The Centenary Old Boys’ Luncheon was held on Thursday 24th July and it exceeded all expectations. Nearly one hundred attended and we attracted a broad range of Alumni from Class of 1938 right through to Class of 1991. Old Boys travelled from far and wide including regional NSW and Queensland. I want to thank all of those who attended and hope to see many more faces at our Old Boys’ luncheons in the future.

Over the past three years, Coogee Prep has made significant inroads into reconnecting with its Old Boys. We have established an Old Boys’ database and have made direct connection with many Old Boys via phone calls, social media and the school website. This newsletter is an important link with our Old Boys and has been very successful in raising the profile of the CPS Old Boys’ Union in the wider CPS community.

To help keep this momentum going, I would like each of you to consider nominating yourself as Year Captain for your Coogee Prep Graduation Year, or nominate someone who you think would be able to help us grow our database as we continue to reconnect with many Old Boys into the future.

If you’d like to volunteer for the role as your Year Captain please let Mrs Tessa Morris (Coogee Prep School Secretary) know. With the highlight of the centenary year – ‘The Centenary Ball’ – approaching, this role is an important one in encouraging our Old Boys to come along.

In this Centenary Year I am pleased to announce that student numbers at Coogee Prep are at an all-time high, which is an extremely positive sign as we move into our second century. This result is by no means an easy thing to achieve with so much competition from larger private schools expanding their prep school classes. This a testament to the fact that the core values of Coogee Prep, those being ‘gentleman, scholar and sportsman’ still ring true with many in the community.

A couple of years ago the School took the initiative to develop Coogee Prep Alumni ‘Honour Frame’ to acknowledge and recognise the achievements of a number of Old Boys. These frames are located near the trophy cabinet in the School and are steadily growing in number every time I walk past them!

The School has also established a ‘Centenary Donor Wall’ in the new Library/IT Centre where individuals or families can purchase a tile and have their son's name and/or family name engraved on the tile on the wall. The objective of this important initiative is for individuals and families, past and present, to contribute to the ongoing future of Coogee Prep. I would encourage you all to consider purchasing a tile our centenary year!

I hope we will see as many of you as possible at the upcoming celebrations including the Centenary Fete on Saturday 13 September in Alison Park, the Coogee Prep Centenary Ball at Randwick Racecourse on Saturday 25th October and the Centenary Golf Day at The Coast on Wednesday 19 November.

Brett Jowett
PRESIDENT
COOGEE PREP OLD BOYS’ UNION
Headmaster’s Welcome

Our Centenary Old Boys’ luncheon held last month was a great success and it was a wonderful opportunity for many of our Old Boys to reconnect with friends and classmates they hadn’t seen for many years. It was most heartening to see so many Old Boys from so many generations attend the luncheon – particularly those from the mid 1970’s Alumni. As a testament to the strength of the ties and bonds formed between classmates all those years ago, we had almost one hundred Old Boys in attendance.

The fact that Coogee Prep is the only surviving stand-alone independent boys’ preparatory school in Sydney’s Eastern Suburbs is indeed a marvellous achievement. Coogee Prep has survived and prospered over the last hundred years primarily because the principles on which Mr Bill Nimmo founded the School – those of ‘gentleman, scholar and sportsman’ – still resonate strongly with people and continue to give a clear message to even the youngest student of what he, as a Coogee Prep boy, can aspire to. It was heartening to hear many Old Boys at the Centenary luncheon speak fondly of their time at Coogee Prep (canings and all!) and to acknowledge the gratitude they felt to their parents, Mr Nimmo, Mr Brown and their teachers for the opportunities their education, experiences and friendships had afforded them throughout their lives.

As our centenary year unfolds, we still have a number of important events in our centenary calendar that our Old Boys are invited to. Many Old Boys would remember with fondness the annual Coogee Prep Fete or Pet Show. This has been reinstated for our centenary year and the ‘Coogee Prep Centenary Fete’ is being held on Saturday 13 September from 11-4pm in Alison Park in Randwick (opposite the School). The Fete is an opportunity for the School community (both current and past students and families) to come together and celebrate this wonderful milestone with the general community. Following this, our Centenary Ball is being held on Saturday 25 October at Randwick Racecourse. I encourage all Old Boys to rally together and organise a table with their old Coogee Prep schoolmates for this event. Finally, the CPS Old Boys’ Union is hosting a ‘Centenary Golf Day’ at The Coast Golf Club on 19 November and I know they would love to see as many Old Boys at this event as possible. Details and invitations to these events are enclosed in this newsletter.

