

The Fortian 1999



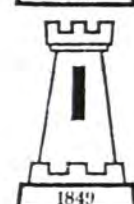
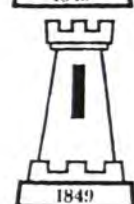
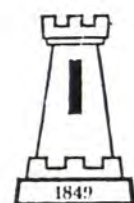
Sesqui Centenary



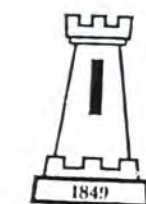
Year 8

The Fortian 1999

Vol. 97



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Producing the Fortian is always a mammoth task, starting at a leisurely pace early in the year when time appears to be on your side, but increasingly picking up pace, to culminate in a frenzied madness during term four. The problems encountered this year were rather novel, due to Fort Streets 150 th birthday celebrations - we actually had too many articles and not enough space! My apologies to those people whose contributions do not appear. I would like to give a very big thank you to the following people: Ms Kerry Donaghy for her very efficient typing and year eleven students, Jee Kim, Helen Jin and Sasha Morrell for their generous giving of time and energy.

Sandra Page - Visual Arts

Principal's Message

1999 has been a most significant year for Fort Street as we celebrated 150 years as a school providing excellence in public education. Many of the events of the year are chronicled in these pages and I will allow this magazine to tell the story of the year. It was a year in which the school became very aware of its past and of the achievements of so many Fortians of past years. The willingness of these people to be part of our celebrations underlines the strong attachment and loyalty that the school engenders in its students. In our week of celebration the school was host to High and Supreme Court judges, university professors, former Ministers of Education, former Directors-General of Education, past and present politicians, barristers and solicitors, luminaries from the arts, medicine and commerce, TV personalities, stars of sport and outstanding performers from all walks of life. They came to visit or to lend their services for one or other of the functions. So many of the visitors expressed their appreciation of our young students of today, praising them for their manners, their presentation and the assistance they gave. In return our students gained a renewed understanding of what it is to be a part of such a long tradition. This opportunity for the present to link with the past laid the foundations for a certain future.

I am writing this shortly after making the decision to retire at the end of this year. My eight years at Fort Street have been extremely rewarding. I have been able to take great satisfaction from the enormous physical improvements that have been made in this time. The playing field, the tennis courts, the cricket nets, basketball courts, car park, and the pleasant landscaped areas for passive enjoyment ensure a level of facility for future students well in excess of anything enjoyed in past years. As well, the under Kilgour project provided additional classrooms and a photography dark room and more recently a covered shelter area which will eventually serve as a sit down eating space for the canteen has been completed. The school has significantly upgraded its information technology capacity. These developments were supported by the creation of a school council and the emergence of the Fort Street Foundation. These bodies give voice to the school community and provide an opportunity for former pupils to support their school in a tangible way. At all times the P&C has been an enthusiastic supporter of school development and I am indebted to the personal efforts of so many individuals over the years that it would be impossible to do justice to all by attempting to name them in the space available here. Those who read this should be aware that no gains are made in any field without effort and that a debt of gratitude is owed to those many parents who involved themselves so willingly and gave of their time and energy so generously on behalf of the school.

Above all of these thoughts the most rewarding aspect of this school has been the opportunity to observe and work with outstanding scholars. The student body of Fort Street is what makes the school unique. I have treasured the social awareness, the sensitivity, the tolerance of difference that characterise the values of the school. Our school represents a true cross section of current Australian society and our multicultural future is assured as our students grow into leadership roles in the community. I have never ceased to wonder at the varied and immense talents of our students. They seem to find time to excel in so many different areas. Top flight scholars are also top athletes, sports stars, artists or musicians. They are articulate and demonstrate outstanding capacities for leadership. It has been a pleasure and an honour to be associated with such fine young people.

After 37 years in education I feel privileged to be able to conclude my career as the principal of Fort Street. I have no doubt that the next 150 years will be as fruitful and full of honours for the school as the first 150 has been.

Mr Lee Carroll

Deputy Principal's Report

1999 has been a memorable year in the life of the school, a celebratory year, marking 150 years of commitment to public education. The events of the celebration, focussed in one May week, proved to be hugely successful in galvanising Fortians from around the nation and brought them en masse, back to "their school". "Sesqui Week", as it will always be remembered, brought together politicians, educators, academics, public figures from the law, business and media, teachers, ex-Principals, men and women, parents and students, young and old: all of us sharing in the common experience of excitement amid apprehension which characterised this remarkable, historic moment.

The Sesquicentenary was characterised by good will, good humour, music, memories and recognition. The common thread was a great affection for the school coupled with a curiosity to discover the changing face of this remarkable Australian institution.

From the school's point of view the departing Year 12, the class of 1999, made a significant contribution to the Sesquicentenary in terms of willingness to work in all sorts of ways and support the celebration. I would like to pay a tribute to this Year 12, who are a remarkable group of Fortians in many ways. Particularly I would like to thank them for their generosity of spirit and time and for providing such excellent leadership and role models for the student body. Their participation and quality performance in the Sesquicentenary debate, drama works, musical items and mock trial was outstanding. The concern that Year 12 would find their HSC studies and their time spent involved in the Sesquicentenary incompatible proved of little consequence as they picked up their pursuit and academic focus after the Sesquicentenary week, with remarkable maturity and strength of character. Tess McSpedden and Stephen Echt were the Year 12 representatives on the Sesquicentenary Committee, and made enormous efforts to fulfil obligations on behalf of the students at many public occasions stretching over as many months.

Another significant group of people who gave so much of their time and energy to the school at the time of the Sesquicentenary was the Steering Committee formed to oversee the whole event. The processes of planning, decision-making and making things happen, both on the broad canvas and in small details, consumed countless hours and exhausting meetings. To the parents involved: Sue Cameron, Gordon Hill and Juliet Bishop, the school owes an enormous vote of thanks. Their commitment and hard work was awe inspiring.

The teaching staff on the Committee, John Buckingham, Marilyn Ireland, Kate McGown and Kay Johnson, also deserve the school's thanks for their commitment to making the Sesquicentenary a success. Marilyn Ireland especially provided a large measure of the vision which was needed to shape the Sesquicentenary events. Vivienne Dadour's concept of an art exhibition documenting the school was hugely successful.

In the week of the Sesqui itself, it was "all hands on deck" for all teachers and students and everybody gave of their best. It was a combined effort to be proud of.

As the year progressed, the changing agenda of education in NSW became the focus for the school. One of the major challenges for teachers has been the delivery of the final form "New HSC" the most significant revision to the NSW leaving credential since the introduction of the Wyndham Scheme in the late 1960's. The New HSC has led to significant changes in syllabuses and even more dramatic, a new approach to subject selection and a new style of reporting achievement. Most subjects now, are represented by a 2 Unit course and achievement across the state will be reported on a common scale in terms of standards rather than ranking students. The Preliminary Course in Year 11, 2000 will be the first year of the New HSC and 2000 will mark a significant difference in the way senior studies are approached.

The face of the school's personnel has continued to change in 1999 and the process will go on into 2000. Mr Tony Mulligan (Head Teacher - Administration), Ms Vivienne Dadour (Head Teacher - Visual Arts), Ms Rita Barda (Languages), Ms Joanne Martin (English), Mr Steve Vellez (Science) all joined the staff at various points in 1999 and have already made excellent contributions to the school. We are very pleased to welcome them to Fort Street. On the other side of the ledger, Mr Terry Glebe (Head Teacher - History) has announced his retirement at the end of the year after a long and dedicated career at Fort Street High School. The other significant change is the retirement of Fort Street's Principal, Mr Lee Carroll at the conclusion of 1999. I would like to take this opportunity of recording my appreciation of his professional guidance and support in my role as Deputy Principal and to wish him well in his retirement after a long career of commitment to NSW public education in many different roles. His fine intelligence, good humour and wit will long be remembered by all of us who have worked with him.

To the staff, parents and students who have worked so hard in 1999 to support the school's ongoing achievements and record of excellence in education, I extend my sincere thanks. Let us look forward to the challenge of 2000 as a new stage begins in the history of this school.

A.D. Connell, Deputy Principal.

Staff '99



George Rezcallah, Colin Gaskin, John Chung, Ken Ambler, Barry Hagerman, Michael Harding, John Gaal, Tony Millward, Warren Griffith, Paul Brewster, David West, Bob Hayes. Kiki Tsoli, Gerry Brown, John Suffolk, Theo Leondios, Bruce Fraser, Marilyn Ireland, Maureen Golds, Bill Forwood, Leo Sorbello, Serge Yalichev, Kirsty Macdonald, Sandra Page. Carol Fyfe, Patricia Donohoe, Chris Moynham, Glenn Tippett, Hiliare Fraser, Eva Jamble, Aaron Short, Marcel Hosking, Mary Tracogna, Jenny Thornhill, Anita Funarie, Irene Nicholson. Patricia Wardell, Tamara Kozlowska, Ratna Nagarajah, Christine Egan, Robyn Paice, Patricia Bresnahan, Sally Baker, Kim Anderson, Ann Kelly, Sandra Albanese, Vicky Chiplin, Patricia Hayes, Kay Johnson. Neil Jennings, Vivienne Dadour, Greg Talbot, Marie Johanson, Lee Carroll (Principal), John Buckingham (Acting Deputy Principal), Terry Glebe, Tim Jurd, Zora Neurath, Greg Osland.

Ancillary Staff '99



Maureen Golds, Anita Furnari, Julie Fisher
Kerrie Weir, Patricia Wardell, Irene Nicholson

Zorka Lachounovic, Christine Egan, Michael Nicholson
Janette Levy, Kerry Donaghey, Ann Kelly, Sandra Albanese,

School Counselors
Steve Scheduling, Judy May



Bill Lioutas,

SPEECH DAY

On Friday fifth of March 1999, the Centennial Hall of Sydney Town Hall was packed to the rafters as Fortians and friends gathered to honour the achievements of Fortians 1998, as well as to help celebrate the school's Sesquicentenary Year. The day was all the more remarkable as the school celebrated its fiftieth anniversary in 1899 in this very same hall.

Fortians from far and wide listened to Dr John Yee (1952) give an inspiring speech especially aimed at the young Fortians of to-day, with a deliberate message of "be true to yourself" and "responsibility to others". Glenda Jessup (Cox) and her husband George represented the Fortians of 1975 as they reminisced over those fascinating days when the boys and girls of Fort Street came together once again under the one roof. Perhaps it should be mentioned that the Jessup's have fulfilled the "Fortian dream" of having met as students at the school, later married and now their son, Christopher, is a student of the school. The School Captains of 1949, Annette Clarke (Randall) and Robert Morgan also reminisced about their experiences 50 years ago and wished the school well. The President of the Fortians Union, George Jaksic (1971) congratulated the school and outlined the many activities, which were to be held throughout the year. He especially emphasised the Fort Street Rose, especially developed for the occasion and Ron Horan's book, "Maroon and Silver" written to celebrate the Sesqui.

Speech Day marked the Official Opening of the year's Sesqui activities and this was to be followed by a special luncheon at the Grace Hotel, Sydney (attended by over 200). A morning service at St Phillips Church on Sunday 23rd May 1999 (filled to overflowing) was to be followed by an afternoon of festivities at the "old school on the hill" (estimates vary but well over 1,000 attended this enormously successful day). A Garden of Remembrance consisting of Fort Street Roses was to be dedicated in the front of the school as well as a week set aside in May for Fortians to visit the school (both occasions were very well attended). The year's activities were to culminate in an historic Sesquicentenary Dinner on the 15th October at the Wentworth Building, the University of Sydney (what an extraordinary evening as over 700 Fortians attended this very special occasion and with Nance Irvine representing the class of 1929).

The school's choir and musicians were outstanding on Speech Day. The orchestra set a lovely mood with "Anitra's Dance" from Peer Gynt and soon after the choir performed the Jubilee Ode which had been specially written for the school's 50th anniversary, and was performed for the first time in this very same hall, the Centennial Hall, on Speech Day 1899. Phil Harper "set feet a-tapping" with his arrangements of three brackets of music representing something of the times from each 50 year period of the school's history.

What a wonderful start Speech Day was to this very memorable year and although I could have retired a few years ago, I was determined to be a part of the Sesquicentenary year. I first picked up the mantle of Speech Day Co-ordinate for 1986 when Mr Ron Horan, Deputy Principal, who had co-ordinate Speech Day for many years, retired in 1985. My role was to be of a "temporary" nature until the next Deputy Principal settled in. Now, fourteen years and three Deputy Principals later, I have organised my last Speech Day.

Speech Days have always been the product of a team effort but I feel that a special "thank you" is due to Ms Lyn Trevini for her tireless efforts each year in compiling the lists of Prizewinners and Awards, to members of the Music Department, particularly Phil Harper, for giving that added dimension which has helped make Speech Day such a show-piece for the school, to the Office Staff who have always come through in each crisis and to John Buckingham whose role as Master of Ceremonies invariably gave a very professional touch of dignity to the proceedings and an additional 20 minutes to the schedule.

Terry Glebe



Chris Migocki

Terry Glebe



Ms Andrea Connell, Mr Allan Rice, Dr John Yu, Mr Lee Carroll



Annette Clarke

SPEECH DAY



Mr Henry Chu Mr George Jaksic



Tessa McSpedden, Rachel Stein-Holmes, Mr Browne, Nick Luchinelli



Dr John Yu

ADDRESS BY DR JOHN YU



May I firstly say thank you for the signal honour you do me in inviting me to speak this morning at a Speech Day that marks the 150th anniversary of the founding of our School. Occasions like this engender great pride but let me assure you that such pride is tempered by a sense of profound humility, especially when one recalls the extra-ordinary women and men who had their beginnings at Fort Street.

My remarks are primarily addressed to the young Fortian who are the present students of the school. I make no apology for this, this is your day that we are pleased to share with you.

It may come as some surprise, perhaps even relief that I do not intend to dwell on the past no matter how glorious and famed that past may be. Our history and the heritage of those 150 years give us much pride, a sense of historical continuity but most importantly it provides a confident foundation on which you, my young friends, may base your future. If Fort Street's history is to repeat itself, that future will also be Australia's promise.

We were one of the earliest

Today we are bombarded in the media by the prophets of failure and hopelessness. Yet the future I see is studded with marvels, even miracles undreamt of in the past. In my

schools in a young colony but we were different in that Fort Street was designed as a National Model School, a model of what education should be. I hope it was a co-incidence of opportunity and not a prophecy that placed the school on Gallow's Hill.

But did that model work? History tells us that think it did. Our school produced Australia's first Prime Minister, a United Nations President, Governor General of some notoriety, a Chief Justice as well as many serving justices of the High Court, several State Premiers and a beloved Chancellor of the University of Sydney.

We were fortunate to be nurtured by some outstanding principals and teachers including Fanny Cohen and Jack Kilgour.

For many years our school was at the top of the pile but with the changing demography of Sydney and with changing and at times capricious educational policy determinations by government that situation has changed. But the change does not and must not compromise the integrity and excellence of the school or its responsibility of care and concern for you its students. Despite the marketing hype of the Olympics and this new and indecent obsession with winning at any cost, never forget the importance of participating, representing the school and doing ones best.

I guess if I am to preach to you then convention says that I own area of medicine the advances and the knowledge of today race forward so that in the last 10 years the increase of knowledge gained matches everything discovered and learnt in the previous 300

should have a text or theme I have chosen some words by a 19th century American writer whose words are today just as valid and just as important as they were over 100 years ago.

Henry David Thoreau was born in 1817, he wrote;

"If a man does not keep pace with his comparisons

Perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer,

Let him step to the music, which he hears,

However measured or far away.

That is a message about being true to yourself, about being honest to yourself. Listen to what your soul and heart tells you. But remember no person is an island to herself or himself. In following the drum beat that you hear remember your responsibility to others, your family, your friend, your school and your community. Remember that they may hear another drummer and they like you should have that right.

Our country allows you to be yourself but that privilege is matched and must be balanced by those responsibilities to which I have just alluded. These constraints in no way detract from the essence of being true to oneself. Difference is a normal phenomenon, living that difference can be the strength that allows survival and provides a more varied and tolerant future.

years. When I started medicine, the diagnosis of leukaemia was a death sentence, few children survived 12 months. Today that same diagnosis promises a 75% cure rate. Such stories can be

repeated again and again and again in other diseases and conditions.

How can we say that money spent on education and research has achieved little? Yet that is said with tedious regularity by those who think that the balance sheet and its bottom line, the company profits, is more important than public support of schools and hospitals. Contemporary society through the governments it elects is threatening the things I valued most in our caring society of the last twenty years.

In my last year at the New Children's Hospital in Westmead, I was constantly challenged with financial and efficiency benchmarks while I was concerned about healing the body and spirit of children and young people like you.

We were concerned to provide the very best in modern medical science and technology but we were also very conscious that the environment was also very important if we were to minimise the traumas of hospitalisation, if we were to provide some healing and solace whether or not there was a cure. That has been achieved by the consideration of things such as building design, light, colour, space, art and gardens. Today play, laughter and fun are common place in a hospital more frequently associated with pain and suffering. Some people have said that that attitude was a very eastern one, perhaps it does but the new Australian will be a marvelous mix of cultures with varied and many different history, heritage and shared communal values.

In a similar way, the mature person that emerges from your childhood and adolescence will be an indefinable mix of you, your family and their heritage and this school. The lessons to be learnt go far beyond what is in textbooks. It is about friendships, loyalties, self-discipline and an understanding and acceptance of yourself – what ever you may be.

The future offers no boundaries if you take it in your hands. There are opportunities out there, there are exciting new developments, there are challenges undreamt. Take pride in what Fortians have done over the last 150 years and use that heritage as your foundation.

Finally may I remind you of the debt that you and I owe those who taught us and provided us with our road maps and milestones in learning and indeed life itself. They sit here behind me. We must value and safeguard the old and trusted profession of teaching. There can be no new world, no continuity with the past without teachers, of all types.

I quote an old Chinese saying:"

"When you drink the water

Remember those who dug the well."

I join with the School and your family in wishing you well in a better future.

Dr John Yu



SPEECH DAY



Nick Luchinelli James Findlay
Thea Greenwood



Vocal ensemble accompanied
by Paul Young

Patrick Lunney
Sudanhshu Bhardwaj
Ben Ryan



Ms Paice Mr Chung Ms Trevine Mr Rezcallah Mr West

1998 HSC FORTIAN AWARDS

KIT MORRELL
TANIA LAMBERT
JENNY THAI
JONATHAN DIXON
SKANDA JAYARATNAM

GRACE MA
PRISCILLA WONG
TIFFANY MALINS
CLAUDINE LYONS
DAC NGUYEN

1998 — YEAR 12

KIT MORRELL The A.J. Kilgour Memorial Prize for Dux; The Francis Killeen Memorial Prize for the Best Student proceeding to the University of Sydney; The 1925-29 Girls' Prize for the Best Student entering the Faculty of Law; The Terry Glebe Prize for the Best History Student studying History at University; The Annie Turner Prize for English and History; The Charles Harrison Memorial Prize for English (3Unit) (21st in the State); The Evelyn McEwan Rowe Prize for Ancient History (3Unit) (6th in the State); The Prize for Science (4Unit) (16th in the State); The Prize for Mathematics (2Unit)

TANIA LAMBERT The Ada Partridge Prize for Proficiency (2nd); The Dr William Gailey Prize for Biology (1st in the State); The Judy Levi Prize for Modern Languages; The Ron Horan Prize for German (3Unit); The Prize for French (2Unit)

JENNY THAI The Fanny Cohen Prize for 3rd in the HSC; The Constance Frith Memorial Prize for the Best Student proceeding to the University of NSW; The James Baxendale Prize for English (2Unit); The Sir Bertram Stevens Prize for Economics (3Unit)

JONATHAN DIXON The Laurence Goddard Prize for the Best Student studying Mathematics at University; The Denis Austen Prize for Mathematics (4 Unit)

CHRIS MIGOCKI The John Hopman Prize for the Best Student studying Engineering at University; The Dr Bradfield Prize for Physics

TAN PHAN The John Hunter Prize for the Best Student entering the Faculty of Medicine

KINGSTON SOO The Ron Smith Memorial Prize for the Best Student entering the Faculty of Dentistry

CLAUDINE LYONS The Emily Cruise Prize for Modern History (3 Unit); The Michael Kirby Prize for Legal Studies (3 Unit) (10th in the State)

TIFFANY MALINS The Herbert Percival Williams Memorial Prize for the HSC Question on Shakespeare; The Prize for Visual Arts (3 Unit) (11th in the State)

CLARE BRITTON The Val Lembit Prize for Drama (2 Unit); The Prize for Visual Arts (2 Unit)

SHUBANGI RAMGOPAL The Anne Weston Memorial Prize for Mathematics (3 Unit)

SHIRLEY TRAN The Alma Puxlev Prize for Chemistry

RUTH WONG The Harold R. Jones Memorial Prize for Modern History (2 Unit)

SKANDA JAYARATNAM The Joseph Taylor Memorial Prize for Geography (3 Unit)

MICHAEL HOTTINGER The Frederick Bridges Memorial Prize for French (3 Unit)

NICK COLEMAN The Hermann Black Memorial Prize for Japanese (3 Unit)

JEREMY WEE The Gail Salmon Memorial Prize for Japanese (2 Unit)

KEYNA WILKINS The Olga Sangwell Prize for Music (3 Unit)

THOMAS MOLITERNO The Institution of Engineers, Sydney Division, Prize for Engineering Science (2 Unit)

ALEXANDRA PEARD The Thomas Cooke Memorial Prize for General Studies

CAMERON MAXWELL The Boys Classes of '40 and '41, Prize for Computing Studies (3 Unit)

ERNEST CHAN The Prize for English (2 Unit General)

ADRIAN FUNG The Prize for Computing Studies (2 Unit)

WENDY MORRISON The Prize for Ancient History (2 Unit)

NATASHA FONG The Prize for Geography (2 Unit)

ANDREW CRAM The Prize for Economics (2 Unit)

DANIEL BRASS The Prize for Legal Studies (2 Unit)

EFFIE KLIPPAN The Prize for German (2 Unit) (4th in the State)

VANESSA OWENS The Prize for Food Technology (3 Unit)

1998 — SPECIAL AWARDS

CLAUDINE LYONS The Rona Sanford Pepper Prize for Service; The Elizabeth Cayzer Prize for the President of the S.R.C.

KIT MORRELL The Charles Christmas Prize for Scholarship and Service; The John Patterson Memorial Prize for Literary Criticism

JAMES FINDLAY The Old Boys Union Prize for Scholarship and Service

STEPHANIE LAW The John Hills Memorial Prize for Leadership and Service (Peer Support)

THERESA McSPEDDEN The Major Isador Sender Memorial Prize for Service

SASCHA MORRELL The Ladies Committee Prize for School Service; The Kath O'Shanassy Prize for Writing in Any Category

WENDY MORRISON The Year 12 1976 Prize for the Best All Round Contribution to the School

KEYNA WILKINS The Girls of 1964-1969 Prize for Commitment to the School Community The Raymond Siv Memorial Prize for Music

NICK LUCCHINELLI The Boys of 1950-1954 Prize for Commitment to the School Community

RACHEL STEIN-HOLMES The Elsie Ferguson Prize for Consistent Service to the S.R.C.

ANDREW CRAM The Ampol Best All Rounder Prize

THOMAS MOLITERNO The Reuben F. Scart Prize for Commitment

KEELY McNAMARA The Principal's Prize for the Most Outstanding Individual Achievement of the Year

DANIEL BRASS The Phillip, David and Robert Lindsay Prize for Debating

PIPPA SCOTT The Raymond and Frank Evatt Memorial Prize for Australian History

JAYDA THAM The Liberty Jools Prize for Originality in the Arts

CLARE BRITTON The Fortian Prize for the Best Individual Performance in the Performing Arts

JAMIE CAMERON The Bruce Leonard Memorial Prize for Outstanding Achievement in Music

MARK STEVENS The David Anthony Prize for Contribution to Music

RENATA MURRU The June Anthony Prize for Contribution to Music

ANDREW JOHNSTON The Instrumental Music Program Prize

ANDREW BISHOP The Young Achievement Australia Business Skills Program Prize

DAVID HELSTROOM The Clive Coogan Prize for Scientific Instrument Construction

EFFIE KLIPPAN Fortian Prize for School Service

ANDREW TANG Fortian Commendation for Young Achievement

JUSTIN TSUEI Fortian Commendation for Young Achievement



Jonathon Dixon,
Chris Migocki,

Kit Morrell, Tania Lambert, Shubangi Ramgopal,
Jenny Thai, Claudine Lyons, Tiffany Malins,
Tan Phan, Kingston Soo

The Sesquicentenary Happy Birthday Fort Street



William Dang, Susi Cheung



Uma Aggarwal, Madhushini Bazil, Margo Allen Georgas,



Open day at Fort Street



Sesquicentenary Celebration Events

Friday, March 5: Annual Speech Day, Sydney Town Hall 9.30am. There followed a Grand Luncheon at the Grace Hotel, York Street, City at 1pm.

Wednesday, March 24: The "Sesqui Test" Cricket Match, Principal's XI versus School XI, Petersham Oval 9am-3pm.

Friday, April 23: ANZAC Day dedication of the new Remembrance Rose Garden, honouring those Fortians who laid down their life in the nation's cause.

SESQUI WEEK

Sunday, May 23: Fortians' Sesquicentenary Reunion Church Service at St Phillip's York Street, City, 10am. Gala Opening Event, the Old School, Observatory Hill, 2pm, many prominent Fortians attending and speaking including the Hon. Justice Michael Kirby, Mary Kostakidis and dignitaries from the Department of Education and Training and the NSW Parliament, refreshments provided.

Monday, May 24: Golf Day, Bardwell Valley Golf Club, Hillcrest Avenue, Bexley, 18holes, tee-off from 7.30am.

Tuesday, May 25: Vintage Sports at the school, Tavernas Hill, 1pm - involving Years 7 and 8 students in old-time games and sports. History Ball at night for Years 10 to 12.

Wednesday, May 26: Open Day at the school, Tavernas Hill, from 1pm - Welcome to Fortians of the 1900's, 1910s, '20s, '30s, '40s, and '50s; Art Exhibition; Barbecue 5pm; Debate 6pm.

Thursday, May 27: Open Day at the school, Tavernas Hill, from 1pm - Welcome to Fortians of the 1960s and '70s. Mock Trial 3pm - 5pm in the library, with students and leading law figures taking part. International Food Fair 5pm to 7pm in Fountain Quad. Performing Arts Night of music, drama and dance, 7pm in the school hall.

Friday, May 28: Open Day at the school, Tavernas Hill, from 1pm - Welcome to Fortians of 1980s and '90s. Meal provided by Instrumental Music group, 6pm, before second Performing Arts Night of music, drama and dance, 7pm in the hall.

Saturday, May 29: Grand Sesquicentenary Ball, 7pm in University of Sydney Union Refectory.

Friday, October 15: Fortians Union Sesquicentenary Dinner, University of Sydney Refectory at 7pm.

Remembrance Day service and consecration of the Honour Board and Roll of Honour volume on a date to be arranged.

Ron Horan
Archivist
May 1999

FORT STREET ROSE

In mid-1995 a number of long-term initiatives were being planned by the Fortians Union for the celebration of Fort Street's Sesquicentenary year. Amongst these was the idea of cultivating a special rose as a living memento of the school. These sorts of ideas often don't come to fruition, but, gladly, the project came to be ... with the assistance and diligence of committee members, we investigated rose projects that had been fulfilled by other organisations.

After one year had passed, and especially with the time and patience afforded by committee member John Wilcox, we found a rose breeder extraordinaire, Eric Welsh, at the central coast. In a number of trips to Tumby Umbi we managed to seek out suitable alternatives for propagation and the Fort Street Rose was literally born. With careful genetic selection procedures and meticulous tissue culture, two varieties were then created a year later. One was to be named after its breeder, "Eric the Red" and the other was offered and accepted by the Fortians Union to become our school's signature rose.

Bereft of funds, the Fortians Union accepted a loan, interest free, from two 1971 Fortians, for the establishment costs to secure the intellectual property and full rights to the special rose which was to be thenceforth known as the "FORT STREET ROSE", "cultivar FORTIAN". With special assistance from Greg Lowe of Lowe's Nursery, we made an arrangement to initially propagate some 1,000 plants from the parent bush.

In April of 1999 the rose was released for Fort Street's Sesquicentenary celebrations. We made an arrangement with Daniel and Kerry Boerma (Fortian parents) who are proprietors of Annandale Garden Centre, at 38 Booth Street, Annandale (tel 02 9660 0874) to retail quantities of the Fort Street Rose in small 15cm pots and also in large 40cm tubs. To date, many hundreds have been sold to Fortians and friends. The pricepoint for the small plants was purposely chosen as \$18.49, which reflects the startup year of our great school. And, the tubs are \$49.00 each.

The Fort Street Rose (cultivar Fortian) is a stunning garden bush rose specially commissioned by the Fortians Union and bred by Eric Welsh from Angel Face. The seed parent is a delightful rose with excellent perfume and form; Old Master, the pollen parent, is a floribunda, maroon flower with a white accent.

It is compact, free-branching to one metre with large, dark green foliage which is highly disease resistant. The Fort Street Rose will grow in a large pot, and it is recommended to be trimmed back by one third after each flowering and pruned to shape in late winter.

A special colour label is attached to each plant. It also carries text which describes the school's history from 1849-1999.

The Fortians Union then commissioned contractors to landscape a memorial rose garden at the front façade of the main administration block of the school. Over \$5,000 was spent in fulfilling this project, which included new brickwork, a new bed of soil and a reticulated automated watering system. With support from Lee Carroll, the principal, the school purchased the initial planting of roses which were then given their new home. A brilliant display of colour greeted the participants of the school's Anzac ceremony in April of 1999.

A plaque has been attached to the garden wall, which notes that Fort Street Roses have been planted in the Remembrance Garden, honouring Fortians who have given their life for their country. Presented by the Fortians Union, Anzac Day, 1999.

At the time that this account was written (in late November), the Fortians Union has been successful in licensing the Fort Street Rose to another school in Queensland for its Centenary celebrations in 2001, and a major Australian service organisation which wants to use our rose as a living memento for its patrons. The Fortians Union will receive a royalty for each rose sale, hopefully for years to come because of these initiatives, which should defray our administrative expenses with the project, and, indeed, give us the benefit of a surplus of funds for other worthwhile purposes. We are now looking at protecting our interests with the plant breeders' association, by getting full PBR registration which will give the Fortians Union worldwide rights to this stunning rose.

