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From the Head

When I started at Canberra Grammar School a few years ago, I decided very early on that no School publications would feature buildings on their covers instead of students’ faces. Beautiful as our Quadrangle most certainly is, and a daily pleasure to experience, I didn’t want the School to trade too heavily on the easy imagery of establishment grandeur that our red brick colonnades and their autumnal creepers so elegantly provide. I wanted instead to capture as best we could the vibrant spirit and daily life of a flourishing School; its heritage ever in its background, but its students always active in the forefront with their eyes looking outwards in aspiration. They are, after all, our sole reason for being.

Well, I’ve broken that rule! And happily so in this instance. You don’t often get to pay tribute to something as extraordinary as The Snow Centre for Education in the Asian Century and to honour the exceptional generosity of its donation by a single Old Boy, Mr Terry Snow, and his family. It is a gift that has come not only with the resource to construct a stunning enlargement of the School’s classroom capacity but with expertise in planning and an impetus to the re-establishment of the CGS Foundation that I hope will see other parts of our aging campus similarly transformed before long.

Strikingly modern in its adventurous design by Daryl Jackson Alastair Swain Architects, and thought-provoking in its intriguing inner spaces, The Snow Centre firmly declares our forward focus, but it also reflects the School’s classic foundations in the adjacent East Wing of the Quad, tying our past to our future in one lineage of serious academic endeavour. Like the last truly significant architectural piece in the School, our Chapel, which celebrates its fiftieth anniversary this year, The Snow Centre’s form has meaning. It places a commitment to sharp-minded and intelligent learning, grounded in foundational disciplines but open to innovation, inescapably front and centre at our School.

Some see that kind of intellectual commitment in opposition to the all-roundness that is often said to define the School and is commonly thought to make good men. You need only look to the burgeoning pages of this edition for proof otherwise; at the Captain and Vice-Captains of the School, its Houses and the Primary School, who embody both impressive intellect and broad sporting and artistic talent along with deep social obligation; at international Baccalaureate scholars mixing rigorous academic studies with creativity, action and service, raising money for health education through running; and at 1st XI cricketers and student mentors offered scholarships to study at university abroad.

Look also at chess champions, filmmakers, debaters, actors and programmers celebrated alongside footballers, dragon boaters, swimmers, and cross-country athletes; at our youngest students learning about nature and the environment through outdoor play; at the Presentation Night that has come to symbolise the integral balance of our School’s holistic education: intellectual, cultural, social, physical and spiritual. Similarly, look too at the Old Boys featured here and on our new website for former students, parents and staff (cgsalumni.org.au): Surgeons and musicians performing in battle; poets, entrepreneurs and Paralympic medallists; academics, soldiers and former Prime Ministers.

Our range is astonishing, but at its centre is a School not content to rest in stasis but to grow ever in its background, but its students always active in the forefront with their eyes looking outwards in aspiration. They are, after all, our sole reason for being.

Justin Garrick
Head of School
**Introducing the 2015 School Captains**

**Brendan Falk, School Captain**
Brendan commenced at Canberra Grammar School in Year 8 after moving down from Sydney. He remarks that the first thing that struck him was the openness and vibrant atmosphere of the School, and since commencing at CGS, he has immersed himself in all aspects of school life. Brendan is keen academically: becoming the dux of his Year 10 cohort, receiving the Summa Cum Laude award for academic excellence every year he has been at the School, and also receiving the Hazelhurst Scholarship for Years 11 and 12. He is fluent in French, and actively mentors younger students. Brendan also represents the School in swimming, athletics, cross-country and plays on the School’s 1st V Basketball team. He aims to give back to the School community as much as possible, as he believes that it has given him so much. Throughout 2015 in his role as School Captain, Brendan looks to promote an academic and internationally minded culture whilst strengthening relationships in an already strong School community.

**Kelepi Baba, School Vice-Captain**
Kelepi moved to Australia in 2005 from Fiji, and started with CGS in Year 5. Since starting at the School, he has tried to take advantage of everything the School has to offer in addition to academic education, including debating, drama, sport, UN Youth Councils, mental health forums, school exchanges, and anything else he could sign up to. Kelepi enjoys being part of the School and all of the invaluable experiences and opportunities that the CGS community provides. He also enjoys chatting with everyone and always has time to listen and share a laugh. He hopes he’ll play a role in making 2015 the best year for CGS yet.

**Omar Gannash, School Vice-Captain**
Omar started at CGS in Year 7, and while finding the School a large place and a little overwhelming, he remarks that he was welcomed with open arms by the community and soon after he felt like an integral part of the School. In addition to his high achievements in football, cross country and in earning the Australian Defence Force Long Tan Leadership Award, Omar believes that community service has been an integral part of his life at Grammar, allowing him to give back to a community that has always supported him. He has loved every second he’s been a part of the CGS community, and hopes that he can give back in his role as Vic-Captain by further enriching the sense of community and bringing out the potential in every single Grammar boy.

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**Senior School – 2015 House Leaders**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOUSE</th>
<th>HOUSE CAPTAIN</th>
<th>HOUSE VICE CAPTAINS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burgmann</td>
<td>Alexander Maleganeas</td>
<td>Peter Kiernann and Henry Xu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eddison</td>
<td>Nithin Mathew</td>
<td>Oliver Tonks and Nat Harper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edwards</td>
<td>Nick Roberts</td>
<td>Jake Waller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garnsey</td>
<td>Damien Thomson</td>
<td>Finn Osler-Seymour</td>
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<tr>
<td>Garran</td>
<td>Daniel Thomson</td>
<td>Oliver Wayte and Patrick Hendy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hay</td>
<td>Sahil Chopra</td>
<td>Jonathan Lindsey and Nicholas Ryan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manaro</td>
<td>William Coulter</td>
<td>Tom Matz and Ewan McPherson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheaffe</td>
<td>Reece Pahn</td>
<td>Alex Champion de Crespigny and Connor McCormack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burgess</td>
<td>Ed Sisson (Manaro)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clements</td>
<td>Charlie Templeman (Sheaffe)</td>
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**Primary School – 2015 House Leaders**

