



MHSOBA Newsletter

DECEMBER 2019



Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| From the President | 3 |
| MHSOBA Memberships | 5 |
| The Unicorn Club - Refurbishment 2019/2020 | 6 |
| Keith 'Bluey' Truscott Scholarship Recipients | 9 |
| MHSOBA Student Vocational Seminars | 10 |
| Classrooms For The 21st Century | 12 |
| Foundation Giving Day Update | 13 |
| Reunions 2019 | 14 |
| 60 Years On - Class of 1959 Reunion | 18 |
| 60 Year Reunion Report | 20 |
| Hugh Brodie Historic Donation | 22 |
| Tree Dedication For Ray Willis | 26 |
| School Archives Report 2019 | 28 |
| Jon Faine Retires | 31 |
| Thank You and Farewell | 33 |
| GM&B Junior Leadership Program Update | 34 |
| Tributes | 25 |
| YOU ME US | 41 |



From the President



Seasons greetings to you.

In this our last Newsletter for 2019, we reflect proudly on the year that has passed and look with enthusiasm to the year to come.

The Unicorn Club

This year, The Unicorn Club has undergone Stage 1 of much-needed refurbishment. Enclosed you will find details of this project along with plans for Stage 2. Our sincere thanks to those who have supported and contributed to this important work thus far.

Events

In 2019, MHSOBA delivered a busy calendar of events including 11 Reunions; Homecoming for Class of 2018; four Student Vocational Seminars; our Annual Dinner at Leonda; the annual Golf Day at Southern Golf Club; our second AFL Finals Luncheon at Marvel Stadium and Appreciation Evening.

In support of MHS, affiliate organisations and sporting clubs, MHSOBA also assisted in the delivery of 55 meetings or events. Additionally, we hosted 17 private events for Old Boys and external clients throughout the year in The Unicorn Club ranging from professional multi-day seminars to workshops, cocktail parties and birthday celebrations.

Technology

For some time MHSOBA has been exploring a contemporary database to support our all-important Member engagement. Following considerable research and due diligence, we're delighted to announce a new CRM (Customer Relationship Management system) has been selected.

Now implemented, our team has started training and are delighted with the new technology and the possibilities it offers. This significant investment will allow us to better engage with our Members and will carry MHSOBA forward for years to come. For their advice and assistance, we acknowledge David Ball, IT Manager at MHS and Emer Diviney of Wendy Brooks Consulting.

WWW.MHSOBA.ASN.AU





From the President - continued

Thank you for your continued support in 2019. On behalf of the MHSOBA Committee, we send best wishes to and your family a safe and restful festive season and look forward to sharing the journey in 2020.

With warm regards – Honour The Work

PETER STATHOPOULOS

President, MHSOBA Inc.

WWW.MHSOBA.ASN.AU



MHSOBA Memberships

Get in early and purchase your 2020 MHSOBA membership.

Membership includes:

- Discounted hire of The Unicorn Club for your next business, social or networking event
- Assistance to gain work experience
- Free access to the exclusive Kelvin Club in the Melbourne CBD (valued at \$800 per annum)
- Networking opportunities

| MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| TYPE | TERM | PRICE |
| Student | Valid until student's 30th birthday | \$400 |
| Adult | 1 Year | \$70 |
| | 5 Years | \$300 |
| | 10 Years | \$500 |
| Concession (Senior/Tertiary) | 1 Year | \$50 |
| | 5 Years | \$180 |
| Associate (Non OB/Non Voting) | 1 Year | \$50 |
| | 5 Years | \$180 |

Now is the best time to become a member.

*Explore our membership options online at <https://mhsoba.asn.au/membership/>
or phone (03) 9824 0480 for more information.*

WWW.MHSOBA.ASN.AU



The Unicorn Club - Refurbishment 2019/2020

Earlier this year, MHSOBA undertook Stage 1 of a significant upgrade and refurbishment of The Unicorn Club.

Used extensively by MSHOB sporting clubs, affiliate organisations and MHS, the venue was in need of new carpet (including removal of dance floor), new lighting, decommissioning of old technology, fixtures and fittings, fresh paint throughout and a kitchen makeover.

Planning for Stage 1 was undertaken in 2017-2018 and work commenced in January this year. Across four months – and in between bookings - the venue was successfully upgraded with care and attention to detail.

For their generous support of our Stage 1 upgrade, MHSOBA gratefully acknowledges

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| • Frank Penhalluriack | Penhalluriack's Building Supplies, 345 Hawthorn Rd, Caulfield Ph: 9523 6000 |
| • Nicholas Psychogios | Events Committee, MHSOBA (past) |
| • Ted Goldstein | Treasurer, MHSOBA |
| • Lincoln Easton | MHSOBA Football Club |
| • Peter Douros | Scholarship Committee, MHSOBA |
| • David Saul | GM&B Patron's Club |

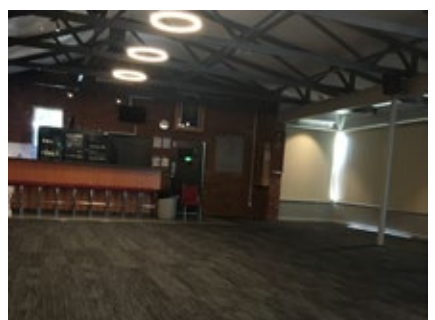
Since the refurbishment, we have seen an increase in bookings by Old Boys and external users of the venue for private and business events. We hope to build the number of such bookings which will in turn fund MHSOBA initiatives for students and Members alike.

Stage 2 of the refurbishment is planned for 2020. This includes purchasing new furniture, a replacement glass washer for the bar, directional and venue signage, additional lighting, outdoor furniture, greenery, balcony plumbing and cleaning of gutters and roof.

A funding drive for this project is scheduled for early 2020 and we'll share details with you then. Should you have any queries about this project, please contact administrator@mhsoba.asn.au

The Unicorn Club - Refurbishment 2019/2020

Images from Stage 1



WWW.MHSOBA.ASN.AU





THE UNICORN CLUB



With sweeping views to the Castle on the Hill, the newly refurbished Unicorn Club is your perfect venue for business meetings, seminars, workshops and celebrations.

As you plan your 2020 calendar or that special occasion, we invite you to host your events with us.

To discuss your function, contact Jo Malley, Event Manager MHSOBA - administrator@mhsoba.asn.au or call 9824 0480.



