible teaches us in Thessalonians, holding fast to that which is good: to our traditions, our uniqueness and our expertise. I am grateful for the contribution of the Governors and the support they give to this wonderful enterprise.

As we look forward to 2022 it is nonetheless a joyful opportunity to take a moment to reflect on all that has been achieved in 2021, despite the challenges. I am sure that, like me, you will find much to celebrate in the pages of this edition of the *Gazette*.

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**Rosemary Abrahams**  
Chairman | *The Council of The King's School*

## Message from the Chaplain

On October 17, New South Wales reached the milestone of 80% of eligible people fully vaccinated against Covid-19, ending sixteen weeks of lockdown. The relief was palpable for many. It was a more cautious emergence into greater freedoms for others, especially the immunocompromised and those medically unable to be vaccinated.



## Connectedness

Greater freedoms translated into the joy of face-to-face reunions, with their feel-good images and stories making their way into our news cycles. But they also meant greater support from friends and loved ones for those experiencing challenging times and grief.

If there is any life lesson that we've learnt over the last sixteen weeks, it's that relationships matter. Connectedness matters. A quick search of mental health organisations like Beyond Blue and the NSW Mental Health Commission demonstrate how vital connectedness with others is for our physical and mental wellbeing.

From a Christian perspective, it's a conclusion that ought not to surprise us. In the Bible, the unfolding picture of God is a God of relationship. Christians understand God to reveal himself as God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit: three persons all equally God, eternally

related to one another in love, but one being—a tri-unity or, more compactly, the Trinity.

Rather than being doctrinaire, the Christian understanding of God as Trinity tells us that “connectedness” is at the very core of God's nature. And, since he creates humanity in his image, he leaves his imprint on us. We, too, are relational beings. We need others and they need us. We ourselves thrive and others around us thrive in the context of good relationships.

In the Christian faith, we're not just created for relationships with others, we're firstly created for a relationship with God. The reason Jesus is so central to the Christian faith, therefore, is that as fully God and fully human, he alone is able to restore humanity's fractured connection with God that results from wanting to live our lives without him. And for those who embrace faith in

Christ, God establishes a different kind of connection—a family connection—with Jesus' heavenly Father as our Father and each other as sisters and brothers in Christ.

What that means in a Christian church scenario is that members need each other. Everyone matters, and everyone has something valuable to contribute. One person can't say to another, “I don't need you” (1 Corinthians 12:12-23). What it means for King's as a Christian Community is a similar thing: we're at our best when we're connected with God and each other, where everyone matters to God, everyone matters to each other, and everyone has something valuable to contribute.

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Reverend Dr Jason Hobba  
 Director of Christian Community |  
 School Chaplain



# Leadership Through Adversity

*Robert Napoli*  
*School Captain 2022*

When Robert Napoli was commissioned as the Captain of The King's School for 2022, he became only the third Kingsman in the School's history to hold the distinguished positions at both the Preparatory School and Senior School, says School Archivist Jenny Pearce.

Arriving at the Preparatory School in Year 5, Robert launched into his King's journey, immersing himself in as much as he could from the wide range of experiences that the School offered. A talented academic and swimmer, Robert thrived in his first year and was awarded the Young Kingsman Award and the Raymond Crossing Shield in Year 6.

When he arrived at the Senior School in 2017, Robert found an expansive range of learning opportunities that would both enrich and extend him. "The King's School is a very special community which provides a unique learning experience and a wide range of tremendous opportunities for its students," says Robert.

Throughout his senior years, Robert continued to immerse himself, embracing the School's "choose your own adventure" ethos by crafting his own unique King's experience.

When the opportunity to apply for School Captain arose, Robert was motivated to serve the School and its community that had guided and supported him since he started his King's journey in 2015. He is acutely conscious of the honour of being appointed School Captain.

Robert serves as part of the 2022 Executive Monitor Board along with Hugh Robinson (Vice-Captain), Rohan Srivastava (Executive, Academics), Amardeep Gill (Executive, Character) and Angus Williams (Executive, Community). The Executive Monitors, along with an exceptional team of School Monitors, are equally passionate about upholding the School's values and serving the community.

"I hope to continue to empower fellow students to make the most of their King's experience. This involves encouraging every boy to strive to participate in new opportunities, give their best effort in all their endeavours, and to view excellence as an attitude, rather than a result," says Robert.

By the end of their first term in service, the 2022 School Monitors had already organised multiple initiatives with a focus on fundraising and awareness-raising: these included White Ribbon Day, The Great Cycle Challenge and the South Manika School in Bangladesh. The School Monitors were also involved in the King's Community Church Welcome to Australia picnic for Afghanistan refugees who have recently arrived in our country.

Robert says that the vision of the 2022 Monitors is to continue to create a positive student environment that encourages boys to engage in the opportunities presented to them, to be themselves and to maximise their enjoyment during their time at The King's School. The team are especially looking forward to expanding the school's involvement in Service Learning initiatives, where students have the opportunity to serve the wider community and put into practice the School's values, enriching the King's experience for all.

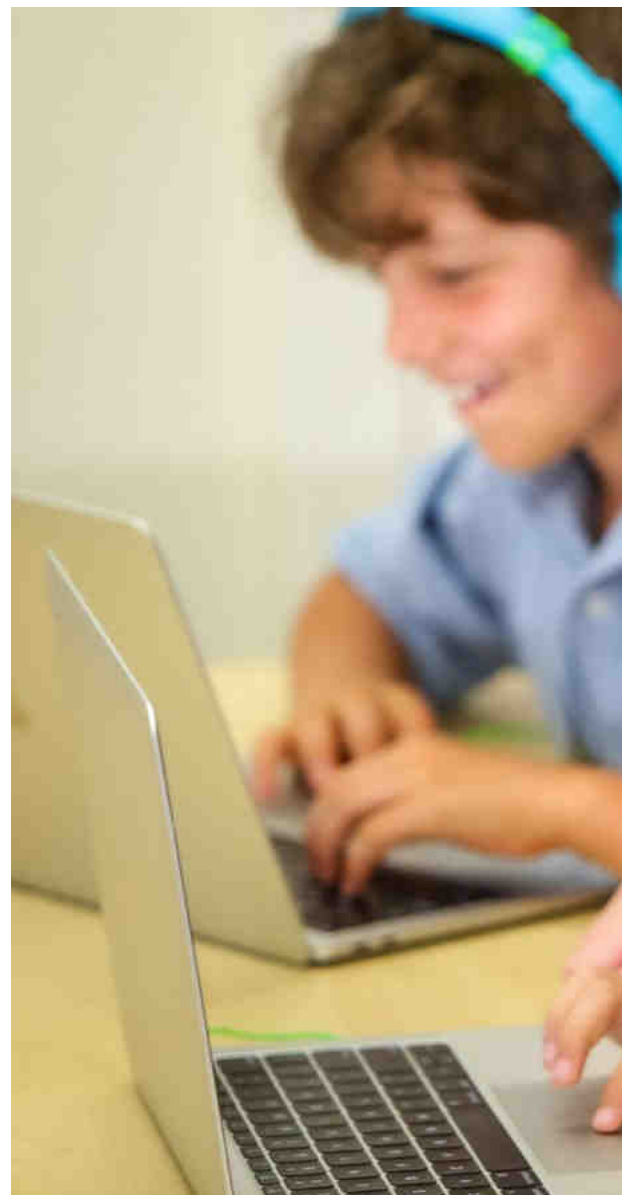
*Staff have noticed students are trusting their own ability to problem-solve and are becoming more confident in their own ideas and bringing their own voice into their work. This nurtured critical thinking is crucial to long-term learning.*

## Learning to be Online

Like all schools in metropolitan Sydney, King's spent all of Term 3 in lockdown and faced the challenges of a sustained period of online learning. Adversity at our doorstep, the School rose to the occasion, finding innovative ways to ensure that the School's commitment to Academic Excellence, Character Development and Christian Community could be maintained and sustained via digital platforms. Our ability to adapt as a School showcased new approaches that, moving forward, will be adapted and incorporated into many facets of the School's operations.

Prep Co-curricular During Lockdown  
<https://vimeo.com/601598422>

Senior Co-curricular During Lockdown  
<https://vimeo.com/601560109>



### Rapid development in the use of technology

There is no substitute for the relational. Through a rapid implementation of Canvas, Teacher Dashboard, and specific functions in Zoom, teachers were able to sustain a commitment to academic excellence through flexible and personalised learning experiences for our students. Resources were consolidated onto one platform, facilitating engaging and collaborative learning in a remote learning environment. Discussion boards allowed students to engage in deep discussion and thoughtful writing on key topics.

Using multiple platforms to inform their feedback and subsequent discussions with the class, teachers and students found the ease of screen-sharing and immediate, recorded teacher feedback very effective.

Subject-specific tools such as MathsBase, which uses artificial intelligence and requires students to show their problem-solving techniques, have also given teachers greater



capacity to oversee more granular levels of performance. This enabled teachers to monitor progress and render assistance more effectively.

Moving forward, we expect to see more teachers in classrooms taking a question or exercise that an individual student needs help with and projecting it onto a whiteboard to involve the whole class in problem solving.

“Online learning has demonstrated that this can be a much more efficient teaching method; chances are, there are five other boys struggling with the same question,” Steve Owen, Maths Teacher and Director of Wellbeing at The King’s School says.

### Students trusting their own ability

An unexpected and positive by-product of distance learning has been the boys’ increased comfort levels when confronting things that they do not understand.

Rather than perceiving their teacher as the fount of all knowledge and themselves as passive receivers of information, we have seen a shift as students have embraced instances of autonomous learning. Instead of saying “I don’t get it”, boys are asking “what do I already know that could help me understand this?” or “what question do I need to ask to better understand this?”

Students, and parents as well, are seeing teachers more as facilitators of learning. Staff have noticed students are trusting their own ability to problem-solve and are becoming more confident in their own ideas and bringing their own voice into their work. This nurtured critical thinking is crucial to long term learning.

### Learning without technology

At the Prep School, the goal was to ensure that students woke up each morning knowing that they were seen, known, challenged and cared for by the King’s community.

This involved connecting students each morning with classmates and then their teacher while delivering a series of real and engaging learning experiences. These were injected with fun and physical activity so that students were mentally challenged, nurturing holistic development and supporting individual wellbeing.

Despite the extraordinary demands of juggling work and supervising the learning of their children, parents played an active role in partnering with the School to keep their child focused during the school day, and then to escape from screens when it was time to reset their minds and bodies.

“During distance learning we saw the boys learning to ask questions and advocate for themselves as learners. It is not uncommon for boys to raise their hand in a Zoom meeting, to clarify concepts and to seek feedback on the work that they have already done. It was really pleasing to see the boys showing that initiative throughout Zoom sessions” – Todd Clarke, Year 5 Teacher and Thomas Housemaster

In the Senior School, it was a different ball game for the students. From Year 7, boys can ordinarily have up to six teachers over six periods each day. Maintaining momentum and engagement was made all the more difficult in the online environment.

By Week 3 of Term 3, the Senior School had implemented a modified framework for the timetable. Recognising that the traditional method of “synchronous learning”, involving timetabled Zoom lessons across the full five-day school week, was a strenuous and fatiguing method of learning for students and staff, King’s introduced a modified timetable combining both “synchronous” and “asynchronous” lessons across the week. Students were given a Zoom-free day, referred to as a self-paced Asynchronous Learning Day. The day broke up the week, giving the students alternative and less intense lessons and activities that did not require the use of technology.

## Service-learning boosted spirits

During asynchronous days, boys were encouraged to engage in service learning or co-curricular activities from 1.00pm. Restricted to service within their household during lockdown, boys were asked to give back to their families in different ways. Our dedicated staff made ‘how to’ videos for MasterChef Challenges in which up to 300 boys cooked for their families. The range and complexity of dishes created was amazing!

This was followed by the King’s Better Homes and Gardens Challenges in which the boys faced off for the trophy for best home helper, doing everything from cleaning bathrooms to ploughing paddocks, washing the car and refurbishing furniture.

On the last asynchronous Wednesday, boys were asked to complete chores of their choice. This time they were paid, and the money earned was donated by the families to purchase supplies for lunch packs for primary school children within ten kilometres of our Parramatta campus, who come to school hungry and without any lunch packed. Over \$4,000 was raised in 24 hours. King’s boys who live on campus, and/or were doing their online learning on campus, packed 860 lunch packs. On that same day 200 packs went to a single school nearby. It was an eye-opening and moving experience to realise that we can make a real difference in the lives of others.

