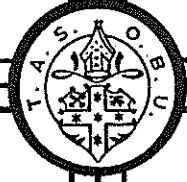


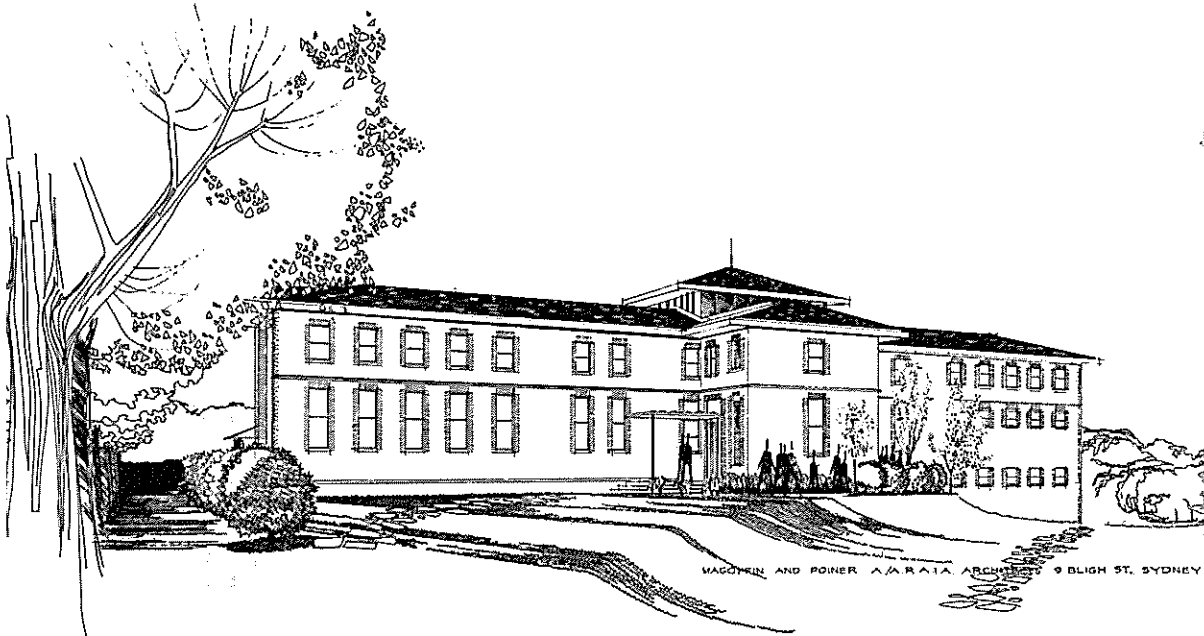
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Sydney Branch Magazine Of
The Armidale School Old Boys Union

B I N G H I

April, 1963.



PROPOSED NEW DORMITORY HOUSE AT THE ARMIDALE SCHOOL ARMIDALE
FOR THE COUNCIL OF THE ARMIDALE SCHOOL

NEW DORMITORY BLOCK COMMENCED

The new dormitory block being built in the White House-Wakefield area will be cruciform in plan. This plan will allow each dormitory a full share of sunlight and cross ventilation.

The total cost of the building will be in the vicinity of £32,500, a sum provided by the generous support of the Building Fund Appeal, by members of the Old Boys' Union, Parents and Friends, and well-wishers of the school.

The building will be of modern two storey design and will be in harmony with the main buildings. The accommodation of 63 beds will be divided into five dormitories, each providing for different age groups. There is provision for a resident master's flat on the top floor, as well as two studies for masters on the ground floor. Prefects will have four studies (one large and three small) on the ground floor and each dormitory has a separate cubicle for a monitor.

Other features of the new building include a ground floor locker and change rooms, a drying room, and a box room as well as a tuck shop. In addition to all this, there is a common room approximately the same size as "big school", with an open fire place.

