From The President

Welcome to the third edition of the Coogee Prep Old Boys’ Newsletter.

At the recent official opening of the new school building a special presentation was made to Mr Geoffrey Davison, Patron of the school and honorary Old Boy, in honour of his father Mr William Dunlop Davison (Class of 1928). Even though Mr Geoffrey Davison did not attend Coogee Prep his dedication and passion for it is truly commendable, hence his roles as an Honorary Old Boy and Patron of the School. We are glad to have him in our corner.

We recently had our sixth bi-annual Rugby & Soccer Tour of New Zealand with a record 35 boys, 4 teachers & training staff and 49 parent supporters - our biggest tour to date! Special mention goes to Mr Pat Demos (Class of 1950) who attended his fifth tour. Pat didn’t have a grandson on the team but came along to support the Coogee Prep boys nevertheless!

The boys trained hard in the lead up to the Tour, with extra fitness sessions held by Mrs Antoinette Jowett, a few dedicated dads and teachers. Overall, the tour was a great success and the boys represented Coogee Prep with pride, as sportsmen and gentlemen.

As reported in the November Newsletter we are well underway with the planning for our Centenary Year in 2014. We plan to make this a year to remember culminating with an Old Boys’ Founder’s Day luncheon in July and a Centenary Ball in August. More information on these events will be provided in coming newsletters.

I encourage you to communicate with the School Office and let us know if you are in contact with anyone who attended Coogee Prep so we can include them on our Old Boys’ database and communicate with them about the various celebrations happening in 2014.

For the younger Old Boys, I ask that you let your old Coogee Prep mates know of the upcoming Centenary via Facebook and any other Social Media you use as we want as many Old Boys to be involved as possible. As part of this we would ask you to please ‘like’ the Coogee Prep Facebook page so you can stay in touch.

Our Centenary is an opportunity for everyone who has had an association with Coogee Prep to come together and celebrate.

I hope you enjoy this edition!

Brett Jowett

PRESIDENT
COOGEE PREP OLD BOYS’ UNION

CONGRATULATIONS
Ken Catchpole (1952)
on being inducted into Inside Rugby
Magazine’s ‘Invincibles’ of the game.

Ken, known for his brilliant speed and bullet pass, played 27 tests between 1961 and 1968. By 1967 he was regarded as the best scrumhalf in the world.

Other Invincibles included Wallaby legends, Mark Ella, David Campese and Colin Windon.
Headmaster’s Welcome

During last Term, the official opening of the new School building funded under the Government’s ‘Building the Education Revolution’ (BER) initiative took place. It was a wonderful event and marked the completion of the ‘new’ school building. We were very fortunate to have a number of official guests attend the opening - the Hon Peter Garrett MP AM, Cr Tony Bowen - Mayor of Randwick, Mr Bruce Notley-Smith - Member for Coogee, Mr Geoffrey Davison - ‘Honorary’ Old Boy and Patron of the School, Professor Rhonda Griffiths AM, Reverend Stenhouse and the Committee from Randwick Presbyterian Church. We were also very pleased to have Mr Nick Brown, former Headmaster of Coogee Prep attend the Opening. Stuart Brown - Nick’s eldest son and a Coogee Prep Old Boy - noted that the day marked the gathering of three generations of Browns at Coogee Prep - Mr Nick Brown, his two sons (Stuart and Tim) and Stuart’s son (Nick’s grandson) – Otto Brown.

Both Cr Tony Bowen and the Hon Peter Garrett made interesting observations about Coogee Prep in their speeches. Cr Bowen informed the audience that he was a Marcellin College Old Boy and vividly remembers often seeing the Coogee Prep boys playing in Alison Park when he was at school. He expressed genuine surprise at the fact that Coogee Prep has only had three Headmasters and spoke of his admiration for the school having such a unique and proud history. The Hon Peter Garrett said that in his role as (then) Federal Minister for Education he had been to many BER openings, and that in his opinion, the changes to Coogee Prep’s environs via the BER initiative represented the ‘best value for money he had seen anywhere’. I believe these comments highlight some of those key elements that set Coogee Prep apart. Other official guests praised the behaviour of the Year Six boys as they showed them around the school in a confident and helpful manner, all wearing their uniform with pride.

Part of the official proceedings involved a presentation of an Honorary Old Boy plaque of Mr William Dunlop Davison to his son Geoffrey Davison. This plaque now hangs adjacent to the glass cabinets on the floor that houses Old Boy memorabilia along with other Coogee Prep trophies and items of note.

Planning for our Centenary Year is well underway with a number of events involving the Old Boy community. As I have mentioned previously, the objective of the Centenary is not only to celebrate Coogee Prep’s past and 100 year legacy as a unique and exceptional school, it is to reengage and reconnect with as many of our Old Boys as possible across a number of events throughout the year.