The Service-Learning Program was brought about in the Senior School in Term 3 to nurture empathy in our boys as future leaders, and to show that service in the community which has a long-lasting impact

does as much for those receiving the service as it does for those doing the serving.

We look forward to extending the service-learning initiatives next year, in partnership with organisations such as St Vincent de Paul and Anglicare.

At the Prep School, we also saw our younger boys participating in activities that both serviced their families and boosted morale at home. With challenges such as the Home Hero Challenge, students were encouraged to help out at home or learn a new chore, with the incentive of gaining points for their House! Each week over 100 students participated, doing a commendable job cooking, washing dishes, raking the yard and much more. Along with being a great service to their families, the weekly challenges were a great diversion from excess screen time.

## Strong relationships

It was heart-warming to see a strong theme emerge in student and parent surveys throughout Term 3 lockdown, showing that relationships at home had improved in general: over 80% of students surveyed felt more connected with their parents.

The community was also able to come together through Lockdown Entertainment initiatives delivered to families via KingsNet. The QQQQ weekly trivia, otherwise known as Quarantine Quashing Quizzical Quiz, run via Zoom by Director of Community Engagement, Mike Symons, had families dialling in from all three campuses, including future families and Old Boys. The sense of community was palpable, as was the competitive spirit – we don’t take our trivia lightly!

Running the circumference of Australia was another community competition that had us all aiming for the same goal. Named the TKS Maximum Kilometres Challenge, students, parents, siblings and staff worked together to cover 26,314.66km in total, over 3,800 community entries. It was an incredible moment of achievement shared by many.

## Parent seminars

With a need to also support parents through the many months of lockdown and the consequent challenges being faced at home, the School offered a number of online parent seminars. The seminars aimed to support students and parents in their distance learning, as well as to take the opportunity to provide parents with the confidence to engage with the learning processes of their children.

For our Senior parents, three seminars were provided via the Zoom platform:

- 1 The Dean of Digital Learning, Mr Roshan De Silva, led seminars on how to navigate the School’s learning management system, “Canvas”
- 2 The Director of Wellbeing, Mr Steve Owen, and Housemasters provided workshops on how parents could help their sons academically during distance learning
- 3 Dr Dean Dudley, the Director of The King’s School Institute, presented seminars to help parents better understand the learning process

For our primary parents, the Prep School introduced King’s Prep Parenting, a seven-part video series that focused on nurturing the self-care of our parents while they supported their children through distance learning. Led by Psychologist and Prep School Counsellor, Dr David Hegarty, each episode provided techniques and guidance that all parents could relate to.

## Virtual tours and information sessions

Virtual school tours and information sessions, another by-product of lockdown, have proven very popular, especially with families in rural and regional areas who travel several hours to attend on-campus events. Virtual tours and online information sessions have also allowed families overseas to learn about the School in an interactive way, asking questions directly to our experienced staff. While there is no substitute for experiencing all that King’s has to offer by visiting the campuses, virtual tours and online information sessions will become a regular additional element of our annual engagement program for future families.

There is no denying that distance learning in 2021 was tough on students, staff and parents alike. It validated the importance of face-to-face connections to strike that trademark King’s balance between academics and character development. But a crisis should never be wasted. In true King’s fashion, we adapted and took the opportunity to learn. We have reimaged our programs for digital delivery and will continue to use this knowledge to reshape the way we teach in future.



# A Lesson in Hope and Forgiveness

## *i4Give Day*

On a warm summer evening on Saturday 1 February 2020, a single moment ending in tragedy tested the strength of our Christian community on an unimaginable scale.

A family of children who set out on a walk to buy ice cream heartbreakingly never made it to their destination. The children had little hope as an intoxicated driver mounted the footpath, striking them in his reckless haste.

Four children lost their lives, with three others seriously injured. Children from our school, our community and our safe place.

The following Sunday morning, with only two hours' notice, over 400 community members gathered at the Tara Anglican School for Girls Chapel to pray and grieve the loss of Antony, Angelina and Sienna

Abdallah, and their cousin Veronique Sakr. People of all ages and nationalities stood together in prayer, finding a source of unexpected strength.

Leila Abdallah, mother of Antony, Angelina and Sienna led the community with her bravery and deep faith. Despite her immense personal agony, Leila found strength within her faith to show forgiveness rather than resentment. Her profound public statement after the accident inspired many in our community to search their hearts for forgiveness and the ability to forgive.

It was amid this devastating tragedy that we were reminded of the true meaning of faith within our community through the Christian values of hope and forgiveness.

Today, The King's School continues to support the Abdallah family on their mission of forgiveness.

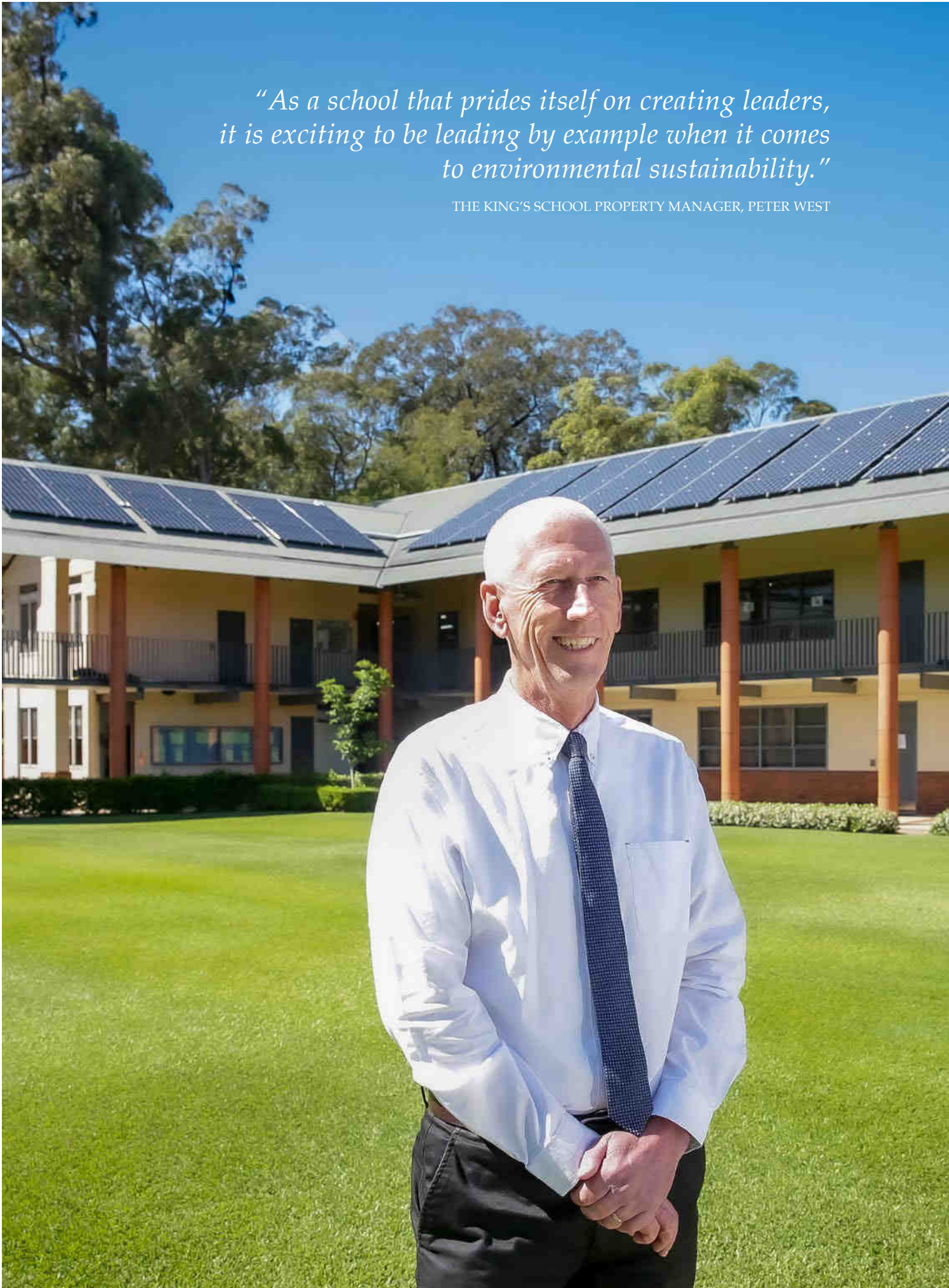
Leila and Danny Abdallah have now established the i4Give Foundation in memory of the four children and as a way to support others who have faced a similar tragedy. Through this Foundation, they have also launched i4Give Day - a nationally recognised day every first of February, which encourages the community to reflect and commit to forgiveness by handing over such burdens to one's faith.

"There is no good that can come from carrying anger, bitterness and resentment because it affects our ability to move on and limits our ability to find hope and joy," said Leila Abdallah.

On 1 February 2021 our community gathered once more at the Memorial Chapel – this time for a remembrance service and special tree-planting ceremony. The new tree symbolises the deep loss to the King's community, while also forever reminding us to find strength through forgiveness.

*“As a school that prides itself on creating leaders, it is exciting to be leading by example when it comes to environmental sustainability.”*

THE KING'S SCHOOL PROPERTY MANAGER, PETER WEST





# Sustainability

Building a better future is a responsibility we all share.

While our Prime Minister committed the nation to a low emissions future, King's ramped up its own sustainability initiatives with an aspirational target of achieving carbon neutrality by the School's 2031 bicentenary.

An additional 168kW of solar panels are being installed on campus this year, bringing our total on-site solar capability up to 565kW, and our carbon emissions down by approximately 520 tonnes per year.

More than 5,000 light bulbs have been replaced with energy-efficient LEDs and there is an ongoing program to upgrade lighting across all campuses to generate further emission reductions.

Plans are already underway to boost the School's efforts next year, commencing with a learning assignment, spearheaded by the Student Sustainability Committee, to calculate the School's carbon footprint across all sites. This will include assessing how much carbon the 10,000+ established trees on our campuses are offsetting.

When the current power purchase agreement expires in December 2022, the School intend to purchase 100% of its electricity from renewable generation sources.

King's will also introduce real-time monitoring of electricity and solar savings and is investigating the concept of a wind farm at Futter Park.

## Waterworks

Water conservation remains a key priority in the School's sustainability agenda. Water storage capacity will need to double in order to irrigate sporting fields and maintain grounds from water harvesting. Throughout the year the School invested in additional water storage capacity, dredging dams and undertaking civil engineering design and planning to increase stormwater harvesting.

## Our invertebrate army

Worms have become an increasingly important weapon in the war on waste, particularly food waste from the Dining Hall. King's is the proud owners of roughly two million *Ensenia Foteida*, more commonly known as tiger worms, that happily munch their way through the 750 kilograms of food waste produced on average each week, converting it into nutrient-rich soil conditioner. These ingenious little critters are housed in the composting compound, established on the land behind the Doyle Grounds, where tree branches are mulched and used extensively around the property. The next step is to find a scalable solution to enable all green waste to be effectively repurposed into reusable compost.

Meanwhile, the School's general waste contractor has committed that nothing collected from the Parramatta campus goes to land fill - 90 per cent is recycled and the rest is used to create an alternative fuel source (PEF) which is EPA-approved and avoids the use of fossil fuels.

*“Energy usage is one of our highest carbon-emitting activities and one of the largest consumable expenses, with air-conditioning accounting for roughly 60%. The additional on-site solar and LED replacement program has reduced our carbon emissions, as well as reducing our annual power bill by around \$130,000.”*

# A New Era in Science at King's

**Kings' students have an incredible opportunity to take part in science experiments right at the edge of current thinking, thanks to our new Head of Science, Professor Peter Wilson, and our state-of-the-art Science Centre.**

Professor Peter Wilson, King's Head of Science, is undertaking fascinating research into the nature of 'dark matter' and is bringing his decades-long expertise to the school for the benefit of the boys and the whole school community.

