# From the Archives

## History of the Kent Street Senior High School Crest




Kent Street Senior High School opened in 1940 as Victoria Park Central School. It had no uniforms and no school crest. In 1942, James Woods, the first principal organised a competition to design a badge. It was won by a third-year student, Peter Perica.

Peter drew on the events of history for his inspiration. The Crusades took place from 1096 to 1271 and during World War II (1939 to 1944), Australian troops were heavily involved in the North African conflict.

From the Crusades, he chose the shield and the badge layout. This was followed by the red of the blood, lost during both conflicts, the blue of the Mediterranean Sea and the pale yellow of the desert sands. For the centre piece, he looked close to home thinking of what the men and women did at home and work. The 'dagger 'was composed of two parts: one from the treadle sewing machine and the other from the railways.

The horizontal shape was a tool (spanner) used to adjust parts of the sewing machine and the vertical tool used to seat dog spikes when building a railway line. He knew that the steel lines were fixed to the wooden sleeper by drilling a hole in the sleeper, placing the dog spike in the hole and before the sledgehammer was used to finally drive the dog spike home, it needed to be seated using smaller tools. Hence the vertical shape in the badge.

The origin of the motto Courage has been clouded by time. Some believe Peter chose it due to the courage shown by the ANZACs. Others believe a teacher, Agnester Halliday helped choose it to fit Peter's concept.

At the beginning of Rod Beresford's Principalship (2007 to 2012) the badge was modified for marketing purposes. The pale-yellow was change to white. Later 'Courage to Achieve' added to the masthead.

Rod was followed by Kath Ward (2012 to 2020). During Kath's time, Kent Street Senior High School became an Independent Public School and that title inserted into the Masthead. This one is used today.

KENT STREET SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

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Courage to Achieve

KENT STREET SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

An Independent Public School

Evidence for this story a held in the Kent Street Senior High School Archives.

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