So, if you haven't already secured your plants, please consider purchasing the Fort Street Rose as a living memento of the Sesquicentenary of Fort Street High School. It's a very special gift for yourself, family or friends ... honouring a very special place.

GEORGE JAKSIC

President, Fortians Union

PS I have taken on the task of maintaining the Remembrance Garden from time to time ... maybe I'll see you there sometime ...



Kate Goudie – student speaker at the Anzac Day ceremony



Jack Prest



**Marshall McMahon -rector St John's Collage Sydney University
Speaking at the Anzac dedication ceremony**

Dedication of the Rose Garden

**Members of the Spit Fire
Association and Ms Andrea Connell**



Fare Well Ron Horan

It is with deep regret that I announce the passing of Ron Horan, who has had a long and distinguished association with Fort Street for more than half a century. Known to many Fortians, teachers, parents and members of the community as the "Mr Chips" of the School, his death was an untimely shock. Nevertheless, his legacy will endure in the hearts and minds of many thousands of those alumni who passed through the School gates.

Ron Stephen Horan was born in Sydney on 27 August 1924 and lived a full and rich 75 years, passing away from a heart attack at 1.30pm on Tuesday 7 September 1999. He leaves his widow, Elmore and two sons, Rod and David and their families.

Ron had his secondary education at Fort Street, beginning as a new student in 1936 and completing his Leaving Certificate in the early years of World War II. He then entered the Faculty of Arts at the University of Sydney but interrupted his studies to serve in the Royal Australian Air Force for three years, seeing active service in the islands around New Guinea. After that he completed his Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in French (Honours) and German. He also gained a Diploma of Education. After a short appointment at Sydney Boys High School (he often referred to this as his "country service") he joined the staff of Fort Street, where he taught for 36 years.

In the week preceding the launch of Fort Street's Sesquicentenary and his book *MAROON AND SILVER* by the Hon. Justice Michael Kirby and Mary Kostakidis at Observatory Hill, Ron was interviewed at 2BL at which time he recalled a story of his first day as a teacher at Fort Street ... Ron met a staff member and said that he'd just heard that some "idiot" had reworked the words of the school song, at which time, the other gentleman remarked that he was that "idiot" ... Mr N R Mearns, the headmaster!

Many of Ron's years were spent as modern languages master and later as deputy principal. His teaching subjects were French, German and English. He was renowned for walking into a classroom or at the school assembly and uttering just one word to silence the gathering ... "steady!" Throughout his career, Ron demonstrated great practical concern for correct English spelling, the importance of

which is often neglected in schools and the community at large. As a practical guide for students he compiled the *FORT STREET SPELLER*, which was for many years presented to all pupils upon their arrival at the school. The guide has made its way into many avenues of public administration. In 1996 this booklet was enhanced as the publication *SPELLING ENGLISH*, a concise guide to spelling, punctuation and style. Soon thereafter, two more books were added: *USING ENGLISH*, a practical workbook of current usage, and a formidable task in itself, *EXPLORING ENGLISH*, a complete analysis of modern grammar.

Ron was a practical joker in matters of correspondence in that way, but emphatic and always offered interesting facts and figures, especially about things Fort Street. His written word was also often quaint, full of expression and evoked the colour of the English language. He was an intellectual giant. He took great pride in personally corresponding to hundreds, if not thousands, of enquiries about Fort Street, its personalities and matters of concern of the day.

Ron Horan had also been actively involved in the broader sphere of education. He served for ten years as a teacher and deputy principal at the Eastwood Evening College and then for another 22 years as its principal. His contribution to the teaching of foreign languages has been significant. With a co-author, he published French and German course books which are widely used in Australia and around the world. He had served on many education committees and was President of the Australian Federation of Modern Language Teachers Associations. For the past ten years he was the education editor at Honest Press, maintaining an active role in the study of languages. Ron shared my sentiments in regard to being a staunch advocate of public education and the selective school system which offers special opportunities to students to take full advantage of their talents to excel in education.

We are fortunate that Ron committed so much living history about Fort Street to the printed word. His association with the School went back to the turn of the century when his cousins attended there. I fondly remember the launch, in February 1990, of our first book, *FORT STREET: THE SCHOOL*, which documented the history of national education from its being at Fort Street, the model school, on the site of the colony's military hospital. He said, on p.357 of his book: "The curtain is still up and much of the story, we would trust, has yet to be told. The book goes forth in a spirit of cheerful optimism.

FORT STREET ARCHIVES

May it inspire every Fortian with energy, hope and a determination to do the best that is within one to prove himself and herself a worthy successor of those sturdy Fortians that have gone before." Ron went on to tell more in **MAROON AND SILVER**, and **FORT STREET INVERSE 1849-1999**. Speaking to him just recently he commented that he still had another book left in him ...

No school in Australia has been fortunate enough to have its rich history so carefully documented in significant published titles. I am proud to have been able to work closely with Ron, a friend, teacher and mentor, for all those thousands of hours spent on Saturdays and weekday evenings, as a labour of love, to edit and print his copy. Ron was a very active member of the Fortians Union, having been a past president and in recent years the School's archivist hospital.

Ron was farewelled by 200 people at Christ Church St Laurence, Railway Square, Sydney, at 10.30 am, Monday 13 September 1999. His coffin was draped with the Australian flag, as is custom for a returned soldier, and the Fort Street flag to mark his association with the School. After the service there was an honour guard at the church's front steps made up of 20 Fort Street students. Later that day.

Two interesting quotes were given to me to print on Ron's memorial programme: "Live each day as if your life had just begun"(Goethe) The other was gleaned from Ron's address book: "It's not what the world holds for you, it's what you bring to it".

Farewell dear friend. You may not be around us any more, but you will always be with us in spirit. As a tribute, it has been decided to rename the Fortians Room at Fort Street in his honour as the Ron Horan Room. A plaque will be displayed there in due course.

George Jaksic



Mr Ron and Elmire Horan

This year, the year of the School's *SESQUICENTENARY*, has been a bumper year for the School's archives. Although every year there is a considerable variety of enquiries from people seeking information about their school years, or long lost Fortians, or calls for assistance from people doing research on Fortians, 1999 saw such activities almost quadruple. Throughout most of the year Ron Horan and I tried to cope with ever increasing numbers of letters and phone calls until it reached a point where neither of us could deal with the material.

In addition to this, the school has received quite a wide range of memorabilia ranging from photographs, school reports and a 1934 school blazer which belonged to the international swimmer Arthur John Burge as well as hat bands, school ties and badges. The problem now is how to find the time to process so much material and information.

For two weeks in September a display of Fortian memorabilia and art works was mounted in the main vestibule of the Parliament House of N.S.W., Macquarie Street, Sydney, to help commemorate the School's Sesquicentenary. A special thank you to Mr Geoff Shaw, the N.S.W Attorney-General and father of a Fortian, who made this possible.

The monumental task to put the War Memorial Boards in order was undertaken by Ron Horan some two years ago, and after painstaking research, numerous letters and phone calls, plus on-going communications, is almost completed. Fortians have been traced back to the Boer War, the spelling of many names has been corrected and over sixty names hitherto unknown have been added. Unfortunately developments have been halted temporarily with the sad passing of Ron last September. The school owes him an enormous debt of gratitude for the splendid establishment and development of the School Archives. Over the years I have been involved in many aspects of the school's Archives but Ron's knowledge of the school's history and of Fortians was unsurpassed, and I sincerely doubt that anyone will be able to replace him adequately. The task has fallen to me, but on a part-time basis it will be very difficult, however I will do my best.

Terry Glebe

The Sesquicentenary

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FORT STREET

Happy Birthday Fort Street! Many, many thanks to all who contributed to the success of our Sesquicentenary.

Some of us remember vividly the 1949 celebrations; none the celebrations of 1899. They were grand events. Since those times, the Girls High and the Boys High have been amalgamated. The Petersham building is the site of the Fort Street High School today and the spiritual home of the older Old Boys and of all who have attended since 1975. The Old School on Observatory Hill remains the spiritual home of the Old Girls who attended Fort Street there.

The celebration of the sesquicentenary began a little time before Sesquicentenary Week. It was in the Sydney Town Hall, where the 1899 festivities began on the evening of Thursday, 30 August. How great an event the Speech Day of 1999! What a wonderful gathering of the school corporate in a setting so often that of a Fort Street event. So many Old Boys and Old Girls shared joyfully in the occasion. There followed an hour later at the Grace Hotel a wonderful gathering of some two hundred Fortians and friends of the School for the celebratory luncheon organised by the P. and C. Association. The cheerful throng spent happy hours in each other's company.

Disappointing in number if not in thankful memory was the dedication of the Remembrance Rose Garden at the front steps of the school on Anzac Eve. The attendance of executive members of the Spitfire Association was much appreciated. The roses of the Garden are the Fort Street Rose, symbol of the sesquicentenary, specially propagated for the occasion. And even then the grand Opening was preceded in its morning by the reunion Service conducted at St Philip's, Church Hill, where Fortians had through the years attended divine service. The church was filled to its hindmost pews with hundreds of Fortians in attendance in recognition of the close association of Fort Street and the Church. The Rev. Ken McIntyre, 1938 Captain, was the guest preacher.

The Gala Opening of Sesquicentenary Week was held where the inaugural event of the Centenary took place on Saturday, 30 April 1949 – the Model School and the Girls High School on Observatory Hill. Just how many came for the gala would seem to be reliably estimated at nine hundred. The event will

surely have been indelibly impressed upon the memory of all. Formalities began with the principal, Mr Lee Carroll, introducing two senior students, Tess McSpedden and Stephen Echt, who welcomed us in appreciated speeches. Then Mary Kostakidis and Michael Kirby spoke to the occasion, Michael undertaking the launching of Maroon and Silver, a volume produced to mark Fort Street's Sesquicentenary.

After the formal addresses, those present went to the welcoming marquee or to the lawn for the happy conviviality of reunion and they enjoyed champagne or orange juice and sandwiches. The Gala Opening was doubtless the happiest day for the grand old building since the Garden party fifty years before.

The three Open Days that followed at Petersham on the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday were similarly outstanding successes. Attendance on the Wednesday would have exceeded the thousand mark. Figures for the other two days were equally exciting. Another grand marquee welcomed us upon arrival through the gates of the Model School and the principal greeted visitors. A feature of the first day was the launching of Fort Street in Verse, another sesquicentenary volume consisting of poems students had composed reflecting school life and their reactions to it over many years. If the welcome in the marquee cared for our spirit, there were scattered through the grounds numerous spots where coffee and scones or other fare could be taken. These were appreciated settings for conversations with folk we had not seen perhaps in many a long day. Immense enjoyment pervaded the grounds until the time came to enjoy the evening entertainment, heralded by a spectacular fireworks display.

On the Saturday evening the Sesquicentenary Ball was held at a venue also significant in Fort Street's history – the Refectory, Holme Building, The University of Sydney. The gala function was organised by the P. and C. Association. To the members of the Association, to the school staff, to the pupils of the school, to the members of the Fortians Union, we who were able to participate in an amazing series of events marking the sesquicentenary, we express our gratitude for the enjoyment the celebration afforded us. The 150th birthday of Fort Street had certainly not passed unnoticed.

George Jaksic
President
The Fortians Union



Sesqui Fireworks



Steven Quinn, Jess McGuirk, Alex Parker, Michaela Pollock
Kate Scott-Murphy, Jessica Brooks, Chiara Bianchino



George Jaksic and John Buckingham with
fellow Fortian at the Sesqui Centenary
Ball



Sesqui Open Day at Fort Street

The Sesqui Debate

Ladies and Gentlemen, I must begin by apologising to the affirmative team and to you the audience, we have cheated. In the rules we received several weeks ago it clearly stated each team should only have four speakers. We have, however, broken this rule by disguising our 5th speaker's argument as the opening address of the Sesquicentenary week. Yes, ladies and gentlemen, our secret 5th speaker is none other than Mr. Justice Michael Kirby, our chairman for this evening. It pains me to tell you how we conspired with Mr. Kirby to introduce the debate topic early and make our side of the debate topic early and make our side of the debate obvious winner. On Sunday as the closing remarks of his address he said, "The motto of the school now is 'We are the makers of a new and better world. We will not be satisfied with making our own fortune. We will try to make the world more fortunate for us, as well as for others.'"

By saying this, Mr. Kirby was subtly manipulating the audience in line with our argument. He showed us how "Faber est suae, quisque fortunae" is no longer relevant as it does not encompass the collective social conscience of Fort Street today. In an effort to avoid being discovered as our 5th speaker, Mr. Kirby pretended that this new motto that is relevant to the school was merely a slant on the old motto. In fact his real purpose was to plant in our minds the realisation that this motto of ours really doesn't reflect the ethics of the school today as strongly as it used to. He even mentioned the key points of our negative case. He spoke about the same diversity our second speaker pointed out. Nick then went on to further the argument begun by Mr. Kirby and explained how the new school dynamic, begun in 1975 with the amalgamation of the two schools, had changed the relevance of Faber est. He explained that Fort Street as a co-educational school had created a sense of understanding and common purpose amongst the students, male or female. How de-zoning in 1989 meant that the geographical orientation of Fortians was no longer homogenous and therefore it meant a wider pool of thoughts and experiences to share and learn from. The fact that multiculturalism is not only apparent but embraced by the school also shows how Fort Street has changed. How Fort Street has become a school where diversity means we share in, understand and support each other. In this environment, Nick explained, it is egotistical to pretend we make our fortunes alone. To imagine that our fortunes are not a result of the shared experience Fort Street provides.

Mr. Kirby also made reference to my third speaker's material, making sure our entire argument was foreshadowed deceptively in his address. She explained that the Fort Street community has become the supportive base that students today need in order to get anywhere in this dog-eat-dog world. Caro outlined the programs in the school which show how we, the Fortians of today, have changed and therefore why Faber est is not as relevant. Peer Support is one such program which encourages students to rely on each other and to depend on one another. The purpose of this program is to unite the student body, to bind us to each other and help us recognise each other as friends and Fortians. Perhaps in the past this kind of unity was avoided for fear of an organised student revolution, but today students wouldn't dream of trying to take over the school!! But for whatever reason the Fort Street of the past virtually ignored the sentiments promoted by Peer Support as Faber est was pursued. It becomes difficult to see others when you are single-mindedly pursuing a goal of your own.

My Third speaker also spoke about the Student Representative Council and how a democratic representation from all grades meant a stronger support base across the entire student body. Before 1979 prefects were the organisation of student leadership, which led to a elitist system and division. The SRC is designed to get students working together and encourage participation of all students in the activities of the school. It's not about leadership but representation and this system creates a Fort Street far removed from the attitudes of Faber est.

The School Council is also an example of the way Fort Street now works as a supportive base for students. The School Council gives students a voice and a vote in the decision and policy making of the school. It actively encourages students, parents and teachers to work together. This kind of organisation means the school community is a collective entity and not merely a group of individuals.

So there is our argument, clear, strong and supported by a great Fortian, Mr. Kirby. But besides all that there is a reality, a reality beyond the statistics and dates and facts. Faber est is a nice motto, it makes us all feel as if we have earned our success and fortune alone, and that anyone who isn't successful obviously didn't work hard enough. The motto is fair and equal, if you take today's politically correct version, and makes it seem that in life we play on a level playing field. However, strangely enough for a school motto, it forgets the one defining thing, the school.

Ladies and gentlemen, Fort Street is most definitely not the school it was. In 150 years a lot has changed; the site, the curriculum, the uniform, or lack thereof, the policies, but especially the relevance of the school motto. In today's society we can not be the makers of our own fortune because we cannot create success alone. It is Fort Street that makes us, Fort Street that allows us to be great.

5 years ago I walked in the gates of this school a naïve, scared and hapless young person with no idea of how or what my future should be. Today I am a Fortian, naïve, scared and hapless, maybe, but I have the support and shared experience of thousands of Fortians to help me find my own kind of fortune. I didn't make my fortune alone and when, at the end of the year, I walk into the hall that thousands of Fortians have walked in before to do my HSC, I'll do so knowing that 175 other Fortians are doing it with me. We'll make our fortunes together, and try together to make the world more fortunate for others.



Refreshments and celebrations



Observatory Hill



Justice Michael Kirby and
Mary Kostakidis



Visiting "old girls"



Sue Cameron , John Ockwell





The Sesqui Centenary
History Ball



FORT STREET!!!!!! 1849 TO 1999

Still the one boosting multiculturalism and co-education! Remember there were always girls and boys present on the Fort Street roll who learned to reach for the stars. Their ghosts were alongside on Sunday 23rd May 1999 up at the old school on the hill, as we said "THANK YOU".

AND oh the wonder of Sunday 23rd May 1999! Eight hundred or more of us, oldies and the wonderful baby boomers! All there to show our respect for our Alma Mater, the source of our solid basis of knowledge, our respect for the rule of law and order, our respect for deep friendships, and career development.

A great big hurrah for the Sesqui organisers, the school and the Fortians Union. It was possible to wander around the site of the two old gyms (I speak as a twenty niner), to remember past lessons in the bulge, now the Ervine Art Gallery, to remember past teachers and mates mostly not with us now. There was a superb sense of *déjà vue* which permeated all our conversations among the diverse range of Fortians that attended. Gratitude was expressed for the coaching during our teenage years, at this lovely old building, once Governor Macquarie's pride and joy as the new Hospital built in 1815. How thoroughly did we rally to the cry of our motto 'FABER EST SUAE QUISQUAE FORTUNAE'. No need to translate!. Oh it was up to us to make our own fortune and we mostly did just that.

His Honor Justice Michael Kirby so elegantly and eloquently summed the feelings of us all; we must support the present school, the concept of selective education so that the cream of our intelligent young teenagers, irrespective of parental income or professional situation, could experience the steady nurturing of their talents by a fine school, towards the new millenium. As he said, our school's FUTURE lay with multiculturalism and concern for human rights. The spirit of Fort Street survives because it doesn't stand still.

From Nance Irvine, OAM. BA. M Ed. MA Honoris Causa. Once Nance Caldwell 1925 till 1929

THANK YOU FORT STREET.



Justice Michael Kirby, George Jaksic
At the Sesqui celebrations at
Observatory Hill



Steven Echt, Theresa McSpedden



Mary Kostakidis



Marie Johannsen, Nick Luchinelli, Mary Kostakidis

FORT STREET
SCHOOL OF THE PAST;
SCHOOL OF THE FUTURE

*Speech for the Opening of the
Sesquicentenary of the School*

Sunday 23 May 1999

*The Hon Justice Michael Kirby AC
CMG*

*(Justice of the High Court of
Australia.*

*Fort Street Boys' High School 1951 –
1955)*

I loved my years at Fort Street. I loved them so much that when I went up to Sydney University in 1956 on the first day I wore my Fort Street Prefect's blazer. I look back with horror at this fact. How could I possibly have been so gauche? When Clive James published his account of that day at Sydney University, called *Unreliable Memoirs*, I opened his book with fear and trepidation. I was terrified that he would recall my embarrassing apparel. He did not. Yet it is a sign of the simpler, less complicated world of my School days, and of my love for them, that I clung desperately to the safe and familiar maroon and white outfit when others were leaping into the informality of new clothes..

When I was at Fort Street, things were safe, predictable and sure. The traditions of the School were much the same as they had been half a century earlier when the first jubilee of 1899 was celebrated in the company of Fortian the Honourable Edmund Barton: soon to be the first Prime Minister and later a Justice of the High Court. Now, fifty years almost from my arrival we are celebrating the Sesquicentenary of the School.

When I arrived at the School in 1951 it was, of course, still divided as it had been after August 1916. The Girls' High School was here, where this Gallery now stands. The boys were at Taverner's Hill. The brewery next door to the Boy's School had just been built. At about 10 am the fragrant smell of hops slowly cooking, infused the entire School with a distinct and seductive aroma. In the midst of Mr Burtenshaw's Latin class or Mr Neuhaus's English lessons, we would breathe in the hops. I would not be surprised if it has not produced a rash of alcoholics with claims for involuntary life-long intoxication.

In 1951 the second jubilee of the School (its centenary) had just been concluded at the end of 1949. We all dutifully purchased the Fort Street Centenary Book published by

the Government Printer. This was designed to stamp on impressionable young minds the fact that Fort Street was a great School. By Australian standards a very old School. One of the flagships of public education. A special place that we were individually privileged to have been selected to join.

A few weeks ago I performed an annual rite which links my life to the School at about this time each year. I met the three top students in Legal Studies in 1998. We talked about the School, past, present and future. As a result of that conversation I decided to give not one but two speeches for this occasion. The first is the speech that would have been given 50 years ago, looking backwards to the School's glory. The second is the speech that must be given today, looking forward to the School of the future.

THE GLORIOUS PAST

First, the speech of the glory days. You who have been to Fort Street will know how it goes. Let me try my hand at it, for the words come flooding back into my mind from the School Assembly in 1951.

We honour Fort Street. We do not love it as such. That emotion would be too familiar for such an old and revered institution. We honour Fort Street for its great old boys and old girls who helped to build our country. We honour it for the famous headmasters and headmistresses and for the teachers of superb quality.

The most important thing to say to a Fortian in those days was that we were privileged. We had joined the outstanding public School of the State and of the nation. We were walking in the footsteps of Sir Douglas Mawson, Sir Edmund Barton, Professor John Hunter and all those who succeeded them.

With effort and devotion and discipline you too will become a Barton, a Mawson, an Evatt, a Spender, a Barwick. You are part of the elite of intellectual excellence exquisitely trained to serve the nation that you will go on to lead in whatever profession you choose.

THE CHALLENGE OF THE FUTURE

This is not the message of today's School. It is not the message at all. What would we say to today's Fortian of their hopes for the future? What would they say to us? Theirs would be a message that looks to the new millennium. This is what they would say:

Fort Street is a modern School. It has always been experimental. It is more concerned today with justice for all in Australian society. It is less concerned with self-congratulations and talk of the past.

Year 12 drama students



Vintage Sports



Lee Carroll



Sesqui Open day at Fort Street



Ron Horan



Sesqui Art Exhibition at the S.H. Erwin Gallery Observatory Hill

We realise that you cannot love human rights if you do not actually like human beings. We realise that every human being has foibles and faults. Not every one of us can be a Mawson or a Barton. Yet we may still be successful citizens and good people living life to the full.

The past was not always good, including at Fort Street. The boys in the separated Boys' School never heard of the leading Fortians who were woman. They never thought of the extra burdens which women had to carry to make a mark on their chosen occupation. Still less did they contemplate the difficulties women faced if they dreamed of making a mark on the politics and government or the judiciary.

Fort Street of the past was also, like Australia itself, a rather alien place for the Asian or other ethnic Australians. And as for Aboriginal students they all but never made it. We now, take a look at the School magazine, *The Fortian*, 1998. It is full of the record of Asian Australian students. And the names of the prize winners in academic and sporting prowess carry the memories of immigrants from every continent who have ever made Australia their home.

Working and studying together in such a diverse and multicultural community, Fortians become committed to the ideal of tolerance. Fort Street today has its own group for Amnesty International. It has its own Student's Council, a democratic right that would have not been tolerated by the Masters and Prefects of earlier days. In the wake of recent national events, students at the School took the innate of devoting attention to the ideal of tolerance. Tolerance to ethnic diversity. Tolerance to differences of colour, language and appearance. Tolerance to gays and lesbians and an end to homophobia.

Fortians today also share with their predecessors a commitment to public education. But instead of looking nostalgically to the past, they look with impatience at the present. To cutbacks that impose hardship on the School. Of the steady drift of students from public education. Of the problems and challenges which teachers today must face that did not exist 50 years ago. Fortians today are not satisfied to talk of the good old days and the famous old students. Resting on your laurels is not the way of today's Fortians. They are impatient with self-satisfaction. They are unwilling to tolerate intolerance.

CONCLUSIONS

Fortians today speak through me with the idealism of a younger generation of Australians continuing the truly important legacy which Fort Street High School, a public school, has given to Australia over 150 years. The legacy of egalitarian reform. We, who could not buy our way into this School, and could only win our place by accidental gifts of nature and by diligent attention to our schooling, owe it to the future of Australia to maintain this much of the Fort Street tradition. That we will be inquisitive and diligent; but also kind and concerned about fellow human beings, wherever they may be and whoever they are. That we will strive to have a full life, receiving and giving happiness and love as befits civilised people living in a blessed country. That we will be concerned for those less privileged who did not have the opportunities that our School still presents. And that our motto will not be: Look at us, how good we are. Look how we have made our own fortune. Instead it will be: We are the makers of a new and better world. We will not be satisfied with making our own fortune. We will try to make the world more fortunate, as well, for others.



Justice Michael Kirby
Launching "Maroon and Silver"

Sesqui Mock Trial

As part of our Sesquicentenary celebrations Fort Street conducted a Mock Trial. The Honourable Justice David Kirby (class of 1960) of the Supreme Court of NSW presided over the case.

An audience of parents, friends and Fortians heard a happy resolution of the case Police V Carey, where Ms. Carey an actor and TV celebrity, employed by the Choko Marketing Promotion Board was accused of assault occasioning actual bodily harm to Alan Dempster, President of the Board.

In delivering the judgement Justice Kirby found that the prosecution did prove Ms. Carey had indeed caused actual bodily harm, but there was reasonable doubt she had acted with that intention in mind but in self defence.

The prosecution and defence teams were made up of the Mock Trial Team of 1999 and ex-students that are now practicing lawyers or law students. Legal coach was Mr Jeremy Glass and Teacher coach Ms Marie Johanson. It was a most memorable experience for the students to appear before Justice Kirby who directed them with thoughtful and witty rulings, special thanks and congratulations to the Mock Trial Team.

Mock Trial Team 1999

Joel Bedford, Betty Chang, Thomas Costa, Francisca Gan, Helen Jin, Chih-Ping Liao, Georgina Morris, Natattie Manning, Thu-Ha Nguyen, Chris Parris.

FORTIANS

Peter Chalk, Elliot Hyde, David Roache Turner, Luke Manderson, Graham Raffell

Marie Johanson



Graham Raffell, Betty Chang, Elliot Hyde, Justice David Kirby,
Peter Chalk, David Roache-Turner,
Joel Bedford, Jeremy Glass



Francisca Gan



Luke Manderson, Christina Chang Joel Bedford



Thomas Costa

THOUGHTS ON THE SESQUICENTENARY DEBATE FROM THE RESERVE BENCH

I nearly didn't attend the sesquicentenary celebrations. I suspect that for Fortians of fairly recent vintages, "school" still connotes "institution" at least as much as it suggests "community". I was shaken out of my apathy, however, by a phone call which reminded me of the upcoming events by drawing on that very sense of communal history. One Sunday evening, Margaret Harris, Professor of English at the University of Sydney, rang to tell me that we shared a school as well as the corridors of the English department where I study, and to ask me how I felt about participating in a debate.

I admit that I was ambivalent. Such invitations are naturally flattering, but it is a brave person who doesn't flinch at the thought of debating in the company not only of one's teachers (past and present), but of eminent lawyers, politicians, and (especially) John Singleton. At least he and I would have been on the same team. Would have been. As it turned out, I didn't quite make the grade of 'four most famous Fortians,' or 'two most famous female Fortians,' (gratefully) ceding my place to Barbara Gillam, Professor of Psychology at the University of NSW, who returned from overseas and stepped off the plane into debating shoes, far better equipped than I to fill them.

Nonetheless the whole business had set me thinking, and three days later I found myself walking down the hill to the school gate. Somewhat nervously I sought out the library, although unlike John Singleton I had been inside it many times before. The room was staggeringly full; this was not just a school sideshow but a major community event. What's more, every speaker exceeded all expectations. Ostensibly a contest over the continuing validity of the school motto- "Faber est suae quisque fortunae," "Everyone is the maker of his/her (own) fortune"- in effect the debate was over two competing models of the self: one that stresses and values the ethos of individual achievement and one that emphasises mutuality, a more relational, community-oriented model.

As with all good show debates, in the end everyone (including the adjudicator) was on the same team. Some people would call that team 'Fort Street', and in many ways that would be fair enough because today's Fort Street seem, to me at least, to be a community made up of individuals. But as Justice Kirby so eloquently explained in his closing remarks, there was more at stake than just another form of school-based patriotism, other examples of which include such strongly "establishment" events as the GPS "Head of the River". Rather, both debaters and audience were expressing support for a tradition that demands access to fine education for all, a demand increasingly marginalised in these times of economic rationalism.

It is almost always comforting to find oneself in the company of like-minded individuals, particularly if it facilitates the heady sharing of ideals. Most importantly, it is easy in such a context to believe that mutual support and individual achievement are not themselves mutually exclusive; that, in fact, both teams can win. However, in the somewhat nebulous but frequently brutal thing that we call "real life" this is not always the case. It is important, I think, to remember that ours is a special and privileged school, and just as not all students can afford a private education, not everyone else can attend Fort Street; the demand for a fine public education system must not stop at the Parramatta Road gates.

To close, I would like to point out that the sesquicentenary debate was held on 26 May, Australia's national day of Reconciliation. It just goes to remind us that if all people are the makers of their own fortunes, these fortunes are frequently made at someone else's expense. On the other hand, the fact that Australia's indigenous population so generously supported the change in emphasis from saying sorry to reconciliation suggests, that, if we tread lightly and with care, community and mutual support may win out, as they did in the school library, in the end.

Kelly Stephens
Fort Street Student, 1982-87



John Singleton,
Barbara Gillam,
John Dowd,
Margaret Harris

PREFECT AND ROISTERER TEAM UP FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Michael Kirby and John Singleton, one of the oddest couples with "a long and peculiar friendship", joined forces this week in a vigorous defence of public schools.

Justice Michael Kirby, of the High Court, put aside his law books. Mr John Singleton, advertiser and roisterer, put off his football viewing.

Kirby told an audience at Fort Street High School, alma mater for both, that Singleton had earned special applause because he was missing a certain football match, of which the judge and audience appeared to know nothing.

Singleton said: "I don't mind being here because I've always wanted to see a library," adding that it must be the only room of people in Sydney that didn't know the State of Origin was being played.

Kirby said that, as a prefect, he had placed only two boys on detention, Singleton and another, who became a priest.

Singleton revealed that Kirby had put him on detention for defending the prefect in a playground fight, but this and other revelations came after the judge's impassioned defence of public schools.

Summing up after a debate between Old Fortonians and a school team, Justice Kirby said: "I am the only justice of the High Court educated in a public school."