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<tr>
<th>HOUSE</th>
<th>HOUSE CAPTAIN</th>
<th>HOUSE VICE CAPTAIN</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Edwards</td>
<td>Kenzo Sly-Umebayashi</td>
<td>Robert Willingham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Garnsey</td>
<td>Noah Gorrell</td>
<td>Jack Hedley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Radford</td>
<td>Joshua Lee</td>
<td>Oliver Swan</td>
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<tr>
<td>CJ Shakespeare</td>
<td>Freddie Konno</td>
<td>Lachlan Byron</td>
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BOYS SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

In conjunction with Health and PE Week, Menslink visited CGS in August 2014 and spoke about their “Silence is Deadly” campaign to raise awareness about supporting young men in our community. Sessions were organised for Years 8 and 9, followed by a presentation to Years 10 and 11. This open forum session was capped off by a Captain’s lunch with our Year 12 leaders and CEO, Mr Martin Fisk.

Menslink is a local charity that offers counselling and support services to men going through difficult times and was a timely reminder of the challenges they have faced during their lives. As unsurmountable and overwhelming as those problems seemed to be, the simple theme that kept surfacing was the need to speak to friends, family or professionals over those problems seemed to be, the simple theme that

endorsed with a volume of excellent questions initiated by the boys.

The Q and A segment that followed each presentation was heavily overwhelmed as those problems seemed to be, the simple theme that

The Brumbies are sponsors of the Menslink program and it was great to hear from these elite athletes and mentors about the sorts of lessons that most of us take for granted, and teaches children about making good life choices and the impacts they can have. Connor is an everyday hero.

CONNOR IS AN EVERYDAY HERO

During September 2014, Connor McCormack (Year 11 – 2014) participated in a fundraising effort for Life Education Australia, a drug and health education programme for school children. To support the programme and as a part of his Creativity, Action, Service (CAS) project, Connor participated in the 10km Canberra Times Fun Run.

Life Education Australia is about teaching young students the sorts of lessons that most of us take for granted, and teaches children about making good life choices and the impacts they can have. The Canberra Grammar School CAS project is an integral part of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme that involves students leading and participating in a range of activities alongside their academic studies.

Connor was successful in not only reaching his target, but in exceeding it by $300 with a total amount of just over $1,500 raised in support of this programme. Connor congratulates Connor for his effort in supporting the programme and the children involved.
BOYS LEARN ABOUT ASIA THROUGH FOOTBALL

In November 2014, over 20 students from the Senior School participated in a clinic hosted by Tim Cahill Football Academy. The football clinic was promoting the AFC Asian Cup, the biggest football tournament ever to be hosted in Australia, which proved to be one of the sport highlights for Australia in 2015.

The Clinic was led by Coach Robbie Anderson and focused on putting students through their paces, teaching skills, teamwork, and what it takes to be a professional sports player. In addition to the physical side, the clinic aimed at bringing communities together through sport and to use football as a tool to help young people learn about Asia.

The students enthusiastically embraced the lessons imparted both about football and Asia, and all definitely walked away with new skills to help them on their journey to becoming great football players.

FRED HOLLOWS AWARD

In September 2014, two young men were awarded the Fred Hollows Award for showing good citizenship, compassion, and community service. Congratulations go to Harry Gibbs and Thomas Campagna on their achievement in supporting the community both at School and beyond.

ACT EXCELLENCE IN SCHOOL SPORT AWARD 2014

Ben Allen (Year 6 - 2014), a rising multi-sport athlete in the ACT was awarded the 12 Years and Under Excellence in School Sport Award for his outstanding participation in sports, including AFL, athletics, rugby, cricket, cross country, and swimming. At district and ACT level, Ben has represented in athletics, rugby, cricket, and also at the School Sport Australia track and field championships and cricket championships.

It is great to see all boys so involved in the programme which mirrors the School’s aspiration to nourish and be compassionate, and to be intelligent in doing so.

SUCCESS IN THE 2014 CHINESE PROFICIENCY COMPETITION

In the middle of 2014, four Year 11 students represented Canberra Grammar School at the 2014 Hanjuqiao Chinese Proficiency Competition for Secondary Students in Adelaide, and returned home with some terrific results in the competition, including:

- Dominic Harvey-Taylor 2nd in Overall Outstanding Achievements
- Alexander Maleganeas 1st in Outstanding Cultural Performance, and
- Ivan Ip for 1st in Outstanding General Knowledge of Chinese.

Dominic also had the honour of representing CGS at the 2014 World Hanjuqiao Chinese Proficiency Competition in China, and was presented with the ANU Prize for Asian Studies at Presentation Night.

BOYS CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMMUNITY

The Service Learning Programme is an established part of the Year 10 curriculum where boys are expected to complete at least 25 hours of community service over the course of the year, whether it be through dedication to a single cause, or to a variety of individual events and charitable work.

During 2014, many students not only completed their community service with a great passion, but many went above and beyond to give back to the community. In particular, CGS would like to recognise the outstanding effort of Jeremy Tsuei who completed over 140 hours, and Yasi Attygalle for offering his time in Sri Lanka where there are significant needs to be met.

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Ben’s attitude, sportsmanship and ability all contribute to making him an excellent athlete, and outstanding future sports leader. Congratulations Ben.
INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO YEAR 11 AND 12 STUDENTS

Congratulations to two students from the Year 11 IB programme for being granted scholarships to Germany, and to four Year 12 students who have been granted Scholarships to study in China for six months in 2015.

