

Lion

THE WESLEY COLLEGE COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

Australian of the Year
Grace Tame

Her call-to-action
to Wesley staff

New metrics of 'success'

Wesley's research
partnership with the
University of Melbourne

My personal space

Learning about
shared and personal
space in Junior School

Marvellous Marg Molina

Decades of netball artistry

A True Education



WESLEY COLLEGE

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Front cover image:

Grace Tame, a survivor of child sexual abuse and an advocate for survivors, spoke to Wesley College staff in July. See story page 8.

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Editorial

To coin a well-used phrase, you could have heard a pin drop in the room when Australian of the Year Grace Tame shared her personal experience of child sexual abuse with Wesley staff last month. In an address that was disturbing and inspiring, Grace recounted the trauma she suffered at the hands of one of her teachers, her struggle to achieve legal reform in Tasmania, and her mission to have Australia adopt national definitions of consent and sexual abuse. She is a truly courageous person – read her story on page 8.

Grace is at the leading edge of a true awakening in our country, and at Wesley, the work continues. Pastor Kaylea Fearn's story on page 6 offers us a peek into the Early Childhood Learning Centre at Elsternwick and their inventive approach to starting the conversation about positive, respectful relationships with the youngest members of our community. Need to teach the concepts of personal space and consent to a three-year-old? How about using bubbles and hula hoops? (Of course... brilliant!)

Learning about positive relationships... surely an essential – crucial – life skill? Given that, why shouldn't it be formally recognised as a part of any student's list of accomplishments at school? The ATAR ranking system, with its distorted focus on academic achievement as the sole measure of educational success, is coming under increasing scrutiny. Is it right that an appraisal of one's entire 13-year educational journey should come down to a few final frantic months of study in Year 12? Is it worth the unhealthy stress it causes, year after year, to Year 12 students and all the invested others surrounding them? Amidst growing concern about the efficacy of this narrow gauge of educational achievement, in her feature piece on page 4, Kim Bence poses a pressing question: Do we need new metrics of success?

We know that true success in life is rarely built on academic achievement alone. The 'True Education' we provide at Wesley is a living example of holistic learning, aimed at developing the whole person. It's long been practised here, and its effects are far-reaching, in greater and lesser ways, across our community. Voices heard randomly in this issue of *Lion* provide simple examples. On page 26, **Mohan Du (OW2004)**, Founder and Chief Executive of Capital Alliance, succinctly states that 'Clunes taught me that learning is far more complex than just a correct or incorrect answer.' And one only has to read the list of insights current Year 6 student Milli Welberry gained on camp at Mallana this year to be reminded of the richness and the power of holistic learning experiences in our lives. (Read about Milli and the welcome return of Outdoor Education to Wesley on page 18).

In her article, Kim introduces the special nation-wide research program the College is currently partnering in which aims to develop 'a trusted and equitable currency for recognizing the full range of learning experiences, growth and achievements of our young people.' The fruits of this partnership could well be transformative... for the health and well-being of our young people, and, by extension, for the benefit of us all.

Paul Munn

Lion Editor and features writer

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A True Education

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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



One of the new terms that has emerged over the course of the current pandemic is 'doomscrolling', which refers to the incessant search for worse news regarding the pandemic in particular, and the state of the world in general. There are moments in every lockdown when it is hard to resist.

I indulged myself in some high-end doomscrolling in one of the lockdowns in Melbourne. I read the book *Premonition* by Michael Lewis, well-known as the author of *Moneyball* and *The Big Short*. The book tells the terrifying story of the lack of preparedness within the United States for a major pandemic. The results of this lack of preparedness are, of course, only too obvious now.

The book looks at a small group of people; those who see the pandemic coming. These people provide the premonition of the title but could find little traction within the US Federal Government. Many resorted to methods which worked around the system.

One of the major problems, according to Lewis, is that the United States government consists of various agencies, all dedicated to addressing specific problems. Each agency acts as an individual box, within which experts in the specific problem dutifully create

a culture around it. Each agency, over time, becomes its own 'small, frozen world' with no ability to see outside their own area. Group think becomes the norm. Orthodoxies grow... It took people from outside this system to break down the orthodoxies and respond accordingly to the broad challenges COVID-19 created.

Those outsiders working to circumvent a frozen system showed extraordinary moral courage and determination. That there was any response to the pandemic in the United States at all was, in large part, due to their efforts.

It sparked in me memories of a similar story, albeit about a very different war. When I spent a year working in the United States at a school called Northfield Mount Hermon, I was told of an alumnus named Neil Sheehan. He was the journalist who published the Pentagon Papers in *The New York Times* in 1971 which revealed a range of secrets the US Government was attempting to

keep about the conduct of the Vietnam War. He resigned from the *Times* to write a book about the war, *A Bright Shining Lie*. In it, Sheehan identifies similar ossified thinking within the US Army.

The senior officers in the 1960s were comparatively junior officers during the Second World War and could not conceive, after the victory in 1945, of the US Army being defeated by anyone, let alone an apparently rag-tag group of guerrillas such as the Vietcong. Therefore, all evidence that they were actually being defeated was not simply covered up but ignored, or worse, manipulated to fit the view of the world the generals had. The North Vietnamese themselves were mystified. They could not understand how the US generals could be so uncomprehending. They assumed the confidence the US evinced was only for propaganda purposes and that the authorities in the US knew the war was unwinnable. But they didn't.

Once again, there was a small group of army officers and young journalists who attempted to shine a light on this misapprehension. They did so at some cost professionally and personally. As we know with the benefit of hindsight, it was to no avail. The war continued, at the cost of over one million lives.

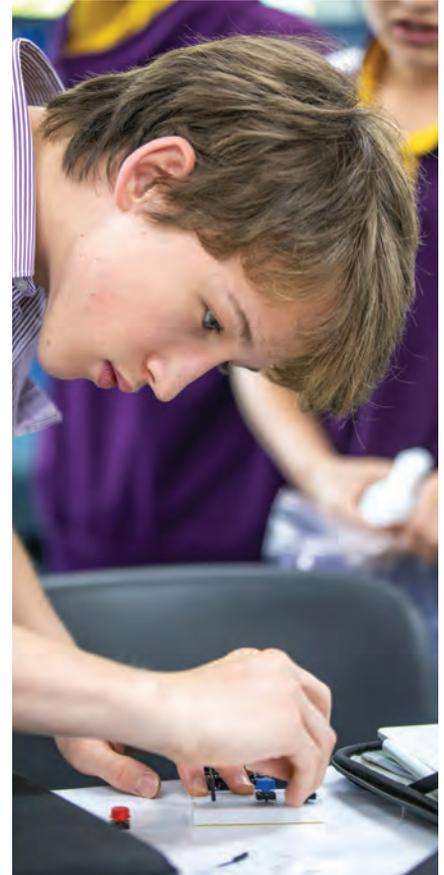
The danger of accepting an orthodoxy, of thinking there is only one way to solve any problem, is a dangerous comfort. It is comforting because the answer is clear. It is dangerous because the apparently clear answer can often be wrong. Any organisation, any society, requires the existence of people who question orthodox views, who can think imaginatively and who can show the moral courage necessary to hold firm to views that are unfashionable and potentially unpopular. Ideas can be unfashionable and unpopular but still be right.

How do we educate people to be independent thinkers with the moral courage needed to hold true to their views regardless of opposition? Perhaps the best thing schools like Wesley can do is encourage those in our charge and those who work here to have the courage of their convictions and to express them with intelligence and passion. All those in positions of responsibility and authority have to do in return is show the respect of listening.

One day, our lives may depend on it.

Nick Evans (OW1985)





Could community service, strengths and passions be included in new ways to measure 'educational success'?

Do we need new metrics of 'success'?

Amidst growing disquiet about the way schools and universities measure the educational achievements of graduates, Wesley has joined a research partnership examining what we really value in schools, and reimagining the measurements of success. **Kim Bence** explains.

In 1970, futurist Alvin Toffler predicted that 'the illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read or write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn and relearn'. He predicted what the world is now demanding of our young people as they begin to navigate the future of work: 21st century skills and capabilities which will ultimately determine one's ability to thrive in a complex world.

Yet when it comes to gauging the educational experience of our senior learners, our current education system currently precludes avenues for

meaningfully integrating such skills and capabilities. No other educational jurisdiction across the globe seeks to competitively rank Year 12 students according to a single numerical scale drawn from a complex mix of subjects based on statistical weighting and moderation – the ATAR ranking system.

It creates misalignment between what we measure as 'educational success' and the learning goals and aspirations to which our global educational bodies and policy makers would suggest we aspire.

The hidden gems of a True Education

At Wesley, we value and provide a holistic education through unique opportunities and settings which routinely expose, connect and challenge our students to relate learning to real life. We aspire to develop lifelong learners of good character. As a ranking, the ATAR says nothing about the 'other' learning capabilities: the prior achievement, service, character, strengths, passions, potential and endeavour of our young people.

In her Scholar's speech to the community earlier this year, Mia Roux, one of Wesley's Class of 2020 duces, shared a message which speaks to the very heart of what we mean when we refer to Wesley's True Education and our timeless principles of learning to know, learning to do, learning to live with and learning to be:

'My results made me super happy; a perfect score of 99.95 provided me 15 minutes of joy, but excelling academically is not the sole determinant of success. This school has so much to offer. Incredible people, interesting teachers, insane arts and sports programs, unforgettable camps, school trips, clubs, House activities, dress-up days and games. It is these opportunities and experiences that are so much more valuable and memorable than a mere 15 minutes of happiness.'

The unique offerings Mia speaks of are the hidden gems of a True Education. Gems that transpire to skills and capabilities required for success in a 21st century world. Her message inadvertently highlights that the senior years of secondary schooling in this country are geared to competitive ranking, reflecting the prevailing notion of success. Yet her message emphasises the need for further exploration of a more equitable system that recognises broader and deeper metrics of success for our young people.

Reimagining the metrics of success

As a leader in the innovative transformation of education, Wesley College is known for daring to be wise. In partnership with the University of Melbourne and 37 other diverse schools across Australia, Wesley College has entered a two-year research-practice partnership, *New Metrics for Success: Transforming What We Value in Schools*, to reimagine the measures of success and how schooling can create future-ready students. This partnership will afford us the opportunity to collaborate with other schools and academics to meaningfully transform what we value in schools nationwide. It is an incredible opportunity to announce that change is critical and to escalate this important dialogue, in hopes of influencing education governing bodies and policy makers.

Significantly, a growing number of tertiary institutions have already recognised the inequity that exists with the ATAR ranking system and now consider alternative measures such as academic transcripts, micro-credentials and entrance interviews, to name a few. We need metrics that produce a trusted and equitable currency for recognising the full range of learning experiences, growth and achievements of our young people. How we redefine and measure success provides us with a powerful

opportunity for significant impact, not only from a national workforce and productivity perspective, but more importantly, for the health and wellbeing of our young people. Rethinking our antiquated ranking system and exploring possibilities for a new and innovative metric for success will go a long way to future-proofing this next generation.

Kim Bence is the Head of Wesley's St Kilda Road Campus.



The sum of its parts: Memories of friendships and cocurricular activities were the best way for Mia Roux to measure a successful time at school, rather than her final results alone





‘You’re in my personal bubble space!’

Using bubbles and hula hoops to learn about respectful relationships and personal space may seem a bit out of left field, but if you’re three or four years old it makes perfect sense, as **Kaylea Fearn** explains.

In recent months, the national dialogue has highlighted the need for developmentally appropriate conversations around consent throughout our lives, not just as a one-off conversation at the onset of puberty. And the earlier those conversations start, the better.

Students from our Early Childhood Learning Centre (ECLC) and Prep classes at Elsternwick Campus have been exploring the idea of how *respectful relationships* help to keep ourselves and others safe. The Primary Years Program (PYP) has a strong emphasis on responding to real-world challenges, and so the development

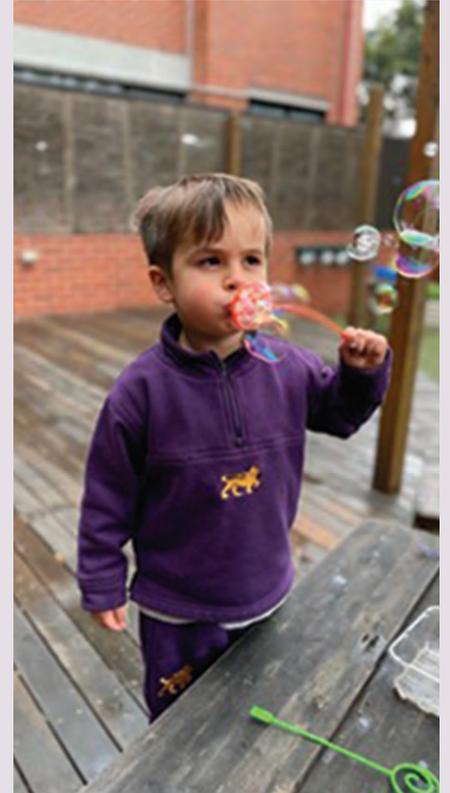
of the *How we express ourselves* unit was a natural fit as it incorporates broader knowledge and understanding about how students can interact in safe ways.

Madeline Woodbridge who teaches Prep at Elsternwick was part of the team from across the campus that developed the Term 2 unit of inquiry. ‘When considering what direction we wanted to take, we considered the importance of our students understanding our core values of mutual respect, trust, good communication and honesty. We wanted to create an atmosphere that would allow students to develop both social and communication skills,’ she says.

