From the President of the Old Boys' Union

Ian R Bonnette (1968/9) was recently appointed President of the Old Boy's Union at the 2014 Annual General Meeting, after serving on the general committee for the past 3 years.

Ian recently retired in 2010 after a very colourful and successful career spanning heavy engineering, sports management, private equity and consulting in productivity improvement to ASX 200 companies.

Ian attended the College from 5th grade in 1961 to 1968/9 and was a very enthusiastic athlete, from participating in the AAGPS annual athletic carnival while still in the preparatory school to Captain of athletics in the premiership winning team in 1968. Other achievements include Captain of Rugby, 1st XV (1966-69) combined AAGPS representative 1968-69, 1st X1 (1967-68), Anderson House Captain, Air Force Cadet under Officer and Prefect.

After leaving Scots, Ian took up a cadetship (Commercial) with engineering / steel foundry group Bradford Kendall Ltd and studied Commerce (accounting) and Company Secretarial work part time, spending 25 years with Bradken the last 8 years as CEO. In 1990 in association with others, moved the head office and 103 families to Newcastle, starting a new chapter in his life. In 1995 as a favour to a friend he joined the Newcastle Knights at the start of the “super league” war. As CEO he lead the Knights through many memorable highs and lows and after 8 years of time consuming days, nights and weekends his administration of professional football drew to a close. In 2002 he returned to Sydney and spent 8 years working in private equity and consulting in productivity and efficiency improvement programs in the corporate world. In his younger years he coached junior rugby union and is presently a Director (Treasurer) of Randwick District Rugby Union Football club.
In Ian’s words, he is honoured to be elected to the Presidency of such a reputable and ionic College Alumni with such a solid base and thanks the retiring President Andrew Ratcliffe for his leadership and direction offer the past 4 years.

‘Following the results and key outcomes of the recently conducted survey of the Old Boys of the College, I look forward to working with the newly elected committee to achieve the goals as set out in the newly developed “Strategic Plan” 2014-2020. ’In particular the college motto ‘Utinam Patribus Nostris Digni Simus’- ‘Let us be worthy of our forefathers’.

Ian R Bonnette

President of the Old Boys’ Union