

## Boarders' dinner



Current boarding students and old boy boarders joined a formal dinner in Sandover to share stories, past and present, about life in residence at Christ Church Grammar School. Rob Fletcher ('76) spoke about gaining independence and confidence from his boarding experiencing; qualities that helped secure his initial Japanese work placement leading to the career path he enjoys today. The night finished with the Linga, followed by a few beers at the pub. Thanks to all who joined the occasion

## MEMBER UPDATES

2018 **Joshua Chan** joined a Year 10 Religious Education class to speak about his journey since leaving school, his experience in coming to the Christian faith, and how his faith strengthens him in life. He then joined the Christian fellowship group at lunchtime, exploring faith and how he has worked through issues such as doubt. "Josh's story inspired the boys and it was wonderful to hear," said School Chaplain, Nicholas Russell.

2016 Old boys from the Class of '16, **Jack Davies, Hector Morlet, Jack Annear** and **George Gare**, have started a band and toured Australia to celebrate their debut EP. Titled Jack Davies and The Bush Chooks, the band has amassed more than 10,000 monthly listeners on Spotify.

2010 Quantum Physicist **Ben McAllister** joined current students as part of Science Week, sharing his expertise, passion for dark matter and 'The Big Bang.'

2006 Army Reservist Corporal **Edmond Chan** ('06) returned to Christ Church Grammar School's Army Cadet Unit as a guest instructor recently to assist Year 11 leaders in planning and executing reconnaissance tasks for field training. Representing A Squadron, 10th Light Horse, he shared his experience as a Cavalry Scout Section Commander. In his civilian career, CPL Chan works for Woodside as a Resourcing Adviser under the People and Global Capability Division.

2001 **Tom Rohr** is working as a TV producer in Sydney, currently undertaking a new series of Anh's Brush With Fame on the ABC.

1967 OBA Legend, **Sir Rod Eddington AO**, was profiled in The Australian recently demonstrating the extent of his international business achievements and academic pursuits. Throughout, Eddington's people skills and team focus shine through.

1954 **Ross Scott** is an active volunteer with Black Dog Ride, a national motor bike event to raise awareness and funding for mental health. From humble beginnings in 2009 the event now involves over 7000 bike riders who have raised more than \$2.5 million.



Old Boys' Association  
Christ Church Grammar School

# Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2019



## Welcome

Welcome to the August edition of the OBA Newsletter which, as always, brings news on our recent events, reunions and updates from members. One of our most popular member events, the Businessmen's Lunch, will take place early next month. This year we have changed the name to the Old Boys' Annual Lunch to better reflect the inclusive nature of the event and our association. We want to build upon the long history of success with this event to create an annual celebration for all old boys. We believe this year's function will do just that with four eminent speakers from the Christ Church community coming together with great food and wine at a new and exciting Claremont venue. I hope you enjoy this edition of our newsletter.

**Tom Nattrass** ('93)  
OBA President



## Sporting Glory

The Caddy brothers, Matt ('03) and Andrew ('07), along with father/son old boys, Bob ('67) and Nick ('13) Perman, were among those cheering Christ Church to victory in Round 12 of the PSA winter sports against Scotch College.

With old boys lining the sidelines at home, the Firsts teams didn't disappoint with plenty of hard-fought games across all codes.

Great wins were celebrated by Firsts Rugby (56-5), Football (78-55), Hockey (7-1) and Badminton (7-2), with both rugby and hockey teams securing a PSA trophy. The day was impressive, teamed with the launch of new shelters at St John's Wood playing fields. Cross country finished 2nd in the All Schools 5km race

behind Aquinas and soccer fought hard but ended up going down 0-3.

Many Christ Church parents supporting their sons in rugby were champions themselves 53 years ago when Christ Church won the Redman Cup outright for the first time. Thanks to all those who cheered the boys on, followed by a beer and burger at The Claremont Hotel. The Old Boys' Committee is hoping to make the Scotch fixture an annual social event moving forward.

# In loving memory of Uncle Jack

Jack Stove ('43) passed away recently at the age of 93, the youngest of four brothers who attended Christ Church Grammar School during the war period. Pictured are siblings (left to right) Reginald ('42), Jack ('43), Mervyn ('40) and Doug ('40). In this beautifully written account of Jack's life, his niece, Julie Stove, shares Jack's love of the Pilbara and the value of his education from Christ Church.

My much-loved uncle, John Strange Stove, was born 92 years ago in a then small pastoral pioneering town called Roebourne, in the Pilbara. This was long before the iron-ore mining boom and long before the towns of Dampier, Karratha and Wickham were created to fill that need, and the flavour of life was of slower and kinder pace. From birth, he was always known as Jack, as was the custom of the day.

When Jack was born in 1926, his parents owned Cooya Pooya sheep station, situated on the Harding River and 29km from the Roebourne township. He had three older brother's (Merv, Doug and Reg) and his father bred and raced horses at the local Pilbara race meetings. This was later to become a passion of Jack's, and he too bred and raced horses on his own property with great success and pleasure.

