The Mackay School

Historical Bulletin

UNVEILING OUR HISTORY

No 20, July 2026

FOREWORD

We are immensely proud to announce the publication of the 20th edition of our Historical Bulletin, a significant milestone that reflects our enduring commitment to preserving the rich legacy of our school.

Over the course of these twenty editions, this publication has served as a vital repository of our collective memory, enabling us to illuminate the pivotal moments, distinguished figures, and foundational values that have shaped our institution's trajectory.

By documenting and sharing these important aspects of our heritage, we not only honour those who laid the path before us but also deepen our connection to the unique traditions that continue to define our school today.

Beyond the academic milestones and the reflective passage of time marked by this 20th edition, the identity of our school is equally anchored in another vital pillar: our sporting tradition. Since our earliest days, sports have never been treated as a mere extracurricular activity, but rather as a fundamental crucible for character, teamwork, and resilience.

This enduring legacy owes an immeasurable debt to the pioneering educators who crossed oceans to shape our community. We look back with deep gratitude to those teachers who arrived from the United Kingdom and other corners of the world, bringing with them not just their expertise, but a profound philosophy of sportsmanship

They planted the seeds of our athletic culture—beginning first with the passion and discipline of football, followed closely by the rigor of athletics, and later, the camaraderie and grit of rugby. These educators did not just teach rules and tactics; they instilled a spirit of fair play, dedication, and pride in the jersey that still echoes across our playing fields today. As we celebrate this landmark Bulletin, we honor their foundational contribution, recognizing that the values they taught in motion remain as vital to our school's soul as the lessons learned in the classroom.

SPORTS

Sport is a structured form of physical activity that involves skill, physical exertion, and adherence to established rules. It may be undertaken individually or as part of a team and is often characterised by competition, recreation, and personal achievement. Beyond its physical benefits, sport plays an important role in promoting mental well-being, social inclusion, teamwork, discipline, and respect for others.





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Mackay & Sutherland Football Team
Standing on the left side Mr G Robertson, and standing on the right side Mr A Gemmell

Andrew Gemmel Allan was born in Lossiemouth, Scotland, on October 16, 1868. He is a professor. He was educated at the University of Glasgow, where he earned his Master of Arts degree in 1892.

He arrived in Chile in 1893, recruited by the "Mackay and Sutherland School" in Valparaiso.

His arrival coincided with the football boom in the port. That same year, he laid out a field on the school grounds and organized a team made up of teachers and students, and was elected Captain.

He played football in Valparaiso between 1893 and 1899, first representing the "Mackay and Sutherland" team and then the "Naval Academy", introducing the sport to all departments of the Chilean Navy. He also excelled as a cricketer and was a regular at school matches.

In 1895, he participated as a delegate of the "Mackay and Sutherland Club" in the meeting that gave rise to the "Football Association of Chile", where he was elected secretary. He was reelected three times, holding the position until 1900.

In 1896, after the end of the school year, he traveled to his native Scotland. On March 11, 1897, he boarded the steamer ship "Iberia" bound for Valparaiso to resume his duties at the "Mackay and Sutherland".

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In 1898, he was hired as an English and mathematics teacher at the "Naval Academy". During the same period, he taught at the "Boys' Lyceum" and was appointed examiner by the "Ministry of Public Instruction".

In 1903, he was hired as director of the newly founded "English School" of Lota, the first English School in the Bio Bio Region and today is called the "Thompson Matthews School". The "English School" of Lota, no doubt that was an inspiration of the "Artisan School" replicating the educational needs for children of UK citizens and employees of the "Lota Coal and Industrial Company".

He married Chilean Alice Condon Perry in Lota on December 28, 1901, with whom he had seven children.

In 1903, after being Director of "The English School "of Lota, returned to the port of Valparaiso, where he was again employed by the "Naval Academy" until 1905. That same year, he again served as secretary of the Association until 1908. After a couple of years, he was elected treasurer and, in 1912, was unanimously elected president, a position that held for two years.

In 1915, the family moved to Lota, where they settled permanently.

He passed away in Concepción on April 10, 1950; his remains rest in the "Concepción General Cementery".



Mr Andrew Gemmell and family



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Luis Eduardo Gianelli Frechero was a distinguished Uruguayan footballer, educator and sports broadcaster whose legacy became closely intertwined with the history of The Mackay School and the sporting life of the Valparaíso region.

