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We often remark how quickly time flies. This was certainly the case in 2011 which was a year full of wonderful achievements and multiple celebrations. It seemed that the year hurtled by at a furious pace.

As we had hoped, our 50th year was a very special one. Our maxim was Exceeding Imagination and thanks to the hard work of the Golden Jubilee Committee, and many others in our community, we certainly achieved this aim. We enjoyed a feast of golden events beginning early in February with our Founders’ & Benefactors’ Assembly. This was a magnificent occasion which proved to be the catalyst for many past students and staff to reconnect with the School. Our glamorous Golden Ball and, Mozaic, our huge art show, were terrific events which showcased the community spirit which we treasure so greatly at Peninsula.

In Semester 2, our musicians performed admirably at the Grand Musical Showcase when we were treated to a program full of Broadway numbers from productions which the School has staged in the 50 years since 1961. Celebration Evening was a wonderful occasion in November at which we acknowledged those students who had achieved at the highest level. The concluding event was the Carols & Fireworks evening in December at which the night sky was lit by an explosion of colour and light, a very suitable finale for our 50th year.

My particular thanks go to Lisa Mitchell for orchestrating these golden events. Our major sponsor, Audi Mornington, also deserve particular acclaim as their financial commitment to our golden events was most generous.

Unfortunately, the year ended on a sad note with the passing of our Foundation Headmaster, Reverend Dr Dudley Clarke OBE, MA Cantab, MEd, PhD, FACE, who had not been well for quite some time. Dudley was a masterful leader of our School in the
early years, guiding his team of pioneers in the demanding task of establishing a new school in the austere post WW2 era. Dudley’s name has been well known to generations of families through the deeds of Clarke House. Further, the Board of Directors has recently taken the decision to name our Junior School in his honour.

I am particularly pleased that the Board has also created an enduring tribute to the great work of both of our other past Heads, Harry Macdonald and Ray Hille, by naming significant buildings in their honour.

Harry Macdonald, our Headmaster from 1971 to 1991, is thrilled with the decision to name the Pavilion in his honour. The H.A. Macdonald Pavilion will now proudly overlook the Macdonald oval, completing that precinct. I am pleased, too, that Ray Hille, Head of the School for 18 years until the end of 2009, has agreed to have the Performing Arts Centre named in his honour. Ray was very much a patron of the Arts during his Principalship, so it is most appropriate that the Board has chosen this particular building to honour him.

Our motto, “Hold Fast To That Which Is Good” is an excellent one. It reminds us that, as we embark on the next 50 years, we should be cognisant of the traditions of the past that have stood us in good stead in arriving at where we are today. Our core value of “stewardship”, imbues us with the sense that we are serving as the custodians of the School and that we need to dedicate ourselves to ensuring the prosperity and longevity of our school for the benefit of past, current and future generations.

In closing, I would like to congratulate stalwart of our teaching staff, Lance Hodgins, who has closed his mark book for the final time after 36 years of dedicated service to our community. A wonderful effort Lance!

I hope that you enjoy reading about the many happenings of Semester 2 which are reported on in this edition of the Profile.
Reverend Dr Dudley Clarke OBE, MA Cantab, MEd, PhD, FACE

22/5/1922 - 8/12/2011

- School Chaplain, Monkton Combe, UK 1950-1958
- Chaplain, Tasmania University, 1989-1995
- Honorary Assistant Curator, Holy Trinity Church, Hobart

"Dudley Clarke, the first, the greatest, the most creative character who, through sheer force of personality, unbelievable hard work and brilliance put this school on the educational map"


Dudley Clarke was The Peninsula School’s Founding Headmaster. He had come to Australia from Britain to become Deputy Headmaster of The Hutchins School in Hobart, Tasmania. He then moved to Victoria to take up the position of Foundation Headmaster of The Peninsula School, from 1961. He was a man of vision who enjoyed nothing better than a challenge, so starting the new School appealed to him greatly.

In 1961 Mt Eliza was a small village consisting of a post office, a hardware store, a butcher’s shop and an all-purpose store, known as the Mt Eliza General Store. The newly appointed Headmaster’s first experience of setting up a new school began in a builder’s hut which was positioned next to the Mt Eliza Post Office. It was from there that Dudley and his secretary took enrolments while the first school building was still being built.

The Peninsula School’s first Headmaster was often described as the right man at the right time for the job of starting a new school. He was a formidable personality; a great orator, a scholar, a musician, a dramatic actor and generally a real force to be reckoned with.

Dudley was a gifted and inspirational speaker who was able to rally and enthuse people to become involved in the endless tasks needed to start up a new school. He, along with the Council, parents and staff were truly “hands on”, they had to be as there was so much to be done. Always an optimist, others took their lead from him, and the School went from strength to strength. He took on the embryo of a school and developed it into an important educational institution which grew and flourished rapidly under his leadership.

The first decade of the School presented many challenges and difficulties to our pioneers, but they faced them with a dynamic leader, one who exuded supreme confidence and ability in the face of all hardships. Dudley Clarke believed in The Peninsula School, he firmly believed that the new school would succeed and he did all in his power to ensure that it did, he was tireless in his promotion of the School.

The School started in 1961 with just 8 staff and less than a hundred students; the Headmaster was able to help in the classroom teaching Religion, English, Mathematics and Music. A talented musician, he valued and promoted the performing arts as a means to develop the individual, something that he believed to be of paramount importance. Dudley aimed to create a school that would put character first, encourage initiative, teach community responsibility, provide a breadth of outlook. Fifty years later, the School has remained true to these values.

When Dudley left The Peninsula School, he left a thriving and successful establishment of which he was very proud. He became a regular visitor to the School, as guest speaker at Prizegiving ceremonies and Foundation Day assemblies. He enjoyed seeing the School grow and develop and his visits continued until his health started failing.

Dudley Clarke is remembered at Peninsula through Clarke House which was named in his honour. Clarke House has a lion as its symbol and appropriately, “Courage” as its motto. More recently the Board has taken the decision to create an enduring memorial to Dudley by naming our Junior School in his honour.

We extend our deepest sympathies to his wife, Fay and family.

Nadia Doll
School Archivist
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1961 and all that: reflections of an ‘old boy’ on the first day of school

For my first day, I briefly visit the world of 1961 as the context, my visit to the school, arrival down those steps to my future, and then my own feelings being in a new school.

Consider for a moment what 1961 was like. Many of you were not born yet; the world at large was very different. Australia was on the brink of becoming a nuclear state (yes, that’s right!): indeed the British nuclear tests were still underway and would remain so until 1964. Henry Bolte was the Premier of Victoria; our population was only 10.5 million and the Parkes Radio telescope (‘The Dish’) was opened by the GG on 21 October. When I arrived from England in Dec 1960 we settled in Perth, WA initially and then later, in August 1961, came to Melbourne and our home in Boundary Road (later Canadian Bay Road) Mt Eliza.

Mt Eliza was a very small village then and had little infrastructure, but it was central to my world: Peninsula School and Toorak a few minutes up the road; Ranelagh Estate with unmade roads; and no computers, video machines, CDs, mobile phones or colour TV; and (gasp) Pounds, Shillings and Pence as our currency! It was a very quiet place and had older residents, who maintained ‘holiday homes’ there - it was really something to grow up there and so different from where I had come.

And so it was, after we settled in Mt Eliza and had read about Peninsula, that sometime in September 1961, at the end of the Second Term, Mum took me there and the image of the first day seeing the place was one of surprise. The ‘atmospherics’ were unreal - smells of eucalypts, the balmy day, the smell of mud on the playground then located just behind the old junior school and lads bigger than little me playing footy (Aussie Rules Football). I looked at the vast expanse of grass and trees, then Mum asked me if I wanted to come here - would you like to come to this school Richard? I replied: ‘umm, yes Mum OK’. I was deeply impressed by these large expanses, made possible by the school’s location on an old Golf Course (the Green Shed, now gone, was the clubhouse). 96 acres I was told, and all for us to play in and fully exercise our imaginations to the limit.

Noted author, the late Arthur Koestler once wrote about how he felt when very young and left alone for a while - a ‘welling feeling’ inside - the wellspring of early youth - of being able to do what he wanted and be alone with his thoughts. He called it his “Oceanic feeling” and that is how I felt before my first day at school, and at the moment I went down those shallow steps to the Junior School, in September of 1961. The photo here is of me in the grey uniform of the day outside our new home in Mt Eliza, with Mum and my Sister Jane, who started at Toorak in ‘Alpha’, the first kindergarten class of the day. It was taken at the time that our ‘school clock’ - Reg Ansett’s chopper flying overhead - signalled it was time to go - I learned to hate it and like it at the same time as the start of the school day.

Experiencing a whole range of emotions: nervousness, excitement and the fear of the yet unknown all mixed together, I walked down those steps towards the front entrance: my portal to the future. Once again, the September air strong with eucalyptus; the pale sun, warm and comforting; the babble of schoolboys ready to start the day.

My first class was Grade 3 (then known as ‘Prep Ill’), my first Master Doug Curtis, who sadly passed away recently, who welcomed me to the place and what was to be my world until entry into the Senior School, some six years later. Masters were a real authority and usually wore black gowns not only as a symbol of that authority but more practically, to protect their suits from chalk dust. As we had no multi-media then, the blackboard and chalk were the go. Classes were not large in those days, maybe 25 boys tops, all about my grand old age of 8 or 9, recalling that my birthday was late June, so maybe I was a little younger than they were; I was certainly a lot smaller than they were. The other boys were from all over the Peninsula and all were very friendly to me. I did notice, right then, that no-one made feel bad about my accent, nor gave me a hard time about it; the other Masters would not tolerate it. This had not been the case in Perth, where I was the object of jokes about being a little pommy kid.

Again, entering the classroom confronted me with smells: the odour of polishing wax on the lino floor; and most of all, the smell of the wood of the desks. My desk was towards the back end of the classroom, to the right of Mr Curtis’ vision, then looking out to the south over gum trees, bottle brushes overlaid with the buzz of as yet unknown insect life - a relatively alien landscape to what I had known in England. It was all wood and its top was a big lid, opening up to reveal a space for books and kid’s stuff. A standing rule was that one did not look inside another boy’s desk.

I was struck by the comfort of the classes that day, being a very different experience from those in England. English schools were a lot harder than here and all of them very well established for many decades and some, for centuries. I think my Parents realised that a new school, like Peninsula, which as yet had no long-standing traditions, would be better for me because I could grow with it and be a part of their traditions too, rather than as an observer, who didn’t “fit in”. Peninsula and their teachers were all new too, very even
handed, tolerant, patient, knowledgeable and very keen on our development as good citizens, to be the best at whatever we did. My Mother recalls a Parent-Teacher meeting some time later and Dudley Clarke (the Headmaster) saying that it did not matter if we became garbage collectors, but if we did, we needed to be the best garbage collectors.

The curriculum was straightforward and brought home the basics: arithmetic (don’t tell me how adding up pounds shillings and pence wasn’t hard!), English and Australian History, Geography, Social Studies (then about the word we lived in), Scripture (but never force fed); Art and, yes, Nature! Us boys started the ‘Insect Patrol’ to gather hapless little bugs, most of whom were to remain in confinement for study. The school grounds were fertile environments for such study and we learnt much about our world there. My first day established the routines for the next few years. It started with initial roll call in the classroom, using last names or both, any messages for the day, then into Assembly for the Headmaster’s messages, hymns and any administrative points (usually reminding us about the creek being out-of-bounds; always a good enough reason to go there!) and finishing with the School Song (a good way to learn Latin). Immediately afterwards, the morning classes started and concluded with ‘morning recess’, a period where we went outside to do what boys do. Then two more periods before lunchtime - the Green Shed was the Tuck Shop and volunteer ladies staffed it - usually our Mums on a roster - we would provide somebody with a brown paper bag, with our names on it, two or three bob (two or three shillings at most) our class number and of course, our order: invariably, sausage rolls, pies, salad or vegemite rolls, apple pies - getting sauce shoved into your apple pie by the well-meaning tuck shop ladies was a problem! In those days, we had free milk deliveries to the school - unfortunately it might be halfway through the day before we got to it! About three periods after lunch before we went home - picked up by eager Parents. I can’t remember much of the end of that day, except the excitement of making new friends and the kindness of Mr Curtis.

In closing, mindful of context and personal impressions of others, the school had a positive, enduring shaping effect - it was about the present, being a new school with very contemporary and up-to-date views and values of the day, shaping and guiding us for the future in a very different and uncertain world of the day - I am still proud to be have been a part of that and I urge current students to feel the same. Quod Bonum Tenete is still as relevant today because it is what matters; whatever you are holding on to that works for you, be the best at it. To all of you younger students, I would add Carpe Diem - Seize the Day - for this time for you comes but once.

Richard Humby
Class of 1969

Some of the many Foundation Students who attended our 50th Year Celebrations
Mozaic
- an intricate pattern of fragments

The Mozaic Art Event was the culmination of a small idea that was sewn in 2010 and blossomed into a spectacular event displaying well over 250 paintings and many other pieces of artwork. The magic of art lies in its ability for an individual to ‘imagine’ their own sense of meaning or beauty and what better way to exemplify our golden jubilee motto than an event that exceeds imagination.

This exhibition showcased the creativity and imagination of our local artists and students and it was clearly evident from the works on display how rich our community is with talented artistic people.

Thank you to all our sponsors and volunteers for making this event possible and, in particular, the following:

- Audi Mornington
- Ksenija and Paul Minzenmay for Minzenmay Jewellers
- Selma and Johnathan Lowther from Elan Vineyard and
- Jannine and Brett Kellerman from Blue Gum Clothing.

The School team led by Lisa Mitchell worked tirelessly to ensure the success of Mozaic in its inaugural year and I offer my sincere appreciation on behalf of all those present for their remarkable effort. Thank you to student musicians, Matthew Witney, Trixie Neville, Drew Robinson & Victoria Roadnight who played beautifully at the opening ceremony.

Our guest artist Cathy van Ee is a distinguished artist who I had the pleasure of working with in the later part of last year. Cathy was commissioned to paint my portrait by the School and although the prospect of this project was confronting for me it didn’t take long to realise the exceptional skills of Cathy as an artist. A close examination of the work would identify her amazing ability to turn fact into something more flattering. Cathy is incredibly skilled in portraiture work and on this occasion I would like to recognise her achievement and thank her for her portrait of the Principal.

It was a pleasure to take the time to appreciate and enjoy the level of expertise, imagination and creativity on display in the R.T. Hille Performing Arts Centre.

Stuart Johnston
Principal

8
Good Evening,

From time-to-time people ask me why I do what I do…from time to time, I guess, we all ask ourselves the same question.

So, let’s explore that question.

I attended The Peninsula School from 1978 to 1983. Like all the parents here tonight, my father worked long and hard to afford my education and the many extra curricula activities the School provides. During my time as a student, I performed in the chorus of “Fiddler on the Roof” and “Joseph and His Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat”. It is from the former production, my first at Peninsula, that I have chosen the selection for Grainger Band to perform tonight. It is a little known fact that I also played Mr Squires to Mick Malloy’s Mrs Squires in the lesser known musical “Smike”, a performance I feel was pivotal to his career, if not to mine!

I returned to The School some five years later as a part time saxophone teacher, and completed my Education degree whilst working here.

Two years ago, my son Samuel, started at Peninsula, thus completing the trifecta for me – student, teacher and now parent. So obviously, I feel a strong connection to the School and an ongoing commitment.

But that is not why I do what I do.

As the father of a young child, the hours I work allow me to spend more time with my son than my father was ever able to with me, and there are the clothes and swimming lessons and Leggo and DVDs…. all the things that a four-year-old needs Daddy for!

But that is not why I do what I do.

I teach Middle School Music Technology in a classroom in our state-of-the-art Music Department, equipped with all manner of electronic goodies for me to play with – I mean, for the students to learn on!

But that is not why I do what I do.

I have been conducting the Grainger Band for fifteen years. The Band consists of students from Years 5 & 6; so the most experienced members have only been learning their instruments for some eighteen months, whilst many started at the beginning of this year. The lead up to a performance such as this evening’s involves a lot of work from students and instrumental teachers alike; whilst it is VERY exciting, it can also be nerve wracking! It requires a degree of encouragement, cajoling and outright threats – and that is only from my boss to me!

Before the performance the children are so full of nervous excitement, but then they walk out onto the stage, and no matter what the outcome, it is magic. Afterwards many will gather around me, faces radiant, beaming from ear-to-ear. “We played well didn’t we Mr Savige, we did it!”

And that is why I do what I do.

So thank you for joining us this evening to celebrate this milestone in my school’s history; trust me, even if they don’t do so now, your children will appreciate the education and the opportunities you have given them by sending them to The Peninsula School; but above all, share in their pride in their performances tonight.

I do what I do for the looks on their faces, but they do it for the looks on yours.

Rob Savige
Class of 1983 & Music Teacher
A Golden Celebration

Celebration Evening 2011 proved to be a wonderful occasion at which we recognised student achievement from across all areas of our program. The packed house was also treated to a wonderful selection of music from our major ensembles.

Inaugural Principal’s Colour

In our Golden Jubilee year, a new award was introduced that recognises sustained and outstanding achievement at the highest level. The students who received the inaugural Principal’s Colour were:

- Mitchell Pryce, a gifted academic, who achieved the amazing feat of being Dux of his year group in Years 8, 9, 10 & 11. At the time of writing, Mitchell was awaiting his VCE results; he aims to study Medicine in 2012. Such was Mitchell’s list of awards on Celebration Evening that he was loaned a trolley to wheel his many prizes off stage!

- Belle Brockhoff, following her recent winning performance at the NZ Winter Games where she won the Boardercross event beating many world ranked competitors. Currently ranked No. 1 in Australia in Boardercross and Grand Slalom, Belle’s success comes as little surprise given her lifelong commitment to snow sports. She is now training hard to achieve her aim of representing Australia in the next Winter Olympics in Russia in 2014.

We also had the opportunity to applaud the outstanding performance of the Dux of each Year group when they formed an impressive line across the apron of the stage.

Peninsula Cooks goes to Paris!

We have received the wonderful news that our Golden Jubilee publication Peninsula Cooks has been nominated for a highly prestigious Gourmand World Cookbook award to be decided in Paris in March. In total, there are 283 finalists from 71 countries in the various sections of the competition. We will compete in the Australia/Asia section against 3 other finalists.

Sponsored by our Parents’ Association (PSPA), Peninsula Cooks is the outcome of teamwork at its best. Without the generous contribution of recipes from our community, the beautiful photographic work from our students and the invaluable input from a number of our celebrated past students and friends of the School, who work in the restaurant industry, our cookbook would not have been possible.

