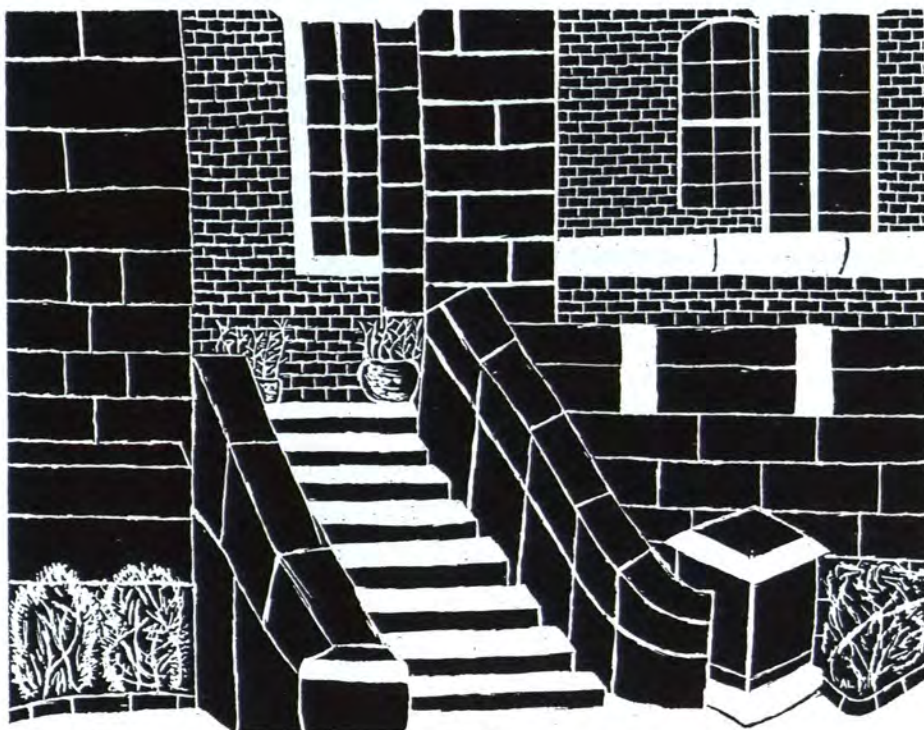




THE FORTIAN 1998



Sarah Hoe Year 8



Artwork by Ava Lam, Year 8

The Fortian

Volume 96, 1998

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This edition of The Fortian was compiled by Ms Jennifer Thornhill, of the Visual Arts faculty, with invaluable help from students Kit Morrell and Sasha Morrell, and advice and help on editing and production from Mr Gordon Hill

1998 Principal's Report

This year has been a challenging one in NSW Government Schools as, once again, we embark on many changes.

The system of assessing and reporting on the achievements of secondary students at the "traditional exit point" of Year Ten and Twelve has once again undergone revision. The School Certificate is now a formal statewide exam in November with students receiving their individual marks in Maths and English, as well as grades awarded in every subject determined by school assessment throughout the entire year. The 1998 Year Ten cohort is the first group to be assessed in this way. For the HSC, major syllabus revision has been taking place all year, for every subject, in order to fit the Government's timeline for the new Higher School Certificate to be introduced in 2001. The significant change is from a "ranking" of student achievement and credentialing, to a standards/criterion based approach where HSC students' performance is measured according to predetermined benchmarks. The implications for schools is quite profound, in terms of programs, assessment processes, staffing and time-tabling. At the same time, the Department of Education is gradually implementing a program of 'standards frame-worked' reporting by which schools are reviewing their reporting processes throughout years 7-12. Fort St has been undergoing this process for the past two years and Years 7 and 8 have already received reports which are "outcomes based", describing what students "know, understand and can do" in each subject rather than relying on a summative numerical score to embody performance.

All these changes take time to assimilate and understand for teachers, parents and students. Major shifts are rarely implemented without a period of unease, often intensified by the amount of work required to bring about the change. I would like to thank the school executive and teaching staff who have worked on syllabus revision and responded to draft syllabuses; worked tirelessly on the committee to debate the new reporting processes, and then shaped and monitored the new models; drafted programs to accommodate syllabus change in Years 7 - 10 and attended inservices to 'train their trainers' in applying the performance descriptors. All this professional development and response to major change has been the backdrop to the "normal" running of the school, including the expected demands of preparing our large group of Year 12 students for the 1998 HSC.

One of the most positive and rewarding aspects of our school year has been the growing dialogue and subsequent awareness of the special needs of our year seven students as they enter Secondary School. The dialogue at Fort St is in line with growing analysis and educational research into the "middle years of schooling", usually described as years 5-8, or ages 10 to 14. Social, cognitive and physical development are areas which seem to compete for attention in this period. Establishing stronger links with our main feeder primary school, Summer Hill, is one key way in which the primary-secondary transition can be given prominence and both schools can see things from "the other side of the divide". Two key projects have been planned for development between the two schools: "Developing Democracy" in the Human Society and Its Environment Key Learning Area, and "The Globe" project in Science. We have

also implemented a program of enrichment activities for Year Seven at the end of the year to provide some experiences which are not currently embodied in core curriculum, such as Home Economics, Drama and recreational activities such as Chess, Judo and Tai-Chi.

Many Fort St students have excelled in 1998 and the school has received considerable kudos for their achievements. While we have come to expect such excellence and high degrees of success in our students' endeavours it is important to acknowledge some of the outstanding achievements in 1998. The organisation and inspiration for the school's TOLERANCE DAY, to promote understanding of indigenous, multicultural and sexual difference came from Rachel Stein-Holmes of Year 11 and the SRC executive. The day was extraordinarily successful and many neighbouring schools came to FSHS to hear about the event. Our students raised the most money for AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL for the second year running and the school's support for this important organisation was consolidated.

Individuals made milestones in the school's history through academic, sporting and cultural events. Tania Lambert of our current Year 12, topped the state in 2unit German in the 1997 HSC; two of our students in Year Seven, David Helstrom and Greg Howe won Young Scientist of the Year Awards' and our drama Students in year 11 hosted the Primary School's Choral Concert at the Opera House (Nicholas Curnow) and the Premier's Awards at the Powerhouse (Zoe Rodwell).

1998 has been a challenging and demanding year for the school, myself included, as I have worked to fill the role of relieving Principal. One never really understands the complexity of another role until one is required to do the job; the "learning curve" for me this year has been very steep. My sincere thanks to the school's executive, teaching and administrative staff, parents and students who have supported me and given constructive advice and feedback. 1998 is certainly a year which will remain in my memory.

Best wishes,

Andrea Connell.



Mr Carroll, Mr Smith, and Ms Connell at Speech Day

The Deputy's Perspective

Mr John Buckingham, Acting Deputy Principal

The good thing about being Deputy is that you get to know about everything that's going on. And at Fort Street just about everything *is* going on. There is never a "normal" day. The teachers' day always begins with them listening to "variations to routine". Some days are just a whirl of activity - excursions, plays, debating, mock trials, visits by drama/music/dance groups, concert and drama rehearsals, sport "knock-outs", tests, exams, assessments.... Then there are work experience, camps, tours, sports carnivals... which take students from their "formal studies" for a longer duration.

Obviously this blur of activity is highly productive and vital in the development of a well adjusted highly intelligent human being. At the same time though, if not managed well, it can place the student under stress. The amount of formal academic work that has to be covered in the curriculum is certainly no less, yet the time available is. While every "variation in routine" is designed to enhance the student's performance in some area, it is costing time in another. Thus the potential for stress.

Any student who succeeds in gaining entry to Fort Street should be able to accommodate all the variations that occur daily in the school; they should be able to take advantage of the extracurricular activities available; they should be able to continue with their outside sporting and cultural pursuits and still succeed academically without undue stress. The secret is in organisation. Fort Street students do not have to deny themselves their favourite TV show, an evening at the movies or an afternoon of sport in order to complete their homework, major assignments and revision. All can be accomplished providing time is managed efficiently.

I mention this as a part of my report because it may be that only the parents and the Deputy can understand how busy an individual student in an environment like Fort Street's may be. With the passage of the years the demands placed upon talented students increase rather than decrease, and that brings me to an extraordinarily busy 1999 - our Sesquicentenary.

The sesquicentenary celebrations in 1999 will play a significant role in the present cohort's memories of school. Visits to the school by Fortians-past indicate to us how those who had the opportunity to take part in Fort Street's Centenary celebrations in 1949 remember that year and its events with particular affection. The present cohort will be given the opportunity to commemorate Fort Street's past glories; to celebrate recent and present achievements; and to provide a future vision for this great school. But the success of the year of celebrations depends upon the *involvement* of the school's present generation. Honouring the school's unparalleled past counts for little if we can't emulate that success now.

The sesquicentenary program demands a vital, energetic contribution from present students. In return, the students studies and their lives generally will be enriched. Let's make those we so admire from the past be just as proud of Fort Street's present. 1999 warrants the efficient management of time to turn it into a special and particularly satisfying experience.



Sesquicentenary 1999

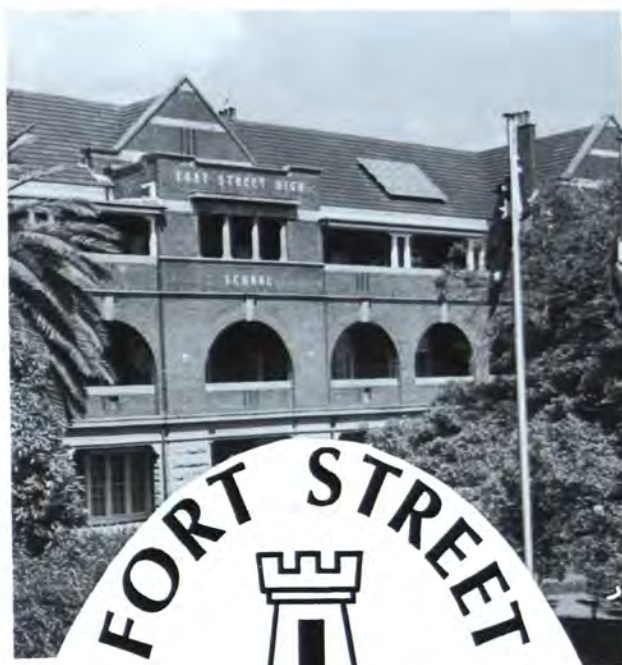
By Marilyn Ireland

The sesquicentenary for Fort Street High School is coming up in 1999. Yes, 'the school on the hill', first observatory Hill and then Taverners Hill, has been providing excellence in education to selected public school students for 150 years.

As a result a Sesquicentenary Committee of the Fortians Union was formed in 1996 and this evolved into the current Sesquicentenary Committee, comprising ex-student, current student, staff and parent representatives, which has been meeting regularly during 1998.

The Committee has planned a series of events for next year, starting with a special Speech Day on March 5; a week of activities at the school in May; and a final Fortians Union dinner in October. An Alumni Register is being compiled through a comprehensive mail-out to ex-students, and we are hoping more Fortians will find out about the events via the famous and extensive network of Fort Street contacts. The activities next year involve visits to the School to allow ex-students to wander the grounds and buildings to re-live their school days and bring back old memories, as well as demonstrating the School's current program of activities through music and drama performances, debates, a mock trial and sporting events.

It should be a wonderful and memorable year for all involved. Fort Street is a special place to teach and learn in, and the celebrations next year are a great opportunity for everyone to join in and enjoy it!



150 years of excellence in education

Speech Day '98

by Mr Terry Glebe, Speech Day co-ordinator

As the Sydney Town Hall clock reached 9.58am the school band under the direction of Mr Phil Harper struck up with 'The Sinfonia' by C. Williams-Clifton as the fanfare. Precisely on the first strike of 10, the band commenced 'Gaudeamus Igitur', those in the body of the hall stood and the official party proceeded down the centre aisle and took their positions on the stage.

At this point the school sang 'Come Let The Strains Resound' at the end of which everyone took their seats and the master of ceremonies, Mr Buckingham, moved to centre stage. So far so good, I thought.

Yes, I felt more anxious than usual on *this* Speech Day ... you see, it was Friday the 13th of March.

But my fears and trepidations were unfounded, as we were soon entertained by none other than Mr Squiggle himself. Our guest speaker was Mr Norman Hetherington AO, class of 1937. For almost 20 minutes Mr Hetherington delighted the audience with anecdotes of his school days and the wondrous world of entertainment. What a treat! You would do well to read his address in this magazine.

From this point, everything rolled on very smoothly. The prize-winners were immaculate, and the musicians and choir performed magnificently. At precisely 12.10pm the national anthem was sung and the official party and staff left the stage to the strains of 'Fort Street's Name Rings Round The World' Mr Hetherington spent a large part of his morning-tea time signing autographs and drawing Mr Squiggle sketches. What a marvellous day this had been.

My thanks to all staff members who helped make another great day for Fort Street High. It is indeed a team effort.

Norman Hetherington, alias Mr Squiggle, autographs the Speech Day program for a delighted student



Speech Day – Mr. Don Newby Fortians Union & Mr. Terry Glebe History Faculty enjoy a quiet cuppa.





Fort St Annual Speech Day 1998: Mr John Buckingham as MC, Mr George Ellis conducts the IMP Orchestra, Mr Lee Carroll delivers the Principal's Address, Mr Phillip Harper conducts the Band, Mr John Suffolk leads the Vocal Ensemble, Mr John Buckingham and Ms Andrea Connell present the Bruce Leonard Memorial Keyboard

Mr Squiggle stars at Speech Day

Guest speaker at the 1997 Speech Day at Sydney Town Hall was a 1938 Fortian, Norman Hetherington, better known to countless thousands of youngsters as television's Mr Squiggle. Here's what he told today's students

It is a great honour to be the speaker at the Fort Street Speech Day. You have had many eminent Fortians as speakers, but today a complete change: the *alter ego* of Mr Squiggle.

When I was a student at the school, I had but one ambition: to be a cartoonist. Everyone else in the class, probably in the school, had 'proper' fort street aspirations, but I wanted to be a cartoonist. Of course, I didn't dare tell anyone. Art and music didn't exist then, and as for cartooning ... unheard of! Completely!

However, instead of going off to university, I sat for entrance to Art School. I still clearly recall Fort Street headmaster's reaction. He stood on the verandah outside his office with the note I had given him and said sternly: "This art ... it's not going to interfere with your studies, is it?" I replied: "Oh no ... no, sir ... NO!"

And so to art school - and what a change. The girls outnumbered the boys nine to one. Oh yes, art school was fun!

After art school came a short stint in advertising. One exciting job I remember was painting thick white paint over photographs of bedsheets hanging on clothes lines. When these photos were reproduced in newspapers they would show without a doubt that *this* soap powder made clothes whiter than *that* soap powder. That's what is known as Truth In Advertising.

Then came 1939 and the start of the Second World War. Like many thousands of others, including Fortians, I joined the Army. After initial training I was drafted into the Army Entertainment Unit. (It's always good to be lucky.) We had singers, dancers, jugglers, actors and acrobats, musicians - and soon I was performing on stage as a lightning sketch artist, drawing caricatures of people in the audience. I must have drawn hundreds, thousands, of brigadiers, generals, colonels, majors, captains ... and the cooks and the men who dug the latrines.

We travelled about, performing wherever Allied troops were stationed, all over the south-west Pacific area. We not only performed, we put up the stage and took it down again, and sometimes looked up towards the hills surrounding us and wondered how many of the enemy were up there enjoying the show.

Eventually, after five long years, it was peace again at last. From art school days and throughout the war years I had been freelancing for the Bulletin newspaper, and when I left the Army they offered me a job as staff cartoonist. I couldn't believe it! They very job I had wanted, way back in school days. So when other people went into nice safe and sensible jobs, I became a cartoonist.

And this is probably the time to say what is the most important thing I have to say today: never be afraid of change, nor of doing something different. It can be exciting and it can be fun.

The Bulletin in those days was quite different to today's slick magazine. It called itself the Bushman's bible and prided itself on featuring the best in Australian writing and poetry and black and white art. I couldn't believe my luck.

Working for the Bulletin gave me a lot of free time, and I became interested in what were in effect three-dimensional animated cartoons, controlled by strings: marionettes. I had discovered a wonderful new world of imagination. And in 1959 this led to another great change in my life: Mr Squiggle was born.

At first he was just a vague idea on a drawing board, an experiment to combine cartooning with poetry. To everyone's surprise, it worked, and Mr Squiggle was an instant success.

His specialty, as you know, is drawing squiggles which come in from children of all ages from all over Australia. And the great thing about a squiggle is that it's never quite what it seems.

You see, even the Fort Street symbol, with a line here and a line there and a little imagination, can become ... something completely different.



The lucky dog who went to Fort Street, where he gained a bump of knowledge. Then he went on to university (as expected of all good Fortians) and graduated after doggedly boning up on the history of doggerel.

Then, with a "Hurry up!" from Blackboard, it's back to the Moon. Mr Squiggle, living on the Moon (at 93 Crater Crescent) and travelling down to Earth and back by Rocket so often, was Australia's first astronaut, and has clocked up more inter-planetary mileage (he is very old-fashioned) than all the US and Russian astronauts combined. This, no doubt, is why he has been honoured at two science fiction conventions.

Mr Squiggle has always been happy with his scripts. From day one on July 1, 1959, they have been written by my wife Margaret. She is extremely talented in spite of the handicap of not having attended Fort Street. But we can't all be lucky.

Mr Squiggle has lived through almost the whole history of television in this country. From the exciting formative years of a new medium he has seen the development from black and white to colour and now to robot cameras and computerisation. At 39 years Mr Squiggle is the longest-running character on Australian TV. It's been a wonderful experience in what is usually a very transient industry.

I'm immensely grateful to my parents who sent me to Fort Street but then never ever tried to deter me from changing direction and turning to art as a career. There are obvious constraints and expectations when you attend a school of high academic reputation and achievement such as Fort Street, but you should always be flexible and open to new ideas, and to new ideas of what is a career. It is even more important for your generation than it was for mine.

If you can earn a living doing what you really enjoy, then you are tremendously fortunate, as I have been. I hope you too are fortunate enough to be encouraged and be allowed to do what you really want to do. Finally, I think it was Einstein who said: 'Imagination is more important than information'. I couldn't have put it better myself.

PRIZE WINNERS 1997

Yr.11 Prizewinners



Kit Morrell



Tania Lambert

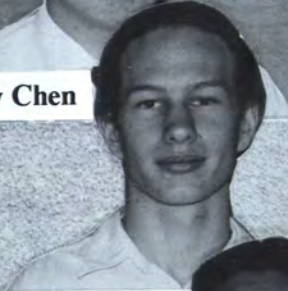
Claudine Lyons

Skandar Jayaratham



Anna Valpiani

Ricky Chen



Owen Macindoe



David Holbeche

Nguyen Pham

Darren Ma



Minh Phan



Grace Brown



Andrew Tang



Huy Pham



Emma Brockway

Quang Nguyen



Roger Haddad



Anna McIlwaine



Jonathan Wang

Justin Tsuei

Robert Lawther



Mei Lian Barry



Cecilia Ng



Tamara Pearson



Nancy Jiang

Yr. 9 Prizewinners



Tyron Wong



Arwen Cross



Leanne Chen



Thu-Ha Nguyen



Leo Sek

Yr.8 Prizewinners



Michelle Wood



Duc Ho



Stephanie Low

PRIZE WINNERS 1997

Yr.7 Prizewinners



Janet An

Ava Lam

Julianna Dang

Sheryl Soo

George Ng

Antonia Fong

David Helstroom

Chris Bui

Adrian Mak

Sarah Ho

Nikki Peng

David Collits

SPECIAL AWARDS

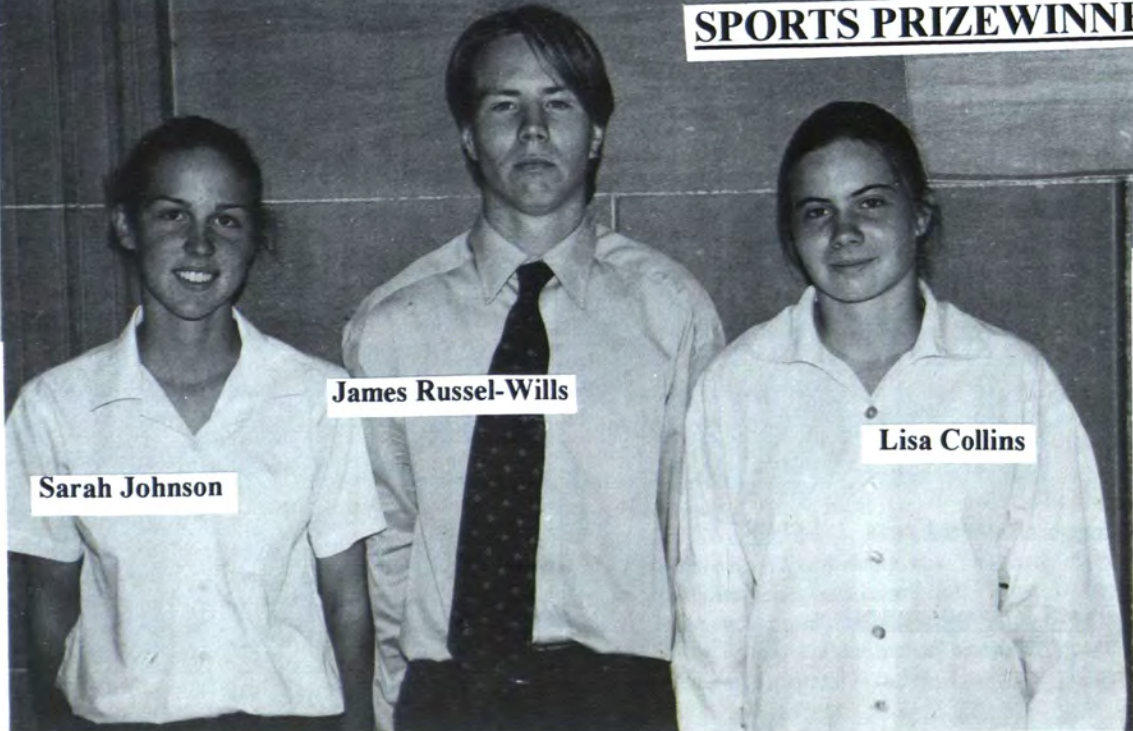


Luke Manderson

Rachel Stein-Holmes

Hugh O'Neill

SPORTS PRIZEWINNERS



Sarah Johnson

James Russel-Wills

Lisa Collins

1997 — YEAR 12

1. **PRISCILLA WONG** The Ada Partridge Prize for Dux; The Constance Frith Memorial Prize for the Best Student proceeding to the University of NSW; The John Hunter Prize for the Best Student entering the Faculty of Medicine; The Annie Turner Prize for English and History; The James Baxendale Prize for English (2 Unit); The Denis Austen Prize for Mathematics (4 Unit); The Dr Bradfield Prize for Physics; The Harold R. Jones Memorial Prize for Modern History (2 Unit).
2. **NED MOLESWORTH** The A. J. Kilgour Memorial Prize for Proficiency (2nd); The Francis Killeen Memorial Prize for the Best Student proceeding to the University of Sydney; The Kilpatrick Memorial Prize for The Best Student entering The Faculty of Economics at Sydney University; The Sir Bertram Stevens Prize for Economics (3 Unit); The Prize for Science (3 Unit) (4th in The State).
3. **NATHAN GEE** The Fanny Cohen Prize for 3rd in The HSC; The 1925-29 Girls' Prize for The Best Student entering the Faculty of Law; The Prize for Science (4 Unit); The Prize for Economics (2 Unit).
4. **ANNIE LIAO** The Laurence Goddard Prize for The Best Student Studying Mathematics at University.
5. **PETER VON KONIGSMARK** The John Hopman Prize for the Best Student studying Engineering at University.
6. **DAVID LE** The Ron Smith Memorial Prize for The Best Student entering The Faculty of Dentistry.
7. **JESSAMIN CLISSOLD** The Charles Harrison Memorial Prize for English (3 Unit); The Thomas Cooke Memorial Prize for General Studies.
8. **BRIDIE RUSHTON** The Michael Kirby Prize for Legal Studies (3 Unit); The Prize for Geography (2 Unit).
9. **DAVID BISHOP** The Gail Salmon Memorial Prize for Japanese (2 Unit); The Fortian Prize for Outstanding Achievement in HSC Computing Studies (5th in The State).
10. **VYTHEHI ELANGO** The Herbert Percival Williams Memorial Prize for The HSC Question on Shakespeare.
11. **DANIEL IWATA** The Anne Weston Memorial Prize for Mathematics (3 Unit).
12. **ASHWIN LOBO** The Alma Puxley Prize for Chemistry.
13. **WILLIAM SHUI** The Dr. William Gailey Prize for Biology.
14. **KATE MATARESE** The Emily Cruise Prize for Modern History (3 Unit).
15. **KATIE BIRD** The Evelyn McEwan Rowe Prize for Ancient History (3 Unit).
16. **LISA WONG** The Joseph Taylor Memorial Prize for Geography (3 Unit).
17. **ANDREW MONK** The Frederick Bridges Memorial Prize for French (3 Unit).
18. **SARAH TRAN** The Ron Horan Prize for German (3 Unit).
19. **SHIYO HAYASHI** The Hermann Black Memorial Prize for Japanese (3 Unit) (8th in The State).
20. **JULIETTE RA** The Olga Sangwell Prize for Music (3 Unit).
21. **NICHOLAS WHITING** The Institution of Engineers, Sydney Division, Prize for Engineering Science (2 Unit).
22. **TANIA LAMBERT** The Prize for German (2 Unit) (1st in The State)
23. **STEPHEN GRAHAM** The Prize for Computing Studies (2 Unit) (3rd in The State).
24. **KATE MICHIE** The Prize for Mathematics (2 Unit).
25. **THOMAS BRANDON** The Prize for Computing Studies (3 Unit).
26. **SYTHANY LEANG** The Prize for Ancient History (2 Unit).
27. **NOY SAIRLAO** The Prize for Legal Studies (2 Unit).

28. **FLEUR BEAUPERT** The Prize for French (2 Unit).
29. **CECELIA HUYNH** The Prize for Visual Arts (3 Unit).
30. **TESSA BOER-MAH** The Prize for Visual Arts (2 Unit).
31. **MIKEELA HUDSON** The Prize for English (2 Unit General).

1997 — SPECIAL AWARDS

1. **KEYNA WILKINS** The Rona Sanford Pepper Prize for Service.
2. **BRIDIE RUSHTON** The Charles Christmas Prize for Scholarship and Service.
3. **NED MOLESWORTH** The Old Boys Union Prize for Scholarship and Service; The Ampol Best All Rounder Prize.
4. **CLAUDINE LYONS** The John Hills Memorial Prize for Leadership and Service.
5. **LUKE MANDERSON** The Major Isador Sender Memorial Prize for Service.
6. **RACHEL STEIN-HOLMES** The Ladies Committee Prize for School Service.
7. **HUGH O'NEILL** The Elizabeth Cayzer Prize for the President of the S.R.C.
8. **THOMAS MOLITERNO** The Elsie Ferguson Prize for Consistent Service to the S.R.C.
9. **CLAUDIA MILLS** The Girls of 1964-1969 Prize for Commitment to the School Community.
10. **SALVATORE BARBAGALLO** The Boys of 1950-1954 Prize for Commitment to the School Community.
11. **MAYET COSTELLO** The Year 12 1976 Prize for The Best All Round Contribution to the School.
12. **KATHRYN RAE** The Reuben F Scarf Prize for Commitment.
13. **ALEXANDRA PEARL** The Young Achievement Australia, Business Skills Program Prize.
14. **ANNA McILWAINE** The Principal's Prize for the Most Outstanding Individual Achievement of the Year.
15. **ALEXANDRA ROBERTS** The Raymond and Frank Evatt Memorial Prize for Australian History.
16. **SAM BOWRING** The Phillip, David and Robert Lindsay Prize for Debating.
17. **SASCHA MORRELL** The Kath O'Shanassy Prize for Writing in Any Category.
18. **CLARE BRITTON** The Fortian Prize for the Best Individual Performance in the Performing Arts.
19. **ALEX GRAY** The Liberty Jools Prize for Originality in the Arts.
20. **JULIETTE RA** The Raymond Sly Memorial Prize for Music.
21. **JAMIE CAMERON** The David Anthony Prize for Contribution to Music.
22. **ANDREW CRAM** The Instrumental Music Programme Prize.
23. **LAILA ENGLE** The IMP Prize for Contribution to Music.
24. **CECILIA HUYNH** The Bruce Leonard Memorial Prize for Music.
25. **LUKE ISMAY** Fortian Prize for School Service.
26. **WENDY MORRISON** Fortian Prize for School Service.
27. **JAMES FINDLAY** Fortian Prize for School Service.
28. **REBECCA EDWARDS** Fortian Prize for School Service.
29. **RENATA MURRU** The June Anthony Prize for Contribution to Music.
30. **JESSAMIN CLISSOLD** The John Patterson Memorial Prize for Literary Criticism.

1997 SPORTS PRIZES

1. **LISA COLLINS** The Jan Stephenson Prize for Senior Sports-woman; The Most Outstanding Girl in Cross Country.
2. **JAMES RUSSELL-WILLS** The Johnson Memorial Prize for Senior Sportsman.
3. **SARAH JOHNSON** The Jan Stephenson Prize for Junior Sportswoman.
4. **LIAM TONG** The Johnson Memorial Prize for Junior Sportsman.
5. **ANNA McILWAINE** The Sports Pit Prize for Outstanding Achievement in any One Sport - Diving.
6. **JAMES THAI** The Fort Street Rugby Club Prize for Junior Rugby Player of the Year.
7. **KATE BRENNAN** The Most Outstanding Girl in Swimming.
8. **CHRIS HAYES** The Most Outstanding Boy in Swimming.
9. **AVA LAM** The Most Outstanding Girl in Athletics.
10. **BEN SMITH** The Most Outstanding Boy in Athletics.
11. **MICHELLE SUMMERVILLE** The Fortian Prize for Achievement in Sport.

A good school even better

Geoff Vitlin, 1998 P&C President,
looks back over the year

The Parents and Citizens' Association exists to help the school provide the best possible learning environment for students. In 1998 there has again been a good core of support for the P&C, as shown by attendances at meetings and functions. Nevertheless, there is a need for even more parents to be regularly involved in the work of the P&C, to make a good school even better.

Through the P&C, parents can become involved in various aspects of their children's education and well-being at school: from canteen and fund-raising to decision-making on management and 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 were reviewed during the year. There are five major areas in which the P&C contributes to the school.

Support for public education: The P&C was represented at the Federation of P&C's annual conference, and supported the meeting held on June 17, 1998 to protest the changes in Federal funding to the States for public schools.

Community awareness: We have, again, assisted the school by providing speakers and representatives at information nights and presentations. A new Community Relations sub-committee, incorporating the gender equity subcommittee, with staff representatives, has conducted a survey of parent, staff and student attitudes and issues; this is now being analysed.

Involvement of parents: The P&C meetings, held each month during school terms, are a major source of information and communication between parents and teachers. If you want to hear of or raise issues, or meet other parents and share experiences, 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 Marrickville Police area liaison officer spoke to the P&C about drugs in the area; it was pleasing to note that Fort Street was not a school where drugs were a problem.

Involvement of 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. There have been presentations by teachers and discussions at P&C on matters such as the computer policy, banding in maths, the science curriculum and PD/PE.

The Parent-Teacher Night Committee worked with school staff to provide improvements in the running of these nights this year.

Support for the School: The P&C has supported the Principal's request to the Department of Education and Training for maintenance to the school premises in time for our Sesquicentenary year, 1999. The P&C has provided funds for the covered shade area near the canteen and for blinds in the hall. The canteen manager, Lesley Dare, her team and canteen committee have run the canteen well to provide a nutritious menu and return a modest profit which goes to the benefit of our children. The P&C is represented on the school's Buildings and Grounds Committee, which has organised a number of working bees and improve-ments, though there's still much work to be done.

The Instrumental Music Program continues to be 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 most successful wine tasting. The P&C has promised significant funding support for the Sesquicentenary week to be held in May 1999.

There are probably two issues which will consume most of the P&C's time next year, being the Sesquicentenary and the school's physical environment. These will require added resourcing and funding, and we look forward to the extra involvement of parents. For 1998, 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, from support of fundraising efforts to attending meetings and participation in subcommittees.

Adding to the Archives

by Archives officer Terry Glebe

This year, perhaps more than any other, has seen Fortians of past years parting with memorabilia of their school days. A large part of this, I'm sure, is because of the proximity of the school's Sesquicentenary in 1999.