In order to help us achieve this goal, as always, I ask you to encourage any Coogee Prep Old Boy you know to register their details with the School on the School’s website (www.coogeeprep.nsw.edu.au/oldboys.html) to ensure we can keep in contact with them and update them on the activities planned for the School’s Centenary in 2014. I would also ask you to feel free to contact the School with any feedback, information or memorabilia you may have and/or wish to donate or lend to the School Archive. We enjoy hearing from all our Old Boys!

Kind regards

JT Dicks
HEADMASTER

Abbey Street - now and then
Official opening of the new School building - May 2013


Mr Geoffrey Davison receiving a plaque honoring his father, CPS Old Boy William Dunlop Davison

The senior boys choir singing at the close of the ceremony
Speech Night address - Sandy Cameron (1992)

At Speech Night 2012, Coogee Prep was pleased to have Coogee Prep Old Boy, Sandy Cameron (1992) as the guest speaker. Sandy has achieved a great deal since leaving Coogee Prep and the boys were encouraged to heed his advice on the importance of a positive attitude and willingness to give all manner of activities a go.

After Coogee Prep, Sandy attended Cranbrook School and then Sydney University where he studied Arts/Law and received the University Medal in Philosophy. He was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship and studied International Relations at Oxford University. Sandy started rowing at Cranbrook and went on to represent both Sydney University and Magdalen College at Oxford University at the Henley Royal Regatta in the UK.

While at university, Sandy was elected as Undergraduate Fellow on the Senate of Sydney University, and gained an internship at the UN International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the Lawyers’ Committee for Human Rights in Washington DC. After leaving Oxford, Sandy worked at a New York corporate law firm for two years, before returning to Sydney where he has worked as a corporate lawyer since 2009. Last year, Sandy was seconded to be the coordinator of the policy team at the Cape York Institute, an organisation run by Noel Pearson which focuses on indigenous affairs.

Sandy thoroughly enjoyed attending the Coogee Prep Speech Night. He remembered all the words to the school song and sang along loudly and proudly with all the boys!

It was wonderful to have such an inspiring Old Boy as Sandy as our guest speaker at Speech Night and to listen to his many fond memories of Coogee Prep.

Congratulations Monty Tait (2008)

Congratulations to 16 year old Monty Tait (2008) who has moved closer to his dream of a career as a professional surfer by winning the Under 18 NSW State Championship at his local surf break, Maroubra Beach, this July. Monty started taking his surfing seriously in the past few years, initially entering local competitions and in the past two years entering more prestigious junior surfing events travelling interstate. Last year Monty was awarded a scholarship by Surfing Australia through the Hurley High Performance Camp based in Queensland, that aims to develop young surfers towards a professional career. This year Monty has stepped up his training and competed more regularly to build up experience.

Monty’s performance in the NSW State competition qualifies him as an entrant in the Australian U18 Surf Championship to be held at Kiama in December. Monty has also been asked to join a representative NSW team in the Australian Open Surfing Championships in August.

Surprised and delighted to win the State competition against stiff competition in front of his home crowd, Monty said “Before my heat I went into the locker room and sat by myself, and blocked everything out and just told myself that I could do it. It’s my dream to be a professional surfer. If that happened, I would be the happiest kid alive’.
Spotlight on Old Boy - Max Agapitos (2006)

Max Agapitos (CPS 2006) graduated from The Scots College in 2012. In his final year at Scots, Max was Head of Armstrong House, a Prefect, Captain of Scots Athletics and an RSM in the Scots cadet corps. He is currently studying for a degree in Primary Education at Notre Dame University. He is the eldest of three sons (Max, Jeff and Terry) and lives at home with his parents, John and Magdalene, and his brothers in Maroubra, Sydney.

What are some of your favourite memories of Coogee Prep?
Definitely the New Zealand Football tour and speech night at the end of Year Six. Both were really happy events for me (especially Speech Night as I received a number of sporting awards!) I also have very fond memories of Mr Casey (my Year Six teacher at Coogee Prep). He was a great teacher and really related to us boys. I have very strong memories of walking into school every morning and there would be Mr Dicks, shaking every boy's hand. He was really involved as a Headmaster – he is a great role model.

Were you nervous leaving Coogee Prep for high school?
Not really. I was very lucky that five boys in my class went onto Scots College with me from Year Six. Looking back on it now, I really feel Coogee Prep prepared me well for high school and I had a very smooth transition into the much bigger environment at Scots. Academically Coogee Prep had a very strong curriculum and the co-curricular activities (like chess and debating) were excellent building blocks for me. The opportunities I had at Coogee Prep to be involved in the many sports and co-curricular activities gave me the confidence to try different things as Scots like water polo, rowing, rugby, soccer and athletics.