Jacinta Janssens, Elsternwick Head of Campus, also agrees that explicitly addressing respectful relationships is something that needs to be a priority from the beginning of every Wesley College student’s experience. ‘There’s no doubt that education plays a large part in what influences attitudes and changes behaviours in our world. We know from experience that the greatest impact is made when we start from the earliest ages and continue to build on our children’s earliest understandings,’ says Jacinta.

‘Learning about the concept of respect, and really delving into what it is, how it looks and why it should be, is something that should transcend all ages and developmental stages if we really wish to bring about cultural change to a systemic issue that exists within society.’

While these concepts are taught across the College and might manifest themselves in Dance and Drama, or in day-to-day language, these units help our students give voice to how they wish to interact with others in ways that make them feel safe from the very beginning of their educational journey. By the end of our first lesson, teachers were able to



see a difference in the way our students were interacting with one another.

‘Since beginning the unit, student interactions have changed for the better. Both in the classroom and on the playground I’ve heard students expressing themselves articulately, whether asking for more space on the mat or checking whether it’s OK to give someone a high five,’ Madeline enthuses. ‘The class is more aware of the needs of others, and when there’s a challenge, they’re finding solutions.’

Whilst the concepts we have been working with in the classroom are serious in nature, the learning engagements have been lots of fun and thoroughly engrossing for our youngest students. Play with bubbles, hula hoops, games, songs, dances, and even some puppet shows have all been vehicles for engaging learning opportunities.

Bubbles became one of the central metaphors the teaching team used when addressing the abstract concept of personal space. ECLC Coordinator Amanda Allan now often hears children say, ‘You’re in my personal bubble space!’ when someone is too close.

Amanda noted that when our three and four year old students first arrive on campus, they need to navigate the different sets of expectations from close family interactions to classroom interactions. ‘It is a time to learn how to be around people other than their family, to be part of a larger group of children, to learn how to wait for your turn and solve problems verbally. These are fundamental skills that will grow as they do,’ she says.

Within a week of introducing the respectful relationship unit to their students, ECLC teachers began to hear feedback from parents at morning drop-off time, who recounted the dinner table discussions about what their children were learning at school around ‘bubble space’.

One of the most encouraging things about teaching this unit in a really intentional way was the conversations that were started between students, staff and parents. It opened up what can be a difficult topic of discussion in an organic way, making this a truly authentic three-way partnership.

This unit has laid the foundations for lifelong learning about positive

relationships. The team at Elsternwick are excited to watch how the students put this learning into practice throughout their time at Wesley College and beyond.

Pastor Kaylea Fearn is Chaplain of Wesley’s Elsternwick Campus.



From left to right

Prep teacher Madeline Woodbridge wanted to create an atmosphere that allowed students to develop both social and communication skills

Students explore their personal bubble spaces with Pastor Kaylea Fearn

Thomas Walterfang exploring space through bubble play



Australian of the Year Grace Tame's call-to-action



There were few who were unmoved by the experiences of Grace Tame and her call-to-action at Wesley College's staff day in July.

Grace's experience was deeply harrowing and bravely shared; she was abused by a teacher at her school in Tasmania from the age of 15, and though she is still deeply affected by the trauma to this day, she has used her experiences to advocate for survivors of sexual assault at a national level.

Grace's actions have resulted in legal reforms, raised public awareness of a range of issues and inspired courage in many others, and for this she was recognised as Australian of the Year in 2021.

'While it may be hard and uncomfortable to talk about these topics, it is critical. Talking about it, listening, learning is the key to building the strength to overpower all manner of evil and makes us collectively resilient,' Grace told teachers and staff.

Grace's speech was a salient reminder of the importance of child safety, and reaffirmed Wesley's commitment to creating such an environment.

'Our unsanitised history is our greatest asset,' Grace said. 'Own it, air it, transcend it.' Accepting and owning her past has been a successful strategy she has used to move forward. Learning from the lived experiences of herself and others has helped her bring what was once a taboo subject to the forefront of the national conversation.

Her goal is to have institutions and government commit to a national definition of terms such as grooming, blackmailing and gaslighting and inspire individuals to talk, listen, research, rally and never settle for anything less than real structural change.

While we may feel sometimes that our individual actions make little difference, Grace is a firm believer that each small splash adds to the wave. 'One of my unflinching beliefs is that every single voice counts. Every student you teach counts.' The wave of change is here and we're part of it.

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From top to bottom

Grace Tame, Australian of the Year, had a speech...

...and a call-to-action for staff



Marvellous Marg Molina

The recently retired Marg Molina AM was Wesley's Head Coach of Netball for 28 years, her appointment stretching back to the last decade of the previous millennium.

Dawson Hann appraises her marvellous career.

Marg has been comprehensively a 'Wesley person' in every way, which may not have seemed likely to her when she sat down before a selection panel of Wesley heavyweights in 1993, headed by then Principal Glen McArthur, as part of his initiative to appoint Head Coaches in all major sports. In a most disarming and non-modern fashion, she had arrived without a resume.

It was fortunately an era before dot points were employed to test character and suitability. While Sports secretary Jill Zelman furiously typed up an appropriate document outside in the office, Marg

clearly gave the interviewers all that they wanted to hear. Former Head of Prahran campus Tony Conabere always displayed a sharp eye for 'the right person'; he instantly found a teaching role for her (one of the requirements) and she started within a week. Wesley has been blessed ever since by the effortless speed of that appointment.

Marg is the last of all those Head Coaches appointed nearly three decades ago still to be at her post upon retirement. David Ackerley (Head of Football) is still on staff, but not in his original role. Marg has carried on her Netball role right to

the end, so gets the gong. Sorry Ackers! In 2016, she finally gave up her classroom role in Individual Needs, which became as crucial to her enjoyment of the school as the more high-profile sporting job.

No wonder Marg overlooked the small matter of a resume at her interview; her work with Victorian and Australian netball spoke for itself. She had been with the Victorian team for 12 years, and a decade with the Australian team, coaching in the latter at under-age levels, and eventually managing the Australian Under 21 side. She finished her career with Netball Australia as manager of the national team, the Diamonds, and was ultimately rewarded for her outstanding contribution in helping to grow the game nationally – as a player, coach and administrator – with a Membership of the Order of Australia.

Her netball artistry, along with her engaging and empathetic personality, would be cherished by a generation of our girls. Never one to blow her own trumpet, Marg will tell you that she really can't remember how many premierships





were won under her leadership, but reluctantly concedes ‘there were quite a few’ (including the trifecta of ‘three in a row’... twice, as it turns out).

Marg was crucial in making netball an intrinsic and admired part of the Wesley sporting culture. The love of the game, both from Marg and our girls, was comprehensively on display at every match. She was never darkened by the possibility of defeat, knowing always the significance of team sport in the building of young lives.

Thank heavens she didn’t have a resume at her initial interview, nor had a PowerPoint presentation of qualities that can’t be codified. Marg’s authenticity must have been felt by all those on the panel. And it wasn’t all about the game. Marg also arrived with a trio of qualifications in Individual Needs and, right to the end, happily confirms how much working in the classrooms of English, Humanities and Maths provided her with a very different but equally inspiring integration into the broader

Wesley culture, which she understood and loved from the first.

She has appreciated, as much as any, the notion of the collective community which is one of the school’s truly continuous strengths – somewhere in our school there is something for everyone. She stresses time and again how working with students struggling in an academic sphere, but with talents elsewhere and even unknown, enlivened all that she had ever believed about a ‘true education’, giving meaningful life to an abstraction.

Her netball artistry, along with her engaging and empathetic personality, would be cherished by a generation of girls.

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Marg celebrating success with her 2019 Premiersip-winning team

This page

Marg coaching on the front court

In addition to the respect and affection of more than a generation of students needing extra personal care, as well as all those girls playing netball, Marg was popular amongst her Common Room colleagues, long and short term, young and, well, older. She thrived on the fellowship of Common Room functions, took an interest in the political issues at any given time, shed light on them with cogent thinking, and simply enjoyed being a highly functioning cog in the wheel of greater Wesley. She also happily revelled in the broader cultural life of the school, especially the performing arts, and was regularly in the audience for concerts and dramatic performances. In other words, she took every opportunity offered by this expansive community to enrich her own life.

Marg will carry many great memories into her post-Wesley life, and will doubtless continue to enjoy them, perhaps none more than one particular story she tells about the second of the four Principals she has served under. David Loader is fondly remembered for some occasionally exotic and spontaneous demonstrations of the respect and affection he held for those who had rendered the school important service. Apparently, when he encountered Marg by chance on his various campus wanderings, he would fall quickly to his knees, extend his hands upwards in the manner of an evangelical supplicant, and chant loudly ‘Netball! Netball!’. This became quite a regular eccentric moment in Marg’s daily life. What was he meaning? Let us humble our lesser selves before the Marvel that is Marg? A touch over the top, maybe, but we get the point.

Dawson Hann is a features writer and former Editor of *Lion*.

College snapshots

A new home for Prep play

Inspiration comes in many forms, and nowhere is this more obvious than in the recent refurbishment of Glen Waverley's Prep cubby house, which was designed by the creative minds of a group of senior students. Ben Dooley, Head of Junior School, had asked them to imagine and transform the tired and drab old cubby in the Prep backyard into something that was inspiring and enticing for small children. Fair to say that the design and colour that was unleashed has given this cubby house something of a magical appearance and a future of creative play for some of our youngest Wesley students.

For Year 11 student Cheryl Wang, 'the process of redesigning and painting the timeworn cubby house with my peers was an experience in itself; however, the idea of being able to give back to the community I grew up being a part of is the reason why I participated in this project.'



Senior School students (from left) Christina Nelson, Cheryl Wang, Tianna Nguyen and Visual Arts Prefect Stefan Bombelli represent the larger group of artists

Cheryl's Year 11 colleague Tianna Nguyen, who began her life at Wesley as a Prep student in 2010, has always felt a strong connection with the Junior School environment. 'The Prep cubby house was a part of its fun and nurturing aura. However, the walls were all painted a plain pale tan colour, and it was honestly quite scary with all the random spider webs hidden in its crevices!' she says.

'Having the opportunity to revitalise a site with such sentimental and nostalgic value, it felt great knowing that current and future Prep students are going to be able to enjoy a much more inviting cubby house. And who knows, maybe some of those current Prep students will paint over the cubby house again 11 years into the future!'

Thien Pham, Outstanding Jazz Soloist

Sometimes the small decisions we make in our lives have very big effects. For the eight-year-old Thien Pham, it was dropping the flute and picking up the trumpet. The big effect of that arrived this year when the now 18-year-old St Kilda Road student won both the Outstanding Soloist Award and an Outstanding Improviser Award at this year's All-State Jazz (ASJ) Championships in Term 2.

Thien was playing lead trumpet for the St Kilda Road Big Band, who were third place winners in their competition. His special win meant that he was the only one out of 26 soloist award winners who got to perform on stage with a list of Australian jazz luminaries at the subsequent Gala Invitational concert.

ASJ Creative Director Ross Irwin (formerly of The Cat Empire) was hugely impressed with his work. 'Thien is an exceptional soloist and lead trumpet player. He's one of the finest high school jazz musicians



Thien Pham: Outstanding soloist and improviser and only 18-years-old

I've ever heard,' he said. 'We're so excited to feature him amongst some of Australia's best jazz musicians (at the Gala).'

As well as playing for the Big Band, Thien is also very active with St Kilda Road's classical ensembles. 'Classical music, ensemble playing, and solo repertoire appeals to me because of their precision and focus on style and technique,' he says. 'It has been beneficial in refining my technique and facility around the horn.'

But clearly the jazz scene is a huge pull for him, and when his school commitments (and pandemic restrictions) allow, he often plays multiple professional gigs a week.

Two primary features of jazz appeal to Thien. 'The first of these is the freedom it brings to its individuals, specifically through improvisation. Secondly, the interaction between members of a band linked to this spontaneity, which is so integral to jazz,' he says.



College snapshots



A school that really matters

Reconciliation is a journey for all Australians. We all have a role to play, and in playing our part we collectively create spaces that value our First Nation's peoples, their histories, cultures, and create a future to be proud of and celebrate, says **Matt Watson**.

National Reconciliation Week (27 May – 3 June) is an opportunity for all Australians to contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. The theme for 2021, 'More than a word. Reconciliation takes action' urges all Australians towards braver and more impactful action.

Across the entire College, students took action throughout Reconciliation Week in pastoral time activities, assemblies, events with guest speakers and even through student interviews.

The Yiramalay/Wesley Studio School – *Many Cultures, One Community* is the embodiment of this year's theme. A partnership based on mutual respect, trust and two-way learning, Yiramalay changes people's lives, influences the decisions young people make about their future and is a vibrant, practical undertaking towards reconciliation. Students, teachers, staff and their families are moved by the experience.

They are enlightened by this opportunity to learn about Australia's Indigenous history and culture alongside, from, and with members of our Indigenous communities from remote Northern and Central Australia. In this sense, it is truly a model worthy of emulation.

The Studio School is a school with a vision, a school that really matters in a time when it couldn't matter more. At Yiramalay, the conditions, the environment, and the time exists for real relationships to form. There is time for genuine cross-cultural learning and the kind of understanding that is created by the amalgamation of knowledge, empathy and humanity.

The ageless values of equality, care and love should be the guiding principles that nurture a society, guide its leaders, and nourish its people. They're at the heart of this school and this partnership.

Matt Watson is Principal of the Yiramalay/Wesley Studio School





Friends of Yiramalay (from left): Mojdeh Pleasants, Stephanie Longmuir, Tanika McHenry, Banjo McIntosh, Abby Gore-Birch Gault, Tonheya McCormack and Georgie Raik-Allen (OW1987)

More than a word. Reconciliation takes action.

