



ad astra

NEWSLETTER TO THE OLD GEELONG COLLEGIANS' ASSOCIATION

No. 14

Registered at the G.P.O. Melbourne for transmission by post as a periodical

April 1966

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Fellow Old Collegians,

During the past year we have seen great changes in the structure of the Old Geelong Collegians' Association. With the introduction of our new Constitution, all Old Collegians were placed into year groups based on a common date, when it was felt that everyone would know everyone else in that year.

To those of you who left prior to the mid-1950's, it possibly was strange that you were placed in a year other than that when you left school, but as the College has changed so much, it is now not possible for everyone in an Intermediate Form to know everyone in a Matriculation Form, and, therefore, it was felt that the year of entering into the Senior School was the best date that we could arrive at as a basis for forming year groups.

Year Group Chairmen have now been appointed and they have been in touch with members of their year by letter and, in some cases, by personal contact.

All this has been spade work, much of the success of which is due to our Executive Officer, "Mac" McVittie, who has worked hard and long since his appointment early last year, and who is only too happy to meet any Old Collegian at our new Office in the Senior School. So do make yourself known to him when you visit the College.

The stage is now set for us to gather strength and press on with our alumni plans to the utmost.

Two year groups are already planning to hold reunions at the College during this year, and we hope that many others will follow suit during the weeks to come.

Plans are afoot so that, at all Old Geelong Collegians' functions, year group members may be together, and the Year Chairmen have been encouraged to contact their year members and arrange tables at our Annual Dinner and Melbourne Ball, so please take this as a personal invitation and come along to one or other of these functions.

Remember the dates — the Annual Dinner and Reunion, June 20th, and the Melbourne Ball, September 17th.

At all Branch Reunions which I have attended over the past year, the interest which our alumni scheme has raised is remarkable, and surely is a great sign of a revival of interest in both the Association and the College.

At the moment our Branches are few, but we hope, as has been stated elsewhere, to increase these in the very near future.

May I leave you all with this reminder, Old Collegians who are not Life Members can only be financial members of our Association by a contribution to the Build-

ing Fund, so will you please contribute to this fund and thus enable us to start very soon on the Sir Francis Rolland Physical Education Centre.

We hope all Life Members will also support this fund, which — in view of their numbers — will depend so much on their contributions.

On behalf of your Committee and myself, may I wish you all a successful year in Old Collegian activities, and express the hope to see you at one, if not all, of the social functions.

Yours Sincerely,

George Ewan

A New School Time-Table

There have been stimulating developments in the field of extra-curricular activities at the Senior School this year. Most boys have been released from sporting commitments on Tuesdays and Fridays so that they will be free to pursue other activities.

In recent years, sport training has been conducted on four afternoons each week, and Cadets have used the fifth afternoon. First teams trained on all four nights, and under-age teams each trained

on two nights. Thus, on any particular night, three age groups may have been training.

This arrangement was most satisfactory for encouraging and developing our sporting talents. It had, however, the disadvantage that it was never possible to have all boys able to take part in non-sporting activities, and these activities found themselves in competition with sport for the boys' patronage. This became so serious that there was an almost total collapse of some activities. It was not possible, for example, to produce a school play in 1965. As non-sporting activities are an important part of the School's educational programme for developing the "whole man," it was apparent that something nearer a balance between sport and other activities was desirable.

After a great deal of detailed planning, several changes were recommended to the Principal. The result was a revision of both the daily lesson timetable and the use of the two hours between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. each day.

By reducing the lunch time it was possible to free Thursday afternoon of classes and still to increase the total class time in a week.

Cadets were moved to the early part of Thursday afternoon so that the valuable period on Thursday from 4 to 6 was available for first team training. By careful arrangement it was then possible to organize all team practices, except rowing, so that only three afternoons were used.

The outcome of this is that activities such as band, orchestra and choir practices, House of Guilds, drama and chess are given an opportunity previously denied them.

It is hoped that the number of these activities available will grow, and that all boys will have the chance of benefiting by a more balanced range of after-school activities.

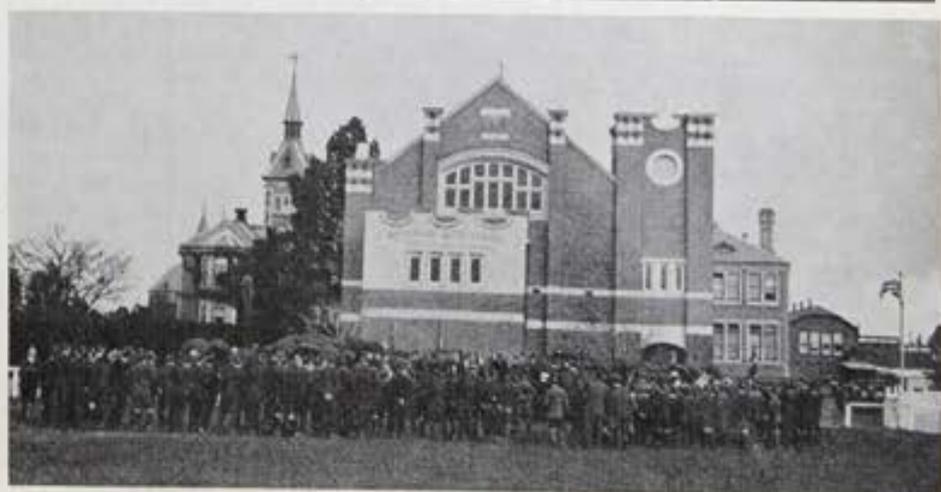
The "New" Morrison Hall

This year, for about six months, the College will have to find ways of doing without the Morrison Hall. The present Hall is to be handed over to the builders on 13th April and the new improved Hall is to be returned to the College on 1st November. This will be in time for the College to have its own Public Examination Centre as it has done for some years past. The Morrison Hall has long been a building of diverse uses. Its lower level contains the Armoury, two dressing rooms for changing for sport, a band-room, and two rooms which provide a daytime home for the prefects. In preparation for the House Music Competitions one might find two choirs, one in the main hall, one in the entrance hall, practising at the same time, with some startling musical effects to be noticed by listeners outside. But the most regular and obvious use is to provide a place where assemblies of the whole Senior School can be held. Morning assembly can be held in St. David's Church, as has happened frequently in recent years, but this is hardly a suitable place for a string of school announcements, for presenting a cricket bat to a century-maker, or for briefing the school on arrangements for the Boat Race. Any such assembly will have to be out of doors, not always comfortably in the depth of winter. However, this is what did happen

