



Parkwood Secondary College



Parkwood Timeline

YEAR	INFORMATION
1979	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parkwood High School was opened on February 7th 1979. 87 students were enrolled, with four classes at Year 7. - All classrooms and school administrative offices are located in relocatable buildings. - Planning and building begin to create permanent facilities for the staff and students at Parkwood. - Student Representative Council was formed in July.
1980	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Earthworks begin on a grassed playing field. - Parkwood includes Year 7 and Year 8.
1981	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - First permanent buildings are opened in November – incorporating Arts/Craft, Home Economics, Science and General classrooms. - Parkwood includes Year 7, 8 and 9.
1982	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parkwood High School is officially opened by Norman Lacy, Minister for the Arts and Education Services on XXXX. - Parkwood includes Year 7, 8, 9 and 10. - Construction on phase two of building development begins.
1983	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parkwood includes Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11. - 600 students are enrolled at Parkwood, with 73 staff employed. - Parkwood produce their first school musical 'Riff Raff', performed for 3 nights in July at the brand new Karralika Theatre in Ringwood.
1984	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parkwood includes Year 7 to Year 12. - Parkwood graduates its first Year 12 class. - Phase two permanent buildings are opened – incorporating an Administration Complex, a Library Complex and a Gymnasium and Drama Complex.
1985	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parkwood building development project is completed with all buildings, paving, lawns, outdoor seating and gardens complete.
1987	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parkwood has its largest enrolment of nearly 900 students. - New positions of Student Welfare Coordinator and Sick Bay Attendant are included. - Parkwood hosts its first Debutant Ball for Year 11 students. - The Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) was introduced into Victorian schools for Year 12.
1990	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The VCE was included as a two year certificate program for Years 11 and 12.
1996	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Compulsory Sport Education is introduced into Parkwood. - Introduction of 'home groups' from Years 7 to 12. - Introduction of the school House System – Colman, Milne, Falconer and Grant Houses.
1998	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advanced Study Program introduced at Years 9/10 for academically gifted students.
2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New uniform introduced. - Advanced Study Program extends to year 7.
2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Year 12 Study Centre is built.
2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Year 9 'Aiming High' program is first established and run.
2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) was introduced into Victorian schools.
2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Maroondah Education Coalition (MEC) forms between Maroondah SC, Norwood SC, Parkwood SC and Ringwood SC under the Leading Schools Fund.
2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parkwood is divided into three sub schools; Junior, Middle and Senior, to provide greater support to individual students and a closer link to parents. - Homework Club program initiated every Monday night for students support and revision. - Extensive ground works completed – featuring a manicured court yard for students to enjoy.
2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Three new outdoor multipurpose sport courts are opened for use.
2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Musical production 'The Wizard of Oz' is performed in conjunction with Norwood Secondary College. - Parkwood Secondary College and Norwood Secondary College offer a joint band
2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 to 1 Laptop Program initiated at Year 7. - Sports Oval is resurfaced.
2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parkwood Secondary College closes on December 31st.

Parkwood Principals



Mr J Teasdale

1979 - 1985



Mr NR Tillack

1986 - 1987



Miss S O'Connell

1988 - 1993



Mr M Culkin

1995 - 1999



Mr V Sicari

2000 - 2002



Mr V Virtue

2003 - 2008



Mr J Ballagh

2009 - 2011



Mrs B Laidlaw

2012

Parkwood Staff



Student Representative Council

The S.R.C. was formed at the beginning of Term 3. The council consists of three representatives from each form. The aim of the S.R.C. is to provide the students with an opportunity to participate in decision making on school matters, to communicate suggestions, comments, questions, complaints to the staff for further discussion and action.

We hope that the S.R.C. will further establish itself and become a focal point for student participation in the growth of Parkwood High School.



During the 1970's, the housing developments in North Ringwood, Warranwood and Park Orchards saw Norwood High School bursting at the seams as it took students from as far as Warrandyte. Warrandyte High opened in 1978 and Parkwood followed suit in 1979. In that year, there were no permanent buildings, just portables in paddocks. The only intake was at Year 7. Our first principal was John Teasdale, after whom the gym is now named. John stayed with us until 1985.

'79

1979 Review

- FEBRUARY**
 7 Opening Day
 14 Inter-school Sports Day at Norwood H.S.
 20 Parkwood v Ringwood H.S. — Cricket, Tennis, Softball.
 23 Reporters and photographers from Ringwood Mail visit Parkwood
- MARCH**
 5 School photographs taken.
 8 Parkwood H.S. Swimming Carnival at Jubilee park.
 14 Formation of the Parkwood High Club.
 15 Maroondah Group Swimming Carnival — Ringwood Pool
- APRIL**
 2 Excursion to see 'Watership Down'.
 9 Athletics Carnival — Proclamation Park
 11 Report Evening
 19 Maroondah Group Athletics — Doncaster Athletic Park
 29 Excursion to State Artist and Art Gallery — 7C, 7D
- MAY**
 2 First Meeting of the School Council
 4 Parkwood Cross Country
- END TERM I**
- 28 Term II begins — Student Tree Planting Day
- JUNE**
 19 Cross Country Run at Wattle Park
 29 Correction Day
- JULY**
 4 Round Robin — Winter Sports at Donvale H.S.
 12 Report Evening
 13 Lunchtime BBQ
 27 Football Clinic — Essendon Football Club
- AUGUST**
 2 Ringwood Schools' Music Festival
 7 Eastern Zone Finals — Girls' Table Tennis
 14 Excursion to Zoo and Orchestral Concert.
 24 **END TERM II**
- SEPTEMBER**
 13 Term III begins — First Meeting of S.R.C.
 25 Excursion to the Art Gallery and State Artist — 7A, 7B.
- OCTOBER**
 1 Presentation of Flag by Hon. Mr. P. Falconer, M.H.R.
- NOVEMBER**
 30 Correction Day
- DECEMBER**
 7 Orientation Day
 12 Speech Night
 13 Picnic Day — Upper Yarra Dam
 20 End of our first year.

ORIENTEERING

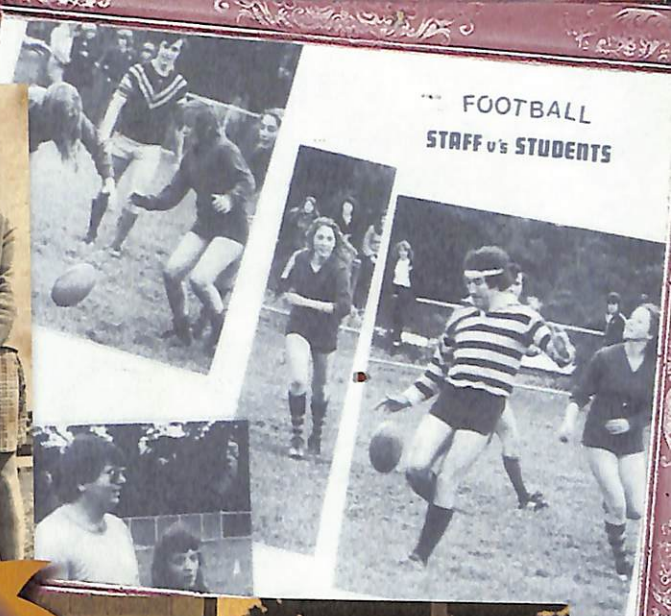
This year, eight students from year 9 attempted some orienteering. For many Sundays they tramped through the bush looking for check-points.

It was all worth-while when the big competition took place at Kangaroo Ground in September.

Efforts were rewarded with a:
 1st in U15 Pairs—Melissa Cann & Michelle Furzer.
 2nd in U15 Pairs—Justin Schreuder & Mark Portbury.
 Unplaced in U16 but good effort—Michelle O'Dea & Megan Napier.
 1st in U17 Pairs—Janet Lagstrom & Danielle Bardrick.

Those who were placed are Vic. Champions! I hope we can have our school represented again next year with similar results.

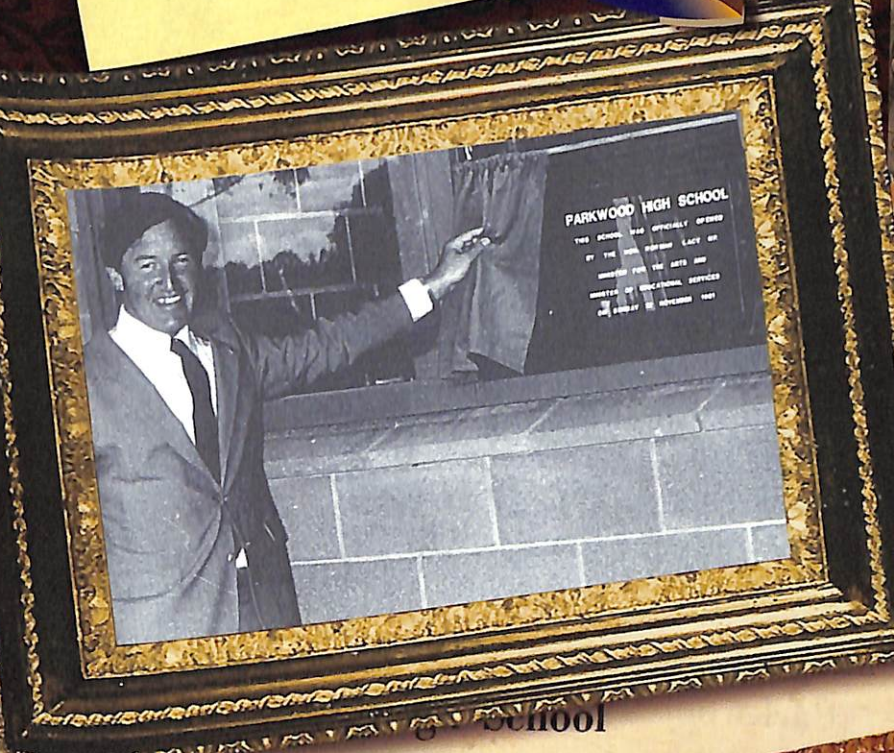
J. Fell.



