

# PIN OAK

ISSUE 42: TERM 4, OCTOBER 28, 2016



NEW LEADERS



NEPAL



K-6

# HEADMASTER'S REPORT

## Contents

- 3 Headmaster's Report
- 4 Big Issue
- 5 Films, Music, Books
- 6 K - 6 News
- 7 More K-6
- 8 Feature Article
- 10 Deputy Head Reports
- 11 In the Spotlight
- 12 Old Oxleyan
- 13 On the Branch
- 14 Gallery
- 15 Calendar
- 16 Sport

## Pin Oak Team

### Student Editorial Team

Ella Moran, Isabella Knowles, Jemima Taylor, Izzy Moore,  
Tully Mahr, Tom Hill, Oliver Regan, Charlie Beedle,  
Savannah Sandilands,

### Student Photographer Olivia Donovan

Designers  
Grace Patterson, Lachlan BP  
Holly Jefford, Juliette Swain,  
Bree Feary, Cameron Grice, Tom Whyte

### Head of Marketing and PR Emma Calver

### Staff Editor Beattie Lanser

Oxley College  
Railway Road, Burradoo, NSW, 2576.  
Ph: 4861 1366  
office@oxley.nsw.edu.au



## FAREWELL MADAME HAMILTON



Mrs Roslyn Hamilton will retire from active service at Oxley College at the end of the school year, deciding to take Long Service Leave in Term 1. She has been Senior French Teacher and Head of the Languages Department as well as a part-time teacher. She has been teaching for 40 years, overseas and in Melbourne and Sydney. She has been working at Oxley College for 18 years, quite obviously almost half of her professional life. These years have been the happiest of her teaching career and she says that when she arrived here, after 10 years at a big Sydney private school, it was if she had gone to educational heaven: teachers were able to teach with a smile, to actively engage in the learning of students instead of wasting precious learning minutes on discipline. Students meet the eyes of adults, smile, and even offer to help! Manners are remembered and there is friendship and joy to be present at Oxley.

Her students have almost all loved learning French and the few who didn't profit from this study often express their regret in later life. She had had several students in the top 10 in NSW in the HSC and several students have added their ability to speak French to their talents (a diplomat, a wine maker in France, an international lawyer, a pilot are examples).

She was a devoted hockey coach and twice won the Open B ISA Hockey Competition in her 15 years of service to the sport. There was also a "development year" in which no goals at all were scored! She says her success was in teaching the girls to fake graciousness that year. She will not miss the early morning starts for the hockey bus but she will miss greatly her students and colleagues. We will have an opportunity to farewell Madame Hamilton later in the term.



# HEADMASTER'S REPORT continued

I am very pleased to be able to introduce the new staff working at Oxley College in 2017. You will note the extra staff members for K - 6 to cater for our additional Kindergarten and Year 5 classes in 2017.

They are a talented group of people who were successful against strong fields of applicants who wanted to work at Oxley.

## **David Spies 7-12 HSIE**

David joins us from St Pius X College in Chatswood where he taught Business Studies and Commerce. He has previously worked at Scone Grammar School where he was a Head of House. David completed a Bachelors degree in Business (Marketing) from the University of Western Sydney in 2008, and a Graduate Diploma of Education (Secondary) in 2011. In between he worked as a marketing manager. His interests are cricket, golf, music, and the outdoors.



## **Grahame Chambers 7-12 English**

Grahame received his Masters in English Literature from Cambridge University and then promptly emigrated from England in 1987. He began working at Scots College in 1989 and has been a boarding House Master there for the last ten years. He is well known as one of the best regarded teachers at that school. He is married to Lorna and has a twenty one year old son James. They have bought a house in Berrima in the last few weeks and are looking forward to being in the Southern Highlands very much. Grahame enjoys reading, cryptic crosswords and medieval History.



## **Elizabeth Leitner 7-12 French Teacher**

Having commenced an Arts/Law degree at the University of Sydney, Elizabeth discovered that her true passion lay in languages and elected to graduate with a BA in French Studies and English. She subsequently completed a Master of Teaching at the University of Sydney and was a recipient of the Marion Macaulay Bequest Scholarship. Elizabeth has taught English at two secondary schools in Provence in south-eastern France, Collège Jean Giono and Lycée Félix Esclançon in Manosque. Most recently, Elizabeth has worked as a French teacher at St Andrew's Cathedral School and Blakehurst High School. During her free time, Elizabeth enjoys developing her skills in photography (taking copious quantities of images while travelling), cooking and crafting as well as expanding her knowledge of French cheese.



