



by Sarah Haythorne 7c

❖ Principal's Report '96 ❖

At the end of my first full year as Principal of Parkwood Secondary College I retain the same affection for the College that I had as I started here in April 1995. The strong learning culture in the College remains as one of its key features. Our programs have been carefully managed in order to offer an excellent and broad curriculum at all levels. The specialty areas such as computers have been well supported by the College Council.

As I have said through Newsletters and College Assemblies throughout 1996, change remains the constant in our operation. The curriculum is constantly changing but I am proud to say that Parkwood is one of those colleges which embraces the new initiatives and gets on with the job of implementation. I refer to the inclusion of compulsory Sport Education and Languages other than English into our program. We have faced many challenges with self management in 1996 and done our best always to ensure that the students' interests and needs are best served by any change. In spite of the many staff and timetable changes throughout the year, the students have coped well and demonstrated a good attitude to learning.

Our students have indeed excelled in all facets of education. A large number of students have gained distinction in Mathematics and English competitions, in the area of sport and public speaking. Our TAFE programs have enhanced the educational opportunity of many senior students and they have seized the opportunity and done well. National representatives in several sports have come from the Parkwood student group. The Music program has really taken off in 1996 with the addition of new staff and the inclusion of the teaching of new instruments. We can now truly boast a range of performing groups from a number of year levels. A feature has been the two music evenings held during the year. The Performing Arts program with its music, dance and drama has demonstrated to the community the talents of the students on each of the two Performance Evenings. We were fortunate to have our local Member of Parliament in attendance.

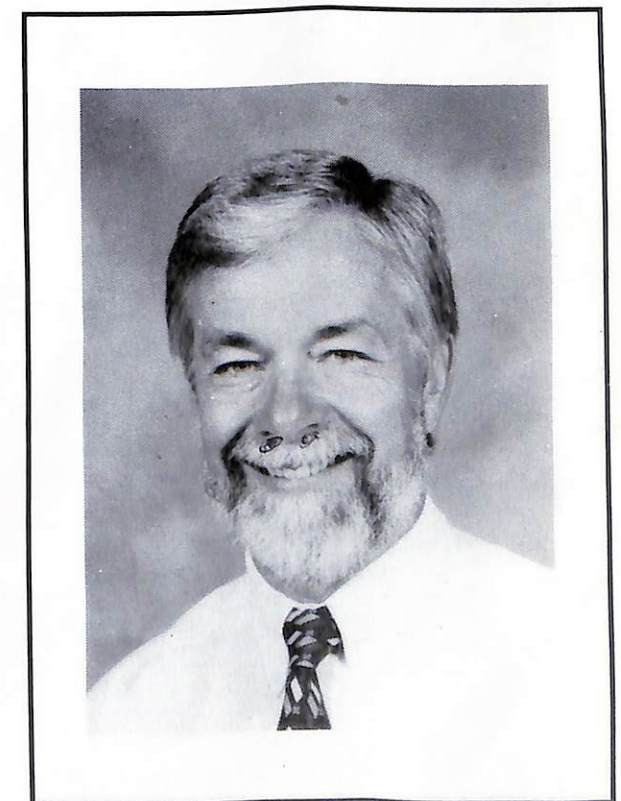
The student leadership program has been another key feature of 1996. The positions of College Captains, House Leaders, Peer Support Leaders etcetera have featured prominently in the operation of the College. Regular whole college assemblies have been held and conducted by students. The inclusion of the vertical house system has been trialled for the first time in 1996 and despite the concerns of some students, has been a success and seen the mixing of students of all ages and from all year levels.

Our student work has been acknowledged through the Annual Awards Evening which has now become an important annual event for honouring the achievements of students in academic, sporting and community pursuits.

Despite the views of some in other places who wish to make decisions about the future of Parkwood Secondary College, the school still prospers and together with the demonstrated commitment of the students, staff, parents and college council the potential is unlimited. Many parents of children in district primary schools have endorsed Parkwood as their choice of a secondary college for their children and we will begin to see a growth in student numbers at the college.

I wish those students leaving Parkwood for the last time in 1996 all the very best for their futures. I hope that they will look back fondly on their time in this fine secondary college. To the continuing and incoming students we want you to show us more of the same things upon which this college was founded - dedication to the task, prevailing over adverse situations and a strong quest to learn.

Martin Culkin
Principal



PARKWOOD ELECTION

Parkwood's election for the positions of School Captains was approaching rapidly.

Five candidates had been chosen: Leah Phillips, Lyndal Selman, Chris Nealon, Andrew Rosewarne and Olivia Robotham. Only two positions were vacant. Most importantly there were only two little red badges. Each equally qualified person was introduced to the school body by their House Leader and a few 'nice' words were said about them. The rest was out of their hands and left up to every student and teacher in the school to fill in the ballot and vote in D3.

The votes were tallied days later, which felt like weeks. It seemed that Olivia Robotham and Chris Nealon had just won.

Olivia was surprised that she had been voted in, though Chris wasn't! Both Olivia and Chris believe that being a school captain has not interfered with their VCE. They think that as

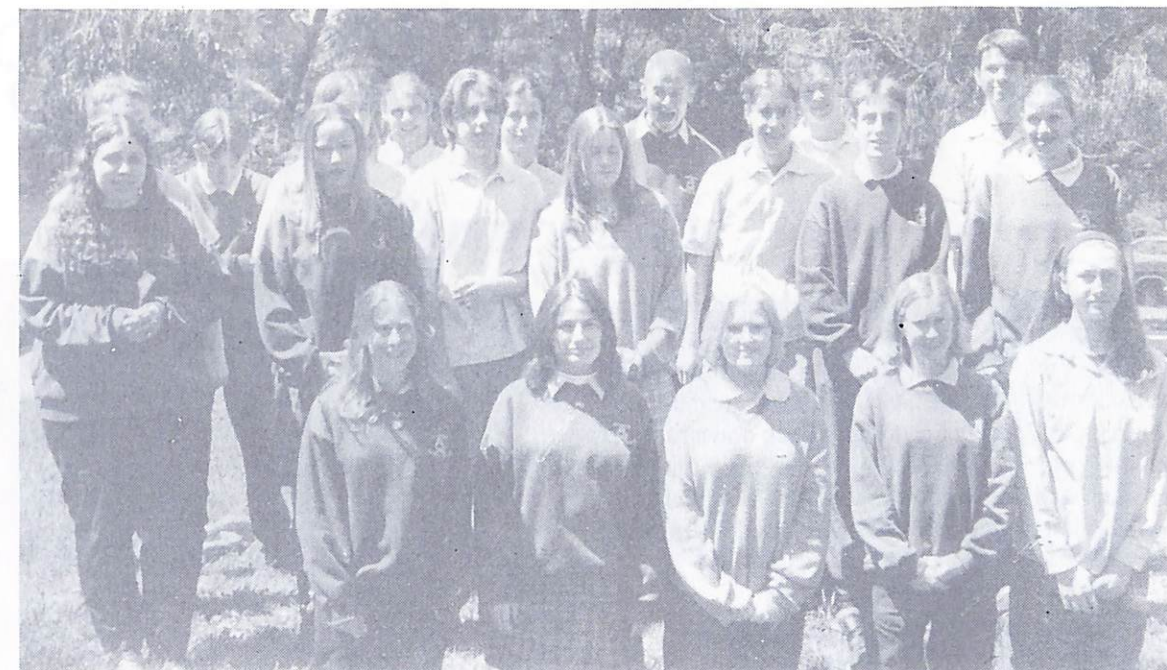
a school captain it is important to be yourself, to provide leadership, represent the school, and help with important school functions. As Olivia says: "The duties which Chris and I have undertaken have varied throughout the year. A whole school speech about ANZAC Day was pretty nerve-racking then a prospective students and families speech was also made, a little more easily; but one of the truly hardest chores we had to do all year was have our faces plastered in the middle of the photo board at the library's entrance. Do you realise how embarrassing that is?"

Chris enjoys being a school captain and thinks it is "a bit of a power trip". After leaving school Chris would like to go to uni and do a Arts/Law degree. In his spare time he would like to put out a CD with his band.

Olivia also wants to go to uni - hopefully to do a Business Information Systems course at RMIT. She thinks that the



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THE DESKTOP PUBLISHING CLASS:

Anthony Bird, Hugh Torresan, David Gates, Tim Myles, Rebecca Hill, Kate Walters, Sam Bremner, Lucas Spargo, Megan Phillips, Jaclyn Gow, Susie Cant, Dallas Roberts, Nathan Fearn, David Malley, Ben Walsham, Ryan Shultz, Matt Anderson, Tristan Cook, Nicole Bell, Toby Ronaldson, Kate Burgo, Dominic Barbuto, Diana Jamison, Justine Mizzi, and Kate Gillson.

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THE JOURNALISM CLASS:

Susie Cant, Dallas Roberts, Dominic Barbuto, Simon Fuller, Rebecca Hill, Debbie Calvett, Megan Phillips, Kathryn Savage, Hayley Ferrugia, Korin Bloomfield, Becky May, Jessica Klinger, Sally McGuinness, Kate Gillson, Barry Ball, Simon Brown, Kate Walters, Ben Walsham, Ryan Standish, Justin White, Anthony Hickling, Luke Pingnam, Evan Stait, Phillip Lawrence, David Gates and David Malley.

Special thanks goes to Ms Miriklis, Mrs Heinicke, Mrs Koochew, Ms Petty, Mr Trigila, and to all those students and staff who helped in the production of the school magazine.

Year Seven Highlights!

Transition

You can't sleep! Your bag is packed and your uniform is brand new. Tomorrow is the big day! You have gone from being the big kids at Primary School, and back down to babies at High School. You're worried about getting lost, fitting in and getting your head flushed down the toilet. But after a while everything falls into place and you realise it's really not that bad.



School really isn't that bad. It was great making new friends but there was one little problem, all the different teachers. It was O.K. in Primary school having one teacher because you knew your limits, but now having five to six teachers a day just means TROUBLE. The canteen is also great, it's full of junk food, unlike Primary School, health food and more health food. And we all stick together.

Suzi Cant & Sally McGuinness



Guest Speaker

On Monday the 12th of August the year 7's had a guest speaker visit the school on behalf of the geography program. Andrew Lavis was a representative from the Royal Melbourne Show and the Clydesdale Association. He talked to us about the keeping of the Clydesdales, the cost and work involved participating in the Royal Melbourne Show. Andrew also talked about being committed to showing and keeping his horses in top condition. I'm sure all of the year 7's learned a lot from this talk and it helped us with the responsibility of any animal ownership. He also brought along two of his Clydesdales which he planned to exhibit in the Royal Melbourne Show this year.

All the year 7's were grateful to Mr Lavis for taking the time to talk to us and wished him luck in the Show.

Katie Nuthall



Year Seven Highlights!

Camp Buxton



As I stuffed my clothes into my suitcase and forced the zip together, I realized I had packed too heavily again. My mum pulled into the car-park. I got out, went to the boot and struggled to pull out my massive suitcase.

I looked around at everyone's little bags. Was it too late to remove some of my things or would I just have to suffer the embarrassment of having enough clothes for a month? I decided I couldn't leave anything behind so I left it as it was.

At 9am Wednesday morning all the year sevens and eighteen of the year elevens piled on to one of the three buses. All 7A and 7B on one bus, 7C and 7D on another and then the peer support students in the last one. It took an hour and a half, which went very quickly, to get to our destination at Camp Buxton where we were staying for three days.

On Wednesday afternoon after we had unpacked we went down to the beach which was only five minutes walk. As it was hot, we all enjoyed the swim. Some people also made sand sculptures which were all very good. I made a sculpture of a lolly with the help of Belinda and Kathryn.

Wednesday night we had a pyjama party. We all had to meet in the hall in our PJ's. I had my pink pig slippers on and my boxer shorts that have hippos in tutus on them. We also had to take our favourite teddy. Mine was a boxing monkey that was dressed in jeans and a wind-cheater.

It started raining on Thursday morning and it never stopped. We had nothing to do so we played games in the hall, eg: Sale

of the Century, Celebrity Heads, Fruit Salad, Chubby Bubby and heaps more. I ended up going down to the beach with a lot of other people, in the pouring rain, which was pretty stupid of me as I came back looking like a drowned rat.

That night the teachers planned a formal dinner and partnered us with a boy. The dinner was roast beef, potatoes, vegies, and apple crumble for dessert. Later that night, we had a disco where we all danced to loud music. It went to 10.30pm and by then we were all worn out so we went to our cabins to go to bed.

There were 10 girls in my cabin so it was very crowded. Some of us were unable to sleep on the first night but we all did the second night. We slept so well that Mr Byrne had to come in and squirt us with a super soaker to wake us up.

That morning we had to pack up all our gear. We left camp at about 1.15pm in the pouring rain. We arrived back at school at 3.00pm. It was a good camp and I met a lot of new people. It would have been better if the weather had been hotter and drier.

Meagan Fox



Diary Of Pip Fell Aged 12 1/2



30th January

Today is my first day of High School. I already know some of the year eights from primary school. They told me about some of the teachers. Gosh! They seem scary. Not to worry, I have something to look forward to like my birthday, that's next month. Wow! I'm excited.

10th February

Tomorrow is my birthday, all my new friends as well as some of my friends from Primary School are coming. We are going to the movies to see "Now And Then". After the movies some more of my friends are coming to stay the night.

23rd March

WOW! I got 20 out of 20 in my maths test. I can't believe it because last year my average was 10 out of 20.

We had a listening test in German. I just scraped in for a pass, with 18 out of 36. (Phew!) My class and I had to do this talk in English. Mine was about divorce because my parents are divorced and I know a lot about it. I dropped a beaker in science and then fell off my chair in art. (It was a pretty bad day.)

25th April

MEGA! We got the day off because it's Anzac day. I went to Rachel's birthday party. It was so grouse because we watched Congo, Major Pain, The Hand That Rocks The Cradle and Clueless. We didn't go to sleep at all and Kim's mouse had babies. It was a big surprise because we thought it was a male mouse.

2nd May

I'm still recovering from Rachel's mega party. It went on all night. She really liked her present which I thought was pretty stupid, I mean, who wants a giant teddy bear anyway. I'm having another maths test tomorrow. It's impossible what they expect us to know. I don't get much of that decimal and fraction stuff. But we still have to do it.

21st July

Well the holidays have just finished (unfortunately). School is much better than last term. This term we are doing Home Economics instead of Ceramics and German instead of Japanese. I think I will go on with German, we'll see how it goes. It is the middle of Winter and it's COLD. I wish Summer was here right now.

4th August

Guess what? It is 6 days until my best friend Karey's birthday party. She says it is going to be great. There are going to be boys and lots of food. She says there is one boy who would suit me. I'm looking forward to meeting him. School? Just the normal. At the moment I have been having a lunch order every day this week.

4th September

Today we went to play sport at Maroondah. I played table tennis. It was really noisy on the bus. When we got there we had to walk through the muddy grass to the gym. When we got inside everyone was ready to play, so we got numbers and played against the people with the same numbers as us. At the end of all the games they added up all the scores and we had lost. But only just.

Diary of Cameron Roberts Aged 12 3/4

January 30th

It was my first day at school. I met some friends and found my way around. In one month we are leaving for camp. We are going to Shoreham where we will be staying at Camp Buxton. I am a little bit nervous because I don't really know the boys in my grade. I think school is going to be a real drag because my girlfriend Rebecca went to Maroondah instead of Parkwood.

February 21st

Today in History we received our first project and we have to make a model of a Stone Age village. It will be hard because we have to make a model of people and animals. The other day when I was walking down the path I saw a year 8 fall in the mud face first. Boy, that was funny!

March 4th

At camp we went swimming at the beach, and went on the rope course. There was a trampoline to jump on and we also played volleyball. There was a disco at the camp and I met a new girl, Stacey Dash.

April 21st

Last Tuesday, I had my first peer support lesson. In peer support my leaders are Karly and Travis. They are COOL! On Sundays my leader Travis gets dressed up as a kookaburra at the Croydon Market and that is his job. He gets paid ten dollars an hour.

June 16th

It's almost my birthday and I am going to have a huge party at my house. Hopefully this time my brother, Michael, will not run out naked. The worst thing happened in P.E. today, Adam got dacked and you could see his boxer shorts. They were Ren and Stimpy's, not that I looked. After P.E. Mr Befit caught me and Stacey behind in the gym; it was very embarrassing.

July 13th

Guess what I received for my birthday - a Mongoose Villain. I also got 4 CD's, (Bush, Snoop, Public Enemy and Nirvana) and yes my friends did give me birthday bashings - a lot of them too. On Wednesday we played football against Norwood Secondary. We lost by a few goals, but we still tried our hardest. I kicked 2 goals and 3 behinds.

August 26th

Yesterday, in Science I accidentally melted the electric scale with the crucible that was filled with crystals. We got in deep trouble. Today, in period 1 and 2, I participated in a public speaking competition. I was up against a few year eights and a couple of year sevens. At the end they announced me as the winner of the competition.

September 19th

It is almost the end of term and I'm going to a footy final tonight with my friends, and the Melbourne Show tomorrow for an end of term party. Adam and I are still friends but I'm still upset that Stacey dumped me and went out with him.

Diaries written by 7A. Names have been changed to protect the guilty.



HOME GROUPS

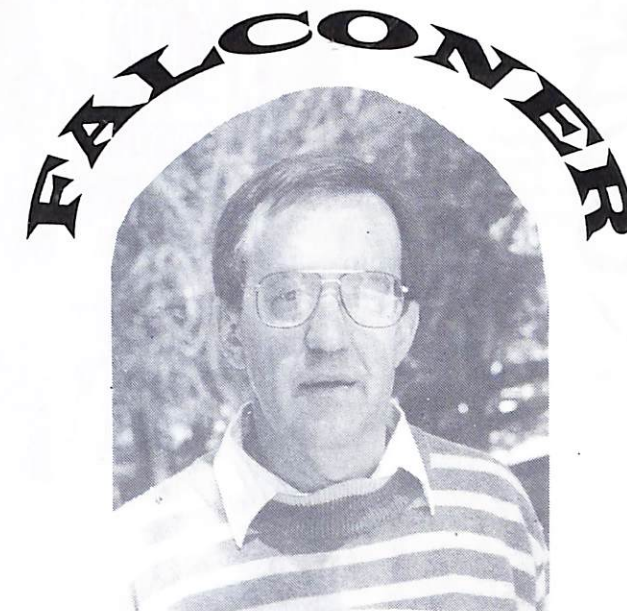


Everyone has a different opinion about the Home Group system which was introduced into the school this year. Some people think it's great, while others think it's inappropriate.

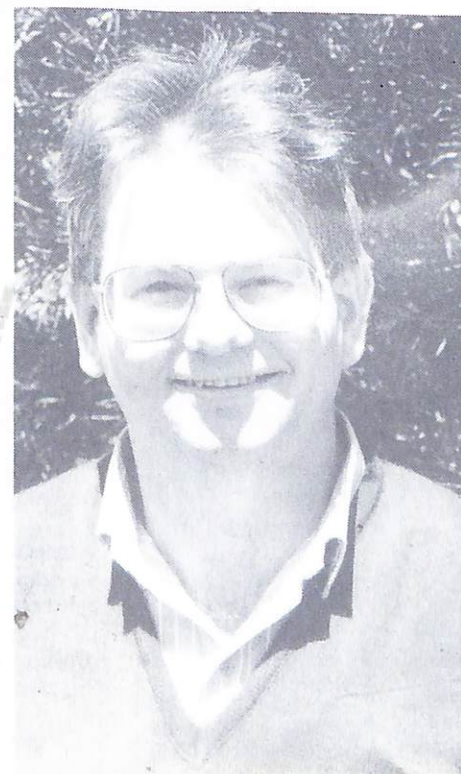
The benefits of the new Home Group system are that students will remain within their same Home Group, with the same teacher and students, throughout their time at Parkwood. The Home Groups consist of a mixture of students from all year levels, which enables the younger students to gain guidance, leadership and help from the more mature students. The younger students may also feel that they have an 'older brother or sister' to call on for support.