As an Old Boy, what would you say to someone considering Coogee Prep for his or her son?
I would recommend Coogee Prep – absolutely! I think the education you receive at Coogee Prep is an ‘all round’ one. It focuses on a boy's overall development. I believe education is not just about developing a boy's academic and sporting ability – it’s about developing him as an individual and Coogee Prep does that. Its motto, ‘Gentleman, Scholar, Sportsman’ sums it up really – the school delivers on all on three things.

What piece of advice would you like to pass onto the current Coogee Prep boys?
Do your best and be happy. If you aim to achieve those things, I guarantee you'll look back on your time at Coogee Prep with very fond memories. I was watching the TV the other day when the Liverpool football team was in Melbourne and the crowd was singing a very stirring rendition of, ‘You'll never walk alone’. It made me think – that should be Coogee Prep's motto – because, as a Coogee Prep Old Boy, you’re never really alone! I remember walking into Scots as a nervous year seven boy and quickly seeing many familiar faces, each greeting me with that Coogee Prep friendliness and spirit. That immediately made me relax and feel better. Coogee Prep Old Boys always look out for each other.

Coogee Prep Merchandise for Sale
We have a fabulous range of Old Boy Ties ($25) and Picnic Blankets ($35) for sale
If you would like to purchase one, please contact the school office on (02) 9398 6310
2013 New Zealand Rugby & Soccer Tour

In June this year Year Five and Six boys, their parents and teachers flew to New Zealand for the Sixth bi-annual Coogee Prep Rugby and Soccer tour. The tour started in Wellington, then moved to Napier where the boys played Hereworth School. They then had two days of cultural and fun activities in Rotoura before heading north to Cambridge to play St Peter’s School. The tour finished in Auckland where the teams played Kohimarama School.

The matches were tough - particularly for the rugby boys facing the Haka - and both teams managed to achieve one win each. It was a wonderful experience for the boys and being treated to a traditional Maori welcome at St Peter’s School was a real highlight. The Tour is a wonderful opportunity for the boys to travel, experience billeting and play sport on an international stage. The boys had a great time representing their school and country with pride.

This Tour was the fifth for Old Boy Patrick Demos (1950). Patrick is a wonderful supporter of the School and his grandsons - the Koutsoukis, Andrianakos and Demos boys. He has showed real commitment to the tour - attending this trip without any grandsons in the touring teams! Patrick is looking forward to the next Tour in 2015 with his grandson Lachlan Demos. Timothy Sanders and Archie Kalaf were the recipients of the Pat Demos Best and Fairest awards for their excellent performance on tour.
A passage to New Zealand - 2013

Below is a poem written by Coogee Prep Old Boy Scott Heathwood (1973). Scott and his wife Louise attended the recent New Zealand Tour with their son Sam (Year Five). The Heathwoods are a fourth generation Coogee Prep family.

Who am I?
I'm an old boy of this alumni: And the son of an old boy too,
I'm the father of four others, two there now and one already through.
With a three year old getting closer and already in the queue,
I'll be like old Pat Demos in 2022.

Now who are you........well
You’re the families of this generation, a great mob I have to say.
The camaraderie and expectation have not followed any rule but collided quite by accident and developed day by day.
It's not easy to build this journey, a trip of dreams for all our boys,
So we owe a lot to Coogee, to the Jowetts and the school, for the experience we'll all treasure and what we'll take away.

So the boys, well
They’re the gentlemen of the Prep school, born 100 years ago,
They’re Nimmo’s scholars that he nurtured and the sportsman that he grew,
He’s sent them out with Willow or Leather on the shoe;
but either way they knew that when they faced the mirror the Man in front was true.
Kenny Catchpole is now immortal, but he’s only one of many to hold his head erect,
there are many many others, that deserve all men's respect.

Fellow travellers
Well my fellow travelers, you mums and dads on board,
You have bought a raft of stories, that normally you avoid,
But sink a few and wind you up there are volumes to be known, and volumes more, now, that you will all take home.
There’s Rat and Pete in Red & Green and Sir Anthony at the bar, they’re first and last every day like the stars and the setting moon.
They’ll laugh and fight all through the night and try to win the toss,
but one stern look or a text from home,, and we all knew who was boss.

The Mothers
So what about the Mothers the gossip and the boys.
They can talk underwater: And they’d all pick a different team.
They’d play the forwards in the backs and say the coach was mean.
We’d have a side of number 10’s, that would be very very clean.
But that’s only the half of it, because the work they do is oft forgot or so it always seems, yet
I know my bloke wouldn’t take the field without his mum’s routine.

Nicole, Nicole, Nicole
So thanks Nicole, Nicole , Nicole, Fiona , Lisa, Lucy, Wendy Nicky and Nicole, ( are there any other names )
if it weren’t for you and the jobs you do the school wouldn’t have a soul.
The blokes are good at the tricky moves, the tackling and the rucks,
But you’re the guys who set the rules so the men don’t run amok.