Mr Ron Horan's quest continues for information about Fortian war veterans so that in 1999 the school's Service Register and the Memorial honour Boards may be completed in conjunction with the Sesqui celebrations. The amount of information and variations to information already in possession of the school which Mr Horan has documented in 1998 is fascinating, but we would like more so that the school's records may be as complete as possible. Please forward any such information to me at the school.

The Fortians Union is a never-ending source of information. Mrs Olive Coutts, Fortian 1949, in particular continues to provide up-to-date information, while the President, George Jaksic, and his committee focus on the school's traditions and the way ahead. George and his committee are deeply committed to the Sesquicentenary and the relevance of archival material marking 150 years of the school's history. You would do well to inspect the display cabinet in the Principal's vestibule. Mr Horan has put together a fascinating display of memorabilia relating to the school's centenary celebrations in 1949.

1998 has been a very successful year for the school's archives. One can only guess at what will turn up in 1999.

Back then ...

As the Fort Street Sesquicentenary year comes around, thoughts often turn to what the school was like in past years. One fascinating source of glimpses of 'back then' are issues of The Fortian of yesteryear. Here are some snippets from back issues.

Back then ...

'A new fence along the front of the grounds is being erected. This is a much more ornate structure than the 'old fence' that has been for so long the subject of so much satire and abuse.'
From The Fortian, May 1925. Whatever happened to that 'ornate structure'?

Filling small vessels with wisdom

A glimpse of Fort Street 50 years ago,
by Dr Alan Beard, a Fortian of '49



Kyo - Soung Choi Yr.8 VA

Back then ...

'Much progress is being made in the study of French. It is rather interesting to note the facial contortions in mastering phonetics.' From *The Fortian*, April 1915

Back then ...

'Fort Street is still batting, still not out after 97 years of great achievement in every field of human endeavour. We cannot reach our hundred, like a batsman, with one superb stroke, but must come to it singly and steadily.'
From *The Fortian*, December 1945

Back then ...

Snippets from a 1949 Fortian report on a 'father and son' evening: *'John Black proposed the toast to the fathers, stressing how we should respect our fathers, and giving an interesting account of a child's first impressions of 'dad'. Mr Edwards explained that the P&C was doing its best to have the playground levelled off. We were also entertained by Mr Ashcroft who sang several hillbilly numbers.'*

What can a Fortian from 1949 say to the Fortians of today? Maybe G'day, and leave it at that would be wisest. While much about today's school is similar, a lot has changed. In our day, students were seen as small vessels to be filled with wisdom by large vessels, the teachers. While we had to accept this to succeed, even then we were irreverent enough to doubt the wisdom at times and to add a degree of difficulty to the pouring.

The Library then was the large room above the Principal's office. Maybe some students used it for reference or study, but for the most part I think we used a textbook and notes supplied by teachers. My Economics lessons consisted of copying notes into my exercise book either from the board or as dictated by the teacher, which I then learnt verbatim. At exams, the trick was to regurgitate the correct sections in response to questions, a feat not achieved by all students.

I am most impressed to visit the current Library and note the extent of obvious research and student-directed learning going on. Progress in this is spectacular.

Fifty years ago sport was a major motivation in our lives. Good sportsmen spent a lot of each Wednesday on public transport going to play against the six other boys' high schools in Sydney. Anyone concerned for the academic progress of students may question the amount of time this took away from studies, but the Thursday morning assembly left no doubt that the success of Fort Street depended as much as anything on results from the playing fields.

1949 was a great time to be in our final year. The school centenary created a lot of interest, with a dinner and ball at the boys' school at Petersham, and a Garden Party and Grand Pageant at the girls' school at Observatory Hill. Preparations for the ball had begun two years before with dancing lessons by John Butt, father of one of the boys and founder of a dancing school of some significance in Sydney. "Slow, slow, quick, quick, slow" will be meaningful to the hopefuls who learned the quickstep after school.

Friday night dances helped in the process of civilising boys for the ball, and the girls from Observatory Hill were invited. The girls' Principal, Miss Fanny Cohen, forbade fraternisation; I believe some girls came anyway. Those of us who attended the Garden Party and Pageant were most impressed.

In later years, the boys of '49 began meeting annually in 1995 with the idea of getting involved in the 1999 Sesquicentenary celebrations. In 1998 their meeting included some of the 1949 girls who have been meeting every year for at least 10 years. The boys wanted to do something special for the current and future students, so The Fort Street Foundation was set up. All Fortians are invited to join for an annual fee of \$100; proceeds support the school - the initial funds have paid for the new photography laboratory.

Our days at Fort Street 50 years ago have left us with a social conscience which we hope the school still inspires in its students. Australian society can only retain the best aspects of egalitarianism if some of us help it to happen. I like to think that is why we are trying to help the school do its job, half a century down the track.



Vesna Trobec - Year 7

Like Being Stabbed Repeatedly

Tamara Pearson,

Like being stabbed repeatedly
Sharp pen deftly piercing skull
Strength from either side
Pulling and stretching
Tearing my flesh
Clotting my brain
Weaving the uncontrollable mesh
My life, my looks
My bucket, my thumb
One giant force field
Vulnerable to anyone.

Taunting, demented, a hair of wine
Brushing past us, chilling
Eating that skin of mine
Grasping my heart
And not letting go
Twisting it apart
With fingers so slow
A chuckle of glee
A boast of success
A little smirk
You won't confess
I try to run
I try to hide
All the doors are closed
I try... I've tried
Every hope a cold one
Every touch made of skin
That is only surface
And won't let me in.

No end to the ache
Of the watery blood
That runs endlessly down
Creating a flood
A flood of tears
That will not come
That bind me here
Till peace, and you do run.



William Wong, Year 7

Shadows of Thoughts

Jacqueline Parker, Year Eight

Take me far away to a place where
Everything is forgotten and the cares
And burdens of life never existed
Take me, take me please
I'm waiting to go

Show me that misty place of white
Where nothing matters and everything is
Forgotten
And life has no more meaning
But for life.

Where there is no hunter and no disease-
What is war? What is Peace?
I know only of the present.

Where I am safe and nothing will
Happen and all has passed and been forgotten
Could I have remembered anything?
Did anything happen?
Or have I just existed here for the
Present, for eternity?
Does eternity even exist?
Does anything exist?
Does anyone know?
Does anyone care?
Not I.
Why ponder on the future?
I know only of the present.

Friend's and enemy's names slip past
Like the wind through my hair...
Did I even have any?
Do they even exist?
Does anyone care?
Not I.

Am I made up myself?
Am I as transparent and empty as this
Breeze that rushes up to greet me,
Only to dart away again?
Dart away again...
Did it even do that once?
Or am I just hallucinating?
What's hallucinating?

And traces of music skip around my ears
Or is it through my mind
Music of now,
To be forgotten.

Wind brushes past my face
In a whirl like something else I might
Have once known.
People, I think. Or did I just make them up?
Something harsh, something twisted,
Something cruel, something crazy,
Something lost in confusion and hustle
And hurry on like a leaf on the wind...
Something on the run
But I am not on the run.

Memory is just something to be
Forgotten,
To be lost as it slips away to another
Place.
Did I have one to begin with?

And what was it for?

What's present?
Suspended time.
What's time?
Past, present, future.
Then I know only of the present.
For I know neither past nor future.

And I don't even wonder why I came here,
Or if I came at all.
For I know only of the present.

The Fight

Harriet Johnson, Year Seven

A fight is like thunder
Thunder in my head
Gushing out emotions
Then there's the dread

Maybe you've been rash
Maybe you're just wrong
When so-called friends take sides
And the others got the throng

In your undecided state
Thoughts riddle up your mind
Of whether- when you look-
Friends you still will find

School will never
Let it heal the wounds
Others always choose
The one who'll be marooned

Time takes its cause
You swallow pride
You meet your friend
To whom you confide

You tell of all the
Panic, shame regret
Of isolation bitter
Pain of seeing them upset

You realise that you quite enjoyed
This game of pain and sorrow
So you decide
'let's do it again tomorrow!'



Robin Wilkins, Year 7

Fantasies and foibles

Mr Grecki has been year adviser to the '98 Year 12s throughout their years at Fort Street, so there's very little he doesn't know of their fantasies and foibles. Here's part of his speech at the Year 12 farewell.

This is supposed to be one of the happiest moments of these six years at high school. I know I'll be celebrating tonight. You think you've had it tough since you were in Year 7 in 1993; I know back then I tried to make it tough. Whenever you did something wrong, I thought: "How can I put the fear of God into these children?" The answer: ring the parents on a Friday night and it's sure to ruin their entire weekend!

But you guys got back at me. You didn't know it, but you did. You see, every time you got into trouble, so did I. In year 7, or 8, or 12, it was ME who copped flak from 60 other members of staff for YOUR transgressions. "Your Year 8 did this; what are you going to do about it?" Or, "Can't you persuade Rhiannon to get rid of her tongue stud and replace it with a Fortian badge?" And, "Can't you get Tania to wear jeans? The Year 9 boys are going wild." It was always *What are you going to do about it, Grecki?* My standard reply: "Don't worry, they'll settle down as soon as their coffee shop opens."

Let's go back to 1993, and that first meeting in the hall when I addressed you and your parents. Pippa was in school uniform and Brendan McCready was a bit of a roly-poly. Don't worry, Brendan, I too used to be calorie-challenged.

Outside the hall a mother asked: "Please look after my little boy. He's so special. He's shy and very vulnerable." I replied: "Don't worry, Mrs N, Travis will cope. Anyone whose middle name is Sunset is sure to be a winner." Far from being a shy and retiring student, Travis quickly showed himself to be supremely confident. One day I asked Travis what he had done during the holidays. He and Steve (you remember Steve: a genius before his time) had gone surfing on the South Coast. I said: "But it's the middle of winter, Travis; didn't you freeze?" "No," he said, "With wetsuits there's no problem. And if you pee inside your wetsuit, it feels so warm as it runs down your legs."

That same year I got a phone call from a parent: "Mr Grecki, I'm so worried about my son. I took him shopping the other day and when I refused to buy him a pair of Nike shoes for \$160 he chucked a tantrum in the shop. It was so embarrassing; everyone was looking and wondering what sort of mother I was." I said: "Mrs K, whenever he acts like this, just beat it out of him. Because if you don't, he could end up as a Valley child." Well, he didn't end up in the Valley; he preferred playing on the railway tracks with Yadhaev. Yadhaev has come a long way since the days when he used to truant by going off and playing golf with Coleman.

Another time a parent rang: "Mr Grecki, I found in my son's schoolbag some dirty magazines. Why would he be taking such things to school?" I replied: "Mrs K, you must understand that students have to rely on pictures when they can't read. And I can assure you that by the time he reaches Year 12 he will have grown out of this obsession he has with naked bodies. But you know what? Just maybe if you had let him buy those Nike shoes he wouldn't have had enough money to buy the dirty magazines!"

In 1995 I took a group of students to New Caledonia. Many of them are now in Year 12. I'd like to reflect on two incidents from that trip.

One evening Ms Trevini and I were sipping cafe lattes on the hotel terrace when a taxi pulls up and out fall Pippa and Jasmine. No, not what you think: Pippa simply tripped on her own ego,

while Jasmine kept screaming: "Rhiannon pushed me! Rhiannon pushed me!"

We took an overnight cruise on a luxury liner to an island. Everyone tried to play cupid, to be matchmaker. Lisa and Chris were destined to be thrust together on this trip; everyone knew it, except them. When it got late, we declared curfew and sent everyone back to their cabins. Little Robert Trinh said: But Mr Grecki, Lisa and Chris are still on the top deck." Mr Grecki said: "This is a titanic moment; I'll give them another half hour." Five minutes later Lisa appeared and said: "Chris is asleep and I can't wake him up." Dear me, where is Celine Dion when you need her? The interesting thing about this story is that whenever I sent a progress report around on Chris Hayes, the comments are always the same: Seems always to be asleep.

In 1997 we had what I call our Summer Clearance sale, when we got rid of some old stock and replaced it with new. And what a bonus for the school! Mr Sartorial Elegance Dac Nguyen; Miss Have-A-Good-Time Rhiannon McHutchison; Mr Hair-Everywhere Adrian Fung; Miss I-Can't-Read-A-Clock Wen Nian; Mr Tell Me What's In The Economics Exam Jonathan Phan; Mr Enjoy Gently John Pappasoulis – who took over the title from Darren Ma.

I shouldn't mention Year 12 Cake Day. Except to say it could have been worse. If you'd had Slave Day, imagine how much money you would have lost then!

In 1997 I introduced the weekly Newsletter. At first it was designed simply as a means of passing on relevant information. Then it turned into a bit of a monster: it became a gossip column and a lollipop magnet. The strange thing about this newsletter is that many students have collected every copy; but ask these students to show you their CV and they can't. What sort of student is it who doesn't keep a record of his academic achievements but who meticulously files away every issue of a stupid newsletter? Nick, tell us!

There are lots of students I haven't mentioned in this speech: the academic high-fliers, the talented sports men and women; the gifted musicians. I haven't mentioned you simply because you will be suitably recognised by your peers when Claudine and Pippa give their speech. To you, I say: Well done, and be proud of your achievements.

Nor have I mentioned those many students whose genuine friendship gave me the strength to continue what is a difficult and time-consuming job. Those students who said "Hi" each morning, or who smiled as they passed, or who stopped for a chat.

I also didn't mention those students for whom a football has been a constant companion over these six years. In spite of the many jokes thrown around the place about these jocks, I have found them to be forthright in opinions and sincere in feelings. At the end of Year 10 I even advised one of them to quit Fort Street; I am so pleased he did not take my advice.

A week from now most of you will still be feeling euphorious because you will have finally cast off what you see as the shackles of a tyrannical institution. But in five or 10 years, when someone asks where you went to school, you will answer with pride: Fort Street High. Because, whether at this moment you like it or not, you are Fortians. And at tonight's graduation ceremony you are being invested with the badge that marks you for life as a Fortian. You'll probably bury it in a drawer for some years. Then one day, you'll find it again, and you will know and understand then what it means to be a part of the Fortian heritage. You probably won't remember the name of your year adviser, but you will never forget the name of your school.

As far as the HSC goes, I wish you all the very best. Some of you will be more successful than others. Just remember, successful Fortians from the past were not all academically gifted. And the HSC is but a small stepping stone to whatever future you choose for yourself.

Year Twelve Graduation Speech

James Findlay, Year Twelve

Tonight is a night for ends and beginnings. I remember well my first day at Fort St. Walking into the Fountain Quad and being greeted by so many unfamiliar faces. It felt like kindergarten again... the year sevens all quarantined in this small area until they gathered the courage to venture out into the dangers of the playground. Now we are the dangers of the playground.

For ends... tonight brings our Fort St school days to a close... what a relief... what a tragedy. How are we all feeling tonight? Excited, sad, confused— isn't it simply amazing that we've made it this far!

One of my teachers passed comment to me that like an AFL match, we have completed the first three quarters and only the final one is left. This is the part of the game that will make or break us. It is where we are at our most vulnerable. Where we must make very point count and where we just want the whole thing to be over.

Yet in reflection, what can be said for the class of 98? Should I be truthful here, or is poetic license needed? What have we done for our school? What makes us different from all the other years that have passed on before us? This puzzled me for such a long time that I realised there isn't really an answer. The year 98 has been the same as any other year in Fort St High. And yet there has never been and never will be a year quite like us. We are in one of the best state schools in NSW, with the best teachers and I guess that makes us... some of the best students?

The truth is we have all worked hard to get where we are now. It isn't easy, growing up in general with the social, parental and physical stress of being a changing teenager, let alone going through 6 years of high school.

Now the HSC is ahead, and we are only a few exams away from the future. And truth is that most of us don't really know what that future will be. But we know one thing... and that is that Fort ST have us the right start to make it a future with promises choices and friends. There is no UAI for Friendship, and friends are more important in life than the greatest success in the HSC.

The school in itself has been a friend in which we have all forged alliances. And although we will most probably keep one or two special people for the long run, the fact is that none of us will forget our first high school camp, kiss, loves and losses and this means that these years have been some of the best we will have. but only some.

Where will we be in ten years time? We are Fortians now and will be Fortians then— the teachers may still be slogging away at the blackboards. Speaking of our teachers, most of whom have become friends, we must give a big thank you to all of them. Most importantly our spiritual guru Mr Grecki, who over the last few years has become less of a tyrant and more of a comrade. he is the one person who has witnessed all of our successes and mishaps with a grin both ways. He has campaigned on our side for many issues and we hope he will miss us as much as we will miss him.

To all of the other teachers... no matter how much we have either declared our love or out hatred for you at different times of our schooling careers, the feeling of respect is universal. Your job requires something special and you will not be forgotten.

To Miss Connell, whose campaigning for political correctness and social decency must be commended. She has known this grade better than any other principle in this school, we must give our deepest thanks. She has been a strong influence in developing the dramatic and musical side

of this school and this is a hard task in itself on top of the every day hassles of being in charge. She has been a worthy friend and adversary, thank you.

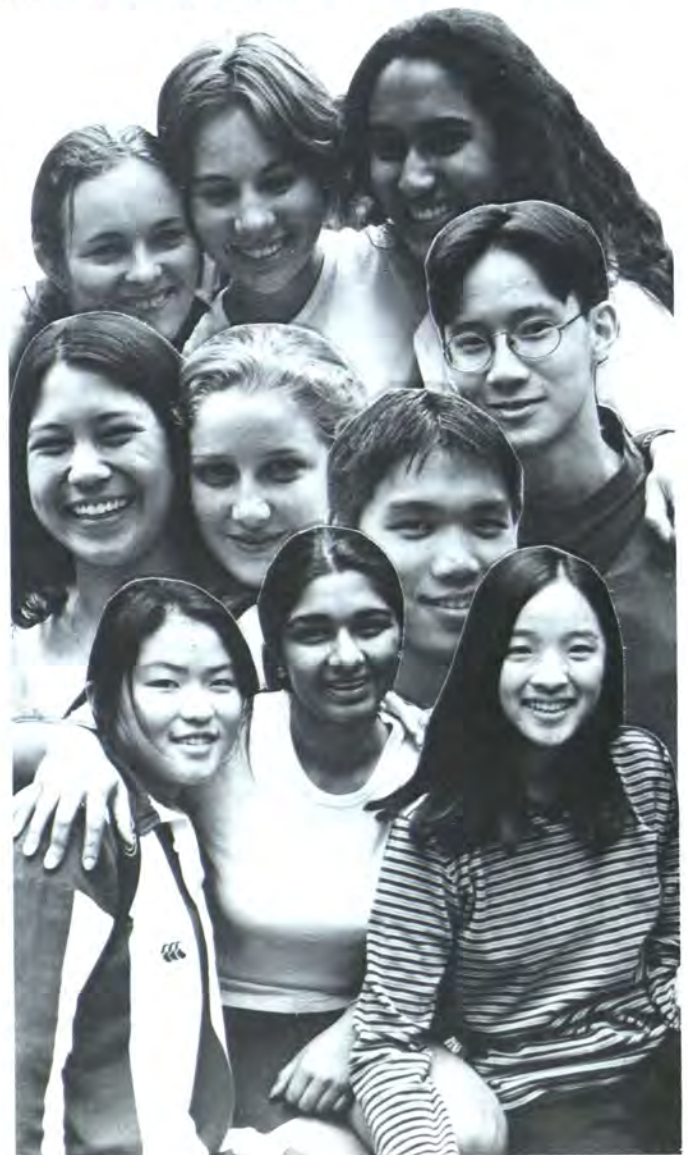
To the office ladies who know our names and what we get up to, thank you for your hard work and patience. The canteen ladies must also be commended for serving us well over the years. The Benny Burger will be missed by some but remembered by all.

Every man and woman is a maker of their own fortune. In a way our fortunes will be ever connected to this place. And no matter how good a fortune may be, it is only ever as good as the friends you share it with. In that case, this year has been very fortunate.

A speech like this could go on forever. But you will be pleased to know that like our time at Fort Street, it has an end, and it is fast coming. All that is left to say is that I personally will miss too many things about this school to mention. What will stay with all of us is a host of memories and an army of friends.

For the past six years these few acres sandwiched between an old brewery, a car yard and the transport vein of Sydney have been the heart of our lives. It will continue to beat strong after we have gone and it will remain in our hearts forever. All we can hope is that we have given this place enough good memories, to our teachers, our friends and our parents, so that it was all worthwhile.

When all is said and done, as much as we will not forget Fort St. easily, we trust we will not be forgotten.



My frying pan and me

Wendy Morrison, of Year 12, cooks up a storm in this response to the half-yearly English exam

Good cooking utensils are like good friends: you see them regularly, you do stuff together, and you've known each other for a long time. You don't discard them easily.

Well, that's how it was with my frying pan and me. We'd been together through the good times (stir-fry) and the bad (chips and sausages).

For as long as I've been cooking, at least once a day I'd get my frying pan out of his drawer and we'd cook together. We could concoct anything. My hand fitted that handle like bread with butter, salt with pepper, like peanut butter and jelly. Inseparable.

Until the day the electric frying pan arrived. She scintillated. She shone, she smelt new and exciting. Now there were new culinary experiences to be had. She could be used indoors, outdoors, even in my room if I really wanted.

Suddenly I began seeing less of my old frying pan: just for the odd chop and the occasional omelet. There were still good times -- indeed, we reminisced about the old days -- but there was now a shadow between us, a big square-corded shadow called the Frymeister.

Time passed, and my cooking reached new flavour pinnacles. Speed, texture and flavour improved with the control only electricity can provide. My old frying pan was now just a pal of the past, like a friend you keep in contact with through letters but one you've grown away from.



Frymeister didn't reside in the drawer with the other utensils: she stayed on the bench, her smooth non-stick surface a shining light in the kitchen.

I didn't realise it at the time, but I began to miss the flavour of my old dishes. An elusive flavour that can come only from the ingraining of years of frying in a pan. My new cooking had a smooth, professional taste but it was almost a distant flavour. Frymeister and I were two separate entities.

I came to my senses the night of the storm which was particularly vocal outside. But the sizzling and crackling of my choice full-fat bratwursts overwhelmed the noise of the storm. That is, until the power surge. Frymeister convulsed, sparked, then went dead. I tried to revive her, but this friendship was over.

Left with hardening lard and half-cooked sausages, I turned to the utensil drawer, and wondered if my old friend was still there for me. My frying pan looked good now. I was overcome by nostalgia as I looked at him, trusty and patient, reliable as ever. I pulled him out and we cooked up a storm to rival the one outside. It had been a long time since we had done stuff together and it felt fantastic.

My transient friendship with Frymeister showed me that interesting and exciting friends come and go, but it's the old reliable friends who will always be there for you.



Victor Frankowski and Patrick Lunney
St. Valentine's Cupids

Year Eleven Report

Nicola Phillips Year 11

To those who haven't experienced some of its greater moments, Yr. 11 seems to be basically the year to knuckle down on, a means of getting well settled upon 'the long road to the HSC'. What is a little less publicised is that it's also the year that teachers stop hiding behind elaborate threats, woeful jokes and feeble disciplinarian tactics and reveal a more charismatic and amusing human side. It could be that they're just used to us, I but I like to think that perhaps this year we too have found a niche for ourselves as 'interesting' young adults...

In any case we've done a lot... there was the sudden interest the ABC took in us, letting us select the host for Race Around the Corner and inviting us to be the studio audience for two episodes... and who could forget the valuable life lessons that the PD camp taught us, that the words "luckily for me, I'm just an actor" could hold such meaning, and that the Laws could write such a sweet song in such a short time? The hardest life lesson, however, was probably inflicted upon the Peer Support leaders. Who could have foreseen that such innocent elves could have the interiors of psychopathic killers? They definitely learned a lot, though... The Informal Cruise was declared a success by most despite a late change of venue, and there was the added bonus of this year's After Party actually having a floor!

After several years of a severe lack of excursions (it was like the teachers were scared to be seen with us in public) 1998 was the year the drought broke, with Year 11 flooding Sydney. The art students wore a trail to AG NSW, the Geography students prowled the Hawkesbury, CBD and Bicentennial park, and the 4U science class visited USYD (as a result of this excursion, Robert, Tim and Alex inserviced and brought an electron microscope home to FSHS) and UNSW. The drama class saw countless productions and the music class played for Taverner's Hill Infants School. Due to the sheer bulk of excursions, space does not permit me to mention them all, but thanks go to all teachers involved. A mention must go to the Barry Kosky production of King Lear, which divided Year 11 into the disturbed, delighted and disgusted.

In groups and committees, Year 11 reigned supreme. Rachel passed the SRC presidency onto Tess, and the council (with a large representation of Year 11s in the executive) produced such successes as Tolerance Day. Kieren, Stephanie, Sophie and a number of others brought STIVE to the school through Spring Day, and with its strong numbers of Year 11s, the IMP had many successful concerts and a tour.

In the performing arts, a number of people introduced the talent of Fort Street to greater Sydney and beyond. Nick, James and Zoe went on country and metro tours with the PAU's State Drama Organisations and Nick also compered a series of Primary Choral Concerts at the Opera House. Pauline, Jamie, Sean, Nick and Andrew appeared in the Schools Spectacular, and Jamie, Pauline and Nicola attended state Music Camp at the end of term 3. Many other Year 11s also represented the school in extra-curricular musical activities. The completely student-run production of *Mort*, directed and produced by Jack Tiewes, was a great success with Terry Pratchett fans flocking from all over Sydney. A veritably nerd convention and a credit to the school.

The 30-something Young Achievers "Kicked arse... kicked arse... kicked arse..." to quote Mr Canty. The FSHS company BRILLYANT was awarded blue chips status and was a finalist for Company of the Year. Bish, Justin and tang were

all finalists for the Business Person of the Year. Obviously, they did indeed kick arse.

Intellectually, year 11 continued to impress. Huy sat the Chemistry Olympiad qualifying exam and— without attending the lecture program— got into the State's top 30%. In the Australian Science Competition, Suzanne, Tim, Clement and Tang all scored HDs. Ben and Kelvin won money prizes in the Westpac/UNSW Economics Comp, and many other students achieved credits and distinctions. The standard of SGPs was also very high, with competition results pending. In the Australian Maths Competition, Year 11 received 6 HDs and 27Ds, with Clelemt winning a prize. He also received a Special Achievement Certificate for best standardised score and least number of wrong answers for FSHS. Suminder deserves a mention for his exceptional Major Research Paper, and Tom and Jack for their outstanding achievements in Ancient History. Best wishes go to Toby, Bish and Joey who will be attending the Honeywell Engineering Summer School over the holidays. Lachlan also should not be forgotten, having spent this year at Obrin High School on a Tokyo Metropolitan Summer Scholarship.

Another exciting event for some year 11s was a \$15000 grant that enabled a group of talented Japanese students to spend 2 weeks at Yamasaki High School in Tokyo and a week sightseeing in Kyoto. This proved culturally and intellectually rich, and also a lot of fun. A big thank you to Mr. Tippet.

Sadly, many of the happenings and achievements of Year 11 must go unsaid, and this includes multiple sporting successes. The National Table Tennis Championships, however, can't pass without a mention, seeing Kenny, Peter and Suminder travelling to Melbourne. Who could ever have picked FSHS as the home of table tennis success?

A hectic but fruitful year for a form that didn't let their various pursuits cramp their social lives one bit. A warning to upcoming Year 11s, yes it is very possible to spend over \$10 a day on caffeinated beverages alone, but it's absolutely worth it! A sincere apology if any information is incorrect or incomplete, and I share the blame with Mr. Tippet for not collecting the info himself. Oh yes, and just a note to the canteen ladies: BRING BACK COCA COLA!



Nicola Phillips, Year 11

Year Eleven



Top: Marnie Innis, Jack Tiewes and Benjamin Davis, Jessika Gauke and Effie Klippan.

Left: Frewen Lam, Tim Curnick, Menaha Dharmalingam.

Below left: Filip Kidon, Jamie Cameron and Conrad Richters.

Below right: Stephanie Law, Jeremy Ong.



Year Ten Report

Sarah Steel and Sascha Morrell

Oh what a jolly good year! You, Year Ten, you were the stars! At last we are all through the department of our junior years and ready to make the joyous passage into the sovereignty of the senior years of our secondary schooling. As sands through the hourglass, so are the days of our lives.

It was such a time! Such a fun-filled adventure; a Chapter in the Books of Fort. Each grain of that hourglass sand has been a memory carved in scholastic stone, a grain surmounting the incredible shore- the astounding bank of our Knowledge.

Our pilgrimage to Canberra fell as the first founding golden grain (yes we are enjoying suspending this metaphor). It was a time of explosive insight into our nation's politics, a seething and action-packed roller-coaster ride of a preview into the pending joys of VOTING... a little slice from the heart of Australia for all. We cherished the third world conditions of our accommodation as a gentle reminder of those less fortunate than ourselves, even to the extent that some of the truly faithful, after rejoicing in the first journey, were inspired to a second camp. Peer Support Camp, where each lad and lass devoted themselves to learning the art of nurturing the suckling mind, founded in these little soldiers a dedication that they look forward to extending through next year, and perpetuating throughout their lives.

With the budding enthusiasm of Youth, energetically we picked our Senior Subject Choices like kids in a candy Store (but everything seemed to be sold out- except for the triple-aniseed licorice).

But before we could put that sweet, sweet candy to our lips we had to run the gauntlet of the School Certificate. Like knights in shining armour we reveled in the challenges of Academia. Only the latter seemed to be somewhat absent from the school certificate exams. After being told that there was no need to study we soon discovered that there was no need to think.

At last came Year 10 Graduation where we were farewelled and graduated, all ready to move on... for a few weeks and come back next year. It was at this night that we saw our marks and realised that completing the school certificate was no more difficult than, say, reading out our names correctly on stage (more challenging than you'd think, perhaps?)

Genuinely, this year has us standing ready. Now we have the memories behind us, of each perfect, glistening grain mounting to a grand foundation of Junior High School, each (hopefully) another chunk we've managed to erode from our time we have left here. Snuggled under the wing of our nurturing leaders, we have bloomed and flamed through times good and bad, through the laughter and tears, off the shoulder of Orion... all these moments will be lost, like tears in rain.

Good luck to all of those who are leaving us, and welcome to those who are joining us. Now you too are an integral part of the Fort! Now you too can name thyself a Fortian!

Good for you.

Year Ten from Top:
Nancy Jiang, Thomas
Dallow, Jeffrey See, Veena
Rajan, Leo Sek, Sally
Gilbert, Julia Britton



Year Ten Report

T. Leondios

Since taking over as year Advisor from the beginning of Term 2, it has been a busy period for me.

Being a naturally talented year, they have done well in areas including the Arts, Sports and of course academically. Page to stage, debating are just a few accomplishments. The School certificate results really show how talented they are.

Then there were subject choices for year 11. Very few other schools offer a diverse range of subjects, available to all students for Senior Study. We have tried our best, to accommodate each student's choices.

With the last set of exams finally over, they have time to recover before their end of year celebrations. I hope all goes well.

1999 will be even better when you return with a newly found seniority as Year 11. I wish you luck in 1999.



Year 10 – '98



From top left: (1) Thu-hah Nguyen, Dennis Singh, Keely Mcnamara, Joel Bedford (2) Joslyn Kang (3) Rhys Hearne (4) Suzanne Cheung, Thu-hah Nguyen, Elaine Chui, Helen Jing, Cecilia Ng, Megan Bootes (5) Stephen Turner, Alex, James Thai, Kalon Huett, Alan Logan, Nick Forwood



Halfway through

Year 9 report by Joanna Lin & Katie Goudie

It doesn't seem that long ago that we were starting high school, but it was actually three years ago. Knowing that we are halfway through our high school years will hopefully make the next few years bearable, and maybe even fun. There have been many ups and downs over the past three years, and although some of the teachers beg to differ, our grade is actually not that bad at all.

The Year 9's obsession with the World Cup Soccer saw us lose sleep for a month. While the boys were watching the soccer, the girls were watching the English, Dutch and Swedish show off more than their ball skills. We'd also like to thank Phillip "Macho Man" Ma for providing amusement to most of Year 9 whilst strutting his stuff around the playground.

In third term it was good to have Erin "Massachusetts" Andrew visit us from the USA. To have her here was a nice change and gave us a breath of fresh air from the monotonous scenery at school for three days.

The infamous Year 12 cake stalls were very popular with our male population. While Tania Lambert kept the boys occupied, Travis Nippard and John Pappas caught the attention of many a Year 9 girl and have left behind them a string of broken hearts.

With all this going on we still somehow managed to find the time to excel in the academic arena. Suddy Bhardwaj collected a prize of \$50 in The Australian Mathematics Competition by finishing in the top 0.3% of the state. Seventeen other students also obtained high distinctions in this competition. In the Maths Enrichment Programme Duc Ho and Anuj Goel scored high distinctions. This programme which involves solving a series of problems over a three month period is conducted by The Australian Mathematical Olympiad Committee. Duc Ho also obtained a distinction in the Maths Challenge, a competition in which students submit solutions to six problems over a period of three weeks.

