



Blue and Gold Alumni Association

formerly Adelaide Technical High School Old Scholars' Association

September 2014

Newsletter

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Coming Event : Annual Luncheon : Wednesday, 22 October 2014

Date: Wednesday 22 October 2014

Time: 12.00pm for 12.30pm

Venue: Arkaba Hotel, 150 Glen Osmond Road, Fullarton
Car parking is available both on the hotel site
and in the adjacent shopping centre multi-level park
(entrances from Fullarton Road)

Cost: \$45 per head

Please use the booking form
enclosed with this Newsletter.

The closing date for bookings
will be 15 October 2014.

President's Foreword

Last year we recognised our membership is ageing and our numbers diminishing. Like all who faced the prospect of change, we are given two clear alternatives; we can sit like Miss Havisham amidst the decay and ponder what was, or, like the Phoenix, we can utilise the past and recreate from its ashes something that is better and more relevant to the future. That is the path, which after extensive consultation and agreement from the membership at the AGM your committee has undertaken.

The name of the association might have changed, as indeed it changed before it became Adelaide Technical High School, and names are important. But more important still is the fact that Glenunga International High School IS Adelaide Technical High school and Adelaide Technical High School IS Glenunga International High School.

This newsletter is tinged with sadness, since it marks the passing of an era and is the last that will be produced in a format that has remained unchanged since the reinstatement of the ATHSOSA.

Its format acknowledges the change by including articles on the joint head prefects at GIHS and on Hikaru Seki who last year won one of the old scholar's prizes.

We are determined that every current and future student at Glenunga International High School understands that they are the current generation of runners. They will pass the baton to their successors as, over generations, we passed along the very same baton to them.

Oral history is notoriously unreliable and can always be assisted by a bit of a nudge. In order to re-enforce both the name and memory of the antecedent institution the committee has determined that all scholarships and prizes donated with the money collected by the ATHSOSA will in perpetuity be prefixed with the title "Adelaide Technical High School".

We are looking for mechanisms whereby current ATHSOSA funds can be protected in perpetuity to ensure the ATHS scholarships and prizes can be maintained. cont'd over ...

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President's Foreword (cont'd)

If any old scholar feels able to make an additional donation for this purpose or, indeed, feels minded to remember the school in a bequest, could you please consider this? Any donation can be forwarded to the Treasurer.

As I conclude this, my mind is drawn back to North Terrace and to my intermediate syllabus in English literature. The Shakespearean play which we studied that year was Henry V.

I recall that on the night before the Battle of Agincourt, Henry's troops, tired, hungry, diseased, demoralised and

hugely outnumbered faced a task which they thought was beyond them. Yet, they stood firm and prevailed. In consequence, Henry's son became the first and only monarch to have been crowned King of England and France.

A difficult task lies before us as we establish the Blue and Gold Alumni Association Inc. However, I have every confidence that given who we are and by whom we were trained, that we, too, can turn winter into a glorious summer. "Labor Omnia Vincit"

The Diggers' Doctor: Donald Beard AM, MBBS, FRCS, FRCSEd, FRACS

Don Beard is the much loved and revered patron of the old scholars association. In the list of "Outstanding Old Scholars" in the book "Adelaide Technical High School – The Story" Bryce Kohler denotes nearly a page to Don's achievements as a sportsman, medico and his wide ranging involvement in many different and varied pursuits. Many of us know Don personally and have been enriched by the experience.

In his recently published book "*The Diggers' Doctor*" Ashley Mallett talks extensively about Don's involvement in the army. It is worthwhile recounting the introduction written by the current governor general Sir Peter Cosgrove. He writes:

"A man of substance in war and peace, Dr Donald Beard, AM is a leader, and known for his compassion, humility and charm. *The Diggers' Doctor* tells of his extraordinary life as a surgeon, as well as his love of cricket and deep friendship with cricketers including Sir Donald Bradman.

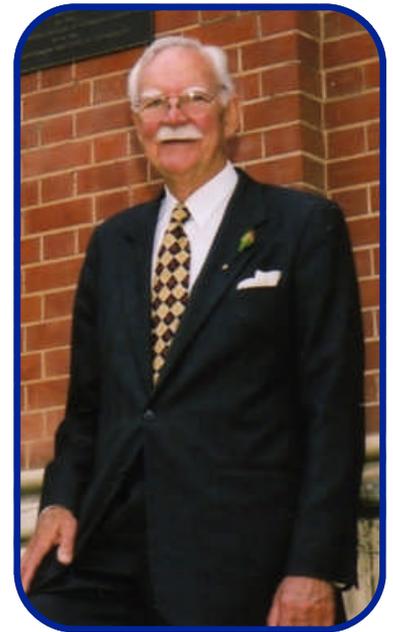
It was in the Beard's backyard that the Don faced Jeff Thompson and hit his last cricket ball.