in the Morrison era. The place of assembly was what is now the east end of the quadrangle, in those days completely unprotected from the cold southerly winds. It is not unfitting that the school should be reminded of the Morrison era during the rebuilding of the Norman Morrison Memorial Hall. Any inconvenience or discomfort will be a small price to pay for the change to a larger and better structure. There is, of course, another price to be paid, some \$60,000 for the first stage; and the fact that the project of rebuilding can be undertaken at all reflects great credit on the Parents' and Friends' Association, which has been instrumental in raising the necessary funds, \$95,600 so far. The difficulties in financing the changes have been far less than those described above in finding money to build the Hall in the first place. Many of the donors are members of the Old Geelong Collegians' Association, but the recent successful appeal was not directed to members as such. If the appeal which is currently directed to the O.G.C.A. is as strongly supported by all concerned, then we shall not have to wait very long for the Sir Francis Rolland Memorial Physical Education Centre. Incidentally, this centre will ultimately house some of the facilities at present situated in the lower regions of the Morrison Hall.

THE NORMAN MORRISON HALL
1920.

Presentation of
German Guns.



53 YEARS OF SERVICE AND THE BEST IS YET TO BE...

The Norman Morrison Hall has been for more than half a century one of the College's most valuable and versatile properties and the focal point of its daily life. Before its advent the school could assemble only in classrooms, in the yard, or in the gym (the wooden building being then on the site of the present main quadrangle.)

Jubilation

In 1909 the young OGCA was considering how best it could mark the College Jubilee in 1911. A meeting was held in Melbourne with the President (Dr. A. Norman McArthur) in the chair. The Principal (Mr. Norman Morrison) told members that a school hall was a necessity, especially for "the assembling of the whole school every morning for roll-call and for a blessing upon all for their day's work." At that time, assembly and prayers were being conducted in the open.

The meeting resolved enthusiastically that the Jubilee should be celebrated by the gift of a hall to be known as the "Jubilee Hall," and a committee was appointed to raise funds. A splendid impetus was then given to the movement when subscriptions amounting to £1000 were promised in the room.

Estimates by the Council's architect (Mr. F. C. Purnell) placed the probable cost of a hall at £3500.

Tragedy

Preliminaries were going forward when the accidental death of Mr. Morrison on November 12, 1909, threw the College into confusion it had never before experienced. The Morrison era, the only rule it had known, was abruptly and tragically ended. However the leaders of the OGCA, especially the President (Dr. McArthur), the acting honorary secretary (Mr. Neil Campbell) and Mr. James D'Helin, took the stand that the College needed its Old Boys more than ever before, and they realized that the approaching Jubilee afforded an excellent opportunity to prove their loyalty. The building of the hall could serve this purpose and at the same time be a memorial to Mr. Morrison. It was therefore decided in February, 1910, that the work should proceed as quickly as possible and that the hall should be called "The Norman Morrison Memorial Hall."

In announcing this decision, Dr. McArthur said: "We do not want anything to remind us of him we cannot forget, but we want our sons and grandsons to see a great, lasting emblem of one we esteemed and loved."

Hard Going

It is clear that the motivation of the OGCA in 1910 was little different from that of today, but at that time the known and unknown Old Boys numbered only about 1000, and there were very few financial members while, except for the annual reunion, there was at best a desultory organisation.

The raising of £3500 proved a heavy task. Attempts were made to contact Old Boys by circular and by personal approach.

There was even a suggestion of the modern "year group" activity when Mr. Roy Lambie endeavoured to muster his contemporaries and Mr. Alan Tait called on fellow students at the university. The College teaching staff gave £80 to the fund, and through the head prefect (Jim Kininmonth) the College boys were invited to contribute.

By May, 1911, the sum of £2500 had been rather painfully compiled and seemed to be the limit of resources. It was necessary to reduce by twenty feet the proposed length of the building, and it seemed that the idea of a tower must be abandoned. Three firms of architects were approached, and Messrs. Tombs & Durran submitted plans, which were accepted. About twenty tenders were received, Mr. G. F. Taylor being successful with the lowest figure, £2424/17/6.

Much time had been lost and the Jubilee was close at hand. In some haste, a site was chosen, partly on the tennis court in front of the main building. (This placement of the hall has been posterity's only serious reproach.)

Excitement

A heartening event at this stage was the gift of £250 by the chairman of the College Council (Mr. Charles Shannon) on behalf of his four sons, to allow the tower to be included.

The removal of trees bordering the tennis court was undertaken by the boys, and for two or three days the attention of students in Rooms A and B was distracted by the thud of axes and the crash of falling trunks. But worse distraction was to follow, as is recorded in "The Pegasus."

"Great excitement was caused by the blasting of the tree stumps which had been removed from the site of the Hall. They were taken to what was considered a safe distance—the middle of the football paddock—and there six very pretty explosions took place. Five of these were harmless, but at the sixth . . . a billet of wood sailed gaily through the air, and landed with a crash on the roof of Room I. The wood itself remained suspended over a jagged hole in the ceiling, but the plaster descended in wholesale fashion, thus disturbing the serenity of the atmosphere in more senses than one. Under the circumstances the class adjourned without formality of motion; but, fortunately, no-one was hurt, although one youth's trousers were badly torn, possibly by a lump of falling plaster, but more probably through encountering a nail in the desk during his hurried exit."