FOOTBALL

STAFF v STUDENTS

'81



TO SEPH THE AMAZING
 TECHNICAL
 GOAT
 AT MAROONDAH HIGH COMMUNITY HALL
 AUGUST 17-19
 ADULTS \$4.00
 8:00 PM
 WED 18 THUR 19 SAT 20

'80

Quotations of the Infamous

Mr. Teasdale — "Excuse me school"
 Mr. Boucher — "Sure you don't need any help?"
 Mrs. G. Furlong — "Sit down 7C"
 Mr. Van Tatenhove — "I will not tolerate it in my school"
 Mr. Byrne — "It's getting a bit too noisy"
 Miss Clancy — "Speak now or forever hold your Peace"
 Sausage — "So help me" and "Just say Joe Blogs"
 Mr. Da Costa — "If you can give me a guarantee"

Mrs. A. Furlong — "All right 7A"
 "German and English"
 Ms. Harrison — "Fine", "Yes", "Good", "Yeh Fine"
 Mr. Miller — "Una Momento", "You're cruis'n for a Bruis'n", "I'll drop kick you across the room", "Smooth as a baby's bottom"
 Mrs. Morehouse — "Raving Rat Bag", "Yobbo", "Poolie Pen"
 Mrs. Nutter — "Wash your hands."

The Parkwood High School junior boys tennis team have won their way through to the semi finals of the Victorian All High Championships. The boys won the Maroondah Group competition winning games against Norwood and Maroondah H.S.



Report for

SUBJECT WOOD

NAME OF STUDENT LOLA BASSETT - SMITH

Lola is a most pleasant student. However, she must learn to file her fingernails on the bandsaw blade - the grinder is the correct procedure. A good achiever. Keep up the effort.

TEACHER

ood High School

Report for

SUBJECT PHYS. ED.

NAME OF STUDENT REGINALD RUFFLE

manipulative skills are slowly improving. He is a dedicated student who must learn to overcome his modesty and shyness in the gym room.

TEACHER MISS R. U.

wood High School

Report for

SUBJECT HUMAN RELATIONS

NAME OF STUDENT VIOLET POLISCHTSCHUK

Violet has been easily distracted this half year. It is obvious that she is not interested in other things. Her fellow classmates have been teasing her about her appearance and I feel that it would be educationally beneficial for her if she changes her attitude next year.

'82



PARKWOOD PROGRESSES

A first stage of completion, and beyond.

As I write these few words in November 1983, we are surrounded by what seems to be continuing change. Yet, in fact, it all represents a conclusion of a first stage of development. The building program, as it was originally intended is now complete. The instructional program moves into its sixth and final year in 1984.

PRINCIPAL: MR J. TEASDALE



THE HOUSE TEAMS

Earlier this year, students were allocated various house teams to provide a team spirit in the intra-school sports.

These teams were named as follows:

GARDINER (Blue)
STIRLING (Green)
ATTWELL (Gold)
WIGGIN (Red)

Wiggin were first in the swimming sports. Atwell gained first position in the athletic sports and Gardiner succeeded in winning the school cross country event.

MR O'CONNOR

'83



Parkwood High presents...



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

1983 has been a successful, enjoyable and most rewarding year for many students, parents and teachers within the Community. So much has happened during this year, it is very hard to know where to begin.

'85



THE SHORT-LIVED LIFE OF A PARKWOOD NEWSLETTER

At Parkwood we seem to have many different coloured pieces of paper on which Newsletters are sent home. The main colour seems to be blue. (Pale blue.)

On the day when the Newsletters are handed out all students are anxious to collect them from the office and to get their little hands on them to read, and read, and read...

Students will scan through the newsletter looking for announcements of any holidays. If there are not, then the fate of the Newsletter is varied. The students will either leave the Newsletters behind, (accidentally, of course!) put them in the bin when the teacher is not looking, drop them on the floor, or just simply "accidentally" drop them on the ground on the way out. One of the most common solutions is to put the letter in the bottom of the bag and forget about it. It turns up the year after when the student cleans out the bag.

There are many uses for a Parkwood Newsletter. (The ones that don't inform you of holidays, of course!) Some become emergency paper to throw the bottom of the room. Others make a lining for scrunched up and used as something to throw around the room until the culprit is caught.

Only occasionally will those tedious letters slip through the hands of rebellion and make it to the hands of mothers, to clutter up their bench, fill their rubbish bins, and light their fires.

The one time just about every Newsletter will reach home is when there is the date of a holiday on it. These are the only ones that have to be taken home to prove to parents there actually is a holiday. Curiously parents don't always believe students' claims for a legal day off.

By Kirsten Bult, Year 11.

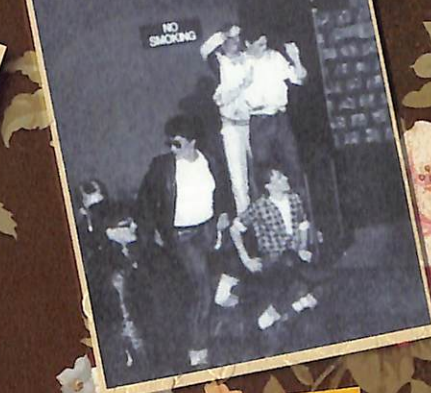


ANTHONY CHRISTENSEN '70

PARKWOOD HIGH PRESENTS

glease

Tell me more, tell me more, was the show the best yet? Aha Aha Aha



'86



Computer Mathematics

The computers in 10 are currently being used at the year 1 and 2 levels to help students who are having difficulties with their mathematics. Three parents, Mr. [Name], Mrs. [Name] and Mr. [Name] have volunteered to come to school for an hour or two each week to supervise the students while they use the computers - it's thank you!



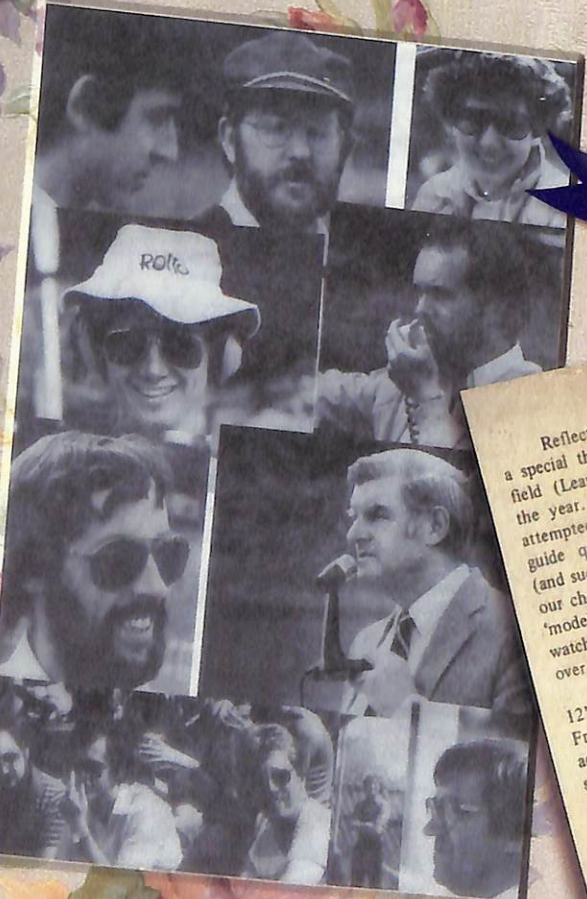
Those students who went on to compete in the Eastern Zone Athletics Sports

Mark Doyle	3rd	100 m
Glen Keeble	3rd	Hurdles
Trudi Yates	3rd	1500 Walk
Robynne Laurance	1st	High Jump
Mark Keeble	2nd	100 m
Paul Keith	3rd	500 m

N.R. Tittack

Our first set of Year 12's went through in 1984. By then, the school had been "built". During the 1980's, the school taught many students who would go on to some prominence. Shelley O'Donnell went on to represent Australia in netball. Her younger sister, Wendy, completed Year 12 in 1986 and played netball for Victoria. Motor racing giant, Jim Richards, sent his two children Stephen and Danielle to Parkwood. Stephen followed his father into V8 motor racing. VFL/AFL umpire Glenn James sent his daughter, Natalie, to Parkwood.

'84



YEAR 12 BIOLOGY

Reflecting back on the past year, I would like to offer a special thanks to Mrs. Bassett-Smith and Miss Sommerfield (Leanne) for their help and guidance throughout the year. Mrs. B. has been great putting up with our attempted humour to relieve the boredom of continuous guide questions, while Leanne has made every effort (and succeeded) getting rat, toad and heart specimens onto our chopping blocks in time for our gruelling sessions of 'model operations' and dissections. They both stood by, watching as we entangled the rats intestine to find it was over a metre in length!