There are some negative points of the new system. In the students' view, some Home Groups have limited numbers of peers with whom they can interact. Overall the Home Group system has been successful as the staff and students are determined to make it work.

Ryan Standish.



COLMAN

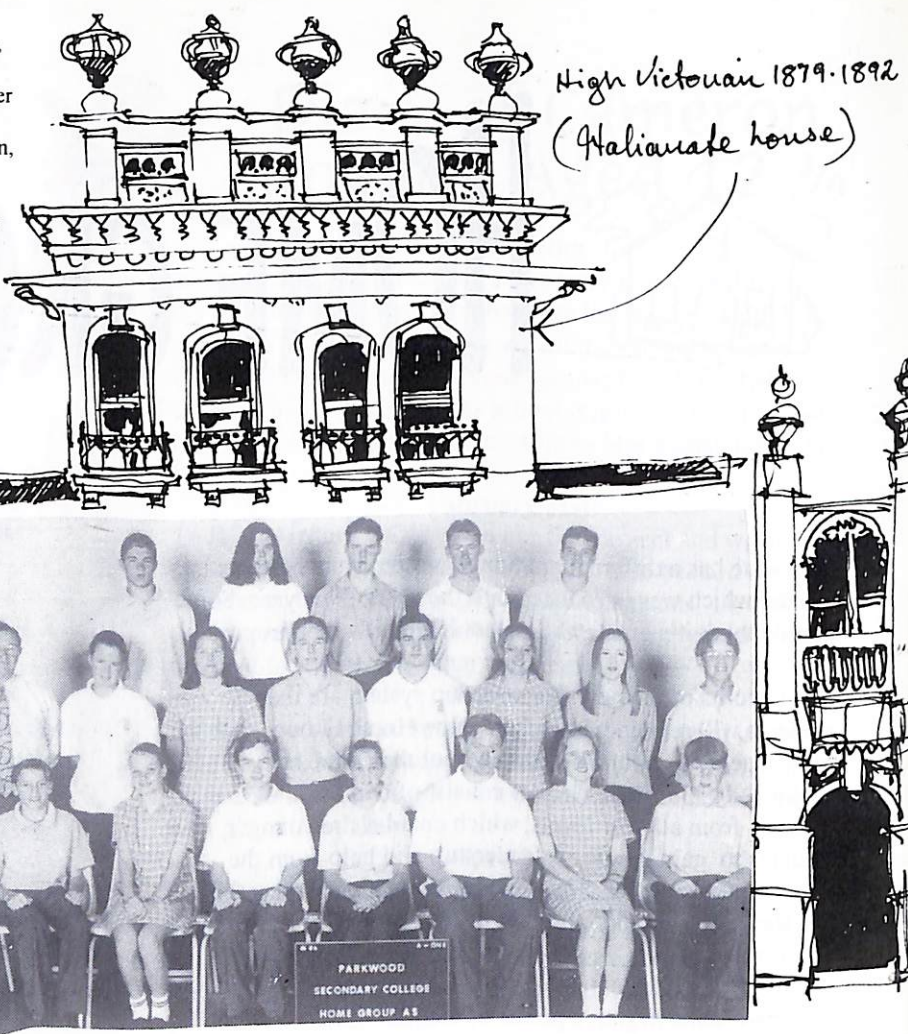


MILNE

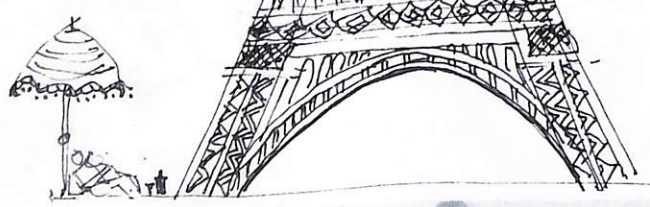


ROW 3: Brendan Hicks, Nadia Seidel, Rian Foster, Damian White, Evan Stait.
 ROW 2: Kristi Brash, Kathryn Murchie, Ryan Standish, Christopher Nealon, Janine Boschen, Nicole Bell, Daniel Rose.
 FRONT: Shane Clarke, Amanda Filleul, Daniel Eaton, Hayley Dolan, Simon Terzioski, Leah Phillips, Jeremy Wiggs.

HOME GROUP: A5 TEACHER: Mr. R. Oakley

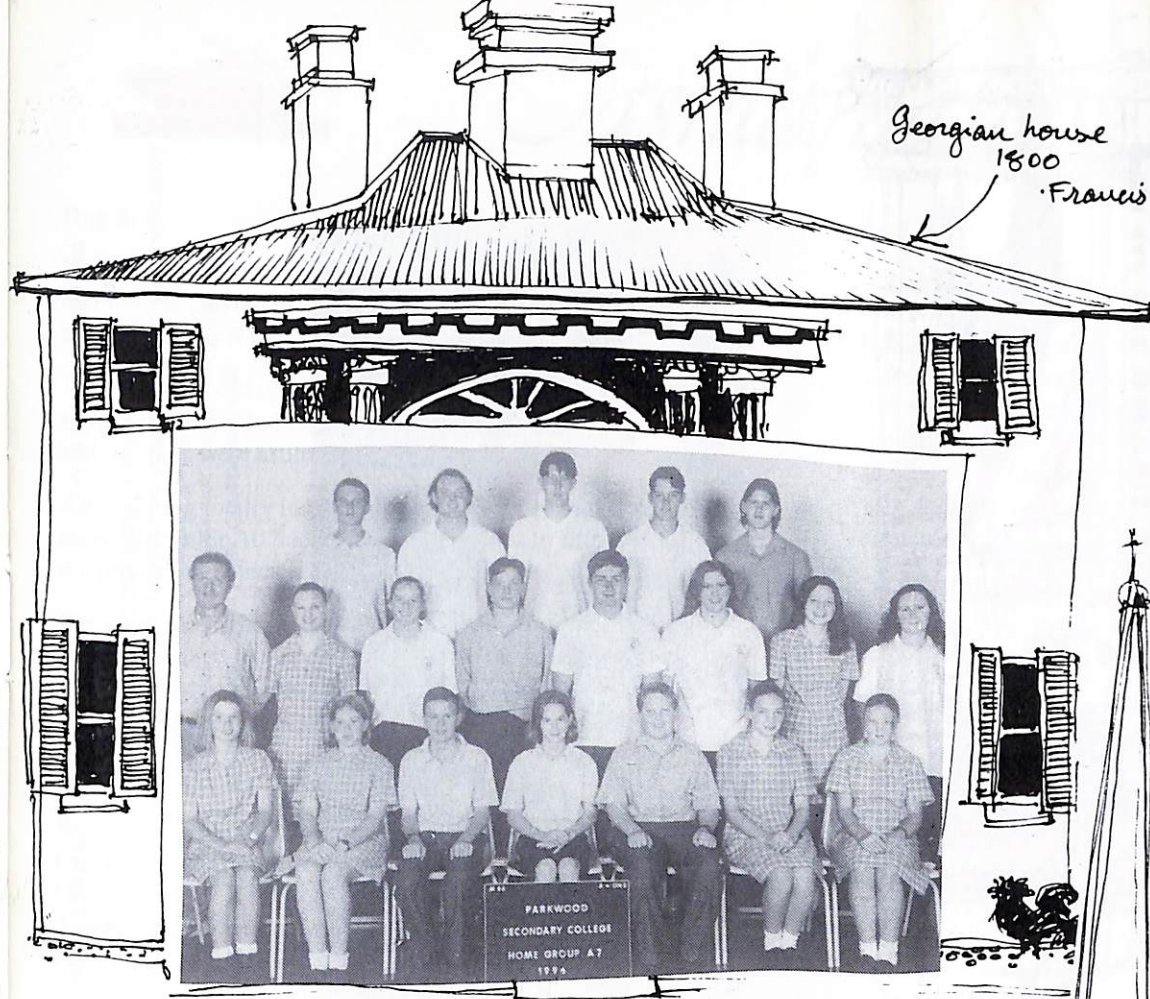


COLMAN

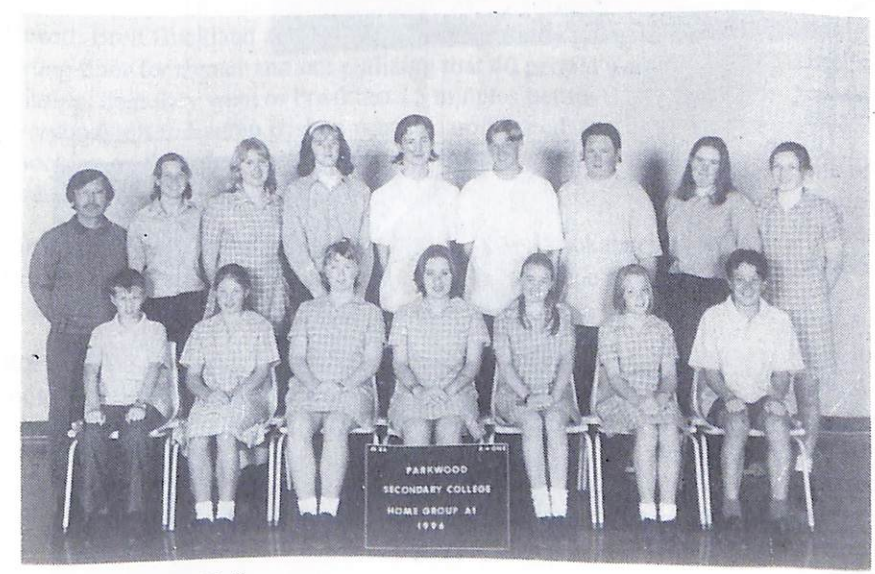


ROW 2: Rachel Griffith, Michelle Lawrence, Carly Tromp, Justin Plant, Shaun Ramsey, Ryan Pember, Tracey Owen, Megan Russell.
 FRONT: Jason Brockhus, Sarah Haythorne, Lauren Phillips, Elisa Freitas, Alison Crawford, Saige Goodwin, Cameron Gow.
 HOME GROUP: A1 TEACHER: Mr. J Chai

ROW 3: Jimmy Wilson, Jarrod Down, Kirk Bloomfield, Tavis Cook, Christopher D'Amico.
 ROW 2: Carly Strachan, Matt Jarman, Trevor Jennings, Jason Kyle, Justin White, Kate Walters, Kylie Digby.
 FRONT: Jeremy Smith, Katie Nuthall, Belinda Cook, Lauren Crowe, Jessica Anderson, Claire McLeod, Rebecca Hill.
 HOME GROUP: A6 TEACHER: Ms. S. Petty

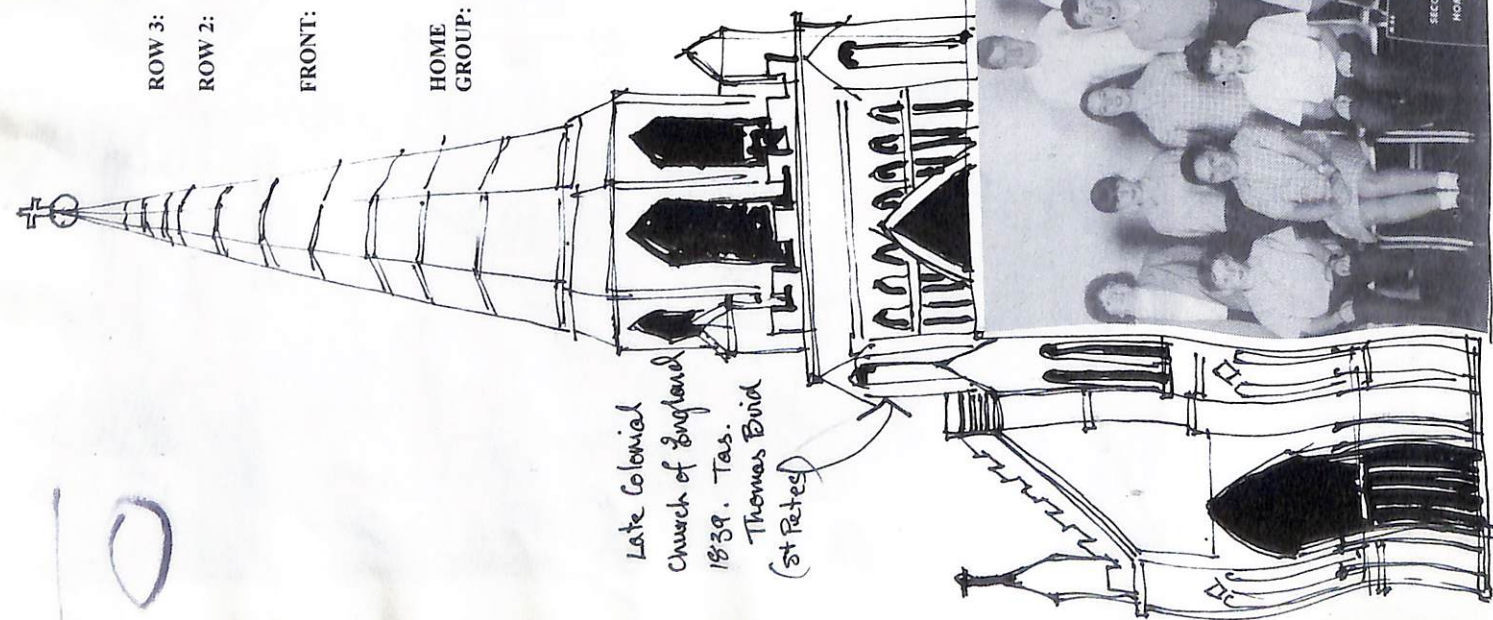


ROW 3: Michael Tromp, Nathan Russell, Matthew Owen, Stuart Moore, Phillip Lawrence.
 ROW 2: Jodie Bonnett, Belinda Luscombe, Dominic Barbuto, Micheal Fitzgerald, Francesca Cant, Korin Bloomfield, Misty Bryant.
 FRONT: Andrea Digby, Kerryn Schneider, Ian Crawford, Marika Verwey, Thomas Walters, Kathryn Rowell, Kim Walker.
 HOME GROUP: A7 TEACHER: Mr. J Zygmunt



ROW 3: Brett McNeill, Brett Roberts, Leigh Kempster, Matt Curlett, Brooke Clark, Trevor Santilli, Nicole Ruduss, Shane Laird, Brendan Filleul, Matt Anderson, Joel Strachan, Lauren Bishop.
 FRONT: Miranda Thompson, Kimberley Lidgerwood, Deane Brown, Michelle Murchie, Drew McNally, Krystel Hallows, Michelle Lidgerwood, Melissa Dimascio.
 HOME GROUP: A4 TEACHER: Mrs Q. Ramm





ROW 3: Andrew Stait, David Gow, Erika Seidel, Andrew Middlemast, Karen Owen, Britt Ricardo, Christian Heskett, Mark Phillips, Susie Cant, Scott Lawrence, Sarah Poynton.
 ROW 2: Dean Standish, Laura Mastronardi, Jordan Hulsebusch, Michael Napl, Dallas Roberts, Megan Murray, Dale Hartley.
 FRONT:
 HOME GROUP: A3
 TEACHER: Mrs. L. McDonald



ROW 3:
 ROW 2:
 FRONT:

HOME GROUP: A2

TEACHER: Mrs. J. Harmer

Matthew Kyle, Simon Fuller, Christopher Leung, Daniel Bryant, David Giannopoulos, Jaclyn Gow, Sylvia Turk, Phillippa Cook, David Goodren, Paul Fisher, Megan Phillips, Wes Humberstone, Kimberly Tingate, Kylie Lidgerwood, Alana Bruce, Mark Eaton, Emily-Jo Kirby.



Tasmanian Tour



Day 1.

We said goodbye to our friends, who still had a week of school, and left for Devonport. Then we all piled onto the luxurious boat, "The Spirit of Tasmania".

The lifts were out of bounds, left to the elderly or disabled (that supposedly included teachers, e.g. Mr. Byrne), and we walked and our legs were killing us.

After getting totally lost about a million times in the maze of corridors within 10 decks, we had a chance to test our skills on the pinball machines and computer games in the arcade.

We spent the night on the ship and whether we liked it or not, we were rocked to sleep by the consistent crashing waves. Though a lot of people looked and felt sick, most of us were just homesick or on travel sickness tablets.

Day 2.

We woke up feeling a lot healthier than the night before and packed our stuff ready to travel by bus to visit Cataract Gorge. On the bus Ms. Kempton introduced us to "The Dummy Award," which was a dummy on a string. She explained that each day someone would be nominated for doing something really stupid and would receive the dummy to wear around their neck for a day. The dummy award went to Jason Kyle, Wayne Hewitt, Brett Buckland and Joel Strachan for firstly going to the wrong floor for dinner and not realizing that 40 people were missing; then they went to breakfast 15 minutes before everybody else. Lauren Bishop was also nominated for knocking on the cabin door looking for Jo but instead having three strange boys answer the door.

Mr Byrne, the hero of the day, managed to save a kookaburra from committing suicide on the windows of a barbecue area. The bird was immediately let go to sit and recover in a tree.

We then continued on our trip to the hotel. The rooms were so roomy (especially compared to the tiny, stuffy but hygienic cabins on the boat). After dinner we had to cancel going bowling because Mrs Harmer urgently needed medical assistance for her eye. It was alright though because we played fun indoor games instead.

Day 3.

On day 3 we went to Bonorong Park where we met the cutest animals including the ever-popular Tasmanian Devils. Next we went to Mt Wellington where everyone froze completely because we all decided to have a snow fight.

Afterwards we took a cruise on the Derwent River. Everyone was shy when it came to dancing on the boat, except for Jimmy Wilson who was jumping so hard to The Presidents that he hit his head on the low roof of the boat. (For this, he was privileged enough to receive the Dummy Award). The other people who were nominated were: EJ and Kim for sticky taping their legs together then falling into a puddle; Jason Kyle for putting his tongue on Kim's iron; Jason Brown for asking if he could go to the supermarket even after Mr Byrne had said no and then later when one of the teachers said we could, Jason asked "What are we doing there"? He won the Dummy Award.

Day 4.

We shopped for souvenirs and stocked up on snacks for the long and boring bus trips. After lunch, we couldn't wait to get to the Cadbury Schweppes factory. As soon as we entered, our lungs were filled with the delicious smell of melted chocolate. We had to do the impossible and resist the temptation of eating from the large tubs of melted chocolate that appeared before our eyes. Instead we kept eating the samples. After the tour, most people who still had money and weren't sick at the sight of chocolate, bought discounted chocolate products from the shop.

On the way to Port Arthur we saw the natural formations of the blow hole, Tasman's Arch and the Devil's Kitchen. We then checked into our new accommodation and had dinner.

Everyone was excited and hopeful about meeting ghosts on the "Ghost Tour" when it was dark. It was fantastic. We had an experienced guide lead us by lantern light through the Penal Settlement of Port Arthur. Our excitement was soon replaced by fear as he told us mysterious stories about the ghosts that supposedly haunted the ruins that surrounded us. Though Lisa Tan mistook Mr Byrne for a ghost and caused her whole group to scream, nobody from our school came in contact with any real ghosts.

The Dummy nominations were Lisa for mistaking Mr Byrne for being a ghost, Joel for dying his hair green and Megan for dying Joel's hair and then not being able to get the dye off her hands.

Day 5.

We returned to the Penal Settlement and this time had a guided tour of the history of the ruins in day-light. The stories were interesting and very educational (what can you expect from a school tour?).

In Launceston we had a very brief stop for shopping but it was still long enough for someone to go missing. Luckily they found her before we left to grab some food at MacDonalds. This was probably not necessary as we had a meal on the plane back to Melbourne too. The most exciting thing about the plane trip was the fact that we could see the fireworks from the Royal Melbourne Show. Though they only seemed a centimetre high from the plane, they were unexpected and breath-taking to watch.