## **Narelle Young K-6 French**

Narelle is a long-time resident of the Southern Highlands, returning "home" after eight years in Sydney where she was teaching French Pre-Kinder to Year 6 at Meriden Anglican School in Strathfield. A graduate of the University of Sydney, Narelle is experienced in both primary and secondary language teaching in French and German as well as general primary classroom teaching. She enjoys spending time with her family, finishing her Masters in Education, learning Italian and other languages, as well as travel, photography and running.



## **Kelly Lees K-6 teacher**

Kelly graduated from Newcastle University with a BA Dip Ed and taught both at Methodist Ladies' College in Kew and in the UK. Most recently she has taught at Gib Gate as the Pre-School Coordinator and Visual Arts teacher for six years. She was also a professional photographer for a number of years. She studied Photography at Swinburne University. She is married with two children, Sam (eight years old) and Molly (five years old) who will be attending Oxley College.



## **Belinda Candelori K-6 teacher**

Belinda graduated from the University of Wollongong in 2004 and also completed a Diploma in Children's Literature Writing in 2014. She is currently teaching at the Avondale International School in Singapore where she is the Stage 2 co-ordinator and lead teacher. Before this she taught ESL at the Manus Island Regional Processing Centre. She has also taught at a number of other schools in Sydney but mainly at St Charbel's College Punchbowl. She travels widely, plays soccer, writes creatively and engages in art.



## **Brett Bacon K-6 teacher**

Brett has been teaching for fourteen years in the NSW and ACT after receiving his teaching degree from the University of Wollongong, and has spent the last three years at Trinity Grammar in Summer Hill. Before this he taught at Abbotsleigh, Canberra Girls Grammar and Tudor House. He is married to Vanessa and they have two girls Ivy (four years old) and Stella (three years old). Brett loves all sports, and particularly AFL and NRL. He also loves backyard renovations and camping.



# BIG ISSUE

---



"We are all visitors to this time, this place. We are just passing through. Our purpose here is to observe, to learn, to grow, to love...and then we return home." – Australian Aboriginal Proverb

It appears that the majority of people around the globe are able to recognise the iconic image of Uluru. Seventy four per cent of visitors in 1990 climbed Australia's 'surreal monolith' of red sandstone. Today that percentage is around twenty. The easily recognisable landmark rises 348 meters above the ground, which is equivalent to a ninety-five story building. It is famous for its ability to change colour and its vibrant and magical glow.

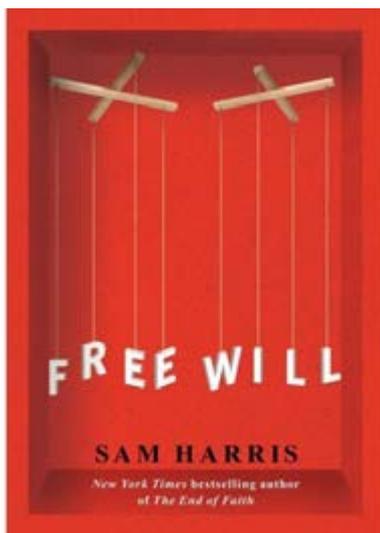
For the local Indigenous Australian Anangu people Uluru is much more. It's a place of great power, the centre of the universe and the home of the Earth Mother. The past tens of thousands of years have seen the creation of petroglyphs by the Anangu people on the site of Uluru, which are now considered national cultural treasures. Uluru or as it was formally known Ayers Rock, is a sacred site and the Aboriginal owners ask that visitors respect their law and refrain from climbing it. The Australian Government invoked an official, "Please Don't Climb Uluru" message in response to numerous requests. Upon appraisal it becomes evident that the local people aim to have the act of climbing the rock ceased as soon as possible. The climbing route that is taken is in fact a sacred path of spiritual significance that was traditionally only taken by a few Aboriginal Mala men on their arrival at Uluru during the creation time. Furthermore, numerous people have been killed or severely injured whilst climbing the rock and responsibility for these

accidents consequently falls upon the traditional owners.