"I am the only justice of the High Court in the last 25 years, except for Justice Dawson who was educated in a public school in a system which educates 70 per cent of the citizens of our nation."

Asked why this was so, most people said it was the connections provided by private schools.

Suggesting that schools such as Fort Street build their own networks, he said; "I haven't forgotten that I am a pupil of the public school system that educates 70 per cent of our nation, that educates us in democracy, in multiculturalism, in opposition to the alienation of Asians and other Australia, of women, and to homophobia.

"We are democratic citizens in the public school system and it's our duty to speak up for public education."

Justice Kirby presided over the debate, with an Old Fortonians team of Singleton, Justice John Dowd, English Professor Margaret Harris and Psychology Professor Barbara Gillam.

The topic was whether the school motto, *Faber est suae quisque fortunae* (Everyone is the maker of his/her own fortune), was as relevant today as when the school was founded 150 years ago.

Justice Dowd said IQ tests didn't exist when he attended Fort Street. He wondered what he would do faced with a classroom of highly intelligent, slightly amusing Michael Kirbys.

Professor Gillam said her grandfather was an orphan who knew the boy who became bushranger Captain Thunderbolt, but who went to Fort Street, an indication of the school's egalitarian nature.

The school debaters, Amanda Nurse, Nicholas Luchinelli, Caroline Malcolm and Theresa McSpedden, argued that the school was more egalitarian than ever - and more multicultural with 85 nationalities represented.

Singleton, who a careers adviser thought should be a boilermaker, said having a higher court was useful because if a judge dozed off or started thinking about the races, there was always someone up the line to fix mistakes.

The school debaters agreed yesterday that it was inspiring to have such a figure as Justice Kirby speaking up for public schools, particularly in light of the push for private education.

Singo said his friendship with Kirby was enduring, even though the prefect had detained him.

"Where's the justice in that?"

They would dine again together soon, with their respective partners.

Oh, and he had reached home in time to watch the second half of the football.

Tony Stephens
From the Sydney
Morning Herald

Fort Street Debaters



Amanda Nurse, Nick Luchinelli



Caroline Malcolm,
Theresa McSpedden

THE SESQUICENTENARY RECITAL

Performances to Remember

On Wednesday 26 May 1999, at the conclusion of the Sesquicentenary Debate, the audience was treated to a recital that featured former and present students. Some of the most talented present students performed in the recital: Paul Young, pianist, of year 9, Peter Farrar, saxophonist, of year 10, and year 12 students: Jamie Cameron, percussionist, Pauline Man, viola player, and Conrad Richters, bass player. Guest artists included Liz Gormley, violinist, Louise Yabsley, cellist, and percussion teacher Martin Hyland. Former student, Claire Edwardes, percussionist, who recently became the "ABC Young Performer of the Year 1999", also performed in the recital.

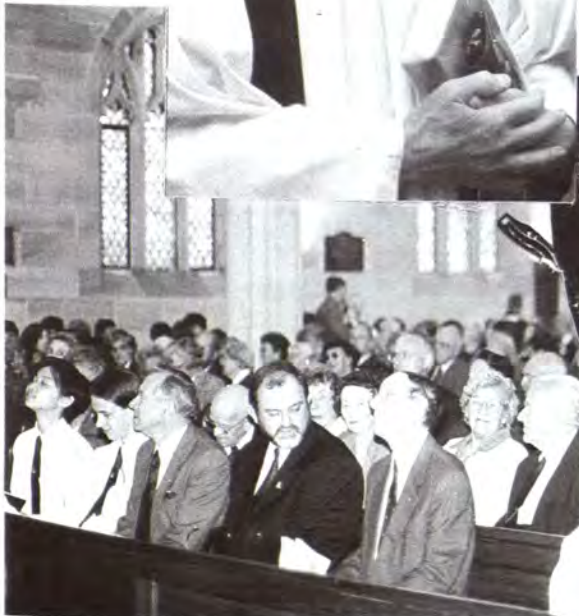
The appreciative audience at the Sesquicentenary Recital included many Fortians who have made careers in music including Brian Strong, founder of the "Bennelong Players" and a former conductor of the Fort Street Orchestra, and his sister Enid Strong. Enid is another outstanding musician who was educated at Fort Street. She was a member of the "Class of 44". In 1950, at the age of eighteen, Enid won the ABC Concerto Competition in New South Wales when she played the first movement of the "Piano Concerto in D minor" by Brahms, with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra conducted by Sir Eugene Goossens. In this competition Enid completed against outstanding musicians such as Richard Bonyngue. Enid became a school music teacher whose last appointment with the New South Wales Department of Education was at the State Conservatorium of Music.

Another famous musician who attended the Sesquicentenary Recital was Emeritus Professor David Tunley, author and a former university professor of music, who travelled from Western Australia for the Sesquicentenary celebrations. After qualifying as a music teacher, his first appointment was to Fort Street where one of his students was Michael Kirby, now the Honourable Justice Michael Kirby who spoke so eloquently at the Sesquicentenary Debate that preceded the Recital.

With outstanding Fortian musicians performing and listening, it was a recital to remember !

Tricia Donohoe
Music Department

Dr Ken McIntyre gave the address
at St. Phillips for the Fortians
Sesquicentenary church service



Alex Ardino



Sam Waks

Louis Couttoupes

Phillip Ma

Peter Farrar

John Williamson

Sesqui Week



Jensyn Luc, Teresa Choi, Jack Teiwes, David Schaverien



Elizabeth Lee and Francisca Gan
selling sesqui t-shirts



The unveiling of Meleager -
starts off the fund for the
sculpture's restoration



Phil Harper and the Fort Street Stage Band

Daniela Forinash,
Ty Wood Sam James
Meleager
Simon Johnson



SESQUICENTENARY PERFORMING ARTS NIGHTS

A SHOWCASE OF TALENT

During the Sesquicentenary celebrations in May, the Creative Arts Department and the I.M.P. combined to produce an evening of fine dramatic and musical performances. The program for the Sesquicentenary Performing Arts Night featured performances by elective music and drama students as well as the senior I.M.P. ensembles and a combined ensemble of over 100 student musicians. Technical support in lighting and sound operation, stage management and front-of-house was also provided by a dedicated crew of volunteer staff and students.

The major item on the program was a commissioned work written by composer and Fortian Mr Mark Isaacs. Mark worked with the combined I.M.P. Strings, Senior Concert Band and Senior Stage Band over many months to write and rehearse the work. The work, entitled "THREE EXCURSIONS FOR CONCERT BAND AND STRINGS", was very well received by the large audiences on the two performances and was a real challenge for our young musicians. The students were very privileged to have been able to work with an emerging Australian composer, with the work conducted by Mr Phil Harper.

Other highlights included performances by the Year 12 1999 music students and the first performance on the new I.M.P. marimba. Holly Phillip (Year 10) performed an arrangement of the Bach A minor Violin Concerto for Marimba and String Orchestra under the baton of Mr John Ockwell.

Dramatic highlights included self-devised pieces by the Year 11, 10 and 9 drama classes and a "potted" version of the senior drama production for 1999, "DO WE EVER SEE GRACE?" Year 11 drama presented a work entitled "SCHOOL", Year 10 presented a work entitled "FORT STREET - 150 Year On" and the Year 9 presented four short dramatic works based on the fame of Fortians Douglas Mawson, Clarice Kennedy, Edmund Barton and Margaret Preston.

The Creative Arts Department would like to acknowledge the efforts of all the staff and students who were involved in these performances and congratulate them on their dedication to this Sesquicentenary event.

1975

FIRST GROUP OF GIRLS AT FORT STREET

We've been asked to give you some glimpses of that first coeducational year in 1974. First form and fifth form (years 7-11) had the first intake of girls. I was in 5th form that year and had done my previous high schooling at the girl's school on Observatory Hill. George too was in 5th form. We ended up in each others classes.

The first day of class for the year was a double science period but had been designated as a double free so the boys and girls could get to know each other. We were assembled in the quadrangle outside the science labs. The boys stood at one end and the girls stood at the other, with a no-mans land in between. We just looked at each other. Eventually some of us were brave enough to venture into the middle and talk. George and I first met there.

Life at the boys school was very different. We were somewhat cloistered at the girls school and there were usually no decent males within cooe. Our headmistress and most of our teachers stayed behind at the girls school with the remaining years and the few of us and some female teachers went to Petersham. We had to get used to boys and lots of male teachers. The boys headmaster became our headmaster. The school was still called Fort Street Boys High School. I still have a pennant at home on which I am designated the 16 years swimming champion of FSBHS.

We girls had basically creamed the boys in the school certificate exams so thought we were coming over to a bunch of dummies. We conscientious girls sat in class, generally up the front and listened. The boys sat elsewhere and spent their time, particularly in science, 'doing' things, like electrolysis or making small bombs, blowing glass or making rotten egg gas. Eventually we learnt the boys weren't as dumb as we thought.

The boys were quite distracting, often deliberately. I remember choir auditions, at which the boys would sing out of tune. Some of the boys used to run around showing their legs to the girls in some sort of lovely legs contest. The school photographer (Year 12 male) had a field day taking photos of the girls, ostensibly for the school magazine.

Overall, the change wasn't easy. Many of the teachers found it hard going. There were mutterings about the girls and 'extra work'. There were also rumours of teachers who resigned because they didn't want to work under 'a female boss'. Our headmistress was due to come to Petersham the following year. She had seniority over the boys head.

I can't say I enjoyed the years at the boys school. How much can be attributed to the coed change, or being a teenager or the fact the HSC was looming is hard to know. We faced our HSC in a rather turbulent atmosphere of uncertainty and change. Despite that, the one consistent virtue I found at both schools, was the fostering of the love of learning and academic excellence. Something I guess I've come to appreciate even more as the years have passed.

Glenda Jessup (1975)

1975

A Male Perspective

I hope you don't draw the conclusion that I was one of the boys that my wife describes!

I don't dwell on my school experience a lot. Living day to day is busy enough. However, one thing I remember clearly is the first year amalgamation when the Year 11 girls were introduced into the school. I will give a male version of the experience.

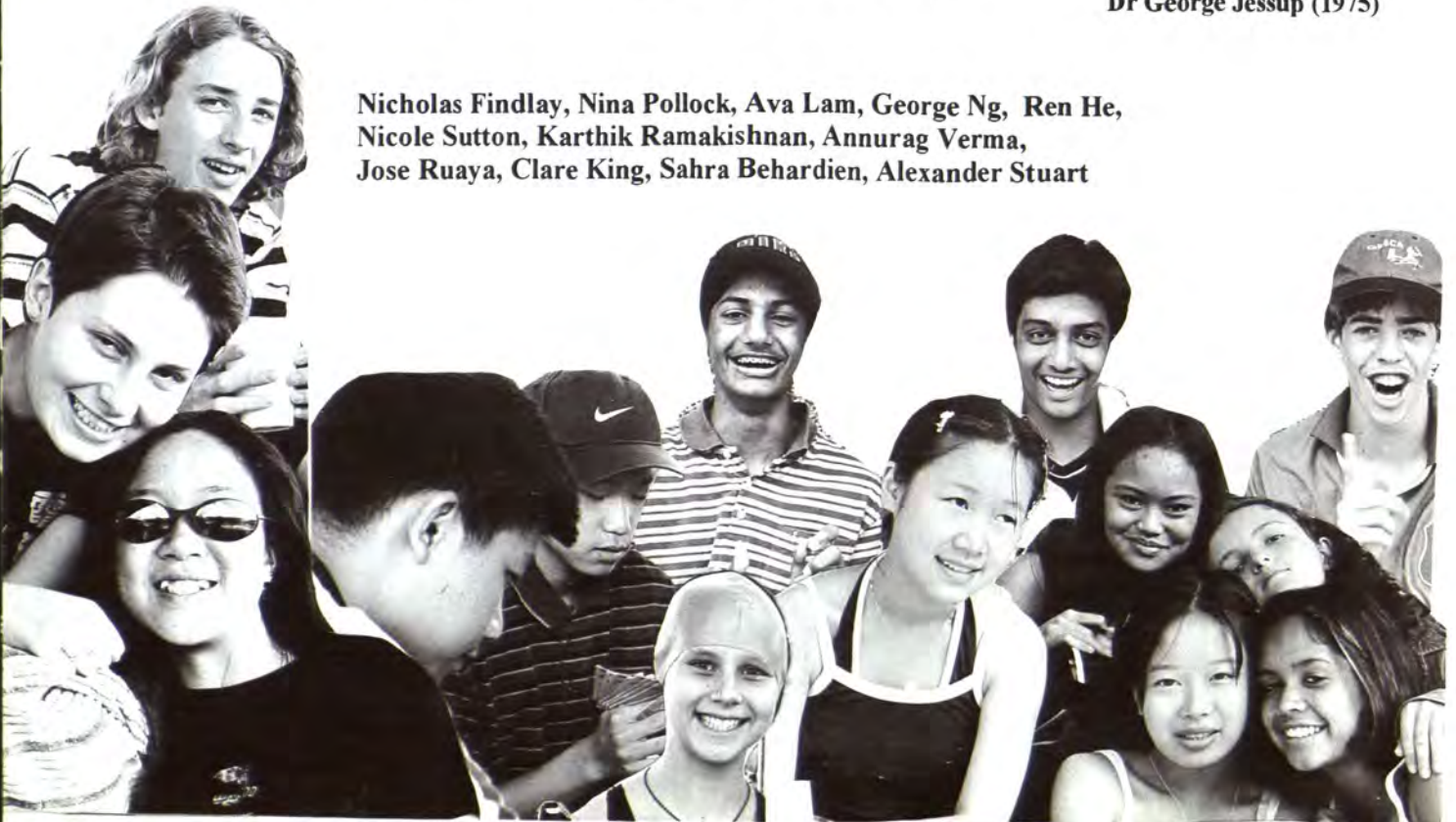
We boys had just had 4 years of almost no contact with girls. Since our last regular contact in primary school, our hormones had begun to play with our minds. Then someone had the idea of bringing in a whole lot of girls into our year – less than 2 years before the HSC! I would like to meet the person who was able to make such a "brave" decision.

It certainly was an interesting experience. The girls sat up the front and gave us dirty looks when we made a noise. They came into school each morning with their homework done. If they had any problems they would ask around for help so they could finish their work. This was a new approach to school for most of us boys. It was particularly frustrating for me to be frequently asked for help in maths by a number of girls who then in exams beat me consistently. I never understood this. The success of the girls forced many of the boys (including me) to put in a serious effort to catch up.

As I mentioned, I don't dwell much on my school experience. There must have been many experiences that were important to me at the time but not now. However, there are a number of things I carry with me from Fort Street today. I urge you to no focus on insignificant incidents but grab hold of things that will remain with you through life. Things I carry with me are an appreciation of the excitement of science, a love of maths. I had a teacher who taught me the magic of maths. I also did sing in the choir, sometimes out of tune! I moved on to instruments and still have a love for music. I play music most days and it is a great form of relaxation from work. I also found my wife at the school and have her with me every day!

Dr George Jessup (1975)

Nicholas Findlay, Nina Pollock, Ava Lam, George Ng, Ren He,
Nicole Sutton, Karthik Ramakishnan, Annurag Verma,
Jose Ruaya, Clare King, Sahra Behardien, Alexander Stuart





Mr Millward

Ms Neurath

Mr Jurd

Mr Osland

Ms Draper

Ms Johanson

Mr Ambler

Ms Joslyn

Ms Buckland

Mr Hagerman

Ms Page

Mr West

Ms Chiplin

Ms Paice

Mr Gaal

Mr Griffith

Mrs Donohoe

Mr Tippett

Mr Forwood

Mr Sorbello

Ms Gilbert

Mr Suffolk

Mr Moynham

Mr Chung

Ms Kosloska

Mr Glebe

Ms Dadour

Ms Baker

Ms Thornhill

Mr Carroll

Ms Tsoli

Ms Soothill

Mr Rezcalah

Mr Hayes

Ms McGowan

Ms Bresnahan

Ms Johnson

Farewell Year Twelve 1999

*Time present and time past
Are both perhaps present in time future
And time future contained in time past.*

T. S. Eliot Four Quartets: Burnt Norton

Tonight the present, the past and the future all merge. Tonight you cease to be students at Fort Street High School and become part of the great traditions of the school. For, from tonight we speak of your achievements at Fort Street in the past tense. A great institution like Fort Street looks to its past to nurture the present and to succour the future but such institutions only remain great if the present generation is great and in this year's Year 12 we have a vintage year. You might think that I am biased but ask any member of staff and you will be told the same. From their time in Year 7 they have not only provided the school with many distinguished scholars, artists, performers, musicians, sports men and women but they have also been part of a student group whose collective gifts and contributions, however small, have made it one of the very best to have passed through Fort Street. The future augurs well when it is in such excellent hands. We, as a school, are very proud of you and it has been truly an honour to have served you.

When I became Year Advisor, I had no real idea of what the job entailed. I now can tell you that it is a lot of work, much of it unrewarded in time or money but all of it rewarded in those intangible things which while difficult to define, in the end add so much to one's life and career. It has been a very privileged job that has allowed me to see you grow and develop from the children who sat here at the Year 7 Orientation Day into the very fine young men and woman who sit here tonight. Some of you I know better than others, some of you I perhaps know too well, but from all of you I carry very pleasant memories of our time together. I will miss many things about the job: students coming endlessly to change subjects, get appeal forms, copies of timetables they have lost, filling out scholarship forms, but most of all I will miss you, Year 12. All of you.

I wish you all the best for the Higher School Certificate. While I expect great things from some of you, I know that all of you will give your best. While it is very pleasing to do well and a good Higher School Certificate may help you towards the future you want, in the end the measure of a person's success in life is not to be measured by a piece of paper with a few squiggles on it. That's not an invitation to party on. From tonight the party's over for a while at least.

Tonight all your yesterdays have become your tomorrows. Your time at Fort Street and all your experiences, good and bad, happy and sad are now the stuff of memories. So often we wait impatiently for what the future will bring and while the future is often hard and unforgiving, it is also filled with hope. May you never lose that hope and may the idealism of youth never be replaced by the cynicism of experience.

I would like to publicly thank a number of people. Mr. Carroll, Ms Connell and the welfare team for their constant help, advice and loyalty; Ms Trevini for acting as deputy year advisor and for her practical advice and moral support; the ancillary staff for all their help, and all members of staff, for, without their assistance it would have been very difficult to carry out this job. Finally, I would like to thank you, Year 12, all of you, for six wonderful years.

I should be here waving the banner, urging you wholeheartedly on into the future. Yet, if the truth be known, I feel more like the great Heian scholar, Sugawara no Michizane, who, when sent into exile as governor-general of Kyushu, turned to the plum tree in his garden and wrote:

When the wind blows/ Send me your fragrance/ Plum blossoms

Even without a master/ Do not forget the spring
 In the end, however, all fine words are worth nothing. They cannot hide the fact that
 our ways are parting. It has been a most rewarding and pleasant six years and, as I
 have said, I will miss you terribly. Thank you Year 12 for our times past, our time
 present and for the enrichment that will give all our futures. Thank you. God bless
 you all.

Year twelve form patron - Mr Glen Tippett



Aleksander
Akopyan



Ian Allen



Toby Allen



Faisal
Ansari



David
Arcidiacono



Henry
Armstrong



Joshua
Avery



Josephine
Ayling



Michael
Beard



Dianne
Beatty



Carly
Bedford



Andrew
Bishop



Joshua
Boerma



Emma
Brockway



Grace
Brown



Katie
Burge-Lopez



Amie
Burkys



Dylan
Calder



Rebecca
Carritt



Jamie
Cameron



Suzanne
Cartwright



Santhi
Chalasani



Sean
Chang



Nancy
Chen



Ricky
Chen



Edward
Cheng



Irene
Cheung



Johan
Ismail



Margaret
Chi



Terence
Chu



Stephen
Clyne



Jebediah
Cole



Nicholas
Crosby



Timothy
Curnick



Nicholas
Curnow



**Lynn
Dang**



**Benjamin
Davis**



**Brendan
De Conceicao**



**Menahah
Dharmalingam**



**Anthony
Dumbrell**



**Ian
Dunn**



**Stephen
Echt**



**Laura
Fania**



**Lulu
Feng**



**Linda
Fernandez**



**Danny
Ford**



**Lauren
Frazer**



**Nana
Frishling**



**Jessika
Gauke**



**Peter
Glavas**



**Timothy
Greenfield**



**Tieu
Ha**



**Peter
Hartley**



**Ken
Iwata**



**Emily
Pustahya**



**Sophie
Higgins**



**Alexander
Hill**



**David
Holbeche**



**Thomas
Holyoake**



**Sean
Howe**



**Steven
Huang**



**Huyn
Hwang**



**Marnie
Innis**



**Robert
Ishak**



**Thomas
Jackson**



**Christopher
James**



**David
Jang**



**Sarah
Johnson**



**Olivia
Kang**



**Rushmia
Karim**



**Paul
Keighley**



**Filip
Kidon**



**Anna
Kim**



**Effie
Klippan**



**Aaron
Koh**



**Tomasz
Kopyciok**



**Thurka
Kuhan**



Bonny
Kyung



Anne
Lam



Frewen
Lam



Yan
Lam



James
Lane



Benjamin
Lau



Kean
Lau



Sophia
Law



Stephanie
Law



Robert
Lawther



Joey
Le



Herina
Lee



Peter
Lee-Chen



Clement
Leung



Kelvin
Leung



Andrew
Lim



Melissa
Lim



Michelle
Lim



Pei-Chun
Lin



Nicholas
Luchinelli



Belinda
Lum



Miriam
Mafessanti



Alice
Mah



Kenny
Mai



Caroline
Malcolm



Pauline
Man



Alex
Mcguirk



Christopher
McHattie



David
McHattie



Andrew
McKibbin



Glenn
McLaughlin



Nancy
Tchou



Luke
McMahon



Theresa
McSpedden



Anthony
Mihaljek



Nicholas
Milner



Koran
Musiki



Stefan
Nadolski



Qang Nguyen



Vinh Nguyen



Stephanie
Nicholson



Kristy
North



**Amanda
Nurse**



**Benn
O'Donnell**



**Christopher
Ong**



**Jeremy
Ong**



**Charles
Peters**



**Huy
Pham**



**Minh
Phan**



**Niccola
Phillips**



**Patricia
Quach**



**Susan
Quinn**



**Sophie
Richards**



**Kieran
Riches**



**Conrad
Richters**



**Tristan
Roache-Turner**



**Zoe
Rodwell**



**Thomas
Rushton**



**Claresta
Seto**



**Mark
Smith**



**Yuan
Gao**



**Thomas
Smith**



**Hae-Won
Song**



**Peter
Soo**



**Suminder
Sran**



**Naomi
Stanley**



**Rachel
Stein-Holmes**



**Wallace
Stewart**



**Nicole
Talmacs**



**Andrew
Tang**



**Karen
Tang**



**Jack
Teiwes**



**Adrian
Thomas**



**Thanh
Tran**



**Justin
Tsuei**



**Rowan
Udell**



**Erica
Valpiani**



**Anna
Van**



**Kate
Vandyke**



**Harleen
Vinaik**



**Tran
Vuong**



**Moira
Williams**



**Eric
Wong**



**Monica
Wong**



Nicole
Wong

Ziming
Ye

Caren
Yu

Jean
Zhang

Judy Zhong

PATHWAYS : THE CLASS OF 1998

Summary :

1. 160 Students were eligible for The Universities Admissions Index (UAI).
2. 149/160 (93%) Students were offered a university place by the Universities Admission Centre(UAC).
3. Of the remaining 11 students who didn't go to university (7%) : 3 student destinations are unknown, 5 students went into full time employment, 1 student is working part time and is doing a private course, 1 student went overseas and 1 student is doing a full time TAFE course.

A summary of the 149 students offered a university position :

The University of Sydney 65, University of NSW 37, Macquarie University 17, University of Technology 15, University of Western Sydney 8, Australian National University 2, Melbourne University 2, Canberra University 1, Southern Cross University 1, and Southern Queensland University 1. Please note that these university offers were provided to the school through the University Admissions Centre on 19/2/99. There is no way of knowing through UAC if students have deferred a university place during 1999. They may be overseas or working.

Sydney University offers total 65 :

Arts 17, Arts/Commerce 4, Arts/Law 1, Arts/Science 2, Arts/Social Work 2, Combined Law 1, Commerce(Liberal Studies) 1, Computer Science and Technology 1, Dentistry 1, Economics or Economics(Social Sciences) 2, Economics or Commerce (Accounting) 3, Education (Primary) 2, Engineering(Software) 2, Engineering/Science 4, Engineering (Civil) 1, Health Science(Rehab Counsel) 1, Liberal Studies 1, Medical Science 1, Music Education 1, Music Studies 1, Nursing 2, Pharmacy 2, Psychology 1, Science (Advanced) 1, Science 4, Science(Environmental) 1, Science Commerce or Advanced Science/Commerce 1, Veterinary Science 3, and Visual Arts 1.

NSW University offers total 37:

Architecture 1, Arts(Media & Comm) 2, Arts (Asian or European St) 1, Combined Laws 4, Commerce 12, Economics 1, Engineering (Computer) 3, Engineering(Mechanical) 1, Engineering(Computer)/Master Biomedical Engineering 2, Engineering(Software) 1, Engineering(Electrical) 1, Engineering (Mechanical)/Master Biomedical Engineering 1, Science 1, Science Business Information Technology 1, Advanced Science(Life Sciences) 1, Science Medicine 1, Science(Computer Science) 1, Science(Information Systems or BIT) 2.

Macquarie University 17 offers :

Arts 2, Arts(A. History) 1, Arts(Media & Cult St) 1, Arts (Psychology) 2, Commerce(Actuarial St/Applied Finance 1, Combined Laws 3, Commerce or Economics (Accounting) 1, Environmental Science 1, Media 1, Science(Computing) 2, Science(Psychology) 1. Economics/Commerce 1.

University of Technology 15 offers :

Arts Communications (Public Communications)1, Arts Communications (Media & Production) 1, Arts Communications (Writing & Contemporary Cultures) 2, Building Construction Management 1, Business 1, Design Visual Communications 1, Engineering (Software) /Dip Eng Practice 1, Engineering (Civil) /Dip Eng Practice 1, Engineering Telecommunications 2, Health Science in Chinese Herbal Medicine 1, Science in Maths/International Studies 1, Science/Business 1, Science/International Studies 1.

University of Western Sydney 8 offers :

Nepean Business Laws or Commerce Laws 2, Combined Laws 1, International Business 1.

Macarthur Aviation Studies(Flying) 1, Science 1, Commerce 1.

Hawkesbury Arts 1.

Australian National University 2 offers : Arts/Laws 1, Asian Studies/Commerce 1.

Melbourne University 2 offers : Dentistry 2.

Canberra University 1 offer : Applied Science(Medical Lab Science) 1.

Southern Cross University 1 offer. Business in Tourism 1.

Southern Queensland University 1 offer : Arts(external) 1.

Phil Canty, Careers Adviser.

Fort Street Parents and Citizens Association

Like the rest of the school in 1999, the P&C has devoted much of its energies to the Sesquicentenary. 1999 has been, nevertheless, a year in which there has been continued interest from parents in the overall progress of the school. There has again been a good core of support for the P&C. Monthly meetings and P&C functions have been generally well attended. There remains, however, a need for a greater number of parents to be regularly involved in the work of the P&C. The P&C gives parents the opportunity to contribute to the school, to share information and "war stories" about what is happening to our children and to ask questions and get feedback regularly from the Principal.

The P&C exists to actively assist the school in providing the best possible learning environment for Fort Street students. At Fort Street parents can choose, through the P&C, to become involved in a number of aspects of their children's education and well being at school. This involvement can range from the canteen and fundraising to decision making on management and areas of the curriculum. In this way the school can draw from a greater pool of knowledge and experience to the long term benefit of the students. The Purpose and Goals and the Organisation Structure of the P&C are reviewed each year. There are five major areas in which the P&C contributes to the School. Support for Public Education

.The P&C were represented at the Federation of P&C's Annual Conference.

Community Awareness

- We have, again, assisted the school by providing speakers and representatives at information nights and presentations, such as the Speech Day and the Year 12 graduation.
- An Open Day subcommittee has been formed to work with the Principal and staff in showing Fort Street to potential students and their parents, promoting Fort Street as a desirable high school to attend. It is hoped that this will become a regular event each March as Year 6 students look to making their selective school applications.
- The Community Relations subcommittee followed up its 1998 survey of parental, staff and student attitudes and issues with an analysis of results. These were presented at P&C meetings and discussed with the School Executive.

Involvement of Parents

- The P&C meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month during school terms. They are a major source of information and communication between parents and the staff of the school. If you want to hear of or raise issues, or meet other parents and share experiences, then this is the best way.
- The P&C is represented on the School Council, the Fort Street Foundation, the Sesquicentenary Committee and the School Finance Committee.
- The P&C hosts a night for year 7 parents to meet the staff and other parents
- Sesquicentenary. support was provided in updating the school database of past Fortians, running the memorabilia stall in Sesqui week, organising the Sesqui ball and Sesqui Speech Day luncheon, providing funding for Sesqui activities and funding the production of a Sesqui video.
- Editorial and layout support for Mercurius.

Involvement of School Staff

- The Principal and executive staff, with whom the P&C has a good rapport, attend all P&C meetings, at which the Principal provides a monthly report.
- Members of the P&C executive regularly discuss matters of concern with the School Executive.
- One important outcome of the Community Relations survey was the joint development by P&C and staff of an Assessment Policy which has been adopted by the school.

