

Lion

THE WESLEY COLLEGE COMMUNITY MAGAZINE



A True Education

Edition 137 December 2019

The Drennen Centre:
Glen Waverley's
beating heart

Superstar spawns
superstars

Side by side: creativity
and partnership at
Yiramalay

Samuel Alexander
Lecture: AC Grayling
explores democracy
under strain



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Editorial

While on his pre-service sabbatical back in Term 2, our new Principal Nick Evans journeyed around the globe looking for schools similar to Wesley College. He couldn't find any. As he observes, 'Wesley is a coeducational school. It is a multi-campus school. It is an ELC to Year 12 school. It is a VCE school. It is an IB school. It is an IB MYP and PYP school. It is a sporting school, and an arts school. It is an open-entry school. It is a boarding school. It has a remote Studio School, teaching Indigenous students.' And in the interests of containing this Editorial to one page, let's just say it's a lot of other things as well. We sort of know that, yes? But sometimes that's what it takes – standing back from our world of Wesley to see it for the unique place that it is.

Flick through the pages of this edition of *Lion* and you'll see the protean variety of our community writ large, for every page makes another statement about our restless creative energy: the large-scale creation of Glen Waverley's 'new heart,' the special example of creativity in education that is the Yiramatay/Wesley studio school, the 'ATC Superstars' at the top of their artistic game. These are, of course, 'big' examples of creative energy, but go past the Features into our College snapshots and you'll get a taste of the myriad creative acts of learning occurring at every turn across every Wesley campus, every day...

Bob and the Chan brothers from Glen Waverley Junior School and their passion for the piano. Jenna and Sarah from Elsternwick and their chess-playing success. Middle School creative writers at St Kilda Road soaking up John Marsden's ideas about good writing. Rachel from Glen Waverley designing and making a prototype blanket to protect the homeless against hypothermia. Our College APS Premiership winning teams and their triumphant demonstrations of collaborative learning. Indigenous performances. Acquisitive Arts Prizes. Bilingual Language competitions. Memorial orations.

How wonderful being part of the hive of creative energy that is Wesley, with its hum that never stops. Except, perhaps, for Christmas. Happy holidays, everyone!

Paul Munn

Lion Editor and features writer

Erratum

Our *Lion* Archives story in the August 2019 edition referred incorrectly to the late Don Cameron (OW1957). Many thanks to Peter Shepard (OW1955), who advised that Don is apparently very much alive and the pair walk together most mornings.

A True Education

To find further information and news about Wesley College, visit our website at wesleycollege.edu.au



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We acknowledge and pay respects to the Elders and Traditional Owners of the land on which our Australian campuses and Studio School stand.



Principal's lines



'All in the Class of 2019 are truly ready to take their next steps.' Nick Evans (OW1985) at the 2019 Valedictory Service

I would like to begin these Principal's lines by thanking all of those within the Wesley College and Yiramatay/Wesley Studio School communities for the warmth of the welcome extended to me.

It has been very humbling and I have enjoyed each and every one of the encounters with members of both communities over the course of my first 12 weeks back at Wesley. I am very much looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible over the coming 12 months.

One of the joys of coming back to Wesley has been meeting colleagues both old and new. As I walk around each of the campuses of Wesley, the warmth of the relationships between teachers and students has been obvious. There are no more human institutions than schools, and relationships are the key to every great school. I have been wonderfully impressed with the teaching and learning I have seen happening throughout the College, and the commitment and talent of those teaching at Wesley is truly impressive. I learned a long time ago that the people most important to the

success of schools are the teachers. To lose sight of the importance of teachers in a school is to lose your way, and it does the students a grave disservice.

It has also been a pleasure reacquainting myself with the various campuses, particularly those I don't know as well. I first set foot on the Glen Waverley Campus in 1979, when I attended an interview before starting at Wesley College as a student. The campus has changed enormously since then. My Year 7 classroom has burnt down and my search to find my old Year 8 classroom took me 15 minutes; even then, I am not sure if I found the right room. Elsternwick is a jewel of a campus, with a wonderfully intimate feel.

Both of our October Speech Nights were wonderful celebrations of the talents of our students, and of the Class of 2019. I couldn't resist handing out some advice to our graduates. Old people love giving the young unsolicited and gratuitous advice, and the young love ignoring it. This generational dance has been going on for millennia. Socrates, 2,500 years ago, was famously critical of the young of Athens, remarking on how the children of Athens, '*Now love luxury; they have bad manners, contempt for authority; they show disrespect for elders and love*

chatter in place of exercise. Children are now tyrants, not the servants of their households. They no longer rise when elders enter the room. They contradict their parents, chatter before company, gobble up dainties at the table, cross their legs and tyrannise their teachers.'

While I am sure no Wesley student would tyrannise teachers, the tone hasn't changed an awful lot. It hasn't changed because humans haven't. I had no intention of changing a tradition that is as old as human history, and so felt free to offer my unsolicited advice, with the caveat the Class of 2019 should feel free to ignore it.

Our most recent graduates are about to enter adulthood. This, as their parents would tell them, is both a blessing and a curse. In response, they may well be selective in their adoption of adult responsibilities. The media is full of articles about young people living with their parents into the foreseeable and distant future! But it's fine for them to take their time, as long as they use it.

In the modern world, we all want to be 'happy.' But what is 'happiness'? It is a very slippery concept, particularly in a consumerist society. Happiness could come from a new phone, or from more followers on whichever social media space is in vogue. But research is starting to show that such sources of happiness are ephemeral. As Yuval Noah Harari noted in his book *Homo Sapiens*, most traditional philosophies and religions teach that the key to happiness is to know the truth about yourself. I therefore urged the Class of 2019 to use the time taken as they move into adulthood to explore, to find meaning in their lives. This takes courage, and work, and it means they are stepping into a time of life marked by uncertainty.

Many of the Class of 2019 felt emotional as the last notes of 'The Leaving Song' rang out through Melbourne Town Hall. Much of that emotion was in response to this end of certainty and the start of something new and unknown. Lao Tzu said that, 'when the student is ready the teacher will appear. When the student is truly ready... the teacher will disappear.'

For the Class of 2019 it is time for us to disappear. We are confident they are truly ready. I wish them well. And while they may feel a little sad, perhaps even absurdly sad, they should be very excited. Because it all begins now.

Nick Evans (OW1985)
Principal



The Drennen Centre – at the heart of the Glen Waverley Campus

The destruction by fire of a significant part of the Middle School at the Glen Waverley Campus in April 2016 was a very dark day for the Wesley community. But what has risen from the ruins reminds us that great opportunity often springs from great adversity. **Paul Munn** reports.





Features



With its wide, light-filled 'streets,' the building feels open and spacious, The Drennen Centre is literally and figuratively the new heart of the Glen Waverley Campus

All it took was some faulty wiring in a classroom ceiling. That electrical fault sparked a fire that quickly spread through the roof space and worked its way down. Grounds supervisor Rob Savedra saw the fire from his backyard nearby and raced over – only to watch helplessly as it destroyed much of the central area of Glen Waverley's Middle School precinct. Fire fighters had their hands full trying to contain the blaze. First light on that dismal Wednesday morning back in April 2016 revealed a very dark scene: 10 classrooms, the atrium and three offices were lost.

It's a truism that every dark cloud has a silver lining, but the silver lining of this particular cloud has been very bright indeed, for the impressive building that has risen from the ruins has created an exciting new sense of wholeness for the campus.

Officially opened on 15 November by the Honourable Linda Dessau AC, Governor of Victoria, and Anthony Howard AM QC, The Drennen Centre is named in honour of Helen Drennen AM and her distinguished contribution to our community. She began teaching at Glen Waverley in 1989, was Head of Campus from 1995 to 1997 and last year completed her 15-year tenure as our Principal.

The impressive building that has risen from the ruins has created an exciting new sense of wholeness for the campus

Set in the centre of the campus, The Drennen Centre is a substantial three-storey precinct, literally and figuratively its new heart. It's the new home for Campus Administration, including Main

Reception, Principal's office, Head of Campus office, Admissions office and Chaplain's office. The main staff Common Room is here, as are staff offices and 21 classrooms, some for general use, others dedicated to Languages and the English Language Preparation Program. There's a stunning new Campus Library, with sections for Junior, Middle and Senior Schools, seminar rooms and a conference room, all lit via expansive double height glass soaring over two floors. On ground level, with its collaborative pods arranged in tiered rows and its high-tech fit out, the Charlaftis Collaborative Learning Hub presents a very 21st century take on the traditional lecture theatre.

Head of Campus Richard Brenker is clearly pleased as punch with the new building. 'In a lot of ways it draws the campus together. It's a central hub. I love its openness, the beautiful views – there's vistas from every angle,' he says. 'It's highly thermally efficient, and there's a lovely mixture of brand new, beautiful finishes, but there are touches of history everywhere.'

Indeed, there are some lovely features connecting Wesley culture to the new building. For instance, a burnt beam from the old building forms the centrepiece of the Chapel lectern. At the entrance to the Campus Library, images on pressed metal screens reference the apple orchard on which the campus was built.

'It's a central hub. I love its openness. There's a lovely mixture of brand new, beautiful finishes, but there are touches of history everywhere.'
Richard Brenker

Walking through it, the building feels open and spacious – it's airy, light and large. Campus reception opens onto wide, light-filled 'streets' – they're too wide to be described merely as corridors.

Significantly, the fire also created the opportunity for an embodied spiritual life on campus, and a dedicated Glen Waverley Chapel is now a reality. It forms the stunning architectural focus point for

the new building, and the spiritual focus point for the whole campus. Needless to say, campus Chaplain Graham Bartley is very taken with its qualities. He loves the gorgeous acoustics, as well as 'the striking imagery on the window, the lovely textures, and light and height in the space.'

The fire created the opportunity for an embodied spiritual life on campus, and a dedicated Glen Waverley Chapel is now a reality

The official dedication of the Chapel in a special ceremony in October by the Moderator of the Uniting Church in Victoria and Tasmania, the Reverend Denise Liersch, celebrated a very special moment in Glen Waverley's history, for a 'spiritual home' on campus had long been desired. One only has to look to former German teacher Ev-Kathrein Kreppert (GW 1993 – 2009) and her gift of \$20,000 to the campus in the mid-1990s to see the deep roots of that desire. She stipulated that the money was to be used 'whenever a chapel was to be built.' Her extraordinary gesture has been honoured in naming the specially made Chapel doors 'The Ev Kreppert Doors'. When Richard told her they would be dedicated to her, she burst into tears!

Paul Munn is the Editor of *Lion* and regular features writer.



At the official opening of The Drennen Centre, from left: Marianne Stillwell, President of Council; Dr Helen Drennen AM, former Principal; Richard Brenker, Deputy Principal and Head of Campus, Glen Waverley; Tony Howard AM QC; the Honourable Linda Dessau AC, Governor of Victoria; and Nick Evans (OW1985), Principal



Features



The Bunuba and Wesley partners who have created the Yiramatay/Wesley Studio School are, like the long-lived boab tree, here for the long haul

Creativity and partnership at Yiramatay

Our Yiramatay/Wesley Studio School is a living example of creativity in education and a proven school-community partnership model for closing the gap for all Australians, as **Kaylene Marr** explains.

Creativity is at the centre of the partnership between the Bunuba and Wesley communities at the Yiramatay/Wesley Studio School. It's an important part of what country means to Aboriginal people. For Aboriginal people, country is about more than the land – it's about connection. It's our identity, it heals us, and it gives us spiritual guidance. It's where we dance, it's where we sing. Country is where we teach, where we learn and where we belong.

To my people, our partnership with Wesley is about bringing Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people together. It's about opening the door to new opportunities and opening people's hearts and minds. Our partnership is

both a relationship and an opportunity to work side by side, try new things, challenge ourselves, learn from each other and discover different talents. Our partnership enables communication and the growth of teachers, mentors and students.

Creativity in education

Yiramatay is a living example of creativity in education that is actually closing the gap for me and you. It's a new model for schooling on-country where Indigenous and non-Indigenous people learn side by side – engaging in two-way learning. Creating a two-way learning model like this in the outback of Australia really depends on connecting with the local First Nation people of this land.

Many cultures and languages come with the history of this great land: from the desert side, the river side, the seas, ranges and forest side. Our ancestors teach us our own curriculum creatively through stories, cave art and other art forms, traditional dancing and song lines. Creativity is important to me as an Aboriginal woman, as a Yiramatay Traditional Owner, as a parent, as the Senior Cultural Mentor at Yiramatay, and as a role model.

Through painting, dramatic performance and film, story-telling, dancing and singing we share our spirit of creativity. This is so important to all the cultures at Yiramatay, and to our program.

What lies at the heart of an effective school-community partnership?

Our approach at Yiramatay meets the five principles that underpin effective school-community partnerships.

Effective partnerships provide benefits to both partners and to others

Yiramatay emerged from real, respectful conversations between the Bunuba and Wesley communities that recognised what each could offer the other and how each could benefit. Taking the idea of 'give and take' to another level, the

Yiramatay model is about one partner giving and the other giving as well.

The partners are committed to building trust with each other

Our Yiramatay partnership was forged on a strong foundation of trust and respect between members of the Bunuba and Wesley communities. We truly learn side by side only when we have respect for and trust in each other, and that's true for everyone involved in the Yiramatay partnership.

We truly learn side by side only when we have respect for and trust in each other, and that's true for everyone involved in the Yiramatay partnership

The partners must have a clear understanding about the programs on which they are partnering, how they will collaborate to deliver them and who will do what

The Yiramatay partners have developed a robust teaching and learning program that addresses academic learning, personal learning and industry learning. It incorporates the Induction program, which brings together Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students and teachers to engage in truly two-way learning. And it involves individualised learning programs within the Senior Years Learning Framework, including VCE offerings, for our Aboriginal students and wraparound support, both in the Kimberley and through our Learning in Residence boarding support at the Glen Waverley Campus.

The partners must have a clear conception of the resources they will bring to the partnership

The Yiramatay program depends on robust resourcing agreements to ensure supporting infrastructure keeps pace with ongoing and anticipated needs. This depends on all partners working together to ensure the continuing financial support the partnership receives from both State and Commonwealth government funding, along with

donations and other forms of funding from philanthropic and other organisations and individuals. It also depends on careful planning to ensure that appropriate resources are in place, from the provision of a reliable fibre-optic internet service to school vehicles that are efficient and meet updated fleet regulatory standards.

