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## Killara High School 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Awards Ceremony

To acknowledge student  
achievement for the 2010  
school year

**Tuesday  
14<sup>th</sup> December 2010**

**10.30am**

**Kerrabee Centre**

### School Resumes 2011

**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January –**

Year 7, 11 & 12 students

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February –**

Whole school

## Remembrance Day Assembly - 11<sup>th</sup> November 2010

*The following address to students and staff was delivered at the formal dedication of Memorial Boards listing students of St Leonards Superior Public School, who served in The Great War 1914-1918,*

Killara High School inherited more than the Lion Library when it was established here 40 years ago. It inherited a tradition of public education in northern Sydney that goes back well into the 19<sup>th</sup> century. St Leonards Superior Public School was one of the first public secondary schools established in northern Sydney. It was the foundation school for North Sydney Technical High School and then Killara High School.



Between 1914 and 1918 many of the former students of Killara's foundation school enlisted in the 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Imperial Force (AIF). They grew up in this part of the world. They swam in the same harbour and on the same beaches as you do today. Two of these young men were Robert and Raymond Courtney of 16 Munro St North Sydney. They walked to school, just as many of you do today. Their mother Grace and father Edward sent them to school with expectations of a better life through education and work. They wanted the same success and fulfilment for their boys as your parents today wish for you. Both Mr and Mrs Courtney would have felt a real sense of achievement in getting both their boys through to the end of secondary education as it was in those days. Both boys were well on the way to a fruitful life having had the benefit of educational opportunities and achievements never known to their parents.

Robert started at St Leonards Superior Public School in about 1898 and finished in 1907. Private Robert Courtney of the 13<sup>th</sup> Battalion was a shipwright 23 yrs and 8 months. He had a florid complexion and brown eyes and was short in stature at 5 feet 3.5 inches. He joined the AIF on 30 August 1915.

Robert was a shipwright by trade having completed an apprenticeship over five years after leaving school. Living at 16 Munro St with his parents the harbour was literally his backyard.

*Continued P2*

Younger brother Raymond had completed his schooling at St Leonards Superior School in about 1911. He had blue eyes and a dark complexion. He too was a ship builder and had served a 5 year apprenticeship at Brays Bay. He like the girls and was often in their company. On the 1<sup>st</sup> May 1916 Raymond Courtney aged 20 yrs and 8 months, joined the AIF. Because he was not 21 his parents had to give their permission for Raymond to enlist. In his Army file are two scraps of paper with the shaky hand writing of his father, 'I hereby give my consent to my son Raymond Courtney enlisting, signed Edward Courtney (father)' and the more precise handwriting of his mother again giving consent to enlist.

In 1916 Raymond was separated from his social life with the girls in North Sydney and underwent training at Holdsworthy Army Barracks.

In September 1916 he was admitted to Milson Island hospital with a serious illness that required hospitalisation for 104 days. His social life had caught up with him. Antibiotics were unheard of in those days. Elder brother Robert Courtney was killed in action on 11 August 1916. This would have been at the terrible battle of Pozieres that some historians regard as the worst sustained bombardment by artillery in the Great War. We don't know what impact this had on Raymond or his parents. But we can imagine.