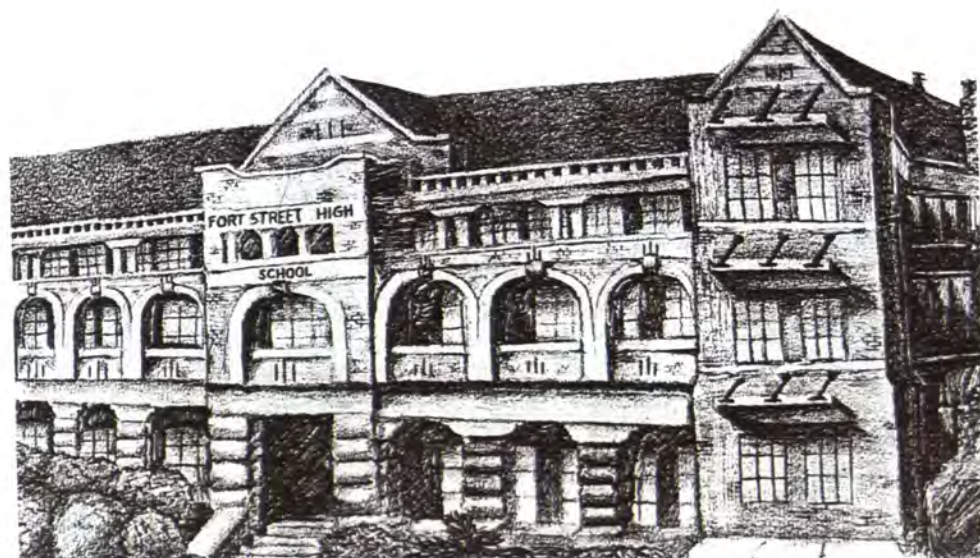
Support for the School

- The Canteen Manager, Lesley Dare, her team and the Canteen Committee has managed the canteen well to provide a nutritious menu and return a modest profit which goes to the benefit of our students. The Canteen is a vital component of the school and always in need of voluntary parent support. Finding out about the GST and coping with it with our meagre resources is currently a major concern.
- The P&C has provided funding for sporting equipment for the fencing team.
- The P&C is well represented on the School's Buildings and Grounds Committee, which has organised a number of working bees and improvements, though there is still considerable work to be done to improve the grounds and facilities. The gymnasium and surrounds is in an appalling state of repair and the P&C has written to the Minister and Director-General supporting the Principal in seeking urgent action.
- The Instrumental Music Program continues to have a most effective and supportive Committee, running very popular social and fundraising events which showcase the abilities of the students and bring great credit to the School.
- Recent fundraising events include a raffle and a repeat of last year's Wine Tasting - smaller in numbers but just as socially successful.

There are three major areas for P&C support to the school in the coming year. These are the school's physical environment, particularly the gymnasium and the school grounds; the improvement of communications through Mercurius and website; and the need to increase our fundraising activities. For 1999, though, a big thank you is due to all those who have helped the School. Many people put in time and effort to support the school through the P&C. This ranges from support of fundraising efforts to attendance at meetings to active participation in subcommittees. I thank all of these people for their support of the school, and in particular thank the office bearers and subcommittee convenors for their efforts.

Geoff Vitlin
President 1999

Duc Ho - yr 10 -
drawing



ENGLISH REPORT

1999

Year 10 and Year 12 English courses have been undergoing extensive changes, making 1999 more demanding and challenging than usual for the English faculty. Much time, effort and thought have gone into the revision of the new School Certificate course and these changes have filtered through to the Year 7, 8 and 9 courses.

An analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the new Year 12 H.S.C. syllabus reveals that many aspects of this syllabus may not necessarily serve the students at Fort Street well. In constructing our programmes we will endeavour to select those options that best exploit and develop the particular talents of our students, while avoiding those options that do not advance their skills. The significant gain for English under the new arrangements is the availability of the third unit in Year 11 from 2000, and the fourth unit for Year 12 from 2001.

A wide range of enrichment activities was organized for all years. Our excursions included:

Year 7- A Midsummer Night's Dream

Year 8- A Midsummer Night's Dream

Year 9- Mad About You

Year 10- Rough Justice

Year 11- The Third Man

Year 12- Othello

Once again our inter-school debating teams brought credit to themselves and the school.

Year 12 won their zone.

Year 11 won their zone.

Year 10 while failing to win their zone, displayed the talents and promise that lead their coaches to believe they will be future stars.

Year 8 were runners-up in the Janene Best competition for selective schools

All junior years have participated in class debates.

Thanks must go to Ms Marcelle Hosking, Ms Kyrsty Macdonald and Mr. Ken Ambler for the time given to prepare these teams. A detailed report appears elsewhere in this magazine.

The Sydney Morning Herald's Young Writer Of The Year competition attracted strong interest with a particularly strong showing from Year 7. Several students were highly commended for their efforts.

The Sesquicentenary provided a focus and a stimulation for units of work in the junior school. Students enjoyed their involvement in the celebrations generally and in the special week in particular. Thanks to The Fortians Union for providing further stimulation through the publication of a poetry anthology to which the students contributed, and for providing a poetry prize.

Mr John Buckingham

UNITED WORLD COLLEGES SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

Anna Valpiani a scholarship winner from Year 12 1998 is seen here in Italy. She has been good enough to keep in touch.

The United World College of the Adriatic is a very unique place, a truly international community (there are 208 students from over 70 countries) situated right in the heart of a typical Italian village, it is also the place which I am very privileged to call home at the moment! My name is Anna Valpiani and I although I am currently in the process of completing my secondary education in the form of the International Baccalaureate here in UWCAD. I am one of two Australian representatives at the college this year, both of us are here on scholarships for the descendants of Italian emigrants, and both of us are enjoying a thoroughly amazing and eye opening experience. As one of a proud tradition of Fortians attending United World Colleges around the world I knew I could expect a wonderful cultural and personal experience in college, but no amount of pre-departure advice could have prepared me for what life in such a community is really like! As well as the academic aspect of the college we are also involved in a busy schedule of creative and physical activities, community service and intercultural exchanges, which, when undertaken as a challenge to both the ideas and skills which we already possess is definitely an experience which has taught me a lot. Such an experience is something which I have really come to value and would recommend to all the current Fortians as a chance of a lifetime, UWC Australia can be contacted through Mr Canty. Hopefully in the future Fortians will continue to be able to enjoy and enrich the United World colleges!!

I would also like to congratulate William Dang currently in Year 11 who was also offered a scholarship valued at 80% of the costs involved in studying the International Baccalaureate in Hong Kong. He decided he liked Fort Street too much to take up the offer.

Mr Canty, Careers Adviser



Mr Phil Canty

Rails

Jack Teiwes, Year Twelve

Silence, then noise. The strange, whining shriek that precedes the rattle, somewhere between fingers down an English-room black board and a thin metal sign flexing in the wind. And then comes the rattle. Only trains made that sounds, there was no equating it with anything else.

Chock-chock. Chock-chock. Chock-chock.

Unique. And then, as the glistening carriages rocketed past like a giant silver caterpillar on strong Newtown coffee, The rattle was blended with the sound of rushing air. There was a breeze with a rubbery odour, and something reminiscent of a metalwork class. After that, the rattle took control again. As the train disappeared into the distance, finally the flexing metal shriek returned for a fleeting moment. A perfect cycle.

Darren loved the calmness here. Just up from MacDonaldtown station, with only side streets nearby. Row upon row of gleaming parallel tracks curving and flowing onwards in unison, almost as if actually possessed of motion themselves, while the wooden sleepers, half buried in gravel, seemed to indeed slumber contently. It was quiet. The stillness was intense, broken only by the occasional whine of an oncoming train. He never became bored, the place had an almost meditative effect. It put Darren in the mood to ponder absolutely nothing. Very deeply.

"Geeze, Darren, how much longer we gotta sit here?"

Harry's voice broke his reverie with the subtlety of a buzzsaw through matchsticks.

"I have to say, Darren, I've had more fun painting my sister's toenails."

Meg's imagery was, as always, on the far side of welcome. Darren sighed.

"We wait as long as it takes, guys." Darren said with a voice of great Stoicism. They all gazed over to the squat shape of the distant security guard's van, parked in its place by the colossal, seemingly Gothic form of the railway workshop. *He's still there, they all thought. When will he get going?* Meg patted her tattered, well-worn rucksack. Everything they need was in the satchel, as soon as that van moved.

Darren watched as Harry started to throw gravel at the tracks with precision inaccuracy. He noticed that, in her boredom, Meg was actually paying attention to Harry's efforts at sharpshooting.

Shielding his eyes against the thudding sun, Darren also took some amusement in watching where Harry's ill-hurled gravel was falling short of its mark. A dull click sounded with each miss, and the occasional even more bass knock was heard when one struck a sleeper.

Zing!

To the considerable amazement of both boys, one of Harry's projectiles had actually struck a silvered train line. Even Meg gave a sarcastic slow clap.

Harry crowed, quite literally. Meg and Darren watched his victory jig with a conspiratorial sense of amusement. They briefly glanced to see that the security guard's van was still in place. Of course, it was.

"Well," Meg muttered with a lazy grin, "While we're waiting like idiots..." To the boys' amazement, she scooped up a handful of gravel. Not one to be left out of this unexpected inauguration, Darren also swiped a fistful and they began their own barrage.

Zing! Tch. Clack! Zing! Zing! Tch. Zing! Clack! Zing!

"Show offs." Harry grumbled in good humour.

As she squinted and took aim, lining up her imaginary crosshairs with the fourth serpentine rail, Meg asked a question.

"You know, I've never really got this. We've been coming here since we were ten, and you two always have to chuck rocks. Why do guys feel the need to throw things when they're doing nothing?"

"Relieves the boredom." Darren and Harry uttered in total harmony, and then burst out laughing. Meg feigned annoyance and hit the rail four times in a row, much to her barely concealed delight and Harry's mild chagrin.

"C'mon guys, I'm sick of waiting. He's never going to come out. Why don't we just go?" The answer remained unsaid. Because, like every week, the friends waited for the security van to move. The other two somehow initiated a brief chase around the huge gravel mound, Meg squealing despite herself.

Harry hated it when Meg did that, and moreover he hated the fact that Darren liked it. *Meg's been our mate forever, Harry brooded. But it's getting obvious that Darren and her are getting, I dunno, a thing for each other. That would totally bite. If they start going out or something, then this crew will be history and I'll be the odd one out...*

His thoughts were distracted by the distant gunshot churn of an engine switching on. He indicated over the river of train tracks to the distant, familiar mass of the watchman's van. The smug shape was pulling out of its usual place. Meg picked up her rucksack, with its essential contents. They sighted their goal. The trio of conspirators hunkered down together and watched the batted shape lumber away.

They began to sprint across the tracks.

"Thought he'd never leave." He exclaimed as his knees lifted high like pistons to skip over the rails, making sure to alight on a sleeper each time. They all took as much care as speed would permit, having each heard grisly stories of foolhardy youths with their feet wedged between sleepers.

With a final jump the three reached the other side and looked around to make sure no-one was watching. Darren signalled for the others to follow him around the building. They tread briskly, padding across the omnipresent gravel as stealthily as possible.

They reached the side street.

There, the watchman's van waited, the engine purring like a giant cat looking for a meal.

The window slid down.

"I hope you didn't let my supervisor see you, even if I have knocked off,"

"No sir!" Darren intoned.

"Well then," said the driver, "looks like you passed the gauntlet again. If my dumb nephew Darren and his two lackeys can do that, well, I'd say it's time for Petersham pool and a round of milkshakes."

"Ta, Uncle Dave!" Darren slid open the panel door and they all clambered in with wide grins. Meg tossed the rucksack of towels onto the front seat, and the van pulled away.

Arctic Wilderness

Billowing grey clouds gather in dark, stormy skies,
The bitter cold, swallow faces as crisp winds snap,
Plump seals lie amid reflecting ice and snow,
Penguins dive, bubble trails follow,
Brilliant crystal balls of melted ice drip into freezing pools
Like tiny drops of glass,
Seals lie lazily, basking in faint sunshine,
Sunbeams dance on pure white snow,
Icebergs slowly melt.

Alannah Schuman 8I

On and On

The day repeats automatically
Hopelessly
With sounds of blurs
Of life going on.

Every day I sit, waiting
Wondering
About the people that walk by
And ignore me.

The cars were driving slowly
Exhaustedly
With not much energy
As the days go on.

Amy Nguyen, Yr 7



Richard Kennedy yr 9 – etching

The Fourth Dimension

I look around the playground,
They are capering once again,
All concerns of work forgotten,
Left for the classroom again.

I look around the classroom,
He is chiding them once again,
This hopeless, aimless monotony
Defeats work load again.

I struggle in this dryness,
This hopeless, aimless crime,
This frustrating intense waste
Of our precious money, our time.

I am welcomed to the exam hall,
I look around once again,
This frustrating, intense workload,
Will not be defeated again.

Faisal Ansari
12F, 1999

Wind in Space

Sometimes I'm like the wind in space
Subtle
Silent
Scattering in all different directions
Sharply penetrating the empty air.

Philip Thai 7F

BETWEEN THE STATIONS

Rocking and swaying, they bend and lean, compromising with the steady tilting of the train. The flickering neon lights bicker with the invading night fall, unsteady in their purpose. And outside; outside there is night. The sleeping of inky black, filtering into the tired light of the aged day brings comfort to those inside the train. Safety in numbers, the reassurance of the fluro lights. Outside, through the smudged window panes, greasy with times gone by, the silver rails run. Weaving, twining, shimmering off into the black. An endless mystery of cold hard metal, etched in grey.

Rocking and swaying, and now slowing. The weary driver hauls his complaining trainload into the station. The people sit, silent, waiting. The static hum of lights. Theirs is a pretence of resting nonchalance, and an undercurrent of unease. The station looms alongside, beacon in the night. The train slows and stops. Feel the tension. The doors whinge and moan, opening in exhalation, releasing with their motion a worn out crowd, out into the nightstill, a separate world. Battling against this torrent of being, the newcomers force themselves. They are shoulders, hands, bodyweight, forcing in. down the stairs, up the stairs, they infiltrate the quiet established within. Down the aisles, unsteady in their self consciousness, as lights flicker on, making patchwork of veiled faces. A look here, a shadowed glance there, unspoken thoughts and judgements, feel them swirl, currents of opinion.

The newcomers float and settle, sediment in a jar. The awkward readjustment of baggage, a nudged elbow, apologetic muttering, shy smile of empathy. Glances bounce, reflect from eye to eye. The people watch, some cautious, some calculating, some obvious with their outright stares. Return a gaze and be turned away, they are secret and reserved in their observance. Entangled in the lines of sight.

And then – Stop. A turned page cracks out through the carriage, ringing as a rifleshot. Absorbed, the reader travels on, despite no physical motion. Unaware. Around him an air of unease settles. They are awkward – who will give first? The static scene stirs alive, a cough echoes, reverberating through the flickering air. The fluros have taken to conversation. There is a sigh, a watch is checked, knuckles crack. The snap of another page. The fluros reach a compromise, half go out, bathing some in darkness. Now the people are vulnerable, left in the dark, watch them as they feel it. A barely perceptible furtive glare, the gathering of a coat around uncertain frame. Those in light relish their fortune.

Out in the nightblack suburbia twinkles, the silvergrey lines twist and twirl, escaping. Still the travellers sit unmoving, and with a blink are bathed in grey. The fluros are going, gone. They stir as one, unsettled, and jump as the shriek of a mobile phone pierces the fragile silent gloom. A wave passes through them, there is a ferreting and scuffling, the phone cannot be found. It shrills on, finally located to the mortification of a brown suit with green tie, whose wife objected to the choice of attire, but whose voice was seldom heard. A legacy of policies, endless meetings and 'we must do lunch, darling', had turned him away from her. The kids and wife at home, meat and three veg congealing on the table while, in cheap hotel rooms, clothes strewn upon floor, shallow promises were made and broken. Sure, he was going to leave the wife any day now. But with little in the bank, a mortgage to pay, and bill upon bill upon bill, what was a man to do? 'Any week now, baby, I'll break it to her, no more of this sneaking around' Often spoken, but not as yet aloud.

It was the wife on the phone, and the conversation was one sided in its ambivalence. Those around sat listening, as tone of voice was raised, brown suit having forgotten his audience, wrapped in troubles of his own. Eyebrows raised, smug smiles hidden behind hands. He realised where he was. Voice came whispered. 'I'm on my way home.....I'll.....Yes. Fine.....soon.....Right' The rest in the carriage are unanimous in their scant superiority, feign oblivion, look away, as brown suit sinks down into his seat. Contemplation settles.

His observers are distracted by the static hum of lights once more, the backwards force of forward motion. The air conditioning buzzes to life, lifting their spirits. There is once more the soothing lull of clickety clack to be heard, and they are reminded of the together – sway, the contours of those shimmering rails.

Speeding up and hurtling through the night, they pass the lonely nowhere of little stations, as one passengers wait, patience turned to boredom. Grasped in solitary hand the telltale cardboard square, a rite of passage to another land, of huddled silence, awkward speed and endless wait.

The train scurries on, on through the night, the passengers weary and caffeine starved. Tiredness starts to show, impatient exhalations, stifled yawns, rubbed eyes, massaged shoulders. The rearranging of baggage, recrossing of legs. Time ebbs and flows, thick as syrup. It dribbles and runs around them, melts in pools, sticks to their very essence. On they wait. The endless hum of fluro. Sigh.

Hear a promising crackle from the speakers, but this is forgotten, through the ink surrounding we can see the station, the most welcome of sights. A silent cheer reverberates from the hardness of windows, shut against night.

Legs are uncrossed, coats donned, bags gathered. They congest around the doors, eager for their release. The train jolts, throwing them as rag dolls, and then slows. Drawing slowly into the station, drawing out their tension. They are alive with new energy, anticipation. The doors whinge and moan aside, and they tumble, ebb and flow, away into the dark. The torturous passing of time is but a memory.

I sit on inside the carriage as it rolls away, along the silvery mystery of those glimmering rails, and travel on into an endless inkshadowed night.

-Holly Phillip year 10

Commended in the Sydney Morning Herald Young Writer of Year Competition

Mock Trial



Thu Ha Nguyen



Francisca Gan



Joel Bedford



Natalie Manning



Betty Chang



Helen Jin

This quote by Ms Johanson, "I eat, breathe and sleep Mock Trial" may give an indication of how seriously some take this competition. Fortunately for the Fort Street Mock Trial team however, Ms Johanson happened to be our co-ordinator, and her determination helped to compensate for our devil-may-care attitudes. She would very kindly freak out for us on the sidelines while the second barrister Joel Bedford sat on the table chatting away and swinging his legs during the brief 10 minutes given to the opposing teams for writing their closing arguments. With this much focus it was a wonder we managed to cruise through the preliminary rounds.

I don't think any of us in the team fully realised what we were getting ourselves into when we volunteered for Mock Trial. I'm sure that if our witnesses Fran Gan and Thomas Costa realised they would be playing husband and wife most of the time they would have had second thoughts. Even our other witness Georgina Morris didn't escape insinuation from Justice David Kirby in the Sesqui Mock Trial as to the nature of her trial relationship with the stand-in witness Chris Parris. Perhaps that's why he never offered his services to our team again.

Our solicitors, Thu-Ha Nguyen and Chih-Ping Liao had what was probably the most intensive job. They embodied the scribes, secretaries and case managers of the team. Though the barristers Natalie Manning, Betty Chang (first barristers) and Joel Bedford all had big voices and piercing glares, without our quietly industrious solicitors we would have nothing to make a song and dance about. Nor can we overlook our court official Helen Jin, whose role is often underestimated. I once had to fill in her position, and it was not until I did that I fully appreciated how much coordination it takes to juggle the tasks of

witness summoning, time keeping and not taking all at the same time, then having to deal with the long stretches of having nothing to do in between.

We passed through the preliminary rounds undefeated and qualified for the eliminations where we encountered a different calibre of opponent. The mock trial rules of the elimination rounds forced us to adopt new strategies and to research our own law precedents (instead of having them handed to us on a silver platter).

The Fort Street team has always approached Mock Trial with a funny mixture of seriousness and light-heartedness. Our humourous attitude not only comes from the nature of our team members but also from the content of the cases we have had to dispute. Though we try hard to assume the demeanor of high powered lawyers, one cannot always keep a straight face when arguing points of law on choko throwing, long-john rash and several thousand dollars worth of expenses on one article of dry cleaning. We even contemplated having our witnesses breakdown and confess, at the risk of death from Ms Johanson. The experience of Mock Trial is fuelled by the stress induced by nerves and high expectation. Yet, this constant state of high adrenaline helped us to mentally prepare ourselves, however it would not have been enough without the support of Ms Johanson and Mr Glass.

BETTY CHANG



Tom Costa



Georgina Morris



Chih-Ping Liao

SRC Annual Report 1999

The students Representative Council began 1999 with their annual Valentine's Day rose deliveries, a famous excuse for member to roan about the school grounds and disturb classes while dressed as scantily clad cupids. Closely following this, the SRC had their annual camp, which addressed all the issues important to the running of an SRC and heralded the arrival of a new SRC executive. From last years President, Tessa McSpedden, the position was handed to year nine students Phoebe Haylen. Upon returning to school, at a formal assembly, the old executive was thanked and the new introduced.

Our first new initiative for the year was the 9/10/11 dance. This was run in the school hall, Djs, lights and sound were great! Following the dance was the Sesqui Week during which we attended all the functions where a few extra hands were necessary, to help and to experience the occasion. To mark such an important event in the history of the school, the SRC printed a commemorative Medallion.

Shortly after the Sesqui Week came the week of the first SRC newsletter, the 'Meleager', edited by Ava Lam. On August 6th, the SRC, namely Elaine Chui, ran a fundraising event for genes research, know as 'Jeans for Genes day'. This was a very successful fundraiser. Thanks to all those who donated to such a worthy cause.

Another new initiative this year was the Guest Speaker Program. The SRC invited many people from numerous different fields of employment to run a lunchtime info-session in the library. The program aimed to help educated students about different careers in the public eye, types of people and to add enjoyment to the year. Students who attended all the lectures will hopefully agree that this aim was fulfilled. The first speaker from our Quest Speaker Program was Sonia Todd (actor, roles include Police Rescue and Simon De Beauvoirs Babies) who made and informative presentation, especially helpful for students of Drama.

This program continued on, to bring presentations from Jen Oldershaw, Producer of Triple J's Merrick and Rosso Show, Chris Mallet, head of Agricultural Science at the CSIRO and Julie McCrossin, Team Leader on Channel 10's Good News Week. The SRC hopes to continue this program into the year 2000.

Throughout 1999 we attended district SRC Meetings and will be holding the first for the year 2000 at Fort Street High School. This

year had been a great experience for the students of the SRC, our thanks for to all those who helped us out, particularly Mr. Browne.

Phoebe Haylen
SRC President 1999

Photography in 1999

Photography during the Sesqui year was a highly practical experience. Using our own SLR cameras, we took various types of pictures and portraits from different perspectives, including pictures of the school portraying public and private images of Fort Street.

The new darkroom (completed in 1998) was used intensively by both Year 11 photography classes to explore darkroom techniques, and to wash and develop our own negatives and prints. During the year, we also created photograms and learnt how to use interesting special effects and enhancing techniques to improve our works.

Special thanks to Mr. Wong, who runs the Thursday Photography Club at school, for his expert advice and tips. We are also very grateful for the improvements he made to our darkroom and darkroom equipment.

My Van Bui, Year 11 Photography



Mark Crocker yr 11 -photography

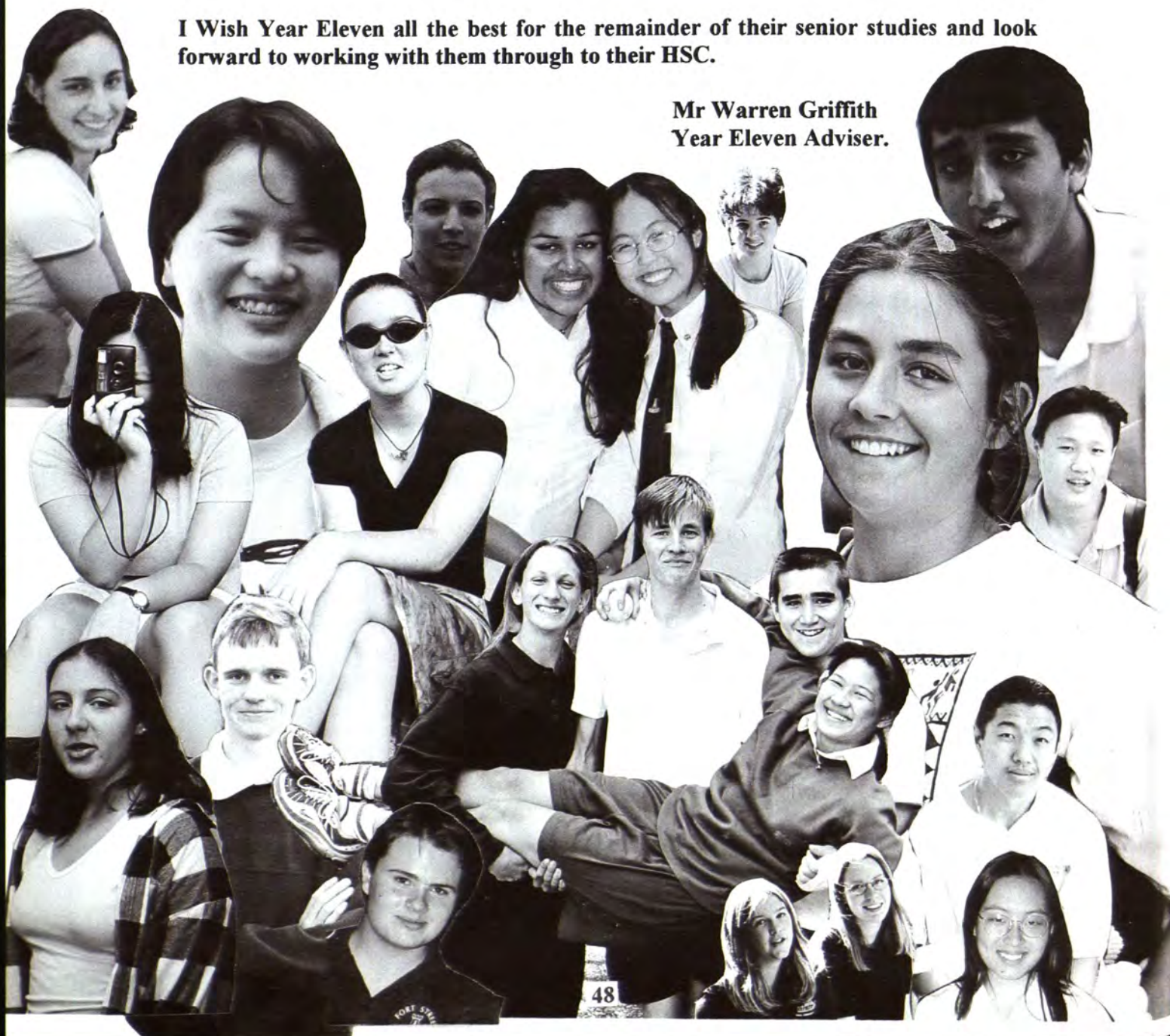
Year 11

Year 11 began 1999 with enthusiasm for their senior studies and many students achieved a very high standard in their courses. Special mention should be made, in particular, of Thu Ha Nguyen, Ker Zhang, Cecilia Ng and Mathew Loh for their excellent academic results. Other students have been involved in a wide range of school activities including grade and other representative sports, music and drama. Two girls stand out in particular for their sporting achievements - Anna McIlwaine for diving and Keely McNamara for rowing - both girls competing at international level. Special thanks must go to all those students who made a special effort during the sesqui centenary week. These students worked tirelessly leading up to the celebrations.

Late in term three the students chose their pattern of study for the HSC which began in term four. This final year of school, and the importance of it for their future careers, demands a high degree of commitment, perseverance, and hard work. I am sure that this body of students will rise to the occasion and be rewarded with the results that they desire. However there is still time to balance an active involvement in extra-curricula activities with the demands of their academic program.

I Wish Year Eleven all the best for the remainder of their senior studies and look forward to working with them through to their HSC.

Mr Warren Griffith
Year Eleven Adviser.





ROW 4: Dan Bishton, William Dang, Thomas Dallow, Piotr Bozym, Victor Chandra, Cassian Cox.
 ROW 3: Julia Britton, Fergus Beams, Mathias Boer-Mah, Joel Bedford, Philip Clare, Thomas Costa, Roxana Chan.
 ROW 2: Judy Chan, Mark Crocker, Chris Berry, Bill Au, Ben Chang, Julian Curiskis.
 FRONT: Madhushini Bazil, Margot Allan-Georgas, My-Van Bui, Uma Aggarwal, Susann Cheung, Elaine Chui, Betty Chang.



ROW 4: Tim Davidson, Peter Hey-Cunningham, Alan Gao, Nicholas Dixon-Wilmshurst, Marcus Hayward, Nicholas Falkinder.
 ROW 3: Nick Forwood, Charles Huynh, Kalon Huett, Charles Forrester, Alex Grivas, Thomas Irvine, Anthony Horler.
 ROW 2: Adam Foley, Daniel Fairfax, Titus Hui, Marc Howlin, Rhys Hearne, Michael Fordham, Verity Gill.
 FRONT: Francisca Gan, Camilla Holt, Andreea Heriseanu, Sarah Dearne, Kristy Green, Beth Deguara, Louise Dumbrell.



ROW 4: Steven Le, Joel Kitson, Gareth Ivory, Robert Lawson, Rocky Lam, Michael Lee.
 ROW 3: Christian Lee, Declan Kuch, Martin Kurek, Robert Lee, Adrik Kemp, Nikhil Kulkarni.
 ROW 2: Alexandra Arneri, Sumudu Jayawardana, Nancy Jiang, Peter James, Vic Khalili, Jing Jing Li.
 FRONT: Nancy Kim, Elizabeth Lee, Jocelinn Kang, Helen Jin, Jee Hyun Kim, Ruth Jago, Mary Lentros.



ROW 4: Ewan McGaughey, Philip Mayger, Jonathon Murty, Alan Logan, David Ng, Phong Le.
 ROW 3: Chih-Ping Liao, Holly Malaquin, Lennard Lopez, John Nguyen, Natalie Gillam, Keely McNamara, Anna McLwaine.
 ROW 2: Michael Lee, Changyuan Loh, Jundir Liew, Hoyan Ngai, Matthew Loh, Khanh Nguyen Ma.
 FRONT: Bethany Siepen, Shelley Lin, Georgina Morris, Natalie Manning, Sven Morrell, Cecilia Ng, Thu-Ha Nguyen.



ROW 4: Christopher Parris, Xuan Pham, Eddie Peat, Kevin Pickett, Mathew Scott, Mac Shine.
 ROW 3: Liam Ovenden, Peter Paszti, Kenny Scott, Jack Prest, Lee-Shaun Saw, Liam Ryan, Nick Osborne.
 ROW 2: David Saba, Ben Scott, Wilson Pok, Matty Paul, Leo Sek, Jeffrey See.
 FRONT: Cindy Sheu, Nicole Niu, Tamara Pearson, Veena Rajan, Clara Rolls, Michelle Roldan, Goldia Shum.