Richard Young, patron of the Monash Reconciliation Group, was the guest speaker at this year's Reconciliation Breakfast at Glen Waverley. He introduced the audience to his family, their connection to the Gunnai, Wiradjuri, Yorta Yorta and Gunditjmara tribes and his Songline. He spoke of the importance for his family to return to their country and the connections they have, and emphasised the need to 'let kids play in the dirt - their land'.

Richard sees reconciliation as 'black and white coming together'. Reminding everyone that 'every story matters', he encouraged us all to tell our story. He said that 'reconciliation has moved from theory to practice,' and that 'we are moving in the right direction,' urging the younger generation to continue reconciliation. 'We have made some progress, but we have a long way to go'.

The breakfast concluded with a beautiful example of two-way learning as Year 12 Prefect Antonio Vaitohi interviewed Year 11 student Banjo MacIntosh. The warmth of their friendship was evident throughout their conversation and demonstrated openness to listening and learning from each other.

Banjo is the 'last in the line of McIntosh brothers' to attend Wesley, the first McIntosh being amongst the first to live in Wesley's new Learning in Residence facility in 2016. Originally from NSW, Banjo now lives in Broome. As a new student, he attended his Induction program at the Yiramalay/Wesley Studio School along with students visiting from Wesley Melbourne. He had heard about Induction from his brothers, and 'it was great that I finally got to experience it,' he said. 'It was the best three weeks of my life!'

What Banjo most enjoys about living in Melbourne are the people ('there are so many different cultures here') and the shopping. At Wesley, he's benefited from the opportunities to try new things, the outstanding music program and living about a minute from the Sports Centre, opportunities he doesn't find at home. Banjo said that by 'showing an interest in us and where we're from' and asking questions, the students at Wesley are already 'taking great action'.

The Reconciliation Breakfast raised funds for the Be Deadly at Somers program which was founded by one of Richard's son's, Isaac Young. This camp is for young Indigenous Australian students to develop their cultural identity, confidence and leadership at the Lord Somers Camp.

Induction Group 45 visits Yiramalay

The Induction program is a unique experiential learning program which brings together Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students to forge friendships and learn from one another at the Yiramalay/Wesley Studio School in Fitzroy Crossing, WA.

Pandemic-related travel restrictions have disrupted the Induction program schedule, so we were especially excited to see Induction Group 45 go ahead as the first Induction from Melbourne this year, in Term 2.

Over three weeks, Induction Group 45 walked, ran, stumbled, rode, drove and laughed their way through the Kimberley on many different adventures. The daily swims and chatter around the waterholes consistently proved to be the perfect ice-breaker for the whole Induction group.

Visiting Jowie with Dillon Andrews, a Bunuba traditional owner, was a particular highlight for Year 11 Yiramalay/Wesley Studio School student Wayne Watts. 'Dillon gave us a tour and told us about Jowie and where *Jandamarra* was running from the settlers and where he was hiding in a gap in the hill. I enjoyed the story about the ancestors that lived there. I felt special getting a chance to

go to a sacred place and learning about the history,' Wayne said.

While students enjoyed themselves, they were also able to see what a unique experience it was. 'This program is one of a kind and gives a new meaning to experiential learning. It was an honour and a privilege to be accepted into Induction 45 and this unique experience is one that I'm sure none of us will ever forget,' said St Kilda Road Year 10 student Laura Nayman.



Lessons from Indigenous elders are an especially valuable part of the Induction program



Motivating young leaders at Elsternwick

Along with more than 6,500 secondary school students and 14,000 primary school students from government, Catholic and private schools across Australia, Elsternwick Year 5 and 6 students attended the annual National Young Leaders Day at the Melbourne Convention Centre. This is an annual tradition and part of their developing leaders and leadership program. The day aims to inspire students to make a positive contribution to their school, motivate them to be great leaders in their area of influence, and empower students with practical skills of balancing study, school commitments and social life as well as managing stress in these areas.

The event promotes the value of inspirational and positive role models by exposing students to a diverse range of leaders and their views on leadership.



Jimmy Rees with Elsternwick students Alexa Chan, William Blakiston and Charlie Shields

In educating students about the need to grow in knowledge and practical skills in the areas of excellence and leadership, the National Young Leaders Day event, organised by the Halogen Foundation, is run for young people who aspire to lead themselves and others well.

The day provides a unique opportunity to reflect on the meaning of leadership through listening to the stories of

current leaders, such as musician and author Joshua Pyke, 'Giggle and Hoot' funny man Jimmy Rees, and Deputy Commissioner of Fire Rescue Victoria, Michelle Young. It also facilitates and encourages young people to think about how they can have a positive impact, not just in the future, but right now.



Amber Jacobson, Amelie Le Grand, Lucy Martin, Beatrice Lane-Smailes, Daniel Lou, Maddison Howell and Cluny Nankervis

Charging back into live performance

If you're going to celebrate the return to the grand stage after a year of performance lockdown, you might as well go large with your opening number. That's just what the St Kilda Road Campus Symphony Orchestra did to open this year's Music Festival at Hamer Hall in Term 2. Under Head of Music Robert Breen's baton they

wowed the 1000-strong audience with a stirring performance of Franz von Suppe's *Light Cavalry – Overture*, an especially fitting choice to lead the charge ahead of the 16 ensembles which followed: von Suppe composed the piece in 1866, the year of our school's founding.

The battle metaphor seems apt for this big day of dress rehearsals and evening performance, for how else to stage a production of this size – the biggest one-off event of the year – but to run

it like a military operation? 46 music staff marshalled over 400 students ranging from Year 2 to Year 12 throughout the day before they took to the stage to perform in their various ensembles across the night.

It takes courage to perform in such a massive venue for the first time, and given the two-year hiatus, it was the first time for many of the students.

'It was so wonderful to be able to give the students the opportunity to perform again – especially at this world class venue,' said Mr Breen. 'It was an outstanding concert given the wide range of musical genres and the age of the students too. From Choirs to Band to Jazz to Orchestra – a very rounded, high level concert.'

It was a poignant night for Year 12 student Denzill Nicholls, who, unlike his Year 12 friends last year who missed out on so much, got to perform in the Festival for his tenth and last time. 'Performing at Hamer Hall is incredible,' he said. 'The grandeur of the hall, the bright lights and incredible acoustics make the entire experience electric, especially with the professional nature of the venue.'

Founders' Day celebrations at Elsternwick

Two inspiring women addressed Elsternwick students and staff at the annual Founders' Day assemblies this year. In introducing their guest speaker, the Junior School's Art leaders provided an insight into the proud history of Music at Elsternwick:

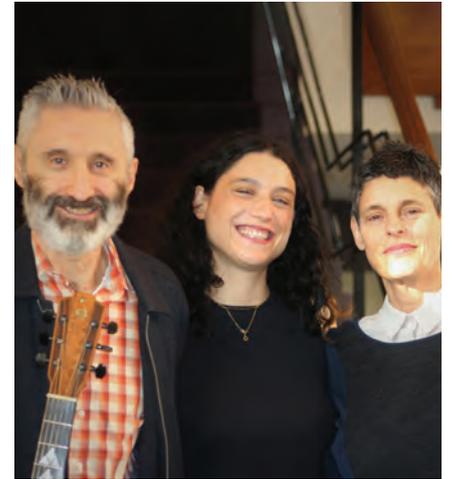
After merging with Wesley College in 1989, this campus was keen to create its own identity as one of the three city campuses. This was helped by the Principal of Wesley between 1992 and 1996, Glen McArthur. It was because of Mr McArthur's deep understanding of the importance that music plays in our lives that Elsternwick really started to make its presence felt across the College. Mr McArthur looked to Elsternwick to become a Special Interest Music Centre, a special place talented students could attend to become great musicians through expert teaching,

good facilities and high-quality music making. There was an opportunity for all students who attended Elsternwick to have access to the Special Interest Music Centre. This ensured no talent was missed.

It was therefore only fitting that the guest speaker should have a strong performing arts background, especially in music... Enter the highly musical **Alma Zygier (OW2015)**, who spoke about the influence Wesley has had on her own passion in the arts, then sang with her usual verve and incredible talent, accompanied by her father, Willy Zygier, on the guitar.

Speaking at the Middle School assembly, **Audrey Mims (OW2018)** eloquently reflected on her time at the College. She spoke of the encouragement she received to get involved and to be her own person, while making links to the students' Term 2 theme of *Bravery*. Currently studying a double degree in Law and Politics, Philosophy and Economics at the Australian National University in Canberra, Audrey is a

passionate campaigner and change-maker for gender equity. Her engaging address ended with the message that 'one of the most important parts of being brave is having the courage to try.'



Enter the highly musical Alma Zygier (OW2015)... with parents Willy Zygier and Deborah Conway



Clockwise from left

Imogen Cooper

Pop Choir, conducted by Belinda Parson

String Orchestra, conducted by Jennifer Dixon



College snapshots



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From left to right

Dan Lukies, Head of Wesley at Clunes

Dan's great-grandfather stands in front of a painted backdrop in Clunes Town Hall for his enlistment photo



An enduring connection to Clunes

Last term, **Dan Lukies** commenced his new role as Head of Wesley at Clunes. Having joined the staff just two years ago as Head of Student Wellbeing, one could be forgiven for thinking that he is quite the Johnny-come-lately; in fact, Dan has family connections with Clunes that reach back well over 100 years.

My professional and personal journey to Wesley and its Clunes campus has been marked by a commitment to, and passionate belief in, the power of rural communities and the important roles that schools play within them. Whilst serving as Deputy Principal at a country independent school, the Clunes program jumped out to me as a great example of a model for engaging, authentic and meaningful Year 9 programs to inform our curriculum development.

But it wasn't only the unique nature of the Wesley at Clunes program that I was drawn to. The township of Clunes was already a crucial part of the story of my own family...

I was 17 when I first connected with my great-grandfather Basil Ross and the township of Clunes. Although I had heard of this man, described as 'kind and quiet' by my father, it wasn't until my late teens that we discovered what has become a crucial family artefact: a scrapbook including copies of letters sent by Basil back to his family in Ballarat and Clunes where he described in detail his experiences as an ANZAC at the landing at Gallipoli, 25 April 1915.

This sparked my curiosity, and as we sifted through his enlistment papers, we found out more about Basil and his early life. Basil was born in Clunes and raised on a farm not far from where the Wesley campus stands today. Active in the Methodist church at the time, Basil was Wesleyan in faith and devoted to his family. He rushed to enlist in 1914 and his enlistment photo, in front of the painted backdrop of the Clunes Town Hall, is another treasured family relic of this time. The town hall remains an important community resource in Clunes and thousands of Wesley students have used this space as a place of learning and personal growth.

Basil was gravely wounded at the battle of Bullecourt, having survived many close calls, wounds, and disease before then. He was medically discharged for his wounds and returned home thereafter in 1917.

Mt Beckworth, which towers over the district and is clearly visible from Clunes township, has a lone pine, planted by local school children at the conclusion of WWI. This tree, known as the 'Lollipop Tree', is nationally listed as a significant tree and is a local landmark that commemorates the sacrifices of local soldiers. Countless Wesley students have made the trek to this tree, and when I share Basil's story with our students at this place, I am struck by the rich opportunities for experiential learning that come from being immersed in the landscape and community of Clunes.

As the Lollipop Tree has continued to grow, over the past 21 years so too has the Wesley at Clunes program. With the *Clunes - The Next Chapter* development beginning to take shape, I look forward to watching Wesley and the Clunes communities continue to grow, evolve, and adapt.

Arts, camera, action!

The annual Society for the Arts Acquisitive Art Prize highlights Year 10 to 12 student work, including the previous year's Year 12 cohort. Each year's exhibition highlights artwork across any fine arts medium. Carrying forward the legacy and a renewed commitment to diversity, inclusion, and excellence, this year our 120 entries included sculptures, textiles, photography, drawing, printmaking and painting. The exhibition was judged by prominent Melbourne illustrator and author of children's books, Bic Walker.

The daring and breathtaking art displayed as part of this year's exhibition in Glen Waverley's Coates Pavilion is a small window not just into the vital creativity of our students, but also into the leadership, guidance and dedication of the Art staff across the College. It enables and encourages our students to dare to be different, to step outside what is comfortable, and to let people into their deepest thoughts.

'This exhibition provides an opportunity for students to exhibit their art to the public and amongst the broader school community,' said Michele Maher, Head

of Arts at the Glen Waverly Campus. 'For many it is the first time they have exhibited and entered an art prize, and as such will always provide fond memories. Being an exhibition on campus also stimulates interest from other students and year levels in the visual arts. It provides a platform for classes to visit and discuss the works.'

Amelia Judd, Head of Arts at St Kilda Road Campus notes, 'This exhibition, which sees students exhibit to a public audience, not only builds their confidence but also supports their journey in the arts beyond school.'



Explore the exhibition online

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Clockwise from top

Bridget Dowland (OW2020) and Sheriden Vella, Head of Campus. Bridget's jacket, made of recycled packaging, highlights the extensive waste and over-use of plastics

Jane Li's extraordinary pen ink drawing 'Tomb of Humanity' is a response to studying Leonardo da Vinci and his use of linear perspective and mathematics in her IB Diploma studies

Jane Li's drawing depicts a gothic cathedral with light pouring in, and comments on the end of civilisation and humanity



Acquisitive Art Prize winners

Acquisitive Art Prize:
Bridget Dowland (OW2020) – *All Stitched Up* mixed media textile jacket

People's Choice Award:
Yu Tung (Jane) Li, Year 12 – *Tomb of Humanity* ink on paper drawing

Encouragement Awards:
Hudson Tarasiuk (OW2020) – *Wh'not Se 'these?* photogram on silver gelatine paper
Lucinda Campbell, Year 11 – *Outnumbered* digital art on canvas

Packers Prize:
Christina Nelson, Year 12 – *Holidays* ceramic Kombi van



Learning about the outdoors... and ourselves



Bushwalking in Lochend

2020 helped us recognise that being outdoors and connecting to each other is incredibly important for our wellbeing. That stop-start year saw the Outdoor Education department continually review, adjust and modify programs, in hopes of having an opportunity to 'just run something'. Well, we did. Eventually. It might have been miniscule in comparison to our 325 days of programming for Years 3 to 10, but we managed to find 15 days for all our Year 7 students to find some time to connect to nature and each other at Chum Creek. It was magic.