(The blasting area was midway between the pavilion and Warrinn; Room I was roughly in the position of the present tower in the west wing. The intrusive billet weighed thirty-eight pounds.)

When the Jubilee celebrations came round in October, 1911, the laying of the foundation stone at the northern end by the then President (Mr. Stewart McArthur) was an important feature of the programme.

At last

Early in 1912 it was recorded that "the Norman Morrison Hall continues to progress with irritating slowness," but on Old Boys' Day, May 31, the building, still not quite complete, was formally presented to the Chairman of the Council (Mr. Shannon), who handed it over to the Principal (Mr. W. R. Bayly). Because of further delays over interior fittings and furniture, it was not till the first term of 1913 that the hall was in regular use.

As so often occurs, costs had crept up till, in completing transactions with the architect and the contractor (and after gaining some reductions in the account), the committee found it necessary to secure "accommodation" from a bank for a "temporary loan" of £78/-/1. However, about half of this sum was collected at the annual meeting a week or two later.

Fitting Out

The first honour boards were presented by Mr. Stewart McArthur, and the inside clock by Mr. W. R. Jewell, who had shared the dux prize in 912. (More recently Mr. Jewell gave the electric clock to continue the work of his original gift). Many other gifts of furnishings are acknowledged by their attached silver plates or gold lettering.

The collection of money for the tower clock began in 1913 but was suspended during the war, as all available moneys were then given to "patriotic" funds, so that it was not till 1929 that the clock became reality after a special drive by the head prefect of 1928 (Jack Adams). To earn money for the project at this stage, many boys did hours of hand weeding on the main oval.

For about 30 years the brass honour roll of the first world war was mounted above the platform on the south wall. The bust of Norman Morrison was presented by Old Boys in 1928. The series of portraits has grown since 1934, when that of Dr. George Morrison was unveiled. Originally the walls were plastered white from floor to ceiling; the present panelling came much later. The projection box and the arrangements for serving refreshments are quite recent acquisitions.

Changes

The use of the hall has not changed much over 50 years, though the increase of its inhabitants from 200 to 450 has created problems not foreseen in 1910. The holding of examinations, including university exams, in the main hall is a recent development. One of the basement rooms did duty as a classroom for a while. The armoury was in the basement till 1934 and returned there two or three years ago. During the second world war another room was reinforced with sandbags and stout timbers to serve as a first-aid post in the event of air raids.

Externally there have been some modifications, such as the filling in of the large scallops in the parapets of the tower and the north portico. The upper half of the portico had a cream cement finish which included the title "Norman Morrison Memorial Hall" in

raised lettering about eighteen inches high. This cement coating was removed, and later a bronze plaque was placed near the north-east doorway to indicate the hall's memorial origin. The main flag-pole, which used to stand in the corner now occupied by the House of Music, was placed on the tower in 1937.

The shell of the building has stood well. The only real weakness occurred in the exterior parapet (at the main west door), which was replaced by a lighter structure.

Looking Ahead

By modern standards the hall needs improvement in size, lighting, heating, ventilation and facilities for a range of activities from school assemblies to examinations or stage plays. This is the task which the College parents of 1965 have attacked so vigorously; they are giving the Morrison Hall a new outward appearance, new inward comfort and utility, a new lease of life.

Some of the men who battled and built in the years 1909-11 will soon be able to see a greater and more lasting emblem of Norman Morrison, the man they esteemed and loved. And their hall will continue to serve more generations of sons and grandsons than they could have dreamed of in those days.

OBITUARY

Mr. James Kincaid Russell died on the 25th October, 1965, at the age of 66. He attended the College in 1915. He assumed the management of Barunah Plains in 1921, and was for forty years a member of the Leigh Shire Council. He was also a former President of the Geelong Club, and a member of the Australian Club, Melbourne.

Mr. George Barcroft Hope died at Geelong on the 29th October, 1965. Mr. Hope, who was an industrial chemist with Cheetham Salt Ltd. Geelong, was working right up to the time of his death. He trained as a Geologist, and before he came to Geelong, worked in a Northern Queensland tin mine as a mining engineer. He attended the College from 1894-1899, after which he went to Ormond to take his engineering degree.

Mr. William Sparrow, who entered the College in 1903, died at Geelong on the 8th January, 1966. Mr. Sparrow, who was in business in Geelong, was a noted sportsman, and was for many years President of the Geelong Racing Club. He was also a prominent member of the Geelong Trotting Club, the Corio Bay Rowing Club, and Geelong West Football Club.

Mr. Thomas William Raymond Lord, who entered the College in 1902, died at Blackburn on the 25th January, 1966. He was for many years Works Manager of the Geelong Gas Company. He was also an outstanding athlete at College, rowed with the Corio Bay Rowing Club, and achieved considerable success as a lawn bowler.

College Enrolment Policy

It is only natural that Old Collegians who have sons are concerned about their entry to the College, and are anxious to know the correct procedure and the policy adopted by the College in accepting new enrolments. It is, perhaps, as well to say immediately that there have been very few, if any, cases where an Old Boy's son has not been accepted, unless it has been a request made at the last minute, after all vacancies have been filled, or a request for entry at some point in the school where vacancies do not normally occur at all. That is to say, any Old Boy who has applied at least a year or two ahead has so far been successful.

This, of course, may not always be the case, as the pressure for entry increases, and Old Collegians are therefore urged to put in an application as early as possible, even if they feel there is considerable doubt as to whether they will ever be able to send their son.

The general procedure is outlined on the back of the application form, where the following statement is made:

"The maximum number of vacancies for new boys each year is approximately as follows:

	Boarders	Day-boys
Sub-Primary	—	15
Grade 1	—	5
Grade 2	—	5
Grade 3	—	5
Grade 4	—	5
Grade 5	5	5
Grade 6	5	5
Form 1	25	15
Form 2	5	—
Form 3	20	—

Total:
Boarders—60; Day-boys—60

There are very few vacancies at any higher levels, as all available places are normally filled by the promotion of boys already in the school.

