

KNOX GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Notes prepared by Ruth Mitchell in 2007.

The information was sourced from staff files and KGS Council minutes.

1986:

- Mr Peter Cribb, Housemaster of McNeil left, May 1986 and Mr. Tim Hawkes commenced
- Students with short suspensions for smoking – REDACTED, A. Steer, M. REDACTED, REDACTED
- July 1986, REDACTED spoke with Stuart Pearson or made allegations about SP re his son REDACTED (I forget the exact details)
- John Turnbull at Fetters for the first half of the year (He was the Deputy HM at the time – have you spoken with him?). Bill Lawson (a very close confidant of Dr Paterson) was the acting Deputy HM. He now has a winery in the Hunter valley.

In July 1985, Adrian Nisbett was in Ewan House and also a Housemaster.

Another person who knows a lot is Tony Gifford who retired at the end of Term 1, 1988.

Norrie Cannon appointed Housemaster of Gillespie as from the end of 1987.

As from the start of 1988 -

- Howard West – Housemaster at Kooyong (I think he is at the International School in Hong Kong)
- Martin Gooding – appointed Head of English. He also lived in the cottage at the Prep School with responsibilities at Kooyong, has had access to many staff files whilst Peter Crawley and John Weeks were Headmasters, appointed many teachers etc. There are a number of 'stories' freely circulating amongst current teachers concerning him in the mid 1980's and I have a number of concerns re information/favours by MG for some people and possible protection by JW
- Adrian Nisbett was moved sideways but retained some status to handle the burgeoning area of administration, computers, Grammarian, Knoxonian etc and he was located in Room 15. Several years later he was relocated to Borambil House and worked on the book "Knox in our own words" For information re this period, sources of information are Jenny Little (Munich International Grammar School), Kate Hunt (widow of John Hunt, lives at North Turramurra), Cathy Charlton (former Council member, interviewed many old boys for an oral history of the school, lives at Newport.)

Council meeting, 19th October, 1983. Headmaster's report – Craig Treloar appointed to replace Miss Grant. 23 years old, single, OKGA 1976. Diploma of Teaching from Kuringai campus of UTS. Three years at St Aloysius. Fine prospect. Resident master at Knox. Also appointed at the same time was Bob Thomas.

Craig Treloar was appointed resident master at Gillespie House in Term 1, 1984 till June 1988 when he went on 'leave' for terms 3 and 4. (Information on payroll records and also check Council minutes – the most important source of information is generally the Headmaster's report to each Council meeting – often a separate attachment to the minutes. You must receive the complete Minutes book which contain these documents and not just a copy of the minutes) Craig Treloar

coached the Prep cricket team, 11C in 1987.

On 2nd August 2007, I collected a video from Stuart Pearson's private address concerning Craig Treloar which was given directly to John Weeks. He watched the video.

The Council minutes of August and September, 2007 should provide details about the meetings with Bob Thomas and Craig Treloar which followed. The only action which followed was that Craig Treloar would no longer coach or teach the younger boys in the Prep. As the incidents occurred 20 years previously, the Council were advised by (I think JW/RW) that no further action was necessary.

Michael Probert left - 15th October 2004 and on stress leave from 13th August 2004.

John Cameron, former member of Council, directly appointed as Finance administrator, later terminated with a large payout, I think he may still live in Wahroonga, actively involved with Rotary and the National Party, he should have information)

A student, **REDACTED**, OKGA 1993 was coached by Adrian Nisbett in the Basketball thirds – I do not know if he has come forward. There was an incident involving **REDA** and another student (both in the Gallery Choir) under the Chapel which was not well handled by Stuart Pearson or Dr Paterson which contributed to the termination of SP.

Council minutes - 14th May 1990. Stuart Pearson has resigned (to be effective as from the end of term 3) as he has "outgrown the position" of school disciplinarian.

Council minutes - 20th September 1990. Headmaster's report on discipline. "The Chapel affair (I.e. The incident with **REDACTED**) continues to be used by Knox boys and others here – reflecting a fear and hatred of homosexuals" There was a period of persistent and prolonged teasing plus a lot of bullying which continued well into the late 1990's.

Council minutes, 17th October, 1990. John Lodge appointed General Duties Master (to replace Stuart Pearson). I think he was a former Police Constable.

There used to be a teacher by the name of Jones who was a Boarding Housemaster who 'left' at the end of 1988. I think he was in McNeil at the same time as Tim Hawkes who broke a billiard cue when 'striking' a student.