Asha Zappa played her role excellently in 'Mort' and proved once again how talented an actor she is. For the first time we have been able to take up drama as an elective and the involvement of many year nine students in Junior Drama was a big contributing factor to the great success of the Junior Drama Night.

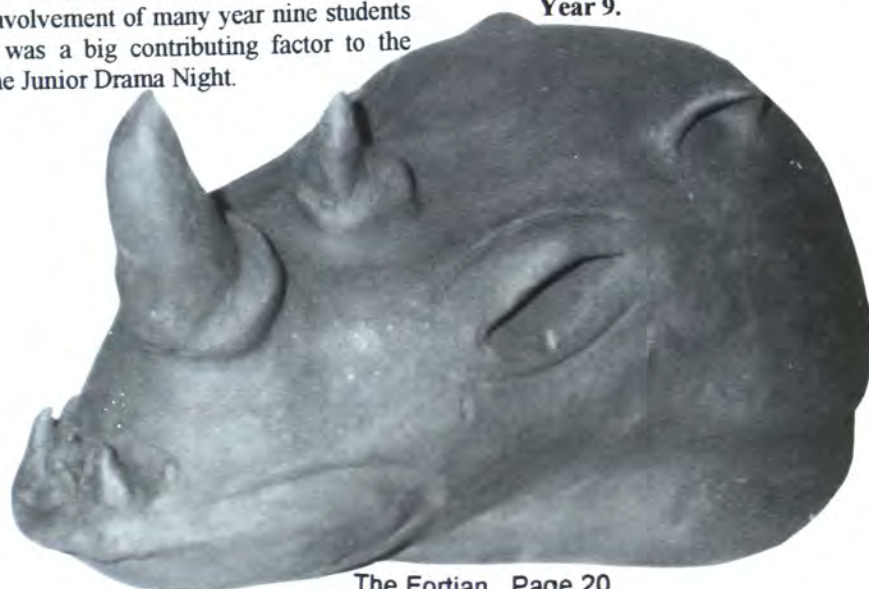
Arwen Cross and Xavier McKenzie were part of the team that made up the fantastic Tournament of The Minds team which won the Regional competition for their maths and engineering entry. Sam Baker, Sean Carrit and Alex Nicholas obtained high distinctions in the Australian Schools Science competition Damian Thomas gained a high distinction and was second in the state in the NSW Geography competition. Tom Keenan-Brown, Holly Philip, Chela Weitzel and Julian Boyce were specially selected for the State Drama Camp where we're told they had an awesome time. Congratulations also need to go to our year advisor Mr. Moynham for surviving yet another year with us.

There are so many other achievements that deserve mention, but that's the problem with such a talented grade, it would indeed take all day!

A huge congratulations to all the many talents in our grade and good luck to everyone for next year!



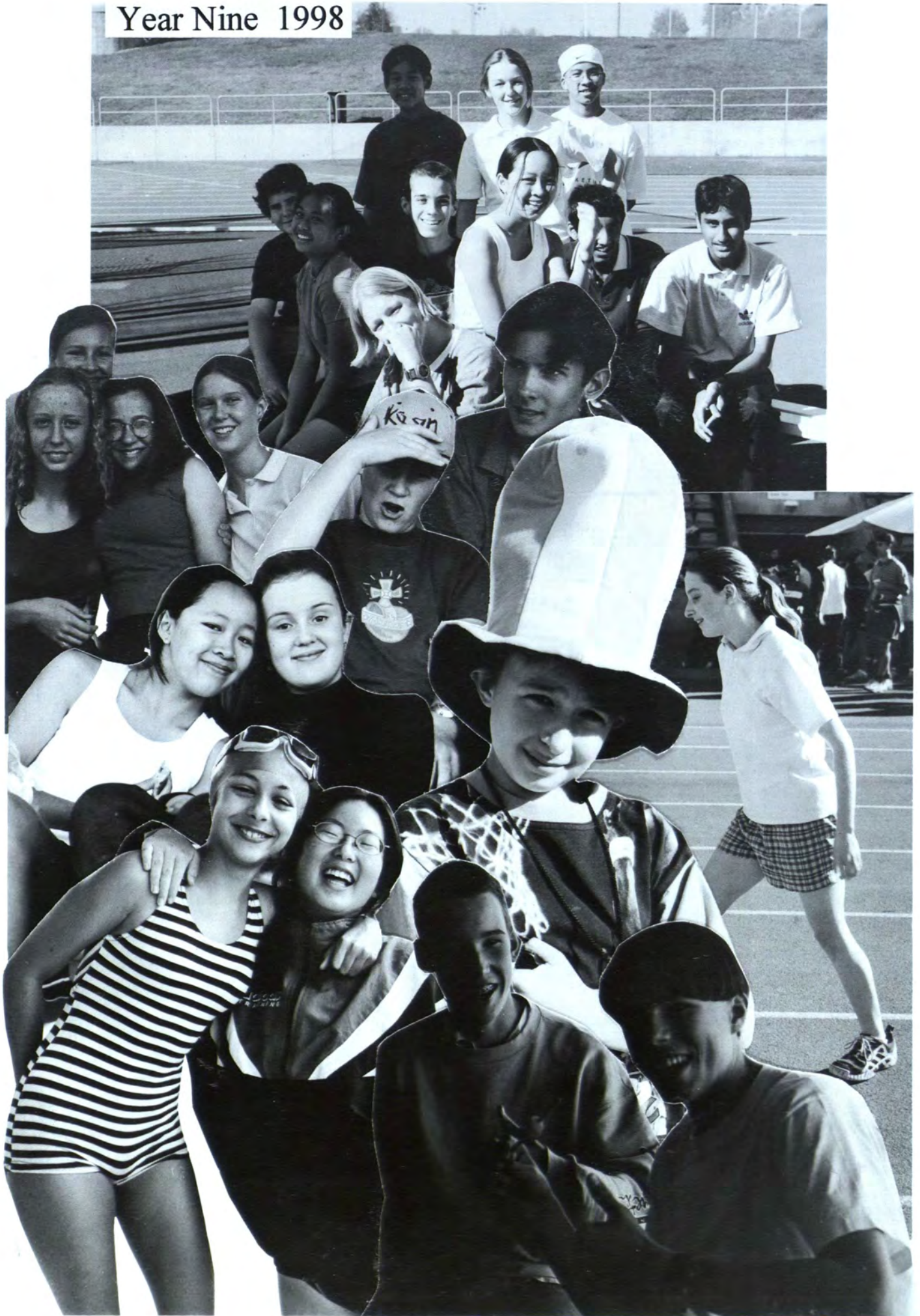
**Belekes Mereles, Anushka Paul & Tiara Relativo
Year 9.**



Clancy Yeate's

'Rhino' Gargoyle

Year Nine 1998



Work - and some good times

Year 8 report

by Zaine De Souza, 8I

1998 flew by without us having much chance to enjoy school fully and have fun before we had to stress out for the important end-of-year exams. Year 8 seems to be the best year: we've already adapted to high school but are not expected to take on too many responsibilities. At the start of the year we enjoyed life, new teachers and new subjects with the work, multiple form tests, a booklet for the Science tests and Geography assignments which came later; sooner than we liked, in fact.

Despite the work, there were some occasions when we had a good time, such as our first excursion, the Geography camp at Gerroa: three days without school, though with a worksheet and teachers, but a parent-free zone. The camp was run like school and there was no TV but we had fun anyway, enjoying the fresh air, the beaches and the beauty of nature away from city life.

Our next day out was the History excursion to the Life Under The Pharaohs exhibition, where we actually saw real dead bodies and ancient artefacts. After lunch in Chinatown we walked up to the Pitt Centre to see the movie Kundun, about Tibet. It was a good day.

Later in the year, English took us to the State Theatre to see an interesting play, So Much To Tell You, a new experience for many. Also through the year the German class and some Japanese classes went out for meals to get a taste of the authentic food of those countries.

The best activity we have done at school was easily the Greek Olympic Games Day, when classes adopted the names of Greek city states and competed against each other. Sparta (class 8I) failed to win, disappointing its inhabitants, whereas Athens (8R) won clearly because it had all the form's athletes. But no-one really cared who won, it was a fun day anyway.

Year 8 is a mixture of all kinds of people but somehow we all fit together well. Some people stand out:

□ Caroline Grandjean Thomsen with her success in cross-country running: at the school (1st), zone (4th), regional (5th) and state (14th), and at the zone athletics carnival in 3000m and 800m (1st), 1500m (2nd), 3000m walk (3rd), regional 3000m (3rd) and state 3000m (8th). She was also school champion for swimming in her age group for the second time.

□ Igor Butorac with CHS high jump as well as representing in basketball.

□ Victor Frankowski who, with his basketball talents, took part in the Talented Athletes Program at the Sydney academy of Sport.

□ Phoebe Haylen who represented the junior years in the School Council elections and continued to impress with her singing talents.

□ David Helstrom with first place in the Young Scientists Major Work competition.

□ And our debating team of Andrew Ta, Elise Chen, Paul Young and Emily Irvine.

We also have many travelers in our form; going overseas is educational, like school, but you enjoy it more. Caroline went to Indonesia, Victor to Poland, Ava to Europe, Sahra also to Europe, Milton to Hong Kong, Zaineb to Asia, Richard to Europe, Felix to the USA and Zafir to India.

Some other group achievements from our form have been the radio station at lunchtime courtesy of Nick Findlay, Rory Dufficy, Felix McIntyre and Andrew Ta, and the mini-plays at assemblies as part of the 'Coming Clean At Fort Street' campaign, culminating in the wonderful video, I Know What You Did Last Recess. This anti-litter campaign was led by Ms Joslyn and students involved included Elise Chen, Andrew Ta, Emily Irvine, Nick Findlay, Rory Dufficy, Felix McIntyre, and 8T for the video. Well done to all.



Ben Ryan yr. 8

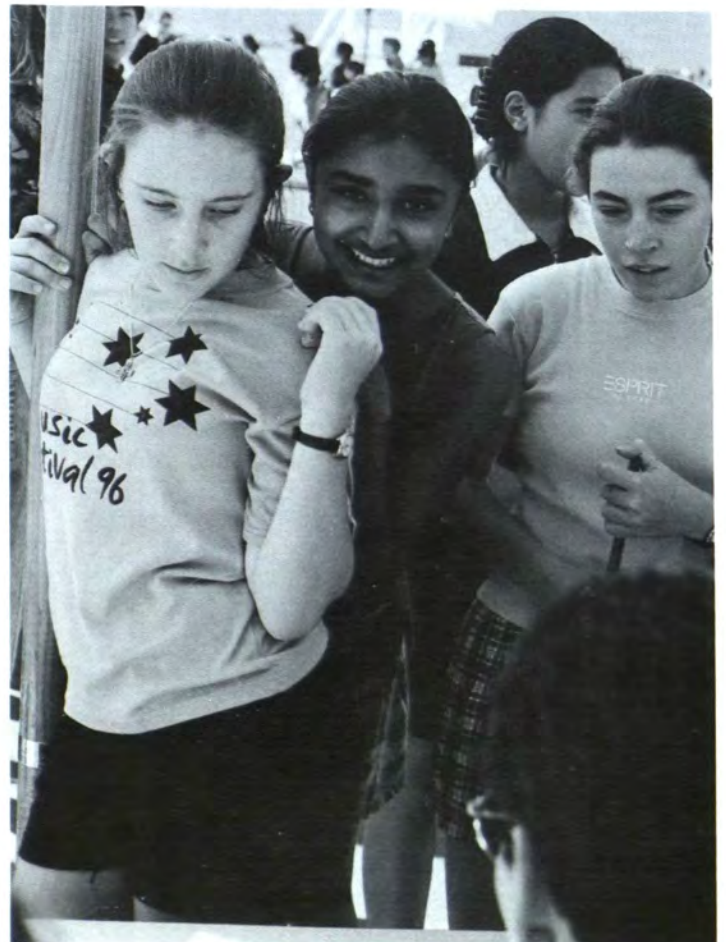


Nicole Sutton yr. 8

Year Eight 1998



Anton Trees, Xarthink, Alfred Shui, Patrick White, Alice Quian, Sunhae Oh, Janelle Espinas, Grace Chan, Jenni Gray, Neha Goel, Laura Corney



A productive year

YEAR 7 REPORT

It has been an interesting and productive time for Year 7 at Fort Street High in 1998. Points to note are:

- The three-day camp at Kurrajong which was endured under 45-degree heatwave conditions. The tiny swimming pool was filled to capacity at every opportunity!
- IMP camp on the South Coast, the Musicale, and the African, Latin and Christmas concerts.
- End-of-year activities including craft, cooking, drama and computer skills, to name a few.
- The swimming and resuscitation school held at Petersham Pool.

At the rather sunny swimming carnival at Ashfield Swimming Centre, the following students proved themselves: 12 Years Girls: Kate Turner and Melissa Lee; 12 Years Boys: Daniel Elder and Greg Howe; 13 Years Girls: Alannah Schuman (School Champion) and Jessica Brooks; 13 Years Boys: Gareth Douse and Tom Radford.

In the subsequent zone swimming carnival, Daniel Elder contributed to the commendable 4th place that Fort Street High achieved overall. Daniel placed 1st in 50m butterfly, 2nd in 50m backstroke, and 3rd in 50m breaststroke. An achievement to be proud of!

These students excelled at the school-cross country carnival held at Petersham Park under wet and muddy conditions: 12 Years Girls: Claire Cherrington. 12 Years Boys: Peter Callender. 13 Years Girls: Alannah Schuman. 13 Years Boys: Jess McGuirk.

At the regional athletics carnival, Year 7 was well represented with Jennifer Ahn in 80m hurdles, Claire Cherrington high jump and long jump, Ara Ko in long jump, Geoffrey Lai in hurdles, Jess McGuirk in 800m, 1500m, and 3000m, and Alannah Schuman in 800m, 1500m, and 3000m.

And let's not forget our resident Year 7 thespians David Dzeidzic, Greg Howe, Kavita Bedford, Bethany Lalor, Max Schollar-Root, Brendan Markey, Kate Turner, Stephanie Wong, Alannah Schuman and Divija Paramatmuni and associated crew.

On a musical note, special mention goes to Melissa Ellingsworth for her piano skills and also to Mathew Lee for his trumpet and saxophone abilities.

On a more academic note, Year 7 students Alannah Schuman, Bethany Lalor, and Vita Gray contributed to the Fort Street team winning the regional Tournament of the Minds competition.

Many thanks to Kate McGown and Kay Johnson for their fantastic efforts with Year 7 this year. I know that they are well appreciated by all the staff and students alike.

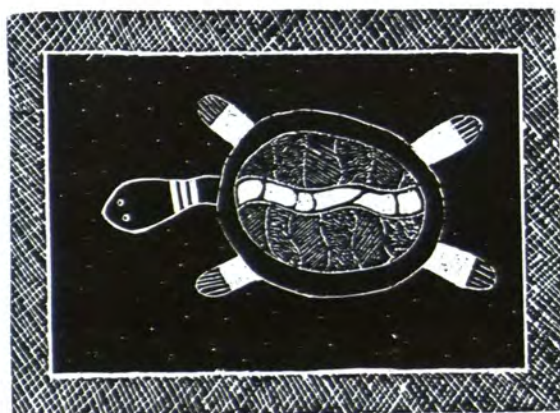
Mr Paul N. Brewster
Year 7 Student Advisor



Qian Yu and Lucy Zou
Year 7.



Matthew Lee and Tim Lam



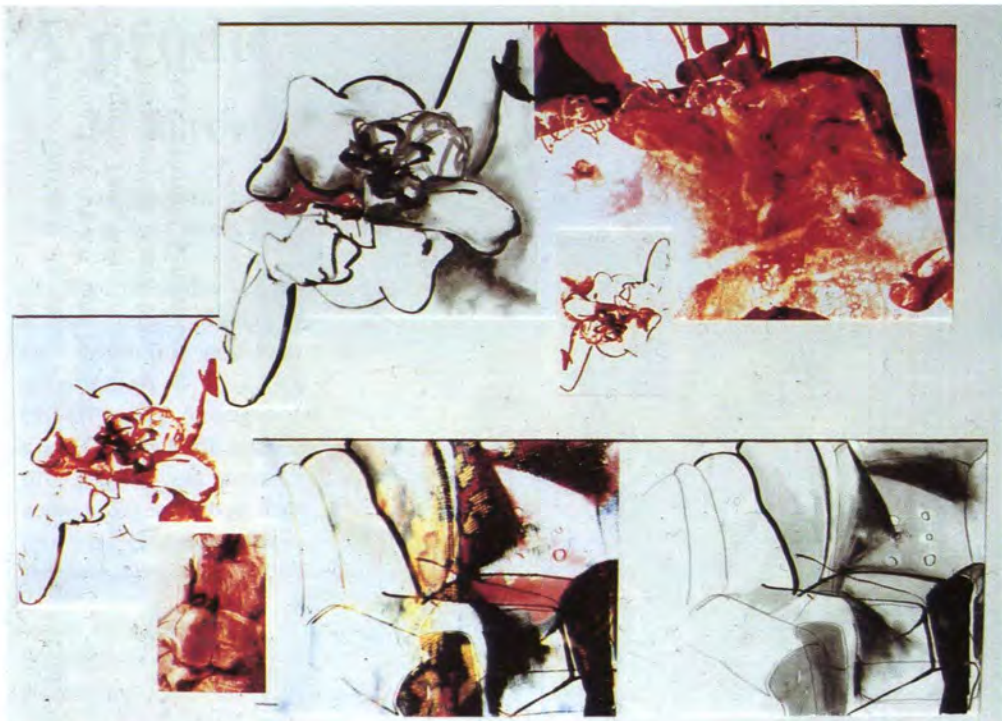
Michaela Pollock -Year 7.

Year Seven



1. Dance Forinash, Alexandra Parker, Claudia Husin, Prynka Rao.
2. Jenny Lin, Ara Ko, Tina Nguyen.
3. Virginia Tang, Anna Lucevicz, Vesna Trobec
4. Margaret Park, Kathy Nguyen, Christina Lam, Belinda Lu
5. Lee Cartwright, Samuel James





Joshua Watson



Jane O'Sullivan



Jasmine Stark



Joanne Tooher

Visual Arts

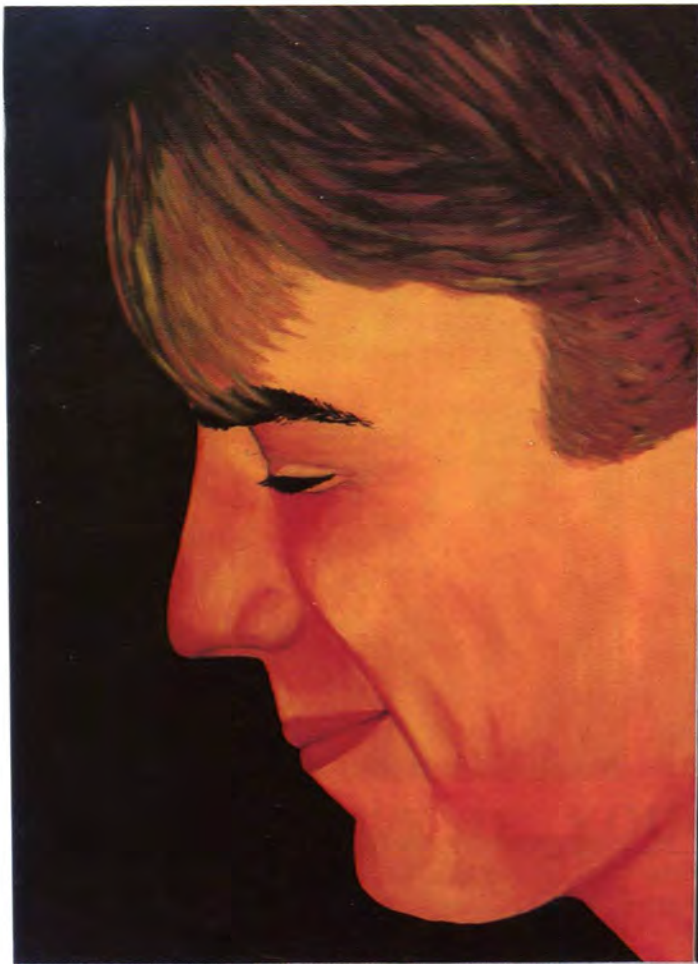
Where has the year gone? 1998 has been an extremely full year for visual arts, littered with interesting art works done by our creative students, some great theory analysis and many excursions to galleries.

Fort Street art students visited many exhibitions this year, these being, Art Express, the Archibald, the Japanese exhibition "Modern Boy Modern Girl", Ken Unsworth, and the Goya prints, all at the N.S.W Art Gallery. Senior students also viewed the Yves Klein exhibition at the Museum Of Contemporary Art. Visiting galleries and seeing "live" works of art is a vital part of studying art and always leads to, often heated, classroom discussion.

This year four year twelve art major works were selected for short listing for the prestigious Art Express exhibition. The students were: Tiffany Malins - with her mixed media painting "The Insistence upon Plasticity", Jayda Tham - sculpture "Aesthetically Pleasing", Jane O Sullivan - drawing with her book "Maud the dragon Girl" and Joshua Watson - drawing, "Its Remarkable to find Instinctive Cannibalism so close to Home". Congratulations must go to these students on the very high standards they have achieved. Extra congratulations go to Tiffany whose painting has finally been selected for the exhibition. Tifanys art work will be exhibited at COFA (Collage of Fine Arts) between 29 January and 21 March.

The art staff welcome the arrival in 1999 of the new Visual Arts faculty head Ms Vivienne Dadour.

Year Twelve Art Major Works



Year Twelve Art Major Works

Top: Ben Lashbrook. Bottom: Tiffany Malins, Clare Britton

SRC: leadership, and fun

The Student Representative Council began 1998 with the annual camp at Otford, where 28 members undertook leadership training and began planning for the year ahead, mingled with general fun and games. It was at this camp that Claudine Lyons handed over her position as president to Rachel Stein-Holmes of Year 11.

Another significant outcome was the beginnings of Tolerance Day, which was to take place five months later after much hard work and organising.

In February we sold roses for Valentine's Day, as is expected of the SRC, as well as being involved with the Year 7-8 dance. Much of the next few months was spent planning the Battle of the Bands and Tolerance Day.

The Battle turned out a raging success, and will now be a regular event on the Fort Street calendar. Our 1998 winner was Surge Plus, but that is not to say the competition was anything but tough.

Energy was then channelled into Tolerance Day, which happened on June 19. We had invited Aboriginal speakers and NSW Police liaison officers, and held a showing of two interesting films focused on racial prejudice, *Blue Eyes* and *Barbukuaria*. Success of the day was mainly due to the commitment and organising skills of Theresa McSpedden and Rachel Stein-Holmes.

In July came the next set of elections; the current SRC is now a mix of new and old members. The election also brought a new president in Tess McSpedden after Rachel resigned to take on a bigger role in student and school welfare.

Lately the SRC has been heavily involved in planning for the Sesquicentenary and the '99 camp in February, and already plans are under way for another Battle of the Bands and possibly also a dance early in the year.

The SRC continues to suffer some criticism for its apparent 'lack' of achievements, but many of the student body are unaware of the work involved 'behind the scenes'. The SRC had a great role in discussions about the school's gender inequity and sent out members as part of the girls recruitment drive. The SRC was also asked to represent the school during the official launch of the Parramatta Road 2000 And Beyond scheme, which drew many politicians, the media and other people of influence to our school grounds.



Top to bottom:
Year Eight SRC,
Year Seven SRC,
Year Eleven SRC.



WE'RE YOUR S.R.C. !

Mr. Browne S.R.C. Co-ordinator swamped
'by the troup's'.....almost.



S.R.C. Representative: Theresa McSpedden



Viktor Frankowski supports Rachel Stein-Holmes Yo!

Fort Street High School in 50 Years

David Collits, Year Eight

The old man looked around sadly. He was regretful for leaving his life behind, but all good things must come to an end. This, and the unbearable exhaustion he felt, were the only things keeping him steadfast and resolute in his decision to retire. The old man was standing in the quadrangle that he had first entered many years back, in 1997, his first year of high school.

He had seen the school around that quadrangle grow until it became Australia's, and certainly Sydney's, primary higher-learning institute. Apart from the brief, sad eight years in which the old man had completed his university degrees and diplomas, he had come, every day, to this quadrangle and had come to love it. The old man sifted through his memories fondly, trying to pinpoint his first memory of the quadrangle, back in the twentieth century. He remembered the vast hall, built in 1921, that still borders the southern half of the quadrangle, the classrooms bordering the eastern, northern and western flanks. He remembered, most fondly, the statue of Meleager, a hero of Greek mythology, and the fountain in the lower tier of the quadrangle. Back in those days, the quadrangle was the centre of the school.

Nothing much had changed, except that the school was now a huge complex, covering as much ground as such prestigious European universities as Oxford and Cambridge. The school was now sprawled in both directions from the quadrangle along Parramatta Road, with roads such as Fort Street and Palace Street providing transport links for the students and teachers alike.

As the old man had been a member on the council, representing the English Faculty and the growth and development of the school, he had seen, at first hand, the State government buying chunks of land either side of the quadrangle, until it had reached the limits it experienced today. Instead of demolishing the buildings in these pockets of land, the council converted these early twentieth century buildings into modern-day, refurbished classrooms, with all the requirements of the students. By keeping these old buildings the school has an antique feel.

All these classrooms now have thirty self-study units, containing a laptop computer, shelves for text books and books of interest, an intercom communication set, which gives the students access to their teachers without interrupting the classroom, or even getting out of their seats. Each individual computer is linked with the teacher's central computer, so that the student can 'hand in' (this has since become a redundant term) their assignments and work and so that the teachers can spy on their students, giving them the ability to oversee their students' work.

This system was very efficient, the old man conceded, but it had made the students very lazy and it was only the Health and PD keeping the students remotely fit. The school hours had grown from 9.00 am to 4.30 pm, and this had also contributed to the laziness of the students. They now basically cannot partake in outside school sports. Not once, though, did the intelligence levels of the students fall. The School Council had discovered, about a quarter of a century into the new millennium, that the school, had become too large for the students to walk from one end of the school to the other in reasonable time so the council decided to implement moving walkways, which connected and linked the school together without the students having to move their

legs. These rectangular tubes give a modern feel to the antique school. The main, rectangular walkway, passes behind the Memorial hall.

Overall, the school had grown from a quaint High School, into a huge institute, with the school divided into subject faculties with modern affectations connecting the school.

The government of the school had also changed, thought the old man. It was now a huge organisation, with the power divided neatly into committees and sub-committees to run the school. These committees represented, and still do, the subjects of the school, with the more important subjects, Mathematics, Science, and English containing more power. The sub-committees include the SRC, the P&C, etc. The main committee, of course, is the school council, made up of the head teachers from each subject, and the principal and vice-principal. This council dictates school policy and makes the major decisions for the school. Each council member is elected by the students and teachers each year, so it is far from an oligarchy and more like a democracy. The old man had been the English representative for 33 years, so he knew well the inner workings of the school, government.

The school government always worked in a close relationship with the state government, which provided a lot of funds, which were used toward the improvement of the school.

The old man sighed bitterly. The one thing that the old man disagreed with, and even regretted, was the relationship the school had had with James Ruse Agricultural High School. Ever since he had become an English teacher in 2010, 38 years ago, the school had fought, politically and academically, with James Ruse, to obtain the government's favour, and therefore resources, and a complete monopoly on the upcoming intelligent students. Often, when the government sided with one of the two schools, the other experienced a fallout from their teachers, and the students' results dropped dramatically. Almost ruining each school, as its academic results are of primary concern. The old man happily had a hand in the eventual agreement with the James Ruse, with Fort Street controlling the southern and eastern quadrants of Sydney, and James Ruse controlling the educational resources of the western and northern quadrants.

All these achievements that had come to pass, while the old man had taught at the school, had contributed to the pleasant atmosphere that the students now learned in. It was with a satisfied smirk that the old man exited the Fountain Quadrangle of Fort Street High School.

Back then ...

'Old boys will revisit us for a grand reunion to look over the scenes of their schooldays and to exchange reminiscences of bygone work and play. These will come proudly, perhaps a little patronisingly, to look over the present boys. They look to you to carry on and increase the lustre of their fame.'

From *The Fortian*, December 1945, writing of the centenary to come in 1949

Roger Jackson

By Anurag Verma, Year Eight

The old man stood on the dusty porch holding his cowboy hat low over his face. Like most old men, he was wrinkled and grey, but he was very fit and active. As he stood, he watched the red sun sinking below the line of view, its lights casting beautiful red shadows over the sky. The old man sighed briefly and sat down on his rocking chair. He was very old; more than seventy years. He was wrinkled all over, and lumps of skin drooped down his face. He was wearing a dirty, white singlet on top of his hairy, white chest. This was tucked into baggy, brown pants which reached up to his ankles. He was all alone here. No one to look after him. His wife had died years earlier leaving him alone in a savage world.

The man's name was Roger Jackson, and in his time he was a very handsome man. But now, old age had taken him over leaving his face old and grey. His hair were thinning, only a few strands were left now. They were white and were sticking out of his head wildly. His forehead was creased with age and below that, were his compelling eyes. The eyes themselves were the man's best feature. Even when he was young, his eyes were the most beautiful part of his sharp and long face. They were large and blue and were like 'large blue discs in the centre of an oval white plate'. But the beauty stayed there only, because right underneath were the sagging bags which formed under the eyes. The bags had been like balloons, but now they sagged miserably. Jackson's crooked nose, which was quite appealing when he was young, added to the feeling of Roger Jackson being a helpless man. His hair on a face was unshaved, and white stumps could be seen from far away. This was the natural attire of the man who had been so handsome when he had been young.

As the sun finished its travel below the horizon, the man still sat there on his rocking chair, looking out into distant space. But then he got up and strode into the dingy little house which was situated in the middle of nowhere. Inside, he quickly strode to the bathroom and shaved. His grand daughter from Sydney was coming tonight. After he had shaved, he quickly walked into his bedroom and opened his wardrobe which contained a few items of clothing. He got out a long, dark coat

and a velvet hat. He wore the coat and admired himself in the dusty old mirror. The coat looked magnificent on the tall and tanned figure. It reached up to his ankles, so Jackson decided to wear his best shoes to go with the coat. After messing around with the coat for several minutes, he decided to place his velvet, cowboy hat on top of his head. He placed it on his head and was immediately transformed. No longer did he look like a helpless old fool, but looked like a character out of the movie 'Casablanca'. He remembered the old times, when he was with his wife and daughter. But that was the past now, he thought, as he wiped a tear away from his eyes. The last time he had ever dressed like this was when he attended his wife's funeral...

Shocked by this sudden thought, Jackson sat down on his bed and thought about the past. He had often done that before, and had scolded himself not to think of such 'stupid things'. But now the thoughts came flooding back to him, and his eyes disappeared under a hazy cloud. Small tears started trickling down his long face and he wiped them off. He took off his long coat and laid it on the bed. Once again he was transformed, becoming the old fool he was. His eyes restored their natural colour as the haze drifted away. Once again he walked to the bathroom and looked at himself in the mirror. His nose was crooked, as if broken. His eyes were too large for his liking. His lips were too parched and dry, like the desert sand outside. And his hair was no longer left. His face was freckled, wrinkled and grey; reminding him of the way his wife looked when she...

He hated himself in the mirror. He wanted to be like when he was young, but that was impossible. He looked at his aging hands, creased and lined with age. White hair covered the back side, but the palms were clear and unblemished. Jackson looked at his dirty singlet, his baggy, brown pants and he sighed. His ancient face sighed again, but then dismissed the thought that was creeping into his mind. It was time his grand daughter arrived. Inside his own bedroom, he wore the coat and hat once more. After studying his tall form in the mirror, he walked out of the house and stood on the porch. He then sat on the rocking chair on the side and waited for the time to come.



Shaily Aggarwal, Year 8

Meeting Justice Kirby

Bree Chisholm, Year 12

In March of this year, Ms Draper, Sarah Wood, Bridie Rushton and myself waited together to meet the High Court Judge and Fortian, Justice Micheal Kirby. The experience itself was extremely humbling, but initially I remember the feeling of apprehension. The four of us were going to meet one of only seven people who presided on the bench of the highest court of Australia. Justice Kirby was a powerful, important and intelligent man... what were we going to say? Ms Draper was our guide she had had the privilege of meeting him before. At all times Ms Draper remained cool, calm and collected and thankfully knew exactly what to say to get us through all the security.