From Melbourne Airport we were taken by coach back to school. It was sad that we were finishing but we could look forward to another two weeks holiday so we could recover from our wicked Tasmanian Tour!



Penmanship Awards

Junior Section

Winner: Kim Nihill

Runner up: Jennifer Doherty

Outside My Window

The heavy rain has finally moved on but has left the thick, dull clouds and clear icy water behind. Only a single sliver of light blue sky shows between the clouds. The faint ray of sunshine lands on the top leaves of the tallest tree, lighting up the rain sitting on them like clear pearls. The rest of the few thin, wet leaves glisten in the dull light. The air is cool, clean and free of pollution; the fresh air, exquisite flowers and eucalyptus leaves fill the breezes with their pleasing scents.

The freezing drips of crystal-clear water fall from the bare, twisted branches of the bent trees making quiet splashing noises. The rest of them cling on desperately until a stormy gust of chilling wind viciously shakes them to the ground. The trees are so compact that they block out almost all the light to the ground. The weight of the water and powerful wind forces the delicate flowers in the garden to droop towards the drenched ground.

The chilling wind has forced all the helpless birds and insects

to take shelter in their homes where it is warm and dry. A possum with its furry tail hanging out of the hollow tree quickly flicks itself around and pulls its tail inside. The bird-bath, once a busy place for thirsty birds, is now deserted. The drips of water fall into it and disturb the smooth surface. When the wind calms down enough a bird starts cheeping, peers out of its nest and waddles across the branch on its tiny legs. Then a gust of wind catches the bird by surprise, nearly knocking it off the branch, and it squawks anxiously and flutters back to the safety of its nest.

The flooded creek at the bottom of the gloomy hill gushes ferociously over the smooth, shiny rocks, producing mounds of soft, white foam. The waves of muddy water splash through the twists and turns of the creek's path. They break the fragile bank away making it wider and wear the bottom down making it deeper. A thick branch lies across the roaring creek and is gradually being tugged under the murky water.

Intermediate Section

Winner: Lauren Basilone

Runner up: Joanna Steuten

...And We Are For The Dark

"Lucifer, Son of Morning, how art thou fallen." The knee rests were hurting her, her calves felt numb and bloated from the traditional kneeling procedure and she longed to stand and stretch her legs. Why *did* they have to kneel anyway? She would remember to ask Dad, but not now, it was disrespectful to speak in church. Not that that seemed to bother Mum and Dad, they were whispering violently to each other now:

"Why can't you come home sober for just one night?" she hissed at him and he recoiled from the intensity, it swarmed cagily in her voice and masked her hard face.

"Why can't you be reasonable for once and get off my back, for chrissake?" He opened his eyes wide to drive his point home.

"ME?" She choked on the word and her knuckles went white against the banister as she gripped it, "You are too insulting."

"Don't blame me. You decided to marry me, I didn't make you."

"Yeah, and after nine years I still made the wrong choice."

Her head snapped back and the conversation stopped. She

had been dozing in a world fifteen years gone. Her head falling backwards had woken her up and she lay in the ripping silence. It flooded the smoky, obscure lounge room, swirled down the hallway and spilled out the doorway to inundate the street. The silence echoed the lives and times of the people who used the building.

Swarming through the murky grey matter in her head, coherent thoughts strove desperately to reach the surface, snaking up, with startling practicality, only to be drowned again by wave after wave of a sleepy and stoned tide. Flung out on the decaying couch, her body, induced into artificial stillness, was raging with cramps, her heart was in a spin-off and her muscles were warping. But she lay in faked serenity, as painful shots hit her body from the inside and she was tweaked back into reality before sinking deeper into the quicksand.

Heavy eyes turned to the window. The church spire was visible, piercing the view and the dingy sky, like the sharp martyrdom that it once inspired. If she had the energy she would have prayed, but the hopelessness was too dense to wade through, as it twined threads with the silence to create a dead heavy swill - crushing everything beneath it, like a bloated monster from a childhood fear.

Penmanship Awards

A scrap of a nursery rhyme floated before her mind's eye:

*How many miles to Babylon?
Three score and ten,
Can I get there by candle light?
Yes, and back again.*

Was that how it went? Yes, she was sure that it was. Now if she could only remember the rest... She longed to curl up in a ball, to help the cramps, just a little bit, to stop them staring at her veinless body and shredding her like a meat grinder. If she had another hit, it would be all right, she could be so together, then. Slender. Hip. Fashionable. Not slumped over a bath, sallow and wasted, black eyed, jutting ribs exposed in crude emphasis of the situation. Broken throat, bottle of pills, consumptive coughs.

A vague, last thought strolled idly through her head. Praying

as a child, the words were so deafening, even for all their silence, as she had shouted them in her head, as she had begged God to give her holiness, so that she might live. Stupid really. After all, she had been born on that cursed day of St. Job; she recalled a quote that her mother had once told her about the day of St. Job:

*'Let the day perish wherein I was born,
let the day be in darkness...
Let God not regard it from above,
nor let the light shine upon it.'*

How fitting that seemed now, with loneliness as her all-consuming accomplice and herself as her arch enemy. The spire caught her bleary eye again, the tranquilliser was starting to wear off and her limbs were coming to life. From the depth of her slushy brain she prayed - Jesus, help me for I am merely human, therefore merely dying.

Senior Section

Winner: Matthew Owen

Runner up: James Gibbins

From The Perspective Of A Killer

A young storm is building in intensity outside that frosted window. Its edges creep in, especially at the corners which reach inwards as if searching for its long lost warmth. Strangely, adjacent to my window is a large, door shaped mirror. From my seated position on the coarse, hairy armchair, I can see a perfect reflection through the mirror of the window in the room behind me. Out of this window, I can see the storm approaching, like a silent sniper over the little hill that rises to meet the challengers of my wishes. It is through this window that I spy a web, perfectly strung out between two branches to catch, with deadly intent, any little fly which wanted to escape the coming downpour. It is with sour curiosity that I watched the killing of innocence.

Fleeing from impending doom the killer hastily runs along wet ground, tumbling over blades of grass which stand tall. They reach into the clouds like deadly knives, pricking the sky with their needle points, but the small killer scurries over them as if they were only tissue paper. It crosses from the forest of blades to the tall, indomitable tree, monstrous from right down there. From the perspective of a killer, the world is very different. The tree branches out and disappears into the black clouds.

Conquering the tree, it sits in the dead centre of its home, the huge, silky web that spreads out in the most perfect of shapes. It is a deadly beauty. Never before had the light sprinkling of rain highlighted such a vision. The web stands out in the remaining light, instead of hiding in the shadows of the

impending storm, which blocks out most of the sun's glaring rays. With such a deadly storm building, the killer needs food to survive; on the victim is needed by the hungry killer. From the perspective of a killer, the web spreads out in circles, its high tension wires fighting to support the growing weight of the dew drops that hang illegally. The water from the apocalyptic clouds is ruining the surprise of the trap, ruining the thrill of the kill.

I sit there and concentrate on the myriad of colours that streak across the killer's back. Never has something represented so much evil. Its eight legs spread out from the centre of the web giving the false illusion that it is only a thicker part of the web. It is surprising how something so intricate and beautiful can strike so much fear. Paralysing fear digs itself deep in the mind and storms across the senses to reduce a man to a quivering mess, the product of one's emotions.

But before the serial killer has time to hide, there is a crack of thunder and with a tremendous flash of lightning, the storm dishes out its fury. A downpour of rain comes screaming out of the sky to turn dew drops into destructive water pellets, fast as bullets, strong as steel. The web is ripped down and washed away down a raging river of dirt. The killer, pulled from its murderous perch, thrashes about, splashing and drowning in the tiny tidal wave that engulfs it and snuffs out the stealer of souls. The killer was taken from this life. The storm will never know. From the perspective of a killer, the storm cannot see its own wrath.

12

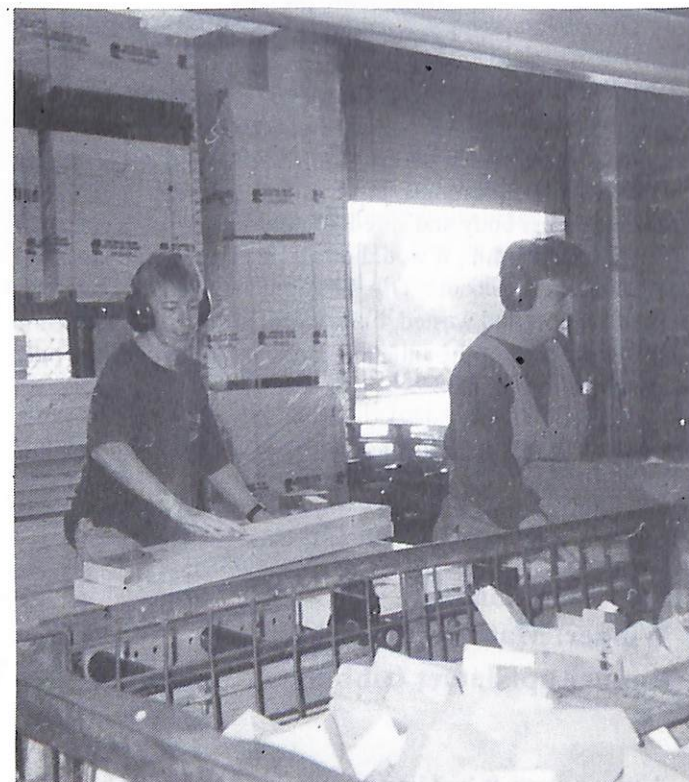
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WORK EXPERIENCE

Earlier this year, all year 10 students were released into the unforgiving world of careers. It was a two week holiday away from school and teachers, as well as a chance to make a bit of money along the way.

Work Experience is a program in which all the year 10 students try working in the field they are interested in to gain knowledge and valuable experience in that area.

Many of the year 10's that I have talked to said that they enjoyed work experience because it gave them an idea of what they want to do when they leave school as well as the money that they earned from working. The dates of this year's work experience were from April 22 to May 3, at the beginning of second term.



They were many different jobs, such as:

- Carpentry
- Graphic Designing
- Advertising
- Landscaping
- Plant Nursery
- R.S.P.C.A.

The most popular jobs were graphic designing, carpentry and landscaping.

The amount paid to students on work experience ranged from \$50 to \$200, with the most money being earned in the Carpentry and Landscaping areas rather than office work.

Evan Stait.

WORK EXPERIENCE

For my two weeks experience, I worked at Croydon Hotel as a kitchen hand. I did a variety of things ranging from repetitious vegetable cutting to more creative work, like preparing dishes for the Buffet. I cut up garnishes ready for the chefs to use on meals and prepared other vegetables for the night ahead. I chopped up buckets of potato wedges and I made truck loads of carrot sticks. This was easily one of the worst jobs. However, the more creative area was better and I made different desserts, cheese plates, meat mirrors and side serves. These were then put on the buffet in a decorative way. I enjoyed this aspect of the course rather than some of the other tasks.

My worst experience was peeling onions. The crying was a problem to start with but when I got used to it, it didn't bother me. The boring aspect was also a problem, I had to do 20kg bags, with about 50 onions in each. Fortunately I only had to do this a few times. However, to reach my goal as a chef, I knew that these tasks were expected to be done, and to be done well. Even though they may seem pointless, they are as important as any. I had to do them and it showed that I was keen. I learnt the tricks of the trade. Repetitive tasks like folding serviettes around cutlery and learning how to cut properly, without slicing my fingers, are all minor things but will come in handy later on.

The experience has not only motivated me but made me realise that this area is one I enjoy and wish to follow.

The hours were good as I didn't have to start until 9.30 am and finished at approximately 2.30 pm. Generally in this area the hours are very long and tiring, but I enjoy it and therefore it won't bother me. The staff were easy to talk to and offered assistance all the time. This made me feel more confident and secure. Most of the time they had plenty for me to do but when they didn't I just swept the floor or changed the bin liners. I had a free lunch every day, which I ate in the staff room and it was always nice and always too much.

I now have a much broader perspective of the real world and how it operates. I'm glad I did work experience because it was of great benefit to me. It was the first time I had anything to do with the workforce and have now learnt how to deal with people other than my friends and family. I now realise that to be appreciated you must work hard and be considerate to others. Overall the experience was a rewarding one. I enjoyed all the tasks and people. The experience will also benefit me in the future, whether I choose to stay in the industry or not.

Dallas Roberts



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE SCIENCE ROOM!



Thalassaemia Speaker

SB32 Genetics class in Middle School had the privilege of listening to Mrs Ros Nankervis, a guest speaker from the Thalassaemia Society on 29th October. The students had learned aspects of inherited genetic diseases and also saw a video on Thalassaemia during this elective, so they showed interest in hearing about 'real life' experiences from Mrs Nankervis.

Thalassaemia is a disease of the blood and it has been estimated that thousands of people are carriers of this disease without even knowing it. Patients need regular blood transfusions and take medication to prevent the build-up of iron.

Robotics

Lego Dacta Control Lab is an excellent resource for teaching robotics in any school's curriculum. It allows the fun exploration of technology to touch base with 'real world' technological problems faced by individuals working in these areas. The package is a system which allows student personal control over all its components; namely the model and the computer manipulation of this model. Students create models which simulate real life situations (eg. greenhouses, conveyor belts, etc.) and then via the logo programming language instruct the operation of these models. Being an integrated system, the sensors which are built into models (ie. sound, touch, light and movement sensors) relay information back to the computer and allow modification of the program operating. In this sense, there is a two-way communication. Finally, the system extends students by offering open-ended problem solving and the flexibility for the exploration of solutions, thus encouraging students to take risks with their learning.

The new S16 Robotics unit developed in 1995 has attracted many middle school students. Initially, the students begin by inspecting and getting to know the Lego kit pieces (the sensors in particular) plus their capabilities; and then learning the programming language commands via directed tasks and worked examples. The students progress through these tasks quite competently and are usually pleased with their models and control of the Lego logo language.

In the second stage of the unit, students choose a project from the Lego Control Lab kit. They are able to simulate a technological invention that pertains to a real life example such as scanners, vending machines conveyor belts, wheel chairs and so on. Students express enjoyment in actually

building the model but struggle at the beginning with the programming commands. It is necessary to direct them back to original lessons in which they learnt how to use the sensors and their respective commands. This helps the students revisit the sensors and gives them hints as to what they should be including in their programming.

Overall, I have found that this different tool and approach to learning enthralls students to negotiate their own problem solving. The students feel comfortable with the equipment because it simulates a non threatening situation where with persistence, a solution can be found. The team must develop their ability to work, listen, and sometimes even convince thereby developing each individual's management skills. Perhaps the most significant comment which the students made on their evaluation sheets with was that they had "fun whilst learning".

Trish Tedesco



Electronics

As we walked in through the electronics door we had no idea of what we were about to do. As soon as we sat down we were given what appeared to be a pink and blue lunchbox with little gismos inside. We soon discovered that these gismos were components that made the circuits work.

The first few lessons took some getting used to and we worked with little blue boards with holes in them just to get the feel of things. Finally we were finished with these wretched boards, and went on to the real thing. (YIPPEE!!)

We were handed a hot tool with some soft wire and a component and thought to ourselves 'what are we doing?' We soon learnt not to touch the end of the soldering iron for it was rather hot. OUCH!!!!!!!

At this time Mr Djoneff insisted that we call everything its right name. We kept on calling LEDS "lights", and asking for 'uno those things'. QUOTE: 'Electronics was great. It was the best subject.'

A Student's Perspective!

Geography Excursions!

Adventures in the Toolangi State Forest.

On August 29th, year 10 environmental geographers visited the Toolangi Forestry Discovery Centre as part of their study of the issue of forest management.

Without a great show of reluctance, students abandoned their school uniform to venture forth on this adventure! Tencil jeans, platform shoes and label joggers sank ankle deep in the mud as students were taken on a guided tour of the nearby operating sawmill. No one was surprised to hear that this area had not received this much rain since 1962!

Again with a solid sense of adventure, students were sent forth into the bush, which was regenerating from clear felling, to count the number and species of plants. Wild screams were heard. People froze in terror as the peace of the bush was destroyed by several near-hysterical girls who needed to be rescued from deadly sucking leeches!

Adventure called again when students donned "hard hats" to protect themselves from falling mountain ash limbs as they studied the forest. Students felt this a great hardship to bear as one's image can be destroyed by such a hat.

Despite the challenge of such hardships, an interesting day was had by all.



Geographers on the Move - Yet Again.

Year 11 geographers have enjoyed two excursions this year. In March, they studied the Port Phillip Bay coast from Brighton to Seaford, stopping at numerous points to study the effects of natural and predominantly human interference on the shape of the coastlines.

It was a "cosy" trip. Mrs Hardy, ever conscious of saving money for concerned parents, booked the cheapest bus she could find. Lachlan Fuller discovered that his legs were even longer than he thought as he sat on a rather small seat in cramped conditions. The ever-capable driver, Mr Sayers, coped admirably with this bus which refused to go in second gear.

On a far more spacious and comfortable bus (as promised by Mrs Hardy), students set off in August to study contrasts in living conditions between the suburbs of Collingwood and Kew. Students were advised to go to floor 20 of a Housing Commission high rise. With a sense of misgiving, fifteen students squeezed into a lift. Unbelievably a rather fat man also decided to enter. "I hope none of you are claustrophobic," he said. "You could be in this lift for hours....."

Luckily the lift did make it, although on the descent, some students felt that it was safer to walk down 20 flights of stairs. The experience of seeing "high rise living" made quite an impression on the students. They now more than ever appreciated the greenery, privacy and spaciousness of their own homes.



TEACHER INTERVIEWS



Mrs. Ramm:

1. When did the school first gain access to the internet?

The school first gained access in 1996.

2. What do the students use the internet for?

Some students use the internet to look up pop groups, basketball and their personal interests. This year senior students have used it for their CATS for research, and it has been a big help in the middle school to find up to date information.

3. What would you like to see it used for?

It is important that anyone using the internet know what they are looking for. Whilst it is lots of fun just 'surfing the web', it is also a great time waster - that's why we ask students to fill in a research sheet before they log-on.

4. Do you feel that the internet is informative?

There is excellent information in the internet, but users need to check when it was put there, and why they put it there. As there are no formal controls, and anyone can put anything in the net. It is very important to check.

5. Do any teachers use the internet?

Yes, teachers are beginning to use the internet - we are in contact with Mr. Maile in Japan and he sends the timetable to us via email. Lots of teachers use it to research information.

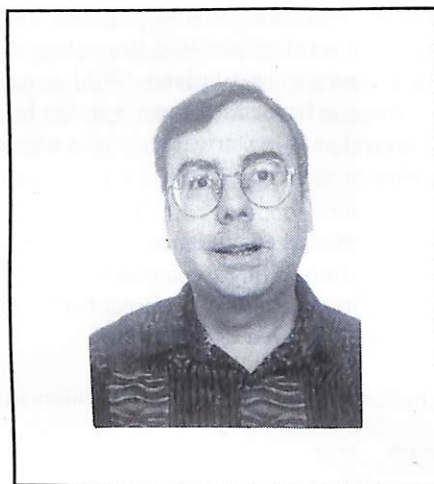


6. Are you thinking of hooking up more computers to the internet?

Yes, by the end of the year I would like to have 5 computers hooked up to the internet in the library. But because they would all be linked together, it would be a lot slower.

7. Is the internet regularly used?

We are trialing student use in term IV 1996. Because we cannot check everything students can access on the internet, we ask that students and their parents sign an Acceptable Use Policy before they are allowed unsupervised access.



Mr Carlson:

Mr Carlson has come to Parkwood for the second semester in order to replace Mr Maile while he is on leave in Japan. Mr Carlson, along with several hundred other Americans, was given a free plane trip to Australia during the 1970's in order to make up for the shortage of Australian teachers at that time. Fresh out of university, he was eager to teach in a foreign country, to take snapshots of the unusual landscape and to box with the kangaroos. His greatest fear was being hit by wandering boomerangs, but soon learned that this was not a problem. However, he did find it difficult to understand the accent at first and was confused by expressions such as 'aveagoodweggendmate'.