It is fitting that Lisa Mitchell, who worked tirelessly as Editor, will represent the School at the Paris Cookbooks Fair and then at the Awards Ceremony which is to be held at the famous Folies Bergere Music Hall.

Duces 2011

Alexandra Karamesinis (Dux of Year 7)
Sophie Malan (Dux of Year 8)
Isabella Cahill (Dux of Year 9)
Eleanor Barry (Ray Hille Prize for Dux of 10)
Pham Van Anh (Monash Prize for Dux of Year 11)

The evening finished with the awarding of the PJ Wallace Cup for Champion House to Ansett House and then a rousing rendition of The Rhythm of Life, involving more than 50 students and staff.

It was a great night of celebration and entertainment which befitted this important Golden Jubilee event.

Phil Doll
Deputy Principal - Community Relations
Family Picnic and Fireworks

Steve Perry (Class of '79) and Southern Cross Fireworks truly ‘did us proud’ on Sunday 4 December when they staged the grand finale to the Golden Jubilee celebrations.

It may have been the chilliest December day on record but the atmosphere was warm and spirits were high as the carollers and musicians kept us entertained. Those who braved the cold were rewarded with a truly amazing display.

Comments for the evening include:
‘that was just the best I have ever seen’
‘that was better than New Year's Eve’
‘how will the Shire top that one?’
‘just when you thought it couldn’t get any better, it did’
‘just fantastic, we’ve never seen anything like it!’

Lisa Mitchell
Convenor Golden Jubilee

Images courtesy of Nicole and Clarissa
Has Peninsula not touched our every aspect?

There are certain defining moments within our education that total a list far too great to fully explore at present. There are some that are musical, there are some that are academic; there are those that build citizenship and others that build character.

The one I would share occurred over ten years ago. It was a time when girls still had cooties and boys still had boy germs – to be honest I have no recollection of what triggered the game of kiss chasey that lunchtime, but for a strapping young lad of 7 to get four kisses from four different girls within the space of an hour, I thought I was doing pretty well. But alas, the raucous euphoria of lunch was swiftly ended when my grade 2 teacher, Mrs Murray, ominously sat all the boys and all the girls down – informing us that we were to explain why kiss chasey was not a suitable game. It just so happened that the eight-year old Jourdan D’Urso’s explanation preceded mine, and seven-year old me thought it was on the money, so when it came to my reason I quickly quipped ‘Same as Jourdy’.

Well... I can’t remember the exact response I received from Mrs Murray that day, however I know that in essence it was ‘to think for yourself’. And so from that day forth – I’ve thought for myself. Look where that’s gotten me?

And now, our education has almost passed.

Our time at Peninsula draws to a close. Soon year 12 will be but a fleeting nuance of your time at Peninsula. Our time at Peninsula draws to a close. Soon year 12 will be but a fleeting nuance of your time at Peninsula.

But next to all these, what are the things that have gone right? Lend your focus to your successes, your moments of brilliance whether they be artistic, academic or sporting. Understand these memories, remember them and I hope you’ll look back and see them as symbolic of your time at Peninsula.

But now looking ahead, down the path that the next few months will take you, where do you see yourself? Where do you want to be in 3, 5 or 10 years? They say the world is one’s oyster, and it truly is. If you want to achieve then don’t hesitate, if you want to succeed then don’t be disheartened – we all have the essential attribute: we all have that of potential.

For those a little fearful of the upcoming exams, I would like to impart a phrase that my father has often incorrectly quoted: ‘Luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity.’ ~ Seneca the Younger

In essence, prepare well, study up and enjoy the benefit of having luck in your back pocket.

But after exams it is time for us to start anew. Once again we will be thrust into a different world, having to adapt, not to dissimilar to the first experiences of schooling all those years ago. With a clean slate next to our names we can endeavour to live with some of Peninsula’s enduring spirit, to act with integrity and seek out our personal best.

To surface in the world as part of Peninsula’s class of 2011, I believe I am truly honoured, our achievements as a cohort are vast and our experiences many. I wish you all the best of luck in your pursuits.

From postulating upon the present and the future, I conclude with fascinations passed, to the words of Theodor Seuss Geisel, more affectionately known as Dr Seuss, a man who coloured many childhoods with his mesmerizing rhyme and rhythm. To the class of 2011:

‘You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself in any direction you choose. You’re on your own. And you know what you know. You are the guy who’ll decide where to go.’

Mitchell Pryce
Senior Prefect 2011
Joint Dux 2011
Worthy of Note

Congratulations to the Class of 2011

VCE Results speak for themselves

I am pleased to report that the students of the graduating Class of 2011 enjoyed one of the finest set of results ever realised at The Peninsula School, with many personal bests being recorded. The results were a fine testament to the hard work of the students and the tireless dedication of their teachers and our support staff.

In particular, we congratulate the Duces of 2011, Grace Bilham and Mitchell Pryce, who each achieved an Australian Tertiary Admissions Ranking (ATAR) of 99.8. Special congratulations also go to Oliver Einsiedel (99.7), Nguyen Vu Nhu Y (99.15) and Nguyen Dac Khoa (99.05). In total, ten students scored ATARs of 98+ which is a wonderful result.

Impressively, our students recorded a median ATAR of 81.25; with 21 students achieving an ATAR of 95+ which placed them in the top 5% in Victoria and 46 students achieving 90+, placing them in the top 10% in the State.

This outstanding level of achievement was reflected across the breadth of subjects with the Year Level recording a mean Study Score of 33.4. Pham Van Anh warrants special mention as she achieved the highest possible mark of 50 in Further Maths. Impressively, 16.65% of all Study Scores saw students achieve 40+.

Well done to the Class of 2011.

Stuart Johnston
Principal
Worthy of Note

Siren, do thou direct sailors with song
As souls harmoniously do entwine.
Corporeality fades to pretence,
O’ hark! Sorcery, she hath shrouded
Ah, happy, happy earth! Ah, I am mov’d,
Spirits in Heaven gaze upon this day
Blessed am I to be their confidant.
The leaves murmur a secret to enchant,
Akin to modest cherubs on harp strings.
Which coyly twang th’ heart into unrest
So borrow thou th’ ear for songs of Spring;
Idle am I, celestial forest,
As open arms of lunacy embrace.
Toward demise he heedlessly doth race,
She cross’d his path, she set his brain
O’ night-shade halt th’ drawing in of breath,
I cry ‘till breath so fleeting hath ‘scaped lung,
An’ mourn th’ song of love, ever unsung. 
Womanly tears, I be widow - not wife.
As drought withers th’ once promising rose,
Fair love doth wilt; to nothingness – she goes.
Us unwittingly into th’ grave.
And so, reason doth meet untimely end,
When ‘gainst capricious feeling she doth fend.
Cease scrutiny of th’ fathomless soul,
Rest thy thought weary upon this pillow-
“Beauty is truth, truth beauty” – that is all.
Ye know on earth, and all ye need to know.
"Beauty is truth, truth beauty" – that is all.
Thy gaze doth seek and draw me in. 
O’ hes’tation, she stays my reckless thought,
And makes me fear the love that I have sought.
Such fear may render any man undone, 
To clasp, to touch, to kiss – be it a sin?
O Worthy of Note

Grace Bilham
Joint Dux 2011

An Assessment Piece - L’Amour Éphémère

Be this a gentleman or vagabond,
With countenance unkempt, uncomb’d, uncouth?
Th’ path primrose chaperons him along,
Th’ tint of rose colours his glasses true.
Vision of beauty, fleetingly admire - 
O’ woe - this man is frighted with false fire?
She cross’d his path, she set his brain alight,
She made his sense confounded by his sight.
Toward demise he heedlessly doth race, 
As open arms of lunacy embrace.

Idle am I, celestial forest,
So borrow thou th’ ear for songs of Spring; 
Which coyly twang th’ heart into unrest Akin to modest cherubs on harp strings.
The leaves murmur a secret to enchant, 
Blessed am I to be their confidant.
Spirits in Heaven gaze upon this day And envy all, from beetle to blue jay.
Ah, happy, happy earth! Ah, I am mov’d, 
Never desire to bid the Spring adieu.
O’ hark! Sorrow, she hath shrouded sense,
Art thou a wondrous fairy or divine? Corporeality fades to pretence, 
As souls harmoniously do entwine.
Siren, do thou direct sailors with song 
To undiscover’d death, in ocean deep.
Nay, beauty such as this may do no wrong, An’ so misgiving, I must put to sleep.
O’ latest born, loveliest vision far, 
Fairer than Phoebe’s sapphire region’d star.

Fair dame may one draw near to thy altar? 
To clasp, to touch, to kiss – be it a sin? 
Approach, I would, yet I linger afar, 
Although thy gaze doth seek and draw me in. 
O’ hes’tation, she stays my reckless thought, 
And makes me fear the love that I have sought. 
Such fear may render any man undone, 
To clasp, to touch, to kiss – be it a sin? 
O’ woe this man is frighted with false fire?

In both the technical and thematic aspects.
To release the beauty that he would have won.
Perfume of destiny is in th’ air, 
Melodious fragrance, so sweet, so fair.
O’ fie! Cursed deity! Destructive sprite! 
Frost-like reason quench’d th’ flame, dimm’d th’ light!
I cry ‘till breath so fleeting hath ‘scaped lung,
An’ mourn th’ song of love, ever unsung.
O’ night-shade halt th’ drawing in of breath,
Or wolf’s-bane suck th’ honey’d blood of life!
O’ loneliness gladly exchang’d for death;
Womanly tears, I be widow - not wife.
As drought withers th’ once promising rose,
Fair love doth wilt; to nothingness – she goes.
Be this a gentleman or vagabond?
It matters not – thou art kin ‘tout le monde’.
Be this a gentleman or vagabond?
Fairer than Phoebe’s sapphire region’d
O’ latest born, loveliest vision far,
As drought withers th’ once promising rose,
Fair love doth wilt; to nothingness – she goes.
Be this a gentleman or vagabond?
It matters not – thou art kin ‘tout le monde’.
Be this a gentleman or vagabond?
Fairer than Phoebe’s sapphire region’d
O’ latest born, loveliest vision far,
As drought withers th’ once promising rose,
Fair love doth wilt; to nothingness – she goes.

O’ woe this man is frighted with false fire? 
O’ woe this man is frighted with false fire? 
O’ woe this man is frighted with false fire?

An Assessment Piece - L’Amour Éphémère

Statement of Intention

This poem was written as a creative response to those of the pivotal Romantic poet John Keats; namely ‘La Belle Dame Sans Merci’, ‘To Autumn’, ‘Ode on Melancholy’, ‘Ode to Psyche’ and ‘Ode on a Grecian Urn’. The chosen form of poetry allowed me to emulate the works of Keats in both the technical and thematic aspects. The female figure and use of two different narrators echoes ‘La Belle Dame Sans Merci’, encapsulating the fleetingness and perfection of love. The poem is entitled in “L’Amour Éphémère” (ephemeral love) because of the use of the French, as in ‘La Belle Dame Sans Merci’, adds an idea that the female is foreign and mysterious. The structure of six ten line stanzas echoes that of ‘Ode on a Grecian Urn’ to express a similar celebration of love, beauty and the theory of negative capability.

Thematically, the ideas of love, beauty in nature, and emotion over reason have been explored in order to connect with Keats’ broader theories. The idea of beauty is reflected in nature and the female figure, both of which providing a source of aesthetic experience which Keats idolised. The love the man feels towards the creature reflects the figure of ‘Psyche true’ in ‘Ode to Psyche’; a love which suggests the experience of the sublime. The sublime is an intense appreciation of beauty which Keats, and many Romantics poets, attempted to produce in their poetry; thus I have tried to mirror this in themes and structure. Within this I have intertwined the philosophy of negative capability; the idea that one must accept the unresolved uncertainty to life and appreciate beauty as the only truth. The fundamental theory of the Romantic poets, and so of Keats as one of the leaders of the movement, is reflected in ‘Ode on a Grecian Urn’ and ‘La Belle Dame Sans Merci’. Hence I have juxtaposed the Age of Enlightenment with its backlash, the Romantic Movement, through the use of a logical and scientific observer in the first and final stanza. This observer was inspired by Keats’ ‘La Belle Dame Sans Merci’ as it provides an impartial analysis of events and voices the theories I am exploring. The observer speaks of ‘sense’, ‘reason’ and ‘thought’ and condemns how they are overcome by ‘passion’ and ‘capricious feeling’. The middle four stanzas, from the man’s perspective, are a vehicle through which I have voiced the themes and ideas of Keats. Moreover, I have attempted to prove the power of beauty and love through the man, so forcing the scientific observer to concede that “Beauty is truth, truth beauty” - that is all.”

From a technical perspective I have written a poem to best follow the style, subtlety and beauty of Keats’ writing. The form of an ode was chosen mainly to emulate one of Keats’ five major odes, ‘Ode on a Grecian Urn’, and to similarly celebrate love and beauty. Keats often wrote in the ode form to pay tribute to nature and love,
as in ‘To Autumn’, as odes are celebrations of their object which are intended to be chanted. However unlike the traditional ode I have followed the way Keats, in ‘Ode on Melancholy’, has used narrators who speak directly to the reader rather than the subject of the ode. Thus, the observer poses the question to the reader ‘Be this a gentleman or vagabond?’ only to realise the equalising factor of human emotion in the final stanza. Furthermore, I have generally written in iambic pentameter, lives of five feet with each a short then long syllable, as the even rhythm it creates suits the pace of my poem. The iambic pentameter has alternated in some lines to enhance the emotion portrayed. Where necessary I used elisions to make the words, such as ‘honey’d’, follow the iambic pentameter in the style of Keats. The poem has an alternating rhyme scheme which is ABABCCDDEE (stanza 1, 2 and 4), ABABCCDDEE (stanza 3), AABBCDCDEE (stanza 5) or AABBCCCDEDE (stanza 6). I decided to use masculine endings to each line to continue the iambic pentameter, and because the strong sound of words such as ‘rose/ goes’ and ‘race/ embrace’ reflect the endings Keats used. They also provide a weighty conclusion to each line, making the reader pause and slowing the rapid meter of the poem.

The first stanza is narrated by the logical observer who questions the identity of the dreamy man and, upon seeing him become arrested by a vision, observes his descent into ‘lunacy’. The alliteration ’path primrose’ and metaphor ‘tint of rose’ reflect Keats’ ideals of beauty and love. The logical thought of the observer is apparent as he condemns man’s imagination, revered by the Romantic poets, in the alliteration ‘frighted with false fire’. I have used an accent commonly used by Keats with ‘sin’ while using a long syllable I have used alliteration to give the line rhythm, joint dux 2011

The second stanza, narrated by the man, is strongly influenced by ‘To Autumn’ except the appreciation of nature does not reflect the closing of life in autumn but the beginning of life and love in spring. The season of Spring was chosen as it allows the growth of nature which Keats extolled, and brings with it the possibility of new love. The motif of ‘songs of Spring’ is taken directly from Keats’ ‘To Autumn’, and used to reflect through synaesthesia the beauty of nature in both sound and sight. The line ‘Ah, happy, happy earth! Ah, I am mov’d, / Never desire to bid the Spring adieu.’ is adapted from a line in ‘Ode to Psyche’ to reflect the everlasting appearance of beauty in nature.

In the third stanza, the man reflects on the love he has found and the nature of this love. The opening line suggests the idea of witchcraft through the alliteration and personification ‘Sorcery, the hath smoked sense’, as well as the man’s doubt over whether the vision is ‘a wondrous fairy or divine’. This doubt then recurs in questioning whether she is an evil ‘siren’, yet the motif of truth is beauty emerges as ‘beauty such as this may do no wrong’. The final couplet is taken from ‘Ode to Psyche’ as the lines: ‘O’ latest born, loveliest vision far, / Fairer than Phoebe’s sapphire region’d star.’ best encapsulate the sublime beauty which the man sees in referencing the moon. The fourth stanza begins with a line of spondaic pentameter to slow the pace down as the man ponders ‘Fair dame may one draw near to thy altar?’ The excitement of his passion is then expressed through the pyrrhic pentameter ‘To clasp, to touch, to kiss – be it a sin?’ which is fast and staccato the preceding line. As Keats does in the almost clip-clop sound of a horse iambic pentameter of ‘I set her on my pacing steed’ in ‘La Belle Dame Sans Merci’, I have tried to reflect the man’s emotions through the meter of the poem. The meter then returns to iambic pentameter, and so in order to rhyme with ‘sin’ while using a long syllable I have used an accent commonly used by Keats to lengthen the syllable in ‘Although thy gaze doth seek and draw me in:’ I then have questioned the weakness of man in ‘hes tation’ which reflects Keats’ ‘Ode to Indolence’ as he celebrates idleness. Finally, through the couplet: ‘Perfume of destiny is in th’ air, Melodious fragrance, so sweet, so fair’, I have again used synaesthesia to reflect the beauty of the woman and the possibility of love hereafter. The fifth stanza reflects ‘Ode on Melancholy’ as it is a mournful preface to the lament ‘- she goes’. Similar to Keats, the man suggests the ‘night-shade’ and ‘wolf’s-bane’ as ways in which to end his life now that his love has left. Reason is ‘frost-like’ as it quenches imagination and love, which expresses the Romantic distaste for the logic of the Age of Enlightenment. Thus the man weeps, showing his heightened emotions which may seem ‘womanly’, but in fact express the feeling of the Romantic poets. In the line ‘Womanly tears, I be widow - not wife’ I used alliteration to give the line rhythm, suggesting that even in the depths of despair the man appreciates beauty. Thus, as in ‘La Belle Dame Sans Merci’, the love leaves the man with nothing but sadness and a memory of love. However, it is suggested that although the man does not experience the love he had hoped to, Keats believed the expectation of love surpassed the actual experience. Thus in ‘Ode on a Grecian Urn’ he asserts that ‘Heard melodies are sweet, but those unheard! Are sweeter’, the love he imagined exceeds that which he would have experienced.

The final stanza returns to the point of view of the observer who repeats his question ‘Be this a gentleman or vagabond?’ to realise that the labels which society places upon man mean nothing in the face of love as ‘thou art kin ‘tout le monde’’, which is French for ‘all the world’. He condemns passion initially yet realises that ‘reason doth meet untimely end’ in the face of human emotion as the personified passion, as Keats believed, is the ultimate experience. Finally the philosophy of negative capability is expressed as a ‘pillar’ upon which to “rest thy thought weary” and cease trying to understand the meaning of human existence. The final couplet is taken directly from Keats’ ‘Ode on a Grecian Urn’ as it expresses both negative capability and extols beauty and love as the only truth, and so pays tribute to Keats in this context.