When an application is received, the applicant is listed according to year of proposed entry, and expected standard at entry. Points are allotted, depending upon:

- (1) the interval between dates of application and of entry,
- (2) whether or not the father attended the College,
- (3) whether or not a brother or brothers have attended the College,
- (4) whether or not the family are active members of the Presbyterian Church, or some other Church,
- (5) whether or not there are any special circumstances, e.g. sons of Ministers, boys without one parent, etc.

On the basis of the total points score, the applications in each group are arranged in order of priority, so that the place of any boys on the list at any given time can be determined.

It should be noted that the position of any particular application on the list may vary from time to time owing to:

- (a) the cancellation or transfer of applications higher on the list,
- (b) the receipt of applications of higher priority,
- (c) a change in the circumstances of the particular applicant.

It is not, therefore, possible to finalise the list until about twelve months before the date of entry. Definite offers of acceptance are then sent out, in order of priority, up to the number of known vacancies.

If an applicant cannot be accepted for the year of his choice, or if in that year he has not reached the appropriate standard, or if for any other reason he is transferred to a different list, then his priority on the list will again be determined by his points score as indicated above.

Unfortunately, there are usually more applications than can be accepted, and some parents must be disappointed, even though their applications may have been in for some years. An attempt is made by the College authorities to be as fair and as helpful as possible, and, for that reason, parents are given as much information as possible.

It will be seen that the final acceptance of a boy is not normally made until the year before his date of entry. However, a reasonably accurate estimate of his prospects can be given some years earlier.

This element of uncertainty is inevitable, because no accurate estimate can ever be made of the number of boys who will leave in any given year to make room for new entries, nor can any accurate forecast be made of developments in our building programme, which may create additional places. It has also been found that a very large proportion of parents change their minds about the year in which they wish their sons to enter, as a result of variations in his rate of academic progress, or for reasons of health, change of address, and so on.

It has been found best, therefore, simply to indicate the probable number of vacancies and the place which each application occupies in the order of priority. This can be done at any stage at the request of any particular individual.

The following figures may be of interest:

The total number of applications already received for boarding places in the following years are:

1967	— 142
1968	— 109
1969	— 82
1970	— 86
1971	— 71
1972	— 70
1973	— 47
1974	— 51
1975	— 35
1976	— 31
1977	— 14
1978	— 5

When a final check of applicants is made twelve months before date of entry, these numbers are usually reduced to about half. However, it looks as if some must inevitably be disappointed, but none of these need be Old Collegians' sons, if early application is made.

FROM THE COMMITTEE TABLE

TIES

For some time, there have been enquiries from Old Collegians for silk ties, and the committee considered that there should be a choice available of either silk or wool, as is the case with most of the other Public School Old Boys' Associations. When enquiries were made, it was discovered that a firm in Melbourne was holding a small supply of silk cloth of the same design as that of the official Association tie and scarf, such material having been woven together with that of other schools shortly after the second world war. The order was therefore placed, and stocks have now been obtained for the O.G.C.A. office at the College at a price of \$2.50 each.

PENNANT

Some demand was also indicated for a College pennant similar to those which were fashionable some twenty years ago. A small supply of these has also been obtained, therefore, and they are available from the College office at 75c each.

SIR ARTHUR COLES

The committee decided that an appropriate occasion for the bestowing of the Association's official regalia on Sir Arthur Coles as an Honorary Life Member would be the 1965 Speech Day. The Principal gave his permission, and accordingly the President, George Ewan, presented the official tie, scarf and badge to Sir Arthur during the proceedings, and Sir Arthur expressed his gratitude for the honour accorded to him by the O.G.C.A.

VACANCY

The vacancy on the committee caused by the death of the late Ross Quick has been filled by the election of a well-known Old Collegian, Fred W. Elliot, who is a valued member of the teaching staff, and Housemaster of Warrinn boarding house. Fred attended his first committee meeting in February, but — at the time of writing — is out of action with hepatitis.

ST. GEORGE'S

The committee received notice of an appeal being conducted by the session of St. George's Presbyterian Church, Geelong, with which the College was associated for about one hundred years. The appeal is to raise funds for restoring the Church building. While the committee did not feel able to use Association funds for this purpose, it agreed to commend the appeal to those members who might be interested to assist.

PUBLICATIONS

Considerable discussion has taken place about the publications sent to members. Since the practice has been adopted of sending a copy of the Pegasus to all known Old Collegians, the cost of publication has risen substantially. A decision was taken to make Ad Astra the official publication of the Association, with a consequent reduction of the O.G.C.A. material in the Pegasus. In the interests of economy, it may be necessary

to reduce the cost of publication in some way, and further attention will be given to this subject.

VICE-PRINCIPAL

At the February meeting, the best wishes of the Association were extended to the Vice-Principal, Mr. D. D. Davey, who was about to leave for an overseas tour. Mr. Davey has always taken a lively interest in the affairs of the O.G.C.A., and his assistance was particularly valued during his term in 1965 as Acting Principal. All members wish Mr. Davey a most enjoyable and rewarding trip.

THE ANNUAL REUNION

The Annual Reunion this year will be held on Saturday, 25th June. During the afternoon, Old Collegians will be able to watch The College XVIII playing Caulfield Grammar School.

The General Meeting will be held at 4.30 p.m., followed by a service in St. David's, at which it is hoped all Old Boys will be present. After the service, refreshments will be available at Aberdeen House, and at 7 p.m. our Reunion Dinner will be served in The Dining Hall at The College. We hope that Mr. G. Logie-Smith and former members of the Glee Club will be present, to give us some excerpts from the Gilbert & Sullivan Operas.

WHO'S WHO in the O.G.C.A.

