



# Asquith Old Boys Club Newsletter



Vol. 7 September 2009

## EDITORIAL

Attached to the back of this Newsletter is your 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday brochure. It contains information about the Big Weekend 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> May 2010, and other events in planning to celebrate the School's Birthday.

Your expression of interest is invited, at your earliest convenience, to ensure planning resources are directed according to the popularity of events. Several thousand flyers have been printed and we are planning to place them in public and commercial centres in the Central coast, Galston, Arcadia, Thornleigh, Chatswood and St. Ives areas. These areas have attracted students to Asquith Boys over the 50 years. If you reside or work in these areas and are able to assist with placement of the brochures (bi-folded for convenience also making useful posters when flattened and displayed), please contact me, by return email, for delivery of a supply of brochures. Please advise intended location, number required and your mail address.

The 50<sup>th</sup> birthday Logo Design Competition has been finalised. All submissions are available for viewing on the School's Website. See 'Newsletter' September 2009. The judging panel determined that no single design met the criteria. A combination of ideas gleaned from the best entries was honed by a Graphic Designer to produce the 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday logo displayed on the banner of this Newsletter. One entry, submitted by student Michael Fuary Year 8, provided a unique image, unanticipated by the competition rules. The judging panel decided to make a special award for Michael's entry, on display on the bottom of this page. Student participants received certificates and awards at a Formal School Assembly in September. Thanks to Jenny Lewis of the School Office for guiding this process to completion.

The School will purchase five glass fronted, wall mounted display cabinets. Former students are invited to donate memorabilia that will form part of one of these permanent Decade Displays. Displays will be set up and sealed during 2010, before being located in an area accessible to student viewing. To donate items, make suggestions, &/or assist with coordinating the memorabilia selection & display for your decade, please contact the School's Librarian, Mrs Barbara Harrison on 9477 3508.

Several former students have expressed interest in opportunities for live entertainment at the 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Big Weekend. Peter Thompsett, known to many in his role as School Chaplain, is also passionate about sport and musical performance. Peter currently heads a group of senior & former students, in the Band: Sixes & Sevens. Peter has volunteered to coordinate the live entertainment program on Open Day, Sat 15<sup>th</sup> May. Is this the opportunity you've been waiting for to reform your band, duet or polish that

solo performance? Peter can be contacted at Asquith Boys on 9477 3508.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday video project is shaping to be an exciting adventure. Current students and staff will be looking to engage with former students, staff and those involved with Asquith boys during the past 50 years. Technology is increasingly accessible to students to assist with this production. Young minds are full of ideas as to how it can be utilised. Please be receptive if you receive a request for a videoconference from a current student. The interest and abilities of other former students is still sought for this project. Please contact the 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Video Producer, Bruce Northcott, or myself if you have questions, suggestions, or can assist. Bruce has edited video recording made by students, during the School's 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations in 2000. The result is the 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday promo, now featuring on the School's website: [www.abhs.nsw.edu.au](http://www.abhs.nsw.edu.au) Read more information about this project in the feature: 'What's Your Story'?

Several former students have volunteered to assist with scanning archived documents. Their assistance will be sought shortly with scanning School Magazines, in the Library's collection. If you have one or more magazines and the capacity and desire to scan those documents, would you please contact me. Knowledge of your intended assistance will assist us in avoiding duplication. Consideration is being given to making the scans available on the School's website.

Since preparing this Newsletter, I have had the opportunity to speak to Teaching Staff and The P&C, about the 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Program. The P&C recommended a School landscape project be added to the program. In particular, their suggestion is for a landscaped paved pathway within the School Grounds. Pavers are sponsored and customised by those wishing to contribute. More information will be available in the next edition of your Old Boys Newsletter. Speaking of sponsorship, the 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday brochure identifies the goal of fundraising an Old Boys 'Senior Academic Scholarship'. Contact is currently being sought with the relatives of the late Mervyn Walkden Brown, the School's first Principal. A request will be made that this Scholarship be named in Mervyn's honour. A further report will be available in your next Old Boys Newsletter.



**Chris Kent**  
**Former student 1960 – 1965**  
**Former Head Teacher**  
**Creative Arts 1982 – 2005**

## WHAT WAS THEIR STORY?



## WHAT IS THEIR STORY NOW?

### WHAT IS YOUR STORY?

A small team of 'enthusiastic amateurs' have volunteered to make an ABHS 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Video (DVD).