Melbourne is his favourite city because it offers such a wide variety of food. He particularly likes eating lasagna and marinara pizzas along with old-fashioned 'Coca Cola' and '7up'. He also likes Seinfeld and most Australian sit-coms. Dislikes include heavy metal music, grunge fashion and corny T.V. commercials.

STAFF 1996

Handwritten signatures and names around the staff photo:
 Russell Oakley, Reg Reddy, George Djoneff, Jan Zygmunt, John Moxey, Stuart Maile, Michael Byrne, Steven O'Connor, Graeme Tiller, Paul Sayers, Peter Djoneff, Les Simmons, Sue Datson, Margo Walton, Mary O'Donohue, Cheryl Kempton, Sue Heinicke, Brian Kemp, Bob Fisch, Stacey Miriklis, Andrew Hicks, Janine Free, Ieuan Thomas, Jennifer Brehend, Sari Petty, Jan Thomson, Dianne Rodger, Lynne Oates, Quenelda Ramm, Mary Hare, Lorraine Thompson, Trish Tedesco, Dot Henwood, Marion Galloway, Lyn McDonald, Sue Minchington, Janet Koochew, Jackie Fell, John Chai, Martin Culkin, Bob Hogendoorn, Robyn Morrison, Judy Harmer, Erin Osbourne.



ROW 4: Russell Oakley, Reg Reddy, George Djoneff, Jan Zygmunt, John Moxey, Stuart Maile, Michael Byrne, Steven O'Connor, Graeme Tiller, Paul Sayers, Peter Djoneff, Les Simmons.
 ROW 3: Sue Datson, Margo Walton, Mary O'Donohue, Cheryl Kempton, Sue Heinicke, Brian Kemp, Bob Fisch, Stacey Miriklis, Andrew Hicks, Janine Free, Ieuan Thomas.
 ROW 2: Jennifer Brehend, Sari Petty, Jan Thomson, Dianne Rodger, Lynne Oates, Quenelda Ramm, Mary Hare, Lorraine Thompson, Trish Tedesco, Dot Henwood, Marion Galloway, Lyn McDonald.
 FRONT: Sue Minchington, Janet Koochew, Jackie Fell, John Chai, Martin Culkin, Bob Hogendoorn, Robyn Morrison, Judy Harmer, Erin Osbourne.

Handwritten signatures and names below the staff photo:
 B. Zygmont, M. Hare, P. Sayers, J. Moxey, S. Maile, M. Byrne, S. O'Connor, G. Tiller, P. Sayers, P. Djoneff, L. Simmons, S. Datson, M. Walton, M. O'Donohue, C. Kempton, S. Heinicke, B. Kemp, B. Fisch, S. Miriklis, A. Hicks, J. Free, I. Thomas, J. Brehend, S. Petty, J. Thomson, D. Rodger, L. Oates, Q. Ramm, M. Hare, L. Thompson, T. Tedesco, D. Henwood, M. Galloway, L. McDonald, S. Minchington, J. Koochew, J. Fell, J. Chai, M. Culkin, B. Hogendoorn, R. Morrison, J. Harmer, E. Osbourne.

FALCONER

ROW 3:

Harry Andonopoulos, Wayne Hewitt, Tim Parker, Hugh Torresan, Andrew Boyce, Sarah Donald.

ROW 2:

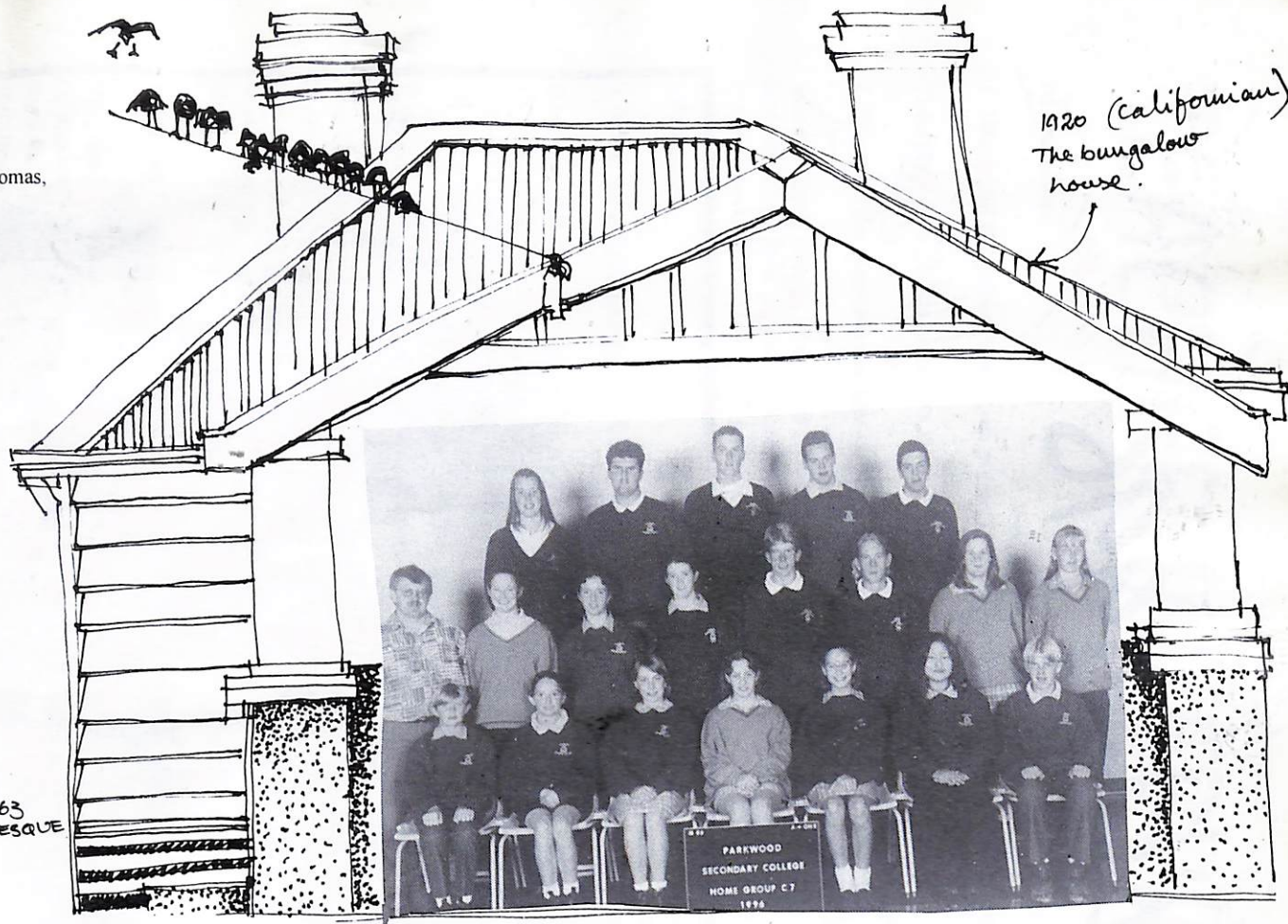
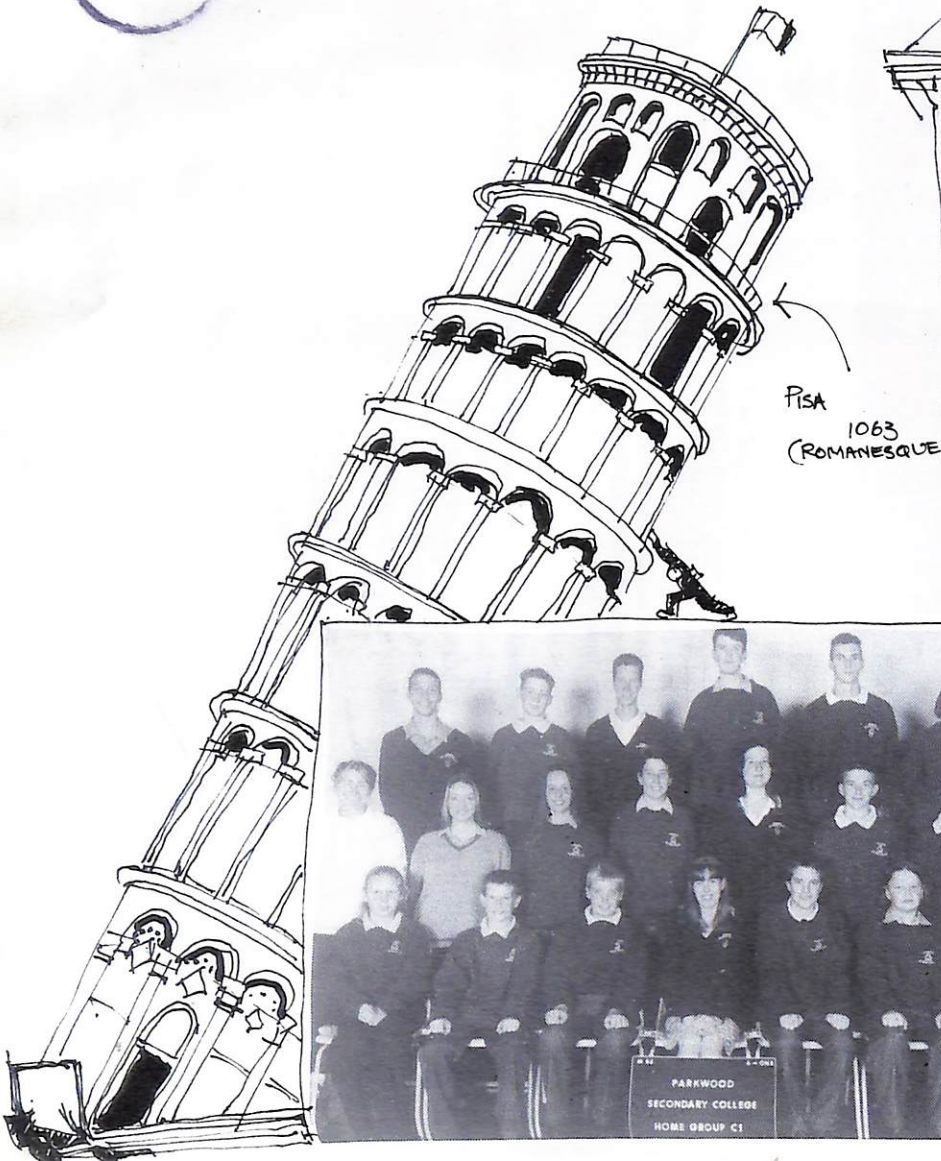
Lauren Basilone, Karen Matthews, Ashley Spurrell, Peita Tapper, Aaron Thomas, Ben Gillson, Katrina Jones.

FRONT:

Melinda Walsham, Kyle Roberts, Chris Sharp, Renee Calvett, Scott Moore, Joel Chatelier, Jessica Crowley.

HOME GROUP: C1

TEACHER: Mrs. J. Fell



ROW 3:

Kirstie Dench, Tyrone Howard, Dale Hewitt, Ben Walsham, Adam Valeri.

ROW 2:

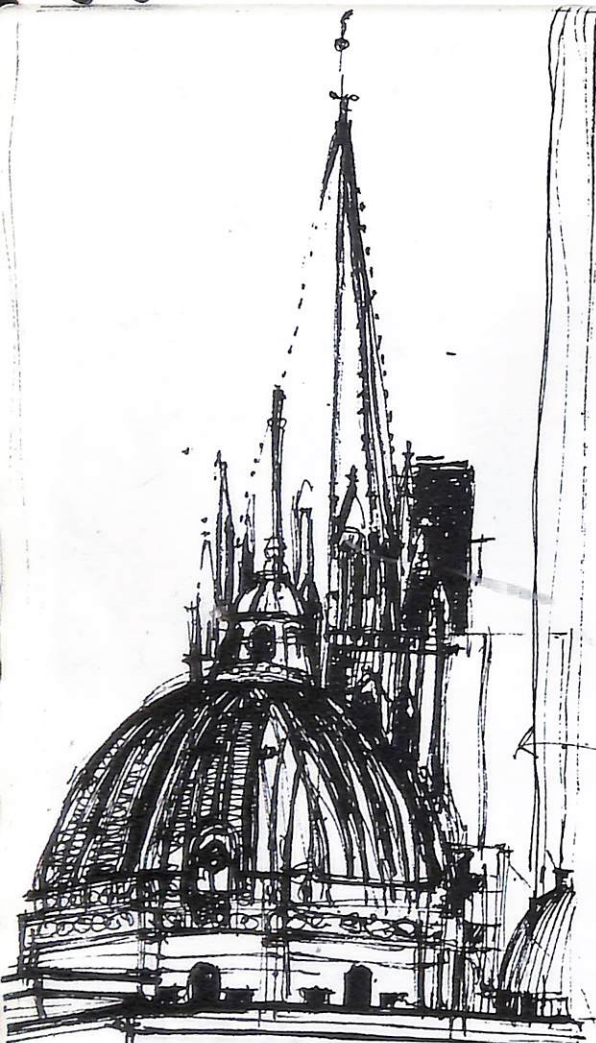
Kelly-Ann Smyth, Shauna Scammell, Katie Moore, Ryan Lea, Daniel Jennings, Diana Jamison, Kelly Morrison.

FRONT:

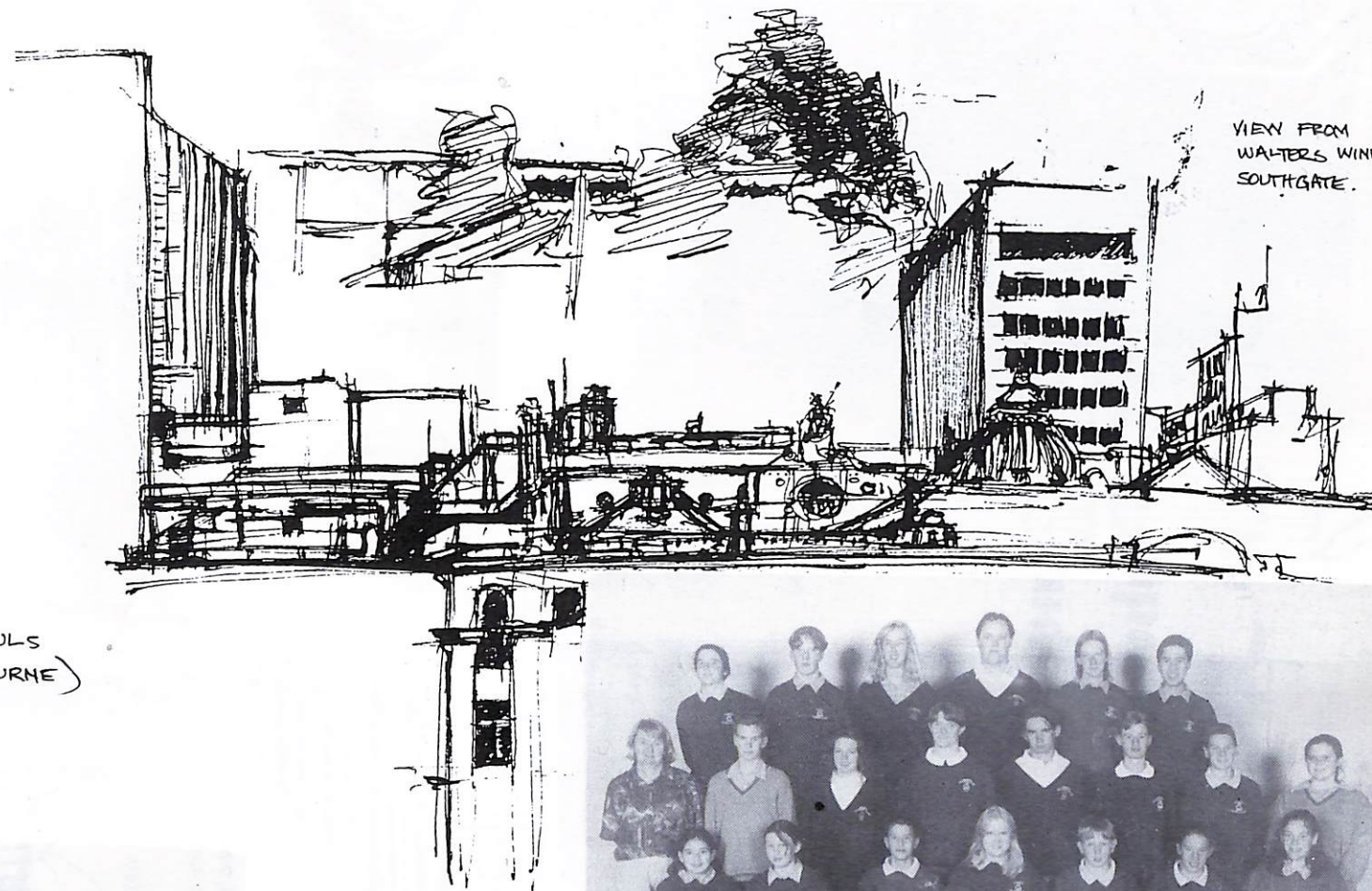
Ryan Moloney, Chelsea Hutchinson, Katie Browning, Cassie Bannard, Brooke Wendt, Melinda Phang, Jason Fearn.

HOME GROUP: C7

TEACHER: Mr. I. Thomas



ST PAUL'S
(MELBOURNE)



VIEW FROM
WALTERS WINEBAR
SOUTHGATE.



ROW 2:

FRONT:

HOME GROUP:

Laura Fisher, Tamara Curtain, Richard Tschiersch, Craig Rosewarne, Paul Eldridge, Luke Stevens, Doran Moppert, Tristan Cook.
Jarrod Panther, Aidan Wade, Amiee Donald, Glen Nelson, Stuart Bingham, Elizabeth Young, Ashley Douglas, David Neil.
TEACHER: Mr J. Moxey

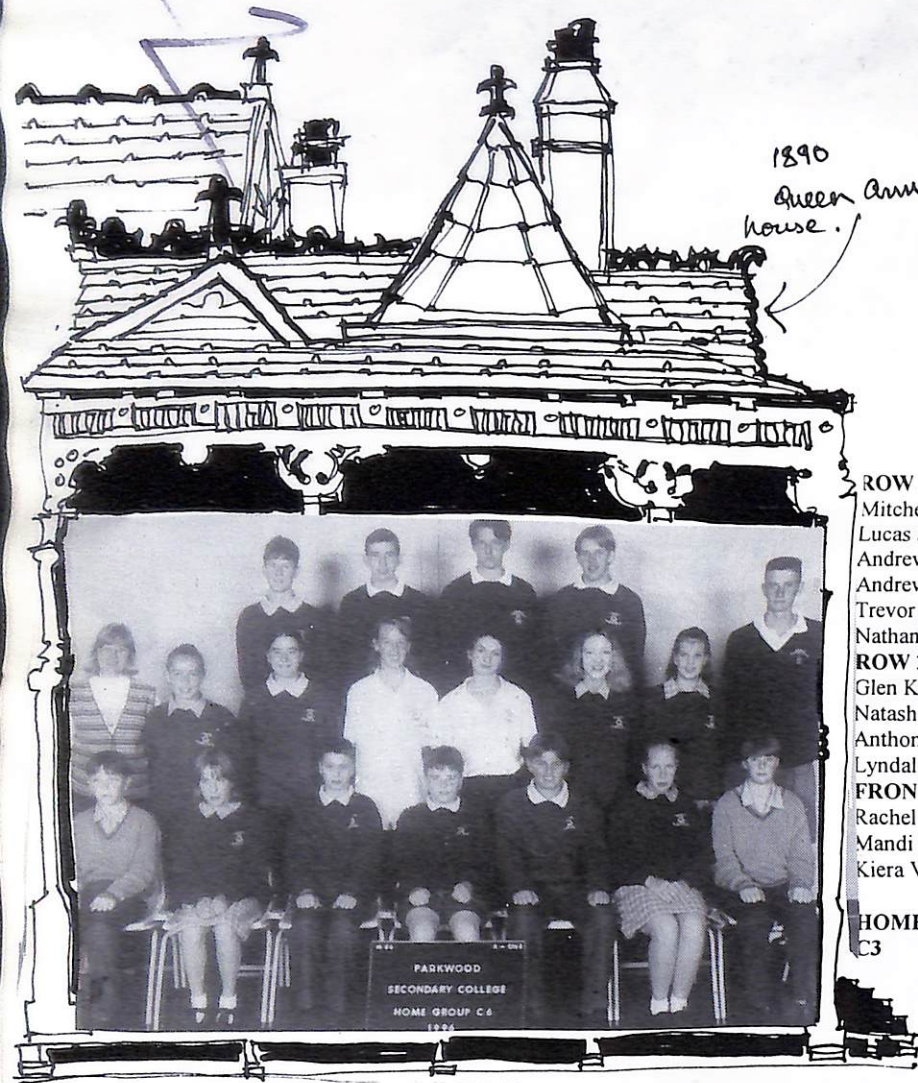
Amanda Rippon, James Mason, Candice Cook, Anthony Brown, Anthony Hickling, Bryan Wan.
Simon Parker, Katie Relf, James Moore, Justin Bird, Chris Matthews, Stuart Dunk, Casey Fitzpatrick.
Regina Gaven, Melanie Williams, Paul Chircop, Kate Gillson, Paul Salmon, Lauren Neilly, Bianca Valeri.
Teacher Mrs. M.