Keith 'Bluey' Truscott Scholarship Recipients

Every year, the MHSOBA has the great pleasure of interviewing prospective Year 10 students who apply for the prestigious Bluey Truscott Scholarship.

Applicants must satisfy a range of criteria which includes leadership skills, sporting prowess and high academic achievement.

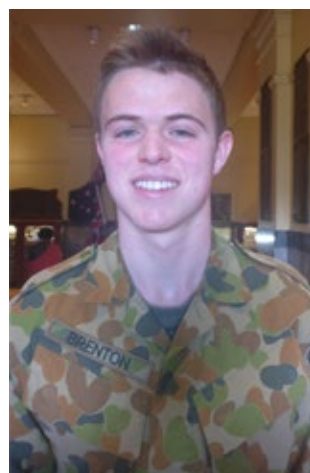
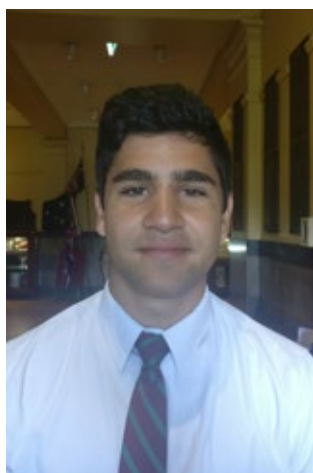
Four students were shortlisted and interviewed in late November. The MHSOBA has the option to grant up to two of these Scholarships each year, however if the selection panel feels that the students do not satisfy requirements then no Scholarships will be awarded.

We are pleased to announce that Neil Edward (pictured left) and Pravinth Raghudhevan (right) have been successful in being named Bluey Truscott Scholars for 2020 and 2021 respectively.



MHSOBA warmly congratulates these young gentlemen on their honourable achievement and looks forward to working closely with them over the next two years.

Year 12 Scholarship recipients include School Captain-elect Shayan Soroush (left) and Xavier Brenton (right).



WWW.MHSOBA.ASN.AU



MHSOBA Student Vocational Seminars

Each year, MHSOBA hosts a series of vocational seminars for MHS students in The Unicorn Club.

Presented by Old Boys who are completing or have recently completed their qualification, seminars span the disciplines of Law, Commerce, Engineering and Medicine. We hope to add to the list of professions in 2020.

Seminars are designed to provide students with practical, meaningful advice from their peers in a relaxed environment. Students are encouraged to ask questions and to speak one-to-one with presenters should they wish to.

While each presenter's experiences and aspirations differ, common themes emerge.

These include the importance of fostering friendships and networks; being a good "all rounder", not simply academic; the importance of active course participation; not mucking about during first year (!); applying for internships; what employers look for; what to expect from a profession, industry trends, the impact of technology and more.

With attendances ranging from 40 to over 80 students, we are grateful to these Old Boys for their contribution to our Seminar Series and thank them warmly for their time:

Alan Stein
MHS 2012

Legal
Seminar



MHSOBA Student Vocational Seminars - continued

Zac Zhou
MHS 2016

Commerce
Seminar



Deniz Atakan
MHS 2013

Engineering
Seminar



Gabin Soosaipillai
MHS 2017

Medicine
Seminar



Classrooms For The 21st Century

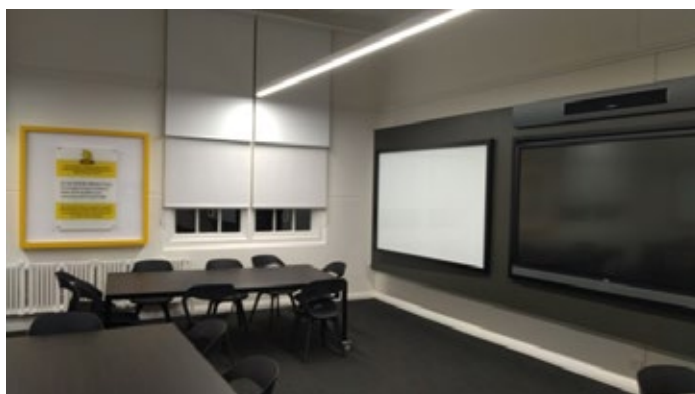
On 23 October 2019 the Principal welcomed donors and the community to celebrate the refurbishment of a corridor of class rooms in the old building. The main funds came from the donation day late last year, which paid for a number of rooms to be upgrade, the first upgrade since the 1995 refurbishment of the main building.

After many years of neglect, the rooms are now bright and clean, with the biggest change being the layout and the technology. The previous model of teaching was for the Master to stand at the front of serried ranks of students at desks, who would copy down what the teacher wrote on the blackboard, a model of education that has not changed since the 19th century. Jeremy explained that no work place does this anymore, it is Dickensian, and education seems to be the last stronghold.

The biggest change is the layout, with students now grouped into pods, with there being no front of the room anymore. This has also freed up space, the same number of students are in the room but the there is room to move between desks, allowing the teacher to engage directly with students individually. There are also multiple screens, which can operate together or individually for each group, with the capacity for what is written on the main board to mirror on the students own computer, and vice-versa.

Jeremy made a speech in the old art room, using that room as an illustration. After the art department moved into the new Arts building, the room was refurbished for geography in 2011. At that time, the room was state of the art, but is now dated, by both the change in technology and teaching practices.

Luke Savage



WWW.MHSOBA.ASN.AU





MHS FOUNDATION PRESENTS

Get Ready to make a difference

We are raising funds for new
classrooms again!
15 hours to make a change:

The Giving Day has been postponed until early 2020

After careful consideration from the Melbourne High School Foundation Board we have decided to postpone the Giving Day scheduled for Thursday 12 December.

We plan to relaunch the campaign in the first half of 2020. Thank you for your continued interest in the campaign and we look forward to your support in 2020.

In particular, we would like to say a huge thanks to those who registered to volunteer.

We will announce a new date early in the new year.



Reunions 2019

This year, MHSOBA delivered a calendar of 11 Reunions. From the 5-Year to 50-Year Reunion (and everything in between), this included our Golden Years Reunion for Old Boys who left MHS over 50 years ago, and a Homecoming BBQ for the Class of 2018.

Reunions present a wonderful opportunity for Old Boys to come together with mates, rekindle old friendships and renew networks. Whether attended by small or large numbers, the atmosphere in The Unicorn Club invariably buzzes with goodwill, laughter and camaraderie.