With the apprehension over, and all of us sitting down being offered tea, we were able to relax. Surrounded by photos of Justice Kirby, with some of the most important and significant people in Australian History, one could not help but feel humbled and honoured to have the opportunity to meet such a man. Justice Kirby at all times was a gracious and generous host, accommodating our questions and thoughts on the Mabo decision and native title, his current involvement and interest in advancing medical technologies and his thoughts on private education and the future of Australia. However the judges main interest was in Fort St. he wanted to know about the changes to the school, the direction it was headed in and our thoughts on where we thought it should head. He was continuously praising and thanking Fort St for his education and holds the school in the highest regard. His pride in the school's history and its ongoing reputation was nothing short of inspiring.

All too soon our meeting was over as Justice Kirby has other engagements, however the time spent with him was long enough to be remembered forever. Justice Kirby is every bit the man we waited anxiously to meet- he was a man of the utmost dignity, integrity and intelligence, yet what we had not known was that he has remained down-to-earth and extremely modest of all his achievements. It was an honour and a privilege to have met such a great man.

It was on this day that I started my collection of photographs, taken of me with important and significant people helping to shape Australia's future. At this present day I can think of no one better, than Justice Kirby, to have filled that role.

Students Meet High Court Judge Justice Michael Kirby

Anne Draper, Legal Studies Co-ordinator

For the third year, Justice Micheal Kirby kindly invited the winner of the Micheal Kirby prize for 3 Unit Legal Studies for 1997, plus 2 of the other top students, to have morning tea with him in his Supreme Court Chambers in Sydney.

Bridie Rushton was the top student in 3 Unit Legal Studies, followed by Bree Chisolm and Sarah Wood. Justice Kirby soon put everyone at ease and was interestedly asking questions about the students' career aspirations. He spoke of many things such as his school days at Fort St, his love of the school, the importance of his family to him and his personal belief of how important it was to use one's talents to, in some way, serve the community.

We are proud to have Justice Kirby as a sponsor of the 3 Unit Legal Studies Prize, and we are extremely grateful for his support of and interest in the students and his generosity in making time to meet with them.



Justice Kirby, Bridie Rushton, Bree Chisholm, Sarah Wood
Ms. A. Draper-Legal Studies Co-ordinator.

A Fight for Freedom

By Gina Dang, Year Seven

On the morning of 18 December, 1940 in a small village of Vung Tau, in South Vietnam, a boy was born to Thi Luan and Van Sau. This boy was named Van Be. His parents were joyful that he was a boy because their earlier children had both been girls. He started school when he was five years old at Vang Tau Primary School. Even then he had the reputation of being the 'defender of the weak'. He would tell and show the bullies what he thought of them. After school, sometimes he would go fishing with his father or play soccer with his friends. He also enjoyed kung-fu, swimming in the sea and when he was older (around 18), body-building. Van Be was a strong, healthy and smart boy. He had light brown hair and hazel eyes like his father.

The rumours of the communists (Vietcong) from North Vietnam were thinking of trying to take over South Vietnam were spreading. Van Be joined an army school at the age of ten in 1950 because like many other ambitious boys at that age, he wanted to fight for freedom. In many ways it was like our school nowadays. There were subjects such as mathematics, French, reading and writing. The only difference was that they also learned the proper way to fight. The Vietnam War officially began in 1959 and in 1964, Van Be graduated and left to take part in the war. He fought for the South and was a parachuting soldier in the front line. He travelled with the army all over the country.

In 1970 he fought Cambodia and won. On his way back they stopped at the village Tay Ninh. There he met a young woman named Thi Nga Nguyen. She was a teacher at the primary school in that area. It was an on-off relationship because he always had to go away to war. However after three years, he proposed to her and they married on 19 June, 1973. After that, he had to go away to fight again, and she stayed in Tay Ninh to teach.

In 1975, the South lost the war and he went to gaol for one year. After he was released, he went to Tay Ninh to visit Thi Nga and they went back to Vung Tau to continue their lives. He became a fisherman and on some of his fishing trips, he tried to find ways of escaping. On 30 May, 1978, he was successful and they escaped along with his family and forty-four other people. He was the steersman and the salt water badly affected his eyes. Luck was not on their side. They were caught in a storm and were shipwrecked. For days they drifted aimlessly in the harsh and unforgiving oceans. However they were fortunate enough to be found by an American ship. A man on the ship knew Van Be because they fought together in the war. He helped them all to Thailand where they stayed at Camp Lim Sing for seven months. At Camp Lim Sing, he helped to look after the two thousand refugees there. His family was chosen to go to Australia because he already had a sister living there. He went to Bangkok for two months to get ready to go and fill all the forms and regulations.

FREEDOM AT LAST! On the 2nd February, 1979, they arrived in Sydney, Australia, by plane. He first lived in a hostel in Villawood and later bought a house in Regents Park. In July 1985, they visited relatives in Perth. Thi Nga was pregnant and the baby had arrived early. On 30 August, 1985, the baby was born and they named her Gina.

The Bad Samaritan

CS, Year Eleven

"Il sont si peur que leur petite tranquillité soit perturbée qu'ils observent des scènes ce genre at puis ils font rien."

Drawn to the picture of the young martyr
A delightful smile creating an appealing expression
Forced to glance then stare in anguish
At the victim of a murder mission.

The accused feels no guilt, he seems indifferent
Evil lurking inside doesn't show on the surface
His only betrayers his handcuffs and his eyes
These double-crossers tell the demons hold office.

Yet it's to be our single witness
Who harbours the mountain of blame
To walk away from a cruel crime scene
Lists high on public shame.

Where then have all the good samaritans gone?
Are the world's ideas of right living slipping?
Why lose sleep and interfere in other's problems
Is this a point in life society is missing?

Easy as it is to turn a blind eye
Most hearts swell at such a disgrace
This battle to gain protection for all
Is simply another challenge to the human race.

Test Time!

Gina Dang, Year Seven

Exams come, exams go.
A test of the strengths, a test of the minds.
That feeling of dread, feeling of worry.
Your heart's beating, a mile a minute.
You can hear it, thumping in your chest.
Butterflies in your stomach,
Drums beating in your ears.
The twitching of feet, twitching of fingers.
All the clicking pens, tapping on the desk.
You're nervous, you're nervous,
Your mind's gone blank.
Somebody help, you've forgotten the answer!
Time stands still, when you're in a hurry.
The thoughts keep turning, you need ideas!
It's not enough, you can't think straight.
Why are they so hard? You knew them yesterday!
The clocks are ticking, minutes tiptoe by.
It's a race against time,
If only you could remember!

Daphne

Sascha Morrell, Year Ten

*I am all the waters of the earth
And all the daughters of the sky
I circle round the burning surf
I change but can never die*

- It is still raining
- Be still.
- I would like it to stop.

The window pane rattles. The grey, the wet, still beats its wings against the glass. Look away.

- Well you should be glad, and for all you were complaining yesterday, being thirsty...

- I'm thirsty now.
- You sound like a child

It feels like childhood too, as though the house is a crib; the rainy world is out of reach and out of bounds. Winter is nearly over, but first it must squeeze out every last drop of damp and cold, making room for a papery spring.

- You can get yourself a drink, anyway.

- No. I don't want to. I don't want to get up.

She lays her warm cheek down on your bare shoulder, and you both have skin that is very smooth. Slowly you sigh.

- Well, go thirsty then.
- Well I will.

She smiles then. Look away. There is distant thunder, but solid. You realise that over on the horizon it must have been a great clap. A breaking clap that scuttles out its rumbles to rattle at the glass.

You are distracted at her murmur...

- You didn't kiss me this morning Dylan.

Smile a little. Her hand takes your fingers. Bone dry and warm. Warm drizzle-grey on the window.

Sigh. Such a child. Kiss her.

But she stops your reach-

-No, don't.

There is a moth, a moth or a tiny butterfly, on drift through the air- a pale feather against the bright light. Watch as it passes over her closed features, brushes on her smooth hair. Follows her warm breath until it sticks on the glass. In the moisture of her breathing- in a trap of breath dew like a spidersweb.

-Don't kiss me.

In the curdled half-light of a wet, obvious dawn, you can watch her. She makes her slippery way down to the thick, shining river. Alone with your gaze she lets out her hair around her- till she crumples suddenly in sleep on a dark, sweaty root.

With the new light half-behind her she is frozen like a statue. Like a snowflake underwater, she is looking very fragile.

Semi-permanent.

She has left a little of her warmth in the empty bed beside you. Remember, the sound of her breath. Her rising, falling bosom.

Melancholia. Lethargy... she spends all her time in stillness, or in sleep. Or hunger. She has been a baby. Maybe she is pregnant. She makes you think about change. Metamorphic states. Stones.

Laugh at yourself, maybe she is just tired...

But she wouldn't let you kiss her again.

There is certainly a wildness to it. On the swimming sand, in white-light, her exhausted statue-figure looks crumpled and empty.

A deep yawning sigh. Yes, more of a yawn.

They pass her lips so often now.

- It's still raining.

- I know.

You stroke the smooth hair lightly and think how it feels somehow sticky, and how it feels sad and thinned. Strange. And she still won't kiss you. Strange.

-Do you know what my mother used to say? Dylan?

-No. What did she used to say?

Two drops of water slowly trickle down the window. Edging. They meet, and as they kiss they change; they become another kind of crystal, one that races down the glass.

-She used to tell me I was an ugly duckling. That I was... ugly.

Smile at the childish...

-Of course you're not Daphne, and-

-She used to say it. Daph is an ugly duckling. But one day she will turn into a beautiful-

-Swan

You finish.

-Yes, a beautiful swan.

The glass rattles in the bright white window. Her tired arms feel heavy in yours, and moist with a strange sweat.

-Do you think I've changed yet Dylan? Do you think I'm a beautiful swan?

Tell her, of course she is. Of course, she's so...(move to kiss her)

-Know what I think Dylan?

No.

-I think I'm ugly. I think I'm... a duckling.

You follow her ice-blue gaze to the slight sticky mark on the window pane. Remember where the moth stuck- the sight seems to melt the ice in her eyes and make them unfamiliar.

And then she closes them, and as she falls asleep, you pick strands of her pale, bright hair from off your shirt.

You find her crying one morning.

Ask-

-Would you like me to kiss you?

She turns her face away, then runs from the room.

Glasses of water strewn about the bed.

The day baked, but the suck of evening leeches out the moisture again. It is drizzling. A soft, warm sprinkle. The only thunder is the gentle caress of the

wind on the loose glass. Soon evening will swell into night.

Your own gentle caress is of her face. Both of you lie still. Your thoughts, however, move and slide.

She has not awoken today. Her weak smile has ridden her lips throughout her dreams- but it's not really weak. Its something else.

It's nothing at all, remind yourself.

Kissing her might do it- no, she's no sleeping beauty. Sigh. Let her rest. Maybe it's true. Maybe she is pregnant.

She has very soft fingers. The soft rain drools down the glass in long, clear streaks. Everything else is still. Caught in a beat.

It seems less of a pregnancy than some pregnant pause.

There is something friendly, arousing, about your anxiety when you wake to another grey-soaked morning. Its prickle in your neck excites. Her eyes are open now, very pale, and weeping, and her greasy fingers and hair both feel very hot. Her breath comes loud and even, but her chest barely moves.

Nothing moves.

Feeling anticipation and heat throughout all the map of your nerves, like a ritual, you bend to kiss her. This time you stop yourself. In silence for a while, you both stare at the window. Both knowing you are merely waiting.

-It's still raining.

Her voice is deep and calm. Lips barely move. But it moves you.

-Yes.

-I think it will stop soon.

-Do you feel thirsty?

-No. This bed is warm.

You hold her motionless, miniature shape in your arms, and the breeze takes hold of the glass again and moves it, rattles, knocks-

-The rain is always... heading somewhere.

She does not sound sad. You laugh.

-Maybe it will get there soon.

A pause.

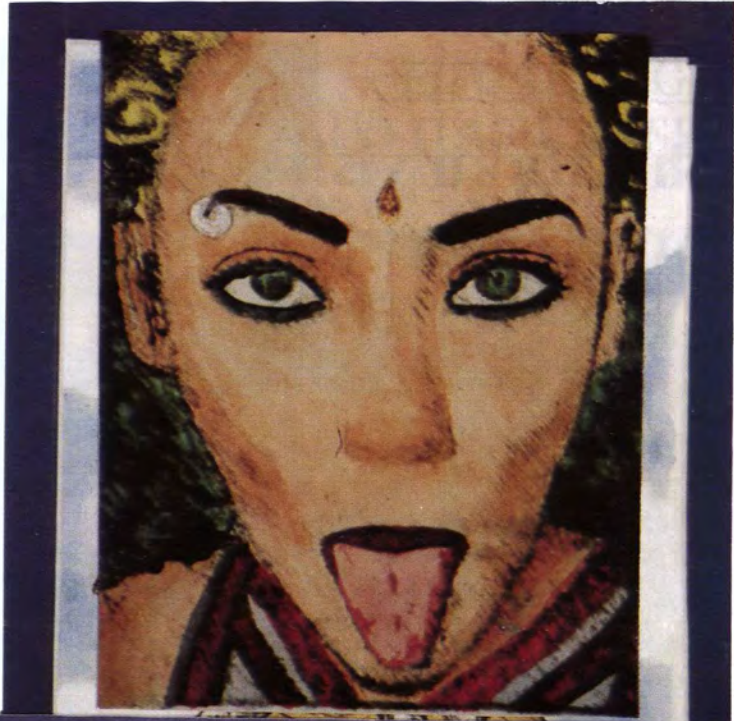
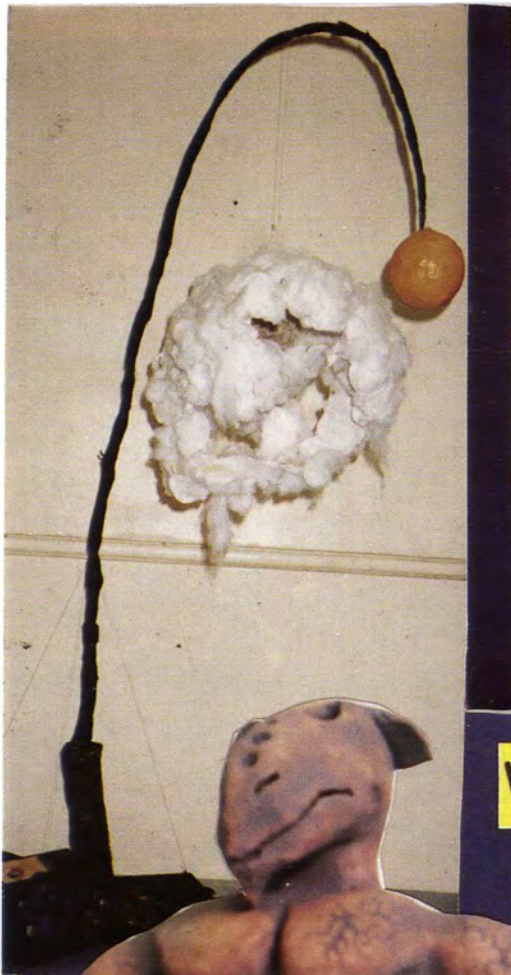
-Maybe that's why it stops.

To the beat of the weather you finally kiss her, with length and lightness, and time and warmth start to unravel with the twined silk sheets and her twining hair. All breaths and beats swell up and then out together, winding and turning, and inverting themselves in the pale, constant light. In an almost-silence, you kiss her until she is beautiful- a pale, tiny, fragile butterfly, floating like a feather over the track of your breath, towards the window.

And so, with the memory of complaints, ducklings, ugliness, sloth and childishness, you clap your hands on the silvery insect and press it as a petal between your fingers.

Let it fall.

A white feather, with a miniature, pinkish edge. The warm bed is empty. The wind stills. The moment settles, and perhaps you have the truth inside, this feeling, yes, the rain will end very soon.



VISUAL ARTS '98



Sixth Eifuku visit to Fort Street

By Serge Yalichev, Senior Teacher of Japanese

In July, Fort Street had its sixth visit from our sister-school in Japan, Eifuku Metropolitan High, a co-educational government school near Shinjuku, Tokyo. Our relationship began over 10 years ago, a result of a visit by the former Premier Neville Wran, a Fortian, to the Governor of Tokyo.

At first our contact consisted of an exchange of letters and art works, but in 1988 Eifuku made the first exchange visit, which proved an outstanding success. Each subsequent visit has resulted in warm friendships and the deepening of mutual understanding. Many of the relationships formed over the years between students of the two schools are still going strong, and at least one has developed into a long-term romantic relationship.

The 1998 visit owed its success first and foremost to the patient and meticulous work by Mr Lewis Sorban who produced a carefully organised programme of excursions and other events to give our visitors a wide experience of the life and attractions of the Sydney region. The Eifuku students were delighted; their teachers, Mr Kitakado and Mr Ishii, showed a marked appreciation of the local gastronomy and liquid refreshments. There were visits to Manly, day trips to the Blue Mountains and Canberra, and a Hawkesbury River cruise. Without Mr Sorban's unflagging efforts, this year's visit might not have eventuated.

Many parents and students offered homestays. It is the generosity of the homestay families that makes the visits possible in the first place. The opportunities for culture interaction are considerable, and the students of the two schools progressively become aware that, although they belong to different societies, they share many interests common to young people the world over.

Thanks to Mrs Toulia Bull who was kind enough to provide special English language lessons, and to Ms Trish Hayes, our Latin teacher, for joining the Canberra trip, to Mr John Buckingham for his verve and panache as master of ceremonies at the welcoming and farewell assemblies, and to acting Principal Andrea Connell for her encouragement.

Next year Fort Street is scheduled to make its sixth visit to Japan. The relationship with Eifuku involves the whole school and the exchange trip is open to all students whether or not they are studying Japanese. In the past, about half of the students who have gone to Japan have not been students of Japanese but have nevertheless enjoyed a unique and rewarding experience.

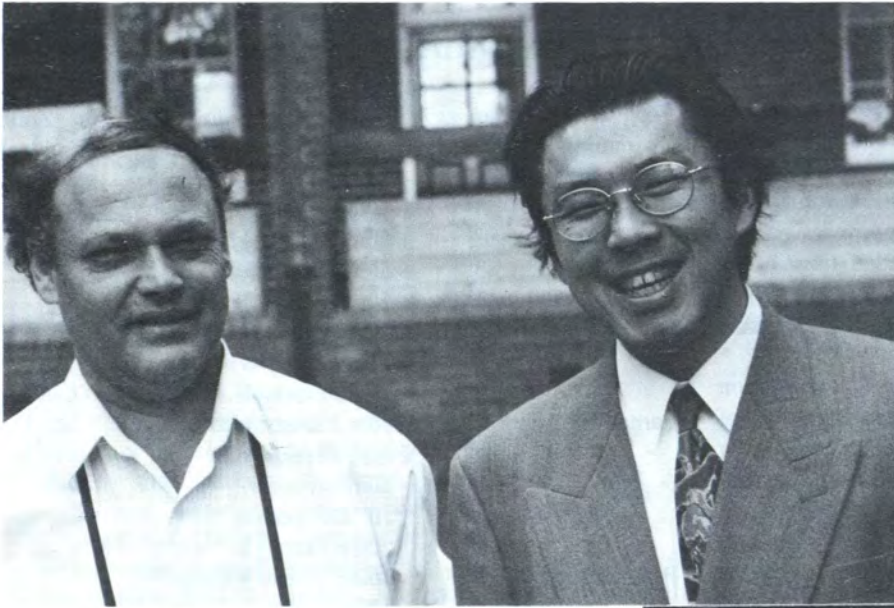


Eifuku says: 'Peace be with you'
Fort says:and with you Eifuku!



Mr. Kitakado – Teacher Eifuku High School
Chats with Mr. Lee Carroll – Principal, Fort Street

EIFUKU HIGH
DO ITASHIMASHITE !



Mr. Lewis Sorban and Mr. Kitakado



Friendly Eifuku students are always absorbed in checking out something!

Swimming Carnival

Once again a magnificently sunny day for our annual Swimming carnival at Ashfield Swimming Centre. The new school house banners arrived at the pool minutes before the first event, sporting the official house names, Barton (blue), Kennedy (green), Mawson (red) and Preston (yellow, or gold as Mr Jurd would have it!). Many students paraded their house coloured attire whilst some obviously had professional colouring treatments for their hair and bodies— some more professional than others.

Preston won the point score with excellent participation rates and several outstanding swimmers. We have a number of students who train for many hours a week for the carnival and a keen competitive spirit was evident, particularly in the 17 years boys. In nearly every event for 17 years boys there were three heats— though certainly not all serious competitors, they were at the carnival to participate and enjoy themselves. A shame more of our seniors didn't join in the day.

The 'Watermelon Wrestle' was, as always, a highlight of the day. Much to the dismay of the Pool Manager, the boys broke the golden rule and caused the insides of the watermelon to spill into the pool. Incidentally, this happened after the winners were decided and puts the likelihood of the event in 1999 in a grim light.

A special thank you to all the parents and other spectators who hopefully enjoyed the day. Well done to the following students for their achievements:

	Boys	Girls
12 Yrs	1 st D. Elder	K. Turner
	2 nd G. Howe	M. Lee
13 Yrs	1 st G. Dowse	A. Schuman (School Champion)
	2 nd T. Radford	J. Brooks
14 Yrs	1 st P. McAdam	N. Sutton (School Champion)
	2 nd L. Tong	C. Thompson
15 Yrs	1 st F. Beams	M. Tice
	2 nd M. Howlin	K. McNamara
16 Yrs	1 st T. Holyoake	C. Seto
	2 ⁿ T. Allen	J. Britton
17 Yrs	1 ^s P. Hartley (School Champion)	E. Keough
	2 ⁿ C. Hayes	E. Maunsell

Parnell McAdam broke the 14 years Boys Backstroke record: old 28.27 s, new: 38.00 s.

House Points:

1 st	Preston	592
2 nd	Barton	425
3 rd	Kennedy	396
4 th	Mawson	385

Tracey Yin

The Swimming Carnival:
Catherine Santangelo,
Holly Philip, Caroline
Grandjean-Thomsen.



Zone Swimming

Fort Street came in a commendable fourth at the Zone Swimming Carnival with some excellent individual performances:

Daniel Elder	1 st	50m Butterfly
	2 nd	50m Backstroke
	3 rd	50m Breaststroke
Emma Keough	1 st	50m Butterfly
	1 st	50m Breaststroke
	2 nd	50m Freestyle
Parnell McAdam	2 nd	400m Freestyle
	1 st	50m Breaststroke
	1 st	50m Breaststroke
Peter Hartley	2 nd	50m Butterfly
	2 nd	100m Freestyle
	2 nd	200m Freestyle
	2 nd	400m Freestyle Open
	3 rd	100m Freestyle Open

Parnell was also one of our blue ribbon 14 years Boys Relay Team also including Nick White, Patrick Lunney and Mark Barber. Peter Hartley was a runner-up in the 4 X 50m Relay with Chris Hayes, Daniel Tan, and Steven Clyne. Fergus Beams was another representative. Well done to all our students who participated— the school is very proud of your efforts.



School Athletics Carnival

A glorious day at a magnificent venue set the scene for a most successful and enjoyable Athletics Carnival. Although attendance from years 10, 11 and 12 was poor, the majority of those present participated in events and obviously enjoyed the day. In the past may track events have only had one heat, this year some had 3 and 4. A few of the field events could not be completed on the day due to the number of entrants! Let's not forget the venue, the International Athletics Centre, will be the warm up track for athletes in the Sydney 2000 Olympics. There were some outstanding individual performers with the opposite records being broken:

TRACK EVENTS:

Event	Record Breaker	Time	Old Record
13 years boys 800m	Nick White	2.36.01	2.38.61
14 years girls 1500m	Allannah Schuman	5.34.01	5.51.34
14 years girls 200m	Wendy Tu	25.01	27.00
14 years Girls 800m	C. Grandjean Thomsen	2.58.57	2.59.28
14 years boys 400m	James Thai	58.52	59.00

FIELD EVENTS:

Event	Record Breaker	Time	Old Record
12 years boys Shot put	Luke Vu	9.18	9.10
13 years boys High Jump	Victor Frankowski	1.51	1.50
14 years boys High Jump	Igor Butorac	1.62	1.58
17 years boys High Jump	John Murray	1.80	1.75

AGE CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to the following students who scored highest on individual point scores to become age champions:

	Girls	Boys
12 Yrs	Claire Cherrington	Daniel Elder
13 Yrs	Ava Lam	Victor Frankowski
14 Yrs	Nicole Sutton	Liam Tong
15 Yrs	Monica Tice	Martin Kurek
16 Yrs	Jocelinn Kang	Ante Mihaljek
17 Yrs	Caroline Malcolm	Darren Ma

SCHOOL CHAMPIONS

Girl	Boy
J. Kang	A. Mihaljek

Zone Athletics

Well Fort Street have done it again- Zone Athletics Champions after a three-year spell in second place! Congratulations and many thanks go to our competitors for their participation and performances to steal the championship by a minor 30 odd points to Marsden High.

Fort St hosted the carnival with many of our students acting as officials, runners and caterers. The 2-day event ran very smoothly with the help of these students and our staff members. Many staff who acted as officials from other schools commented on the efficiency and politeness of our student workers. There are too many to name but a special thanks needs to be given to our star computer recording team headed by Mr West: David Ng, Ho Tung Wong and William Vuong. Thanks very much guys.

The following students were successful in coming 1st, 2nd, 3rd in an event to represent the Zone at the Regional Athletics carnival- J Ahn (hurdles), C Cherrington (High Jump), D Elder (Hurdles), A KO (Long jump), V Frankowski (200 m res for HJ/100m), J Dang (res for HJ), M Kurek (100/200 res for L/J), P Ma (400m, res for 800m), J Saulwick (800m), J McGuirk (3000/800/1500), N White (1500m/Hurdles), W Wu (LJ), C Grandjean-Thomsen (3000, 800, 400, 1500m walk), L Tong (400/1500m), S Turner (triple jump res), J Thai (400m res), T Smith (Discus), S

Johnson (3000 m), L Collins (1500m/Discus/Jav/TJ), I Butorac (HJ/100m), M Beard (Jav), C gates-Foale (HJ), P Lunney (Relay), B Smith (TJ/Hurdles/Relay and res for 200m), K Pickett (LJ res for TJ) P Paszti (shot), C Malcolm (800m/1500m res for hurdles), E Keogh (Discus, res for shot), E Brockway (hurdles), S Huang (relay), D Ma (relay/LJ), D Jenkinson (relay).

A number of students were Zone Age champions:

13 yrs Boys	Simon Lo	1st
13 yrs Boys	Wister Wu	3rd
13 yrs Girls	Ava Lam	2nd
12 yrs Girls	Alannah Schuman	3rd
14 yrs Girls	Caroline Grandjean Thomsen	3rd
15 yrs Boys	Martin Kurek	1st
16 yrs Girls	Jocelinn Kang	1st
17 yrs Boys	Ben Smith	1st
17 yrs Girls	Caroline Malcolm	2nd
17 yrs Girls	Lisa Collins	3rd

Well done to all of our regional competitors and zone champions and thank you to parents who may have been inconvenienced with Day 2 of the regional being postponed.

CHS Rowing Championships

By Lauren Frazer and Keely McNamara

On March 28th, over thirty state schools traveled to the Sydney International Regatta Course (SIRC) to participate in the 1998 Combined High Schools Rowing Championships. At midday Keely McNamara and Lauren Frazer raced in the women's under-16 single sculls (one person, one boat, two oars). Keely was placed third, getting a bronze medal in her division, and Lauren just missed out, placed fourth in hers.

A few hours later a pair of very nervous girls sat in the boat at the beginning of the 1000m that would decide the women's under-16 double sculls (two people, one boat, two oars each). This was our first race together and only our second row together so neither of us knew what to expect. Then suddenly we were off! To our surprise we coasted down the course leaving the other crews far behind! Four minutes and twenty seconds later, two very happy Fortians crossed the line first to find that our time was twenty seconds faster than one of the First Division. We were ecstatic and there were smiles all round as we received our medals and shook our opponents' hands. On Tuesday, March 31, a combined High Schools trophy was presented to the school, held the previous year by Westfield Sports High School.

Cross Country

Our Cross Country Carnival was held under traditional Cross Country conditions— wet and muddy. Thankfully Petersham Park has a grandstand for shelter and most students were sensible enough to bring a change of clothes. Our students participated in very good spirits considering the conditions.

After completing the race, some of our students appeared to be running a "Who Got the Most Mud on Their Sports Uniform" competition. I'm sure Mum and Dad hoped their child was the loser.

Staff should also be commended for helping on the day. Their roles were certainly beyond the call of duty.

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

	Boys	Girls
12 Yrs	Peter Callender	Claire Cherrington
13 Yrs	Jess McGuirk	Alannah Schuman
14 Yrs	Liam Tong	Caroline Grandjean-Thomsen
15 Yrs	Kevin Pickett	Beth Deguara
16 Yrs	Thomas Holyoake	Ruth Jago
17 Yrs	Chris Hayes	Sarah Johnson

Zone Cross Country

Our representatives at the carnival this year were very talented. Fort Street came a very creditable second in the Zone behind Marsden High. This is the best result in six years, our last best placing being third in 1995.

Thanks to all the following Cross Country competitors: Shaw Kamada-Laws, Peter Callender, Sarah Johnson, Cal McGuirk, Jess McGuirk, Sean Carrit. Alannah Schuman (thirteen years) came a commendable fourth and Caroline Grandjean-Thomsen came fifth with only the first six across the line competing at the CHS carnival.

Many of our competitors could not run due to the dreaded cold and 'flu. Doyolson is a long way to go and the rain certainly didn't make the day any more pleasant for our more dedicated competitors. Well done, troops!

Table Tennis

On 22nd June Suminder Sran and Kenny Mai both achieved an outstanding rank of 2nd in all doubles and singles in the Australian Secondary Schools Challenge, one of the biggest state level championships, held in the State Sports Centre.

Each team plays every other team from different schools throughout the state. In each preliminary match they won every single game 5 to nil. The highlight was when Fort Street, due to its commendable results in previous games, bypassed all other finals except the grand final.

In the Grand Final they lost narrowly with every game resulting in deuce. Remember they were two people against 98 competitors: well done, boys!

State Secondary Schools Table Tennis Teams Championship

by Suminder Sran, Year Eleven

On 29th of June Kenny Mai, Andrew tang, Hoyan Ngai and I represented Fort Street High School in the State Secondary Schools Teams Championship, Category One Boys. This competition is one of the most prestigious competitions in NSW. It had been many years since the coordinators frequently called us Fort Street Boys High School.

The format of the competition was for each player to play two singles and one doubles, and as every school was required to bring four players, this meant we played ten matches (each match was best of three).

In the first round we played against Pennant hills High in which we played a blinder, winning ten matches to nil. In the second round we played Canley Vale High, which felt like deja vu: we beat them also ten-nil. In the quarter finals we played against a better team, St Andrews. We also beat this team but not without a hiccup, we won 7-3. At one point we were winning only 5-3, but thanks to Andrew Tang who played under extreme pressure and won his match outright. This made my job easier and I breezed through the last match to give Fort Street a place in the Semi-finals.

All Semi-finalists are given a four-week rest. We then played the Semi-finals on 31st July at Leichardt. But this day was not ours, our luck did not favour us, and our name was chosen to play the State and National runner-ups of 1997, St John's Park. We lost 3-7... But we were given a second chance to show our talent in the fight for third place. We did fight very hard, and defeated Canley Vale 8-2. We were invited to the National Championships in Melbourne, making Fort Street one of Australia's top teams.

Back then ...

'The old feeling is leaving the present members of the school that Fort Street, because of its geographical position, is destined to occupy a minor place in aquatic activities. The school is not very distant from bathing facilities, and with a harbour running so far inland and containing so many arms, it is inconceivable that any member of the school could be so far away from water as not to be able to have at least one day's practice in addition to the usual weekly bath, when the crowded state of the baths hardly allows of any serious swimming practice.' From The Fortian, June 1924.

Sports Hall of Fame

Zone, Regional and CHS Representatives

Fergus Beams	Regional	Cricket
Moira Williams	CHS	Cricket
Igor Buterac	CHS	High Jump
Caroline Grandjean Thomsen	CHS	3000m
Allanah Schuman	CHS	Cross Country
Caroline Gradjean Thomsen	CHS	Cross Country
Jessica Brooks	CHS	Fencing
Gerrard Sersier	CHS	Fencing
Carly Bedford	Regional	Tennis
Sarah Johnson	Regional & CHS Blue	Tennis
Moira Williams	Regional	Hockey
Michelle Summerville	CHS & Aus. Schoolgirls	Softball
Lisa Collins	CHS & Aus. Schoolgirls	Soccer
Keely McNamara	CHS	Rowing
Lauren Frazer	CHS	Rowing
Glenn McLaughlin	Regional	Hockey
Thomas Moliterno	Zone	Rugby
Ben Damon	Zone	Rugby
Ben Murphy	Zone	Rugby
Anthony Jenkins	Zone	Rugby
Chris Hayes	Zone	Rugby



Anthony Dumbrell



Rhys Hearne

The 'house scramble'



Anthony Jenkins, John Quilter, Ben Murphy,
David Jenkinson, Chris Fitzpatrick.