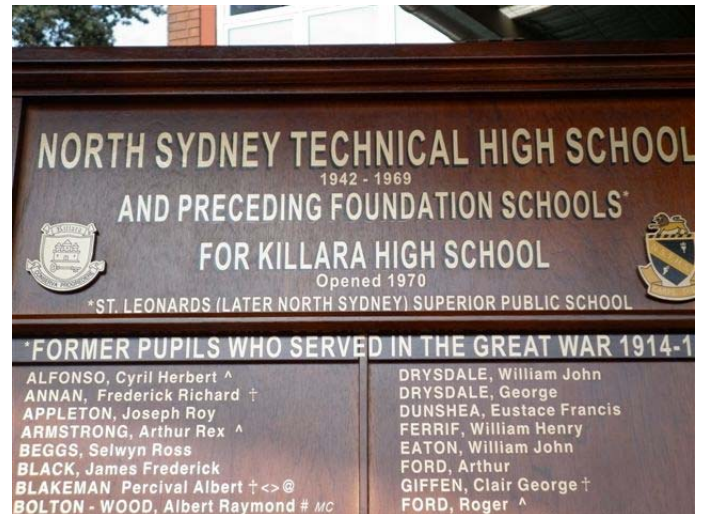
In May 1917 Raymond had travelled by ship to England. He wasn't a model soldier and this may hint at some rebellion at school as well because shortly after arriving in England he was fined 10 days pay for using insubordinate language to a superior officer. The record doesn't show whether the officer was Australian or British. In June 1917 he signed his will in the presence of two witnesses, presumably his mates at the time, Pte Francis Corr a grocer from Penrith and Pte Reginald Hough a butter maker from Grafton on the NSW North Coast. The will bequeathed all Raymond's possessions to his mother, Mrs Grace Courtney of 16 Munro St North Sydney.

Elder son, Robert's personal effects were returned to his mother on 27<sup>th</sup> June 1917 having arrived in Sydney on the ship 'Beltana'. The package was small, comprising Robert's wallet, several letters, belt, knife, card, Testament and 4 coins.

Raymond was classified as wounded on 26<sup>th</sup> April 1918. The first his mother heard of this was a simply worded telegram she received at 16 Munro St on 14 May that said, 'I regret to advise you that Pte Raymond Courtney was gassed (classed as wounded). His postal address will be 19<sup>th</sup> Battalion Australian Imperial Force, Abroad.' He eventually recovered and returned to his Battalion on 3 August 1918.

On 15<sup>th</sup> August 1918 the sometimes insubordinate Raymond was involved in an incident that reveals more of his character. Raymond's service record reads,

"A man was leading a horse across a footbridge on the River Somme when half way across, the bridge collapsed and the horse, becoming unmanageable, kicked the man into the river, stunning him. Both horse and man were struggling in the water when Pte Courtney without divesting himself of any clothing, dived in and brought the unconscious man ashore. This prompt action, regardless of the swift flowing stream and struggling horse, undoubtedly saved the life of the drowning man.' Growing up as a boy by Sydney Harbour and becoming a strong swimmer had paid a dividend.



Two weeks later, on the 31<sup>st</sup> August 1918 Pte Courtney was killed in action while serving with the 19<sup>th</sup> Battalion. He was buried in an isolated grave approximately 1.5 miles wnw of Peronne, half a mile from the village of Biaches. There is no record of how his parents were informed or their reaction. History is as much about imagining as it is about facts. We can only imagine what the parents felt at the loss of both their sons in France.

The Great War ended on today's date 92 years ago. For Mr and Mrs Courtney it may never have ended. For the next seven years they experienced regular reminders of this terrible conflict and its intensely personal cost as service medals and memorial plaques and other official correspondence were delivered home by the Department of Defense. On each occasion the father signed an official receipt.

The Courtneys made up a regular family of modest means. The boys were hard working and probably sometimes hard living and keen on having a good time. They were similar to many here today. They were educated in their local public school, our foundation school. They walked to and from school in weather just like today. They knew the bushland and foreshores of northern Sydney just as many of you know the bush tracks and places of Middle Harbour. They would have entertained themselves and their friends with the same type of stories and the same games, dares and practical jokes as young people today.



# Calendar

## November 2010

- 18 - KHS PAE Musicale Evening – Kerrabee Hall – 7.30pm
- 19 - Prefect Multi-Day for UNHCR
  - Prefect Blood Drive
  - Lindfield Public School Music Spectacular (3pm-9pm)
- 22 - Yr 10 Work Experience/ Service Learning (all week)
  - National Youth Leaders Day
- 23 - Yr 9 Water Safety & Survival (4 days)
  - Essential Secondary Science Assessment (ESSA) Test
- 24 - Yr 11 Society and Culture Excursion – State Library
  - Cyber Safety – Parent Presentation 7pm – Kerrabee Theatre
- 25 - Executive Conference (2 days)
- 29 - Yr 11 Assessment Block commences
  - Yr 10 Work Experience/ Service Learning (all week)
  - Yr 7 Drama rehearsals and performances (over 2 days)
- 30 - Yr 7 Water Safety & Survival Skills (4 days)
  - Learning with Technology – Parent Information Evening – 6pm

