



did you know?

INFORMATION FROM THE TSS ARCHIVES



The proposed design

Herbert (Joey) Melbourne, after whom Melbourne House is named, was appointed Housemaster in 1914.

Joey Melbourne served in that capacity until 1932, leaving TSS, then rejoining the school in 1940 and staying until 1942.

He was a colourful character and enjoyed telling outrageous stories. Ending each story by stating "And that's how they shot the tiger!"

Joey had a leg injury which left him with one leg longer than the other. He had to wear a special built up shoe and use a walking stick (which he did not mind cracking over the heads of anyone who annoyed him). This special shoe and walking stick would clunk down the halls of the boarding house, giving the boys plenty of time to stop any mischief before being caught.

When he died in 1949, his last will and testament stipulated that his ashes were to be scattered on the TSS school oval.

Headmaster at the time, J.N. Radcliffe, decided that this was not a good idea. Radcliffe was reported to have said, every fellow who gets gravel rash on the oval will be saying "I've got a bit of Joey in me".

Therefore the decision was made to bury Joey's ashes under a newly planted tree just to the side of the oval.

The tree, not surprising, never grew well and was later uprooted when the oval was enlarged to the present four football fields.

A few cynics then remarked that Joey Melbourne always got his way in the end! His ashes ended up on one of the fields due to the oval enlargement.