This year, we have adjusted our programs and staffing to ensure all three Outdoor Education sites are up and running under the new 'COVID normal', and our partnerships between the main campuses and Outdoor Education continue to forge ahead.

For example, the Year 6 students from St Kilda Road Campus used their five-day Mallana experience to understand that learning is an active process. Activities such as lighting a fire and learning how to cook on it were part of their learning journeys. As Milli Welberry from Year 6C reflects, she learnt these important aspects about herself at Mallana:

It's easier to learn with an open mindset.

I work better in a team than by myself.

When I don't give up, I always meet my goal.

I am happier with my friends.

Bouncing back when something doesn't go your way.

Using tips from last time and doing it again.

Listening to others before going off on your own.

Planning helps.

Other partnerships are emerging. Our Year 5 Outdoor Education program now visits the Friends of the Helmeted Honeyeater, in Yellingbo. Here students learn about the not-for-profit organisation and their community projects in helping to protect Victoria's bird emblem, the Helmeted Honeyeater. Students experience first-hand how conservation and nature stewardship can successfully change the plight of a critically endangered species.

Successful partnerships continue to evolve. Both the Year 7 Chum Creek program and the Year 8 Lochend program continue to work with LandCare as a practical means to 'give back' to a community and environment. Understanding the important connection between enjoying these natural places and contributing to the preservation of them gives students an appreciation and sense of responsibility.

A visit to the Ngargee Tree



The old and the young: David Johnston introduces Year 4 students Dora Gu and Tiffany Karlsson-Lacy to the 700-year-old Ngargee Tree

The aim of Wesley's Outdoor Education program is to offer students rewarding experiences in three unique environments, to become familiar with and appreciate these places, and learn how to care for them. Ultimately, it offers them a powerful sense of connection: connection to the country, connection to each other, and connection to themselves.

To celebrate the start of Reconciliation Week at St Kilda Road's Junior School this year, prominent Indigenous archaeologist and anthropologist David Johnston wanted 'to share a journey, which is the local journey of connection to country and its people... to help our young ones have a connection to the history of their community.'

Happily for the Year 4 students, the journey David took them on was very local: He led them on the short walk to the *Ngargee Tree* at St Kilda Junction, just down the road from campus.

Ngargee is a local Boonwurrung word for 'a gathering, a celebration of community', so it's fitting that this was the venue for David to tell his young audience about their connection to a local community with a long, long history. David painted a vivid picture for the students about life for the Boonwurrung before European settlement, and about the significance of this tree as a meeting place and site for celebration.

A symbol of survival and reconciliation, this ancient red river gum is estimated to be 700–800 years old. This astonished the students, who loved the idea that a tree that was so old was just around the corner. They loved taking turns meeting the tree while David offered each of them a warm *Wominjeka* (The Woi-wurrung word for Welcome).

Student Emilia Pontes loved the *Ngargee Tree* for an extra reason: 'It made me feel calm,' she said.



COMBINED PUBLIC SCHOOLS SPORTS, 1907.



WESLEY COLLEGE ATHLETIC TEAM—CHAMPIONS.

Winners of the "Argus" and "Australasian" Challenge Cup, 1907. Score: 19½ points.

Back Row—J. VASEY, E. A. CATO, L. W. BENNETT, P. R. KERR, E. L. DUCKETT, H. J. STEWART, ESQ. (SPORTS MASTER),
W. D. T. BRUNSER, J. MCA. ULBRICH, S. SUTTON, H. FLEMING, H. W. WUNDERLY.
Centre Row—R. A. EAKIN, J. A. PROUT, G. RICHARDS, J. H. PROUT (CAPTAIN), R. G. HEELEY (VIC-CAPTAIN), J. D. NEWHAM, H. CARTER.
Front Row—D. C. CARTER, L. H. KELLY, E. FOO, V. CLARKE.

Stanley's Cup

A recent request for information about a mystery name has taken **Margot Vaughan** through some amazing twists and turns involving a farm, a flood and the reappearance of buried treasure.

Early in 2021, the Archives desk received a request for information about a name engraved into a very old Wesley College sports trophy. A family in the Hunter Valley NSW were selling their farm and wanted to solve the mystery of the silver cup which had been in their home since 1977. In that year there was a terrible flood, and after the floodwaters receded, some buried treasure was revealed – the 1907 Under 16 Sports Trophy awarded to an 'S. Sutton'. The owner of the cup did some research through the publicly

available digitised *Chronicles* and found some information, but not the student's first name, and so turned to our Archives for help...

Stanley Sutton came to Wesley in the middle of 1905. From the Entry Book register we know that he was born in 1891, lived in Glen Iris, was a Methodist, was to be an engineer, and did not need to study Latin. At the age of 14 his life seemed mapped out for him. His older brother Alfred Leslie Sutton also came

to Wesley, starting at the beginning of 1904. They were very good athletes, both winning trophies. The photo of the 1907 Athletics Champions shows Stanley in good company. Those of us who are familiar with the school's history will recognise some familiar names:

Edward Alexander Cato, son of the famous Fred J. Cato, and later donor of his own collection of early Australian landscapes – the Alec Cato Collection. Frank Kerr, older brother to Alan and Eric Kerr whose names are immortalised above the WWI memorial doors on Adamson Hall. H.J. Stewart, Wesley student, Sports Master, Deputy Headmaster and finally Headmaster after Adamson. The Prout brothers, Jimmy and Harry, famous for cricket records and football skills. Harry Carter, who gained distinction during WWI and whose fine portrait in military uniform is in the first *History of the School*



Opposite page

Photograph of the 1907 Athletic Team including Stanley Sutton



Clockwise from left

Photograph of Stanley's contemporary, Lester Kelly

'Stanley's Cup': Awarded in 1907 to Stanley Sutton

A Sports Cup awarded to Harry Proust, another of Stanley's contemporaries

1865–1919. His brother Duncan C. Carter, known as 'Doc', killed in September 1918 while flying over France. Lester Kelly, high jumper extraordinaire, who also served in WWI, returned to work as a school master at Wesley, but was deeply impacted by his war service. John B. Vasey, killed at Gallipoli. His brother survived the war; both were sons of G.B. Vasey, at one-time President of the OWCA.

Shirley Ickeringill, the Sutton family archivist, has been researching and recording the events of the family, and provided this information about what happened to Stanley after school.

Stanley was the youngest of four children born to Alfred and Eliza Sutton, who founded Sutton's House of Music, with offices in Bendigo, Ballarat, Geelong, Melbourne and Sydney. He did not become an engineer after all, but moved into the family business.

He successfully managed these offices during the Great Depression, though it took its toll on him and he retired early due to poor health. His only son was serving in WWII and Stanley and his wife would visit their daughter-in-law in the Newcastle area.

It seems he carried his treasured trophy with him, but somehow it was left behind when he returned to Sydney, where he died in 1955. His body was returned to the family plot in Box Hill Cemetery.

It was on the website 'Find a Grave' where Shirley had posted some information that another connection was made. Christine, the owner of the 1907 trophy, connected with Shirley and told the story of the cup washing up on the banks of the Hunter River in 1977, and being admired by her family for the next 44 years. She writes, 'It represented a reference to an educational institution far removed

from that of our family. My grandfather was the same age as Stanley Sutton; he left school at 12 to help his father on the farm, and my father left school at 13 to work on his father's farm. It remained with the 'good' dishes, those that my mother rarely used.'

Stanley's cup was treasured by him, was lost, but was then found by another family who also treasured it, and have now generously returned it to Wesley to be treasured again. We are lucky to have in our Archives a number of trophies of this quality – treasures from the past and memorials to lives well lived, but now gone.

Margot Vaughan is the Associate Curator of Collections at Wesley College.



Largest bequest in Wesley's history



The gift of the late Rennie Coutts will be transformational to girls who are passionate about STEM

A number of years ago, the Foundation received a call from an elderly lady named Rennie Coutts, inquiring about our scholarships program. She had absolutely no connection with Wesley whatsoever but was seeking a school she could potentially endow scholarships for girls with a specific interest and aptitude for science. After her initial meeting with our Bequests Manager, Debra Stiebel, she was reassured that the College would respect and honour her wishes by establishing such a scholarship through a bequest in her Will. Rennie then met our CFO, Cameron Moroney and then Principal, Helen Drennen. So began our

relationship with Rennie which grew and developed, providing comfort and support for her over the years. What we were not to know was that initial 'cold call' to the Foundation Office would result in the largest bequest in Wesley's history of almost \$4.5m.

Sadly, Rennie passed away last year, and the College has now established The Rennie Coutts Science Scholarships for Girls in recognition of her extraordinary benefaction in endowing an enduring scholarship for young women who are passionate about STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). Rennie was an advocate of women in the workforce and the pursuit of excellence in the fields of maths and science. She was also a passionate supporter of girls' education in a co-educational environment.

Rennie was born in Tasmania, in the rural area of Kentish, the closest town being Sheffield. Her parents were Alan Frederick and Cecelia Maude Jones, and she had an older brother Ross (deceased). They lived on a small mixed farm about three kilometres from town, primarily working in the oldest apiary in Tasmania – established by Rennie's grandfather in 1898 as H L Jones & Sons Barrington Apiary, and which continues today under the name Sheffield Honey farm.

She was one of the very few girls in the district at that time that was sent to the coastal town of Devonport to board and attend the secondary college.

She moved to Melbourne, where she enrolled at the University of Melbourne attaining a Bachelor of Arts majoring in the social sciences. This was followed by professional training and certification in pre-school / kindergarten education at Kew Kindergarten Teachers Training College and as a teacher librarian. Some of the highlights of Rennie's professional life included being the Director of Pre School Centres in Victoria. She established the Fawkner Park pre-school during WWII for returning soldiers and families.

She was also Head of Research at the Victorian State Library with an interest in library information systems. Rennie was awarded a travel grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York to pursue study of other library systems in Canada and the USA. She also introduced a new library and information system at the Commonwealth Bureau of Roads.

Rennie died aged 95 years on 12 September 2020, knowing her gift to Wesley College would be transformational to the lives of young women for many years to come. The fact that she had absolutely no connection with Wesley, or anyone associated with the College, makes her gift even more extraordinary. Her named scholarship honours not only a woman who will always be remembered with enormous fondness and gratitude, but for her belief that education can transform lives and, in this instance, create opportunities for young women to truly make their mark in the wider world.

The Chair of the Wesley College Foundation's Advisory Committee, **Nicki Lefkovits (OW1990)**, formally launched this significant scholarship at our 13th Annual Business Breakfast on 26 May and paid tribute to Rennie for her extraordinary philanthropy. Guests then enjoyed watching the Foundation's new Scholarships video which highlights how a Wesley scholarship can transform the lives of young men and women. This can now be viewed online at: wesleycollege.edu.au/community/support-us/donate/scholarships-bursaries-prizes-fund



Nicki Lefkovits (OW1990) launching Rennie's scholarship

A family of bequestors

Stavros Rekaris (OW1990), Georgia Rekaris-Hinton (OW1989), and Katherine Rekaris-Demaison (OW1988)

It is not unusual for Wesley families to come together to make a family donation in support of a building program, bursary or scholarship either in their name or in the name of a loved one. However, in the case of the Rekaris family, we were delighted that each member has decided to support the College through a bequest in their Wills. As students, they gained so much from their involvement in all aspects of school life and are keen to support Wesley's future development in this way. They are also pleased that their children are now enjoying life at the College and benefiting from the well-rounded education on offer.

Stavros reflects on his and his sisters' experiences at Wesley which will resonate with so many other alumni of that generation:

One early morning, I found myself in the back of the family car, racing down the Princess Freeway to Geelong, purple and gold streamers flying behind us, passing busloads of students hanging out of windows on a similar mission. It was 1983 and my eldest sister, Katherine Rekaris-Demaison, who had only been at Wesley for three months, insisted we all attend Head of the River. I was nine and it was

my first experience of the excitement and passion that comes with wearing the 'purple and gold'.

This tradition continued the following year when my second sister, Georgia Rekaris-Hinton, commenced at Wesley. And then, in 1985, it was my turn to put on a lion suit and frog dance on the banks of the Barwon which became a normal part of any Collegian's life.

All three of us embraced the opportunities and challenges that Wesley offered from the day we started. Whether it was music, drama, sport, debating – our life for a decade truly was purple and gold! Our parents were right by our side, cooking lamb spits on the back turf during festivals, videoing musicals (VHS style), driving fundraisers and forever supporting us – late-night theatre rehearsals, early morning sporting events, weekend music concerts...

I was fortunate to be in the Wesley First XI Soccer team in Year 11 (which I then captained in Year 12), was part of the Wesley First Water Polo and Swimming teams, participated in the Duke of Edinburgh Award, attended Lord Somers Camp and was part of many orchestras, choirs and musicals.

Georgia also played a lot of sport, but her real love was music and theatre. She would often be found on the Adamson Hall stage playing the lead in many musicals and plays, from Dorothy in

'The Wizard of Oz' and on to several comedic roles, including her hilarious portrayal of Marlene, the maid in 'Who's a Teenage Dracula?' She was part of the school orchestra, swing choir, debating team and the Wesley First Water Polo team, and was a Prefect and Vice-Captain in 1989.