August is the month in the School Calendar when we traditionally celebrate ‘Founder’s Day’. We give thanks for Mr Nimmo’s vision and dedication to the ideals and principles on which he founded the School. On August 1 this year, the School celebrated Founder’s Day with a church service in the morning, followed by a celebration for the students in the afternoon where the Infants boys went to the movies and the Primary boys went bowling. Founder’s Day is always greeted with much excitement by the boys and is an opportunity for them to listen to stories about Mr Nimmo and life at Coogee Prep in days gone by. The visit to the school by our Old Boys for the Centenary Old Boys’ Luncheon the week earlier particularly brought the School’s history to life for many of the students, particularly the Upper Primary boys.

I strongly encourage you to continue spreading the word about the Coogee Prep Old Boys’ Union. Our Old Boys’ database is looking very healthy, with stories and memorabilia from past students continuing to flow into the Office. Thank you for your continued support for Coogee Prep. I am forever conscious of the unique and special community we have, and acknowledge that Coogee Prep would not be the school it is today if not for the enthusiasm and support from our Old Boys.

Once again I thank you and look forward to catching up at the Centenary Fete, Golf Day and Ball.

John T. Dicks
HEADMASTER
Old Boys’ Centenary Luncheon

Thursday 24 July saw the largest gathering of Coogee Prep Old Boys for some time. Close to one hundred Old Boys arrived at the School for a welcome service followed by a tour before making their way to the Randwick Labor Club for lunch. We had a wide range of Old Boys spanning several generations attend the event and it was a great opportunity to catch up with classmates whom many had not seen for years.

The welcome service included reflections by two Year Six boys on their time at Coogee Prep (see over). Many Old Boys were very impressed with the neatness of the School uniform as well as the good behaviour of the boys during the service. Scott Wagstaff was presented with an Honour Frame commemorating his father Trevor and his many years of dedication to Coogee Prep. The Wagstaff family have a long association with Coogee Prep and we have included the dedication to Trevor Wagstaff in the ‘Spotlight on an Old Boy’ section in this newsletter.
Old Boys’ Centenary Luncheon

Following the welcome service, the Old Boys made their way to the Randwick Club for lunch. There was plenty of story telling and catching up on many years. Many gentlemen looked through copies of old Alpha school magazines and Speech Night programs with great interest!

Following lunch, Scott Heathwood (Alumni 75) facilitated a discussion amongst a panel of three Old Boys. Our panellists represented different eras at Coogee Prep and included Barry Collins (Alumni 1948), Scott Wagstaff (Alumni 1973) and Nick Read (Alumni 1991). They were asked to think back to their time at Coogee Prep and talk about their memories, lessons learnt that have been relevant in later life as well as what they believe are the core values that should continue at Coogee Prep in the 21st century.

Scott Wagstaff reminisced about the time he took his blue tongue lizard to the Annual Pet Show. He also reflected on the importance of hard work, a core value which was instilled in him as a student at Coogee Prep. Nick Read told an entertaining story about the weekly boxing classes with opponents being pulled out of a hat and he inevitably was drawn against the largest kid in the class. Nick spoke about the line in Mr Nimmo’s favourite poem, I am True to Myself by Edgar Guest, ”I'll go out with my head erect”. Although the line often raised a snigger amongst the school boys, the value of remaining true to yourself has remained important to him. Another value that has stayed with Nick is being generous in victory and modest in defeat - something he employs in his work as a barrister!

Barry Collins talked of the importance of the core values of honesty and respect as well as the tradition of the school. There were anecdotes about Mr Nimmo’s remarkable teaching skills, managing to teach three classes at once, an ashtray overflowing on the desk.

The panel discussion drew stories and comments from the audience including a toast to the parents of those present for having the foresight to send their sons to Coogee Prep with many agreeing that they were better men for the experience.

The following gentlemen sent their apologies and were sorry they were unable to attend the luncheon: Geoffrey Davison (son of William Dunlop Davison) & Patron of the School, Phillip Ashton 1950, Perry Brown 1937, Bill Whitby 1954, Sam Gray 1991, Peter Brown 1946 and Colin Selby Brown 1946. A special congratulations for our Centenary was forwarded to our Old Boys from Mr Ben Benade, CPS past staff member.
My time at Coogee Prep
by Sebastian Kroon Year Six

Throughout my seven years at Coogee Prep, I have experienced many things which have shaped me into the boy I am today. As a bright-eyed five year old I started Kindergarten at Coogee Prep with much excitement and a truck-load of nerves. In my first year I was introduced to many concepts, learnt hundreds of new words and numbers and generally had a ball! I made friends and began my journey as a gentleman, scholar and sportsman.

My years in Infants exceeded my wildest expectations. Excursions, school camps, great teachers, friends and the dreaded ‘homework’ – ever so slyly increasing its influence, more and more as I moved through each year!