I'd also like to thank Mrs. B. on behalf of the Year 12's for risking our lives driving along the South Eastern Freeway in a minibus with thirteen screaming young adults?? Remembering their childhood by singing popular songs off Play School, and adverts, who also found amusement in whistling at not-so-slinky pedestrians. The class went to the Royal Melbourne Zoo on the 18th April to study primate behaviour, but judging from the photo, it's hard to tell which primates were more satisfactory to study - the mandrills or the students??

Janet Lagstrom 12A

HOME ECO - Our love for it is too strong to express in words so... we express it through the pudge protruding from various places of our tubby little bodies. This is due to the force feeding of cream puffs, chockie eclairs and lemon meringue pies. The amount of breathtaking studies encaptures our wildest imagination, and our dreams are fulfilled as we put ourselves to sleep at night counting thousands of little chockie E minus' hovering around our heads!

Fiona Schreuder & Christine McGuina

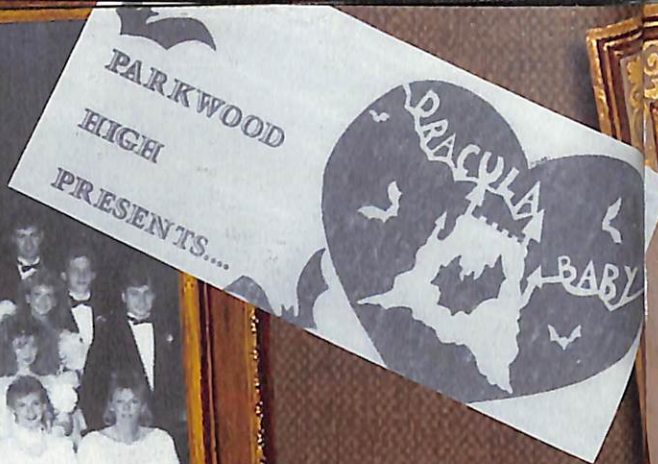
Home Economics Year 10 Course is a most fulfilling subject! It is really great to see the various methods some of the guys use, to cook, prepare and test certain foods - like pasta on the ceiling. Apart from such distractions we feel that we are all "pros" in this field of work. Haven't you seen and smelt some of the delicious main meals, cakes and things we have made?

Tracey Rossiter 10F



PARKWOOD HIGH

'84



'87

OUR 1988 PRINCIPAL MEET

About five years ago I visited Parkwood High School, on behalf of our Building Committee, to gather ideas for our new building programme. Mr. Teasdale proudly showed me over the school and having worked in old or portable buildings for many years, I was overwhelmed by the grandeur of the first stage of your programme, as well as the natural beauty of the setting. But, more important than this, I was impressed by the atmosphere of the school, the care and concern shown by the staff and the general demeanour of the students.

Little did I realise that, within a few years, I would be selected as Principal of Parkwood High School. I am honoured by this appointment. I know that the school enjoys a high reputation in the community.

I am looking forward to working with the staff in ensuring that you are offered programmes of study that develop your full potential and that you experience an involvement in broader curriculum areas. By working together, in mutual care and respect, we will maintain the high standards already set.

I thank you for inviting me to appear in your Magazine for 1987. I am indeed looking forward to meeting you all.

Ms. S. O'Connell



Our principal from 1988 to 1994 was Sue O'Connell. It was during the late 1980's that Parkwood reached its largest size of almost 900 students. There were 8 classes of Year 7's in 1986. Some interesting characters (staff) who had joined Parkwood by this time included Neil Davis (English & Humanities), Mike Cook (Economics and Business), John Moxey (Maths & Science), Marg Blythman (Arts) and Dot Henwood (VCD & Arts). Dot would go on to become assistant principal at Parkwood and principal at Heathmont Secondary College. Marg was a fierce lady whose nick name was "sergeant major".

'88



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I took up the position of Principal of Parkwood High School with a positive impression of the school and all who are part of it. During the year this impression has been constantly reinforced as I met with students and observed them daily in their attitude to their work and their general demeanour. I have taken many visitors around the school and we have many trades people working around the place, all of whom have made positive comments about the students and the atmosphere of Parkwood.



WESTPAC MATHS COMPETITION

Parkwood students have once again achieved excellent results in this competition. Parkwood's results were well above the state average, with 105 of the 152 students who entered, gaining an award.

The following students gained an award:

PRIZE: Andreas Bednatz Year 10 (Intermediate)

DISTINCTIONS:
R. McCANDLISH
A. MURRAY
N. BOOTH
A. FALLON
J. GOODREM
D. TAO
J. GALATAS
G. EASTBY
P. GARDNER
A. MCCONCHIE
E. TORRESAN
B. MCLENNAN
K. RUSEKILIC
M. ALLEN
S. MITCHELL
D. VAN KRIEKEN
F. MULLER
B. JONES
L. DUKES
G. MCLEAN
J. ROBERTSON
W. HARRISON
M. PURDON
Y. HICKLING
J. HOFSTRA
A. LLOYD
W. HANNAHAN
B. HANNAH
K. DIEBER
N. BOSCHEN
R. VAN BEUREN
M. HALEY
S. HALD
C. SLATER
K. STEEL
K. FALLON
D. CHRISTIAN
A. HANGLEY-JONES



A. Bednatz Yr 10

R.K.A.A. CREDITS
R. GIBSON
A. DOIG
A. HAWORTH
M. DESCH
R. GOLDSMITH
L. BRITT
N. CROTHERS
B. LANGLEY-JONES
N. DOIG
J. WATSON
T. TAYLOR
B. WILTON
D. WATER
J. COWLING
A. ROBERTSON
C. LAURANCE
B. SHORT
R. JONES
C. FELL
A. MOTTEN
C. MCLEAN
E. VLASIC
M. VANSTON
M. GASTERO
L. HUME
N. ROPER
J. TRIMBLE

S. SHADE
C. WILLIAMS
A. PERRY
C. HADRI
M. DAVISON
L. HANNAH
J. TAYLOR
N. BETHUNE
L. HADRI
M. DENMAN
L. DANG
N. WHITELEGG

K. NEMSOV
D. RIGOGIANNIS
B. THOMAS
D. GREENWOOD
D. MCALISE
G. POKKINEN
I. WISNIEWSKI
K. STEVENS
P. WISNIEWSKI
J. GALATAS
D. ROSS
J. MCKEE
A. TANME

TALENT QUEST 1990

The Parkwood Secondary College Talent Quest was held during periods 5 and 6 on the last day of third term and was a resounding success.

Thanks are extended to the judges: Leane Wall, Damien Ross and Mrs Douglass, and congratulations go to: Kellie Wright, the first prize winner of \$100 (all prizes were donated by the SRC) for her rendition of 'New York, New York'.

The band 'Delayed Reaction' (Sam and Steve Gillespie, Glenn Kear, Geoff Crockett and Nik Vlasio) who won the second prize of \$50 formed the 'Shattered Crystals' (Amanda Fellon, Diana Pupie, Melissa Wansley and Stacey Aslangul), Milner Grayson, a year 7 student, entertained everyone with his magic tricks while Kim Leach and Andrew Howarth gave some interesting interpretations of comedy as well as doing some character assassinations of teachers which won't be forgotten by some staff members for quite some time.

Special thanks go to the inimitable Gavin ("don't worry - there's plenty time!") McLean for acting as the compere, to Mr Eden, Stuart Brown and Natalie Doing for their organisational work behind the scenes, and to all those people and acts who contributed to the 1990 Talent Quest being such a success.

Mr Luk

Kim Leach
Congratulations go to Kim Leach of Year 11, for being awarded a German and Australian Exchange Scholarship. Kim left at the end of November to spend three months in Germany as guest of one of the sponsors of this scholarship.

About twelve scholarships are awarded in Victoria each year to Year 11 and Year 12 students. Out of the several hundred students who apply, thirty are selected for interviews at which they answer questions in both English and German. These scholarships are donated by a variety of German Companies.

'89



STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

How do you organise and motivate 40 plus students ranging from year 7 to year 12, with the illustrious 'tag' of the SRC? Questions like, 'What does SRC mean?' 'When's the next free dress?' 'If it's Free dress why do we have to? Really?'

However let's not dwell on trivia, but rather, can I focus your attention on a few 'highlights'. It became apparent that the SRC exists as a service to the school and wider community.

So for the record, this is a tribute to all those who served under the SRC umbrella. From the elected representatives in each class to the executive committees.

Special mention should be made of the council who served in various ways: John McCurdy, Gavin McLean, Brad Geyer, Sarah Haldine, Kim Leach, Andrew Whitelegg, Emma Williams, Annabelle Hart, and Damien Ross.

Mention should also be made of special initiatives undertaken: SRC were able to organise the following fundraisers for the school and wider community - World Vision Support, Legacy, Red Nose Appeal.

Other projects included gathering and reporting to school council, student requests regarding uniform and facilities. Services such as Free dress days, Sports hire facility at lunchtimes, the Talent Quest, a magazine attempt. Basketball slam dunk contest and many meetings to establish a constitution for working procedure.