Katherine, then better known as Kathy, was also School Vice-Captain in Year 12. Passionate about the Arts, her love for what she was doing was acknowledged in her Triple Arts Award for Debating, Music and Drama in her final year of 1988. In Debating, she and her team were State Runners-Up in 1986. In Music, she frequently contributed as a soloist to the various school choirs and played the flute under the baton of the inimitable John Lee in the Concert Band. And in Drama, from Years 7 to 12, she participated in at least one dramatic or musical production every year. She loved tap-dancing her way across the stage as Dulcie in 'The Boyfriend' to Jacqui Coker's choreography. In 1988, the 'Washing that man right outta her hair' shower scene was a moment in 'South Pacific' which resulted in some soapy OH&S moments, and for those who remember the Golden Age of Tony and Dawson, who could forget that waterfall!

However, the highlight for all of us was being on stage together for 'South Pacific' with Katherine as Nellie Forbush, Georgia as Bloody Mary and myself in the most macho Sailor's Chorus to (arguably) ever hit the Adamson Hall stage. It was the most incredible fun and we all wept at the show's conclusion on the final night.



Katherine, Myrsine, Athena, Georgia, Henry, Rupert, and Stavros



Georgia, Katherine and Stavros Rekaris backstage 1988



News from the Sapere Aude Bequest Society

The Sapere Aude Bequest Society (SABS) has sprung back into event mode at the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, and was able to host face-to-face gatherings, once again, and the response has been fantastic. It seems more and more people are eager to reconnect. Nonetheless, in acknowledging these strange times, SABS has decided to maintain its very popular program of webinars for the foreseeable future. These sessions have been very well patronised and have been much appreciated by members and guests. The convenience of the zoom format has been embraced. Thank you

also for the lovely feedback from members and others appreciative of our efforts to keep everyone connected. We also understand that many are still waiting for the further roll out of the vaccine, and this remains a very good reason to keep the webinars going.

A sparkling night...

SABS held a special twilight event in the Cato Room – *Diana, Princess of Wales – the Jewels of a modern-day Princess* presented by Adrian Dickens, independent jeweller and lecturer. Adrian, who has more than 40 years' experience in modern, estate and

antique jewellery, provided the large audience with an extremely well researched and beautifully illustrated presentation. He offered not only fascinating insight into the world of Diana and her jewellery collection, but also into the Royal Family. Guests embraced the sparkling evening theme as they sipped on champagne and enjoyed light refreshments. There was a real buzz in the room as people delighted in the opportunity to catch up with friends. SABS reached out to members and the wider Wesley community with the invitation to this event, so it was wonderful to see a cross section of the Wesley community in attendance.

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Guests enjoying the function



French Impressionism at the National Gallery of Victoria

In what has emerged as a regular event in the calendar, SABS once again embraced the Winter Masterpieces 2021 exhibition at the National Gallery of Victoria. This year's exhibition is *French Impressionism from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA)*. It features more than 100 masterworks of French Impressionism. The MFA is renowned worldwide for its rich holdings of Impressionist paintings. *French Impressionism* features works by Claude Monet, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Edgar

Degas, Camille Pissarro, Mary Cassatt and more – including 79 works that have never been exhibited in Australia.

As part of our SABS offerings, more than 70 online audience members and guests enjoyed a special webinar that introduced Boston, the MFA and of course the exhibition, presented by Kenneth Park, Wesley's Curator of Collections and Philanthropy Associate. Kenneth has been to

Boston more than 20 times as a tourist and tour leader. His presentation was extremely engaging and entertaining and the illustrated lecture really whetted the appetite for everyone to go and see the show. Feedback included:

Thank you so much for a wonderful walk-through of impressionist artwork. Given our current restrictions, it was a great chance to see works we may or may not get to see otherwise... Thanks to all who arranged it.

Thank you, Debra. Joan and I thoroughly enjoyed the presentation. Kenneth is a living treasure.

Unfortunately, the extended June lockdown meant we had to cancel our morning tea and viewing of the NGV exhibition which was a great disappointment.

Coming up

...and how you can help Wesley College

SABS is planning more events, subject to government restrictions, including a visit to the newly redeveloped Wesley Boathouse with architect **Pete Sandow (OW1966)**, a visit to the Mission to Seafarers in Melbourne including a tour of the State Library and the stunningly redeveloped Queens Hall.

Please feel free to contact Debra Stiebel on 0411 497154 or at debra.stiebel@wesleycollege.edu.au for information on forthcoming events and how to join the Sapere Aude Bequest Society by way of a gift through your Will. Every bequest, irrespective of its size, does make a difference in providing more young people with the opportunity to experience a Wesley education. Read more about the work of our Society here: wesleycollege.edu.au/community/support-us/bequests

Thank you to the almost 300 members of our Bequest Society for your support and, as always, a sincere thanks to our Society sponsor, APS Wills and Estates, who support our calendar events. Please contact **Phil Lambourne (OW1980)** at p.lambourne@apswills.com.au for more.

Giving back to Wesley

The Foundation is most grateful for the increasing number of our younger alumni who are supporting the Foundation's fundraising programs through a tax-deductible donation to our Building Fund. We have profiled two of our most recent younger donors – both from our Glen Waverley campus – who reflect on their experiences at the College and what motivated them to *give back* to Wesley:

Alensten Wu (OW2011) and Ting (Sandy) Sun (OW2013)

The term 'double purple' refers to the increasing number of alumni who have married other alumni. Our newest major donors, Alensten and Sandy, are yet another example of this growing cohort of Wesley parents. They have committed to becoming significant donors to the Foundation's Building Fund as a way of giving back and supporting the College for all it had done for them as students, and for the benefit of current and future students. The Foundation is most grateful for their philanthropy and, indeed, the support of our Chinese alumni and parents who donate to our fundraising programs.

Alensten reflects on his experiences at Wesley and his motivation for supporting Wesley:

I started my journey at Wesley in 2006 and finished in 2011. It was there, 10 years ago, that I also met my wife Sandy. The memories I have of my time at Wesley are embedded in my blood and remain so vivid in my memory. I loved my years at Wesley and when Sandy and I became parents, we wanted our children to share those experiences.

Now, seeing our son attending the same school we did fills us both with joy beyond description. It is so nice to see he is already enjoying life at Wesley. 'Sharing is caring' is what he has learnt at Wesley and he always tries to live by this in his daily life.

As parents, we think it's important that our children learn to love, share, play, explore and give. As Wesley alumni, we know our school is a nurturing and safe place for children to do all those things and to adapt to any environment and take up any challenge.

I understand that individuals can make a difference to others and to our College, and that small acts of kindness and actions from teachers at Wesley can affect a man's life as they have done with mine. It's now my turn to repay those acts of kindness in a practical way to say... Thank you Wesley and, most importantly, WESLEY NOW AND ALWAYS!

✓
Sheriden Vella, Sandy Sun, Donnyee Wu, Alensten Wu and Ben Dooley



Foundation

Mohan Du (OW2004)

Mo is the Founder and Chief Executive of Capital Alliance, primarily a multi-facet real estate developer with significant interests in private capital placements, ranging from startups to established businesses. The real estate division has completed over \$1b in projects since its inception in 2012, with a further \$2b of projects to be completed. A recent accolade includes the opening of the first purpose-built Marriott hotel in Australia in more than 25 years, the Marriott Docklands.

The highlight of Mo's education at Wesley was undoubtedly Clunes, which he credits as having a life-long impact; indeed he uses the phrase 'Clunes made me'. Here he describes that experience and why he and his wife, Vanessa, are supporting our Clunes Redevelopment capital campaign:

Clunes was the catalyst for many things for me. I learnt things that I did not expect to learn at a 'school camp' because learning was always ingrained in my mind as a form of linear learning. For instance, being taught equations and formulas that you could use to distinguish a correct or incorrect answer. However, Clunes taught me that learning is far more complex than just a correct or incorrect answer.

I distinctly remember taking on subjects that were extremely foreign to me. Two of



Mohan Du, Vanessa Lui and Mase Du

those subjects stick with me today: Philosophy (understanding or interpreting life) and Boys to Men (a distance bike ride that led to a river that we set up camp on) – it made learning feel exciting.

It was the first time in my life that I lived with people other than my family. It was also the first time I tried my hand at cooking. I learnt to grow up and appreciate the life that my parents afforded me – I learnt appreciation.

I attended Clunes in Term 3, 2001. One morning we were gathered in the communal hall and a television was rolled out. There were none allowed on campus,

so seeing this was strange. This was the morning we learnt of the September 11 attacks. Needless to say, it was a whirlwind time to be away from family and to understand the gravity of the situation with campus teachers and friends.

So, what did Clunes mean to me? Clunes was the most positive school experience that I will never forget. It holds dear to my heart as I felt the profound change it had on my life – in a matter of just one school term, I had matured several years as a person.

A treasure trove of memorabilia

Peter Milford (OW1971) recently donated a number of photographs of alumnus and former teacher Allan Dodd (OW1929) that he found at the Camberwell Market. They are all in remarkably good condition and featured a number of team photographs from the late 1920s.

In addition, for almost 50 years, Peter has collected a large number of Wesley badges and other memorabilia that he will be donating to the College Archives. Most have been collected at the Camberwell Market early each Sunday morning.

Peter also has many thousands of other badges including patriotic badges from the first and second World Wars,

'sweetheart brooches' and membership medallions from old and long-gone clubs, especially sporting clubs, which issued distinctively different and dated enamel medallions each season. Many go back to the very early 1900s and are works of art – some are enamel over gold, some over silver, but most are made out of brass.

'Amongst my collection are a very large number of antique school badges. As a proud OW, I have made a point of collecting every Wesley College badge or medallion which came my way, along with a good deal of other Wesley memorabilia which I could not allow to pass up,' explained Peter.

>

From top to bottom

Peter with one of the Dodd photographs

Drawer of Wesley badges, many of which are family badges or awards



BREAKING NEW GROUND AT CLUNES

Construction has commenced on the major redevelopment of Wesley@Clunes.

Once complete, students will have access to a demonstration kitchen, new learning studios and additional studio accommodation. These new, purpose-built learning spaces will complement the existing student houses and historic buildings around the Clunes site.

Be part of the next chapter of Clunes by donating as little as \$50 towards our fundraising campaign.

wesleycollege.edu.au/clunesredevelopment



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13th Annual Foundation Business Breakfast



Clockwise from top

Nick Evans addressing guests

Foundation Chair, Nicki Lefkovits (OW1990) launches the Rennie Coutts Science Scholarships for Girls

Panellist Alan Joyce with St Kilda Road students and staff

Panelists Georgia Rekaris-Hinton, Alan Joyce, Elana Rubin and Paul Guerra with Glen Waverley students and staff

Chinese Family Function

It was no surprise that the outstanding panel of speakers this year resulted in this event being fully booked well before the event date, 26 May.

The theme was *The sole purpose of business is to make a profit..or is it?* Moderated by *The Australian's* Wealth Editor, James Kirby, the panel consisted of: Paul Guerra, CEO Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Alan Joyce, CEO QANTAS; **Georgia Rekaris-Hinton (OW1989)**, GM Asia Pacific 3 Shape; and Elana Rubin, Chair, Afterpay. **Graeme Samuel (OW1963)** was also acknowledged and thanked for the central role he has played in securing the consistently high calibre of speakers our event attracts.

The lively and engaging discussion covered: Environmental Social Governance (ESG) and how it's defined and incorporated; gender balance and quotas; post pandemic corporate governance; and whether working from home is a passing trend or a more permanent feature of society. A variety of views and considered, insightful opinions were exchanged by panelists who brought their own perspectives and experiences to the discussion. Guests were treated to industry and business insights on these topical issues, followed by questions from the floor which provided further opportunities for discussion.

A feature of this year's event was the formal launch of the Rennie Coutts Science Scholarships for Girls by the Chair of the Wesley Foundation, **Nicki Lefkovits (OW1990)**, and the screening of the Foundation's new Scholarships video. Nicki also acknowledged and thanked our sponsors who are such a crucial element to ensuring the high quality of this annual event.



Unfortunately, our original Chinese New Year event was cancelled at late notice by the sudden Victorian lockdown, which caused considerable disappointment to the 300 guests who had registered. The Foundation then arranged another event for Sunday 16 May which featured a recital by internationally renowned pianist, **Hoang Pham (OW2002)**, which was greatly appreciated by our families. This was followed by afternoon tea and a brief presentation on Wesley's academic programs by the President of the Wesley College Council, Marianne Stillwell, with the support of parent and Foundation Committee member, Simon Xu.

The Foundation acknowledges the generous support of Holder East: bo.yang@holdereast.com.au and Wise Choice Partners: simon.xu@wisechoice.com.au who sponsored this event and the on-going support for Foundation events by Hoang Pham.

^

Clockwise from top

Hoang Pham (OW2002)

Simon Xu (Wise Choice Partners), Marianne Stillwell, Year 10 Glen Waverley student, Jeffrey Jiang, with his gold medal from the National Rowing Championships, Nicki Lefkovits, Jack Moshakis and Bo Yao (Holder East)

Guests listening to the presentation on academic results



President's Report



Your OWCA committee celebrating #FDD2021

As we continue to manage within a COVID world, it's uncanny to think we are already more than halfway through 2021. The OWCA continues to move forward as well. I would like to acknowledge the flexibility and nimbleness of our internal OWCA team who have been simply superb during this 'touch and go' phase. Their ability to manage movements in the events space based on the changing of restrictions and to deal with the disappointment when events and reunions have been cancelled – the day before, 'mid-flight' or even before they have had a chance to get off the ground – has been exceptional. I thank the hard-working team in the office who have had to reschedule, cancel and refund, and of course also thank our OW community, guests and our amazing guest speakers for their patience and understanding.