My time in Primary has been nothing short of awesome. I’ve been lucky to have been taught by some of Coogee Prep’s finest teachers, been a buddy, friend and guide to an incredible Kindergarten boy and had the privilege of being Storey House Captain.

As my time at Coogee Prep is nearing its end, I realise with much gratitude and happiness that I have been indeed fortunate to attend this School. I also realise that my journey to become a gentleman, scholar and sportsman – the one that commenced on my first day in Kindergarten - won’t end here. Coogee Prep has given me a strong foundation that will stand me in good stead as I move into high school.

Strong Foundation
By Sam Heathwood Year Six

This parable or teaching of Jesus speaks about building our lives on a strong foundation. What does this mean to me?

Staying healthy and well – eating the right food and getting enough sleep.

Staying fit and physical – I enjoy playing baseball, tennis, rugby and cricket - being active is important to me.

Keeping my mind alert and open to learning – this means learning new things, playing games such as chess which teaches me to use strategies to checkmate my opponents. One of my favourite subjects is PDHPE where I learn a lot about myself and others and how to stay safe in my world.

The last main point which I feel is really important has to do with my attitude and what I value. When I was younger I had a bit of an attitude and I found myself in trouble at home and at school.

What helped change me?

My Parents, my teachers, and most significantly my peers. They all showed me examples of how to be a better person and to take a better path; plus I wanted to change.

This parable gives us all the opportunity to build our lives on a firm foundation so that we can grow to reach our full potential.

Coogee Prep has played a massive role in giving me the knowledge, skill and understanding to take forward into my high school years and beyond. I feel very proud to be a 3rd generation Heathwood at Coogee Prep in our centenary year.
Calling all Old Boys to the Centenary Ball!

The Board and Headmaster of Coogee Boys’ Preparatory School

invite you to

The Coogee Prep Centenary Ball

7.00pm Saturday 25th October 2014
Royal Randwick Ballroom - Randwick Racecourse
$170 per person
Lounge Suit

RSVP by 17th October
Mrs Tessa Morris, 9398 6310  office@coogeeprep.nsw.edu.au
Trybooking: www.trybooking.com/98446

The Coogee Prep Centenary Ball - 25 October 2014

Name: ________________________  Email: ______________________________
I/we will attend the Ball: _____ people @ $170 per head
I am unable to attend the Ball but would like to make a donation to the School _______
☐ Enclosed is a cheque (Made out to Coogee Boys’ Preparatory School Pty Ltd) for $_________
☐ I have transferred $________ to Coogee Boys’ Preparatory School Pty Ltd
☐ I have booked via trybooking www.trybooking.com/98446 (no need to send this card)
Westpac BSB: 032 056  Account Number: 270073 (Please put name and ‘CB’ in the description)
I would like to sit on a table with (name of table organiser/s): ____________________

Send RSVP by 17th October to Mrs Tessa Morris at PO Box 190 Randwick NSW 2031
Contact the school on 9398 6310 or office@coogeeprep.nsw.edu.au
Spotlight on Old Boy - Mr Trevor Wagstaff (Alumni 1936)

Trevor Maurice Wagstaff was born in Sydney on 14 July 1922. He had two siblings, an older brother Roy (CPS Alumni 1934) and a younger sister Zena. Trevor’s father Bertie worked as Assistant Steward at Randwick Racecourse and his mother Minnie ran a haberdashery store in Clovelly. Trevor contracted polio at 18 months and permanently lost the use of his right arm. He attended Clovelly Public School for two years before commencing at Coogee Prep in 1931.

During his time at Coogee Prep, Trevor was an outstanding sportsman and broke a number of sporting records at Coogee Prep and at the combined school’s level. He was an excellent bowler, middle distance runner and soccer player and in 1936 broke the Associated Preparatory School’s ‘broad jump’ record by more than a foot. Following Coogee Prep, Trevor attended The Scots College for high school. When he finished school, Trevor worked briefly at his mother’s haberdashery store before opening his first menswear store, ‘Wagstaff’s Style Centre’ in Maroubra at age sixteen. At the height of his retail career, Trevor operated eleven retail stores and had over forty drycleaning distribution outlets across Sydney that were serviced by his two factories in Erskineville and Maroubra. Trevor employed local indigenous residents in his drycleaning businesses and was a strong supporter of the La Perouse Aboriginal and Torres Strait community.

Trevor was the president of the Maroubra Chamber of Commerce for twenty years. On his retirement, in recognition of his work and dedication to the small business community of Maroubra, a small park space on Anzac parade was named ‘Wagstaff Place’ in his honour.