The partners must have a clear conception of the lifespan of the partnership

The Yiramatay partners are committed to the further development of educational initiatives. While still in the very early stages, these include investigating the possibility of expanding the Yiramatay model to the Middle Years and establishing an in-house teaching and learning facility to build capability for cross-cultural teaching and learning for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal teachers. The Yiramatay partners have also supported the establishment of Studio Schools Australia, which aims to grow the scale and impact of the unique Yiramatay model across Australia.

Opening the door to new opportunities

The partnership between the Bunuba and Wesley communities is about opening the door to new opportunities and closing the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in all sorts of ways, not least through the excellent attendance rate and high numbers of graduations.

The partnership between the Bunuba and Wesley communities is about opening the door to new opportunities and closing the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in all sorts of ways

This year we celebrated the graduation of 15 students – our largest graduation to date. Average attendance is at the top for a school in a remote community, at the 90th percentile. Closing the gap often seems like a dream, but Yiramatay is helping me and my people turn this dream into a reality. Together we are changing the lives of students, their families and friends, teachers, mentors and the community.

Kaylene Marr is a strong Bunuba woman from the Kimberley region of Western Australia and the Senior Cultural Mentor at the Yiramatay/Wesley Studio School.

This article draws on her presentation at Global Connections XX, which addressed creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship, hosted by Wesley College in March 2019.



Yiramatay is helping students take their vital next steps



Features



Superstar spawns superstars

This year's cast of *Jesus Christ Superstar* may be interested to know that an earlier production back in 2003 spawned some illustrious music careers. Dawson Hann charts the paths of alumni driven by their passion for the artistic life.

In September this year, singer Josh Piterman (OW2003) opened as the Phantom, in *The Phantom of the Opera*, in London's West End. It doesn't get any bigger than this. As someone perceptively and wryly observed at the time, this is the music theatre equivalent of playing test cricket for Australia. And, fittingly, his opening night almost coincided with our retention of the Ashes.

Josh had a burgeoning career in Australian musicals (as well-produced as any in the world – ask Andrew Lloyd Webber) for the past dozen or so years, and this is its apotheosis, to this point anyway. And its raw beginnings – he had been coaxed into the limelight relatively late in his Wesley school years – were on the stage of Adamson Hall for the Adamson Theatre Company at the St Kilda Road Campus, back in 2002-03. Josh's final role was that of Judas in the 2003 production of *Jesus Christ Superstar* and from there it was performing arts school, endless vocal lessons, try outs, knock-backs, first tentative roles building across years... the whole damn thing. The bug had bitten. And sheer talent and commitment has delivered its rewards.

This memorable production of *Jesus Christ Superstar* not only had an alternate Judas but also a Jesus, both of whom have also become established names in the entertainment industry. As the alternate Judas, Sophia Brous's (OW2003) powerful interpretation of the show's demanding rock melodies announced the likelihood of a musical life to come, while the astonishingly mature voice of Graham Foote (OW2003) gave us a Jesus as musically riveting and heartfelt as any you could hope to hear.

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Josh Piterman (OW2003) as the Phantom, with Kelly Mathieson as Christine Daaé, in the current London production of *The Phantom of the Opera*. Photo Manuel Harlan

Opportunities at Wesley and how to make it, anywhere

There are three stories here, each a testimony not just to the opportunities they discovered at Wesley, but to their own drive and passion. They are stories of theatre and how to make it, anywhere... including New York New York, of course. Or London, as it has turned out.

Firstly, Jesus and one of the Judases. After Wesley, Graham and Josh headed together to what was then the Ballarat College for Performing Arts, now Federation University, graduating in 2006. In their graduation play at the Princess Theatre that year, they played the two leads in *Kiss Me, Kate*. They spent the first four years of their subsequent professional lives together as well, as members of the world-renowned super group, The Ten Tenors, touring internationally and gaining unmatchable vocal experience. Graham ended up as Musical Director for The Ten Tenors. Then their paths diverged.

Sophia Brous's powerful interpretation of the demanding rock melodies in *Jesus Christ Superstar* announced the likelihood of a musical life to come

Graham's big break came when he won the lead role of Frankie Valli in the much-adored *Jersey Boys* – so much more than just another juke-box musical. He toured with the company for some time, but recognised other musical interests emerging and moved to London with his new wife to build a career as an

orchestrator and composer, both of which keep him in demand from a variety of sources too numerous to list. Even so, he couldn't quite escape *Jersey Boys* and was enticed back into the lead role for the British touring production, with just three days to freshen up on the choreography. Lyrics and dialogue were hardly a problem. Graham is still based in London where he composes and orchestrates for films and concerts, squeezing in the occasional live vocal gig as well.

Josh has donned the Phantom's mask with a mixture of elation and almost disbelief, but those who have watched his theatrical development recognise a kind of inevitability too

Josh's career after *The Ten Tenors* was very much along the typical music theatre path, doubtless frustrating and gratifying at the same time. He secured the lead role of Tony in an Australian touring production of *West Side Story* after returning from an important role in a British production of *Hairspray*, coincidentally this year's musical at the Elsternwick Campus. He appeared back here again in *Blood Brothers* and later another touring production, *Cats*, winning a Green Room Award for Best Supporting Actor in a Musical. This was his introduction to one of Andrew Lloyd Webber's epic musicals. More recently, he appeared throughout 2017-18 in the lead male role of Gerry Goffin in the sensational *Beautiful: the Carole King musical*, adored by all who saw it in sell-out seasons in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane. And now the Big One has arrived, the dream of any Australian musical performer: to be in London's West End, not just as chorus, third from the left, back row, but as the eponymous lead in the most enduring and successful show of all time. Josh has donned the Phantom's mask with a mixture of elation and almost disbelief, but those who have watched his theatrical development recognise a kind of inevitability too. Talent, total commitment and hard work will never be denied.

Features



Sophia Brous (OW2003) has enjoyed an impressive international music career



Painting pictures with sound: Sophia Brous in *In Dreams: David Lynch revisited*



From The Ten Tenors to playing Frankie Valli in *Jersey Boys*, Graham Foote (OW2003) has pursued a career in film and concert performance, composition and orchestration



Not all make it in such a comprehensive way as these artists, but many do, and yet others driven by their passion for the artistic life find unexpected doors open upon new, just-glimpsed landscapes

And the other Judas? Sophia Brous has enjoyed an equally impressive international music career, albeit with slightly different emphases emerging from different musical interests and skills. A 'performance maker' in the truest sense – musician, vocalist, musical director, writer, curator and festival director – Sophia went from Wesley up the road to the Victorian College of the Arts, then completed her music education at the New England Conservatory of Music.

Her innovative and musical adventures have delivered an international career far too varied to encapsulate in a paragraph, but over the years it has landed her in the Barbican, Southbank Centre, Philharmonie de Paris, various New York Festivals and, closer to home, the Sydney Opera House and the Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide Festivals (for the latter, as the Curator of Music, 2008-10). Now spreading her time largely between Melbourne and New York, Sophia's astonishing commitment to a variety of music projects began way back when, aged just 22, she was the Director of the Melbourne International Jazz Festival; she is still an Artistic Associate at the Arts Centre Melbourne. With a vocal talent that gives you goose-bumps, she has extended her musical imagination into a range of musical innovations, and is one of the most respected contributors around in her variegated fields.

A wonderful life

To expect three wonderful lives in the arts from one show is perhaps a bit out of the ordinary, but these are in fact just three of many stories over the years. Many have leapt from the stages of

Adamson Hall or Cato Hall into the enticing but slightly perilous waters of a life in the theatre. Not all make it in such a comprehensive way as Jesus and the two Judases from 2003, but many do, and yet others driven by their passion for the artistic life find unexpected doors open upon new, just-glimpsed landscapes.

Dawson Hann is a former Editor and regular features writer for *Lion*, and was Co-Director of the 2003 production of *Jesus Christ Superstar* for the Adamson Theatre Company at the St Kilda Road Campus.

Read about this year's ATC production of *Jesus Christ Superstar* on pages 18 and 27.



Josh Piterman and Graham Foote outside Her Majesty's Theatre, London



Features



The Samuel Alexander Lecture in August stimulated a broad-ranging question-and-answer session, during which Professor AC Grayling commented on the state of play with Brexit

Democracy and its crisis

With the democratic processes of two of the world's leading democracies currently under strain, there cannot have been a more relevant and vital topic for this year's Samuel Alexander Lecture than leading British philosopher and author AC Grayling's address on 'Democracy and its crisis.' Paul Munn reports.

For AC Grayling, *democracy* is a feel-good word: 'We all believe in it and want it, but it's only been just over a century that it's been recognised as the preferred system of government,' he notes in his Samuel Alexander Lecture. It's a reminder for many of us that, in historical terms, democracy really is the new kid on the block. The audience at Professor Grayling's sold-out lecture in Adamson Hall at the St Kilda Road Campus is captivated as he puts this point in context. Democracy was second-to-last on Plato's list of preferred systems of government, just above tyranny. For him, the *demos* (the people)

had no place in societal rule. 'He thought democracy would degenerate very quickly into mob rule and set up the environment for a tyrant to come in and restore order.'

The inefficiency of democracy or the reliability of tyranny

'Democracy and its crisis' may be a sobering topic, but Professor Grayling's address was by turns lively, engaging and light-hearted. To illustrate that Plato's dim view has endured, he offered a quaint anecdote about Adlai Stevenson, the Governor of Illinois who ran against Eisenhower in two presidential elections:

an enthusiastic supporter told Stevenson, 'Every thinking person is going to vote for you!' to which he replied, 'I'm pleased to hear it, but I need a majority.'

In explaining the development of democracy, Professor Grayling led his audience on a historical journey from Plato to the rule of the Roman Empire, to the divine right of kings, to the stirrings of thought that arose from outstanding thinkers from the mid-17th century to the mid-19th century. Those thinkers formed the idea that people had two great rights under government rule – the right to a voice in making decisions about how society is to be run and the right to 'good enough government' – a perfect government being seen as unachievable.

Professor Grayling's view of democracy is that it's 'noisy,' with much arguing, criticising, disagreeing and putting forward of ideas. 'But that's a good thing, because the sound of tyranny is silence.' He also characterises democracies as 'inefficient,' with changes in government, tax regimes, regulations and so on making things unpredictable for the business world. He suggests that business likes tyrannies because

everything is predictable, but this ‘inefficiency’ of democracies is ‘very useful, because it protects civil liberties.’

Democracy, then, has managed largely to provide ‘good enough’ government, until recently, and so to its current crisis...

Brexit, Trump and political distortion in once-stable democracies

Professor Grayling is concerned with some serious internal problems revealing themselves in Westminster models, of which there are about 50 in the world, and points to the current political distortions in the United Kingdom and the United States as prime examples.

Regarding Brexit: ‘It’s an astonishing fact that only 37 per cent of the UK electorate voted to leave. But because of the conditions on the day of the referendum – it rained heavily and many people chose not to get wet for the sake of voting – the percentage of “Leave” votes was 51.89 per cent,’ he observes. Despite the fact the referendum was essentially a non-constitutionally binding national opinion poll, he adds, there was no debate in parliament as to whether the result should be acted upon. The Brexit vote, then, was a glitch pro-Brexit forces were keen to exploit. And, for Professor Grayling, here is the danger: principled MPs who enter parliament find they have to toe the party line. If a clique captures the party of government, it gains undue influence within it, and therefore undue influence when making decisions for the public good. Professor Grayling states there is ‘the clear need for constitutional reform so that this kind of thing can’t happen in the future.’ In particular, he stresses the crucial need to separate the powers of the executive and legislative branches of government.

Weaponised propaganda and the rising tide of misinformation

Professor Grayling also examines the manipulation of the democratic processes in the US and the harvesting of personal data via the internet to manipulate people without them even realising it. ‘Political propaganda has always been around, but is now being weaponised by the precision targeting of swinging voters via social media algorithms to manipulate their perceptions on issues such as immigration, tax reform, gun control,’ he says. He sees this development as a key factor in Trump’s election victory, which occurred despite Hilary Clinton winning three million more votes.

He urges us to be fully alert to these techniques and the rising tide of misinformation, and to pay attention to how our democracies are being subverted. He argues that being well informed about the political process is a civic duty, because the result of having an educated, actively participating demos is ‘good enough government.’

‘I’m really impressed by Wesley students – they’re a wonderful bunch. Very mature-minded and thoughtful, very relaxed, very ready to engage; it shows that the ethos of the school is an extremely healthy one’

In pursuit of the two great goals: understanding and the good

Professor Grayling even generously extends his time at Wesley into the following day, leading an afternoon philosophy workshop with our 50 Senior School philosophy students, then serving as guest of honour at the 2019 Victorian Philosothon that evening, also hosted at Wesley’s St Kilda Road Campus.

His introduction to the nearly 100 students from around Victoria who attend the Philosothon is inspiring: ‘The skills a philosopher needs include being able to see, with equal clarity, both fine detail and the furthest horizons; to be forensic and rigorous, but also imaginative and creative. Above all, a philosopher needs a child’s heart: curious, open, eager to learn, ambitious, but welcoming to the genius of others and to the fellowship of humanity in seeking those two great goals: understanding and the good.’

Speaking after the philosophy workshop, Professor Grayling is very clear on the benefits of studying philosophy for today’s students. ‘Philosophical styles of thinking, ways of using ideas, the development of critical skills... these are enormously empowering to the work they do in the rest of the curriculum; it really supports everything else they do. Philosophy offers a rich treasury, an enormously useful and fruitful resource of ideas and perspectives.’

Our students found their time with Professor Grayling enormously rewarding, and, happily, Professor Grayling clearly enjoyed his time at Wesley as well: ‘I’m really impressed by Wesley students – they’re a wonderful bunch. Very mature-minded and thoughtful, very relaxed, very ready to engage; it shows that the ethos of the school is an extremely healthy one.’

Paul Munn is the Editor of *Lion* and regular features writer.



Following his Samuel Alexander Lecture, Professor AC Grayling conducted a workshop with IB Diploma Program and VCE students on philosophical enquiry and making sense of the world



College snapshots

Art Prize recognises talent and hard work



One of the most important offerings from the Wesley College Society for the Arts – now celebrating its 40th year – is the Annual Acquisitive Art Prize. The exhibition recognises the exceptional talent and hard work of Wesley students from Years 10 to 12, with works exhibited in a wide range of media including painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics, fibre art and mixed media.