ROW 3: Jason Brown, Paul Muller, Daniel Young, Nathan Fearn.
 ROW 2: Hayley Ruckwood, Bree Tapper, Emma Morrison, Marissa Kruger,
 Cassie Scammell, Evelyn Hannah, Harley Taylor.
 FRONT: Daniel Waters, Mandy Browning, Daniel Neumann, Leigh Burke,
 Geoff Smith, Bree Pritchard, Lachlan Neal.

HOME GROUP: C6

TEACHER: Ms Trish Tedesco

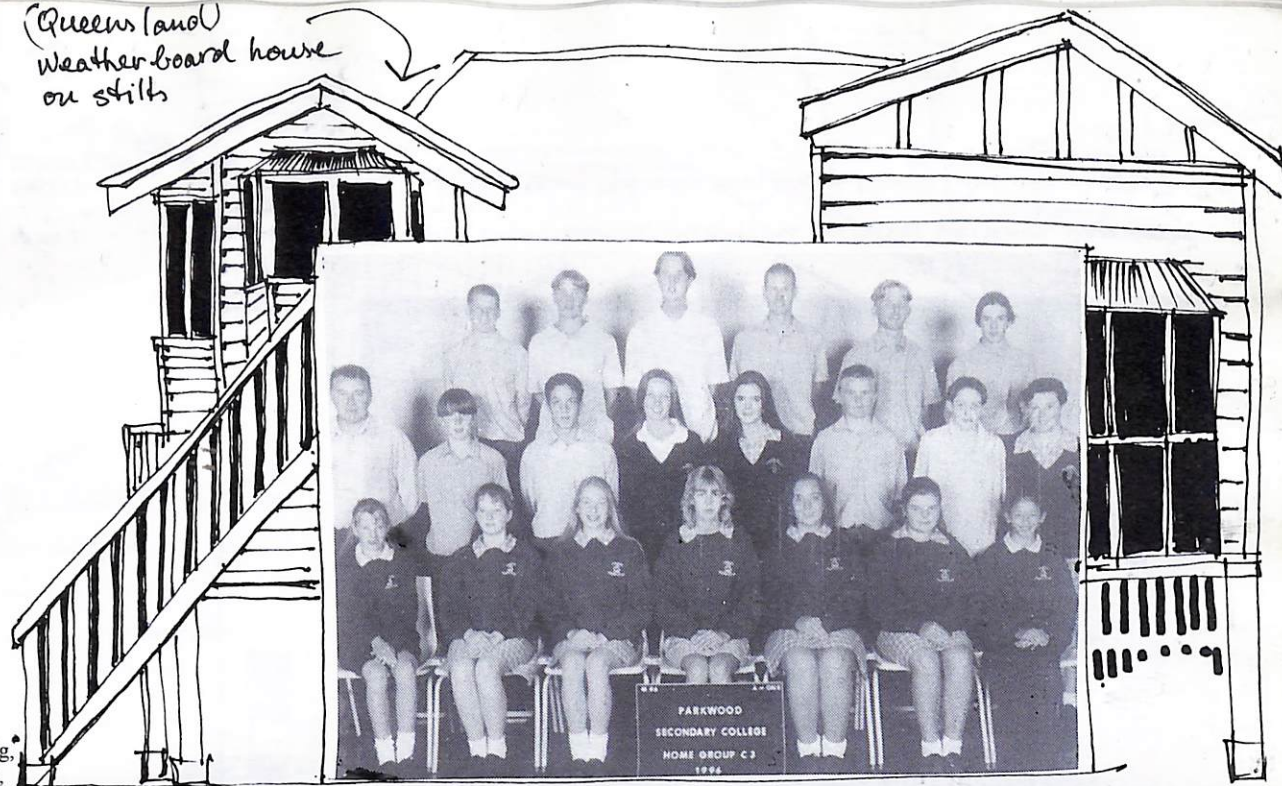


ROW 3: Sara Condie, Jonathan Flores, Lucas Craig, Lachlan Stevens,
 Andrew White.
 ROW 2: Tom Austin, Zoe Upton, Hayley Farrugia, Michael Watson,
 Hayley Fitzpatrick, Trudi Williams, David white.
 FRONT: Debbie Calvett, Ben Morrison, Jessie Thomas, Kim Gibson,
 Lauree Brewster, Alan Lovett, Amy Jennings.

HOME GROUP: C5

TEACHER: Mr R.Reddy

(Queensland)
 weatherboard house
 on stilts

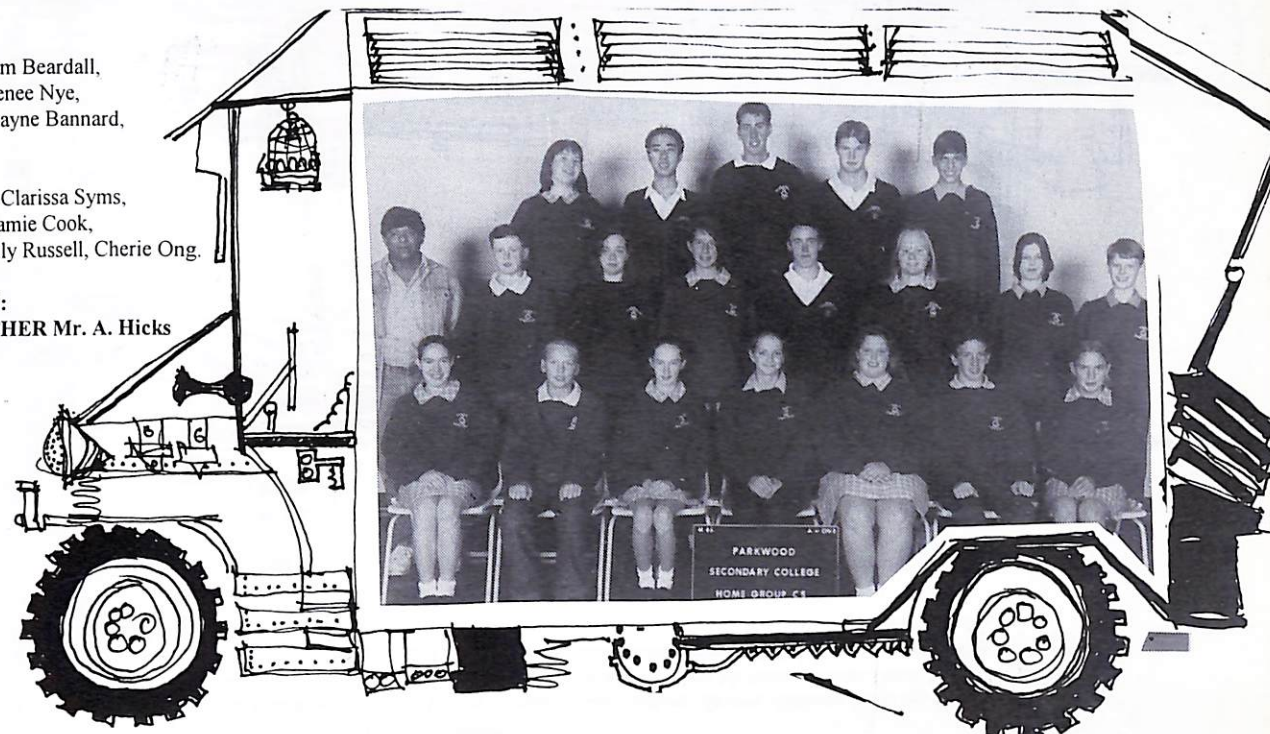


ROW 3:
 Mitchell Craig,
 Lucas Spargo,
 Andrew Rosewarne,
 Andrew Brown,
 Trevor Pritchard,
 Nathan Reif.

ROW 2:
 Glen Kruger, Adam Beardall,
 Natasha Kikic, Renee Nye,
 Anthony Bird, Shayne Bannard,
 Lyndal Selman.

FRONT:
 Rachel Thresher, Clarissa Syms,
 Mandi Curtain, Jamie Cook,
 Kiera Valvo, Emily Russell, Cherie Ong.

HOME GROUP:
 C3 TEACHER Mr. A. Hicks





The Visiting Japanese Students



The visiting Japanese students came to our school for two weeks. In this period of time they went to the City, Coal Creek and Eastland. Over the weekends, they spent time with their host families and went to places like Phillip Island and Healesville Sanctuary.

The visitors worked hard on their English improving their language skills and occasionally they went to classes with their host buddies. There were 28 students as well as two teachers. After school they went home with their buddy, by public transport, car or on foot.

They left Australia on the 18th of August to return to Japan. On the way home they were stopping over in Sydney and were staying the night in a fancy hotel, with a pool and lots of room to stretch their legs.

We hope they had a wonderful stay in our beautiful sunburnt country. We would also like to thank the host families and the students of Parkwood Secondary College as well as Ewalt and David for organising the experience.

What did the visiting students think of Parkwood Secondary College?

The visiting students think that Australia is the most beautiful country they have ever seen. Did you know that in Japan they don't have caravan parks or lots of big fields to jump around in or paddocks with cattle, sheep or horses?

Over the weekend, students went to Phillip Island and saw the penguins and koalas. The students said that they were the most gorgeous animals that they had ever seen. Other students went to parties, just stayed home or they went to see the native animals at either the zoo or Healesville Sanctuary.

All the students said they had a wonderful time in Australia and would like to come back in summer (when it is not as wet). They all cried and gave out presents when it was time to leave.

As they got into the bus they waved goodbye. They would like to thank Mr. Reg Reddy for helping to organize their school experience and all the teachers for having them in their classes when they were with their host buddies.

Jessica Klinge and Beckie May



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23

Maile From Japan

I'm sitting in my 6th floor apartment in Hiroshima, nursing a thumping headache and a cup of green tea. There's no medical value in the tea, it's just the colour of the traditional Japanese tea. As for my headache: no, it's not the effect of a heavy night's drinking. It is a direct result of Japanese architecture. The doorways in these apartments are less than 6 feet in height. So, unless I remember to duck I constantly thump my head on the top of the door way. I think that might be why the Japanese seem to bow so regularly; it is instinctive, as a result of ducking through all those doors. As for me ducking is becoming more of a habit. Even if the door of a shop or hotel is clearly high enough, there is always an instinctive nod of the head....just in case.

This is my wife's third business trip to Japan and, as in 1994, my responsibility is to look after my 2 children and be a sort of Mr Mom. We go shopping most days and find the cost of food to be more than double that in Australia. Two litres of ice-cream is about 13 dollars, a 1.25 litre bottle of Coke is five dollars, apples are about two dollars each and we don't even bother looking at the price of red meat. We can buy most things up here, including the children's absolute favourite: VEGEMITE. As a result, our food bills are quite large, but hey, you've got to eat.

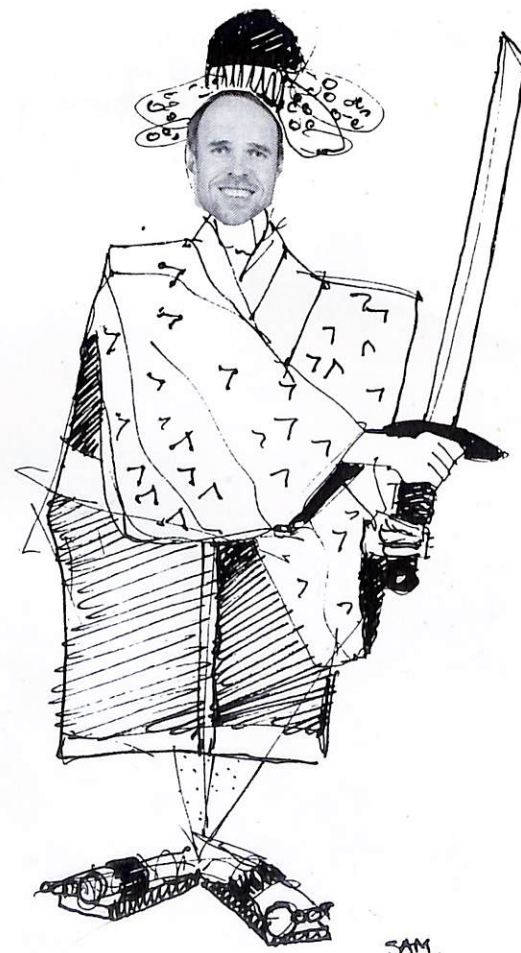
We manage to get around Hiroshima by either tandem tram or bike. I prefer the bike, because that way I don't have to walk and push all the time. Unlike Australia, bikes are very common in the middle of the city. They are parked on the edge of pavements in all of the city streets. It is not uncommon to see business men riding bikes and even talking on their mobile phones while riding. My bike has two child seats: one is over the back wheel (in a normal position) and the other is a dinky position between me and the handle bars. Nicholas, my one year old, sits there and waves to all the passing traffic. He loves it, having no fear of injury or death. Unlike Australia, no-one wears helmets and there are three people on our one bike, whizzing through the busy city traffic. The drivers in Japan are used to bikes and will not turn without looking over their shoulder for any oncoming bikes. So far, we have escaped unscathed.

Hiroshima is located towards the bottom of the main island of Honshu, the western region of Japan. It is situated on the river delta, so there are many tributaries and bridges. It is a little bit smaller than Melbourne, and has trams like Melbourne. It is very famous for being the first city to have an atomic bomb dropped on it back in 1945. There is a building which survived the blast because it was basically right under the explosion. This building has been preserved as a monument to peace. Peace has a strong presence in Hiroshima, with Peace Park and Peace Boulevard etc.

The Japanese are very friendly and helpful and they love western children. Nicholas has fair hair and laughs at anyone who shows any interest. As such, he is very popular and there are many choruses of "Kawaii". The other day it started to drizzle. We were caught out and then a Japanese business man crossed the street and held his umbrella over the two children and me, so he got wet.

Mr. Moxey would be interested to know that I am playing soccer with a local team. There are some curious rituals to playing soccer. At the start of the game, both teams line up facing each other in the middle of the ground and bow. This is repeated at the end of the game. Then we go up to the opponents' bench and bow and say thank you to the support staff. Their benches were occupied by a seventy something grandmother with a two-year-old boy. So we bowed. However, as we had only ten players and NO support staff, the opposition team bowed to a collection of bags and an empty bench! Oh well, when in Rome.....or in this case, Hiroshima.

Sayonara.



THE HOUSE SYSTEM



Nirvana, Menzies and Warne

OR

Milne, Falconer and Colman ?

With the new House system came the necessity to rename the Houses. As we were moving from the four original Houses which were primarily used for sporting activities to three Houses to be used across all activities throughout the school the names had to be new and relevant to our school community.

The School Captains, House Captains and Vice Captains of the three new Houses met one afternoon to discuss the important decision - what are we going to call the Houses.

Native flowers and plants, famous people in Australian history ? they all looked at me blankly and recalled fond memories of primary school. Remember being in Wombat House or Wattle House ? Remember being in Menzies or Chisholm? (Whoever they were!) Obviously this was not going to work.... NO ONE wanted to be in Wombat House.

Meanwhile back back in the Staff Room much discussion arose recalling halcyon school days of being in Montgomery House or Cook House, of belonging to Kimbarra House or Bareena House, of being Captain of Sturt or Flinders.....as these suggestions arose the students were coming to form their own opinionsNO flora or fauna....NO famous 'ancient' Aussies,NO indigneous names....and definitely NOT past Principals of Parkwood!
So what did it leave?

Nivarna? Warne? Cobain? Ablett? or Madonna?
.....hmm they have possibilities but would they still be relevant in the next century ...perhaps not.
Eventually we settled upon some of the 'old' but more local families who settled and developed North Ringwood - Milne, Falconer and Colman. Families who have streets named after them in the local community where our students live and play. The students embraced the concept of keeping a link with the past as being important and valued and the sense of tradition maintained with our past.

Dot Henwood - Student Services Leader.

The house system was introduced to the students at the beginning of this year. It replaced the obsolete house system of Stirling, Gardiner, Wiggin and Atwell. The new system brought, from staff and students, support and encouragement never seen before in the grounds of Parkwood Secondary College.

The names for the three new houses are: Colman, Falconer and Milne. Colman's captains are David Gow and Leah Phillips, Milne's are Richard Unwin and Alison Hallpike and finally Falconer's leaders are Harry Andonopolus and Kirsty Dench.

Falconer's colour is yellow, whilst Milne's is green and Coleman's blue. The teachers who involved themselves heavily with the teams were Mr Fisch, Ms Free and Mr Byrne respectively. Mr Byrne has been especially busy with his Colman banners with pictures of tanks, referring to Colman as the Crushers.

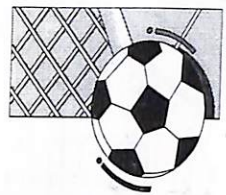
This form of hype worked particularly well with all students, with members of all houses spraying their hair with the team colours which they represented.

At the athletics, where it was the new house system's second appearance, the hype and support surpassed everyone's expectations with some students going to the extreme by covering themselves from head to toe with their much vaunted new colours, making it impossible to even compete.

Draped over the banks of the athletics track were huge and colourful banners. A lot of time went into each banner. Students were spending lunch times in the art rooms attempting to stamp their dominance before a race had even been run.

The new house system has been a big hit with both students and teachers, which is a pretty hard thing to achieve.

Justin White.



School Sports

Swimming Sports

The scene was set, all athletes were in peak condition. It was the Annual Parkwood Swimming Sports. This year saw the introduction of the new house system. The stakes were raised by Mr Byrne, putting banners around the school for Colman in an attempt to intimidate opposition teams.

The jury's still out on whether this tactic was successful, given the fact that Falconer were triumphant on the day.

All students participated well in the pool, with outstanding performances from Lauren Phillips, David Symons, Hayley Crump, Dale Hartley, Jessica Klinge, Lachlan Everett, Megan Phillips, Blair Crump, Kirsty Dench, Brad Burke and David Gow, all being best in their respective age groups.

This year's swimming sports were the most fiercely supported in years, with everyone actually supporting and encouraging their team. Congratulations! Everyone had a great day.



Athletic Sports

The athletics were held in fine conditions at Proclamation Park. It was good to see that all of the new houses were well represented. There were many people in their house colours which was a fantastic sight to see too. The results of the day's events were Colman, clear winners with a score of 525 points, followed by Milne with 359, and Falconer with a score of 329 points.

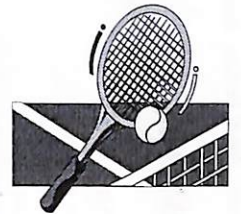
There were some outstanding performers; Andrew Leumont, Brad Fox, Simone Kuppler, Richard Unwin, Brendan Hicks, Sam Bremner, Stuart Moore and Sarah Haythorne, who all went on and represented the College at Knox in the Group Athletics. The highlight of the day would have had to have been the tug of war which was won by Milne.