Unfortunately the tourism industry does not often draw attention to the spiritual significance of the rock. Due to the fact that there are no laws against climbing Uluru, the tourism market regularly demands right of access for the rock to be climbed. The climb itself is strenuous and the majority of deaths on Uluru are a direct result of climbers overexerting themselves and suffering heart attacks. Extreme weather often means climbing is prohibited due to strong winds or high temperatures, and in these instances it is inadvisable to visit the rock with the intent of climbing, as most will go away disappointed. Professor Richard White from the University of Sydney said, "if even one person died climbing the Sydney Harbour Bridge it would probably be closed down. Certainly if 30 people had died we wouldn't be climbing it."

In 1985 Uluru was returned to its traditional owners who then leased it back to the Federal Government for ninety-nine years.

By Isabella Davies (Year 12, 2017)



## Books

★★★★★

### Free Will By Sam Harris

Your brain already knows what you are going to think/do/feel/wonder/emote about well before you even register thinking it. Advancement in neuroscience technology, and particularly the work of physiologist Benjamin Libet has shown, using EEG and fMRI that the brain begins to process an action 700 milliseconds before the person becomes consciously aware of the action. As Sam Harris explains in his book, *Free Will*, "you are conscious of only a tiny fraction of the information our brains process in each moment". We notice (or can think about) change in our mind however are oblivious to the biochemical and "neurophysiological events that produce them". Are we simply observers of intention that does not originate in consciousness, but instead appears in consciousness at which point I take on the belief of me making the intention. As Harris put it: "I cannot decide what I will think or intend until a thought or intention arises". Harris tackles this idea head on. He accounts for spirituality, religion, atheism in this concept. Harris does not take a pessimistic, nihilist view on this rather bleak and diminishing topic, but instead focuses the later part of the book to how we might incorporate this view into our current society.

This is an excellent and thought provoking book that sums up arguments made in the past century on the issue and makes a clear and definitive stance.

By Tom Hill (Year 12, 2017)



## Music

★★★★★

### Snow globe- Tiny Little Houses

An unassuming four piece hailing from the mighty music empire of Melbourne, Tiny Little Houses has produced a melancholy, nostalgic EP destined to go down in history. Heavily influenced by 90's folk and rock, the album's vocals are fuzzy and downplayed, beautifully accompanying the fragile and personal lyrics. *Medicate Me* makes a killer opening track of sorrowful lyrics tying in with simple guitar for a big impact. The next track, *Snow Globe*, takes a different route, the lyrics bring about a sense of realisation and existentialism while the background is packed with heavy bass and distorted synths. Though all six tracks are stellar, one quite simply takes the cake. *I Hate That You're Happy* is deceptively gentle and simple in its sound, building to a heart-breaking, impassioned chorus. Lead singer Caleb Karvountzis' writings are introspective and bittersweet, yearning and emotive. *Tiny Little Houses* continue to deliver bedroom-pop tracks with consistency and quality unrivalled.

By Imogen Hatcher (Year 8)



## Films

★★★★★

### Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children

Are you ready to be gripped by the tentacles of a hollowghast? When his beloved grandfather leaves Jake clues to a mystery that spans different worlds and times, he finds a magical place known as Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children. (In Wales!? Who goes to Wales?!) But the mystery and danger deepens as he gets to know the residents and learns about their special powers - and their terrifying enemies. Ultimately, Jake discovers that only his own special peculiarity can save his new friends. *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* is a movie that will draw you in and leave you satisfied at the end. There is a good amount of action as well as slow bits that allow you to catch up on what has happened. Float along with Emma, and turn invisible like Millard, as this movie will take you on a perilous journey through different times and worlds. See it quick before time runs out!

By Charlie Beedle and Oliver Regan (Year 12, 2017)

## Head of K-6: Justine Lind

This edition's OLE Week Lift-out is a fabulous showcase of the opportunities at Oxley that are mindfully designed to build friendships and lasting memories. Importantly, they also build a mindset around perseverance and resilience and grow the self-esteem that can only come from overcoming personal challenges and at time adversity. These are planned to be delivered in the context of fun, friendship, safety and support and the beneficial ripples are enduring long after the wet and dirty clothes are clean and back in their respective cupboards.

Each child's capacity to embrace new experiences is not cultivated in a vacuum. Incremental opportunities to become self-aware, thoughtful and resilient prepare our students not only for these annual challenges but the unpredictable life events that lie ahead. What we do know, is that sorrows are easier to bear and victories all the sweeter when shared by trusted friends.

