



HUTCHINS SCHOOL OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION IIVIED TOWER

Message from the President

Welcome to our latest newsletter. Thank you to those who have contributed news.

One of the joys of living in Tassie is that we do have some 'freedom of movement' and can attend some functions. I was recently invited to the HSOBFC Gala Lunch, a gathering of many significant supporters of the club. We all enjoyed the meal prepared by Chef Will Chapman ('97) and the banter which followed hosted by MC Tom Windsor ('99), a Life Member of the Club.

A highlight, for me, was the induction of Nick Leitch ('98) also as a Life Member. It was great to see his wonderful contribution to the club over many years acknowledged with his family present. The match which followed saw both Old Boy teams having resounding victories over long term rivals SVC. George Burbury ('10) was at his dominating best.



Mr Barrie Irons, HSOBA President

We used our 'freedom' to make a visit to Strahan last weekend. It was wonderful to be able to walk to a cascading Nelson River Falls and to enjoy the forests and waterways. As always there seem to be Old Boys we bump into. This trip was no exception. Tom Howard ('12) and Lewis Nettlefold ('12) walked into the café at Derwent Bridge as we were leaving. It was lovely to have a quick chat and catch up.

A coffee, a regular occurrence on holiday, in Strahan, provided the opportunity for a catch up with Jock Parsons ('16) who told me he was combining some work on the farm with a regular job on the Gordon River Cruises. The next morning found us chatting to Riley Grining ('13). He is in the family business, World Heritage Cruises. The virus had severely curtailed the number of cruises they have been able to do. They are, however, excited about the delivery of their new boat which is undergoing its final sea trials. Great to see the positivity despite the challenges of 2020.

Our HSOBA Community Golf Day, scheduled for 16 October, is sold out and we are looking forward to our Hobart Reunions this weekend. We all hope 2021 will see us back to hosting reunions across the country and beyond. An Old Boys cricket team will be playing against the School on Friday 20 November on the WMO. At the conclusion of the game a new honour board will be unveiled featuring our wonderful cricketing history.

The Community Hub is up and going and we are very keen to reach our target of 1,000 members by the end of the year. Please spread the message and encourage your friends to connect at <https://community.hutchins.tas.edu.au/homepage>.

Enjoy our September Ivied Tower newsletter.

Mr Barrie Irons, HSOBA President

Hobart Reunions 2020

We were lucky enough to host two reunions this September.

Our 2015 Leavers gathered on Friday 25 September at Customs House Hotel, and our 5 year and 10 year groups combined for a great night reconnecting at Salamanca Inn. We were pleased to see representatives as far back as 1965. The full galleries are up on our Community Hub Photos section here.



2015 Leavers Reunion at Customs House Hotel

We are looking forward to a much fuller reunions calendar in 2021!

Old Boy returns to school to baptise his son

Old Boy Nick Leitch ('98) recently returned to school with his wife Verity to baptise their son Tommy at the Chapel of St Thomas with Reverend Dr Lee Weissel.

In attendance were Tommy's godparents Doug Oosterloo and Jodi Rossiter (current member of staff) who are parents to Year 12 student Jack Rossiter. Tommy's grandparents, uncles and aunts and cousins also attended including his first cousin and current Year 8 student Joshua Bodycoat.



Nick Leitch ('98') with his son Tommy, wife Verity, Rev Lee and Tommy's godparents.

When we spoke to Nick about the special occasion, he said "Verity and I liked the idea of a small family gathering to celebrate the occasion at the Chapel. We are very appreciative to Rev Lee and the School who enabled us to have our son Tommy baptised and for making this a special moment for our family".

We are so pleased to share this wonderful occasion. It is fantastic to see one of our Old Boy's back on the School grounds with family and friends.

Reaching for the stars

Old Boy Ben Jarvis ('15) is currently in his fifth year of a combined Bachelor of Engineering Honours (Aeronautical (Space) and Bachelor of Science (Physics (Advanced)) at the University of Sydney.

Recently, Ben received sponsorship by the Engineering Sydney Industry Placement Scholarship (ESIPS) to fulfil the role of a visiting researcher at NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL). This opportunity will allow him to complete a 6-month placement with JPL, during which he will write his honours thesis on the work he will undertake.