Judging this year's competition was Lewis Miller, winner of the 1998 Archibald Prize with 'Portrait of Allan Mitelman' and an Archibald finalist 16 times. For him, the Prize simply demonstrates the breadth of art being taught at Wesley. 'It has been a difficult choice given there is much talent on show, but the winner and runner up both show raw emotion in their works that speaks to me,' he said.

The 2019 prize winner was Year 12 St Kilda Road student, Maya Coburn, for her dry point etching with gold-leaf entitled 'Francesca.' The runner up was 2018 St Kilda Road student, Panisa

Ongwat (OW2018), for her large-scale triptych portraits in ink on paper, 'Victor, Peter, Auaru.' The Packers' Prize, chosen by the art technicians who hang the exhibition, went to 2018 Year 12 Glen Waverley student, Joshua Kidd (OW2018) for his large-scale analogue portraits, whilst the People's Choice award was won by 2018 Year 12 Glen Waverley student, Wil Golja (OW2018) for his digital photographic work, 'The Factory.'

According to Head of Visual Arts at Glen Waverley and curator of the 2019 Annual Acquisitive Art Prize exhibition, Michele Maher, the annual event provides students with a key experiential learning opportunity. 'The real beauty of public exhibitions is that it's a powerful way of nudging the creative process and getting students to really grapple with the myriad creative and technical issues that exhibiting entails,' she said.

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The Society for the Arts Annual Acquisitive Art Prize winning artwork, 'Francesca,' by Maya Coburn

A man for all seasons

While most staff members watch the school year progress term by term, Graham Sullivan marks Wesley time watching the changing of the seasons. Unsurprising really, given he's spent the past 40 years of his life nurturing Wesley's grounds.

While much has happened over those four decades, the drought of 2006-07 is especially strong in his memory. Rather than waste precious water, Graham recommended the responsible thing and turned the water off, then watched his beloved front turf at the St Kilda Road Campus parch into a hard, brown desert. 'Cricket had to stop because playing on that surface was dangerous,' he says. Resurrection came via the laying of a huge network of underground irrigation pipes to feed the ground with recycled water. Once the pipes were in, 'I levelled the entire area with my eye, and we laid 15,000 rolls of turf in four days,' says Graham.



He also nominates the 1989 St Kilda Road fire as something he'll never forget, and the emotional effect on him is clearly still strong. Living a short block away from school, he heard the sirens, saw the glow, and was first on the scene at one in the morning. He can't forget that fire's destructive force. Watching flames shoot high above the towers from the boundary beside Punt Road, Graham could feel the radiant heat on his face, such was the intensity of the blaze.

And what's kept our College Curator of Grounds at Wesley for 40 years? It seems a natural momentum drives his every working hour. Taking his cues from nature, Graham is constantly planning and preparing the grounds for what needs to happen next. 'The seasons go so fast,' he says.

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Graham Sullivan at work on his beloved Front Turf at the St Kilda Road Campus



Taking the time for those we love

'In the business of our daily lives, we often forget to tell those around us how much they mean to us, to take time out of our busy days to sit down and talk.' So began Year 12 student Jay Foster's Stuart Hollaway Memorial Oration, delivered at the St Kilda Road Senior School Arts Assembly in the final week of Term 3.

Jay was the winner of last year's award, established to honour the memory of long-time staff member Stuart Hollaway who tragically lost his life in a climbing accident in 2015. The Memorial Prize is awarded annually to a Year 11 student who has made a significant contribution to the debating program and public speaking, has demonstrated a passion for argument and discourse, and embodies the College motto, *Sapere Aude*, in the application of rhetoric and reason in the defence of others and the pursuit of justice.

Stuart's mother, Heather Hollaway, attended the assembly again this year and presented the prize to this year's recipient, Jem Kleinitz Lister. Speaking afterwards, Jem said, 'Wesley has such a thriving debating program. I felt so honoured.'

Jay's bravery in sharing his own hard-learned reminder about appreciating loved ones while you can (namely, his mother's death from cancer) wasn't lost on an audience captivated by his heart-felt story. He concluded his moving address with some advice for his peers. 'It sounds a stupidly simple thing to do: to pause, to take a breath, to take a moment out of each busy week to thank those we love and truly care for. So just do it – go out there and show your love and appreciation. Let those you love most know that you truly love them.'

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Jay Foster at left and Jem Kleinitz Lister at right with Heather Hollaway, mother of Stuart Hollaway, after Jay delivered this year's Hollaway Oration



Rachel Thomson with her prototype blanket

Helping the homeless

When Year 10 Glen Waverley student Rachel Thomson was choosing a topic for her Personal Project for the IB Middle Years Program, she had no problem identifying a topic she was passionate about, and a solution that can really help others.

'In the city a few months ago, I saw a homeless woman in the cold and felt like there wasn't really a way I could help. As part of our IB Middle Years Program, we get to choose a topic we're passionate about and design a product around it for our Personal Project. I decided to base my project on homelessness, and realised there are many ways that we can help others,' Rachel said.

'In our day-to-day lives, we have the resources to protect ourselves from the environment, but homeless people don't. Hypothermia is a real issue, so I designed a prototype blanket to keep a homeless person warm. My blanket is made of weather-proof canvas, flannelette insulation and fleece, which is warm and actually wicks away sweat.'

'I wanted to donate it to a charity called 300 Blankets because they don't just hand out items and walk away, they build a relationship to really help homeless people. I knew it would be going straight to someone to use. I've donated it and I'm going to make more blankets!'

'I'm really happy I could make something that could help someone's life.'



College snapshots



Doing justice to a legendary piece of musical theatre: the Last Supper scene in *Jesus Christ Superstar*

What's the buzz? Tell me what's happening...

Take the ancient Christian story, shape it into a much-loved rock musical, then add an arresting gothic dystopian setting, some contemporary political overtones and a troupe of highly talented Senior School performers, and what do you end up with? Adamson Theatre Company's triumphant 2019 production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

Watching this show was a reminder of just how politically charged this ancient story is. Co-directors Fiona Atkin and Marcus Pinnell wanted this show to be a story of 'occupation, protest and

a charismatic leader who's a threat to the authorities.' The contemporary resonance with the protectionist policies coming out of the United States and the United Kingdom, suggesting we are living under empire again, with its requisite insiders and outsiders, haves and have-nots, was unmistakeable.

With its eclectic set including a crumbling gothic cathedral, street art skulls, clumps of candles shining in the gloom and placard-waving dystopian hippies, this production packed a visual appeal to match the perennially engaging musical score.

For Fiona, the production was special because, 'We were open to flipping the gender in almost every part. For example, Pilate becomes a very interesting character when you put a powerful woman in the role.' Even the crucial role of Judas was performed with passion and verve by two female cast members.

Co-musical director Susie Heggie sees the successful staging of this demanding musical as 'testimony to the immense depth of the choral program at Wesley; the ability to double cast roles such as Jesus, Judas and Mary with such excellent performers makes us the envy of many.' She also acknowledges the chorus members as 'the glue that holds the whole piece together. This year's ensemble has been outstanding, hard working and flexible in everything we have asked of them as well as bringing their own expertise and independent thinking to the table.'

Read Dawson Hann's feature on the ATC 2003 production of *Jesus Christ Superstar* on page 10 and more about this year's ATC production in our Foundation report on page 27.

And what if...?

Ever had writer's block? How about treating your imagination to a simple question: 'What if...?' But don't stop there. Take your answer to that question and then ask, 'And what if...? And what if...? And what if...?'

You get the idea. St Kilda Road's Middle School students certainly did when celebrated Australian author John Marsden came to visit during this year's Readers and Writers Festival in September. As the author of more than 40 books, and having sold more than five million of them worldwide, Marsden's ideas about what makes an engaging story were well worth listening to.

For him, successful writing is all about status and voice. He sees shifts in characters' status as being at the heart of any story. 'Write anything where the characters experience a change in status, or have a status battle. It's a powerful way to create a plot,' he said. And he extols the power of the voice in creating character. 'Listen to the way people talk, develop an ear for language. The voice is everything.'



John Marsden in question-and-answer mode with Year 9 students Emily McBurney and Harry Zhang

Marsden also shared the notion that in our approaches to writing, we all fit into one of four categories. 'Architects' spend so much time planning and structuring their stories that the writing itself is just filling in the details. 'Oil painters' write millions of words in a rush and then go back and refine their work at the end. 'Water colourists' dash off their stories

quickly and spend little time editing. 'Bricklayers' build their stories bit by bit: writing a bit then editing, writing a bit then editing. Says Marsden, 'The approaches are just different. It's really a matter of whatever works for you.'

And his own approach? 'When I first started writing I was a bricklayer. Then I quickly became an oil painter,' he said.

Premiership season

This past winter was very much premiership season, with no fewer than four Wesley teams securing APS Premierships.

In Cross Country, the Girls team went into the final round with an unassailable lead on points, winning their round emphatically and finishing the season undefeated for an extraordinary eighth year in a row. The Boys Cross Country team won their final round to secure the Premiership for the fourth year in a row.

The Netball Firsts, who remained unbeaten all season, secured the Premiership against Geelong Grammar School, storming home in the last quarter. In Hockey, the Boys Firsts team, which had already secured the Premiership in the penultimate round, played out the season in a tightly contested match with Scotch College.

The Girls Firsts Soccer team narrowly missed out to Carey Grammar School in the final match to finish second – a wonderful effort in a very tight competition.

Principal Nick Evans was thrilled with our teams' success. 'To secure an APS Premiership in a season is a great achievement. With four Premierships and a very close second, we came close to equalising the exceptionally successful winter season of 2010. As it is, this winter season was the second most successful in the history of the College,' he said.

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The unbeaten Netball Firsts contributed to Wesley's successful APS Winter season: with four Premierships, this was the second most successful in the history of the College



College snapshots

Growing awareness about our environment

World Environment Day was celebrated in a special way at the Glen Waverley Campus this year. Campus Environmental Sustainability Prefect Emily Calabro organised the Preps and the prefects to recognise the day together by planting two apple trees in the Junior School orchard behind the Prep area.

These apple trees are special because they were sourced from the original apple orchard upon which the Glen Waverley Campus now stands.

Fittingly, as commemorated at this year's Founders' Day Assembly, we now use the apple tree to symbolise our local environment prior to the construction of the campus.

With Grounds Supervisor Rob Savedra's help, the Preps became actively involved in the planting process by 'tickling' the roots and watering the plants.

They wrote down their names and a wish about environmental sustainability on small slips of paper, then rolled them up and placed them under the trees.

The tree planting and the crafts, coupled with the beautiful weather, were thoroughly enjoyed by all the students. The growing trees will serve as a reminder of the environment and the campus's origins as an apple orchard.

Celebrating World Environment Day – and the campus' origins – by planting apple trees at the Glen Waverley Campus



A passion for the piano

Wesley abounds with talented students who spend time applying themselves with dedication, passion and a commitment to achieving their personal best, and recent success stories in the Junior School at Glen Waverley remind us that these personal strengths start developing from a very young age.

Year 2 student, Bob Peng, played piano in the 2019 Vienna 'Grand Prize Virtuoso' International Music Competition, and was placed second. He was selected to perform at the Gläserner Saal, Musikverein competition in Vienna – quite an achievement! When asked why he enjoyed playing piano, Bob said, 'I like the way my fingers work like hammers.' In August, brothers Lionel (Year 3) and

Dillon (Year 1) Chan competed in the Royal South Street, Ballarat, Schimmel Pianoforte competition. In their seven competition sections, the boys received an incredible six first places. Dillon received four first places and two second places. Lionel came first once, received two second places, one third place and



one honourable mention. The boys also performed a duet, winning first place together. Lionel said he likes playing the piano because 'I can express my feelings in a different way when I play the piano.' Says Dillon, 'It gives my fingers a lot of exercise!'

Congratulations, boys, on your wonderful achievements, and may your playing become a life-long passion!

Lionel, at left, and Dillon Chan proudly display their medals from the Royal South Street, Ballarat, Schimmel Pianoforte competition

Good talk

A passion for language at Elsternwick was clearly on show out in the wider community in Semester 2 when students Jacob Kiernikowski, Hunter Shannon and Alessandro Cavallo, all in Year 2, and Ashna Kadambi in Year 7 participated in 'The Good Talk Global Village Children and Youth Bilingual Speech Competition.'

Run every year since 2009, the competition is held in countries all around the world to promote Chinese and English study by using second language among young people from different countries, deepen the learning and understanding of each other's cultures among young people, and select young diplomatic talents with international influence.

It was the first time students from Wesley College had entered the competition, run by the Chinese Language Teachers Association of Victoria.

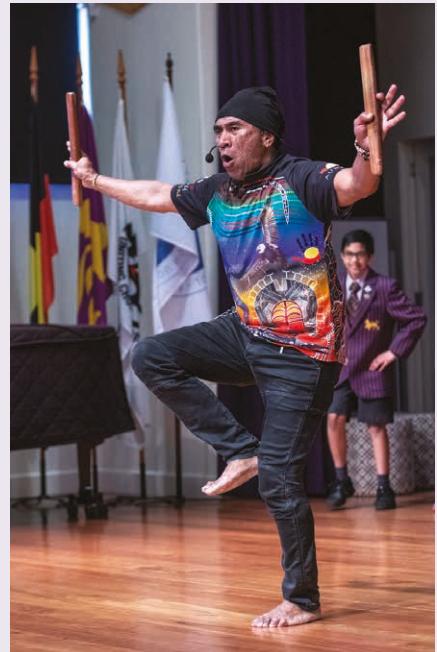
After completing an individual presentation, the students selected to continue were partnered with a native Chinese-speaking student who would be delivering their part in English. The students worked together to further develop their additional language of Chinese or English. This is a wonderful way for them to improve their additional language, gain a greater insight into each other's culture and develop friendships.

The standard of this year's competition was exceptionally high and our Chinese language staff worked tirelessly to help our students prepare. Three Wesley students made it to the Grand Final, working hard throughout a whole weekend to ready themselves for the final presentations. Ashna achieved second place and Jacob and Alessandro came third.

