

## From the President

### COMMUNICATION

The Executive Principal invited me to provide the School Council with an update of the BSHA's Needs, Contributions and Possibilities, as we move into our second century. This is a brief extract from a presentation to the School Council, on 17 May 2022, on behalf of the BSHA.

### NEEDS

**Income** which we derive from membership fees.

**Human resources** to maintain our operations. Inevitably, as with all volunteer organisations, this is sometimes hard to find, however if asked most past students will respond positively.

**Membership** to provide both income and human resources.

**Administrative support** that is provided by Natalie Loye is invaluable.

**Financial support** from the school for the maintenance and upgrading of the museum is greatly appreciated. Having a place to call home is a huge benefit.

**A Succession Plan** to ensure the momentum that has been created, continues.

**Good communication** between all sectors of the State High Community.

### CONTRIBUTION

**Maintenance** of our school's heritage and traditions is high on the BSHA's agenda and is overseen by the BSHA's Executive and our Museum Sub-committee.

**Utilising the museum** as a teaching resource for the benefit of the school and current students, e.g., Year 7 inductions and group research for various projects.

**Utilising the museum** as a research tool for past and current students and the general community, e.g., Family connections and University projects.

**Curating** of artefacts that trace our history, including Opening Plaques, the Foundation Stone, Time Capsules, the Isaac Waddle Memorial Clock and Honour Boards.

**Updating** the Honour Boards, which are displayed in an endeavour to inspire current student to emulate past achievements viz. Premierships, Legends and Olympic Boards and soon to be a Commonwealth Games board.

**Disseminating information** about past students and activities and publicising BSHA, school and P&C events in our quarterly newsletter AMICUS.

**Recognition** of a current student with the annual BSHA's Spirit of State High Award.

**Convening** the Legends of State High Committee. The next induction of Legends will be in 2025, which coincides with celebrating State High's 100th year on the South Brisbane site.

**Funding an Annual Project** for the benefit of the school and current students. Supporting the Mentoring Program since 2009 and we have been pleased to contribute to and support the Master Class series via notable and inspirational past students.

**Contribution to policy** that requires a knowledge of historical events and lobbying where appropriate.

**Networking** is an important part of our operations with appropriate individuals and organisations.

**BSHA's Database** is probably our most valuable asset, in tandem with the School Museum and our corporate knowledge.

### POSSIBILITIES

**The evolution** of the BSHS PSA to the BSHA in 2022 provides the platform to encourage increased membership and commitment from Past Students.

**Associate Membership** was introduced this year for current students and the rebranding of our association more accurately defines our profile.

**BSHA Database** - target of 15,000 by 2030 for our database for AMICUS distribution and the source of contacts for promotions with a corresponding increase in our financial membership and thereby our income.

**Increase** our online presence.

**An online catalogue** system and recording the museum collection digitally, enabling access for educational and research purposes. Upgrading the museum display cabinets and displays.

As I stated in an address at the 2011 90th Anniversary celebrations, unlike other highly valuable and obviously essential contributors to State High's operations and activities, including staff, the School Council and the P&C, past students are past students for life. With that comes a responsibility to remain connected and involved, which is embraced by many of my colleagues. All past students are encouraged to register via: <https://www.statehighconnect.com.au>

*Barry Irwin*, Class of 1961  
BSHA President and Registrar

## From the Editor

My family and I attended State High Day on the 6th of August. It was a fantastic day and a real credit to the staff, teachers, students, parents and everyone who volunteered to contribute to its success. The BSHA had its meeting in the morning and it was attended by our executive and members – including some new faces. All were welcome. At the meeting, I met **Tim Tufuga**, former American Samoan and Samoan Rugby League representative, who had attended the school about a decade before me and had attended our meeting to reconnect with the State High community.

Tim and I struck up a friendship straight away and we spent all day together reliving and celebrating our past. The highlight of the day was the First XV game against Terrace, which our team won narrowly. It was a great game. Tim and I enjoyed the company of a Terrace rugby player's grandmother, and quietly, revelled in our victory beside her. One of the crowd quipped, 'It's so good to beat Terrace!' I couldn't help but agree.