We were blessed that Founders' Day Dinner 2021 was able to go ahead in May after 12 months of planning by our very enthusiastic and committed sub-committee, headed up by passionate Vice President David Kennedy (OW1966). FDD2021 was truly special. The energy in the room was electric, with those in attendance so grateful that we were all

able to come together to celebrate this fabulous annual occasion – we can thank our lucky stars!

With formalities including a brief address from our **Principal Nick Evans (OW1985)** – who was attending his first real-time Founders' Day Dinner in the role – and myself as President, the night quickly moved onto what we were all there for: the conversations, the amazing dining experience and the phenomenal school singing. The MYER Mural Hall and The Big Group once again turned it on with their exceptional service and premium execution. A substantial group of OWs kicked on at the Toff in Town to continue the fun. We hope to see you all at #FDD2022!

Our beloved and traditional Founders' Day Lunch planned for the end of May at the Kooyong Tennis Club regrettably was cancelled at the last minute due to COVID-19 restrictions.

I had the pleasure of attending the 13th Annual Business Breakfast, proudly presented by the Wesley College Foundation. An outstanding panel of guest speakers addressed the very topical question 'The sole purpose of business it to make profits... or is it?'

Alan Joyce, Chief Executive Officer at Qantas, and Elana Rubin, Chair of Afterpay, were notably inspiring, sharing their thoughts on the current trend of working from home and the positives that come from creating diversity in the workplace.

At the OWCA, we are very aware that it remains so important for us to be looking after each other and ensuring that connections to communities such as our Association stay strong. It offers so much opportunity and value. We are currently working on a number of business networking sessions and Women of Wesley (WOW) event to ensure we are connecting you with OW experts who can assist, inform, educate and entertain.

And finally, a friendly reminder – if you haven't already: please jump online, create a personal profile and list your business as part of our online network OWConnect. All made possible through our ongoing partnership with Incarta, and OW brothers **Marcus (OW1980)** and **Nicholas (OW1984) Young**.

#oldwesleycollegians
#bleedingpurpleandgold
#WomenofWesley #FDD2022

Kate Evans (OW1998)

Founders' Day Dinner



^

From top left to right

Nina Ferro (OW1991)

Elsternwick Junior Choir with conductor Ian Thomas, Nick Evans and Alexandra Cameron

Nick Evans and Elly Ackland

Founders' Day Dinner in 2021 proved to be an exceptional window of fun and collegiality cutting through a wall of COVID-19 lockdowns. The classical glamour of the Myer Mural Hall in the heart of Melbourne warmed the hearts of all its guests – OWs, partners, staff and former staff alike. The annual magic of this contemporary event continues to draw enthusiasm from a really broad range of leavers, from 2020 right back to 1949 and every decade in between!

It was the perfect opportunity to hear from Principal Nick Evans (OW1985), attending his first Founders Day Dinner in-person in his current role, having appeared online at our historic FDD2020@home event, along with his wife Elly Ackland last year.

President of the OWCA, Kate Evans (OW1998), introduced the Principal and welcomed the crowd. She spoke about the Association's value and the incredible

achievements of the OWCA Executive Committee and its sub-committees, including the outstanding work of David Kennedy (OW1966), Chair of the FDD2021 Organising Committee which brought us the premium event with all its very stylish elements.

Highlights included the Elsternwick Junior Choir conducted by College Head of the OWCA, Ian Thomas (OW1982), piano by Elsternwick Head of Music, Alexandra Cameron, singing sensation Nina Ferro (OW1991), DJ Jeux Croix, and of course the amazing singing of school songs by the guests themselves, whom we thank for their wonderful warmth and enthusiasm! The magic of this flagship OWCA event with its contemporary format allows for a great deal of fun, sensational food and wine, and plenty of time to catch up with friends. The stars were certainly shining on the purple carpet at #FDD2021.

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We thank our lucky stars #FDD2021





The big fish returns



Michael Klim (OW1994) is a three-time Olympian, multi-time world champion and 21-time world record holder, and soon you can add Hall-of-Famer to that list. Originally announced in 2020, his induction into the International Swimming Hall of Fame was delayed because of COVID and is now slated for October this year.

In 1995, at only 18 years of age, Michael Klim was named Australian Swimming Rookie of the Year as he embarked on a glittering professional career that would see him become an Australian swimming icon. He announced himself on the world stage after winning a bronze medal in his first Olympic appearance in the 1996 Atlanta Games and continued his rise the

following year when he broke the world record in the 100m butterfly. He was also awarded the World Swimmer of the Year.

At the 1998 FINA World Championships in Perth, Michael's record haul of seven medals in seven events, including four gold, is still regarded as one of the most outstanding performances by an Australian at an international swim meet. Not looking to slow down, however, he backed this performance up in the 1998 Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur, where again he won seven medals, including four gold, on his way to another Australian Swimmer of the Year award in 1998.

The 2000 Sydney Olympic Games saw Michael star. Often regarded as the best relay swimmer of all time, he was instrumental in Australia's 4 x 100m relay victory, unleashing a world record lead

off swim of 48.18 seconds to win his first gold on the first night. The pictures of Michael playing air guitar – after the previously undefeated American team boasted about smashing their opponents like the stringed instruments – were beamed around the world and are forever stamped in Australian Olympic folklore. Three days later, Michael was part of the 4x200m freestyle relay, which set another world record (7:07.05) and left the opposition over five seconds in arrears on its way to victory. He would go on to score two more silver medals at a record breaking Olympics for the Australian Swim Team

After a two-year break due to injury, Michael returned to the pool during the 2004 Athens Games as one of only three triple Olympians in the squad and won his sixth medal as part of the 4x200m freestyle relay team. He continued his spectacular comeback at the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games where he won gold in the men's 4x100m medley relay, silver in the 4x100m freestyle relay and 100m butterfly and bronze in the 50m butterfly.

However, Michael's golden success was not limited to the pool. He founded his own skincare company, Milk and Co, becoming one of the most sought-after keynote speakers on the public speaking circuit and opening two highly successful KLIMSWIM centres and Learn to Swim programs in Melbourne. In 2021, Michael, along with his sister **Anna (OW1992)**, returned to Wesley to open their newest KLIMSWIM centre in the St Kilda Road Campus pool. As Michael said, 'It's such a great pleasure to open our new KLIMSWIM centre and be able to pass on the skills of swimming and water safety to the next generation.'

At the first clinic, some of the state's most exciting up-and-coming swimmers enjoyed learning a few things from one of Australia's most recognisable former Olympians; many were inspired by both his success as an elite athlete and his humility.

There's always a place at Wesley for our OWs, and it's fantastic to see them remain connected with the community. As Michael says, 'For my sister and I, it's extra special to come back!'

The big fish has returned to the small pond, but not before conquering all of the deepest ocean.

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All That Jazz

The latest and most compelling new voice in Australian jazz, saxophonist, composer and arranger **Stephen Byth (OW2012)** has released *Reparations*, a hit debut album. Described as a 'call-to-arms, reflecting its composer's issues at the forefront of contemporary Australia', the album brings together diverse influences spanning from John Coltrane to Béla Bartók to Andrea Keller. The seamless quality of the music is even more remarkable given it was recorded during lockdown, with musicians remotely adding their parts.

Stephen's musical path began at age 13 upon hearing a recording of Dexter Gordon, after which he was immediately drawn to the sound of the saxophone and the freedom and expressive possibilities of jazz music. After beginning his professional career at the age of 15, Stephen went on to become an active member of Melbourne's jazz scene, playing with some of Australia's finest musicians including our own **Paul Grabowsky (OW1975)**, Barney McAll, James Morrison and the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra.

After receiving the Monash Jazz Scholarship in 2013, Stephen went on to study his Bachelor of Music at Monash University where he was mentored by Australian jazz luminaries Julien Wilson and Tony Gould. Upon graduating in 2015, Stephen received the Ernst Morawitz Prize, recognising him as the top graduating student of

his class. He was also selected as a finalist in the Generations in Jazz James Morrison Scholarship.

Upon graduating, Stephen went on to perform as a leader/sideman in various iconic venues around Melbourne including Hamer Hall, the Jazzlab, Bennett's Lane Jazz Club and Uptown Jazz Café, as well as at the Melbourne International Jazz Festival and the Wangaratta Jazz Festival. In 2017 he recorded on a live album by James Morrison and Patti Austin named *Ella and Louis* which would go on to be nominated for an ARIA Award later that year.

In 2018, Stephen relocated to Boston to study at Berklee College of Music on scholarship. During his time at Berklee, he studied jazz composition and counterpoint as well as studying saxophone with George Garzone and Frank Tiberi. Stephen is currently



finishing his Master of Music at the Berklee Global Jazz Institute under Danilo Pérez and Marco Pignataro, a program that offers full-tuition grants to its students.

Stephen's journey from a Bachelor at Monash to a Masters at the Berklee College of Music sees him now living and performing in Boston, working alongside many fellow talented jazz artists.

***Reparations* is now available at linktr.ee/stephenbyth**



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OWs make a splash in the Art world

Making a splash in the Art world is never easy, but this year it has happened for two of our OWs, each in their own different way.

It's quite a time to launch your first major solo art exhibition in New York, but **Kristin McIver (Guthrie) (OW1992)** has done just that. Earlier this year her *Impressions* exhibition showed at the prestigious Jane Lombard Gallery NYC and featured a series of video sculptures examining post-truth, data and misinformation in the face of climate change. This exhibition was the first iteration of a three-part series between the Jane Lombard Gallery (New York), MARS Gallery (Melbourne) and Royale Projects (Los Angeles). Utilising the forms of water, fire and earth, each show engages the climatic effects of global warming most urgent to the galleries' specific locations.

Kristin received her Master of Fine Arts from the University of Melbourne in 2014. Her work was awarded the Melbourne Sculpture Prize in 2012. Other exhibitions and achievements include *Melbourne Now* (National Gallery of Victoria 2013), *Status Quo* (James Makin Gallery 2013), *Data Portraits* (Royale Projects: Contemporary Art, California 2013), The Art OMI Residency (2013), *ME/ME* (Chasm Gallery, NY 2014), and the Vancouver Biennale Residency Program (2015) with significant acquisitions by the National Gallery of Victoria, Latrobe University Museum of Art and the Friebe Collection.

Kristin's multi-disciplinary conceptual practice includes sculpture, painting, sound and installation, utilising devices such as language, light, mixed media and new media, with the works exploring themes of identity and celebrity within the context of participatory and consumer culture.

Ash Keating (OW1998) has been painting explosively overseas and across Australia since 2003, having exhibited extensively in galleries as well as creating numerous large-scale, site-responsive outdoor projects, many of which can be found across Melbourne.

Following a year of creative experimentation and marking a transition in technique, in 2021 Ash debuted his show *Duality*, comprising two bodies of work showing concurrently at Linden New Art in Melbourne. *Duality* opened in February showing *Aerial*, before changing to *Fall* in late March. As Ash himself says, 'Why show one body of work when I've got three months in a gallery, when I could make another – the same size – and swap it over halfway through?'

Ash's outdoor murals and large-scale canvas works have appeared nationally and internationally, including in the National Gallery of Australia (NGA), the National Gallery of Victoria (NGV), Latrobe University of Modern Art, Art Gallery of Ballarat, and Museum of Contemporary Art's C3West (MCA). His work has been exhibited internationally at Museo de Arte Contemporaneo, Santiago, Chile, Seoul Art Space and Artsonje Centre, Seoul, South Korea, the 6th SCAPE Biennial 2010–11, and Christchurch Art Gallery, New Zealand.

He has also been commissioned to produce public works for the NGV in Melbourne, the Adelaide Festival Centre and Sydney's Domain, while his works are held in collections including the NGV, NGA, MCA, Australian Gallery of NSW, Monash University of Modern Art and Artbank.

Ash, who graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Art (BFA) in Painting from Monash University in 2003, and BFA Honours from the Victorian College of the Arts in 2006, has rarely made use of a paintbrush. Most notably recognised for his impulsive and exuberant style, attributed to the repurposing of fire extinguishers to paint, he continues to make magic in his Melbourne-based suburban studio, with vast ceilings eight metres high to accommodate his oversized canvases.



From top to bottom

Ash Keating's unique style of painting with a fire extinguisher

Kirstin McIver (Guthrie) (OW1992)

I, Claudia

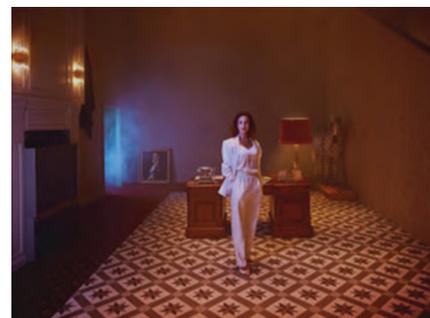
Last year was difficult for everyone. For actor **Nicole Nabout (OW1987)**, who has consistently worked on stage, film and television since her acting days at Wesley, it was a strange break from the everyday stress of securing the next gig, as there was simply nothing to do – no work and no auditions.

But as the industry found its feet again and started planning for 2021, the remote auditions started to roll in again. Like many actors stuck at home with only their families to audition with, a plethora of self-tapes made with children and partners (or, if single, fellow actors and friends on speaker phone reading the other parts) became the norm for Nicole. Like many, she turned a walk in robe into a sound studio and ordered lights from Amazon to create her own mini film studio.