Some highlights from various Reunions across the year include:

Class of 1994

The legendary "Roll-In-A-Roll" was not forgotten as two Old Boys were presented with sausage rolls inside bread rolls with tomato sauce. A questionable delicacy? Evidently not!

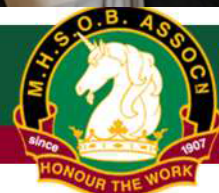


Golden Years

With support from MHS Music Director Gareth de Korte, Old Boys were joined by MHS Year 10 students in a rousing rendition of "Honour The Work." They also enjoyed hearing a presentation around today's MHS from 2019 School Captain, Joe Christie.



WWW.MHSOBA.ASN.AU



Reunions 2019 - continued

Class of 1959

Uniquely, the Class of 1959 held a 60 Year Reunion. After weeks of planning, meetings, sending letters, emails and making phone calls, the day came together beautifully. Thanks to School Captain-elect Shayan Soroush for contributing an insightful presentation to this event. Congratulations to these gentlemen again - see "60 Years On" – page 18.



Homecoming

This year's Homecoming BBQ took place on a blisteringly hot, windy day in March. Anticipated numbers of 65 to 70 attendees quickly fell to 30 to 35 with the withering heat. Despite the conditions a relaxed time was shared with frozen flavoured "Zoooper Doopers" a welcome, quenching hit!



Reunions 2019 - continued

Class of 1999

A wonderful turn-out of 47 Old Boys from the Class of 1999 for their 20 Year Reunion.



Class of 1979

Old Boys from this cohort were enthusiastic and committed to the evening! Among others it was great to see Fai Kong (now living abroad) who got off a plane that morning and travelled expressly to be part of the Reunion.



Each Reunion features a tour of the school hosted by the Principal or one of the Assistant Principals (Andrew Sloan, Pelissa Tsilimidos and Marcus Sharp).

These senior members of the MHS team also present at Reunions, reflecting on a particular year and era relevant to that year. MHSOBA thanks the MHS executive team for their time (particularly on weekdays and Thursday and Friday evenings).

For their time and commitment, we also thank members of the MHSOBA Committee who host each Reunion. Thanks too to Saki Ganella who continues to put up enlarged pages of the relevant "Unicorn" in The Unicorn Club so Old Boys can be reminded of their days at MHS.

WWW.MHSOBA.ASN.AU



Reunions 2019 - continued

Regional & International Gatherings

We're advised eight Old Boys gathered in London this year to celebrate their time at MHS. We have also had expressions of interest from Hong Kong-based Old Boys in getting a party together. In 2020 armed with our new CRM, we hope to support MHS Old Boys and expats to connect wherever they might be.

Keeping In Touch

With every Reunion, MHSOBA reaches out to as many Old Boys as possible to encourage interest and attendance. We do so via our website, social media (LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter), electronic mail and in some instances – post. We also encourage Old Boys to “spread the word” as we may not have current contact details on record.

If you have recently changed email, postal or email address please let us know by emailing administrator@mhsoba.asn.au

In closing, we thank our hospitality team at The Unicorn Club. All Old Boys or connected to MHS in some way, they have worked hard throughout the year to help us deliver our Reunions and other events.

We look forward to seeing you at your next Reunion.

The MHSOBA Team

60 Years On by Laurie Pole

A milestone reached; 60 years on for the 1959 MHS Exit year students. Some forty Old Boys and five wives attended their reunion luncheon in the Unicorn Club on 16th October, 2019.

MC Laurie Pole welcomed the guests and Principal Jeremy Ludowyke gave an entertaining talk highlighting some events contrasting the way the school functioned in 1959 with the way it operates today and what the future may hold. 2020 MHS School Captain elect and Bluey Truscott Scholar, Shayan Soroush (pictured below right), followed with an impressive overview from the student perspective. MHSOBA Vice President, Warren Fall, provided insights into the close relationship between the Old Boys and the school and the importance of MHSOBA in upholding the values of MHS through financial assistance, mentoring and role modelling for present day students.

The attendees were asked to record their memories and reminiscences to form part of a 'Visitor's Book' for the reunion. They were provided with a printed A4 sheet on which were two questions; i) My most enduring memories of MHS, ii) What have I experienced in my life until now.

A distillation of the responses received is collated here:

My most enduring memories of MHS:

- Inspirational teachers; friendships; tradition/history; recognition of achievement
- Monday school assembly; House Choral contests; Speech Night
- Sport, orchestra, band, clubs and cadets; variety of extra-curricular activities
- School plays ("Arsenic and Old Lace" 1958, "My Three Angels" 1959)

What have I experienced in my life until now (*as a result of my time at MHS*):

- Career satisfaction with broad experiences
- An enquiring mind as a result of teaching that challenged
- A firm basis for continuous learning
- The ability to change and adapt
- The desire to make a difference
- Pride in achievement and the importance of 'Giving Back'



Subtly we were taught to 'Honour the Work'.

The reunion was a very happy occasion, a day for renewal of friendships and catching up with life-stories amongst old class mates. The room was a buzz with conversation from first arrivals to the finish of lunch and on to the 'Castle on the Hill' for a walk-through tour of the school.

60 Years On by Laurie Pole - continued

Our thanks to the organising committee; Laurie Pole, Trevor Matthews, Jon Winstanley and Carl Dillon. Thanks also to MHSOBA events manager, Jo Malley and her staff, for planning the day and arranging the catering that made the luncheon such a success.



60 Year Reunion Report by Bill Latham

On the 16th of October more than 40 old boys from the 1959 exit year gathered in the Unicorn Club to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of their departure from Melbourne High School.

The event was very professionally organised by Laurie Pole and Jo Malley assisted by Trevor Matthews and John Winstanley.

All enjoyed a thoroughly satisfying reunion.

Proceedings commenced with a stirring rendition of the school song evoking memories of many Monday morning assemblies under Mr Larson's baton in the fifties.

Followed by informative speeches from current Principal Jeremy Ludowyke, MHSOBA Vice President Warren Fall and 2020 School Captain Elect Shayan Soroush, who raised a laugh by observing that in 2080 his exit year would be celebrating their 60th reunion.

Laurie then read a message he had received from Denmark where 1959 School Captain Ian (Redda) Phillips now resides.