Professor Wilson's career began in Dunedin his native New Zealand. He has held many different roles over time, including stints as a teacher at Otago Girls' High School and in Japan working as a Physics professor at the University of Tsukuba, where he started courses taught in English to attract international students. Professor Wilson was also Dean of the University of Tasmania and Director of Special Projects at Southern Cross University in Lismore.

In the 1980s, Professor Wilson went to Antarctica six times to study why the fish there don't freeze, even though they should, given the water temperature is sub-zero. "We would drill through the ice and catch 100-kilogram pound fish that synthesise antifreeze proteins," he explains.

More recently, Professor Wilson has worked alongside particle physicists at State University of New York at Albany on the nucleation of super-cooled water. The team published a paper that shows the neutron that can cause the nucleation of super-cooled water, which led to his winning the Gordon and Betty Moore award from the American Physical Society. Professor Wilson will visit Albany this January as part of his prize.

"We will work to design a long-term experiment to go down into mines in the search for dark matter. Nobody really knows what dark matter is but it's out there, and we think particles of dark matter hit the earth from various angles from space. But we don't know quite what energy level to look for or how to find them. Our idea is to use a volume of super-cooled water, because the neutrons that can cause nucleation are a good analogue for dark matter."

The kilometre-deep Stawell gold mine in Victoria is part of the experiment. The team will set up a physics lab there to undertake super-cooled water experiments.

More recently, Professor Wilson has been awarded a grant to explore whether ocean spray can seed ice crystals in clouds.



*"The King's School is the only secondary school in Australia to have a physical-containment Level Two lab for doing microbiology experiments"*



## Back to School

Professor Wilson is also continuing the work of The Future Project from the King's Science Centre, which houses eighteen sophisticated labs that involve industry partners such as the University of NSW, scientists from which are on-site carrying out experiments. The King's School is the only secondary school in Australia to have a physical-containment Level Two lab for doing microbiology experiments.

"The boys can get involved in their experiments and also take part in projects, workshops and internships," Professor Wilson explains. As an example, one group of researchers was recently able to create kangaroo meat in a petri dish from stem cells, the first time this had been done.

"We are also working with UNSW on experiments to determine the best way to look for life on Mars; the boys will be involved in these experiments. We're also working with the university on the design of the next Mars Rover Robot," he says.

Aside from his experimental work, Professor Wilson is also teaching junior Science and senior Physics classes. He says King's students are fortunate to have such outstanding science facilities.

"I encourage the boys to take advantage of the facilities as much as they can, learn as much as they can and get involved as much as they can," he says.

# All Welcome at the King's Women's Network



There are lots of opportunities for women connected with the School to be involved and stay involved long after their children graduate.



The King's Women's Network (KWN) empowers women and connects them with the school community. It came about after Dr Jen George talked with several mothers of students who were graduating from Year 12. They were sad their boys were leaving and their own time at and connection with the school was at an end.

"They had invested up to thirteen years into King's during the week and on weekends, and had made great friends, so we wanted to establish a network of women who feel connected to the school on an ongoing basis," she says.

With her background in community governance, Dr George founded the King's Women's Network to provide a space for women to connect and have an ongoing purpose in the school community and the community beyond. "It's a non-hierarchical organisation and everyone volunteers their time. It's up to individual members how much they would like to be involved," she says.

The committee comprises representatives from all areas within the School, including mothers of boarders and day boys, staff and partners of staff, as well as mothers and partners of alumni.

"The Kings Women's Network completes our community. The King's School is a vast community of staff, parents, boys and, with Tudor House now co-ed, girls as well. It's important to remember the important role women play in choosing our school for their children. The King's Women's Network is a way to connect and encourage women in our community," explains Rosemary Abrahams, Chairman of the Council of The King's School.

## Opportunities for all

The King's Women's Network is involved in and organises many different events throughout the year, the pinnacle of which is the Mother's Day Fun Run. It has also partnered with King's Community Church to run a Pink Chapel Service. This year the Fun Run and Service raised \$5,000 for cancer awareness. Last year, King's Women's Network members who are also part of the prayer group got together to harvest lavender growing on school grounds to make 210 lavender posies given to Year 12 mums. Other events include a pop-up café, a showcase for a regional mum who's an up-and-coming jeweller, and the acquisition of an important piece of Indigenous art.

In 2021, the King's Women's Network organised a breakfast for 200 to celebrate International Women's Day, and it is likely this will become an annual event. The King's Women's Network were also behind a book drive for a school on the NSW South Coast. They organised King's families and the library to collect up-to-date textbooks to send to the School.

Dr George says that the book drive was a good example of how King's Women's Network members can be as involved as much or as little as they like in events. While one group of women packed books, another mum looked after coffees, some baked home goodies, and others organised the ute deliveries. Someone else drove the ute. "It's a chance to pause and get together and do something meaningful. It's not just about getting together for a cuppa, although that's definitely part of it."

The King's Women's Network loves to welcome new members. Go to KingsNet to find out more.

<https://kingsnet.kings.edu.au>



# The Preparatory School

Throughout 2021, Prep School students participated in a huge range of activities that support our three pillars: Academic Excellence, Character Development and Christian Community. Despite lockdowns, students and their families took part in an extensive and comprehensive program of events, from camps, to band visits, to trivia nights.

## Pillar 1: Encouraging Academic Excellence

### PYP Exhibition supports a more peaceful, just society

This year, the Primary Years Program (PYP) Exhibition gave Year 6 students the opportunity to explore real-world issues about which they are passionate.

The Exhibition allows students to take control of how and what they learn. "It gives boys a sense of independence as they develop research, thinking, social, self-management and communication skills," says Deputy Head of Academics, Shannon O'Dwyer.

Over eight weeks, the boys took part in a virtual event, which investigated the central theme: As individuals and as a collective, we have the power to create a more peaceful, just society. Animal cruelty, global warming, deforestation and disease control were some of the topics they investigated. Each group conducted primary and secondary research, documented their process, collaborated with their group members and their mentor, before presenting their findings.

Since The King's School registered as an International Baccalaureate (IB) global school in 2008, the Exhibition has reinforced our commitment to the global network of schools that offer the IB. Students and educators from eight countries interact with and provide feedback on the event's findings, providing a unique learning opportunity.

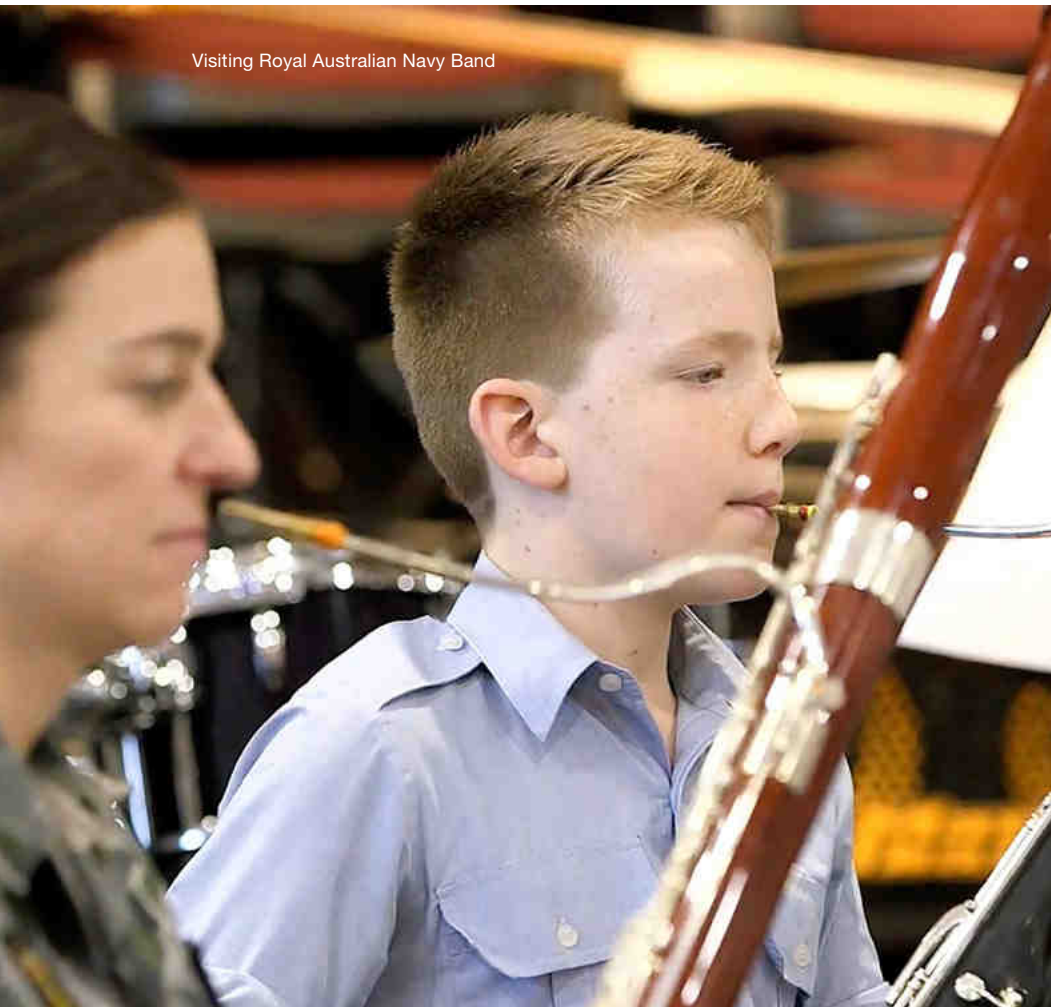
### Innovative learning continues through lockdowns

Our dedicated Prep teachers continued to demonstrate incredible adaptability and flexibility while providing online learning in 2021. As a result, Prep students felt connected and supported, thanks to defined routines and streamlined technology.

Our Education Support Services (ESS) department helped eighty boys each week during one-on-one learning support sessions, or in small literacy and numeracy groups. We also extended students' learning through the Enrichment and Extension (E&E) Program, with boys taking part in the Australian Maths Competition, the Bebras Competition and the Brain Busters Program.



Visiting Royal Australian Navy Band



"The boys have continued to gain knowledge, skills and understanding across all key learning areas. They have developed greater independence, resilience, problem-solving skills and creativity by taking part in these programs," explains Deputy Head of Academics, Shannon O'Dwyer.

## Pillar 2: Supporting Character Development

### Navy Band visit cements early appreciation for music

The sound of saxophones, trumpets, clarinets and ceremonial drums rang through the School's Horrocks Hall when the Preparatory Concert Band welcomed members from the Royal Australian Navy Band. The visit incorporated a workshop, during which our boys were able to collaborate with a mentor from the Navy Band on a piece of music they were preparing to perform at a concert this year. It was a remarkable day of enjoying music, sharing talent and contributing to the community.

"Learning a musical instrument in primary school is often the start of a life-long love for music. It gives you an appreciation of the discipline, hard work and time involved in mastering an instrument," says Head of Preparatory Music Stephan Kooper.

Visiting Navy Band

<https://vimeo.com/554958403>

### Adventures continue at this year's camps

Despite COVID-19, Years 3 to 6 boys enjoyed fun-filled days of adventure, physical challenge, social development and character-building at camp.

Year 3 visited Youthworks Blue Mountains Conference Centre's Blue Gum Lodge for a night, taking part in bush cooking, bike-riding, catapults, abseiling and Christian discovery.

Year 4 went to Rathane, Port Hacking, for two nights. There they experienced canoeing, bush survival, low ropes, mangroves, fishing, water slides and Christian discovery.

Year 5 travelled to Deer Park, Port Hacking, for two nights; they had fun canoeing, pool rafting and abseiling, as well as participating in archery, sailing, waterslides and Christian discovery.

Year 6 ventured to Camp Toukley for two nights, and enjoyed paddle boarding, beach activities, quad-bike riding, team-building and Christian discovery.



Year 5 School Camp to Deer Park, Port Hacking

*"Despite COVID-19, Years 3 to 6 boys enjoyed fun-filled days of adventure, physical challenge, social development and character-building at camp."*



The World's Greatest Shave

## Congratulations to our sporting stars

This year, King's students were selected to participate in Combined Independent Schools' (CIS) events for basketball, tennis, hockey, swimming, athletics and cross-country. CIS is the Independent Schools Sporting Association's governing body, overseeing sport competition for boys and girls at independent schools.