- Joshua Bernabe – Gymnasium am Krebsberge (Germany)
- Leo Coleman – Elisabeth von Thadden Gymnasium (Germany)
- Jarrod Norman – Nanjing University (China)
- Nicholas McGinness – Beijing Sport University (China)
- Harrison Stet – Shanghai University of International Business and Economics (China)
- Sebastian Summersby-Mitchell – Beijing Jiaotong University (China).

Congratulations to all students on their hard work and effort to achieve these scholarships.

BUDDING CANBERRA FILMMAKER MICHAEL RIDLEY NOMINATED FOR FILM AWARDS

After making his first film when he was 12 years old, Michael (Year 12 – 2014) has now gone on to have two of his films nominated as finalists in the 19th Bond University Film and Television Awards. Michael’s two nominated films were “Alternate” (for best comedy) and “A Moment’s Grace” (for best drama). “Alternate” is a film which tells a story about boys from two alternative lives – one is a nerd, one is a socialite – and how their worlds collide. “A Moment’s Grace” tells the story of a teenager who kills his best friend through drunk driving, and explores the emotional effects around the event. Both are powerful films, and CGS congratulates Michael on his achievements.

WESLEY MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to James Mountain (Year 12 – 2014) for being awarded the first ever Wesley Composition Scholarship. The Scholarship involves James working closely with Dr Calvin Bowman, the Senior Lecturer of Composition at ANU, in writing music for the Wesley United Church and the Wesley Performance Scholars.

PRIMARİE SCHOOL ROSTRUM SPEAKING FINALS

Congratulations to Noah Gorrell (Year 5 – 2014) who was Canberra Grammar School’s representative at the 2014 Rostrum Primary School Public Speaking Competition, and placed first in the ACT.

Following his win at the CGS finals, Noah went on to the ACT quarter-finals, semi-finals, and eventually, the Grand Finals where he wrote a new speech and spoke on the topic of “Imagination is important because…”.

Noah competed against eight other students in the Grand Finals, and while the standard across the group was exceptionally high, Noah’s impressive performance earned him first place.

Well done Noah.

CGS ANNUAL SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION

In November 2014, a number of boys were presented to the Bishop for Confirmation. This significant rite in the life of the church marks the point where young people take upon themselves the promises made at Baptism. All candidates engaged thoughtfully and thoroughly in a period of preparation. While the service itself was a real joy and celebration, the preparation too was memorable. It is wonderfully exciting to see young people think and question matters of faith. It is always a delight to welcome Bishop Stuart, our Diocesan Bishop and School Visitor to the annual service of Confirmation. Ewan and Angus Boys (not pictured) were confirmed at a later date at Christ Church, Queanbeyan.
STAFF PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE FUND (SPEF) AWARDS

The SPEF Awards are an initiative to recognise teachers at CGS who contribute to creating and maintaining a learning environment that is conducive to developing students who are confident, creative, compassionate, intelligent, international and innovative. While there were multiple nominations of high calibre candidates, for the first year of the awards, the winners were Ms Loretta Kennedy (Primary School) and Mr Alex Thompson (Senior School).

IAN POWELL AWARD

Mr Trevor Dunbar was awarded the Ian Powell award for 2014. Trevor has made a unique and special contribution to the School culture and community. His nomination reflected the great respect and deep links he has forged with the Ngukurr indigenous community of the Northern Territory through his art tour to Arnhem Land, his tireless effort to support the artistic community of Canberra through the CGS Gallery, and his generous and authentic style of teaching.

Trevor was also recognised for his extraordinary achievement of the 2014 CGS Sculpture Festival, which made the School itself a living and inspiring work of art to be enjoyed by all.

STAFF RECOGNISED FOR EXCELLENCE

This year we were again extremely fortunate to have two of our staff awarded ACEL ACT Certificates of Excellence in Educational Leadership. Ms Sue Donoghoe, our Head of Outdoor Education has been recognised as a dedicated Outdoor Educator, committed to ensuring that all of her students appreciate, value and thrive in the outdoors. Through her guidance, her students learn to manage risks, to achieve their best, and to work together to understand each other and themselves.

Mr David Tonna, a member of our History department and Head of Australian Studies was recognised for his exceptional ability to grasp, develop and lead teachers in the understanding of and engagement with our new learning management system. He has significantly contributed to the development of new resources and the learning of others within this new digital platform.

Staff joined Sue and David in a celebratory dinner that was held on 12 November at Regatta Point. A wonderful achievement and a huge congratulations to them both from our Canberra Grammar School community.

Inaugural CGS Sculpture Festival

At the end of 2014, the Canberra Grammar School grounds were transformed into a living art gallery for the 2014 CGS Sculpture Festival showcasing the striking and intriguing works of a host of skilled local and regional artists, and one talented Year 11 CGS student, Dr Justin Garrick, Head of School, said that “I want the School, both physically and its education life, to be a place that stimulates ideas, creativity, discussion and curiosity.” So, as a part of the 85th Anniversary celebrations, the School celebrated creativity through hosting its inaugural Sculpture Festival and The Harris Hobbs Small Sculpture Prize and $10,000 to the winning artist, Jacqueline Bradley with her entry “Softly Softly”.

Throughout the Festival, sculptures were dotted amongst the beautiful grounds of the School, which feature many heritage listed areas and various exceptional vistas that showcased and enhanced the work of the contributing artists. The first weekend of the Festival included the School opening its grounds in all their springtime glory as part of the Open Gardens Australia Scheme. Opening the grounds proved to encourage the public to engage with both the sculptures and grounds and celebrate the creativity on display. The School has a long history within the educational and cultural landscape of Canberra and the region and an event of this nature was a terrific way to engage and share with the wider community the contemporary and historical attributes of this campus.

Primary School Science inquiry night

In October 2014, students and families gathered at the Primary School campus for the annual Science and Technology Evening, where – if they didn’t know already – they would soon discover science at Canberra Grammar School is a fun, purposeful, interesting, and interactive subject for our students.

