

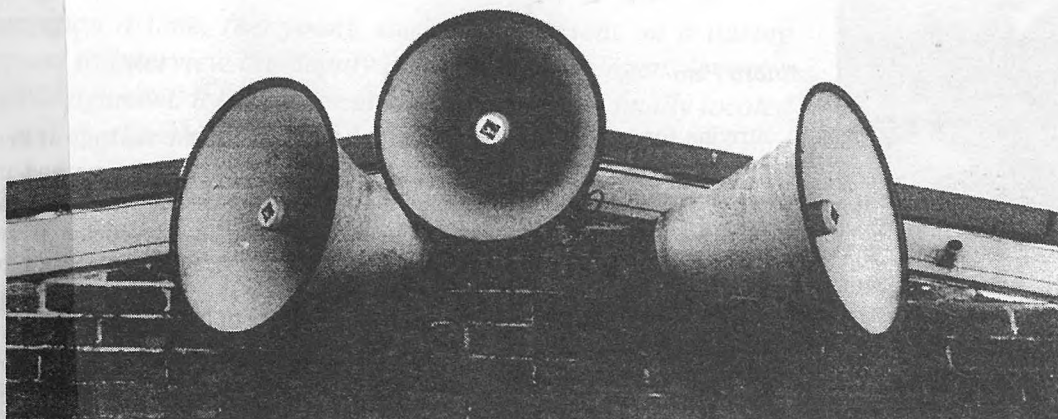
penrith high school yearbook



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1997



A flurry of thoughts came to mind as the pressure to produce this yearbook increased. Perhaps the most important thing to say is that this certainly is not an editor's magazine. It is a collection of works, drawn from many, culminating in the finished product here before you. Undoubtedly arguments will continue amongst the "committee" of editors that manage our yearbook, long after the last edition is sold.

Credit must be given to all the hardworking individuals who gave up their (and their teachers') time to write, edit and publish this Yearbook. Certainly, as senior students, it is likely that we did less work than the people we represented. We extend heartfelt congratulations and thanks to our fellow students.

This year, technology has played an increasingly important role. The acquisition of a souped up laser printer, a high quality scanner and a Zip drive assisted our Yearbook production. Pictures were scanned and the usual bromide technique was cast aside. A massive thankyou to Mrs Poole for her patience and expertise in scanning the 150 Year 12 individual shots. This kind of effort is what RSI claims are made from.

We'd like also to extend a thankyou to Mrs Bernays for the wonderful work she has done, including practically suspending librarian duties until publication. Without her guidance and organisation, this yearbook would never have eventuated.

Finally with pleasure, we present you, Penrith High School, with your Yearbook.

PA Gerlach
Phillip Gerlach

J. Brazewell
Jody Brazewell



Principal Matters

Altiora Peto

Striving for and attaining excellence is exactly what the students of Penrith High School have been doing. 1997 has proved to be an outstanding and memorable year. The year opened with the announcement of impressive results for 1996's HSC Candidature. Their results have been our finest to date. A number were awarded scholarships to assist them with their tertiary studies. Among these was a prestigious Sydney University Scholarship and The Bateman Battersby Law Scholarship. I feel

confident that the current Year Twelve will achieve similar success and I wish them well for the approaching exams. During 1997 our senior students have shown themselves capable of excellence in all areas. Of particular note is Bradley Steele who was in Australia's team in the Physics Olympiad held in Canada. Bradley won an individual silver medal and the team was placed fifth in the world and Anwyn Crawford won the state final of the Plain English Speaking Competition.

Students of all years have enjoyed unprecedented success in their studies and in external competitions. Their success reflects not only their own abilities but is indicative of the professionalism and dedication of the teaching staff of Penrith High School and I wish to thank them for their commitment and diligence. Particularly pleasing have been our successes in Debating, Public Speaking, Mock Trial, Tournaments of the Minds and in Music. Ben Kopp has performed solo at the Opera House and has been selected for special training by the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. The students in The Mock Trial Competition, after a long elimination process, are now among the last eight schools in the state quarter finals. In writing, art, science and maths competitions our students have excelled. As a school with a strong tradition of sporting success it is pleasing to see that this has been sustained throughout 1997. In the area of the Performing Arts students from Penrith High School have been involved in performance at the most challenging of levels.

One of the highlights of the year was the arrival of the Japanese Exchange Students from Matto City. This cultural exchange with our sister city was welcomed by the entire school community.

Amongst the success of 1997 there has been a note of regret. Mr Roach retired after 31 years of teaching at Penrith High School. His dedication and contribution, his quiet dignity and strength will be remembered.

As the year draws to a close, I wish to thank the entire school community, parents, teachers and students for the contributions which they have made to this academic year.

P. Press