Boys chosen for CIS teams go on to compete at the NSW Primary Schools Sports Association tournament. From there, boys may be selected to represent their state. This year, Elijah Rone was chosen for the NSW Boys Basketball team, Scott Hong was chosen for the Boys Tennis Team and Lachlan Kidd was chosen for the NSW Cross-Country team. While COVID meant they were unable to compete, this is an outstanding achievement for these students.

## Pillar 3: Creating Christian Community

### Rami Dib's incredible fundraising effort

The World's Greatest Shave is a charity close to Year 5 student Rami Dib's heart after he lost a family member to leukaemia. Rami bravely sat on a stool at Friday Chapel Service as his uncle shaved off his locks, while his school mates proudly cheered.

After raising an impressive \$34,851, Rami was the fifth-highest individual fundraiser for the charity in 2021. He was also part of a fundraising team with his cousin Jordan and friend Maksim; together they raised an outstanding \$78,761, making them the number one team in Australia.

The money raised helps pay for accommodation for the families of people who are diagnosed with a blood cancer. It means they can access facilities that provide life-saving treatment and specially-trained support services, and they can receive help with basic living costs.

## Dads' Evening a great success

The annual Dads' Evening, sponsored by the Fathers' Association, is precious to the Prep School community. It's a chance for fathers of boys from Pre-Kindergarten to Year 6 to socialise over drinks and nibbles. This year, the dads were treated to a moving speech from former Kingsman Julian Huxley.

Julian graduated from King's in 1997 and became a successful international sportsman. Named Rookie of the Year on his debut with the Wallabies, he is also the lead rowing coach for the School and led this year's 1st VIII boys to a Head of the River win. In his speech, he emphasised how too much focus on winning is a recipe for failure.

## Everyone's a winner at trivia night

The Prep Fathers' Association also runs the annual trivia night, a great opportunity to make friends and socialise. Everyone embraced this year's theme, 'Working in the Community', with the staff table coming as Uber Eats drivers.

The night involves a live auction and a silent auction, with families from each year group putting together baskets for the silent auction.

Every year, it's a wonderful chance to get together, form friendships and relax outside school hours.

*“Tudor House students have become renowned for their ability to speak in front of an audience at a young age. It is a life skill to which we are especially dedicated so that no matter what pathway a student chooses, their ability to communicate will help them stand out and achieve.”*

# Tudor House

Our unique regional campus of The King’s School, Tudor House, is one of twenty International Baccalaureate schools in NSW. Our students enjoy a daily dose of ‘more green and less screen’ on 169 acres, where the BMX track and renowned Kahiba outdoor education program are favourite activities. Throughout 2021, our curriculum built on King’s pillars of Academic Excellence, Character Development and Christian Community through diverse activities, from authoring books to figuring out how to cure disease.

## Individual actions can change the world

Year 4 students felt a real-world connection to the work of University of Wollongong researchers who gave them an up-close and personal account of how they unlock the secrets of motor neurone disease to develop therapeutic strategies to help sufferers.

“Students love to know how things work. They always ask ‘Why?’ and ‘How?’ Learning about issues – in this case an illness – from experts trying to come up with a solution reinforces the central idea that individuals can use their skills, knowledge and creativity to solve everyday problems,” teacher Kathryn Lonze says. It had a special significance this year with the world relying on science to rescue us from the grip of a health pandemic.

## A good talker must learn to listen

The hotly contested annual Public Speaking Competition is a highlight of our community and did not disappoint, despite being conducted on Zoom. From exploring nicknames, through defining female astronauts, to the importance of resilience, our students entertained the King’s community for hours.

George Bernard Shaw said: “The single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place”. Tudor House students have become renowned for their ability to speak in front of an audience at a young age. It is a life skill to which we are especially dedicated so that no matter what pathway a student chooses, their ability to communicate will help them stand out and achieve.

**Congratulations to all the participants, finalists and winners:**

### Kindergarten:

1st: Hudson Philby (Soccer)  
2nd: Lily Lees (Female Astronauts)  
3rd: Grace Hoskins (Bees)

### Year 1:

1st: Valley Meyerson (Education is a Privilege)  
2nd: Greta Oates (My Favourite Holidays)  
3rd: Teddy Rogers (Dinosaurs)

### Year 2:

1st: Wilbur Young (Snakes)  
2nd: Chelsea Trudgeon (All About Me)  
3rd: Sienna Takla (If I Were Principal)

### Year 3:

1st: Amelia Hartwright (Parents)  
2nd: Harry Meyerson (What Kind of Person Are You?)  
3rd: Axel Pennington (Tom Brady)

### Year 4:

1st: Edward Leahy (Nicknames)  
2nd: Eliza Oates (The Olympic Games)  
3rd: Isabel Elliot (What Life Will Be Like in the Future)

### Year 5:

1st: Soraya Rennie (Why Tudor House is Not Really a King’s School)  
2nd: Charlie Truman (Douglas Mawson)  
3rd: Theodore Hennessy (Excuses)

### Year 6:

1st: Harry Leahy (Resilience)  
2nd: Annabelle Barlow (Covid)  
3rd: George Manka (Why You Shouldn’t Clean Your Room)

*“Watching Year 3 students working really hard on some of the easier elements and failing but then getting up and trying to master it, and watching them support each other, is great to see.”*



French Flair (Juillet-Quatorze)

### Fun French flair

Berets, scarves and red, white and blue stripes injected a dash of French flair to our campus on ‘juillet quatorze’ (July 14th, often referred to as Bastille Day).

Mouth-watering ham and cheese croissants and ‘steak frites’ (steak and chips!) were the order of the day, while students learnt about the revolution that took part around the Bastille fortress. Our Tudorians are big on cycling, so we took the opportunity to weave in fun facts about the Tour de France which occurs around the same time.

### The power of the pen

Our literary heroes contributed to a record-breaking year for The Kids’ Cancer Project through their participation in the 2021 Write a Book in a Day competition, which raised over \$595,000 for childhood cancer research.

Over a 12-hour period, students dispersed into their virtual corners to work on sections of the story, including illustrations, before coming together for final edits.

“It was a huge challenge but so rewarding!” teacher Emma Johnson says.

As well as being an opportunity to display humility and compassion, organising the fundraiser requires teamwork, and the competition reinforced the literary techniques we’ve focused on during the term to make stories more engaging.



Tudor House Foundation Dinner

### More green, less screen

The new archery range, gifted by the 2020 Year 6 cohort, has been a big hit. “The students love archery, it’s something a bit different,” teacher Sam Goodfellow says.

“In this day and age children are addicted to technology but this gets children outside and taking risks. It also teaches them safety precautions, particularly in archery and using a bow and arrow in a safe manner.”

Students are also loving the low ropes made up of 23 different obstacles of varying degrees of difficulty – a gift from Year 6, 2019.

“Watching Year 3 students working really hard on some of the easier elements and failing but then getting up and trying to master it, and watching them support each other, is great to see. It’s not about ‘I’m the best in the year group at low ropes’, it’s actually about ‘I did better than I did last time’. It’s the same with archery. Watching the students who don’t know which end to put the arrow in at the beginning of their lessons to then being able to shoot an arrow from 30 metres away is pretty amazing to witness,” Goodfellow says.



## Record year for Foundation fundraiser

It was fantastic to see so many of our new parents among the 150 people who attended the black-tie Foundation Dinner at The Stables on Bendooley Estate in May. With nearly \$120,000 raised it was by far was the biggest fundraising event Tudor House has ever had.

A huge thank you to our parent body for donating some extraordinary prizes, including a three-hour fully catered harbour cruise, and the most beautiful picture of Tudor House by one of the students'



## Welcome new Head of School, Adam Larby

It's set to be an exciting year at Tudor House with the commencement of our new Head of Tudor House, Mr Adam Larby at the start of Term 1.

Adam is a passionate, life-long and energetic Christian educational leader, who has an abundance of experience working with primary year students.

2022 is also a significant year for Tudor House as it marks the 125 years since the foundation of the School. We look forward to celebrating this milestone with our community this year.



parents who is an artist. Everyone was so generous with their donations, time and talents.

Monies raised went towards the new cricket pavilion which will be utilised as a multi-purpose space for functions and teaching, and for spectators during cricket matches. Funds will also support our scholarships and Jack Egan bursaries award.

## Charting a bright new future

It was with mixed emotions that we farewelled our former Head of School, Anni Sandwell, while congratulating her on being appointed as Head of Queenwood's Junior School from the beginning of Term 3, 2021.

Under her outstanding educational leadership Tudor House welcomed girls on campus, joined the International Baccalaureate Programme, increased its boarding cohort, and achieved record 2021 enrolments.



Triathlon Event



Mother's Day Lunch



Distance Learning



Orientation Day



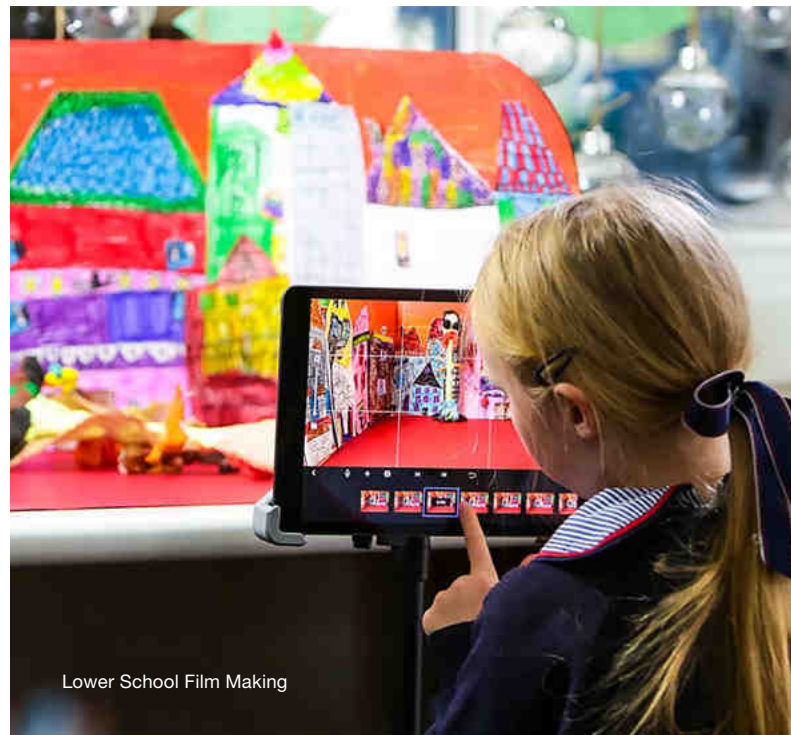
Year 6 Leavers' Day



Supporting The King's School Rugby



Billy Cart Derby Prep



Lower School Film Making

Preparatory School Engagement



The King's School Art Prize



Athletics Carnival



Biggest Morning Tea



Tudor House Leadership Day



Cross Country Carnival



Year 6 Commissioning



Music Concert

Senior School Engagement



Year 7 Camp



Night on the White



Regional Tour



Boys to Men BBQ Lesson



AAGPS Swimming Premiers



Anzac Rugby Game



Visual Arts Projects



Cricket 2nd XI Undefeated Premiers

# The Senior School

## 2021 Highlights



AAGPS Cross Country Premiership



Mamma Mia!

### King's stages one of the first Mamma Mia! school productions in Australia

The School jumped at the chance to stage the much-loved, ABBA-inspired musical, Mamma Mia! Preparation started in October 2020 and the show hit the stage in May 2021 over nine nights.

Given COVID restrictions on singing in groups, it is testament to the resourceful musical department that they were able to hold such a successful show. Luckily, many COVID rules were lifted around the time the musical took place, although it was delayed from March, when it is usually held.

The production was an opportunity for the boys to work as a team, collaborate, be creative and build confidence. The marvellous costumes, lights, set, choreography and ABBA songs were a bright spot in a challenging year.

Mamma Mia!