Sarah Johnson

Open Girls Cricket Report

Tony Millward, Coach

MARIE CORNISH TROPHY ROUND OF 16

A very tired but excited team arrived in Wellington at 10.15 pm after a Six and half hour drive from Sydney. After last years success the girls were looking to go one better so it was obvious that the girls were focused on a win (they even went straight to bed and straight to sleep!)

The match was as always a very nervous occasion. FSHS elected to bat first and there were some outstanding performances from Michele Summerville (20), Ruth Jago (21), Alex McGuirk (9) and a very gutsy role from Mo

Williams (22). Despite having her nose badly broken she returned from the doctors to continue batting and lent her support in the field and with the ball. The team finished with a total of 107 from 35 overs Wellington, who won the competition three years ago, had some excellent batters but some wonderful catching and general outfielding allowed our bowlers to limit any real partnerships to develop. The best bowlers were Ruth Jago (4-5 off 3 overs), Michele Summerville (2-16) Joslyn Kang (3-15) and MG; (14). Wellington were all out after only 19 overs for just 43 runs. It meant we would get back in the bus for another six hours.

MARIE CORNISH TROPHY QUARTER FINALS

On Monday 2.3.98 most of the highly motivated and experienced girls cricket team assembled at the gates of FSHS at 4.45am. My attempt at removing the Marrickville Council's community bus from the bus compound at 4.10 am was a total failure. My sense of humour was not all that acute. Getting the bus had been prevented by some total inefficient and incompetent organizational procedures adopted by some council employees. So much for Plan A.

After a brief meeting of students and parents in the car park I asked if there were any parents that might like to take a small detour via Muswellbrook. (my sense of humour had returned !). Believe it or not we had some wonderful volunteers, Mr Jago (again), Mrs Summerville and her Dad, Mrs Britton and her seven year old daughter and finally Mrs Johnson. (Well she didn't really volunteer but was made an offer she couldn't refuse).

At that time of the morning the trip was relatively pleasant and quite enjoyable with light traffic and especially since I didn't have to drive. Three hours later we arrived knowing that this was going to be a very difficult hurdle to overcome. Our girls were keen to warm up with some fielding drills, some however thought the idea was to drop as many catches hit to them as possible. The two executive members of the team (Michelle & Tiffany) had a close inspection of the newly prepared pitch and lengthy discussions on the conditions and decided that we should bat first. This was an excellent plan except for one small detail, we lost the toss (can't win 'em all). Muswellbrook to bat first.

Back then ...

'A very pleasing feature of the swimming this season is the entire absence of silly horse-play at the baths. This is the proper Fort Street behaviour.' From *The Fortian*, December 1914

The standard of the match was set early when we dropped two catches and missed an easy run out opportunity in the first three overs. However some excellent controlled & accurate bowling by Michelle Summerville who finished with the fine figures of 7 for 15 runs off her 10 overs, led a fine overall fielding effort. One catch of note, was the easy but made to look classic catch by Sarah Johnson. Only a minor loss of concentration in the latter part of their innings allowed one of their batsman to top score with 15 runs. Muswellbrook were all out for only 49 runs after 22 overs.

At this stage I was reasonably confident we should get this total, especially if at least two of our three top line batters achieved a reasonable score. Cricket is a funny game (I was starting to lose my sense of humour again), and with the score at 4/17 and our two best batsmen back with a worried coach our chances of success were not looking that healthy. As I said, its a funny game and a wonderful partnership with Ruth (hit over the top) Jago and Josie Kang took the score to 40. We were lookin' good. A false dawn had then descended on Muswellbrook and we proceeded to lose wickets at a frightening pace and found ourselves 9/43, still needing 7 runs to win. Although I knew our last batsman had enormous sporting ability she had yet to produce any form in the cricket arena. "Confidence and a positive mental approach would get us there" (I said to Lisa Collins as she strode to the wicket). Lisa defied the laws of science and hit the next few balls. Then a snick through slips got us two runs closer, followed by a wide, two leg byes and a bye and the game was all square. One more little run. The girls sat excited in a linear pattern along the boundary. As an impartial observer you had to see the funny side of this situation. The bowler approached, Alex McGuirk faced the most important ball in her life, the ball was on its way and yes you guessed it a wide was called. We WON !! or was it Muswellbrook that lost? The official score 9/50. Yeah Yeah !



Back then ...

'In seven years the eyes of the world will be upon Australia, in its first Olympic Games. That will be one of your first great opportunities, for you will be in early adulthood. Since the first Olympic Games in 1902, old Fortians have lit many beacons. In the Stockholm Games of 1912 three of the four in the successful swimming team were Fortians; one of these, at the end of World War 1, was adjudged by his fellow soldiers the finest sportsman in the Australian army. Let this be an inspiring example as you prepare to uphold the honour of Fort Street in the days to come.' From *The Fortian*, December 1949

Coming Clean ^{at} Fort Street

As ill winds of pollution and litter filter through the hallowed halls of the Fort, a group of students and staff mount a campaign for a clean and more beautiful school environment.

"I Know What You Did Last Recess" is a film released by 8T Productions, a joint venture between 8T and Mr Rutherford. Designed to motivate students to work against littering, the film is rated G despite some graphic violence and some semi-adult insinuations. A must see for art house film buffs.

Radio 2DL (don't litter) began at lunchtimes broadcasting music to students in the Kilgour Quad. It seems even cool DJ's don't like working in a litter covered school...maybe they can make a difference! Continuing next year.

Hall Quad Beautification has seen the placement of potted camellias outside the hall and the re-planting of gardens on the old building side. Students are enjoying a greener prettier quad. We await the winter flowering of the camellias!

Year 7 Gardens begins with the end of year activities as small groups of environmentally aware students help to build green spaces they will enjoy for their whole FSHS careers.

Litter Performers met regularly to work on strategies to reduce litter on the campus. Max Scholler-Root and Brendan Markey of year 7 and Andrew Ta, Emily Irvine, Anurag Verma, Rory Dufficy, Nick Findlay, Elise Chen, Felix McIntyre of year 8 wrote and performed some pieces at Tuesday sports assembly, then switched to a more successful radio program strategy.

Litter Gloves enable everyone to join the clean up campaign.

FROM THE WRITER OF "SCREAM"
COMES A TERRIFYING NEW EXPERIENCE
THAT WON'T DIE

I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST RECESS.

AN 8T PRODUCTION

CONCEIVED, WRITTEN, PRODUCED AND PERFORMED BY

HOWARD CHEUNG

JOHN BUI

GRACE CHAN

BRIAN DIEP

JEREMY GEE

ALICE QIAN

SUSAN HOE

KARTHIK RAMAKRISHNAN

ANURAG VERMA

CHRIS KANG

BOYU ZHAO

ALEX STUART

LOUISA LI

CLARE KING

SPECIAL THANKS TO MR BUCKINGHAM AND MS JOSLIN.



I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST RECESS

As part of the **Coming Clean at Fort Street** anti-litter campaign, 15 students from 8T have produced a mock horror video entitled **I Know What You Did Last Recess**.

Based on a popular recent film, the video is designed to promote a positive attitude to the proper disposal of rubbish in the school grounds and is part of a wider campaign to make the school a more pleasant environment for work and study. The video tackles the issue in a humorous, lighthearted manner and it is hoped that the minority of students that persist in littering will respond to its obvious message.

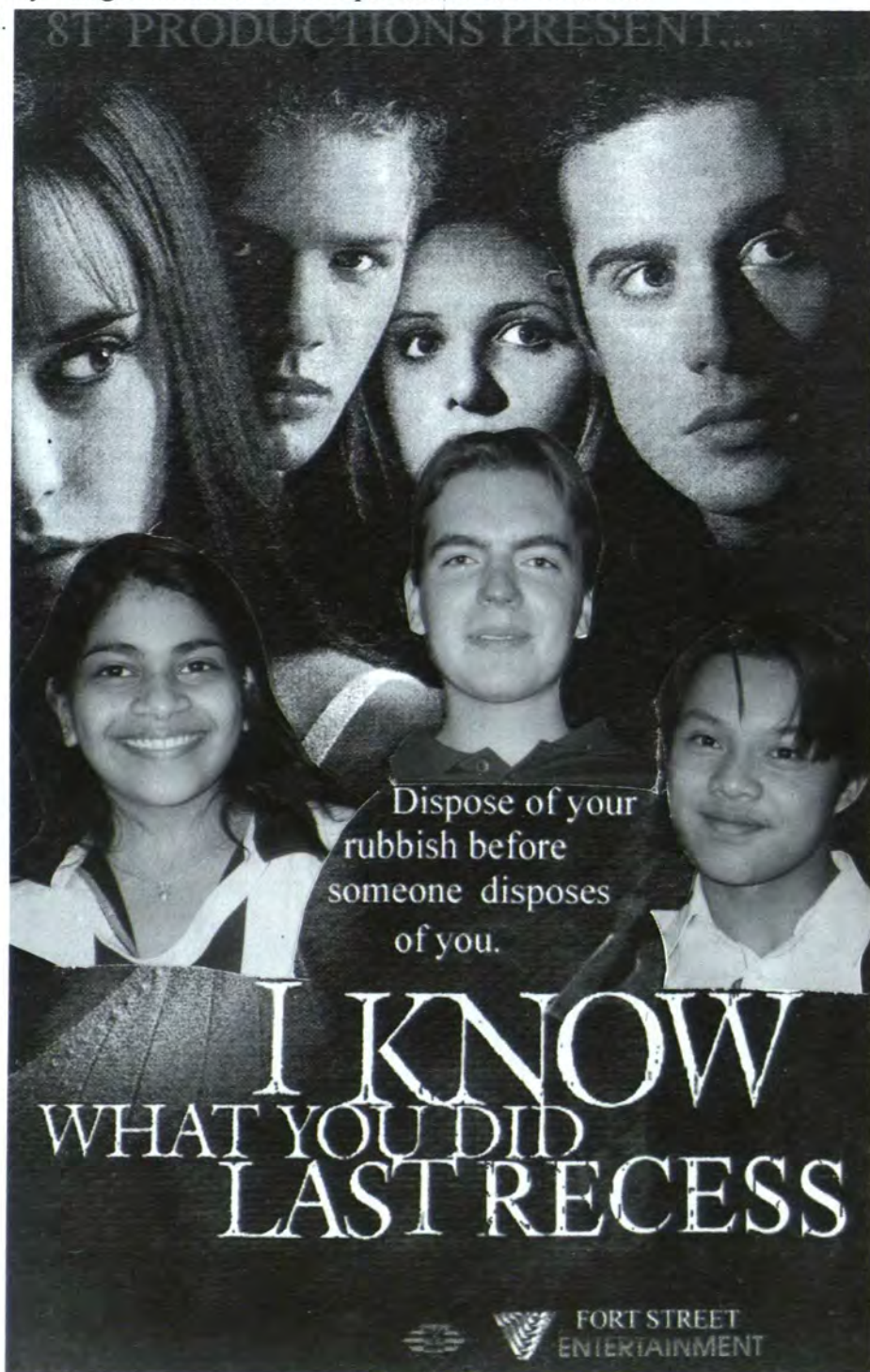
The students involved formed a production company (**8T Productions**) and were encouraged to take part in all aspects of production including conception, scriptwriting, acting, camera operation and poster design.

8T Productions should be congratulated for their enthusiasm, talent, dedication and hard work. The video is currently being distributed to all departments and forms and has to date has been well received.

Ian Rutherford.



Anurag Verma not casual about coming clean at the Fort





Being frivolous about formality –
Jay Karthavate meets Mr. Rutherford
(congratulations on a job well done)

Nurturing Our Environs



Alex Nikoliouk helps maintain our environs

Sound Engineers: Brendan Markey, Andrew Ta, Max Scholler-Root

Enviro Action!

By Ms L. Gilbert

Enviro Action has had a busy year. The highlight was the installation of bicycle parking facilities. This was achieved after many weeks of letter writing and negotiations with Bicycle N.S.W and Marrickville Council. We now have a small but dedicated group of cycling students who regularly take advantage of the safe parking. We would ask students to consider the cycling option. Busy roads surround us but if you are in the situation to do it, cycling to school is cheap, fun, healthy, gives you independence and you meet lots of interesting people riding bikes. Even if it is too far to ride to school you might consider riding to your nearest railway station and either parking or bringing your bike on the train.

The paper-recycling program continued this year despite early difficulties with collection. The school recycled 4080 kgs of mixed paper and 555 kgs of white paper. There is still a lot of paper going into the waste stream and we need to make the reduction of this amount a priority in 1999.

Next year Fort St, SCRAP (Schools Communities Recycling All Paper) and Marrickville Council will be co-operating on an initiative to reduce the school's waste drastically. This will involve separating green waste out of the stream as well as PET bottles and aluminium cans. The program will begin in early 1999 with a waste audit of the school.

Enviro Action had unfortunately lost the core of its membership with the departure of year twelve. These students did a terrific job and the efforts of Keyna Wilkins in particular can not go without a mention. Keyna is one of those very rare people who are totally committed to seeing the good ideas brought to fruition and it was largely because of her untiring efforts that Enviro Action has been able to achieve what it has. Now that these students have gone, Enviro Action is in danger of disappearing, so if you are a wormfarmer, a permaculturist, a gardener, a political campaigner, a traffic calmer, a recycler, a landcare or watercare expert, worried about the hole in the ozone or just interested, come along to Room 26 at lunchtimes on Fridays and MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



Tom Radford at the bike racks



Rory Dufficy, Nick Findlay and Felix McIntyre



Harry inspects the waste skip.



Emily Irvine, Elise Chen

Think Globally, Act Locally...



If you think that your little extra effort in putting your rubbish in the bin, won't make a difference, think again.

Our world is made up of all that is in it, and that includes Fort Street.

If everyone in the school - and elsewhere, puts their litter in the bin, it will make a difference

Re-think... Re-use... Recycle... Re-beautify

The Bicentenary of Fort Street High School

FORT STREET FIFTY YEARS FROM NOW

The last hip-hip-hurrahs of the School Song's new verse fade from the tuneless old piano. Before the assembly, the teacher waves her arms crossly, for everyone is talking. Eventually we sit, then stand again. Sit and stand, sit and stand. Again those chords, as we revise the bicentennial verse.

The old School has endured The School's 200th year!
And maintained her reputation, So hip hip hip hip hip hurrah
For now two hundred years, Hip hip hip hip hip hurrah
As the greatest of the nation, Hip hip hip hip hip hurrah
And so we cheer The School's 200th year!

They are new words, for an old school, sung in voices young and old alike, from the new year seven to the Deputy, a bellowing bass on stage. Sung again and again, as the School attempts to instill in its voice some of the passion and unity of a two hundred years old establishment. Yet all ears are met only with lethargy, a spirit waning with endless repeats.

Exasperation in his voice, the Deputy addresses us.

"Speech Day this year is a very special one for all of you; for some, this is your first, but for Fort Street's first alumni, this would be their two hundredth, a fact which you appear to have no respect for. On one hundred and ninety-nine Speech Days her students have raised their voices, celebrating the School's tradition and her future. A tradition which you seem entirely disinterested in. A tradition some of you— yes, I mean you— seem to intend to destroy. Speech Day 2049 is very, very special, and you will treat it as such. Now, if we could run more time through the School Song, then I will consider letting you go to lunch. With vigour, please!"

Finally we flow out of the hall, our ears ringing and our throats sore. Some gravitate towards the canteen, or each knot of friends towards their particular niche in the School grounds. I wander with my friends to poison ourselves as usual of a lunch time at the front of the School along Parramatta Road.

It is a hot day, seemingly hotter with the reflected heat and ceaseless traffic on Sydney's main road. We are grateful for the trees that shade the aluminium benches. I eat my lunch quietly while my friends struggle to complete an assignment, and let my eyes trace up the bright orange expanse of the old Miller's storage building. It is scarred now with scaffolding and drilled holes as workmen convert the landmark into Sydney's three zillionth block of luxury executive apartments.

Beyond the orange, someone with very poor colour sense has painted a brown sky, and on the other side of the road the blinding white-grey of the half-demolished car yard, now labeled simply 'Rick'. I follow the bright red parabola of the footbridge back across Parramatta Road. With smog and ugly buildings lingering in my mind's eye, I appreciate the lush green camelias and their deep red flowers that draw one's eye to the old sandstone steps, and the bed of roses in Fort Street's colours. My eyes continue up the facade, the brick, the beautiful old stone, and the paintwork, new ten years ago, but not peeling yet.

Solidity, stability, the School says to me. Then my eye is caught by the three flagpoles, proclaiming the School to the millions who traffic Parramatta Road: the national flag, the school flag, and now the bicentennial flag, where the Aboriginal flag would have been, before it replaced the Union Jack on the Australian flag. In that instant I share the Deputy's passion for the School, the Principal's preoccupation with Fort Street's bicentenary. I feel my heart skip a beat as I marvel at a

school that could endure so long to remain one of the foremost boys' schools in NSW.

I won a Computing Studies prize once and I joined the Principal for morning tea in his elegant office. On that occasion he had shown myself and a handful of other boys something of the School's annals, old Fortian Magazines, trophies, and photos. I had marveled then at how much the School had changed. I had pondered in horror the hygiene of the old canteen, pitied the students who spent six years in a school where the sockets for internet connections went two decades before the funds were found for computers and software, and stared appalled at students crossing Parramatta Road at street level. When I look around the School now, I see an institution equipped, if imperfectly, to give the most solid of educations: an extensive library, computers, the internet, a revamped hall, sportsfields, and new classrooms on the far side. But when I think of Fort Street of the present, I must remember that each facility I enjoy today, each extracurricular involvement, and every piece of equipment I touch was fought for and won for me by Fort Street through the ages.

Lately my fellow students have come to wince at the word 'bicentenary', moaned at speeches by students who had attended the School for the Sesquicentenary, hidden in the toilets at the mention of 'assembly', and dissociated themselves from those traditions, calling them old and unimportant. I had been one of those who called school pride 'uncool', but as I watch the School flag fluttering in the hot wind I realise the laborious preparations for the bicentenary are not ours to complain at. It is not *my* school; I am never alone in her corridors, but I am accompanied always by the echoed voices of all her students, past and present.

I wander away from my friends, who seem not to notice as they talk to their palm-tops, or I do not notice their reactions. I am overawed by a sense of Fort Street. *You are a Fortian*, the old sandstone, like Braille, seems to whisper to me as I pass my hand over the School's majestic flanks. *You are a part of Fort Street*, says the perfume of the Fort Street Rose, as it meanders through my airways, *Fortians fought for you*.

I move up the stairs and into the anteroom of our Principals' office. *Faber est suae quisque fortunae*, reads a wooden plaque in antique tongue. But it is a motto remembered in Fort Street, as all traditions are remembered by her. *Past, Present, and Future*, says another plaque, and I recognise that what is important in the School is not so much to learn, to make friends, nor to improve oneself, but to glorify the School. The School's name must live on, Fortians must people the earth!

I realise I am wandering, jaw agape. *So uncool*, I tell myself, and hurry to rejoin my friends.

"Yeah, I'm getting sick of this bicentenary thing too," I say, and nod feverishly in agreement.

The next day, I act the same, and nobody suspects that I wear my school badge pinned to my underpants, and keep a portrait of our Principal by my bedside.

Now in English I am faced with a creative writing exercise: my vision of Fort Street in 50 years time.

The School will be exactly the same, I write, *for Fort Street has no past, present or future, but is a glorious constant, whose subtle evolution is merely superficial... But one thing will have changed, it is I who shall be Principal!*

Kit Morrell Year Twelve

12:42 am

Sascha Morrell, Year Ten

BLURRED

Blurred
Anxiously blurred
At wait at the edge
A hand clutching air
CLUTCHING AIR
A hand like a hawk
Missing the prey
A prelude
As the fugue
Goes astray
A rising falling
Banging breath
In my head
In my head head head
Everything
Is dead
Everything is dead

DEADLOOP

I'm in a deadloop
By a deadpool
And my whining
My wringing ears
Winding out their time
In a yellow rhythm box
Until the slow
The slow, the
SLOW
The wake ache
The sleepy sleepy ache
To sleep and ache
To sleep sleep sleep
To see what I want
Is blurred
Everything is blurred.

Barb

BARBED

I am a thorny
A thorny fading
Syllable
Of an ugly nasal
Language,
Hurting
HURTING HURTING
Hot ears
Beating
Myself against
My own sad membranes
And the rising singing
Is dying
Slowly
And softly
In my bad bad bad bad brain
And all my brains
Are breaking
Everything is breaking.

The Circle

Kit Morrell, Year Twelve

Look within the world of living green
That sweats a mist in the summer sun:
Warm breezes shake the bright canopy
And trembling yellow pools the ground.
Beneath my feet the earth is damp and warm,
Waxy leaves bend to my gait,
Lie with me beside the stream
Where lazy water music fills the day.
The dewy air is alive, we shall see—
Rich sight and sound, light and shade—
The wren's full warble comes with ease,
And hazy gnats on a kissing breeze.
Flitted feathers dipped and shook
Toss crystal droplets in the sun,
Caught by the bending fronds of fern
That drinking deep clothe the bank.
Deep-red berries load the trees
And beckon the birds there too:
Listen to the music soft
Of fruit dropped upon the moss.
But soon the summer day grows old,
Light fades and rosy evening comes;
So summer days must away
To autumn's dry and winter's frost.
Do you see that last browned leaf
Hung quivering on the naked bow?
Do you see I am as that leaf:
Winter takes me too away.
The night is drowned in noises, hush,
Listen, hear the beating of my heart.
Time will damp this steady drum,
But nature brings new music in its place.
A chorus wakes with the setting sun,
New voices must rise to herald the dawn;
We shall say farewell but look to the east,
Look, see a new light comes there.



Lucy Zhou – Year 7

The Fort

Jack Tiewes, Year Eleven

As my time here comes to an end,
I reflect.
I think of all the experiences,
That I've had in this one place.
Small triumphs and small tragedies
On my own road to adult life.
I've made some true friends,
Gained some real respect,
Had some great fun,
Some good days.
Some bad days.
And I've learned here.
If nothing else, I've learned.
Not simply about history,
Science, law, art,
And literature good and bad.
But about bigger things:
I've learnt how to work hard,
And how to live with others.
I've learnt to deal with troubles,
And to make good times count.
I've learnt about life.
Just from being here.
And there's a reason I've learned
In this school I've been free,
Free to learn what I want
At my own pace,
In my own way.
This Fort has been a place
Where the teachers are different,
Most of them, I think
Actually want us to learn.
I've been given the chances
To learn for myself,
For my whole life's knowledge
Not just to be programmed
For that looming HSC.
I don't quite remember
Who was the first to say
That here, in this Fort
We will get ourselves ready
For all that's imminently ahead.
Here we start to pack our bags,
And leave behind our childhood.
Some pack faster than others
In their impatience to leave,
For the next big step in life.
Others dawdle a bit behind the rest,
Enjoying their last fleeting chance
To be only kids, and nothing more.
But for most of us,
We are done packing up
Our bags are zipped shut.
And we can look outside now,
To see what's just about here.
For me, the schooldays are nearly over now,
And I take stock of all I've learned here.
Here, in this Fort.
I've packed my bag of memories,
Because my childhood is over.
Whatever is ahead,
I'm ready.

Our bit for Amnesty

By Nancy Chen, Grace Brown
and Santhi Chalasani, Year 11

Amnesty International is a group which fights for human rights all over the world. It is responsible for the freedom and well-being of countless individuals who, because of their religious, political, moral or ethical beliefs, have been wrongfully imprisoned and subjected to emotional and physical trauma.

Fort Street's Amnesty group meets every Wednesday lunchtime in room K15 to do their bit in helping these people, through letter writing and fundraising, the most recent being Candle Day.

On Friday, October 23 a large group of students from years 7, 8 and 9 led by Amnesty members went to the city to help raise money for Candle Day. After a tiring but fulfilling day, Fort Street raised most money of all NSW schools: just over \$12,000. This is the second time Fort Street has raised most money on Candle Day. Many thanks to all involved.

The other major event of the year was a seminar for Cambodian refugees, at Granville TAFE in July. The four-hour seminar covered many topics including torture of Cambodian people in their homeland, and social and family problems experienced by newly settled refugees. It gave valuable insights into what can be done to minimise the trauma suffered by refugees seeking asylum and a new life in Australia. The seminar also meant we tried some delicious Cambodian food. Thanks to Ms Jamble for organising Fort Street's role in the event.

All are welcome at Amnesty meetings; we could really use the support. If you want to do a bit to ensure basic human rights for all, drop in to K15 on Wednesday lunchtime. Every little bit helps.



FRONT ROW: Cindy Sheu, Nancy Chen, Grace Brown, Monica Wong, Grace Ma, Keyna Wilkins
BACK ROW: Santhi Chalasani, Anthony Horler, Nicholas Falkinder, Tamara Pearson, Anna Van



Tournament of Minds

THE MINDS



Arwen
Cross yr9

The engineer and playwright. Her wordsmithing enlivened our plays. Her engineering abilities turned our ideas on paper to a professional toy.



Chris
Kang yr8

A divergent thinker who has learned some sewing skills - incredible.



Alex
Hill yr11

Generous with precious time, his experience and comments were invaluable. Thanks Alex!



Vita
Gray yr7

High energy and drive made her a dedicated, member of the team who attended every meeting and worked creatively on costumes and props.

The inhabitants of planet SQUASH face doom because of a giant racket in their universe. In order to save themselves, the Squashlings must move their planet.

Before hand Long boring speeches fly over our heads as we sit biting our fingernails. "Welcome to the 1998 Tournament of Minds STATE FINAL! Today you will have three hours to work on your long term problem. During this time you will be called on to complete your ten minute spontaneous problem. Good Luck!" We find our clinically detached supervisor, say goodbye to Alex and proceed to a locked room.

3.00 We frantically read the problem - move a planet?! After a rushed discussion on how this defied the laws of physics and was completely unfair we begin.

2.45 Arwen, Thomas and Chris with Vita's unsolicited help agonize over a planet moving device to be constructed from a



The Dungeon

*Twos half the time past,
When we found it at last
A room down below,
Our ultimate woe.*

*Like cow dung it smelt,
And all of us felt,
We'd have to clear up,
Before we threw up.*

*Day after day,
In that 4 by 2 room,
We worked without stopping
In darkness and gloom.*

*There was barely room,
For the seven of us,
At the dungeon's dimensions,
We often did cuss.*

*All of our work,
Was eventually done,
And on the big day,
We joyfully won.*

TOM is an interschool competition which our team of seven students began working on in the first week of term three. They worked in a "room" in the foundations of the school on their dramatic and engineering skills with problem solving. They won at regional and received honours at state level.

limited collection of straws, paddle pop sticks and other oddments. Whilst Xavier, Beth and Allannah begin designing fashionable crepe paper costumes for the squashlings.

2.30 The unwanted interruption of the "spontaneous problem" falls upon us and brings the pain of failure; we didn't get all our ideas written down.

2.00 Xavier and Arwen begin work on the script, a fantasy of Kings, Queens, explorers and squashlings. "Somebody think of some Squash Puns! Squash Puns!!" echoed throughout the room. "What about racket and racquet?" The supervisor flinched, so she really is alive?

2.30 Vita has a fit, "Why won't you just let me do what I want?! I came to all the meetings!" "No! We need you on costumes!"

1.00 "One hour to go!!" Arwen leaves the script to "save" the machine. "Chill out okay!" says Thomas. "This masking tape is giving me a headache" says Chris. "Xavier! I thought you said I could be in charge of the costumes; Allannah's being bossy!" cries Beth. Xavier spends precious minutes

THE MINDS



Xavier
McKenzie yr9

She was our costume and prop designer and kept the team together with her dedication. She is a playwright with a creative and poetic style.



Beth
Lalor yr7

Our artist in residence. Assisted with costumes, designing and creating her own.



Thomas
Costa yr10

Contributes engineering and acting skills! He gave us acting lessons and the ability to deal with stressful situations.



Allannah
Schumann yr7

Hands on skills with costumes and the large and colourful backdrop were vital.

calming people down. "Shut up Allannah!"

0.45 "Arwen's pissed!" -Chris.

0.10 Xavier is reading the script aloud as time for a rehearsal disappears. Over this Thomas is telling us all to calm down. Everyone is frantically finishing off and cleaning up. Muffled screams waft in from other rooms, other teams are having dilemmas too.

0.00 Still cleaning up, Thomas continues in his efforts to repair the machine that still doesn't work.

Performance We slip into our dazzling costumes and step onto the stage. "I've been thinking, all these years, that the whole universe is just a giant game of squash" says the squashing philosopher to the queen... "Let the planet be launched into another universe!" commands the queen. The planet proceeded to fall to its doom, three times. Ad lib, ad lib, ad lib, "It's been sabotaged!" ad lib ad lib.

Afterwards CHOCOLATE SCREAM RUN RUN RUN PARANOIA "My Shoe" chocolate "You read Barbie magazine?!" Run

Presentation TOURNAMENT HONOURS - Fort Street - OVERCOMING HURDLES WITH LATERAL THINKING

Tournament of Minds

Putting their minds to it

The school's Tournament of Minds team made it to the state finals. Arwen Cross, of Year 10, tells what happened.

In September the Tournament of Minds team headed to the Macquarie Uni campus for the State final round. We arrived by 8am, and after a lengthy welcome, during which we somehow woke up enough to hear the difference between Fort Street and our competitors Hawkesbury, we were shut in a room. The seven of us managed to survive three hours together while our facilitator, Alex Hill, endured the boredom outside.

Struggling with paddlepop sticks, straws, Blu-Tak, thumb tacks, rubber bands and balloons, our aim was to transport the Planet Squash, complete with squashing population, to a parallel universe away from the great Racquet in the Sky. The idea was to work up a brief and witty play around this idea, while building a gadget that would fling the "planet" (in reality, a rubber squash ball) a metre or two into one of several small holes on a board.

Somehow we wrote a play, made costumes and created our unique machine, and went for lunch. We returned to find that our Planet Squash had been accidentally put in a rubbish bin, not the props box. The judges gave us a spare ball and we thought we were OK to start our performance. But before we could, the new ball slipped down the back of a computer console, never to be retrieved! A kindly other team lent us their ball, so we proceeded.

As some of the team struggled with the performance lines, after little time to rehearse, others tried to fix our machine. But the poor planet kept falling off its starting point before it even began its journey, and reached a new universe only once in the three tries allowed. I'm afraid there were a lot of squashed Squashlings, and we too felt somewhat squashed after spending more than half our performance improvising.

Needless to say, we didn't win, but our team was given tournament honours for ingenuity in over-coming hurdles, which there were certainly a lot of.



Tournament of The Minds Team:

Alannah Schuman, Arwen Cross, Chris Kang, Xavier McKenzie,
Alex Hill, Vita Gray and Bethany Lalor

An Australian at last

By Nikki Peng, Year 8

It was such a feeling to watch her walking slowly down the stony stairs in her pure white wedding gown. She looked like a princess. We had never seen her so beautiful before. Usually her face was pallid, her eyes showing exhaustion, and a thick layer of lipstick hiding dry and cracked lips. She was always too busy to look after her appearance and dress up properly.

But today she looked as if she had a complete make-over; everyone said the beautician and hairdresser had done a great job. I bet it did not take them much effort to make my aunt look pretty, because if you looked closely at her you could see the facial structure of a supermodel.

"Through sickness and in health, for richer or poorer ..." she read with care and nervously although she had practised it many times. Those words seemed so magical that the entire venue went silent except the sweet sounds of the wedding bells. Everyone was smiling with tears because they were so happy for her. She had found happiness at last, but the image of her with her watery eyes telling me about her painful story was still so vivid.

Aunt Catherine had just turned 28 in July and was having her second, and hopefully last, wedding. She had lived in Australia for more than 10 years. As a teenager she had come during the 1988 Tiananmen Square rally at Beijing, China. She had been through tough time before getting Australian citizenship; that certificate was priceless to her because she earned it with blood and sweat.

She arrived in Australia with only a suitcase of clothes and very little money. Fortunately she found a relative who let her stay at her place, and she went to study English. After searching for months she found an office job, and continued to study at night while working by day. She seldom had time for a nap, to give her feet a rest or even fix herself a nice meal.

During that time she met Robert. He was so charming she fell in love with him. "I was desperate for love and security," she told me later. "He was honest to me and seemed to care about me so I thought he must be the right one for me."