Dr Donald Beard has embraced those from all walks of life and considers himself enriched by the experience. Surgery, cricket, music, theatre and reading and his love for Margaret, the greatest love of his life, has warmed him to thousands. It indeed has been a fortunate life.

Don Beard – "the Doc" is a familiar and much-loved figure at cricket grounds around Australia and the world. In another part of his extraordinary life, as an army doctor, he is equally revered. His role as a doctor tending to soldiers in combat in Korea is a byword in the Australian army. At the Battle of Kapyong in 1951 his inspirational care and leadership contributed to the love the soldiers had for this strong man of peace and compassion. His

invariable good humour, stamina and great professional skill made for further generations of medicos in uniform.

I am delighted that one of Australia's great cricketers is writing about the Doc, one of nature's gentlemen."



Where Are They Now? : Robert (Bob) Stone

An escape from the engineering pathways

After a successful career in education and education administration which culminated in retiring as a TAFE Director, Bob embarked on a new career as an archaeologist. Was this life after death or death after life? Whichever way, he is having a ball digging holes in Jordan and is currently excavating a second to first century BC Hellenistic villa, a project that will continue for many years to come.

Work in Jordan has its many challenges. Being a dunce at languages (as the long suffering Miss Elleshaw often remarked), Arabic was difficult to learn and Bob's attempt to speak it has been a great source of amusement for the local villagers. The adventures of 'Time Team' and Indiana Jones pale into insignificance compared with the discoveries, challenges and experience of working in Pella.



Bob attended ATHS from 1953-1956 where his progress as a student was not a template for others. After breezing through the first two years at the Tech, subsequent years required study which had to compete with sport, with the latter taking precedence. Luckily jobs were easy to get in those days and armed with Leaving year (incomplete) he started work in banking, a profession about which he knew nothing.

Throughout his career, a series of events have opened doors with new horizons emerging. Bob married into a family where education was a priority. As a result, he completed his Leaving Certificate and applied to study economics at Adelaide University. Working fulltime and attending lectures at night was a challenge but an Evening Studentship (these don't exist today) helped pay the fees.

A life in finance or education was the next decision for Bob. After being encouraged to turn to teaching Bob spent five years teaching accounting and economics at Pulteney Grammar School. Just to be sure he had chosen the correct career path, he then returned to industry as a company accountant, but the growth in further education in the Whitlam era enabled him to have the best of both worlds. He became a lecturer in Business Studies in TAFE and the next 25 years was spent moving through the organisation as an educational administrator and on retirement in 1998 Bob was a TAFE Institute Director.

"Retirement" was not really an option for Bob, but it did provide time and the opportunity to choose what to do next; this was "Bob's Time". In the 1970s, while holidaying in

Greece, he talked with some marine archaeologists; this sparked an interest in the classical world. He gained certificates in scuba diving and read prolifically, but it was a dream not seriously pursued at that time.

In 1997, an article in the local paper by the University of Sydney calling for volunteers to work on an archaeological excavation at Pella in Jordan (no experience required) heralded the next phase in Bob's life. Archaeology was to take over. After leaving TAFE at the end of 1998, Bob once more volunteered to return to Jordan. He also enrolled in classics at Adelaide University. One of his subjects incorporated a field trip to Turkey to study Greek and Roman cities; another opportunity eventuated. The study program and trip was a joint University of Adelaide/WEA tour. His experience working in the Near East enabled Bob to become a WEA tour leader which has taken him to many countries, including Egypt and Vietnam, but mainly in the eastern Mediterranean region.



In 2003 Bob was made a trench supervisor at Pella so he enrolled in archaeology at Flinders University where the emphasis was on field methods. Gaining a first class honours degree, he was then awarded an Australian research scholarship to study for a PhD in Archaeology. As there were not many classical sites in Australia his thesis was on stately homes in South Australia. This topic has had a wide appeal and as a consequence Bob is regularly invited to speak to community groups, schools and clubs on archaeology and in particular stately homes, and excavations in Pella.