The students gave their time and energy and should be commended for their input.

Thank you.

Lesson Teacher,
Mr Garry Eadon

PARKWOOD GIRLS DO US PROUD

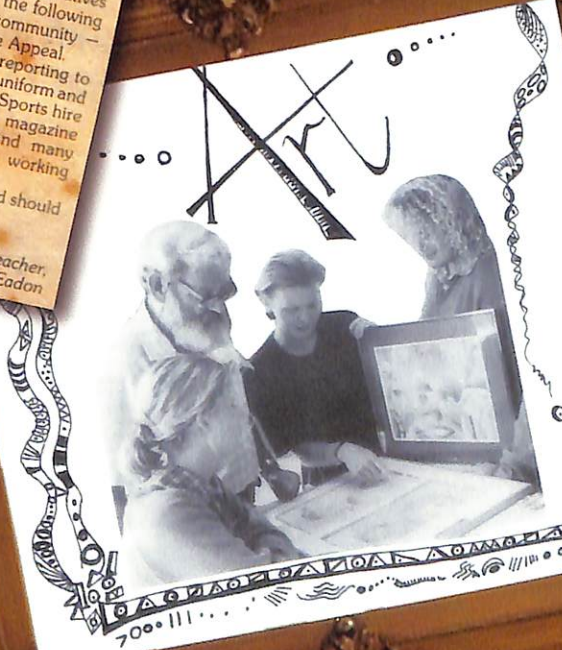


Best Players:
Jenny Benham
Amanda Boyne,
Belinda Matthew,
Mandi Harvey,
Alisha McKenzie.

Goal Scorers:
Alisha McKenzie,
Amanda Boyne,
Jenny Benham.

Following the lead of their male counterparts, a group of girls from Parkwood played Mitcham Secondary College in a game of football. Whilst most of the males in the crowd saw it as a huge joke, the girls took it deadly serious and showed promise to defeat Mitcham, 3 goals 8 behinds, to 2 goals 2 behinds. The winning margin being 12 points.

The second half went to script with both teams playing well and showing some previously hidden skills. Mitcham scored the only goal for the half. Mr. Moxey was very pleased and proud of the girls and measure of their performance, the girls actually outscored the senior boys, who lost their match, by seven points.





TIME CAPSULE

As part of Year 7 History this year, students in 7 collected suitable items to place in a Time Capsule. They chose such things as newspaper articles, grocery dockets, catalogues, coins, School magazines, Year time-table, history assignments and work books, a tape of the Top Ten hits, etc.
The capsule will be buried, to be opened in 2030.



PACIFIC SCHOOL GAMES - DARWIN 1992

Jayne Spencer (Year 11) and Simone Kuppler (Year 8) were members of the Victorian team that headed for Darwin early in 1992. The Pan Pacific Games take place every four years and involve primary and secondary age students from different countries in the Asian-Pacific region.

Both our girls performed well, Jayne taking first place in her swimming events, and Simone fourth in her 1500m walk.

I was fortunate to have been a manager. It was great to take students from my own school. I am glad they had the chance to experience this.

Darwin turned on a cyclone warning - Cyclone Neville. We were not washed out; we just kept participating.

Mrs. Fell,

Pan Pacific Games - Darwin



Kids will always be kids

17 Years' matter what comes, they come from the same place. The kids at Parkwood Secondary College in Ringwood South East have a special day. Kids will always be kids.



Genuine thanks to all involved in conducting the Christmas raffle and for the generous donation to the Shelter. Your interest in our annual and our Shelter is very much appreciated.
Yours, Yul Ko

ANIMAL AID TRUST



ANZAC DAY

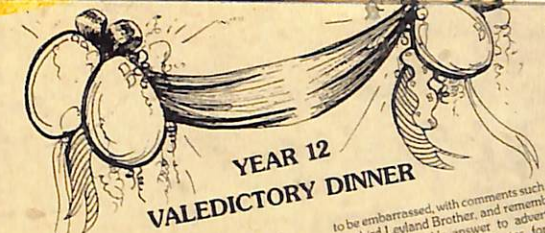
In April, Wally Parker came to our school and talked to us about World War 1. Some of us had brought things along about the war, like: medals, photos and hats. Wally told us stories about how he was injured in his past and how he became blind. He had his daughter there to help him. It was really interesting to hear about World War 1. Some of us even asked Wally if he knew who our Grandparents were!

Sarah Donald, Year 7

SCIENCE TALENT AWARD

This year when Mrs. Hare told us about the Science Teachers' Association of Victoria (STAV) Competition, which lets you create computer games, Harley Taylor, James Moore, David Bangay and I, decided to create "Body Battles" which is a computer game set in the bloodstream. We took it along on the big day to Wesley College and did quite well. We won a Merit Certificate. Thanks go to Mrs. Hare and Mr. Thomas for their great help.

James Gibbons, Year 9C



A group of seven Year 12 girls decided to organise a Year 12 Valedictory Dinner to celebrate our long awaited departure from Parkwood. After many painstaking hours of organising and blowing up balloons, the night finally arrived. Students, parents, teachers and significant others gathered at the Ringwood Convention Centre on Sunday 21st November.
It was a memorable night with unforgettable speeches, including Ms O'Connell's slip when she welcomed everyone to the "1994" Valedictory Dinner - another year to go, surely not! Mr Maile left many anecdotes about past students.
Next Katrina Fallon and Michael Haley did a speech on behalf of the students. Now it was the teachers' turn to be embarrassed, with comments such as Mr Sayers - the third Leyland Brother, and remembering Students and Nike and Reebok's answer to advertising. Students were presented with certificates for academic and sporting achievement and contribution to the school. And for the first time awards were presented by the Council to students in all the areas of study.
Special note should be given to Mr Maile who showed off his dancing techniques - John Travolta took out!!
The night was enjoyed by all who attended and hopefully the tradition will continue for many years. Thanks to everyone who attended and to the seven girls (Deanne, Caroline, Megan, Melissa, Melanie, Sarah, Kathy) who organised the night.



It was during the 1990's that the school began to implement curriculum changes. Ievan Thomas returned to Parkwood after a brief stint at Fern Tree Gully and introduced a middle school from Years 8-10. Later, the current Aiming High program was introduced for Year 9's. This has been an outstanding success and much credit must go to the staff who ran this program.

THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

1994 BADGE APPEAL Certificate of Thanks

The Wilderness Society would like to thank
PARKWOOD SECONDARY COLLEGE
for supporting the 1994 Wilderness Society Badge Appeal.

On behalf of The Wilderness Society, I would like to express our deep appreciation for your tremendous efforts in the World Environment Day Appeal this year.
Your effort and commitment will not only help the crucial struggle for wilderness protection to continue, but they provide a clear example to others that a passionate concern for the environment is alive and well in Australia today.
The Wilderness areas of the world belong to ALL of us, but only for as long as we respect and protect them. Your dedicated efforts on World Environment Day mean this precious heritage will be there for years to come.
The Wilderness Society and future generations thank you.

Yours sincerely
Appeal Coordinator



Wanted
Mr Thomas.
For the creation of the middle school system.

Middle School Mania

Just when we thought it was safe to come back to school, the teacher's sprung another one on us. It was (dramatic music please!) The Middle School System!

Best Quote
I despise having three Co-ordinators to yell at me when I get into trouble
Michelle Waters

A.B.C. V.C.E.

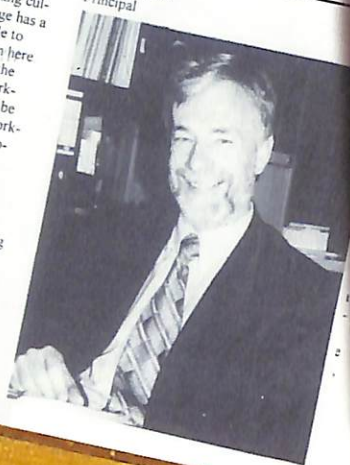
A is for absent when CATs are due.
B is for bleary-eyed as we've made it through CAT 2.
C is for criteria, have we satisfied them all?
D is for drafting, it drives us up the wall.
E is for enthusiasm, of which we all lack.
F is for fun, one day we'll get it back.
G is for GAT, the purpose we have yet to know.
H is for holidays, we can hardly wait to go.
I is for identity, we've lost our slumber.
J is for justice, we've lost our slumber.
K is for the kick start that we need to get going.
L is for the library, the words keep on flowing.
M is for muck up day, when we read every page.
N is for newspaper, we've read every page.
O is for options, the choices we must make.
P is for private study, a chance to have a break.
Q is for questions, quotients and learning by rote.
R is for resubmissions, responses and learning by rote.
S is for satisfactory, it means we've done enough.
T is for timetable, it's green week or buff?
U is for understanding, we gave our full attention.
V is for V.C.E., not totally beyond comprehension.
W is for word limit, we're forever cutting back.
X is for (e)xtension, give me one 'cos I'm slack.
Y is for year, we've fought against and won.
Z is for the zenith, our thirteen years are done.

V
C
E

Principal's Report '95

In my short time at Parkwood Secondary College I have gained a great affection for the College. Clearly there is a strong learning culture and a focus on success. The college has a good 'tone' about it. This is attributable to the fine students who work hard to learn here. Whilst there are some mixed feelings in the community about state education, the Parkwood Secondary College community can be proud of the fact that students here are working to achieve success and come out as productive citizens.