Ben Jarvis ('15) in Sydney

The project he is working on involves developing methods for future spacecraft to approach, orbit and (hopefully) land on asteroids without any human input. Ben stated the project has an "autonomous approach and mapping of small bodies", however its capability has a range of applications from scientific research, to asteroid mining and planetary defence (redirecting asteroids that could hit Earth).

Ben is specifically looking at algorithms to create 3D models of asteroids. He said "initially these are used to estimate the gravity of the asteroid so we know how it will affect spacecrafts flight. As the spacecraft gets closer, we then build a more detailed model which the spacecraft can use to identify possible landing sites".

The implications of COVID-19 has meant Ben is currently working on the project remotely from Australia, however, he is meant to be living and working in Pasadena, California.

Ben is also involved in a research project at the University of Sydney named CROSS where his team are developing a low-cost star tracker for use on small satellites. A star tracker is essentially a camera which takes pictures of stars to determine how the satellite is oriented in space. Ben stated "we are working towards launching a flight model on a satellite in Q4 2021".



Ben Jarvis ('15) second from the right with his CROSS team at the Australian Space Agency

This project was recently awarded the Research Innovation Prize from the University of Sydney Student Innovation Challenge. As well as developing a viable product, Ben's research team is aiming to demonstrate and boost Australian space capability. For more information on this head to the CROSS website: <http://crossstartracker.com/>

Outside of work Ben enjoys cycling and aims to ride as often as he can. He said "one of the benefits of working from home is being able to exercise regularly and I have also been helped by shifting my work hours forward to ensure I have more shared time with my team in California".

At university, Ben has always maintained active involvement in clubs and societies. He said "even though I've stepped down from executive roles it's still great to attend events as an easy way to catch up with friends. However, this year is a bit different with no in-person events so it takes a bit more effort to keep those social connections".

Ben remains in contact with his friends and family in Tasmania and tries to get back home "whenever I can to visit family, my dog, and catch up with friends and other Old Boys from Hutchins".

Old Boys heading home

Jackeroo, Fine Arts, Design, Advertising, Innovation, Export Marketing. Throw in three children for good measure, a youth sailing world champion, the next Billie Elliot and a five-year-old daughter with a vocabulary beyond her years.

It's no wonder Andrew Cooley ('85) is coming home for much needed Tassie tranquillity after 30 years away.

Having worked with clients such as Coca-Cola, PepsiCo and Telstra, Andrew's bringing his marketing and creative director skills home to help food, beverage and agribusinesses tell their unique Tasmanian story and sell their products and services to the world through his Tassie pivot business Story & Brand.

Landing back home permanently in December, Andrew is already enjoying working with a range of individuals and groups including Hutchins Old Boys, the State Government and Tasmanian food, beverage and agriculture incubators. It's thirsty work, so he's looking forward to reconnecting with Old Boys and friends, along with getting back on the River Derwent for a sail.



Andrew Cooley ('85)

Filming a musical masterpiece

It has been great to see Old Boy Angus Ashton ('07) around Hobart town recently – video camera in hand, capturing musical magic in every shot.

Not to be deterred by the challenges of 2020, The Hutchins School music students were determined to share their work with family, friends and the community. In mid-August, under the creative and caring direction of Hutchins Head of Music, Judith Mann, Angus Ashton embarked on a full week shoot, featuring the boys performing at iconic locations from the top of Mount Wellington/kunanyi to the grounds of Blundstone Arena.

It was wonderful to see Angus in action, and we can't wait to see his final masterpiece!



Angus Ashton ('07) in action filming on the Hobart Waterfront and at a CBD Barbershop

A glimpse into life abroad

With travel restrictions in place and Tassie borders closed, we still love to keep in touch with our Old Boys around the world. Stuart Giles ('92) has lived in Asia since 2000 and has spent most of his time between Japan and Hong Kong. He recently moved to Tokyo with his family to live. He said "despite the size of the city, the quality of life here is fantastic".