Highlights of the night included exploring the states of matter through dry ice, experimenting with ultra-violet light, looking at plant growth incorporating fertilisers, steam engines, ground-water, eco-systems and engineering, and a variety of other demonstrations.

The night proved to be a great opportunity for students to present their achievements and understanding of inquiry-based science to their parents, family, and guests.
Emerging Leaders (FUEL).

As part of the programme, and to help the participants attend to assess their strengths and opportunities, they were required to have five people complete a short questionnaire called Feedback for Understanding.

The National Youth Science Forum

Lochie Ferrier (Year 12 - 2014) visited the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston in late 2014 where he participated in the Research Science Institute (RSI)'s annual six week program which brings together 80 of the world's most accomplished high school students to work with experienced professors and scientists on a research project of their choice. Students experience the entire research cycle from start to finish, reading the most current literature in their field, drafting and executing a detailed research plan, and delivering conference-style oral and written reports on their findings.

Throughout the programme, students were required to have five people complete a short questionnaire called Feedback for Understanding, to identify their strengths and opportunities.

Lochie's research project focused on an advanced and specific area: identification of space debris. He describes the problem he identified and his proposal to tackle it:

“Large amounts of space debris in orbit today are making space an unsafe environment for satellites and astronauts. Currently, no system has been developed that can reliably identify space debris or inactive satellites, making it impossible for a recycling satellite to classify and reuse space debris independently. My prototype identification system consists of a small marker, similar to a sticker, which could be placed on a spacecraft prior to launch. Once the spacecraft fails and becomes debris the marker could then be scanned and used to identify the piece of debris, similar to how grocery scanning works in a store. Although the system developed was a prototype, it showed that the concept is promising as a future identification method.”

Natural outdoor playscapes provide significant opportunities for exploration.

Natural outdoor playscapes provide significant opportunities for exploration, discovery and learning for young children. With the “aliveness” of natural outdoor playscapes, they ensure that with each new day there are discoveries for children which allow them to grow.

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Throughout the forum, students also discussed and debated hot topics and key challenges in science. From this forum and engagement in the RSI students have built the knowledge, skills, and perspectives to take them successfully through Year 12 and into a future of their choosing.

Lochie also received an award for his written presentation at the RSI by the Center for Excellence in Education, and has been given admission to MIT in 2016. CGS congratulates Lochie on his great achievements.

The GYLP was founded in 1985 to allow participants to fully explore cultural differences, gain first-hand exposure to the challenges of international diplomacy, build confidence and enhance decision-making skills in an atmosphere of mutual respect and one that would challenge and broaden the participants view of the world.

The conference consisted of a 10-day leadership journey that provided an out-of-classroom learning experience and rigorous curriculum that is designed to equip the participants with the confidence, independence, skills and global competitiveness required of the next generation of future leaders.

Global Youth Leadership Program

In July 2014, Charlie Templeman (Year 12 - 2015) attended the Global Youth Leadership Programme (GYLP) in the USA, a programme that is designed for premier leadership development for motivated and accomplished students from across not only the United States, but more than 145 countries around the world.

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CGS awarded $10,000 grant for drone programming

Canberra Grammar School was recently awarded $10,000 as part of the NSW Association of Independent Schools Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) grant program. The NSW AIS invites member schools within the ACT and NSW to apply for these annual grants which allow schools to undertake projects to increase awareness and engagement in STEM-related subjects.

The School’s project focuses around the programming of drones, also known as unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). The School will be introducing drone programming into its Years 7 and 8 Code Cadets programme along with its Years 9 and 10 IT courses, within the school academic curriculum. These units of work will focus on developing meaningful cross-curricular engagement and outcomes.

Canberra Grammar School offers a comprehensive information technology programme, along with many additional opportunities for our students to extend their knowledge in this field.

For more information visit our website canberragrammar.org.au

Life changing journey for the CGS Code Cadets

During January this year, 10 students and three teachers embarked on a highly anticipated journey to San Francisco and Silicon Valley. For two weeks the group toured the hub of the high-tech industry and gained unprecedented access to visit, learn, and experience some of the largest and well-known technology companies in the world.

Highlights from the students’ trip included visiting leading technology companies, such as: eBay/PayPal, Facebook, Apple, Microsoft, Boeing, Motorola, Google, Mozilla, Netfilx, Pebble Technology (creator of the Pebble smartwatch – the most successful Kickstarter project in history), Cisco (networking technology company), Startup House (a shared working space for entrepreneurs), NetApp (leading integrated data storage solutions company), Qualcomm (company that produces the chips in most mobiles), Square (mobile payments processing company), August (creators of August Smartlock), and New Relic (software analysis company).

Even with the jam-packed schedule, the Code Cadets were still able to make time for a few sightseeing activities, including Segway riding, Alcatraz, the Computer History Museum, Laser Quest, a bike tour around San Francisco bay, a visit to “This Week in Tech” (the most popular technology podcast in the world), and even a stop at Universal Studios in LA on the way back home.

The core purpose of the trip, however, was to visit the high-tech companies – an opportunity not available outside of the trip. Mr Matthew Purcell, the Code Cadets Coordinator and Information and Software Technology Teacher said that there were several common themes which emerged across all the companies which were visited:

“A culture of innovation - all the companies which we visited have been successful not only because their products are innovative, but their culture and work practice encourage innovation. Microsoft have The Garage which allows employees to work on their own projects – whether they are Microsoft related or not.

In fact, the head of The Garage said that working on personal projects is not just permitted, it’s encouraged. Similarly, the term ‘hacker’ is engrained into Facebook’s culture, encouraging thinking outside the box, and Google have their 20% time, where 20% of an employee’s time can be spent on other projects – many of which have evolved into Google products.
The Snow Centre opens in style

On 5 March 2015, barely a year after construction began, The Snow Centre for Education in the Asian Century was formally opened by Mr Terry Snow at a special outdoor assembly combining the Senior and Junior Schools in the presence of visiting ambassadors and diplomats, Federal Parliamentary representatives and members of the ACT Legislative Assembly, as well as senior academic specialists, educational and business leaders, School and Foundation Board members and many well-wishers from the School community.