Well done to everyone who participated.

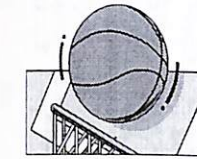


30

School Sports



Senior Boys Basketball



The senior boys basket ball team travelled to Dandenong arena on the 1st of August this year. They did not play against their usual opponents (because of report writing days) but showed great skills in their three twenty-minute games.

After winning their first two games, the boys were optimistic of getting through to the finals but were up against the strong Elwood College team in their last game. The winner would make it through.

The Parkwood boys tried extremely hard, but were beaten comfortably. The team for the tournament was: Dale Hewitt, Trent Merrigan, Craig Rosewarne, Harley Taylor, Harry Andonopoulos, Andrew Brown, Sean Haddon, Brad Burke and Lucas Craig. All boys played well.

Special thanks to Mr. Moxey for organising the mini-bus and supervising the event.

Year 10 Football

On the day we played well against two teams that were far better than us. The conditions were poor but we stuck in there. We were all determined to back each other up when the ball didn't go our way. It was hard for most of us to go out and play a team game when we had hardly ever practised and never played a game together.

Our first game against Ringwood was hard due to the fact that they dominated all over with very big players and skillful ones at that.

The scores were
Ringwood: 10 : 6 : 66
Parkwood: 5 : 4 : 34

Our second game against Croydon was not as hard as Ringwood due to the fact we were all prepared to back each other up, and help each other out. The scores tell it all.

Croydon: 9 : 4 : 58
Parkwood: 8 : 2 : 50



Intermediate Boys Basketball

On the 9th of the July the intermediate boys team journeyed to Knox stadium in Boronia to tackle teams from our district including Norwood, Heathmont, Ringwood, Maroondah and Croydon.

They left fairly confident, with most players being experienced players but faced awesome competition. Parkwood lost all 5 games but showed spirit right through the day.

The team was: Dallas Roberts, Sam Bremner, Simon Fuller, Ben Walsham, Nathan Fearn, Chris Bradd, Stuart Dunk, Shane Laird and Ryan Shultz.

Thanks must go to Dale Hewitt and Sean Haddon for coaching and scoring.

Simon Fuller

Senior Hockey



The senior hockey team travelled to Doncaster for the district hockey, to stamp their authority on the game.

First up were the girls who played extremely well and finished second on the day, unfortunately not making the Eastern Zone Competition.

However, the boy's team won their single game after a tight struggle, victorious with a one-nil win, to earn themselves a ticket to the Eastern Zones.

Parkwood had advanced to the final, and had visions of going to Albury for the State Championships.

Unfortunately this was not to be, as Balwyn came out firing and defeated Parkwood two-nil. All players played extremely well, and were proud of their efforts to make it as far as they did.

Special thanks to Dallas, Stuart and Justin from year 10 who filled in and played admirably.

Justin and Dallas

31

MILNE

ROW 3: Sam Bremner, Adam Ghent, Ian Doherty, Chris Bradd.
 ROW 2: Christina Morgan, Brendan Bennetts, Misty Bott, Brad Fox, Steven Hewitt, Alicia Brown, Nathan Jellet.
 FRONT: Anthony Wilson, Jessica Steuten, Jessica Klinge, Lauren Voice, Melissa Kennedy, Kate Price, Regan Wood.

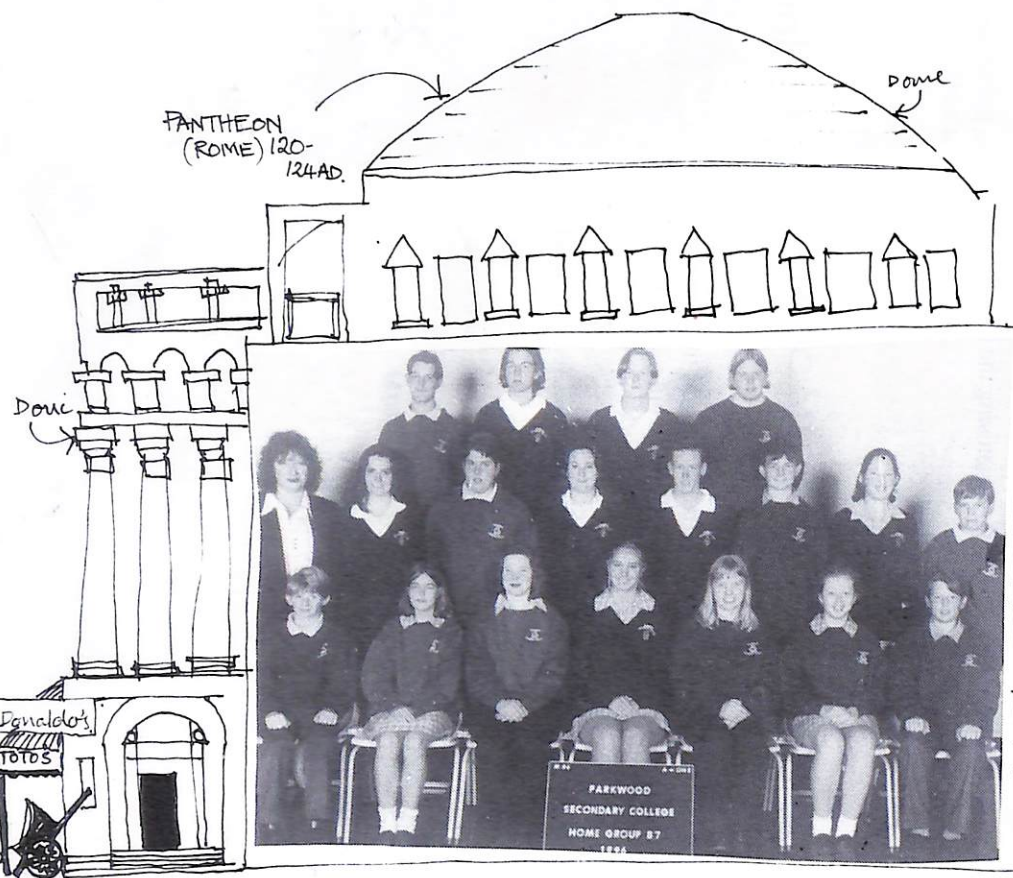
HOME GROUP: B7

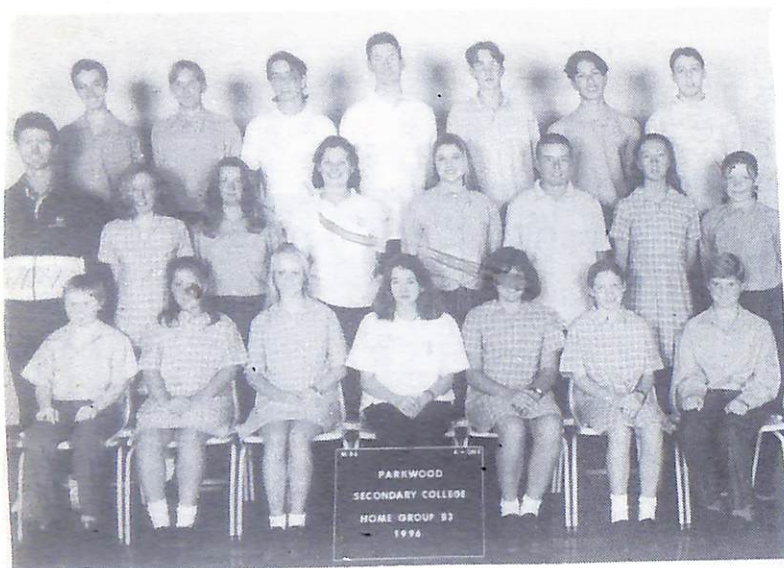
TEACHER: Mrs. S. Heinicke

ROW 3: Daniel Bradd, Ryan Schultz, Todd Murtagh.
 ROW 2: Blair Crump, Melanie Maybus, David Arundel, Ryan Coutts, Bindi Perhan, James Gibbins, Kim Nihill.
 FRONT: Melissa Dolphin, Ben Lambert, Rebecca Elliott, Belinda Ciurleo, Lisa Haddon, Adam Roberts, Toni Pinches.

HOME GROUP: B6

TEACHER: Mrs. D. Henwood





ROW 3:

Mark Drezga, Warren Tute,
Chris Van Prooyen, Sean Haddon,
Shawn Davis, David Sweeting,
Robert Chellew

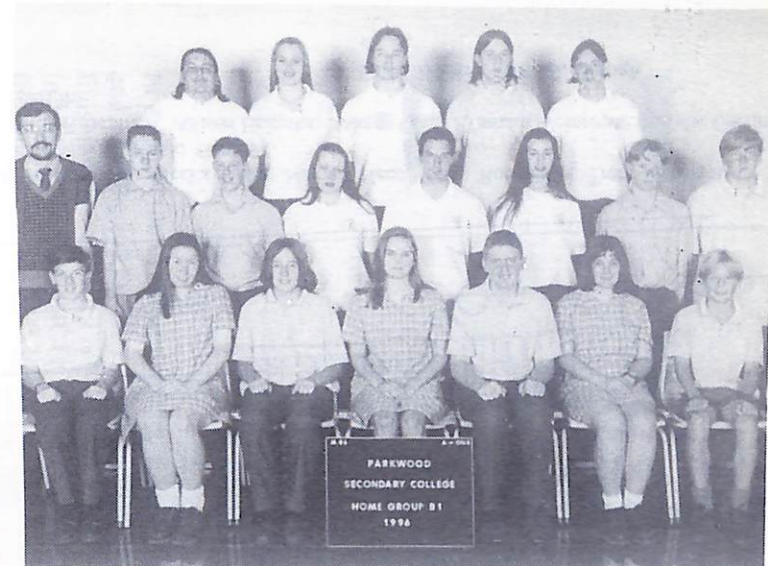
ROW 2:

Leoma Dyke, Beckie Gales, Nicole Cuce,
Sally McGuinness, Stuart Hassan,
Justine Mizzi, Madeleine Everett.

FRONT:

Kieran Phillips, Kelly Jinnette, Kelly
Pinches, Louisa Clarkson, Tenille Burgo,
Kristy Myles, Dean Fallon.

HOME GROUP: B3 TEACHER: Mr. S O'Connor



ROW 3:

Marco Salamone, Sarah Langenhorst, Todd
Ronaldson, Luke Siwek,
Gary Morrison.

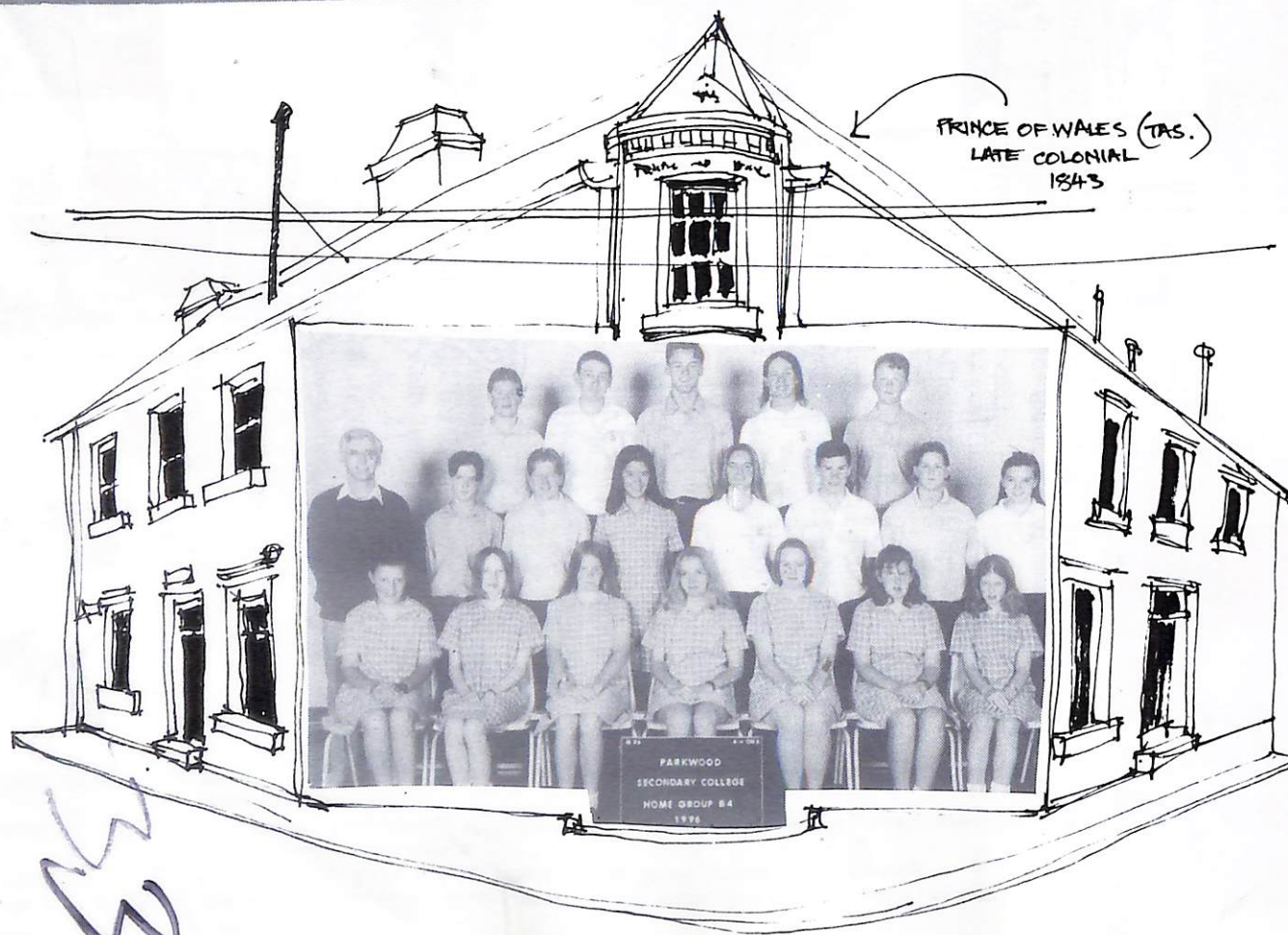
ROW 2:

Brett Buckland, Steven Urbano,
Jayde Wood, Anthony Wood,
Alisa Christensen, Greg Coutts, Mark Gates.

FRONT:

Matthew McMahon, Kathryn Savage, Peter
Watterson, Erin Tute, Cody Sharp, Kate
Burgo, David Morris.

HOME GROUP: B1 TEACHER: Mr. P. Sayers



ROW 3:

Greg Hassan, Marcus Reeka,
Richard Unwin, Wightman Savage,
David Malley.

ROW 2:

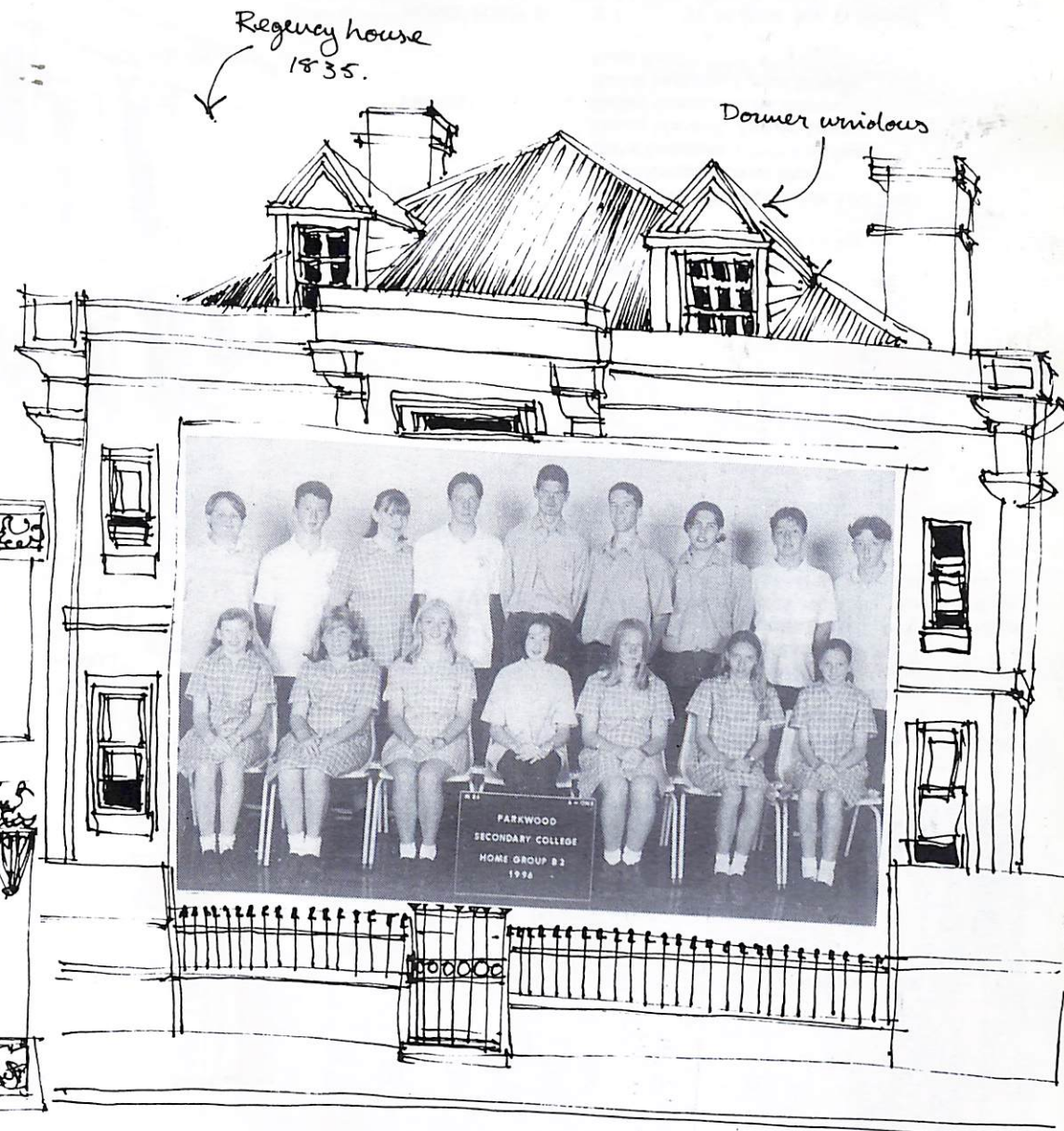
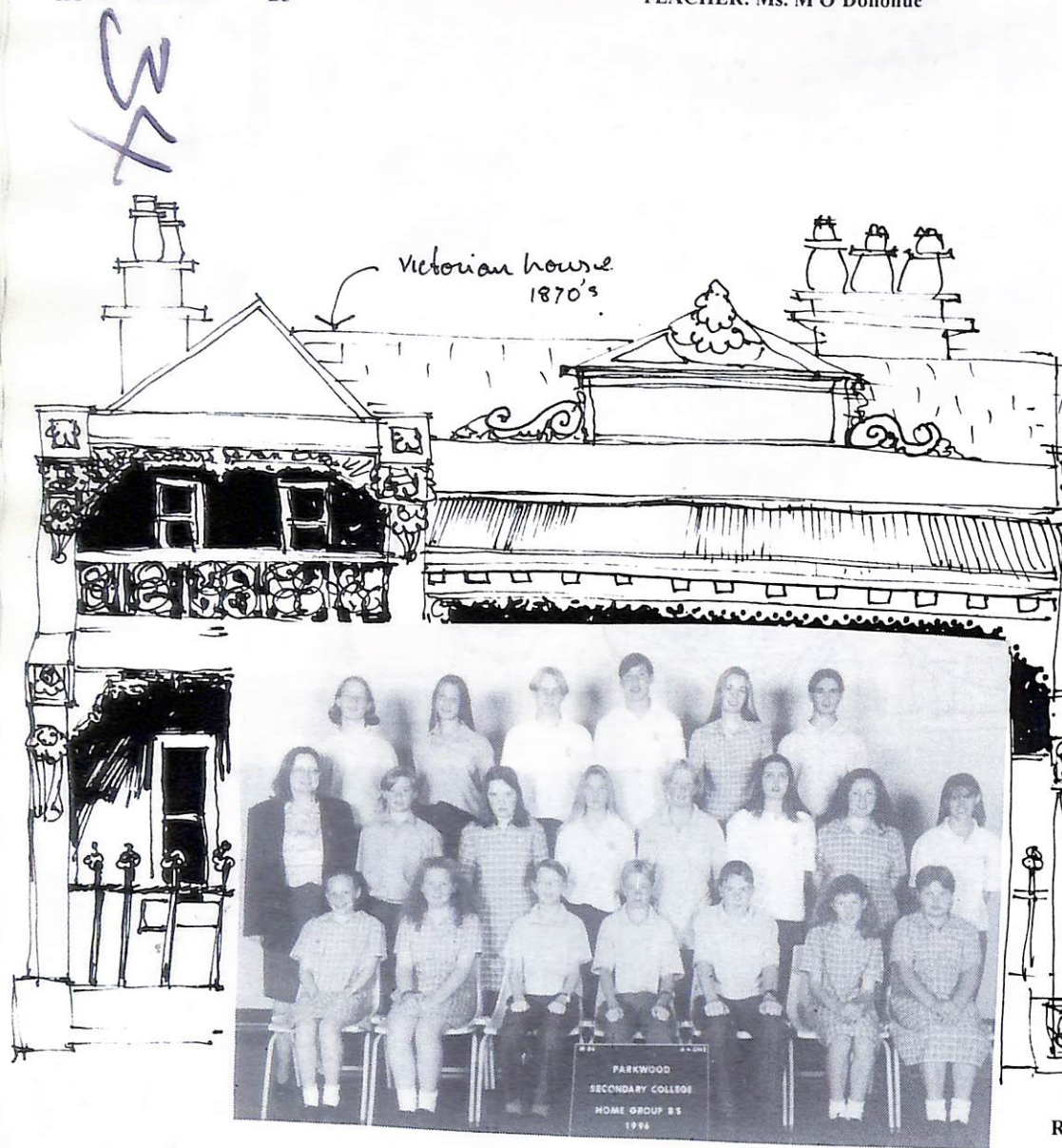
Lucas Davies, Damian Hogan, Lisa Tan,
Renee Kennedy, David Bangay,
Daryn Leaumont, Olivia Robotham.