Nicole was very lucky and found herself coming out of Lockdown 2.0 with a year's worth of work. Of course she has held her breath every time a new COVID-19 case is announced, wondering if work would

be cancelled. Her first return was a fill-in *Jack Irish* episode which premiered on the ABC in mid-June, where she played the role as Evie Mansour, the mother of Jack's child Sami (yes, Jack has been very busy between Seasons 2 and 3). 'I had a wonderful month filming with the cast and crew of this marvellously Melbourne creation, and I hope you will also support this local production by watching it!' Nicole exclaims.

She recently starred in *Because the Night* at the Malthouse Theatre in Melbourne, an incredible large-scale immersive theatre experience written and created by the extraordinary Malthouse team led by Matt Lutton. The show is based on the basic tenets of *Hamlet* but set in the 1980s logging town of Elsinore. Audience members were invited into the town to watch its inhabitants struggle with the consequences of their actions and inactions. Nicole plays the new Queen Claudia, based on King Claudius from *Hamlet*, and (spoiler alert)



Nicole Nabout (OW1987) as Queen Claudia in 'Because the Night' at the Malthouse in Melbourne

having killed her brother she struggles to defend her actions in the name of the greater good.

It has been a tough time for the Arts, but as Nicole says, 'I have no idea what next year will bring – do any of us? – but I am very grateful to have been given the opportunity to use craft again in 2021.'

YOUR OWCA

OWCA Executive

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Kate Evans (OW1998)

Vice President

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Anastasia Malishev (OW1995)

Amy McAlister (OW2003)

Thomas Pewtress (OW2018)

Director, Foundation and Alumni

Jack Moshakis (OW1973)

Interested in becoming involved in the Executive?
Contact Ian Thomas (OW1982) College Head, OWCA
ian.thomas@wesleycollege.edu.au + 61 8102 6475

Key contacts

Address and email updates |
Lion stories | Social media, OW updates
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Death notices | Grant enquiries from
Affiliates | Administrative enquiries |
Academic transcripts
owca@wesleycollege.edu.au

Event enquiries | Calendar enquiries
Zena Eastburn
zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.edu.au



Updates



Kate Dempsey (OW2012)

Speaking to students at the Elsternwick campus as part of International Women’s Day celebrations earlier in the year, Lion-turned-AFLW Tiger **Kate Dempsey (OW2012)** recalled her challenges in growing up with a desire to play what were once considered male sports. She implored students to always be true to themselves and follow their passions.

Kate represented the Victorian Amateur Football Association (VAFA) in the first ever VAFA Women’s team and played

for Richmond’s VFLW team for two years. Rewarded for her consistency, she was pre-selected (No. 85 overall) by the Club as an Academy player for the 2019 NAB AFLW Draft, making her debut against Greater Western in Wagga Wagga in round five of the 2020 season.

The talented sportswoman also played cricket for Victoria at junior level, represented the state in the sport of Futsal in national championships, and is a qualified psychologist.



Josh Piterman (OW2003) and Ben Walter (OW2015)

It’s great to see live theatre back, especially when two of our own return with it. After wowing them on the West End, **Josh Piterman (OW2003)** is back in Oz and haunting the stages of the Sydney Opera House as the Phantom before a return to Melbourne later this year.

Meanwhile **Ben Walter (OW2015)** is part of the hugely popular stage play *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, the next instalment in J.K Rowling’s Harry Potter

phenomenon. Set 19 years after the events of the 2007 novel *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*, Ben plays Albus Severus Potter, the son of Harry, as he prepares to attend Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.



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Emeritus Professor Alan Osbourne TROUNSON – Past Parent
For distinguished service to medical science, and to in vitro fertilisation and stem cell technologies.

MEMBER IN THE GENERAL DIVISION (AM)

Dr Bryan Christopher MENDELSON (OW1962)
For significant service to aesthetic plastic surgery, and to medical societies.

Mr Trent John SMYTH (OW1988)
For significant service to international relations, to motorsport, and to business.

MEDAL (OAM) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION

Ms Susan Joy FRASER – Past Parent
For service to financial planning and counselling.

Mr Max WALD – Past Parent
For service to the Jewish community.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Leanne BARNES OAM (Elsternwick MLC 1972)
For outstanding public service to local government in New South Wales.

Dr Christine Enid SELVEY – Past Parent
For outstanding public service to infectious disease reporting and public health in New South Wales.
Dr Selvey has served NSW Health, and the broader community, with distinction.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Alen SLIJEPCEVIC – Past Parent
For outstanding public service to infectious disease reporting and public health in New South Wales.



James Boyce (OW2017)

James Boyce (OW2017) was instrumental in Prahran Cricket Club's first Victorian Premier Cricket First XI Premiership in 37 years, taking 4/40 in the Grand Final against Dandenong at the Citipower Centre on Saturday 17 April.

With Dandenong at 1/105 chasing 262 and well positioned to push for victory, James took three wickets in a row and four out of five to leave them at 6/168 and ultimately 24 runs short of Prahran's total.

James played four full seasons of First XI cricket for Wesley and is one of the College's highest-ever wicket takers, as well as Vice-Captain of Cricket in 2015/6 and 2016/7.

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Affiliates



The Alan Mitchell Rowing Club's commemorative medal from the 2021 season

Alan Mitchell Club

The Alan Mitchell Rowing Club is looking forward to presenting a special commemorative medallion to the Girls First VIII for their historic win at the Head of the River this year.

In addition to supporting school rowing, the Club is actively encouraging Wesley alumni to experience the thrills, improved fitness and social connections the sport has to offer. Places are available in existing crews, and new members also have the opportunity to form their own crew.

Contact Club president Ana McCloskey by email at ana.mccloskey@gmail.com to organise a tour of the sheds and to find out more about the club.

The club also has a long history of supporting the Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia through participation in Rowathons on the Murray and Darling Rivers. Join a crew now to take part in this event in September!

Collegians Football Club

This season has been pretty tough going for us at Collegians FC. Between player injuries and mixed availability our depth has been really tested. Our Women are certainly showing the way and with good player numbers both the Women's Reserves and Seniors are pushing for finals. The Reserves have a very good chance of making the finals with only three games remaining.

The Boys' Seniors and Reserves have had only one win each up to Round 10. Unfortunately we missed playing the bottom side and two games due to the lockdown.

Off-field, Mark Hibbins and Emma Carney have been very busy signing a couple of new sponsors and pushing up our membership numbers.

We are always looking for new sponsors and members, particularly coterie members who we want to become a big part of the club and help with our financial security.

Please see our new website for all details of sponsorship and membership: collegiansfc.com.au

One of this year's highlights was our Anzac Day match against Old Scotch where we had a win and retained the MacNeil Cup. We play for this prize against Old Scotch each year to celebrate the link between Wesley and Scotch as partner schools during the war. Wesley students went to classes and sport at Scotch while the Army took over the St Kilda Road grounds.

The Club is always looking for more players and volunteers to help with jobs on Saturday or on Thursday nights when we feed 100-odd players each week.

For anyone looking to get involved at our dynamic club and enjoy being with like-minded people, contact Co-Presidents Rod Nancarrow 0412 687 430 or Mark Hibbins 0409 406 442 for more information.

GO LIONS!



At the Interschool Golf Day: Jenny Yelland (Cato MLC 1974), Jennifer Round (Cato MLC 1974), Wendy Sharpe (Cato College 1977) and Debbie Catchlove (Cato MLC 1974)

Elsternwick Cato Golf

On 19 April, the Cato girls played in the 92nd Interschool Golf Day at Commonwealth Golf Club. We finished the day midfield and enjoyed catching up with old friends, fellow golfers and participants from 27 other schools. Needless to say, an enjoyable day was had by all!

The 2021 Elsternwick Cato golf day and lunch will be held on Friday 3 September at the Riversdale Golf Club. To register your interest, please contact the convenor Debbie Catchlove (Cato MLC 1974) on 0425 711 386 or dcatchlove@hotmail.com

OWCA BOARDERS' WEEKEND

17-19 September



A weekend of activities in Bendigo beginning with drinks and canapés on Friday 17 September

Boarders' Reunion Dinner
with the Principal
Nick Evans (OW1985)

Saturday 18 September

- Tour of the Bendigo Art Gallery
- Golf Day at the Bendigo Golf Club
- Lunch at The Sandhurst Club
- The unveiling of a plaque in honour of our first boarder, Freddie Binks

For program details and bookings
owca.net/news-and-events/events

Dates: Friday 17 – Sunday 19 September, 2021

Venue: All Seasons Resort Hotel in Bendigo

Enquiries: OWCA@wesleycollege.edu.au

Contact the All Seasons Resort Hotel,
Bendigo for an accommodation discount



Events & Reunions

Canberra Dinner



The OWCA persevered with in-person events where possible this year, including the much anticipated Canberra Dinner. Despite the guest speaker, Principal Nick Evans (OW1985) and an OWCA contingent being unable to escape the everchanging COVID-19 settings to attend, the strength of our OW community in the ACT and the enthusiasm of our representative in Canberra, John Fuhrman (OW1961), enabled the Dinner to proceed almost as planned at a private dining room at QTs, the Art Series hotel at 1 London Circuit.

John Fuhrman's thoughtful professionalism and engaging manner was on show, dispensing nametags and enabling effortless introductions ahead of his welcome. His outstanding diplomatic career includes local and overseas posts with the Department of External Affairs, now called the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. In Australia, John's career included other Commonwealth government agencies before being appointed to the office of the Deputy Prime Minister as Senior Portfolio Adviser. John's wit, warmth and enthusiasm for Wesley and life in Canberra is a great combination.

Guests agreed that the next gathering should be an informal OW picnic later in the year.

While the OWCA has made every effort to travel to other states and regions this year, we have been unlucky with COVID-19 restrictions and several events have not been as fortunate as this one. No doubt OWs will be hungry for our live and engaging events when things open up. They will certainly appreciate the importance of taking every opportunity to see friends and share the fellowship for which we are famous.



OWCA GEELONG LUNCH

DATE
Friday 12 November

VENUE
The Geelong Boathouse

ENQUIRIES
owca@wesleycollege.edu.au

Founders' Day Dinner



Clockwise from left

Michele Thomas, Ella Grant (OW2018),
Ian Thomas (OW1982), Wes the Lion,
Tom Pewtress (OW2016)

Cam Grant, Gav Burgess, Nick Hibbins
(all OW1982)

Bill Kontos, Nina Ferro, Michael Nystazos,
Natalie Krug, Hong Man Wu (all OW1991)

OWCA/OSCA GOLF DAY

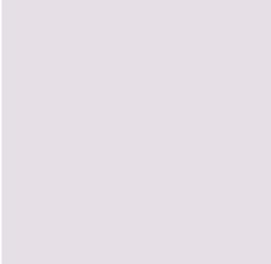
DATE
FRIDAY 5
NOVEMBER

VENUE
THE KEW
GOLF CLUB

Enquiries: OWCA@wesleycollege.edu.au



Births

<p>CAMPBELL ></p> <p>To Rod (OW1995) and Laura on 27 May 2021, a daughter, Noemie Sylba Dabudyk, a sister for Louis, a niece for Lauren (OW1999), a granddaughter for Stuart (OW1957)</p>		<p>CUTTS ></p> <p>To Lucy (OW2004) on 28 April 2021, a daughter, Amelia Angela, a niece for Sam (OW2007) and Piri (OW2001), a granddaughter for Jeremy (OW1970)</p>		<p>GRAY</p> <p>To Peter (OW1998) and Rebecca on 28 May 2021, a daughter, Georgia Toni</p>
	<p>< JAGER</p> <p>To Mitchell (OW2006) and Jessica Gumley (OW2006) on 5 Dec 2020, a son, Hugo, a nephew for Paul (OW2003) and Daniel Gumley (OW2008), a grandson for Glenis Gumley (past staff)</p>		<p>< KELLY</p> <p>To Christine (OW1995) on 9 November 2020, a daughter, Alice, a niece for Jane Guy (Kelly) (OW1999)</p>	
<p>LODGE - GRIMA ></p> <p>To Charlie (OW2008) and Lauren (OW2008) on 23 April 2021, a daughter, Edith Rose, a sister for Marley, a niece for Alexandra (OW2010)</p>		<p>LOUEY ></p> <p>To Gregory (OW2007) and Kylie (OW2007) on 21 March 2021, a daughter, Victoria, a niece for Warrick (OW2001) and Kenneth Saw (OW2005)</p>		<p>MORRIS</p> <p>To Jeremy (OW1995) and Ana on 21 January 2021, a son, Lucas, a brother for Jacob, a nephew for Jessica (OW1992)</p>
	<p>< PARK</p> <p>To Sharon (Kloester) (OW2001) and Gary on 23 February 2021, a son, James Nathaniel, a nephew for Jason Kloester (OW2001)</p>		<p>< PARSONS</p> <p>To Georgia Parsons (OW2001) and Mark Pettifer on 19 March 2021, a daughter, Leila Valentina, a sister for Isabella and Charlie, a granddaughter for Keith (OW1979)</p>	
	<p>< PEACH</p> <p>To Nadine (Denison) (OW2008) and Shannon on 9 June 2021, a son, Wilbur Michael, a brother to Oscar, a nephew to Grant (2006)</p>		<p>< ROGERS</p> <p>To Penny (OW2004) and Michael Phelan on 21 March 2021, a son, Baxter Edward Osborn, a nephew for Ali (OW2006)</p>	

	<p>STEPHENSON</p> <p>To Britt (OW2010) and Joseph on 31 March 2021, a daughter, Hailey, a niece for Ryan (OW2002) and Tyler (OW2005), a granddaughter for Terri (past staff)</p>		<p>SUTTON</p> <p>To Jamie (OW1995) and Danielle Rogers, on 19 November 2020, a son Edward Jonah, a brother for Jackson</p>	
		<p>VARIGOS</p> <p>To Tim (OW2010) and Nikki on 25 June 2021, a daughter, Sienna Grace, a sister for Ivy, a granddaughter for Greg (OW1976)</p>		<p>WRIGHT</p> <p>To Al (OW2004) and Kristi on 30 March 2021, a son, Oliver Richard, a brother for Charlotte, a nephew for Rollo (OW2000) and Adam (OW2008)</p>

ENROLLING

YOUR CHILD

AT WESLEY



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

Applications by OWs to enrol their child at Wesley are prioritised based on the date of receipt and many families apply when their child is born

As valued members of the Wesley community, the application fee is waived for applications from OWs.