ROW 4: Rui Yi, Andrew Thorne, Zac Wolfson, Damjan Vlastelica, Steven Turner, Tomme Tsang.
 ROW 3: Ker Zhang, Dennis Singh, James Thai, William Vuong, Maurizio Stefani, Fei Yu, Ho-Tung Wong.
 ROW 2: Phoebe Singleton, David Vadas, Heather Wallace, Gonzalo Vilches, David Tran, Alex Sinclair, Gohar Yazdabadi.
 FRONT: Mowena Wilkins, Chris Son, Gavin Smith, Sarah Steel, Jack Yao, Phillip Tehong, Charmaine Tam.

THE FORTIANS UNION REPORT

The Fortians Union Inc. is the alumni association of Fort Street High School. Its origins go back before the turn of the century with the creation of the Old Boys' Union and some years later, the Old Girls' Union. With the amalgamation of the girls' and boys' schools in 1975, the Fortians Union combined both organisations. It is a non-profit organisation which fosters student reunions, collects, preserves and displays archives, and promotes the school to the community through its membership.

This year has been a very special year, as the celebration of Fort Street's 150th year of delivering educational excellence. The Fortians Union has been heavily involved with a number of initiatives for the Sesquicentenary. A large effort was made to locate as many Fortians as possible in the community, far and wide around Australia, and also overseas. A comprehensive yellow alumni form was mailed with an extensive program and memorabilia booklet prior to the activities in late May. The response has been really encouraging.

As a joint initiative between the Fortians Union and the Fort Street Foundation Inc., a new computer system with state of the art hardware and software was donated to the school, for the use of these two associations. A database is being compiled, currently listing details of over 5,000 Fortians. This is an arduous and enormous task that is being accomplished by volunteers under the guidance of Mrs Pat Engelmann. Many, many thanks to all these people for their diligence and effort. Hopefully, with time and more resources, we will be able to make full use of communicating with these Fortian alumni. Only some 1,100 are members of the Fortians Union ... we encourage others to join so that we can improve our finances and make our initiatives more worthwhile for all of us.

Life membership is just \$100 and \$25 for annual members (with a concession at \$15 for pensioners/students). For enquiries, please call the new hotline set up this year, 02 9569 1849 or write to PO Box N1, Petersham North NSW 2049.

The annual church service at St Philip's was brimful of people, and some 1,100 Fortians and friends attended the launch of Sesqui week at Observatory Hill on Sunday 23 May 1999. VIPs included the Hon. Justice Michael Kirby and Mary Kostakidis, both prominent Fortians.

Michael Kirby also launched the publication MAROON AND SILVER, which is the official Sesquicentenary book, documenting the rich history of our school in words and pictures that were meticulously researched and edited by Ron Horan. Also released was FORT STREET IN VERSE 1849-1999, a pocket-sized book with hundreds of entries culled from Fort Street publications from last century to date.

We note with deep regret the passing of our archivist and committee member Ron Horan in September of this year. Ron gave much to Fort Street over almost his entire life, and he will be sadly missed. Terry Glebe, head teacher history, has taken over as our school archivist.

The Sesquicentenary events of May were really astounding, with thousands of Fortians and friends in attendance. Much publicity was also gained in the press, thereby increasing the school's profile in the community.

The Fortians Union funded and planted the Remembrance Garden at the front façade of the school in April, featuring our own especially bred Fort Street Rose which heralds the school's colours of maroon and silver (white). These will be available for some time as a living memento of Fort Street.

The last major event organised by the Fortians Union was the Sesquicentenary Reunion Dinner, held at the Wentworth Building, The University of Sydney on Friday 15 October 1999. Over 700 people attended, and many fond memories were rekindled at the sumptuous dinner. We encourage Fortians and friends to gather together on the third Friday of October each year for this event.

FABER EST, the Fortians Union newsletter was expanded to 6pp. and also distributed to the entire school community as well as to members. It was produced every few months to keep people informed of our activities, and contained interesting news items about Fortians past and present.

The Fortians Union is a small committee of dedicated alumni who meet around eight times a year at the school. If you can contribute in any way, you would be more than welcome. We can only strive to do our best if we have the resources of a strong financial base and able hands to do the work. Many thanks to our committee members, especially for their efforts in this, our Sesquicentenary year. It has been a pleasure and an honour to serve as President of the Fortians Union for the past three years.

GEORGE JAKSIC

Tournament of Minds



Seven Fortians awaited doom,
In the computer filled dungeon room.
Seven people in a six week cell,
Sometimes heaven, sometimes hell.
Given a gruesome task to complete,
Making it would be a spectacular feat.

And so it was done,
The Regional Finals were finally won.
To the State level they bravely fort on
Unfortunately they were baked like a scone.
Let the opposition tremble with fear,
For they will be back the very next year!

The regional final was a close battle
against Sydney Girls'. At state level, our
TOM team was awarded "Spirit of the
Tournament" due to our recovery when
our play got mixed up.

The team owes a large debt of gratitude
to Alex Hill of Year 12, himself a TOM
participant at national level. Alex gave a
lot of his time over the past two years
and his advice was valuable. Thanks
Alex!

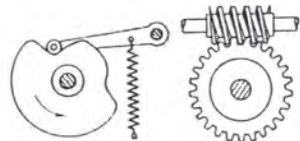
Art work by Jimmy He Year 9.

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SCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Thankfully the weather fined up for our Carnival held at the warm up to the warm up trace for the Sydney 2000 Olympics. The warm up track was unavailable due to the installation of a new running track. The seating was certainly not as good but all other facilities are top class. Our students will be able to boast about competing at the venue in addition to being part of our Sesquicentenary Carnival in years to come!

Student attendance and participation in events was notably up this year. In particular many more of our seniors were present. In fact in many track events we had 3-4 heats and some of field events were not completed on the day due to the large numbers of competitors! One parent commented on arrival at the venue - "why aren't all the students in their house areas??"- the answer - they are out there competing!!

CONGRATULATIONS to the following Students who were AGE CHAMPIONS

12	Leo Boudib	Natallie Millar
13	Daniel Elder	Eve Hood
14	Victor Frankowsk	Allannah Schuman
15	Liam Tong	Nicole Sutton
16	Martin Kurek	Kate Goudie
17	Dylan Calder	Sarah Johnson



Ava Lam Kate Goudie

The Final Point Score

Preston	592
Kennedy	440
Barton	437
Mawson	422

ZONE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

The Zone Carnival was held over two days with Day 1 shocking conditions weatherwise. The only alternate date for the carnival was in term three so all events proceeded on the all weather track. Students were terrific the way they participated without complaining about the uncomfortable conditions.

Fort Street finished second overall behind Malvina High School and there were some terrific individual performances in the race for Age Championship as follows:

Daniel Elder	13 Years Boys	2 nd	Martin Kurek	16 Years Boys	2 nd
Wister Wu	14 Years Boys	1 st	Allannah Schuman	14 Years Girls	2 nd
Jess McGuirk	14 Years Boys	4 th	Katie Goudie	16 Years Girls	3 rd
Victor Frankowski	14 Years Boys	5 th	Caroline Malcolm	17 Years Girls	3 rd
Liam Tong	15 Years Boys	1 st	Sarah Johnson	17 Years Girls	4 th

Fort Street once again hosted the two day event with many of students acting as officials, runners and caterers. Thanks to them the Carnival ran very smoothly despite the conditions.

The following students came first, second or third in an event to represent the Zone at the Regional Athletics Carnival

Monica Tice	Javelin	Liam Tong	100m, 1500m, 200m, 400m
Kate Goudie	200m, 400m, Triple Jump	Martin Kurek	100m, 200m
Allannah Schuman	200m, 400m, 800m	Wister Wu	200m
Caroline Grandjean-Thompson	3000m	Jess McGuirk	1500m, 3000m
Eve Hood	800m	Cal McGuirk	500m
Bowan Raffan	800m	Victor Frankowski	400m, Relay
Elwin Cross	Discus	Thomas Holyoake	5000m
Alexandra Darly	Discus	Philip Clare	4000m
Ava Lam	Long Jump	Michaela Pollock	Javelin
Natalie Millar	Shot Put		

Well done to Daniel Elder who completed at CHS in Javelin.



SWIMMING CARNIVAL

We were lucky once again with a beautiful, sunny day for our carnival at Ashfield Swimming Centre. The new house names have now been adopted with some passion - as we move away from the primary colours names. The attendance of seniors this year was better than last but still disappointing. The seniors who did attend enjoyed the day and participation was very high.

Preston won the carnival overall again with excellent participation and some outstanding individual performances. Many of our students train with a club and this really aid off for them on the day.

The Watermelon Wrestle was the highlight of the day and thankfully the watermelon stayed in one piece unlike last year. The teachers vs teachers relay was also a crowd pleaser. Staff needed to swim only 25 meters but this had nothing to do with age or fitness levels but rather a time factor! Some parents joined in - thank you Mr & Mrs Hartley!. Thanks also to all the parents who turned up on the day.

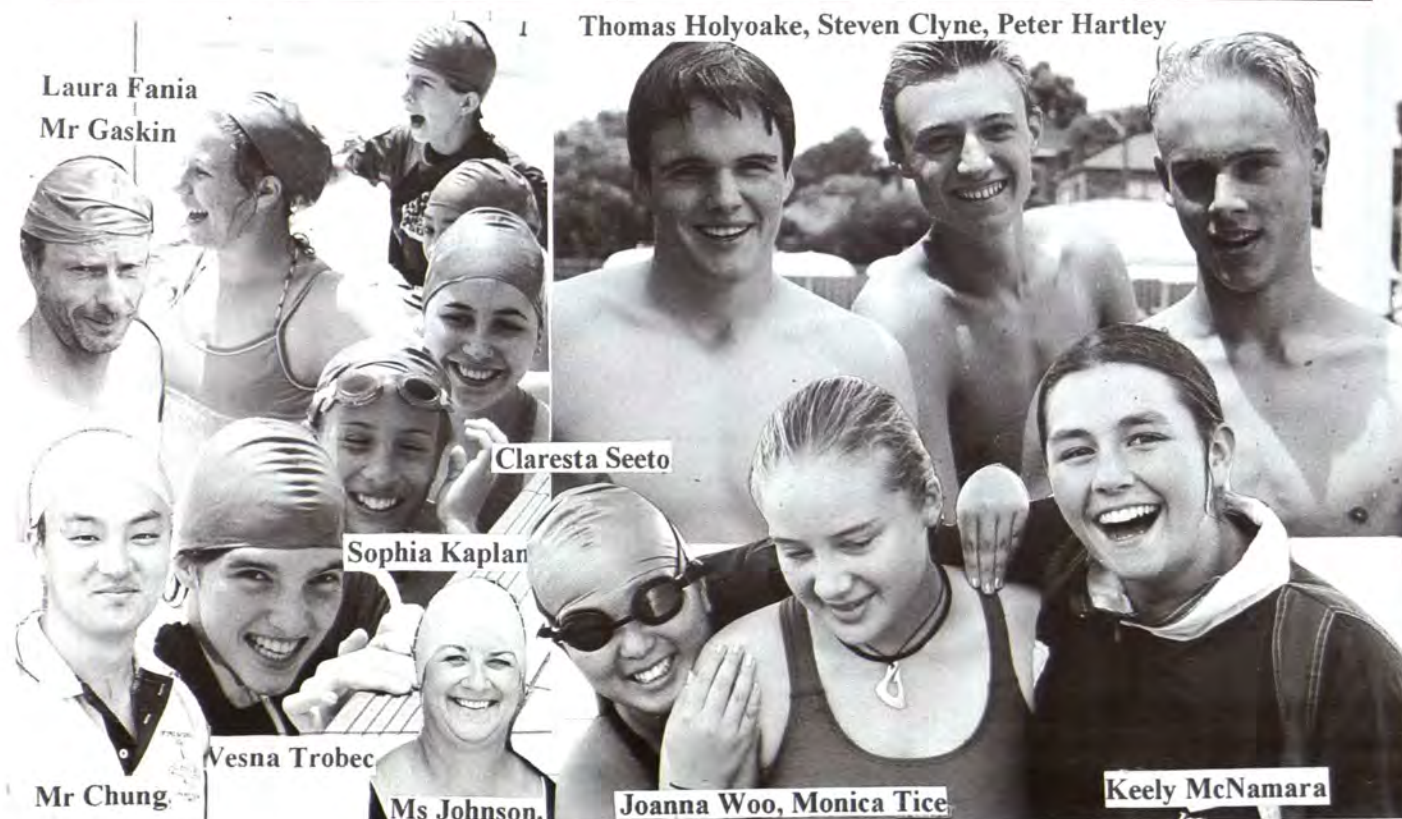
Well done to the following students for their achievements

Age Champions

<p>12 Natalie Millar</p> <p>13 Eye Hood M. Farrington</p> <p>14 1st - Alanah Schumann 2nd - Laura Corney</p> <p>15 1st - Caroline Grandjean-Thomsen 2nd - Nicole Sutton</p> <p>16 1st - Monica Tice 2nd - Keely McNamara</p> <p>17 Claresta Seto Sarah Johnson</p>	<p>12 Nicholas Tas Leo Boudib</p> <p>13 Daniel Elder Christopher Jessup</p> <p>14 Greg Waddington Nick White</p> <p>15 Parnell McAdam Liam Tong</p> <p>16 Fergus Beans Chris Berry</p> <p>17 Peter Hartley Stephen Clyne</p>
--	--

New Records

- | | | |
|----|----------------|--|
| 1. | Nicholas Tan | 12 Year Boys 50m Backstroke - Old record 42.89 New record 41.58 |
| 2. | Daniel Elder | 13 Year Boys 50m Backstroke - Old record 47.17 New record 39.8 |
| 3. | Parnell McAdam | 15 Year Boys 50m Breastroke -- Old record 39.02 New record 37.01 |
| 4. | Peter Hartley | 17 Year Boys 50m Breastroke - Old record 36.05 New record 35.91 |



CROSS COUNTRY

Our Cross Country Carnival was held under very non-traditional conditions – it was hot and sunny! Participation was compulsory for Years 7-9 and optional for Years 10-12. We had a good turnout of serious senior runners and the juniors should be commended for their enthusiasm in the hot and uncomfortable conditions.

Congratulations to the following students who were first over the finish line in their respective age groups:

12	Natalie Miller	Leo Boudib
13	Daniel Elder	Eve Hood
14	Jess McGuirk	Alannah Schuman
15	Liam Tong	Caroline Grandjean-Thomson
16	Kevin Pickett	Beth Deguasa
17	Thomas Holyoake	Sarah Johnson



Christina Lam, Theresa Choi, Belinda Lu

ZONE CROSS COUNTRY

What a terrific team we sported this year! Again we finished second in the Zone behind Marsden High. It was a shame some of our students could not make it due to the dreaded flu. There were some outstanding individual performances as follows.

12 Years		14 Years		15 Years	
Natalie Miller	10 th	Alannah Schuman	1 ^{st*}	Caroline Grandjean-Thompson	1 st
Leo Boudib	9 th	Kavita Bedford	6 th	Nicole Sutton	10 th
Greg Lewis	12 th 3	Jess McGuirk	1 st	Andrew Birdsall	7 th
Years Eve Hood	3 rd	Cal McGuirk	2 nd	16 Years	
Claire Cherrington	10 th	Lee Cartwright	7 th	Monica Tice	5 th
Daniel Elder	2 nd	Sam James	10 th	Liam Tong	3 rd
				Kevin Pickett	5 th
		17 Year		Michael Tromans	6 th
		Sarah Johnson	3 rd		
		Thomas Holyoake	1 st		

REGIONAL, CHS REPRESENTATIVES

Alanah Schuman	CHS	Cross Country	Toby Sinclair	Zone	Rugby
Fergus Beams	Regional	Cricket	Patrick Lunney	Zone	Rugby
Moira Williams	CHS	Cricket	Lachlan Gauke	Zone	Rugby
Daniel Elder	CHS	Javelin	Nick White	Zone	Rugby
Keely McNamara	CHS	Rowing	Jessica Brooks	CHS	Fencing
Lauren Frazer	CHS	Rowing	Gerrard Serrisier	CHS	Fencing
Anna McAllwaine	CHS (CHS Blue)	Diving	David Dziedzic	CHS	Fencing

WINTER COMPETITION

Congratulations to our
GRADE TEAMS who made the finals –

Girls 15S B Netball,
Boys 14 Soccer,
Opens Hockey,
Opens AFL,
Rugby 15S and
Opens Basketball.

ZONE CHAMPIONS –

15S Boys Soccer
Open Boys Basketball



Trumper Raffan 10T

BEST AND FAIREST

GIRLS
Open/15/S Volleyball
Opens Soccer
15S Soccer
Opens Netball
15S A Netball
15S B Netball
Opens Hockey

BOYS
Opens Soccer
15S Soccer
Opens Hockey
Opens A.F.L
Rugby 15S
Opens/15S Basketball

OP Cindy Sheu
15S Anisha Gautam
Jocelinn Kang
Zaineb De-Souza
Zoe Lyons
Nicole Sutton
Amelia Roberts
Keely McNamara

Poitr Bozym
Richard Logge
Nicholas Dixon Willmhurst
Kevin Tran
Toby Sinclair
OPS Igor Butorac
15S Grant O'Donnell

15's Soccer- zone champions



Steven Luc, Dip Hor, Sudanshu Bhardwaj, Jordi Rudelle Greig, Michael Moroney,
Vince Cakic, Liam Tong, Mr Ambler
Rocky Bhardwaj, Neeraj Arggawal, Richard Logge, Anuj Goel, Felix McIntyre,
Arun Nadesan, Fahim Ahmed

15's Netball

Alix Nicholson,
Emma Williams,
Emily Irvine,
Michelle Moroney,
Nicole Sutton
Julianna Dang, Elise Chen,
Nina Pollock, Jenni Gray,
Janelle Espinas, Neha Goe,
Amelia Roberts,
Juliette Mitchel,
Jose Ruaya,
Catherine Santangelo



Open AFL



Jeremy Sung, Clancy Yeates, Louis Couttoupes, Julian Boyce, Alex Vitlin,
Phillip Ma,
John Williamson, Ben Toupein, Guy Regan, Jake Saulwick, Gaurav Johri, Kevin Tran

Open Basketball zone champions

Andrew Sadlacek,
Nelson Trieu,
Damjan Vlastelica,
Igor Butorac,
Jonathon Murty,
James Wright
Alex Ardino,
Victor Frankowski,
Tim Davidson,
Liam Ovenden,
Vic Khalih



FENCING

1999 has proven to be a great year for fencing at Fort Street. This year for the first time we entered 2 open boys teams in the NSW State Schools Team Championships. We did considerably well given that for the majority of the teams, it was the first time they had fenced competitively.

The A team consisted of - Gerrard Serisier (Year 10 Team Captain)
 Gavin Smith (Year 11)
 Nick Faulkinder (Year 11).

Team B consisted of - David Dziedzics (Year 8 Team Captain)
 James Short (Year 10)
 Anthony Horler (Year 11)

Jessica Brooks (Year 8), Gerrard Serisier and David Dziedzics all hold State titles for their own age group. Both Gerrard and Jessica entered in the Australian Cadet/Junior Fencing championships in July this year. Gerrard Serisier came 8th, battling it out with some very tough competition in the Under 15 Boys foil. Jessica Brooks came a remarkable 3rd in the Under 15 Girls foil and managed to gain 5th place in the Under 17 girls sabre even with an injured hand.!

All in all it has been a great year and we hope to do even better next year with more experience.

Jessica Brooks & David Dziedzic

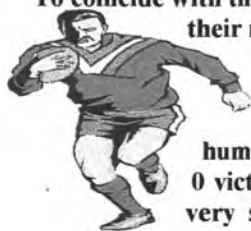
OPENS BOYS RUGBY

It was a successful year for the opens boys despite an unfortunate beginning, with the reorganisation of zone winter sport leading to the replacement of rugby with AFL leaving the team without a regular competition. However despite this setback the team made the best of a bad situation, managing to reach the third round of the Waratah Shield tournament, and organising the first old boys game since the new school field was opened to coincide with the schools sesqui-centenary celebrations.

The team received some luck in the first round of the Waratah Shield, with the first game forfeited by Marrickville High. We were fortunate enough to draw a home game in round two - the first time the school had hosted a game since the field's opening. The game saw a good turnout of students to cheer the team on, and the spectators were not let down. The home crowd inspired the team to a convincing 28-14 victory over Canterbury Boys, and saw some exiting play and an excellent performance by the entire team.

The team next faced the daunting prospect of challenging Endeavour Sports High in round three. The game was again played at home, however the home ground advantage proved to be insufficient. Despite a good performance the team went down 24-3.

To coincide with the sesqui-centenary celebrations, the opens boys, perhaps overconfident due to their recent victory, organised a game against the mighty Fort Street Old Boys. But any youthful optimism was soon crushed by the Old Boys, who featured a multitude of grade and ex-representative players who quickly asserted their superiority over their younger opponents. The game was played in good humour, and saw the settling of a few old scores on the field. The match saw a 49-0 victory to the Old Boys, the full time whistle coming much to the relief of some very sore opens players. Despite the score line the game was entertaining and enjoyed by both players and spectators, and will hopefully become an annual event.



The team would like to thank Nathan Mclachlan, Mr. Leondios, Ms. Connell and Mr. Carroll for their assistance in the organisation of the oldboys game, and all the boys are grateful to Mr. Forward for giving up his time to coach us this year. The team looks forward to another successful season next year with the return of the zone tournament.

By Robert Lawson

Table Tennis

Andrew Tang, Kenny Mai,
Suminder Sran, Peter Soo,
Ho Yan Ngai



Congratulations also to our boys knock out Table Tennis squad who made it to the final of the CHS Competition.

Our girls Ko Tennis Squad - Sarah Johnson, Jacqueline Wong Carly Bedford and also made it to the finals.

ROWING

Keely McNamara of Year 11 has had a very successful year in 1999 in her chosen sport rowing. The years competition started in February where she was triumphant in the State Championship under sixteen single scull. (one person one boat two oars). A month later she was in South Australia for a week competing in the Australian National Championships. This regatta involved a week worth of racing and saw Keely racing the standard

two Kilometer distance a total of nine times for her three events. Competing in the Women's Under 16 single scull she was triumphant and won the national championship with a girl from the Huon club Tasmania second and a girl from the commercial club in Queensland 3rd. A day later Keely and her doubles partner Heidi Anderson of Taree came third in the women's under sixteen double scull behind two Western Australian Institute of sport combinations.

YEAR 10 REPORT

As we come to the end of the year we sum up and put together anything and everything that has happened to us, the year ten (technically seniors) of 1999; the last year ten of the millenium.

The year started eventfully with three new additions into the best grade of Fort Street. It didn't take long for Lucas Liang, Brandon Zhu and Sharon Jia to fit in.

There were two main camps this year. The first was a trip to our nation's capital, the A.C.T. There we visited all the museums (including political arenas) and art galleries. Along with these we went ice-skating and for those die-hard fans, the highlight of the trip – the premier of Starwars-Episode I. The second was the peer support camp where we traveled for many hours all the way to Tahmor, about 60 km south of Fort Street. Here the students trained to become the best peer supporters in the history of Fort Street. This required immense physical and mental preparation but year ten was up to it.

During the third term holidays several students of German and Japanese visited the country of their studies. As well as becoming familiar with the language we were told many things about the cultural and social lifestyles of these distant countries and the fun they had.

As well as excursions and trips, our grade once again excelled academically. There was the immense four hour Maths Olympiad for those die-hard mathematicians such as Anuj Goel and Duc Ho who each gained high distinctions. In the Computers Competition several students scored high distinctions but the real standout was Alvin Savoy who didn't drop a single mark in the competition. Our grade did well in the Maths and Science Competitions where our eager grade once again shunned the critics with a simply marvelous display of scoring a lot of marks.

Recently, Year 10 did the School Certificate and without sounding too confident or running the risk of jinxing people, it is reasonable to say we went very well. This wasn't enough for our eager-to-learn minds so about 50 of us then moved to the TAFE for a two week project where the courses ranged from Hairdressing to Real Estate.

Probably the highlight of the year though was the Indoor Soccer Competition where the team spirit and cohesion of Year 10 prevailed. After three weeks of intense competition the "We're Serious" team of Suddy, Liam, Reece, Richard, Rocky, Vince and Anuj reached the finals. Urged on by a parochial crowd of year tens they emerged victorious over the "Beam Team", their Year 11 opponents.

Suddy Bhardwaj



- ROW 4: Sam Baker, Khang Bui, Mark Barber, Louis Couttoupes, Matthew Clark, Julian Boyce, Sean Carritt.
ROW 3: Lee Dewane, Ci-Ye Chuah, Suddy Bhardwaj, Arwen Cross, Eve Blayney, Aaron Chang, Alex Ardino, Gary Ching.
ROW 2: Jeremy Chia, Rocky Bhardwaj, Marcus Coleman, Vince Cakic, Eric Choi, Otto Dargan, Reagan Barber.
FRONT: Carmen Chan, Jess Clatworthy, Alex Bocking, Leanne Chen, Soo Bahk, Zoe Andreeva, Jessica Au, Alice Chen.



ROW 4: Yohan Kim, Mithilesh Dronavalli, David Emerson, Anuj Goel, Eamon Fenwick.
 ROW 3: Lina Jang, Tom Keanan-Brown, Duc Ho, Joel Heenan, Nick Keilar, Gaurav Johri, Jeffrey Fong, Angela Herscovitch.
 ROW 2: Colin Lam, Reece Hinchcliff, Peter Farrar, Doug Kerle, James Fong, Ratnadeep Hor, Matthew Johnson, Nicko Evans.
 FRONT: Natasha Goh, Elaine Kwan, Elian Fink, Shannon Lardi, Julie Jeong, Kate Goudie, Vicky Kan, Sharon Jia.



ROW 4: Brendan Lee, Michael Moroney, Dominic Lo, Alex Platirahos, Lucas Liang.
 ROW 3: Alex Nicholas, John Lee, David Newell, Phillip Ma, Andrew Lee, Parnel McAdam, Richard Logge, Phi Luu.
 ROW 2: Sarah Lau, Anushka Paul, Camilla Margolis, Holly Philip, Joanna Lin, Xavier McKenzie, Stephanie Low.
 FRONT: Elsie Ngo, Jinny Oh, Joseph Lee, Brandon Zhu, Nicholas Lee, Marcus Coleman, Belkis Mereles, Ji-Young Lee.



ROW 4: Jordi Rudelle Greig, Siddharth Raja, Damian Thomas, David Sun, Morgan Renew.
 ROW 3: Simon Teh, Trumper Raffan, Tom Stephenson, Alan Shen, James Short, Simon Rodwell, Adam Thwaites, Jake Saulwick.
 ROW 2: Andrew Sedlacek, Gerrard Serisier, Liam Tong, Ben Toupein, Vincent Tang, Jeremy Sung, Alvin Savoy, Anna Zheng.
 FRONT: Basia Slusarczyk, Keith Tang, Prashan Ratnakumar, Lauren Tarr, Monica Tice, Guy Ragen, James Tran, Tiara Relativo.



ROW 4: Alex Vitlin, James Wright, Alex White, Nelson Trieu, Peter Wu.
 ROW 3: Michael Tromans, Perth Tsang, Chapman Yu, Viknesh Vijayenthiran, Clancy Yeates, Niven Vanmali, Stephen Tran, Patrick Yu.
 ROW 2: Haidee Wong, Pamela Tran, Tony Zhu, Cheng Xin Yang, Sam Waks, John Williamson, Yi Ching Zhao, Asha Zappa.
 FRONT: Jacqueline Wong, Joanna Woo, Michael Wong, James Wong, Tyron Wong, Arif Zaffer, Wendy Tu, Michelle Wood.

MATHS FACULTY REPORT

1999 has been a wonderful year for Maths and Computing Studies at Fort Street. The quality of Maths students continues to improve and the increased interest in Computing Studies means that results in computing studies are excellent.

Competitions

AMC

Once again Fort Street has done well in the Australian Mathematics Competition. 651 students participated in the competition. We obtained awards including 9 Prizes, 56 High Distinctions, 294 Distinctions and 235 Credit certificates. A special congratulations goes to our

Prize winners:

Paul Hua (Year 7), Thuan Ho (Year 8), David Jiang (Year 8), John Nguyen (Year 8), Kevin Tran (Year 9), Lucas Liang (Year 10), Chris Son (Year 11), Huy Pham (Year 12), Clement Leung (Year 12).

Chris Son also achieved a Special Achievement Award for the School's best standardised result. This competition was excellently organised by Mr Hilaire Fraser.



University of NSW Maths Competition

This very demanding competition was held in June and our school was well represented in the awards: Certificate awards were obtained by:

Mithilesh Dronavalli (Year 10), Helen Jin (Year 11), Clement Leung (Year 12), and Ricky Chen (Year 12). Huy Pham (Year 12) was ranked equal 4th and his outstanding effort earned him a cash prize.

Intermediate Olympiad

Another gruelling Maths competition is the Australian intermediate Maths Olympiad. Of the 12 students who attempted these questions 4 were successful in being chosen to participate in the Correspondence Enrichment Program. They are: Tommy Chen (Year 9), Colin Dug (Year 9), Amy Goel (Year 10) and Duc Ho (Year 10). This is a first step towards participation in the Senior Olympiad.

Computer Studies Competition

169 students entered the 1999 ETC Computer Studies Competition. Students obtained 8 High Distinctions, 68 Distinctions and 67 Credits.

The students receiving High Distinctions included: Jimmy He (Year 9), David Helstrom (Year 9), Derek Yeung (Year 9), Alvin Savoy (Year 10), Andrew Sedlacek (Year 10), Keith Tang (Year 10), Liam Tong (Year 10) and David Vadas (Year 11). A special mention must go to Alvin Savoy (Year 10) who received a University Medal for his result – a perfect score 100%!

Thanks to Mr John Cheung for his organisation.

Maths Enrichment Group (MEG)

Maths Challenge

Vast members of students entered the Mathematics Challenge for Young Australians and in the Junior division (Year 7 and 8) Fort Street was ranked first Nationally. This outstanding result was built on the wonderful performances by the following students: Theresa Choi (Year 8), Christin Lam (Year 8), Enoch Lau (Year 8), Belinda Lu (Year 8), Aniket Mulherkar (Year 8), Jinyang Qian (Year 8), Mindy Ding (Year 8), Nishad Kulkarni (Year 7), Tim Lam (Year 8), Amy Sharma (Year 8), Katherine Turner (Year 8), Kevin Wang (Year 8), Gina Dang (Year 8), Jim Ding (Year 8), Zuo Huang (Year 8), Nicholas Leung (Year 7) and Devesh Sharma (Year 8).