Hot water will be provided by a solar hot water system and internal heating by radiant panel gas heaters. The window frames will be in aluminium and the floors will be polished parquet of tallow wood and blue gum.

A tender from R. & I. Lane for the construction of the building has been accepted. The engineer is Mr. E.K. Pratt and the architect is Reg Magoffin, who designed the Memorial Hall. Old Boys are assisting in many ways. On Saturday 13th April a working team commenced digging the foundations for the new building and Old Boys are lending equipment as well. Also, the £800 raised by the Parents and Friends fete in Armidale during the last Old Boys Weekend, has been donated to provide furnishings for the building.

The early completion of the building will be most opportune and will assist to meet the requirements of the Wyndham Plan, as well as the urgent need for acceptable accommodation, combined with a practical plan for supervision of boys in residence.

EDITOR

SYDNEY BALL - 1963

The combined T.A.S./N.E.G.S Sydney Ball will be held at the Hotel Australia on Saturday 15th June.

An open invitation is extended to Old Boys to organise parties and come along in force to this festive occasion.

The Headmaster and Mrs. Cash have indicated that they will be present.

Because of the popularity of this function, ticket sales must be restricted to around the 300 mark, so the advice is to get in quickly and organise yourself a "ball".

G.P.S. OLD BOYS UNIONS' COUNCIL

This organisation consists of representatives from each Old Boys' Union of the nine Great Public Schools. Although it runs one or two social functions each year, its principal use is to provide a channel of communication between Unions, and it is valuable in this regard.

Executive positions on the Council are taken strictly by rotation. The T.A.S. O.B.U. representative was Honorary Treasurer in 1961 (Jim Vernon) and Honorary Secretary in 1962 (Jim Somerville). For 1963, Jim Somerville has just been "elected" President. Currently, we are thus prominent in Old Boys' Unions' affairs.

LETTER FROM THE HEADMASTER

Armidale,
April, 1963

As I begin this letter, I can see through my study window an advanced party of Old Boys at work on the new boarding house, which is being built just south of White House and Wakefield. A fortnight ago a similar working bee made the necessary excavations on the site; today pier holes are being drilled, tomorrow and Sunday trenches will be dug and concrete poured. Reg Magoffin, our architect, who has done a marvellous planning job already, is coming this weekend to see that the local Old Boys, under foremen Alan Mitchell and Paul Johnstone, still allow a building to be erected above their work. So far, an excellent job has been done. While the machinery and manpower are here, we are putting in a turf wicket on the Memorial Oval on Backfield. Constant streams of boys - all volunteers! - with Masters, have collected 40 cu. yds. of stones for use in the foundations of the pitch. Projects like this have stirred the imagination of all connected with the School and there are plenty of willing, and not too inexpert, hands. This spirit is one which has impressed me since my arrival in Armidale - loyalty and affection for the School, involving personal effort. I have not seen such spirit stronger anywhere, and I hope it may long continue.

The building of the new boarding house will, however, be handed over shortly to a professional builder, who will complete the job by next December. The contract was signed last month and the cost to the Appeal Fund will be about £32,000. I am encouraged by the fact that the Appeal is going well. We are depending on its success for the completion of our programme of expansion and modernisation, and are extremely grateful for what has already been done.

It is remarkable that no new dormitory block has been built since Dangar House in 1924, although dormitory space has been acquired at Meadowfield and elsewhere; and yet in that time our numbers have more than doubled. The new House will enable us to expand further and ease overcrowding. Other plans this year include:

(1) the establishment of an Art-Craft-Music Block in the old laboratories and rooms in the timber building at the east end of the school. It is difficult to describe this building, since it has been used over the years for so many purposes - approved and unapproved. It is already in use and equipment is being provided gradually.

(2) the building of the first section of the covered way alongside Big School (now a Common Room for middle school boys). A new and more easily negotiated fire escape will be incorporated in this project, to replace the perilous descent from Dorm. 4 and Dorm. 3.