L. E. Reid, the President (in perpetuity) of the N.S.W. Branch, Sydney, was at the College from 1909-1916.

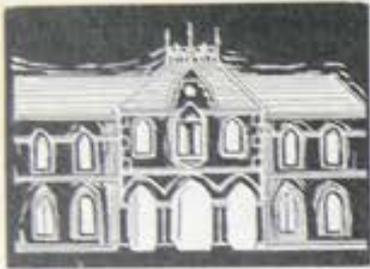
As the College History and the Pegasus of 1916 record, he was one of the six Prefects, a member of the Crew, 1st XI, 1st XVIII and Athletics Team, being Captain of Athletics, winner of the College Cup and the J. I. Birnie Cricket Cup. He served in the B.E.F., 1917-18, and the Militia and 2nd A.I.F., 1940-43.

Most of his business life has been spent in Wool Selling Brokers' circles from which he retired in December, 1964, after 14 years as Managing Director of The Country Producers' Selling Coy. Ltd., Sydney and Newcastle. He is a past Chairman of Sydney Wool Selling Brokers' Association, President of N.S.W. Stock and Station Agents' Association, and Vice-President of the Commonwealth Institute of Valuers (N.S.W. Division).

NOTICE

St. George's Presbyterian Church, Geelong, with which the College has been associated for so many years, is making an appeal for funds for the restoration of the church fabric.

Old Collegians who feel they would like to contribute to this appeal should make their cheques payable to St. George's, Geelong, Restoration Appeal, and send them to the Church.



FROM NEWTOWN HILL

1. The Vice-Principal, Mr. D. D. Davey, accompanied by Mrs. Davey, is absent overseas on a six-month educational tour, during which he plans to visit New Zealand, Great Britain, France and the United States. He is due to return in September. During Mr. Davey's absence, Mr. B. R. Keith is acting as Vice-Principal.

2. This year, we have welcomed several new members to the Staff. New men on the Senior School Staff are— Mr. M. W. Blank, formerly Headmaster of Townsville Grammar School, and Mr. P. H. Chislett, who has recently completed the Diploma of Education course at the Melbourne University. Mr. T. G. Cook, an Old Collegian, Mr. D. K. Millard and Miss B. Knapp have joined the Junior School Staff. Other changes involve Mr. J. Firth, recently retired from the Junior School, who is doing part time duty at the House of Guilds and in the Chemistry Laboratory, and Reverend E. C. McLean who has been appointed House-Master of Calvert House in succession to the late Ross Quick.

3. At Assembly on March 21st, the School welcomed the return of Mr. E. B. Lester, who was making his reappearance after a long absence due to severe illness. The Headmaster commented on how well he looked, and expressed the hope that he would gradually be able to resume most of his former duties.

4. The cricket team contains a number of very capable cricketers, but so far they have not all managed to perform well at the same time, so we have not won many matches. The Boat Club has been very heartened by the return of its experienced coach, Mr. Albert Bell, together with a number of his assistants, and looks forward with optimism to the Head of the River. More tennis teams have been engaged in regular weekly matches than ever before, and a large squad of swimmers enjoys competition with those from other schools every Saturday.

5. Several boys, who are still at school, have gained distinctions in sporting contests in the State. R. B. Hambling and R. G. Wylie both achieved success in judo, the former winning the Brown Belt Junior Championship of Geelong and being runner-up for the Victorian title, and the latter winning the Junior Green Belt Championship of Victoria in 1965. Wylie displayed versatility as he was also a crew member in the winning boat in the Victorian Cadet Dinghy Championship. G. T. Bigmore, D. L. H. Batten and G. J. Lindquist competed successfully in swimming events at Olympic Pool during the State Championships.

6. Many readers will be interested in the following extract from the column entitled "50 years ago", in a recent copy of the Geelong Advertiser. "Corporal A. Percy Carter, of Geelong West, who returned from the Dardanelles by the hospital ship on Friday, is not well enough to return to

Geelong and will be quartered at the Alfred Hospital for some weeks."

7. It is a sign of changing times that the study of Indonesian is now being offered as an optional extra in the College, and has attracted a number of starters.

THE ALUMNI PROGRAMME

THE FIRST YEAR

In 1964, the Association revised its Constitution in order to accommodate the Alumni Programme, with which we are all now familiar. As we look back over the first year's activities, we may ask, "Have the objects for which this great and significant change in the Constitution was made, been achieved?"

You may recall that our new policy was — to support the Geelong College Building Fund in perpetuity.

To implement this policy, we allocated all Old Collegians to Year Groups, in an endeavour to bring together again those who had been contemporaries at school. Each Year Group, and there are fifty-one of them, had a Chairman appointed, whose task was to contact all Old Boys in his Group by letter, and also, where possible, to make personal contact, to let everyone know of the ambitions and plans of the Association under the new Constitution, and also of our first project, the Sir Francis Rolland Memorial Centre. In a few cases where there were no volunteers for the job of Year Chairman, the President of the Association, Mr. George Ewan, undertook to write to Old Collegians in those Year Groups. Mr. Ewan personally signed some 2,000 letters.

The response to these two mailings was satisfactory. Although the first letter did not specifically ask for a reply, many Old Collegians did write to their Year Chairman. This was most encouraging to these Chairmen who, over the year, had given much of their time and thought in considering various ways in which they might get men in their year to take a more active part in College affairs, and give support to meet its needs.

We had an average of 4 per cent active participation over the year, and received contributions to the Rolland Memorial Centre of \$13,000. You can visualise the result if we had 50% participation — our tribute to our late loved Headmaster would be a reality within two years.

The General Committee has also been thinking about the formation of new Branches. In deference to requests which have been made so often by numerous Old Collegians in every state, and also to encourage greater participation in school activities, our Executive Officer, Mac McVittie, wrote to Old Boys in areas where it was considered a branch could be formed, asking for their support in starting these Branches. As a result of this move, your General Committee has approved the formation of Branches under the terms of the Constitution, in Tasmania, Albany, Bendigo and Lake Bolac, and plans are now being made for a reunion of Old Boys in these areas. It is anticipated that several more Branches will

be formed in the near future.

It can be considered, therefore, that the first year of the Programme has at least achieved much of what it set out to do.