We bumped into former Wallaby **Steve Kefu** (Class of 1997). We then enjoyed a beer in the afternoon listening to soft rock skillfully played by a school band. I might have sung along quietly to an Elton John number. We swapped phone numbers and parted ways as the sun was setting. Our common bond was State High, and even though we attended at different times, that common bond was the basis for common ground.

In this edition of *AMICUS* look out for our special feature on State High alumni who represented Australia at the Commonwealth Games, with some outstanding results. You'll also find some updates on the fantastic achievements of our alumni in all fields of endeavour, as well as the latest on reunions planned for this year and 2023.

Your executive is committed to continuous improvements to *AMICUS*, which has been distributed electronically via State High Connect since March 2021. Starting with the June 2022 edition, *AMICUS* was published by Natalie Loye, Head of Alumni and Parent Engagement, via State High Connect. The publishing and distribution of *AMICUS* was previously the responsibility of the Editor and we are very grateful for Natalie's work.

We're always keen to hear your ideas for stories. I'm particularly interested in writing some feature pieces on alumni who have an interesting story to tell or made a significant contribution to any field after attending the school. Don't be modest, I'm sure your alumni would be most interested to hear about you. Contact us on [bshalumni@gmail.com](mailto:bshalumni@gmail.com) noting the change in our email address to reflect our recent name change.

*John Cowie*, Class of 1994  
*AMICUS* editor and Vice President BSHA



## The State High Masters Golf Day

The State High Masters Golf Day is back on again - Friday 11 November at St Lucia Golf Links. This is a fun day in the sun for all levels and abilities.

Bring a whole team or just bring yourself. Single players will be allocated into a team. Registrations now open book at [www.statehighconnect.com.au/golf2022](http://www.statehighconnect.com.au/golf2022)

If you have a business that may like the tax opportunities around hole sponsorship, please contact Natalie on 3291 4230.

*A minute's silence will be observed for Remembrance Day.*

# OUR AMAZING ALUMNI

## James Cameron Receives Posthumous Queen's Birthday Honour.

Dr James Cameron, (Class of 1970), was appointed as a Member in the General Division (AM) in the Queen's Birthday Honours which were announced in June this year. Dr Cameron was one of the pioneers of stenting and angioplasty in Australia. He paved the way for thousands of Australians to be spared open-



heart surgery and have less invasive procedures. Dr Cameron made a significant contribution to the Heart of Australia initiative, which has given 8000 patients access to heart checks and basic procedures in remote Queensland areas. He

has left a lasting legacy and touched so many lives for the better.

## Recognition of Aileen MacDonald

In 2021, Aileen MacDonald (Birch), (Class of 1982), received an Order of Australia Medal after dedicating years to the business community, Rotary and the Liberal Party. Members of the NSW Liberal Party preselected Aileen as the Party's candidate to



fill the casual Legislative Council vacancy caused by the retirement of the Hon Catherine Cusack, Aileen was recently sworn in by the NSW Governor.

## Kasper Appointed to Top Job

Michael Kasprowicz (Class of 1989), has joined fellow State High alumni and Olympic rowing medallist, Bo



Hanson (Class of 1990), as well as former Wallaby captain, Nathan Sharpe, at Talisman People. Talisman applies strategies from high performance sport to leadership within companies and Michael has been hired as the firm's CEO.

## David Allan Honoured with OAM

Also, as part of the Queen's Birthday Honours, David Allan, (Class of 1979), was awarded an Order of Australia medal for his services to the community of Myanmar. David has worked alongside the Myanmar people to promote human rights, economic justice, energy access and environmental sustainability throughout some really tough political and operational challenges over the last 17 years.

Recently David has led developments on clean cooking for displaced people, and sustainable nutrition and food security from alternative proteins for food, livestock and fish feed, via the active local edible insect sector. In the long-term, issues of reform in public financial management, budget transparency and citizen budget work will be a focus. Congratulations David on your work and an outstanding achievement (David Allan, pictured left with WA Governor Dawson).



## Sandra Sully Committed to Excellence

Veteran newsreader Sandra Sully (Class of 1978), has clocked up 30 years in the industry. Sandra has also contributed to our school over the years including as special guest at the 1996 75th Anniversary Red and Blue Ball, a feature article in the July 2004 edition of AMICUS and was guest speaker at the 2014 Graduation Ceremony. To this day she still watches replays of her reading to identify ways to improve.