<https://vimeo.com/529132591>



## This sporting year

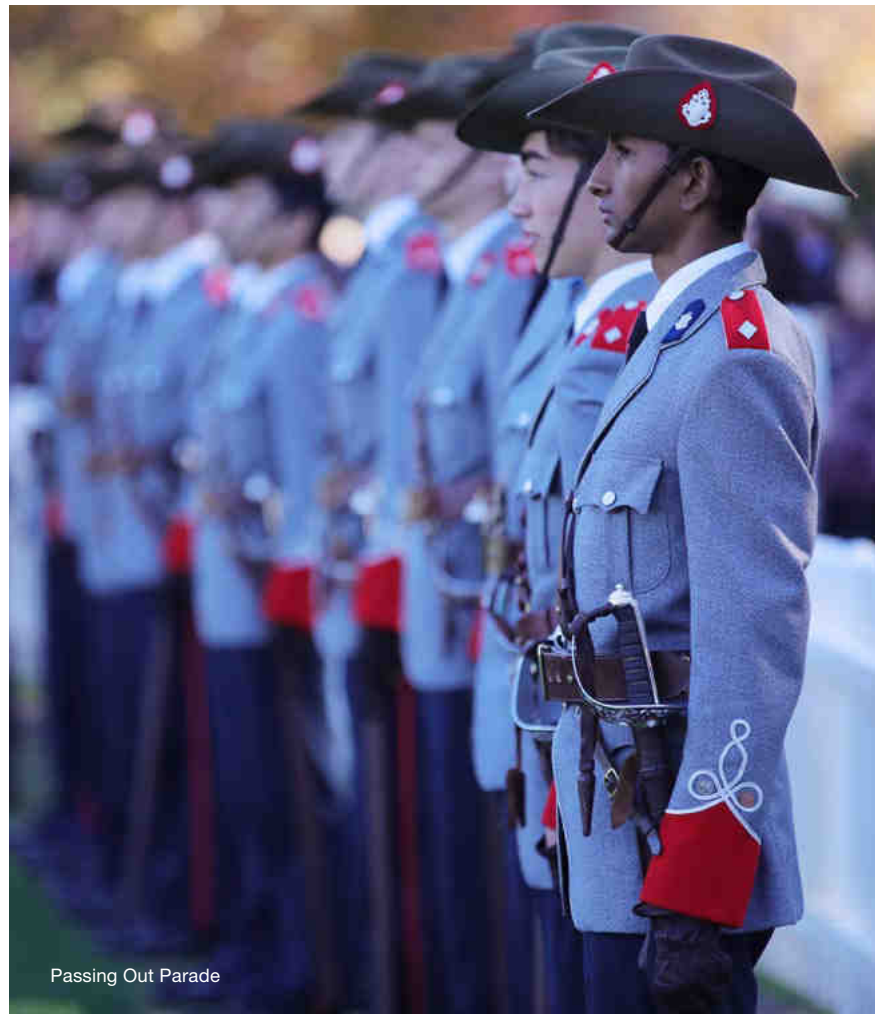
COVID aside, it was another action-packed sporting year for The King's School, starting with the colour and camaraderie of the Swimming Carnival, followed by the Athletics Carnival and Cross-Country events.

Our summer sporting teams enjoyed great success in 2021. Special congratulations go to the 1st VIII following their win at the AAGPS Head of the River. Other successes include the 2nd XI Cricket team's Premiership win and both the Junior and Intermediate Swimming teams winning their AAGPS trophies. The 2nds Tennis team won their Premiership and the Tennis Firsts came equal first with The Scots College in the 1sts Grade.

Winter competitions were curtailed by COVID. This did provide an opportunity for students and staff to demonstrate their resilience as we implemented online resources so boys could keep up their fitness and develop skills for summer sports. It's notable that, while in lockdown, our Cross-Country team was awarded the AAGPS Premiership, based on the rounds completed.

Sporting Success

<https://vimeo.com/601574156>



Passing Out Parade

This year, more than sixty King's boys participated in their chosen sport at the highest levels. Will Johnston was selected for the Australia A Schoolboys Rugby team; William Nie represented Australia in Table Tennis at the World Youth Championship; Noah Bradford was selected for the Australian Under-20 Cross-Country Snow Squad and Charlie Jefferson was selected in the Australian Under-20s Athletics Squad, competing on the Oceania world stage. The boys also completed the TKS Maximum Kilometres Challenge, running, jogging and walking enough kilometres to circumnavigate Australia.

## Head of the River glory for 2021

Winning the AAGPS Head of the River and bringing home the Major Rennie Trophy was an enviable highlight for King's in 2021, the first time the School has claimed this honour since 2007.

Preparation for such an important event is intense. In the lead-up, the boys complete at least nine training sessions a week, and really knuckle down in Term 4 in the lead-up to the big day in March. From Term 1 races are held every week.

It's an exceptional victory for the First VIII, but we always say it takes an entire boat shed to win a Head of the River. Congratulations to the boys, who have shown great dedication to the sport of rowing over the years.

## Passing Out Parade honours King's military heritage

The 2021 155th Annual Regimental Passing Out Parade, commanded by Adjutant CUO Nicholas Horne and RMS WO1 Ben Kandic, was a splendid morning on the JS White Oval.

The Cadets marched in solidarity onto the Oval, demonstrating honour and respect for The King's School's deeply-rooted military past, while ceremonially looking toward the future of The King's School's Cadet Corps. It was an incredible moment when the Year 12 Cadets marched with grace from the Parade Ground for the last time. This symbolises the end of their service in the Cadet Corps, while making way for new leadership amongst the Cadets, whom we will welcome in 2022.

Passing Out Parade

<https://vimeo.com/554958403>





# New Music Programs

## *Making the most of music at King's*

Every child should be exposed to music, as it is a very powerful tool for brain development, and brings people together and promotes wellbeing. Against this backdrop, in 2021 we started a new Music Scholars' Program for Year 7s in recognition of music's importance to school life. The program offered an avenue through which the School's budding musicians could channel their talent, given the incredible proficiency some of the boys have already attained in their chosen instrument.

Dedicated orchestral and choral groups were formed as part of the program, with the purpose of fostering the boys' skills in playing and singing in a group. They have demonstrated remarkable progress over the year, and a level of musical prowess that is second to none. While the program's name will change to the Year 7 Music Enrichment Stream from 2022, the objectives set down for this group in 2021 remain the same: to support musical excellence from a young age.

Other new musical endeavours on which The King's School embarked in 2021 included the Contemporary Music Program, which is focused on our four new music hubs in which students can play their instrument in a noise-controlled environment. Boys can use the hubs to explore playing instruments such as drums and guitars, or work on their vocals, with the aim of coming together as a rock group. Students meet at lunchtime and there are already signs the next rock super stars could be in our midst. This part of the music program that promotes modern rock sits alongside the more traditional aspects of the music program that have always been a priority at King's.

COVID's lockdowns did require a re-think of aspects of the music program. For instance, some practice sessions were held virtually during lockdowns, HSC performances were recorded and uploaded rather than assessed live, and digital recordings, microphones and videos became the norm. It was all an opportunity for the boys to demonstrate their ingenuity while continuing their musical education.



# Camps Week and Singleton

## *Camps round-up 2021: Back in the bush*

Camps Week is a wonderful opportunity for the boys to test and challenge themselves by taking part in activities that foster character development.

*“The activities allow the boys to push themselves to develop and strengthen their character and encourage initiative and resilience, with the boys taking away many real-life skills.”*

It's so important because it provides students with a controlled space in which to learn skills and use them in a safe way. The activities allow the boys to push themselves to develop and strengthen their character and encourage initiative and resilience, with the boys taking away many real-life skills. This year's Cadet camps were especially cherished after they were called off last year due to COVID. Here is a summary of each year's Camp 2021 experience:

- Year 7 travelled around Sydney in a five-day, character-strengthening program. Some of the highlights included camping on Cockatoo Island in Sydney Harbour and, for some, their first taste of boarding at King's.
- Year 8 headed to Murrumbidgee National Park for an expedition-style camp. The boys trekked from north to south and went fishing, mountain bike riding, stand-up paddle boarding, snorkelling and canoeing.
- Many Years 9 to 12 were excited to return to Cadet Corps Camp at Singleton. While initially delayed by rain and floods, over six nights the boys camped and enjoyed the thrill of the confidence course, archery, high ropes, fire and safety drills, trekking and orienteering.

It was very rewarding to see the boys apply, in the field, the skills they had worked so hard to develop.



# Service Learning and Fundraising

## King's boys demonstrate wonderful generosity of spirit

While COVID curtailed some fundraising activities, the Student Representative Council (SRC) achieved an incredible feat through the #Clipit4Cancer fundraiser, which raised just under \$50,000 in a week for the Chris O'Brien Lighthouse. It was a meaningful opportunity for the boys to work together to contribute to a cause close to their hearts.

King's boys were also proud to raise more than \$4,000 for the Black Dog Institute and \$5,200 for Do It For Dolly, an impactful and important not-for-profit organisation that raises awareness about bullying.

The School is dedicated to making a difference in society and this really shows our strength of community and generosity, and is a reflection of what it means to be a true Kingsman.

## Service Learning cements King's community outreach

The boys have always given back to the community through activities such as reading and playing music to, as well as playing games with, the elderly. Our Service Learning Program formalises these endeavours.

The program's purpose is to develop the boys' character and make an outstanding impact on the community and ensure giving back is part of our DNA. It also allows us to build relationships with organisations that teach our boys important lessons.

Service Learning will engage boys from Pre-K to Year 12, including Tudor House, Prep and the Senior School over the next three years. For instance, we are building partnerships with Anglicare and St Vincent de Paul as part of the initiative. It will give the School a deeper understanding of the issues faced by people in need so we can try to make a difference.



*"The program's purpose is to develop the boys' character and make an outstanding impact on the community and ensure giving back is part of our DNA."*



# Graduation Day

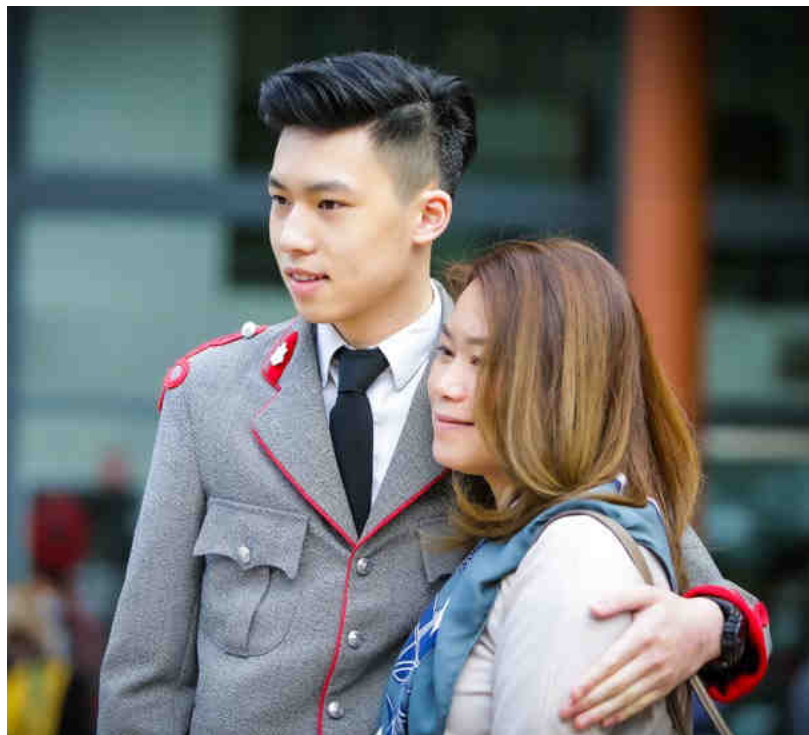
After another remarkable year at The King's School, we are ecstatic the Year 12 cohort of 2021 and their families were able to conclude their King's journey with a well-deserved graduation ceremony.