Stuart's career involves trading in financial markets, both at banks and at alternative asset managers. Stuart has always been a passionate snowboarder and since arriving in Japan years ago, he has always found time to snowboard. Prior to living in Asia, his only time on the slopes was during the 1991 and 1992 Hutchins trips to Mount Hotham and Falls Creek. We wish Stuart and his family all the best in Tokyo!

Below are some images Stuart kindly shared with us.



Stuart with his wife Hiroko who is from south Japan (Kyushu).



The view from his office window, looking out over the Ginza shopping district and Marunouchi in Tokyo.



Sunrise in Niseko - one of Stuart's families favourite places to visit and relax.

Matt Sloane ('01) repurposes scrap metal with stunning results

Matt Sloane ('01) continues to attract praise and accolades with his beautiful sculptures.

Ahead of his upcoming exhibition at Blenheim Gallery and garden, Matt is fielding worldwide enquiries from Canada, Europe and the US, as he turns scrap metal into magnificent works of art.

Matt's pathway was not always direct. He says after leaving school and beginning art school, he wasn't ready and left to travel and work in NSW for two years. Matt lost his passion for art and focussed on raising his family and working on a big renovation project, until he enrolled in a welding course three years ago. His reignited passion for art, his skills in welding and the timing all came together when Matt made his first life-sized animal out of scrap metal - and was hooked!



Matt Sloane ('01) exhibition at Blenheim Gallery and garden

Awards and success followed, and Matt is now making sculptures full time, sourcing scrap metal, and working on commissions from widespread admirers.

Matt says: "As far as my work goes, I am endlessly inspired by the vast array of shapes and textures found while scavenging old farm machinery, rusted out cars, boxes of discarded tools and odds and ends. Working predominately with the animal form, I enjoy the challenge of capturing the true character of a subject while working within the limitation of found material, striving to capture the inherent beauty and grace of the animal form through the manipulation of hard, irregular and often unforgiving materials. My latest big piece is a life size horse that has gained quite a bit of traction. My Horse and a few other sculptures including a kangaroo and cockatoo will be at my exhibition. I'm excited to see where it takes me!"

For more of Matt's work, look at Sloane Sculptures, and the Belnheim Gallery exhibition from 14 October 2020 until November 30, Wednesdays to Fridays 10.30am until 4.00pm and Saturdays from 10.00am until 2.00pm.

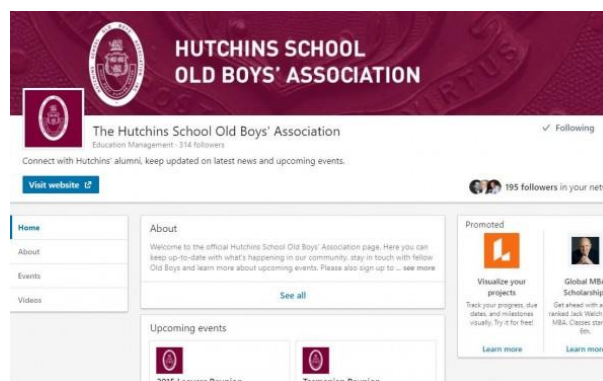
HSOBA LinkedIn

With over 5,000 alumni spread throughout Australia and overseas, remaining engaged and connected with this important element of our community is a key priority for the HSOBA. We know that being a member of the alumni network can bring huge benefits, both in terms of friendship and affinity but also in a careers and networking context.

That is precisely why we have implemented this Community Hub. We are aiming to have 1,000 members by the end of this calendar year and we are three quarters of the way there with one quarter to go!

That is also why we have set up an HSOBA LinkedIn page. Please follow our LinkedIn page if you haven't already - which you can find here.

We will increasingly use this page to share career opportunities, discuss mentoring and build better engagement throughout our network.



Beauty in intimate local crowd

Luke Plumb ('98) is a Tasmanian folk musician, producer, composer and teacher.

He performed on stage to a crowd of 100,000 people in Mexico City and at major festivals and events around the world. However, Luke is equally comfortable performing at a socially distanced gig for 50 people in a Hobart pub or community hall.

The 39-year-old grew up by the beach in Kingston playing classical violin and piano. Hutchins students and teachers from his time may remember Luke playing in the orchestra, swing band or at the renowned Psychedelic Socials.