Congratulations to all involved for their amazing commitment and results. It was a fabulous competition and showcased the excellent Enhanced Language Program at Elsternwick.



Enhanced Language Program teacher, Dan Lu, guides Elsternwick student, Jacob Kiernikowski, at left, and his Chinese partner



Indigenous song and dance at Elsternwick

Wesley's Year 4 Indigenous Unit really came alive at Elsternwick in Term 4 with a special Welcome to Country event. The students were 'tuned in' by taking part in an engaging educational performance by 'Moogera,' Dion Drummond. With a Torres Strait Islander and Northern Queensland background, Dion demonstrated the different dance styles, music and musical instruments from both areas. Dion also explained the meaning of the colours on their flags and what they represented, incorporating the cultural differences in his explanations.

Engaging the whole student audience, Dion's message throughout the performance was about respect: respecting our elders, other cultures and each other. Movement workshops followed, during which he taught traditional Indigenous dances to wide-eyed and eager students. The incursion prompted many questions from students that were used as a starting point for further exploration and dialogue.



'Moogera,' Dion Drummond taught traditional Indigenous dances to wide-eyed and eager students at the Elsternwick Campus



College snapshots

Personal development in the primary years

There's no question that primary school children need age-appropriate information about bodies, puberty, sex and reproduction, empowering them to interpret health messages, protect themselves and make safe choices to live happy, healthy lives.

You only have to turn on the TV, listen to the radio or look at online channels and social and print media to see first-hand the saturation of explicit and implicit sexual messages. These messages influence our capacity to manage our health and relationships, and in the absence of formal sexuality education this process continues unguided and unsupported.

Elsternwick students from Years 3 to 6 were recently involved in a series of body health education workshops with representatives from Sex Education



Australia and Bodyworks Health and Wellbeing who delivered accurate and age-appropriate information in a relaxed and non-judgemental way. Important content was delivered through story telling, real-life scenarios to help develop coping strategies, videos including interviews with similar aged students relating to managing puberty, a full-sized body torso with all body organs and fun

activities to develop students' knowledge and confidence. The parent community also got involved through information sessions and workshops.

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Accurate and age-appropriate health education information was shared with Elsternwick students from Years 3 to 6 through story telling and other means

Elsternwick celebrates 30th anniversary in song

Elsternwick's 30th anniversary has been celebrated in song with the creation of a specially commissioned piece by former Music Department staff member Mark Puddy. Funding from Wesley's Society for the Arts enabled the commissioning, with Mark visiting the Music School on several occasions to work with students and to reminisce with some of our longer-serving staff.

Titled 'Star,' the lyrics of the composition liken the Elsternwick Campus to a shining star, also suitably referencing its emblematic badge, the Cato Star. Students had input into the creative process during Music Camp in Term 1, followed by workshops with Mark during



Term 2. It's an attractive song with the piano accompaniment sparkling like the stars in the night sky. 'Star' was premiered by the Elsternwick Choir at the annual Celebration of the Arts concert at Robert Blackwood Hall last month.

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Mark Puddy leads the Middle School choristers through the first reading of a specially commissioned work, titled 'Star'

Celebrating 20 years of Wesley at Clunes

Many in the Wesley community would be aware that 2020 marks 20 years of partnership with the township of Clunes, and we're inviting former students and staff, along with the people of Clunes, to join together on 22 March to celebrate.

Come and share your Wesley at Clunes story and see how the program has developed over the years. The day will feature student-led tours, workshops and demonstrations, musical performances and a specially curated exhibition featuring every Clunes group since 2000.

This year we have trialled a refreshed Year 9 program that provides even greater opportunities for experiential learning in and around Clunes. Our 'classroom' has always centred around the people, stories and historic built environment of the town and surrounding district. Students' learning has encompassed the Dja Dja Wurrung perspective, the impact of colonialism, the transformational influence of gold on the region and contemporary issues



facing regional communities. These include sustainability, renewable energy, modern farming practice, mental health and wellbeing and the role of sporting clubs in regional communities. Alongside this has been a focus on social and emotional learning as students navigate the challenges of shared living.

Clunes, the Next Chapter, our roadmap for the future development of programs and infrastructure at Clunes, will be

officially launched on the day, coinciding with the Clunes Group 81 Festival Day. It's hard to believe that close to 7,000 students have now experienced the Clunes Year 9 program. We look forward to everyone rediscovering their 15-year-old self and getting a glimpse into the future of learning at Clunes.



On a clear day you can see forever – students on the iconic Sunrise Walk



Interschool chess at Elsternwick

In Term 3, Elsternwick hosted a Chess Australia tournament with 70 students representing several schools from across Melbourne in the Primary Open division. Our five teams consisted of 25 students across Years 2 to 6.

Some of these students were experienced chess competitors, while others were trying the tournament competition for the first time. The students participated in seven games, with a time control of 15 minutes for each player.

Congratulations to our Team One – Jenna Mitelman, Carly Minc, Jed Camilleri, Sarah Orner and Weibo Lou – which won first place overall, and Team Two – Ben Summers, Matthew Rebello, Amos Banyasz, Campbell Holtham and Oscar McArthur – which placed fifth.

Jenna Mitelman from Year 6 was awarded top-scoring girl overall and the prestigious first place overall on the day. Year 5 student Sarah Orner achieved third place girl and Jed Camilleri from Year 5 had another successful tournament, achieving third place as an individual.



**Chess Australia tournament participants
Jenna Mitelman and Sarah Orner**



Archives



Speech Night has always recognised and celebrated student achievement – and in 1964 that came in the hi-tech form of a vinyl record

On the record Marking time, celebrating learning

From Speech Night and Prize Books to graphs that plot each student's learning, year's end is a time to measure and celebrate student achievement. What did that look like in years past? **Margot Vaughan** reports from the Archives.

December: it's a time in the school year when teaching staff have collected their students' final assignments and set final assessments so they can report on each student's learning progress. It's a time, too, for students to reflect on the year and celebrate their achievements. At Wesley we have done this in various ways but in particular through Speech Night, which has been a significant event since 1866, when the College was founded.

Speech Nights

In the early Speech Nights, the boys would try to sit patiently through speeches, the interest level increasing as it got closer to the end, and the real reason they were there – the awarding of Prize Books. These special books would have the donor and recipient's names inscribed on the inside. In 'The books that tell more than one story' (*Lion* 133 August 2018) we explored what these prize books tell us and investigated their restoration.

In 1949 Headmaster Professor Wilfrid Frederick did away with Prize Books and instituted Gift Books instead. That way every student received a memento of the school. The Gift Books are still going strong. This year marks the 70th year since Gift Books were introduced.

Speech Night at Wesley has been somewhat nomadic, being held in various locations – a reflection on the size of the school and the times. Polio epidemics in the late 1940s required Speech Day to be held outside in the fresh air, as were assemblies, on the advice of the health authorities so that possible contagion would not be easily spread in the confines of an enclosed hall.

Ormond Hall, Adamson Hall, Melbourne Town Hall, Robert Blackwood Hall and the Arts Centre have all hosted Speech Days and Nights. The various locations indicate Wesley's growing size and campus locations.

Would a member of the royal family ever attend a Speech Night? Unlikely today, but in the past they did. Queen Victoria's second son Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh,



Speech Day in 1946: Polio epidemics in the late 1940s required Speech Days to be held outside in the fresh air

gave out the prizes in Wesley's second year, and in the year of Federation the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York – later King George V and Queen Mary – gave prizes to the students of the combined public schools.

On the record

While we mark the passage of time at the end of the year, year's end was also traditionally a time to 'mark papers' – and in the Archives we have some very large folios with handwritten reports. These weren't just about marks though; a student's character and school participation was also summarised: in one case, 'He deserves a special word for his quiet, gentlemanly manners'; in another, 'Left to go to Bank of Australasia – good worker, reliable.' What would students, parents or employers make of such reports now?

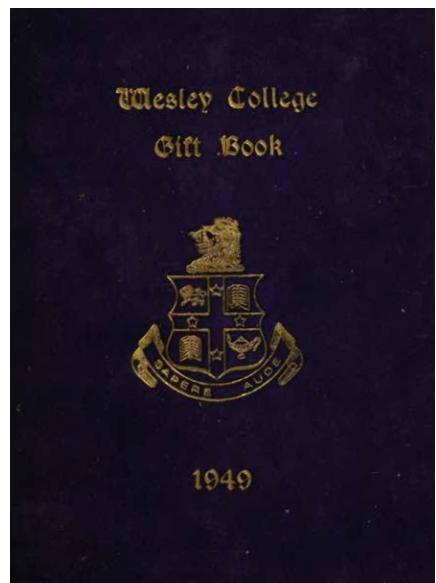
There were also individual record books where results were recorded and signed off by parents and teachers. There was no such thing as a comment bank or graphs to plot each student's learning progress.

Instead the comments were 'a trier, and trustworthy' or 'capable but needs to work'. LA Adamson's initials were stamped in red ink at the bottom of the page. If these were simpler times, they were perhaps also less informative.

We are fortunate to have these records now as 30 years ago, on 18 November 1989, a terrible fire went through the heart of the St Kilda Road Campus, and the school lost much of the Archives collection. As always the students, staff and Old Collegians rallied, and material has been donated to the Archives ever since.

Spare a thought for the teachers who spend many hours undertaking formative assessments throughout the year, as well as summative assessments at the end of each semester and at the end of the year. It must seem as though it never stops.

In one way or another we are all marking time.



Prize Books were replaced by Gift Books in 1949



Foundation



Generations of Murdochhs at Wesley

Membership of the Sapere Aude Bequest Society continues to grow. We are delighted to welcome our most recent members, Rob (OW1970) and Sue Murdoch, who are happy to support the College in this way. Their membership recognises the family's long connection with Wesley. For more than a century, the Murdoch, family – no relation to media magnates, Keith and Rupert – has had a close relationship with Wesley, as students and benefactors.

At the turn of the 20th century, Norman Daniel Murdoch (OW1905) literally towered above all the Wesley Masters and his peers. At six foot and four inches (193cm) in the early 1900s, he found himself successful in a sporting culture at Wesley that was reaching new heights. The strenuous physical program fostered by LA Adamson, 'The Chief,' marked the start of Norman's schooling. Norman had grown up in the 'Belfast Bakery' in Eaglehawk, Bendigo, at the height of the Victorian Gold Rush. His father, Dan, was a prominent and successful business man with the means to send his son to Melbourne to be educated.

Norman's success as a cricketer, footballer and member of the victorious Head of the River crews of 1904 and 1905 saw him earn Triple Colours. The Melbourne Argus, always keen to report on the public schools, described Norman as a successful goal kicker at an infamous football match at Melbourne Grammar when police were called to disperse the brawling supporters from each side.

An Argus writer even speculated on a slide in standards at public schools,

accusing Melbourne Grammar of recruiting rowing talent perhaps from the wharves, as they were sure a tattoo had been noted on one crew member. Wesley, the Argus noted, had retained a muscular but simple farmer to win on the river!

By 1905, however, family finances forced Norman to leave Wesley. On learning of Norman's intention to pursue wheat farming in the Mallee Region, Adamson wrote to advise him to avoid Dookie Agricultural College, 'as we have heard that there are bad types there.' Quainter is a letter to Norman written by another member of the winning 1905 crew in anticipation of an upcoming reunion to row again. 'I look forward with great anticipation to being in the boat again. Then, perhaps when we leave the river, we will be able to read some poetry together.'

Alas, wheat farming did not provide Norman's son, Norman Daniel Murdoch, with a Wesley education. World War II led Norman Daniel into the RAAF and a career as a senior commercial pilot and manager of line operations with Ansett.

Norman's grandson, Robert Norman Murdoch (OW1970), enjoyed the Wesley experience when Tom Coates was head. The tutelage and life skills endowed by Wesley led him to the University of Melbourne and a career in General Practice.

Five of Norman's great-grandsons also enjoyed the Wesley experience: Nicholas King (OW1983), Daniel Murdoch (OW1997), Christopher Murdoch (OW2000), Anthony Murdoch (OW2003) and Lachlan Murdoch (OW2005).

Lachlan's partner is Jacqui Martin (OW2005).

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From top left to right

The purple and golden era: Norman Daniel Murdoch and the winning 1905 Head of the River crew, with Norman in seventh seat

Norman and the winning 1905 Football team, with Norman at centre, back row

The Murdoch family today, with Rob (OW1970) and Sue Murdoch at centre

Giving back to Wesley through the Sapere Aude Bequest Society

We are always honoured and very grateful to members of our College community who leave a bequest to the College in their Wills. Recently, we were notified of three bequests from the Estate of John Hearnes (OW1951), Dr Henry Barnes (OW1938) and James Meadmore

(OW1946), to be directed to the Library. Becoming a member of the Sapere Aude Bequest Society by remembering Wesley in one's Will enables the College to undertake improvements and provide quality educational resources and services, and is a meaningful way of giving back to the College.

For further information or a confidential chat, please contact our Bequest Manager, Debra Stiebel, in the Foundation Office on +61 3 8102 6121 or debra.stiebel@wesleycollege.edu.au

Sapere Aude Bequest Society members congratulate genuine superstars

Wesley is renowned for its production of wonderful musicals. This year's Adamson Theatre Company (ATC) production of *Jesus Christ Superstar* was no exception. The original 1970 rock opera with music by Andrew Lloyd Webber and lyrics by Tim Rice began life as an album and made its Broadway debut in 1971. Wesley Student Theatre at Glen Waverley performed this rock opera in 2017 in the Cato Hall to great acclaim. Before that, Wesley Student Theatre staged it in 2002 and the ATC in 2003.

Sapere Aude Bequest Society guest attendees at this year's show were welcomed by the Chair of the Wesley College Foundation, Nicki Isaacs (née Lefkovits OW1990), and Principal, Nick Evans (OW1985), at a pre-show reception. Guests enjoyed hearing all about the history of the ATC 2003 production from Dawson Hann, co-founder of the ATC.

Once again, our Society members were astonished by the level of sheer professionalism of this production, in all areas: the set, the lighting, and the outstanding singing, the music and brilliant choreography. The entire ensemble is to be heartily congratulated for a show that will be remembered by all.