Grace Bilham
Joint Dux 2011

Celebrating Fifty Years
1961 - 2011
Exceeding Imagination
It is with great honour that I stand before you this evening. Thank you to our parents, Mr Johnston, distinguished guests, and teachers who join us here tonight to celebrate the Valedictory of the Class of 2011. I of course, welcome you, my fellow past students of The Peninsula School.

Earlier in the year, Nicholas Barry thought it would be funny to pull my chair out from underneath me. All hilarity ensued; I landed flat on my back and my sandwich flew into my face. A piece of ham covered my eye and there was carrot in my hair. I was so embarrassed that I ran out of the common room crying and I was even more embarrassed by the fact that I had actually started crying over something so ridiculous.

Yes, I was having a bad day.

Well I believe that after the excitement of finishing school has faded, we might all feel like we’ve had our chair pulled out from underneath us.

We have been going to school for thirteen years, five days a week, six hours a day. Not that I was counting.

And now, it is gone.

Now, I’m not suggesting we relive the pressures of VCE, or the early mornings to play Saturday sport or the late nights of proving teachers wrong by finishing an assignment that we were well assured, could not be finished in one night.

But I am saying that we might feel lost without the routine of school. As I only joined The Peninsula School in Year 9, I can only imagine that in Year 7, you sat attentively on your chairs; always on the lookout for teachers, just in case, heaven forbid, you were caught on ‘Bubble Trouble’ or ‘Tetris.’ In Year 9, we slouched in our chairs as we cruised through the curriculum that mostly consisted of camps and excursions. In Year 11 we sat up in shock as we now realised that we actually had to do some work and finally, in Year 12 we slumped in our seats from the exhaustion and pressures of VCE.

As each year went on, the way we sat in our chair changed. But one thing was always the same; the chair was always there when we sat down.

I’m going to miss The Peninsula School, if not for the hard work, then for many other reasons. I know I will miss the chair that I sat in that was so familiar for all those years. And I know everyone here will miss it too- if not the classes or friends or sport or academics or perhaps if you were keen you might miss the exams.

If not for our learning, then we will at least remember our experiences at The Peninsula School: our friends, our rivalries, our Year 12 formal, our Muck-up day that never was, and our crazy shoe day that epically failed; our camps, time spent with our tutor groups and our achievements.

On that note, I’d like to take the time to acknowledge the achievements of our teachers and members of our year level that duly represent the school’s key values of personal excellence, team spirit and a sense of community: Belle Brockoff, champion; The AGSV Boys volleyball premiers; Maddi Borg’s ability to ask no less than 27 questions in a single chemistry lesson; Mr McMenamin, despite being the only non-French speaking person on a

the French trip, he was the only one who could navigate the Parisian Metro system and lead us in the right direction! Simon Greg- I hope to see you in Barcelona at the World Juniors running for Australia; Nick and Nathaniel, for having a relationship that made all girls jealous; Matt Tuckett, Slurpee sculler extraordinaire; Oliver Hoffland for managing to tuck his shirt in and do up his top bottom on Foundation Day assembly, need I say more? Ben Austin, for demonstrating his accomplished skills in wearing high heels on crazy shoe day; Eve Nguyen, for being the all round coolest person ever; Alex Besson, for eating ten cheeseburgers on P2C and then proceeding to vomit in front the Arts Centre; the girl’s AGSV athletics champions; Bethany Hunter- for attending so few French classes that she now has a verb named after her; Mrs Morgan, for making the Perry Building stairs a place to be truly feared and finally, Joel Tindley, for pioneering the highly successful and popular Snack Thursday.
These are just a few events and memories that will define our high school experience. Most of us may be glad for our time at The Peninsula School to be finished as we enter a new chapter of our lives, but our time at school will always stay with us. We may forget the quadratic formula or how to smoothly integrate quotes into an essay but we will never forget the sense of community that the school has fostered. This school brought us together in a way that is unique and, whether you’ve been a lifer or just dropped in for a year, we were all constantly surrounded by people, who were experiencing the same pressures, worries and joys. We all had a common goal to finish our high school education.

And now? We’ve done all that we can at high school and we must find a new place to sit, so to speak.

We have most certainly outgrown the chair that we once sat in at The Peninsula School and therefore we can no longer define ourselves by it. The chair that was there for us every day will be present no more. You might, in some sense, feel as if your chair has been pulled out from underneath you. But it’s okay if you feel like that; you’re not the one who ran out crying.

So what do we do now? And more importantly, who do we want to be?

It is now that we must direct our attention to our teachers because they must be smarter than they look. We only need to look to those who we perceive to be the best teachers and for whom that we hold the utmost respect. What do they all have in common? They are all passionate about their subjects and it is this passion that enables their success. So if you are lucky enough to make a career out of your passion, success will surely follow.

For some of us, we already know what this passion is, like Daniel Whitaker whose lifelong ambition is to become a stunt driver/underwear model. Perhaps he wishes to follow in the footsteps of Mr Cooper. In the words of the man himself, “keep calm and carry on.”

But if you don’t know what you want from life, this is not the time to make a decision that will determine this. This is the time to make mistakes, to travel the world, to study Arts, because it is one of the most enjoyable yet least employable things to study. Change your mind, and change it again because maybe through all of this, you might find exactly what you want to do. Take your time, because this is life. It’s a good thing we don’t all run on Schuurman time; otherwise we might just work out what we want and who we want to be, 15 minutes too late...

The Peninsula School will be very different next year, not just because of the addition of the Senior School centre that we unfortunately miss out on, but because of the many sporting teams will be left with great holes as significant proportions of team members will be leaving; the teachers will no doubt miss many of the colourful personalities that make up our year level and the stage will never be the same as Peninsula will be losing some of its finest actors and musicians. But, the cycle goes on; another talented group of students will fill the seats we leave. Their talents will be different to ours, and will no doubt add to the legacy that we leave behind.

So next year, good luck without us, as several buildings leave and change, so do we- I wish you all the luck in reinventing yourselves.

I would like to acknowledge our parents because for many, this may be a difficult time for them too. Indeed, they have funded our $50 a day education but they have done so much more than that. They have supported us in times of need, they have risen at ungodly hours on a Saturday so that we can play sport and they have celebrated our achievements and successes. Our parents will always be there for us, for it is their job.

It is through their support, the lessons learned and relationships formed at The Peninsula School that we leave our old chair behind and take new steps into the world, to find a different chair that is quintessential to whom we are, or who we aspire to be.

Class of 2011, in Year 9 I wanted nothing more, than to not be part of you; but through my time here, you’ve made me realise that first impressions are not always correct and that if you put your trust and faith in other people you may well be rewarded with friendships that last a lifetime. I feel privileged to be a part of you today.

I wish you all the luck in life. Congratulations Class of 2011.

Hannah Robbins
Valedictorian 2011
Reflections of Our Leading Teachers

Lucy Gowdie

‘I sound my barbaric YAWP over the rooftops of the world’, wrote American Poet Walt Whitman, while I would like to claim I do this too, I have colleagues who fervently disagree, they would argue, ‘I sound my shriek through the halls of P Block.’ What they mistake for aggressive and overpowering tone is in fact my enthusiasm for the subject matter I am teaching in the classroom. I have often believed that the more lively and engaged we are as teachers, the more students will respond to us. I have never been a ‘textbook’ teacher; I don’t like reading slabs of information or constantly referring to notes to convey a message. I have always adopted an enthusiastic approach to teaching and hoped that this would enhance student learning and foster an appreciation of the subjects that I teach.

This is perhaps why I failed Science and Maths throughout my entire secondary schooling. I never found a teacher I connected with in these subjects; I never enjoyed the learning that was offered and quite frankly I could not understand how Pythagoras’ theorem could engage or interest anyone, ever. It was therefore, quite fitting that my first observation as a Leading Teacher be in a Year Eight science class. Invited to watch Sue Beckman deliver a lesson on ‘Rates of Reaction’ I felt excited and somewhat petrified to be back behind the bunsen burners. As I have worked with Sue before, I knew her control of classroom behaviour and etiquette would be excellent. It soon became obvious that had I had a teacher half as learned and measured as Sue when I was in Year Eight, I would have engaged much more readily with the content taught.

Sue is a teacher whose focus is on student centred learning, she does not give the student’s copious amounts of information; instead, she instills in them a sense of ownership, that they have to come to their own understanding and take their own notes and comprehend in their own way. I found this method of imparting knowledge so refreshing. I have often thought I spoon fed my students, commenting that many of them had regurgitated the spoon in their writing, but Sue’s approach was far more effective, she made the learning about each individual student. They each had their own summary book and as she spoke they took notes on the elements they believed important. It was this summary book that garnered my attention. Perhaps science had something useful to offer the humanities subjects that I teach after all….

After watching Sue develop a mature and focused classroom, with a young group of students, I realised that the summary book idea could be applied in my senior classes and so I have trialled this in my Year 12 International Studies class. I provided the students with the content for each of my lessons and they wrote down what they deemed to be important; this replicates what they will face in tertiary studies and has been of great benefit to them.

Hence Sue’s approach has reaffirmed my own philosophy that we are not standing in front of the class simply to provide the answers or read from a book, the process of getting to the answer independently and with confidence matters so much more.

While I expected a stark contrast to the student centred learning approach when visiting Melinda Balfour’s Grade Two Literacy class, I was amazed to find the same methodology working within the Junior School. I am not quite sure what it was I expected to find on the Monday morning I observed Melinda’s class, but what I found was a classroom of children avidly reading their chosen texts in silence. Melinda was calmly listening to students read and addressing their errors with subtlety and care. The structure that has been established in this classroom is clear as students responded to Melinda’s directions instantly and with little confusion.

When beginning their Literacy Circles, I was astounded to find students could define the structure of a short story using words like ‘resolution’ and ‘complication’ to identify how the story should develop. It made me reflect on my senior English class who often argue ‘it’s too hard to write a short story’ or ‘they have never been taught’ the structure before. Melinda’s group of six and seven year olds had a clear grasp of what the expectations of a story writer should be, and I was truly in awe of the work that she must have done to have reached this point with the class.

The creation of Literacy Circles further catered to the needs of the individual by allowing them to work at their own pace and level, challenging them while developing crucial skills in writing, spelling and reading. These circles worked independently of each other and the students were focused on their set task, they were clearly independent learners with a willingness to engage in the subject matter. Melinda’s creation of a welcoming and relaxed learning environment had clearly impacted on these students as they responded to her every instruction with enthusiasm.

While the subject matter of the Year Eight and grade two classes was worlds apart, the teaching methods share many commonalities. Both teachers desired student-centred learning and had created environments in which the students knew what was expected of them. Both teachers had established calm and focused classrooms in which students felt confident to ask questions when unsure and work with each other in order to achieve their goals. Most importantly of all, the teachers who stood in front of these classes enjoyed their subject matter, they made the connection between the theory and the practice relevant, and ensured the students were taking steps in developing their own learning style, less reliant on the teacher and more aware of their own abilities.

Through these observations, I have come to appreciate that while I may not have a yawp as such, my ‘shriek’ is in fact shared by others, across all areas of the curriculum and year levels. My enthusiasm and approach to teaching is shared in many ways by teachers’ who have, over time, adopted their own unique approach.
to their subject matter. Sue with her calm and focused approach, Melinda with her relaxed and subtle guidance have both instilled in me an understanding of the similarities that we share across the school and the curriculum. Sue and Melinda have reinforced in me an awareness that regardless of the content being delivered it is the teacher who creates the love of learning, and it is the teacher’s responsibility to engage and inspire. Through their own unique styles they made me realise that the students are responsible for taking that knowledge and making the most of it, regardless of their age, and that learning in itself is a skill. No one student learns or retains information in the same way.

Lucy Gowdie
English Faculty

Karen Kennedy

Scholarly discussion on what constitutes ‘good teaching practice’ has been a topic of discussion for decades. When I first joined the teaching fraternity, probably more years ago than I care to remember (or certainly care to advertise), my aim was simple enough – to inspire others with a life-long love of learning, much like I had once been inspired by a teacher I met late in my secondary schooling.

No doubt we all remember such a mentor – mine was a seriously high powered English teacher who I met for the first time in Year 11. I remember her well – she had the perfect attributes of an exceptional teacher, even from my youthful student vantage point. Simply said, she was charismatic in the classroom. I remember venturing into her English classes every day and really wanting to listen to her wisdom and general musings. Whether she was singing the praises of Jane Austen or delving into the tangled insights of some of Sylvia Plath’s more esoteric poetry or dissecting one of the Bard’s sonnets, I was entranced. It wasn’t simply my interest in the content of her lessons – the literature she unravelled with us - although that was clearly riveting too. I was impressed by her passion in the classroom, her boundless enthusiasm with a group of adolescent girls no matter what time of the day, no matter what day of the week. I was mesmerised by the fact that whatever she taught us, she delivered with such fervour. It was impossible for her charges not to be caught up in the same enthusiasm. Her passion was contagious. She clearly loved her work – of that, there was no doubt.

The legacy of my encounter with this dynamic teacher inspired my passion for learning, but probably more to the point thrust me into the realm of education. Before meeting her, I certainly hadn’t entertained teaching as a profession. Interestingly enough, I remember very little of the content of her lessons. Rather, I remember simply that she inspired me and pushed me to achieve my very best in everything that I did under her tutelage. That drive and that passion quickly spilled into other areas of my life. Carol Buchner’s words aptly sum up what I believe made this mentor such an exceptional educator and such an exceptional presence in my early life, ‘They may forget what you said, but they will never forget how you made them feel.’

In recent weeks I have been privileged to be invited to witness two fine educators comfortably at work in their natural environment. I watched Tracey Carter teach a Year 11 Chemistry class and was suitably impressed with her skill level in organic chemistry and mesmerised by her tricks with teflon tape. Maureen Anstey then welcomed me into her Year 5 classroom where I joined with enthusiastic children in an engaging creative writing class and became as mesmerised as the students in the fate of Elen Carroll in downtown New York. The children at The Peninsula School are in capable hands under the instruction of such accomplished pedagogues.

In my mind, ‘good teaching practice’ is certainly multi-faceted. Extraordinary teachers should have a resounding passion for their privileged job in education. How could teachers do what they do every day without genuinely loving what they do? Extraordinary teachers should have obvious expertise in their curriculum area – surely this stands to reason. Extraordinary teachers should enjoy being with children. This too makes good sense as teachers spend an inordinate amount of time with their young charges. Extraordinary teachers should be flexible, understanding and open to change. Educating children over years transforms teachers in mysterious ways and for that teachers should be most grateful. Teachers can be justifiably proud of their capacity to transform young lives for the better, but should be equally proud to see their own lives changed as a result of their interaction with their charges.

Extraordinary teachers don’t walk into a classroom every day and create magic – not every day at least. There are lessons for us all that don’t go to plan, whether that is because of an unforeseen technological hitch that thwarts our very best plans (believe me, it happens) or some other setback in the classroom. The true virtue of an extraordinary teacher is the capacity to reflect on those more ‘ordinary’ days and cast a discerning eye over what went wrong and why. Extraordinary teachers are always open to reflection and are proud to admit that they will never stop learning. Conversely, extraordinary teachers should be able to celebrate what went right with their lessons too and quietly rejoice in the fact that their lesson was a success!

In conclusion, extraordinary teachers recognise that they are a crucial part of a school community and work collectively with others to improve that community. As a school Principal recently penned in an educational forum ‘No-one has the right to waste a day in the life of a child.’ In the end, I think that extraordinary teachers make sure that no child’s day is wasted.

Karen Kennedy
English Faculty
Announcement –

Peninsula Golf Classic 2012

The date for the 2012 Peninsula Golf Classic has been booked for Friday 23 March. It will again be held at the National Golf Club at Cape Schanck.

We will be playing on the Old Course with a shotgun start at 8am and are looking forward to a great day of golf and networking… not to mention, winning a few prizes!

To make enquiries regarding sponsorship or to book in your team, please contact: Suzanne Ashley on 9788 7825 or email: sashley@tps.vic.edu.au
Farewell Lance Hodgins after 35 years of dedicated classroom practice

The Lance Hodgins’ story revolves around the classroom, the centre of Lance’s time at The Peninsula School. Thirty-five years in the classroom at the one school is an outstanding feat, one that shows rare loyalty and perseverance, but for Lance this was simply where he wanted to be. The decision to retire to the greener pastures of his Hastings horse property has not come easily and Lance has arguably retired at the peak of his game.

Despite the rigours of changes in technology and curriculum, Lance has always been at the leading edge of his subject, insisting on high standards from his students and expecting the same from members of his department. In his time at Peninsula Lance must have inspired many hundreds of students to study Geography.

I arrived at Peninsula School fresh out of Monash University – a ‘green’ but madly enthusiastic wet-behind-the-ears teacher in an all-boy’s school with a largely male staff over 40. I was closer in age to virtually all of the students than to any of the staff and would clearly have floundered even more without the tutelage and mentoring support of Lance. The easy rapport he developed with his students was remarkable and was only exceeded by the passion with which he taught his beloved Geography. Lance’s subject knowledge was unsurpassed and he had developed an organised and comprehensive curriculum.

We shared an office and along with Steve Gregory, spare periods were spent discussing environmental issues, spatial concepts and teaching techniques. Initially resistant to the introduction of the Laptop Program, Lance rapidly rode with the changes and embraced the possibilities this technology created, quickly becoming expert in developing a computerised program including the introduction of GIS software.

More recently, lunchtimes spent debating such controversial issues as climate change; asylum seekers, and water resource management have kept me on my toes and rarely does Lance give much ground!

Peninsula has clearly been a huge part of Lance’s life, yet he always managed an enviable balance with a host of interests; involvements and pursuits outside school.

Now, the balance shifts, as Lance’s life enters a new phase with more time for horses; baseball and Lee Kernaghan, and less time for marking and reports. And who wouldn’t envy him that? I wish Lance and Joan a long and happy retirement.

Alan Wiggs Geography Faculty

I had the pleasure of working with Lance for 32 years and have never failed to be impressed by both the commanding presence he emanates and the respect he enjoyed from his students.

He will also be remembered by many students as the ever-smiling Head of Town and later Clarke House; the experienced and well qualified coach of Athletics and arguably one of the best coaches of school softball in Victoria. Watching Lance ‘call the plays’ from the sidelines is a learning experience in itself.
This was the sentiment from Peter Barnett, The Director of The Kimberley 2 Way Exchange program.