## State High Athletes Shine at Comm Games

Following a long-held tradition, several State High Alumni proudly represented Australia in one of the world's most high-profile athletic arenas, the recent Commonwealth Games. Inaugural Cecil Healy Award recipient, **Cedric Dubler** (Class of 2012), pictured centre above, took out the bronze medal in the decathlon.

Rio Olympic gold medallist **Charlotte Caslick** (OAM) (Class of 2012), was chosen as co-captain of the women's rugby sevens team for the Commonwealth Games. After a silver medal at the 2018 Commonwealth Games and victory in the 2022 HSBC World Sevens Series Championship, expectations were high. Charlotte and her team delivered, with the team taking out the gold medal against rivals, Fiji, 22 to 12.

Tokyo Olympian, **Samu Kerevi** (Class of 2011), became State High's 30th Commonwealth Games athlete and represented Australia in the rugby sevens team at the Games. Unfortunately, Samu suffered a knee injury in the game against Kenya. New Zealand denied Australia's men's rugby sevens a medal by defeating them 26 to 12 in the bronze medal game.

**Wendy Chen** (Class of 2010), represented Australia in Badminton. Her doubles pairing with Gronya Somerville, narrowly missed out on a bronze medal when they were defeated by India. Wendy is also a dual Olympian and has an impressive record at the Oceania Championships, bagging 10 gold and two bronze medals from 2015 to 2022. In 2017, Wendy was also the women's singles winner of the BWF International Challenge/Series.

**Naa Anang** (Class of 2012), was part of the women's 4x100 metres relay team which placed fourth in the final. Showing her versatility, Naa also placed fifth in the 100 metres women's semi-final, with a time of 11.30 seconds.

Finally, no story on Commonwealth Games success stories would be complete without featuring prolific swimming coach **Dean Boxall** (Class of 1994). Dean who shot to fame at the Tokyo Olympics with his exuberant celebrations for Ariarne Titmus, had another success story in Mollie O'Callaghan, who bagged five gold and two silver medals at the Games. A big congratulations to all State High Alumni athletes who represented Australia at the Commonwealth Games, making your school and your country proud.

## Innovation and Entrepreneurship Making its Mark on Students

Sincere thanks to **Katie Page** (Class of 1973), CEO of Harvey Norman, who sponsored the Young Innovators Program at the school. The program was facilitated by The University of Queensland and led students through the entrepreneurial journey on product ideation and development etc. The program culminated in a pitching competition where students presented their ideas that were developed over the course of the program in front of an audience and independent panel of judges. We thank **Felix Hall** (Class of 2020) for stepping in as MC for the evening.



We also thank **Amanda Newbery** (Class of 1990) for her contribution as one of the judges. Amanda is a communications and engagement expert and chairs the National Centre for Civic Innovation. Amanda (pictured centre) was joined by David Gillespie, Best Selling author and marketing specialist and Nimrod Klayman, Head of Entrepreneurship at The University of Queensland.





### **Liveris Building Wins Gold**

The Andrew N. Liveris Building at The University of Queensland has recently won the Queensland Medallion, the highest honour bestowed at the Queensland Architecture Awards. **Andrew Liveris** AO (Class of 1971), who the building is named after, is the President of the Organising Committee for the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.



### **Judge Presents Jersey**

**Judge Gregory Egan** (Class of 1974), a judge on the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia, represented the school in the First XV and First XI, both of which were undefeated in 1974. Keeping his connection to State High, His Honour was on hand to present **Luke Hatherell**, captain of the First XV with his jersey at State High's centenary game last year.



### **Winding Back the Clock with Barty**

Ash Barty's childhood tennis coach **Jim Joyce** (State High 1972-74), recently enjoyed one last hit out and a beer at the West Brisbane Tennis Centre. The site has been sold to Sydney based developer Kingsmede, with plans to transform the site into a multi-unit industrial development.



### **Watt Steps up to Foot and Mouth**

Australian Agricultural Minister **Murray Watt** (School Captain 1989), has recently announced additional measures to combat the threat of foot and mouth disease, after traces were found on a meat product that an Indonesian traveller had brought to the country.