FRONT:

Dianne Marshall, Jennifer Doherty,
Hayley Crump, Joanna Steuten,
Rachel Morrisby, Lyndal Bennetts,
Fiona Read.

HOME GROUP: B4 TEACHER: Mr. P. Djoneff

ROW 3: Tim Myles, Jessica Fisher, Shane Kennedy, Wesley Moore, Peta Waters, Andrew Leumont.
 ROW 2: Lachlan Everett, Rachel Savage, Simone Kuppler, David Symons, Laura Morrissey, Natasha Siwek, Julie Anderson.
 FRONT: Anna Urbano, Helen Malley, Michael Hughes, Chris Gales, Ryan Jinnette, Nicole Penny, Haley Bickerton.
 HOME GROUP: B5
 TEACHER: Ms. M O'Donohue



ROW 2: Jarrod Murtagh, Peter Malley, Becky Fisher, Nathan Need, Toby Ronaldson, Trent Merrigan, Luke Pingnam, Paul Mavin, David Gates.
 FRONT: Megan Fox, Belinda Rosenhain, Allison Hallpike, Joanne Clark, Tamara Weinrowski, Kylie Garratt, Allison Dunkley-Smith.
 HOME GROUP: B2
 TEACHER: Mr. G. Waugh



PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION



In August, 106 of our students took part in this competition and 72 gained an award. A prize is awarded to students finishing in the top 1% of participants in their year level in Victoria. A **DISTINCTION** is awarded to students finishing in the top 15% in their year level, while a **CREDIT** is awarded to the next 35% of participants in their year level in Victoria.

This year 25% of Parkwood participants finished in the top 15% in Victoria, and one student, Doran Moppert of year 11, was awarded a prize.

The results were, once again, very pleasing and all participants should be congratulated for making the effort to become involved.

The list of award winners is shown below:

Prize: Doran Moppert

Distinction:

Sarah Haythorne, Saige Goodwin, Darryn Leaumont, Jeremy Wiggs, Marika Verwey, Nicole Penny, Brooke Wendt, Steven Hewitt, Bree Tapper, Melinda Phang, Kimberley Nilhill, Mark Eaton, Lisa Tan, Bethea Hill, Joanna Steuten, Ben Walsham, Hugh Torresan, Phillip Lawrence, Nathan Fearn, Brett McNeil, Lachlan Fuller, Ian Doherty, Adam Beardall, Wesley Moore, Andrew Middlemast, Hayley Fitzpatrick.

Credit:

Michael Hughes, Michael Napl, Katie Nuthall, Lauren Neilly, Lauren Phillips, Fiona Read, Emily Russeil, Rachel Thresher, Chelsea Hutchinson, Ashley Douglas, Leoma Dyke, Casey Fitzpatrick, Andrea Digby, Lauree Brewster, Scott Lawrence, Kate Price, Reagan Wood, Jennifer Doherty, Leanne Wootton, Dean Fallon, Mitchell Craig, David White, Laura Fisher, Andrew Leaumont, Bryan Wan, Simon Fuller, Ryan Standish, Kathryn Savage, Luke Siwek, Jaclyn Gow, Rebecca Hill, Megan Phillips, Ryan Lea, Lucas Crag, Renee Kennedy, Andrew Stait, Nicole Cuce, James Moore, David Gow, Lachlan Stevens, David Bangay, James Gibbins, Harley Taylor, Misty Bryant, Candice Cook.

It takes guts to get up and speak in front of an audience. Your hands shake, your stomach churns and waves of nervousness

come over you. However, every year a group of people take on the challenge of Public Speaking and enter the competition.

The Public Speaking Competition for 1996 again brought out a number of excellent speakers. Each presented well researched, well learnt speeches. The topics ranged from Dolphins and Fraser Island to Whaling and Anorexia.

Miss O'Connell and Ms Kempton judged the competition, and as in past years, it was close.

Congratulations to all the winners and to everyone who entered for having the courage to do so.

Junior Section

Highly Commended: Michael Napl and Beeline Cook
Runner Up: Sarah Haythorne
Winner: Kelly Jinnette

Intermediate Section

Highly Commended: Chris Bradd and Kate Walters
Runner Up: Nicole Bell
Winner: Megan Phillips

Senior Section

Runner Up: Alana Bruce and Olivia Robotham
Winner: Francesca Cant

Kathryn Savage and Megan Phillips

35

The Freaks

Performance Night!

Starting tonight...

The Choir and
The Jazz Band!



The band which is now called the Freaks, have only had their name for a couple of months. Before then, they were just "the band" consisting of Tim Myles, Luke Pingnam and the very freaky Jimmy Wilson.

Tim is the lead guitar player (and lead vocals), Luke plays drums and Jimmy makes up bass tracks as he goes along. Both Jimmy and Luke do the backup vocals.

The band do some covers but mostly they do original tracks. The band haven't yet played any gigs, but they will soon be appearing at popular night club, EV's. At the moment Luke and Tim are both taking drum lessons. If you want to hear the band play, they practise most lunchtimes.

Some of The Freaks' favourite bands are: Nirvana; Sound Garden; Primus; The Meanies; Rage against the Machine; Sonic Youth; Fireballs; Custard; Red Hot Chilli Peppers; Green Day; Foo Fighters; Sex Pistols and Muffcake.

The performance night was an evening of excitement for all who took the opportunity of attending. The only fault was there should have been more seating so others could enjoy the evening's entertainment too.

The night was filled with drama, music and dancing. The theme was horror and things that scare you in the night. The students who gave this spectacular performance were all from Parkwood, including a great performance by Tim Myles, Jimmy Wilson, Luke Pingnam and Patrick McGoldrick who make up the school band called The Freaks. Other performances were:

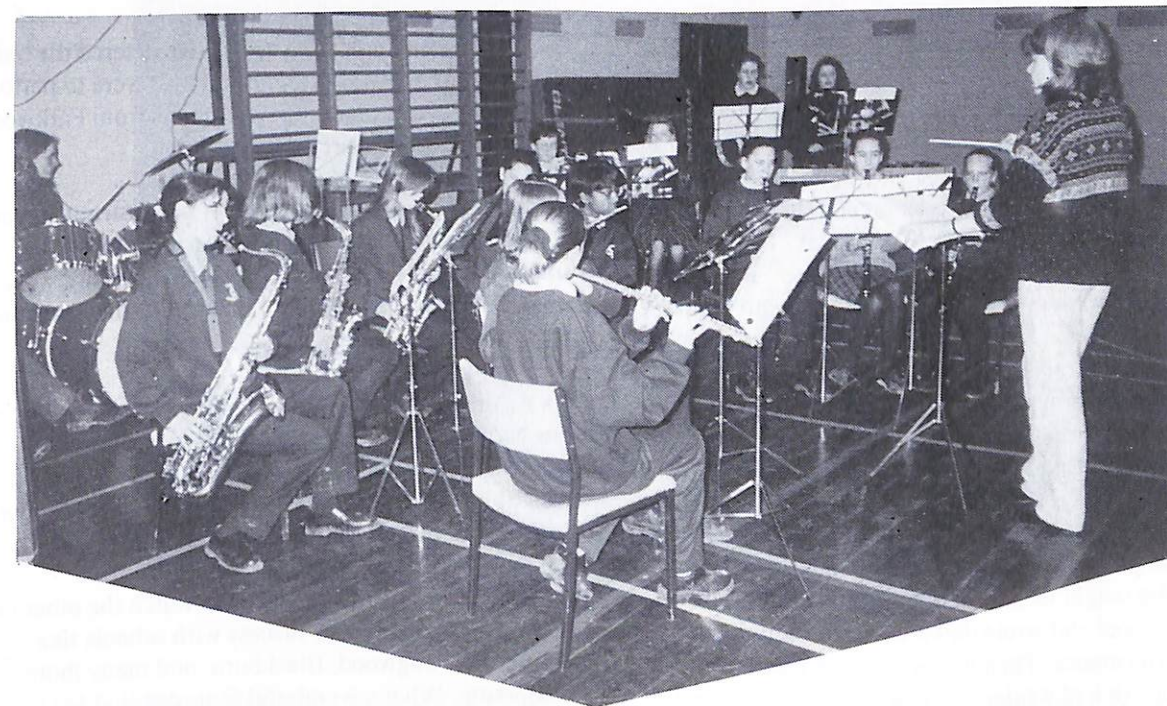
Frankenstein's Monster; the main roles were played by Ryan Pember, Nicole Bell, Cody Sharp and Kate Gillson.

Hocus Pocus; the main characters in this were Jessica Steuten, Chantelle Tamblin and Tony Pinches.

A dance called Dracula; this was performed by Kelly Smyth, Bree Tapper, Andrea Digby, Mandy Curtain, Jessica Fisher and many others. The dancers also performed other routines and there were many other drama plays.

All this was brought together by Miss Free and Miss Kempton, who did a wonderful job of keeping everything running smoothly and under control. I am sure many students and teachers would like to thank you both very much.

Jess Klinge and Beckie May.



When Mrs Osbourne left this year to have her baby girl, the music department was handed over to Miss Fitzgerald.

Miss Fitzgerald, who has conducted with the Australian Girls Choir and other groups, has started up a choir for Parkwood.

"Vocalise", as they are called, consist of about 20 girls from all year levels and sing in two and three part harmonies.

They have already sung at the Elderly Citizens home and school assemblies. They are hoping to perform at Christmas

Concerts at shopping centres and the end of year school performance night.

Miss Fitzgerald has also organised a new band for Parkwood. It consists of six people.

Rebecca Hill is the pianist, Blair Crump is the drummer, Belinda Cook is playing the trumpet. Melissa Dolphin plays the clarinet, Jimmy Wilson plays bass guitar and Kim plays the saxophone.

The group, who play jazz songs, are still perfecting, "When the Saints Go Marching in" and hope to perform at the performance night.

Mr Kemp is the band conductor, with assistance from Mr Carlson who helps by playing the piano.

The band practise all lunchtime, missing out on lunch. They are all at different levels of playing, but they hope that the notes will start to sound like music soon.

Kate Gillson and Rebecca Hill.



36

37



The Competition



On Saturday the 24th of August I played in the Melbourne School Bands Festival as a part of the school band.

It was held in the Robert Blackwood Hall at Monash University. We were the fifth band to play out of twenty - two. Before we played we set up and then went back stage to tune and warm up.

Five minutes later we had walked on stage and were ready to play. First we played "Sakura" and then "I will follow him". When we had finished an adjudicator walked on stage and helped us to make the start of "Sakura" better. After that the photographer took our photo, we left the stage and went into the audience to listen to another school.

When they had played we went with a different adjudicator who taught us how to adjudicate. We listened to a different school and wrote down what we thought about their performance. Then we went into a room to talk about what we had written. By one o'clock everything had finished and we went home.

I thought it was a very good learning experience and worth missing a Saturday for.

Kim Nihill



We were all a bundle of nerves as we entered the building. This was the Festival of Bands and we were to perform at 11.00. Most of the talented musicians from Parkwood arrived bright and early at 10.30.

When Ms Gangoiti arrived we set our instruments up and were taken backstage. Finally the school before us finished and it was our turn! Unfortunately we were missing two people from our band, "but the show must go on".

As we entered the stage the commentator said a bit about our band and the school. YO HOO, YAH! was the reply we got after finishing our pieces in the novice section. We were then taken for a tutorial, where we learnt about what we could improve on.

As it was nearly 1.00 we stayed to watch the other bands perform. The day was a success with schools like Pembroke, Ringwood, Blackburn, and many more competing. What a wonderful Saturday.

Jaime Cook.



Melbourne Concert Hall



I walked into the building at McKinnon Secondary College for the first time. I was the only one from Parkwood out of about 80 people from all over the South Eastern Metropolitan Region. It was scary at first but I soon got to know some people. We all set up our instruments and sat down ready to play.

The conductor, Mr Tacon, walked in front of the band and said "Welcome. These rehearsals will be held here for the three Sundays before the concert. They are for three hours and we'll have a break in the middle." We played three out of the four songs and they sounded awful. Every Sunday we practised them and by the third Sunday they sounded perfect. At the concert we were only allowed to play two out of the four songs, so we chose 'Pocahontas' and 'They went thataway'.

On the morning before the concert, Monday September 16, we had a dress rehearsal at the Melbourne Concert Hall. I was supposed to keep in time with the flutes but I couldn't hear them.

Later that night, I was sitting on the floor of the dressing room, slowly turning into a nervous wreck. What if I lost my place and played the wrong part? What if I fell over when walking off stage? What if my reed broke?

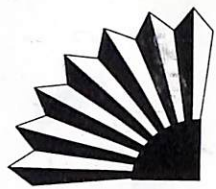
Suddenly a guy burst in the door and told us to sit in the audience for the first half of the concert. I watched the concert in amazement, the music was excellent. After the interval I was back in the dressing room the announcement told us to go back to the stage door. By then I was thinking of faking a sickie but I didn't. I was listening to the Musical Production before us. They were singing and playing "Summer Nights" from 'Grease'. Mrs Gangoiti was the musical director.

When they had finished, we were introduced. I looked for any obstacles that I could fall over; luckily I didn't find one. It wasn't until I had sat down that I realised how bright the lights were; I couldn't see the people in the audience, but they could see me. The conductor walked on stage, waved his baton around and we were off and playing. It was exactly the same as the rehearsal but there were so many people watching us. Seven minutes later it was all over. The applause was tremendous. The next thing to worry about was how to get back to the dressing room without getting flattened by the crazy people wanting autographs. Somehow I managed to reach the dressingroom safely and started packing up.

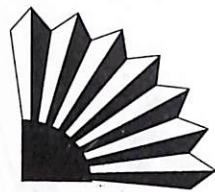
It was disappointing to think that it was all over so soon, but it was fun. Three Sunday mornings is a small price to pay for the experience I had just had!

Kim Nihill

39



Poetry



A POEM FOR EVERYONE!

It is only in Australia that you will see
Koala's sitting up in a tree
Kookaburra's laughing all day long
Just sitting and cackling a song.

It is in the dusty sands of the outback
That you might find a lizard having a grand old time,
And down at the beach, where the whales sing;
You can see a big shark's fin;
It is in the bush, where the wombats waddle, that
You can see a wattle tree.

But back on the beaten track A long way from the
waddling wombat
If you look, a kangaroo can be seen
Jumping, then drinking from a stream;
A slow moving spiky bundle cautiously crosses the road
Only to find another road!
Many, many beautiful plants, animals, and places
Can be found, around
AUSTRALIA.

Jaime Cook

ILLUSION OF LIFE!

The sun sets, and greets the evening stars
Yellow faces flower over me
Maybe it's morning on the stars
My body floats on the sea.

With such a tide, barely moving it seems asleep
Too full for sound and foam
My body drifts out into the deep
This will be my last home.

No fluttering lights or evening swell
My mind has gone dark
And may there be no sadness of farewell
The next life I embark.

Here lies in a different time and place
The tides may drift me far
I hope to see you face to face
On my little star.

Tim Parker

DO's AND DON'TS

Once eight is eight
Two eights are sixteen
Three eights are twenty four
Four eights are thirty two

Hands on heads and hands on hips,
now sit up in your seat,
Simon says to Sit up Straight,
kindly remove your feet,
Take your books out, Rule a margin
keep it very neat.

Stop that wriggling, Stop that talking
get back on track,
Stop that mumbling, Please be quiet,
I'll give that boy a whack!
Don't do that, please, Stop that fiddling,
Hands behind your back.

Five eights are forty
Six eights are forty eight
Seven eights are fifty six
Eight eights are sixty four

Walk in quietly, stand in twos,
This table is a mess.
Don't do that please, Put your pens down,
Don't say "Yeah", say "Yes",
Stop that jiggling, put your hand down,
wait until recess.

Don't call out, please, Put your hand up,
Stay in after school,
Hands together, feet together.
Please don't act the fool,
Wipe that mess up, Fill this up, please,
What's that little pool?

Nine eights are seventy two
Ten eights are eighty
Eleven eights are eighty eight
Twelve eights are ninety six

Clean your tables, see me later,
bring a note from home, Please don't use a calculator,
stand here on your own
Pull your socks up, Take your things out,
Leave that girl alone

Pick that paper up, please,
Now you know where paper goes,
Pick your bags up, pick that peel up,
Pick the best two rows,
Pick a captain, pick a team
But please don't pick your nose.

Aaron Thomas



The Magical Garden



The child played beneath the trees, only stopping to giggle
and smell the breeze. Shimmering was the sun, its golden
rays gently touching the child's face. The child stopped,
suddenly alert at the strange noise in the bushes. Quietly
she crept over and peered through the leaves. The child
watched in amazement as on the beautiful pink flower
fairies and pixies danced. A flower opened slowly to reveal
some pixies playing flutes. The beautiful music drifted up
and the child was lost in the music.

An hour went by until the child realised that the sun was
going down. Her mother called and the fairies and pixies
magically disappeared, leaving only the flowers with their
beautiful scent and the secret of their dance. The child ran
to her mother and asked if she could play a little longer, or
until her father arrived home. Her adoring mother agreed.

It was a beautiful afternoon and she said the child could
play some more. She danced away humming the fairies'
song. She danced her way back to the bush but found the
pixies and fairies had disappeared. The child's
disappointment slowly subsided. She smelt the fresh air and
the garden's magical scent. Suddenly it began to rain, and
the child ran to her mother who was waiting at the door.