After lunch and a few convivial drinks, Laurie asked for those present to recall our days at the school. The memories flooded back and much laughter was heard as the stories were recanted. There was a touch of sadness as many present remembered past classmates and teachers who had passed on. Most recently Ian McAllese a prefect from 1959 and champion athlete who died in London on October 7th.

I personally was saddened by learning of Wolf Goldman (exit 1957), John Harvey and Dr. Eric Unthanks passing.

On a personal note it was great to catch up with former classmates and the memories of my days not only at MHS but also at my State and Central schools were recalled. I also was astonished to realise how many of those present I could not recall from my days at school and what outstanding careers many had achieved.

60 Year Reunion Report by Bill Latham - continued

I have attached images of myself taken in the school tower in 1959 and the next day. The interesting aspect is to note the development of Melbourne's City skyline over the last 60 years.

The afternoon concluded for many with a tour of the school led by Principal Jeremy Ludowyke.

Many thanks to Laurie and Jo for a wonderful reunion.



Hugh Brodie Historic Donation

MHS 1926 - 1930

The archives celebrated a special day on 23rd June 2019 when a significant collection of material relating to Hugh Brodie was donated to the school by Peter and Benita Cater. They were welcomed to the Heritage Room by School Historian Dr Alan Gregory, School Archivist Luke Savage, and MHSOBA President Peter Stathopoulos.

Hugh Rowell Brodie was a student at MHS from 1926 to 1930, was an SRC Rep, involved in debating and the school magazine. He was academically bright, picking up the Special Exhibitions in British and European History. At the University where he completed his B.A. and B.Ed., he won both the Dwight and the Gladman Prizes. In 1940 he returned to the School as a teacher, though his stay was brief, as within a year he had enlisted in the R.A.A.F. After completing his training he joined 460 Squadron, then equipped with AVRO Wellington Bombers, in Britain. He flew in several raids, until on 3 June 1942 his plane was shot down near Dulken in Germany. He had been in Europe for less than a year and was 30 years old. Whilst the crash site was identified after the war, his body was not recovered and Hugh is commemorated at the Runnymede Memorial in the UK.

Hugh's father had died in 1931 and his mother died in January 1942 after being hit by a tram in Victoria Parade, 5 months before Hugh's own death. Hugh was their only child.

A contemporary at school was Harold Percival Carter who came from Camperdown Higher Elementary School to complete his leaving certificate and Honours. Hugh and Harold became close friends and after being admitted as a solicitor, Harold was Hugh's lawyer. Harold kept a number of letters to him from Hugh, which have now been donated to the school by Harold's son Peter and his wife Benita. Also donated are Hugh's war medals, only the second set of war medals donated to the school, pages from the Brodie Family Bible, the eulogy for Hugh's mother's funeral and a touching letter from Hugh's uncle.

In a letter dated 10 June 1941, Hugh writes to Harold that as he has last will and testament, he should also have this document as well, a document he hoped would not be used, but as monthly replaces are 100% and the ships black cat had died, he thought it necessary. A note added reveals that he never wrote the document, which was to be a letter to his mother, to be given to her in the event of his death.

On ANZAC Day he writes about his first English Spring, 'the poets are not liars', returning from a bombing raid of the Ruhr they put down in the Southern England, where spring had arrived. They then flew back to Yorkshire and his base, where spring had raced them.

After several 'raids' including le Harve docks, he became complacent about the danger. Then he had his first raid on the Ruhr. His crate was holed a few times over 'Happy Valley' and Hugh learnt fear. He wrote about the morality of bombing "I cannot justify the death of German babies because English babies have been murdered, but I believe we must fight for the values that constitute Christendom, I forget the German babies."

Hugh Brodie Historic Donation - continued

There are also a number of postcards, one records "I came over with a contingent drawn from every state in Australia: nearly 1 in 10 were M.H.S.". In another he records new sights: 'Denmark; a burning city 100 miles away; a Messerschmitt 110 going down'

Two newspaper cuttings and a photo of Hugh complete the collection.

Whilst on service, Hugh wrote An Airman's Prayer, which was published in The Unicorn and also Time Magazine. The prayer has become a standard at Air Force memorials and the school holds the original dictated copy of the prayer written down by Bob Clarke. Hugh also wrote a letter to his students, which along with the prayer was written on vellum and hung in the foyer, where it remains.

An Airman's Prayer

Almighty and all-present Power,
Short is the prayer I make to Thee,
I do not ask in battle hour
For any shield to cover me.
The vast unalterable way
From which the stars do not depart
May not be turned aside to stay
The bullet flying to my heart.
I ask no help to strike my foe,
I seek no petty victory here,
The enemy I hate, I know,
To Thee is also dear.
But this I pray, be at my side
When death is drawing through the sky.
Almighty God, who also died,
Teach me the way that I should die.

Letter to my Boys

My Dear Boys, I write because I love you. You are students at the school where, as a student, I was taught much, and where, teaching you, I learnt much more. Between us there is that bond, and because of it I ask you to be patient. Give me for once your full attention; I cannot threaten impositions now.

I do not write for myself alone. Consider this letter written by the youth of the whole world, by the countless men who, born of every race, baptised into every creed wearing every type of uniform (or none at all) and performing every conceivable task, are working, fighting or dying for man's freedom.

Hugh Brodie Historic Donation - continued

We had from our fathers a world that was good. It was not good enough. Today, because of that, it is being shattered to fragments. We cannot save our cities: they are gone, but in the ruins we may still preserve freedom, and, freedom saved, the cities of the future will be for you to build.

Ancient peoples believed that human sacrifices offered over the foundations of a town procured it permanency and power. The blood of a generation is shed for your cities and not shed by bound victims, but by free men. Do not waste their sacrifice. The future is yours. Use it well.

And now I write for myself alone. If I wronged any one of you by word or deed, forgive me. If I taught anything of worth, act upon it. If I taught what should not have been taught, drive from your minds the memory of that teaching, not of the teacher. Do not forget me too quickly, for I shall not forget you.

Your friend,

HUGH BRODIE, Sergeant, R.A.A.F.

