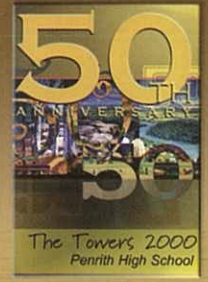
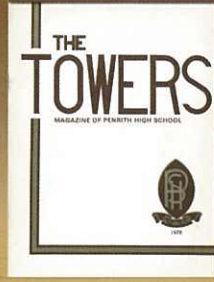




**2010**  
Penrith High School  
**Towers**

# THE TOWERS MAGAZINE 2010



## 60TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

Principal	<b>2</b>	Visual Arts	<b>40</b>
Deputy Principals	<b>3</b>	School Spirit Week	<b>41</b>
Captains	<b>4</b>	Towers Crew	<b>42</b>
SRC Report	<b>5</b>	Year 7	<b>43</b>
60th Anniversary	<b>6</b>	Year 8	<b>48</b>
Penrith In Performance	<b>9</b>	Year 9	<b>53</b>
Swimming Carnival	<b>10</b>	Year 10	<b>58</b>
Cross Country	<b>11</b>	Year 11	<b>63</b>
Athletics Carnival	<b>12</b>	Year 12	<b>68</b>
Environment Committee	<b>14</b>	Year Photos	<b>88</b>
Multicultural Day	<b>15</b>	Staff Photo	<b>98</b>
Walkathon	<b>16</b>	Presentation Night	<b>99</b>
Overseas Visit	<b>18</b>	Level 8	<b>102</b>
Teachers	<b>19</b>	School Press	<b>103</b>
Dance	<b>20</b>	Autographs	<b>104</b>
Drama	<b>21</b>		
Debating	<b>22</b>		
Languages	<b>23</b>		
HSC Design and Technology	<b>24</b>		
HSC Art	<b>25</b>		
Computing	<b>26</b>		
Music	<b>27</b>		
TAS	<b>28</b>		
Literature	<b>29</b>		
Science	<b>30</b>		
English	<b>30</b>		
Maths	<b>31</b>		
Chess Club	<b>31</b>		
Streamwatch	<b>32</b>		
Sustainable Garden	<b>32</b>		
History	<b>33</b>		
Duke of Edinburgh	<b>34</b>		
World's Greatest Shave	<b>36</b>		
Careers	<b>37</b>		
Sport	<b>38</b>		





**2010, our 60th Anniversary year, has been an exciting and eventful year.**

Our school has an enviable reputation of student success. This is most evident in our track record of students who have received the Minister's Award for Excellence in Student Achievement, copies of which hang in our Hall of Fame. Every year since 2000 a Year 12 student from Penrith High School has received a Minister's Award for Excellence and in 2005 two students received the award. This is an amazing achievement as very few students (35-40) from across the state receive this award each year. These students have been acknowledged as the best of the best and have been recognised for their academic success, extracurricular activities and social justice endeavours. This year Priya Maheshwari was presented with this award by the Director General of Education, Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter, at a ceremony held at Wilkins Williams Gallery. Although these awards are given to individuals, they represent the hard work of teachers and students in our school in ensuring a desire for and the achievement of excellence.

We have also celebrated success at state level in the fields of sport, debating, music, drama, mock trials, visual arts, chess, writer's awards, engineering challenges, computing and science. The students of Penrith High School give 110% at all times and are deeply committed to each other, the school and its community. Our students are amazing and great people to work with.

This year has also seen significant changes in our staff as we celebrate the retirement of outstanding educators and the promotion of others. Those we have farewelled in 2010 include Mrs De Paoli, Mr Kirkby, Mr Howie and Mr Brennan.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of Mrs De Paoli and Mr Kirkby.

Mrs De Paoli was the Principal of Penrith High School for 10 years. During this time she was inspirational in her leadership, as well as compassionate and fair with staff and students. We can thank Mrs De Paoli for the most noticeable change in the uniform colours from a dull yellow and brown to the more vibrant yellow, blue and black which are proudly worn by all today. She was instrumental in the improvements in the school grounds, the push for the school to expand its technology resources, and the fundamental focus on personal best academic achievement for all students. These are only a few highlights of her career at Penrith High School and to do justice to her would fill this magazine. I wish her every success in her new role as the Principal Liaison Officer in Staffing.

Mr Kirkby was the Deputy Principal for 7 years. He had an ability to motivate students to achieve great things both from a curriculum point of view as well as the extracurricular side of school. He was an outstanding teacher of Visual Arts and his record of band 6 in the HSC is remarkable. He will be remembered for his humour, discussions about the Swans, politics and social justice. Mr Kirkby, along with the Performing Arts faculty, was recognised for his outstanding contribution to education with the Director-General's School Achievement Award for Excellence in Creative and Performing Arts in 2008. I wish him well in his retirement.

I too say goodbye to Penrith High School as I have accepted the position of Principal at Springwood High School from 2011. I am sad to be leaving and have truly enjoyed my time at Penrith. It is a school that deserves its reputation as a school of academic excellence but it also deserves the reputation of a caring and supportive school environment, with an amazing extracurricular program and dedicated students and staff. Best Wishes for 2011 and congratulations to the team of students and staff that put the Towers magazine together each year. It is a labour of love and an outstanding achievement.

**Robyn Asboth**  
Principal

2010 has been an interesting year for me at Penrith High School. I began the year as head teacher of Creative Arts, a position that I have held for many years at Penrith High and have enjoyed thoroughly, but for some of the Year I have been relieving Deputy Principal at Penrith High. Mr. Kirkby's departure, retiring after a 35 year career in public education, was a defining moment in the history of Penrith High School, and he will not be forgotten.

Our students have excelled in a wide range of areas with our dedicated teachers spending their spare time coordinating many extra-curricular activities. These activities have allowed

our students to broaden their knowledge and skills, giving them an array of brilliant opportunities to reach their maximum potential. I urge all Penrith High students to take up as many of these activities as they can.

Overall this has been a wonderful year for Penrith High and I have enjoyed my time at the Deputy's office and am looking forward to next year being another even more fun and exciting year for Penrith High School.

**Chris Prior**  
**Deputy Principal**

Two members of my family, my wife and son, have been lucky enough to attend Penrith High School. I know that my wife still cherishes her copies of the Towers yearbook from the late 70's and I am sure that my son will do the same in the future. The members of the Towers team do a fantastic job in publishing a snap shot of the 'year that was' and I would like to congratulate them for their efforts and thank them for continuing to supply the community of Penrith High School with a publication that grows in value as time passes.

Mr. Duclos, Mr. Prior and I have shared the Deputies role over the last few months and we would both like to thank staff and students who have supported us while filling in for Mrs Asboth while she has been Relieving Principal.

This has been a year of transition for Year 7, 9 and 11. By now Year 7 students know how to find their way to every part of the school and are muffin master chefs, Year 9 students have finally had a chance to choose subjects they WANT to do and Year 11 students are prepared for the reality of the HSC and the required

work load that comes with being a successful student. They have continued to coordinate blood donations for the Blood Bank, help out with the Breakfast Club and have taken on leadership roles such as House Captains and School Captains and Vice Captains.

Year Advisors have worked tirelessly with students throughout the year and are an important source of inspiration and support. Add the organisation of camps, welfare forums, year meetings etc. and we start to realise how important the job is that they do. And, as always, there are teachers volunteering to help and support students with a huge number of extra-curricular activities which enrich the school experience for everyone; all on top of their work in the classroom.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the Towers and store it safely for the future as a source of memories of the many people and events that make Penrith High School the fantastic school that it is.

**Graeme Mell**  
**Deputy Principal**