



2017 Newington Medal - Australia

GREG GROGIN (ON 1976)

Greg Grogin was a student at Newington College from 1967 – 1976. Greg commenced his Newington journey at Wyvern in Year 3. During his time at the College, Greg participated in many productions, 1975 saw Greg awarded the ONU Service prize for Rugby, in 1976 was the House Captain of Le Couteur, won the Jack Thorncraft Trophy in 1976, was Cadet Lt./CUO and a Prefect.

It was noted on his final report that he was “cheerful, co operative, a full participant in all the school’s activities, a Prefect who set a fine example, always resourceful and reliable”. It is these attributes recognised at the time that led Greg to pursue a career in the New South Wales Police Force, where, amongst other duties, he was the Police Reporter on Sydney AM Radio. It was during his time as a Policeman, however, that he discovered his true vocation, the law.

Greg commenced his legal studies through the Solicitor’s Admission Board whilst working as a Police Prosecutor. Greg was admitted as a Solicitor and later to the Bar. In 2010 was appointed a Local Court Magistrate a position he has served with distinction and some notoriety. He has recently been appointed an Acting District Court Judge being due recognition and acknowledgment of his seven years of Magisterial service to the people of New South Wales.

Newington College has been the recipient of Greg’s community driven spirit for fifty years. This contribution to the College commenced as a pupil giving back to his fellow students, leading them as House Captain and CUO and engagement in multiple extra curricular activities. At the same time as building his career, Greg contributed to the College as a volunteer Rugby Referee, in 1999 and 2000 he was President of the Old Newingtonians Union and in 2000 was appointed to the College Council.

Greg served sixteen years on the College Council until his retirement earlier this year. He diligently served as a Councillor, Honorary Secretary and most recently as Deputy Chairman. He served under four Council Chairman and worked with three Headmasters, helping to steer the College through some of its most challenging times in living memory.

Current College Chairman, Tony McDonald (ON 1976) states “Greg’s contribution to the Newington Community has been outstanding and selfless. It is his tireless devotion to the culture and ethos of the College, leading by example in terms of resilience through various challenging times and most importantly his innate strength of character and substance in putting others first when governing the College, focussing on outcomes rather than personal kudos. He has set the bar for future Council members with his unstinting and unselfish devotion to what is in the best interests of the boys and the Newington Community as a whole.”

Acknowledging Greg’s outstanding contribution to Newington and the people of New South Wales, he is first and foremost a family man. With wife Wendy, they have successfully raised two outstanding Old Boys, Nicholas (ON 2009) and James (ON 2012).

It is due to Greg’s 50 years of tireless work, commitment and enduring love of Newington that it is an honour to name Greg Grogin the Newington Medallist (Australia) for 2017.