Luke Plumb ('98)

Later in his teens, Luke picked up a mandolin and began exploring the world of folk music. He played regular gigs in a band at the New Sydney Hotel in Hobart but it was busking at the famous Salamanca Market which gave him his big break. A bass player from Shooglenifty, an acclaimed Scottish Celtic fusion band, was on the hunt for a talented mandolin player for the group's Australian tour and visited the market to see Luke in action before inviting him to immediately join the tour.

Luke spent a decade touring internationally with Shooglenifty, performing in Europe, Asia, North and South America and Russia and recording albums, while also working on various other projects, establishing a reputation as a driving force in acoustic music on the global stage.

returned to Tasmania almost three years ago for a quieter life by the beach at Lauderdale with his family, although he was still travelling widely to perform, before the coronavirus pandemic hit. "I was planning to tour NSW in March this year, then Europe in May/June," he says. "It was supposed to be my first solo tour in Greece and Germany and then over to the UK — I was booked to make a record over there."

Australian festivals for which he was booked have been cancelled for this year and 2021, including his trip to America next May which is looking unlikely, but Luke is still busily working on musical projects and is teaching students online in Canada, America, England and across Australia.

He is also excited to be performing again now that COVID-19 restrictions have eased in Tasmania. Luke recently did a gig at Gowrie Park, in the North-West, and another in Battery Point. He will perform at the Kunanyi Folk Club in Fern Tree on 5 September.

Plumb says performing with Shooglenifty as a support act for a major Mexican pop star — at a free outdoor festival at Zocalo Square in Mexico City to about 100,000 people in 2004 was the biggest gig he had played and it was an amazing experience.

But he says there's also something special about smaller gigs. "Tassie is always a good place to play," Luke says. "I actually reckon the kind of community vibe that exists in Tassie is a huge part in why we've done so well on the whole virus front and it's the same stuff that makes audiences really warm. There's never any trouble, it's like playing for family. There is an intimacy you can get in a small venue with a small crowd that you can't get on a big stage.

"There's something really lovely about being able to see every face in the room."

From the Apple Isle to the Big Apple

It was great to hear from Old Boy Ben Groom ('02) who has been living in New York City since 2013 with his wife Amy and children Henry (6 years old) and Sibella (4 years old). Ben is based in the West Village in Manhattan and also has a small shack in Southampton, which is two hours outside of the city.

Ben has extensive professional experience across the globe, which has seen him take on roles in the heartland of the Melbourne Demons to Principal positions with iconic global companies such as the Boston Consulting Group (BCG). When speaking to Ben about his career he said one of the highlights was helping set up an innovation accelerator in Munich, Germany for the World Food Program (The UN's food assistance branch).

Today, Ben's most recent role is the Chief Digital Officer for Herman Miller.

"I started a new role last year as Chief Digital Officer for Herman Miller. Herman Miller is a global Nasdaq-listed furniture and lifestyle company that makes and sells iconic products such as the Aeron Chair and the Eames Lounge".

Like many places, New York has suffered due to the challenges and chaos created by COVID-19. As Ben explains "New York is such an amazing, resilient city and it's been fascinating to watch it adapt during the crisis. One of the hardest things about this period is not being able to come home to Tassie to visit and we look forward to doing that as soon as we can".



Ben Groom ('02) with his wife, children and the Statue of Liberty

HSOBFC 2020 Knight Frank Gala Lunch

We were pleased to see such a great turn out at the HSOBFC Knight Frank Gala lunch on Saturday 12 September.

Tom Windsor ('99) MC'd the lunch, which featured an entertaining interview with North Melbourne great Matthew Cappuano. We were treated to a delicious meal donated by Will Chapman ('97) who was ably assisted by his sons in the kitchen, and Oli Lamb ('18) and John Groom ('86) in the dining room.

While the leading margin failed to keep us on the edge of our seats (convincingly overcoming St Virgil's 30.21.213 to 3.8.26), it was a great day at the Clubroom, celebrating Life Membership for Nick Leitch ('98) and Alastair Sayers' ('06) 150th game.



Snapshot of the HSOBFC 2020 Gala Lunch

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The Hutchins School Board as established by The Christ College Act 1926