It is intended this compilation will reflect the diversity of this comprehensive School, to which youngsters have been drawn, from a large area of Sydney's north. During 50 years, enrolments have been drawn from the Central Coast, North Shore, Northern Suburbs & Hawkesbury, Main line communities, Galston and Arcadia.

The Video will become an archive (a narrative) encapsulating the first 50 years of our School.

You can ensure your story is told on the 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Video by:

- Telling your story on camera or audio (and sending the recording to the production team).
- Showing and telling of something, you made whilst a student at ABHS, an event you recall, or an award gained at ABHS.
- Contacting one of the team to arrange a borrowing of your film or video data that can be copied to digital format. E.g. can transfer from super 8 film etc.
- Sending scanned digital images of old school photos. Please supply details including place, date/year of photo and names of any people in the photo, plus name of photographer, if available.
- Revealing a schoolboy scam that you wish to finally get off your chest.
- Telling of an event that has involved you and former Schoolmates, since leaving ABHS.
- Explaining how an achievement gained since leaving ABHS is linked to your days at Asquith Boys.
  - Giving an insight into how things were at ABHS and how different they are now.
  - Tell us of some of your mates' nicknames at those of your teachers.
  - Did you make a video or video animation whilst a student at ABHS?
  - Other.

'Check out' Bruce Northcott's promo, edited from the School's 40<sup>th</sup> Celebration in 2000, on the school's Website.

Keep in mind your audience will be your peers and future generations of young Asquithians, wanting to know & understand about the history and people touched by Asquith Boys High. It is intended the outcome will be entertaining and informative. There is scope in this project for the wild, wacky and serious.

Please send your contributions to ABHS 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Video, c/o Bruce Northcott, Asquith Boys High School PO Box 242 Hornsby 1630 or contact Bruce: (02) 4344 2187 or email: [jaynemay@tpg.com.au](mailto:jaynemay@tpg.com.au).

*Bruce would also like to hear from anyone with ideas &/or who would like to assist in the production of the 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Video.*

# Psst!



### Do you want to crash the AGHS Party?

Asquith Girls High School celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year. AGHS Open Day is on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November '09.

Asquith Boys will have a display and stand at this event. **Can you give an hour to staff this position?** Your role will include issuing our 50<sup>th</sup> Celebration Brochure and signing up new members. A banner will identify our position. Materials will be provided.

It will be desirable to have a couple of ABHS representatives on duty throughout the AGHS Open Day. *Please contact Chris Kent (Editor) by return email if can help.*

## NEW INDUSTRIAL KITCHEN FOR ASQUITH BOYS

A new Industrial style kitchen has just been completed in the TAS (Industrial Arts) block. The new kitchen is located in the old Design & Technology/ kitchen area. This fabulous facility is ready for classes and will enable the school to offer boys the opportunity to study VET Hospitality and Food Technology in Years 11 and 12 as HSC approved courses. It will also allow us to offer Food as a unit of work in Mandatory Technology in Years 7 and 8 and follow this up with Food Technology as an elective subject in Years 9 and 10. Boys have had the opportunity to visit this new facility and many have expressed the desire to elect this subject for study next year. Parents enjoyed a tour of this new facility at a recent P&C meeting. Former students and staff will have to wait until the 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Open Day, next May to visit the new kitchen, and see the chefs of the future in action.

*Craig Philip, Head Teacher TAS*



## 50TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION 2010

## ARE YOU ABLE TO HELP WITH DISTRIBUTION OF THE 50TH BIRTHDAY BROCHURE?

5000 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Brochures arrived at ABHS last week. A couple of hundred are out in the local community already. You will find your Brochure attached to this Newsletter.

The easy to handle brochures are supplied bi folded, meaning they fit rotating displays available for such information in places of high public traffic. When flattened out they make useful posters. Community Notice Boards in public areas are good locations for publicity. Some companies provide that service to employees, clients, and customers.

It will be particularly beneficial to cover the area close to the School, where students have been drawn from in the past, and where family members are still in residence. During the School's 50 years students in large numbers have attended Asquith from an area bounded by Lindfield, Thornleigh, Galston, Arcadia, St. Ives, Karingong, Umina, and much of the Central Coast.