Towards the end of Term 3 and continuing for four weeks this term, Ms Jenna Claire Fletcher from FLO Girls has been in Years 1 to 6 delivering a tailor made programme for us called A Place of Welcome (POW). Each week has focussed on exploring one of the following topics in relation to the students' personal lives at school and at home; Acceptance, Empathy, Respect, Friendship, Resilience, Assertiveness, Responding, Conflict Resolution and Self-worth. This has been intended to supplement the usual PDH curriculum to present information, much of which is not new, to students in novel ways to clarify thinking and provide a relaxed, positive workshop style experience that often provides a greater sense of space for personal questioning and reflection. We know that young children usually know how to treat others but can't always demonstrate this in their actions in the heat of the moment.

Camp provided the perfect opportunity for the children to enact their new learning. I spoke to all groups departing to remind them that camp is about stretching out of your comfort zone and supporting each other in these endeavours. I reminded them that for some, this means tolerating the fact that their favourite breakfast cereal is not available or the vegetables are cooked differently from at home. For some it is more obvious; sleeping away from home overnight or experiencing abseiling or surfing for the first time can be really stressful but we find it easier to encourage and celebrate these efforts. The research into emotional intelligence tells us that as we mature we become better at delaying our own gratification when the needs of others are more pressing, we can avoid catastrophising situations to normalise conflicts and set-backs and minimise hurting others and personal regrets. We cannot learn these things only in the classroom – we must learn them in life – but we must learn them and we must be allowed to make mistakes in this process as we acquire greater competency.

## Weekly Awards:

### Students of the Week

K: Adelaide Lawler  
Yr 1: Neeson Greene  
Yr 2: Madeline Gordon  
Yr 3: Madison Walters  
Yr 4: Ashton Mineeff  
Yr 5: Jacqueline Worthington  
Yr 6: Lily Schweitzer



### Respect Oxley

K: Brayden Anstee  
Yr 1: Imogen Diver  
Yr 2: Charlotte Copus  
Yr 3: Abi Hunt  
Yr 4: Hudson Alexander  
Yr 5: Elena Parker  
Yr 6: Arabella Osborne



### Students of the Week

K: Theo Marshall  
Yr 1: Ivy Halstead  
Yr 2: Georgie Marks  
Yr 3: Chilli Sparke  
Yr 4: Yolande Gair  
Yr 5: Harry Sargeant  
Yr 6: Finley Miller



### Respect Awards

K: Scarlett Curr  
Yr 1: Zali Walters  
Yr 2: Sienna Wimborne  
Yr 3: Toby Cuddy  
Yr 4: Gemma Lee  
Yr 5: Billy Cameron  
Yr 6: Poppy Jensen

Our students at Oxley are compassionate and considerate, they want to ensure that everywhere in our community feels like a Place of Welcome and we are grateful to be taking this journey together. We are also grateful to the teachers who spent time away from their families and home comforts to ensure each child gained the most from their OLE Week opportunities. We trust that at least some of the benefits of such experiences are apparent in your child(ren)'s anecdotes and enhanced sense of independence.

*Each friend represents a world in us, a world possibly not born until they arrive, and it is only by this meeting that a new world is born.*

*Anais Nin*

# K- 6 GALLERY





Over the last year or so, Oxley Year 9 student Dylan Whitelaw has been getting involved in the community and helping to erase the stigma behind mental health with his charity and organisation, Get Around It. Many have been amazed by how proactive he is for his age, how passionate he is about this issue and the change he is going to make around the Wingecarribee Shire. A third of the money the Pin Oak Fair raises will be going to his organisation to support his worthwhile cause. We had a chat to him recently...

**1. So, tell us a little bit about Get Around It. Where are you with it now? What are your long-term goals with the charity?**

Get Around It is a not-for-profit organisation situated in the Southern Highlands of NSW. Get Around It is all about three things; mental health reform, policy, advocacy and raising awareness about youth mental health in the Southern Highlands, which, in theory will assist in removing the stigma associated with mental health. Currently Get Around It is becoming a more recognised name within the Shire. The charity has a dedicated Board of Governors whom all bring years of experience in their relevant fields. Our vision is that all people in the Wingecarribee Shire achieve an understanding of what mental health is. Our mission is promoting good mental health. We endeavor to create change to protect young people's mental health and raise awareness so other people have the appropriate resources to deal with it. We want young people to "get around it".