But it never turned out to be right. They were married within a year and the problems started almost instantly. Her mother-in-law detested her and told her son she married him to gain citizenship. The arguments and angry shouts hardly ceased. Her husband stood by his mother. The passion between Catherine and her husband faded away. He treated her like a slave with no love. He verbally abused her and did not provide her with enough food or warmth. At night he would push her out into the freezing dark room of the old grocery store he owned. After three years they divorced.

"There was so much I could do with my life, but he thought I was a useless woman who couldn't take care of herself properly," she told me. "But I thanked him for that. Without him, I would not have become so successful because I was determined to show him I could do something."

She studied to become an accountant and found a career. Her new husband was also a successful businessman, so much more handsome and wealthier, and he loved her more than anyone. He was 13 years older and had two children of his own, so some people said she married him for his money. This time Aunt Catherine did not allow the gossips to affect the relationship; she ignored them and got on with her life.

She could be very clear-minded on finding ways to solve problems. Her dazzling smile and sparkling eyes could persuade people to follow her instructions.

Since she became an accountant she had more time to enjoy her life. She bought a house near a beach and went to vacation every year. Before then she worked 18 hours a day and did not look her age at all. She had soft skin with no wrinkles, but you could only see a mature woman and a workaholic in her eyes.

We were happy for her because she had finally realised that among the privileges of being an Australian was enjoying the sunshine, the golden beaches and the high standard of living.

"I do," she said calmly. Everyone applauded. "You may now kiss the bride." Aunt Catherine began her new life in Australia under a white canvas in the Botanic Gardens opposite the magnificent Sydney Opera House.



Etching: Jee Hyun Kim - Yr.10

Instrumental Music Program

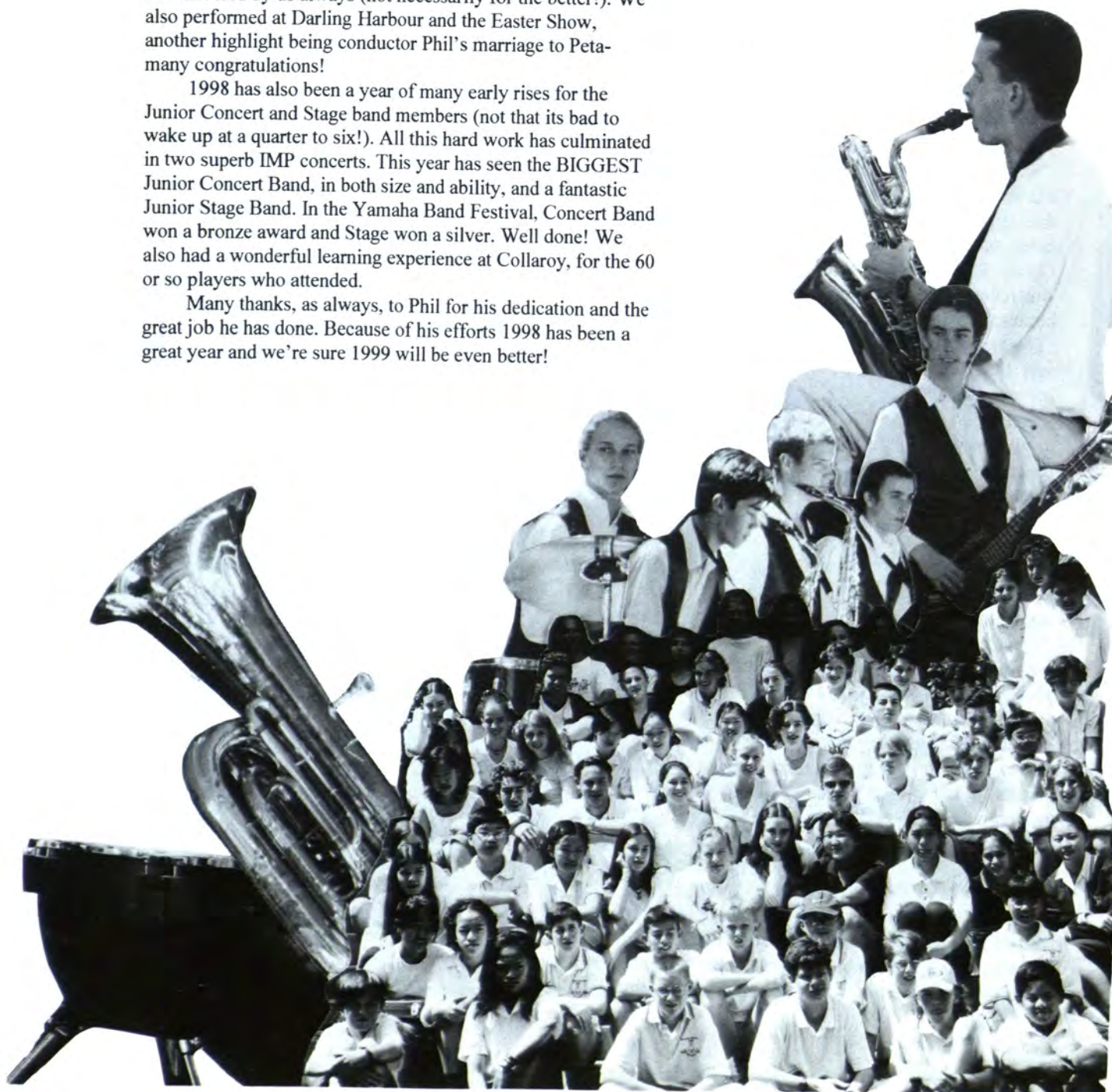
Bands

Life has been great for both the Senior Concert and Stage bands during 1998. It's been a hectic year, with many concerts and appearances, and we are looking forward to its culmination with the inaugural IMP tour in the second-last week of Term 4. We had lots of success at the Yamaha band festival with Senior Band getting a gold award (we nearly won!) and Stage Band earning a bronze. Stage Band also played at the Manly Jazz Festival, and were definitely the highlight of the weekend.

The two IMP concerts (Under the Big Top and Music Around the World) proved yet again that the IMP can always put on a good show. Music Around the World had special significance, as we farewelled the famous Year 12's. Their rendition of "Macho Man" (as The Village People) will be remembered by us always (not necessarily for the better!). We also performed at Darling Harbour and the Easter Show, another highlight being conductor Phil's marriage to Peta-many congratulations!

1998 has also been a year of many early rises for the Junior Concert and Stage band members (not that it's bad to wake up at a quarter to six!). All this hard work has culminated in two superb IMP concerts. This year has seen the BIGGEST Junior Concert Band, in both size and ability, and a fantastic Junior Stage Band. In the Yamaha Band Festival, Concert Band won a bronze award and Stage won a silver. Well done! We also had a wonderful learning experience at Collaroy, for the 60 or so players who attended.

Many thanks, as always, to Phil for his dedication and the great job he has done. Because of his efforts 1998 has been a great year and we're sure 1999 will be even better!



Strings and Orchestra

1998 will have been George Ellis' last year with Fort Street IMP for some time, and it was a great one for the strings and orchestra. We had many successful out of school concerts, including a recital at the Wesley Institute where George teaches conducting.

Every Monday and Thursday, George would push us that little bit further and spur us on with his unforgettable humour. As a group we progressed in leaps and bound we are all eternally grateful for the skills George has given us. What was more important to us than the performances, which can sometimes be a enjoyable but mixed bag, was the wonderful tutelage we received 'behind the scenes'. We all felt a real improvement in our skills and ability to work as a group- the byproduct of the an extremely talented young conductor and one whose loss, however long it may last, will certainly be very strongly felt (and hopefully not too strongly heard).

1998 has also seen the beginning of a new ensemble, Junior Strings. This has given beginner musicians a chance to play in an orchestral situation, which is extremely beneficial to the learning process. The group also provides more advanced volunteer students with a chance to lead and conduct an ensemble. As we watch valued Year 12 members move on, the fast-learning junior strings members can prepare to move up.

Thank you George, for everything, and good luck to you on your time away from us. We wish you all the best in every way. THANKS for a great three years.



George Ellis



Farewell to George

I remember the day when George first came to us at the beginning of 1996. There must have only been about five or six of us at that stage and I think the noises we made that day could've been classified as anything but music. I'm sure he was secretly shocked and horrified, and I'm surprised he didn't just walk out the door and never come back.

But no, he stuck with us and persevered. Over the years we've battled it out, growing larger and stronger as a group. He was constantly pushing us that little bit further, to that slightly higher level we never realised we were capable of. Most importantly though, George made music so much fun for us all, and for that we will be forever grateful.

We can't believe George is leaving us. We will never forget his enthusiasm, his faith in us, his amazing ability to be so happy and energetic at 7:30 in the morning, and yes, his terrible jokes. The orchestra has become incredibly attached to this wonderful man and we will all miss his presence immensely. I think the only words to sum this up (on behalf of the orchestra) are thankyou George, thankyou, thankyou!

-Nana Frishling, Yr. 11

Careering ahead

By Phil Canty, Careers Adviser

With the introduction of new procedures where schools no longer are informed of students' university admission ranking (UAI), it has become a little harder to see how the Class of '97 performed. As usual, at the start of '98 the school wrote to all of the previous year's HSC students and asked for their tertiary entrance rank, where applicable, and career plans. But of the 156 only 55 replied to the school; disappointing indeed. Let's hope future students respond to this request in greater numbers.

Listed in the Fortian is a summary of university placements based on information received from the Universities Admission Centre, which shows a minimum of 85% of Fortians are heading to university.

Work experience, in Year 10 or 11, is progressing on the basis that it is optional and the student is highly motivated and keen to explore career options. This program is now flexible and can occur at virtually any time other than during exams.

The Joint Secondary Schools Program expanded in 1998 to include Term 4 courses for Year 10 students. It is pleasing to see that 18 chose to do a course over 12 days after the School Certificate exams, at Petersham, Ultimo and Enmore TAFE colleges. This will give them a one-unit course to include in their Preliminary Units of study. The courses included hospitality, real estate, aeronautics, child studies, fashion manufacturing, design, office studies, media and music. For 1999 it looks as though 35 Year 11 students will do a course at either Petersham, Ultimo, Meadowbank, Lidcombe, Enmore or Eora TAFE colleges.

Those who took part in the Young Achievement Business Skills program cannot be congratulated enough for their efforts. Look for the photos from the annual YA presentation night at Darling Harbour. You find Fortians everywhere: one of the YA company advisers from Andersen Consulting was Barbara Kwitakowski from the Class of 1992.

Anna in Italy

By Phil Canty, Careers Adviser

Anna Valpiani, of Year 12, won a full two-year United World Colleges scholarship to study in Italy for the International Baccalaureate, an equivalent course to our HSC. Competition for this scholarship was open to all Year 11 and 12 students studying in Australia. It pays for all tuition and accommodation for two years.

Anna is the fifth Fortian in four years to win a United World Colleges scholarship. In 1997 Naomi de Costa headed for America and Julitha Harsas to India, both on half-scholarships. Both have been having a wonderful time, and visited the school on their mid-year break. In 1996 Vanessa Tran won a full scholarship to study in Hong Kong, as did Sharm Peres de Costa the previous year.

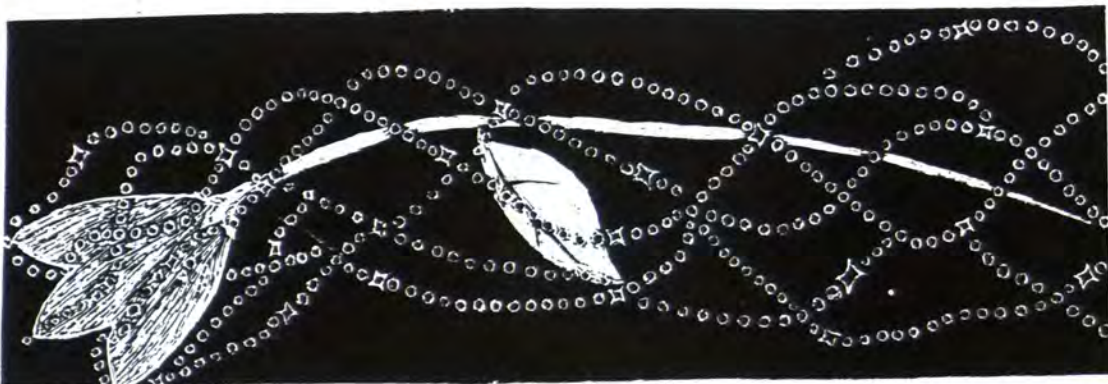
Anna's achievement continues the Fortian tradition of producing students with a strong academic calibre, social responsibility and a sense of adventure. The school looks forward to welcoming Anna during her semester break in '99 and hearing of her experiences further down the track.

80th Anniversary Armistice Day

Report by Justin Tsuei and Grace Brown

On 11th November, we accompanied Mr Glebe to represent the school at the Remembrance Day Morning Service at St Andrews Cathedral. During the service, attended by various schools, community and Defence Force representatives, as well as two WW1 and numerous WW2 veterans, we listened to a number of emotive war poems, recited by representatives from various private schools, a performance by the St Andrews choir boys, and speeches including one by Governor of NSW the Hon. Gordon Samuels. In addition to this, the traditional aspects of Remembrance Day were observed, including the traditional carrying of wreaths; and we the audience participated in the hymns which were followed by the emotionally-charged sermon.

Shortly before 11 am the congregation proceeded to the Cenotaph at Martin Place, attended by the State Premier Bob Carr, to observe a minute's silence.



Jose Ruaya yr. 8

Debaters in zone wins

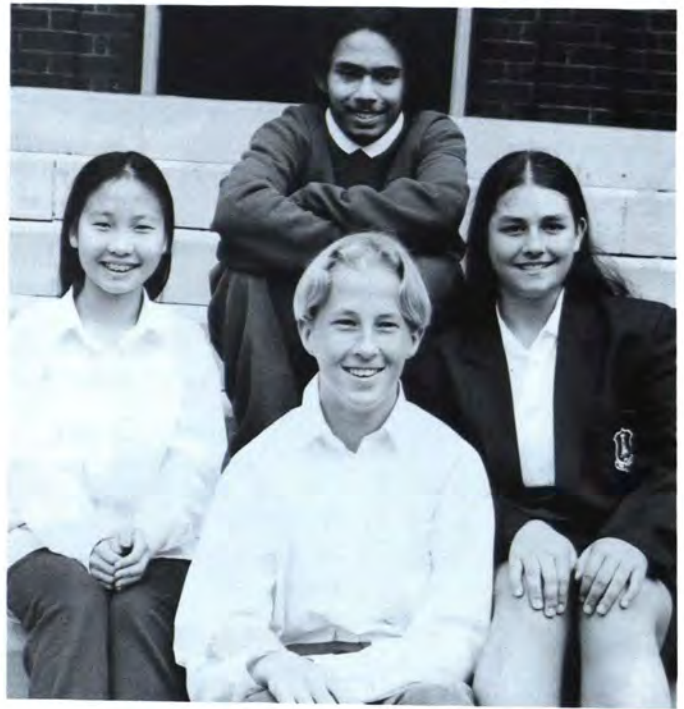
by Mrs M. Hosking, Debating Co-ordinator

Fort Street entered four debating teams in the inter-school competitions this year. All were a credit to the school, with the Year 11 and Year 12 teams winning their district zones.

The members were: **Year 12:** Daniel Brass, Cameron Maxwell, Kit Morrell and Fionnuala Brown. **Year 11:** Theresa McSpedden, Nicholas Lucchinelli, Caroline Malcolm and Amanda Nurse. **Year 10:** Keeley McNamara, Joel Bedford, Thutta Nguyen and Dennis Singh. **Year 8:** Emily Irvine, Andrew Ta, Elise Chen and Paul Young.

Congratulations also to Joel Bedford who was chosen to represent Metropolitan East Zone at the regional debating workshop; to the Years 11 and 12 teams who helped prepare the junior teams; and to the Year 10 team who helped in preparing the Year 8 side for their first experience of inter-school competitions.

Finally, special thanks to Mr Ambler, the Year 11 coach, and Ms McDonald, the Year 10 team coach.



Year 10 Debating: Dennis Singh, Thu-Ha Nguyen, Keely McNamara, Joel Bedford



Year 12 Debating:

Ms Hosking,
Fionnuala Browne,
Kit Morrell,
Cameron Maxwell,
Daniel Brass

Back then ...

'Fort Street school blazer and badge tailor-made, only 37 shillings and sixpence each.' Advertisement in The Fortian, June 1923. The price was less than two pounds, or four dollars!

Back then ...

'Fortians, can you ever forget your school and staff, can you ever forget their kindness, the inspiration they have given you for your after-life, the armour in which they have clad you, the traditions they have handed down to you? You will never forget, you cannot.'

Part of the School Captain's speech at the Senior Dinner, from The Fortian, December 1914

VISUAL ARTS '98



Gargoyles
Year 9



Masks
Year 8



POP ART-Year 11

Peer Support 1998

Report by coordinators Kate McGown/Kay Johnson

Peer Support is an important aspect of the welfare program in the school. It enables the Year 11 peer support leaders to develop leadership, organisational and social skills while giving the new Year 7 students guidelines and help with settling into their new environment. Both the leaders and the Year 7 students enjoyed the experience and developed friendships with each other which further enhanced the friendly and tolerant environment which exists in the school. Thank you very much to our 1998 leaders for your effort.

PEER SUPPORT LEADERS REPORT

Immediately following Peer Support Training Camp in late 1997, our newly qualified peer support leaders were ready to take on the challenge of helping the newest bunch of Fortians, in tackling the normal day to day problems of high school life.

The actual Peer Support program started on the first school day of 1998, when the Year 7 students were divided into 15 groups of 10 kids. With high numbers of enthused leaders, every group was allocated 3 Peer Support leaders, and each of them played their part.

We started the program off by getting to know each other. As most students who attend Fort St come from areas all over Sydney, getting to know each other, Year 7 and Year 11 alike is often difficult, and so the Peer Support leaders felt that getting to know each other was particularly important. Throughout the program, our friendships grew in magnitude and this would not have been possible without the aid of the Peer Support program.

the program also covered such areas as day to day high school life, improving confidence in students, leadership skills, communication skills, learning to take responsibility, empathy and saying No to Peer Pressure and difficult situations. All these areas were made aware to the Year Sevens and all benefited. The year 11 students also benefited

through this program, gaining skills mainly in the areas of leadership, confidence, communication and responsibility.

With both Year 7 and Year 11 learning from the experience, the 1998 Peer Support Program would be regarded as a success. Friendships were created throughout the program that will last, we hope, for many years to come. I recommend being a part of peer Support for anyone who is willing and from the Peer Support Leaders, I would like to thank Mrs McGown and Mrs Johnson for all their efforts in running the 1998 Peer Support Program.

YEAR SEVENS' REPORT

By Micheala Pollock and Chiara Bianchino

Peer Support this year has been a great experience for everyone. At the beginning of the year when we had senior students for Peer Support leaders it was great because they taught us three very important things;

1. Going into the valley is a death mission
2. What some of the teachers are like (!)
3. Peer support is 'fun'

Without the important information we doubt half our year would be alive today.

At Peer Support camp we learnt another three important things;

1. What contaminated pool water looks like
2. What contaminated food tastes like, and
3. That Ms Ireland is *always* listening.

Peer Support helped us in many different ways. If you had a problem, it was good to talk to someone about it who would listen and try to help. We discussed subjects like friendship, starting at a new school, study plans and stress. Peer Support was a good way for new students to get acquainted with the school, make new friends, get to know some of the seniors and just learn some of life's little important facts.

All in all, Peer Support was a great help to everyone that was involved. On behalf of Year 7 we'd like to thank the Year 11 students and teachers involved in Peer Support.



Peer Support leaders Jessika Gauke and Laura Tania with Year Sevens.

Young Achievement Business Skills Program

By Rushmia Karim

Sure, you have heard of Young Achievers. But what is it exactly? It's real. The people are real, the problems are real, and the money is real. Year 11, TAFE and university students set up a real mini company and operate it. The students are responsible for everything in the company, from choosing the name of the company, issuing shares to the public, and manufacturing, marketing and financing the product. Companies are set due to area of preference and thus the participants from Fort Street were spread out into various companies. Some of us did not know anyone at first but by the end we made friends and gained valuable skills in company operations by the end of the 24-week program.

This year's range of products included fluffy pens (Meridian), pencil cases (Inertya), books (Yaztec), original ideas such as job guides (Luniniya), car care kits (Yafule) and not to mention those must-have heat packs (Brillyant).

It was an opportunity for students to experience the dramas of a company for real and most student who took part believe it to be one of the best extra-curricular activities offered to Year 11 students. The program is a mix of hard work with the formation of teams, executives, and production of products, but despite all the responsibilities there were activities ranging through the course, which were heaps of fun. This included Young Achievers camp attended by Nancy Tchou and the Annual Trade Fair attended by most NSW companies held in the Convention Centre at Darling Harbour. Brillyant won Best Stand at this event and a high commendation for the environmental award. Inertya and Brillyant were given Blue Chip status and became finalists for Company of the Year. Inertya was given a high commendation for their annual report. There were other various social activities between and within companies.

Individual Fortians excelled in the Young Businessperson of the Year Competition, where Andrew Bishop, Andrew Tang and Justin Tsei were finalists.

The end of YA is highly satisfying; all companies with Fort Street students make profits. The program prepares you for a range of careers not just in business, finance, manufacturing or marketing; it equips you with leadership and teamwork skills useful in all forms of work. I urge anyone remotely interested in this to at least try it. I loved the experience myself; my only regret is that it wasn't longer!

Students involved include: Irenen Cheung, Steven Huang, Brendan De Conceicao, Nancy Tchou, Sophia Law, Stephanie Law, Terence Chu, Jeremy Ong (Meridian); Toby Allen (Short Fire Creyations) Andrew Tang, Anne Lam, Justin Tsuei (Luminiya), Ben Laue, Tran Vuong, Andrew Bishop, Nancy Chen (Inertya), Yankit Lam (Yaztec) Kelvin Leung (Yafule) and Rushmia Karim (Brillyant)



Andrew Bishop and Toby Allen selling Young Achiever's products.



David Ng won the Soroptomists Encouragement award (shown at the presentation with two Soroptomists and Mr Canty).





Students from Newtown HSPA and Fort Street High School attended the launch of the Workplace Handbook for Government Schools at Parliament House. Pictured (from left to right) with the Right Honorable Minister for Education, Mr. John Aquilina are Alex Armeri, Marc Howlin, Thu-Ha Nguyen and Charles Forrester.



Many guests visit the school to consult with year 12 students. Seen here is Professor Miraid Browne from the University of Technology. She was kind enough to visit the school twice. On the second visit is discussed the communications courses offered at the UTS. She used to be the Dean of the Faculty before moving onto becoming the Dean of the Graduate School at the UTS. Other guests during the year included representatives from Sydney University, UTS, Macquarie Uni, Work Solutions, Youth Discovery Programs, Co-op Program at UNSW, Army, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, The Australian Taxation Office and Youth for Understanding.



Girls in engineering.

Seen here is Elizabeth Lee busy at work with students from other schools at the UTS Engineering day. The Fort Street students came equal first in their endeavor to be a self standing structure from newspapers. This was the first time males were also invited to join in the fun.

Where technology lives with tradition

Frewen Lam, Year 11, reports on the three-week visit to Japan by Yr 10 and 11 students

The three-week trip to Japan in September provided a totally new experience for most of us. It was very impressive to see such a technologically advanced country maintaining its traditions. I especially enjoyed learning at first hand about Japanese culture and day-to-day life style -- great insight into the culture differences between our countries.

The amazing temples and shrines are a few of Japan's most articulate architectural structures and definitely furthered our knowledge of Japan's history. The visits to Himeji castle, Miyajima, Byodo-in and the Dai-Butsu (Big Buddha) were fascinating. It was interesting to learn about the spiritual importance of these and the time and effort involved in building them, so many centuries ago.

Two weeks we spent attending Yamasaki High School was another experience altogether. It was an eye-opener to observe student life-styles -- especially the extra-curricular activities. Club activities, which most students were involved in, showed us much organisation and ability. The gymnastics, in which both male and female took part, allowed us to witness student diligence to the fullest.

Yamasaki High School put on special performances to show the special skills of students. We were also introduced to ikebana, the traditional Japanese flower arranging; it was nice to create such art of our own.

The lives of Japanese students, and the people in general, are a lot different from those in Australia. Japan, as we learnt, is a very fast-moving country with many new things for the visitor to see. In particular, the technology was very impressive.

We spent the first week totally independent, but the next two weeks with host families really opened our eyes to Japanese life and culture. Each of us was accepted as a family member during our stay. I tried many foods that were totally new and very delicious.

There were many discussions with the students, and especially our host families, on Australian culture and life style and comparing the things that are popular in each country. The lingual challenge most definitely increased our skill in the Japanese language. The entire experience was most motivational.

Drama Report

Mr Jon Suffolk

English Report 1998

Ms L. Gilbert

As Year 10 and Year 12 English courses are in the process of undergoing extensive changes, 1998 has been much 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 are already filtering through to the Year Seven, Eight and Nine courses.

An Analysis of the strengths and weaknesses proposed year Twelve H.S.C Syllabus was also undertaken. It is clear that many aspects of this syllabus may not necessarily serve the students at Fort St and it is to be hoped that time will be taken to address these concerns.

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

- Year 7: Performance Poetry
- Year 8: So Much to Tell You
- Year 9: Letters from the Inside
- Year 10: Something Wicked This Way Comes
- Year 11: King Lear, Macbeth
- Year 12: Summer of the Seventeenth Doll

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 performed creditably
- Year 8 were offered inter-school debating for the first time and performed creditably.
- All junior years 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.

The Sydney Morning Herald Young Writer of the Year Competition attracted strong interest with a particularly strong showing from Year Seven. Unfortunately the Herald has made the entry conditions for this competition much more difficult and it is likely that we will find other outlets for the writing talents of our students in 1999.

Next year the staff will again be involved in incorporating the changes in the new year Ten syllabus into the junior programs and trying to prepare for the introduction of the new H.S.C syllabus. 1999 looks to be another busy, challenging and interesting year.

Back then ...

From The Fortian, August 1915: *'We have received a poem entitled 'Australians at Gallipoli'. While applauding the sentiment of the piece, we regret that its literary talent is not high enough to permit insertion. 'Combing' and 'moaning' we are afraid do not rhyme.'*

As the newest subject on the Fort St Curriculum, Drama has had a most successful and exciting year during 1998. It is becoming increasingly obvious that gifted and talented students respond very well to this subject in both its practical and its written components. Discovering skills in teamwork, cooperation, negotiation and critical analysis through the processes of Drama is rewarding and challenging.

This year there were three elective drama classes in the school. The Year 12 Drama class of 98 was the first to complete their HSC and are to be commended on their group and solo projects. Their teachers for the year were Ms Connell and Mr McGregor. Students' individual projects ranged across Critical Analysis options, video, and performance. At the time of writing one of our students, Clare Britton, has been nominated for ON STAGE as a result of her exemplary performance as Salieri from Peter Schaffer's *Amadeus*. Congratulations to Clare!

Three students from year 11 were selected to be members of the Performing Arts Unit's Drama Activities. Nicholas Curnow has performed in many roles with the State Drama Company in their productions of 'The Venetian Twins' and 'Picnic', while Zoe Rodwell and James Lane performed in the State Drama Ensemble's production of Arthur Miller's 'The Crucible'. Congratulations go to these students for their involvement in these time-consuming ensembles and for representing their school so proudly.

Extra-curricular Drama activities were again many and varied throughout 1998. The Senior Drama production for 1998 was Shakespeare's 'Twelfth Night', directed by Mr Brent McGregor. This production was performed on its first evening under the stars in the lower Kilgour Quad and was very successful in its contemporary setting. Unfortunately the weather was against this production on the second evening and it was transferred to the school hall. The experiment with this outdoor venue was excellently managed and proof that drama can be presented in different venues at Fort Street, and in a contemporary setting.

'Crossed Wires' was the second major Drama evening on this year's calendar of dramatic events. Intermediate Drama presented a self-devised work on this evening entitled 'A Campfire Story'. This work was developed under the direction of Mr Ian Rutherford and Ms Geraldine Brown, both Masters of Education students from Sydney University. The piece examined the stories and myths surrounding school camps and peer groups and was very successful. Congratulations to Year 9 and 10 students who participated in this activity.

On the same program the Year 11 Class presented their original piece entitled 'Crossed Wires'. This work developed out of class improvisations and discussions, and examined issues relating to youth today, such as peer group pressure, family relationships, communication, drugs and sexuality. This group is also to be congratulated on their efforts.

The final production for 1998 was staged by Junior Drama. Students from years 7, 8 and 9 presented a pantomime entitled 'The Owl and the Pussycat Went to See...'. This delightful piece, based on the classic tales of Edward Lear, was a tremendous success. The audience revelled in the journey made by the owl and the Pussycat as they attempted to find a ring and a vicar so they could be married. With the assistance of the Quangle Wangle Queen and the Runcible Spoon, they set off on their journey around an imaginary and strange island. On their travels they met fantastical characters such as the Dong

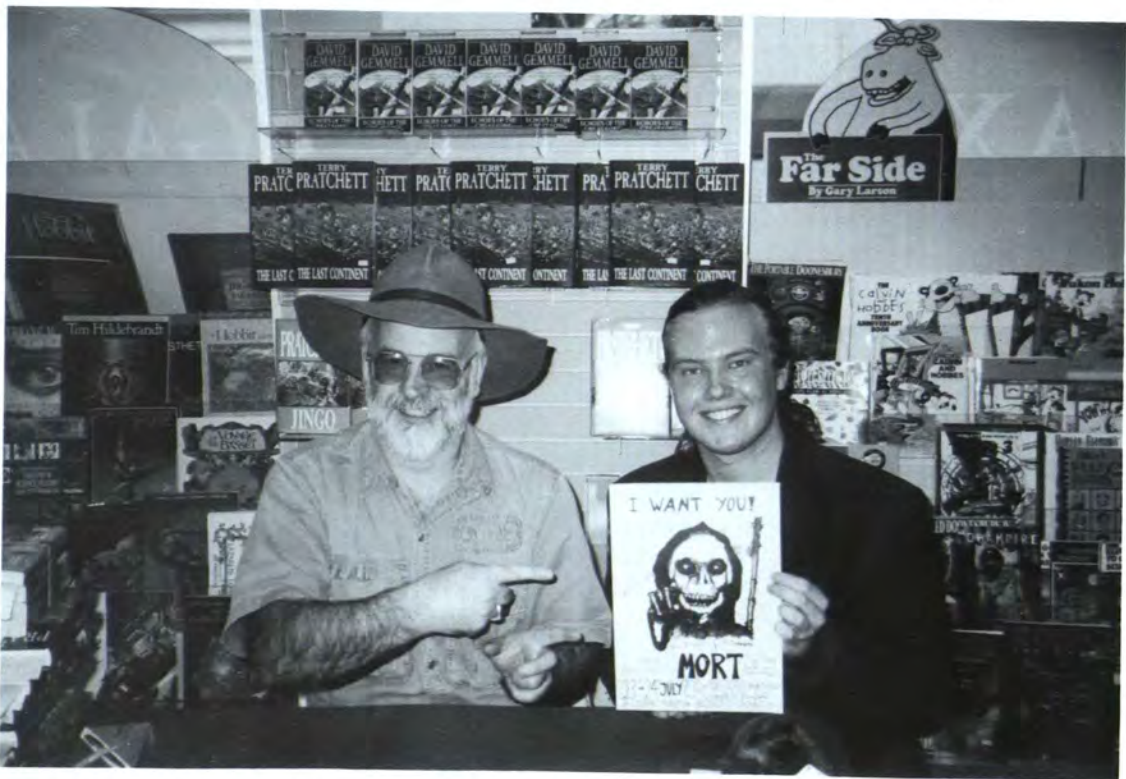
with the luminous nose, Mr Piggy Wig, the Reverend Turkey, professor Bosh and the villainous Jumblies and the Plum Pudding Flea. The audience enjoyed booing the villains and cheering the heroes throughout the performance. Summer Hill Primary School students attended an open rehearsal in the afternoon and also enjoyed themselves.

With this production a team of students from year 10 are to be congratulated for their contribution in designing and constructing the set and many of the costumes, stage managing, assistant directing and promoting the production. Students in year 8 were responsible for lighting design and operation. All these students gave up much of their time in dedication to this school activity. Similarly, without the assistance of Ms Buckland, Ms Page and Ms Thornhill in the art department and Mr Ambler in the science department, many of the activities would not go ahead.

Finally, all of Year 7 experienced Drama workshops as part of the year 7 enrichment program during December. The students responded very well to the wide range of Drama activities and exercises during their workshop and some very promising and talented students were observed.