Martin Culkin
Principal



Change is the constant in education in these times. The year of 1995 has been no exception to this. We are now a truly self-managing college working within broad state wide guidelines. A great deal of work has gone on during the year to ensure that a rich and diverse curriculum is offered to students at all year levels. I have been most impressed by the calibre of our Year 7 students and the program they work in, impressed by the highly innovative Middle School program and by the broad VCE curriculum.

The mid 1990's saw Parkwood's numbers decline somewhat from the heady days of 900. Jeff Kennett was premier and embarked on a policy of closing schools. Our next principal, Martin Culkin, walked into quite a challenge as he fought to keep Parkwood open. Clearly he succeeded. Martin would go on to become principal at Dandenong High School before retiring recently. Martin fought to build the school back up, as did Vincent Sicari (2000 - 2002) and Vin Virtue (2003-2009).



'95



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 find 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 members 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

THE HOUSE SYSTEM

Nutcracker, Menzies and Warne

OR

Milne, Falconer and Colman?

The house system was introduced to the students at the beginning of this year. It replaced the obsolete house system of Stirling, Gardner, Wiggins 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 Urwin and Alison Halipike and finally Falconer's leaders are Harry Andonopolus and Kirsty Dench.

Falconer's colour is yellow, whilst Milne's is green and Colman's is blue. The teachers who involved themselves heavily with the teams were Mr Fitch, 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

'96

1996 School Captains



'97



FROM THE TOP

As we storm through another year, towards the year 2000, we see Parkwood Secondary College going through a rapid transformation. Having risen from the threat of closure and merger at the end of 1996, we see the College now beginning to make a significant educational statement in the local community.

Our Year 7 enrolment for 1997 reached an eight year high and prospects for sustained growth in enrolment look good. The year 7 group came from more than 20 primary schools and show indications that the future of Parkwood is in very good hands. But numbers are only one matter. It is the quality of work that goes on in the College. As usual, the VCE results reflect the tradition of excellence at Parkwood. Students have been exposed to a very comprehensive program, as good as, if not better than, most other colleges. Outstanding work continues to be done by students in the fields of public speaking and penmanship. A turn around in sporting results has also been achieved. Successes have been realised in sports such as hockey, due to student and staff commitment. We have seen, in 1997, all students at Years 7 and 8 undertaking a weekly program of sport.



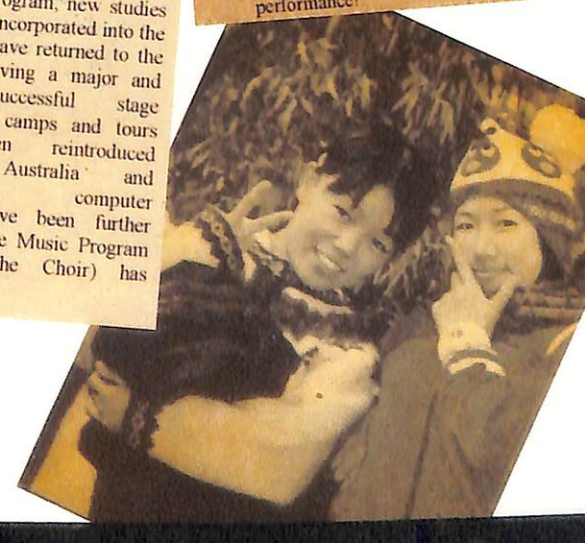
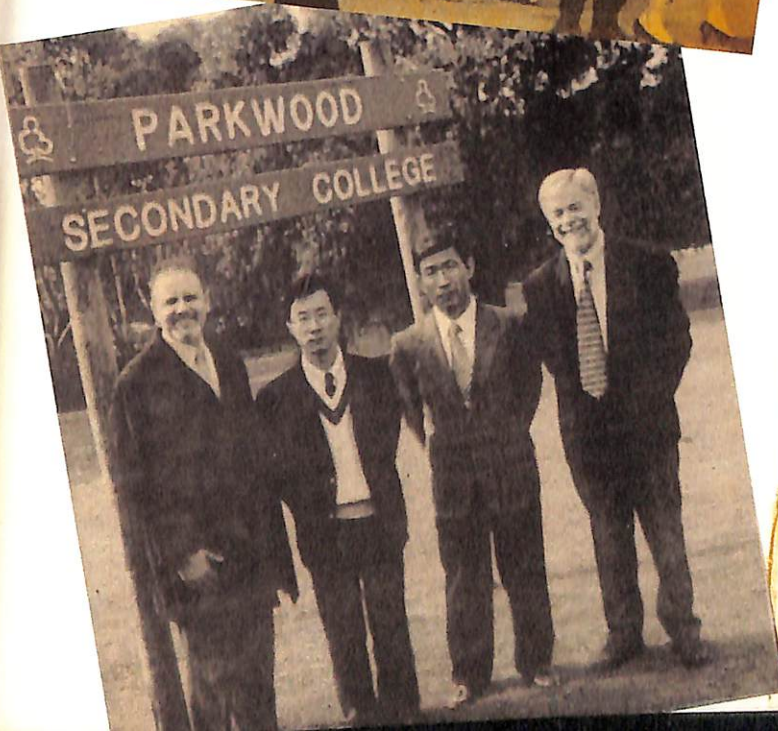
'98

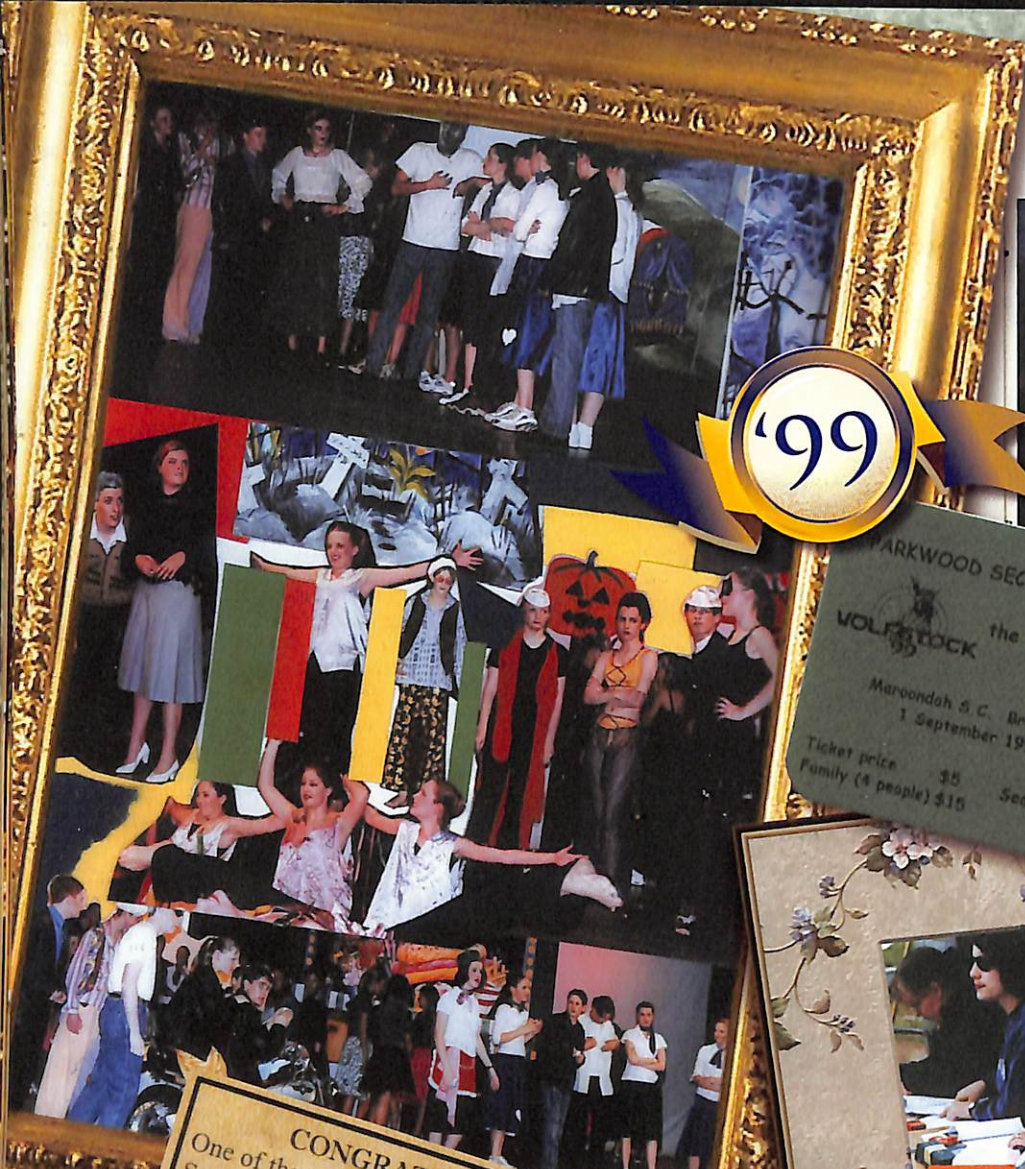
GUMSHOE, THE MUSICAL

By Brooke Wendt

The school's production of "Gumshoe", held on September 9, 10, and 11 was an outstanding success. Near capacity audiences on each of the three nights saw Parkwood students "strutting their stuff". As one of the cast members, looking out at the audience, I noticed the fact the efforts of the actors, dancers and musicians were appreciated by all who attended. The stars of the show, Regan Wood and Jess Salmon, made the crowd roar with laughter during this comedy that was hammed up to the max, much to Ms. Free's delight, although she felt that she'd begun to lose control by the end of the last performance!