I made a list of the Year 12 students in 1990 who were in McNeil and Gillespie boarding houses several years earlier to see if we could ascertain any names of interest who may have information but nothing came of that. However, three students who had blond hair and good at sport were –
ASG **REDACTED** and **REDACTED**

In the mid 1980's, virtually all teacher appointments were made by Dr Paterson. There was a Council staff committee (Dr Jim White, Rev Don Erickson ((Canberra)), Rev Loch Finlay and Professor Bruce Mansfield) and I understand they mainly dealt with staff allowances but I could never locate any minutes.

I think the students in relation to Vance may have been – **REDACTED** **REDACTED** **REDACTED**
REDACTED

2.10.07

Notes prepared by Ruth Mitchell.

Sources: Knox Council minutes and reports, staff files

NOTE: The Council minutes for 1985 to 1987 were closely studied. Of particular importance were any references in relation to the report by the Headmaster plus and reference to those reports in Business Arising in later meetings. Sometimes there were reports included with the minutes.

- Mr Peter Cribb, Housemaster of McNeil left and in May 1986, Dr Tim Hawkes commenced
- Students with short suspensions for smoking – REDACTE, A. Steer, REDACTE REDAC, REDACTE
- July 1986, REDACTED spoke with Stuart Pearson or made allegations about SP re his son REDA
- John Turnbull at Fetters for the first half of the year and Bill Lawson was acting Deputy Headmaster.
- July 1985, Adrian Nisbett was in Ewan House and also a Housemaster.
- Norrie Cannon appointed Hosemaster at Gillespie as from the end of 1987.

As from the start of 1988:

- Howard West – Housemaster at Kooyong, lived with his wife in the Tower and later went to the International School in ong Knog.
- Martin Gooding appointed Head of English and lived in the cottage at the Prep
- Adrian Nisbett moved sideways – PA to the HM, responsible for the Grammarian, Knoxonian and in Room 15. Several years later relocated to Borambil where he worked with Cathy Charlton on “Knox in our own words”

Council meeting 19 October 1983. Craig Treloar appointed to replace Miss Grant. OKGA 1976. Also appointed at the same time – Bob Thomas

Craig Treloar was appointed resident master at Gillespie in Term 1 1984 until June 1988 when he went on 'leave' for terms three and four. Information from payroll records and Council minutes. He coached the Prep cricket team 11C in 1987.

ON 2nd August 2007, I collected a video from Stuart Pearson's private address concerning Craig Treloar and this was passed to the HM (John Weeks).

Council minutes for August/September 2007 indicate that Craig Treloar would no longer coach or teach the younger boys in the Prep. AS the incidents occurred twenty years previously there was some discussion as to whether further action was necessary.

Michael Probert on stress leave from 13th August and left 15th October 2004. Lived underneath the former Dining room – Boarders.

Incident re [REDACTED] (OKGA 1993) and another boy (both in Gallery choir) under the Chapel in 1990 and Stuart Pearson and SP asked to leave by HM. IN Council minutes 20th September 1990. At that time I think Adrian Nisbett coached the thirds in Basketball.

NOTE ; I could never find any minutes / of the Council staff committee (Dr Jim White, Rev D. Erickson, Rev Loch Finlay and Prof. Bruce Mansfield). Virtually all teacher appointments were made personally by Dr Paterson.

Note: I think the students in relation to Vance may have been – [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Box labelled 1987: Chris Fotos to RE Dept. Note from HM re Ross Main –” I assume he has quietly left the School. Any contrary opinion?” About May/June.

Year 9 students in Gillespie in 1987 – [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] A. Steer, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Year 12 boys in Gillespie in 1990 included [ASG] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] – all sportsmen

Council Minutes 15 March 1990 – Discipline:

[REDACTED] to St Andrews School as in 1989 caught for possession of explosives and in 1990 for Marihuana. [REDACTED] to Scots at Bathurst. [REDACTED]

Student who was probably touched in the dark room at Kooyong possibly [ARO]

Council meeting 10 February 1989 – Fotos and Vance – to be discussed after report from the HM. Verbal report from HM on 12 March 1989 that Vance has left Knox. Council meeting 26 October 1989 – resignation of Fotos on compassionate grounds.

There is also some information in the Boarding House report books completed by Duty Master and Resident Masters where they report on student behaviour and discipline.

Ruth Mitchell 22 September 2014.

PS I am not sure where I have a hard copy of my original report to Council which was not allowed to be retained by Council members – possibly hidden in the safe at home. Bob is also trying to read some old “floppy discs” and hard drives.