The Centre is a strikingly modern flagship facility which will promote Australia’s educational engagement with Asia. The official opening featured musical performances and poetic readings in multiple languages and was followed in the evening by a fabulous party to celebrate The Snow Centre with fireworks and a variety of spectacular cultural festivities, including Taiko drumming, traditional Chinese lion dancing, and an Indonesian dance recital.

Dr Garrick said “The Snow Centre, is designed physically and conceptually to transform learning and teaching at the School, not only placing global literacy at the heart of the curriculum, but facilitating the kind of open, collaborative and self-directed learning skills that students need to flourish in the modern world. It may well accommodate and influence the learning of more students at any one time than any other single building in the School.”

Funded by the generosity of the Canberra Airport owner, philanthropist and CGS Old Boy, Mr Terry Snow, the $8 million Snow Centre represents one of the largest gifts to a school in Australian history. It is also the first facility of its kind in Australia to be established at a non-tertiary educational institution.

The Snow Centre supports the School’s commitment to contributing actively to ACT education by providing opportunities for collaboration in teacher training with the Australian National University’s world-leading School of Asia and the Pacific and with the University of Canberra’s Master of Teaching (MTeach) programme.

The work of The Snow Centre builds on the School’s long history of teaching Asian Studies and, specifically, of engagement with China. The School achieves outstanding results in Chinese and annually sends students on exchange to Chinese schools and in recent years to Chinese universities on scholarships. Old Boy of the School and former Prime Minister Gough Whitlam is credited with establishing Australia’s modern relations with China.

The Centre houses 12 classrooms for the teaching of Asian languages, geography, history, economics and culture, and includes an indoor and outdoor amphitheatre for seminars, an exhibition area, open learning spaces, student collaboration pods, and video conferencing facilities to link lessons with schools and universities around the world. The Centre will prove to be one of the busiest buildings at CGS accommodating nearly 50 classes a day, and 500 classes every fortnight.

Terry Snow’s extraordinary donation of The Snow Centre for Education in the Asian Century not only represents a major contribution to the intellectual life of Canberra Grammar School but it provides powerful impetus through the CGS Foundation to the School’s aspirations for perpetual improvement.

Launched with the start of construction on the Snow Centre, the CGS Foundation has a mission to support the School’s commitment to providing world class educational standards, to funding scholarships and bursaries, and to carrying out a master plan for long-term campus renewal.


**Economics visitor to Canberra Grammar School**

Canberra Grammar School was privileged to have Dr Wan Guanghua, Principal Economist at the Asia Development Bank, visit the campus in August 2014 to discuss the transformation and rise of Asia with our senior Economics, Geography and IB students. In his presentation, “Asia 2050: Realising the Asian Century”, Dr Wan provided a wide ranging insight about the Asian region and how it is projected to account for a majority of the world’s economic output by 2050, with China accounting for almost half of that total, closely followed by India.

The boys found it interesting to hear Dr Wan talk about increasing globalisation, technological change, a growing “demographic dividend” as Asia’s population grows and changes, and the emergence of a large Asian middle class as the broad drivers of this economic growth and development. However, Dr Wan cautioned that this development will only come if Asia can properly address issues of rising inequality, significant poverty levels, environmental issues, and if it can manage the geopolitical issues within Asia and beyond. Increasing urbanisation will be required across Asia if the rural poor are to be able to access higher value jobs in the economic value chain.

Dr Wan left students with the following two thoughts: The success or failure of Asia will determine the quality of life for all, including Australians, and in the future, those with knowledge and understanding of China and India will be in very high demand.

Canberra Grammar School is very thankful to Dr Wan and the Asia Development Bank for hosting this special presentation, “Asia 2050: Realising the Asian Century”. Economists and Geography students were inspired by Dr Wan’s presentation, and this led to a deeper interest in economics and international economic development.

**Chess team place third at Nationals**

December 2014 saw the Primary School Chess team consisting of students Albert Winkelman, Joshua Lee, Dylan Turner, AJ Fraser and coach Year 6 teacher Mr David Messina travel to Adelaide to play in the Australian School Team Chess Competition.

The boys have only been able to achieve this level of competition in 2014 after placing first in the ACT Primary School Central Zone Chess Competition in June, and then first in the ACT Primary School Chess Competition in August. The boys said the Chess competition has been a great experience, as they have learned to cope with tough competition, and developed their mental skills and concentration throughout all of the games.

Congratulations to the team and coach on their great performance, and for placing third in Australia. A special congratulations also goes to Dylan for achieving a perfect 5/5 in the tournament.

**CGS Sony Foundation Children’s Holiday Camp**

For the fourth year in a row, the annual CGS Sony Foundation Children’s Holiday Camp proved to be a great success. Campers (students with special needs) this year not only attended from local Canberra schools, but for the first time also came from Cooma Public, Queanbeyan Public, and Yass Primary School.

While School was out over December, 28 boys and girls from CGS and CGGS (called companions) gave up the first week of their holidays to move into the CGS boarding house to look after 18 very excited campers alongside a great team of volunteers, including nurses and staff from both Schools.

During the course of the camp, campers and companions were involved in a variety of exciting activities and interactions they would not normally have had the chance to experience. Activities included a mini-fete, letter box building, ginger bread house decorating, swimming, and for the first time in the programme, children got to experience a tethered hot air balloon ride and dragon boating on Lake Burley Griffin.

Leading up to the camp, the students had undergone a variety of preparation to ensure they could act as good carers, including attending workshops and participating in lessons with students with special needs, so that they could learn how to communicate effectively.