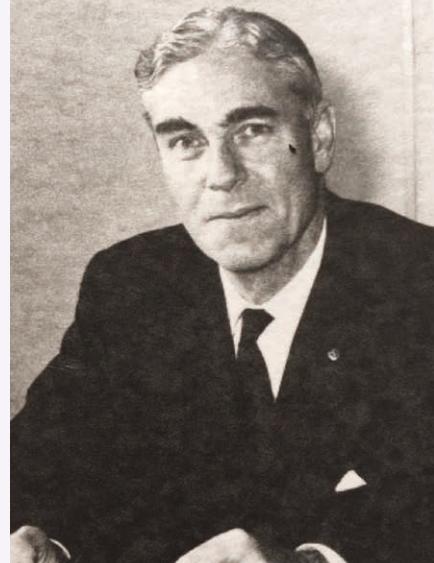
Read Dawson Hann's feature on the careers of OWs from the ATC 2003 production of *Jesus Christ Superstar* on page 10 and more about this year's ATC production in our Snapshots report on page 18.



Nick (OW1985), Michelle and Graeme Schmidt (OW1951) at the reception before this year's ATC production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*



Head Prefect Jack Habersberger in 1929, wearing the newly introduced boater...



...and on his retirement from Kodak

A family with Wesley at its heart

Since its foundation in 1866, Wesley has provided a world-class education that embraces, encourages and celebrates inclusivity, acceptance, diversity and the development of the whole person – and there is arguably no better example of that than the Habersberger family.

The family – John (Jack) Habersberger AO (OW1929), his children, Dr Peter Habersberger AM RFD (OW1958), the Honourable David Habersberger QC (OW1963) and Pam Buxton (who attended Presbyterian Ladies' College), grandchildren, Jonathon Habersberger (OW1993), Kate Habersberger (OW1995) and Andrew Habersberger (OW1998) – has or will shortly be joined at Wesley by many great-grandchildren: Isabella and Elizabeth Munch; Archie and Louis Scott; Jack, Tom and Alice Walker; and Jesse, Raphael and Josh Buxton.

The Wesley connection goes back to 1925, when 13-year-old Jack Habersberger accompanied his mother for an interview with Lawrence Arthur Adamson, Headmaster from 1902 to 1932. Having been the target of bullying by a teacher at Elwood State School, who apparently took offence at his Germanic family name, Jack was not only offered a place at Wesley but also a scholarship. Known for his astute judgement, Adamson's decision paid off.

Jack proved to be a more than capable young man and was Head Prefect in his year of matriculation, 1929. In that year he reintroduced boater hats as part of the student uniform, before graduating with a scholarship to study Commerce at the University of Melbourne, where he met and, in 1939, married Donna Pascoe-Webbe.

Peter (OW1958) graduated in Medicine from the University of Melbourne in 1965. He practises as a cardiologist at Cabrini Hospital and the Alfred Hospital in Melbourne, was Assistant Surgeon-General – Navy from 1997 to 2002 and was Chair of the Victoria branch of the Order of Australia Association.

David (OW1963) won a scholarship to Queen's College at the University of Melbourne, graduating in political science and law, after which he served as Associate to Chief Justice Sir Garfield Barwick. In 2001, he was appointed as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Victoria. He has been Judge in Residence at the University of Melbourne Law School and is a member and currently Deputy Chair of the Victorian Legal Admissions Board, the statutory body now responsible for overseeing the education and admission to practice of lawyers in Victoria.

For a family whose Australian roots go back to 1895, when Jack's father arrived from Bohemia in Austria, Wesley's generosity, inclusiveness and fostering of excellence aren't mere words. This is a family with Wesley at its heart.



Foundation

Kerlidis family supports our Boathouse redevelopment

For Theo Kerlidis (OW1989) and Kathy Horne (OW1989), Wesley evokes strong memories. As well as looking forward to their 30-year reunion, the generous supporters of our Boathouse redevelopment are also excited about the impending commencement of their eldest child at the College.

Arriving at Wesley in Year 7 in 1984, the third year of coeducation at what was then called the Prahran Campus, Kathy and Theo were in Mrs Vendargon's class, and in a number of home groups thereafter. Little did they know they were destined to build a family together many years later when they became reacquainted after university. The pair now lives in South Melbourne with their three children – not far as the crow flies from the Grey Towers.

Pressed to define Wesley in one word, Kathy doesn't hesitate. 'Opportunity,' she says. 'Wesley gives you the opportunity to try different things, pursue interests and learn from teachers, some of whom, on reflection, were truly remarkable in the dedication they applied to extending opportunity for students,' Kathy says. 'Of course, you can't really define Wesley in one word. For me, Wesley also means friendship and, of course, rowing. The opportunity presented by rowing at school led to adventures, lifelong friendships from school and university, and exposure to a culture in which you strived as part of a team to achieve a goal and pursue excellence.'

Theo remembers Wesley as a place of friendships, and a second home. 'For me, it a place where an immigrant culture was welcomed and embraced, although those who dared to trespass through Little Athens may have found it not so welcoming at times!' he says. There is also a deal of poignancy for him in reflecting on the sacrifices his immigrant parents made to ensure he and his brother received a great education for a better future.

In recognition of the opportunities Wesley gave them, and soon will provide their children, Theo and Kathy have made a generous donation to the Foundation's Boathouse Redevelopment fundraising campaign. The Foundation is most grateful for their philanthropic support, which will assist in delivering an outstanding facility for current and future rowers.



The Kerlidis family at Wesley: Demitra, William, Thomas, Theo and Kathy

An inspiring act

Ev-Kathrein Kreppert served Wesley College with dedication and integrity for 16 years. She was appointed by Barbara Lynch, Head of the Campus at the time, to establish a German program at the Glen Waverley Campus.

Having previously run a Saturday German School for 80 students and taught adults in the evening, she was well placed to take on this task.

As well as developing the German teaching program, Ev was also devoted to the wider world of Wesley, taking a keen interest in many aspects of the College. She established deep personal relationships with many staff and students, and it is entirely fitting that her ongoing connection with the College has taken concrete shape in the form of the doors to the stunning new Chapel in The Drennen Centre at Glen Waverley.

The Foundation is most grateful for Ev's significant donation. It was always her most ardent desire, when she left the College in 2009, that there be a special

place built where students and staff from all religious backgrounds could congregate or sit for quiet contemplation. The Glen Waverley campus is grateful for her visionary benefaction, realised with the opening of the Chapel.

Ev's financial commitment mirrors her commitment to people. As a global citizen herself, she was instrumental in establishing our valued student exchange program with Philippinum Gymnasium school in Marburg, Germany, and accompanied our students on overseas exchanges on many occasions as well as organising programs for German students visiting Melbourne. This exchange program still flourishes today and includes visits and performances by the Wesley Big Band and drama groups.

Ev has always been about opening doors. As a proponent of inclusivity, acceptance, diversity and the development of the whole person, she remains deeply interested in other cultures and communities, their philosophies and spiritual beliefs. Ev has formed a special bond with the Indus International School and sponsors many



Ev Kreppert with Glen Waverley Head of Campus, Richard Brenker, and College Council Vice President, Sunny Chen, at the doors to the stunning new Chapel

children there. She has also extended the hospitality of her home to teachers visiting from partner schools in Asia and Europe, an indication of her generosity and kindness.

The Foundation is most grateful for Ev's significant donation to the Chapel at the Glen Waverley Campus.

The Cohens – a great Wesley family

Trevor Cohen describes his family's close Wesley connections.

In recognition of our family's long association with the College, I am thrilled to be in a position to give back.

With a long line of family members donning the purple and gold, it was inevitable that my formal education would take place at Wesley College. I began in the last term of 1945 in Mayfield Avenue, Malvern, and transferred to St Kilda Road the following year where my brother, Daryl Cohen, was already a student. He graduated in 1953 while I graduated in 1955.

My connection actually dates to roughly 1911 when my uncle, Henry Cohen, enrolled, followed by brothers Godfrey (my father), Sydney and Michael.

My grandfather had gone to the now non-existent Kings College, a choice over Wesley that he apparently had always regretted.

On my mother Myra Davis's side, both brothers Wolf and Cyril Davis attended Wesley College and there was no question as to where we would attend!

My paternal great-great-uncle, Joe Cashmore, went to Melbourne Grammar in 1859. This was six years prior to the foundation of Wesley College but he is credited with having played in what is officially recognised as the very first game of Australian Rules Football between Melbourne Grammar and Scotch College.

The Wesley family tradition has since continued with both my sons Boyd and Grant, and my sister's son, Lindsay Kotzman, graduating in the 1980s.

My nephews on my wife's side, Martin, Rodney and Daniel Weiss, and niece Amanda Weiss are also Old Collegians. Since Wesley remained an all-boys school when my daughters were of school age, they did not attend, but I am very proud that the tradition has continued with all four of my eldest daughter's children attending the St Kilda Road Campus, as does my youngest daughter's son, Carter Graham. My granddaughter, Lindi Nankin, is the first in a long line of Cohen/Davis family members to wear the purple skirt!

I hold many fond memories of my years at Wesley College. It prepared me for life and I am fortunate to have many lifelong friends from my schooling days.



From the Archives: Godfrey Cohen (OW1925) and his grandson Bradley Smorgon (OW2004) at Clunes

Trevor Cohen AM (OW1955) and his wife Heather recently donated to support Wesley's History Gallery in recognition of their family's long association with the College.

WESLEY FOUNDATION SECOND ANNUAL GP BREAKFAST

Join Formula 1 legend, Alan Jones MBE, to celebrate 40 years since winning his world championship. In conversation with the CEO of the Australian Grand Prix Corporation, Andrew Westacott (OW1982)

VENUE: PULLMAN AND MERCURE, ALBERT PARK

DATE: TUESDAY 10 MARCH, 2020

TIME: 7AM

TICKET ENQUIRIES:
events@wesleycollege.edu.au



Foundation



Goldstraw painting restoration

It can be difficult to expect the unexpected, so in November 2018 when the Foundation received a phone call from a collector who had recently bought a painting, we were predictably surprised to discover that it was by former Wesley Headmaster, Frank Goldstraw.

It's fair to say the work was in terrible condition, and the Goldstraw signature was hardly legible. It arrived without a frame and very badly cracked, with



previous attempts at repair. Our restorers have done a wonderful job in stabilising, restoring and framing it. The Foundation acknowledges the support of parents Adrian Santini and Sandra Palermo, and past parents Dr Albert and Rebecca Cherk, who donated funds to restore and frame this historically significant painting.

Frank Goldstraw taught at Wesley for 24 years, nearly three of those as Headmaster. Andrew Lemon in *A Great Australian School: Wesley College* examined notes that Goldstraw's work, 'A Lay Sermon,' second prize winner at the Victorian Academy of Art exhibition

in 1881, is 'missing,' but we believe this is the very same painting.

It shows a young boy, standing in front of an open book, arm outstretched towards Heaven, preaching to his two young friends – one holding an offering plate, the other a book. It is clear they are playing 'make believe.' The young preacher wears a white robe very much larger than himself, and the book appears to be a family piece with images of people, but large enough to pretend it is a Bible that sits reverently on a cushion. Meanwhile two very well-dressed ladies sit in conversation, ignoring the tableau.

It is a classic piece of high Victorian art, a religious theme, moralistic and moody, and remains firmly part of the Academy style – idealistic and prescriptive in its call to stay within the Church and reject showy displays of wealth. Frank Goldstraw would be pleased to know his painting has returned home.

^

From left to right

Frank Goldstraw's 'A Lay Sermon,' prior to restoration

Adrian Santini, Dr Albert Cherk, Sandra Palermo and Ava Palermo-Santini with the restored painting in the Cato Room at the St Kilda Road Campus



Small world: Ikki Hasan (OW1998) and Nana Owusu-Afriyie (OW2016) at Narita Airport, Tokyo, Japan

Creating a sustainable future

Ikki Hasan (OW1998) is, by any measure, remarkable. Arriving from Indonesia in 1996 aged 15, she hired a car to look for a suitable school, arriving at the Glen Waverley Campus, with which she fell instantly in love. Parking in Daryl Forde's car space, she announced this was the school for her and did Wesley accept credit cards? Ikki threw herself into life at the College with gusto, playing basketball and tennis and singing in the choir – and began her long-standing friendship with Daryl.

Recognising the need to create sustainable farming and fishing practices in Indonesia, Ikki established Bohan Food in 2007. She estimates in the 12 years of operation she and her team have worked with almost one million fishermen and

farmers across 51 business units in 15 companies across 20 locations. Through Bohan Foods, Ikki has assisted in substantially improving the lives of countless families in Indonesia and applying scientific methods to create more sustainable practices.

This year, Ikki was also team manager for Indonesian Athletics at the Osaka Golden Grand Prix. Proving it is a small world, she assisted an Aussie athlete to navigate the complexities of a Japanese airport, only to discover the athlete was Nana Owusu-Afriyie (OW2016) and they had attended the same campus – almost 20 years apart!

Ikki still visits Melbourne annually to catch up with her close-knit group of Wesley friends, visit clients and indulge her love of skinny lattes and meat pies.

Follow her on Instagram
@humble.farmer.



Alumni and other guests enjoyed our Jakarta function, hosted by Tedy Djuhar (OW1972)



Principal Nick Evans (OW1985) connected and reconnected with alumni and parents



Guests enjoying the Mid-Autumn Festival

Jakarta function

The Foundation and OWCA were again most grateful to Tedy Djuhar (OW1972) for hosting our annual gathering in his beautiful office suite. We had several alumni who were first-time attendees and who enjoyed meeting and networking with other alumni. We even had Allan Tan (OW1999) join the gathering from Kuala Lumpur.

Principal's welcome

The Foundation and OWCA were delighted to host a function to introduce some of the members of our community to Principal Nick Evans (OW1985). This informal function provided an opportunity for Nick to connect and reconnect with alumni and parents, and to thank them for their support of the College, Foundation and OWCA.

Mid-Autumn Festival

Our sponsors, Holder East, kindly hosted the Mid-Autumn Festival at Oasis in South Melbourne.

The event was an opportunity for members of our Chinese community to enjoy the hospitality of our sponsors, especially prepared teas by former Wesley parent Cindy Luo and music by former student David Jang (OW2015).