Don't leave it too late. Apply today

Applications can be completed online by visiting wesleycollege.edu.au/enrol/domestic-applications



Weddings & Engagements



Clockwise from left

POWELL – IRWIN
Stephanie (OW2005) and Edmund
on 14 May 2021

DONNAN – HEY
Alice (OW2008) and Chris

HUELS – NIEUWOUDT
Luke (OW2011) and Maddison (OW2012)
on 16 April 2021

QUINN – PARK
Johanna (OW2013) and Jumyeong
on 24 April 2021

KROGER – BARNUEVO
Simon (OW2009) and Emily (OW2009)
on 10 April 2021



>

From left to right

BRAUDE – SYMON
Natalie (OW2000) and Andy

RUNKOWSKA – MILEO
Aneta (OW2010) and Stuart



Calendar

September

Friday 3

Elsternwick Cato Golf Day

Riversdale Golf Course

Friday 3 | 7.00pm

SKR 2015/2016 5 Year Reunion

Union Hotel

Friday 17 – Sunday 19

Boarders' Reunion Weekend

All Seasons Resort Hotel, Bendigo

Wednesday 22

1960 Premierships Dinner

Cato Room, SKR

Thursday 30 | 12.00pm

Golden Lions Lunch

Cato Room, SKR

October

Friday 1 | 7.00pm

SKR 2005/2006 15 Year Reunion

College Lawn

Friday 8 | 7.00pm

GW 2000/2001 20 Year Reunion

Senior Café, GW

Friday 15

GW 2010/2011 10 Year Reunion

Union Hotel

Friday 22 | 7.00pm

SKR 1990/1991 30 Year Reunion

Cato Room, SKR

Wednesday 27 | 12.00pm

Mornington Peninsula Lunch

Friday 28 | 7.00pm

GW 2015/2016 5 Year Reunion

Union Hotel

November

Friday 5

OWCA/OSCA Golf Day

Kew Golf Course

Thursday 11

GW 2005/2006 15 Year Reunion

College Lawn Hotel

Friday 12 | 12.00pm

Geelong Lunch

Geelong Boat House

Sunday 14 | 12.00pm

Elsternwick Decades Reunion

Fitchell Hall, Elsternwick

Friday 19 | 7.00pm

SKR 1980/1981 40 Year Reunion

Cato Room, SKR

Friday 26

GW 1996/1995 25 Year Reunion

Senior Cafe, GW

December

Friday 3

SKR 2010/2011 10 Year Reunion

Union Hotel

As we have all experienced, COVID-19 restrictions mean plans can change frequently. Our calendar is correct at the time of printing however we encourage you to visit owca.net for booking links and the most up-to-date details.



OWCA Mornington Peninsula Lunch

Venue: Lancemore Lindenderry, Red Hill

Date: Wednesday 27 October, 2021

Enquiries: OWCA@wesleycollege.edu.au



Deaths

BAILEY

Kenneth Vernon OAM (OW1946) on 7 October 2020, son of Kenneth (OW1916) (dec.), brother of Peter (OW1944) and John (OW1946) (dec.)

BOTT

Keville Ernest John on 9 May 2021, father of James Bott (OW1973), grandfather of Jonathan Bott (OW2002), Anna Russo (OW2005), Sophia Russo-Bott (OW2009) and Madelena Russo (OW2014)

COULTER

David Andrew (OW1979) on 23 January 2021, son of John (OW1949) (dec.), brother of Richard (OW1976)

COX

Ian George (OW1965) on 20 June 2020

DAWS

Grahame Kingston (OW1954) on 23 May 2021

HULL

Malcolm Dunstan (OW1955) on 25 September 2020, son of Seymour (OW1916) brother of Hedley (OW1942) (dec.) and Kingsley (OW1947)

ELLIOTT

Barry Gilbert (OW1959) on 28 May 2021, father of Tania (OW1989)

FALCONER

Kenneth William OAM (OW1959) on 17 March 2021

LODER

Robert (Bob) Edward (OW1944) on 1 January 2021, son of Louis (OW1915), son-in-law of George Archer (OW1915), father of Susie (OWCA Honorary Life Member), Rick (OW1973) and Tim (OW1976), father-in-law of Peter Rodgers-Wilson (OW1965), grandfather of Jo Resson (Rodgers-Wilson) (OW1993), Lucy Gilfillan (Rodgers-Wilson) (OW1995), Tim Rodgers-Wilson (OW1998), Alex (OW2003), Jim (OW2004), Jack (OW2006), Kate (OW2006) and Rory (OW2010)

MARMARAS

Arthur Paul (OW1961) on 26 April 2021, brother of John (OW1959), father of Adam (OW1991)

PULLING

Richard James (OW1969) on 16 March 2021, son of Harold (OW1939) (dec.), brother of Doug (OW1970)

REID

Wayne Vivian OBE (OW1955) on 30 June 2021, brother of Jim (OW1947) (dec.) and Douglas (OW1952) (dec.)

SANGUINETTI

Mark Allen (OW1979) on 18 April 2021, son of William (OW1932) (dec.), nephew of Frank (OW1930) (dec.), Jack (OW1933) and Clifford (OW1935) (dec.), brother of Bill (OW1962), John (OW1964) (dec.) and David (OW1971)

STRAPP

Francis Robert (OW1947) on 7 May 2021, father of Guy (OW1976)

STREADER

John Howard (OW1961) on 17 August 2020, brother of Peter (OW1957)

WATERS

Geoffrey Thomas (OW1953) on 21 March 2021, son of Thomas (OW1920) (dec.), father of David (OW1990), grandfather of Charlie (OW2017)

WELLS

Martin Edward Wells (OW1961) on 2 March 2021, son of Edward (OW1918) (dec.), brother of Roland (OW1965)



Francis (Frank) Robert STRAPP (OW1947)

15/06/1929 – 07/05/2021

It's impossible to tell the story of Frank's Wesley experience without mentioning that he was part of the formidable and winning Athletics team of 1947. The Chronicle explains why his recent passing is such a loss to our community. *'Everything depended, as so often it does in these meetings, on the last event—the Open 440 Yards, a hard race at any time, far worse when so much depends on it. F. R. Strapp came to the starting line looking very fit, and on him rested the hopes of Wesley. But he did not allow his heavy responsibility to warp his judgement, and, when some other runners were struggling for the lead around the Grandstand turn, he was content to let them tire themselves, while he went fast, but not all out. Coming up the straight on the railway line side he did not make up much leeway, but, as soon as he came to the turn, taking advantage of the inside track, he unleashed a paralysing burst, which the runners in front could not equal, and went on to win by some yards, clipping 1 sec. off his previous best of 52.9 secs. Startled officials hurried forward as Wesley boys streamed onto the ground, as there was still a relay event to be run. After this finish, Strapp was chaired off the field by a mass of cheering, purple-clad youths. Wesley had won the Combined Sports.'*

In addition, Frank's victory in the 220 Yards in 22.9 seconds marked him as one of the best sprinters Wesley has produced. But like many of the Wesley at Scotch/McNeil era boys, Frank was an all-rounder, whose daily life at school demonstrated great enthusiasm and legendary sporting skills. Receiving Colours for Athletics in 1946, by the time of his Leaving in 1947, he received colours for Football and had served on committees and in the field. He was a Prefect probationer and Form Captain and he served on the Games Committee and Sports Sub-Committees for Cricket, Athletics and Football. Frank served as Cadet Lieutenant in the Cadet Corps and was Secretary of the Cadet Club, and still had time to play tennis. Through the OWCA, Frank received the W B Watson Prize for Studies and Games and the next year proudly took out a life subscription to the OWCA. Later, his son Guy Strapp (OW1976) attended Wesley. Irving House contemporary S E K Hulme wrote at the time, *"The quality of an army depends on the quality of its leaders." The above quotation is the answer to the problem that has been troubling the most learned minds at Wesley: "How did a School team containing only two Irving boys win the Combined Sports?" G. W. Marriott and F. R. Strapp were the only Irving representatives in the Athletics Team, but the fact that they were Captain and Vice-Captain respectively sufficed.'*

His wife Maree writes, *'Some of you may remember Francis (Frank) Robert Strapp, who passed away on 7 May, 2021 at the age of 91 years. Frank started at Wesley in the Hutch at 4 or 5 years of age in about 1934. He excelled in most sports especially athletics and football. He was a member of Irving House and even some of the masters called him 'Jock'. Frank was one of the boys who spent his schooling in 1942 and 1943 at Scotch College when Wesley was taken over for the war effort. He found this to be a great experience.'*

Frank was a much loved father, grandfather and great-grandfather.



Barry Gilbert Elliott RFD, M.B.B.S., F.R.A.C.S. (OW1959)

18/6/1941 – 28/5/2021

Barry was born in Elmore, the elder son of Sheila and Gilbert Elliott. He initially attended Diggora West and Rochester schools, then became a boarder at Wesley. He was Captain of Tennis in 1959 and continued to play tennis throughout his working life.

After Matriculation Barry entered Queens College, University of Melbourne to study Medicine, graduating M.B.B.S. in 1965. At the end of his fourth year studying he married Glenys McDonald, beginning a wonderfully happy marriage of almost 58 years.

In 1969 Barry joined the RAAF Reserve and had two tours of duty to Butterworth Air Base in Malaysia. He was Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon to Laverton and Point Cook RAAF Bases and Puckapunyal Army Base, and was awarded the Reserve Forces Decoration (RFD) in 1991. He held the rank of Group Captain when he retired.

In 1971 he became a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and in 1976 a Fellow of the Australian Orthopaedic Association. In 1978, he became a member of the Australian Hand Surgery Society.

In 1973 Barry and his family went to Edinburgh, Scotland where he worked at the Royal Infirmary and Princess Margaret Rose Orthopaedic Hospital. Having gained more experience in orthopaedic and hand surgery in Edinburgh, he returned to Melbourne with his family in 1974 to take up a new appointment as Honorary Orthopaedic Consultant at the Alfred Hospital and the Royal Children's Hospital.

In that year Barry also commenced private orthopaedic practice at Cabrini Hospital, continuing until he retired in 2005. He became Head of Orthopaedic Unit 1 at the Alfred Hospital in 1997, and in 2000 he was appointed the inaugural Musculoskeletal Co-Director there, retaining both positions until retirement.

In 1981 he was appointed a member of the Physiotherapy Board of Victoria and served until 1999. The following year he was appointed to the Medical Panels of Victoria and sat at Panels until retirement.

Through the Australian Orthopaedic Association's Outreach Program, Barry visited Indonesia many times as an External Examiner for orthopaedic trainees taking their final examinations. He also visited Fiji several times to operate and teach Fijian orthopaedic trainees.

Barry was passionate about medical history and had a large collection of very old anatomy and orthopaedic surgery books. He was a member of the Medical History Society and regularly attended their meetings.

In 1994, thinking they must never be bored in retirement, Barry and Glenys bought land in Chanters Lane, Fern Hill, and established Chanters Ridge Vineyard, specialising in pinot noir. He was passionate about wine and his wines won many prizes which delighted him.

Barry lived life to the full, but his love for his wife and family always came first. He was immensely proud of his daughters, Simone, Andrea and Tania (OW1989), his son-in-law, Justin (Bob) Boyer, and his grandchildren, Rebecca, Thomas, Lachlan and Benjamin Boyer, and Lucas Toffano, who is in Year 7 at Wesley.

Barry is survived by his wife Glenys, daughters Simone, Andrea, Tania, son-in-law Justin, his grandchildren and his brother Laurie (OW1961).

May he rest in peace.



Contacts

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0402 266 633 ben.n.rollo@gmail.com

Bowls Richard Sluggett (OW1972)

0403 023 288 rmluggett21@gmail.com

Elsternwick Cato Golf

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

Concert Band

Angela Zeng (OW2020) 0452 510 409
angelayxz@hotmail.com

Cricket Rick Morris (OW2004)

0438 081 886

Football Rod Nancarrow (OW1982)

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Golf Peter Johnson (OW1995) 0419 119 786

peter.wendy@optusnet.com.au

Hockey Mark Perraton (OW1995) 0417 312 989

president@collegiansx.com

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)

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Tally Ho Fitness Group Lindsay Spittle

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Theatre/Drama Productions

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Chinese Alumni (Vic) 中国同学校友会 Peter Pan

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Mornington Peninsula

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USA (North Carolina) Peter Sun (OW2015)

peter.sun0097@gmail.com

BOOK NOW

GOLDEN LIONS LUNCH

WELCOMING OUR OLYMPIANS HOME

Join our OW Olympians and hear their stories of the lead up and outcome of these unique Games of the 32nd Olympiad in Tokyo.

Date:

Thursday 30 September, 2021

—

Venue:

Cato Room, St Kilda Road Campus

—

Enquiries:

OWCA@wesleycollege.edu.au

—

Bookings:

goldenlionslunch.rsvpify.com



WESLEY COLLEGE

MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA - SINCE 1866

A True Education

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