Caring for children with special needs is a full-time role, and with some of the campers never having had a night away from home, the 3-day camp provided parents and carers with some much-needed respite. It was also a great experience for the companions and campers, as both learned that there are a variety of different ways to communicate and that people are capable of extraordinary things.

School Captain, Brendan Falk, who was also acting as a companion said “It’s Christmas time, but for once we are giving back to others and not just to our own families”, he said.

“It’s really about giving one-on-one care, giving the kids a great time on the camp, and letting their parents have a bit of a break too.”

The camp ended with a delicious Christmas feast in the Dining Hall, where families were once again re-united with their campers. The farewell was an emotional experience, but the smiles, hugs, and tears from the campers highlighted how special their three days with the companions and volunteers really were.
BARNUM — A PERFORMANCE BIGGER THAN EVER

The Canberra Grammar School will be stepping up their dramatic performances for 2015 by taking the upcoming show Barnum to a real big top, set to be erected on the CGS grounds. The exciting venue will offer students the opportunity to present a professional production, surrounded by a lively atmosphere.

Tickets on sale at 20-23 MAY 2015. BarnumBigTop.com

Bell Shakespeare Schools Festival a success

In 2014, Canberra Grammar School was invited to participate in the inaugural Bell Shakespeare Schools Festival, in partnership with the Canberra Theatre Centre.

The Bell Shakespeare Schools Festival is a non-competitive, open-access, multi-disciplinary Shakespeare performance festival for Australian students in Years 7-10. The festival was held at the Canberra Theatre Centre in November 2014, with six schools performing 3 x 30-minute sections of the Scottish play "Macbeth" on The Playhouse stage.

As a part of the preparations leading up to the Festival, Bell Shakespeare artists worked with students and mentored teachers through guided rehearsals and a Directors’ Weekend. The Festival proved to be a great chance to perform Shakespeare on a professional stage, guided by Australia’s most experienced Shakespearean artists.

Overall, the Festival was a huge success with many parents, friends, and community members turning up to watch the great performances. The boys thoroughly enjoyed working with their Bell Shakespeare mentor, Matt Edgerton, a well-known and talented actor.

"In My African Dream"

Late last year, some 47 actors from the Junior School presented a captivating, vibrant story written and produced by Mr Craig Donaldson to the CGS community, in the form of a play. The play, "In My African Dream" combines the realities of what it was like for black, coloured, and Indian people during the apartheid era in South Africa with a fictitious story about love, loss and finding light in the darkest of places.

The story began with most men having left their villages for the city in search of money to support their families, and the women and children having been left behind to fend for themselves. We were given an insight into the lives of city folk, miners, tribal villagers, British tourists, policemen, famous miners, and wild animals.

The production featured authentic costumes including police uniforms with the South African Police emblem, an array of amazing animal masks, colourful tribal outfits, and an outstanding pre-recorded musical compilation by a South African artist, Johnny Clegg.

To prepare for the performance, a dedicated group of boys in Years 3-6 were required to attend regular rehearsals after school and at lunchtimes, in order to learn their lines and perfect ‘stage presence’ in preparation for the one matinee and three evening performances. This aspect taught the boys about the importance of preparation and study.

Many dedicated people volunteered their time to make "In My African Dream" a huge success. They included: parents, who helped with props, back stage and costume; the Theatre crew, back stage crew, teachers and of course, the very talented Mr Donaldson.

It was a spectacular event, where many boys had the opportunity to showcase their extraordinary talent and be part of something very special. We look forward to the next exciting Junior School production "The Arrival" based on Shaun Tan’s picture book.
2014 Presentation Night

On Friday 5 December 2014, for the third year in a row, the Junior and Senior Schools came together with the CGS Community in the Royal Theatre at the National Convention Centre to celebrate and recognise the great achievements of 2014.

The evening commenced with pre-ceremony performances including hip hop routines, a segment of the Primary School and Senior School plays “In My African Dream” and “Macbeth”, and wonderful music performed by the Sheaffe House Rock Band.

Dr Garrick said that Presentation Night was another chance to also acknowledge the great culture of CGS, and the strong School spirit:

“It is that culture of civility and generosity that binds our School together across year groups and houses, between students and staff and parents, despite the extraordinary variety of our individual personalities, backgrounds, interests and enterprise.

It is that which makes us one: not uniform, but united in the richness of our diversity; it is our rare and defining communion of care, which we must always nurture, whatever else we may aspire to become.”

The evening was also highlighted by a variety of other outstanding performances throughout the night, including: the 350 voice Massed CGS Community Choir performing “It Takes a Village”, Michael Ridley’s film “A Day in the Life”, a segment from the upcoming musical “Barnum”, and a great performance of the flute from Jamie Zhou.

It was obvious that the founding principle of the School – to educate the intellectual, the physical, the cultural and the spiritual dimensions of every single boy – was being met through the outstanding performances recognised on the night, with awards given across all disciplines, including academics, the arts and languages, community service, sports and co-curricular, and for contribution to the School community.
Farewell to the Year 12 Class of 2014

After a week of farewell celebrations, the Year 12s’ journey was marked by one last formal assembly and an emotional “march out” through the Quad for the Canberra Grammar School’s Year 12 Class of 2014.

Head of School Dr Garrick opened the assembly by congratulating the boys on their decade and a half long journey, and thanked them for their positive impact on the School culture. Dr Garrick and Housemasters then presented the CGS Medal to 25 boys and the School Colours to three students to mark the commitment and achievement of the outgoing Year 12s.

The incoming School leadership team thanked the Year 12s for their positive contribution to the School over the last year, and for playing such an integral role in the lives of all of those in the hall. The outgoing School Captain Jackson Friend and Vice-Captains Owen Steer and Stephen Carroll said that while it was sad that their time at CGS is over, there is a bright future ahead for the graduating class, and that he had faith in the incoming School Captains for 2015.