If you can assist, please contact Jenny Lewis at Asquith Boys High, 9477 3508. Please advise Jenny of your intended target for the Brochures and the quantity you need will be mailed to you. As the School will be closed during the forthcoming School Holidays, you may like to mail your request to me, as I am able to respond to your request for Brochures. Please advise me of your target area so we can avoid duplication.

**Chris Kent**

## FORMER STUDENT, RYAN BOLGER, TAKES ON RUNNING THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT

In comparatively recent years, the School's sports Department run two Sports Assemblies in the School Hall, annually. The purpose of these assemblies is to award Asquith Boy's Champion Teams. One student from each Grade Sport team also receives a 'Best & Fairest' medallion where applicable. In addition to team awards, individual students are awarded for their places gained in final events in the Zone Swimming Carnival, Zone Athletics and Zone Cross Country.

Earlier this year Ryan Bolger, a former Asquith student (1989–94), succeeded in running the School's Sports Department after Ryan's predecessor, Mark Millett accepted an overseas teaching position.

Ryan has presented both the Summer and Winter Sports Assemblies in 2009. These Assemblies are increasing in duration due to the increased achievement and participation of students. Details of Asquith Zone Champions can be accessed via the School's website: [www.abhs.nsw.edu.au](http://www.abhs.nsw.edu.au), select 'Newsletters' – May '09 and September '09 for both of these Reports.

At his inaugural School Sports Assembly, Ryan reflected on what representative sport means to a student at Asquith Boys:

*'Well, being an ex-student of Asquith Boys, I know that I can still reflect on some fond memories that were created on the sporting field. Some that come to mind include:*

- One of our last games of cricket – throwing the new ball to Nathan Baxter who hadn't bowled a ball all season and Nathan proceeding to bowl the opener from Normanhurst on the first ball of the match and then watching Nathan run almost an entire lap around Pennant Hills Park in celebration. Mr. Thomsett was our coach at the time,
- There was also the day that we beat Epping Boys in the final of 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Hockey at Meadowbank Park to claim what is still to this day the only time that Asquith Boys has won a 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Hockey Premiership, and
- Finally, there was the nervous walk to Airey Park, past about 200 Ashfield Boys students on their way to sport.

This is what sport at Asquith Boys is all about, spending time with the bloke that you are sitting next to in class and creating memories that will last a lifetime. The comradeship and mateship that sport creates is priceless. Bring there to support your mates and to share in each other's successes and failures.

I know that we often mention that as a school, we punch well above our weight, but it is important to put our achievements into focus. We should remember that we participate in one of the best-organised and strongest grade sporting competitions within the state. Schools like Homebush and Epping are both over twice the size of our school and have the ability to field more teams with greater depth'.

Congratulations to Ryan on the quality of leadership he is providing in sport, to Asquith Boys. 2009 has been a memorable year for Ryan. This month, Ryan applied for and gained promotion to the position of Head Teacher Administration, at Asquith Boys.

Readers who don't know Ryan will have the opportunity of meeting him in the School's Golden Jubilee Year in 2010. Ryan has volunteered to coordinate Asquith Boys 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Golf Day, on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May. Other former students in this role are assisting him. Expressions of interest in this and other events can be made via the 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday brochure, attached to this edition of the Old Boys Newsletter.

## REUNIONS

**Yr 12 Class of '89 / Yr 10 Class of '87**

**Saturday 7th November 2009**

Asquith Bowling & Recreation Club

**RSVP: Brett Jollie: [jolls7@bigpond.com](mailto:jolls7@bigpond.com) or**

**Mark Rudd: [mark.rudd@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:mark.rudd@det.nsw.edu.au)**

**Class of 1960 – Leaving Certificate '64**

**(45 years)**

**Saturday 21 November 2009**

Mark Foy's Restaurant

76 McDougall St., Kirribilli

(02) 9955 8350 Cost \$50 per person

Wives/partners/significant others are welcome but not mandatory. Please indicate expressions of interest so I can start to firm up numbers for the caterers. This is actually the Sydney Flying Squadron's restaurant and is beautifully situated at Kirribilli, just in from the Sydney Yacht Squadron.