Gala Dinner

The annual Wesley College Gala in July at Atlantic was a stunning event of 'pure imagination.' The Foundation was pleased as always to support this spectacular night, with sponsorship and the raffle prize donated by China Southern Airlines, which raised more than \$3,000. The parents associations raised more than \$21,000 via the silent auction. The event was again brilliantly organised by Natalie Krug (OW1991) with the tremendous support of Dana Pillinger,

Kerrie Rooke and Anna Young from Elsternwick, Carmela Nankervis and Jodie Tatterson (OW1987) from Glen Waverley, Abdullah Calisir and Robyn Martin from St Kilda Road, and Zena Eastburn, Jack Moshakis (OW1973) and Ian Thomas (OW1982) from the OWCA and Foundation.



Winner of the raffle prize, Nicole Nabou (OW1987), with Justin Pan from China Southern Airlines

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

The Wesley College Foundation gratefully acknowledges our 2019 sponsors who support our events, programs and activities



Co-Presidents' report



At the signing of the new Constitution, from left, Jack Moshakis (OW1973, Director, Foundation and Alumni), Cameron Moroney, Business Director and CFO, Wesley College, Tom Pewtress (OW2018), Anastasia Malishev (OW1995), Principal, Nick Evans (OW1985), President of Wesley College Council, Marianne Stillwell, Co-President OWCA, Jack Ayerbe (OW1963), Vice President OWCA, Kate Evans (OW1998), Acting Head of Sport, Mark Hibbins (OW1978), Amy McAlister (OW2003), OWCA Treasurer, Chris Foster-Ramsay (OW1999), College Head OWCA, Ian Thomas (OW1982) and David Kennedy (OW1966)

It has been an exciting time for the OWCA with our new Principal taking over the reins. Nicholas Evans (OW1985) has delighted the Wesley community with his enthusiasm and dedication. The OWCA Executive team is especially appreciative of his support. Nick has presented at a number of functions for the OWCA and has defined his admiration for all things Wesley and the College community. We look forward to working with him during his tenure as Principal.

Members of the Executive committee have been privileged to attend a number of functions on behalf of the OWCA, including kindred school celebrations, College functions and OWCA events, such as the Golden Lions lunch and a variety of alumni reunions.

The enthusiasm and enjoyment of our members at these functions never ceases to amaze us.

We have also attended the pre-game lunches of the Collegians Football Club at Albert Park. We congratulate the team on a strong season and commiserate with them on missing out on a Grand Final berth. We remain firm, however, in our support for them and wish them success for all their teams next season and likewise offer support to all of our other excellent affiliates.

Two activities have occupied us this year. The first is the rewriting of our Constitution in order to make it relevant to the current OWCA membership. Special thanks must go to our Treasurer,

Chris Foster-Ramsey (OW1999), for the hours that he has put in, and to College CFO, Cameron Moroney, for his expert advice.

The second is the implementation of a strategic plan that will enable us as an Executive to serve the membership more effectively and set and achieve specific goals.

As always, we thank our hard-working Executive officers and our generous sponsors for their efforts in assisting us to serve our members.

**Belinda Danks-Woodley (OW2004)
and Jack Ayerbe (OW1963)**

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From Winter Olympics to sustainable cities – Katya Crema carves her way

Congratulations to Katya Crema (OW2006) who earlier in the year, together with her business, HIP V. HYPE, was announced as a finalist in the Built Environment category in this year's Premier's Sustainability Awards for their apartment development, Nightingale 2.0.

Nightingale 2.0 in Fairfield is home to 20 deeply sustainable design-led apartments and three ground-floor retail tenancies. The project achieved an average 8.7 stars NatHERS thermal performance rating and is a totally electric, fossil fuel-free operation.

Katya and her partner, Liam Wallis, own and run HIP V. HYPE, a property development and sustainability business that is pioneering more sustainable housing in Australia. With climate change having an impact on communities globally, HIP V. HYPE works with multidisciplinary visionaries and disruptors to create more sustainable buildings, businesses, regions and cities.

Before beginning her career in property, Katya spent 10 years as a professional athlete on the Australian National Ski Team and represented Australia at the Winter Olympics in Ski Cross in Vancouver in 2010 and Sochi in 2014.

Between Years 7 to 10 at Wesley, Katya spent her third school term skiing and studying via correspondence at Mount Buller. 'Being supported by Wesley to pursue a career in elite sport while maintaining a high academic standard has instilled in me a dedication to perseverance, which continues to define the way I approach my work,' she says.

After studying Architecture and a Masters of Property at the University of Melbourne, with not a little skiing and a few Olympic commitments as well, Katya went on to co-found Women of Architecture, Building and Planning, a networking group designed to support women in the built environment industries, in 2016.

Katya started her working career in her family's property and construction company, Crema Group, before accepting a role at PwC in the Real Estate Advisory team. Now a Development



The multiple award-winning, totally electric – and fossil fuel free – Nightingale 2.0 by HIP V. HYPE and Six Degrees Architects. Image by Tess Kelly

Director at HIP V. HYPE, she is working on highly sustainable projects, including four premium residences in Ruskin Street, Elwood, and three townhouses in Brunswick, run almost entirely off solar power.

The goal is to bring sustainable apartments south-side, with their latest project Ferrars + York. Says Katya, 'We're excited to take our learnings from our recently completed 20-apartment project in Fairfield to deliver further quality and higher sustainability outcomes for our future residents in South Melbourne.'

'The Ferrars + York development, our second collaboration with architects Six Degrees, will set a new benchmark in self-sufficient apartment living, being carbon neutral and net energy neutral.'

Having grown up in a family of builders with more than 65 years of experience in property development and construction, delivering on high-quality outcomes that she can be proud of is in her heritage.

Katya also continues to use her experience and profile as an elite athlete to encourage girls and young women to stay involved in sport throughout life. She is an active board member of the Victorian Olympic Council, and an ambassador for women's cycling.



Katya Crema and Liam Wallis, Directors of HIP V. HYPE, at their studio in Barkly Street, Brunswick. Image by Tess Kelly



OWs commemorate the Second World War

For 17 days in August and September, Philip Powell (OW1973) and Rod Thorpe (OW1973) drove nearly 6,000 kilometres on a round trip from Paris through France, Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium to find the graves of 23 OWs who died in those countries during the Second World War. The graves of those OWs are so widely spread as most were airmen, shot down over Europe as they flew missions over Germany and occupied countries.

Powell and Thorpe's research has shown that many of the casualties were associated with large-scale bombing raids over German cities and industrial sites. Those ill-fated missions included two Spitfire pilots who died over Normandy shortly after D-Day, dropping supplies to the Resistance, mine laying,

destroying V1 and V2 long-range artillery and flying supplies in the parachute operations at Arnhem. Ages at death ranged from 20 to 31 years with an average of 24 years.

A specific casualty of interest was Prep School teacher Bruce Dowding (OW1929), who joined the British Army in 1939 as an interpreter, as he was in France on study leave when the war commenced. Captured at Dunkirk, he escaped and joined the Resistance only to be captured and executed in June 1943. He is buried in the large Reichswald Forest War Cemetery, Germany.

For Philip, another grave with special meaning was that of Flight Sergeant Donald Kerr (OW1930) No 12 Squadron (RAF) at the Becklingen War Cemetery, Germany. Kerr died on 3 March 1943, aged 26, when the Lancaster aircraft he was navigating crashed during a mission over Hamburg. He was a well-regarded hockey player for the Old Wesley Collegians Hockey Club. Following his death, a trophy was created in his honour, to the 'Best Clubman' of the year. In 1976, Philip received this trophy and was given an inscribed pewter mug. He took the mug with him to Don's grave and drank a toast to him and his comrades.



Philip Powell (OW1973) at the grave of Flight Sergeant Donald Kerr (OW1930) No 12 Squadron



Mornington Peninsula Lunch

This year's Mornington Peninsula Lunch was very well attended, with OWs from six decades enjoying lunch at the stunning Montalto Vineyard in Red Hill. Hosted by John Mitchell (OW1961), it was perhaps fitting that there was a strong contingent of OW rowers present.

John, a member of the winning crew of 1961, spoke fondly of his father, the great Alan Mitchell (OW1931). John proudly noted that Montalto, which recently received its 16th consecutive Chef's Hat, has more than four acres of garden that supplies the kitchen and is home to the longest-running sculpture exhibition in Australia - well worth the trip for a wander around the grounds! It was wonderful to welcome the father of our new Principal, Neil Evans (OW1957), as well as a strong contingent from the Class of 1982, who will no doubt enjoy an annual catch up on the Peninsula each year.

Proudly sponsoring OWCA events

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Contact Chris Foster-Ramsay (OW1999)
on 0448 010 999.



John Mitchell (OW1961), Cam Williams (OW1982) and Ian Thomas (OW1982) at the Mornington Peninsula Lunch

Golden Lions Lunch

Always one of the most eagerly anticipated days on the OWCA calendar, the Golden Lions lunch in September again proved to be a popular and successful event. Many enjoyed a tour of the school, with some OWs returning for the first time in 60 years.

Guests at this annual event, celebrating OWs over the age of 75, were treated to a wonderful three-course lunch in the Cato Room at the St Kilda Road Campus, whilst hearing from Wesley College Principal, Nick Evans (OW1985), who kept all informed and entertained. Senior OWs attending for the first time were presented with their Golden Lion lapel pin by Co-President of the OWCA, Jack



Ayerbe (OW1963), and Vice President of the OWCA, Kate Evans (OW1998). Jack also performed admirably in leading the traditional singing of the College classics.

The tables were decorated with golden lion centrepieces that were almost as impressive as the Golden Lions who

dined in their presence. Hopefully we will have even more of those Golden Lions joining us in 2020.

Attendees at the Golden Lions Lunch heard from Wesley College Principal, Nick Evans (OW1985), who kept all informed and entertained

Business Networking – keeping plugged in

OWs got a glimpse of the not-so-distant future at the OWCA's Business Networking evening about 'Plugging into electric cars' held at Brighton BMW.

Prabs Datar, BMW Group Australia Product Manager and specialist on the future of mobility at BMW, captivated his audience as he spoke on the advancements BMW have made and the impact of their i series in Australia. Revealing the developing science and worldwide environmental initiatives, he gave a whole new meaning to 'plug and play'! At the conclusion of the presentation OWs took the opportunity to stroll around the sparkling showroom and enjoy the many examples of automobile excellence on display, as well as pick the brains of the many helpful BMW representatives on hand.



The Business Networking presentation by Prabs Datar on 'Plugging into electric cars' at Brighton BMW gave a whole new meaning to 'plug and play'



RT Edgar

RT EDGAR ACTIVELY SUPPORTS OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY AND IS PROUD TO PARTNER WITH OWCA

To arrange a complimentary appraisal or to discuss buying and selling property in the current market, please contact Jeremy Fox (OW1979).

Jeremy Fox | Director
0418 339 650



Affiliates



Collegians women's team members at Presentation Night



Collegians Football Club Co-President Rod Nancarrow (OW1982) presents a framed jumper to retiring legendary player, Trent Zimbachs (OW2004)



Stalwart in defence: from left, Sam Marsh (OW2013), Andrew Wagstaff (OW1995), Conor Hogan (OW2012), Fraser Stead (OW2012) and Frazer Downes (OW2011)

Collegians Football Club

Season 2019 was a mixed bag for the Collegians Football Club. The senior men's team made the finals for the third year running but lost the first semi-final to finish fourth.

The team finished the decade as the most successful in the VAFA, playing in seven Premier A finals, including six Grand Finals and winning two Premierships.

The other three men's sides – Development, Thirds and Under 19s – all had difficult years and missed the finals.

The Senior women's team was in second spot half way through the year but faced a tough second half of the season due to injuries and player unavailability. There is certainly plenty to build on for next year.

The girls' Development side saw many new faces this year. Enjoyment and improvement are the key motivators of this team. While the team was competitive, losing several games by less than a goal, the girls developed their skills and understanding of the game, with several playing in the Seniors late in the season.

Best and Fairest awards

Our awards night was held at Marvel Stadium. Congratulations to our winners.

Men's Seniors

Samuel Parsons (OW2015)

Women's Seniors

Rachael Rodger

Men's Development

Tyson Wyett (OW2014)

Women's Development

Alexandra Robbins (OW2017)

Men's Thirds

Daniel Comande

Under 19

Joint winners Cam Sharpe (OW2018) and Joe Barnes.

Recruiting

Increasing player numbers is a high priority for the club in 2020. Anyone looking for a game at any level in 2020 is most welcome and should contact Mark Hibbins.

High-profile players

Recruiting talented players is extremely competitive amongst the Senior Premier clubs in the VAFA. Often an introduction to potential employment can help the club secure a top-line player.

If you believe you may be able to help in this area, we're very keen to hear from you. Contact Mark Hibbins.

For further information visit the Collegians website at

www.collegiansfc.com.au or contact Mark Hibbins, mark.hibbins@wesleycollege.edu.au or 0409 406 442

Collegians-X Hockey

Collegians-X Hockey club had a fantastic season in 2019 with two of our men's teams playing in preliminary finals and sensational growth in our women's teams. We are looking to continue these strong performances in 2020. Congratulations to the following OWs who received awards at our recent presentation night.

Nick Yallop (OW1999)

Judy Emmerson Trophy, Service to the Club

Brittany Collins (OW2012)

Pam and Don Vincent Trophy, Best and Fairest, Women's

Rizha Harman (OW2015)

Best and Fairest, Men's Thirds

Mark Perraton (OW1995)

Arthur Pearce Trophy, Best and Fairest, Masters

Lachlan Lee-Archer (OW2000)

Graeme Hendrick Trophy, Club Co-Captain

Matthew Csorgo (OW2014)

Men's Coach's Award

We pride ourselves on providing a fun, social and family friendly environment and we are always looking for new members. For anyone who'd like to get into hockey, Collegians-X will be running a Hockey-6s competition in February.

Follow us on social media for more details, or contact Mark Perraton (OW1995), president@collegiansx.com or 0417 312 989

Cato Golf

Cato held their annual Golf Day on 7 October at Woodlands Golf Club. A wonderful day was enjoyed by all with Judy Horton (Elsternwick MLC 1966) and Jackie Dixon (Cato MLC 1976) tying for the lead with 32 points each. Judy was our trophy winner for 2019 leading on a count back. Jenny Yelland, our 2018 champion, was a close third, scoring 31 points. Golf was followed by a delicious lunch, with competitors relaxing after the early start and sharing

many entertaining stories. Many thanks must go to Woodlands Golf Club for ensuring our day was so enjoyable.