Teachers
And what about the teachers the wicked gang of four they’re ably led by Mr V, the Breaker of the law,
his like the kids only worse , he doesn't yet know that less is more.
So when Captain Morgan got a Guernsey in the early early morn,
It was Brock VD and Stemi AND Sir Anthony afoot, “stacks on” Mr Travers in his smelly rugby dorm.

Finally, I have to say, I didn’t miss the car,
the Uncle Bus was a fabulous treat,from where they was no escape,
Banished to the back, it was up to us to claim a stake in the raucous laughter and revelry that became our daily bread,
We were fined and teased, told to shut up, and asked ‘why’ are we always late
an endurance test, none the less, but it won’t be leaving a scare,
It'll leave a lot of fond memories that will always be hard to erase,
I’ll particularly enjoy the fact that despite our weary years, the schoolies week was fun,
We were kids again no doubt, but we weren’t a complete disgrace.
Dear Mr Dicks,

Our first term at Scots is slowly coming to an end and I wanted to send you an e-mail to let you know how my start at Scots was in year 7. I would really like to thank you and all the teachers at CPS for helping me get into the fantastic school, and I also wanted to know how Coogee Prep is going?

When I first arrived at Scots I was so thrilled to be at this School, because I knew that starting high school would be a big step for me to take but also, it would be one of the great experiences in my life.

When I got to the School I met with Tyson and Tom, who are both in my house as well. My house is called Macky House. I was very confused at first with what to do because I was quite nervous, and a bit scared, but at the same time it felt like an adventure to find out about this School. At recess and lunch time I was less shy because I knew a lot of boys that go there from either rugby, athletics or just friends that I know. The first few weeks at Scots have been very tiring but also lots of fun, you lose your way to your classes every now and then but then you get used to it. In Term 1 you have to choose a sport and I chose rowing. I've been on the water three times but haven't raced against any other Schools yet. They have trained us very hard and now we are fit for the rugby season, but I will go back to rowing in Term 4.

Now rugby and athletics have started and I am very excited. There are 9 rugby teams for year 7 and I was selected into the top rugby and athletics team, and both of them are so much fun, and soon I will have the athletics carnival. I feel that I am fitting in very well with all the teachers and the other boys, and I think that this School is throwing so many opportunities at me, and for now I feel that I am able to handle it quite well. The first week I had a lot of homework but now I got used to it and I am happy with the amount of homework now.

I would really like to thank you and all the teachers at CPS; you have definitely helped me to achieve this, and I will always be thankful to you and remember you. If my dad hadn't shown me your School, I would not have been in this position right now; Coogee Prep helped me so much get ready for senior School.

So how is Coogee Prep going? I'm sure you are all looking forward to the easter break coming up, I have certainly eaten a lot of chocolate already. I hope the School is doing well in the rugby season, don't let me down... I'm sure that when the boys from Kindi to Year 6 finally get into high school, they will feel exactly what I am feeling. Had I not gone to Coogee Prep I would have not learned about attitudes, behaviour, and how to be a gentleman, and I am very thankful for that. So thank you again for pushing me to this point and making sure that I applied myself everyday, which I still do now, of course. I tell this story to everyone and I hope that all the good things at Coogee Prep will continue.

Thank you again, and please say hello to all the teachers that still remember me and also Mrs Morris.

Best regards

Oliver
The Centenary Donor Wall is underway but we need your support to fill the wall by the end of 2014.

Purchasing a tile is a visual recognition of your involvement with the school and your support for the on-going provision of an all-round education for future generations of Coogee Prep boys.

There is a maximum of four lines of text for each tile, each with a maximum of 23 character spaces per line. Each character space represents either a letter, number, space or punctuation mark. Please print your inscription in the spaces below using capital letters. Each tile is available at a tax deductible amount of $300.

We encourage everyone to be part of this unique opportunity as we approach the School’s centenary in 2014.

Line 1 ________________ Line 2 ________________ Line 3 ________________ Line 4 ________________

Payment can be made by:

**Cheque** made payable to CPS Millennium Building Fund (for $300) and posted to The Headmaster, Coogee Boys’ Preparatory School, PO Box 190 Randwick 2031.

**Credit Card** Please debit my VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐

Card Number: ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐

Expiry Date: ☐☐ / ☐☐ Amount: $_________

Name: __________________________________________ Email: ____________________________

Telephone: ________________________________ Mobile: ______________________________

☐ If you do not wish to purchase a tile but would like to contribute to the Coogee Prep Building Fund please tick this box and complete the payment details above. Alternatively you can contact Mr John Dicks on 9398 6310 to discuss a donation.

Any enquiries can be directed to Mrs Tessa Morris in the School Office on (02) 9398 6310