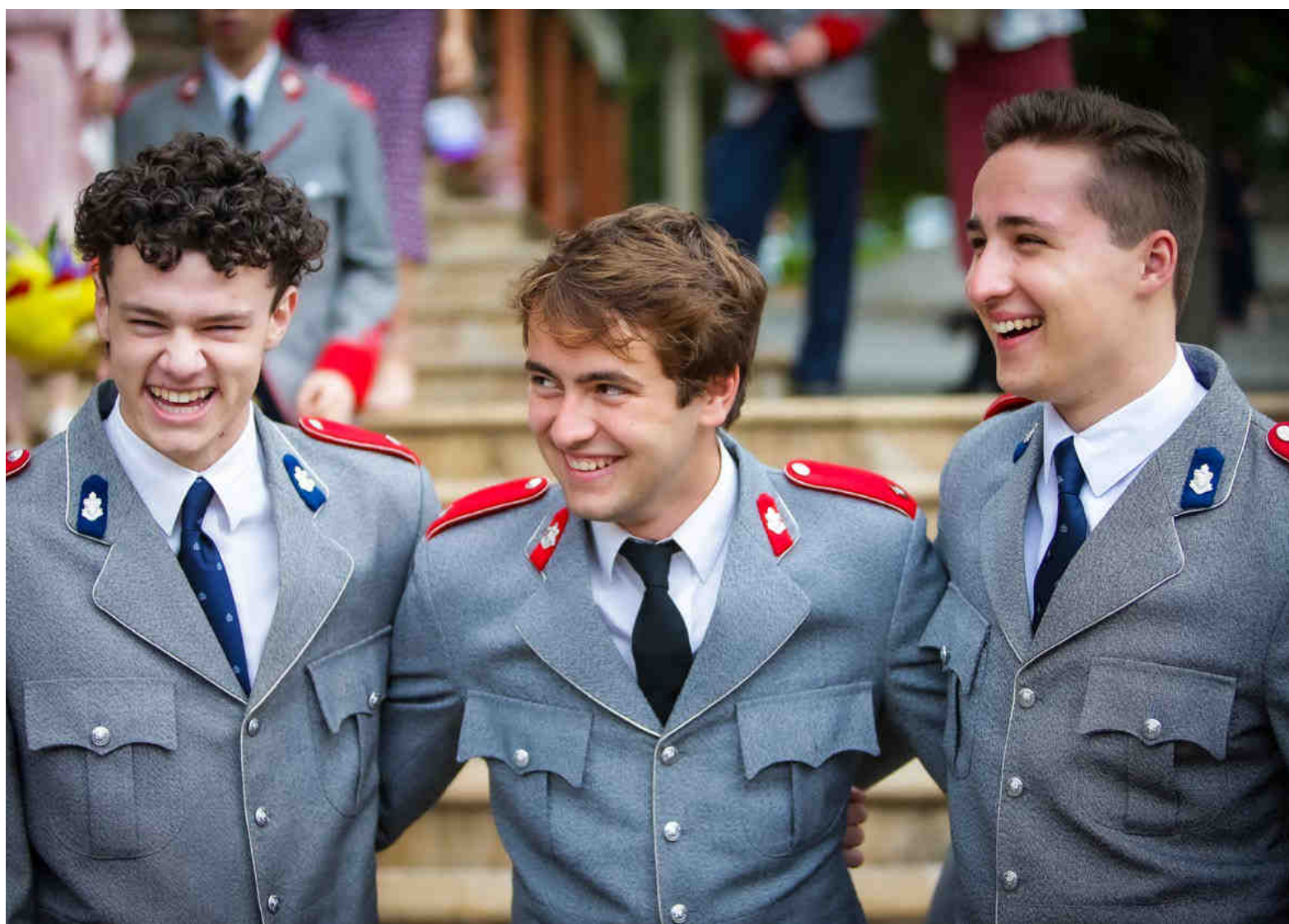
In their final year at King's, our Year 12 students were faced with many challenges and uncertainties as the School went into lockdown for Term 3. With HSC exams and other Year 12 milestones on the line, our students were inspirational in their ability to adapt to the situation, thinking about the greater good of the community before themselves.

We are extremely proud of the young men these boys have become, as they have demonstrated a robust sense of character and integrity. As they embark on this next chapter in their lives, we wish them well, confidently knowing they will have left ready to take on the world as Global Thought Leaders.

Year 12 Graduation

<https://vimeo.com/619879856/020a9a70e9>







## *In memoriam*

# Remembering Sam McKay

The School is deeply mourning the loss of Samuel (Sam) Nicholas McKay, who sadly passed away on 14 October 2021, aged just 17, after a battle with brain cancer.

Our Registrar, Jo Grinham, Sam's second cousin, spent precious time with him throughout his life and this year. She emphasises how important Sam's Christian faith was to him.

"His message was, 'Get to know Jesus, love Sam'. His faith gave him the strength to face his illness and help others. He was very selfless, an incredible young fellow who always asked how everybody else was. It was never about Sam."

Just weeks before he lost the power to speak, Jo asked Sam what his advice would be to his classmates. "He said, 'Try and see life through the eyes of a child and be kind to one another.'"

Very sadly, Sam lost his mother some years ago to cancer.

"He became wingman to his Dad, Nick. He was also very protective of his brothers, Benji and Alex," says Jo Grinham. "We often say we want the boys to find their

signpost at The King's School, which will direct their hearts to come alive. Sam had two signposts. One was the Drama Centre and the other was the Chapel. He also had a real cheekiness and sense of humour," she adds.

Headmaster Tony George addressed the live-streamed School assembly on the morning Sam died. Expressing his deepest sympathy and condolences, the Headmaster said, "Sam had a hard journey that he tackled with courage, hope and without any sense of bitterness. But he still sought to participate in the musical, passing-out parade, even sitting his trial HSC exams."

A memorial fund has been set up to honour Sam's life and memory. Go to <https://events.humanitix.com/sam-mckay-memorial> for more information. The School is also in the process of establishing a permanent memorial to Sam's life.



## *A Tribute to* Peter Philpott

**Peter Philpott was more than just a teacher. He was an extraordinary man who left a vast legacy on many people in Australia and around the world. His example is a tribute to a life well lived, in service of others. The King's School was lucky to have him as a much-loved teacher, Housemaster and sports coach between the years of 1975-1992.**

The boys who are now men knew they were in the presence of a giant. His unconventional methods and rugged egalitarianism came with a prescient ability to relate to people in the most profound way. He could spot unique talents and character in boys when they often couldn't see it in themselves. He identified and nurtured each individual to bring out their best. He called us by our first names and expected the same when addressing him. If you weren't tuned in during his history class, you were summarily dismissed to do laps of the Oval.

There were hundreds of people who attended his memorial drinks at the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) in the Steve Waugh Room on Friday 12 November 2021, with many more online via live stream. People from all walks of life who had benefited from Peter's care and loved him back just as fiercely. Loyalty was a virtue by which he lived. The cheeky humour and rogue spirit which twinkled brightly in his eyes never left him.

Many stories and ripping yarns were shared that afternoon and long into the night at the SCG. Many King's and

Shore Old Boys, former teachers, parents and friends came to pay their respects to Peter and his family. Mirth and merriment abounded, shandies flowed, shanties were sung. Peter's son Meecham and daughter Fiona spoke fondly of the family man, with his deep fascination for and love of people. His calling as a teacher was to connect the best of us; winning was not everything but trying your absolute best was.

Others have written extensively about Peter's test cricket accolades and records as super-coach and spin mentor. It seemed fitting that the very same week Peter died saw other cricketing greats, Alan Davidson and Ashley Mallet, also leave the field. Their post-match activities were likely heard overhead as the thunder roared at the SCG that evening. Percy was at it again.

An innings of 86, full of class, panache, grit and daring. A man of great style and substance. Thank you, my friend.

You continue to live on in all of us whose lives you've touched.

Vale Peter Percy Philpott.

Video Tribute:

<https://vimeo.com/643780425/cdc14622b2>



### Lorna Kurrle

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Lorna Kurrle, wife of Headmaster Rev SW Kurrle (TKS 1965-85) and mother to Susan, Robyn, Winton and Christie. Lorna was a generous woman who enjoyed the gift of hospitality with many members of the School community. She greatly supported our School and will be missed dearly by those who knew her.



### Glenn Daniel

It is with a heavy heart that we announce that Glenn Daniel, our former colleague and friend of the School has sadly passed away. Glenn worked many long hours with King's, creating and narrating numerous KingsCast and Men We Have Become episodes. His journalistic expertise and kind and gentle nature quickly led to the rise in KingsCast engagement, launching the video series into what it is today. Glenn will be sorely missed and his memory will forever live on with those who had the pleasure of knowing him.



# The Foundation Gears Up for 2031

As we look towards our 200th Anniversary, the School's new Head of Foundation, Will Halliday, creates the path to 2031.



Recently appointed Head of The King's School Foundation, Will Halliday ('86), says that although he is no soothsaying sage, it is possible to envisage the decades ahead. The King's School has survived and thrived for nearly two hundred years because of its culture, heritage and values. There will always be a delicate dance between progressive, societal change and preserving the sacrosanct.

Will believes the French saying "plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose" (the more things change, the more they stay the same) applies. King's can evolve and keep its DNA; it can be both Brave and Faithful.

The King's School Foundation exists to secure the financial health and independence of the School while advancing its standing as one of Australia's leading schools. Will believes that a good way to think of the Foundation's role is to help support the school's strategic ambition, and to invest in and help future-proof the educational programs offered. As Head of Foundation, Will's role is to work closely with the Foundation Board, Headmaster and Executive team, School Council and the many supporter groups that make up the King's community to align philanthropic programs and partnerships with the School's strategic objectives. The Foundation has a proud history of providing funding for key infrastructure projects including the Sports Centre, the Centre for Learning and Leadership, the Day Boy Houses and the Science Centre. The Foundation also continues to provide financial assistance by way of a substantial program of scholarships and bursaries for country boarders.

"The next ten years will be an exciting time for the School. Against every conceivable benchmark King's is performing well. We have a ten-year runway towards our Bicentenary as Australia's oldest independent school. I'd like to think in 2031 we will come together to celebrate the positive impact that the School and our alumni have had in Australia and across the globe", says Will.

This is no small milestone and the Foundation is determined to make sure the School is in a position to celebrate its success and maximise the opportunities. The Foundation's planning cycle aligns with the School's triennium strategic plans. In that regard, there are a number of projects that are front of mind: scholarships and bursaries; expanding outdoor and co-curricular activities; the STEAM precinct; Indigenous programs; and service learning.

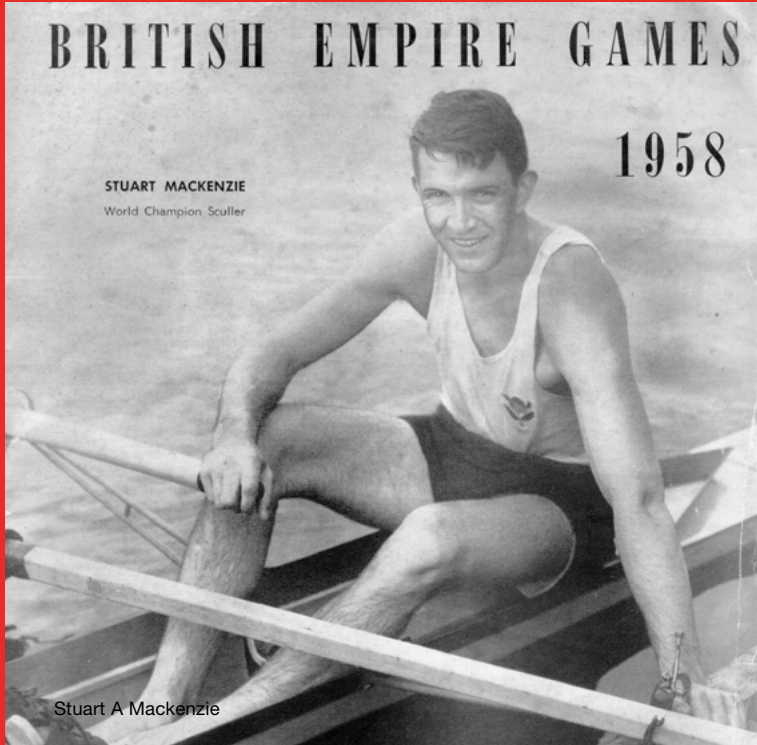
The decade ahead begins in 2022 when we will celebrate fifty years since reconstruction of The King's School Chapel, which was first consecrated in 1889 and rebuilt on its current site in 1972. An initiative for a Chapel Pavilion and Garden Memorial will form part of a wider master plan. The Foundation is excited to initiate an appeal and call for support. This will benefit the community for all life stages: christenings, weddings and funeral services.

In a practical sense, Will sees his primary role to be one of connecting people and passion across the King's community to continue the Foundation's work in supporting the development of new facilities and the provision of scholarship opportunities for future students. Will says,

"you don't have to have deep pockets to make a contribution. Our community relies on everyone playing a part. Helping each other, whatever it is that you can contribute; it all makes a difference".