I would like to thank to whole school staff and student body for their support of drama activities during 1998. The often improve interruptions to normal classroom schedules and your tolerance is appreciated in encouraging a more public face for our talented and creative students. I would like to specifically thank Ms Connell and Mr McGregor for their hard work and support of drama in 1998 and I look forward to further dramatic events in 1999.

MORT? IL N'EST PAS!



Jack Teiwes Year 11 meets author of 'Mort' Mr. Terry Pratchett



The Cast and Crew of 'Mort'

Report on Mort

By Jack Teiwes - Year 11

On the 23rd and 24th of July, a student play went on the stage of a kind that hasn't been seen at Fort Street in quite a few years. 'Mort' wasn't a play directed by teachers, or a junior cast directed by seniors under teacher supervision. 'Mort' was a production which from start to finish, had no teacher involvement at all. This play was entirely produced and performed by students from years 11, 10 and 9.

It was an extremely exciting and challenging project to tackle, many of us having only acting experience and thus production was difficult. As the director and producer I had chosen 'Mort', to be our play, an uproarious comedy, adapted from the highly popular comedic fantasy novels of the English author Terry Pratchett. With a zany plot revolving around the Grim Reaper getting an apprentice, this play was a great one to work with.

Once I had a royalty check and got a licence from Pratchett to perform the play, our production got into full swing. It was a long time before we finally got on the stage, but when we did the results were very pleasing. 'Mort' was a terrific success in the end and the audience response was very enthusiastic; over the two performance nights we got in over 200 people. Widespread publicity managed to bring in many Terry Pratchett fans from the general public. All the profits from the shows were to be donated to charity and in the end we were able to divide the \$1,000 between the relief effort for the Papua New Guinea tidal wave disaster and the Australian Conservation Foundation.

Much praise has been subsequently heaped on the stars of the show. Benjamin Davis for his "tour de force" performance as Death, according to one audience member, James Lane for his sensational work as Mort, and Nick Curnow for his brilliant acting as Albert.

Anthony Horler also received much praise for his several comic roles, as did the rest of my versatile cast: Zoe Rodwell, Asha Zappa, Nicholas Dixon-Wilmshurst, Cassian "freak-boy" Cox, David McHattie and Heather Wallace. My cast really was a treat to work with and they certainly taught me more about directing than I could have ever taught them about acting! Thanks also to the terrific audience for stamping, cheering and especially for laughing. That really made it all worthwhile.

A special thanks must go to my technical crew, without whom none of this would have been possible: Margaret Davis for her incredible costumes which really put the icing on the show. Charles Peters for his expert lighting and Toby Allen for doing our sound so well. Thanks also to the school for permission to rehearse and perform 'Mort' on school premises and supplying lighting equipment.

I WANT YOU!



Death comes to us all. When He came to Mort, He offered him a job.....

TERRY PRATCHETT'S

MORT adapted by Stephen Briggs

23rd-24th JULY 7:30^{pm}

A comedy play produced by students-
at FORT STREET HIGH SCHOOL

Parramatta Rd. Petersham - TICKETS \$5
PROCEEDS GO TO CHARITY



The Lovers

The grey man on the grass comes apart into pigeons. The pigeons scatter as fugitive pieces and scurry skywards. The cat. Crouched large and soundless in the shadow of the flock. Paws stretch out— then a soft hiss whirs from her still direction.

Harper laughs, pointing at the cat with his stick. We look at the cat. She looks at us.

"Feral cats," Harper is saying, "Bloody well gotta be my favourite Jean. Gotta be. No collar on her. Quiet now."

I don't know why he wants me quiet. He himself is grunting and stomping. He rushes on the cat and she flits away in a ginger gash across the grass. Harper runs after her. Slowly I follow on. Harper is yelling. His voice hurts my ears. The cat squalls. He chases it to the edge of the park. I watch silently and follow slowly.

Harper turns and beckons me on.

"Hurry," he says.

I don't. I continue to follow, but slowly, soaking in a sunlight that stands out in the rest of this lukewarm Summer. My arms and legs float. Slowly, slowly, I follow. The cat on her belly is as slow as I, snaking through the long lawn.

"Hurry," hisses Harper, again. Like the cat.

I catch him up.

Up this close, as the cat plays dead— keeps still— we are a hunter, and the cat is a hunter. She is not used to being the hunted. I look at her amazing thick limbs, her broad orange shoulders, her tiny head postured low on a brute neck. I look at Harper. He has the same orange mane and heavy neck. But his shoulders fall away into long, sketchy limbs. Quiver-thin. He looks like prey.

"Definitely feral," he says to me, patting his stick against his palm.

I look at the sky. It is a very deep blue. It looks— on fire. I'm warm. The cat purrs. This is a very quiet moment.

The rest happens quickly.

I hardly realize that I'm running. Harper bobs and bounds ahead, the stick like a sceptre over his head as he dives and crashes, and we are across the empty street and down the long, listening path that scrapes towards an empty station. I am ducking and swishing under clutching, greedy sticks and branches. Skipping over rubbish and stinky bags that I barely smell as we kick them aside. A pigeon croons near my ear and I swipe my arm back, but keep running. I hear the screech of the cat.

Harper is braking. Walking. I gasp and stop, my feet running down the chase to a halt.

I stand at the edge of a crack.

The stick ahead is still raised, the raised sceptre. Harper ducks and dips and when it is raised again it is a bloody sword. A smelly one.

There is a faint mew. I watch kicking boots. The sun and hot wind whisper on my back. The light slides into the crack.

Harper steps aside. We both stand back.

Harper is a surveyor. He nods, slowly.

"Wild thing," he says.

I look at the ground, then at the sky. I sigh, and step over the crack.

To get a closer look.

"Hurry," says Harper for the third time, grabs my shoulder and turns me. He throws the stick down. It clatters on the scuffed up concrete. Briskly and silently we start walking away. I watch pigeons cooing and cuddling in low branches. It's the first time I've seen a pigeon in a tree.

The old woman who feeds the cats at night passes us on our way. Harper smiles at her. "Good morning." It is a nice morning, isn't it?

We leave the cat alone for the sun to sink into its wounds.

"The rats of the sky," Dale is laughing, "I'll tell you what, it'd be quite a job for rent-o-kill, to take on that extermination."

I glare at him.

"What is it Jeanie?"

I shut my eyes. The day has risen into a glisteny sunset that sits tensely on the horizon, clutching shards and angles of light. I keep my back to the wall, and run the backs of my knuckles along the window. The glass is warm but the stone is cold.

"They're not rats." I say the words quickly, but only after a long pause.

"I know..." he looks puzzled, but doesn't say anything else. I start to swing my legs back and forth.

He keeps staring at me. Neither of us with a thing to say. I'm not surprised. But he is trying to think of something.

His foggy eyes cast on mine, over and over again.

Fishing.

"That spider," he says, "In your room. I forgot to move it outside for you."

"I'll bet you killed it." I snap.

"Jeanie, I know how much you hate to see animals killed, I wouldn't—"

"I saw its body. In the bin."

His brow is a drawstring, "I never did it Jeanie."

"I know. I did it."

His eyes drop open. The fog dissolves. He straightens.

"What?"

I smile at him, without feeling. I killed a spider.

He can't believe it. He is shaking his head.

"What else did you do today?"

There is almost admiration in his voice. I laugh at him. "I'm sleeping with another man, Dale, actually. I'm sleeping with Harper."

We both stare out the window.

The sun drops.

"You rat," he murmurs.

"The cat it ate the rat," I close the curtain, "Yes."

Sascha Morrell Year Ten

Fortians '98



History on the spot

by Mr Terry Glebe, Head Teacher, History

I did not see a great deal of 1998 at Fort Street High School, as I took some extended long-service leave to visit a variety of historical areas in the USA, the UK, the Baltic states, Russia and France. It was certainly a 'Cook's tour' of many places which have intrigued me, as an historian, over the years: the Normandy beaches of the 1944 D-Day landings, the Winter Palace in St Petersburg and the Kremlin in Russia, Edinburgh Castle in Scotland, and aspects of the American Mid-West frontier of the 19th century including the Little Big Horn.

Such experiences help to bring to life for the students so many aspects of the History that we teach at Fort Street. The staff make the most of overseas experiences to give that added depth to the History that is being taught in the classroom. This year other history teachers took some leave to travel: Miss Bresnahan to China and Mrs Trevini to Italy. Tales of what they saw and did in these ancient lands are often interwoven into their lessons as the 'old world' and the 'new world' are brought together. How could such personal encounters fail to whet the appetites of students to travel?

Mr Browne has again excelled in organising a Year 8 History Day when the students were brought together in a series of events very much linked to the Olympics of Ancient Greece. Each class adopted the name of an ancient city, such as Corinth, Megara or Athens. By the end of the day students and teachers were exhausted.

Our Year 7 cruise on the 'Bounty' gave the students a rare insight into the life of an 18th century sailor. The afternoon included a walk through The Rocks to the old 'School on the Hill'. Each class was taken into the old school's grounds and given an insight into their heritage as Fortians.

My thanks to Mr Browne and Mrs Trevini who, with the support of Miss Bresnahan, Mrs Hosking and Mr Sorban, continued to develop History in my absence. We are looking forward to the historical year of 1999 and the school's Sesquicentenary when historians will be in their element.

Back then ...

'We paid a visit to a spot which will shortly become famous on Taverner's Hill, just beyond Norton Street junction, Petersham, and within a stone's throw of Petersham Oval. On this site there is being erected the new Fort street Boys' High School. All the trenches are dug and foundations laid, great activity marking the scene. The new school is one of three storeys and a basement, and contains 16 classrooms, 2 science rooms, a library, an art room, a masters' common room, a manual training room and several small rooms and offices. However I really think we shall be sorry to leave the historic old building.'

From The Fortian, August 1915

Back then ...

'We have received a letter from Mr Miyata, who is now a Professor of English at the Rikugun Keiri Gakko, the college for military officers at Tokyo. As it was written before the earthquake, we trust that he is one of the lucky ones who have escaped from that terrible catastrophe.'

From The Fortian, October 1923



Yr. 8 celebrating 'Olympics of Ancient Greece' the hystrionics were enjoyed by one and all!

Back then ...

'Dr Archie McLean, an old Fortian, who accompanied Dr Mawson on his last expedition to the South Pole, has sent word to his father that he had left England for the war front with the Royal Army Medical Corps. Dr McLean went to England to assist in the preparation of the scientific results of the Mawson expedition.'

From The Fortian, December 1914

Mathematics Annual Report 1998

Mr Tim Jurd, HT Maths

Staff changes

This year we have seen some new staff join the Maths team. In term 1 Ms Louise Beevers took leave and her classes were taken over by Ms Kay Johnson and Ms Catherine McNamara. Also during Term 1 Mr George Rezcallah was appointed to take over the position vacated by Mr Nick Panagos who resigned. For the second year our faculty enjoyed the collegiate support of Mr David West who worked as a casual replacement for Mr Barry Hagerman who took leave but David also coordinated the school's web sites.

These staff fitted in perfectly and their skills and enthusiasm complemented those of the rest of the faculty.

Enrichment Program

The Mathematics Faculty enrichment program continued to produce enthusiastic and talented Maths students. The program coordinator Ms Robyn Paice who organised the entries and marking of students' work marveled at the work of the students especially in year 7. Here are some of the top results. These students received a High Distinction and finished in the top 5% of the state.

Mathematics Challenge: Fahim Ahmed (year 8), Thuan Lo (7), Tim Lam (7), Katharine Lam (7), Jim Ding (7), Janet An (8), Shinuo Liu (7), Devesh Sharma (7), Ann Tsuei (8), Ty Wood (7)

Maths Enrichment Stage: Polya Series - Duc Ho (9), Noether Series - Anuj Goel (9), Euler Series - Tim Lam (7), Thuan Ho (7), Brian Diep (8)

Competitions Program

The Maths enthusiastically supported a variety of Maths Competitions but our Premier comp is the Australian Mathematics Competition, which is coordinated by Mr Hilaire Fraser. The results we earned for the 1998 comp were excellent. The competition, which was held at the beginning of August, involved nearly all of the Maths students at our school. Our prizewinners were Jim Ding, George Hu, Zuo Huang and Wister Wu of Year Seven, Sudhanshu Bhardwaj of Year Nine, Clement Leung of Year Eleven and Jonathan Dixon of Year Twelve. Clement Leung also received the Special Achievement Certificate for Best Standardised Score and least number of wrong answers for Fort Street High School.

It has to be noted that Jonathon Dixon of Year 12 has won a Maths Comp in every year at High school, 6 out of 6! This effort is fabulous.

In other competitions some of the results were brilliant.

Huy Pham (11) finished in the top 10 in the grueling UNSW Schools Maths Comp and in the Intermediate Maths Olympiad Elaine Chui (10) earned a Distinction award.

Talented Maths Students Days

A talented Maths day for year 9 students was held at the Oatley campus of the UNSW and the team was organised and assisted by George Rezcallah. The team comprised Anna Zheng, Duc Ho, Mithilesh Dronavalli, Jeremy Chia and Basia Slusarczyk. The students did excellently finishing first in the teams event.

When the University of Sydney Science faculty held a Talented Mathematics Program the team we sent consisted of some of our best and brightest. They were Jee Kim (10), Elaine Chui (10), Huy Pham (11), Clement Leung (11) and Minh Phan (11). They

all represented the School with distinction.

Excursions

Excursions form an important part of our calendar and they were a great success this year.

Years 9 and 10 went to Wonderland for the Maths Association's *Maths in Action Day* and a tremendous time was had by all. George Rezcallah introduced a new enrichment activity for Year 7 called *Maths Sale of the Century*. In this activity each class nominated 2 teams to compete in a Games show style format which provided a great deal of fun and audience participation. Year 8 were treated to the *World of Maths* which is a series of hands on Maths activities.

Gold House

It is the Maths and Music Faculties pleasure to be patrons of the Gold sporting house. This year we triumphed once again and won the Swimming and Athletics carnivals. This was in no small part due to the fabulous work of our tireless Captains including Peter Hartley (11), Alex McGuirk (11) and Emma Brockway (11) to name but a few.

The New School Certificate

Our faculty grappled with the changes to the School Certificate and so did our students. We hoped for good results as did the students and all the hard work was rewarded on December 14. Most of our students (85%) finished in the top band 6 (only 19% of the State achieved this band). This gave great satisfaction to the students and their parents giving them confidence as they start their senior courses.

We look forward to the challenges of curriculum change and trust that the up and coming students will take the opportunities that the Maths Faculty offers.



Years 9 and 10 – enjoying a well earned rest half-way through Wonderland excursion.

The Sale of the Century

Claire Cherrington, Year Seven

It was a big day on Monday the 1st of September, 1998, at 1:26 pm, straight after lunch, for Year Seven students at Fort Street High school. Two groups of five students from each class, three boys and two girls and vice-versa, met to challenge at the gym. All Year Seven students came to see this historical event.

Prizes were handed out left and right to audience members and contest alike. Most prizes were small chocolate bars, but for some of the contesting teams there were much larger prizes. For the competitors some questions were made 'chocolate questions' The team that got the answer to a 'chocolate question' were given small chocolates. For the audience members, there was some times when, while the teams were trying to figure out a problem, tire audience was asked questions. The person who got the solution was given a prize which was, of course, a chocolate.

The questions in the competition included Fame Game questions where when you got the correct answer, you got to choose a character from the Fame Board and reveal some prize, from books to extra points, but no chocolates. Fame Game questions earned a team 10 points for a correct response. Then there were problem questions, also worth 10 points. These were given out at the end of each round except the last. During this 'problem time' was when the audience was asked questions. The third type of questions were just short, simple ones worth only 5 points. Some of these were allocated the 'chocolate questions'. Chocolates were also given out to all contestants at the end of the game.

My personal opinion of this sort of Maths is that it's really great. It gives everybody— even the not-exactly-crash-hot-at-maths people like myself— a chance to have a go. Also, it's really good how all the questions are ones that the students themselves made up. This allows people who normally would have no idea whatsoever to have a go, and quite often a correct answer, if it's your own question, and it means you can have a go against the "Brains".

As I don't recall most of the actual game, I can't talk much about that, so I'll just end on a positive note, saying that this is definitely the best and most fun kind of Maths you can have.

Thanks to Mr Rezcallah and Ms Paice for organising this great event!



Back then ...

'We were quite cheerful the week before the holidays, which contained only four working days, on three of which we joyfully set aside our books at midday. What a well-planned week that was.'

From *The Fortian*, April 1915

Maths Talented Students Day

Anna Zheng, Year Nine

On Thursday, 1 8t of June, five year nine students from Fort Street (Duc Ho, Mithilesh Dronavalli, Jeremy Chia, Basia Slusareyk and myself went to the Oatley Campus of University of NSW. Guess what they did. Mathematics! Shocking, isn't it? However it wasn't as serious as it sounds, actually it was a lot of fun.

Apart from our school, the students from the other twenty-six schools found this enjoyable too, well, at least they didn't hate it. For the five students the day began with a lot of catastrophe and small incidents, it was fortunate that they got there on time.

The first and most serious competition was the School Competition, where the five students worked really hard together to solve a series of mathematics questions. Then they had a little rest, before a Mixed Schools Competition, where they got to work with people from other schools. It didn't seem to be a very interesting activity from most people's opinions. Then it was the Swiss time! You got split up into different groups again! All you had to do is to stare at a pile of numbers and try to see if you could find the next number in the sequence. Easy, right?! Wrong! When you couldn't even write down anything and you only got to see the question for 30 seconds, it was just a matter of whether your brain would snap at the sight of it, or not. Most of the time people just stared at each other's faces, with a shocked expression when one of them got the answer.

After all that work, I thought they deserved the one-hour lunchtime. It was interesting seeing so many people from different schools, enjoying themselves. Unlike the people from our school, whom I suspect that only went because they wanted a day off school. Then it was the relay. Once again, you get to work with people from other schools. People just ran around like crazy, because you were needed to solve a question and then run to a teacher, and ask them whether you are right or wrong. A lot of strange and funny things happened in that competition.

The good news is that our school came first in the School Competition, winning a graphic calculator for Fort Street. This wasn't the only attraction, as there were chocolates as well (not enough!). At the end of the day it was a lot of fun, but after all! maths is maths, and they were all glad that it was all over. Hopefully everyone learnt something.

Lastly, we were all very grateful that the school and the math staff had given them this chance. And even though we did not say it, we were all thankful for Mr Rezcallah who was the teacher in charge on the day. if you are interested, this happens every year for year nine and eleven students. Good luck, and hope you'll have as much fun as we did!!!



Sale of the Century - Year 7



Music notes

By Mr Jon Suffolk, Music faculty

The Music department has had another busy year preparing students for the HSC as well as attending a wide range of concerts at school or other venues. Many Fort Street students also represented our school in a variety of Performing Arts Unit ensembles.

Term 1 saw many students involved in the choral, band and orchestral activities as part of Speech Day at Sydney Town Hall. A big hand to all the IMP ensembles and the school's vocal ensemble for their contributions to one of the most important days on the Fort Street calendar.

The Music department provides a range of concert activities every year. Each junior year attends two concerts as part of their non-elective Music studies. Year 7 were treated to a performance by African musician Eddie Quansah in March and Latin American ensemble Chichitote in November.

Year 8 and all the Music elective students attended a variety of workshops and performances with the dynamic Bill Neilsen, who introduced them to the use of computers in performing and composing. Year 8 also went to a concert by the Brass-o-holics, a quartet that showed the development of brass instruments through the ages; this was highly entertaining and informative.

Elective Music students also performed at events such as the annual Musicale in August, the Year 12 recital, Year 7 orientation day, the Year 10 School Certificate presentation evening, the Christmas Concert, Eifuku assembly, Year 11 concert at Taverner's Hill Primary School, and other functions within the school. Congratulations go out to all students who took part as soloists or ensemble musicians at these events. Students are now regularly accompanying the national anthem and school song at the school assemblies.

Many Fort Street students were also members of the Performing Arts Unit ensembles. These consist of choirs, concert and stage bands and an orchestra. It is pleasing to see our school represented at this level. Students were also selected for the orchestra and massed items at the annual Schools Spectacular at the entertainment Centre. These students should be proud of representing their school at such high levels.

The Music department has a range of similar activities in 1999 and looks forward to introducing our talented students to a range of performances and concerts.



Photography

1998 saw the long awaited completion of the darkroom and meant for the first time that 1U photography was available as a subject to year 11. Term 1 got off to a slow start due to the fact that the darkroom had to be set up from scratch and that we had to wait of new equipment to arrive. However we managed to find plenty to do, making our very own, working, pinhole cameras out of shoeboxes, and climbing trees, taking artistic views of the school with them. Fun was also had using our imagination to create interesting photograms.

An excursion to the art gallery and State Library was held. There we viewed the powerful images of American photographer Dorothea Lange, the photographic section of Art Express and a very confronting and moving exhibition by William Yang, celebrating life within the homosexual community. The year also saw a visit by professional photographer David Liddel, who gave us some tips on processing film and printmaking. Eventually we learned how to use a SLR camera and were able to develop film and make prints ourselves. Photography was a fun and enjoyable course and can only get better in the years to come.



Andrew Bishop, Year 11 Photography

Social Science Report

1998 has been another busy but productive year for the Social Science faculty during which we have been involved in many extra-curricular activities for the benefit of our students.

Year 7 experienced a most enjoyable and beneficial day at the Field of Mars Field Study Centre. Where they used a wide range of weather instruments and experienced a range of vegetation communities.

Year 8 once again journeyed to Gerroa enjoying Minnamurra rainforest, beach studies on Seven Mile Beach, the native life at Green Patch and a bush walk to Wreck Bay.

Year 10 Geography traveled to Cronulla to study Coastal Management Strategies.

The senior Geography student were involved in a number of excursions to Windsor, the Hawkesbury River, the Hunter Valley and the Bicentennial Park Field Studies Centre at Homebush. The Year 11 students completed amazing individual fieldwork as primary research for their Senior Geography Projects.

A combined year 10 group traveled to Canberra to visit parliament House, the High Court, Questacon, the War memorial and the Art gallery.

Year 9 commerce developed their computer skills and finance skills with the Stock Market game. While other Commerce students visited the law courts, the Police Museum and were kept informed by lectures from NRMA and real estate representatives.

The Asian Social Studies classes had many wonderful experiences including visits to the Nam Tien Temple, museums, China Town, the movie *Kundun* and enjoyed a variety of Asian cuisines.

A few other highlights included:

- The Ross Gittens lectures.
- A discussion on the Asian Crisis by Peter Bergman, the Australian Service trade Commissioner to Hong Kong
- Madeline Albright lectured at the Opera House

These worthwhile excursions took learning outside the confines of the classroom and allowed the students to interact with each other contributing to their social development.

Year 9 and 10 geography students participated in the NSW geography Competition with fantastic results; 80% of FSHS candidates received High Distinctions or Distinctions. Some Senior Economics Students sat for the AMP Asset management Economics Competition organised by the University of NSW. Once again the results were outstanding with Brendan and Kelvin Leung being placed in the top 1% of the entrants. A number of the year 11 Senior Projects were entered in the Arthur Phillip Competition, Yanni Kronenberg (Year 12) was awarded a prize for his research on graffiti and its location and style.

Congratulations to all those students who performed so well in all the competitions. We are very proud of the hard work and achievements of our students in 1998.

Back then ...

'Two parties of third-year geologists have made excursions to Bondi. We examined the columnar sandstone further along the cliffs. Descending Jacob's Ladder, we saw some minute folds in the strata, astonishingly like the diagram we possessed. The rain came down rather heavily on our walk back to the tram, so that all of us, except those prudent virgins who had brought 'macks', were considerably damped by our first geological excursion.'

From the girls' high school reports, The Fortian,

November 1914

Industrial Arts Department Report

Mr G. Osland, Head Teacher of Industrial Arts

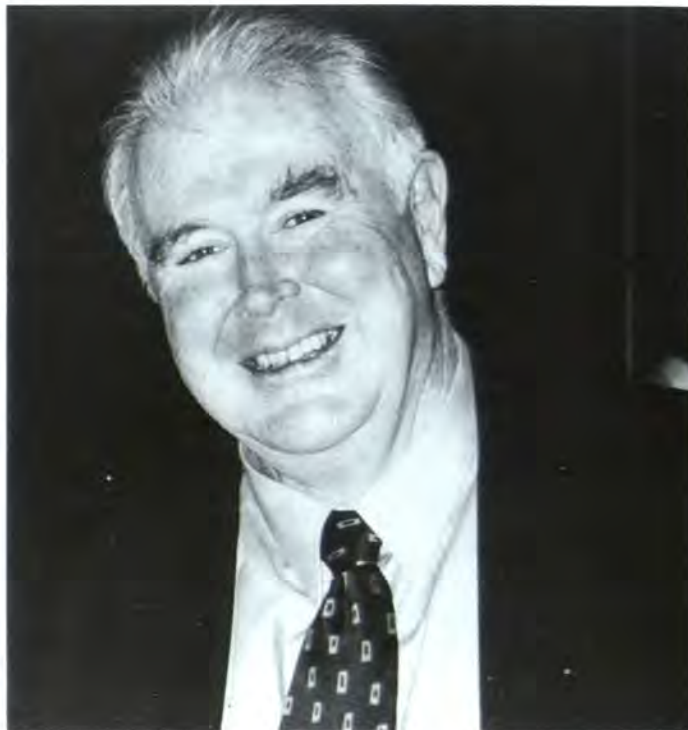
The Year 7 and 8 Design and technology students have enjoyed designing or modifying designs, looking at reasons for choosing shape, construction methods and why certain methods are used. They have worked in the areas of wood, electronics, drawing and computing. They have produced projects such as: cutting boards, wooden kitchen tools, doorstops, serving trays, racking projects as well as the electronic projects of 'Over the Mountain' game, and continuity testers.

In Wood Technics, the year 9 and 10 students have designed and constructed such works as breadboxes, step ladders, coffee tables etc. The Electronics Technics students design and construct a wide range of projects, including: logic probes, alarm modules, LED level displays, counting circuits, electronic games and digital logic circuits. This year our Year 10 students have been experimenting with sensing devices to control movement of small machines, and have built a motorised vehicle that automatically follows a white line.

The technical Drawing students, through their high quality work have demonstrated the high level of design and drawing skills that our students do develop in two years of TD. This year TD students have been able to make much greater use of our CAD program in drawing on the computers. We now have our own computer lab for TD students with 22 computers networked and online to the internet. As well as the TD students all other students will be able to use it for their course work and research.

The drawing knowledge and skills gained in the TD course are extremely useful acquisitions for the future, no matter what area they will go into.

This year Mr Ron Smith, our specialist woodwork teacher, retired in July, after being at the school for 7 1/2 years. Ron's enthusiasm and commitment to teaching were always of the highest order throughout his 35 year career. Both staff and students will sadly miss his knowledge and caring nature for students. We wish him and his wife the best health and happiness in their retirement.



Mr Ron Smith

Science Report

Mr G. Talbot

LEAVERS

Best of Luck to all those students who completed their schooling this year.

We have high hopes for some impressive results in every HSC science course. With the boundless talent in the 'old' year 12 students we can confidently predict that they will uphold the Fort St reputation for outstanding performance in the HSC. Some year 10 students leave us to graze in greener pastures. Welcome to the new Year 10 students who replace them, and always rise to the challenge of the competition at Fort ST.

SCHOOL LIFE

In addition to their work within Science, the Science staff continued to play a major role in school life. Mr Ambler consistently gives his time to the Foundation, and assists with debating and 'electronics' at school performances and assemblies. Ms Jamble continued her outstanding involvement in Amnesty International, organising our students to again raise a fortune for this worthwhile charity. Ms Campos gave her time to attend several overnight camps organised by other faculties. Without her assistance, these important cross curriculum activities may not have eventuated. In addition, Mr Leondios, Mr Moynham, fulfilled the demands of the role of Year Advisors, and Mr Gaskin were involved with the Peer Support program. All these roles involved participation in 'overnight' programs for the benefit of our students. Ms Joslyn worked hard with the Enviro Action group, and arranged for an electron microscope to be housed within the school during term 3.

YOUNG SCIENTIST

Fort St students were well represented at the young scientist presentation. All year 7 and 8 students prepare a 'major work' for this prestigious state competition, organised by the Sydney Morning Herald, and the Science Teacher Association. Thousands of NSW students enter, so schools like Fort St are restricted in the number of entries we can submit for state judging. All of our major works are marked and ranked at the school, and the best in each category are submitted. Of our entries, we had two finalists, in different divisions, and both were successful when awards were announced at the Powerhouse Museum, presentation. Greg Howe was second in the Individual Research section, and David Helstrom won his Working Models section, for the second year in a row. This maintains our excellent reputation in this competition, thanks to the fantastic efforts of our keen and talented students who prepare the work, and to the professional assessment of student projects by the Science Staff.

CHEMISTRY QUIZ

This is an optional competition, attempted by the keenest students. One outstanding result from a typically excellent set of school results was obtained by Edwin Mah. He was awarded a plaque for scoring a mark which placed him in the top 1% of NSW.

AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS SCIENCE COMPETITION

This highly competitive multiple choice test attracts over 500 000 students from Australia and Asia, including 400 students from Fort Street. Overall we obtained 17 High Distinctions, 171 Distinctions and 151 Credits. A fantastic effort from our students, once again indicating the wealth of talent at Fort ST.

SUMMER SCHOOLS

It seems certain that Fort Street will have two year 10 students attend the Siemens Summer Science Experience during January 1999, in this University coordinated Science program. Hopefully we can rely on the generous support of local Rotary organisations, who have always been keen to encourage Fort Street students to attend these schools.

OLYMPIADS

Huy Pham of Year 11 was our only entry in the Rio Tinto Australian Science Olympiad qualifying examination in Chemistry. Huy was selected after an impressive result in the Australian Chemistry Quiz. The Olympiads exam is a very difficult test of advanced knowledge, but it can also lead to international representation. After almost no preparation, Huy gained a distinction in his Chemistry qualifying exam. This placed Huy near the top of a highly competitive group of over 800 students. Congratulations!

Year 12 students, Grace Ma and Kingston Soo, took part in the Olympiad Biology Training Program, were two of only sixteen students who gained certificates, from the nine hundred Australian Students who participated in the program. The certificates indicated the tremendous talent and motivation of these students, who shared their interest with younger Fort Street students.

ELECTRON MICROSCOPE

Ms Joslyn was able to secure the loan of a mobile electron microscope from Sydney University EM Unit. It was a rare opportunity for any school to use one of these precision instruments. Thanks to the squad of year 11 students who trained to use the microscope, and acted as tutors for the other classes.

GLOBE AND SUMMER HILL PS

During 1998, teacher training courses have been held for the GLOBE project, supported by the Australian Government. Basically, GLOBE is an environmental program, which involves students collecting measurements of air, water and soil conditions, then entering the readings on the internet via computer. A global picture is compiled from all data collected from schools throughout the world, and displayed on the home page. We will become involved in 1999, and plans are underway to work with Summer Hill PS, who have also signed up for this program which involves our students in direct use of modern technology in the classroom.

MAJOR PURCHASES

In 1997, Science faculty made a major purchase of modern microscopes to upgrade and increase the resources in this section of the syllabus. The year before involved the purchase of a computer package for analysis of experiments in both Physics and Chemistry. This year the major purchase has been the installation of video and television facilities in each laboratory. Until recently, only one laboratory had a permanent AV facility, while other rooms were serviced by mobile units. Having facilities 'on site' will be a bonus for all students. It is expected that funds will be allocated next year for more computer resources, so that when the internet becomes available in each laboratory, students will have the opportunity for individual research.

SCIENCE EDUCATION

Some major changes are about to occur in high school Science education. A new syllabus will be introduced in 1999 for Science stages 4 & 5 (year 7-10) which will include a more traditional School Certificate examination. Sometime during 1999, the new syllabuses for the Higher School Certificate will be distributed to schools. These long awaited syllabuses will require evaluation and revision of almost every aspect of the Science programs at Fort St and most other schools.

SESQUICENTENARY

The Science Staff is looking forward to being involved in the Sesquicentenary celebrations. No doubt we will plan some interesting activities which will show the contribution of Science to the history and tradition of Fort ST High School.



ROW 4: Steven Quinn, Addison Ma, Luke Vu, Gareth Douse, Jack (Jing Zhang) Wu, Geoffrey Duong, Vineeth Chippada.
 ROW 3: Michael Thorne, Wayland Le, David Wu, Enoch Lau, Jack Marshall, Stephen Haggard, Peter Callender, Brodie Cullen.
 ROW 2: Paul Liu, Terry Yuan, Melissa Ellingworth, Bethany Lalor, Lucyemma Geremin, Vina Xiao, Shaw Kamada-Laws.
 FRONT: Jessica Brooks, Angela Diec, Imelda Daniel, Vita Gray, Michaela Pollock, Kate Scott-Murphy, Lucille Verdey, Chiara Bianchino.