Back in August I was asked to meet with Peter Barnett to discuss the possibility of arranging a two way exchange with The Peninsula School and the Werlemen program for girls in Kununurra in the Kimberleys. It seemed a mammoth challenge at the time to find four girls who would be able to take on this challenge with me, and to experience a possible trip of a life time for us all. A week later I had my four wonderful young ladies, Eve Nguyen, Katherine Bertrand, Caroline Carr and Charlotte Johnstone. All excited and waiting to take on the unknown.

On the 28th September, after quite a delay at Tullamarine airport due to the electrical storms around Melbourne, we were packed and on our way. We arrived on the morning of the Thursday 29th September and as we came down the steps of the plane, the heat hit us and it was 39 degrees. Was this something we had to contend with every day? This was to be our first challenge of the trip.

Waiting to meet us were our hosts; five very pretty indigenous girls, Sharanne, Sharine, Joline, Anna and Sheba, with their Elder Josie, teacher Emma and Peter. We were driven to the Aboriginal hostel. Our adventure had started.

We were challenged every day, firstly with the weather conditions and secondly trying to understand and learn the indigenous culture and lifestyle that survived in Kununurra, but we were ready. Some of the amazing activities we undertook varied from swimming in Aboriginal water holes with the blessing of the "Mirrawang tribe". Visiting Zebra rock, where they make wonderful artefacts from this beautiful rock found in Kununurra. Going horse riding in the bush, canoeing down the river Ord in 40 degree heat, archery and at the end of the day walking to Molly Springs to find a beautiful gorge with a waterfall. Speed boat trips down the river Ord, which is over 85 kilometres long. We jumped off high rocks into sparkling cool water, we laughed and screamed and cried together as we met every challenge, but the hardest challenge was still to come, to camp in the outback!

Camping under the stars was amazing and as I lay there they got brighter and increased in volume, I pinched myself a few times, was this really happening? With no showers or toilets and digging trenches for trapping animals for research, the challenge was on for everyone to grit their teeth and carry on.

After two nights in the outback it was time to leave for our next stop at El Questro. A million acre homestead and the most beautiful scenery I had ever seen. We had the pleasure of a scenic flight over the property and I think everyone will always remember the buzz as we took off in a prop plane with our pilot Jamie.

In regard to this new girls’ program I would especially like to thank and acknowledge the girls from the Joodoogeb-be-gerring Werlemen Program in Kununurra, and our girls Katherine Bertrand, Eve Nguyen, Charlotte Johnston and Caroline Carr and the parents who have supported and encouraged their daughters participation in this exciting, first time “girls” cultural exchange program. I acknowledge the courage to take part in a program that requires a risk to step out of your comfort zone and meet people from very different parts of the country or even different parts of the world, and to meet them in a variety of places and ways that may be unfamiliar to you. Well done on your willingness to have given this program a go.

Wendy Lawson
Head of Heather Reilly House

Indigenous Students’ Program

I would like to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to all for your interest, support and encouragement toward making this inaugural Kimberley 2Way Girls’ Program a reality.
It’s hard to describe how incredible the trip to the Kimberley during the September holidays was. It was truly a once in a lifetime opportunity, and something I will never forget. Each day we experienced amazing landscapes and new activities.

On the first day we arrived, we were “welcomed to country” by the Mirrawang People. We were taken down to a picturesque river, to the waters edge and had water splashed on our heads, whilst an elder said something in Mirrawang language; as if we were being baptized. They welcome foreigners to their ‘country’ so that we are safe whilst on their land. It was a moment I’ll never forget.

We visited so many amazing water holes and water falls whilst we were in the Kimberley region, including El Questro Gorge which had crystal clear water. El Questro’s scenery in general was breathtaking, whether seeing it from the scenic flight, or Branco’s lookout.

New friendships were also made. Even though the Peninsula girls and Werlemen girls come from incredibly different backgrounds, we still found we had many similarities.

I would encourage everyone to find out more about the next Kimberley Two-Way Exchange and to take this opportunity. The trip was an experience I’ll never forget, and I got so much out of it.

Katherine Bertrand
Heather Reilly House
A long and restful break over the summer is just what we all needed to recharge the batteries after another action packed year. 2011 was no different to ones past, it flew by and I must say it seems as if time is speeding up! It seems like only yesterday we were welcoming families, friends and staff at the Carnival in the beginning of 2011 and planning for the functions and events throughout the year ahead!

Brownlow Breakfast

Let’s rewind for a moment and review the “jewel in the crown” of Parents Association fundraisers. Our major fundraiser for the year, the Brownlow Breakfast was held on Friday 16 September 2011 at the Mornington Racing Club. With the numbers on the morning ever on the increase the decision was made to move to a larger venue and wow, it was a great morning. The PSPA would very much like to thank Fraser Bayne (past student and current parent) and his team for a brilliant job!

As it is our school’s Golden Jubilee year, the Brownlow Breakfast guest line up was suitably impressive with 5 Brownlow Medalists from the last 5 decades who have a combined total of 9 Brownlow Medals. Joining us on the morning were Greg Williams, Tony Libertore, Mark Ricciuto and Bobby Skilton. Robert Harvey stepped in at the very last minute as Peter Moore had to make an emergency visit to a very ill relative. (Thanks Rob).

This year’s group of special guests proved to be another winning line up and once again The Brownlow Brekkie proved to be a very enjoyable morning full of laughs and football reminiscing. The morning’s master of ceremonies was Peter Mitchell. Peter Mitchell’s face is very familiar to those tuning into Seven Nightly News in Melbourne. He has been an integral part of television news for almost 25 years as a reporter, producer and presenter. Peter did a fabulous job once again at the Brownlow Breakfast and helped keep the crowd entertained all morning. Congratulations Peter and thank you.

The event started with a performance from a trio of talented young singers, thanks to Quentin Roth, Matt Kazacos and Joshua Timewell. The boys are another example of the remarkable musical talent we have at TPS.

The morning proved to be a great opportunity to thank both individuals and local businesses that have supported the Brownlow Breakfast. Presentations were made to The Lamattina Group (Tina and Russell Lamattina and family). As a foundation sponsor the Lamattina’s have been supporting the event since the very beginning; their support has been unwavering and a very special Sherrin trophy was presented to them as a thank you from the PSPA.

Presentations were also made to our wonderful long standing Gold Sponsors RACV Auto Glass (Stuart and Lina Davies and family). To Emily D’Souza from Landmark School Supplies and James Crowder of Community Real Estate (James and his family are another wonder TPS family). George and Helen Grech from Astra Billiards were also extremely generous and became Gold sponsors of the event. Another long standing wonderful school family!
Silver sponsors were Channel Seven, Mornington Hyundai, thanks to Brian Burmeister (TPS family), Mornington Racing Club, Wise Choice Catering and Event Technology, sincere thanks to you all once again. Our Bronze Sponsors of this year’s event were Emcorp Solutions / Vodafone, Tarnya Breen’s Driving School and Jerome Breen’s Driving School. Each sponsor received a commemorative certificate of appreciation on the morning as token of our appreciation and sincere thanks.

Special thanks also go to our supporting sponsors who this year were Housing Investment Australasia, SEN 1116, Jeldwen, Peninsula Hot Springs, Jim’s Mowing, Peninsula Spring Water, Sticks Winery, The Rocks, Mornington, Russell Corp (Sherrin) and SportPro.

The support the Brownlow Breakfast received from both the local corporate community and our school community was tremendous – thank you so very much! Parents and friends, when you are out doing some shopping, please remember to support our sponsors and donors whenever you can.

Very special thanks go to our fantastic Prefects and senior students who provided lots of invaluable assistance on the morning. Thanks to all the students who gave up their morning to come along. You all did a fabulous job! The PSPA would also like to thank all the TPS staff that helped make this a very successful event – particular thanks to Phil Doll, Louisa Warnock, Suzanne Ashley, and the Maintenance team led by Stewart Newman – your assistance was very much appreciated.

As President of our Parents Association I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to everyone who has helped our school community throughout 2011! We are fortunate to have so many dedicated and tireless people that assist and help throughout the entire school. I’d like to thank each and every one of you and say congratulations and well done – joining in and helping out makes the TPS school community an even better place for our children!

I would like to thank our fabulous teaching, support and administration staff at TPS. Our teachers and staff members alike are enthusiastic, dedicated and simply brilliant! Thank you all for another wonderful year!

Cheers,
Rob Little
PSPA President
Class Representatives

Fathers’ Day Stall

On Friday 2 September, the Pavilion was ‘abuzz’ with children ready to purchase something special for their Dad for Father’s Day. We managed to purchase a great range of gifts, however the children could not seem to go past the lollies and chocolates, as the ultimate gift for their Dad!

As always, it was not just the children having a great time but parent helpers alike, as we watched the children make their ever so important decisions and manage their budgets.

We had a record number of parent helpers in 2011 including several new mums to the School, wanting to help out and become part of the Peninsula community. Special thanks to Philippa Mitchell, Marina Glew, Jo Allen, Belinda Rodman, Lisa Denton, Lina Davies, Nikki Gill, Alex Herman, Vera Cipurovski, Colleen Watson, Belinda Smith, Estelle McCormack, Natasha Lyons, Floss Butterworth, Vicki Ditcham, Susan Pryor and the many other parents that ‘popped in and out’ during the course of the morning.

The morning was made even more exciting for the Mum’s with Susan Pryor donating a beautiful bracelet, which we drew via a raffle. The ecstatic winner was Marina Glew!

If you are new to the School or would just like to come along, have a cuppa, meet some great people and be involved, please come along to a Class Representatives meeting in 2012, you will be very welcome.

Tammy James
On behalf of the Class Representatives

PSPA Spring Luncheon

The 2011 PSPA Spring Luncheon was held at Lindenderry, Red Hill on Friday 4 November.

Despite regular heavy spring rain in the days (and weeks) prior, the day was clear and mild and our parents dressed for a special occasion. Indeed, Lindenderry proved to be the perfect choice for our Golden Jubilee luncheon. The room chosen for the event was the ‘Burton’ room which was both luxurious and spacious, and also allowed for some Peninsula babies (the real kind) to join us. There were huge glass windows on two sides which afforded magnificent views of the superb exterior gardens.

After a welcome speech from both the General Manager of Lindenderry and our Principal, Stuart Johnston, we were served a delicious meal, which was immediately followed by a great deal of conversation and laughter!

After lunch raffle tickets with the names of our attendees were placed into a bowl and our raffle prizes were drawn. Special thanks to Georgie Linton from Linton La Fontaine in Mt Eliza Way; for donating some of the beautiful plants which acted as table centrepieces and then were given as prizes. Thank you also to Landmark for donating numerous $50 book discount vouchers. Many thanks to Jim’s Mowing, who provided several vouchers for gardening services and finally thank you to Deputy Principal, Community Relations - Phil Doll for donating some of our specially bottled Golden Jubilee wine and the PSPA for donating four of the ‘Peninsula Cooks’ cookbooks. Lindenderry were also extremely generous and donated two special bottles of their own sparkling wine, valued at over $75 each. They also donated our major prize for the day which was an overnight stay and breakfast, valued at $340.00. This was the last prize drawn on the day and the lucky winner was Sally-Anne Watson. It was especially pleasing that almost everybody in the room at the Spring Luncheon was able to take home a prize.

Sincere thanks to Louisa Warnock for the ongoing work that she does for the PSPA and Deborah Kenner who helped with administration tasks. Thank you to Judy Potgieter – her organisational skills were of great assistance to us all on the day and Emma Armstrong, who has been doing some work experience in the Marketing Department. Emma acted as our photographer and helped wherever needed which was greatly appreciated.

The Spring Luncheon is a long-standing, very enjoyable annual event on the PSPA Calendar. Everybody is welcome and this is a great opportunity for parents to come along, enjoy ‘Spring’ and celebrate another wonderful year for their children (and themselves) at The Peninsula School. Participation builds and cements friendships and we would encourage all parents to come along and ‘get involved’
If you can give up some time to be involved in our PSPA or Class Representatives programs, you will find that they are very enjoyable and a great way to make friends and participate in your children’s school life. You can participate on whatever level you can manage as ‘all help is good help’!

Further details: Suzanne Ashley, T: 9788 7825, E: sashley@tps.vic.edu.au
A Visit to Government House

Late in Term 3, four International students attended a function at Government House to launch a Facebook Page dedicated to International students in Australia. We were invited to attend this function with our International Program Manager Mrs Leach who accompanied us to Government House where we joined students from many other schools in Melbourne.

The Lieutenant Governor of Victoria, the Honourable Chief Justice Marilyn Warren, gave a welcome speech to open the event after which, The Hon. Martin Dixon MP, Minister for Education, spoke of the necessity of having a connected and vibrant International student network in Victoria. Minister Dixon then launched the International School Students, Victoria Facebook page and invited the students to actively participate in this new venture.

A Malaysian student, who is the School Captain of Parkdale Secondary College, also gave an interesting speech about his experiences as an International student in Victoria. He spoke of things that we could relate to as International students facing similar unknown challenges and provided an insight on how to try and overcome these with assistance from school staff and people in the community. We were then invited to morning tea and a photo session with the Minister for Education. Aaron, Khoa, Shirley and I enjoyed the experience and feel privileged to have been invited. Hopefully the new Facebook page will prove to be a useful tool for all International students.

Eve Nguyen
Year 12, 2011

Lest We Forget

After the end of the Second World War, the Australian and British governments changed the name of the armistice to Remembrance Day. Armistice Day was no longer an appropriate title for a day which would commemorate all war dead.

In Australia on the 75th anniversary of the armistice in 1993 Remembrance Day ceremonies again became the focus of national attention. The remains of an unknown Australian soldier, exhumed from a First World War military cemetery in France, were ceremonially entombed in the Memorial’s Hall of Memory. Remembrance Day ceremonies were conducted simultaneously in towns and cities all over the country, culminating at the moment of burial at 11 am and coinciding with the traditional two minutes’ silence. This ceremony, which touched a chord across the Australian nation, re-established Remembrance Day as a significant day of commemoration.

Four years later, in 1997, Governor-General Sir William Deane issued a proclamation formally declaring 11 November to be Remembrance Day, urging all Australians to observe one minute’s silence at 11 am on 11 November each year to remember those who died or suffered for Australia’s cause in all wars and armed conflicts.

Elizabeth Morgan
Head of History

9E and 9F attended the annual Victorian State Remembrance Day Ceremony on Friday 11 November 2011 in the Shrine of Remembrance Forecourt.

The Remembrance Day Ceremony incorporated a formal military parade, one minute’s silence at 11am, a flyover of RAAF Museum aircraft and the Remembrance Day Address by the Governor of Victoria. The Royal Australian Navy Band was in attendance along with Navy, a Tri-Service Flag Party and Shrine Guards. Following the Ceremony, Remembrance Day activities included an Australian Light Horse re-enactment troop display and First World War living history session held at Gallipoli Drive. Year 9 Leaders Jake Miller-Randle and Tammy Rozich laid a wreath on behalf of the Peninsula School community.

Our students also participated in Services held at School and the Mt Eliza Memorial Garden.

Jason Hammond
Director of the Year 9 Program
Belle Brockhoff, is someone who is really going places; generally downhill and at record breaking speed!

Completing Year 12 in 2011, Belle successfully mixed her studies with her passion for snow sports. Recently, amidst the rigors of her final year at school, Belle travelled to New Zealand to compete in the NZ Winter Games 2011 where she won the Boardercross event beating many world ranked competitors.

Belle’s immediate goal is to study Media & Communications at university. For the next two years her tertiary studies will be mixed with World Cup competitions in the USA in the Boardercross, PGS Parallel Giant Slalom & PS Parallel Slalom, with the aim of securing her place in the Australian team heading for Russia for the 2014 Winter Olympics.

Belle comes from an impressive lineage of champion skiers who helped to pioneer the sport in Australia. As well as being a great-niece of Hotham skiing legend Joyce Brockhoff, her uncle, Peter Brockhoff, represented Australia with distinction in the 60s and has a snow-run at Mt Hotham named after him in recognition of his achievements.

Belle has been exemplary in her commitment to The Peninsula School’s highly successful Snow Sports team. As Captain, she has served as a great role model for younger team members and when not competing internationally, she is always leading the charge down the slopes for the school.

Currently ranked No. 1 in Australia in Boardercross and Grand Slalom, Belle’s success comes as little surprise given her lifelong commitment to snow sports. Her talent was obvious to all, early on, when she captured her first Victorian Interschool Snowboard title as a Grade 4 student. Since then, she has gone on to win this event every year in her age group, except 2010 when she travelled to New Zealand to compete in her second Junior World Cup. She also competed in her first Senior World Cup event in 2010 placing 36th.

The Peninsula School placed third overall. The best result however was the fact that our girls team placed first and were able to bring home the ASSSTC Girls Trophy. The first time TPS has achieved this. The Girls’ team was made up of Ally Bolsh, Amy Kierce, Sarah Pike, Sophie Pike, Ally Stannus, Maddie Sanderson, Britt Hoyle, Tabby Vockler, Elise Sandys and Brooke Brockoff.

The Peninsulas School are based in the High Country and include Snowy Mountains Grammar at Jindabyne and Scots School at Albury. The teams are made up of 8 boys and 8 girls and most of these competitors have to be able to compete in at least 2 disciplines. Some of the students were able to compete in all 5 races.

The Peninsula School competed in the ASSSTC Competition at Falls Creek during the last week in August 2011.

The competition involved 9 schools competing in all Snowsports disciplines,- Cross country, Skier Cross, Boarder Cross, Grand Slalom Skiing and Grand Slalom Boarding.
After an early morning start and a long bus trip we were greeted with sunshine at Swan Hill for the start of another Great Victorian Bike Ride. But it wasn’t long before the familiar site of ominous dark clouds filled us with fear and as the heavens unleashed its fury we experienced a strange sense of de je vu. But that would be the last time we would get wet on our bikes except on the long ride to Echuca where 36 degree temperatures saw us bathed in sweat. It was on the first night that we were first introduced to the mind bending game of clicks that would later astonish thousands at the annual talent quest.

The ride meandered – err went dead straight through lovely country towns filled with rustic charm, great bakeries and local swimming pools that entertained young and old. After a quick visit to NSW we ground our way 100km into strong headwinds in sweltering heat onto camp paddock in Echuca. After a well-earned rest, a visit to the fudge shop and a paddle steamer ride we triumphed the 114km longest ever day in the history of the GVBR.

Day 6 was race day and a pack of testosterone fuelled men and one boy set off at a fierce pace to Wedderburn. Many would fall by the wayside but only one would triumph – the boy! Congratulations go to Jordan Stannus for shattering the egos of our parents and myself. The welcoming locals, great food stalls and a lawn bowl competition saw Wedderburn voted the best campsite of the trip. The last night in Maryborough saw the Peninsula crew triumph in the tug of war and the flag quest. A hilly and windy last ride made us work right to the bitter end but none harder than Whispee. This served only to prove that although the WOBBLY was awarded to those who struggled to stay in their cleats that the Superhero award was one to be revered and epitomised our students who unselfishly helped their mates with mechanical issues or supported them through tough moments on long hot days.