## December 2010

- 1 - Parent Volunteers Thank You morning tea – 10am
- 6 - Yr 11 Assessment Block continues
  - Roseville Public School Musicale – pm
  - Yr 9 PASS – Primary schools Gala Day
- 7 - Enrolment day – Yr 7 2011 – 8.30am
  - Yr 10 Studies of Religion Excursion – City
  - Killara Public School Presentation Day and Evening
- 8 - DEAS Gold Qualifying Expedition – Mt Jagungal, Snowy Mountains (5 days)
  - P&C Christmas Meeting
- 9 - Student Leaders Council – Festive Season Song Day
- 10 - Yr 10 School Certificate presentation – Kerrabee Hall – 9am
- 13 - Yr 11 Photography, Video and Digital Imaging – Excursion to Blanco Gallery, Redfern
- 14 - Annual Awards Ceremony – 10.30am
- 15 - HSC results available
  - Yr 8 - Stage 4 Completion Ceremony
  - Last day Term 4 for students – Yr 7, 8 and 9 Reports issued
- 16 - Yr 12 - HSC Morning Tea – 10.30am
- 17 - Last day Term 4 for staff



They proved to be successful in their young lives having completed long apprenticeships in respectable trades. They had futures before them, as do the students here today. Tragically, their futures were not realised.

The National Archives website, where much of the information I've read today comes from, has a heading 'Your story, our history'. The Courtney boys were your predecessors. Their story is our history.

The grief of their mother and father at the loss of two children can barely be understood by us. The family paid a terrible price. On 61,720 occasions other Australian families that paid that price between 1914 and 1918. And sadly there are Australian families paying that price in 2010. Today we remember those who did not return from war and we remember their families with whom the grief stays for lifetimes.

On 11<sup>th</sup> November 2010 we formally dedicate the memorial boards to the memory of the 165 students of St Leonards Superior Public School, the foundation school for North Sydney Technical High School and Killara High School, who served in the Great War, 50 of whom lost their lives. Lest we forget.

**Mark Carter, Principal**

Parents and relatives are cordially invited to the  
**2010 YEAR 10 FINAL ASSEMBLY**

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2010 at 9.00am  
 Kerrabee Centre

Morning tea will be served at the conclusion of the ceremony.

We do hope you can join us to mark this important milestone in your child's schooling.

## ArtExpress Nominations

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Congratulations to:

**Jennifer Ahn  
Madeleine Frith  
Rosemary Lee  
Elena Tory-Henderson**

**Orr Cohen  
Zoe Greer  
Georgia Mulligan  
Anna Zovaro**

whose HSC Bodies of Work have been retained at the HSC marking centre for possible ArtExpress exhibition selection.

Their success follows in the rich tradition of achievement by Killara High School in Visual Arts.

Approximately 550 highly ranked HSC bodies of work have been set aside this year after marking for possible inclusion in ArtExpress. From these works, exhibitions planned for 2011 in both metropolitan and regional NSW venues will be developed.

Final exhibition selections will be announced early in December.

**Mark Carter, Principal**

## So Many Wonderful Parents – Thank You

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Killara High School is fortunate in the number of parents who have helped in so many areas of the school: the canteen, uniform shop, mock interviews, work experience, performing arts, technology, working bees, Duke of Edinburgh's Award Program expeditions, P&C committees and year coordinators.