THIS YEAR

The early months of the Alumni programme resulted in contacts being made between Old Collegian school friends who had not seen one another for many years. This, of course, is the initial purpose behind the re-organisation of the O.G.C.A.

The card which Old Boys recently received, asking, among other things, how long it has been since they visited the school, has made many Old Collegians realise that they have almost broken the link with many happy memories of earlier years.

The Alumni programme for 1966 is designed to continue and develop the renewal of acquaintances, and to help re-form the link with the College.

Throughout the year, the chairman of your year group will attend a series of Year Chairmen's Conferences, and from these he will obtain a lot of interesting College information, which he will pass on to you by letter or by personal contact.

Already, two year groups have arranged reunions. Year Chairmen Fred Elliott (1941) and Gary Bent (1951) have plans in hand for their respective functions.

This is the first of 3 copies of "Ad Astra" which will bring you College information during 1966.

Old Boys have already learned that membership calls for an annual contribution to the O.G.C.A. (unless you are a Life Member), and your Association believes you would like to feel that something practical and worthwhile will be done with these contributions.

That is why the Francis Rolland Memorial Sports Centre plan was drawn up. Every Old Boy, even if he is a Life Member, will want to play a direct part in the creation of this memorial to one who did so much for every phase of College life over a long period of time. You will be kept informed of the planning and progress of the Francis Rolland Memorial, and the speed with which these develop will depend on the nature of your contribution.

Year Chairmen

G—Geelong Area
M—Melbourne Area
1890—1902—K. McM. Davidson—G
1903—1909—A. H. Campbell—M
1910—1913—K. A. Wilson—G
1914—Dr. H. I. Gibb—M
1915—C. E. McArthur—G
1916—H. de G. S. Ash—M
1917—
1918—A. R. G. Colvin—G
1919—
1920—T. L. Macmillan—G
1921—L. A. Illingworth—G
1922—J. W. Sheahan—G

1923—W. M. Lamb—M
1924—H. D. Cumming—G
1925—A. N. Walls—M
1926—S. McDonald—M
1927—A. J. McAdam—G
1928—C. G. Baird—M
1929—
1930—J. D. Hede—G
1931—L. Lucas—G
1932—L. H. Batten—G
1933—
1934—H. M. Clarke—G
1935—
1936—
1937—
1938—
1939—P. Grutzner—M
1940—J. G. W. Urbahn—M
1941—F. Elliott—G
1942—A. R. A. Backwell—G
1943—Dr. R. A. Leggatt—G
1944—R. W. Purnell—G
1945—D. Carmichael—M
1946—A. W. Jones—M
1947—D. A. Pigdon—G
1948—
1949—T. S. Dennis—G
1950—R. S. Dennis—G
1951—G. L. Bent—G
1952—D. Alexander—G
1953—G. L. Pearce—G
1954—L. Hatton—G
1955—J. Fidge—G
1956—G. R. Gill—G
1957—D. Jarman—G
1958—W. L. Lehmann—G
1959—J. B. Opperman—G
1960—G. Andrews—G
1961—B. H. Pettitt—G

My! Don't we get around!

1. On the retirement of Sir Macfarlane Burnet, Melbourne University Gazette recorded that at thirteen his ability was already apparent when he "won a scholarship to Geelong College, Melbourne."

2. Letters addressed to "Modern Language Teacher, Geelong College, Geelong, Queensland, Australia."

3. An Old Collegian, returning his personal information card to the O.G.C.A. Office said that he last visited the College in 1665. A member of the staff was overheard to say that this was impossible, as the College wasn't founded at that time.

1951 Year Group "Get-together"

The 1951 Year Group held a dinner party at Kirrewur Court, Geelong, on Friday, 25th March, 1966.

Mr. Gary Bent, the Year Group Chairman, who had organised the party, welcomed a large number of Old Collegians and guests, who included Mr. J. H. Campbell, Mr. B. R. Keith, Mr. T. Henderson and Mr. V. Profit.

A feature of the evening was the display of photographs of the Year Group members taken when they were at College, and covering almost every aspect of School activities.

After dinner, many of the party went to the Association's Office at the College, where the Executive Officer, Mac McVittie, explained various aspects of the Alumni organisation.

This was without doubt a most pleasant evening of good fellowship, and we hope that other Year Groups will now follow the lead which Gary Bent and the members of the 1951 Year Group have given.

Retirement of G. J. Martin

At the end of 1965, Mr. George J. Martin retired from the position of Bursar, an office he had held for twenty-five years, having been appointed in 1941. While serving in the R.A.N.V.R. in anti-submarine patrols, Mr. Martin was absent from the College during the period 1943-1945.

Although not an Old Collegian himself, his connection with the College goes back a long way, as he was a son of Z. S. Martin who attended in 1887. His interest in the College was not confined to the limits of the particular and exacting responsibilities of a Bursar. For instance, as a prominent member of the Geelong Rifle Club, he was in a position to give considerable advice and help to the boys in connection with rifle shooting.



Mr. Martin is a respected and well-liked member of the Common Room. Perhaps he will be best remembered for those days when his popularity soared to its greatest heights, as he presided over the ceremony of handing out the cheques in his own inimitable manner.

Fortunately, Mr. Martin is still closely connected with the College, he serves in a part time capacity in a number of fields, including that of Archivist, examining and arranging the historical records of the College.

Personal Pats

Doctor Kenneth H. McLean (1939) of the Dept. of Medicine, Monash University, received a grant from The National Heart Foundation to study Aetiology of post-cardiotomy mononeucleosis.

Doctor Jim Watts (1945) has been appointed Senior Lecturer in Surgery at Monash University.

Graham Firth (1951) has been elected Secretary of the Geelong Sub-Branch of the Co-operative Housing Movement.

Doctor John D. Hicks (1926), who has been Pathologist to the Royal Melbourne Hospital for the past fifteen years, has now been appointed to the Walter & Eliza Hall Institute. He had been working at the Hospital on diseases of the human kidneys and arteries, but recently spent six months study leave at the Institute, where

he found important connections between his work on humans and on mice.