On 23 March, 2020, we will be entering a team of our top four players to compete in the Interschool Competition at Sorrento Golf Club. It is a privilege to be able to compete in such an important annual event, which this year celebrated its 90-year anniversary. Good luck to our ladies!

For more information about or to join Cato Golf, contact Debbie Catchlove, dcatchlove@hotmail.com 0425 711 386



A wonderful day was enjoyed by all at the Cato annual Golf Day at Woodlands Golf Club in October



Cross country is for everyone: three generations of the Rickards family at the Jamieson at Scotch

Cross Country

Wesley had a solid winter season this year, with the Open team finishing fourth and the Women's team finishing third. Anna Kasapis led the way, easily winning the award for the competition's best female athlete. Anna was well supported by Julie-Ann Undrill (Davies) (OW1999) who improved as the season progressed and came second in the Wesley-hosted Ken Orchard Handicap, a 10 kilometre event held at Albert Park Lake each year.

Zeb Phoenix won the competition's best 60 and older athlete and competed strongly and consistently over the season. It was great to see Field Rickards (OW1966) competing in many events throughout the season and running very strongly. Field has been an integral part of the organisation of events over many years, so it was wonderful to see three generations of the Rickards family – Field, Antony Rickards (OW1989) and young Max Rickards – line up at the first event, the Jamieson at Scotch.

At the age of 85, Peter Le Get (OW1950) ran the Jamieson at Scotch, off the back of winning the five kilometre event at the National Masters Athletics Championships in Melbourne earlier this year, and placing second in the 1500 metres. We are expecting Peter to be on the start line for the first event next year in April, the Jamieson at Scotch College.

The season runs from April until September, with 12 events around Melbourne. The shortest event is four kilometres and many events are handicapped so the field finished at roughly the same time. This relaxed and very social competition is great for anyone trying to improve their fitness over the winter months.

You can be as old as Peter Le Get or as young as Max Rickards to be involved. It would be nice to see you in 2020.

If you wish to give cross country a go next year, contact Ross Tennant tenantr@bigpond.net.au

START YOUR ENGINES THE ANNUAL OW AUTO CLUB EVENT

Inviting all OWs to share their motoring story.
Proceeds to the Bruce Gregory Scholarship fund.

Display fee: \$50

General entry: Gold coin donation

Venue: Front Turf, St Kilda Road

Date: Sunday 16 February, 2020

Time: 11.00am

Enquiries: to request a registration form, please contact Zena Eastburn on +61 3 8102 6750 or zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.edu.au



Updates

Amber Scott (OW2000)



Motherhood certainly hasn't slowed down Amber Scott (OW2000) who was back on stage for the Australian Ballet 10 months after the birth of her first daughter, Bonnie. In an interview with the *Herald Sun*, the Australian Ballet's Principal Artist spoke of the difficulties coming back after such a lengthy but extremely happy time. 'Coming back to dance is hard. You need to do ballet regularly, every day, and it's been really hard getting up to show-level fitness. I'm just happy to be able to return to dance so I'm trying not to be too hard on myself and enjoy the gift of being able to perform.' And perform she did, returning in style to dance the Sugar Plum Fairy in *The Nutcracker*, as part of the Australian Ballet's 2019 season in September.

Sandro Demaio (OW2003)



Congratulations to Sandro Demaio (OW2003) who was appointed VicHealth CEO recently. The former World Health Organisation medical officer, who also led the EAT Foundation in Oslo and co-hosted the ABC program, *Ask the Doctor*, was thrilled to join the team and take on VicHealth's mission to achieve health and wellbeing for all Victorians. A medical doctor by training, Sandro is an expert on issues of noncommunicable diseases, public health, nutrition and health, and a visionary thinker led by science, unafraid to broach the tough issues when it comes to health and lifestyle. Sandro has published numerous scientific articles and is also the author of *Doctor's Diet*, a popular cookbook based on science and inspired by the love of good food.

Gareth Holmes (OW2010)



Congratulations to Gareth Holmes (OW2010), who secured the Fighting for Autism United States Championship in August, proving that being diagnosed with a disability needn't stop anyone from making dreams a reality. Gareth made his international debut in St Louis, Missouri, in the United States in Dynamo Pro Wrestling's Spectrum Slam, where he captured the Fighting for Autism United States Championship title. Since graduating, Gareth has also embarked on a musical career, attaining a Diploma of Music Performance from the MWT Institute and performing with City of Greater Dandenong Band, Monash Concert Band and Box Hill City Band, and releasing an album with Menage a Ska. He has high hopes of making it in wrestling while continuing to make music along the way.

Calendar

January

Friday 31 4–6pm

Cricket on the Lawn | Front Turf, SKR

February

Friday 14 7–10.30pm

SKR 2000 20-year reunion

Rose Garden, SKR

Sunday 16 11am

OW Auto Event | Front Turf, SKR

Friday 21 7–10.30pm

SKR 1970 50-year reunion

Cato Room, SKR

Tuesday 25 6–8pm

Business Networking Evening:
Building a city

Join a panel of experts as the Women of Wesley discuss the business of building big

Cato Room, SKR

March

Friday 13 7–10.30pm

SKR 1995 25-year reunion

Rose Garden, SKR

Monday 16 6.30–10.30pm

Boat Race Dinner

Leonda by the Yarra

Friday 20 7–10.30pm

GW 2005 15-year reunion

Union Hotel, Windsor

April

Friday 3 12–3pm

SKR 1960 60-year reunion

Cato Room, SKR

Sunday 19 12–3pm

Elsternwick 1945 reunion

Prest Room, Elsternwick

May

Friday 8 pm shotgun

OSCA/OWCA Golf Day

The National Golf Club – Long Island

Saturday 9 7pm–12am

Founders' Day Dinner

Myer Mural Hall

Friday 22 12–3pm

Founders' Day Lunch

Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club

June

Friday 12 7–10.30pm

GW 1995 25-year reunion

Senior Café, GW

Tuesday 16 6.30–8.30pm

Leaders Series Keynote

Senior Lecture Theatre, SKR

Friday 19 7–10.30pm

SKR 2010 10-year reunion

Union Hotel, Windsor

JOINS US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

IT'S YOUR OWCA.

WHEN YOU'RE
READY TO CONNECT,
SO ARE WE.



FIND US HERE



OR VISIT US AT
OWCA.NET/SOCIAL-MEDIA

Monday 22 7pm

Canberra Dinner | Lucky's at QT

Friday 26 7–10.30pm

GW 2010 10-year reunion

Union Hotel, Windsor

August

Friday 7 7–10.30pm

SKR 2015 5-year reunion

Union Hotel, Windsor

Friday 14 7–10.30pm

GW 2015 5-year reunion

Union Hotel, Windsor

Tuesday 18 6–8.30pm

Business Networking Evening:

The business of events | venue TBC

Friday 28 7–10.30pm

SKR 1980 40-year reunion

Cato Room, SKR

September

Friday 4 7–10.30pm

SKR 2005 15-year reunion

Union Hotel, Windsor

Sunday 6 12–3pm

Elsternwick 1947 reunion

Prest Room, Elsternwick

October

Friday 2 12– 3pm

Golden Lions Lunch

Cato Room, SKR

Friday 9 7–10.30pm

GW 2000 20-year reunion

Senior Cafe, GW

Tuesday 13 6.30–8.30pm

Business Networking Evening | venue TBC

Friday 23 7–10.30pm

SKR 1990 30-year reunion

Cato Room, SKR

Date TBC

Cato Ladies Golf | venue TBC

Date TBC

APS Golf Day | venue TBC

Friday 30 7–10.30pm

GW 2019 1-year reunion

Union Hotel, Windsor | venue TBC

November

Friday 6 –Sunday 8

Boarders' Reunion weekend

Bendigo

Friday 13 7–10.30pm

SKR 2019 1-year reunion

Union Hotel, Windsor

Sunday 15 12–3.30pm

Elsternwick Decades Reunion

Fitchett Hall, Elsternwick



Reunions

GW 1994 25 year reunion



Rebecca Armstrong (Round), Kelly Basile (Hodson) and Emmeline Fooks (Sinclair)



Clare Santurini (Morrison) and Andrew Patchell



Brietta Pike, Adrian Koeppeler, Angela Chuah (Tan), Andrew Simcox and Marino Alexopoulos

SKR 2009 10 year reunion



Gemma Luscombe and Dovi Hanner



William Levinge, Paris Lensky and Alexandra Glass



Sophie Moshakis and Anna Dalling

GW 2009 10 year reunion



Madison Sztefek, Sean O'Kane and Alexandra Farmer



Aakaash Ram, Matthew Richards and Nicholas Ganis



Jess Hollett, Kieran Harris, Mark Nicolaidis and Emily Lucas

SKR 2014 5 year reunion



Alexandra Hynes and Sunday Wildash



Michael Blake, Alexandra Strachan
and Nicholas Johnston



Callum Croker and James Louloudakis

GW 2014 5 year reunion



Jia Zheng and Emily Gu



Sophie Tabet, Bekah Smith, Aimee Brien
and Elena Kissel



Julian Church, Isabella Bassanelli,
Aimee Brien and Ben O'Kane

OWCA
OSCA
GOLF
DAY

VENUE
NATIONAL
LONG
ISLAND
COURSE

DATE
FRIDAY 8
MAY, 2020

TIME
AFTERNOON
SHOTGUN
START

ENQUIRIES
Zena Eastburn, OWCA Office +61 3 8102 6750 or zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.edu.au





SKR 1979 40 year reunion



George Skidas, Jim Kargiotis, Craig Watson,
Craig Joel and David Kallir Preece



Craig Stephens, Roger Teale, David Hoyle,
John Rabling and Mark Burgess



Craig Smith, Gary McAdam, Peter Wolff,
John Yates and Peter Southam

SKR 2004 15 year reunion



Silvia Larsson, Lydia Phipps and Stacey Harper



Huw Pattinson, Jamie McHutchison
and Rob Wilde



Tess Moshakis, Simon Gilbertson,
Martin Barnier and Sally Trudzik

BUSINESS NETWORKING EVENING

Building a city

Join a panel of experts as the Women of Wesley discuss the business of building big

#WomenOfWesleycollege

VENUE CATO ROOM
ST KILDA ROAD CAMPUS

DATE TUESDAY
25 FEBRUARY, 2020

TIME 6PM

ENQUIRIES Zena Eastburn, OWCA Office +61 3 8102 6750
or zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.edu.au

WOW



Elsternwick 1947 reunion



Back: Anne Cox (King), Felicitie Campbell (Hall), Jean Sedgman (Spence), Annabel Hahn (Reddrop) and Liz McQuire (Callaghan)
Front: Marjorie Russell (Floyd), Valerie Falk, Joy Cornish (Carkeek) and Jill Atchison (Atkinson)

Golden Lions Lunch



David Simmons (OW1944) and Peter McKeon (OW1957)



Graham Reid (OW1950) and John Gellie (OW1951)

Mornington Peninsula Lunch



Peter Rodgers-Wilson (OW1965), Lucy Gilfillan (OW1995) (Rodgers-Wilson), Jo Ressom (OW1993) (Rodgers-Wilson) and Susie Rodgers-Wilson, OWCA Honorary Life member and Patron, Sapere Aude Bequest Society



Stephen Grasby (OW1982), Alex Iljin (OW1982), David Verlinden (OW1982), Graeme Williams (OW1982), Ian Thomas (OW1982), Tim Colquhoun (OW1982), Cam Grant (OW1982) and Cam Williams (OW1982)



The long table at the long lunch

BOAT RACE DINNER

VENUE
LEONDA BY THE YARRA

DATE
MONDAY 16 MARCH, 2020

TIME
6.30PM

ENQUIRIES

Zena Eastburn, OWCA Office, +61 3 8102 6750
or zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.edu.au



Births

ALBERT

To Matthew (OW1998) and Emily Forbes on 27 May 2019, a daughter, Aneth Lorna Forbes, a sister for Leo, a niece for Nadia Albert (OW2001) and Al Oldfield (OW1999)

**BLUMFIELD**

To Chris (OW2002) and Jennifer (OW2005) (Naylor) on 14 July 2019, a son, Thomas Arthur, a brother for Henry, a nephew for Jacqui Blumfield (OW2000), Sally Naylor (OW2007) and Rebecca Naylor (OW2011)

**BEACONSFIELD**

To David (OW2002) and Dora on 15 June 2019, a son, Charles Ethan

**BOLAND**

To Frank (OW2003) and Annica on 10 May 2019, twins, Alma Eva Inari and Aksel Patrick, a niece and nephew for Martin (OW2000)

CHU

To Brian (OW2004) and Rebecca Chan on 3 July 2019, a daughter, Billie

GERNER

To Alexandra (OW2002) and Claude di Rosso on 30 May 2019, a son, Leo Di Rosso, a brother for Mila, a nephew for Jesse Gerner (OW2001)

**GRIFFITH** ▼

To Kyle (OW1999) and Mercia (OW1999) (Howard) on 10 December 2018, a son, Tobias John, a brother for Flynn and Adelyn

**FEHLBERG**

To Michelle (OW2000) and Alex Fear on 18 April 2019, a son, Bradley Ray

**GOLDTHORPE**

To Annabelle (OW1999) (Wilde) and Thomas on 10 July 2019, a daughter, Madeleine Aimée, a sister for Charlotte and Oliver

**HELLER** ▶

To Jarad (OW2000) and Elizabeth Condilis on 22 July 2019, a son, Tatum, a brother for Quinn

**SMITH**

To Melanie (OW1996) and Peter James (OW1995) on 24 July 2019, a daughter, Evie Victoria, a niece for Andrew (OW1993)

SMITH

To Andrew (OW1993) and Lynn on 5 September 2019, a son, Aiden Gibson, a brother for Caelan, a nephew for Melanie (OW1996)

WEBSTER

To Alex (OW1999) and Nicole on 23 July 2019, a daughter, Jane Alexandra, a sister for Charlotte and Rose, a granddaughter for John (OW1958), a niece for Charles (OW2005)

**WILDASH**

To Bart (OW2009) and Sheridan Eddington (OW2009) on 18 January 2019, a daughter, Amica, a sister for Elouen

PEACH ▶

To Nadine (OW2008) (Denison) and Shannon on 3 September 2019, a son, Oscar James



Lion cubs

We are pleased to welcome some new little cubs to our pride!