You know already of the great sporting successes of 1962. For a small school, we did more than hold our own in Rugby, Shooting, Athletics, Cricket and Tennis against the bigger Sydney Schools. In Football, we won three matches and lost three; we came third in the G.P.S. Shooting, in which R.N. Blomfield (at 14 years of age) won the individual aggregate; in cricket we gained respect in two games in Sydney, unfinished owing to rain; we beat Knox in Tennis; in Athletics, Ross Lane's performances in the mile (4 min. 22 secs.) and half-mile were extraordinary, Richard How, Richard Lamb, together with the Open Relay Team (How, Heath, Barlow, Langtry) did extremely well. Many of you were there, as I saw and heard, and the presence of a full team heartened the school as much as Old Boys. I must express my gratitude to the Sydney Branch of the T.A.S. O.B.U. for their support and interest at all our sporting functions in the Capital. Much assistance has been given by Old Boys and Parents and Friends in billeting boys for these games, and for this help and encouragement we in Armidale are most grateful. We shall be asking you again and perhaps a little more often - I am sure you won't mind.

In work, 1962 was a good year too. We won four Commonwealth Scholarships (four in 1961), had a higher proportion of 'A' passes and Honours together, and of Matriculations, although the overall pass rate was a little lower than the high standard achieved in 1961.

This year has had a good start. The First XI (1962-3 season) lost only one match in the 'A' Grade Competition (that by only seven runs) and defeated all the leading sides including the University. The Monckton Shield Carnival (Swimming) was a triumph for Mr. Mattingley. Overall, the spirit of the school remains high and, as I said last Speech Day, I am delighted to be at T.A.S. where everyone has made my family and me welcome.

I hope to meet as many of the Sydney branch of the O.B.U. as I can at the forthcoming sporting and social events.

Alan H. Cash

OLD BOYS WORK ON BUILDING FOUNDATIONS

The Working Bee on the new Dormitory Block Foundation and the turf wicket, has, to date, been an outstanding success despite one postponement due to rain.

On Saturday, 23rd March, 8 members of the Committee, with R.J. Magoffin and Engineer E.H. Platt, made test borings and commenced excavations.

On Friday, 5th April, 5 members of the Committee worked on the pier holes.

On Saturday, 6th April, 30 Old Boys and 3 members of the School Staff worked on the cricket pitch and the foundations.

On Sunday, 7th April, 26 Old Boys, 5 members of School Staff and 2 Kings School Old Boys completed the foundation work as far as could be done and completed all but the final stages of the work on the turf wicket as well as felling trees and carting the rubbish away.

A large number of the present boys, under the Headmaster and Staff, worked continuously with the Old Boys.

On Wednesday, 10th April, 2 Old Boys worked under the Builder's supervision to complete pier holes ready for one final effort which will finish the job.

O.D. Wright has volunteered to mill most of the timber required for the Building and starts work on this after Easter with assistance from Guyra area Old Boys.

The following have worked on the project (some supplying their own equipment):-

R.G. Vyner	R. Fulloon	A.T. Mitchell
W.J. Mulligan	F.F. Mulligan	H.F. Croft
P.L. Johnstone	R.M. Croft	R. Croft
R.J. Magoffin	John Mitchell	G.R. Cunninghame
W.R. Forsyth	L.W. Thomas	W. Curtis
T. Coventry	R.A. Vyner	E.B. Hancock
F. Taylor	R. Connah	G. Moffatt
W.J. Mitchell	T. Bigg	A. Hancock
W.L. Taylor	A. Croft	I. Reid
J.R. Richardson	I. Mackenzie	F. Dutton
Sir B.H. Croft	R.R. Richardson	J.T. Coventry
O. Croft	M. St.Clair	M. Heath
R. How	G. Brett	Bob Croft
Peter Croft	W.F. Mulligan	P. Bailey

R. Barlow A. G. H. Brett J.H. Moffatt
T. Mackenzie W. Skipper H. Connock

Kings School Old Boys

Terry Johnson
J. Burch

Staff

B.J. Mattingley
W.A. Jennings
R. Crossle
P.G. Salmon
J. Graham

Col. H.F. White, R.H. White and G.H. White, being unable to attend, supplied two men and a tractor with overhead loader for three days.