Ray Bayley (1940) has been appointed a Senior Supervisor for the Victorian Branch of the A.M.P. Society.

Chairman Graeme Pearce (1953), after two and a half years at the Kew City Council, has been Shire Secretary with the Shire of Barrabool, Geelong, for twelve months. At the time of appointment, he was the youngest Shire Secretary in Victoria.

Adrian Boyd (1953) after obtaining his Bachelor of Engineering (Civil) at the Melbourne University, obtained a position with the Hydro Electricity Commission in Tasmania. He has, however, been in South Africa since February, 1964, directing operations at a huge mining complex situated on the edge of the famed Kruger National Park. He urges any Old Collegian who is seeking something different in the way of engineering to follow his example, as opportunities are outstanding.

The 1953 Year Group is well represented medically, and should be in safe hands at their Annual reunion. Graeme Robson, Tony Weaver, and Rob Moreton, just to name a few, can be called 'Doctor'.

David Parr (1953) is managing with his father, a Holiday Resort at Savusavu on Vanua Levu Island, Fiji, which, from all accounts, offers the perfect South Seas Holiday.

Graham Fram is back in his native Canada, and is Resident Secretary of the Greater Hamilton Y.M.C.A. Graham was in Australia recently renewing old acquaintances.

David Bent (1958) graduated as Lieutenant from 3rd Division Officers' Training School, C.M.F., and has been posted to 2nd Battalion Royal Victorian Regiment, Ballarat.

Rolf L. Crawley (1910), Engineer to the Shire of Warrnambool since 1935, has brought his family's tally of service to the Shire to more than 150 years. This unparalleled record is honoured in the naming of the Crawley Bridge at Hopkins Falls, Wangoom.

Roy Muncey (1930) M.E.E., A. INST. P., A.M.I.E.E. (Aust.) has been appointed Chief of the Division of Forest Products, C.S.I.R.O. He was dux of The College in 1935. He joined C.S.I.R.O. in 1944 and has had a distinguished career. We wish him well in his new appointment.

Ian McLeod (1955), after roving the world for a year or two, has settled down to studies again, and is looking forward to entering the medical profession. He recently obtained a Commonwealth Scholarship and is now training at Melbourne University.

Michael Aikman (1946) has this year been appointed Principal of Scots' School, Bathurst.

Dr. David T. Currie (1942), Assistant Programme Engineer, C.R.B., writing for "Victoria's Resources", insists that the co-operation of landholders is necessary for the successful restoration of the Board's gravel pits.

The Rev. Fred Dearnaley (1948) was inducted to the Anglican parish of Lara. The new Vicar was formerly at St. Andrew's, Brighton. His brother, The Rev. Bill Dearnaley (1952), is assistant at St. Paul's, Bendigo.

Barry Beach (1943) had good support in his bid for a ticket to Canberra as pre-selected Liberal candidate for Kooyong, but did not quite make it. Try again Barry!

Robin Lawson (1953) graduated Master of Agricultural Science with First Class Honours in Animal Science at the conferring of degrees at Massey University, Palmerston North, New Zealand. Robin was awarded the prize given annually by the Royal Agricultural Society of New Zealand for the best thesis presented.

Frank Pam (1949) is going to spend some time in Europe playing in an orchestra.

Tony Whiteside (1951), working on an engineering project in Thailand, suffered arm and leg injuries in a road construction accident. He is in a team sent by the Snowy Mountains Authority as part of Australia's contribution to Thai development.

Graham Hallebone (1957) is with the C.R.B. at Traralgon.

Ian Scott (1953) has been awarded a scholarship enabling him to study at the International University of Comparative Sciences, Luxembourg. He is at present Lecturer in Law at Eastleigh Technical College, Southampton, England.

Peter Bunyan, who took out his doctorate in physics, is lecturing at Pharmacy College, Melbourne.

Marriages

David John (1954), to Jennifer Serpell at St. David's, Geelong, on 4th March, 1966.

Roderick Lovat Fraser (1957), to Denise Howard at St. Matthew's Church of England, Geelong, on 4th February, 1966.

Andrew Lawson (1956), to Alison Laird at St. David's, Newtown, on February 12th, 1966.

Wally Allen (1951), to Carol Johnson, at Christchurch, New Zealand, on 26th March, 1966.

David Douglas Wright (1956), to Margaret June Lamond at Wesley Church, Geelong, on February 5th, 1966.

Noel Thom (1953), to Patricia Anne Rankin at Wesley Church, Hamilton, on 7th January, 1966.

Ian Ferguson Apted (1952), to Susan Hobbs at Scots' Church, Melbourne.

Roger Marris (1955), to Judith Anne Wright at St. David's, Applecross, W.A., on 29th September, 1965.

NOTICE

It would be appreciated if Old Collegians who have not yet returned the Order Form for "Ad Astra," which was sent out with the last edition, would kindly do so at an early date, as by so doing they will save the Association a considerable amount on postage.

"GRAY"

and

"STEELE"



O.G.C.A. v. College 1st XI

PLAYED WED., FEB. 1st, 1966

For the first time in two years, this annual match was played in fine weather and on a perfect wicket.

Traditionally, the boys batted first, and were soon in trouble against an energetic attack by the brothers Don and Barry McCrow. Don McCrow bowled the skipper of the 1st XI, Bill Farrow, with a beauty, while Malseed touched a swinger from Barry McCrow to be caught behind the wicket by Jim Holdsworth. After this bad start the boys batted solidly, and a valuable partnership between youngsters Barkley and Williamson built the score to a respectable 150 runs.

The Old Boys started disastrously when Jeff Hallebone and Roger Mulligan were both out caught behind by keeper Barkley from the bowling of Gregor Gilmore, a medium paced left hander. Illingworth also bowled well with medium paced inswingers, and troubled the early batsmen. However, Don and Colin McCrow batted very confidently and gave a good exhibition of hard hitting. They were ably supported by Robin Coulson, Barry McCrow and Gordon Campbell, and the College score was soon overtaken. Best College bowlers were Gilmore and Illingworth.