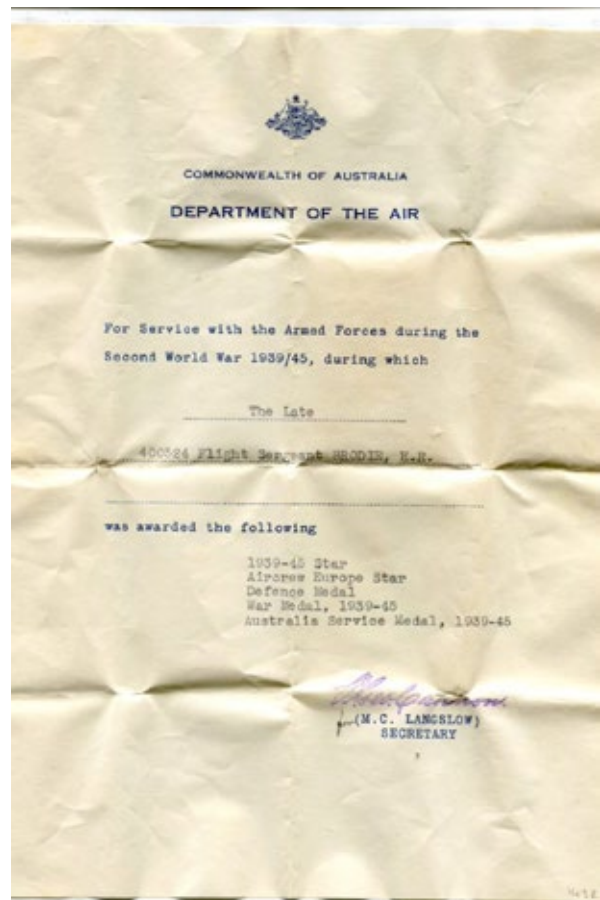


L to R – Benita Carter, Dr Alan Gregory, Luke Savage, Peter Cater

WWW.MHSOBA.ASN.AU



Hugh Brodie Historic Donation - continued



WWW.MHSOBA.ASN.AU



Tree Dedication For Ray Willis

At a ceremony on the front lawns of MHS on the afternoon of the 1st May 2019, a tree was planted and dedicated in honour of former Principal Ray Willis (1992-2004).

Earlier in the day, the school had started half an hour late, as it has done on every 1st May since the then Governor of Victoria, General Sir Dallas Brooks, by Vice Regal decree, had declared that it would do so to honour the then retiring Principal, Brigadier George Langley in 1956. Members of the Willis family were hosted by Principal Jeremy Ludowyke in the Principal's office, along with former School Council President, Judge Tom Wodak and his wife Helen, School Historian, Dr Alan Gregory and School Archivist, Luke Savage. The family members present included Ruth's and Ray's daughter, Lyndall, his two grandsons, Will and Alex Metzke, Lyndall's husband, Dwight Harrison, and Ray's brothers, Robert (Bob), David and Geoffrey. Ronald Seaman, also a former School Council President, was an apology.

The threatening rain held off and the sun broke through in time and a Scarlet Oak (*Quercus coccinea*) tree was planted on the northern lawn near the flag court. Each person present took turns with the shovel to help plant the tree. Several current teachers, Shaun Kemp, Pelissa Tsilimidos and Ross Pritchard joined in.

With the tree well planted, current Principal Jeremy Ludowyke talked about the history of planting trees in the school grounds, which stretched back to the official opening in 1927 when the Governor of Victoria, Lord Somers, planted a tree. In the 1950's two Desert Ash trees were planted in the area between the tower and the wings. The drought and age took their toll, and the tree planted by George Langley on his retirement, died and was replaced several years ago with a new tree dedicated in his honour in the same place. Dr Alan Gregory wielded the spade then with the same skills as he did for the Willis tree. Jeremy noted that the 1st of May has become a day in the school calendar for events such as these. The archivist noted that in 1936 a giant Redwood had been planted in honour of an American surgeon who had undertaken lifesaving surgery on a Victorian school boy. For those who look for such a giant tree however will be disappointed, as the 1939 drought was too much. Ruth Willis talked briefly about Ray and his love of the school which was such a significant part of his life from when he was a student until he returned as Principal.

Tree Dedication For Ray Willis - continued



Back row L to R: Bob Willis (brother), Geoff Willis (brother), David Willis (brother), Ross Pritchard, Jeremy Ludowyke, Alan Gregory. [Helen Wodak is in front of David but barely visible]

Front Row L to R: Mary Willis (wife of Bob), Will Metzke (grandson of Ray), Alex Metzke (grandson of Ray), Ruth Willis, Lyndall Willis (daughter), Dwight Harrison (husband of Lyndall), Shaun Kemp. [Tom Wodak is in front of Ross but also barely visible].

School Archives Report 2019

This has been another busy year of consolidation work within the archives, with many visits, donations and research requests. The Heritage Room in the Old Science Library has permanent displays as well as stored material that can be accessed.

Projects:

The main research project is researching former students, starting with the 1905 intake, and is now up to 1912. This builds on the extensive work of John Elden with his school registers. Each student is being searched for in the Victorian Births death and marriages database, the Public Record office of Victoria, the National Archives of Australia, Trove (National Library of Australia) and google. Interesting things found include:

- 1221 out of 2425 students became teachers (however briefly)
- 6 student who made it to 100 (all old girls)
- 8 students killed in WWI that are not in the school's Honour Roll.
- 24 married couples who both were students of MHS
- We now have previous school attended for 15% of students, with the most common schools being Tooronga Road State School followed by Fairfield and Tongio West State Schools.
- The first female graduate in Agricultural Studies
- Several additions to the rogues gallery

Exhibitions:

Two items were loaned to the Stonnington History Centre for its exhibition on sport in Malvern and Prahran. The Shrine Of Remembrance returned the Air Speed Indicator Pitot Tube from Keith "Bluey" Truscott's plane, that had been on long term loan. A temporary exhibition was mounted for the launch of The School that Sings in the Memorial Hall.

Donations:

Over the year, 574 items have been donated to the archives with significant donations including:

- Photos and ephemera of various MHS trips in the 1980's, including to Central Australia, Queensland and New Caledonia, donated by Stefan Janus.
- Maxwell Oliver Wilson' School Blazer from 1934 donated by his friend Martin Jackson.
- Social Service Badges from 1957, 1959, 1960 & 1961.
- Bill Woodfull's Portable Gramophone player, a gift from the staff of MHS in 1930 for his trip to England, donated by Jeremy & Holly Armour, grand-children of Bill.
- Various old uniforms from the Second Hand Uniform Shop.
- A book of prints that was in the MHS library, and ended up at Wonthaggi who donated it back to MHS.
- The Hugh Brodie material (see article in this newsletter)
- Flyers, tickets and programmes for the School Play donated by George Marotous.
- MHSOB Accounts book from 1968-1970 donated by Alex Stewart MHS 1974-1977 whose father, Graeme, had been Treasurer of the Old Boys.