This year has seen further growth in the college from a number of perspectives. Student numbers have grown to a point that the college population will soon exceed 500 students and good enrolment trends indicate a sound future. Programs have been extended e.g. the Vocational Education and Training program, new studies have been incorporated into the VCE, we have returned to the days of having a major and highly successful stage production, camps and tours have been reintroduced (Central Australia and Queensland), computer facilities have been further expanded, the Music Program (including the Choir) has blossomed.





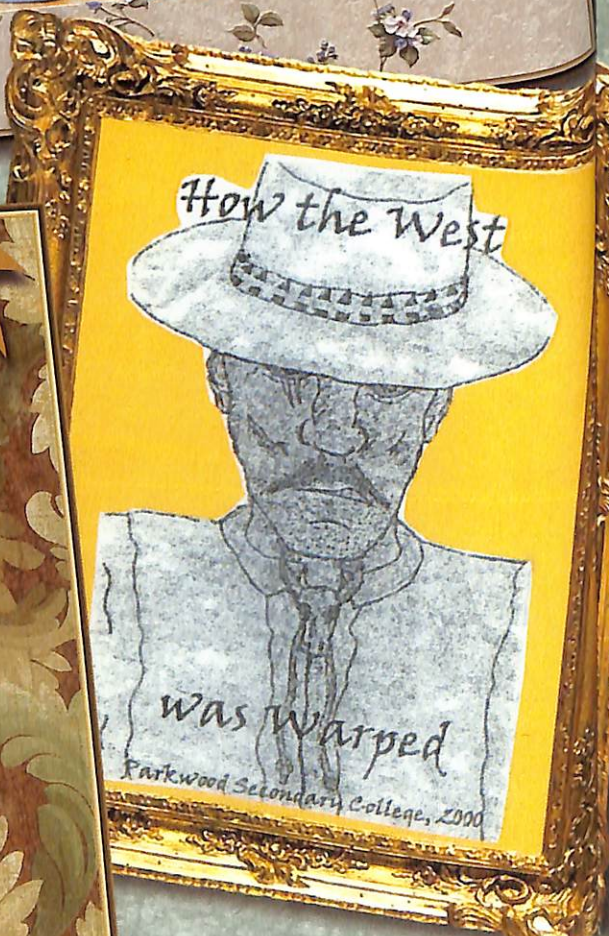
'99

PARKWOOD SECONDARY COLLEGE
 VOLCANOCK the rock 'n' howl musical
 Maroonah S.C. Brentnall Rd. Croydon
 1 September 1999 at 7:30 pm
 Ticket price \$5
 Family (4 people) \$15
 Seat Number:

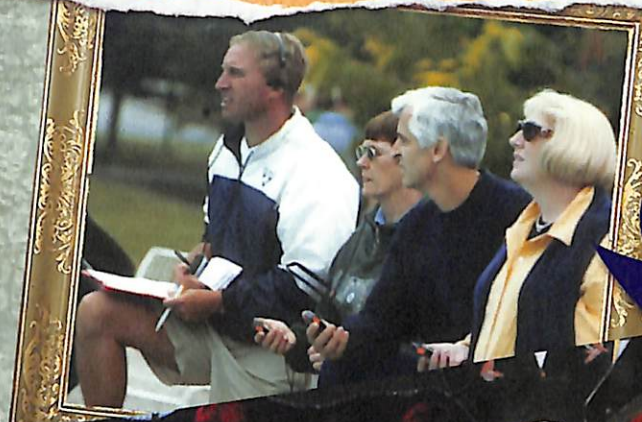


'00

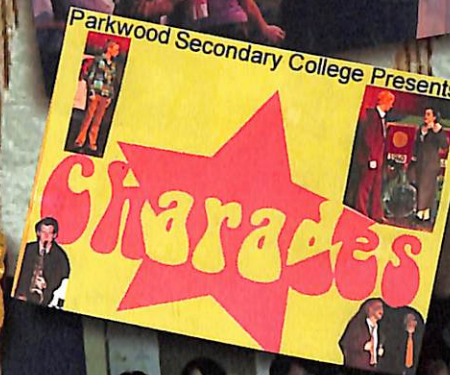
CONGRATULATIONS
 One of the many success stories in the Science area has been the awarding of a Science Fellowship Award to Michael Napl of Year 11. During the Christmas break he will have the privilege of working with one of Australia's science research teams.
 Another successful application was the Science in Schools Research Project which was awarded to Parkwood SC and Croydon Hills PS. In 2001 the two schools will be working in close collaboration on the following focuses: improved teaching and learning practices, curriculum development and better integration of the primary and secondary schools



Any teacher or parent will tell you that the most important group of people in any school is not the principal or senior staff. It is the ES and office staff. Parkwood has been lucky to have a group of wonderful ladies through the years. Margo Walton and Sue Datson have been here since the early 1980s. Other office ladies include Jenny Vigo (who joined the police force), Debbie Richardson, Margie Cameron and now we have Rhonda Ham, Suzanne Hill. It is these people who keep the college running smoothly and often they do not receive the recognition and appreciation they deserve.



'01



SEPTEMBER 11
 There is a day we will never forget.
 There was not one person who wasn't upset
 There were two towers.
 That blew away within hours
 There was an attack.
 The sky turned from blue to black
 But we were all strong.
 Even though it took so long.
 Everyone was crying.
 Over loved ones who were dying
 This isn't a day to forget.
 Because it will always be a threat
 On September 11, 2001,
 Everything had just begun
 -By Emma Brooks-

I wrote this poem on September 11 this year. I was really upset because I know someone who died in the first plane crash. My mum and I were talking about it and then I just burst into tears and ran to my room and wrote this poem

'02

Parkwood Day

Parkwood Day was a great success thanks to all the people that put their hard work into making it possible for all the students.
 Many students were lining up for the rides and amusements and some students just watched and laughed. Some students said the highlights of the day was the Pinnacle of Terror and the gigantic Titanic slide. The guest speakers were Murundindi, Simone Power and Jim Asimakopoulos from the Wheelchair Sports Australia.
 Comments from students
 I thought the giant slide was great
 We all liked the Pinnacle of Terror it was excellent



By Christopher Mulqueen

This year has been one of the most rewarding and enjoyable of my career in education. At the start of the year I came to Parkwood not quite knowing what to expect. Today I write this having met and talked with the nine Year-11 students who have nominated for School Captain for 2004. Only two can be elected, however, all of them would make excellent captains.



"I came to Parkwood not knowing what to expect"

They are open, energetic, overwhelmingly positive about the future, ready to question and willing to work to achieve for themselves, their school and their community.

Big Sibs

The Big Sibs Program was set up this year in partnership with Warranwood Primary School. It involved 10 or so Year 9 Aiming High students being matched, according to hobbies, likes and dislikes etc with a grade 4, 5 or 6 student from Warranwood. The aim of the program was to provide younger students with a mentor and role model, basically a friend and someone they could look up to. For Parkwood students it was a fantastic and incredibly rewarding experience and helped develop their communication, organisational and interpersonal skills - that will help them all through their lives. Although the formal meetings have ceased, the friendships and bonds that have been formed in this program will be with them always.

Kati Recinos

'03

Parkwood's First Rugby Team

Year 9 P.E class started the term learning and playing rugby union, little did they know that a few training sessions later they would be playing against keen clubs like Berwick, Lyndhurst, Cranbourne and Lilydale. It was a sunny day in Endeavor Hills when we arrived at the ground. There were two competitions going on, year 7's and 8's in one and in the other were year 9's and 10's. The first team that we came up against was Berwick, who were blasted away with the speed of Jarrod Rutley scoring the first two tries that lead us to a comfortable win with the end scores being 15-0.



Students (Frances McCoy and Andrew Blumming) with the Maroonah City Council Mayor, Mr. Les Willmott. The students are participating in the Aiming High program Developing Community Projects and attended an excursion to the Council Chambers to have morning tea with the Mayor and learn about their local

Past students make it a habit of coming back and continuing their connection with Parkwood. In October of this year, the 2002 class held a re-union. Students who have studied Revolutions are regularly involved in reunion "History Dinners". Many ex-students like to drop in and play soccer on Friday nights. At least three ex-students, Anna Urbano, Kati Recinos and Jo Carvell decided to qualify as teachers and return to the fold. They were all excellent people and outstanding teachers. Between 1992 and 2005, the school ran annual trivia nights as fund raisers. During this time, students would create tables and many ex-students would also attend. In 2005, there was a table of students who had graduated in 1985. Twenty year veterans. It spoke volumes of their connection to the college and their willingness to stay involved.

'04

Parkwood Secondary College

Presentation Night

16th DECEMBER
2004

VENUE:

Kalinda Road
Ringwood

TIME 7.30



"My highlights for 2004 are many and eclectic."