Scores

College 1st Innings

W. Farrow	2
D. Malseed	0
G. Oman	9
A. Morrison	14
G. Craig	11
B. Illingworth	17
D. Barkley	25
J. Williamson	47
T. Johnstone	6
G. David	9
I. Anderson	2
G. Gilmore	1
Sundries	7

Total 150

Bowling: D. McCrow 2/8; B. McCrow 2/12; R. Coulson 2/20; C. McCrow 1/20; G. Campbell 1/13; C. Murray 2/15; G. Wallace-Smith 1/2.

Old Collegians 1st Innings

J. Hallebone	1
R. Mulligan	0
C. McCrow	43
C. Murray	2
G. Campbell	24
D. McCrow	48
C. Campbell	9
R. Coulson	23
W. Elliott	0
B. McCrow	12
J. Holdsworth	4
G. Wallace-Smith	4
Sundries	3

Total 173

Bowling: Gilmore 2/23; Illingworth 2/36; Anderson 1/38; Johnstone 1/22; Oman 1/16.

"PIL"

Mr. P. L. ("Pil") Williams, who died at Ferntree Gully on March 28th, was one of Australia's great sports personalities, a fine cricketer himself and the coach of several Australian test players.

He was a master and coach at G.C. from 1926 to 1930, when the College was rising to its first peak in A.P.S. cricket. Lindsay Hassett was the earliest of his famous proteges. "Pil" was a Wesley Collegian and taught at his old school from 1931 till he retired in 1961. He had been in poor health for several years.

The funeral service in the Wesley chapel was attended by several Geelong Collegians, including O.G.C.A. representatives from Geelong.

Degrees conferred

Ph. D.: P. J. Bunyan.
M. App. Sc.: B. L. Cole
LL.B.: J. J. Tait B.A.
M.B., B.S.: A. C. Lawler
B. Arch.: N. F. Walter
B. Com.: R. K. Ackland
B. App. Sc.: R. A. Both
B.E.: P. M. McLennan

N.S.W. Branch Reunion

The N.S.W. Branch Reunion was held at the Hotel Australia, Sydney, on Tuesday, February 8th. About 30 Old Collegians, under the chairmanship of their life President, Mr. Leslie Reid, attended the dinner and had a most enjoyable evening. The College was represented by our Executive Officer, "Mac" McVittie.

O.G.C.A. Football Team?

The Victorian Amateur Football Association, in reply to the Old Geelong Collegians' Association's application to join the V.A.F.A., has stated that it is a prerequisite that clubs must have had experience in running a team in an organised competition, before they can seek admission to the V.A.F.A. The first step, therefore, is to apply to join the Geelong and District Football Association. Would Old Collegians interested in forming a team for this purpose please hand their names to the Executive Officer at our office at the College?

Melbourne Dinner Dance

The Melbourne Dinner Dance will be held at the "Star Dust Room," Palais de Danse, St. Kilda, on Saturday, 17th September. It is hoped that Year Groups will now take advantage of this excellent social function to hold their annual "get-together."

Late Melbourne University News

Ewan Hazeldine won the Argus Scholarship in the final honour examination in civil engineering.

Dugald Williamson won the Baillieu Exhibition in French, Part I.

Roger Douglas shared the Jeanette Kosky Prize in political science.

Rowing

On Thursday, 3rd February, three new boats were presented to the College Rowing Club.

The two fours, which were named by Mrs. A. Austin Gray, were presented by two Old Collegians, Mr. A. Austin Gray and Mr. Jack Steele, and the eight by the Wimmera Branch of the Old Geelong Collegians' Association. The eight was named by the President of the Wimmera Branch, Mr. K. E. Officer.

These two fours, together with the "Century" and "Red Robbie", both of which were presented by Lieut-General Robertson in 1962, are the only boats for junior rowers presented to The College

since the 1920's, whilst the "Wimmera" was also the first boat for eights (other than the first eight) donated since early 1920.

It is the custom that, as new boats are given to the club, the crew below inherits the boat of the crew above. This practice, however, has caused difficulty because most Junior crews have been rowing in narrower boats, which are difficult to "sit-up."

However, as usual, the spirit of the boat club is good, and all five crews are rowing well, which will give us as good a chance as any other school of winning in a number of divisions.

SPORT

Wally Wiggs, Peter Griffiths and Jeremy Simpson were the crew of the winning boat, "Scorn Trio", in the Australian Lightning Class Yachting Championship at Waranga Basin.

Paul Sheahan (1959), former School Cricket Captain, has had a most successful cricket season. Sir Robert Menzies invited him to play in the Prime Minister's XI against the M.C.C. Paul made 79, the highest score in the Australian side, and the M.C.C. were full of praise for his outstanding performance. Playing for Victoria in the match against New South Wales, he scored his first first-class century, when he made 106 not out.

Ron Griffiths, Tom McNair and Bob George were members of the Corio Bay Rowing Club's lightweight four, which represented Victoria and won the Penrith Cup on the River Huon, Tasmania, on March 26th.

Robbie Russell (1959) is now training with the Melbourne Football Club.

John (Doc) Gardner (1960) and Andrew Robson (1960) are both training with the Hawthorn Football Club.

Bob Merriman (1948), who is Labour Relations and Payroll Personnel Manager at the Ford Motor Company's Broadmeadows plant, recently made 100 not out for Geelong in the Country Week Cricket Match between Geelong and Ballarat. This was the first Geelong century in Country Week Cricket for ten years. Bob captained the College Cricket team in 1953.

NOTICE

Available at The O.G.C.A. Office at The College—

Wool Ties	— \$1.50
Silk Ties	— \$2.50
Badges	— \$1.00
Scarves	— \$3.00
College Banners — 24" x 10"	75 cents.



"WIMMERA"