So why is the catch phrase “a week in another world”?

• In the real world, your morning conversation doesn’t start with “which way is the wind blowing”
• In the real world, Echuca is probably a more appealing holiday destination than Wedderburn.
• In the real world, you don’t have to get dressed lying down.
• In the real world, your biggest challenge is not finding your bed after going to the toilet in the middle of the night.

What a massive achievement to ride 600km over 9 days in the face of all these obstacles, congratulations to all participants.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Neil Heron, Richard and Sue Barlow and the parents for their support and friendship on the ride.

David Tainsh
GVBR Coordinator
Tasmanian Cricket Tour 2011

The Tasmanian Cricket tour was held in the first week of December. The Development Squad and the First X1 Squad both travelled to Tasmania for the first time. Whilst there we played games against Scotch Oakburn, Launceston G.S. and Hutchins School.

The week proved to be a great success with both teams winning all their games and the First X1 retaining "the boot". Results of the games were as follows.

DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

Game 1 – Peninsula 8/144 (S.Harrison 75 retired, C.Parton 24, O.Whitty 13) defeated Scotch 8/105 (O.Whitty 4/10, B.Symons 3/10)

Game 2 – Peninsula 183 (W.Noall 53 n.o., S.Harrison 23, B.Symons 28 n.o.) defeated Launceston G.S. 63 (J.Edwards 2/9, O.Craig 1/7, J.LaBrooy 2/6, H.Leonard 2/8, W.Noall 2/4)


Game 4 – 20/20 game
Peninsula 129 (J.LaBrooy 43, H.Leonard 33 n.o., R.McDonald 13, Z.Heap 12) defeated Hutchins 83 (J.LaBrooy, Z.Heap, C.Parton, K.Bendle, O.Whitty, J.Edwards, S.Harrison – 1 wicket each)

FIRST X1


BOOT GAME
Peninsula 201 (J.Stannus 42, T. LaBrooy 24, A.Groves 39, T.Feldgen 28, H.Featherby 16) and 2/105 (J.Stannus 63 n.o., A.Groves 23 n.o.) defeated Hutchins 116 (T.Feldgen 2/33, J.Fletcher 2/22)

David Brammall medal – Jack Stannus

Many thanks must go to our coaches Warwick Armstrong, Peter Buchanan, John Grant and Jack Potter for looking after the boys while they were in Tasmania and to the parents at Launceston G.S. and Hutchins School, who billeted our students during their stay in Tasmania.

Stephen Brennan
Director of Sport
**Building Beginnings**

The search for a site for the new school went on for 10 months before the founders decided to purchase the Ranleigh Golf Club in May, 1959. The original 38 acres of the Golf Club was later extended by purchasing the Demondo land.

The very first School Office was an old shed donated by Mr A.V. Jennings and Mr H. Hobart; it was located in St Elia Village, next to the Post Office from September 1960 until February 1961, when the School building was ready.

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**The Early Years**

School spirit was born in the fundraising and volunteer work that was undertaken by the whole School community. The practical things that a small staff simply could not do. The endless tasks of a new school were carried out on a massive wave of enthusiasm and goodwill. It is impossible to overestimate the role played by the "Locke Auxiliary" and the "Pembina School Association" which later amalgamated to form the "Pembina School Parents' Association".

The students caught the enthusiasm and entered into the spirit of the School community.

There was a real sense of sharing in an adventure that was exciting and worthwhile. That enthusiasm and spirit lives on today.
Uniform

The 86 Foundation Students who attended on the first day of School in 1961, wore a uniform of plain grey which had no badge or crest. The junior boys wore grey shorts and jacket while the older boys wore a plain grey suit. The original tie was blue with thin white and tan stripes and was worn with a blue shirt.

The students also had a blue cap with a white mitre embroidered on the front. The mitre would later be incorporated into the School crest.

The original School jumper was a royal-blue jumper with tan and white stripes on the neck; it had no crest. The School colours were royal-blue, tan and white.

The royal-blue of the jumper and blazer was changed to navy in 1990.

The first girls’ uniform of a check dress with navy collar was introduced 1964.

Staff

In 1961 the Founding Headmaster, Rev Dudley Clarke, had a total of 8 staff: 6 teaching staff, a secretary and a groundsman. In the first decade the number of staff grew dramatically to keep up with the ever-growing student numbers.

Today we have a total of over 300 staff.

Foundation Staff 1961
Rev Dudley Clarke: Headmaster Mrs Anne Wards taught a composite Grade 1 & 2 Mr Bob Browster taught a composite Grade 3 & 4 Rev Bruce Clark taught Grade 5
Mr David Bramhall taught Grade 6 Mr Doug Reilly taught a composite Form 1 & 2
Miss Ann Clifton was the specialist Art teacher Miss Nan Morton was Secretary to the Headmaster Mr Walter Reilly was the groundsman
New VCE Centre

- Site Dedication Ceremony

The North Oval was abuzz on 27 October when Years 5-9 assembled to witness the turning of the first sod of earth on the site of our new VCE Centre. Stuart Johnson commented that it is appropriate that we should be embarking on building for the next 50 years in our Golden Jubilee year.

A summary of his speech follows:

Today has been a long time coming. For well over 3 years the Board of Directors has been planning how we would be able to make our dream of a state-of-the-art VCE Centre come to fruition.

This planning has taken a number of dimensions. Many questions had to be answered:
• What are the educational aims that the building will fulfil?
• Will the building still suit our needs in 20, 30, 40 years time?
• What will the building look like?
• How will we pay for the building?

- to name just a few.

I would like to commend the Board for their vision and the support they have given in getting us to this stage, the stage that marks the beginning of the construction phase, the beginning of us building for the next 50 years!

I am particularly pleased that Mr Craig Brown from the firm of Melbourne Architects, McIldowie Partners, is here today. Craig and his colleagues have worked alongside us for the past 12 months to deliver a design to fit our needs - a building of which we will be proud and that will be a fitting home for our Year 11 & 12 students for the decades to come.

Some of the features of the building include:
• 20 modern classrooms with all the latest I.T. and A.V. fittings
• A magnificent view that will look out over this oval and parts of Port Phillip Bay
• Fantastic breakout areas that will promote independent and collaborative study
• Counselling and Careers centres
• A cafeteria that will seat in excess of 250 students.

I look forward to the day, early in 2014, when we will all be standing here, when we officially open the building. In the meantime, like me, you will see this magnificent building rise up out of the ground.

I would now invite our Chaplain Rev Peter Williams, to lead us in a prayer of dedication to mark this venture that, today, we are embarking upon. Following this, Mr David Osborne, Deputy Chairman and Treasurer of the Board, will turn the first of sod of ground as the initial step in the building of our new VCE Centre.
Exceeding Imagination

Making Your Bequest to The Peninsula School

Bequests afford friends of the School an opportunity to support their dreams for Peninsula and to give an enduring gift that will make a difference well beyond the lifetime of the benefactor.

The Peninsula School welcomes bequests of any size and form; including cash, shares, property and valuables. Unrestricted bequests for general purpose are particularly useful as they allow the School to use your gift where it is most needed. However, you may have a particular area of interest or passion that you wish to support. Please be assured that whatever way you may wish your legacy to be used it will be respected and greatly appreciated.

As a guide, previous gifts to the School have been designated:
- Unrestricted
- Building Fund
- Scholarship Fund
- Indigenous Education
- Library & Technology Development
- Performing Arts Development

It is advisable that you contact the School to discuss any expectations surrounding recognition you may have in making your bequest. For example, some donors have instructed that their bequest is to remain anonymous and we therefore do not list it when publicising our benefactors. However, other bequests have resulted in the benefactor’s name being attached to a scholarship or, in the case of major donors, the name of a facility on the campus.

We recommend that you seek legal advice to ensure that the wording of your bequest is appropriate for the gift you wish to make. You may also wish to discuss the possible tax deductibility of your bequest with a financial advisor.

The School is very much prepared to discuss any issues surrounding your bequest with you and your legal and financial advisors. Please do not hesitate to make contact with Phil Doll (97887707 or pdoll@tps.vic.edu.au, Deputy Principal (Community Relations), who will readily assist you.
Peter Culley

Peter Culley joined The Peninsula School in 1977 as Head of the Senior School Art Department after teaching at Sunshine West, Sunshine, Bairnsdale and Frankston High Schools. He involved himself passionately in the teaching of his discipline and in the co-curricular life of the school.

He rose to the position of Master Teacher, a role that enabled him to focus purely on his teaching. His classrooms were characterised by his capacity to foster individuality and creativity in his students. Past students often recall his enjoyable, challenging teaching in which he focused upon exploring new concepts, media and methods of presentation. He had an outstanding record at VCE level, regularly guiding all his students to achieve in the top half of the grade range. As a Master Teacher he provided leadership in his discipline and was actively involved in the Art Craft Teachers Association as a member of the executive, at the same time regularly contributing articles on art education to their journal. He displayed a remarkable capacity to recognise and foster talent, exemplified by the large number of his students who went on to become practicing artists themselves.

Peter enjoyed the opportunities offered by the School to involve himself with students in the pastoral and co-curricular programmes. As Housemaster of Clarke House his strong spiritual values made him a valued mentor to students in his care. He was a gifted sportsman who enjoyed coaching others. He was coach of the 1st XVIII and later drove the development of golf as an AGS sport, coaching the team to an AGSV title and taking the junior team to three Victorian titles. So many staff and students benefited from his passion to communicate his expertise and love of golf. In addition, he created and painted sets for many school productions and involved himself in film making and appreciation activities.

Although the above summary hints at Peter’s qualities it cannot do justice to him as a man. Peter was a man for all seasons. He had a marvelous sense of humour that was evident in all that he did. He loved to laugh with others and often at himself. He was above all humble: in response to his letter of appointment to The Peninsula School, Peter replied to Mr. Macdonald that “I shall endeavour to justify your faith in me.” He was a loyal and loving friend to many on staff as well as their families, involving himself with their welfare and joining enthusiastically in social activities. Many of the staff will have treasured memories of golf trips to Corowa and holidays at Glenmaggie. Peter endeared himself to many with his strong sense of justice that saw him actively involved in the Staff Association.

Upon leaving Peninsula in 1994, Peter joined his wife, Joy, in Port Douglas, taking up a teaching position at Mossman High School in North Queensland. Typically he became a valued, loved member of staff who involved himself in the community, pursuing his passions for art and golf. It was not long before he developed art groups and fostered many local artists, guiding them through to their own art exhibitions. He was much loved by all with whom he came into contact; his enthusiasm at discovering and nurturing new talent was infectious. Indeed, during his last months he was still inquiring about arranging an exhibition for one of his artists.

Joy and Peter developed a small tropical fruit farm and together they created a happy, fulfilled home that was a pleasure to visit. Peter is survived by Joy and his lovely children, Robyn, Alison and Chris as well as his many grand children.

Peter is sorely missed by his colleagues. He was, in the best sense of the term, an “old fashioned school master” - a master of his discipline, compassionate, firm, humble, dignified, loving and humorous. Above all, he was loyal. He will forever be an intrinsic part of the school he helped to create.

Daryl Neal
Staff 1977-2009

Copies of From Fantasy to Fact – The Foundation of The Peninsula School 1957 – 1965 by Hilary Abeyaratne are available for purchase from The Peninsula School Reception at a cost of $15.00 including postage and handling. If you would like to personally collect your copy, the cost is $10.00.

The publication would make a wonderful gift for past students and those interested in the dynamic history of the School.

To obtain your copy, please contact: Deborah Kenner on 9788 7777 or email: dkenner@tps.vic.edu.au
It is with pleasure that I write my first report as the newly elected President of TOPSA. I think it prudent in looking to the future, to first thank those who have helped us reach where we are today.

At the Association’s recent Annual General Meeting held in October, long term President, Peter Cook, stepped down, following five years of committed leadership of TOPSA. Peter’s work from 2007 through 2011, has ensured that TOPSA is in a strong position and the future looks bright. Pete has agreed to remain on the committee in the immediate future, as Immediate Past President to ensure a smooth transition and to guide the new executive. On behalf of all involved in TOPSA, I thank Pete for his work and devotion to TOPSA and all of the past students.

Treasurer, Michael Pollard also stepped down from his post after two years on the committee. His work behind the scenes has been invaluable and has left TOPSA’s financials in a healthy and structured state and the committee are entirely grateful for his work.

This movement in existing committee members resulted in the election of a new executive and committee for 2012. I was honoured to be elected President and look forward to working with the committee over the coming year to strengthen and expand TOPSA. Former Vice President Geoff Eldridge (’73) returned to the role and Jess Wade (’07) assumed the daunting role of Secretary. New committee member Ian Cockle (’79) assumed the role of Treasurer and we also welcome Greg Sugars (’85) to the committee and thank these two in advance for offering their time and service.

Existing committee members Nigel LaBrooy (82), Simon Offor (’75) and David Clarke (’81) were also re-elected, along with Steve Holland (’10) who also took the position of Webmaster. This elected committee will continue to work with, and we are ever thankful of the work of TOPSA Convenor Suzanne Ashley.

TOPSA is in an outstanding position to continue to grow and expand. 2011 saw the formation of the TOPSA Performing Arts Society and in 2012 more affiliated clubs and societies will be formed to keep in line with our aim to continuously provide new avenues to connect with our alumni.

A TOPSA Soccer Club is well and truly in the pipeline. In addition there is a netball club, Past Parents, Past Staff international and interstate branches of TOPSA being organised to further facilitate regular alumni connection and advancement.

TOPSA is always looking for past students to be involved and anyone interested in providing ideas for the continued growth of the Association is welcome contact the Association via www.topsa.com.au

We look forward to 2012 with continued positivity and enthusiasm, and I thank the committee and TOPSA Members for allowing me the opportunity to help “give back”!

Reagan H. Barry
Class of 2009
President TOPSA

How to connect to TOPSA.net and network with past students and/or recent friends.

- visit www.tps.vic.edu.au
- go to Community along the top menu items
- go to past students (TOPSA) and on the first screen you will see the log in window for TOPSA.net
Towards the halfway mark, the Pirates really started to hit their straps, and a sustained ‘purple patch’ saw the Seniors surging towards the top four. At the same time, the Reserves were battling hard to stay in the finals race, and the Under 19’s were likewise making their own big charge.

However, as everyone knows, playing catch-up can take its toll. With significant injuries occurring late in the season, all three teams came up just shy of finals appearances - despite having beaten most of the teams above them during the season.

The Coaching Panel has now been appointed:

Seniors – Brett (Macca) McIlwraith
Reserves – Adam (Dogga) Crean
U19’s – Theo Messinis

2012 Season

On the back of some great performances in 2011, the Club is rightly setting itself for a stellar 2012 season, with both Premierships and promotion to the next Division (Premier C) as realistic targets.

Voluntary training has been underway for some time, and full pre-season commenced the week of 21st Nov. Attendances and energy levels are already very high and this bodes well for the coming season.

A recruiting drive is also underway and the pre-season practice match schedule is in the process of being firmed up.

Join the family

We would like to issue an open invitation for prospective players, their families, and friends, to become part of the Pirates’ family in 2012. It’s a great club to be a part of – whether as a player, an occasional supporter or devotee of the game. Home games provide plenty of thrills, spills and good cheer, especially if the weather permits viewing from The Pavilion’s balcony.

We hope to see you there in 2012.

Please note that our first Match of 2012 season will be on Sat 21st April.
Last Word!

It would be remiss to close without noting the following:

• At the close of the 2011 season, the Pirates inducted two new Life Members to a very select group, and would like to congratulate Andrew Parsons and Eiv Bowen for their outstanding contributions to the Club.

• In any football club’s life, the highs sometimes come with lows. On this note, we reflect sadly on the tragic passing of Matt Peirce, one of the Pirates’ favourite sons. Vale Matt.

• The Pirates are looking to strengthen our ties with the broader TPS and TOPSA community. In particular, we would welcome any inquiries from members of the School community who would like to join us as players, support crew, committee members, sponsors or supporters.

• The very last word, sincere thanks to The Peninsula School, to Apex Steel, and to all of our sponsors, who together provide a great foundation for the ongoing success of the Pirates.

GO PIRATES!

Phil Coghlan
President POBFC

POBCC looking forward

At the start of the 2011/12 season, President Paul Pelzer was offered the job as MPCA General Manager, therefore we had to find a new President. John Forrest is now President, we congratulate John on his appointment and thank Paul for all his hard work over the past two seasons.

After the success of last season the club had a number of aims for season 2011/12. The First XI, once again captain/coached by Glenn Prendergast, are aiming to finish high up the ladder and to compete in the finals. Although winning the flag again would be a huge effort, the players at the club definitely have the ability to go all the way. At the time of writing, the First XI have got themselves on top of the Provincial ladder. Highlights of the first three games include John Forrest scoring 123 v Mornington, Adam Jones 6/71 v Mount Martha, and the debut of Jack Stannus and Angus Groves in the ones v Moorooduc. They are the third and fourth junior pirates to play ones cricket after Tom Feldgen and Will Crowder last season. Dylan O’Malley also made a rapid fire 101 in the first round of the Twenty20 competition, helping us defeat Heatherhill.

The seconds have had a good start, beating Mornington and losing close games to Moorooduc and Mount Martha. Well done to Justin Cross who scored 104no, combining with Matthew Beggs (50no) for a fourth wicket partnership of 155no. Other solid performers in the twos are Cal Savio, Nathan Barron and Tom Shayler, all pushing for a senior place.

The thirds are ‘blooding’ a lot of talented youngsters, many enjoying success against men twice their age. Unfortunately due to AGS cricket, some weeks we just get three teams together, other weeks we could pick five sides. Once the current crop of juniors move through to senior level, our ranks should be full of talent!

Our junior program is once again one of the strongest in the MPCA. We are fielding eight junior teams ranging from under 11 through to under 17. The under 15 and 17 teams are affected by AGS cricket, however early in the season both have managed early wins and a finals spot is well within reach. This year we fielded four under 13 sides and two under 11 sides. A huge reason this has been possible is due to the tireless work of our junior co-ordinator Stuart Taylor. Junior cricket sides only work if there are a willing team of volunteers ready to put their hands up to help with training and match day roles. Many parents have put their hands up to assist, and the results are starting to arrive. We also need to thank Lisa Denton who once again helped co-ordinate the Milo cricket program. This program is run for children from ages 5-10 on a Friday night on the North Oval, and as per previous years our numbers have had to be capped due to its popularity. This current season we have 80 milo cricketers.