2004 marks my second year as Principal at Parkwood. I have been delighted with the progress we have made in those two years, especially the increase in the number of students enrolling in year 7 from local primary schools. We can look forward with renewed confidence to Parkwood serving the community within which it exists.

Next year we will see some significant improvements as the school matures. The grounds are to be redeveloped with a \$250,000 allocation from Government, the school is to be re-organised into sub-schools and form groups and more time is to be devoted to teaching. Parkwood will continue to develop its co-operative links with neighbouring secondary colleges (Ringwood, Norwood, and Maroonah) and this can only bring benefits to all of our students. My thanks and congratulations go to all of our students, especially our senior students and to all our staff, for making 2004 such a successful year for Parkwood.

Vin Virtue
Principal

CENTRAL AUSTRALIA TOUR

At 6.00 am on Friday September 17th, 31 Year 10 and 11 students boarded the coach for our 10 day Outback experience. On Day 1 we travelled via Bendigo and coach to our camp park at Renmark on the banks of the Murray River. Our second day took us via the historic township of Burra, then on to Wilpena Pound National Park. Then on to Coober Pedy, the richest opal mining town in the world. The setting of this town appears like a dry lunar landscape. As the summer temperatures are very high many of the dwellings are constructed underground. We stayed over night in an underground dwelling. The vegetation changed as we over the border into the Northern Territory. The vegetation changed as we headed closer to the red centre. Highlights included our 6 kilometre walk through Stanley King's Canyon, our views of and flights over Uluru and the Olgas, visiting Chasm and Simpson's Gap in the MacDonnell Ranges. In Alice Springs, we visited the Old Telegraph Station, the Royal Flying Doctors, the School of the Air and Gull's Panorama. Then it was time to catch the legendary Ghan train for the 1,555 kilometre over night journey to Adelaide, back on the coach to school, returning with lots of good memories.



The students from Years 10 and 11 at the Northern Territory border

Fighting in Japan

Michelle Neal (Year 10) and Mark Young (Year 8) have recently returned from Japan where they represented Australia in Karate. Both Michelle and Mark have been doing Karate for five years. Mark started Karate because he had an interest in Martial Arts, fitness and self defence. Michelle started because she had a few friends who did Karate who really enjoyed it. Michelle has competed in New Zealand, but this was Mark's first overseas trip.

In order to qualify for this competition, both Michelle and Mark had to attend regular training sessions and compete and win in local competitions. They have to train for 7 hours per week. Both Michelle and Mark consider this their greatest achievement so far. We wish them all the best for future tournaments.

By: Sam Mills



In the spirit of acceptance Parkwood held their first Parkwood Day since 2003. Through the initiative and imagination of the Parkwood Day Planning Committee - led by Sally Morgan with the assistance of Nikki Kirby, Kiah Dyer, Sophie Taratuta, Claire Garlepp, Harley Pascoe, Daniel Carpenter, Matthew Holland, Russell Smith and Russell Perry - the event was a success. Everyone was entertained by a wide variety of activities from hip-hop, lacrosse and circus coaching, to theatre productions and a Battle of the Bands Competition. The food, most of which was cooked by our very talented maths department, was delicious and thankfully the heavens provided us with a perfect day.



ALUMINIUM BOY - The Zine

2005 saw the beginning of a very progressive arts project for Parkwood!

Known colloquially as The Zine, Aluminium Boy was originally developed by the Arts Captains - Mel Neal and Zoe Clark - but was eventually taken on by the VCAL group. Still with one edition to come out before the close of the year, Aluminium Boy's 2nd Edition (3rd including the unnamed 0 Edition), with a limited run of 2 colour covers, is now a collector's edition. This is perhaps due, not only to the amazing array of artwork and written pieces within The Zine, but also to the badges available either with, or without, The Zine, and the established following generated by the two previous editions. Aluminium Boy has been an incredible success, much to the credit of its creators, but also to the Parkwood school community - thank you for supporting it. Look out for the now collectable Aluminium Boy badges and stay tuned for more!

By: Kathy Heyward



SPECTACULAR SEVENS!

On the 27th of January 2005, 85 nervous youngsters entered Parkwood with high hopes and dreams. The whole first day was spent trying to work out how to open their first combination lock and also remember which locker was actually theirs! They were then faced with the extremely hard task of reading the timetable and remembering to make an appearance at home group. However, they quickly learnt the daily routine of life at Parkwood and started to belong.

Now it was time to get to know each other, so off they went to Orientation Camp to Waratah Bay. This is where they had the pleasure of meeting their outstanding Year 7 Co-ordinator, Mrs Harris. From what we have heard about the camp...

"It was an exciting and exhilarating experience for all!"

'06





Mrs Henwood

Our Assistant Principal of 8 years, Mrs Dorothy Henwood, was appointed Principal at Heathmont College for the start of term 4 2008. Mr John Ballagh was appointed in the

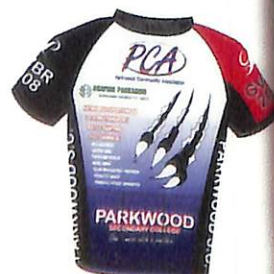
Mrs. Henwood served Parkwood for 26 years in almost every role and office. She was a source of constant advice support and insight to me over the 5 years we worked together at Parkwood. Mrs. Henwood's promotion to the position of Principal of Heathmont is richly deserved and I am sure I echo the sentiments of the whole Parkwood community in thanking her for her outstanding contribution to the life of Parkwood over many years, and wishing her and her new school every success in the future.

Vin Virtue
Principal

Great Victorian Bike Ride:



FRONT

[BACK](#)

A collage of 15 photographs showing students in various school activities. The photos are arranged in a grid-like fashion, with some overlapping. The subjects are students of various ages and genders, engaged in different tasks. Some are playing musical instruments like guitars, pianos, and saxophones. Others are working on projects, such as a student with a large map or a student working on a model. There are also photos of students socializing, smiling, or working together. The background of the collage is a light, textured surface. The photos are framed by a dark border. The overall theme is student life and achievement.

MAROONDAH EDUCATION COALITION
-A LEARNING NETWORK

-A LEARNING NETWORK

In 2009, MEC colleagues continued to work together to plan and implement diverse learning experiences for coalition students, teachers and parents. From improved opportunities for senior students to learn from both within and beyond their own school community, to students learning about cultural diversity through the Values in Action Schools Project, the MEC has shown that it is indeed a learning network.

With a strong sense of purpose and focus, collaborative teams work on projects and events that enhance teacher capacity and provide opportunities for students to learn from experts and each other.

The Raising Achievement Transforming Learning (RATL) project which involves all MEC schools and Eastwood PS, will focus on improving student numeracy through action research. In 2009 and 2010, RATL team members will work towards a common goal for improving numeracy outcomes across the project schools.

Lyn McGoldrick
MEC Lead Learner



Community Values
Forum



 Parkwood Secondary
College Proudly Presents..

**ARTS NIGHT
2010**

2010
Mahon Theatre, Aquinas College
7 pm, Wednesday 28th of July

TICKETS ON SALE AT OFFICE
ALL WELCOME

‘10

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome to the 2010 edition of Horizon, our annual College magazine. The College has great pride in our students and their achievements; this publication is just one of many ways our students are recognised.

2020 has seen the College move forward in many ways. During Term 2 the College held its grand opening of our refurbished oval. The National School Pride grant from the Federal Government has allowed the College to utilise water from the lake to ensure the oval is watered and at the same time a comprehensive drainage system ensures water runs off effectively back to the lake.

The College has worked hard behind the scenes in preparation for a 1 to 1 laptop program in 2011 and beyond. Along with our participation in the MEC iPad program, this will begin a change in our classrooms, providing teachers with another tool to engage students in their learning anywhere, anytime.

STUDENTS OF 2014

RENÉE ARQUITH, ANA DABBE, DANIELLE BASSETT,
JACLYN BLUESING, JERRY BOLINE, KAYNE BREWER
DANIEL CARPENTER, MEAGHAN CARPENTER,
LAUREN CLARKE, JACK DWYER, KIM DYER,
MAGGIE MARSHALL, RHIANNON MARSHALL, ANY PAT,
MADDY VERDE & SARAH WITTINGSLOW

PRINCIPAL'S
REPORT

Welcome to another great edition of Horizon, the official magazine for Parkwood Secondary College. It is a great privilege to be writing the Principal's column this year.

For the past six years
Vin Virtue has had
this privilege as the
Principal of Park-

wood Secondary College, before moving on to Norwood Secondary College half way through this year. He would like to acknowledge the leadership and guidance he has provided Parkwood during his time as Principal. His contributions to so many areas of the college will not be forgotten. In particular his efforts at improving the learning environment for students and his progressive thinking and support for curriculum initiatives were a real strength. The College community is very grateful for his efforts and we look forward to continuing to work with him on improving the educational opportunities for families in the North Ringwood and surrounding areas.

Parkwood Secondary College is very fortunate to have outstanding staff who work tirelessly in supporting the learning of all our students. In so many ways the staff regularly go above and beyond what would normally be expected and I would like to acknowledge their efforts and thank each one of them for their support of the students and myself. I would also like to acknowledge the support and governance provided by the School Council and thank them for their contribution to the community.



Paddocks to Portables!