School Archives Report for 2019 - continued

- Michael John Aylott's Rugby Top and School Tie.
- Collection of early Sentinel's, donated by Bartley Drohan's daughter Ruth.
- Photos by Clarence Johnson, a teacher at MHS 1927-1947, of his class at Spring Street, of what appears to be the opening ceremony of Forrest Hill, of school trips to Mount Buffalo and several football teams. They were donated by his son, Neville Johnson MHS 1949-1953. Clarence's grandson Michael Johnson attended MHS 1979-1980, and two of his great-grandsons, Oliver Johnson attended MHS 2013-2016 and Jeremy Johnson attended MHS 2016-2019.

Another 1536 items already in the collection have now been catalogued, most of which were photographs, part of a larger project to sort various boxes and folders of loose photos. The existing photos were also sorted by date if they did not already form part of a discrete donation of material. The archive now has 7225 catalogued photos out of a total collection 14101 catalogued items.

Visits:

A number of people have visited the Heritage Room over the year, the least welcome guest being a pigeon who came up the stairs. Several former and potential students called in when they discovered the door to the tower was open, and had always wanted to see the view. The library monitors organised two visits this year with most questions from the students being about the tunnel under the school and how to access it. A number of volunteers from the Second Hand Uniform Shop visited, with particular interest in the way uniforms have changed.

What You Can Do:

Donations

The archives are always looking for donations of material that relate either directly to the school, or to students/staff.

Ask questions

Utilising the archives for researching about the school and the students is why we are here.

Visit

The room is open most weekends during term time. Contact the Archivist before to arrange a time. A visit to the roof to enjoy the views is always a highlight.

School Archives Report for 2019 - continued

Collect newspaper articles

If you regularly read a newspaper, we would appreciate if you could collect articles about the school and former students, and send them in periodically. If you are interested, please make contact.

Contacting the Archives:

Luke Savage

Honorary School Archivist

Email: historian@mhs.vic.edu.au

Phone: 03 9823 7135 (weekends or leave a message)

Mail: Luke Savage, Archives

Melbourne High School

Forrest Hill

SOUTH YARRA VIC 3141



This extraordinary photograph is believed to have been taken in the first year of MHS opening between 1927 and 1928.

WWW.MHSOBA.ASN.AU



Jon Faine Retires

Jon Faine - Iconic Broadcaster and Journalist Retires from the ABC

MHS 1971 - 1974

'I don't apologise for that': Jon Faine leaves ABC with no regrets

By Broede Carmody



ABC broadcaster Jon Faine is renowned for criticising his own bosses. But on the eve of his retirement, the veteran radio presenter has revealed he hasn't always gotten away with it.

"I've been hauled over the coals quite a few times," the 63-year-old says. "I've been sat down and told, what do you think you're doing? And I always argue, well, I'm doing what you employed me to do. Which is to say what I think on the audience's behalf and to give them an authentic experience. We should not be so glass-jawed and thin-skinned that we can't ask ourselves the same questions we ask of everybody else."

Broadcaster Jon Faine is retiring from ABC Radio Melbourne after decades hosting the popular mornings program. *Credit:Luis Enrique Ascui*

The most famous example of Faine lashing his own bosses came last year, when the Melbourne-based broadcaster described Michelle Guthrie's stint as the ABC's managing director as an "astonishing fail".

WWW.MHSOBA.ASN.AU



Jon Faine Retires - continued

"The emperor had no clothes and I was prepared to say so. I don't apologise for that. All I ever said to Michelle Guthrie – and to her face, not behind her back – was, 'Can you do your job better, please? You are the leader of the most important cultural institution in the country and you are invisible and that's not good enough.' How you can get into trouble for doing that, I don't know."

Strangely, this isn't the first time Faine is preparing to hang up his headphones. In 1994, the broadcaster's afternoon program on 3LO (as ABC Radio Melbourne was then known) was given the chop. But ABC management asked him to come back two years later.

The veteran ABC broadcaster has interviewed everyone from Jane Fonda to Tony Abbott. This is a look back at one of Melbourne's most iconic broadcasters.

"Back then, it was very much the practice of ABC Radio to turn presenters over every couple of years," he says. "No one lasted long. And so the idea that someone has been in the job like this for 23 years is, quite frankly, hilarious."

On Friday, Faine will farewell listeners after more than two decades hosting his popular mornings timeslot – a much longer period of time than the "decent" four or five year stint he asked for when returning to ABC Radio in 1997. This farewell, of course, will be different – the veteran broadcaster hasn't been sacked. Instead, he is passing on the baton to respected television host Virginia Trioli.

"I won't miss the 4.15am alarm clock and the accumulated sleep deficit," Faine says. "I won't miss that for one blink of an eye. It's not a job, it's a lifestyle."

"It's going to be really hard. Every day I get this incredible adrenaline hit. It's also not just the adrenaline of performing but that sense of being in the thick of things - knowing what's happening around town, around the country, around the world and knowing what's coming next. It's addictive."

Faine's last show will be broadcast live from Melbourne Town Hall on Friday, October 11.

Article reproduced with thanks to Fairfax Media.

Thank You And Farewell

Two young men from the Class of 2019 we would like to thank most sincerely are Joe Christie, School Captain (pictured left) and Nicholas Szigeter, Year 12 Bluey Truscott Scholar (right).

To these gentlemen we say "You have a great future ahead of you; make the most of the opportunities that have been granted to you and especially the ones that you have worked extremely hard for as well."



We thank you for your service and contribution over the last two years as school leaders and know that you continue to be leading figures in the Old Boys community for many years to come.

We wish you both all the best for all your future pursuits.

Peter Stathopoulos and the MHSOBA Committee

WWW.MHSOBA.ASN.AU



GM&B Junior Leadership Program Update

We kicked off The Junior Leadership Program (JLP2020) with a very successful and well attended Leadership Symposium.

Our 3 speakers were Dr Julia Cornwell McKean, LTCOL Pinghan Chua and Mr Ben Volkering.

They addressed the entire group of Year 9 students from MacRob and MHS on Diversity, Ethics and Changing styles of leadership.