The Intermediate team finished in the top one third of all participating schools with the top result by Sharo Jia (Year 10).

Maths Enrichment Stage

This very popular activity was enthusiastically supported and at the time of writing the results have not been published, but a very promising result is anticipated

Well done to Ms Robyn Paice for co-ordinating the MEG and thanks also to Mrs Kay Johnson for her assistance.

Other Maths Activities

Project Maths

Mr George Rezcallah encouraged his Year 9 class to submit assignments to the Maths Association of NSW Project Maths. Students put hours of work into their projects and we were thrilled by the results. First place in the Individual category went to Frank Tao for his project "Opening a New Restaurant" and First place in the Small Group category went to Tommy Chen, Brien Diep and Sarah Ho for 'MBS Maths town.'

Sesqui Activities

The Maths Department participated in the Sesquicentenary by organising a Maths Trivia Quiz for Year 8 and Year 7. The students were most enthusiastic about this and our guest host, Mr Lee Carroll entered into the spirit of the day. Thanks to Ms Paice and Mr Rezcallah for their organisation.

Mathsearch

Another project, was attempted by a number of students from Mr Rezcallah's class. When results were released the following students received merit certificates: Jing Jing Li (Year 11), Chris Son (Year 11) and Jack Yao. Congratulations to all involved and Mr Rezcallah for his help.

Excursions

Maths students participated in a number of excursions this year. Year 9 went to Wonderland and had a great day enjoying the rides and considering Mathematical aspects of the activity. Thanks to Mr Barry Hagerman for his organisation.

Year 8 enjoyed a day of hands on practical activities at the World of Maths and thanks to Mr Hilaire Fraser for his organisation and effort.

In summary the staff worked extremely hard all year and our results are the well earned product of their efforts. We were joined by 2 student teachers Mr Anthony Au and Mr Le Bui who enjoyed their experience. Our faculty saw a highly successful inservice with Primary teachers from Summer Hill and Canterbury in integrating practical work in Maths. Importantly the Maths staff and students worked extremely co-operatively to keep GOLD HOUSE the number one sporting house in the school.

Maths Personality of the Year, was hotly contested, there being many outstanding results, but Huy Pham (Year 12) with his Maths Competition, University of NSW Competition and rank in class clearly earned this distinction.

Mr Tim Jurd

PROJECT: MATHEMATICS FORT STREET TAKES OUT THE HONOURS

FRANK TAO & TOMMY CHEN

Every year, students from primary and secondary schools across New South Wales submit entries for Project: Mathematics which is conducted by the Mathematical Association of New South Wales. There are three secondary divisions: year 7-8, year 9-10 and year 11-12. The categories include individuals, small groups, and the whole class.

'Project: Mathematics' demands a lot. It is one of the most recognised prizes not just for talented mathematicians, but also creative and inventive students. Each entry must include explicit mathematical content, clever creativity and neat presentation. The aim of Project Mathematics is not to research an aspect of mathematics but to utilise the mathematics in a particular project and illustrate the relevance of mathematics to everyday life.

This year, 9M1's maths teacher Mr Rezcallah challenged us to create a project that satisfied all the conditions expected in Project Mathematics. The preliminary round began in February when everyone in 9M1 submitted and presented a project, individually or in small groups. Our class projects had a variety of themes, from Designing Dams, Maths in Music, Maths in Nature to constructing 3D shapes. The projects Mr Rezcallah believed had the best chance to succeed in the competition were then selected and we worked for a whole month to perfect our projects.

9M1, on behalf of Fort Street High School sent six entries, three individuals and three small groups.

The individual entries were:

- Better Garden By A Mile
by Janet An
- My Dream Bathroom
by George Ng
- Opening A New Restaurant
by Frank Tao

The three small groups were:

- Maths In Putt-Putt Golf
by Alfred Shiu and Nicholas Yuen
- MBS Mathstown
by Tommy Chen, Brian Diep and Sarah Ho
- Building A Medical Centre
by Peter Hoang and Gary Leung



WINNER - Frank Tao



Janet An

Fortians Past and Present



Henry Armstrong Nick Crosby Sean Howe



Mrs Constance Dyson, a Fortian of 1917 and Mrs Jean Peterson, a fortian of 1918, at Shalom Court Marsfield



Visitors to the school during Sesqui celebrations



Sesqui Home Science students



Elwin Cross



Alex Ardino



Peter Farrer

Mr John Ockwell and the Fort Street Strings

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Another busy year is drawing to a close and it is time to reflect on the highlights of the Social Science Faculty during our Sesqui centenary Year.

Our senior geography students achieved outstanding success in the Arthur Phillip Awards for Fieldwork – Alex McGuirk won the Maurine Goldston-Morris Special Award, and Tristan Roache-Turner – the President's Special Award. Quang Nguyen, Sarah Johnson, Joey Quoc, Nguyen Le and Josephine Ayling were Highly Commended. The presentation evening was truly a Fort Street night – congratulations to all.

35 year 11 students and 25 Year 12 students entered the 1999 AMP/University of NSW Australian Economics Competition. The students won seven High Distinctions and seventeen Distinctions. Of special note are the performances of Huy Pham, Eric Wong and Ben Lau who all won special prizes for outstanding achievement. Huy actually scored a perfect result placing him equal first in the entire competition with nine other students across Australia – a very commendable achievement.

Our Year 11 Mock Trial Team performed brilliantly – their dedication, skill and team spirit saw them undefeated for six rounds (see report).

Our combined Year 10 Canberra Excursion was again successful with a visit to Parliament House while parliament was in session, Questacon is always impressive for the students and I believe a highlight was the opening night of the Star Wars movie – quite a coup for the organiser Mr. Millward.

Year 12 Geography had a most rewarding 3-day trip to the Hunter Valley (as a mandatory part of their course) where they studied Water Resource Management, Productive Activities - dairying and wine-making and Urban Studies of Newcastle, including the impact of the Steelworks closure.

Year 11 Geography Students were kept busy with excursions to Windsor and the Hawkesbury River, Bicentennial Park (wetlands) and Pyrmont/Ultimo, where they studied the changing foreshores and the assessment of urban consolidation.

The Year 11 Legal Studies students experienced our legal system at work with a visit to the Downing Centre and the Supreme Court of N.S.W.

Our Asian Studies students, as usual, had many wonderful and imaginative experiences both in and out of the classroom including meditation at the Nan Tien Temple, Treasures of Asia Art Exhibition and the film Cyclo.

Year 7 Geography enjoyed a taste of field study activities at the Field of Mars Centre. They observed and recorded weather conditions, soils and vegetation communities.

Year 8 hit the jackpot with a beautiful day cruising Sydney Harbour and fun and games at Clifton Gardens.

Excursions are a wonderful way of making our subjects more relevant. Thanks to all who helped to make these excursions so successful.

During 1999 our teachers have been engaged in the daunting task of reviewing syllabuses and developing programs for the subjects we will teach for the New H.S.C.(Economics, Geography and Legal Studies) and also with the changes to the School Certificate for Geography and Civics. The current Year 7 will sit for this School Certificate in 2002.

Congratulations to all those students who performed so well during 1999 and best wishes to all staff and students in meeting the challenges of the new millennium.

MARIE JOHANSON - H/T



Stephanie Nicholson yr 12- lineo print



Visual Arts



1999 witnessed the creation of the Visual Art Department at Fort Street High School as a separate Department. It was a remarkable year, challenging and demanding particularly in the light of the celebration of the Schools Sesquicentenary. The Art Department played a very significant role in marking the milestone of 150 years.

'Past, Present, Future' was the title given to the many projects the Visual Art Department organised. The staff provided extra curricular programs that saw the realisation of the Sesqui' drawing group, the Observatory Hill drawing group and the Sesqui' painting group. A learning environment was developed in the art rooms for these students during lunchtime where they were offered the opportunity to extend and develop their art skills. A printmaking studio was established in Art room 1 and the new Photographic laboratory was used to its capacity. A high standard of work, individuality and self-motivation was emphasised.

As well as extra classes a series of drawing excursions to the original site of Fort Street Girls High at Observatory Hill was planned through Term 1 which proved to be extremely successful. The students spent the day drawing the site with follow up art lessons during the term back at school.

Art exhibitions at the school and on the original site at Observatory Hill during the "Sesqui Week" beginning May 23rd, 1999 were arranged to display the works from the Sesqui' groups. A composite exhibition then travelled to Parliament House, Sydney on September 7th and was opened by Jeff Shaw the Attorney General of NSW.

In addition these projects provided unique opportunities for students and their parents to participate fully in the cultural and historical life of the school and community. The art works in these exhibitions will remind future students of the schools long and proud history and how images and artworks can have a powerful influence on people's lives.

I would like to acknowledge an important sponsor of Visual Art Education in NSW, Chroma Australia. A major manufacturer of art products who very generously donated \$1, 500 worth of paints and mediums towards the success of these Sesquicentenary projects.

Thanks to the Visual Art Staff who during 1999 gave consistently of their time and energy for the benefit of our students. Selected students work are proudly displayed on a changing basis throughout the school. Ms Thornhill created magnificent backdrops for the concert conducted by the I.M.P and created the schools first Photography Club. Ms Page has worked tirelessly to put together this excellent edition of the Fortian. The support and encouragement given to the Year 12 students by Ms Page and Ms Buckland during the past 12 months resulted in two outstanding Major H.S.C works by Tom Jackson and Jeremy Ong being short listed for Artexpress.

I have enjoyed my first year at Fort Street High particularly the collaboration with the Visual Art Staff and other creative arts teachers in Music and Drama, and the collegial support provided by the Deputy Principal, Andrea Connell.

Vivienne Dadour
Head Teacher Visual Arts



Christina Lam - yr8 - painting



Julia Britton yr 11 drawing



Emily Pustahya yr 12 - painting

Year 7 masks



Lillian Lau yr 8 - mixed media



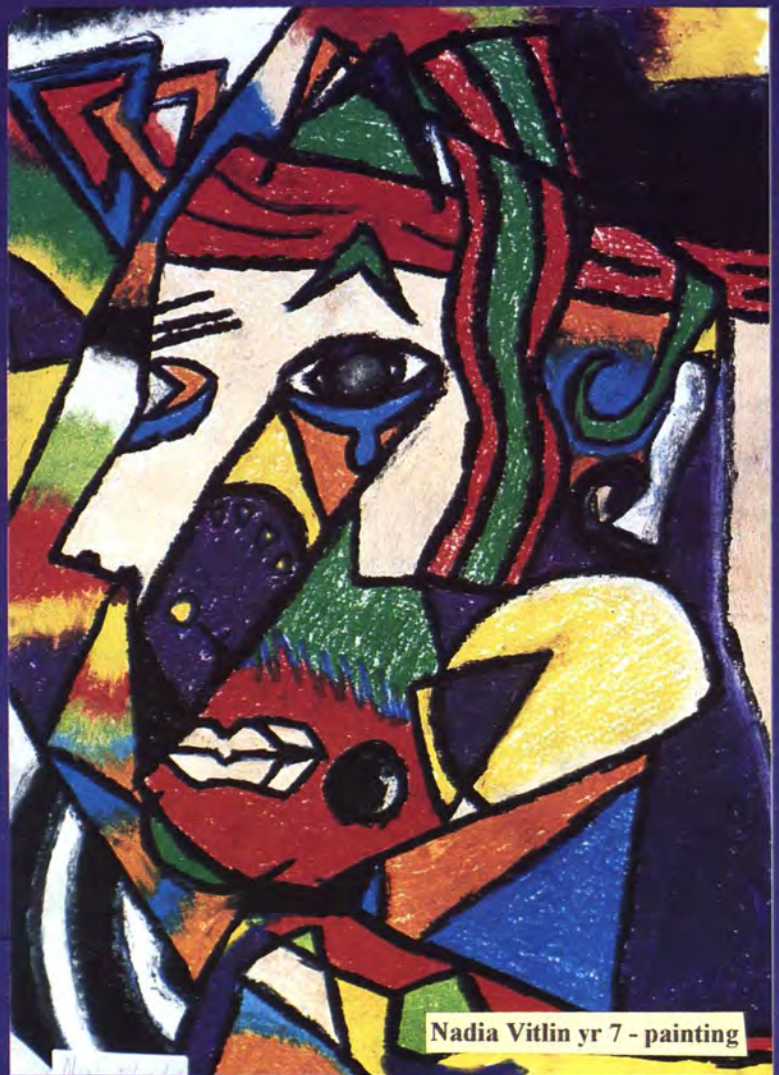
Nina Pollock yr 9 - etching



Amanda Nurse yr 12 - sculpture



Jacqueline Parker yr 9 - etching



Nadia Vitlin yr 7 - painting



Victor Frankowski yr 9 - etching

Yr 8 - ceramics



Stephanie Wong



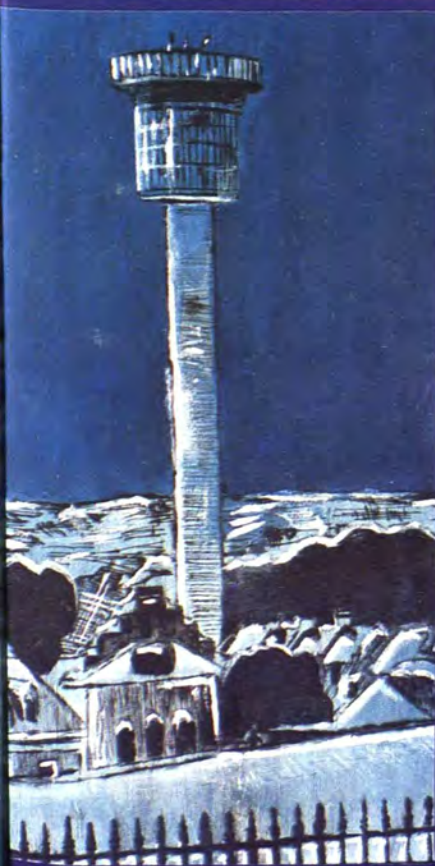
Thuan Ho



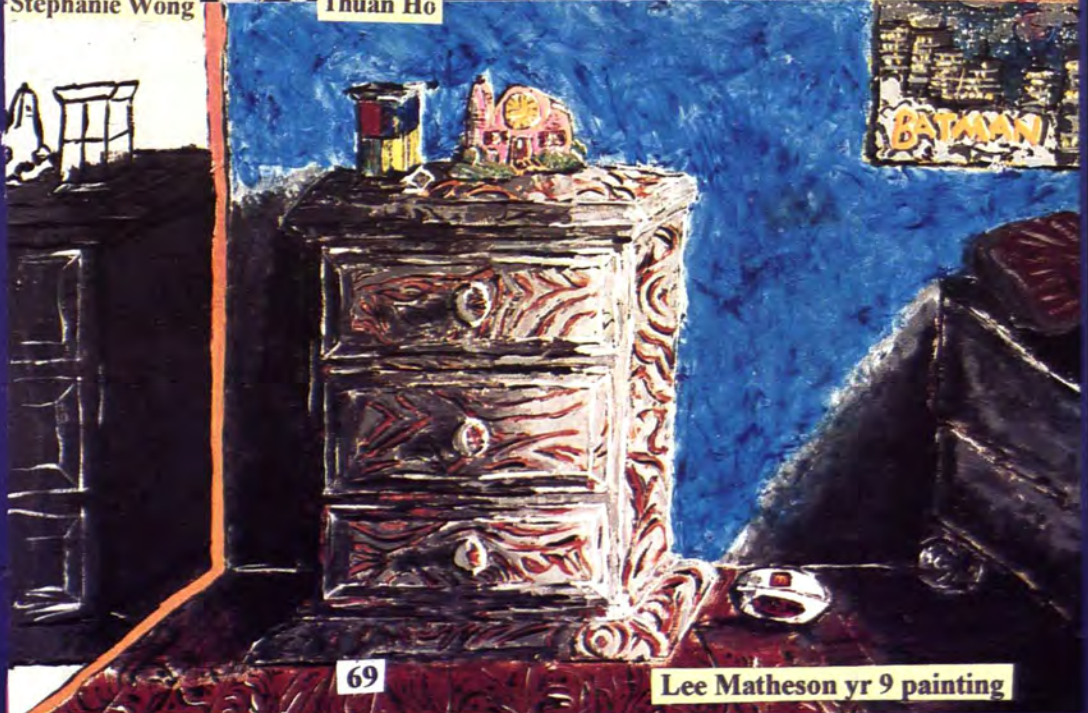
Sam James



Caroline Zhou



Naomi Ben-David yr 9 - etching



Lee Matheson yr 9 painting

DRAMA 1999

What a fantastic year it has been in the Drama Department at Fort Street. Public performances by students, the continuation of the Junior and Senior Drama programs, visits to the theatre, workshops, the Sesquicentenary and productions have filled the calendar and kept students and staff working constantly.

In 1999 the second H.S.C. 2 Unit Drama class graduated. This was a large group of 16 very talented and dedicated students. The highlights for this class during 1999 were their superb production of "DO WE EVER SEE GRACE?" and their H.S.C. Drama performances and display of submitted design and research projects.

"DO WE EVER SEE GRACE?" highlighted the talents of not only the actors in this class, including Zoe Rodwell as Young Grace, Lauren Frazer as Old Grace, Nicholas Curnow as the Salesman Clown and Jeremy Ong as the Psychologist Clown but also the creative and insightful assistant direction of James Lane. This production was set in a circus ring with the cast of 16 playing some 45 different characters, and was laced with social comment about Thatcher's Britain in the 1980's. The cast and crew handled these deep issues with great skill and maturity, and provided the audiences with a thrilling night at the theatre. Congratulations goes out to all these students with special thanks to the Year 11 Drama Class who provided the technical and front-of house support.

Following the success of this production the Year 12 class then performed a 'potted' version of this play as part of the Sesquicentenary Performing Arts Nights, to great acclaim by the capacity audiences.

The talents of the Year 12 class were also seen in the 1999 H.S.C. Drama Showcase. The students performed their Group presentations and Individual performance projects on this evening in preparation for their H.S.C. performance exams the following week. A large audience of family, friends and fellow students supported this event. Again thanks goes out to the Year 11 Drama Class for providing the Technical support for this event.

Many other students in the school have been involved in dramatic performances throughout the year. Year 11, Year 10 and Year 9 Drama classes all provided group devised performances for the Sesquicentenary Performing Arts Night.

Year 11 took a novel look at education in their piece entitled "SCHOOL", Year 10 examined schooling in the future in "FORT STREET - 150 YEARS ON", and Year 9 created four short pieces based on the famous Fortians whose names are used for the school's sporting houses, "Mawson, Barton, Preston and Kennedy." A large number of students contributed to this event and are to be congratulated. Special thanks goes to the Year 10 Drama Class who also provided technical support in lights, sound and stage management.

Another highlight of our 1999 Drama calendar was the selection of the Year 11 Drama class to perform at the Metropolitan East Drama Festival. This festival is held annually to showcase the work of Drama students in our school region. The Year 11 Class performed their sesquicentenary piece "SCHOOL" to a very appreciative audience.

The Junior Drama Production for 1999 was an adaptation of Geoffrey Chaucer's "CANTERBURY TALES." This production was performed in December. Almost 40 students from Years 7 & 8 were involved in this fun and interesting adaptation of this classic tale. Thanks must go to Ms Geraldine Brown for her hard work and dedication to this project and the large cast and crew who gave up many hours of their time.

Intermediate Drama this year was represented by an evening of short works by students from Years 9, 10 and 11. Year 9 presented four short self-devised works that they prepared during class time. Year 11 presented self-devised works and monologues and the Year 10 Class presented their graduation plays. These plays were a selection of the Grimm Tales and were produced and directed by the students. The lower Kilgour Quad was again the venue for this fine evening of theatre.

Students in elective drama also attended performances and workshops throughout the year. The most notable of these were the workshop given by Mr Anthony Skuse on the Commedia del Arte style of theatre and a physical theatre workshop conducted by Australia's premiere physical theatre company, "LEGS ON THE WALL." These workshops with industry professional have become an integral part of the Drama program at Fort Street and we are fortunate to be able to engage the talents of these groups.

1999 has been a busy and exciting year in Drama at Fort Street. We have to welcome Ms Joanne Martin to the staff and look forward to using her experience in Drama teaching and H.S.C. Drama marking to benefit Fort St students. Thanks must be paid to the staff for their continued support of Drama and to the wonderful talents of the students. Particularly, we would like to thank the parents of Drama students who have been so supportive of our creative endeavours and so keen to see the subject embellished at Fort Street High School. It has been a very satisfying and rewarding twelve months.

Jon Suffolk
Drama Teacher.

Year 12 drama

Nick Curnow, James Lane,
David McHattie, Sophie Richards,
Nick Crosby, Sean Howe,
Zoe Rodwell, Lauren Frazer,
Jamie Cameron,
Stephanie Nicholson,
Nicole Talmacs,
Henry Armstrong



Year 11 drama



Gavin Smith,
Nicholas Dixon
Anthony Horler,
Veena Rajan,
Phillip Clare,
Julia Britton,
Zoe Lyons,
Francisca Gan

Fortians Abroad

Two lucky groups of Fort Street Students spent time travelling in Peru and Germany during 1999 – See reports pg. 93 and 84.



“Lost City of the Incas”



Macchu Piccu



“The Chicken Coop”



Germany



Year 10 drama



Phillip Ma, Parnel McAdam, Holly Philip, Chela Weitzel, Jake Saulwick, Joel Heenan,
 Tom Keenan-Brown, Julia Boyce, James Wright, Duc Ho
 Loren Tarn, Paris Ramrasah, Arwen Cross, Alex Bocking, Soo Bahk, Kate Goudie, Basia Szyrarczech,
 Joanna Woo, Shannon Lardi, Stephanie Low, Tarah Relativo, Michelle Wood.
 Elian Fink, Jessica Clatworthy

Year 9 drama

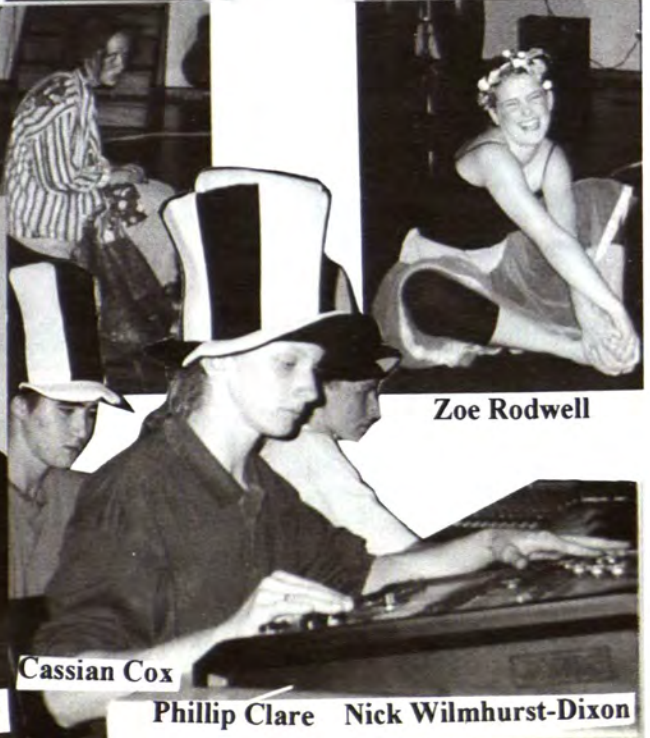
Rory Dufficy, Anton Trees, Suzannah Ivory
 Felix McIntyre, Richard Kennedy,
 Nick Findlay, Patrick White,
 Alex Bryant-Smith, Elise Chen,
 Emily Irvine, Sahra Behardien,
 Nicole Smith Jose Ruaya, Hagen McCaig,
 Juliette Mitchell



Lauren Frazer



Zoe Rodwell



Cassian Cox

Phillip Clare Nick Wilmhurst-Dixon

State Senior and Junior Drama Company.

Fort Street High School has developed an enviable reputation in producing fine drama students who have been selected in the State Public School's Senior and Junior Drama Companies in 1999.

Three Year 12 students were selected to be included in the Performing Arts Unit's Public School's Drama Company in 1999 and will tour Britain in December with the company.

Nicholas Curnow, Zoe Rodwell and James Lane were all members of the company in 1998 and continued their success in 1999. The major work that they performed with the Company was "TWO WEEKS WITH THE QUEEN." The three students represented the school with great commitment and pride and we wish them luck on their upcoming tour and their future dramatic lives.

A newly established Performing Arts Unit Junior Drama Company in 1999 also featured Fortians. Emily Irvine, Max Schollar-Root and Brendan Markey were selected to join the company. They regularly attend classes after school and perform at a number of different events. The school congratulates them on their success and wishes them good luck in the future years.

Fort Street has had the largest number of students represented in these State Companies of any school in New South Wales in 1999, a figure that the Drama Department is justly proud of. We look forward to future Fortian Thespians continuing this fine reputation.

Mr Jon Suffolk
Drama Teacher

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP FOR 1998 DUX

Professor Judith Kinnear, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and International) at The University of Sydney has written to the school to inform Fortians that Kit Morrell (dux of 1998) was awarded a Distinguished Undergraduate Scholarship valued at \$8,000 per year for the duration of her five year Arts/Law course.

University Chancellor, Emeritus Professor Dame Leonie Kramer made the presentation to Kit in the University's Great Hall in April. A photo of the presentation was also forwarded to the school and will be put into the 1999 Fortune

This Scholarship was awarded to Kit on the basis of both Kit's academic ability (UAI of 99.95) and her personal attributes. Kit impressed the university with her creativity, leadership, self-motivation and excellent communication skills.

Well done Kit!

Phil Canny, Careers Adviser

sport. There was a great deal to choose from: Hairdressing to Film and Media, to Graphic design to Computer Skills. About twenty-five people chose to do one of the courses, and at the lunch time bell on Tuesday, would trundle off to their various campuses in Ultimo, Petersham and Enmore. There we spent a few leisurely hours, learning a variety of skills, walking in and out of the room without the teacher minding, talking, listening to walkmans and learning skills that would perhaps help us get a job later on in life.

Because TAFE isn't quite the same as school, we were treated much like adults, and the general atmosphere of the classroom was relaxed and casual - with the concept of 'getting in trouble' out the window, the teacher basically leaving the responsibility to you. By the end of the course we had a neat little unit that could either go to our Preliminary or HSC (though not actually counting as a mark) and had gained some new friends as well.

At Enmore TAFE, where I went, there was a pool table (fun during breaks), a neat cafeteria area, and this fountain in the middle of the quad which it was quite fun to sit for half an hour and stare at. The building was weird...like a winding loop in which I got lost continuously. The library was sweet, with many very informative art and design books, and the Internet. I made a CD cover and some strange pictures using Adobe Illustrator in the first course, a mask, a wrapping paper design, and various colour experiments in the second, and at the moment we are playing with style...using twigs and brushes in the weirdest ways. Overall it's great fun, an experience, and thank you to Mr Canny for organizing it.

Tamara Pearson Year 11

TAFE Tamara Pearson Year 11

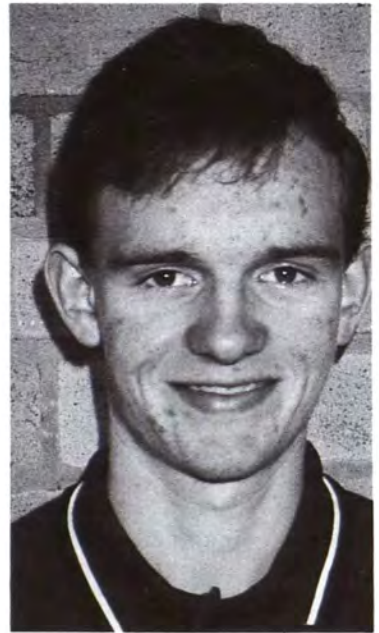
Throughout this year, and at the end of last year, Year 11 has had various opportunities to attend TAFE instead of the normal Tuesday afternoon

Fortian Scientists - Past and Present



Suzanne Cartwright Toby Allen

Suzanne Cartwright , Toby Allen and Rhys Hearne were selected for the Biennial International Science School 1999 at Sydney University.



Rhys Hearne



Patricia Yam

Fort Street graduate 1994, earned the University Medal in Molecular Biology and Genetics in Advanced Science Law at University of New South Wales. Patricia has been travelling, Looking at overseas universities For PHD programs.



Felix Ho

Fort Street graduate 1993, Earned the University Medal in Industrial Chemistry in a Combined Science Law degree At the University of New South Wales. Felix is currently in Montreal Canada doing his law finishing year.



David Helstrom

Year 9
After winning the National Science Talent Search competition for The past two years, David's latest entry into the Individual Research category, years seven to nine, was again short listed and exhibited at the Power House Museum.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT REPORT

1999 has been an incredibly busy and exciting year for the Music Department. There have been the usual number of concerts and workshops conducted at the school plus the Sesquicentenary Performing Arts Nights. Students, staff and tutors have been very busy preparing students for these performance events plus an array of examinations.

The non-elective music program for 1999 featured workshops and performances for students in years 7 and 8. Year 7 were treated to the sounds of African Drums with a concert by Eddie Quansar, an annual event in the program that students always enjoy and participate in with enthusiasm. They were also treated to a performance by Mr Colin Offord and his strange looking original musical instruments.

Year 8 concerts and workshops included an examination of the use of computers and technology in the music industry. This workshop was conducted by Mr Bill Neilson. They also attended a concert entitled "CALPYSO" in which the music of the Carribean was featured using Steel Drums.

Students in the Junior and Senior Elective Music programs also attended some of the above concerts as well as performances and open rehearsals of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. Many elective music students were also involved with the Sesquicentenary Performing Arts Night which replaced the annual Musicale for this year.

The Year 12 Music Class of 1999 consisted of three students who displayed excellent skills and talents at their Year 12 H.S.C. Recital. Conrad Richters, Jamie Cmaeron and Pauline Mann performed a wide variety of works in this recital which they were to use for their H.S.C. Practical Exams. They all performed extremely well and we wish them luck with all their remaining examinations.

Once again students are busy preparing for the annual Christmas Charity Concert to be conducted in the last week of the school year. Elective classes, I.M.P. groups, individual and small group performances are being planned and will see the conclusion to a very rewarding Sesquicentenary year.