Socially, the club ran its highly successful Cup Eve Calcutta at the Canadian Bay Hotel. 100 people enjoyed the night and helped raise valuable funds. On the same weekend, the First XI unfurled the Provincial flag from last season. Pirate legends Peter Humphris and David Rutledge were on hand to help raise the flag, and stayed around to remind the current players about what the club was like in the late 70’s and early 80’s as the POBCC tried to establish itself. Peter flew down from Queensland for the weekend, and couldn’t believe that we were still going, let alone won the Provincial flag.

Both current and past players can follow the club at peninsulaoldboys@cricketvictoria.com.au This site has access to all club fixtures, results and ladders. Club statistics have been updated to the end of season 2011, and premiership photos and details are slowly being added. The club also has its own Facebook page at “POBCC Pirates”.

We thank all members of the club for their help so far this season, and look forward to a successful March 2012.

Go Pirates!

Andrew Parsons
POBCC

Hooray and up the Pirates!
Join our TOPSA soccer club in 2012

There has been a noticeable absence of soccer within the school community, especially since the inception of the Peninsula School Old Boys Association in 1965 (now TOPSA).

It’s the world game: football for the traditionalists, soccer for the majority.

Call it what you like, but the opportunity to play soccer for the school begins only at Middle School level, and ends with the completion of Year 12. Whilst Cricket and Australian Rules hold deep and unyielding ties with TOPSA and past students, there is currently no association with Soccer.

This is about to change. TOPSA is set to expand its sporting associations in the next few months with the formation of the TOPSA Soccer Club.

In September of 2011, a committee comprising students from the Class of 2009 and 2010 was formed, and the foundations of TOPSA Soccer Club were built. Progress has been made at an extraordinarily rapid pace, due largely to the dedicated work of the committee, and the overwhelming support from TOPSA, in particular Suzanne Ashley and Reagan Barry.

In its initial stages, the club is in the process of gaining acceptance to the Bayside League and as such is growing rapidly. With overwhelming support from the School, TOPSA, and Principal Stuart Johnston, the School’s community is anticipating the establishment of the soccer club.

Whilst the squad for the inaugural season has been developed by past students ranging from the classes of 2007-2011, interest in the club at any level is widely encouraged.

For the club to further grow, support is required throughout the Peninsula community. We need support in the following areas: membership, supporter base, and sponsorship. We welcome volunteers and supporters who wish to have some sort of role within the club, and sponsorship will be greatly appreciated.

Involvement with the soccer club is a fantastic way for past students and teachers to remain in contact with the school community, and to further engage with the wider local footballing community. Anyone who wishes to become involved at any level should contact the TOPSA office for further information.

We look forward to your support in the 2012 season.

TOPSA Soccer Committee

Our congratulations go to Matthew Witney who has been awarded the TOPSA Stephen Longley Scholarship for 2012. Stephen Longley was a staff member at the School in the mid sixties, renowned for his leadership in many areas of our fledgling school’s program.

Matthew demonstrates an outstanding commitment to the School, particularly in the areas of academics and music.

Furthermore, Matthew has a well developed social conscience which has been demonstrated on his visits to local Aged Care facilities where he has dazzled the senior citizens with his skills on his violin.

Matthew, who is an outstanding ambassador for Peninsula, is a most worthy recipient of this scholarship.

Suzanne Ashley
Alumni

Stephen Longley Scholarship Winner
The 6th Annual Women’s Breakfast

The Annual Women’s Breakfast in October sought to unify daughters, mothers, aunts, grandmothers and sisters as the Year 11 & 12 girls and their female family members enjoyed a scrumptious breakfast spread. We were so lucky to listen to guest speaker, Associate Professor Lea Waters, relay her triumphant journey to both a successful career and life. Her passion to help others was inspired by her upbringing, making it a unique story which touched all the women who attended.

Most admirable, was Lea’s message to “believe in yourself and continue to follow your dreams regardless of obstacles standing in your way”, such as the ATAR score.

Furthermore, Lea expressed the pure happiness gained from choosing a career which is centred around helping people, and that it is this happiness which has allowed her to be a truly successful person.

On behalf of everyone who attended, thank you to TOPSA and Suzanne Ashley for another great Women’s Breakfast and to the catering staff for their efforts in organising and serving the delicious food! Thank you also to the Head of Senior School, Craig Townsend for his support, and to Jane Baker and Sharon Curtis (Heads of Years 12 and 11 respectively) for their wonderful support and assistance.

Thank you also to Lidia Mancini for organising and tutoring Hannah Robbins, Chloe Smith, Caitlin Hynes and Ruth Williams from Year 12 who sang beautifully during the breakfast.

All profits raised from the Women’s Breakfast were donated to The Peninsula School in India, money that serves to further enrich the livelihood of the students, who may not otherwise be able to attend school.

To all those who attended this special event, thank you for your continued support.

Emily Cockle
Head of School 2011
Ellie Russo
Head of Common Room 2011
The Class of 2011 are now members of the TOPSA community

Always remember you are once a student, but an Alumni member forever.

In recent years, TOPSA has provided a prize to encourage our Year 12 students to log onto our past student network www.topsa.com.au. The prize for 2011 was a 'very cool' 16GB Wi-Fi iPad valued at $A579.99!

The name of each TOPSA Life Member who logged onto the website was placed into a golden organza bag and drawn by Principal, Stuart Johnston at Valedictory dinner on 25 November at Mornington Racing Club. The lucky winner was Emily Cockle, Head of School and nobody was more surprised than Emily when she accepted her prize!

Paul Neville Clements

The Peninsula School mourns the passing of favorite son Paul Neville Clements (Class 1992).

“Clemo”, was one of the most gifted students of the pre-coeducational era at the Peninsula School, earning full colours in football, athletics and swimming (re-award) - a feat that earned him the coveted Moore Prize in 1992 as the Best All-round sportsman in the Senior School.

In 1992 he also won the Saunders Trophy for swimming and the Victor Ludorum Trophy as the Open Athletics age group champion. A freestyle and butterfly specialist Paul broke many records at both school and AGSV level. He was a member of the Open 200m Boys Medley Relay, Open 4 x 50m Boys Freestyle Relay, U15 Boys 4 x 50m Medley Relay, U14 Boys 4 x 50m Medley Relay and U13 Boys 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay teams which remarkably still hold School records almost 20 years on. He also won and placed in individual events at the Victorian Junior Championships three years running.

The lynch pin of Newton House in the halcyon days of the early 90s, Paul pretty much dominated any sport in which he participated. Whether it was the mainstream house sports such as the Curtis Cup, athletics, football or swimming, or more obscure challenges like the cricket-ball throw or Rick Grimley’s famed quadro-ball, Clemo was locked in as a willing participant and rarely lost. Although young for his year level he truly was a formidable force.

He played AGSV combined football - in a year that boasted the likes of Shane Crawford, Dustin Fletcher, Scott West and Paul Dimattina - and later represented the Dandenong Stingrays in the TAC Cup. He was also drafted to Hawthorn for a period after finishing school.

Paul’s natural athletic ability was well complimented by an innate willingness to assume responsibility. He was a school prefect, peer support leader and a student to be admired (and remembered). There is little doubt that Paul has etched an indelible mark on the staff and fellow students of his time.

In his adult life, Paul developed a passion for horse racing and worked for his bookmaker father, Neville. He then harnessed his entrepreneurial strengths and co-founded a successful security business, Secure Innovations. He married Rachel in 2007 and is survived by his two beautiful children Lily (3) and Jack (1).

Despite being a non-smoker and in apparent peak physical condition, Paul was inexplicably diagnosed with Stage 4 Lung Cancer in December 2010. He passed away peacefully on 24th November 2011 at Cabrini Hospital, Brighton with family by his side.

He may have fought hard on the field and dug deep in the pool but in his battle against cancer he showed more fight, more courage and more bravery than anyone has perhaps ever done. The Peninsula School extends its sympathies to Rachel, Lily, Jack, Neville, Sandra, Danielle, Tim, Joshua, Sam, Les and Beryl and encourages its wider community to honor Paul’s legacy by taking some time to find out more about the Foundation 49 Initiative: “Men’s Health. Live Long, Live Well” (www.49.com.au).

Andrew Atchison
Class of 1992
TOPSA
Performing Arts Society
- a Musical Revue

TOPSA PAS held its second event on Friday 18 November at the Mornington Golf Club, staging a Musical Revue entitled “The Songs We Didn’t Get To Sing”.

Past students took to the stage, cabaret style - performing a variety of songs and thoroughly entertaining an 80 strong audience of family, friends and members of the TPS community, in an amazing display of talent by our Peninsula School Alumni.

Over a dozen solo performers dating back to Class of 2004 performed, many of whom are former leads in shows dating back to Chicago. We were delighted to welcome many alumni back to the school community for the first time in many years, reconnecting them with friends from past school productions.

The night was overseen by the entertaining and comic Mete Erdogan as MC, with accompaniment by the talented Simon Stone (a former student and current teacher at TPS) on piano and Tim Hogan on guitar.

Performances were diverse and showcased a variety of music genres and songs, leaving the audience thoroughly in awe! Of note included: a rendition of “Hakuna Matata” from the Lion King by Ayla and Mete Erdogan opening the show; Angela Scundi and Kate Macdonald wowing the audience performing “Take Me or Leave Me” (RENT the musical); the trio performance by Kieran McGrath, Henry Brett and Kate Macdonald singing “Louder Than Words” from the musical Tic Tac Boom; and the acoustic performances of Lauren Cleasby-Jones, Irene Robinson and Kirah White. These ‘older students’ were complemented by more recent graduates Sophie Brennan, Zac Pomeroy and Lachlan Henry.

The night ended with a wonderful group number of “Finale B” (from RENT the musical) sung in four part harmony, under the guidance of Lidia Mancini, who played an active role in developing the singing talent of all involved during their school years. A video of the performance along with photos from the evening are available for viewing at www.topsa.com.au

The night was truly a fantastic success and cemented how far TOPSA PAS has come in just a few short months. I thank all those who ably assisted with the evening and those who have supported the society over the year. Special thanks to Simon Stone whose accompaniment and musical support ensured the success of the evening; and to Lidia Mancini for her continued support. Nothing was ever too much to ask, and she did a fantastic job putting the finale together.

2011 was an exhilarating year for PAS, seeing its establishment and strengthening as a new, evolving avenue for past students and TOPSA.

Members to reconnect with each other and the School. 2012 will be an exciting year with the prospect of staging our first show or musical. Discussions and planning will take place over the summer months and I encourage anyone interested to email pas@topsa.com

I look forward to the coming year and thank everyone for their work during 2011 and also, in advance, for their ongoing support in expanding The Old Peninsula School Association - Performing Arts Society.

Reagan H. Barry
Inaugural President
TOPSA Performing Arts Society
Class of 2001 - 10 Year Reunion

On a fresh July night, the Class of 2001 descended upon The Peninsula School Pavilion for our 10 year reunion. People came from all over and preparations for the night had been weeks in the making - fine-tuning stories about recent non-existent promotions, selecting outfits to conceal ever-expanding waistlines and styling hair to make up for a lack of it. Or in my case, a combination of all three!

The evening started with a tour of the School. For some, it was the first time back since our graduation and to see the sheer scale of growth and redevelopment the school has undergone was quite breathtaking. I did, however, hear more than one person longingly recall the old locker bay at the bottom of the S Block and reminisce about how sound would travel up to Mr Hammond’s office.

Back at the Pavilion, the night was a blur of speed dating-style conversations with old friends on what we’d been up to for the past ten years. Whilst it was fantastic to hear about the different paths all of us had gone down, it was equally enjoyable remembering stories from our time at Peninsula.

It was also great to see so many teachers in attendance and to hear, all these years later, what they really thought of us. Thanks go to all those who came along including Mae-Louise McGuinness, Ray Gurry, Phil Doll, Craig Wines, Sally Thompson, Keith Thompson, Lisa Mitchell, Elizabeth McCormick, Alan Wiggs, Jason Hammond and Keith Maughan - although to be fair, Mr Maughan only stopped by to collect an overdue Year 11 Economics assignment from Gilbert Gardiner!

Before we knew it, the reunion was over, however for many, the night was still young so it was decided that the reminiscing would continue on the dance floor at the Bay Hotel. And like so many nights ten years ago, the night ended with a two hour wait at the taxi rank in Main Street, Mornington.

On behalf of the Class of 2001, I’d like to thank Suzanne Ashley for organising such a great event; TOPSA and The Peninsula School for welcoming us back and keeping us all connected.

Congratulations to the Class of 2001 on all you’ve achieved these past ten years. I’m sure I speak for everyone when I say, frightening as the prospect is that I can’t wait for the next reunion!

Andrew Bartlett
Class of 2001
Where are they now?

Alecia Duke
office manager for the Australasian Spa Association. Now have a beautiful Guide Dog due to vision loss. Her name is Britta.

Ella Spencer (Morris)
Recently returned to Victoria after living in Perth for the last few years. My husband and I had our first son James in January and are loving parenthood. I am also looking forward to returning to teaching in the latter part of the year.

Ella Clark
completed a Bachelor of Business & Commerce (Accounting) at Monash peninsula in 2005. Currently work in the CBD as a Chartered Accountant for a firm called Blue Rock. Living in South Yarra and still venture back to the Peninsula to visit friends and loving life!

Lachlan Main
I was admitted as a Solicitor to the Queensland Bar in 2008 and am currently employed with a Gold Coast Law Group. I have just purchased property with my partner, near Coolangatta Beach.

Romony Dixon
After completing my undergraduate degree in Journalism, I moved to Western Australia and am currently in my final year of Masters of Teaching (Primary). I am an active member of the Cottesloe Surf Life Saving club, loving the west and all it has to offer.

Sophie McGuinness
Working as a Planning and Environment Lawyer in Melbourne, and plotting weekend escapes to music festivals.

James Clarke
Happily married. I work in a dead end job (Funeral Director).

Kate Purser
First year out of school was spent Jillarooing in outback Queensland, on one of Australian Agricultural Company’s cattle stations. It was a fantastic experience. I then completed a Bachelor of Business degree in Melbourne, worked in Perth and started the CA program in San Remo, Victoria. Tired of studying and working 9-5; I’m now working in the mining industry in remote Northern Territory operating machinery.

Sam McMillan
Legal school drop-out and now working as a Comedian and writer, living with my wife in Melbourne. Raising a young puppy named Chifley and expecting our first child in June!

Andrew Bartlett
Studied Arts / Commerce at Melbourne University and completed the State Government graduate program in 2009. Currently working in the Department of Transport, in the area of Community Engagement.

Tahlia Preston Dixon
After travelling around North America, Europe and the UK for 3 years I returned to Melbourne to complete studies. I now work as a lawyer in Commercial Litigation for a CBD firm. I live on St Kilda Rd with my partner and gorgeous puppy Molly, and am currently enjoying the European summer making my way around former Yugoslavia.

Paul Rittman
Completed Bachelor of Commerce, have since been working for Grays Online in a Business Development/Project Management role. Following some overseas travel, I have recently purchased a house with my girlfriend.

Carla Murray
living locally. Finished my uni degree (Arts/Education) at the end of last year. Currently being a stay at home mum to two boys (Bailey Ace 7 and Felix 19 months) and plan to begin teaching next year.

Pat Johnston
Concreteor, working at the De-Sal Plant at Wonthaggi; getting married in November

Blake Delaney
I have worked at Pentalia Solutions in Sales for the last 6 years. I have a partner and 2 children.

Ryan Vandervalk
I finished up at Peninsula and headed to Perth to study Renewable Energy. After 6 years of working for various engineering consultancies I have started my own. Things are great, if you want to make it – make it for yourself.

Jennifer Ballantyne (Owen)
I am a stay at home mum to 2 beautiful children. Owen (2) and Jasmine (1). My husband, Jason is working in IT in Mulgrave and we have been living in Mount Waverley for nearly 3 years.

Yasmin Schaedler
Working as a Shire Ranger. Homeowner in Mornington.

Tim Pitman
Living in Sorrento and working with my father, Alan, in the building business.

Marc Heron
Working as Head of Science at Balcombe Grammar. I still enjoy scuba diving and skiing.

Simon Quail
Working as an economist and living in North Melbourne.

Richard Scholes
working as an Electrician with A.G. Coombs Servicing. Currently looking after electrical at the Victorian Arts Centre.

Kain Damiani
Building

Amelia Williams (Mitchell)
lived in London for a few years. Now married to an Englishman, mother to the beautiful Daisy and studying Nutritional medicine/Naturopathy part-time.

Adrian Taylor
Running 8020 Management Consulting & Recruiting

Gilbert Gardiner
I still live in Frankston and work as a Journalist (somebody please pick up Mrs Barber up off the floor!). No wife, no kids, no money - the perfect catch 10 yrs on!

Ric Wolfenden
Live with partner Bree, Doing Fire Protection

Scott McKinnon
Accountant – Insolvency sector.

Bethany Clancy
Partner in management consulting firm, specialising in the internet.

Rebecca Steer (Sanders)
Living in Mt Eliza with my husband. Working as a medical scientist specialising in women’s health

Matthew Simmons
Living in Somerville. Operations Manager for Roche Brothers.

Rick Williams
Live in Somerville, worked in WA in mines and am currently working on the desalination plant.

John Watson
Living in Mt Martha running a car yard and workshop locally, living the life.

Kent Balas
Currently I’m working as an Exploration Geologist 100km east of the middle of nowhere looking for bags of money in the ground!

Chuck Wang
Living in Taiwan.

Bryn Bowen
Teaching and still enjoying music and performance.
Class of 1991 - 20 Year Reunion

On Saturday 3 September members of The Peninsula School Class of 1991 gathered at the School Pavilion to relive past glories and renew old friendships. While some of us were now sporting greyer plumage, possibly a little sturdier of frame, or even able to lay claim to being “follicly challenged”, the passage of time had not dulled the Class of 1991’s appetite for a celebration.

In what was a memorable occasion, around 40 past students along with Ray Gurry, Rick and Pam Grimley, Reverend John and Wendy Leaver, Bill Cross, Keith Maughan, Stuart Thompson and Phil Doll reminisced on times gone by as well as catching up on the major events in people’s lives over the past two decades. While it was wonderful for our class to share and often embellish stories of formative years spent at Peninsula, it was also brilliant to hear about everyone’s news regarding family, relationships, travels, careers and achievements.