ROW 4: Matthew Lee, Gary Chen, Max Schollar-Root, David Jiang, Wister Wu, William Hey-Cunningham, Michael Li.
 ROW 3: Daniel Tse, Matthew Jarman, Johnson Yuan Gao, Robin Wilkins, Jacob Fry, Kevin Ha, Tim Lam, Brendan Markey.
 ROW 2: Thuan Ho, Peter Luan, Christina Lam, Vesna Trobec, Jin Yang Qian, Sunny Li, Benjamin Yuen.
 FRONT: Stephanie Wong, Kathy Nguyen, Margaret Park, Anna Lucewicz, Kate Turner, Belinda Lu, Virginia Tang,



ROW 4: Shinuo Liu, Albert Lee, Martin Hartley, Alex Speirs, Ben Zhao, Ty Wood, William Wong.
 ROW 3: Devesh Sharma, Minbo Wang, Andrew Diong, Jess McGuirk, Sam James, Matthew Fordham, Mirza Nurkic, George Hu.
 ROW 2: Jin Ju Soung Choi, Kavita Bedford, Claire Cherrington, Amy Bao, Alexandra Parker, Danie Forinash, Garry Chang.
 FRONT: Ruby Chiu, Caroline Zhou, Qian Yu, Lucy Zou, Jenny Choi, Mindy Ding, Claudia Husin, Priyanka Rao.



ROW 4: Zane Ma, Jonathan Hardgraves, Boris Kresic, Daniel Lavelle, Zuo Huang, John Nguyen, Kevin Wang.
 ROW 3: Ping Jie Pan, Max Wang, Robert Bautista, Greg Waddington, Johnny Zhang, Cal McGuirk, Ryan Reynolds.
 ROW 2: Paddy Batchelor, Eric Cheung, Simon Sheikh, Louise Sun, Jim Ding, Fazle Ahmed, Jeffrey La.
 FRONT: Jennifer Ahn, Rachel Xu, Meg He, Ara Ko, Jenny Lin, Tina Nguyen, Jessica Zhang, Judy Tu.
 (Absent: Chris Wood.)



ROW 4: Geoff Lai, Varun Sahni, Daniel Elder, Aniket Mulherkar, Anuj Sharma, David Kwok, Fabio Lombardini.
 ROW 3: David Dziedzic, Gina Dang, Shruti Kulhalli, Alannah Schuman, Divija Paramatmuni, David Campbell, Greg Howe, Jason Chan.
 ROW 2: Iwen Chen, Joven Demonteverde, David Schaverien, Jackson Trieu, William Figgett, Darren Kyi, Michael Yu.
 FRONT: Holing Ngai, Jane Fan, Nori Dimaculangan, Harriet Johnson, Melissa Lee, Eileen Xie, Jensyn Luc, Teresa Choi.



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



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



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



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



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



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



ROW 4: Joel Heenan, Eamon Fenwick, Nick Keilar, Anuj Goel, David Emerson, Tom Keanan-Brown, Mithilesh Dronavalli, Gaurav Johri.
 ROW 3: Dip Hor, Duc Ho, Shannon Lardi, Lucy Holt, Angela Herscovitch, Peter Farrar, Reece Hinchcliff.
 ROW 2: Colin Lam, Gabriel Gironda, Jeffrey Fong, James Fong, Yohan Kim, Douglas Kerle, Matthew Johnson, Nicholas Evans.
 FRONT: Elaine Kwan, Kate Goudie, Elian Fink, Vicki Kan, Lina Chang, Natasha Goh, Julie Jeong



ROW 4: Andrew Lee, Timothy Lee, Alex Platirahos, Aidan Popely, Dominic Lo, Michael Moroney, Brendan Lee.
 ROW 3: Phi Luu, John Lee, David Newell, Phillip Ma, Ashley Newman, Parnel McAdam, Nicholas Lee, Joseph Lee.
 ROW 2: Alex Nicholas, Stephanie Low, Camilla Margolis, Holly Philip, Joanna Lin, Richard Logge, Trevor Manning.
 FRONT: Anna Zheng, Elsie Ngo, Xavier McKenzie, Anushka Paul, Jinny Oh, Ji-Young Lee, Sarah Lau, Belkis Mereles.



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



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



ROW 4: Philip Clare, Piotr Bozym, William Dang, Thomas Dallow, Tim Davidson, Dan Bishton, Joel Bedford.
 ROW 3: Julian Curiskis, Jee Hyun Kim, Sarah Dearne, Megan Bootes, Roxana Chan, Julia Britton, Michael Fordham.
 ROW 2: Chris Berry, Mathias Boer-Mah, Fergus Beams, Mark Crocker, Cassian Cox, Bill Au, Thomas Costa, Gaurav Bhardwaj.
 FRONT: Susann Cheung, Margot Allan-Georgas, My-Van Bui, Madhushini Bazil, Elaine Chui, Mei-Lian Barry, Uma Aggarwal, Betty Chang.



ROW 4: Charles Forrester, Roger Haddad, Marcus Hayward, Nicholas Dixon-Wilmshurst, Peter Hey-Cunningham, Nicholas Falkinder, Marc Howlin.
 ROW 3: Anthony Horler, Kalon Huett, Thomas Irvine, Alexis Grivas, Rhys Hearne, Nicholas Forwood, Peter James.
 ROW 2: Adam Foley, Sumudu Jayawardana, Nancy Jiang, Verity Gill, Camilla Holt, Titus Hui, Danny Fairfax.
 FRONT: Sally Gilbert, Louise Dumbrell, Beth Deguara, Francisca Gan, Ruth Jago, Andreea Heriseanu, Kristy Green, Helen Jin.



ROW 4: Michael Lee, Robert Lawson, Alan Logan, Philip Mayger, Joel Kitson, Karl Kuepper, Christian Lee.
 ROW 3: Lennard Lopez, Ewan McGaughey, Toby Leon, Adrik Kemp, Robert Lee, Phong Le, Nikhil Kulkarni, Chang-Yuan Loh.
 ROW 2: Matthew Loh, Martin Kurek, Holly Malaquin, Zoe Lyon, Declan Kuch, Jun-Dir Liew, Vic Khalili.
 FRONT: Jocelinn Kang, Natalie Manning, Elizabeth Lee, Chih-Ping Liao, Natalie Gillam, Sarah Lalor, Mary Lentros, Shelley Lin.



ROW 4: David Ng, Jonathon Murty, Christopher Parris, Edward Peat, Kevin Pickett, Jack Prest, Lee-Shuan Saw.
 ROW 3: Georgina Morris, Keely McNamara, Liam Ryan, Peter Paszti, Kenny Scott, Tamara Pearson, Nick Osborne, Michael Lee.
 ROW 2: Ben Scott, Wilson Pok, Matthew Paul, Liam Ovenden, John Nguyen, Hoyan Ngai, David Saba.
 FRONT: Thu-Ha Nguyen, Alexandra Arneri, Michelle Roldan, Veena Rajan, Sascha Morrell, Clara Rolls, Anna McIlwaine, Cecilia Ng.



ROW 4: Ho-Tung Wong, Zac Wolfson, Mac Shine, Matthew Scott, Damjan Vlastelica, Steven Turner, Jonathan Wang.
 ROW 3: Dennis Singh, Gavin Smith, Maurizio Stefani, Rui Yi, Tomme Tsang, James Thai, William Vuong, Leo Sek.
 ROW 2: Jeffrey See, Gonzalo Vilches, Ker Zhang, Heather Wallace, Alex Sinclair, Phillip Tehong, David Vadas.
 FRONT: Goldia Shum, Charmaine Tam, Bethany Siepen, Phoebe Singleton, Mowena Wilkins, Sarah Steel, Rebecca Yuen, Cindy Sheu.



ROW 4: Josh Avery, Josh Boerma, Michael Beard, Ian Allan, Toby Allen, Jamie Cameron, Andrew Bishop.
 ROW 3: Edward Cheng, Aleksander Akopyan, Henry Armstrong, Sean Chang, Ricky Chen, Dylan Calder.
 ROW 2: David Arcidiacono, Josephine Ayling, Emma Brockway, Katie Burge-Lopez, Carly Bedford, Rebecca Carritt, Faisal Ansari.
 FRONT: Nancy Chen, Santhi Chalasani, Suzanne Cartwright, Amie Burkys, Irene Cheung, Grace Brown, Dianne Beatty.



ROW 4: Nicholas Crosby, Nicholas Curnow, Ian Dunn, Anthony Dumbrell, Stephen Clyne, Peter Hartley, Stephen Echt.
 ROW 3: Benjamin Davis, Timothy Greenfield, Brendan De Conceicao, Tim Curnick, Peter Glavas, Danny Ford, Jeb Cole.
 ROW 2: Linda Fernandez, Lauren Frazer, Robert Choy, Terence Chu, Nana Frishling, Tieu Ha.
 FRONT: Lynn Dang, Menaha Dharmalingam, Jessika Gauke, Lulu Feng, Laura Fania, Shelley Gibb, Margaret Chi.



ROW 4: David Holbeche, Chris James, Thomas Holyoake, Filip Kidon, Andrew Kennedy, Alex Hill, David Jang, Tom Jackson.
 ROW 3: Aaron Koh, Frewen Lam, Robert Ishak, Tomasz Kopyciok, Hyun Hwang, James Lane, Steven Huang.
 ROW 2: Anna Kim, Johan Ismail, Sean Howe, Marnie Innis, Paul Keighley, Yan Lam, Rushmia Karim.
 FRONT: Olivia Kang, Anne Lam, Effie Klippan, Sophie Higgins, Thurka Kuhan, Sarah Johnson, Bonny Kyung.



ROW 4: Kenny Mai, Nicholas Lucchinelli, Andrew McKibbin, Glenn McLaughlin, David McHattie, Kelvin Leung, Kean Lau.
 ROW 3: Chris McHattie, Clement Leung, Peter Lee-Chen, Robert Lawther, Mathew Marasigan, Andrew Lim, Benjamin Lau.
 ROW 2: Melissa Lim, Laura McLean, Rachel Lin, Caroline Malcolm, Alex McGuirk, Pauline Man, Joey Le.
 FRONT: Belinda Lum, Miriam Mafessanti, Michelle Lim, Stephanie Law, Herina Lee, Sophia Law, Alice Mah.

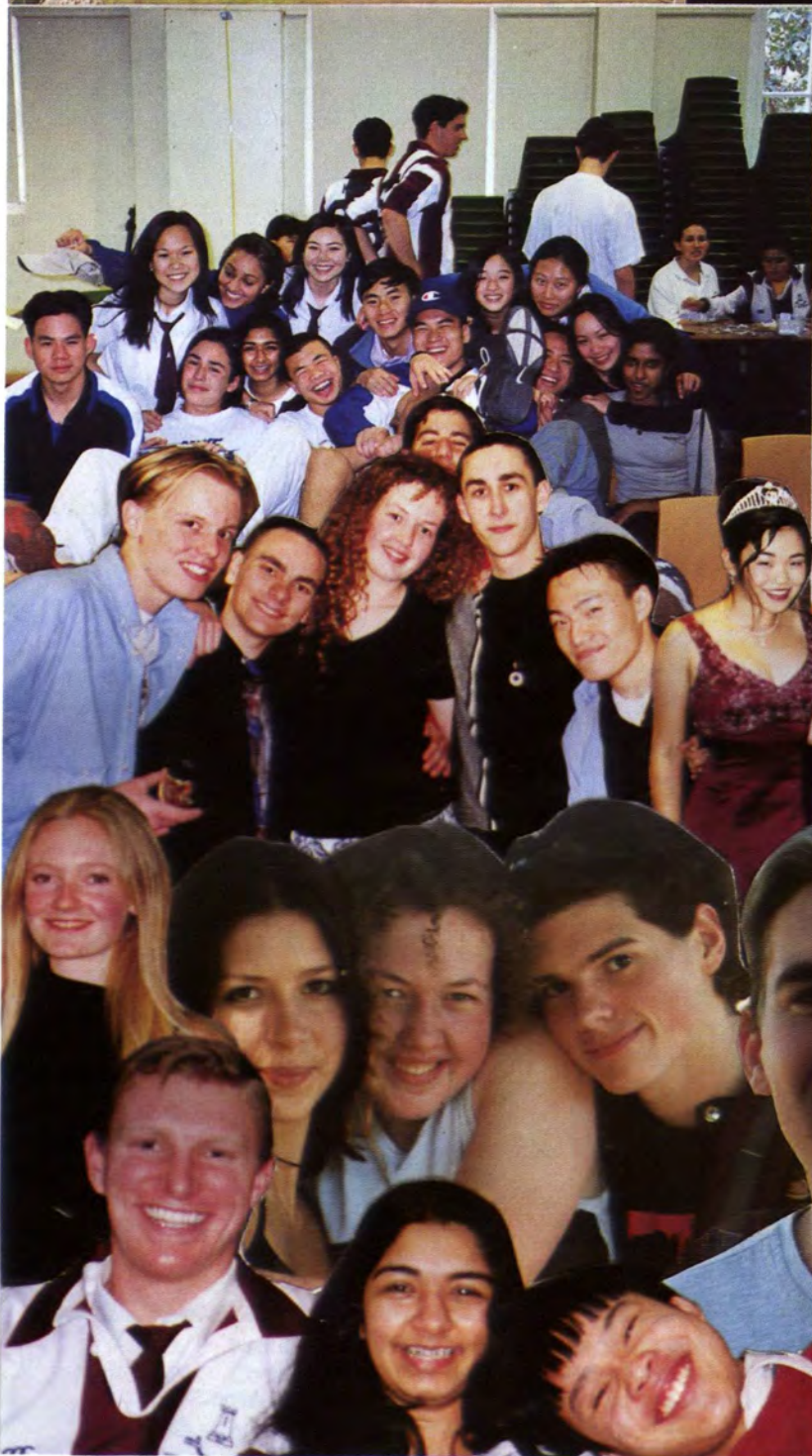
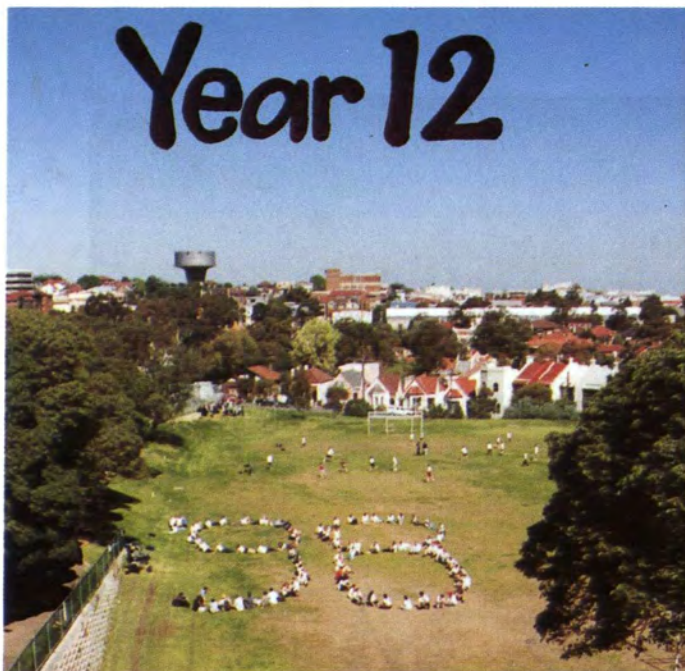


ROW 4: Tom Rushton, Ante Mihaljek, Tristan Roache-Turner, Benn O'Donnell, Mark Smith, Nick Milner, Luke McMahon.
 ROW 3: Jeremy Ong, Quang Nguyen, Minh Phan, Conrad Richters, Kieran Riches, Charles Peters, Stefan Nadolski.
 ROW 2: Vinh Nguyen, Zoe Rodwell, Sophie Richards, Stephenie Nicholson, Huy Pham, Christopher Ong.
 FRONT: Patricia Quach, Claresta Seto, Susan Quinn, Korana Musicki, Kristy North, Niccola Phillips, Theresa McSpedden.



ROW 4: David Tran, Rowan Udell, Peter Soo, Suminder Sran, Ziming Ye, Thomas Smith.
 ROW 3: Tran Vuong, Jack Teiwes, Tom Gao, Justin Tsuei, Adrian Thomas, Andrew Tang, Eric Wong.
 ROW 2: Anna Van, Rachel Stein-Holmes, Kate Vandyke, Moira Williams, Jean Zhang, Harleen Vinaik.
 FRONT: Nicole Wong, Karen Tang, Erica Valpiani, Monica Wong, Naomi Stanley, Nicole Talmacs, Hae-Won Song.

Year 12





Year Twelve 1998

Row 8: Mark Stevens, Daniel Brass, Ben Lashbrook, Marc Ridyard, Chris Migocki, Owen Macindoe, Thomas Richards, Darren Ma, Krish Mandal, Yanni Kronenberg, Luke Manderson, Jonathon Dixon, Tim Newman, William Chan, Robbie Austen, Ben Smith, Rod Smith, Michael Hottinger, Chris Hayes, Nathan Denton.

Row 7: Lisa Collins, Tiffany Basili, Fionnuala Browne, Kit Morrell, Jean Hannan, Eliza Maunsell, Bronya Mach, Clare Britton, Claire Gillam, Wendy Morrison, Clio Gates-Foale, Jane O'Sullivan, Rhiannon McHutchinson, Susan Koboroff, Jenny Parkes, Claudia Mills, Audrey Griffen, Tania Lambert, Georgina Davidson, Nicole Dann, Rachel Jackson.

Row 6: Skanda Jayaratnam, Beau Reid, Daniel Tan, Ned Tillyer-Strudwick, Phil Morgan, Ben Murphy, John Murray, Ben Damon, Andrew Cram, David Wall, James Gillam, James Denham, Pratyush Chalasani, Brendan McCready, Kam Fai Ma, Peter Forwood, David Jenkinson, Chris Stabback, Justin Labruna, Travis Nippard.

Row 5: Alan Kan, Chen Yu, Minh Nguyen, Alek Ustaszewski, Yip-Lee Leung, Cameron Maxwell, Jonathon Shaw, Howard Chan, Tim Bowen, Steven Ng, Dachnan Nguyen, Sam Skinner, Kubilay Kocak, Adrian Fung, Nick Coleman, Alan Tang, Andrew Yam, Timothy Lam, Ranjit Murali, Nick Prokhovnik.

Row 4: Vanessa Owens, Lynda Duncan, Kate Toupein, Catherine Bocking, Claudine Lyons, Crystal Longeran, Hannah Green, Deepa Gopinath, Katrina Goh, Ruth Wong, Joanne Tooher, Jasmine Stark, Wen Nian, Tessa Lunney, Tennille Noach, Pippa Scott, Thea Greenwood, Tara Plaisance, Jenny Gittins, Jayda Tham.

Row 3: Jim Kalotheos, Beum-Soo Lee, Ernest Chan, Calvin Cheng, Josh Watson, George Nguyen, Chris Fitzpatrick, Paul Saciri, Yadhav Balagiritharan, Si-Chat Lim, Thomas Moliterno, Anthony Jenkin, Robert Trinh, James Findlay, Jonathon Phan, John Papisoulis, Brian Bahari, Jeremy Wee, Mark Notaras, Philip Wong.

Row 2: Michelle Summerville, Sophia Herscovitch, Binny Batra, Renata Murru, Fawne Berkutow, Fred Wang, Andrew Johnston, Ricky Chen, Con Perris, Brendan Willmott, Steven Yee, Kingston Soo, Andrew Wan, James Russell, Stephen Lam, Nick Fritchley, Sumita Maharaj, Tiffany Malins, Balya Sriram, Jenny Lin.

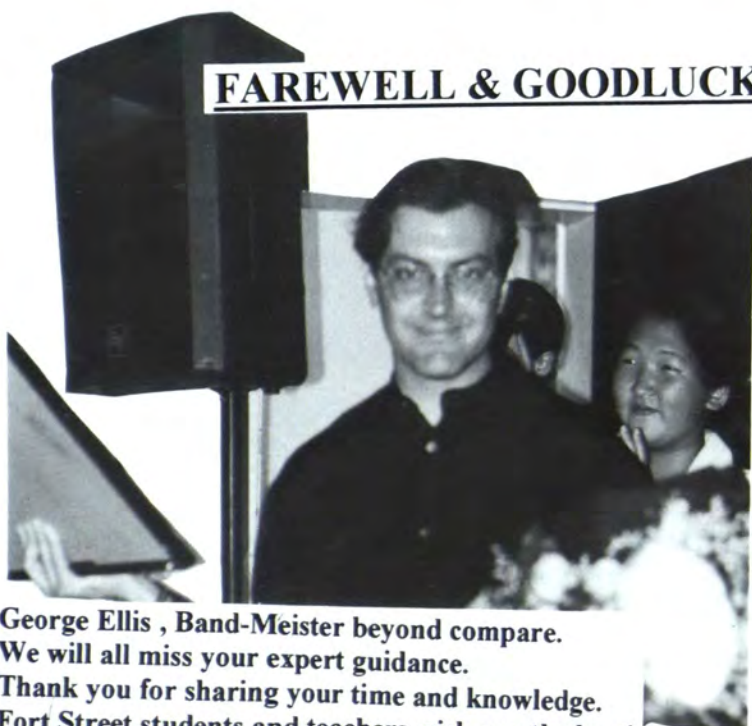
Front Row: Shubangi Ramgopal, Anila Azhar, Sonya Louey, Priscilla Wong, Amy Cheung, Anna Valpiani, Ingrid Lane, Hai Tran, Alexandra Peard, Jenny Lee, Jenny Thai, Shirley Tran, Keyna Wilkins, Grace Ma, Prashanthi Nadarajah, Natasha Fong, Apeksha Srivastava, Leah Hopkinson, Jane Min, Thuy Nguyen.

Fort Street High School-Staff of '98



ROW 5: T. Leodios, E. Flimoun, D. West, C. Moller, R. Hayes, J. Chung, J. Gaal, W. Griffith, A. Millward, M. Browne, H. Fraser.
 ROW 4: Y. Campos, S. Baker, S. Yalichev, C. Moynham, D. Brace, M. Ireland, P. Canty, C. Gaskin, K. Ambler, J. Suffolk, A. Furnari, C. Fyfe.
 ROW 3: E. Jamble, L. Beavers, J. Thornhill, S. Page, M. Hosking, R. Morgan, P. Brewster, B. Freser, R. Paice, M. Golds, J. Levy.
 ROW 2: M. Brewster, T. Kozlowska, P. Donohoe, D. Karatasas, V. Chiplin, K. Johnson, K. Anderson, J. McDermott, P. Hayes, H. Young, I. Nicholson, P. Wardell, V. Chavali.
 FRONT: Z. Neurath, S. Scheding, M. Johanson, T. Glebe, J. Buckingham (Relief Deputy Principal), A. Connell (Relief Principal), T. Jurd, G. Talbot, G. Osland, N. Jennings, R. Smith.

FAREWELL & GOODLUCK!



George Ellis, Band-Meister beyond compare.
We will all miss your expert guidance.
Thank you for sharing your time and knowledge.
Fort Street students and teachers wish you the best!



Yr.10 Restaurant: Ms. Fyfe discusses merits of Presentation with Thomas Dallow.
 Ms. Treveni samples the wares!

CHAMPIONS ALL - WE SALUTE YOU!



Greg Howe Year 7 and David Helstrom Yr.8 –
Finalists of SMH Young Scientist Competition.



By Suminder Singh Sran, Year 11

The title above was the motto of the 1998 National Secondary Schools Table Tennis Championships, and Fort Street's team followed it to the letter.

In June, Fort Street's table tennis team qualified for the first time for the national titles. Then in September Fort Street had a taste of honour in achieving national recognition in a sport played in more than 50 countries. In NSW alone this year about 90 schools took part in the State Secondary Schools championship, each fielding three or four teams -- some seven. Fort Street had the one team.

There was fierce competition to be one of three teams from each state to go to the nationals, this year again in Geelong in Victoria.

In the State round, our team was Hoyan Ngai, Andrew Tang, Kenny Mai and myself; for the national round the team consisted of Peter Soo, Kenny Mai and myself.

The nationals began with an opening ceremony and we felt proud to be part of it. Parading in front of many dignitaries meant an emotional feeling that cannot be forgotten. It was probably the closest we will get to being in the Olympics.

Block it! Spin it! Smash it!

On the first day we all played below our usual standard as we were still tired from the long trip across the State. The second day brought great pressure as we played the favourites, St John Park, who had already beaten us in the State round. We played our hearts out but were no match for them. Unlike us, they had been seriously training since the State round.

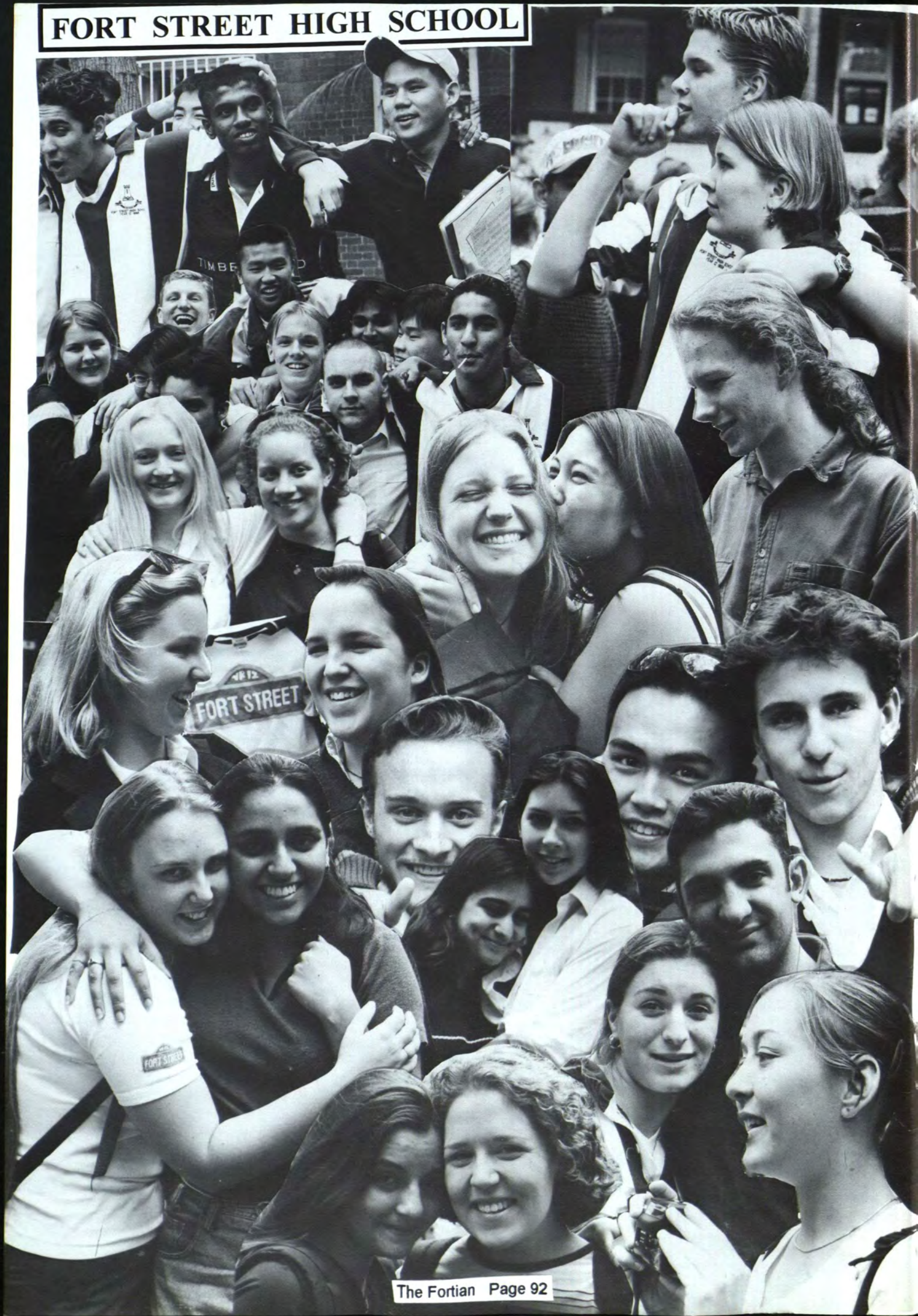
But then we lost only to two other teams in the entire nation: Albury High, and St Joseph's from Victoria. We came a proud fourth in the national championships. Considering it was the first time our school had made the national level, it was a superb performance.

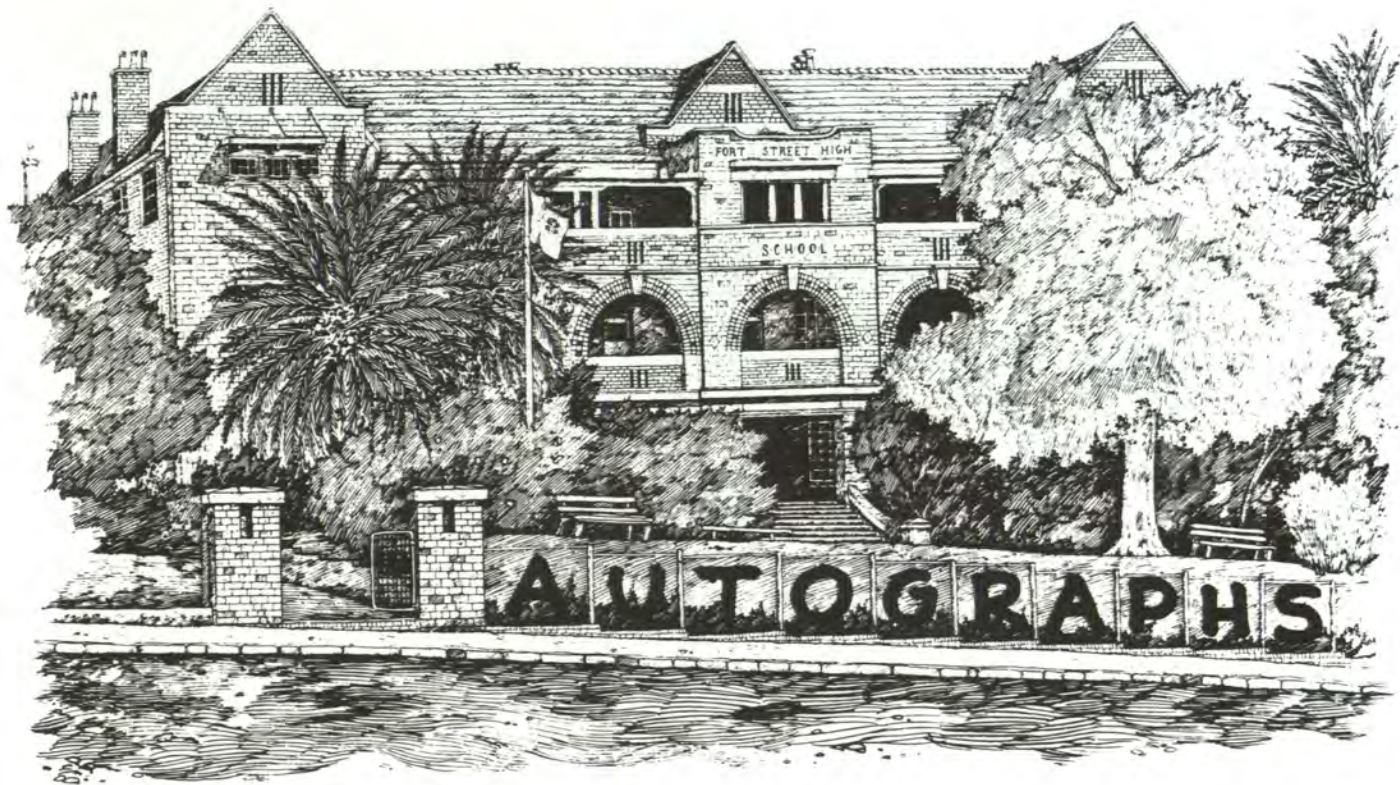
In the singles/individual event, our three players were placed. Kenny Mai and I were demoralised to lose our first rounds, but Peter Soo held up Fort Street's pride. In the national singles, Peter Soo made us proud by reaching the quarter-finals even though he had least experience.

Then there was a new competition called the TOPS, and we were not prepared for it. This followed the rules of a normal game but used miniature tables and bigger-than-normal balls. All three players passed to the second round, but in the third round Kenny and Peter lost very narrowly. I took revenge by reaching the semi-finals and coming 4th.

As team captain I compliment all team members for giving their best, and thank the staff who made this competition possible and gave moral and financial support when we needed them most. Next year Fort Street will produce an even stronger team.

FORT STREET HIGH SCHOOL





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