Please let us know your happy news by contacting the OWCA office on + 61 3 8102 6750 or email zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.edu.au

We are always delighted to welcome children of alumni to the College. Due to increasing demand we recommend you register your application for enrolment as early as possible.

Applications are prioritised based on the date of receipt and many families apply shortly after their child is born. As valued members of our community, the application fee for children of OWs is waived.

Applications can be completed online by visiting wesleycollege.edu.au/Admissions/Domestic-applications



From left to right

Ruby, daughter of Emilie Rosenberg (OW2000)

Margot Yates, daughter of Sophie Coleman (OW1999)

Engagements

WILDASH – EDDINGTON
Bart (OW2009) and Sheridan (OW2009)



Marriages



CANTLON – FLETCHER
Meg (OW2005) and Jarred on 27 April 2019



DENISON – PEACH
Nadine (OW2008) and Shannon on 8 February 2019



RONEY – JOHNSON
Jordan (OW2003) and Abbey on 2 March 2019



Deaths

BELL

Lesley (past staff) on 14 August 2019, mother of Rebekah (OW1988), Sarah (OW1990) and Jason (OW1992)

CASPER

Michael Brian (OW1959) on 8 June 2019

DANIEL

George (past staff) on 14 July 2019

FABRIKANT

Maurie Aaron (OW1956) on 16 May 2012, brother of Harold (OW1960) (dec)

FOLETTA

Henry Greig (OW1951) on 28 August 2019, father of Charles (OW1984)

GAFFNEY

Christopher (OW1962) on 14 August 2019, brother of Julian (OW1964)

GIURINA

Betty Jayne (Bodsworth) (Jayne) (Cato MLC 1976) on 20 September 2018

HEARNES

John Rex (OW1951) on 19 September 2019, brother of Joan Dyring (MLC Elsternwick 1953)

HESSION

Robert Anthony Brendon (OW1970) on 29 March 2019, father of Sarah (OW1998), Jacqui (OW2001), Kate (Year 10) and Sophie (Year 8), brother of Philip (OW1972) and Andrew (OW1974) (dec)

JAMES

Graeme Jeffery (OW1957) on 3 April 2019

JEFFREY

Noel Clarkson (OW1964) on 3 July 2019

JOHNSTON

David Dawson (OW1943) on 15 May 2019, father of Andrew (OW1973), Peter (OW1981) and Brian (OW1984), brother of Harold (OW1944) (dec), uncle of James (OW1977), Richard (OW1980) and Timothy (OW1986), grandfather of Melanie (OW2012), Matthew (OW2014), Julia (OW2016) and Jinni (Year 12)

KING

Noel John (OW1951) on 7 July 2019

LAUSSEN

Ronald Keith (OW1945) on 22 April 2019, father of Steve (OW1979)

LESKE

Clemens Theodore AM (OW1939) on 6 July 2019

LEWIS

James (Jim) Henry (OW1956) on 2 May 2019

MARTIN

Ian Aumont (OW1949) on 25 April 2019, father of Tony (OW1976) (dec), uncle of Richard (OW1980)

PORTER

Donald Keith (OW1967) on 14 May 2019

RUSH

William Donald (Don) (OW1954) on 4 August 2019, father of Geoffrey (OW1977) and Rob (OW1981), brother of Edward (OW1952)

SALMON

John Rupert (OW1941) on 13 January 2019

SMITH

Ian Harvey (OW1947) on 3 August 2019, father of Geoffrey (OW1978), grandfather of Sebastian (OW2016)

STUBS

Richard Edwards (OW1992) on 27 September 2019, son of Sue (past staff), brother of David (OW1989)

WARD

Graham (past staff) on 9 July 2019, father of Ewan (OW1972) and Michael (OW1975)

WARD

Merlene Joy (Booth) (MLC Elsternwick 1947) on 3 June 2019

YATES

Stanley William (OW1941) on 24 May 2019, brother of Peter (OW1951) (dec), uncle of John (OW1979)

Obituaries



Maurice Aaron Fabrikant (OW1956)

07/10/1939 – 16/05/2012

Maurice Fabrikant, better known as Maurie or Moishe, had a talent for classical piano. He attended the University of Melbourne for a year before transferring to a course in Mechanical Engineering at the Caulfield Institute of Technology. It was during this time that Maurie was introduced to jazz music, abandoning his classical piano training and teaching himself to play in the style of the stride piano players he had heard. He was good, and in no time had formed The Beall St Jazz Band, which practised in the Methodist Church Hall in Sandringham and played on Sunday evenings in the same venue.

Maurie completed his tertiary qualifications in Mechanical Engineering and took up a position with Monsanto Chemicals as a cadet engineer before moving to Shell Chemical, then to Honeywell Control Instruments, and finally to a small company dealing in the new science of IT.

In the late 1960s, Maurie abandoned the commercial engineering world and joined Caulfield Institute of Technology, teaching computer science and programming at the newly constituted computer centre. He was an excellent teacher, as he had a clear understanding of mathematics and had the unique

ability to break down complex problems and concepts into their simplest form, opening the pathway to understanding the final complexity. His gregarious, outgoing, friendly and helpful approach to everything and everyone he came across endeared him to his many students.

As Caulfield Institute became the Chisholm Institute in the 1980s and then Monash University in the 1990s, Maurie ‘talked the talk and chalked the chalk,’ rising to senior lecturer positions in computer science.

In the late 1980s, Maurie re-entered the jazz world. His regular attendance and very active and enthusiastic participation in festivals and bands soon made him a much-sought-after and respected musician. His outgoing good heartedness turned audiences into fans and he was a delight both to watch and play alongside.

During this period, the socially aware Maurie was active in pursuing social and financial equality for all through his membership and leadership of Prosper Australia, Tax Reform Australia and The Proportional Representation Society of Australia.

When Maurie retired from Monash University, he moved back into the field of commerce and purchased a well-established embroidery business, Jean McLeod Embroidery, in order to support his children. Under his guidance, Jean McLeod Embroidery has become a successful enterprise.

Maurie was a man of great skill, determination and courage. Everything he did was pursued with enthusiasm and good humour, and with the greatest regard for whomever was working or associating with him.



John Rex Hearnes (OW1951)

03/06/1933 – 19/09/2019

John Hearnes was proud of how he acquired his name, John Rex. He was born on the King’s Birthday weekend – not the Queen’s – and he had certain priorities in life, starting with family and friends. John entered Wesley College in 1944 and was proud to be registered on the school roll next after Geoffrey Blainey (OW1947), numbers 9595 and 9596 respectively. He began in Form P VI b under JE Dixon, with colleagues such as Peter Le Get (OW1950), Geoff Castles (OW1949) and Keith Guyot (OW1949).

John loved his time at Wesley and often recalled a favourite teacher, Jack Kroger, a man he and many others revered. ‘The Kroger Room,’ where he taught, inspired many fond memories for John and his friends. Kroger had a habit of pointing, which John was pleased to be able to imitate – ‘Right, Hearnes?’ ‘Right Mr Kroger!’

John was also part of the relocation during the Second World War, when Wesley was requisitioned for the war effort and he and his friends, then in the Junior School, attended Mayfield Avenue in Malvern. This experience certainly helped to keep John and his school friends together over the years. He was a regular at the Tall Ships Lunch, Founders’ Day Dinner and OWCA events and reunions. ➤



Following school, it was a toss-up between the Royal Brighton Yacht Club and accounting. John loved the club, but he really loved accounting, debits and credits, green ticks, bank reconciliations and trial balances: quite diverse preferences, but that summed him up. John's nature was reliable and meticulous on one hand, sporting and fun-loving on the other. Of course, he had many other priorities such as the Lions Club, Melbourne Cricket Club (MCC), Wesley College and the Sandringham Bowls Club to name a few.

John was artful in his delivery of succinct one-liners for just the right occasion, often drawn from history and now forgotten, and some unique to the way he saw the world. When confused or exasperated it was 'Blimey Teddy.' In relation to his membership of the MCC it was, 'I was put down in 1937,' and John, as a practical accountant, loved referring to any university Commerce student as 'Just a bloody theorist!' Hosting any function on home territory, not only football, was, 'Playing in the black shorts,' and, 'It's nosebag time' – referring to horse and cart delivery days, when the horse had his chaff strapped on – could mean anything from lunchtime to a lull in traffic.

John loved music and singing and had a good ear and sense of timing. He heard things differently and developed words and rhythms to suit the occasion and was often heard to sing and recite Second World War marching rhymes and tunes. From his, 'Garicka garicka garicka garicka,' which is how John heard the sound of the train's wheels on the Warrnambool line, to, 'Draining the anti-freeze,' to denote a comfort-stop on the long road trip to the Gold Coast, his humour and his love of a good turn of phrase in the great Australian tradition were limitless. What we might call 'Dad jokes' today were part of his humour and he was never shy in saying, 'Let's give him a freezer: freezer jolly good fellow...' 'He's feeling no pain,' was John's way of describing someone who had had a few too many, even if that meant himself!

In recent times, it was sad for friends and family to know that John was indeed in pain and discomfort. True to form, though, John said recently, 'They used to call me Tubby Hearnes. Now I'm lighter than any of them!'

John is survived by his sister, Joan Dyring (MLC Elsternwick 1953) and her family, and will be missed by us all.

Contributed by Peter Le Get (OW1950)



Geoffrey Winston Wilkins (OW1950)

28/01/1935 – 18/05/2019

Born in Essendon, Geoffrey Wilkins was the only child of Percy and Dorothy Wilkins. He was educated at Wesley from 1947 to 1950 and absolutely loved his time at the College, particularly as a devoted member of Way House. Geoff received the nickname Prancer at school due to his leaping abilities and talent as an elite runner and high jumper. Amongst his achievements were holding an APS Athletics record and gaining school colours for tennis.

Further demonstrating his love for Wesley was the fact that Geoff took out a life subscription to the OWCA, which would have been quite an investment for someone just out of school in 1951 but one that served him very well over his subsequent 68 years.

Geoff was an accomplished footballer who, upon leaving school, tried out for the Essendon Football Club. Playing amateur football for Collegians instead, one day in a game against Old Carey he encountered an opponent who gave him a good biff, which he never forgot. After holding on to this affront for nearly 60 years, he ran into his old adversary at the Moulamein races one day and reprised their previous encounter. His nemesis had little recollection, but apologised in a fashion, playfully asking, 'Did I give you a good one anyway?' Geoff laughed and the hatchet was buried.

Geoff was a wool broker, and stock and station agent in Violet Town, Lockhart and Portland, then a real estate agent in Prahran and Brighton before leaving Melbourne for the north east around Benalla and Violet Town. While working at real estate agents Biggin and Scott, he once had an altercation with a parking inspector in Greville Street, Prahran. Geoff arrived back at his vehicle and was incensed when he saw the parking inspector writing out the ticket. Geoff told the inspector that he would quickly move the car but the inspector took it as a sign of attack and Geoff wound up facing his accuser in the Prahran Magistrates Court. On the bright side he made the headlines in the local paper: 'Real estate agent tries to run down parking inspector.'

While working in real estate in Benalla, he encountered a customer who was an amateur genealogist. They started talking and Geoff, always thinking he had English heritage, was surprised to find out that he was from German stock, in particular from Hamburg. Apparently, the family arrived in Williamstown in the mid-1800s and operated tugboats under their original surname Wilkens, which became anglicised over time. He had no idea of this history but was very proud, so much so that in 2014 he visited the archives in Hamburg to discover even more, which brought him no end of joy.

Peacefully singing, 'Glorious April weather' until the last, his funeral reflected his deep love of Wesley, and purple and gold balloons were released following the service.

Geoff was a larger-than-life person, in every sense of the word, and much loved by all who were lucky enough to have known him.



YOUR OWCA

OWCA Executive

Co-Presidents

Jack Ayerbe (OW1963)

Belinda Danks-Woodley (OW2004)

Vice President

Kate Evans (OW1998)

Treasurer

Chris Foster-Ramsay (OW1999)

College Head, OWCA

Ian Thomas (OW1982)

Executive members

Tim Foster (OW2003)

David Kennedy (OW1966)

Anastasia Malishev (OW1995)

Rob Martyn-Wilde (OW2004)

Amy McAlister (OW2003)

Thomas Pewtress (OW2018)

Director, Foundation and Alumni

Jack Moshakis (OW1973)

Key contacts

Social media | OW Connections | Transcripts | OW Updates | Bereavements

Cam Evans | Alumni Relations
cameron.evans@wesleycollege.edu.au
+ 61 3 8102 6695

Lion stories | Birth notices

Lucy Gilfillan (OW1995) | *Lion* magazine
lucy.gilfillan@wesleycollege.edu.au

Club enquiries | Grant enquiries from Affiliates | Club advice

Mark Hibbins (OW1978) | Affiliate Liaison
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Event enquiries | Calendar enquiries

Zena Eastburn | Events
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Interested in becoming involved in the Executive?

Contact Ian Thomas (OW1982) College Head, OWCA
ian.thomas@wesleycollege.edu.au + 61 8102 6475

Tour of the Western Front Battlefields

Expressions of interest

Join a privately run tour of the Western Front Battlefields of the First World War in early September 2020.

Commentary on the battlefields and a Wesley context will be provided courtesy of historian Philip Powell (OW1973)

For more information or to register your interest, contact Jack Ayerbe (OW1963) on 0419 310 686



Contacts

Affiliate groups

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Bowls Richard Sluggett (OW1972)

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Elsternwick Cato Golf

Debbie Catchlove (OW1974)
0425 711 386 dcatchlove@hotmail.com

Concert Band Sally Goldsmith (OW1999)

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Cricket Rick Morris (OW2004)

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Football Rod Nancarrow (OW1982)

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Hockey Mark Perraton (OW1995) 0417 312 989

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Masonic Lodge Gavin Birch (OW1971)

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OW Auto Club OWCA Office

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Rowing Alan Mitchell Club

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Ski Club Lew Targett (OW1969)

0417 385 117 collegianskiclub.org.au

Tally Ho Fitness Group Lindsay Spittle

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Theatre/Drama Productions

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Water Polo Scott Emerson

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Tasmania Ben Walker (OW1982)

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- Katrina Mooney (OW1989) + 65 964 73777
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Save the Date

9 May 2020

Founders' Day Dinner

Myer Mural Hall

#FDD20



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