**Reply: Stig Falster - [interock@bigpond.net.au](mailto:interock@bigpond.net.au)**

**Year 12, Class of '69, Year 10, '67**

**Saturday 28th November 2009**

@ Asquith Bowling & Recreation Club

**Contact: Philip Knudsen**

**[philip.knudsen@worleyparsons.com](mailto:philip.knudsen@worleyparsons.com)**



## THANK YOU MR WARD

It is the end of an era in the TAS faculty. After a long and distinguished career as a teacher and Head Teacher, Mr Tony Ward has announced his retirement. Mr Ward started teaching in 1971 at Naremburn High School before moving to Crows Nest High School in 1974 when Naremburn closed down. He then moved overseas for two years and had a break from teaching in London, before returning to the Great Southern Land and teaching for two years at Dulwich Hill High School. In recognition of his outstanding professionalism and dedication to public education, Mr Ward was promoted to Head Teacher of Balmain High School in 1983 before transferring to Asquith Boys in 1988.

Mr Ward will continue teaching his classes with the same enthusiasm to the end of this academic year. During this time his students will receive the same sense of duty and with the same amazing ability that he has shown for the last 38 years.

### MEMBERSHIP PROFILE

Currently membership of the ABHS Old Boys Club is 570. Your personal recommendation and use of the School website is ensuring steady growth. Thank you to those who have been active in seeking the whereabouts of former classmates and staff, and passing on information about our Schools 50<sup>th</sup> in 2010. You know how networking works. You tell one who tells another and so on. It's not long before your initial link is responsible for a many fold increase in those who know of next years 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday events.

Presently the largest groups are:

1960 enrolments – '64 Leaving Certificate	1973 enrolments – '78 Higher School Certificate
1961 enrolments – '65 Leaving Certificate	1979 enrolments – '84 Higher School Certificate
1964 enrolments – '69 Higher School Certificate	2001 enrolments – '06 Higher School Certificate
1968 enrolments – '73 Higher School Certificate	2002 enrolments – '07 Higher School Certificate

Thank you: Stig Falster, Ian Fox, Tony Winch, Phil Knudsen, Bryce Thompson, and Peter Robinson for the contact you are maintaining with your group.

Thank you also to Joan Wilson, Ronelle Laffer, Caroline Cooke & Jenny Lewis, School staff who help with developing and maintaining communication with former students and staff.

### HAVE YOU REGISTERED WITH THE ASQUITH OLD BOYS CLUB?

*(If you receive Asquith Old Boys Club Newsletters by e-mail you are already registered as a Member)*

This Club was commenced in 2006 with the purpose of:

- Assisting former students of The School maintain links with their peer group and their former School and teachers
- Organising and communicating information about former student events
- Assisting in the development of a program for celebrating the School's 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday, to be celebrated in 2010

*To facilitate these goals, an Old Boys Newsletter is published twice a year. This is e-mailed to members free of charge*

#### ASQUITH OLD BOYS CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Full Name: *(please print)* \_\_\_\_\_ *(tick your preferred contact)*

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Calendar Year Graduated: \_\_\_\_\_ Academic Year/form: \_\_\_\_\_

What recollections do you have of your school days? Do you have any photos? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What benefit did you derive from your time at Asquith Boys? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How would you like to celebrate your years at Asquith Boys, in 2010? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:** Asquith Boys High School Old Boys Club: PO Box 242 Hornsby 1630 or

**E-mail:** Chris Kent (former student & Head Teacher): christopher.kent7@det.nsw.edu.au

**Thanks to current members for passing this Application to prospective members**

## ASQUITH BOYS HOST CONCERT FOR ROYAL FLYING DOCTORS

This year's concert was another outstanding event with a large crowd turning up to enjoy some great jazz and two high quality school bands in Asquith Boys and Hornsby North Primary School respectively. Iain Howick (stage band leader) and Jenny Binovec (band leader) prepared their respective bands brilliantly and both bands gave outstanding performances. Hornsby North Stage Band Asquith Boys Stage Band.