Phil Doll should be thanked for taking us all on a tour of the school prior to the official function. It was on this tour that many memories of past triumphs and misdeeds surfaced, much to the amusement of all, and needless to say many of these stories cannot be elaborated upon here. Phil informed us of our status in the School’s history as one of the “Recession Generation” classes and how in the years following 1991 the School experienced some difficult economic times. Nevertheless, this period appeared to be but a distant memory as we were shown impressive and thoroughly modern classroom facilities, lecture halls, drama and music theatres, a renovated Ansett Hall, a new Junior School and two new gymnasiums decked out with the latest high-tech exercise equipment. We were also informed of the plans to build an impressive new Senior School building.

In 1991 we were more than happy with the standard of our educational and sporting environments, but many of us couldn’t help but wish we had the opportunity to learn in some of the magnificent facilities that the School now possesses. It was noted by some, however, that the spaciousness of the new gyms would not have made them suitable for the legendary games of “Quadro” so fondly remembered by many students who attended Peninsula in the 1980s and 1990s! True to the form of the Class of 1991, and such was the spirit of the occasion, the night only ended well after the bar had closed and everyone had been encouraged to leave numerous times by the very patient and understanding Pavilion staff. Nevertheless, some of the postings on social media sites in the days following the reunion suggest that quite a few people may have moved on to subsequent venues and extended the event well into the night.

On behalf of the Class of 1991, particular thanks should go to Suzanne Ashley and Fiona Armstrong for all of their hard work in organising such a memorable event. Thanks and appreciation should also go to the past teachers who attended. It was a magnificent evening, and I am sure that I echo the feelings of all those who attended in saying that I look forward to seeing everyone in ten years time at the 30 year reunion.

Sam Bryant
Class of 1991
Where are they now?

Christian Roberts
After 10 years living overseas, have returned to Melbourne with my wife Claire, who I convinced to move to Melbourne from Paris. Live in South Melbourne with our daughter Chloe. I’m a Chartered Accountant working for MAB (private property developers).

Scott Manley
Owner consultancy developing mobile software (phone/ipod) specialise in mobile application design and assisting organisation in moving their systems to mobile platforms.

Ross Pepper
I have a small coaching business, specialising in sales and marketing and assist people to recreate the dream that began the business. Married with 1 boy age 10 months and 2nd child on the way.

Tory Trehwitt
Owner of trewhheat Pty Ltd (10 years), corporate health and wellness company that educates and encourages personal responsibility in relation to the dimensions of health. Trehwheat is a national based company looking after the legal, finance, construction and mining industry. We have a Head office in Melbourne and satellite offices in Brisbane, Mackay and Perth.

James Ruddock
Chief Operating officer of Dun & Bradstreet where I have worked for 9 years after living in London for 2 years in 2000/2001. I have three children – Oliver, William and Benjamin. I married Susan Burt from Toorak.

Daniel Piper
Currently landscaping throughout Melbourne and the Mornington Peninsula. We were recently awarded a ‘Bronze medal at the Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show – Show Garden’. You can see some of our recent projects on our website – www.danpipergardens.com.au I am living in Parkdale, married to Annie Piper with two children Josh and Lucy.

Leonid Kouvelis
Currently running Books by the Bay at 725 Esplanade, Mornington. I have been building houses as an owner/builders, as well as doing a stint as an English Secondary School teacher. I love life and appreciate my freedom and independence.

Andrew Chambers
Married with 3 young boys. Still playing plenty of sport. Working in Finance.

Marcus Bond
Living on Phillip Island. Married to Rebecca with 2 girls. Accounting practice in Wonthaggi.

Ben Matthews
I am married with 1 little boy – Charlie Matthews. I am working in the recruitment industry and hold the position of CEO of Australian Personnel Solutions.

Greg Lowe
Living in Safety Beach, married with 2 kids. Working as a Transport Manager for Kings Transport.

Phillip Haley
Still living locally with my partner Julie. I work for GM Holden as a Senior Quality Engineer, specialising in statistical engineering problem solving. All in all, I’m living the dream!

David Becher
Married to Kristy. We have 3 boys, Zac (7), Josh (5) and Joel (3) living in Somerville. Involved in the Automotive Industry. Now work for Ateco Automotive after having previously worked for Holden and Holden. Still waiting patiently for Richmond to deliver that elusive premiership!

Trent Williams
Cellar door Manager for Red Hill Estate Winery.

Scott Turner
Project Manager in Electronics Product Development. Worked and travelled around Europe and Asia. I am now somewhat settled in Melbourne. Living in Mornington with 5 kids!

Jack Weaving
I am a musician/songwriter, living and touring Europe.

Sam Bryant
I have been a secondary school teacher for 13 years. I am now in my fifth year as a teacher of Senior English at Melbourne High School. I am married to Cath and we have one daughter, Zoe.

David Cross
Married, gorgeous wife, gorgeous daughter! Work in town, live local.

Andrew Gathercole
Living in Hampton and working for the family business. Have a wife Fiona and two kids, living the dream.

Simon Woollard
I work for Ford Motor Company as HR Director based in Taiwan. I am married with two boys. My passions are travel, surfing and football.

Chris Torossi
Local. Civil construction and development.

James Edmiston
I’m married with 2 kids living in Nagambie. I work for V/Line managing North and North East Victoria. Enjoying country Victoria after ten years in Melbourne, and still in contact with many people from Peninsula.

Greg Menz
After 15 years I have moved back to Mount Eliza to enjoy the large blocks and convenient babysitting. I think I have sewn up the prize for having to walk the least distance home from my 20 year reunion!

Ryan Pritchard
I am Business Development manager, Residential at Stockland, happily married with 2 boys.

Julian Sill
working for Porter Davis Homes as a Business Manager. Two kids, Joshua and Emerson and partner Kelly.

Stephen Hill
Living in Beaumaris with my wife and 2 children. A Senior Project Engineer/ Project Manager for Leighton Contractors. Managing M80 Ring Road upgrade.

Dean Perry
Married. one boy recently enrolled at the School. Great to catch up with the class!

Marc Jukes
Married recently, living in Hong Kong.

Adam Stubbs
Beacon Lighting Frankston Franchisee.

Michael Coates
Running Japan Asia Multi-Strategy Investment Portfolio in Hong Kong. Make movies as part-time hobby.

Robert Frost
Living in the city and working in funds management.

Christian Behrenbruch
I split my time between Melbourne and Los Angeles, where I run a small biotechnology company. I got married this year to Zhenya Mikulchik which is a big excitement in my life (and better late than never). We met while I was trying to start a business in Moscow about 5 years ago. About a year ago we both decided we were fed up with the USA and decided to come back to Australia for a while.

Fiona Armstrong
There have been some big changes for me since I left school. At that time I was Phil. Something went click around the time I turned 36, but it had been chasing me my whole life. My realisation only happened after I really started to explore who I was. I’m 38 now and have legally changed my name and gender marker. Now I’m Fiona, and the proud father of 3 boys. I drive the local route bus service around Frankston and the Mornington Peninsula.

Loving my new found life and my beautiful and supporting wife and sons.
Class of 2010 - 1 Year Reunion

It’s hard to believe that almost a year has passed! VCE exams and ATAR scores are a thing of the past as many of us have moved on to University, full-time work or have taken a GAP Year to travel overseas.

With a year of real-world experiences under our belts; some had changed, others remained the same. We all had our own stories of the past year to share; either of study, travels or work. We hope those still abroad who could not attend are safe in their travels and we look forward to catching up with them soon.

Many staff attended on the evening and we greatly appreciated their presence. One of the most prominent memories we often have of High School are those of our favourite teachers, classes or even tutors that had followed our time at school since the beginning. The teachers and staff of The Peninsula School played such an important role in defining the Class of 2010. Many were there during our highs and lows and they continue to take an interest in what we’re doing and where we’re headed.

Once again the first year reunion proved to be an outstanding success and no doubt many of us were able to connect with people we had not seen or spoken to since 2010. The night was superbly organised and executed by TOPSA Convenor Suzanne Ashley. We would like to thank her for all her efforts in ensuring a wonderful night was had by all. Thanks also go to The Old Peninsula School Association, which kindly sponsored the evening. Without the support of TOPSA and its community of over 10,000 past students, staff and parents; many of these fantastic events would not be possible.

Thank you to everyone who attended the night – students and staff. The School will always hold a special place in our hearts.

We are all eagerly looking forward to the years to come, when we’ll return for our five year reunion. It’s difficult to comprehend that the next time around, the Pavilion will be filled with fully-qualified lawyers, doctors, electricians, teachers, engineers, journalists and nurses; just to name a few. Some may be married, others with children, some will return to Australia having moved overseas. Regardless of what we’re up to, we certainly can’t wait to be reunited once again!

We encourage each graduating class in the years to come to take the opportunity to attend the official reunions, and encourage all to stay in touch via the TOPSA website. The reunions ensure the continued sense of community and belonging, even after leaving the School’s grounds. Regardless of where our lives take us, our one-year reunion proved that we will always share our TPS connection.
Where are they now?

Jessica Riley
Working at Brooklands of Mornington as the Assistant Function Manager and looking after our beautiful daughter Chloe, we have also just moved out and got our own place in Mt Martha.

Luisa de Campo
Currently studying at Monash University. I’m spending my summer studying overseas in Italy, fast tracking my course. I’m also spending my time working and seeing family and friends.

Blake O’Neill
Currently modelling and doing promotional work, also at RMIT doing Media and loving it!

Bethany Hough
Studying medicine at Monash and loving it!

April Vanderzwan
I am now studying a double degree of Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science at Monash University, Clayton.

Shannyn Chisholm
I just got back from doing a 3 month volunteering placement teaching English in a Primary school. With the money I raised from the 50km walk “Walk to Ghana”, I built a classroom for my kids as we were teaching under palm trees. It was an amazing experience establishing a stable learning environment for the kids!

Mimi Pearson
At Swinburne Prahran, studying Graphic Design.

Divya Chawla
I am pursing a Bachelor of Science at Melbourne University. The course is broad and for students who are unsure about what course is the best for them. Uni life is great, independent and a lot of fun. Bachelor of Science provides me with a good platform for my future plans in Dentistry.

Joshua Quinn
Studying at Melbourne Uni, about to start 2nd year, really enjoying it.

Adam Trucano
Studying Bachelor of Commerce at Monash University, Clayton.

James Cocker
Founder of Aesthetic Customs Pty Ltd, specialising in all aspects of car modifications. Apprentice Sparky as well.

Ben McCulloch
Studying Business/Commerce at Monash, Caulfield.

Conor Winchester

Heidi Kitt
Studying Nursing at Monash Peninsula.

Cameron Macaulay
Currently studying Project Management at RMIT University. Earning a living building cubbies, sheds and playgrounds.

Brock O’Brien
Doing Concreting Apprentice. I am currently a 2nd year Electrical apprentice and am living out of home.

Hamish Hardeman
I’m doing my carpentry apprenticeship and loving it.

Eliot Davenport
Went to USA for 4 months, worked Camp America. Travelled US/Mexico. Starting Journalism at Swinburne next year.

Laurens van der Sluijs
Studying Business 2 at Monash University.

Nick Grigg
Not much, on the couch at home with a knee reconstruction. Waste of a Gap year.

Luke Stone
Currently a Personal Trainer at CORE Health Club working full time. Deferred from Uni and will be going next year.

Isabelle Jooste
Currently studying Architecture at RMIT and hoping to do an exchange program either next year or the one after, to Scotland or Copenhagen.

David Hawkins
Studying Business (Marketing) at Monash Caulfield.

Jack Ramsay
Living in Brisbane doing Marketing.

Victoria Beggs
GAP Year.

Natalie Goss
I’m studying Communication Design at Swinburne Uni, I went travelling to Europe and took a Contiki tour which was amazing. I’m doing calisthenics in my spare time and working at Mornington Peninsula Brewery.

Will Davis
Taking a Gap year and working full time to earn some money and relax, then going to MIT next year to study Software Programming.

Jordan Owens
Started an apprenticeship as an Electrician in January, playing footy for Peninsula Old Boys and enjoying my time after school.

Josh Rafeld
At Swinburne studying Marketing.

Harrison Knox
Studying Engineering at Swinburne.

Rudi Ryde
I am a chippy for Porter Davis Homes and loving it!

Jeyda Erdogan
I’m currently at Monash Caulfield completing a Bachelor of Design, where I’m doing Visual Communication and Design. I’ve also joined the Student Union at Monash and am going to be deputy officer of Activities next year. I am loving life right now and making plenty of new friends.

Anna Heard
Working for Colonial First State Global Asset Management which manages shopping centres.

Eliza Crowder
Lefing in the city, working full time at a fashion distribution agency.

Sarah Taylor
Moved out of home. My boyfriend and I bought a house. I am working in administration for a company called CBC doing the maintenance and security for every Prison and Court in the state. I plan to move into a facility management role in 6 months.

Ethan Marsters
Doing a Bachelor of Arts at Monash Clayton, still playing football and cricket.

Caitlin Miers
Started university at Deakin doing Bachelor of Sport Science/Sport Management but looking at changing courses for next year, possibly into photography. Living up in Byron Bay in summer with Carly Jones like a couple of gypsies!

Carly Jones
Deferred uni for a year and lived and worked at the snow (Falls Creek) for the entire season. Travelling Europe in October/November 2011 and then making my way up the east coast of Australia to Byron Bay! (with Caitlin Miers). Spending the summer in Byron Bay and then starting uni in 2012! Studying Bachelor of Commerce at Monash Clayton.

Michael Mclean
I am currently studying, it’s an amazing experience and I hope to travel the country soon.

Maxima La Rosa
Finishing VCE at RMIT University and living and working in Carlton. Plans to stay at RMIT next year studying a Bachelor of Social Science and Psychology.
Where are they now?

Dylan Sorensen  
Finishing my full Real Estate licence with the aspiration to one day owning my very own Estate Agency.

Jack Rothery  
Sales Rep at ‘Pacific Brands’ (Hard Yakka and King Gee)

Georgina Green  
Next year I will be studying my Certificate IV in Drugs, Alcohol and Mental Health

Olivia Hipwell  
I’m studying Fine Art degree, majoring in painting at Monash University

Mai Nguyen  
I am enjoying La Trobe University and studying Bachelor of Health Science/Master of Dietetics.

Dean Jansen  
I am working at MPrint as a print/graphic designer. I’ve finished my TAFE course in graphic.

Stephen Holland  
I’ve been on a GAP Year for twelve months, working. About to start Uni in 2012 at RMIT to complete a Bachelor of Communications (Media).

Lauren Ashley  
Currently studying a double degree of Bachelor of Nursing / Bachelor of Paramedicine, moved out of home and couldn’t be happier!

Rachel Irwin  
Currently completing an undergraduate Arts degree at Monash Uni, Clayton and working to do a semester overseas in 3rd year. Hoping to commence a post-graduate law degree in 2014.

Thomas Wyatt-Heuer  
Since completing Year 12 at Peninsula I have undertaken a trial workplace/traineeship position at a large cattle station in Western Victoria. I am currently studying at Bond University for an internationally recognised Hotel, Resort and Tourism Management degree which is close knit with a Diploma of Hospitality at a nearby TAFE for some more ‘hands on’ training. I just want to thank all my teachers/tutors for helping me get where I am, special thanks to Lance Hodgins for pointing me in the right direction. All the best Class of 2011

Adelaide Swift  
I’ve taken a year off to work to relax and do a bit of travelling. I’ll be heading off to New Zealand soon, before getting ready to begin a Bachelor of Science at Melbourne University. I hope to major in Zoology and to keep studying French!

Olivia Langdon  
I am currently studying Biomedicine at Monash Uni. It’s a truly interesting course which I am doing alongside casual work as a swimming teacher which I am loving! I am still unsure about which career path I will embark on exactly, so I am just enjoying everything I am doing at the present time!

Zac Pomeroy  
Am currently dancing full time, auditioning for shows and enjoying the life of a performer!

Jessica Fay  
Completing Advanced Diploma in Public Relations at RMIT

Sam Messinis  
Currently studying a Bachelor of Business & Commerce degree with an accounting major at Monash Berwick. Also been playing footy and cricket with the Peninsula Old Boys football and Cricket clubs.

Cassandra Skilton  
Currently completing my first year of Physiotherapy at Monash University.

Maxim Ayres  
Studying Law/Arts at Flinders University, South Australia.

Robin Du  
Currently studying at RMIT University

Sophie Brennan  
Working full time at Peninsula as the AFL Trainee, while still training hard for aths and cross-country. Also part of the TOPSA PAS Committee and Secretary of Mornington Peninsula Athletics Club

Tom Curren  
Playing footy for the Saints as well as a Cert IV in Sport & Recreation.

Jesse Smith  
Having a GAP year, I have been labouring for plumbers and builders. I spent six weeks travelling around Europe including participation in the World In-Line Hockey tournament in Italy.

Georgia Wiggs  
I am currently studying Bachelor of Arts Photography at RMIT and have started my own photography business. Recently I’ve shot the current Miss Universe Australia and am getting paid to shoot ‘Cosmo’ models.

Joshua Sinclair  
I am doing at Arts course at Monash, Caulfield and enjoying every bit of it. Currently Studying Politics, Human Rights, International Studies and Criminology. Received promising exam marks in first semester and am looking forward to completing my course. Currently working at a Thai restaurant in Somerville.

Emma Paterson  
Took a GAP year, have been working in retail and at a night club all year.

Matt Smart  
Currently enjoying my GAP year which includes relaxing and working at Woolworths to save money for a car. Looking forward to starting my Sport & Outdoor Recreation/Education course at Monash Peninsula next year.

Jack Massey  
Studying Arts at University of Melbourne, spending as much time on the trains as in lectures. Pretty much your typical poor uni student still living at home, despite working part-time. Still loving life though!

Nicole Cullen  
I have just returned from spending 9 months living and working in England. I worked as a PE assistant teacher in a boarding school near Bath. I then spent 1 month travelling around Europe and seeing as much as possible before flying into LA in the US. I spent a month travelling there before returning home. Now I am working as much as possible to save, before going to university next year.

Melissa Pullen  
In November I will be finishing the first year of my Bachelor of Arts degree at Monash University. I am completing a double major in Behavioural Studies and Criminology whilst studying Philosophy and Bioethics.

Tessa Carter  
This year I decided to defer my uni course to work and travel. I explored Europe for 2 months and have only just returned. Next year I will start my uni course at ACU studying Counselling.

Robert Bambery  
I’m currently working as a camp leader near Bristol, England. Next week I’ll be heading over to Ireland to sample some vintage Guinness for myself!

Sam Symons  
Enrolled at Melbourne uni for 2012. Currently lying on a beach on the Greek Isles after spending the last 3 months touring Europe.

