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## From the Archives

On a recent visit to Sydney I took the opportunity to spend some time visiting the archives of The Shore School and Barker College as well as undertaking an historical tour of The King's School. I gained much from these visits and, hopefully, I will be able to put what I learned into developing a well catalogued archival system as well as opening a museum that students, parents and visitors to the Grammar School will find interesting and informative.

I spent two full days at The Shore School and was interested in the close relationship our two Schools have. C.H. HODGES, Headmaster at Grammar from 1888 to 1900 was Headmaster at Shore from 1901 to 1910. He was followed by W.A. PURVES as Headmaster from 1911 to 1921. Purves was Second Master at Grammar from 1892 to 1899 and was the writer of the words to our School song, *Carmen Townsvillare*. My research also showed that when Hodges was buried at the South Head cemetery in Sydney, four Past Grammarians were pall bearers. One of the pall bearers was W.H. DONALD the presenter of the Mary Agnes Donald Prize for Best All Round Girl in 1938.

Two other prominent figures associated with our School also spent many years teaching at Shore. T.B. WHIGHT, old boy of Grammar and Headmaster from 1939 to 1946 taught at Shore for twenty five years. I was fortunate to talk to some past students from Shore who remember Tommy Whight with great affection. T. MILFULL taught at Grammar from 1928 to 1933 and married P.F. ROWLAND'S daughter, Marian. Tom Milfull went to Shore in 1939 and retired in 1971 after a distinguished career at the School.

The highlight of my visit was when I was fortunate to spend some time with Marian Milfull. She was born in 1905 and will celebrate her hundredth birthday in December. She still has a wonderful memory and related some lovely stories of her days living on the Grammar grounds. She told me that she was born on the School grounds and also married on what is now the School Quadrangle. The wedding reception was also held on the School grounds. I hope to publish a more comprehensive report of my meeting with Marian later in the year.

Alison Fogerty, Rowland's grand-daughter, was a fount of knowledge and has donated some interesting material to the School archives. One document she gave me was an article concerning MORTON MOYES who taught at Grammar from 1909 to 1910. Moyes, brother of the legendary cricket commentator Johnny Moyes, became famous for his voyages to the Antarctic with Mawson and later with Shackleton. Other material I was given included articles on COLIN BINGHAM [1913-17] who later in life became editor of the Sydney Morning Herald. He is remembered at the School for his book *The Beckoning Horizon*, a work that gives a vivid description of his days in the Grammar boarding house.

My visit to Barker College was also most informative. The foundation Headmaster of that School, Rev. HENRY PLUME was the first Archdeacon at St James in Townsville. He was extremely popular in Townsville and the History of Barker College mentions that some of the first students enrolled at that School came from Townsville in spite of the fine reputation that C.H. HODGES was building at Townsville Grammar.

Overall it was a most successful trip to Sydney. The most lasting impression of my visits to Shore and Barker was that, in spite of their historical traditions, we at Townsville Grammar have a history and tradition that can compare favourably with theirs. By developing the archives and a museum I hope that past, present and future Grammarians can understand that we too have a wonderful legacy to present.

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