Archaeology is a rewarding career and in his post TAFE life Bob has worked on many sites in Australia including Port Arthur in Tasmania, mining sites in Queensland, indigenous sites in Darwin, Southport and Barunga in the Northern Territory. In South Australia he has worked on many sites frequently assisting Flinders University students. The sites include the haunted sites at Kapunda, excavating the Beresford Arms (the oldest surviving hotel site in Adelaide) and monitoring the work on the renovations to Old Parliament House.

Bob is currently an Associate Lecturer at Flinders University and will be returning to Pella in 2015 before taking a tour group to Iran. What a change! History subjects weren't even available to those in the technical stream at ATHS and archaeology was a word and world that didn't exist.

Home and Away with the Class of '53 : by Nola Shackelford

School reunions are great places to meet those friends from the classrooms of long ago. But at some recent reunions of the Class of '53 one group of four 'girls' had more than their school days in common.

Some were friends even before Adelaide Tech, but somewhere along the line four of them decided they were going overseas as soon as they had saved enough money. And by the time the early 60s came, Barbara Watson (now Armstrong), Elsa Barr (Booth), Lorraine Harris (Phillips) and Nola Tanner (Shackelford) were part of the 'migration' to Europe. Many young women of the day made London their base, working during the bleak winters, living cheaply and saving their meagre wages for the grand tours of Europe in the summertime.

I have no doubt the high standards of Adelaide Tech's teachers helped immensely. Those rigorous english, shorthand, bookkeeping and typing lessons from Miss Balchin, Miss Gregor and others proved their worth. Many Australian girls worked for employment agencies in London, making it easy to work when money was needed and take off when the sun was shining. Australians had a very good reputation for their hard work and efficiency. I worked in one place for 9 months and was given a farewell party when I left to go off on holidays. When I came back at the end of summer, I was sent back to the same company and welcomed with open arms!

But it wasn't just travel we four had in common. We often met for a visit to the theatre in the five bob seats. Sometimes for a

meal beforehand, in cosy little cafes to sample the exotic new foods that hadn't reached Adelaide yet – spag-bol for instance. Or we entertained each other in our various flats or bed-sits. Many employers had work canteens or luncheon vouchers which meant we could fill up at lunchtime very cheaply and didn't have to spend much on the evening meal. All good for the travel fund.

And even if they didn't always travel together, these four friends often overlapped in youth hostels while hitch-hiking (yes, it was safe in those days), or while driving overloaded cars or motor scooters around the countryside. Other friends from Adelaide also joined these activities and shared news from home. Letters written home were usually fairly accurate, but some things were best left out.

After 2 or 3 years, most were thinking of going home. Lorraine headed off first and the other three sailed off on the same ship (Southern Cross) at the end of 1963. Barbara and Elsa stopped off in New Zealand for a few months.

But eventually we were all back in Adelaide and the adventure couldn't end there, could it? "Let's meet a few times a year and swap photos and stories" someone said and so it continued -- even when Elsa moved to Sydney (a shipboard romance, but that's another story), Barbara moved to Melbourne and Nola most recently deserted Adelaide for Canberra. Over the years they have had many reunions of their own, not just the Adelaide Tech ones, and the bonds forged 60 years ago are still as strong as ever.

Coming Event : Class of '61 Starters' Reunion : Calling all Classmates

Date : Thursday, 20 November 2014

Venue 1 : 11:00 am

Beginning with a 'meet 'n greet' at Brookman Hall .
Join your old chums for a fun day of reminiscing.

Venue 2 : 12:30 pm

All to convene at Ayers House restaurant, a short walk from the school on North Terrace, where a private room has been organised for a luncheon and further reminiscences.
Dress: smart casual.

The package arranged at the restaurant includes an entrée, choice of main, followed by a cheese platter. All wine, beer and soft drinks are included for the first three hours. After that you are on your own (or on the floor)! Cost \$105 per head.

Booking and Payment

You can confirm your attendance by contacting Christine at christinehoward4@bigpond.com and payment can be made via on-line transfer to the ANZ Bank

Account name ATHS Class of 61

BSB 015 045

Account number 391 932 381

quoting your surname from school as the reference.

All confirmations and payments will need to be completed by 10 October 2014 and we look forward to seeing you all there.