Over **210 letters of appreciation** have been sent to these parents inviting them to come on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup>

December to our *Thank You* morning tea. The support these parents have shown to the school and its students is outstanding and is a part of what makes Killara High School such a "great school, close to home"

**Mark Carter, Principal**

## Survival Skills & Water Safety Program

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**Year 9 - Date: Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2010 - Week 7**

**Venue:** Lane Cove Aquatic Leisure Centre.

**Year 7 - Date: Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November –Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2010 - Week 8**

**Venue:** Lane Cove Aquatic Leisure Centre.



## YEAR 7 PARENTS' END OF YEAR CELEBRATION

Let's get together and celebrate the completion of the first year of high school!!!

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2010 - 7pm onwards**

Greengate Hotel, Killara (Pacific Hwy and Greengate Road), Highway Bar (alcove)

RSVP to Sandra Altamero-Downing by Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> November  
email: [yankoz@iinet.net.au](mailto:yankoz@iinet.net.au); mobile: 0418 450 370

## Grounds Working Bee – Thank You

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On Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November, a wonderful team of parents carried out some much needed maintenance on the grounds, garden and facilities. In particular, cleaning out grass growing into the natives in Koola boundary, weeding and mulching the memorial garden outside the library and the garden beds at the front of the school either side of the service gates and transplanting cliveias from above the basketball courts.

Over the last seven years the condition of the grounds has improved very significantly because of the hard

work of parents. Our sincere thanks go to the following families for their assistance on Sunday. It is greatly appreciated. They were Richard Frith, coordinator, along with his team of volunteers; Ric Klusman, Nat Nighjoy, Jill Jia, Alison Griffin, Julian and Liz Holden, Penn and Julia Hsiang, Rick Stern and Anton Lubbers. .

**Mark Carter, Principal**

## Killara Debaters Show Primary School Students How It Is Done

On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November students in Years 3, 4 and 5 at Gordon East Public School visited Killara High School. They were excited by the debate between the team from Year 7 and the team from Year 8. The topic was "The School Day Should Be Extended".

The primary students were impressed with the arguments put forward by both sides but the adjudicators decided that the negative side won, the school day should not be extended! **Nicole Simon, Georgia Kenny-Watson and Laura Werman (Year 11)** were excellent adjudicators.

Ms Anne Carroll is to be thanked for her efforts in preparing all the debaters. How lucky we are to have teachers like Ms Anne Carroll to help our debaters improve their skills. The primary school teachers thanked the Killara High School students and staff for organizing this exhibition debate. They have requested our students go next year to Gordon East Public School and assist their debaters with skill development workshops.

**Ms Ann Dixon, Primary Schools Liaison**

## Learning with Technology

The technology committee of the school invites parents and carers to an evening of workshops and presentations that explores our use of technology in learning. This evening was initiated by Tim Hand, a parent and technology committee member. The aim is to consider how different technologies can support student learning in a variety of curriculum areas.

**When: Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2010;**

Week 8 Term 4; 6.00 pm to 8.00pm

**Where:** Killara High School's Kerrabee Theatre and 4 classrooms in A block for presentation sessions (see below). Parents will be asked to move between rooms to participate in each session.

### The Program

6.00 pm to 6.20pm - Welcome and Overview. - The school's web interface and 'Moodle'.  
Theatre: Tim Hand, Ross Kirbyshire (HT Computer Studies) and Stephen Brinkley (Science).

6.25pm to 6.45pm - Session 1

6.50pm to 7.10pm - Session 2

7.15pm to 7.35pm - Session 3

7.40pm to 8.00pm - Session 4

### Sessions and Rooms

Rooms	Group	Presentation	Presenter/s
A11	1	VC – Video Conferencing	Christine Black (HT Stage 6); Tim Hand (Parent)
A17	2	Interactive White Boards	Jenny Newell (ESL) Alison Gambino (HT Mathematics)
A15	3	OneNote	Natalie Gartner (PDHPE) Duncan Smith (PDHPE)
A04	4	Blogs	Steven Gibb (HSIE) and Robin Chand (HSIE)

**Please Note:** The maximum number of parents we can accommodate at this evening totals 100 people. Please ask your son or daughter to return the slip below to A Block office in order to RSVP to this invitation.