**UAP Works With First Nations Artists.** First Nations public art will be woven into the state's new theatre at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre. Artists will work alongside public art specialists UAP, which was founded by **Daniel and Matthew Tobin** (Class of 1986).

**Petaia Sets Sights On World Cup.** Wallaby and Queensland Reds player, **Jordan Petaia** (Class of 2017), has set his sights on the 2024 World Cup in France. Jordan rejected interest from the Northern hemisphere to stay in Brisbane.

**Morgan Sealed Deals on a Napkin.** With the closure of Brisbane restaurant institution Il Centro, the former owner Andy Georges recalled a number of famous diners who frequented the restaurant over the years, including the late legendary stockbroker **Paul Morgan** (School Captain 1964), who reportedly jotted details of deals on the back of napkins while eating lunch.

**Sam's Setting a Legacy.** **Siwei (Sam) Zhu**, a current State High student and student representative on the School Council, has been appointed as a youth representative on the Queensland Government's Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games Legacy Committee.

**Marnus Gives Heat White Hot Hope.** **Marnus Labuschagne** (Class of 2011), has re-signed with Brisbane Heat for the upcoming summer, which will see him playing at least six games for the home side. Marnus and his wife Rebekah are expecting a girl in early October, their first child.

## Shuang Creates and Co-writes First Australian Amazon Original Movie.

Australian Amazon original movie, 'Five Blind Dates' began filming earlier this year. The romantic comedy film was created and written by actor **Shuang Hu** (Class of 2004 along with actor and comedian Nathan Ramos-Park. 'Five Blind Dates', follows the owner of a tea shop, played by Shuang, in her search for love, after she is told by a fortune teller she will meet her soulmate on one of the next five dates she goes on. Filming began in April and will premiere on Prime Video later this year.



## Taulagi Realises His Maroon Ambition

Cowboy's rugby league sensation **Murray Taulagi** (Class of 2016), proudly made his debut for the Queensland Maroons in game two of the State of Origin this year. Growing up, Taulagi had dreams of playing for the All Blacks or Queensland. Thankfully for Queensland Origin fans, he chose the latter. Queensland sealed the series in the decider, a fact that New South Wales fans will be constantly reminded of right until kick-off of game one next year.



## Goodwin Dubs Italian Town Supreme

**Julie Lea Goodwin** (Class of 2003), is a principal soprano with Opera Australia. Julie has travelled to Italy and prefers the town of Montepulciano to more well-known Italian cities due to its spectacular scenery, its friendly locals and cuisine which brings out the best of the local produce. You can read Escape's interview with Julie. Escape is a News Corp publication.



## Greenhalgh Takes Up Rowland Gig.

Brisbane firm Rowland has appointed **Jason Greenhalgh** (School Captain 1984), to spearhead its expansion into sports marketing at Rowland Sport. Rowland is one of Australia's premier strategic communication, digital and creative agencies. Jason will continue in his position as General Manager of the UQ Rugby Club.



**Was Eddie Lewis the Best Lewis Footballer?** According to Jim Lewis, father of **Eddie Lewis** (Class of 1979), the younger brother of **Wally Lewis** (Class of 1977), was the best of the Lewis footballers. Eddie, who made the State High First XV, was involved in a major car crash causing multiple injuries and tragically ending his playing career. Eddie was working near Lang Park recently and rescued historic flood-affected football memorabilia.

**Years of the Peter Doherty Awards.** The Department of Education recently celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the Peter Doherty Awards for Excellence in STEM Education, which recognise students, teachers, support officers, schools and education partners who demonstrate an outstanding and innovative contribution to STEM education.

The following State High past students were recipients of the Outstanding Senior STEM Student Award. **Ann Chen** and **Yang Li** (2004), **Philip Chan** (2007), **Teresa Tang** (2013), **Dunija Ariyaratne**, **Alexandra Fulton** and **Wendi Ma** (2018) and **Esandi Kalugalage** (2019).

## Ingeniator Program Taps Into Engineering Alumni.

As a career, engineering is of interest to many students at State High. In 2021, the school had over 60 graduates who entered university engineering courses. The Ingeniator Program connects current students with engineering alumni to provide a deeper understanding of the profession and create career pathways. The program will be delivered through after school workshops in 2023. There are several ways that engineers can connect with this important program. For further information, please contact Ms Clancy Strickland at [csstr0@eq.edu.au](mailto:csstr0@eq.edu.au) or on 3291 4180.