The Headmaster, A.H. Cash, was present, and assisted each day and also supplied refreshments.

S W I M M I N G

T.A.S. WINS MONCKTON SHIELD!

At the Combined Schools Swimming Sports on March 13th, T.A.S. won the Monckton Shield with a total of 259 points from De La Salle, 141 points, and Armidale High School, 121 points.

The boys won the Senior, Junior, Sub-Junior, Diving and Relay Cups and missed out only on the Minor Cup.

In the Senior division the school gained 1st and 2nd places in the 55, 110 and 220 yards freestyle, and 55 yards butterfly events, 1st and 3rd in the 55 yards backstroke, and 1st in the 4 x 55 yards relay.

Star of the division was P.J. Francis, who set new times in the 55 yards freestyle (29.2 seconds), 55 yards butterfly (31.2 seconds) and helped to break the relay record (2 mins. 3.8 seconds - an average of 30.9 seconds per lap). He was ably assisted in this division by R.A. Atkinson. At the School Swimming Carnival, held the week before, Francis and Atkinson re-wrote the Senior record book.

Francis' records were in the 55 (equalled), 110, and 220 yards freestyle events, 165 yards medley and 55 yards butterfly. Atkinson broke the 55 yards backstroke record. The two boys 'tied' in the only other event, the 55 yards breast-stroke, but failed to break the record.

Results in the Junior division at the All Schools Sports read the same as the Senior, except that no records were broken. Junior Champion, W.R. Wyndham, is the son of Old Boy, R.W. Wyndham.

OLD BOYS' NOTES

Barton Browne, popular president of a few years ago, was in Sydney recently with his wife, Bea, and family, on annual leave from "his" sugar mill in North Queensland. Everyone will be sorry to hear that Barton suffered a coronary occlusion last year. He is now on the mend however, but has to take things quietly - which is indeed a change for him.

Old Boys seen around Sydney University include Jimmy Hales (Medicine 11), John Sippe (Medicine 1V), Peter Kemp (Law 11), Bruce McWilliam (Economics 11), Bill Newcombe (Pharmacy 111).

John Raymond is an assistant production manager at Unilever, and studying Economics part time at Sydney University.

Graeme Finlayson recently announced his engagement.

Current expectant fathers include Warwick Lewarne (early June - and will miss the Ball!), and Norman Ledingham (October).

John Lennox is being married on April 27th and will live in a flat in O'Sullivan Road, Rose Bay.

Chris Hughes graduated from Hawkesbury Agricultural College last year.

Doug Hamilton is a father again (last month) but this time it's a son.

Attending Law School is Robert Downey and Alex Walker, who is current Chairman of Vaucluse Young Liberals.

Over the New Year period, Ross Lane won the Country Junior Mile and Two Miles Championships. He also represented Combined Country against Metropolitan and won the Junior Mile and Two mile events. On top of all this, he ran third in the State Junior Mile.

Rob Wilson is at present working for the Bank of New South Wales.

Chris Wright and Roger Lamb are studying woolclassing.

Old Boys seen at University of New South Wales - Stephen Booth (Commerce), Graeme and Bruce Cutler (Commerce), John Russell (Science), Anthony Bawden (Commerce), Richard Croft (Commerce), Grahame Langtry (Commerce).

Tim Pockley is working for Coles and studying advertising.

Robert Talbert is with Elder Smith.

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OFFICE BEARERS - SYDNEY BRANCH

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Vice Chairmen: C.W.V. Vernon,
N.U. Ledingham.

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G.D. Cutler,
B.K. Cutler,
J.F. Lennox,
S.J. Booth,
P.W. Sanger,
J.G. Raymond.