Valerie Frasca  
I am studying Radiography at Monash Clayton and living on campus at Farrer Hall. I’ve been on placement at Rosebud...
and will be going to Frankston Hospital next, which I am really looking forward to.

Matt Beggs
Working as a first year apprentice in carpentry with Chris Mew Homes P/L and loving it!

Xavier Rittman
I am currently studying in my first year of a Construction/Project management degree at RMIT. I recently went on a 3 week holiday to Europe with my two brothers and am going for a trip to Thailand with three mates at the end of the year.

Patrick Besson
I am studying a Bachelor of Commerce at Monash University, Clayton with the intention of majoring in Accounting and Finance. I also work part-time as a sales assistant. Have also enjoyed a couple of trips to New Zealand to go snowboarding which was awesome.

Brock Osborne
First year plumbing apprentice, 3rd generation of Osborne plumbers. Playing footy at Karingal.

Tessa Hung
At the start of the year I worked at SEN and MER radio station as the receptionist and now I am using the money I earned to travel around Europe. As you read this I will probably be in the UK with Brittany Rouse. Will be back in November so hopefully will be able to reunite with most of you then.

Nicholas Clarke
Studying Commerce/Law at Deakin Burwood, living in Hawthorn during the week and having a great time.

Georgia Fanning
Currently studying Bachelor of Applied Science, Physical Education and working part-time.

Gabriella Vatousios
Currently studying Business Commerce and Monash uni, went to Greece in July which was amazing. Working four jobs and looking forward to next year!

Georgia Bateman
I am currently studying Visual Arts at Swinburne and loving uni life. Disappointed that I couldn’t be at my first reunion but doing work experience at Cosmopolitan Magazine in Sydney this week!

Adam Wade
Bachelor of Science at University of Melbourne. Tennis coaching and tutoring for money.

Timothy McMenamin
Still at home, studying at Monash University in Clayton and really enjoying life after school!

Kane Grimster
I’m currently studying Pre-Journalism at Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama. Also running track and cross country in Division 1 NCAA for Auburn University.

In 2010, the Careers Department, in conjunction with TOPSA, set up a mentoring scheme to assist the transition of students from secondary to tertiary education.

It is accepted that the first few weeks of university are crucial to the achievement of ultimate success. Therefore, I am seeking the assistance of our past students currently studying at university to act as a mentor for a Peninsula student especially in those early weeks.

Ideally, this would involve you sending a brief email to the student, congratulating them on gaining a university place and offering to meet to exchange contact details. Your role is to provide advice and support as and when necessary.

I would sincerely appreciate receiving by email, your preferred contact information and details of your course and university campus. I will be in contact again when course details have been finalised for the 2011 students who will be studying at a university in 2012.

With thanks in anticipation of your assistance.

Please reply to kmaughan@tps.vic.edu.au or call me direct on 9788 7784

Keith Maughan
Careers
Class of 1980/1981
- 30 Year Reunion

I would have considered myself the least likely person to arrange a school reunion and yet, there I was! School really is like Forrest’s box of chocolates and they weren’t always sweet. But curiosity got the better of me and after recruiting a couple of partners-in-crime, Jonathan Scales, David Clarke and I were off on a mission to find 115 guys most of whom had not seen each other or had any contact with the School for 30 years. Thank goodness for Google and Facebook, not to mention the brilliant 11th hour suggestion: the White Pages! It never occurred to me, being the ‘net savvy’ dude I am these days. Thanks Amanda.

Most of us had not seen each other since the last day of Year 12. Not surprisingly then, the most common remark of the evening was - “this is weird” followed each time by – “awesome”. And so it was; like stepping out of a time machine 30 years on, our lively bunch of 40-somethings went hard until pumpkin time.

The most pleasant surprise was the absence of any kind of competitiveness or bragging about who’d done what, been where or made how much! A few drinks, plenty of yarns and a heap of laughs were the order of the evening and that’s what was delivered by all in attendance.

A huge thanks to the teachers who joined us - Gurry, Burston, Macdonald, Stokes, Mannes, Suttie, Ball, Neal, Chapple and Grimley- that added a particular buzz to the evening. The Reverend Leaver’s many years of handing out the Eucharist clearly stood him in good stead for his role as chief waiter for the evening; thank you John!

They say the more things change, the more they stay the same. It’s a bit hard to make a full assessment of it on the basis of a 5 hour party, but I’d say that adage holds true. Of course everyone looks greyer and more comfortably clad, but pleasingly, everyone is generally a lot more mellow!

Many thanks to those that travelled from interstate and overseas to join us for the evening. Most notably David Linton who lives and works in both New York and London, and Euan Jenkins who travelled from Switzerland. Some of those unable to attend the reunion were busy travelling overseas themselves, such as Jon Stretch and Russell Pinney who notably, were attending an Elvis Costello Concert in Amsterdam.

We also send our best wishes to one of our favourite teachers, Richard Latchford who unfortunately was involved in a car accident in the week prior to the reunion. Many of us wanted to catch-up with you, and we certainly hope you are feeling much better now!

If you’re considering attending a TOPSA reunion, take it from a sceptic converted - it’s well worth your time. Don’t be a bore; get out of the house and catch-up with some old mates. Who knows: friendships may be rekindled, old wounds may be healed, and business may be done. One thing’s for sure - you’ll have a blast”.

Jonathan Warr
Class of 1981
Where are they now?

Peter Cooper (1980)
Currently a Personal Trainer at Fenix in Karingal. Moving to the Gold Coast next April to pursue fitness in the sun!

Ian Buxton (1981)
Living in Shepparton and teaching in Numurkah where I am the Senior School Leader. Married with two sons Tom (16) and Sam (13). In my spare time I enjoy riding motorbikes and race BMX.

Kelvin Monsbourgh (1981)
Living in East Brighton, 3 children (11), (9) and (6). Sales manager for Yalumba Wine Company in Melb./Tas. Still enjoy running, music and travelling.

Tony Latham (1981)
Living by the ocean at Wonthaggi. Married to Sharyn with 3 children, 1 married with our first grand-child. Teaching at San Remo off Phillip Island. Still playing cricket for the Wonthaggi Miners and still chasing that illusive century. Love Travelling.

Gavin Gamble (1981)
Living in Teesdale with family (2 boys), 35 km West of Geelong. Trying to start another Brewery.

Matthew Hulls (1980)
Living in the city.

David Linton (1981)
I work in the stockbroking industry and live between New York and London.

Gary Goetz (1980)
Married with 3 children living in Mt Martha. Naval Architect currently working for consultant in Offshore Oil & Gas

Anthony Ball (1981)
Partner in a consulting firm with another POB Nick Carter and 3 others. Proud father of 2, aged 17 & 14.

Aubrey Mair (1980)

Chris Robson (1981)
with family recently return to Australia after 5 years in Singapore.

Jonathan Warr (1981)
Freelance Helicopter Pilot in Sydney. Mainly for the news and media (Ch 9, 7, ABC) & Bushfire work.

Phil Crew (1980)
Professional Services Manager in a consulting practice working for Oracle. Married, living in Ormond with an 11 year old son.

Phillip Lord (1980)
still doing Farming and wood chopping.

Rob Cauldwell (1981)
Lawyer – Hong Kong

Lachlan Patton (1980)
Work for Pact Group – large packaging company running Innovation and technology platforms across 15 companies in 4 countries. Married to Michelle (Teacher at Peninsula) with daughter Molly doing VCE in 2011 at Peninsula.

Jeremy Ashcroft (1980)
I am currently working as GP in the Frankston area. I have served in the Australian Army as a doctor,

Paul Martin (1981)
Psychologist, living and working in Brisbane.

David Clarke (1981)
Moved to Melbourne several years ago, after a long stint in Qld. I am soon to be married and am on the TOPSA committee.

Marcus Hugonnet (1981)
Living on acreage in Gold Coast Hinterland. Totally enjoy it. Moved from being a structural assistant to a Bank owner (BOQ). I have a wonderful wife and 2 healthy thriving children. Life couldn’t be better.

Richard Kobylarz (1981)
Living locally.

Steve Wettenhall (1981)
Lives in Cairns with wife Mandy and two teenage children. I have been the Labor State Member for the Cairns based seat of Barron River since 2006. The 30 year reunion coincides with a visit to family in Melbourne including my Mum who resides in Mt Eliza. Great to catch up with old mates!

Steve Luby (1980)
Regional Manager for Colonial First State Asset Management; responsible for Qld & WA shopping centres. Returned to University currently studying Masters of Enterprise at Melbourne University. 3 kids and 1 grandchild.

Steve Suttie (1980)
Married, 2 kids, self employed plumber

Robert Slaney (1981)
Married 1996 Nathalie Dupont, one child: 6 year old boy Spencer. Please have a look at a project I started in 2006 www.alclimatechangemusicproject.com Live in St Kilda.

David Hansen (1981)
Teaching at Padua College, Mornington. Married to Sarah and have four primary aged children; Bethany, Tess, Benjamin and Bridget

Mike Fowler (1981)
Managing director of a Roofing company of 25 years. Thanks to Peninsula

Jonathan Scales (1981)
Working as a Stockbroker in Sydney

Jon Smiles (1981)
Living in Camberwell but moving to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in January 2012. HR Director Asia Pacific for PPG Industries. Two wonderful kids Jay (18) & Liam (13). Getting re-married to Wendy in December and ‘inheriting’ two step-children, Tom and Alana.

David Robinson (1981)
3 children 14, 12, 2. Self employed.

Euan Jenkins (1981)
Living a nice life in Switzerland after 30 years in finance.

Craig Hardner (1981)
I am a Research Fellow in Quantitative Genetics and Tree Breeding with the University of Queensland, Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation, and a PhD from the University of Tasmania in 1996. He has worked in Sweden, Germany, Denmark and the US. Other main interest apart from family is coaching and umpiring AFL in Queensland, particular in support of the development of girls footy.

Andrew Wynne (1981)
Living in Sydney. Currently in Dubai with the Socceroos!

Nick Ho (1981)
Living in Sydney.

Ken Anderson (1980)
Living in Illinois, USA

Graham Chester (1981)
Living in the UK, working in IT.

Elmer Rafeld (1980)
Living locally and have had my own business for some years.

Paul Hammond (1980)
General Manager of a company in Moorabbin producing ‘advanced textiles’ I have 3 children and a wonderful wife.
In late May last year, two former students now known as ‘The A Team’ (Bob Arthur and Tony Austin) decided that in the Golden Jubilee year, and before ‘anymore of us drop off the perch’ that an informal reunion would be in order!

First port of call was a visit to Suzanne Ashley the TOPSA Convenor, a legendary knowledge of all things Peninsula School and record keeper, to find out how many from that era we had contact details for. Out of a potential 275 we had a compiled list of 96 with valid contact details. Obviously there was work to be done, but with this, the unofficial reunion was underway with a blessing.

On Saturday 8 October, a casual bayside afternoon/evening of food, music and beverages in the ambient surroundings of Mt Eliza’s renowned Ranelagh Yacht Club was decided upon, by the time invitations went out at the end of August we had contacts for approximately 200 including staff of the day, and sadly also the names of 18 deceased.

On the day we had 120 acceptances and 34 formal apologies, it was a balmy spring day, perfect for the open air venue and the concept of a convivial catch-up for many who had not laid eyes on each other since 1966. The Yacht Club was decorated with TPS banners kindly provided and erected by School Archivist, Nadia Doll. At 1.30pm many happy people began arriving, flowing in for almost an hour collecting name tags, (thanks Deborah Kenner) smiling, shaking hands looking around and struggling to recognize one another due to the rigors of time.

However the warmth and friendliness was effusive and all had come for a good time. Significant among the early arrivals were Moreen Clark, Pat Curtis and Heather Reilly whose late husbands were mentors and major contributors to the School’s staff in the founding years. Former Staff members David Brammall, Neil Chappie, Roger Ball, Phil Mannes, Neil Taylor, and Ted Hook, with David and Ted making a huge effort coming from both Hobart and Brisbane respectively. Mark Scrivener came from New Zealand and interstaters were Richard Ledger, John Gilchrist, Bruce Appleton, Chris Swinbank, Paul Spottiswood, Shayne Pentland Nick Warner and Max Worrall, along with many more from country Victoria. To draw the afternoon together Ted Hook provided a deep and meaningful cameo calling forward all in their year groups from 1961-1966. He spoke of the School’s history - born on the backs of working class families to the fine institution it is today; stressing to all present that they are very much the responsible building blocks of what the School has become.

Geoff Eldridge, TOPSA Vice President had a few words and pointed out that all former students, who attended, will automatically become TOPSA members. The music began, it was good but talking was the order of the day, the food was sumptuous and we would like to give a big thank-you to Lisa Wherle of Ranelagh Catering, a gracious hostess who made a huge contribution to the success of the day. Those who did not peel off early were lucky enough to view the screening of Max Worrall’s nine minute movie “Bang on the Line” which drew a lot of laughter. A small contingent of the class of 1971 also joined in the company. Stumps were drawn about 9.30 pm with a few intrepid batting on until 2.30 am approving of another vintage, with 5.00 am being reported from another contingent. Is this just another ‘urban myth’?

The day seemed to flash by all too quickly and many did not find enough time to talk with all those that they wanted to catch-up with.

As with all such events there will be people overlooked who should have had a mention or an invitation, and to you we sincerely apologize. As a result of this one event TOPSA (formerly PSOBA) has buoyed its stock of names and addresses, so, please encourage all that you know to get on board and let us hope that before we do it all again, we can find those still missing.

A&A
The ‘A’ Team
Where are they now?
The Journey is rarely via a Direct Route...

Honour Colour Award for a TOPSA member

Many of our past students will be familiar with the Colour Awards of Merit, Half and Full and their associated criteria. Honours Colours are a further acknowledgement of excellence, usually beyond School and are the highest award of The Peninsula School.

At the Colours Dinner held on 28 October in the Pavilion, past student Peter Mitchell was awarded an Honour Colour for outstanding achievement in his chosen field. Peter was also the guest speaker for the evening.

If you know of other past students who may qualify for this award, please contact the Chairman on the Colours Committee, Mr Stephen Brennan via email sbrennan@tps.vic.edu.au

Peter Mitchell - Class of 1977

Peter Mitchell, the weeknight presenter of Seven News Melbourne, has had a long and close relationship with The Peninsula School.

Peter was born in Frankston when it was a small seaside town and grew up on the Mornington Peninsula. He completed his HSC at The Peninsula School in 1977. During his time at School, he was described as ‘an outstanding sportsman, who represented the School at cricket, playing in both the First Eleven and the Second Eleven. In football he was a valued member of the First Eighteen and would have attained colours during the session, had he not been injured. As it was, he was given an award for service to the team.’ He was a Prefect and Secretary of the Sixth Form Common Room who carried out his duties in ‘an exemplary and gentlemanly fashion’.

In late 1977, Peter secured a cadetship as a sport reporter with the Nine Network. On the 7th Dec 1977, the then Deputy Headmaster, the Reverend Bruce Clark, wrote to Peter congratulating him and concluded by saying, “No doubt one of these days, we will have a very handsome newsreader to brighten up our days!” Little did he realise...

In 1987 Peter moved to the Seven Network to become weekend news presenter, he held this position for 13 years until late 2000 when he replaced David Johnston and Anne Fulwood as weeknight presenter. His news-reading career has been signposted with major events, including Australia’s America’s Cup win, the Ash Wednesday Bushfires, Princess Diana’s death, the September 11 attacks on the US, and the Beaconsfield mine disaster.

A little known point of trivia about Peter is that he recorded vocals on a Beatles cover track “Baby, You’re a Rich Man” from the 1991 album Company of Strangers. This album featured Daryl Braithwaite, Simon Hussey (Class of 1977), Jeff Scott and James Reyne (Class of 1974) and was released in 1992 on Columbia Records.

As a past student Peter has been a very active supporter of the POBFC, being Secretary for many years and an integral part of their success. In 2001 he instigated with Michael Warner (Class of 1992) the ‘Jolly Roger’ newsletter, a publication still produced weekly and delivered to Thursday night training.

Peter is a current parent of Lucy, Maisie and Harry and past parent of Amelia (Class of 2001) and Ben (Class of 2003). He has been a wonderful support to the School, generously giving his time as MC at the PSPA’s Brownlow Breakfast and many other School events.

It gives The Peninsula School much pleasure to award Peter Mitchell - a true gentleman, for whom nothing is too much trouble, an Honour Colour for his achievement in Media and Service to the School.

Lisa Mitchell
Awards Committee

HELP US STOP PAPER WASTAGE

If your family currently receives multiple copies but would prefer to receive just one copy of our magazine Pen in Profile, please email publications@tps.vic.edu.au and we will update our files accordingly.

We do not want to make this decision for you as we know many of our past students still prefer to have their mail sent to their home address whilst they may be living or studying elsewhere.
Future enrolments - TOPSA members please plan well ahead!

When the majority of our past students were at the School our main entry levels were Kinder, Prep and Year 7. This is no longer the case, as we now have a Three-year-old Kinder program, which has become extremely popular, and Year 5 has also become an attractive time for many parents to start their children at Peninsula. Entry higher up the School, particularly at Year 7, has now become much more difficult for families as fewer places are now on offer.

Past students are encouraged to keep this situation in mind when contemplating enrolling their children. Be aware that we have solid waiting lists for many year levels and that we are currently confirming places 18 months ahead of time for many students.

We recommend that you make contact with our Admissions Office on 9788 7702 at least several years prior to your desired year of commencement for your child to avoid disappointment.
2012 TOPSA Events

The following Reunions will be held during 2012 in The Peninsula Pavilion:

*Past Staff Cocktail Function
Friday 27 April

Classes of 1980 - 1989 ‘Special Event’
Saturday 26 May

Class of 2007 – 5 Year Reunion
Friday 15 June

Class of 2002 – 10 Year Reunion
Saturday 4 August

Class of 1992 – 20 Year Reunion
Saturday 1 September

*Past Parents Cocktail Function
Friday 14 September

Class of 2011 – 1 Year Reunion
Friday 12 October

TOPSA Women’s Breakfast
Tuesday 16 October

Class of 1970 - 1972 – 40 Year Reunion
Saturday 27 October

* Please note that due to low numbers in some of our year groups, that our 30 year reunion for the Class of 1982 will be held in 2013, along with the Class of 1983.

* The Past Staff and Past Parents functions will be casual, cocktail functions so that members of our community can regularly stay in contact with each other and The Peninsula School.

Come and see how the School has changed and enjoy an evening of reminiscing in the H.A. Macdonald Pavilion, which adjoins the Macdonald Oval (South). Do we have your current mailing address and contact details?
THE FINEST EDUCATIONAL FACILITY ON THE MORNINGTON PENINSULA

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