Will graduated in 1986 with an understanding of the unique culture, symbols and history of King's. He has enjoyed a successful international career in management consulting and as a Chief Strategy Officer for award-winning creative agencies. After completing an MBA in France, Will went on to work in London, Paris, Beijing, Singapore and the United States. Having now reached a point in his career where he is driven more by 'purpose' and 'a sense of giving back'. The opportunity to take on the role as Head of Foundation fits Will's values and love of the King's community. There is a feeling of coming home, as Will's family have had deep connections with the school over many generations. Will's grandfather, Sir George Halliday, was a Governor and Honorary Secretary of the School Council from 1954 to 1977, and he helped establish the Foundation. Although Will's career has taken him around the world, Will says it's great to be back in Australia to help develop opportunities for our students and alumni in the global century ahead. "As my father (Dr Mac Halliday '45) says, "we're born equal, we die equal, so help as many people as you can along the way".

The long-awaited 2020 Olympics finally took place between 23 July and 8 August 2021 in Tokyo, and for The King's School these games ushered in participation by Old Boys in more competitions than in any previous games.



Cameron Girdlestone (second from right)



Cameron Girdlestone

*“The King’s School has a proud Olympic tradition and with perseverance, dedication, and the pursuit of excellence we look forward to the future to see who else will take up the challenge to pursue Olympic Gold.”*



## Archive

# Olympics

While rugby was included in the 1908 London Games when Frank Bede Smith (TKS 2003) played for Gold, it is now the faster Rugby 7s which captures the spectators' imagination. This year Dylan Pietsch (TKS 2016) took to the field, scoring a try in the game against the Republic of Korea, a wonderful achievement on his Olympic debut.

A first for a King's Old Boy was James Duckworth (TKS 2009) playing tennis for Australia. James won his first-round match in the Men's Singles Tournament against Lukas Klein from Slovakia. Similarly, Nicholas Hough (TKS 2006-11), a former School Captain and Commonwealth Games Bronze Medallist, is the first Old Boy to compete on the Olympics athletics track. On reaching the first semi-final Nick displayed perseverance and resilience, battling a calf injury to finish the race in 13.88 sec.

Beginning your Olympic journey with a Bronze Medal is a dream come true for Joshua Green (TKS 2013-14). A rising star in NBL basketball, Joshua donned the green and gold for the Boomers and took his place in the history-making game which saw the team take out Australia's first Olympic basketball medal.

There is one King's Old Boy who has competed in four Olympic Games, an amazing feat for any athlete. Glenn Kable (TKS 1979-80) was controversially omitted from the 2000 Australian Shooting Team and so family business interests allowed him to compete for Fiji, which he did for the four Olympic Games from 2004.

The King's School has always encouraged boys to push the boundaries within a safe environment and so it was that Wyatt Weston Thompson (TKS 1939-43) competed in the 1956 Olympic equestrian events which took place in Stockholm, Sweden. The team came 4th overall in the Men's Three Day Event, a challenge that has yet to be repeated by any former student.

Historically, rowing is the sport best represented by talented King's Old Boys, with representation in the Olympic Games since JAG Ryrie (TKS 1899-1905) and RGK Waley (TKS 1900-1902) competed in the 1912 Games. ER Bromley (TKS 1922-24) competed in the 1948 games, while SA Mackenzie competed in Melbourne, winning Silver in the Double Sculls. Although it was predicted Stuart would win Gold in the 1960 Rome Games he fell ill and had to withdraw. RD Paver (TKS 1965-70) was a competitor in both 1972 and 1976 but it was not until the 2000 Sydney Games that ABH Gordon won Silver. Three Old boys competed in 2008, MWO Rabjohns (TKS 1991-96), SJ Loch (TKS 1996-2001) and MJ Ryan (TKS 1994-2002), who competed again in 2012, the same games that NR Hudson (TKS 1993-2001) was listed as a reserve. 2019 World Cup Gold Medallist Jack O'Brien (TH 2009-10) competed in Tokyo this year in the Men's Eight Final A in his Olympic debut. Competing at his second Olympics in Tokyo, Cameron Girdlestone (TKS 1997-06) won Bronze in the Men's Quadruple Scull in a nail-biting finish, the medal complementing his Silver from Rio in 2016. Of course, behind all successful teams is a coach. Congratulations to the current Director of Rowing and former MIC, Andrew Randall, who coached the Women's Quad Scull to a Bronze Medal.

The King's School has a proud Olympic tradition and with perseverance, dedication, and the pursuit of excellence we look forward to the future to see who else will take up the challenge to pursue Olympic Gold.

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Jenny Pearce

*Archivist*

*“We look forward to returning to a full program of events and reunions in 2022 now that the situation has stabilised.”*

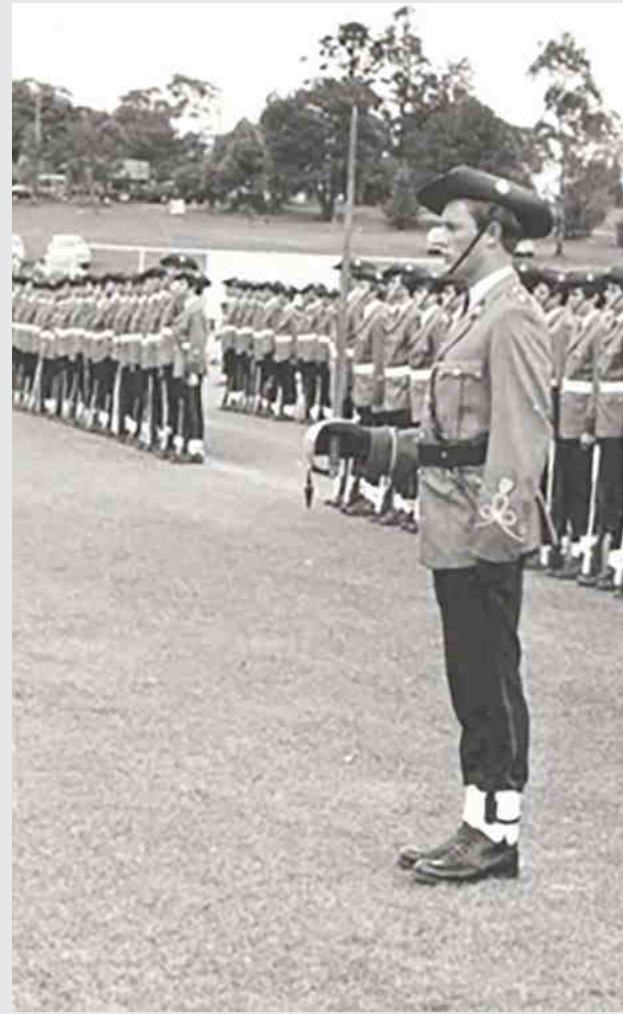
## Old Boys' Union

**It was an honour and a privilege to be elected as President at the 2020 AGM, and I want to thank the members for placing their trust in me. I am enjoying leading the OBU with the support of a talented and diverse Committee, which brings with it experience, enthusiasm and new ideas. All members of the Committee are volunteers, and I thank them for the efforts and contributions they have made in what has been a difficult year.**

A key objective of the OBU is to host events for Old Boys. Having been unable to hold any events in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, 2021 brought new hope as health restrictions eased at the start of the year. The OBU began the year with an ambitious program of events for our Old Boys.

Our first event for 2021 was Commemoration Day, held at the School in February, in which Old Boys took on current students in touch rugby, football, basketball, tennis, and the recently introduced fun run following the Figure 8 route. Old Boy numbers were strong, resulting in the addition of extra teams this year. All sports were a great contest, with the Old Boys claiming the Kurrle Cup for the first time since 1984. After the fixtures in the morning, all players from the OBU and the School and their families were invited to lunch in the Thomas Memorial Pavilion, which was a great way to finish the day.

At the start of May, the OBU held a Recognition Dinner to celebrate the successes of students at the School, with our guest speaker being The Honourable John Sharp AM ('72). As we hadn't been able to hold dinners in the preceding year due to COVID-19 there were over ninety in attendance at the Australian Club, recognising Athletics Senior Premiers 2020, Cricket 2nd XI Premiers 2020, Rugby 1st XV Champions 2020, Tennis 1st Undeclared Premiers 2020, Cricket 2nd XI Undeclared Premiers 2021, Rowing 1st VIII Head of the River Winners 2021, Swimming GPS Relay Winners 2021, Tennis 1st Premiers 2021, Tennis 2nd Undeclared Premiers 2021, along with Honour Colour recipients for Academics, Cricket, Cross Country, Music, Performing Arts, Service and Water Polo.

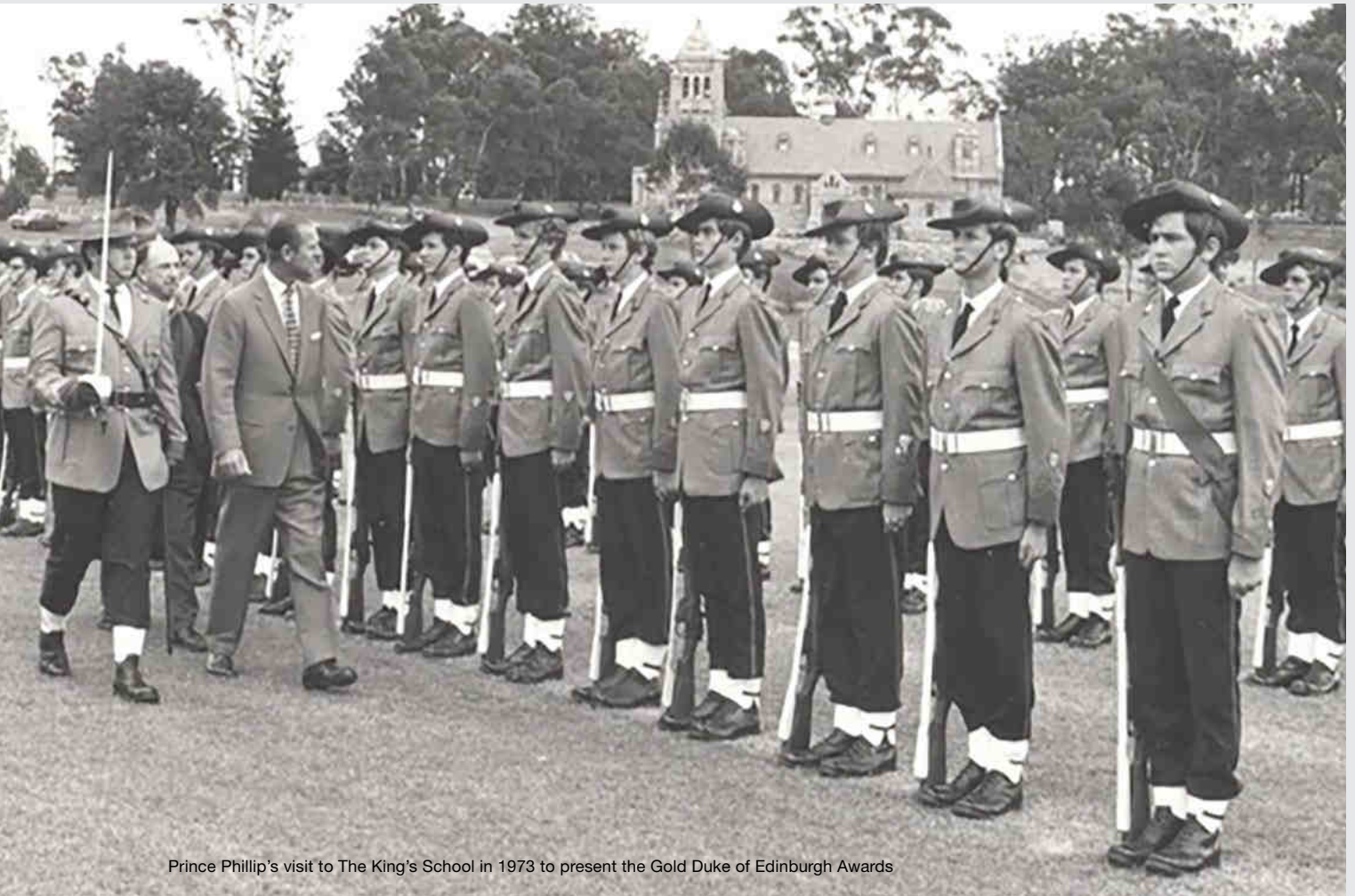


In May we held our Current Old Boy Parent event. This has become a very popular event, made even more so this year with the event moving from the Drama Theatre to the Thomas Memorial Pavilion following the conclusion of Saturday sport.