Many thanks for their time and fantastic presentations.

Wayne Chow, GM&B Patron's Club



L - R: John McIntosh, Daryl Brooks, Ben Volkering, LTCOL Pinghan Chua, Dr Julia Cornwell McKean, Sally Ng, Wayne Chow and Alan Stein



GM&B
PATRONS CLUB

WWW.MHSOBA.ASN.AU



Tributes



WWW.MHSOBA.ASN.AU



MHSOBA Tributes



Graham McKenzie

(8 December 1943 - 1 December 2019)

MHS 1958 - 1961

Melbourne High School alumni Graham McKenzie (Exit 1961) passed away on December 1, 2019, after living with Lymphoma for 18 months. Graham was a Melbourne based landscape painter and teacher. As a prolific artist, he was still creating artwork throughout his illness, and continued teaching art classes at the Victorian Artists Society. He spoke very fondly of the inspirational teachers he had at Melbourne High School that set him on his path to be an artist and teacher. He has remained close friends with several of the men he studied with during his school years.

After his graduation from Melbourne High School, Graham went on to study at Prahran Technical College, RMIT and completed his teacher training at Melbourne State College. Following these studies, he taught for two years at in Donald High School in the Wimmera, Victoria. On his return to Melbourne, he taught in a city school before accepting a teaching position in Alberta, Canada. He then moved to England and obtained a position working at the Whitechapel Art Gallery. Returning later to Melbourne, his teaching career spanned Kew High School, Wesley College and Methodist Ladies College. He also led workshops for the National Gallery, Hawthorn Artist Society, and the Victorian Artists Society.

Graham's painting, over the last three decades, took him to many remote Aboriginal communities across northern Australia, as well as many other regional and local destinations. The paintings he developed from these trips were inspired by indigenous cultures and their relationship to the land. His paintings continued to explore the experience of beauty in the landscape, not direct realist representations of natural features. Throughout his artistic career Graham held 26 solo exhibitions and participated in numerous group exhibitions throughout Australia. He had recently been exhibiting with Tacit Gallery, Melbourne.

June McKenzie

Roger Bolden

(6 May 1946 - 5 November 2019)

MHS 1961 - 1963

I write to inform the Association of the death of Roger on the 5th November 2019 in Geelong. Roger moved from Scotch College in Perth to commence at Melbourne High in Year 10. These three years were always talked about with great affection. He gained a degree in Electrical Engineer and a Master of Engineering Science from the University of Melbourne. Roger was employed for thirty years by SECV prior to establishing his own successful consultancy. Married with two sons and two grand-children, he was still in the workforce up until his death.

Carlene Bolden

MHSOBA Tributes - continued



Eric John Aarons
(16 March 1919 - 18 January 2019)

MHS 1933 - 1934

Eric Aarons was only at Melbourne High School from 1933-1934 coming from Middle Park Central. Whilst in Fourth Form, his father lead a delegation of workers to the Soviet Union and later fought in the Spanish Civil War. He moved to Sydney and he went to Sydney Boys' High School from 1935 and then the University of Sydney where he completed a BSc in 1942.

He was the member of four generations of the Aarons family who were active in the Communist Party of Australia (CPA). He had joined the Young Communist League in 1938, was active in the Communist party branch at Sydney University, was secretary of the University Labor Club. He worked in his Father's boot shop, then graduated with first class honours and worked for Timbrol Chemical plant where he tried to radicalise the plant workers. Influenced by Trotsky's theories he was long engaged in anti-war and peace campaigns and participated in the 1949 miners strike.

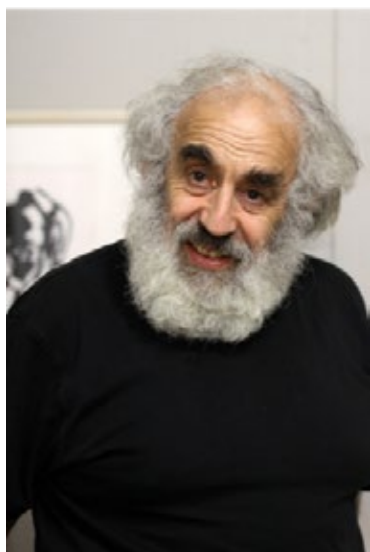
He worked in research at the Sydney Technological Museum then joined Taubman's paints. He was Secretary of the CPA's South Coast District in NSW and in 1951 at the invitation of the Chinese Government he led a delegation to China to study Chinese communism and he remained in China for three years. On his return this had changed his thinking on Communism which brought him into conflict with older CPA members in Australia. He taught in CPA education groups and was active in the Newcastle area of the party and became a prolific writer. Khrushchev's denunciation of Stalin and the invasion of Hungary became anti-authoritarian in their view of communism. There was a rift in the party with Ted Hill (son of James Hill MHS Principal 1934-1949) leading a pro Chinese group and Aarons supporting the non Stalinist approach (Eric's father Sam is captured by ASIO as saying "Hill is a madman"). In 1963 he became part of the CPA Secretariat in Sydney and from then on played a key role in their activities, travelling overseas, representing the CPA and editing the party publications. He became General Secretary 1965-1982.

Aarons helped develop a new Australian approach to Communism which caused a breach with Russia and there were also bitter divisions in Australia. The several disputes and complicated splits meant the collapse of the CPA which wound up in 1991.

Aaron's retired to rural NSW where he read extensively and published several significant books on Marxist and non Marxist theory where he modified his views. He was also a successful artist and his sculpture was well regarded. He died aged 99.

Alan Gregory

MHSOBA Tributes - continued



Jack Wodak
(29 December 1942 - 6 May 2019)

MHS 1957 - 1960

Compassionate and humane understanding of human frailty.

In May 2019, Melbourne lost the cherished neurologist, Dr Jack Wodak, at the age of 76. He was one of three sons of Czech emigre parents Erich and Helen Wodak who, after fleeing the rise of fascism in Europe to settle in Singapore, had to flee again in 1941, this time to Melbourne, where Jack and his younger brother were born. The family returned to Singapore following the end of World War II for several years before briefly moving to Glasgow and then back to Melbourne in 1951. Erich remained in Singapore supporting the family while Jack's mother, Helen, requalified as a doctor at the University of Melbourne as her original Czech medical degree was not recognised in Australia.

