



**Basil Holmes Travers AM OBE psc MA B Litt (Oxon)
BA (Sydney) FACE FRSA FAIM MID**

Jika Travers was born on 7th July 1919, the younger son of Col. & Mrs. RJA Travers. He attended Shore from 1928 to 1937, becoming Senior Prefect, Captain of Cricket, Football and Athletics, as well as being selected for the combined GPS football and cricket teams. He attended Sydney University where he was awarded Blues for cricket and football, and was elected 1940 Rhodes Scholar for NSW.

His studies were interrupted when he enlisted in the AIF in 1939. He rose to the rank of Brigade Major and GSO2, and in 1942 married Margaret Emily Marr.

After the war he completed his degree at Sydney University and then went to Oxford to take up his Rhodes Scholarship, gaining Blues for cricket and football and a half Blue for athletics. He captained Oxford in rugby football and played several times for England.

Upon graduating, MA B Litt (Oxon) he stayed in England as a master at Wellington College before returning to Australia and joining the staff of Cranbrook School. He also captained NSW in rugby in 1950 and in the following two years was a NSW and Australian selector and Australian coach. In 1953 he was appointed Headmaster of Launceston Church Grammar School and in 1959 he succeeded L.C. Robson as Headmaster of Shore, a position he held with distinction until his retirement in 1984.

In his long and distinguished teaching career, Jika made a lasting contribution to numerous NSW and Australian academic and sporting bodies, among which he was Chairman of the Headmasters Conference of Independent Schools of Australia.

Jika Travers died in 1998, after a lifetime of dedicated service not only to Shore but to the private school system of Australia.