**Get Around It has four main long term goals which are:**

**Help More Young People & Service Delivery**

We will support more young people and families, in more ways and places, by expanding the services we offer. We will ensure that our services meet people's expressed needs and improve their quality of life. Extend geographical coverage. Expand the range of services offered. Improve education outcomes for consumers. Develop a Contemporary housing approach.

**Raise Awareness about Get Around It & Pathways**

We will make young people aware of Get Around It and what we offer. We will improve pathways to support and be a point of connection to people, information, events and ideas. Enhance information and advisory services. Promote Get Around It's services and products to potential consumers and referrers. Build Get Around It's supporter community.

## Be Consumer focused in everything we do & Engagement

We will value and utilise young people's lived experiences in everything we do. We will deliver responsive and flexible services for people impacted by mental ill-health. Ensure we have effective ways to listen and respond. Use lived experience in service development and delivery. Reach out and work with under-served people. Deliver quality services.



## Influence for Social Change & Advocacy

We will engage with the Get Around It community to understand their experiences and what helps. We will work with them to strive for social change on issues that matter to them. Develop and implement an advocacy strategy. Enhance our role in research and evaluation.

## 2. What was the motivation behind starting Get Around It?

Get Around It was started after a close family member of mine suffered mental ill health and during this time, I realised how few services are available to people in the Wingecarribee Shire.

## 3. Why do you think there is such a stigma behind youth mental health and what do you think we can do to fix it?

Three out of four people with a mental illness report that they have experienced stigma. Stigma is a mark of disgrace that sets a person apart. Negative attitudes create prejudice which leads to negative actions and discrimination. Mental health has a stigma attached to it because of the word "mental"; when people think of the word "mental" they think crazy. To stop it we need to talk about mental health and to teach young people it is okay to speak out. Ultimately Get Around It is a group of people wanting to help young men and women within the Shire that are suffering mental ill-health.

For more information on [Get around it](#) check out the facebook page. (The new Get Around It website is currently under construction).

## PIN OAK FAIR FUNDRAISING GOALS

In the Spirit of Giving, the Oxley P & F will donate 30% of the day's takings from the Pin Oak Fair to "Get Around It". An organisation whose aim is to improve support services for adolescents of the Southern Highlands suffering from mental illnesses. A further 30% will be shared with Oxley College sister schools in Botswana, Fiji and Nepal. "Giving away of half of the days takings to those in need lets us give back to the community, whether they be geographically near or far."



# DEPUTY HEAD REPORTS

---

## Deputy Head Learning: Kate Cunich

## Deputy Head Pastoral: Peter Ayling

We have begun the term with much academic activity! The 2016 Year 12 HSC is already three quarters through and we have been so proud of our students. They are leaving the exams with an air of confidence, knowing that they have prepared diligently and have tried their best. We continue to wish them well as they complete the final examination on Friday 4 November. After that they can then begin the rewarding break that they so deserve after working so hard. Year 12 teachers have remarked that they have never received so many practice papers for feedback – a sure sign that this cohort have exercised academic rigour throughout the process.

We have also completed the 2017 Year 12 transition programme. For three days, our new HSC students participated in reflection, goal setting and mindfulness sessions to instil the mindset required for fresh starts and further success. This group is particularly lucky in that they received our first ever unique Year 12 Planner, emblazoned with coloured braid, representing their special place at the top of the school now. This chunky volume is divided into sections: Where am I going? How am I going and Where to next? aligning our feedback and evidence mindset, hopefully serving as a constant reminder of goals and motivation. A feature of the transition programme was a one-to-one consultation with Mr Parker, Mrs Carter, Mrs Ritchie and myself where we had opportunity to speak with every student, looking at data, future plans and setting goals. Students articulated their excitement, nervous energy and thoughts about the great year ahead.

Year 7 – 10 students too have settled in well to the new term. A highlight has been the results from the ACER French competition where our students have achieved at the very highest standard. We look forward to the next few weeks of learning, revision and preparation for the Yearly examinations.



### 2017 Student Leadership Team

On behalf of the staff and students of Oxley College we would like to congratulate and welcome our Prefect Team for 2017. We look forward to seeing the legacy they will leave behind and how they will lead the College together with all of Year 12 through 2017. We have an exceptional group of students who will offer a great deal of support, encouragement and guidance to our student body. I look forward to working with each and every one of them.