Trevor met his wife Shirley when she was working part-time in the ‘Wagstaff Style Centre’ and they married in 1953. They had three sons, Paul, Mark and Scott who all attended Coogee Prep. Shirley’s involvement with Coogee Prep spanned forty-four years, commencing with Paul starting school at Coogee Prep in 1958, and then the next seventeen consecutive years whilst their three sons completed their primary schooling at Coogee Prep. Following this Shirley was President of the Coogee Prep P&F for five years. Then, in 1982 she commenced work as School Secretary to Headmasters Brown and Dicks before retiring in 2001, aged 71.

Trevor retired in 1994 aged 72. Throughout his retirement he maintained an active role in the community, lobbying local government bodies to improve public facilities for the disabled. He also took on community work at Long Bay jail, assisting in the rehabilitation of young prisoners. Throughout his latter years Trevor continued to work tirelessly for local Maroubra retailers, supporting their efforts against the larger retailing giants.

Throughout his life Trevor never allowed his physical disability to prohibit him from participating in something. He noted that Coogee Prep adopted the same attitude and supported him whole-heartedly in all his endeavours as a young boy, both in the classroom and on the sporting field. Trevor acknowledged that it was this approach that contributed to him building a solid foundation of determination and ability that helped him succeed in life.

Trevor died in 2008 and Shirley died in 2014. They are survived by their three sons, three grandsons and four granddaughters. Trevor lived by the motto ‘always be involved’.

GENTLEMAN - SCHOLAR - SPORTSMAN

Vale - Stan Leaver (CPS Alumni 1942)

We are sorry to report the recent death of Coogee Prep Old Boy Stan Leaver. Stan was an active Old Boy and was disappointed not to be able to attend the recent luncheon. He won the Campbell Pratt Memorial Scholarship for the Best Allrounder in Year Six in 1942 and then continued onto The Scots College.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Shirley and children at this sad time.

We’d love to hear from you - news on births, deaths and marriages as well as any memories or stories of your time at Coogee Prep. Please send information to Mrs Tessa Morris, School Secretary on office@coogeeprep.nsw.edu.au or PO Box 190 Randwick NSW 2031.
Coogee Prep Old Boy and rugby union legend Ken Catchpole came out recently on a wet and muddy Saturday morning to watch the Coogee Prep Under 11 team play Sydney Grammar St Ives. Jack Brann’s (Year Five) grandparents arranged for their friend Ken Catchpole to watch the game. He was very impressed with the boys’ ball skills, particularly in the wet and muddy conditions! Thanks for your support Ken. Your visit is something the boys will remember for some time to come!

The Coogee Prep Year Six debating team

The Coogee Prep Year Six debating team, have had a great season so far. They have participated in a number of debates against other local schools including St Catherine’s and Cranbrook. A range of topics have been debated including 'That summer school hours should be 7.00am -1.00pm” and most recently ‘That pets are our masters and we are their slaves’.

The CPS Debating team is ably led and coached by CPS parent and journalist Ticky Fullerton and in her words ‘consists of a great band of raw talent currently being honed into a lethal weapon and having a lot of fun on the way’.

The next debate, ‘That computers could replace teachers!’ promises to be a lively one and Ticky feels that a win is just around the corner!
Coogee Prep Centenary Fete - everyone is welcome!

Coogee Boys' Prep Centenary Fete

Alison Park, Randwick
Sat 13th Sept
11am ~ 4pm

- Jumping castle
- Petting zoo
- Lucky dip
- Face painting
- Gourmet pantry
- Devonshire tea
- BBQ
- Cake stall
- Vintage clothing
- Second hand books
- White elephant
- Chocolate wheel
- Gelato
- Coconut shy
- Plant stall
Thank you very much to the Coogee Prep families who have sponsored activities at the Centenary Fete either as a business (above) or as an individual (below). We really appreciate their support and know it will ensure the fete will be a great success. We look forward to seeing you there!

The Zhang Family, The Blend Family, The Soewandito Family, The Brown Family, Anonymous Donors, Nay Tran and Emily Pham, Andrew & Wendy Nikas, Gary and Marianne Chen, Sarah & Colin Marshall, Terry Brandtman (father of Old Boy Sean Brandtman and grandfather of current Kindergarten boy Jack Brandtman), Patrick Demos (Old Boy and grandfather of Lachlan Year Five and Riley Year Two), Jack and Nicki Kalaf, The Petrohilos Family, Kevin and Heidi Roche, Jacqueline Rotttcher
The Centenary Donor Wall is underway but we need your support to complete 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 ongoing 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 to be part of Coogee Prep’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
Have we got your email address? Can you please email office@coogeeprep.nsw.edu.au to confirm your email address.

‘Educating boys to become Gentlemen, Scholars and Sportsmen for 100 years’