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Ian Crawley ian@crawley.net.au
Christine Howard christinehoward4@bigpond.com

Class of '61 Starters' Reunion (cont'd)

The start of it all 23 October 2013 at the 50th anniversary luncheon

Howard Black and Mike da Silva (1 Tech B)
Christine Howard (1 Comm B). Chris Bradley
and Ian Crawley (1 Tech B)



Howard:

"I left at the end of '65, a year behind you blokes because I repeated 2nd year. It was a wakeup to realise that copying the Glaetzer twins' homework at the West Croydon Station wasn't going to get me far. I joined the PMG '66, transferred to Sydney '70, bumped into Mike da Silva—the first of very few meetings with ex-classmates. It was that memorable a meeting, he can't remember it! '78 married Linda, '88 took a package and retired to growing veggies, long hair and beard. '90 we bought 600 acres just down the road where we are today. After 15 years in shearing sheds, I still enjoy the work, also golf in Horsham with a handicap of 13."

Mike:

Joined Esso after leaving school and in 1969, looking for a career in promotion marketing, went with his parents to London, thereby breaking the heart of every 'League of Gentlemen' fans in Adelaide. Today, he's based in Sydney. Mike's an established industry identity, globe-trotting for his many international clients ... and it all began in Adelaide back in the 60's with '*a tiger in the tank*' ... also at the time, busy with band gigs and recording contracts. Mike joined the Army Reserve as a Medic, gaining a Defence Medal for his service.

Chris:

His 1969 cruise ship romance worked out and he and Leonie are today happily retired, living in Frenchs Forest NSW. His working life was in management—first with the Commonwealth government but his best years were with the Manly Council.

Chris and Leonie's older son, Craig, fell victim to melanoma and passed away in 2010. As a Melanoma Institute volunteer since 2011 Chris is a committee member who organised and supported a fundraiser held in July 2014 as two melanoma survivors walked from Sydney to Melbourne.

Ian:

Following Ian's recent retirement after 38 years with Baulderstone in Adelaide and Melbourne, being the stoic we know him to be, Ian is now working on preferences, e.g. his wife Rae's "to do" list which includes gardening, taking grand kids (5 so far!) to local library story time, general fix-it jobs for any family member who asks .. And the quality of his golf as a priority anticipation! Currently living in Mont Albert, thinking of re-joining the building industry in a reduced capacity and very keen to be back among ATHS '61 Starters.

Christine:

Didn't know what to do with her '65 Arts scholarship so she went to work in the State Bank instead. It paid well. In '67 school chum, Joan McInnes, introduced her to someone at David Jones so Christine's modelling, music and TV career began. First married a musician, travelled the world performing. Second marriage to her musical manager produced daughter, Laurel. Now happily single, semi-retired selling real estate. Living in Collinswood with an aged Bedlington Terrier, Jasper. Oh yes, Miss SA in 1970. A good year.

Bob Johnke emailed:

"It was great to hear from Chris and I'm enjoying getting news and updates from several of you. I'm just sorry I missed the reunion and really want to get involved with the next one. If we get many more from the class of '61 we can have our own! I'm in Klemzig, semi retired—when I left my last job in the finance industry, I started up my own lawn and gardening business and am working on that most days. (I'm a pretty caring boss and usually knock off by midday).

Queensland Reunion



Above: Graham Davey 50-54
Allan Whitehorn 55-58

This year's luncheon was held at the lovely Royal Qld Golf Club bordering the Brisbane River on a typically bright but cool Queensland winter's day and attracted old scholars from Class '42 through to Class '62. It was very pleasing that eleven old scholars and seven partners attended. There were apologies from an additional sixteen old scholars which augers well for attendances at the 2015 reunion.

A feature of the lunch were the tales of years at the Tech. They could be categorised into truthful, funny, obscure and nefarious through to the absolutely unbelievable. A sociologist old scholar noted there was "a recurring thread that brought us together that worked to build a sense of community". That thread was made up of the format, the lunch, mix of purpose, light-hearted conversation about memories and a sense of connection to the history of the school.

Finally, a bottle of ATHS 1975th Anniversary Port bottled in 1993 to commemorate 75 years of the ATHS name was savoured by all. One old scholar present ensured that the bottle was absolutely drained.

Next year's reunion will be held in April or May so if you are planning to be in Brisbane about that time and would like to attend what will be a fun lunch in excellent surrounds please contact Ian Saunders, Honorary Convenor '51-'55.