Jack attended Lloyd Street State Primary School and followed his older brother to Melbourne High School to complete his secondary education. He then graduated from medicine at the University of Melbourne in 1967. After the junior doctor years he began post-graduate training as a neurologist at The Alfred hospital before taking the precarious overland route through India, Nepal, Afghanistan, Iran and Turkey, eventually arriving in London in 1971 to complete his neurology studies at the London Hospital and the National Hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System, Queen Square.

Although struck down by various illnesses, including his first stoush with cancer, during this time he returned to Melbourne to take up a post as a visiting consultant physician in neurology at The Alfred and opened private consulting rooms at first in St Kilda Road and then in the early 1990s at Cabrini Hospital, Malvern, where he continued consulting until five weeks before he died.

Jack was a much-loved colleague in the Melbourne neurological fraternity. He was known for both his intellectual and emotional support to colleagues, patients and students and for his salubrious cathartic wit. He was a generous and supportive teacher and influenced many junior doctors to pursue a career in neurology and related professions.

Jack undertook 15 years of pro bono work at The Alfred in his specialist area of neurological infectious disease during the height of the HIV/AIDS epidemic when the available treatments were of limited use and prone to disabling side effects. He was a superb clinician and a careful and patient listener imbued with a compassionate and humane understanding of human frailty. He had no time for pomposity or arrogance and would not resile from challenging obstructionist bureaucrats when advocating for his patients and their needs. He was highly esteemed by his patients due, in no small measure, to his tenacious advocacy and unflinching support during their worst hours.

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE

MHSOBA Tributes - continued

Jack was an extremely erudite and cultured man. He was politically astute and widely and thoughtfully read. As a child of Jewish refugees from European fascism, he kept up a lifelong interest and engagement with the dark modern history of eastern Europe. His allegiances also spread to the plight of refugees from all conflicts. He was a child of the Cold War and its proxy wars and in his youth was actively engaged in publicly protesting against their absurdities and cruelties.

As a medical student visiting India, he took it upon himself to interview prime minister Nehru to caution against acquiescing with the vilification of the local Chinese population during the Sino-Indian War. The treatment of asylum seekers by Australian governments in recent years was a matter of enduring outrage. He took an early and growing concern in the environmental degradation that has blighted the late 20th and early 21st centuries. He was deeply antipathetic to contemporary obscurantist political methods and became increasingly alarmed with growing prospect of eventual environmental collapse.

However, Jack was not dark or brooding. He had an epicurean side. He eschewed religious dogma and superstition and enjoyed the finer things in life with a deep love of the visual arts, cinema, theatre, literature, music, fine cuisine and stimulating conversation with friends. He was a refined conversationalist with a sharp often mordant wit and a fine repertoire of jokes very much in the Jewish tradition of anti-authoritarian satire and irony.

His letters, emails and text messages were irreverent, anarchic and delighted in sending up political correctness. His dress code was as unorthodox as his humour. Shirts and ties were anathema, although he did savour one tie, an old Builders Labourers Federation tie emblazoned with the BLF emblem of the Eureka Southern Cross which he reserved for reluctant attendance at rare functions at the Melbourne Club. At the famed Schubertiade music festival in now historically chastened Austria, his insistence on T-shirt, shorts and thongs over the customary attire of "evening dress" would almost certainly have resulted in refused entry to this "hochkultur" had he not been so self-evidently Jewish.

Music was central to Jack's life. He understood its redemptive power and delighted in sharing that gift with friends. For more than three decades, he held a monthly gathering at home where assembled friends would listen to and discuss comparative performances of a selected work, from the canon of Western classical music. For Jack, however, Johann Sebastian Bach was unsurpassed.

Jack travelled often, at times to precarious destinations, but always with the goal of seeking out great works of art, architecture or music. He returned frequently to London to catch up with old friends and to indulge his passion for theatre art and music.

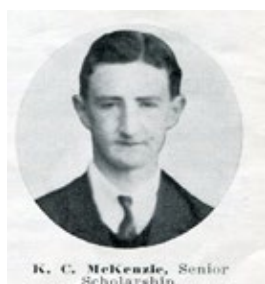
CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE

MHSOBA Tributes - continued

A particular pleasure was to hear the works of Bach played on original baroque instruments in the Lutheran chapels of Leipzig and surrounding places where they were first performed. His partner and travelling companion the artist and curator, Elizabeth Cross, shared his pleasure in art, artefacts and textiles and helped him to acquire an exceptional and eclectic collection of works. It was always a pleasure to visit Jack at home among his wonderful art collection, to enjoy beautifully prepared food and listen to his amusing self-deprecating stories about his various mishaps when travelling and his sharp observations of the ways of foreign lands.

Jack is survived by his love and partner, Elizabeth, his two brothers, Tom and Alex, and their wives, Helen and Jo, and by his five nephews, niece, and seven great-nieces. He will be greatly missed by his family, patients and many friends.

*Bruce Day (doctor in the neurology department at The Alfred)
Article reproduced with thanks to Fairfax Media.*



The Honourable Keith Colin McKenzie, C.M.G.
(13 May 1921 - 23 July 2019)

MHS 1936-1937

Keith came to Melbourne High School from Box Hill High School to complete his Leaving Hours, which he did successfully, being awarded a Senior Scholarship and Honours in Maths I, II, III and IV.

He joined the Commonwealth Public Service in 1941 and for many years held senior positions in industrial relations and employment areas. He was the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Labour from May 1973 to October 1975 and Permanent Head of the Department of Employment and Industrial Relations from December 1975 until December 1978. He was appointed Deputy President of the Conciliation and Arbitration Commission from 1979 until he retired in 1986.

He was made a Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George in the New Year's Honours in 1982 for services to the public.

He married Dorothy who pre-deceased him and they had 4 children. At the time of his death at 98 years of age, Keith had 11 grand children and 6 great grandchildren.

YOU | ME | US

Keep up to date with all the MHSOBA news on our website, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter & Instagram.

www.facebook.com/MHSOBAInc/

www.linkedin.com/groups/133438/

www.twitter.com/MHSOBAInc

www.instagram.com/mhsobainc/

www.mhsoba.asn.au

If you would like to contribute an article in the MHSOBA newsletter, feel free to contact the MHSOBA office or email us.

Melbourne High School Old Boys Association
Forrest Hill
South Yarra, Victoria 3141

PH (03) 9824 0480

EMAIL digital@mhsoba.asn.au



WWW.MHSOBA.ASN.AU

