



HISTORY LOOKS FORWARD TO THE NEW MILENNIUM

1999 saw History take on new meaning at Asquith Boys' High School. For the first time in many years, the History Faculty was reborn and a History Head teacher was appointed to steer it into the Year 2000. With the changes made in the new Junior and Senior Syllabuses – making History more prominent and indeed, viable as a choice for all students throughout the state – History courses offered at this school were very well received by the students.

This year's Highlights saw Year 7 visit the Powerhouse Museum and the Ima Theatre to view Mysteries of Egypt; Year 8 participated in the James

Adams' Ancient and Medieval Day; Years 9 and 10 visit Canberra, The Museum of Justice and Crime and the Jewish Holocaust Museum (both in the city).

As a part of their Jindabyne trip, Year 11 were 'initiated' into the Snowy Mountains History by a Historical bush walk cooking food 'bushman' style and a rousing rendition of Banjo Patterson's famous "Man from Snowy River"! Most classes in Years 7-10 provided some excellent projects and models as part of their assessments, examples of which are shown on this page.

Thanks must go firstly to Mrs.

Mail who had done an excellent job with her dual role of English and History Head Teacher prior to this year. Her previous efforts made the transition so easy! Also, the dedicated and thoroughly professional History staff – Mrs. Lees, Mr. Ford, Mrs. Coltman, Mr. Adams, Mrs. Grounds and Mrs. Eakins – who have been a delight to work with.

Much planning has been done this year to redesign History courses with the students in mind and it is hoped that this promising start will show a strong and relevant future!

George Moscos

On the 4th of May, Ms Cufre's Year 12 Ancient History class was indeed fortunate to be able take part in a whole day incursion taking an in depth look at **The Cities of Vesuvius- Pompeii and Herculaneum**. Leading us on this journey was the renowned archaeologist and author Dr Louise Zarmati whose textbook we used in class to learn about the sites. Dr Zarmati who has a Masters and a

Doctorate in Archaeology is off to take up a Post at the University of Tasmania so we were indeed lucky to be able to access her knowledge before she moves.

Every student gained a deeper understanding of these exquisite ruins and the day was not only educational and informative but also great fun. Thanks to Ms Cufre for organizing this worthwhile event.

*Jonathon Rapson, Yr12 Ancient History
May 2015 Backchat (photo below)*



THE FOREST OF TRANQUILLITY YEAR 7 GEOGRAPHY

Year 7 travelled to Gosford to the Forest of Tranquillity to study the physical environment of a rainforest. We went to the rainforest because our Year 7 topic was rainforests and open forests.

During the excursion we walked through the rainforest seeing many plant and animal life, such as ferns, wallabies and scrub turkeys. During the walk we had to fill out a work sheet answering questions on the plants and animals we saw.

The excursion was very worthwhile because we learnt about the climate and wildlife of rainforests.

BY SHERIF AZIZ AND TRENT HERBERT.

In April, 18 students of History travelled to Rome where they visited ancient sites including the Coliseum, Forum, Pantheon, Capitoline Hill and Vatican City. From Rome the tour headed south to Sorrento to visit the excavated archaeological sites of Herculaneum and Pompeii, buried by a volcanic eruption in 69 AD. Heading North, the tour visited WWI Cemeteries at Ypres and Bruges in Belgium. A very moving ceremony at Menin Gate was experienced. Paris was also on the itinerary, where the Louvre, Muse D'Orsay, Eiffel Tower, Notre-Dame, Sacre Coeur and the magnificent Palace of Versailles were visited. By way of contrast, the group visited Disneyland before returning home

*Ms A Cufre, Head Teacher HSIE & Tour Coordinator
2017 Backchat*

Top photos + article: 1999 Northerly Magazine. Further evidence of the elusive Moscos mustache...

*Article right: 1996 Northerly Magazine
Photo right: Undated and happy student*



Year 11 Geography Fieldwork Task – Urban Change in Hornsby As part of their preliminary Population Topic, Year 11 Geography students carried out a fieldwork task investigating Urban Change and the impact of Urban Consolidation on the Hornsby Shire. Urban Consolidation is the state government policy aimed at increasing the population density of established urban areas in Sydney.

The boys observed the changes that have taken place from Hornsby's rural past through to the development of high and medium density residences at Waitara and more recently in Asquith. The boys gained an understanding of just how quickly the urban policy is changing the shape of the local area, and some of the implications of these changes.

*Mr Cameron Laing, Geography Teacher
September 2017 Backchat (photo above)*



Modern History in 2019 has seen great change at Asquith Boys High School.

With the introduction of the new syllabus in 2018, World War 1 is no longer a topic taught for the HSC, being replaced by a new core topic: Power and Authority in the Modern World 1919- 1937, which covers the rise of the Nazi Party in Germany as well as the dictatorships in Italy, Russia and Japan. We have also progressed to our new National Study of Japan 1904-1937 as the Germany option is no longer offered. The students have enjoyed the challenge of studying the Japan topic and are seriously working towards learning new terminology that will be required for their HSC. The boys will be kept busy right up until the end of Term 3, studying the Conflict in the Pacific and the Nuclear Age topics.

We have also welcomed our new Year 11 students who have taken to their stage 6 studies with gusto, delving into the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade. The class experienced how much room a slave

was given as they trekked across the Middle Atlantic Passage. The students are about to undertake their Historical Investigation where they will study a short unit about JFK which will culminate with an investigation into their theories as to how he was assassinated. Finally, they will finish with the Meiji Restoration, in preparation for the HSC in 2020, and World War 1.

*Mr Kim Timmins HSIE Staff
April 2019 Backchat*



Ancient and Medieval Day

James Adams arrived with all his gear and put on a very impressive show for the Year 7, Year 8 and Senior Ancient History students. His collection of Ancient and Medieval Armour and Weapons once again had all the boys transfixed and his explanations of the reality and understanding of Methods of Fighting captured the audience.

Sweeping through Ancient Egypt, Ancient Greece and Ancient Rome saw year 7 participate in Ancient Battles and their opportunity to handle the weapons and armour was awesome. Year 8 saw the Medieval Show and were guided through the charges on horseback and the suits of armour. Some of the weapons were terrifying and his descriptions very realistic. All this made for a very impressive show.

Well done to all the boys who participated on their engagement and behaviour.

*George Moscos, HSIE Head Teacher
July 2010 Backchat*

*Photos left: 1994 history class having fun outside
Photo middle right: Undated shot of torture device used to keep students in line while at school
Photo right: Undated. Making mummies while using up the last of our precious toilet paper supply*