An article such as this would love to highlight the passion and commitment of all staff who have worked in the college over the past 30 years. That's impossible. But we can recognise a few. People like Stacey Miniklis who has been a careers advisor for many years and a "mother hen" to many stressed students; Brenda Lorden who was always happy and taught Japanese and Geography; Ann Adams our wonderful Student Welfare Co-ordinator who always thinks of everyone other than herself; Paul Sayers, an outstanding Geography teacher and long term house co-ordinator. Cheryl Kempton taught here for over 10 years, fostering literature, dance and debating. She left us with a huge hole when she moved on. The Djoneff brothers, Peter and George; both retired in the last 10 years. Apart from being Collingwood supporters, these men were outstanding Maths and Science teachers. Andy Hicks retired in 2011 after 30 years at the school. He was so loved by all the students and always got the biggest cheer when gifts were presented to VCE staff by departing Year 12 students (no-one ever wanted to follow Andy...your cheer never matched Andy's) Jackie Harris who started as a part time foods teacher and went on to fill roles such as transition, Year 7 co-ordinator and is now our Assistant Principal. Any student lucky enough to be in Jackie's Year 12 Health class knows she is a brilliant teacher and a wonderful person. Val Morelli came to Parkwood in 1999. She has been "our Curriculum Guru" for the last decade and has shown such wisdom and sensitivity in the way she has engendered change in the classroom. Val's passion is Legal Studies and she too has a long list of students who succeeded because of her efforts. Val liked the place so much she even convinced her husband, Don to join us in 2006. Brave man! This could well be Val's last year and Don continues to help out from a distance with our Markbook system. As with all organisations, Parkwood has managed to renew itself with new talent and enthusiasm over the years. The current crop of young, passionate teachers who throw themselves into all aspects of the college include Lucy Brookes, Courtney Bennett and Jess Oostermeyer. We have been blessed with them for only a few years but they have been to Tassie, Central Australia and the Grampians, they have organised arts nights (special note to Erin Osbourne, Kathy Heyward and Joyce Hughes for all their work here, too), open days, leadership camps and major college assemblies. Jess even filled in as a senior co-ordinator. All of this within 2 or 3 years of graduating.

The decision to close Parkwood was a sad one. I am sure the current School Council has faced very difficult decisions and the community must thank them for their time and tireless efforts. We should also take the time to thank all parents and teachers who have served on the School Council over the past 30 years. These people volunteer their time and do a wonderful job with little recognition.

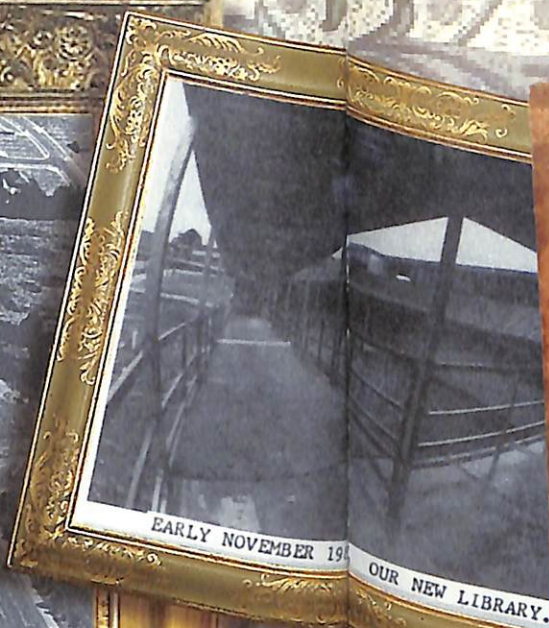
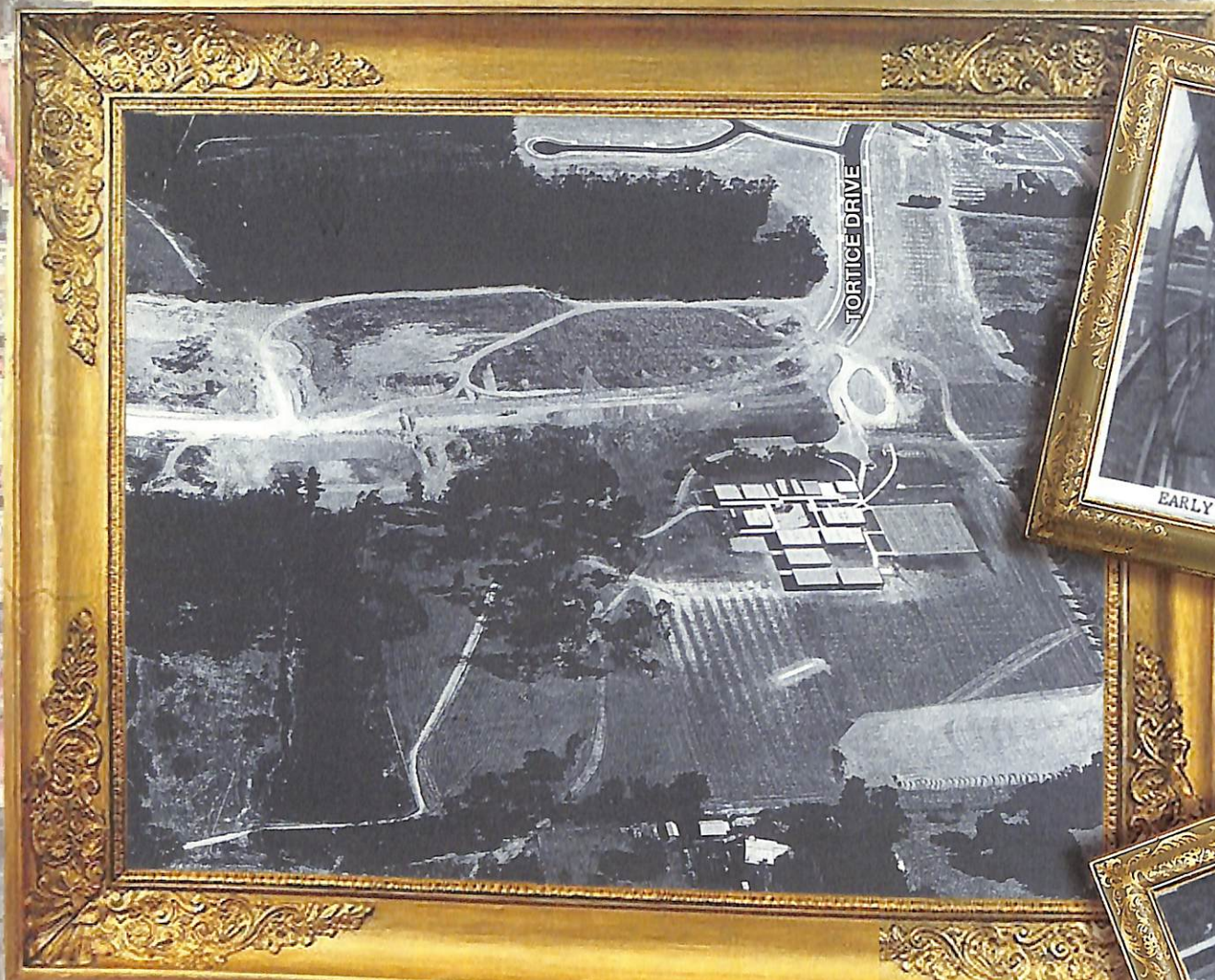
This ramble through the last 30 years is not a history of the school – that is a task we leave for someone more qualified to produce at some time in the future. Instead, it is a collection of reminiscences from two old teachers who were lucky enough to be sent to this school many years ago and have stayed ever since. We have loved our time here and hope most of you carry fond memories too. We beg forgiveness for only mentioning some staff and students when so many more have made a contribution to the school and deserved equal recognition. As two old men, with early onset Alzheimers, we have done our best.

Thank you to everyone, who has been involved with Parkwood and helped to make it a wonderful place to work and learn.

Life will go on and we shall remember.

Mike Byrne and Stuart Maile





Looking Back

Thirty years ago, after graduating from teachers college, I was told that a position was available for me at a school called Parkwood High School. My first reaction was "Where is it?" Probably in some small country town out the back of nowhere! I was pleasantly surprised to find it was a new school and it was in North Ringwood.

I remember driving through the gates the first time and my first impression of the school. Wide open spaces, a couple of buildings (A B C block and D block). Everything else was a portable classroom. The administration office was a portable situated on the grass area between the current staff car park and Tortice Drive. The canteen was a portable, west of where the admin block now is. There was no gym, no performing arts area; F block did not exist. We held our classes in portables, part of a long row of them. These portables were on both sides of the path that runs to the north of the basketball courts. At that stage, there were no basketball courts. I remember watching them build F block. I couldn't wait to get into the new area with two classrooms and instrumental rooms. It was a very exciting time! Gradually the new buildings went up and we were able to move into the new building. At this time the administration block was also under construction.

It does seem a long time ago, but it also seems as if it just happened yesterday! When I think back there are so many things that have happened over those years that it would be just impossible to list them all here and write about them. Parkwood was not just about teaching subjects. The variety of extra activities that the school offered over the years was enormous. Students had many opportunities to experience "things" beyond the classroom. It is very hard to say goodbye, especially after Parkwood has been such a huge part of my life. However, as they say "Life goes on" and so "Goodbye and Good luck"

Mrs Erin Osbourne - Parkwood: 1983 - 2012