Our special guests from The Royal Flying Doctors Service, Terry Clark (RFDS Dubbo) and Mary Bentley (RFDS Hornsby), were delighted with the concert and both look forward to next year's event with great anticipation. The evening had a wonderful atmosphere and our main act, John Morrison's Swing City, delighted the large crowd playing great jazz and entertaining all those in the audience. Next year he will bring his brother James Morrison.

Next year's concert will be bigger and better and we look forward to continuing to highlight the great work that the Royal Flying Doctors Service does in regional and country Australia and showing off the great joy that music brings to the world.



## TRIUMPHANT IN VIETNAM

In what Head Teacher, Mr. Moscos described to parents at Sydney Airport as "...one of the best tours ever...", thirty-one Asquith footballers returned during the holidays after a triumphant tour of Vietnam both on and off the field. Flying into Ho Chi Minh City, the boys were collected at the airport and after a good sleep met the RMIT HCMC Squads at their Campus oval on Thursday and Friday. The games on both days were evenly contested with both Asquith and RMIT HCMC winning two games each.



Saturday saw the boys travel north and into Phuc Tuy Province where, at Nui Dat, they toured the former Australian Army Base and visited the Long Tan battlefield. After a moving service at the Memorial, it was on to Hanoi where the boys played the RMIT Hanoi sides. Here the results were even more impressive against older opponents. First Grade won 9-0 and 8-0 and the Invitational Side, after losing 1-2 on the first day, won 4-3 on the second day. The final two days were spent touring Hanoi and shopping, shopping, shopping...



We could not fault the exceptional behaviour of the boys both on and off the field. They were excellent ambassadors and did much to cement the good relationships between Australia and Vietnam.

**George Moscos, Tour co-ordinator**

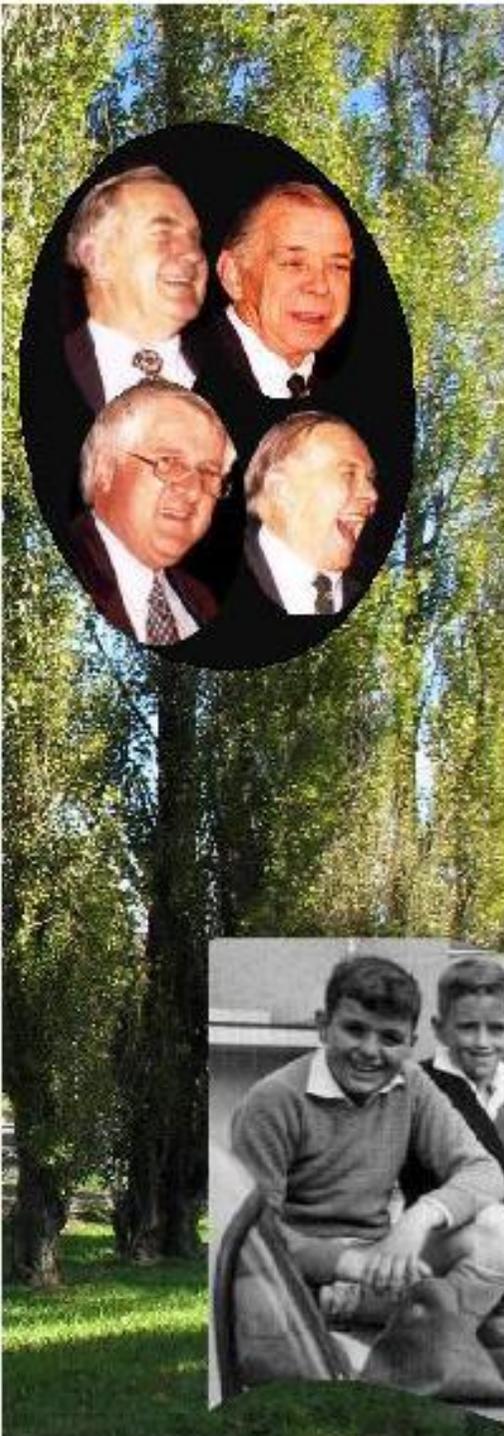


CAN YOU HELP WITH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING?

- Administration
- Graphic Design
- Printing
- Scanning of photos / documents
- Event Logistics
- Video Production
- Promotions
- Other (specify)



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# ASQUITH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

# 50



*It's time to celebrate!*

**14, 15 & 16 May 2010**



*We look forward to celebrating with you*