#### Head Boy

Thomas Hill

#### Head Girl

Isabella Knowles

#### Deputy Head Boy

Harry Mahr

#### Deputy Head Girl

Rosemary Bowyer

#### Prefects

Jasmin Wikramanayake

Sophie Capel

Jensen Barker

Max Mackevicius

#### Dobell Captains

Angus Webb

Ella Moran

#### Durack Captains

Charlie Beedle

Catrina Uliana

#### Florey Captains

Charlie Dummer

Georgia Wade

#### Mawson Captains

Mitchell Wellman

Madeleine Dawkins

#### Monash Captains

Mitchell Latham

Eliza Drysdale

#### Oodgeroo Captains

Alex Coleman

Isabella Davies



## TOM TREGENZA

Tom Tregenza (Year 10) won his 15 Years Piano Solo section of the Goulburn Eisteddfod on Saturday 10 September and at the end of the night was awarded the Goulburn Eisteddfod Society Scholarship for the most outstanding individual instrumental performance in the competition.



## CHIA PUDDING

Chia seeds are derived from a desert plant which is a member of the mint family. These black or white versatile seeds can be eaten raw or added to dishes. And though tiny, they pack a hefty nutritional punch.

But being nutritionally dense is not all these tiny seeds have going for them, they are a magical ingredient in many recipes providing natural gelling properties that don't require cooking to activate. Chia seeds swell almost nine times their size when soaked in liquid.

You may have heard of Chia pods, a breakfast product available from supermarkets. They are delicious and very popular and a convenient way to add chia to your diet, but they are not cheap. Here's how to make your own version for much less.

Place two tablespoons of chia seeds, 250ml of milk, half a teaspoon of vanilla extract and 1 teaspoon of coconut syrup into a container with a lid, shake to combine and let stand in the fridge overnight. The chia seeds will swell and set the milk making a delicious homemade chia pudding (pod). Eat with fresh berries or your favourite fruit. By Victoria Hansen



## OUTBACK HEAD SHAVE 2016

It is great having barely any hair. It is low maintenance, low annoyance and it feels nice. I decided early this year to shave my head for two reasons:

1. It was a good opportunity to raise money for charity.
2. If all the boys on Outback could shave their heads, then so could I. It happened on the first night of outback. There was a lot of hype around the idea of everyone shaving their heads and what they were going to look like. Some boys seemed emotionally pained at the sight of their locks of hair falling to the ground at the touch of an electric shaver. But really in the end, it is just hair, it will grow back. The different styles and cuts of all the boys hair were truly diverse. Ranging from a halo of curly hair, similar to one of Saturn's rings supported by Harry Mahr, to hair resembling a valley where one has shaved a line right down the centre of the head supported by school captain, Tomas Hill. Almost everyone had their own unique artworks displayed on their heads.

The end result, thanks to generous donations by parents, teachers and friends was \$3,640 raised for the local Peter Coupland Memorial Fund, managed through Can Assist and the local Cancer Centre. Peter, a former Oxley parent, was passionate about support for disadvantaged families in the Wingecarribee in keeping the household running when a child/parent is diagnosed with cancer. The funds are used to provide essentials such as meals, childcare costs and cleaning assistance. My goal was to originally raise \$1,000 dollars and I was surprised with the generosity of everyone. A big thank you to everyone who donated.

By Maddie Kalde (Year 12, 2017)



## MATT MORTON

### PO: Where are you from?

MM: I'm from South Africa. I live in a place near Cape Town called Stellenbosch where I've lived for my whole life.

### PO: Are all of your family in South Africa?

MM: My extended family live all over Africa, mainly long distances away from where I live that require a plane ride to visit them. Some of my family also live here in Australia - I have two aunts, one who lives here in Bowral and one who lives in Melbourne.

### PO: Is that who you are staying with while you are in the Southern Highlands?

MM: Yes. I'm staying with my aunt and uncle whose children went to Oxley. Michael Joubert, my cousin, graduated a few years ago.

### PO: What year are you in, in South Africa?

MM: Grade 10, same as here in Australia. Although I am a year old for my grade as I am turning 17 this month.

### PO: How long are you staying here for?

MM: Just this term. I leave to go home on Monday 12 December.

### PO: What are your hobbies?

MM: Socialising, water polo and surfing - I went on surf camp for OLE and have joined the school's water polo team.

