



Newington Medal Recipients 2012

The Newington Medal recognises outstanding contributions, actions and achievements of Old Boys who have gone beyond the normal expectations. This is the highest honour Newington can bestow on an Old Boy for meritorious and commendable achievement. The Medal acknowledges an Old Boy (both Australian and International residents) whose work, profession, skill, dedication, generosity and/or support has involved meritorious and commendable achievement in business, the professions, community service, industrial development, technology, human relations, education, cultural development, sport, international relations, the arts or philanthropy.



DOUG CAMERON (ON '46)

Mr Doug Cameron's association with Newington began with the arrival of three Cameron brothers between 1937 and 1940. The eldest, Lindsay ('Lin'), was known to his schoolmates as 'Boop' or 'Big Boop'. His brother, Robert ('Bob'), was also known as 'Boop' ('as all Camerons must inevitably be known', according to The Newingtonian). Doug finally arrived and was inevitably known as 'Boop' when he entered Wyvern House Preparatory School in 1940.

Doug was an outstanding scholar. He started as Dux of the Prep and finished in 1946 as joint Dux of the School and winner of the Hardy Medal for best pass in the Leaving Certificate. Among the swag of other prizes and scholarships, he won The Grainger Scholarship in 1946, earning him £21, which was deducted from his school fees for the year and he was awarded the very prestigious Old Boys' Prize in 1945 and 1946 which reflected his all-round abilities and respect in the school. Doug also obtained University Exhibition on his Leaving Certificate, giving total remission of university tuition fees – one of the 100 granted in NSW.

He loved cricket and played in the 1st XI three years in a row, including as Captain for two years. He played rugby in the 1st XV for two years, served as Vice-Captain in the 1st Rifle team and was awarded Cricket and Shooting Colours. He edited The Newingtonian, and served as Sergeant Major in the Cadets, as a Prefect, as Captain of Fletcher House and as joint Senior Prefect in his final year. Doug eventually produced Newington Senior Prefects of his own through his sons and grandsons. He went on to Sydney University Law School and graduated with First Class Honours. After leaving university, he played rugby with Drummoyne (the "Dirty Reds") in Fourth Grade and eventually became First Grade Hooker for two and a half seasons to 1952; he played first grade cricket for Balmain and Northern District and ran in the City to Surf races from their inception until well into his sixties. He also played club cricket with the Wyvern Cricket Club for many years as their Club Captain and is a Life Member of the Club. He was a long-serving member of the City & Suburban Cricket Association's Management Committee.

Doug spent most of his legal career as principal of his city-based firm, Cameron Gillingham Boyd. When he retired from practice, he held an unblemished practicing certificate for over 50 years of service. Doug earned the respect of his colleagues and adversaries for his wisdom, diligence and respect for his clients as well as for his legal learning and his integrity. He also served the public for a number of years as a member of the Commonwealth Government Social Securities Appeals Tribunal, a quasi-judicial role, and was a member of the Legal Professional Conduct Review Panel in the early 1990s.

He served on the College Council from 1973 to 1983, and in addition to being a Life Member of the ONU, he has been an active member of the 70 Club, serving on its Committee since 2001 and as its Chairman from 2004 to 2007. During his time on Newington's College Council, Doug was also on the Council of MLC School from 1973 to 1985, serving as Vice-Chairman in 1974 then as Chairman from 1975 to 1983. He was the first lay person to be Chairman of the Council. Doug's service at MLC covered, among other things, the introduction of equal pay for female teachers, the commencement of the school's modern building plans, the renaming of the school and the first fundraising appeals. Today, Doug continues at Newington as a current and long-term Archives Volunteer on special projects.

Doug acknowledges the enormous input, support and wisdom given to him by his wife Margaret throughout their 60 year marriage.

This award acknowledges Doug's unwavering dedication to 'Dear Newingtonia' across a number of areas. He is considered a fine example of quiet dedication to our College and the embodiment of a true Newington gentleman and therefore well-deserving of the Newington Medal (Australia). In awarding the Newington Medal (Australia) we celebrate Doug Cameron's outstanding achievements particularly in the areas of profession, community service and what it means to show '...my love for thee shall never, never die'.