

THE TOWERS

MAGAZINE OF PENRITH HIGH SCHOOL



1969

THE TOWERS



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TYPISTS – Mrs. B.A. Evers, Mrs. M. de Jong.

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

As the 1969 edition of "Towers" goes to print, it is impossible to forget the people who have supported the project with their time, effort and talent. It is fitting that the Magazine should begin with a mention of these people.

The Student Editorial Committee create the Magazine and to them, first thanks for the excellent way in which they have carried out their task.

The business houses of the Penrith District have made the Magazine possible with their generous

donations. Mr. K. Kohler of Parramatta has once again supported the effort with excellent photographs.

Thanks also to Mrs. Evers and Mrs. de Jong for typing copy for the Magazine.

Mr. John Flukinger spent a great amount of time in setting up the magazine.

A final thank-you goes to the Staff and Students who have contributed to the various sections of the magazine.

R.W. JOHNSTON

HEADMASTER'S MESSAGE

The most important feature of the present-day High School is the varied opportunities it offers.

In Second Form the electives provided enable every boy and girl to choose subjects in which he or she has a particular ability and interest. In addition each is given a basic training in subjects which are important for future careers and citizenship and each is given an introduction to the world of art and music.

Apart from the normal periods of Physical Education and Health a great variety of sports is now available. This summer girls may select from swimming, life-saving, softball, volleyball and tennis; boys may select from swimming, life-saving, water-polo, cricket, tennis, basketball, golf (seniors), squash (seniors) and karate (juniors).

An examination of this magazine will reveal the many activities in which pupils may participate. The I.S.C.F. is an active group which meets every Friday

and holds social activities outside school hours. Clubs such as radio, history, mathematics and chess appeal to different groups of students.

This magazine gives a special opportunity to students to develop an interest in prose and poetry. Contributions revealing mature thought on present-day problems are Linda Carr's poem on religion, "The Third Half", Janice Turner's poem on racism, and Anne Wilson's essay on suburbia, "A Place I Loathe".

Social activities such as the regular senior and junior dances, excursion to the theatre and films, inter-school debating competitions – all these activities give marvellous opportunities and delight to our young people.

This is what makes for a broad and valuable education and all boys and girls should make the most of the wonderful opportunities available to them.

BOYS' CAPTAIN'S MESSAGE

What will happen tomorrow and what happened yesterday are a million miles apart. 1969 marks the end of six years at High School. It is now all in the past. 1970 will bring new horizons, new hopes and new desires which will come as a consequence of High School.

When I came to High School I did not know what to expect, but when I look back over these six years I realise and appreciate that the "unknown" elements – the intangible elements – are a vital part of the success that can be obtained at High School. These elements are a part of everyone who attends High School, whether they admit it or not. They may crystallise in spectacular ways or in ways which seem insignificant such as a kind word or deed, but the fact remains that it is there. Maybe it is these "unknowns" that produce the feeling which is so apparent at Penrith. I think it is most definitely these things but combined with them is the attitude within the school of both teachers and pupils.

I know that I speak for all Sixth Form when I say that the teachers we have been "under the influence of" have not only been fine teachers but tremendous people. Each year when we viewed new teachers we mentally compared them with the people whom they had replaced. Were they going to be a "drag" or were

they going to be "just great"? These were the questions which we asked ourselves but as we became involved with them either in the school room or on the sporting field or at social functions we found them to be just as human as we were.

One of the greatest events which improved teacher-pupil relations was their repeated contest. I have experienced these "battles" from both on and off the (battle) "field" and have reached the same conclusion, that is, they behave the same as we do only they do it behind the mask of "teacher-hood". The fun, the humorous comments and general terrific spirit which accompanies these games only accentuate the feeling and attitude which is such an integral part of this school.

We may not have the best conditions, materially speaking, but I think we make up for it in our feeling and spirit of school.

One of the chief contributors to a successful school is the leadership from the top, namely the Headmaster. If he has a real interest in the school, the pupils and the teachers, then success and harmony are sure to follow. In the capacity as School Captain I have had many meetings with Mr. Glasby and have found him to be truly interested in Penrith School, but besides this I have found him to be very helpful,

encouraging and sincere.

The last two years of school have made a significant difference in the character of Sixth Form. The benefits of extra years at school can be seen more fully than ever before. The majority now have definite ideas and feelings for the environment we live in but more than this they are ready to discuss them with other people. Although they do it very seldom in class it is very apparent out of class. Even if the Wyndham Scheme produces something else besides a pupils awareness of and thoughts on our society then to me it has been a success.

My education has developed in me an intense hatred for two prominent elements in our society today, namely intolerance and hypocrisy. I blame most of the world's problems on these two elements. When I look at society with all its troubles I feel the

following verse from Colossians expresses the greatest need in our society:

"And above all these put on LOVE which binds everything together in perfect harmony"

If we did love more then I feel our society would surely improve.

In conclusion I would like to wish all my peers the very best of luck when the "judgement" comes in October; to the Fifth Formers, make the most of every moment now and next year; to the Fourth Formers all the best for the School Certificate; to the Junior Years, endure school for its the best time you will ever have; to the Staff simply "thank you".

GARY NELSON

GIRLS' CAPTAIN'S MESSAGE

It seems hard to realize that our years at Penrith High School have almost finished and we will be leaving. For six years we have spent the majority of our time in its buildings, and so, what have six years at this school done for us? Apart from scholastically, we have all benefited as individuals. The attitude of our schools is to scorn petty jealousies and narrow views and build a mature outlook.

But what have we done for the school? I believe that in our own way, we have accomplished musicians, singers, sportsmen and academics who have brought honour to our school. People who have helped balance the adverse side that exists in all schools. Thus we have been, for six years, part of a mutual association.

The greatest single factor of our school is the

friendly relations between students and teachers; I hope it continues. So being, I, as a member of sixth form, thank the teachers for their friendship and interest shown in us. We appreciate that we have been treated as mature people with opinions worthy of their consideration, even though we had our lapses.

To anyone considering going on to sixth form, I would urge them to do so. If you are prepared to do the work and it is hard work, the extra two years at Penrith High School will benefit you greatly, both scholastically and socially.

I would like to wish you all success and satisfaction in your life.

LINDA CARR



H. POLJANSKI, 4th FORM