The Music Staff would like to thank all the students who have participated in the concerts and workshops of 1999 and we look forward to an exciting year of music making in 2000.
Jon Suffolk

THE MUSIC TIMETABLE 1999

Term 1:

Wednesday, 3 February: "Calypso" a concert of Steel Drum Music for year 8 students.

Friday, 5 March: Speech Day in the Sydney Town Hall.

Wednesday, 31 March: "African Rhythm" featuring Eddie Quansah from Ghana for year 7 students.

Wednesday, 31 March: Computer Music Workshops with Bill Neilson for years 8,9, 10, 11 and 12.

Term 2

Monday, 3 May: Sydney Symphone Orchestra: Elective Concert at the Ultimo Centre for year 9 and year 10 music students.

Wednesday, 5 May: "A Brave New Sound" with Colin Offord a concert for year 7 music students.

Wednesday, 26 May: The Sesquicentenary Debate and Recital in the School Library. This recital featured former students and present students.

Thursday, 27 and Friday 28 May: The Sesquicentenary Performing Arts Nights featuring music and drama items.

Wednesday, 2 June: The senior music excursion for year 11 and year 12 music students to an open rehearsal of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra at the Sydney Opera House followed by a visit to the library of the Australian Music Centre at the Rocks.

Term 3:

Thursday, 26 August: The Year 12 Recital - a presentation of the works to be performed by the students for their HSC Examinations in music for the HSC.

Term 4:

Friday, 12 November: Latin American Concert for Year 7 students.

Thursday, 16 December: Christmas Charity Concert.

Eddie Quansah

Grade seven of Fort Street High School were invited to watch the Eddie Quansah concert, which proceeded in the gym. The Eddie Quansah concert was both an exhilarating and unusual show. Eddie showed great skills when it came to drumming. The beat was very catchy but unpredictable. Eddie showed us all kind of African instruments and he also showed us how they were played. There were all sorts of drums, which made many different volumes and they looked really weird. Some were half the size of you and others were as small as your hand span.

In the end Eddie asked some volunteers to play a rhythm on some of the instruments. Many kids volunteered and it was funny to watch them play the instruments. When the performance by Eddie Quansah was over, two of the students from our grade went to thank Eddie on behalf of the grade for a terrific concert.

Overall it was a fantastic show!



By: Vivian Nguyen 7F



Year seven musicians playing for Eddie Quansah



Colin Offord



Emily Pustahya yr 12 - drawing

"BRAVE NEW SOUND" A concert by Colin Offord

The concert by Colin Offord was a truly unique experience. The weird and wondrous noises he created were exciting and his mouth-bow a very strange noise maker. It was an educational experience featuring a hands-on activity with year seven students getting to play some of his instruments. These instruments were made from wood, iron, shells and metal. His mouth-bow, which he has been improving for twenty years, was decorated with feathers and made of many different components. He played a small "talking" instrument that made all of year seven laugh. He also played a flute made of an eagle feather. The feather was obtained from a zoo. Then there was his double recorder that he could play singly or at the same time, in perfect harmony. Another of his instruments was a conch shell that sounded a bit like a didgeridoo. Most of his instruments needed to be amplified otherwise it would be difficult to hear them.'

This truly was a brave new sound!

Claire Edwardes

ABC Young Performer of the Year 1999

ABC Young Performer of the Year 1999

Fortian, Claire Edwardes, pictured below, was born in Sydney and began her musical studies at the age of five on piano, later attaining her A.Mus.A. and L.T.C.L. She completed her secondary school education and sat for 3 unit music as part of the Higher School Certificate at Fort Street High in 1993. She studies percussion with Daryl Pratt and Richard Miller and graduated in 1997 from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music as "Student of the Year" with a Bachelor of Music degree with first class honours. In 1996 a Big Brother Fellowship enabled her to study in London with Kevin Hathway at the Royal College of Music and David Corkhill at the Guildhall School of Music, Dance and Drama. During her time as a student, Claire was selected to participate in Youth Music Australia's "Brass and Percussion Academy" and "Orchestral Fellowship" programs as well as National Academy's "Percussion Academy" and the Sydney Symphony Orchestra's "Sniffing" program.

Claire has toured internationally with the Australian Youth Orchestra, has worked with the Queensland Symphony Orchestra and performs regularly as a casual percussionist with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. In 1998 Claire toured Australia with the Sydney Dance Company as one of three on-stage percussionists in Graeme Murphy's production "Free Radicals. Since graduating Claire has worked with numerous contemporary music groups including the Australian Ensemble, the Seymour Group, the Libra Ensemble (Melbourne), Music Theatre Sydney and the Song Company.

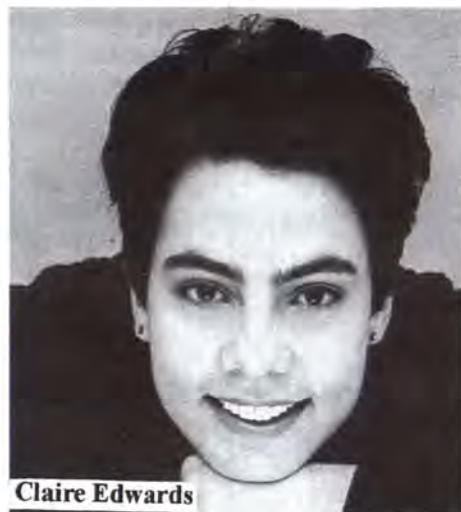
Claire is Synergy's "Associate Artist" for 1999 encompassing solo and ensemble performance opportunities with the internationally renowned percussion ensemble. Her percussion ensemble Sprung Percussion has featured in this year's opening of the newest Sydney Opera House venue. The Studio was awarded the "Best Ensemble Performance" of the 1997 Sydney Spring Festival. In June Claire performed the world premiere of Tim Davies "Marimba and Vibraphone Concerto" to great acclaim, as soloist with the Penrith Symphony Orchestra.

Claire has been awarded a Dutch Government scholarship to continue her post graduate percussion studies in the Netherlands in late 1999. She will study with Richard Jansons at the Rotterdam Conservatorium of Music.

Earlier this year, on Wednesday, 26 May 1999, Claire was a solo performer at the Sesquicentenary Recital, at Fort Street High, when she played "Variations on a Japanese Children's Song" by Keiko Abe on the marimba. This was the first public performance on the newly acquired Fort Street marimba which had been purchased by the Instrumental Music Program. Claire also played "Coil" by Gerard Brophy on the vibraphone at the Sesquicentenary Recital.

On Wednesday, 22nd September 1999, in an outstanding performance of "Concerto for Percussion and Orchestra" by the American composer Joseph Schwantner with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Claire Edwardes won the competition for the "ABC Young Performer of the Year 1999".

Congratulations, Claire!



Claire Edwardes

The Fort St. Instrumental Music Program

This year was again an extremely successful year for the I.M.P.

It was decided that for this year the Training groups would begin rehearsals earlier in the year. This initiative resulted in all the members of the Training band being promoted by the end of Term 3.

There was a very strong push at the Recruitment night for the "more unusual instruments". As a result the instrumentation of the band included Oboes, Percussion, Bassoon, Horns and Trombones plus the normal intake of Clarinet,

Flutes, Saxophones and Trumpets which can only lead to having a well blended and full Symphonic wind Band sound.

The junior bands performed numerous in public. Both the Stage & Concert bands took part in the Yamaha Band Festival and once again showed that our Junior groups are becoming a major force within the I.M.P. by receiving a Silver and Bronze award respectively.

One increasing performance opportunity for our groups is at Pre- Schools and Kindergartens. In Term 3 it was the Junior Stage Bands turn at North Ryde Pre - School.

The Senior groups have gone through large changes and are now reaping the benefits. The Concert Band was selected to perform in the Department of Education series of concerts held at the Opera House and also received a Silver award in the Band Festival held at the University of N.S.W. It was a great experience for all of us to be in the public eye at such a high level.

I'll take the opportunity now to thank all those involved in making the I.M.P. such a great success. There are too many people to thank separately but I would like to make special mention of John Ockwell who has jumped into this job like he has been here for years! I am looking forward to seeing and hearing further developments in the string department next year.

Phil Harper

Director of Bands

The String Ensembles

The IMP has had a monumental year with the Sesqui Centenary celebrations and many concerts and competitions throughout all terms.

During First term preparations got under way for the Commissioned Piece (3 Excursions for Concert Band and Strings - Mark Isaacs). Mark had written a challenging piece and Phil Harper and I eagerly awaited each movement (3) as it came to us " hot off the presses" from Mark.

Speech Day saw the Senior String Ensemble and Concert Band together as in past years

with the highlight of an ensemble performance by the Senior strings to much public acclaim.

The Senior Concert and Stage bands played again this year at the Royal Easter show and were well received by the large crowd. These concerts also featured the IMP's new Drum Kit.

Early in 2nd Term a year 10 Jazz ensemble (recently named the Swing Syndicate) was formed for those players wanting a smaller band experience. This group subsequently played at the Opening of the Sesqui Centenary week of celebrations at the S.H.Irvin Gallery. On the back of the success at this gig the band has remained together and now performs regularly both for school functions and in the general community.

As the Sesqui Concerts approached intensive rehearsal with all 120 String / Wind and Percussion players in the IMP took place. This massive undertaking was both rewarding and challenging with the composer in attendance lending his vast knowledge and experience to the occasion.

The Performing Arts Nights of the Sesqui Week were a highlight with all bands rising brilliantly to the occasion. One particularly pleasing feature was the inaugural performance on the IMP's new Marimba played in a concerto with the Senior string orchestra.

A rewarding part of this year's activities has been our association with Grosvenor House - a live in hospital for profoundly handicapped young people.

A Jazz group, the Senior String ensemble and the newly formed Percussion Ensemble have performed for these special young people and I'm pleased to say that it was a win / win situation for everyone at the performances!!

This year there was no symphony orchestra as such with all efforts directed towards

consolidating the work done with the strings in years gone by. Intensive rehearsals with the Senior ensemble (2 per week) proved fruitful and in the mid year activities the Senior String Ensemble won gold at the Yamaha Instrumental Festival and were invited to play at the Festival Command Performance. In a packed year for this group, 2 Opera House performances in the Departmental Festivals took place as a result of successful auditions held during the year.

During Term 3 several string quartets were " lifted " from the Senior string ensemble and played for the year 12 art exhibition and the Fortian Wine tasting night. Both events provided the players with a glimpse of professional music life.

The Junior String ensemble played at the mid year concert and now with the addition of oboes and horns is providing the beginnings of a chamber orchestra. This exciting group is comprised mostly of year 7 students (including 4 cellists!!) and the future looks very bright.

This year in addition to the established groups a Training strings Ensemble was started with newly started players who will graduate to the Junior strings next year. This experimental group was a resounding success and will be kept on as a new ensemble each year depending on numbers.

In my inaugural year as Director of Strings I have been delighted to observe what I can only describe as a " Fortian Spirit " in these young players. On many occasions they have all surpassed themselves and played with a maturity beyond their years.

I look forward to next years challenges and the ongoing success of the I.M.P. especially the String Ensembles.

John Ockwell
Director of Strings

YEAR NINE REPORT

The start was a busy and hectic time as year nine students settled into the study of their new electives. This was a chance for new subject experiences and a chance to broaden their circle of friends. There were some adjustments as students switched electives realising that some of their choices were unsuitable. Unfortunately it was not always possible to accommodate all choices as some subjects were full, notably computer studies.

Since starting school in year seven these students have been the "guinea pigs" for trialling new report formats. At the end of first semester, the students received a computer generated report on A3 paper, quite a change from the old style written reports. Most people seem to approve of the changes.

The majority of students have now settled in well and are making excellent progress. Marilyn Ireland and I are extremely pleased with the high academic standard these students have continued to maintain. Particular congratulations should go to Nikki Peng, David Collits, Zaineb De Souza, David Helstroom, Susan Hoe, Ava Lam, George Ng, Amelia Roberts, Janet An, Sameer Chowdhury, Julianna Dang, Sarah Ho, Felix Hong, Jose Ruaya, Sheryl Soo, Alex Stuart and Frank Tao for their outstanding academic achievements in first semester.

As well as all those students mentioned in Jose's report, I would like to add special congratulations to all those students who tirelessly collected for the many charities the school supports, the participants in the "One Year to Go" Darling Harbour Olympic celebrations and the wonderful Sesquicentenary helpers.

We look forward to a very successful School Certificate Year next year.

Ms Anne Draper . Year 9 Student Adviser

A Student-Eye View of 1999

Sitting in class and someone suddenly exclaims, "wow, this year's gone fast!" Its not until about ten seconds later their comment is mentally digested and you begin to ponder their words. As you begin to think about it yourself you realise the year has gone freakishly fast..... then the teacher calls the class to attention and your mind grudgingly shifts its lethargic self to the task at hand.

Your last thought shuffles its way to the back of your mind and sits in its own corner, waiting to be called upon at a later date.

Hmm....oops....there goes another year.

The transition from year eight to year nine was slightly complicated, At the beginning of the year, we received our timetables and thus began approximately two nightmarish periods where the whole of year nine attempted to fathom the mysteries of their newly acquired timetables. Some caught on quickly, others perhaps not so quickly and the rest just held off going to class for as long as possible.

Two lovely, memorable periods of going crazy, running around the school, trying to find out what class we were meant to be in, saying "No, this is where we are meant to be", or "Do you know how much time we could take "trying" to work this thing out?" Of course we all eventually found our classes and figured out the rest of our timetables, and so commenced 1999.

The strange thing about year nine, is looking back upon it. The opportunity of choosing electives gave us the ability to expand our horizons in terms of what we could learn, but it was obvious that out of the options we were given, some would seem more attractive than others. Year nine was where the changes began. It was the first year of real exams and the first year of grade sport.

To speak for the whole grade with so many points of view is one tall order. However, this year had its highlights, its shining stars and moments that the whole grade has shared.

There was the Year Nine Maths Quizz held in the gym - inhaling mountains of dust and grit from the floorboards of the gym did wonders for our brains.....the Maths excursion to Wonderland - fairy floss, fairy floss, fairy floss.....the play "Reckless" - a personal development play of a sort, the aim of which was to tackle the difficult subject of youth suicide.....the Year 9, 10, 11 Dance - loud music, a hall of people flailing their arms and legs, waking up with a pounding in your ears the next morning from dancing too near the speaker - a wonderful success (thank you to the SRC).....the lucky people who went to Japan during third term holidays.....the "wanna be jocks" from our year joined the rugby team and played with such style and grace.....The art classes' excursion up to old Fort Street which resulted in many great pieces of art that were displayed throughout Sesqui, and their excursion to the Jeffrey Smart exhibition at the Art Gallery of N.S.W.....the english departments excursion to the play "Mad About You".....and then of course a celebration of the past, present and future.

Year nine's shining stars in the academic, dramatic art and sporting areas were:

* Frank Tao - awarded first place by the Maths Association on NSW, for his entry in Project Mathematics 1999, titled "Opening a New Restaurant".

* Tommy Chen, Sarah Ho and Brian Diep were awarded first place in the same competition for a group project titled MBS Mathstown.

* Colin Ding, Leon Shen, Davy Lei and Tommy Chen who competed in the grueling Maths Olympiad - Tommy and Colin were chosen to participate in the 1999AMOC Intermediate Correspondence Enrichment Program.

* Stephen Bernard, Tommy Chen, Daniel Do, Felix Hong and Derek Yeung, who all achieved High Distinctions in the Australian Schools Science Competition.

* Jimmy He, David Helstroom and Derek Yeung all achieved High Distinctions in the 1999 ETC Computer Studies competition.

* Kevin Tran achieved a High Distinction in the Australian Mathematics Competition.

* David Helstroom was a finalist in the Young Scientist Awards. This is the second consecutive year he has been honoured.

* Emily Irvine was accepted into the State Drama Group

* Jacqueline Parker, as a member of the music group "Precious" recorded a self titled CD, sponsored by the Blue Mountains Youth

Group.

* Phoebe Haylen had the double honour of being the youngest student ever elected as President of the SRC and being a member of the NSW Government Schools Performing Art Units Senior Singers which toured the USA this year.

* Marc D'Amici left in August, after being selected to participate in a twelve month Exchange Programme to France.

* Helen James spent third term as an exchange student in New Zealand.

* Paul Young who performed a number of pieces on the piano for the Sesqui Concert.

* Andrew Birdsall, David Collits, Jay Kathavate, Arun Nadesan, Alex Stuart and Anurag Verma all represented the school as members of the Open Boys' Davidson Shield cricket team.

* Caroline Grandjean-Thomsen came first in the 14 years Girls and Lee Cartwright came seventh in the 14 yrs boys Zone Cross Country.

We realised that this could well be the last year where we would be able to rampage madly about, throwing caution and a mass of homework to the winds. So we enjoyed it. Thoroughly. We made the most of it, and on the whole, we succeeded. What will we become, who knows? We'll see.

Jose Ruaya - yr 9



ROW 4: Simon Lo, James Wang, Colin Ding, David Helstroom, Derek Yeung, Ben Prest, David Collits, Anton Trees.
 ROW 3: Emma Williams, Daniel Do, Tom Huynh, Lachlan Gauke, Nguyen Khuu, Marc D'Amici, Juliette Mitchell.
 ROW 2: Peter Hoang, William Brook, Toby Sinclair, Alfred Shiu, Edward Byun, Hagen McCaig, Howard Yean, Gary Leung.
 FRONT: Nina Pollock, Sarah Ho, Shaily Aggarwal, Hannah Kim, Phoebe Haylen, Nicole Sutton, Janelle Espinas.



ROW 4: Simon Johnson, Alex Bryant-Smith, Leon Shen, Victor Frankowski, Matthew Clarke, Andrew Ta, Karol Florek.
 ROW 3: Brendan Reeks, Patrick White, Cheryl Tan, Jose Ruaya, Sahra Behardien, Leigh Cartwright, Jordan Delaney.
 ROW 2: Joshua Augustinus, Geoffrey Stewart, Paul Young, Tom Radford, Lee Mathason, Henry Yoo, Kyo-Soung Choi.
 FRONT: Caroline Grandjean-Thomsen, Elise Chen, Ellen Lee, Catherine Santangelo, Emily Irvine, Laura Corney, Helen James.



ROW 4: Timothy Sam, Nick White, Bob Jang, Grant O'Donnell, Patrick Lunney, Ming Ren, William Leung.
 ROW 3: Jenni Gray, Supratik Ray, Wayne Pan, Sameer Chowdhury, William Lee, Steven Luc, Ava Lam.
 ROW 2: Christopher Bu, Lee Ye, Ben Ryan, Jonathan Chau, Fahim Ahmed, Angus Jen Tiet, Arun Nadesan, Sek Hwan Joung.
 FRONT: Neha Goel, Janet An, Susannah Ivory, Tracey Ying, Amelia Roberts, Jacqueline Parker, Sheryl Soo.



ROW 4: George Ng, Stephen Chau, Anurag Verma, Alex Stuart, Jimmy He, Karthik Ramakrishnan, Frank Tao.
 ROW 3: Nikki Peng, Edwin Ma, Kevin Tran, Alex Nikoliouk, Boyu Zhao, Vincent Chu, Yi Wang.
 ROW 2: Jay Kathavate, Chris Kang, Davy Lei, Matthew Wong, Ren He, John Bui, Brian Diep, Howard Cheung.
 FRONT: Louisa Li, Alice Qian, Grace Chan, Anisha Gautam, Vanessa Tran, Susan Hoe, Clare King.



ROW 4: Marian Lesslie, Nick Findlay, Chris Gilbert, Igor Butorac, Andrew Birdsall, David Haines, Ann Tsuei.
 ROW 3: Prasanth Ramkumar, Felix McIntyre, David Wu, Richard Kennedy, Rory Dufficy, Alfred Lin, Louis Huynh.
 ROW 2: Allan Sun, Michael Nguyen, Neeraj Aggarwal, Peter Tawadros, Tommy Chen, Stephen Bernard, Felix Hong, Nicholas Yuen.
 FRONT: Sunhae Oh, Naomi Ben-David, Flora Chao, Alisha Wong, Michelle Moroney, Julianna Dang, Zaineb De Souza.

FORT STREET VISITS GERMANY

On Friday 24th September, 22 students from Years 10 and 11 German, accompanied by Mr. Jennings and Ms. Dauter left Australia to spend three weeks in Germany.

We spent eight hours in Vienna on the way over. We did a quick two-hour bus tour of Vienna Airport, courtesy of Sam Waks' parents because it was Sam's birthday. The numerous Austrian security guards holding A grade military machine guns ensured that we all behaved ourselves!

We were met at Berlin Airport by our host families. We immediately kicked ourselves for not doing more German homework when we realised we would actually have to speak German!

The host families did everything they could to make our stays as comfortable as possible. Guy Ragen even lived in a castle! The families were very generous to us, taking us out for dinner, the movies, shopping, etc.

We attended the Hermann von Helmholtz Gymnasium, a selective school in Potsdam. On the first day we met Frau Neukirchen ("Ginni" to Mr. Jennings and Ms. Dauter), who did all the organising at the German end. She was incredibly enthusiastic about her teaching and a welcoming, happy person. She had a polished Gloucestershire accent when she spoke English.

The school was different from Fort St in many ways. Students have a flexible timetable with six to eight periods a day, and a ten-minute break between periods (a great idea!). School starts at 7.45 a.m. The periods last 45 minutes. Classes are strictly run but students can leave the school if they don't have a class. The students are highly motivated and love sport, especially basketball, volleyball and soccer.

Frau Neukirchen organised a tour around Berlin for us. The view from the Reichstag, the new parliament, was great. Every second block had a crane. It's amazing to think how super modern and polished this city will look when it's finished. We took a boat trip down the river Spree that runs past museum island. If you stood up the bridges crossing the river were low enough to hit your head. Richard Logge made a game of standing up as we passed under them. We all watched hoping the next one would be his downfall! We saw the square where Hitler organised the burning of the books, and a section of the Berlin Wall.

Next day we went to the front of the school to have a big group photo taken of us and our hosts. The photographer had a few screws loose and insisted on taking photos of us pointing and staring in different directions.

Eamon Fenwick and Jackie Wong were interviewed by a reporter from the "Märkische Allgemeine", the newspaper for the state of Brandenburg, about their impressions of Potsdam. A photo accompanied the article.

Some of us went to the Olympic Stadium, home of the 1936 Olympic Games, to see Hertha BSC, Berlin's football team, play Duisberg. Danny Fairfax bought as much Hertha memorabilia as he could, and Joseph Lee, being Joseph, got lost.

We spent a day in Weimar the European Cultural City of the Year for 1999. Goethe, Schiller and Bach lived here at various times.

We also spent a day in Dresden, the most bombed city of all German cities in the Second World War. We were surprised to see the "Ayer's Rock" restaurant which served kangaroo, ostrich and crocodile steaks.

Then we spent three days on Rügen, an island in the Baltic sea. A friendly Year 10 class from Potsdam came with us. We played pool, soccer on the beach or just "cruised" around this pleasant town. We also played basketball against the local police cadets. Both Jackie Wong and James Wright sprained their ankles! But James being a "real" man didn't need to see the doctor, unlike Jackie.

At various times we visited lots of museums in Potsdam and Berlin, especially the Check Point Charlie Museum and the Pergamon, which contains treasures from the ancient world. In Potsdam we saw the rooms in the Cecilienhof where Churchill, Stalin and Truman met at the end of the Second World War. In Weimar we visited the Bauhaus Museum, and in Dresden an armoury museum and a painting gallery in the Zwinger, and on Rügen a castle that had been transformed into a hunting museum. On Rügen we also went to an army museum, which documented German army life from the Nazi period through the period of Russian occupation to the fall of the Berlin Wall.

We said Tschuss to our German pals at a farewell party organised by the school, then we faced the long trip home, already missing our German friends.

But never fear, Fort St will be back "rockin' in" in Potsdam as soon as we can, so "To be continued..."

Compiled by Year 10 German and Ewan McGaughey of Year 11 German.

EIFUKU HIGH SCHOOL

For the past twelve years Fort Street High School has maintained a warm relationship with Eifuku High School in Tokyo, Japan. Our relationship began as a result of talks between Mr Neville Wran (an Old Fortian) and the then governor of Tokoyo Mr Suzuki. Initial contacts consisted of an exchange of letters between the school principals and subsequently a consignment of student artworks arrived from Eifuku. Mr Hart Sturm, a former Head Teacher of the Social Science Department, visited Eifuku and established direct contact.

In 1988 the first group of students from Eifuku visited Fort Street and enjoyed family homestays and a program of excursions organised by teachers from our History and Social Science Departments. Since then there have been five more visits from Eifuku on a bi-annual basis and Fort Street students have thus far made six expeditions to Japan. These exchanges have always proved very successful and have provided a valuable insight into the life and culture of our respective countries. It is pertinent to stress the point that the Fort Street Eifuku exchange program is one involving the whole school and is not confined to students who have chosen to study the Japanese language. Any student seriously interested in Japanese life and culture is eligible to participate in our trips to Japan.

Established on the 1st November 1978, Eifuku is a young school by the standards of Fort Street but experience gained during our various exchange trips has shown that in terms of character the two schools are highly compatible. By Japanese standards, Eifuku has a relaxed and relatively informal atmosphere with friendly relations between staff and students, particularly at a personal level. Eifuku is not concerned with projecting a rosy-tinted image of Japan. Its students are natural and unpretentious

and as a consequence, the atmosphere of Eifuku is quite congenial to our own students, many of whom share the same attributes mentioned above.

Some Fort Street parents who have kindly provided homestays for our Japanese visitors have expressed an interest in the character and organisation of Eifuku. The following information is drawn from the Eifuku High School Handbook.

Duration of school year: 230 – 240 days. There are six school days – Monday to Saturday with every second Saturday a non-school day (a recent development).

Staff: One Principal and Vice Principal; six Japanese teachers; eight Social Science teachers; six Mathematics teachers; six Health and P.E teachers; five Science teachers plus one laboratory assistant; one librarian; one school nurse; five clerical staff; and two janitors. Other disciplines are listed under part-time teachers. Total staff: about 70. Student numbers vary between 750 – 850.

Some Students Regulations

1. Behave in a responsible manner in and out of school.
2. Respect teachers, fellow students and School guests.
3. Contribute to the learning environment positively.
4. No smoking, drinking and "violent or Unfair actions".
5. Driving cars or motorcycles to and from school is forbidden. (This would not be a problem to Fort Street students).
6. Attending school in holiday time without permission is forbidden.
7. "Students should wear a school uniform with our school badge on their left breast".
8. Trinkets like necklaces, earrings and so forth are forbidden.
9. Students should wear shoes not sandals.
10. Students should remain on campus during school hours unless provided with a pass by their home-room teacher. (no free periods in coffee shops).
11. Students should not engage in part-time jobs because this prevents them from learning effectively.

The Student Council

The Eifuku Student Council manages various school events including welcome ceremonies for new students, interclass sporting activities, the school festival (a school fete where every class organises some event or display) and publishes a Student Council magazine.

CANDLE DAY

It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness.....

All human beings, whatever their cultural or historical background, suffer when they are intimidated, imprisoned or tortured. We must insist on the need to respect human rights worldwide, for it is the inherent nature of all human beings to yearn for freedom, equality and dignity, and they have an equal right to achieve that..."Dalai Lama.

On 22nd of October, 100 students from Fort Street High School went to city to sell badges and candles in order to raise money for Amnesty International - an organisation involved in fighting for Human Rights all over the world.

The day was warm and sunny and the students were eager to start. After the roll was marked (an 8.30 a.m. at St. Andrews Square next to the Town Hall) the students went to the city streets in groups of 2/3 to start selling the badges and candles, and as the day became hot, there were refreshments available for students throughout the day at the Amnesty Depot.

A lot of patience and smiling were required throughout the day as sometimes it seemed quite impossible to sell a single badge or a candle to a passer by. But the persistence paid off in the end as Beth Goldfinch from year 8 & raised the most money on the day #603.40 to be precise. Peter Valpiani from year 7 took to the streets in a candle costume in aid of extra publicity. We don't know yet exactly how much money Fort Street has raised on the day, but we hope to become first again - just like the past two year in a row.

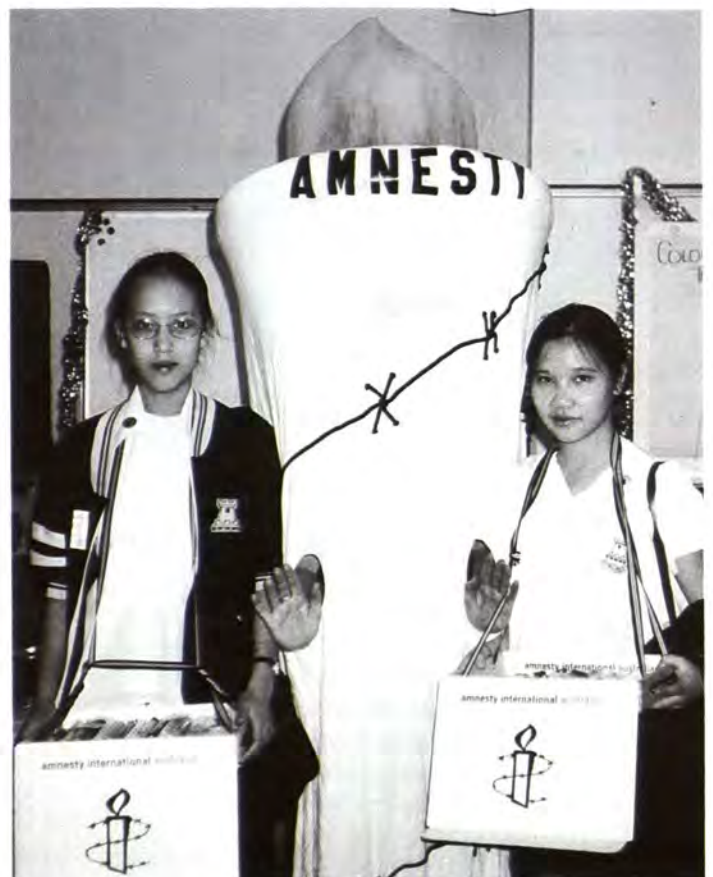
Thanks to all the students from year 7,8 and some from year9 who participated on this day and helped to make it a success. A special thanks to Ms Page for helping me to distribute

the trays, containing the badges/candles to the students in the library the previous day.