The assembly finished with a prayer, and the Year 12s emotionally singing ‘Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah’ one last time before they marched out and walked through the Quad watched by parents, friends, family and teachers to say their farewells.

The day was full of mixed emotions as they said farewell and celebrated moving on to a new passage in their life. We wish them the best in the future.

2014 HSC and International Baccalaureate Results

Canberra Grammar School congratulates the 2014 Year 12 leavers on their International Baccalaureate (IB) and Higher School Certificate (HSC) results.

We are delighted that the students in the School’s first ever IB cohort achieved some impressive results. 32 students (20% of the year) undertook the IB from across the full academic spectrum of Year 12. Their median ATAR was 89.95, which reflects a very strong group performance, particularly for such a large and diverse pioneer group in a non-selective program.

We particularly congratulate IB student David Tian, who achieved an outstanding IB score of 44 out of a maximum possible 45 and an ATAR of 99.85, making him Dux of the School for 2014.

Other IB students with especially strong results include Srikar Jha who attained Grade 6 or 7 for all of his subjects, Stephen Carroll and Nic McGinness who attained Grade 6 or 7 in all but one of their subjects. Results were notably strong in Latin, Physics, Chemistry, Geography, and Sports Science, while, impressively, all students taking Chinese attained Grade 6 or 7 in all but one of their subjects.

Similarly, in the HSC, there were a number of outstanding individual and group successes, with performances in many subjects substantially above the combined Band 5 and 6 percentages for the entire state cohort. Our students gained 90 places on the HSC Honour Roll for top Band results, with 38% of all HSC students earning a place on the Distinguished Achievers’ List for attaining 90% or more in at least one of their subjects. 54% of all results were in the top two bands, an excellent performance for a non-selective boys’ school.

Once again, results in Software Design and Development were outstanding with 39% of our boys attaining Band 6 results relative to 7% across the state. Likewise, Science results were strong with 25% of Canberra Grammar School candidates in Chemistry attaining Band 6 relative to 12% across the state, and 11% of Biology students in Band 6 compared with 6% of the state. Modern and Ancient History results were once again well above the state percentages in Bands 5 and 6. Additionally, CGS students achieved results above the state-wide Band 6 benchmarks for Physics, Business Studies, German Continuers and General Mathematics 2.

Two students achieved places on the All-round Achievers List as they achieved results of 90% or more in at least 10 units. Congratulations to Brendan Fulton and Benjamin Goodnow.

A further four students were recognised for outstanding performance in particular courses:

> Joshua Fridgant for 1st place in Chemistry, from a field of over 11,000 students
> Alastair Barnett for 6th place in Software Design and Development
> Lochie Ferrier for 7th place in Software Design and Development, and
> Brendan Falk for 5th place in French Continuers. Brendan is the School Captain for 2015 and completed his HSC French Continuers studies during Year 11.

The School is also proud of the fact that 98% of all Year 12 students at the School will graduate with an ATAR, with the vast majority achieving ATARs above 65, more than at any other ACT school. We congratulate all of the boys and their teachers for their hard work and effort in both the IB and the HSC, and we thank the boys for their excellent leadership of the School.
DR JAMES MUECKE  
Class of 1981
James’ career after School has seen him become an Opthalmologist in Adelaide where he has been trying to cure blindness around the world. Over the past 20 years he has been helping the world’s poorest citizens regain their sight which has seen him work in Jerusalem, Africa, Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia, Bhutan, Nepal, Vietnam and he has even performed surgery in the midst of a raging machine gun battle.

FRED SMITH  
Class of 1987
Fred was recently featured on The ABC’s “Australian Story” for his ability to combine music and diplomacy and has been described as “Australia’s secret weapon in international diplomacy”. Since leaving CGS, Fred has not only represented Australia in Bougainville and Afghanistan as a career diplomat, which included being the first Australian to be posted to Uruzgan in 2009, but has gone on to become a talented musician.

We’re excited to announce the launch of our new website for CGS Alumni! 
Discover cgsalumni.org.au – a place where CGS Old Boys and friends of Canberra Grammar School can share memories, find out what friends are up to, and keep in touch with what’s happening at CGS today.

Fred is often referred to as a “diplomat with a difference” for his ability to combine music and diplomacy, and has spent the last 15 years travelling the world: working on peace keeping missions in Afghanistan and the South Pacific, touring in America, and travelling the Australian festival circuit. Fred’s most recent album includes “Dust of Uruzgan”.

OMAR MUSA  
Class of 2001
After leaving CGS in 2001 as a School Dux, Omar has gone on to win the Australian Poetry Slam competition, release three hip hop albums, two poetry books, and is working on a play, “Bonegatherer”. As of 2014, Omar has also had his new novel, “Here come the dogs”, published by Penguin Books.

With great weather and the sun shining, the Canberra Grammar School community was able to enjoy a terrific day of exciting activities at the CGS Fete 2015 on Saturday 28 March. In addition to over 30 stalls selling a variety of treasures for a bargain, there was the P&F Silent Auction held in the new Snow Centre, a variety of rides and the always impressive petting zoo.

The Fete also included a variety of food stalls in the Quad, but this year there were two new exciting additions, including Garney House’s Tastes of Asia Stall and Edwards House’s Gelato Cart.

For entertainment during the day, the community was treated to a variety of performances from the CGS and CGGS Bands, to a display of the acting skills from the boys with the Year 11 Drama production “Eating ice cream with your eyes closed.”

This year also saw Mr Stan Platis – a member of the CGS Foundation Board – volunteer to step into the role of Fete Announcer for 2015. With a new sound system, Stan was able to roam actively around the extensive campus and engage the local community and stallholders, creating a vibrant and interactive atmosphere through the day.

The day was a great success with everyone coming together to celebrate with the CGS community, and spend a day out with family and friends.