Born in Montevideo, Uruguay, in 1912, Gianelli developed a successful career as a professional footballer, playing as a forward. In the 1940s, he arrived in Chile to join Everton de Viña del Mar, where he quickly earned recognition for his talent and commitment on the field. A serious injury brought his playing career to an early conclusion. Rather than returning to Uruguay, he chose to settle in the Valparaíso area, where he began a new chapter dedicated to education, youth development and sports communication.

For many years, Gianelli served as a football coach at The Mackay School, where he became a respected and influential figure in the lives of countless pupils.
Through his work, he instilled not only technical skills but also the values of discipline, teamwork, perseverance and fair play that have long been central to the School's sporting tradition.

Beyond the school grounds, Gianelli played an important role in the development of sports broadcasting in the region. He was among the pioneers of local sports radio and television, contributing to stations such as Radio Recreo and becoming one of the founding figures of *Show de Goles*, the celebrated football programme broadcast by UCV Televisión during the 1970s.

His insightful commentary and deep understanding of the game earned him the respect of audiences throughout the region.

As a former Everton player, he remained closely connected to the club and became a memorable voice during one of its most successful periods. His coverage of Everton's achievements helped preserve and promote an important chapter in the history of Chilean football.

Luis Eduardo Gianelli Frechero exemplified the qualities of sportsman, teacher and communicator. His contribution to football, education and regional broadcasting left a lasting impression on generations of students, athletes and sports enthusiasts.

Today, he is remembered with gratitude and admiration as a valued member of the extended Mackay community and as a significant figure in the sporting heritage of Viña del Mar



Luis Eduardo Gianelli
1912- 2013



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THE OLD MACKAYANS'CORNER

This dedicated section will shed a light on the remarkable achievements and diverse experiences of some our distinguished alumni – the Old Mackayans.
Through their insightful responses to a range of questions, some of our former students will share how their time at our School provided a foundational base for their success and instilled in them that unique "Spirit of Mackay" which continues to guide them. In this opportunity we want to share with you an interview send to Marcelo Moukarzel , Old Mackayan Gen 1970.



Marcelo Moukarzel
Gen 1970
Mechanical Engineer

1. What are your fondest memories of your time at The Mackay School?

The great friends I made, many of whom I'm still in touch with today. Juan Escudero, Hernán Maluk, and I started our school life together in 1957 and graduated in 1970.

2. Which teachers had the biggest impact on you, and why?

Many teachers left a deep mark on me because of their dedication to teaching and their respectful, authoritative, and kind approach to correction. These included Wilson Le Cerf, Juan Reyes, Manuel Contreras Matus, Manuel Contreras Toledo, Jorge Brito, and Emerson Roach.

3. Do you still keep in touch with any of your classmates?

Absolutely. We have a WhatsApp group and stay in constant contact, even with some who didn't graduate with us but are still part of our history.

4. What skills or values did you learn at school that you still use today?

Accepting ourselves as we are, being part of a team where we will succeed together and the path will be easier to achieve our personal and team goals, facing life's challenges, whatever they may be, being honest and transparent with others, regardless of whether others like it or not, but leaving no room for doubt in your word.

5. What did you appreciate most about the traditions and ethos of our school?

Being fair to others, supporting those who need it, and giving meaning to life with respect for others.

6. What does the school motto "Vincit qui se vincit" mean to you?

The barriers and difficulties you encounter in life are meant to test your abilities and help you overcome those obstacles, not to be avoided. Victory comes from overcoming yourself. You're not competing against others; make the most of your abilities and learn from your experiences.

7. What have you been doing since leaving school?

Every day is an opportunity to learn, develop, and support those in need. I've worked in mining and construction, I was a pilot and flight instructor, a Reserve Officer in our Air Force, I owned my own company, and I advise a U.S. client in the Latin American market.



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8. Do you still feel a connection to "The Mackay"?

The school is part of our lives; it's deeply ingrained in our hearts. It's a part of us.

9. What was your most memorable sports achievement at school?

Going to support those who played rugby or participated in sports championships wherever they went, Valparaíso, Santiago, etc.

10. What is your message for the new generations?

Not everyone is lucky enough to belong to our school, with over 168 years of history, with values, traditions, and teachings that make you strong in today's demanding life, without fear of the future.



Mr Emerson Roach and a group of students of the 1970 Generation



1970 Generation with Mr W Kinnear and Mr W Le Cerf

VINCIT QUI SE VINCIT



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