Somewhere a little girl awoke from a wonderful dream. She
sleepily walked, rubbing her eyes, into the kitchen and
asked her mother if she could go and play outside in the
garden after her lunch. The time passed and after the child
had eaten her breakfast and lunch, she went outside to play.
As she danced, she knew that her dream would be a dream
no longer.

Jamie Cook



That Night



It was a bitterly cold winter's evening. The waves were
washing up violently against the jagged rocks. I could hear
someone desperately calling for help, the sound was
bellowing through the crisp air. It was just instinct to start
walking to the direction I heard the sound coming from.
My casual walk didn't last long, I soon found myself
breaking into a run desperately attempting to get to the
location of the screams of terror. I could feel my heart
beginning to pound like a frantic drum beat.

It was like one of those feelings, I didn't consciously
realise what I was doing, my entire body had gone numb. I
couldn't help it, I just ran.

The bitter screams of "HELP" were still ringing in my
head, bearing closer with every stride. I was motivated to
run harder, due to the continuing echo through the night.

Horrible thoughts were running through my mind, what if
someone has had a car accident? Every situation I thought
of had encouraged me to succeed in making it to the
unknown pleas for help. The strong breeze was rushing
through the leaves of the surrounding trees in time with my
quicken heart beat.

I was now at least in the vicinity of the howling cries. I
glanced momentarily up at the neighbouring cliff side and

something caught my eye. I halted immediately in my
tracks to take a second look. It was a young child, he was
nothing over nine years old. I attempted to scamper up the
rugged cliff side but at my first attempt it was to no avail.
Grasping every temporary anchor I could find. Rocks were
beginning to roll down the rock face, bruising my chest
and legs, penetrating through my clothes.

The young victim could now see me coming. He's trying to
stand up to assist in my efforts to join him. His left hand is
extremely white looking, almost frostbitten from the bitter
cold.

Finally I defeated the cliff to accompany the frightened
child. He was in a state of shock. After a couple of tense
moments I started the tentative journey back down my
strategic path that was etched into the hill side.
The child and I struggled frantically along the beach and
across the road to the nearest house. The house was about
one hundred and fifty metres away from the dramatic
scene. It was a rustic looking beach house. The occupants
were extremely helpful in contacting the emergency
services, as the child had severe gashes to his right leg.
I still recall that frightful evening and still to this day it
sends a shiver up my spine.

Justin White

41

Creative Writing

The Oak

The excruciating blaze of the great fireball, the sun, shed its heat on the youth of the primary school. The freshly cut grass, on which the children play, was covered by the dehydrated students, all gathering the shade from the old, dry oak, which stood tall scavenging for tiny drops of water soaked in the soil, to survive the immense heat. Its leaves all had the feel of silk.

The children all surrounded the oak, to see and feel its soft leaves on their young delicate skin. As the bell violently rang for the children to continue their learning, the clouds turned black and blocked the sun. The heavens soon opened to allow for the weapon to strike down on its target. Thunder, lightning and rain combined unleashed almighty power upon all in its path. The bright lightning struck down on the oak, splitting it in two, crushing the squirming children.

The thunder cracked again throwing another blinding bolt of lightning, this time striking down on a small innocent child crouching, motionless in fear. The child shook wildly whilst absorbing the force of the bolt. The child fell to the ground with its life drained out; all that lay there was a white-eyed child on fire.

The fearless storm soon cleared, having its hunger satisfied. The children ran like possessed madmen in fright. The oak went up in a blaze with the children under it. The children with their innocent eyes screamed in fright as they caught on fire. All around stood the survivors, still in fright of what had happened. When they gathered their wits they tried to revive the charred, lifeless bodies, but to no avail.

The day of heat and comfort had soon turned to a day of chaos and hell.

Luke Siwek



Yes Sir!

When you think about it, it's interesting comparing high school to the army. There is no place for self expression or improvisation and no way possible to stray from a very thin and straight line from the start of year 7 until the last exam of year 12.

I'm greeted by a wake-up call at 0700 hours by a stern voice, same as always, at headquarters. I go into the bathroom for the same cold shower I am used to. The chilly water sends a shiver up my partly awakened body, covering it with goosebumps. The chief orders me to get out after what seems like thirty seconds and I get my same familiar breakfast. If too much is taken, the boss will yell at me for wasting food.

As I eat hungrily, I think about the forthcoming day. It annoys me to think about it. A day of "Yes sir, no sir, three bags full sir" is awaiting me. I wash the milk and sugar scraps out of my bowl and the mess is flushed down the sink.

I go back to my room and put my uniform on. At eight o'clock I have to walk briskly to school, as I am behind schedule. Once I get to the building I breathe in the atmosphere of the school. Everything is dead, especially the students. They seem lifeless. As I take my place next to them on the dirty basketball court, I contemplate this. The bell goes. School has started.

Simon Fuller

Years 11 and 12



- ROW 5:** Nathan Need, Trent Merrigan, Kirk Bloomfield, Andrew Rosewarne, Matthew Owen, Brett Roberts, Harley Taylor, Dale Hewitt, Lee Kempster, Craig Rosewarne, Nathan Russell.
- ROW 4:** Erika Seidel, Nadia Seidel, Leigh Francome, Lachlan Stevens, David Gow, Matt Curlett, Andrew Brown, Sean Haddon, Adam Ghent, Adam Valeri, Todd Ronaldson, Francesca Cant.
- ROW 3:** Peta Waters, Michelle Lawrence, Jonathan Flores, Tavis Cook, Damian White, Candice Cook, Paul Eldridge, Christian Heskett, Sarah Langenhorst, Peita Tapper, Misty Bott.
- ROW 2:** Britt Ricardo, James Gibbins, James Moore, Justin Bird, Marco Salamone, Christopher Nealon, Warren Tute, Harry Andonopoulos, Nicole Ruduss, David Bangay, Misty Bryant, Christina Morgan.
- FRONT:** Katie Relf, Kelly Pinches, Allison Hallpike, Lyndal Selman, Simone Kuppler, Renee Calvett, Olivia Robotham, Elisa Frietas.



- ROW 5:** Christopher D'Amico, Michael Fitzgerald, Ian Doherty, Todd Murtagh, Brendan Filleul, Anthony Brown, Jarrod Down, Lachlan Fuller, Lucas Craig, Andrew Boyce, Brett McNeill, Stuart Moore, Justin Plant, Shaun Ramsey, Daniel Young, Andrew Stait, Richard Unwin.
- ROW 4:** David Sweeting, Chris Van Prooyen, Paul Mavin, Brad Fox, Peter Malley, Ryan Lea, Tim Parker, Matthew Kyle, Daniel Brad, Wesley Moore.
- ROW 3:** Wightman Savage, Andrew Middelast, Christopher Leung, Kirstie Dench, Gary Morrison, Marcus Reeka, Doran Moppert, Philippa Cook, David Goodrem, Alicia Brown, Bindi Perham, Paul Muller, Daniel Jennings, Michael Watson, Janine Boschen, Becky Fisher.
- ROW 2:** David Arundel, Ryan Coutts, David Giannopoulos, Melanie Maybus, Sylvia Turk, Shane Kennedy, Belinda Luscombe, Natasha Kikic, Kylie Digby, Chris Matthews, Anthony Wood, Adam Beardall, Tamara Curtain, Renee Kennedy, Alisa Christensen, Laura Morrissey.
- FRONT:** Emma Morrison, Nicole Cuce, Katie Moore, Simon Terzioski, Daniel Eaton, Natasha Siwek.

Debutante Ball 1996

The 1996 Parkwood Debutante Ball was months in the making, and all the late night practices really paid off with a great night enjoyed by all.

The day began quite early for the Debs, having to get their make-up and hair done and get back home in time to dress before their partners and the limos arrived.

The limo ride was something I think everyone enjoyed. It was many people's first time in a limo. All the Debs arrived at 3.30 pm for a full dress rehearsal and any last minute alterations. At 7.30 everyone else arrived and was seated. The Debs performed three dances before dinner;

which was, by the way, very nice, and then did an encore after dinner.

After the encore a band played old time favourites whilst everyone had a dance and a great time until 12 o'clock when it all finished for the guests but not the Debs.

The after parties for the Debs went on into the early hours of the morning with quite a few memorable incidents that some people will never forget.

Thanks goes to Mr Maile for acting as MC. I had a good time and I recommend that everyone do their Deb. Mark Phillips

Debutantes and partners presented to:

Mr M. Fulkin, Mr B. Hogendoorn and Mrs M. Hare.

Becky Fisher
Melanie Maybus
Gylbia Turk
Zoe Upton
Belinda Luscombe
Emma Morrison
Alicia Brown
Alicia Christensen
Natasha Nikie
Janine Boschen
Laura Morrissey
Renee Kennedy
Renee Nye
Tamara Curran
Lisa Haddock
Jodie Bennett
Lauren Voice
Early Strachan
Kristi Brash
Jacqui Ward
Julie Anderson
Alana Bruce



Shawn Ramsey
David Monasse
Daniel Jennings
Daniel Bradd
Mark Phillips
Lucas Fraig
Shane Kennedy
Chris Leung
Brad Burke
Chris Van Praegen
Adam Sandall
Andrew Middleton
Adam Tilling
Todd Monaghan
Michael Watson
Jason Hutchison
Brett McNeill
Ben Tamme
Trent Morgan
Aaron Gullan
Anthony James
Chris Mathews

44



451

SARAH LANGENHORST:
"Roadrunner, If she catches you
you're through".

REBECCA ELLIOT:
"That's my baby's sister..

LEE KEMPSTER:
"Unusual things."

JONATHON FLORES:
"I'm the fungi man".

LEIGH FRANCOME:
"Yeah, it's good to be king".

RENEE CALVETT:
"David Duchovny is not
that old".



HARRY ANDONOPOULOS:
"G' day Man".

LACHLAN STEVENS:
"Grasshopper (Guru Munk)"

FRANCESCA CANT:
"Where's the party Porky?"
SIMONE KUPPLER:
"Over here Chops".



KIRK BLOOMFIELD:
"I don't have a quote."

BELINDA CIURLEO:
"God! I hate School!"

NATHAN RUSSELL:
"I'd rather be playing
drums".

MARCO SALAMONE:
"Drink up boys and girls".

BRETT ROBERTS:
"That dam fire alarm.
I didn't do it"

MICHELLE
LAWRENCE:
"Yeah, I'll pass with my
attendance".

LYNDAL SELMAN:
"Yeah, I eat 24 hours a
day".

OLIVIA ROBOTHAM:
"I love flying moo cows".



KELLY PINCHES:
"Mmmmmmm
Vodka....."

NADIA SEIDEL:
"Did you watch the Nanny?"

TRENT MERRIGAN:
"Wanna go halves in a cask?"

CHRISTINA MORGAN:
"You're Hoorabol (sound out)".

PAUL ELDRIDGE:
"Hey Craig, let's go have some peanuts"

HARLEY TAYLOR:
"One ain't enough".

ALLISON HALLPIKE:
"Girls meet me....."

DAVID BANGAY:
"Baaaaaaa (sheep)".

DAMIAN WHITE:
"You can thank me later".

PEITA TAPPER:
"I'm not fresh".

DALE HEWITT:
"Basketball head".

CHRIS FRYER:
"BMF2".

TAVIS COOK:
"The Machine".



NICK FRYER:
"BMF1"

BRITT RICARDO:
"My man's also my boss.
Benefits".

CANDICE COOK:
"I'm not a freak.....really."

ERIKA SEIDEL:
"Footy tips please."



CHRISTIAN HESKETT:
"Tickle Time".

DAVID GOW:
"Locust (Boaty)"

ANDREW BROWN:
"At least it goes!"

CHRISTOPHER NEALON:
"Radar Warrior"

ADAM VALERI:
"Sweet dreams Moose."

JAMES GIBBINS:
"Is Gibbo ,Is Good!"

MISTY BRYANT:
"Milk is not part of a cow!"

NICOLE RUDUSS:
"I'm not a dope, I'm just
tired".

ANDREW ROSEWARNE:
"Hold your fire!"

MISTY BOTT:
"Live everyday like it's your last,
because one day you'll be right."

WARREN TUTE:
"How's about a
steggles".



SEAN HADDON:
"I'm not a tomato, I'm
just embarrassed".

NATHAN NEED:
"NEV"

JAMES MOORE:
"My brother is not as tough as he
thinks".

ADAM GHENT:
"Meow, are you calling me a
pussy?"

ELISA FREITAS:
"Oh, damn it to hell".

MATT CURLETT:
"I won't be remembered".
EDITOR: "Except by Patty & Mary".

PETA WATERS:
"I am woman hear me
roar"

KATIE RELF:
"Yeah, my car's got nostrils".

JUSTIN BIRD:
"Whatever".

CRAIG ROSEWARNE:
"Yeah, I'll just go grab me water
pistol!"

TODD RONALDSON:
"Did you watch Melrose last night?"

LEAH PHILLIPS:
"I don't live in the sticks".

GUESS WHO?

Students come and students go
Some confuse us with their tricks
But how well do you think you know
This class of '96?

This one likes to laugh and play
He nearly left the class
He was last seen wearing purple
And dancing on the grass.

We have to feel for the baker's son
We know Year 12's not light
But what has it done to him?
His hair's turned completely white!

Remember that girl from Year 9?
She's not exactly quiet
But we got a surprise as the year went on
She liked to work as well as bite.

Much quieter than that you'll see
But isn't that often the case?
That those who sit and ponder
Quite often win the race?

There's one student long and lean
He was not born alone
But he sees the future bright and clear
And will work to drive it home.

Another too of similar birth
But not our sunny clime
She's been here long enough
To use up every dime.

Another one the same as them
He moves at the speed of light
With his turbo-injected engines
He travels to the moon each night.

There's one we don't see too much
His Friday's fully booked.
But what about Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
Is there something we've overlooked?

Two of the girls with names the same
One dark the other fair
They appear to want the teacher's advice
quality both wonderful and rare

Who is that "boy" sitting up the back
He seems to think he's king
Assures us he doesn't study
And he'll never wear a ring.

Another sometimes sits near him
A most unlikely pair
But this one quietly finishes his work
And often does his share.

Two students with long golden locks
Music is their thing
Don't tell any stories in the exam
And then you'll surely sing.

Another two one, red one brown,
Seen dribbling on the court
They like to bounce and run
And neither could be called short.

One female student sweet and fair
Her name reminds us of a song
She's worked to meet every deadline
And her writing's come along.

Sweet and fair? Well, yes she's fair
But more the sporty type
She's often really just not there
Just sick of all the hype?

Last but not least
The same name as the Pope
The professor pontificates another question.
And wait! He'll answer now I hope!

Dual Recognition Dual Certificate What A Way To Go!

Twenty-five VCE students undertook Dual Recognition courses this year after the trail-blazing effort of Britt Ricardo in Hospitality and Nathan Need, Nathan Russell and Andrew Brown in Building had pioneered the first year. These students in spite of being absent one day per week (their TAFE day) managed to come up smiling week after week.

The students in Building and Construction also undertook work placement training during mid-year, thanks to the generous support of Mr Rod Jellett, who through his connections, found us five builders who were prepared to train the boys during the first month of winter, - not bad if you consider that this industry is still fairly quiet.

The students undertaking Retail also have had a big year. They have been doing their work placement training at Myer, Eastland, where they have impressed sufficiently to have been given permanent casual work. One of these students has his own message book, to deal with contacts from those reps supplying Myers, and both students have enjoyed the social side too. The third student to get a place with Myer left school at the start of the year for a traineeship with another retail group.

The Office Administration students have also been trained on the job this year as part of their TAFE work. Alisa Christensen took over the front desk at Jetset Tours and when I visited, it was difficult to know which person was the student.

Kristi Brash worked for Reece Plumbing, and has since accepted a permanent position with them. Becky Fisher mean -while occupied the front desk at a telecommunications company in North Carlton, Consultel. Apart from her busy phone line and constant greeting of visitors to the company, Becky enjoyed sending memos on the E Mail.

Reviews from all these employers of our students have been glowing. This training goes beyond work experience.

Students are assessed according to their achievements on specific tasks according to Australian Competency Standards. These reports and assessments (and frequently references) are included for the first time in their reports.

Several other groups of students have also undertaken TAFE courses along with their VCE. Two students have studied and worked in Child Care. Five students have embarked on Certificate III in Information Technology.

Eastern TAFE's Hospitality division attracted two of our Year 12s and one Year 11, whose practical training is at the Yarralang Restaurant in Bayswater (formerly Jasons). Harry Andronopolous says that it's the best thing he's ever done, and is looking forward to continuing next year.

Lastly, two more year 11s undertook a Landscape Gardening Design course at Holmesglen - sited at the former Victorian States Schools Nursery, on High St Rd, Glen Waverley, opposite Wesley. Matthew Lepla and Aaron Gullen really enjoyed their work and learning opportunities in this marvellous environment. Three Year 12s also completed a Folio Preparation course on Saturdays, as did four Year 11s.

Next year one student will undertake Automotive Studies, two will enrol for Sports Recreation Administration and one Year 12 student will attempt the practical training at Collingwood TAFE in Advanced Certificate in Jewellery Making.

We have five students applying to Myer to study Retail, two in Hospitality, two in Child Care, and three in Information Technology.

1997 promises to be another big year in VCE. Parkwood would like to take this opportunity to thank Eastern TAFE for its support especially our contacts in the various departments:

Denise Stevens- in Hospitality
Rae Williams- in Building
Jordan Rammu- in Office Administration
Margaret Moore- in Child Care
Naomi Englander- in Retail.

We also thank Holmesglen TAFE, the Companies and parents who have supported us, especially Mr Rod Jellett, without whose generous support our students would not have had these opportunities.

49

REFLECTIONS ON V.C.E.

Your final two years at school are the most important of your school career. But they also can be the most stressful, trying and boring years. The pressure to perform to get into your chosen course can be immense. But what is V.C.E. really like? Is it exactly as it sounds? We spoke to three students slugging it out in 1996.

DAVID GOW Year 12

David Gow, house captain of Colman, has adopted a "no worries" attitude during his V.C.E. years. David hopes to study accounting at RMIT in the city next year. Although if he is unsuccessful he has plans to back him up. He says V.C.E. is only as stressful as you make it. The pressure to perform well comes from yourself and if you want to do well, you keep yourself going. David's best advice for students approaching V.C.E. is to do the work when you get it and don't get stressed. But most of all "try and enjoy being a sixteen and seventeen year old."



COLMAN

HOUSE CAPTAINS:

Leah Phillips
David Gow

VICE CAPTAINS:

Belinda Luscombe
Brett McNeill

MICHELLE LAWRENCE Year 12

Michelle believes it is important to "just relax, because V.C.E. is only as stressful as you make it." Michelle wishes to go to either University or TAFE and study Business, Advertising or Law. If she doesn't get the results she wants, she will do some sort of TAFE course. Michelle admits that there is pressure to perform well, from both home and school. For students approaching V.C.E. she says "Don't worry, it's not as bad as it seems."



NATASHA SIWEK Year 11

Natasha believes the key to coping with V.C.E. is to stay organized and don't leave everything until the last minute. The pressure to perform comes from both school and home, because everyone wants you to get a good job, and your future depends on Year 12 and everything leads up to your final score. Natasha wants to go to University or TAFE and study something along the lines of Graphic Design. Natasha's best advice for students nearing V.C.E. is to stay calm and don't forget about your friends.

So the key to staying on top of V.C.E. is:

- * Stay organized
- * Do the work when you get it and,
- * Most importantly don't get stressed.

We wish our V.C.E. students well in whatever their future plans are.

Kathryn Savage and Megan Phillips.

AND SCHOOL LEADERS



MILNE

HOUSE CAPTAINS:

Alison Hallpike
Richard Unwin

VICE CAPTAINS:

Renee Kennedy
Ian Doherty

FALCONER

HOUSE CAPTAINS:

Kirsty Dench
Harry Andonopoulos

VICE CAPTAINS:

Lyndal Selman
Adam Beardall



AUTOGRAPHS