Thank you to the local businesses, families and volunteers who donated and supported the 2015 Fete. The proceeds from the day will go to further continue to develop and enhance the School’s facilities and grounds.

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Featuring:
- A news blog to keep alumni entertained and informed
- Upcoming events and reunions
- What classmates and friends are up to now
- Photo galleries from recent events
- Opportunities to get involved with the current life of the School

Our alumni network exists to keep friendships alive and connections current between school mates, fellow parents and with the School itself. The strength of shared experience binds us together, and this website is a way for all who have been a part of CGS to share memories, find out what friends are up to, and keep in touch with what’s happening at CGS today.

Take a look around, discover what’s happening at CGS and keep your CGS connections alive.
CGS Vintage Club Reunion

Canberra Grammar School hosted its annual Vintage Club event on Friday 7 November 2014, for those members of the Old Boy community who left the School 50 years ago or more. A great number of CGS Old Boys turned out, from those who graduated in 1964 – which meant they had just qualified for the Vintage Club last year - right through to Mr Irwin Prowse, who recently turned 100 and graduated in 1933, over 80 years ago. Following a special chapel service, a tree was planted by Dr Garrick and Mr Prowse on the School grounds to commemorate both Irwin’s 100th birthday and the School’s 85th Anniversary. Vintage Club guests attended the Senior School assembly where, in keeping with tradition, the Head of School called a roll of the Vintage Club members in attendance. Students also sang Mr Prowse a rousing “Happy Birthday”, with plenty of cheers and a standing ovation.

Guests enjoyed lunch in the Dining Hall with both Senior and Primary students, and a special tour of the CGS Sculpture Festival. This year, members of the Vintage Club were invited to join the School and the Australian War Memorial in commemorating the life of CGS Old Boy Harry Broughton Moriarty, who was killed in action in 1917. Having our Old Boys there for this beautiful and moving ceremony was a fitting end to Vintage Club events for 2014, and a special way to honour the service and sacrifice made by scores of CGS boys in the past.

As always, it was a pleasure to have so many of our Old Boys return to CGS, and a privilege to have our Vintage Club share in the current life of the School.

IN MEMORY

Gough Whitlam 1916-2014 (Class of 1934)

Canberra Grammar School laments the passing of one of its most prominent Old Boys, former Prime Minister Gough Whitlam.

Edward Gough Whitlam joined the School in 1932, for what he claimed were “disciplinary reasons” and was dux in 1932, 1933, and again in 1934. During his time at the School he was known for his academic prowess, especially in English, Latin and French. Although he is said to have had mixed views of his time at the School, he visited on a number of occasions in later life and gave memorable addresses at Speech Night and the Year 12 Valedictory Dinner. On leaving the School, he earned a Canberra Scholarship to study Classics at the University of Sydney.

He became leader of the Labor Party in opposition in 1966 and became Prime Minister in 1972, leading the Labor Party to victory for the first time in 23 years. Despite the controversial dismissal of his Government by the Governor General in 1975, his time in office is often regarded as a watershed in Australian political life. His reform agenda, along with his towering stature, intellect and wit cast a long shadow in subsequent politics.

Amongst other things, his brief time in Government saw the withdrawal of Australian troops from Vietnam, the establishment of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, the reduction of the voting age to 18, the establishment of Medicare, abolition of university fees to broaden access to higher education, the end to the White Australia policy and the introduction of equal pay rights for women.

Always committed to internationalism, he also established Australia’s modern relations with China in the midst of the Cold War, visiting first in 1971 as Opposition Leader then in 1973 as the first Australian Prime Minister to visit China. His efforts in this domain are reflected in the School’s annual award of the Gough Whitlam Prize for the Promotion of International Understanding.

He died aged 98.

Steele Caldwell 1930-2014 (Class of 1947)

Steele Caldwell who graduated Canberra Grammar School with the class of 1947, sadly passed away on 25 December 2014.

Michael Conroy 1948-2014 (Class of 1965)

Mike sadly passed away in late 2014. Mike had been a loyal supporter of the CGS Rugby Team for many years, and had often remarked that he thoroughly enjoyed his time at the Canberra Grammar School.

John Owen Charles Furner 1937-2014 (Class of 1953)

John Furner sadly passed away on 22 July 2014 in Bega. John had graduated with the Canberra Grammar Class of 1953.

John Winnett 1935-2014 (Class of 1952)


George Hyde 1944-2014 (Employed 1983-2014)

George Hyde was the former of the School’s maintenance crew. He completed 30 years of service prior to his retirement due to ill health and sadly passed away on 24 September 2014. Since 1983, he worked under a succession of Headmasters with different philosophies and objectives. He was always totally dedicated to the School and over the years, was responsible for huge cost savings through his innovative and practical solutions, changing the form and use of the school buildings.

If you stand at the entrance to the eastern side of the Main Quadrangle you can see the beautifully detailed stonework of an archway that the School’s founders must have conceived as a grand vista looking across the Main Quad through to the stained glass windows outside the Assembly Hall. That vista was not opened up to our view until 1994, just twenty years ago. The wooden staircase that leads up to the organist’s loft in the Chapel is another great example of George’s handiwork. It was a mathematical challenge to design a staircase that seems to hug a wall that is not strictly round but actually has a wave in it. The technical execution was no less masterful. George was also a very worthy recipient of the Ian Powell Memorial Award in 2013, the School’s highest honour for staff.

Margaret Clay 1932-2014 (Employed 1967-1994)

Margaret Clay had 28 years of service to CGS including 20 years as Mistress in Charge of the Infants Department from 1974-1994. Margaret passed away on 15 August 2014 surrounded by her family.

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Support CGS and benefit your business!

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To discuss these opportunities and how they could benefit your business, please contact the CGS Foundation on (02) 6260 9665.

cgsfoundation.org.au