By Liv Donovan (Year 10)

## JOHN PHILIPSON CLASS OF 2004

---

### **Now that you're off in the big wide world, what have you made of yourself since finishing school at Oxley?**

When I finished school, I like many others embarked on a gap year in the UK (Loughborough, Leicestershire). After catching the travel bug around Europe, I decided to do a year studying at university overseas. I chose New Zealand, as I was born there and it was where my Dad's family was from. I ended up staying there for five years, and completed a double degree in Law and Arts. After uni, I practiced law at a law firm in Auckland specialising in public policy and government engagement. After three years I got itchy feet again, and took a year off to travel the world with my partner Christie. Since that adventure we have returned to Sydney, working and plotting our next adventure.

### **What is your biggest achievement since high school?**

I have been very lucky to travel to over 40 countries and experience some amazing cultures around the world. I think managing that with completing my studies and establishing my career has probably been a bit of an achievement.

### **Were these things that during high school you expected you would end up doing?**

I was always interested in a lot of different things, so I suppose that getting out and seeing the world was somewhat inevitable. I don't think I would have said at high school that I would become a lawyer – but remembering how much I enjoyed English classes it probably makes more sense than my high school ambitions (to become a Doctor!).

### **How did Oxley prepare you for your future?**

When I was at Oxley there was a real adventurous or pioneering spirit to the school. Because we were so much smaller (and more remote) than a lot of the other schools we compared ourselves against, I think there was a real camaraderie that came with "competing against the odds". It also meant that we often had to be quite resourceful, which I think has



served me pretty well going forward. Most importantly, our small size meant that as a student body we were incredibly close – and I feel lucky to continue to be friends with a lot of my friends made at Oxley.

### **Is there anybody from the Oxley community who inspired you throughout high school?**

Mr Craig definitely epitomised the community feel at Oxley at that time, and the feeling that we all needed to help each other out to be successful. Subsequently, I continue to be inspired by his incredible travels! Mr Hall's love of great poetry and Tim Winton is also hard to forget! Finally, hard to go past Mr McGuinness' iconic Year 12 Economics classes – the stuff of legend!

### **What would you say you miss most about being at school?**

School was great for being able to hang out with your mates for at least an hour (lunchtime) each day. It's sad to say, but it feels like it has got much harder to make time to hang out with such a diverse group of people on such a regular basis.

### **What would you say to your fifteen year old self?**

Buy some shares in Apple! But seriously, I wouldn't say too much – part of the enjoyable part of growing up is making mistakes.



## 7-12 Swimming Squad Training

The Oxley College Sports Department invites all competitive swimmers in 7-12 to attend specialist Squad Training in preparation for the 2017 Swimming Season.

**Where:** Bowral Memorial Pool

**When:** Every Wednesday and Friday  
7.00am – 7.45am

**Coach:** Ange Harmey

**Cost:** Free (Pool entry is \$3)

**Breakfast:** A light breakfast consisting of WeetBix/Corn Flakes, Milk and fruit will be provided.

**NOTE:** This is not a learn to swim program. Attendees must be able to swim at least 50m efficiently.

For further information contact the Sports Department at school on 4861 1366



## P&F NEWS



**SAVE THE DATE: P & F AGM and "THANK TO THE P & F" DRINKS ON TUESDAY 22 NOVEMBER. ALL WELCOME. DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

### PIN OAK FAIR

The countdown is on!!!!

Thank you to all the volunteers who have put their hands up for the Pin Oak Fair. The staffing lists are now all complete. Even if you are not rostered onto a stand, we look forward to seeing you on the day. Maybe you'd like to donate a prize for the K - 6 hoopla competition? If so please speak to Jonathan Hunt in the K - 6.

\*\*\*Don't forget to follow and share updates for the Pin Oak Fair on Oxley College Facebook and Instagram.



## THANKYOU OXLEY COMMUNITY FOR YOUR \$10,000 FOR NEPAL!

We want to thank the Oxley community for their help/contributions in raising \$10,000 which is much needed in Nepal and this community.

The money that was raised will go towards three projects; rebuilding part of the secondary school that was badly damaged in the earthquake, funding an internet connection for the school and a paying a teacher's salary in the primary school for a year (which amounts to the equivalent of \$500!).