**Ross Kirbyshire, Head Teacher Computing Studies**

### Expression of Interest to attend the Learning with Technology Information Evening

*(Return this completed form to A Block Office)*

Name . \_\_\_\_\_

Children's Names and Year (eg, 9, 10) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of people in your party attending: \_\_\_\_\_

## Parents - Be Cybersmart!

On Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November Killara High School invites you to attend an important presentation on **Internet Safety and Awareness**.

This presentation will be easy to understand, thorough, non-technical and informative. It will cover a range of issues including:

- the ways children use the internet and emerging technologies
- potential risks faced by children when online such as cyberbullying, identity theft,

inappropriate contact and exposure to inappropriate content

- tips and strategies to help children stay safe online

**Date:** Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2010

**Time:** 7.00pm

**Location:** Kerrabee Theatre

For any further enquiries call Melissa Foster, Year 7 Adviser, on 9498 3772.

## From the Library

### New fiction

Abdolah, Kader. *The House of the Mosque*

Colfer, Eoin. *Artemis Fowl and the Atlantic Complex*

Cormier, Robert. *The Chocolate War and Beyond the Chocolate War*

Grant, Jessica. *Come, Thou Tortoise*

Irving, John. *The World According to Garp*

Malkin, Nin. *Swoon*

Orwell, George. *1984*

Reece, Gordon. *Mice*

Summerscale Kate. *The Suspicions of Mr Chicher or the Murder at Road Hill House*

### Fiction in detail

Pressfield, Steven. *Killing Rommel*

It is autumn 1942. Hitler's legions have swept across Europe and France has fallen. On the Eastern Front, Soviet Russia reels under the German onslaught. Across the Channel, a beleaguered Britain struggles on in near-isolation. And in North Africa, Field Marshal Erwin Rommel and his unstoppable Panzers have routed the Eighth Army and now threaten the vital oilfields of the Middle East. With the outcome of the war hanging in the balance, the British hatch a desperate plan – to send a small, heavily armed yet highly mobile force behind enemy lines to strike a blow that will stop the Afrika Korps in its tracks. It

called the Long range Desert Group and, together with the SAS and Popski's Private Army, its exploits are to become the stuff of legend.

### Non-Fiction

Adams, Bob. *Small Business Start-Up: Your Comprehensive Guide to Starting and Managing a Business*

Anderson, Mark and Anderson, Kathy. *Composing & Responding in English Stage 5*

Brager, Bruce L. *The Iron Curtain: The Cold War in Europe*

Broome, Richard. *Aboriginal Australians: A History since 1788*

Collins, Paul. *Burn: The Epic Story of Bushfire in Australia*

Cooper, Laura A. *Belly Dancing Basics*

*How I Got Published: Famous Authors Tell You in Their Own Words.*

Miller, Michael. *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Music Composition*

Teo, Hsu-Ming and White, Richard. *Cultural History in Australia*

Terry, Terence. *Handmade Bags: How to Design, Create, and Embellish Beautiful Bags*

**Francie Campbell and Karen Jones**

**Teacher-Librarians**

### **St Ives High School**

is holding their

### **Annual Fair – Not Quite Night A'Fair**

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2010**

from 3pm - 8pm.

It will be an exciting event with rides, games, stalls, live music entertainment and will feature two performances by Extreme FMX Air Freestyle Motorcross.

The fair is open to all members of the public with an entry fee of \$10 per person or \$30 per family (children under 6 free).

### **Ku-ring-gai Council and Ku-ring-gai Youth Development Service (KYDS)**

### **Parent Forum**

**“Bullying – It's Everyone's Responsibility”**

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2010, from 6.30pm - 8.30pm** (registration from 6:15pm)

**Venue:** Ku-ring-gai Council Chambers, Level 3, 818 Pacific Highway, Gordon (enter via the rear carpark).

Bookings required. Contact Ku-ring-gai Council Youth Services on 9424 0837 or [youth@kmc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:youth@kmc.nsw.gov.au)

For more information on the forums contact KYDS on 9416 9824 or visit [www.kyds.org.au](http://www.kyds.org.au)