Above: Phil Hincks 55-59, Noel Marsh 42-44



Above: Di Millar 59-62, Ian Saunders 51-55, Barbara Marsh
Noel Marsh 42-44, Margaret Dale (nee Lamb) 62-64

Right: Di Millar
(nee Carslake) 59-62



Above:
THE bottle



Above: Merlene Johnston
(nee Weber) 52-54



Above: Allan Whitehorn 55-58, Margaret Bradley,
Wayne Bradley 58-62, Jane Whitehorn

The Dynamic Duo : Sofia and Kersh

Over the last 12 months I have had the pleasure and honour of working with the students and staff from GIHS. Initially this was organising the 50th anniversary celebration of the move of the Tech from North Terrace to Glenunga. More recently it has been working with a team of students looking at how we can best integrate the old scholars from GIHS into the Blue and Gold Alumni Association.

This experience has shown me how much education, school management and the students have changed since I was at the Tech and in fact when my kids were educated. As an example there are approximately 350 students doing matriculation at GIHS and the school is home to students from over 160 countries. There are prefects for IT, communications, the environment, student life, student forum, wellbeing and international. Every Monday morning the students receive an email highlighting matters of interest in the coming week. Given that this newsletter is a transitional one we thought we should focus on the two head prefects from GIHS and talk about their roles, background and the memories they will take away from the school.

Given the international flavour of the school it seems appropriate that both head prefects have overseas backgrounds. Sofia Valero's mother is an Australian while her father came from Spain. Kershlin Krishnan has a South African Indian background.

Both Sofia and Kersh live in the area and qualified to attend GIHS. For Sofia it was a very easy decision to make to attend Glenunga as she was familiar with the school; her sister had been a prefect and this presented her with a sibling challenge to be met. On the other hand Kersh was organised to start at Unley High School with his mates. Fortunately at the eleventh hour his father checked out the secondary schools in the area and told Kersh that Glenunga was so far ahead of the others he had to go there.

In my days, prefects had no training and no responsibilities of any note that I can remember but did have the honour of wearing gold braid around their caps. Both Sofia and Kersh are indebted to the mentoring and grooming they have received from the principal, Wendy Johnson which has supplemented other leadership training. Interestingly neither has a formal head prefect's job description.



However, they need to know the progress the other prefects are making on their goals and meet formally several times per week as a group to discuss leadership matters.

Both Sofia and Kersh admit the greatest challenge they have had to face over the year is how to share power and to learn to lead from the front, rear, and alongside as appropriate. They are obviously quick learners and have responded to the challenges as they work and interact well with one another.

As joint head prefects they are the face of the school. One of their thrills has been to represent students in South Australia when they and a handful of others had the chance to meet the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge during their recent visit to Adelaide. Sofia said that Kersh volunteered to introduce the others to the Duchess.

One of Sofia's highlights of school life was being selected to participate in a World Challenge expedition to Vietnam and Laos. The two teams of 21 were required to build community toilets in remote villages.

Both are well rounded students with a range of interests. Sofia represents the school in netball and swimming and Kersh in soccer and athletics. After completing their tertiary study both want to be able to contribute to the wellbeing of the broader community.

Sofia is doing the IB and Kersh the SACE examinations. Sofia has always wanted to be a lawyer and recently had two weeks work experience working with a QC on a criminal case and said "It blew my mind away." She plans to study a new course at the University of Adelaide which combines advanced economics and law. In the longer term she is interested in medical mal practice and criminal law.

After an early interest in law Kersh will probably study business/commerce at the University of Adelaide. He believes that a business career will enable him to use his well developed people skills.

I am sure that you will agree with me that L'il Abner and Marryin' Sam had it right when they sang "The country's in the very best of hands."

Peter Carter

Outstanding Old Scholar : Frank Harris AO BEc FCPA

The list of "Outstanding Old Scholars" in the book "*Adelaide Technical High School – The Story*" by Bryce Kohler is very impressive. One of those mentioned is Frank Randall Harris AO BEc FCPA, a man whose career was quite different from that of our traditional old scholars. He is a very active octogenarian who has combined war service, an outstanding university career, a successful career as an administrator and manager in the public service and in retirement involvement with the family vineyard and winery – the Elysium Winery at Blewitt Springs. Frank is still a member of the old scholars association.

Frank attended the Tech during the period 1939 to 1941 where he completed a commercial course. On leaving school he served in the Royal Australian Naval Reserve in the Pacific area aboard the HMAS Barcoo. After repatriation in 1946 he commenced a commerce course at the University of Adelaide where he was awarded the Joseph Fisher Medal for the top student in commerce. He apparently had had enough of the navy and small ships because he joined the University Squadron while at the university and obtained a commission in the RAAF.