# GALLERY



# OCTOBER + NOVEMBER CALENDAR

<p>Welcome Jasmine Adele Gauchat born at 7:47am on Thursday 27 October at 3.04kg and 51cm. Congratulations to Christophe, Sarah and Ruby. We hope to see a photo soon!</p>	<p><b>Mon</b>            EXC: Year 12 (2017) History Days - Australian Museum            INC: Year 6 PDH Interrelate            EXAM: HSC Physics, English Extension 1</p> <p>31</p>	<p><b>Mon</b></p> <p>07</p>	<p><b>Mon</b></p> <p>14</p>
	<p><b>Tue</b>            EXAM: HSC Economics, Visual Art            INC: Yr9 &amp; Yr10 MUsic Showcase Orchestra Room, 7.00pm</p> <p>01</p>	<p><b>Tue</b>            EXC: Year 10 Film Festival Empire Cinema, 6.30pm</p> <p>08</p>	<p><b>Tue</b></p> <p>15</p>
	<p><b>Wed</b>            EXC: Year 12 Geography/ Economic Enterprise Kangaroo Valley            EXAM: HSC Legal Studies</p> <p>02</p>	<p><b>Wed</b>            EXC: String Ensemble @ St Judes</p> <p>09</p>	<p><b>Wed</b></p> <p>16</p>
	<p><b>Thu</b>            EXC: Year 12 Engineering Studies Day - OUW            EXAM: HSC Chemistry, Drama</p> <p>03</p>	<p><b>Thu</b>            Year 12 Formal, Waterfront Restaurant, The Rocks</p> <p>10</p>	<p><b>Thu</b>            Orientation Day K-6, 9.15am</p> <p>17</p>
<p><b>Fri</b></p> <p>28</p>	<p><b>Fri</b>            EXAM: HSC Design &amp; Technology            INC: K-6 Music Concert - Orchestra Room</p> <p>04</p>	<p><b>Fri</b></p> <p>11</p>	<p><b>Fri</b>            Orientation Day 7-12, 10.45am</p> <p>18</p>
<p><b>Sat</b></p> <p>29</p>	<p><b>Sat</b>            ISA Round 3</p> <p>05</p>	<p><b>Sat</b>            PIN OAK FAIR 9.00am - 3.00pm            Old Oxleyan 2006 10 Year Reunion            ISA Round 4</p> <p>12</p>	<p><b>Sat</b>            ISA Round 5</p> <p>19</p>
<p><b>Sun</b></p> <p>30</p>	<p><b>Sun</b></p> <p>06</p>	<p><b>Sun</b></p> <p>13</p>	<p><b>Sun</b></p> <p>20</p>

# Sport



## BOWRAL CLASSIC

As with...well most things we have in our everyday life we have a tendency to often come to take them for granted. From being at a caring school, to even the basics of having siblings and parents around us to support us. Living in Bowral, especially as teenagers, we often come to think of Bowral as a 'hole' and dream about when we finish school and move to the beautiful city skylines. Could we perhaps be taking our home territory for granted? On Sunday 23 October Bowral hosted the inaugural Bowral Classic Bike Race and 23 Oxley Students volunteered to help marshal on the course. There were three different races varying greatly in distance. The day despite the sixty percent head winds and thirty percent cross winds according to the riders was a raging success and will be continued into the future. The majority of people had travelled to the Highlands for the event from places such as Newcastle, Sydney and Canberra and all commented on the beautiful luscious green hills and colourful paddocks that the Highland landscape had to offer and reminded us of how lucky we are to live in such a naturally beautiful place. A big congratulations to Tim Marcolin and teachers Mr Woffenden, Mr Bollom and Ms Stanton who all participated in the race itself. Thank you to all the Oxley representatives for volunteering for the great event!

By Catriona Uliana (Year 12, 2017)



*Eliza Holloway and Charlotte Copus representing Oxley at the Chevalier Gymkhana.*

## CHEVALIER GYMKHANA

Chevalier Gymkhana

Well done to all the students that represented Oxley College at the Chevalier Gymkhana on Sunday 25 September. A few of our students received some great results in this exciting event.



## MATCH OF THE WEEK:

### CRICKET Super 8

On Tuesday 26 October, Oxley played Chevalier College Sixers in the Highlands Super 8 T/20 competition. Oxley batted first with Alex Coleman (34\*) and Harry Norman (31\*) starring with the willow in hand both requiring to retire once they reached 30. Some late innings from Nick Gardiner (12\*) helped Oxley score 108 off their 20 overs.

In the field Oxley struggled with their ability to catch the ball. But thankfully Oxley were able to bowl Chev out for 95 with Nick Gardiner and Lachlan Billington taking two wickets each.