## REUNIONS

### 2022 Reunions

#### Class of 1962 – 60 Year Reunion

Date: Tuesday 25 October 2022 at 11:00am  
Venue: BSHS Kurilpa Roof Terrace  
Cost: \$20 for fingerfood lunch  
Tickets: book by 17 October  
Contact: Erica Drew (nee Wilson)  
[gandedrew@gmail.com](mailto:gandedrew@gmail.com) or (07) 3505 0122

#### Class of 1972 – 50 Year Reunion

Date: Saturday 12 November 2022  
School Tour: 10:30am in the Upper Quad  
Venue: The Greek Club  
Cost: \$80 - book online  
Contact: Debbie Kerswill (Cock):  
0411 987 802 - [deb.kerswill@gmail.com](mailto:deb.kerswill@gmail.com)  
Helen Trickett: 0403 164 379 - [helen.l@tpg.com.au](mailto:helen.l@tpg.com.au)  
Email: [1972bshsreunion@gmail.com](mailto:1972bshsreunion@gmail.com)

#### Class of 1982 – 40 Year Reunion

Date: Saturday 8 October 2022 at 6:30pm  
Venue: Kurilpa Rooftop Terrace  
Cost: \$40  
Contact: Rhonda Binnie  
Email: [missyrhonda@gmail.com](mailto:missyrhonda@gmail.com)

#### Class of 2012 – 10 Year Reunion

Date: Saturday 8 October 2022 at 7:00pm  
Venue: Olympic Soccer Club  
School Tour: 4:30pm in the Upper Quad (Vulture Street)  
Cost: \$87  
Contact: Katina Black  
([katina.black@hotmail.com](mailto:katina.black@hotmail.com) | 0417 070 162)  
and Ronja Sen ([ronja.sen@outlook.com](mailto:ronja.sen@outlook.com) | 0411 621 090)

### 2023 Reunions

#### Class of 1973 – 50 Year Reunion

Date: Saturday 18 March 2023  
School Tour: 2:30pm in the Upper Quad  
Venue: The Loft, West End  
Contact: Janet Zschommler (nee Voysey)  
Email: [bshs69to73reunion@gmail.com](mailto:bshs69to73reunion@gmail.com)  
Mobile: 0438 992 050

#### Class of 1983 – 40 Year Reunion

Greg Lemass - [greg.lemass@casa.gov.au](mailto:greg.lemass@casa.gov.au)  
Alec Harries - [aharries@komatsu.com.au](mailto:aharries@komatsu.com.au)  
Lexia Willmington  
(nee McMillan) - [lwillmington@bigpond.com](mailto:lwillmington@bigpond.com)  
Julie Skillern (nee Munn) - [j.skillern66@gmail.com](mailto:j.skillern66@gmail.com)  
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Nathan Vass - [nathanvass@gmail.com](mailto:nathanvass@gmail.com)  
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**George Koukides** *Alumni Class of 1977*  
Principal

- Residential
- Commercial
- Asset Management

*First National Metro is a proud supporter of BSHA*

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## IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Brisbane State High Alumni's (formerly Past Students Association) largest expenses are:

1. The distribution of Amicus through printing and postal costs.
2. Maintenance of the school museum
3. The annual Project for the benefit of the school and its students.

Over the past few years, we have encouraged our members to provide us with an email address so that we can forward Amicus electronically. We hope that you too would consider receiving an email version for future editions.

For the benefit of our Alma Mater, we respectfully request that you please provide an email address so that we can ensure all available funds are utilised for the benefit of the school and its students in accordance with the BSHAlumni constitution.

Email us your email address at: [BSHAlumni@gmail.com](mailto:BSHAlumni@gmail.com)

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## SPONSORSHIP

Sponsorship opportunities are available to have your business or organisation advertised here in *AMICUS*, which is sent to over 5500 **State High** past students and 1500 community members. The readership of our quarterly publication includes leaders across the professions, business, industry, government and social services - a perfect target market for your business or organisation. This is a cost effective way of promoting your business or organisation to a wide range of recipients. Please contact **Barry Irwin**, via email [bshalumni@gmail.com](mailto:bshalumni@gmail.com) for more information.

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