E. Jamble



Lisa Nguyen Danja Kaing



Kathy Nguyen Virginia Tang

History 1999

The History Staff, like all other High School teachers throughout the State, is under siege from a plethora of documentation concerning the implementation of Stages 4, 5 & 6, particularly for the year 2000. Associated with this of course are changes in Assessment & Reporting procedures, on-going changes associated with programs as well as the day-to-day business of teaching. In short teachers have been working under increasingly stressful conditions throughout 1999.

In spite of all this, History teachers have still managed to present interesting work in History, as well as provide a wide variety of enrichment programs both in and out of school for the Historians of Fort Street High. Such work has been augmented by the arrival of Mr. Tony Mulligan (the new Head Teacher Administration) into the History Department early in Term II.

The new Year 7 experienced something of an 18th century seafarer's lot on the Bounty cruise early in March, and this was followed by a "Walking Tour" through The Rocks up to Observatory Hill. After lunch I took each class in turn into the grounds of the old Fort Street school (now the National Trust) and introduced them to the history of the school located on this site in 1849. The students as usual showed quite an interest in the development of the school and its traditions down through the years since 1849 and the various changes in 1911, 1916 and 1974/75. It is always interesting to observe how keen students are to indicate their own Fortian background through parents, grandparents and on rare occasions great grandparents, while others seem conscious of the fact that they too are beginning to establish their own links with the traditions of this fine old school.

In April, Year 8 investigated the maritime history of Australia at the Maritime Museum, Darling Harbour, which was followed up by a visit to the I-Max to experience a whole new dimension in investigating the wonders of Ancient Egypt. Such fun excursions can extend into the Senior school as Mrs Trevini's Year 11 Ancient History found when they saw "The Mummy", while Medieval banquets and mini-Olympics allow students to "experience something of life" in those times.

The piece de resistance in this Sesquicentenary Year was the History Fancy Dress Ball held at Petersham Town Hall on Monday night, 24th May. Years 11 & 12 were joined by some Year 10 and several members of Staff for one of the most exciting and memorable events of the Sesqui Year. Everyone got into the swing of things, the huge variety of excellent costumes was amazing, and prizes were awarded for such things as the Most Look-Alike Fortian of Yester-year and the Best Dressed Historical personality. Amanda Nurse (Year 12) arrived as Meleager while Tiffany Bassili (Year 12, 1998) was very colourfully dressed as Ann Bolyn. What a fabulous night!! And what a tribute to the many teachers and students who worked so hard to make the night such a success.

Historians were very much involved in Sesqui activities throughout the year including the making of a documentary video on the history of the school, 1849 - 1999. During Sesqui Open Week in May many students acted as guides to Fortians and friends who visited the school "wandering down Memory Lane" with them. I cannot think of a better way to have ended my teaching career than to have been part of the school's 150th Anniversary. As the school's Part-Time Archivist, I and Ron Horan were deluged with offers of memorabilia and countless

requests for information about past students and teachers.

When I arrived at Fort Street High in 1980 I had not intended to stay for more than five years but the school is infectious as so many of my colleagues and Fortians can testify. As I now finish my teaching career in my 20th year at Fort Street I feel privileged to have taught with so many fine teachers, to have been part of the early years of so many interesting and talented students and to have been part of the magnificent Sister-School relationship with Eifuku High School, Japan.

Good-bye
Terry Glebe

SESQUI FIREWORKS

What a great display!

A huge crowd gathered on a beautiful night to witness a custom made fireworks display. Even the most cynical observer would have been dazzled by the spectacular exhibition of rockets, star shells and fountain fireworks. After a few false starts, due to low flying jets, the fireworks started with a bang, and continued for twenty minutes. The only pause was for another stray jet, which veered away from our air shells launched in its path. The delay helped sales at the BBQ, and a keen group of Year 8 students sold plenty of 'glow sticks'. The bright fluorescent glow of red and blue lit up the oval, and all the vantage spots around the school. Most of the cost of fireworks was raised by donations from year 7 & 8 classes, who competed in a Space Science Quiz. The sale of glow sticks also helped defray the cost of this truly memorable extravaganza.

Careers Report

This year has seen many students involved in work experience, JSSTAFE courses, and the Young Achievement Business Skills Program. A number of our students have been involved in the filming of a four part program for Young Achievement. This show plotted their progress in setting up and running a business. The four episodes were shown on the Small Business Show (Channel 9) on various Sunday mornings.

With the introduction of the new HSC in 2000, Joint Secondary School TAFE courses (JSSTAFE) will not be offered to Fortians in year eleven in the year 2000. This is very disappointing as nearly 200 students have completed a course since 1993. The new HSC is replacing these JSSTAFE courses with two unit TAFE Vocational Courses. This would require students to attend during years 11 and 12. Traditionally Fortians have been enrolled in one unit courses in year 11 only. The school would also lose staff if students were involved. The primary focus of Fort Street has been and will continue to be pathways one: the provision of subjects offering the best opportunity to head off to university or other tertiary study.

How did the Class of 1998 go? Kit Morrel the dux received a scholarship from Sydney University while Coop Scholarships to UNSW were won by Dac Nguyen and Andrew Cram. See the separate article on the destinations of the Class of 1998.

This year the HSC results will be issued to students on December 16 and not in early January of the next year. A great Christmas present! The School will make every effort to accommodate students in this somewhat confronting period. Students have an open invitation to return to the school to see seek out any assistance that may be required. Perhaps a new tradition will be created where students actively return with their HSC results.

Many career options have been promoted in the school throughout the year: guest speakers specifically for year 12, numerous newsletters with internet sites, numerous seminars run by universities or professional associations, open day programs at universities, the provision of tax file numbers, the advertisement of numerous part time and full time jobs, scholarships at various universities, interstate admission procedures and the list goes on and on.

Good luck to all year 12 for the year 2000. It's going to be a big one. ! Please keep in touch.

Phil Canty, Careers Adviser



Greg Waddington, Alex Speirs, Gareth Douse, Jack Wu, Addison Ma.
William Figgett, Enoch Lau, Jack Marshall, Lucy Geremin, Michaela Pollock, Wayland Le, David Wu,
Stephen Haggar.
Shaw Kamada-Laws, Joven Demonteverde, David Dziedzic, Cal McGuirk, Peter Callender, Terry Yuan, Paul Liu,
Paddy Batchelor.
Vita Gray, Jessica Brooks, Melissa Ellingworth, Kate Scott-Murphy, Bethany Lalor, Chiara Bianchino,
Angela Diec, Lucille Verdey.



ROW 4: Matthew Lee, Varun Sahni, Wister Wu, Max Schollar-Root, William Hey-Cunningham, Matthew Jarman, Michael Li.
 ROW 3: Brendan Markey, Kevin Ha, Tim Lam, Christina Lam, Amy Bao, Johnson Gao, Minbo Wang, Peter Luan.
 ROW 2: Daniel Tse, Sunny Li, Robin Wilkins, Lilian Lau, Jacob Fry, Benjamin Yuen, Rabbi Ahmed.
 FRONT: Virginia Tang, Margaret Park, Kathy Nguyen, Imelda Daniel, Kavita Bedford, Anna Lucewicz, Katharine Turner, Belinda Lu.



ROW 4: Shinuo Liu, Ben Zhao, Luke Vu, David Jiang, Martin Hartley, Albert Lee, William Wong.
 ROW 3: Gary Chen, Andrew Diong, Jess McGuirk, Lucy Zou, Vesna Trobec, Steven Quinn, Ty Wood, Claudia Husin.
 ROW 2: Michael Thorne, Sam James, Devesh Sharma, Matthew Fordham, Mirza Nurkic, Thuan Ho, George Hu.
 FRONT: Caroline Zhou, Priyanka Rao, Claire Cherrington, Ruby Chiu, Qian Yu, Alex Parker, Stephanie Wong, Jenny Choy.



ROW 4: Zane Ma, Jonathan Hardgraves, Daniel Lavelle, Boris Kresic, Geoffrey Duong.
 ROW 3: Meg He, Ping Jie Pan, Johnny Zhang, Max Wang, Kevin Wang, John Nguyen, Simon Sheikh, Judy Tu.
 ROW 2: Jeffrey La, Garry Chang, Jin Ju Soung Choi, Ryan Reynolds, Mindy Ding, Jim Ding, Eric Cheung, Iwen Chen.
 FRONT: Jenny Lin, Vina Xiao, Tina Nguyen, Louise Sun, Jennifer Ahn, Ara Ko, Rachel Xu, Jessica Zhang.



ROW 4: Robert Bautista, Aniket Mulherkar, Zuo Huang, Anuj Sharma, Vineeth Chippada.
 ROW 3: Divija Paramatmuni, Shruti Kulhalli, Jackson Trieu, David Kwok, Daniel Elder, Fabio Lombardini, Alannah Schuman, Harriet Johnson.
 ROW 2: Jason Chan, Geoff Lai, David Campbell, Jin Yang Qian, Brodie Cullen, David Schaverien, Greg Howe, Michael Yu.
 FRONT: Jensyn Luc, Eileen Xie, Melissa Lee, Jane Fan, Holing Ngai, Gina Dang, Nori Dimaculangan, Teresa Choi.

Fort Street Students Visit Justice Michael Kirby

In April of this year, it was time to pay an annual visit to Justice Michael Kirby in his Supreme Court chambers in Queen Square. Once again Justice Kirby had invited the top 3 Unit Legal Studies students to take tea in his chambers. We had three very worthy Legal Studies students this year – Claudine Lyons (10th in the State), Ruth Wong (17th in the State) and Claire Gillam (40th in the State). As usual Justice Kirby was a charming and entertaining host.

While partaking of tea, the Judge spoke with great fondness of his school days and about how important he believed the State education system to be. He was most interested to hear the students' views of the school, particularly as Ruth and Claire had both come late to the school, after attending other High Schools. Both girls believed Fort Street to be superior to their other schools in many ways – the freedom of the School, the encouragement to think for them selves, the quality of teaching and the atmosphere of tolerance. Justice Kirby was fascinated to hear Claudine's account of the SRC sponsored Tolerance Day and its inspiring aims. Whilst there, the Judge decided to use the students as sounding boards as he outlined the direction he thought his speech, for the Opening of the School's Sesquicentenary celebrations should take and asked them for their suggestions.

After a quick photo session and signing the Visitor's Book, it was time to take our leave. The students found Justice Kirby to be most inspiring and were extremely grateful for his interest. The Social Science Department is most appreciative of Justice Kirby's continuing interest in, and support of, Legal Studies at Fort Street.

Ms Anne Draper

On 21st April, Ms Draper, Claire Gillam, Ruth Wong and myself had the privilege of spending some time with the Honourable High Court Justice, Michael Kirby. To get to his Sydney chambers in the NSW Supreme Court, we first had to pass high tech security – that is, a door marked "fire exit", which was actually the entrance. The harbour view from his chamber was stunning, as was the photo of a young Kirby chatting to Gough Whitlam. One of his associates, whose gold coloured silk suit (and job) I would like to have, gave us tea and biscuits, as we all tried to rise to the occasion. Despite having previously organised the meeting, Ms Draper, with all

courtesy, asked if we had come at a bad time for the judge. Justice Kirby simply waved away the papers on his desk as 'just a judgement' he was working on, (not something that could change the future of Australian law or anything).

Personally I was very aware that he had (just before our meeting) publicly celebrated his sexuality. I had spent days thinking of how I could tactfully express my concern that his relationship (which had been going on for almost as long as my parents' marriage), is not given equal recognition by the legal system he has dedicated his life to. The Judge was very interested in news of Fort Street and I was grateful that Ms Draper brought up the SRC's 1998 Tolerance Day, so that I could add that the SRC had targeted homophobia and AIDS discrimination as well as racism. (And I was secretly pleased that he called me a 'troublemaker' for being a previous SRC president).

Ruth then asked Justice Kirby how he had decided that the law was the way to go. After dismissing a career in the Church (a serious option in the 1950s) as not for him, Justice Kirby went on to describe with lovable and I think typical disarming Fortian understatement that Science was also not for him, despite coming 1st in NSW in Mathematics, he was not good at Maths. (This along with the one about Kirby as a school prefect putting John Singleton on detention, is one of my favourite Kirby anecdotes).

I asked him what he thought about English Law Lord Hoffman being seen as being biased for being a member of Amnesty International. (One episode in the long running show that has seen Spain try to extradite former Chilean dictator Pinochet from Britain, to face charges of crimes against humanity). I must say I was a little disappointed with his answer. Justice Kirby said that after that, he had cancelled his membership of Amnesty, so there could be no question of him appearing biased. He said his beliefs would stay with him forever and that after retirement he would probably rejoin. I understand the need for judges to appear unprejudiced and for our judicial institutions to be uncompromising, but is it not ridiculous to accuse someone of being biased because they believe in human rights? Is it not important for the pillars of our society to articulate such ideals? The jury is still out on this one.

While I think it is a shame that Justice Kirby will never have children, he will always have his disciples (like myself) in and outside legal circles due to his overwhelming intellectual capabilities and compassionate concern for human rights. I have met people at University who have tried to convince me that I cannot be a good lawyer because I am a woman. (This is something I have my whole life to disprove, so watch this space!) What Fort Street really taught me was the importance of collective co-operation and the importance of not only having a social conscience, but also of fighting for social justice. I greatly admire Justice Kirby because I see him as valuing these principles and thus embodying the true Fortian spirit, which the school must continue to cultivate in every student that enters its doors.

Claudine Lyons

YOUNG ASTRONAUTS

On the first day of term 3, Fort Street hosted a group of young Korean students, who were on tour in Australia. The students were from all parts of Korea, and were members of a Space Club that operates in Korean primary schools. While at Fort Street High School, they experienced an Australian style BBQ lunch, and played games with some of our students. Summer Hill Public School sent some students along to practice their Korean, and to teach the visitors some English, with an Australian accent. A portable stardome set up in the library was used to give the visitors their first view of stars of the southern hemisphere. On the following days, some of our older students helped the visitors to travel around Darling Harbour, Wonderland and the Blue Mountains.

Medical Research seminar run by the Australian Society For Medical Research.

In May this year Susann Cartwright, Naomi Stanley and Korana Musicki in year 12 attended the annual seminar at the State Library.

Naomi said she found it useful. She thought the people from various areas of medical research and the university representatives gave pertinent advice and information needed by students. It was a really good seminar as there was no one pushing you one way or another and it helped to clarify things in your own mind.

Phil Canty Careers Adviser

Young Achievers

Australia

By Jee Hyun Kim

Way Ahead: Peter James, Exposya: Francisca Gan, Cyberiya: Uma Aggarwal, Madushini Bazil, My-Van Bui, Susann Cheung, Charles Forrester, Rhys Hearne, Andreea Heriseanu, Helen Jin, Shelley Lin, Mathew Loh, Lennard Lopez, David Ng, Thu-Ha Nguyen, Rui Yi, Bonvarie: Chih-Ping Liao, Amnesiya: Jee Hyun Kim, Alex Sinclair, James Thai, Fei Yu.

Q: What did these people do for 24 weeks during 1999?

A: Operated a legal company. They were thrown into the big, real, competitive world of business where they were responsible for everything about the company. Everything was absolutely real, from registering the company name and trademark, issuing shares, manufacturing and marketing the product, to liquidation of the company, where people pay legal fees and tax and distribute the dividend from the profit the company gained at the end of their 24 weeks.

You might remember these people because they were desperately trying to sell you fluffy folders, organisers, candles, CD wallets or even, pot plants. They experienced drama, conflicts and faced problems but successfully overcame them by great teamwork and skill. Fortians competed over 50 companies at the Annual Tradefair, held in Broadway and it was a great opportunity to encounter the marketing side of the business.

Young Achievers Ball was the night to remember. It was held in the Banquet Hall of the Convention Centre in Darling Harbour. Exposya, Amnesiya and Bonayrie gained the 'Blue Chip' status. Bonayrie won the 1999 Annual Report Award and Amnesiya became the finalist for the Company of the Year Award.

Fortians kept up the good reputation by actively partaking in their individual companies and events, especially the students who did not know anyone in the company in the beginning of the program. In the end, every Fortian made profits and had heaps of fun.

GLOBE

This is a truly international program, which enables students to use modern scientific measuring devices, and the internet to record results.

There are 80 nations, and 6,000 schools registered with the GLOBE network. In Australia, GLOBE is funded by the Departments of Environment, and Education, Training and Youth Affairs. The CSIRO co-ordinates the program, which operates in hundreds of Australian schools. Fort Street is working in co-operation with Summer Hill Public School to get their teaching programs. Hopefully, some activity will commence in term 4, '99. We will take a digital photo soon!

FORT STREET PERU EXPEDITION

During the Christmas vacation of 1998-99, eleven students and two teachers embarked on an incredible adventure visiting Bolivia and Peru on an Antipodean challenge. The aim of these expeditions is to enable students to experience another culture, trek in wilderness areas and carry out community aid work. An experienced expedition leader, Phil MacDonnell, from Antipodean travelled with the group, along with a film maker, John Thiros, whose task it was to produce a video of the trip for the Antipodean company.

The planing phase of the trip was spread over eighteen months. This included a variety of meetings, an equipment demonstration evening, training hikes and over-night camps. In addition each member of the group was responsible for improving and maintaining high fitness levels, organizing equipment and having the required vaccinations. On 21st December, a few days prior to departure, the group spent a day in the school library for a final briefing session. Equipment was distributed, personal gear assessed and we struggled with the difficult task of fitting it all in our backpacks.

Departure date, December 28th, we boarded the Aerolineas Argentinas flight to Buenos Aires where we spent the afternoon sightseeing and our first night in a youth hostel. The next morning we flew to La Paz in Bolivia to begin our big adventure. After a bumpy flight over the Andes we were treated to the spectacular sight of the city tucked into a gorge on the Altiplano surrounded by huge snowy mountain peaks. La Paz, at 3800 metres, is the highest capital city in the world and, needless to say, some of the group suffered some degree of altitude sickness. We spent two nights in La Paz acclimatizing, purchasing food supplies from the local markets, organizing transport and preparing for the first camping phase of our trip. Leaving La Paz we travelled by bus to Copacabana, located on the shore of Lake Titicaca, where we spent New Years Eve.

We crossed Lake Titicaca by boat to reach Isla del Sol where, in the shadow of a ruined Inca temple, we camped on an isolated beach for two nights. We spent the day further acclimatizing to the high altitude by hiking around the island, climbing to the highest peaks (over 4000metres), witnessing spectacular views of the lake and surrounding countryside and trudging through Aymara Indian's villages and farms. Our cooking skills on camp stoves were also tested.

After some incredible experiences we left Bolivia and headed for Cusco, Peru. En route we visited the Uros people on their reed islands near Puno. Tired and hungry, after a long overnight journey, we reached the town of Cusco, the original Inca capital. Our two days in Cusco were spent preparing for our four-day trek along the Inca Trail to the Inca ruins at Macchu Piccu. Visiting the local markets we purchased our supplies for the Inca Trail and any hardware required for our community project. Finally the big day arrived. We set out for the trail on a rainy and overcast morning. During the next four days we experienced a variety of weather conditions, often camping and cooking in the rain after an exhausting and exhilarating day hiking. We were extremely lucky to be able to experience both the strenuous ascent to the highest point of our journey, the infamous Dead Women's Pass, elevation 4198 metres, and our arrival on the fourth morning at the spectacular ruins of Macchu Piccu in beautiful sunny weather. Some of the group sacrificed sleep and hiked the last stage of the trail in the pre-dawn hours to see the sun rise over the "Lost City of the Incas".

Our 35km trek was followed by a welcome overnight stop in the quaint little town of Aguas Calientes. Situated on the edge of the Urubamba river the railway line is the main street, mountains tower above with the ruins of Macchu Piccu perched on top.

The next phase of our journey took us over the Andes to Quillabamba and on down the Urubamba valley to the jungle town of Kiteni. Twenty five hours later, after a short but crowded train journey, a long bus trip and a number of landslides, we arrived at the Kiteni hostel, quickly christened the "house of death" due to its décor of stuffed rainforest animals and dried skins, all quaintly illuminated by "atmospheric" candle light.

From Kiteni we journeyed by local long boat down the Urubamba river. We enjoyed swimming in the Amazon rainforest rivers, braving the waters of the Pongo, negotiating a rapid caused by a landslide, camping in the jungle and watching the monkeys in the trees. We didn't enjoy the last hour of the return trip in the dark, with rain, thunder, and lightening. The "house of death" was a most welcome sight.

The final phase of our Peru experience involved our community project. From Kiteni we hiked for five hours into the jungle to Rolando's coffee farm where we were to build a chicken coup for Rolando and his family to help supplement their meagre income. We lived with the family for four days, camping next to their modest mud brick home, helping to prepare and cook our meals using local produce and eating with them at their table. We washed in the river and played with the children and constructed the most amazing chicken coup complete with a floor made from rocks hauled from the river. The memories of this extraordinary experience will stay with the group forever.

We hiked back to Kiteni and hired a truck for our return journey to Cusco. A bumpy but spectacular twenty-one hour overnight trip saw us travel through barren, desolate mountains with their Indian villages and herds of Llamas. Our last two days in Cusco were spent shopping and taking in the many wonderful sights of this fantastic town. An early morning flight to Lima began our return journey back to Australia. Those with stamina spent the day sightseeing in Lima before taking a 1 a.m. flight to Buenos Aires. The sixteen-hours in transit were spent catching up on lost sleep and a debriefing session to discuss and share our experiences of the past four weeks.

Finally the trip home, exhausted and laden with souvenirs, to families eager to see their wandering children and hear of their adventures. We had experienced a most amazing journey, each with our own special memories and favourite moments. Suddenly the exertion, the effort, the planning and, of course, the periods of stomach problems seemed worthwhile. With each member was an almost guilty realisation of how fortunate we are to live in a country like Australia.

Continued pg 94

THE TEAM

Michael Beard

Joel Bedford

James Lane

Nick Luccinelli

Alex McGuirk

Alice Ma

Owen MacIndoe

Thomas Richards

Tess McSpedden

Ho Tung Wong

Rebecca Yuen

Vicki Chiplin (teacher)

Warren Griffith (teacher)

Phil Macdonnell (team leader)

John Thiros (cameraman)

YEAR 7

Year 7 have had a lovely year what with a camp, trips on the harbour, gala day, visiting writers, musicals, plays and sesquicentenary right in the middle, its been closer to a party than a scholastically demanding diet. Still they seem to have settled in easily with remarkably few problems and that's how I'm hoping it will stay for the next five years. Five years in which they can work hard and do well and grow up to be even nicer than they are.

Ms Macdonald
Year 7 Co-ordinator

DEBATING 1999

Another successful year for Fort Street debaters. This year we entered teams from Year 8, 10, 11 and 12 in inter-school competitions.

The Year 11 team (Joel Bedford, Keeley McNamara, Thu Ha Ngyuen & Danny Fairfax) won their district zone as did our Year 12 team (Nick Lucchinelli, Amanda Nurse, Caroline Malcolm & Tess McSpedden).

Year 10 (Asha Zappa, Holly Philip, Sean Carrit, Jake Saulwick & James Wright) were narrowly beaten in the finals after a traumatic play off to break a 3 way tie in their zone.

Special congratulations to Sean Carrit in Year 10 who was nominated as the best debater from this zone and was chosen to try out for the Sydney South East Debating Team.

Year 8 debaters - Alannah Schuman, Divija Paramatmuni, Enoch Lau and Joven De monteverde participated with distinction in the 2nd year of this new knock out competition.

Thanks once again to the teams and their coaches; Mr Ambler Year 12 and Ms Macdonald Year 11 for their time, effort and good humour.

Mrs M Hosking
Debating Co-ordinator



Sae-Il Pak, Steven Wong, Robert Shi, David Mao, Philip Thai.
Derrick Tsui, Hyun-Sin Kim, Ann-Thuy Khuu, Nancy Shen, Jenny Du, Mary Chan, Justin Siu, Joe Xie.
Keith Ng, Paul Hua, Lin Wang, David Le, Weiqi Meng, Christopher Tran, Terence Chan, Jason Ho.
Christine Lu, Alison Wu, Irene Gao, Joyce Chan, Catherine Lin, Susan Su, Tracy Wong, Trang Nguyen.



Jaspreet Singh, Daniel Courtney, Alfred Tao, Daniel Ryan, Daniel Lambert, Matthew Hobbs, Nishad Kulkarni, Daniel Morrison, Aditya Bhagwat, Jason He, Nina Frishling, Natalie Millar, Ming Li, Benjamin Kumagaya, Edmund Sullivan.

- Kenneth Yuen, Benjamin Ha, Igor Petkovic, Julia Chen, Daniel Chan, Thuvakaran Thanapalasuntheram, Thomas Koch
- Monica Awad, ... Lowe, Aviea Renouf, Bronwyn Overs, Sophia Kaplan, Amber Wilcox, Angela Wallace, Sharon Lieberman.



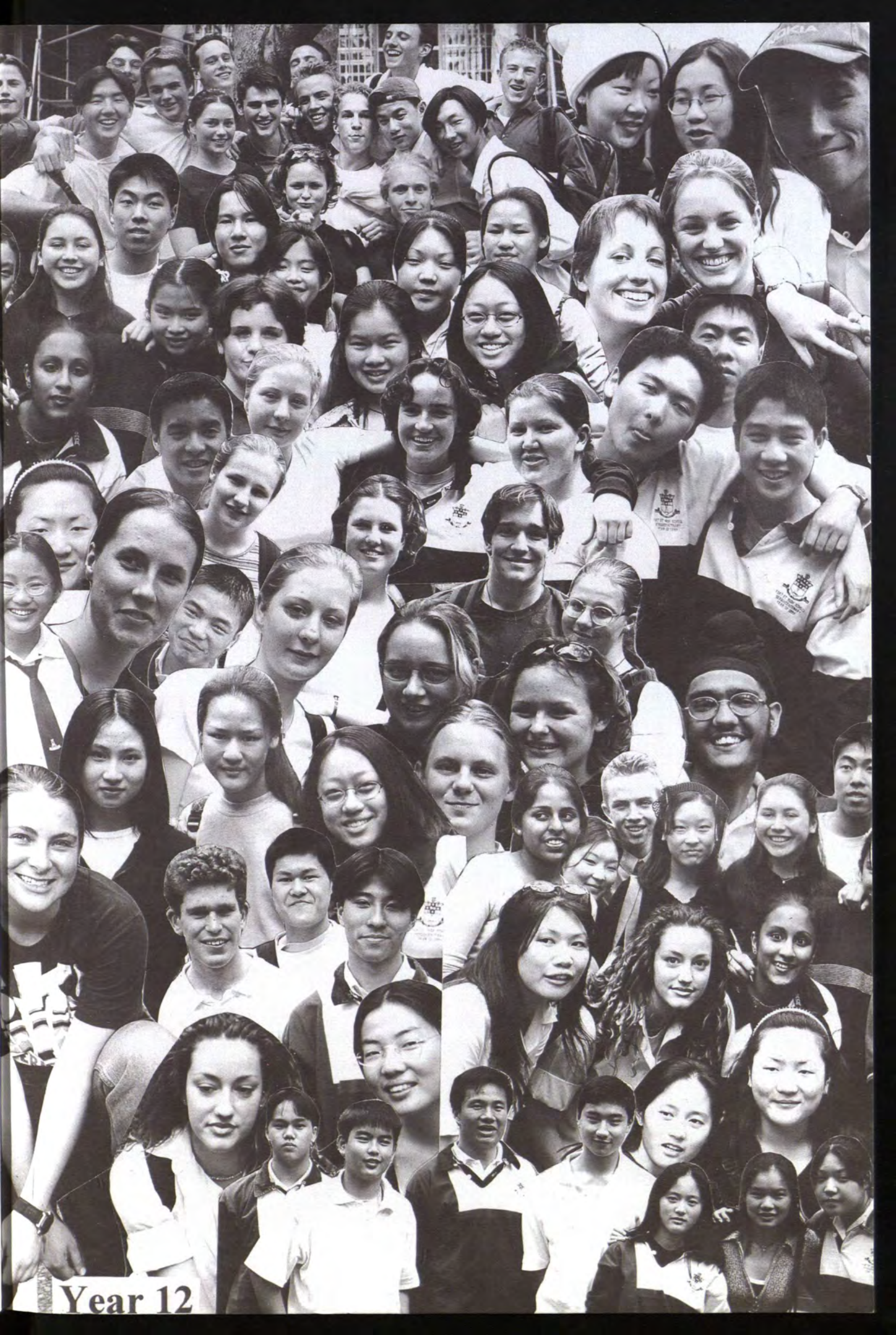
- ROW 4: Kingsley Drew, Andrew Qiu, Jamie Kurlle, Ben Osland, Ken Finis, Nicholas Tan, Jonathan Lee.
- ROW 3: Nicholas Cliff, Jun-Guang Liew, Christopher Jessup, Elwin Cross, Camille Moroney, Douglas Park, Aman Saxena, Kevin Siu.
- ROW 2: Flynn Murphy, Aaron Birks, Kosta Tzioumis, Feiyi Zhang, Ryan Chiu, Daniel Yagoub, Gavin Chan.
- FRONT: Tracey Phan, Mystery Bernal-Deller, Masha Matousovskaia, Clare Russell, Zara Fox, Wendy Lu, Alison Kaye, Monica Runiewicz.



ROW 4: Steson Lo, Meg Farrington, Jake Wallace, Renata Popenhagen, Ling Ti Chen, Tom Elliot, Nirushan Raveendiran.
 ROW 3: Peter Valpiani, Milton Lai, Dan Kiat, Shahrooz Chowdhury, Adrian Ng, David Shen, Leo Boudib, Nikhil Sreeguriraju.
 ROW 2: Akaash Yao, Nick Whitehead, Nicholas Leung, Paul Chan, Karthik Ganesh, William Rossiter, Christopher Cotterill.
 FRONT: Charlene Ko, Amy Nguyen, Alex Darby, Jessica Brewster, Sally Nugent, Jenny Ma, Eve Hood, Sarah Russell.



Adrian Chan, Roland Kiel, Liam Whiting, Luke Owen, Danny Tauv.
 Stuart Rollo, Peter Shi, Tony Lam, Bowie Raffan, Anna McDougall, Diana Herwono, Nicolas Thomsen, Daniel Sullivan.
 William Wallace, Chris Collits, Gregory Lewis, Samuel Thorne, John Yue, Fergus Montgomery, Vukasin Vujasinovic, Andy Fung.
 Dariya Kaing, Aimee Chau, Nadia Vitin, Kristina Erzikov, Sarah Kwok, Reichelle Carson, Lisa Nguyen, Lucy Saunders.



Year 12