The OBU also held its annual Business Networking Night in May, at The Mint in Sydney, which was a resounding success. The night, organised by Mr Peter Whittington ('97), saw over seventy Old Boys get together to network and hear from Guest Speaker, Charlie Taylor ('80).

The second half of the year was shaping up to be very busy in terms of events; however, the introduction of the delta variant of COVID-19 into New South Wales, and the subsequent health restrictions imposed in June, led to the eventual cancellation of all events for the remainder of 2021. These included Back to King's Day (Homecoming Day), a Harrisford Group event, a Country Function, a Recognition Dinner, the Annual Dinner, the Young Old Boys' Night, and our Golf Day. A further twenty-five reunions for which the OBU provides organisational assistance were also postponed or cancelled. This was particularly disappointing for us.

We look forward to returning to a full program of events and reunions in 2022 now that the situation has stabilised.



Prince Phillip's visit to The King's School in 1973 to present the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards

Despite COVID-19 health restrictions, the OBU Committee continued to meet remotely for the remainder of 2021 until restrictions were relaxed.

In 2021 the Committee implemented the Investment Policy it had adopted towards the end of 2020. Perpetual have been appointed as investment advisor, and the OBU has disposed of certain managed funds, investing the proceeds along with excess cash in Perpetual funds, in line with a 'Balanced' investment profile. This should set the OBU up for financial outperformance relative to recent years; this is already evident in the strong financial returns delivered in 2021. I would like to record my thanks to the members of the Investment Sub-Committee for all their hard work.

Harrisford House, at 182 George Street, Parramatta, continues to be a key asset for the OBU, delivering a solid financial return which allows the OBU to do more for its members. The construction of residential towers continues on the western boundary of Harrisford, as Parramatta grows with unprecedented levels of development and infrastructure investment. This will set Harrisford up well for the future, and the Committee is considering what opportunities this may bring that would maximise our return on this key asset, whilst maintaining ownership of Harrisford. I thank the Harrisford

Sub-Committee for all their hard work and efforts.

I am pleased to report that, despite COVID-19, the OBU has significantly strengthened its financial position in 2021, returning to profitable operations. The improvement in profit year on year is being driven by strong performance on our investment portfolio, together with the unfortunate reduction in spending on events.

Our financial strength in the year has allowed us to donate \$50,000 to The King's School Foundation Building Fund, and in 2021 the OBU also contributed \$50,000 towards the establishment of "The King's School Old Boys' Union Endowment". This endowment will allow the OBU to accumulate its own funds over time in a tax-efficient manner for the benefit of The King's School Foundation Building Fund and the Scholarships and Bursaries Fund. Whilst the OBU is not an active fundraiser, members are also able to make tax-deductible donations to this endowment.

The OBU has continued its annual support of the Old Boys' Football and Rugby Clubs. These clubs provide an important avenue for past students to reconnect with old friends and continue their sporting pursuits in a seamless manner once they leave School. Our thanks go to the various Old Boys who administer these clubs.

The OBU cannot operate without the support of many. I express my sincere thanks to Ms Jacqui Forsyth, the OBU Administrator. It has been a particularly difficult year with the operational impacts of COVID-19, and Jacqui has been resilient and flexible, and she has done a fantastic job adjusting to constantly changing conditions.

I would like to thank our Patron, the Headmaster, Mr Tony George, for his continued support of the OBU; we also appreciate the support of the School, including the Deputy Headmaster, Rev Stephen Edwards; Director of Strategy and Development, Mr Greg Alderson; School Chaplain, Rev Jason Hobba, and Britten Housemaster Mrs Susan MacDonald.

Finally, I would like to thank the Committee for all of their efforts and support this year. I'm particularly grateful to our Honorary Secretary, James Holtsbaum ('99), Honorary Treasurer, Gary Honan ('97), and Past Presidents Michael Thomas ('97), Peter Whittington ('97) and Grant Martin ('97) for their valuable counsel and hard work.

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**Tim Martel**  
*Old Boys' Union President*



Christopher and Alanna Tohme



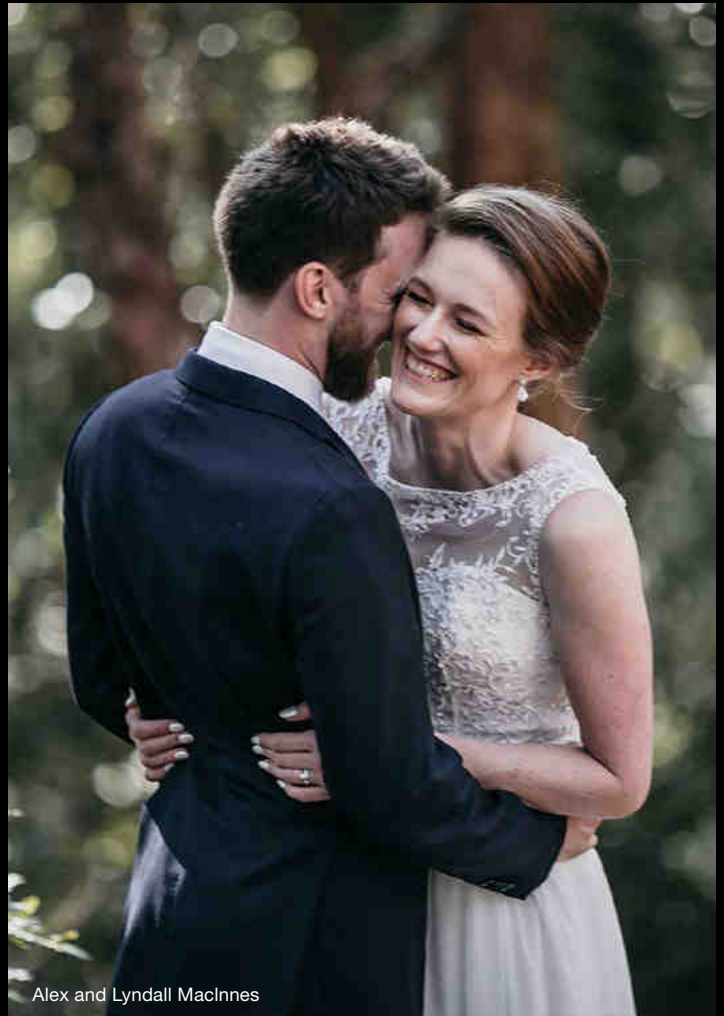
Emily Charlotte Alice Martel



Simon and Emma Wybenga



Luke and Eliza Widdicombe



Alex and Lyndall MacInnes

# Births, Engagements, Marriages and Deaths

## Births

### Donsworth ('90)

Stephen Paul James and Claire Donsworth, a son Christopher Paul, 19 June 2021

### Ellis ('10)

Christian Marc Fergus and Cecile Ellis, a son Louis Joseph, 1 May 2021

### Martel ('97)

Tim David Hugh and Kate Sullivan, a daughter Emily Charlotte Alice, 4 April 2021

### Neale ('05)

James William and Aimee Neale, a daughter Chloe Margaret, 17 August 2021

### Walker ('96)

Ben Leeuwin Douglas and Lauren Kite, a son Oliver Peter 2014

### Walker ('96)

Ben Leeuwin Douglas and Lauren Kite, a son Edward Kite 2017

### Walker ('96)

Ben Leeuwin Douglas and Lauren Kite, a son Tasman Kite 2020

### Whittington ('02)

Michael Allan Ernest and Alissa Whittington, a son Lachlan John Randall, 9 July 2021

### Whittington ('99)

Andrew John Leslie Richard and Paula Whittington, a son Angus Keith Robert, 9 April 2021

### Williams ('03)

Robert (Robbie) David and Maja Williams, a daughter Rhea Liv Ganer, 2 August 2021

## Engagements

### Bridie ('10)

Benjamin James Cameron to Larissa Drayton on 31 May 2019

### Bridie ('08)

Jeremy Cameron Hope to Mary McKenzie on 24 February 2019

### Rouse ('93)

Richard William to Rachel Margaret North (in Edinburgh Scotland)

### Walkerden ('13)

Henry Francis to Lily Scarlett Vidler on 23 October 2021

### Ware ('09)

Alexander David Andrew to Bronte Maddison Maher on 30 January 2021

## Marriages

**Beaumont ('95)** Grant Charles to Matthew Byrnes on 30 November 2019

**Kent ('09)** Thomas Peter to Sally Ann Flanders on 31 October 2020

**Kent ('10)** George Norman to Abbie Lynette Heffernan on 8 August 2020

**MacInnes ('07)** Alex Robert to Lyndall Hord on 14 November 2020

**Miller ('07)** Edward Bagot to Jenna Rachel Rich on 5 December 2020

**Neale ('05)** James William to Aimee Divorty on 3 October 2020

**Tohme ('07)** Christopher Pierre to Alanna Sheinwald on 24 January 2021

**Upton ('10)** Christopher John to Hayley Stanbury on 8 January 2021

**Webeck ('08)** Nicholas Robert Miller to Olga Botova on 18 July 2020

**Widdicombe ('11)** Luke Benjamin Eliza Faulder on 13 March 2021

**Wybenga ('10)** Simon Christopher to Emma Unwin on 19 June 2021

## Deaths

**Abdallah ('24)** Antony Daniel 1 February 2020

**Adams ('18)** Tutaneikai Patrick Kluver (Kai) 21 November 2021

**Anthony ('46)** John (Doug) Douglas 20 December 2020

**Beale ('51)** Julian Howard 3 August 2021

**Britten ('70)** Christopher Allan Barton 7 August 2021

**Bucknell ('57)** Peter Geoffrey 8 February 2021

**Carman ('59)** James Creswell 2 November 2020

**Carter ('58)** Charles Henry (Richard) 1 June 2021

**Clarke ('71)** Stephen Douglas 23 June 2013

**Cowper ('43)** Anthony (Tony) Charles Macquarie 5 September 2021

**Crosby ('68)** Trevor Douglas 21 October 2021

**Douglas ('76)** Andrew Ian 14 December 2020

**Everingham ('60)** Mark Graydon 5 October 2016

**Friend ('50)** Alan Hodgson 4 February 2021

**Green ('61)** Douglas Graham 28 September 2021

**Haley ('36)** Philip Barclay 5 April 2021

**Harrowell ('38)** Richard (Dick) Edward 4 August 2021

**Hassall ('50)** Rowland Geoffrey (Geoff) Cordeaux 17 September 2021

**Hurst ('56)** Graham Perrin 11 April 2021

**Kerr ('64)** David Fraeser 8 November 2021

**King ('65)** Peter 2 July 2021

**Knight ('80)** Rodney (Rod) Graeme 26 June 2021

**Lemann ('52)** Frederick (Martin) 11 November 2021

**Lewis ('68)** Jon Lance 20 December 2020

**Luelf ('68)** Geoffrey (Geoff) Murray 8 February 2021

**McCarthy ('57)** James Tom Miles 13 January 2021

**McKay ('21)** Samuel (Sam) Nicholas 14 October 2021

**Munro ('61)** Geoffrey Elliott No date

**Mutton ('52)** Jeffrey Nicholas No date

**Nicholas ('57)** William (Henric) 23 January 2021

**Powell ('46)** Bruce Alexander 9 November 2020

**Pratten ('58)** Robert Eric 26 December 2020

**Ralph ('45)** James Brayford (Jim) 2 April 2020

**Rodger ('52)** John Brian 30 January 2021

**Salter ('51)** Irvine Christopher Meyrick 20 October 2021

**Satchel ('55)** Philip Andrew 29 August 2021

**Simpson ('69)** Richard Telford 9 October 2021

**Summerbell ('42)** Edward Britten No date

**Suttor ('63)** Peter William 9 March 2021

**Tracy ('49)** John Frederick 1 September 2021

**Treweeke ('48)** Richard (Dick) George 9 March 2021

**Webb ('68)** Graeme Douglas 25 January 2021

**Windeyer ('73)** John William 5 June 2018

**Young ('52)** Peter Lawrence 20 July 2021

