
From the Archives

The Upward Dilemma: As the archivist at Grammar it is becoming increasingly frustrating that I am unable to find a photograph of **Edward Finnimore Upward**, Acting Headmaster of the School in 1888. It would be so satisfying to bring up to date the gallery of photographs in the Maurie Blank Building and also for future records.

It is not for the lack of trying that a photograph has yet to be found. Ms Kristell Lyne, Director of Enrolments and Marketing, has been in contact with the various institutions Upward attended as a scholar in England but has had no success in finding a photo. I have been on to various web-sites regarding education in Devon where Upward moved on leaving Townsville in 1889 but, once again, no success.

My research, however, has unearthed some facts about Upward. In the School History his second name is spelled as Finnemore but the correct version is Finnimore. The School History states that he died in 1934 but the National Probate Register records the date of death as 7 March, 1932. From the Probate Register it can be assumed that he was a success in whatever he chose to do after leaving Townsville. He had also worked as a solicitor before becoming a teacher. The Report, in part, reads: *"Upward, Edward Finnimore of 14 Lyndhurst Road, Hampstead, Middlesex died 7 March 1932. Probate April 19 to Gladys Marguerite Musman [daughter] and Cyril Finnimore Upward [engineer] effects to the sum of £32,901 and 6 shillings sterling."* The amount mentioned is indeed a large one for a period in the middle of Depression. For those who know London, the suburb he lived in is close to St John's Wood [Lords Cricket Ground] and in a rather up-market part of North London.

One of my prime objectives as School archivist in 2006 is to find a photograph of Upward. There is also much to be accomplished with the wealth of material I have been finding in and around the School as well as the material being offered by past students. During the Christmas vacation break I will be cataloguing all materials currently in the School as well as placing the material in archive boxes and acid free paper. There is so much valuable material from the end of the nineteenth century and early twentieth century that it would be a travesty if it was lost to future generations of Grammarians.

Once this is completed my aim will be to bring the School Honour Boards up-to-date naming those past students who have fought in the many conflicts. In my research of School magazines I have been finding some minor errors that need to be amended.

And finally establishing a small museum in the School where past, present and future students can enjoy the wonderful heritage the Townsville Grammar School has to offer. I am very much looking forward to 2006.

Mr W.J. Muller
School Archivist