After graduating, Frank joined Chrysler Australia Ltd in 1949 where he gained experience in cost accounting, budgeting and expense control. During his period with Chrysler he was

a part time lecturer in accountancy and cost accounting at the University of Adelaide. His experience and ability was recognised by the Municipal Tramways Trust which he joined as cost accountant in 1953. After spending some time as commercial manager responsible for all the financial activities of the MTT he was appointed deputy general manager in 1964. In the following year as general manager he was responsible for all the Trust's bus and tram operations.

In 1977 the state's tram, bus and rail operations were combined into the newly formed State Transport Authority and he became the chief executive officer of the new organisation. In 1981 he retired from the STA to assist his wife run the family vineyard and winery. It would be easy to suggest that his skills, ability and experience would be welcomed back by the current government.

In 1982 he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia for services to public transport.

Frank has lived by the old adage that if you want something done you give it to a busy person. In addition to his commercial successes he has been a: JP; Council member of the AIM, Council member of the SAIT; President of the RAA from 1985 to 1988; and a Chairman of the Southern Districts War Memorial Hospital.

Memorabilia for Sale

History book "ATHS—The Story" - plus postage (if applicable)	\$ 20.00
Old Scholars' Badges	\$ 4.00
Cuff Links	\$ 10.00 pr
Special Price	
Old Scholars' Badge & Cuff Links	\$ 12.00

Committee Members : Contact Details

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Sue Thomson	0402 356 010		

Hikaru Seki

As many of you might recall, in 2014 the ATHOS instituted two prizes to recognise the achievement of Glenunga International High School's top students in both the SACE and IB programme. Since the school attracts many top class students, competition is intense.

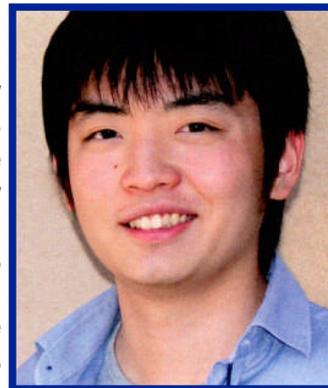
The IB Diploma program is successful and is growing. Over 2300 schools in more than 140 countries teach IB Diploma courses. Over 60 schools in Australia including Glenunga International High School are currently offering the IB Diploma. It was the first State school in South Australia to offer the program.

In November 2014 the IB program produced 42 students worldwide who achieved perfect scores. About 20 of these were students studying in Australian schools. Of those, two, Hikaru Seki and Nina Mao attended Glenunga International High School. Since both Hikaru and Nina represent the new generation and type of student attending Glenunga International High School, it was considered worthwhile to tell you a little more of Hikaru's story. I will write about Nina in a future newsletter.

Hikaru's parents, believing in the importance of learning for their son, have made great sacrifices to ensure that he was given the best education possible. His primary education began in Japan. Subsequently, his mother moved with him to New Zealand, where he began his secondary education and achieved a very solid grounding in English.

After careful consideration, Glenunga was selected by the family as the school which best suited his needs in preparing for his university studies. Consequently, they shifted to South Australia and enrolled Hikaru at the beginning of year 10.

Hikaru studied Japanese A, English B, Mathematics (higher), Chemistry, Biology and Economics for his IB certificate. Importantly, he also enthusiastically embraced a range of school activities which assisted in his development as a person. Hikaru was held in the highest regard by both his peers and the staff of the school. In recognition of his worth as an individual and of his leadership skills, he was appointed a prefect.



As would be expected, he was offered a number of scholarships at prestigious universities around the world. A number of these had significant monetary value. However, he rejected them, preferring instead to accept an offer to enrol at the University of Oxford (Exeter College) to undertake, as a paying student, a four-year master of science degree where he can focus on pursuing a career in research science or an allied field.

I consider it a great privilege to have known Hikaru in the four years that he lived here. He is an example of a contemporary graduate fitted to making a significant contribution to the future. I have every confidence that Messers Moyle, Cannell and Haskard and all of our teachers would have been proud of Hikaru.

We wish him well.

Mark Brindal

Official Newsletter of the Blue and Gold Alumni Association Inc.

Membership is open to all persons who have attended or taught at Adelaide Technical High School, Glenunga High School or Glenunga International High School.

Correspondence should be forwarded to our postal or email addresses (details on front page).