Life was tough in those days, and the 1931 depression would soon be upon them, but they also had the freedom of wide-open spaces and endless land to explore. Jack used to tell wonderful stories of the mischief that they would get up to and how their poor mother would be run ragged trying to keep them in the school-room, where she initially taught them to read and write.

Soon it became apparent that the three older boys needed to be sent south to Carnarvon to be schooled further, leaving the younger, and a very shy Jack at home. By this time, he also had two younger sisters (Lorna and Belle) and a good mate in Clucky, who was an Aboriginal boy of the same age whom he played with daily.

Jack was so shy that if visitors came to the homestead, he would run and hide down in the riverbed nearby until they had left. He and Clucky got up to all sorts of mischief, and again, his mother was continually having to get them out of various scrapes. Jack also told stories



of being included in the corroborees by their local Aboriginal community who lived and worked on the property and of how special that was to see. He later realised too that this was something that many white people would not have been fortunate enough to experience in those days, and it was a treasured memory for him.

At 13 years of age, Jack too had to go south to Perth for his high school years and by this time he was able to join his three older brothers who were now at Christ Church Grammar School. From the moment Jack got to Christ Church in 1939, he just loved everything about it. He always said that the one thing that he was most grateful to his parents for was the education that he received at Christ Church, particularly given that times were very tough and WWII was underway. He excelled at boxing, which interestingly was as a result of initially suffering some bullying from a much bigger boy. In response to this, his father contacted the sports master and asked him to teach Jack to box so that he could defend himself properly. Jack went on to become confident in all of his sporting abilities and later loved to play cricket and golf for the local Roebourne clubs. In his last years he could be found in front of the 'box' watching his beloved racing, cricket, tennis and football and loudly commenting on the game at hand!

After leaving Christ Church in 1942, he returned home to Cooya Pooya Station to work and later manage the property for his parents when they retired to Perth. When he was just 19 year of age,

he was offered the managership of the neighbouring Woodbrook Station, as the then owner had observed Jack's strong work ethic and management skills while managing his parent's property. As Jack said, "with the cocky confidence of a 19-year-old, I agreed to manage Woodbrook Station whilst still managing Cooya Pooya Station next door!" Eventually Jack bought Woodbrook Station and built it up to a very profitable and successful property running over 8,000 head of sheep by the end of 1974, before selling and retiring to the Perth with his wife.

It made Jack very proud to know that his nephews Kim and Peter Stove, great-nephews Blake and Denver Stove and Alex Massey all attended CCGS for their high school years, and that are each decent, good men who are living full and productive lives.

Uncle Jack was a favourite with his 12 nieces and nephews as we were all growing up. He was generous and kind to all of us at varying times in our lives, and I also remember him as being great fun to be around. He was the handsome young bachelor uncle who remained shy throughout all of his life. I grew to respect his old-world philosophy of hard work, application to the job at hand, paying bills immediately, being honest and being debt-free. He was a man who could turn his hand to anything and therefore could fix most anything around the house. He created beautiful bowls and such-like from his lathe and was most at peace sitting in the sun and watching the Swan River ripple past. It reminded him of the river flowing past Woodbrook's homestead. His heart was forever in the Pilbara and he will be laid to rest there with his brothers, amongst the spinifex and the fiery red dirt. A good man at peace and never to be forgotten.



## International reunions

A gathering of old boys in Hong Kong prompted the rekindling of friendship and new connections as families exchanged easy conversation. Admissions Registrar, Susie Gill and Deputy Principal, Simon Angus,

thoroughly enjoyed the evening describing the group as energetic and engaging! In New York, Alan Jones joined old boys and established a USA Chapter, expanding the Christ Church global reach and alumni network worldwide.

## Beyond compare

Robotics, 3D printing, flexible seating options and stimulating methods to inspire young minds were just some of the current educational techniques that amazed old boys during a recent tour of the Preparatory School. Head of

Preparatory School, Dr Steven Males, provided an enlightening account of students' learning practice through enquiry, flexibility and engagement; a very different learning environment from the '40s and '50s.



## Class of 1994, 25-year reunion

A small group gathered for a 'virtual tour' of the School to learn of new developments, exciting opportunities for the boys and changes since our time.

Whilst some of us catch up regularly, these reunions are always a great time to reconnect with old friends and find out what people are doing; new family developments with children, careers, hobbies etc. It's interesting to hear how so many careers have changed over time, with many of us bumping into one another through similar work fronts. Some old boys joined us from interstate and even overseas which was fantastic. Without doubt we look forward to the next OBA reunion to keep the school connections and networks alive.

Zane Randell



## SAVE THE DATE

13 September
Class of '76 lunch
20 September
Class of '59, 60-year reunion
20 September
Class of '61 luncheon
21 September
Class of '79, 40-year reunion
7 October
PSA Old Boys' Golf Day
11 October
Class of '69, 50-year reunion
18 October
Albany CCGS community gathering
20 October
Christ Church Hockey Club Keg
31 October
CCGS Old Boys' Association AGM

For details contact Alumni Co-ordinator, Deb Hill at [dhill@ccgs.wa.edu.au](mailto:dhill@ccgs.wa.edu.au) or visit the Old Boys' website for regular updates.